

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 74, No. 7

74th Year

Guthrie, Oklahoma

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Watch and Pray

The God that stopped the sun on high
And sent the manna from the sky,
Laid flat the walls of Jericho,
And put to flight old Israel's foe;
Why can't He answer prayer today,
And drive each stormy cloud away?

Who turned the water into wine,
And healed a helpless cripple's spine,
Commanded tempest, "Peace, be still,"
And hungry multitudes did fill;
His power is just the same today,
So why not labor, watch and pray?

He conquered in the lion's den,
Brought Lazarus back to life again,
He heard Elijah's cry for rain,
And freed the sufferers from pain.
If He could do those wonders then,
Let's prove our mighty God again.

Why can't the God who raised the dead,
Gave little David Goliath's head,
Cast out the demons with a word,
Yet sees the fall of one wee bird,
Do signs and miracles today,
In that same, good, old-fashioned way?
He can! He's just the same today!

—Martin Luther

Praying Love

By Sis. Connie Sorrell

Have you ever seen the picture of the upright, clasped, praying hands? There is an inspiring story behind this masterpiece of art known around the world as the "Praying Hands." Please allow me to tell you how this masterpiece came to be.

During the 1490's, two young friends, who were very poor, lived together and worked to support themselves while they studied art. Advancement in the school of art was very slow because they spent most of their time working to keep food on the table, a roof over their heads and supplies for both of their art pursuits.

One day the two friends made an agreement together. They would draw lots and one of them would work to support both of them while the other would study art. Then when the accomplished artist became wealthy, he would relieve the other friend so that the working man could also study art.

The lots were drawn. Albrecht Durer won. He soon went off to the big cities of Europe to study art while Franz Knigstein labored to support them both. In time Albrecht became famous for his talented, creative work. His paintings and sculptures found important places in many big art galleries in several countries.

Then Albrecht remembered the promise he had made to his friend who had faithfully sent him money during those years. So Albrecht went back to the



takes every circumstance into consideration, but those who are able to attend service should be dutiful and responsible before God. The attendance of service could determine our destination for all eternity.

We must build on a solid foundation of salvation and sanctification, as well reverence toward God. We then can recognize how we must follow the Savior to help our souls on

the way to heaven. We must obey God's Word and recognize His presence in public worship. "For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." Matt. 18:20. "Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but EXHORTING ONE ANOTHER: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching." Hebrews 10:25.

At Prayer Meeting

By

Margaret E. Sangster

There were only two or three of us
Who came to the place of prayer;
Came in the teeth of a driving storm;
But for that we did not care,
Since after our hymns of praise had
risen,
And our earnest prayers were said,
The Master Himself was present there
And gave us of the Living Bread.
We knew His look in our leader's face,
So rapt and glad and free;
We felt His touch when our heads we
bowed,
We heard His "Come to Me!"
Nobody saw Him lift the latch,
And none unbarred the door;
But peace was His token to every heart,
And how could we ask for more?

It was only a handful gathered in
To the little place of prayer,
Outside was struggle and pain and sin,
But the Lord Himself was there;
He came to redeem the pledge He gave
Wherever His loved ones be,
To stand Himself in the midst of them,
Tho' they count but two or three.
And forth we fared in the bitter rain.
And our hearts had grown so warm,
It seemed like the pelting of summer
flowers
And not the crash of a storm;
"Twas a time of the dearest privilege
At the Lord's right hand," we said,
And we thought how Jesus Himself
had come
To feed us the Living Bread.

Intercessory Prayer

By Sis. Vesta-Nadine Severs

"Prayer is not overcoming God's reluctance; it is laying ahold of His highest willingness."

—Richard Chenevix Trench (1807-1866)

Basic Characteristics of an Intercessor:

- a. Identification/empathy with the ones for whom he intercedes
- b. Humility—poorness of spirit (Isaiah 2:10.)
- c. Fervency—spiritual zeal (Colossians 4:12; Acts 18:25; Romans 12:11.)
- d. Tears/brokenness of spirit
- e. Tenderness of heart
- f. Selfless
- g. Sense of responsibility

Requirements:

- a. Willing to fast
- b. Willing to sacrifice
- c. Steadfastness/Dedication
- d. Does not limit God (Psalm 78:41.)
- e. Does not quench the Spirit

(I Thessalonians 5:19.)

"O that one might plead for a man with God, as a man pleadeth for his neighbor!" Job 16:21.

Examples of Intercession:

Abraham—means "Father of Many Nations," or "Father of the Faithful"—interceded for the

(Continued on page 14.)

FAITH AND VICTORY

16 PAGE HOLINESS MONTHLY



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

(Periodical postage paid at Guthrie, OK)

Notice to subscribers: Whenever you move or change your address, please write us at once, giving your old and new address, and include your zip code number. The post office now charges 50¢ to notify us of each change of address.

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

SUBSCRIPTION RATES



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

Larger quantities are figured at the same rate.

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

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

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

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

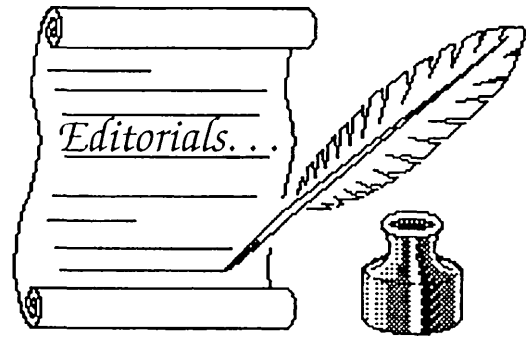
A separate Missionary Fund is maintained in order to relay missionary funds from our readers to the support of home and foreign missionaries and evangelists.

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

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This October *Faith and Victory* finds us thanking God for His blessings toward us as well as for this work. God has been sustaining and carrying the burden of these Gospel labors. We owe much to Him and the only way we know to repay these mercies is to continually involve ourselves in the mission He has upon this earth.

It is our desire that God's commission become clearer to every Christian as time continues. It is recorded in Proverbs 29:18, "Where there is no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he." Jesus expressed His vision when He said, "Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest." John 4:35.

The need of man for salvation has existed since the days of Adam and Eve. My sister, Kathleen McMurrin, having done extensive research into the Pruitt ancestry, uncovered a story which revealed the need for the Gospel on the American frontier in 1772.

Our great, great, great, great, great-grandfather, William Pruitt, and his son, Martin, were part of a group of people on the Virginia frontier who wrote a letter to a preacher by the name of Charles Cummings. The letter is self-explanatory and is as follows:

"Worthy and dear Sir: We, being in very destitute circumstances for want of the ordinances of Christ's house stately administered amongst us; many of us under very distressing spiritual languishments; and multitudes perishing in our sins for want of the bread of life broken among us; our Sabbaths too much profaned, or at least wasted in melancholy silence at home, our hearts and hands discouraged, and our spirits broken with our mournful condition, so that human language cannot sufficiently paint.

"Having had the happiness, by the good providence of God, of enjoying part of your labors to our abundant satisfaction, and being universally well satisfied by our experience of your ministerial abilities, piety, literature, prudence and peculiar agreeableness of your qualifications to us in particular as a gospel minister - we do, worthy and dear sir, from our very hearts, and with most cordial affection and unanimity agree to call, invite and entreat you to undertake the office of a pastor among us, and the care and charge of our precious souls, and upon accepting this our call, we promise that we will receive the word of God from your mouth, attend on your ministry, instruction and reproofs, in public and private, and submit to the discipline which Christ has appointed in His church, administered by you while regulated by the word of God and agreeable to our confession of faith and directory."

What preacher could turn down a call like this? The plainness of the need described and the evidence of the humility of the writers tug at the heart. But when the sacrifice required of a preacher living on the frontier is equally viewed, the glow of the office is greatly tarnished. The dangers of the forests were so great that no one went to church without being armed and taking their families with them.

Mr. Cummings, who accepted the pastorate, had the habit of taking a short walk alone while the congregation seated themselves. He would return, hold a few words of conversation at the door with some of the elders of the church, then gravely walk through the crowd, mount the pulpit, deposit his rifle in a corner near him, lay off his shot pouch and commence the service of the day.

The lay of circumstances have drastically changed since 1772. Advances in technology and societal evolution have changed the perception of need in man's soul, yet it is just as great. In our age, it seems to take a greater vision to see and feel the need.

We hear a lot about entering the 21st century. Businesses are changing, gearing their advertising to relate to a new generation and politicians are defining how to meet the need of

a new society. Should God's people do any less in imparting the Gospel?

Before a vision can be seen, a mountain has to be scaled. That mountain is "self." Unless we get past our own needs, we can never see the need of others. One of the worst things that can happen to those who profess Christ is to fall into the condition of the Pharisees. Because "self" and pride ruled in their lives, they were promoting a system rather than God. Jesus confronted this by saying, "But woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye shut up the kingdom of heaven against men: for ye neither go in yourselves, neither suffer ye them that are entering to go in." Matt. 23:13.

How did the scribes and Pharisees shut up the kingdom of heaven rather than win souls? For one thing, they paid lip service and operated on pretense. "All therefore whatsoever they bid you observe, that observe and do; but do not ye after their works: for they say, and do not." Matt. 23:3.

It is human to feel the need of other's approval, so "self" sometimes shows great piety. Job said, "I put on righteousness, and it clothed me:..." Job. 29:14. Job's profession of righteousness fit him. But when one's profession doesn't fit, and people see the nakedness of inconsistency, it proves a hindrance to others seeking God.

The Pharisees were indifferent to human need. "For they bind heavy burdens and grievous to be borne, and lay them on men's shoulders; but they themselves will not move them with one of their fingers." Matt. 23:4. As long as they were within the approval of their own circle of friends, they felt comfortable. Their vision didn't extend beyond the outside of the cup. (Matt. 23:25.) They were meticulous about some things concerning the law and very careless about weightier matters. The character sketch Christ paints of a Pharisee is of one who is blinded to his own faults, lazy, judgmental and indifferent to the need of others.

Although no one will be able to offer an excuse on the day of judgment as to why they failed to accept the cleansing power of Christ's blood, imagine the horror of having someone look at us with accusing eyes because our life, attitude or inconsistencies had hindered them.

In order to be successful in the coming days, God's people must humbly seek for a continuing clearer vision of the need of souls. This work in our life is accomplished by the power of God's

Holy Spirit and is available to all who seek it. The end result in eternity is an inspiration to ponder. Jesus said it this way, "And he that reapeth receiveth wages, and gathereth fruit unto life eternal: that both he that soweth and he that reapeth may rejoice together." John 4:36.

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We wish to update the list of Church of God congregations on our Internet Web Page. If you would like your church included, please fill out the form in the Internet Column of this issue.

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Progress is continuing on the new Print Shop. The building is now completely enclosed. Still to be completed on the building's exterior is a porch, glass foyer and brick on the front.

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We express our warm appreciation to all who make it possible for us to keep the printing presses running, and ask also that you keep us continually in your prayers.

—Wayne Murphey



Partial List of Books Available

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

From Darkness to Light, 20-page booklet by Bro. Mart Samons. 25¢.

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.

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.

Our Darlings' Bible ABC Book by Isabel Byrum. Any child who is just learning the letters of the alphabet will enjoy this book. There is a Bible story to go with each letter. It is bound in a heavy paper cover and contains 64 pages. The price is 50¢ each.

Personal Experiences of S. O. Susag by S. O. Susag, early-day minister of Church of God. 191 pages in paper cover. \$2.50.

Rainbow Bible for children, in cloth, full-color pictorial cover. Blue edges without zipper, price, \$10.95; with zipper, price, \$16.95.

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. 50¢.

The Problem of Sin is a 16-page sermon by Ostis B. Wilson. Price, 25¢.

The Redemption of Howard Gray by C. W. Naylor. True experience of a young man seeking and finding the truth of God's Word. Paperbound, 72 pages. \$1.00.

The Revival in Tin Town by Effie M. Williams. Paperbound, 84 pages. \$1.00.

The Sabbath and the Lord's Day by H. M. Riggle. 160 pages, paperbound, \$2.00.

The Second Coming of Christ by Willie C. Murphey. 24 pages. 50¢.

The Secret of Salvation by E. E. Byrum. Bound in heavy paper, 264 pages. \$3.50.

The Sin of Trifling by Mrs. Sam Barton. A 32-page book for those who are thinking of marriage. 50¢.

The Story of Joseph, paperbound, 79 pages. Price, \$1.00.

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

Biblical Trace of the Church by Wm. G. Schell. Paperbound, 173 pages. Price, \$2.50.

The Watchman on the Wall by Wayne Murphey. An illustrated, 32-page allegorical story relating problems which Redeemed experienced in fulfilling his job as a watchman. The book is bound in a heavy paper cover. Price, 50¢.

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 pic-

tures, paper cover, 135 pages. Price, \$1.50.

Trials and Triumphs of Eva Grant by Effie M. Williams. First published in 1920's. Paper-bound, 94 pages. \$1.50.

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

Was the Devil Ever in Heaven? by O. B. Wilson. Clear Bible answer in paper cover, 32 pages. Price, 50¢.

What About Man? by Harlan Sorrell. A 16-page poem addressing materialistic views. 25¢.

What the Bible Teaches by F. G. Smith. Reprint of original 1914 edition, 576 pages, clothbound. \$6.00.

Winning a Crown by C. W. Naylor. A book that lays out the plan of salvation and then branches into how to live victoriously in everyday life. 368 pages, bound in extra heavy paper cover. Price, \$4.00.

For postage and handling, add 90¢ for the first dollar and 9¢ for each additional dollar of total order.

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OH—"Pray for Mervin Rudd who fell off a lawnmower and was hurt."

—Juanita Blankenship

CA—Sis. Doris Pihaylic has several requests that she would like for the saints to pray about.

CA—"Please pray for my health."

—Leona Grace

TX—A prayer request has been called in for Harry Lambright who had a heart attack and has sclerosis of the liver.

MN—"Please pray for a chronic bronchitis condition that I have."

—Bro. Lee Hilton

NC—Sis. Bunice Hope has requested prayer for a physical need.

OK—Please pray for Joann Harrison. She broke her right leg above the knee and also at the ankle."

LA—Sis. Lula Williamson hurt herself in a fall and needs much prayer for a quick recovery.

OK—Keep Sis. Aliene Dickson in your prayers.

OK—Bro. Charles Elwell, pastor of the Guthrie congregation, still needs a touch from God.

NC—Bro. Frankie Millis is still in critical condition brought on by heart attacks. The saint's prayers are coveted for him. If you would like to send a word of encouragement, address your correspondence to: 377 Fulchers Landing, Sneads Ferry, NC 28460.



MONARK SPRINGS, MO CAMP MEETING TAPES

Bro. Harlan Sorrell has available three 90 minute cassette tapes of congregational singing, two 60 minute tapes of special singing and all of the messages. You may write for a list of the sermon tapes. Address your correspondence to: Bro. Harlan Sorrell, Rt. 1, Box 118A, Myrtle, MO 65778.



Meeting Notices

GREEN BANK, WV REVIVAL

Plans have been made with Bro. Danny and Sis. Angela Gellenbeck to have a revival meeting in Green Bank, WV. The dates are October 3-6. For more information call Bro. Toney Samons, (304) 456-3017 or (304) 456-4069.



MYRTLE, MO FALL SINGING

Lord willing, there will be a singspiration at 7:00 p.m., Saturday evening, October 19. There will also be special services on Sunday morning, October 20.

For more information, contact Bro. Harlan Sorrell, Rt. 1 Box 118-A, Myrtle, MO 65778. Phone: (417) 938-4336.



KANSAS CITY, MO WEEKEND MEETING

Lord willing, Bro. Toney Samons plans on being with the saints in Kansas City, MO on October 26-27. There will be two services on Saturday and morning service on Sunday. For more information and the location of the services, call Bro. Glen Inman, (816) 779-5526 or Bro. Mark Carpenter at (816) 380-3944.



FRESNO, CA FALL REVIVAL

The Fresno, CA fall revival will be held October 27th through November 3rd, 1996. Services will be held nightly at 7:30 p.m. On both Sundays there will be Sunday school at

9:30 a.m., worship service at 10:30 a.m. and an afternoon service at 2:00. On Saturday, November 2, there will be a morning service at 10:30 a.m. The meeting will close after the 2:00 p.m. service on the last Sunday. For further information, please contact the pastor, Bro. Charles Taylor at 3014 Helm Ave., Clovis, CA 93612. Phone (209) 348-9029.

WATER VALLEY, MS FALL MEETING

Greetings in the precious name of Jesus, our Lord and Savior. If it be the Lord's will, the saints in Mississippi will be having their fall meeting in their new chapel on November 17-24, at 7:30 nightly. Everyone is invited and will be cared for.

There are camper spaces, but hookups are unavailable at this time. There are motels in the surrounding areas for those desiring motel accommodations. Homes are also open for some of the sisters and dormitory space for the brothers.

Everything will be operated on a free-will offering basis. If you cannot join us in the opening of the new chapel, we will appreciate your prayers and support.

The Word will be preached by Bro. Mart Samons and Bro. Keith Fuller.

For further information contact the pastor, Bro. Louis Kimble, (505) 467-9039 or (504) 467-8842 or Bro. Lessie Brown (601) 675-2718. Correspondence should be addressed to: Church of God Evening Light, P.O. Box 84, Coffeeville, MS 38922.

LORANGER, LA ASSEMBLY MEETING

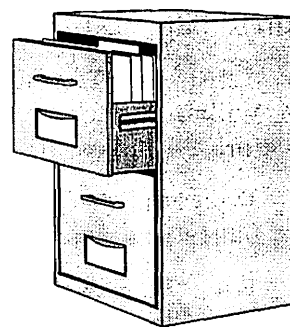
The Loranger, LA Assembly Meeting will begin with the 10:30 a.m. service on Wednesday, November 27th, and go through Sunday, December 1. Look for a more complete announcement in next month's *Faith and Victory*.

LOOK!!!

Look back to Jesus and thank Him!
Look ahead and trust Him!
Look around and serve Him!
Look into your heart and worship Him!
Look up and expect Him!

—Selected by Audrey Carver

LETTERS FROM OUR FILES



CA—Dear Bro. and Sis. Murphey and workers at the Publishing House: The *Bible Lessons* book is so precious and enlightening. Also the *Faith and Victory*.

The saints here are all very well. We did lose a precious jewel in the passing of Sis. Bessie Piques. She was a saint who was faithful and dutiful to the end. For forty years she declared the Gospel to her family, friends and community. She was one of "God's chosen few," an example of being fully surrendered to God. Her favorite song was, "More Like Christ."

—Vivian Hattley

TX—Dear saints: Greetings in the name of the Lord. I thank the Lord for the grace and mercy by which He has seen fit that I see another day. I realize that when justice called, if mercy had not answered I would not be here. But God allowed mercy to plead my case.

I am writing for prayer. I am not well in my body. I know God is able to help. Pray that I will walk by faith. Also pray for my daughter, Latasha, that the Lord will take care of her. She is seventeen years old. Pray that as she goes to school the Lord will watch over her; lead, guide and protect her.

Pray for my parents who live in Green Pastures, OK. They have some badly needed repair work on their home. Pray that the Lord will work something out for them. They are both up in age.

May God bless each and every one of you is my prayer.

—Roy L. Tillman

LA—Dear ones in Christ: Greetings in the lovely name of Jesus. I am so glad to still be able to report victory in my soul. The Lord is faithful!

Max has been in a battle for some while with a terrible itching on his body, but thanks be unto God, He has wonderfully touched him. He has been gradually improving for a couple of weeks now, and this week he has improved remarkably. He gives God all the glory.

We do thank each one that has offered a prayer on our behalf, and are thankful that we have the saints to call on in time of need, and to know that we are not in the battle alone.

Thanks for the many calls of encouragement sent to us. They mean so much.

May God bless, —Lula and Max Williamson

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FL—Dear saints: I would like to praise the dear Lord for the mercy and blessings He has so graciously bestowed upon me. I am thankful to say that I am saved today and endeavoring to please God with my life. I wanted to relay some thoughts I have had of late. I have been thinking of all that Christ did, and tried to do, for mankind here on earth. He left heaven to be born into a lowly family, and grew up in a carpenter's home. We have no record of Him ever having any luxuries in life. He grew into manhood, and all He ever did was for the good of those around Him, never thinking of Himself. He healed many and changed the lives of multitudes. Yet, how quickly those same people turned on Him and rejected Him. How quickly they completely forgot all He had done for them. They made up blatant lies about Him. Rumors floated around, demeaning His reputation. He was openly scorned. And to think, it was done to Him by the very ones He had tried to heal and save. How could this be? How could people be so cold and so easily forget the good and happiness He had brought into their empty lives? Don't you know this must have hurt Him in a tremendous way?

Recently, I have been going through a very trying and hurtful time. Some people (unbelievers) that I have "bent over backwards" to try to help in many ways, have openly and defiantly hurt me and made remarks to the effect that I haven't done anything for them! I have been so hurt by the attitude of ungratefulness, and at how quickly people forget, that I asked the Lord, "What should I do?" Before asking Jesus what I should do, my first thought was to retaliate in some way. I felt like sitting down and writing out a list of the many, many things my husband and I have done for them and dropping it in the mail with a note that said, "How could you say these things and how could you feel this way?" But, I looked up with an anguished heart and asked Jesus what to do. And, oh, these many thoughts began to fill my heart and mind. He came to save the very ones who treated Him so terribly. He gave up everything for them and lived a life of

complete and total self-sacrifice and how quickly these very people, the ones He loved and tried to help, betrayed Him. This was the Son of God who took upon Himself humanity to bring salvation to a Godless and doomed world. His humanity was very real—He felt the hurt just as keenly as we feel it. As I listened to Him speak to me, He gently whispered, "Don't you think it hurt, when I healed the ten lepers and only one turned around to say 'Thanks'?" These were ten human lives which had been utterly miserable and had been shunned from society. Jesus healed their problem and changed their lives so that they could be normal and fit into society. Wouldn't you think they would have been delighted and so overwhelmingly grateful to the One who had brought about this wonderful change? But, no, only one had the decency and thanksgiving to turn around and say, "Thank You." And the saddest part was, these ten were possibly in the crowded multitude later, screaming, "Crucify Him!" I began to ponder upon the many, many things Jesus did and how quickly it was forgotten and taken so lightly. Jesus whispered these dear words to me, "I didn't have time to sit and cry about it, because I had a world to save!" Oh, when I heard this, the tears began to flow down my cheeks and all of the hurt and pain began to melt away! How little and insignificant was my pain! How minute the hurt—when compared to the feelings of Christ's pain and agony. Why, it made my wounds seem ridiculously small!

And the comfort didn't stop there. He went on to whisper, "Child, I know it all. I have seen it all. All the sacrifices you have made are not unknown to Me. I will reward you accordingly. Just because people say these things, that doesn't change the fact that you did what you did." I began to see that this is all that really matters. God knows—He knows our hearts and our innermost selves. People and words cannot change who we are. What started out to be so hurtful, has surely turned out to bring a real blessing to me. And the best part is, it has drawn me yet closer to my precious Lord. I love Him dearly and want to please him so desperately. I am learning that real peace is not the absence of a storm—it is sitting in the middle of a storm and not being affected by it. Pray for me.

Your sister in Christ, —Cheryl Smith

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LA—Greetings in the name of Jesus: may God bless every one at the Publishing House. I

enjoy reading the *Faith and Victory* paper, and look forward to getting it each month. It has so much good reading in it each time....

Pray for me. —Sis. Velma Mancil

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LA—Dear Bro. Wayne and Sister Mary: My heart is so thankful to our heavenly Father who showers us with many blessings. At the end of September a full year will have passed since Ken, whose nature until recent years was to be very active and interested in people all around him, ceased to be able to remember almost anything, walk, feed himself or communicate effectively. Since then my earnest prayer has been that the Lord would open his mind enough that he could hear His voice, and that he could respond. I am satisfied that there have been a few times this prayer was answered. In the morning when I awaken him it's my special time to bring scriptures to him and speak of God's great love for him. During the first half of this past year he has had the ability to speak plainly enough to me to say he wants to go Home. He continues in what is termed a semi-comatose condition. He rarely opens his eyes or says a word.

In trying to adjust to seeing Ken lose so much of himself last Fall, when he had to take the bed, I found I was feeling a little sorry for myself. Quickly the Lord brought to my mind the old hymn, "Am I a Soldier of the Cross," and I stopped what I was doing to find the book I knew it was in. I was so touched by the second verse: "Must I be carried to the skies on flowery beds of ease, While others fought to win the prize, and sailed through bloody seas?" I am blessed with a healthier body than many my age, and I believe the Lord will continue to grant me the strength to care for Ken here at home, with the help of the aides that I must have, and a nurse coming twice a week.

May God bless you in your work there, and please pray for us. Without the help of God I just couldn't carry on. —Gertrude Pickett

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MO—Dear Bro. Wayne: Greetings in the name of Jesus. I have been very busy this summer. I thank the Lord for being able to do the many things I need to do.

I enjoy the *Faith and Victory* paper very much. I look forward to reading it each month.

Please still remember me in prayer as I still have some places on my face that need healing.

Christian love, —Mamie Butcher

OK—Dear saints at Guthrie: It has been some time since I have been there with you all. I had a serious fall and cracked my hip, but the Lord has blessed me. I can still get around by the help of the Lord.

I am still saved and pressing on for the Lord. He has blessed me to be 98 years old and I thank Him for it. I am still running to make heaven my home.

I miss coming to Guthrie and other places. Do pray for me and my family. Love to all the saints. Yours truly, —Sis. Lizzie Jordan

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CA—Your work at the Print Shop is God-sent. I have been blessed from the testimonies and the articles are inspiring. I also appreciate the prayer requests that are sent in. It gives me more to pray about. Please continue. I was pleased to see the Internet News.

—Sis. Dorothy Gray

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OR—Dear Bro. Wayne and workers: Greetings in Jesus' name! I trust everyone is receiving God's blessings and things are moving along on the new building. I see my *Faith and Victory* subscription ends this month so I'm renewing it.

I am doing as well as possible, living one day at a time. The Lord has been good to me and gives me strength to continue on for Him.

Christian love to all, —Sis. Mary Kroker

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KS—Dear Bro. Wayne: I am still pressing forward with much enthusiasm about the great journey to heaven. I thank God that He supplies the power, the road map and the graces needed to make the journey successful.

I do want to be a help and blessing as I go along, and desire to be faithful to the end. Praise God for salvation. —Sis. Shirley Knight

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AL—Dear Bro. Wayne and co-workers: I trust everyone is well and happy out your way. We are about like usual. I still need prayer for my leg and back. Also, Emmett's eyes, as well as mine, are getting worse. I would appreciate prayer. I know God is able to help us....

We pray for you all each day. Thanks for everything. —The Gerald's

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NC—Dear saints: Greetings of love to each one of you.

Thanks be unto God for what He has done. I requested prayer for my daughter, who was

having a problem on the job due to a promotion. Well, thank the Lord, He answered prayer and worked it out.

God also answered prayer for me when prayer was made because of a small need. The Lord is so good.

Thank you saints for your time spent each day to get the *Faith and Victory* in the mail to me.

Continue to remember me in your prayers, and pray for the salvation of my two daughters.

Love and prayers, —Sis. Julia Holt
— — — — —

FL—To Bro. Wayne Murphey: I am so glad that Jesus loves me, and that whosoever believeth in Him shall not perish, but have everlasting life.

Please remember me in prayer. We just had another death in our family.

—Kathleen Williams
— — — — —

MO—Dear Bro. Wayne: Greetings of Christian love. I hope all is going well with you and the printing work, also the new building. I trust the Lord is blessing you in your soul as you endeavor to get the good news to precious souls. The soul of man is the most important part about man and only the pure Gospel of Christ can afford what the soul needs and craves.

I think of the song, "Tell What He Has Done For You!" The third verse says, "Have you been saved His love to show, Who by your side each day doth go? Looking to Him to help you thro', Tell what the Lord has done for you." To be saved from sin and have God walk by our side in this world is the greatest blessing that could happen to us this side of heaven. The next best thing is to be able to tell it to others....

The Lord recently blessed me with an enjoyable trip to California and back. I spent a few days with Carol Jean, my daughter, and her husband, James, and was permitted to attend part of the Pacoima, CA camp meeting. It was good to see our brothers and sisters in the Lord and to worship with them.

We also were privileged to visit dear Sis. Lucille Allen at Fallsbrook, CA, who is isolated and lives alone. She was glad to see us. She needs our prayers, that the Lord will bless her in her older years. She is 93....

If the Internet will help get the gospel to more souls, I am exceeding glad for it. May the Lord bless it to that end.

Your saved brother, —T. V. McMillian

OK—Dear Bro. Wayne and workers at the Print Shop: Greetings of love in Jesus' dear name.... We are praying for you all. I enjoy the articles and testimonies in the *Faith and Victory* and desire you to keep me in your prayers. I dearly love the Lord and am endeavoring to keep faithful until God calls me from labour to reward.

Pray for our church family in Tulsa. We are still having a few added to our congregation. There has been one each Sunday for the last three Sundays.

Your Sister in Christ, —Sis. Theresa Gaines
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OR—Dear Bro. Wayne and all at the Print Shop: Greetings in the name of Jesus. I trust this will find all there well and happy in the service of our Lord. Daily I pray and ask a blessing for you all and the work you are doing.

With all of the wickedness that is so prevalent all over the world, it surely can't be long before the end of all things. Some of the signs of the end of time; "...upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring." are very much in evidence. (Luke 21:25.) I am convinced that God is doing all He can to let mankind know that there is a power higher than all the powers of man, and that all need to be ready at all times to be called into eternity to face the judgment. So many are taken every day without warning, without any time to prepare or get ready, and don't realize they have a soul that is going to live forever in either heaven or hell, that after death it will be too late to do anything about it. I pray for God's blessing on all the "laborers in the harvest" and that He will send more laborers. I pray that I may always be submissive, obedient and willing so if there is an opportunity for me to witness He can use me.

I am thankful for His blessing on me. He supplies every need and gives me peace in my heart, praise His holy name. I am thankful for the *Faith and Victory* and all the tracts you folks have made available to us. May God bless you all in a very special way.

With Christian love, —Bro. Bill Busch
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CA—Dear Bro. Murphey and saints: Greetings in the precious name of Jesus. I am praying always for the Church of God and all of the dedicated workers everywhere; for the unity of His people, and that we can be witnesses to the world in these evil times.

I am praying that you will be able to get the much needed tracts printed very soon.

Sincerely, your Sister saved by the Blood,
—Sis. Ruth Donnelly

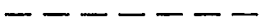


From India...

August 15, 1996—Dear Bro. Wayne Murphey and dear Brothers and Sisters in the U.S.A: Greetings to you again in the glorious name of Jesus. I was glad to note that God blessed the Monark Springs camp meeting this year.

We conducted three days of fasting and prayer meetings at Kothamangalam and Athani. At Kothamangalam four people were baptized and at Athani six people. The last week of August is the national festival holidays in our state. We plan to arrange special gospel programs, including street meetings and house visitings, in different parts of our state during that week. All our congregations are doing fine. We need your prayers.

Yours in Him, —John Varghese



From Ghana...

August 5, 1996—Dear Brethren and Sisters: Greetings of Christian love from Ghana to you all in the dear name of Jesus. I am hoping that all are doing well at the Print Shop. By the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the work here in Ghana is being received, and the Lord is working wonderfully.

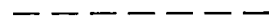
We would like to take this opportunity to express our love and thanks for your fasting and prayers for our unspoken requests. They are prayers which the Lord has answered. Our prayer is that the Lord will make us a carrier of revival in the future. Paul, the Apostle, says, "And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men." Colossians 3:23. Jesus commanded us to "...Go into all the

world, and preach the gospel to every creature." Mark 16:15.

The Church of God in Ghana is entering into house-to-house evangelism. This evangelism will continue until we shall see what the Lord has for us, while we depend on Him.

We still remember Sis. Dorothy Kaiser and Sis. Ada Scanlon for all that they did for Ghana in the past years. They have fallen asleep in Christ and are waiting for the Lord's return....

Yours in Christ, —Bro. Francis Owusu



From Nigeria...

August 16, 1996—Dearly beloved Bro. Wayne Murphey: Greetings in the most glorious name of Jesus. In His name we have a right to ask for and receive all He purchased for us by His blood.

In our competitive world we have all kinds of champions. Farmers are proud of their champion bulls, milk cows, roosters and hogs. We have champion bull fighters, hog callers, flagpole sitters, wrestlers, boxers—well, almost everything under the sun. We even have a champion liar. A champion is a person or thing winning first place in a competition. In the parable of the Great Supper (Luke 14:16-24) a new kind of champion is presented. Three fellows competed for the place of champion decliner. It was never determined which one received the highest honor, but all three were certainly good at the game of declining or excuse-making. And there are plenty of champions today. Man is an excuse-making being. He came by it from Adam and Eve. No sooner had the Lord confronted them with their sin than they began to make excuses for their terrible deed. An excuse is not a reason. A good reason is generally all right. An excuse is seldom right. The only cure for excuse-making is to seek God. Heaven is for us if we want it, but flimsy excuses can keep one out.

Thank you for your two encouraging letters which I have received. Both came when I was seriously sick hence the delay in replying. I was near passing away on July 30th, but the good Lord had compassion and granted me an addition of days. I was miraculously healed and restored to His praise. We have a Healer, a Savior and a Sanctifier in Zion.

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



Thelma Ethelyn Davis was born to Benjamin and Bertha Davis on May 20, 1911, near Unionville, MO. In 1918 she moved with her family to Guthrie, OK, where, besides farming, her father was pastor of the Church of God congregation for several years.

She gave her heart to the Lord in her youth and retained her love for God and His truth the rest of her life. She developed a strong faith in God and endeavored to please Him with her life.

She was united in marriage to Ray Busbee on December 3, 1929. To this union were born five sons and two daughters. They lived in the Guthrie, OK area and raised their family.

In 1972 Ray and Thelma moved to Missouri and lived there until Ray passed away on May 12, 1981. In 1982 she moved back to Guthrie. On June 26, 1983, she was united in marriage to Hyrum Ray. They made their home in Guthrie until moving to Shawnee, OK, where they resided until her death.

Sister Thelma sought to uphold the teachings of Bible holiness accompanied with faith in God and love for Jesus Christ, her Lord and Savior. She sought to teach her children these principles which were such a vital part of her life. She loved the service of God and was faithful to be in the gatherings of the saints as much as she possibly could. She loved to hear the Word of God preached in its fullness and always backed the preacher with her prayers. She believed that the Holy Bible was the infallible Word of God and urged others to read and search for the truth in its holy pages.

Sister Thelma departed from this life on September 18, 1996 at the Golden Rule Home in Shawnee, OK, at the age of 85 years, 3 months and 29 days.

She is survived by her husband, Bro. Hyrum Ray, of the home; four sons and their wives:

Lawrence and Dorothy Busbee, of Woodward, OK, Leslie and Sylvia Busbee, of Enid, OK, Leland and Barbara Busbee, of Argyle, TX, and Loren and Maxine Busbee, of Edmond, OK; two daughters and their husbands, Doris and Harley Bardell, of Cresbard, SD, Sandra and Richard Porter, of Lewisville, TX; two step-sons and their wives: John and Lois Ray, and Jesse and Beverly Ray, 19 grandchildren, 21 great-grandchildren, and 7 step-great-grandchildren.

Her husband, Ray, her oldest son, Louis, one grandson Joseph Erle, and one granddaughter, Jan, preceded her in death. She was also preceded in death by her parents, and her four brothers and four sisters: Audney, Evelyn, Loyd, Paul, George, Polly, Beatrice and Ruthie.

Funeral services were held in the Church of God chapel at Guthrie with Bros. Wayne Murphey and Carl Shaffer officiating. Burial was in the Summit View Cemetery of Guthrie, OK.

My Grandma's Jesus

By Angela Gellenbeck

My Grandma had a special Friend
She loved to sing and talk to Him
She served Him 'till the very end—
Her Jesus.

So many times I can recall,
When I was but a child small,
How, while she worked, His name she'd call—
Her Jesus.

I knew her heart was often sad
From many heartaches that she had;
But there was One who made her glad—
Her Jesus.

And so she loved and laughed and smiled
Her voice was gentle, soft and mild
Her faith was simple, like a child
Of Jesus.

I want to keep in memory
That faith and love she taught to me
For now she's gone to ever be
With Jesus.

— — — — —

James G. Bennett was born July 7, 1914 to Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Bennett in Boley, OK. He was the seventh child of eight children. He was raised in Arbeka Community and attended school at St. James.

James met and married Verdell Banks in 1938. The marriage brought only one child,

Japeth D. Bennett, but they raised many other children.

James was a Church of God believer.

He departed this life August 14, 1996. He was preceded in death by his wife, Verdell, parents, two brothers and three sisters.

He leaves to cherish his memory, his son and daughter-in-law, Japeth D. Bennet and Kimberly L. Bennett of Midwest City, OK; four grandchildren, Corey, Lashanda, Lydell and Romel; two sisters, Mrs. Gustava Burris of Richmond, CA and Nicie Regan of Okemah, OK and a host of relatives and friends.

Sis. Anna Mae Thompson officiated at the funeral service. Interment was in the East Lawn Cemetery, Boley, OK.



Intercessory Prayer

(Continued from page 3.)

righteous in Sodom, changed the mind of God to save those few he could. (Genesis 18:23-32.)

Jacob—interceded with the angel, obtaining the willingness of God to preserve him and family from the wrath of his brother (Genesis 32:9-11); one prayer showing his humility before God (appears to be prayed in the morning) and verse 24 shows him wrestling that night with a man from God and in verse 28 the man says: "You have prevailed and have power with God and man."

Moses—means "Drew out from the water"—or "Deliverance" or "Deliverer." (Exodus 32:11-14; 32:31-32; Numbers 14:13-20.) Moses had total selflessness by offering himself that the people might be spared; wanted the Glory of God to be maintained; with his power with God, got God to change his mind and attitude from anger to willingness to spare the people from destruction, thereby paving the way for the Messiah to come from Israel. God even said He would be willing to do away with these people and bring the Messiah through the seed of Moses.

Elijah—known as the "Prophet of Fire"—there were at least three recorded times of intercessory prayer: raised widow's son to life, rain after three-year drought, turning an idolatrous nation back to God. (I Kings 17 and 18.)

Elisha—interceded for his friends' only son, but the Bible doesn't report his prayer. He performed a greater number of miracles than any other prophet except Moses. Each miracle takes a certain amount of interceding.

Isaiah—(Isaiah 20:2-5; Isaiah 59:12-17.) "...And the Lord saw it, and it displeased him that there was no judgment. And he saw that there was no man, and wondered that there was no intercessor." Isaiah 53:12, "...He hath poured out his soul unto death: and he was numbered with the transgressors; and he bare the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors." This prophecy, probably brought about by Isaiah's intercessory prayer, when asking God what His plan consisted of for mankind.

Jeremiah—known as the "Weeping Prophet." (Jeremiah 14:19-22.) This covers one of Jeremiah's intercessory prayers. God answers in Jeremiah 15:1, "...Though Moses and Samuel stood before me, yet my mind could not be toward this people, cast them out of my sight and let them go forth." Sometimes the answers to our intercessory prayers may not be what we want to hear! Jeremiah says that in verse 10; verse 11 is God's promise to him. "...Verily I will cause the enemy to entreat thee well in the time of affliction."

Daniel—(Daniel 2:18-19; 27-28, 30.) This intercession was for the interpretation of the king's dream. What his prayers were like in order to have his visions is not stated. Visions such as he had are not obtained through unfocused prayer.

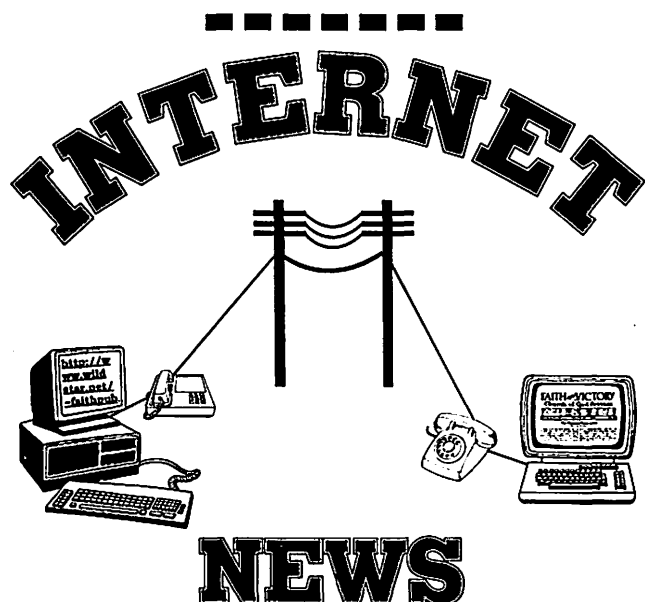
Stephen—interceded with man for God—Acts 7, and in the last two verses he intercedes for himself and begs for forgiveness of those who are stoning him. Saul (Paul) was in that crowd.

Paul—Every missionary field benefited from Paul's intercessory prayers for them. (II Thessalonians 1:11-12; Philemon 1:4, II Corinthians 11:28.)

Romans 8:16-27, 34—We find here that the Spirit makes intercession for us; also Christ makes intercession for us (verse 34) because He is at the right hand of the Father. Now look at verse 27 again—"he that searcheth the hearts" must be God the Father Himself. (See I Chronicles 28:9, Jeremiah 17:10. These and others lead me to believe the Lord God Jehovah is the Searcher of the hearts and He knows the mind of the [Holy] Spirit who, as one of the Trinity, has an individual personality of His own.) Christ and the Holy Spirit work together to intercede with the Father for that which we pray. But going a step further, it is the Holy Spirit who must dwell in the human body, and burden the soul with the prayer which the Holy Spirit wants prayed. What a mystery of mysteries!

Intercession is not a substitution for sin. There has **only ever been one substitute** for a world of sinners, **Jesus Christ the Son of God.** But intercession so identifies the intercessor with the sufferer that it gives him a prevailing place with God. He moves God. With Jeremiah we see God accepting him as an intercessor, but rejecting the intercessory petition, yet He was moved to give Jeremiah a place of acceptance with the nation's conqueror.

I find it very interesting to see how frequently the position of intercession is taken by the prophets of old for the nations around Israel as well as for Israel itself. Brother Ostis Wilson said that things have happened in our nation which should not have happened because the saints quit praying for their nation. Our vision has tended to go inward and not outward as that of previous generations.



By Jason Murphey

Internet address

<http://www.wildstar.net/~faithpub>

E-Mail address

faithpub@wildstar.net

INTERNET LETTERS. . .

AZ—Hello Brother Murphey: I just wanted to write a little letter, expressing my thankfulness to God for this E-mail account that you have. Praise God, the saints will never be out of reach. My name is Don Elwell (Bro. Charles Elwell's nephew) and my wife's name is Laura. We recently moved to Flagstaff, AZ to further our education. The college is Northern Arizona

University. As of now we have yet to find a church, but thank the Lord, He has been faithful to keep us. I personally have been more fervent in both my prayer life as well as my daily study.

My wife and I have met another couple (Rick and Eve) who are Christians and are serving the Lord to the understanding that they have. Lately I have been thinking of starting a Bible study in our home, inviting whoever wants to come, but the other day, Rick asked us if we could attend and help out with a Bible study in his home every Tuesday night. Praise God for His ability to do anything. I would ask that the saints would be earnestly and fervently praying for our study. I am scared at times because I have only been a Christian for two years and I do not want to mislead anyone....

Last Sunday, I attended the services at a nearby congregation and at the services the Lord placed a heavy burden upon my heart. I did everything I could to keep myself from weeping. I sat among hundreds of college students who appeared to be looking for the truth, and I began to become saddened as I understood the preacher didn't have an understanding of holiness. I felt compassion for the mass of people gathered to listen and learn the truth, because it was not being taught. How can these people have a real experience of full salvation if they don't understand holiness? Naturally, you can see the burden that I have. Again, I ask for the prayers of the saints, to bless our Bible study and to help us to ever increase in His knowledge.

In Christian love, —Bro. Don Elwell

CA—Greetings saints: My name is Stephon Johnson. I live in Inglewood, CA which is a suburb of Los Angeles, CA. I am a part of the Los Angeles congregation. The congregation is a small one and needs a lot of prayer.

I am interested in the Web Page. May God bless this information.

Your brother in Christ, —Stephon Johnson

Glad to see the *Faith and Victory* on the Internet. I was just wondering, can we send in a testimony over the E-mail to be published, or do we still have to send it through the mail?

Yours in Christ, —Richard Miller

Editor's note: Testimonies, articles, prayer requests, etc., are gladly accepted through E-mail.

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10/96



—L. D. Pruitt

It seemed rather hard to get the unsaved to see their need of a Savior; however, two came forward for prayer. Bro. L. Williams attended to the baptismal services. The ordinances of the house of God were observed. About fifty-one happy saints participated."

—Ulysses Phillips and Henry Caldwell