

FAITH^{AND}VICTORY

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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.

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The Father, The Head of the Family

By Bro. Leslie Busbee

Important is a father's role

As head of the family:

The leader for each human soul

Who's under his decree.

His children and his precious wife

Are all the gifts of God

For him to shelter in this life,

And rule with wisdom's rod.

How dire and needful for a man

God-fearing, wise to be:

To fill his place in life's short span

As head of the family.

A small but quaint domain is his:

A kingdom great, but dear,

A serious place for him it is

To fill while tarrying here.

Alone, a mother is hindered much

And sometimes comes up short

Without the firmness, help of such

A father's wise support.

To toil for means for their supply,

A home to well maintain,

To discipline while standing by:

A father thus must reign.

Security for them to make

While wanted, loved they feel,

He's ever near their load to take,

Their griefs and pains to heal.

By precept and example true

He lives a prayerful life,

A leader in God's worship, too,

With his children and his wife.

To raise up children for the skies

Through faith and purity

God, give us fathers strong and wise

To head the family!

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*Father's
Day
June 15*



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S**Written by Sis. Connie Sorrell**

Do you know what a saint is? The Webster's New World Dictionary defines a saint as: (1) a holy person (2) a person who is unusually charitable, patient, etc.

Are you a saint? Do you consider yourself to be a holy person, charitable and patient? Do others consider you to be a saint?

When the Apostle Paul wrote to the Church of God at Corinth, he addressed the letter to, "...them that are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints,..." I Cor. 1:2. God calls His saints "...with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace,..." II Tim. 1:9. Our own righteousness is as filthy rags before the Lord and He will hide His face from the self-righteous in spirit. (Isa. 64:6.)

Jesus said, "...That except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven." Matt. 5:20.

Good works will not make a person holy. Neither will fasting and long, ritual prayers distinguish a holy person. Holiness comes from God, creates a pure heart within a person, and the good works will follow.

Therefore, the most important question is, Does God call me one of His saints? Is my heart holy and without spot before His searching eye? Does the Lord see me as charitable and patient?

When a person repents of sin and is born again, that individual is then spotless and pure before the Lord. When a born again, or saved person, dedicates himself as a living sacrifice unto the Lord, he is sanctified and ready for the Lord's service. As long as this person walks in the light of God's Word and obeys the leadings of the Holy Spirit, he is holy and righteous before God. (I John 3:1-5; II Tim. 2:21.)

A holy person is not set aside from others in order to stay holy, for he can be kept by the power of God. Jesus commissioned His saints to go out into all the world and take the gospel to everyone. Holy saints of God can live a common life in society and not be partakers of the wickedness in this world. Saints will not be

"Does the Lord see me as charitable and patient?"

ashamed of the Lord but will witness for Him in example and in word. (John 17:13-21.)

This brings us to the second definition of a saint: a person who is unusually charitable. A saint will be kind and generous in giving help to those in need and he will be forgiving in judging others. There are so many needy, hurting people in our world today that it is often overwhelming to think about the magnitude of the work to be done. However, if ten saints of God will reach out to a different hurting person each day, 3,650 souls will be touched in one year. One by one the work can be done.

The Lord wants His people to be the salt, or seasoning, in the lives of those about them. Sometimes it only takes a few minutes out of a busy schedule to cheer someone by making a friendly phone call to a lonely widow; attending the funeral of an acquaintance, sending a get-well card or speaking a friendly word to a tired mother in the grocery store. Often the Lord's work takes more time and finances but nothing is more profitable than to help eternity-bound souls. (Matt. 25:31-46.)

It is important for saints to take every opportunity to work and witness for the Lord. "And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not. As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith." Gal. 6:9-10.

A mature saint of God also knows about patience. Jesus said, "In your patience possess ye your souls." Luke 21:19. In other words, the spiritual race is not for the swift but for those who will endure unto the end. The Lord is not slack concerning His promises, but He counts time differently than we do. Faithful endurance through temptations, trials, troubles and tribulation enriches the lives of God's saints. James 1:2-4 states, "My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing." A

"Does God call you one of His saints?"

saint of God must be patient with the Lord's time schedule.

It takes patience in prayer and supplication. When it seems the Lord is not even listening, patiently pray on. Even when the trial or trouble becomes worse, patiently endure. A saint will patiently hold on to faith, hope and charity and these three will carry him home some day.

"Here is the patience of the saints: here are

they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.... Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them." Rev. 14:12-13. In the final judgment day, the God of creation will reward those who patiently endure until the end.

Does God call you one of His saints?

QUESTION AND ANSWER

BY

BRO. OSTIS B. WILSON

Reprint

QUESTION: Is all this numbering system, everybody having a number and the computerizing of all transactions, banking, etc., which seems to be coming in the near future, the mark of the beast spoken of in the Bible?

ANSWER: No. To my understanding it is not and for the following reasons. The "mark of the beast" is referred to in Revelation 13:16-17. In this case the mark had a religious signification because those who received it were worshipping the beast—verse 12. Also, there were other things these people received besides the mark of the beast: Namely, the number and the name of the beast—it was all pertaining to the system.

The first thing to do in interpreting this text is to find out what the beast was. Also we must understand that the book of Revelation is written in symbolic language and the interpretation of it must be by analogy—that is; each thing mentioned is a drawn picture not of itself but of something analogous to it.

In this 13th chapter of Revelation there are two beasts mentioned, but it is clear that the first beast is the one under consideration here because the second beast caused the people to worship the first beast—verse 12.

Some of the identifying marks of this beast were seven heads and ten horns. There are others also but we use these marks for special identity. In the 17th chapter of Revelation we again see this same beast, having seven heads and ten horns, and with a glamorous woman riding upon him this time. This is important because it identifies a dual personality—a political-religious system. It is a false, apostate, corrupt system to be sure because this woman is described in verse one as "the great whore"

and further in verse five as "...MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH."

But this 17th chapter of Revelation proceeds to identify this beast religion in an unmistakable way. Verse nine says, "...The seven heads are seven mountains, on which the woman sitteth." Verse ten says, "And there are seven kings:..." The seven heads represented both the seven mountains and the seven kings. The city of Rome corresponds to this description because she is situated upon seven hills (mountains) and had seven systems of government during the time of her reign as a universal kingdom. The seven kings refer to these seven different systems of government she had. Verse 12 says, "And the ten horns which thou sawest are ten kings, which have received no kingdom as yet;..." This is a reference to the ten minor kingdoms which came out of the Roman Empire during its decline and fall. These are historical facts.

Rome has been the seat of two major systems of false religion—Paganism and Papalism. This is also an historical fact. Paganism is symbolized in the Revelation by a great dragon having seven heads and ten horns—Revelation 12:3. Papalism is symbolized by the first beast of Revelation 13:1 which also had seven heads and ten horns which identifies it as the same power but in a different form. It was the mark of this beast which is referred to in Revelation 13:16-17.

An illusion is made here perhaps to the custom of marking or branding slaves to identify them as belonging to certain masters. Also certain cults and groups marked or branded their members. In many instances in the Bible allusions are made to general customs and practices of the time with which the people were familiar to illustrate certain truths.

God also seals, or marks, His subjects or

(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).

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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.

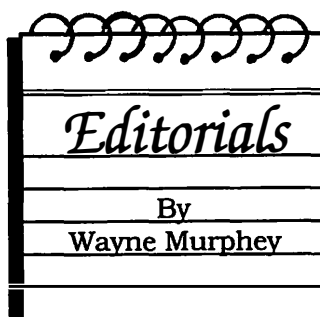
A separate Missionary Fund is maintained in order to relay missionary funds from our readers to the support of home and foreign missionaries and evangelists.

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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God has been going before us here at the Print Shop. We are enthused about what is happening, and the opportunities there are to further His kingdom.

By the diligent labor of the workers,

3,984 copies of the reprint, *Evening Light Songs*, were shipped to the binders on May 19. We are expecting the books to be cased in a hardback cover and returned to us, ready for sale, within a couple of weeks.

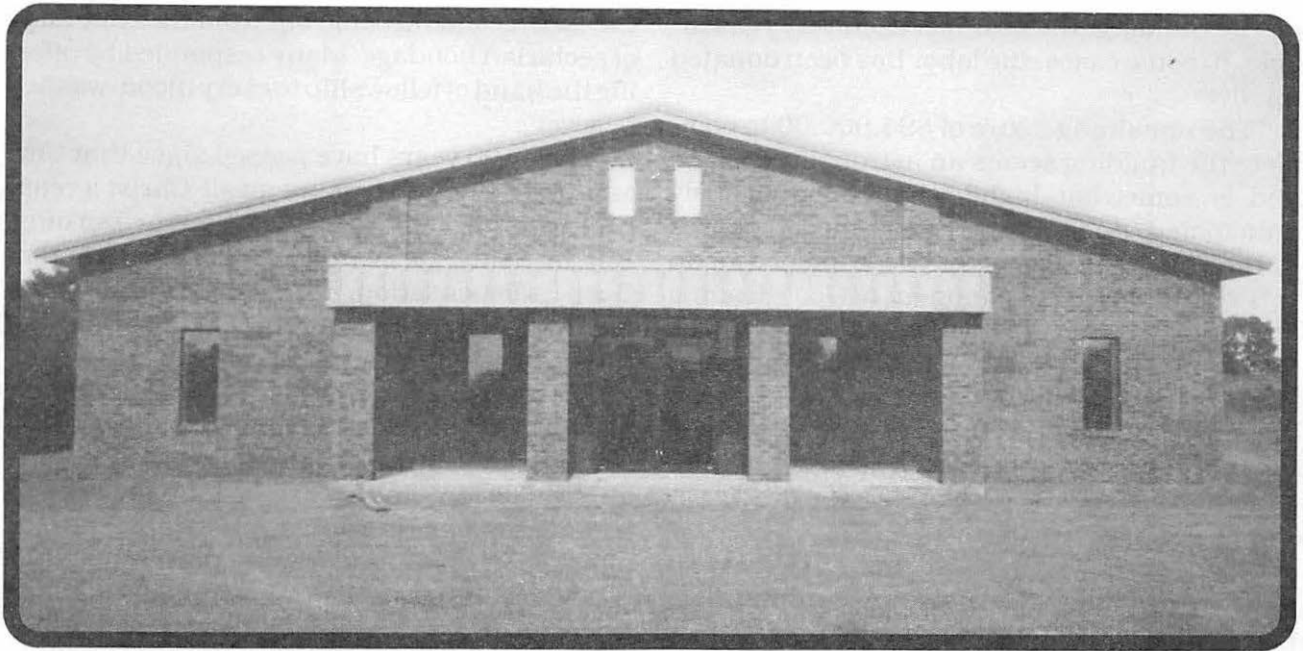
We have not been satisfied with the work we contracted to have done on the hardback cover of the songbook in previous printings, so we located a company in Illinois which would reinforce the spine of the books to the casing. Although this will increase our production expense, we feel the satisfaction of those who purchase the book is worth it.

Currently on the press is the adult version of *Touching Incidents*, a book which has been out of print for many years. We have received a number of requests for this book and feel it is a classic which will be a blessing to those who read it. If you enjoyed *Touching Incidents* for children, we encourage you to get this edition when it becomes available.

As soon as *Touching Incidents* is off the press, we plan to print the book, *Moral Law*, authored by Bro. Clifford Wilson. It is an in-depth theological treatise on man's fall into sin, and the journey that leads back to holiness before God. This book will be over 300 pages long, and announcements will be made as to availability as progress is made in printing.

On page five of this *Faith and Victory*, you will find a detailed financial report of the new Print Shop building, as well as a detailed projection cost to finish. The latest phase of installing the ceiling grid has been completed, and ceiling lights have been ordered. We are now waiting on the Lord to replenish our funds in order to proceed further.

We feel that the expense of the construction operation has been judicially handled, and due to the willing hearts of those who have worked (Continued on page 6)



Front view of the new Print Shop building after the glassed foyer has been added.

**Building Fund Financial Report
from its Inception to May 27, 1997**

INCOME:

Offerings	36,630.26
Effie Clark Estate	166,451.10
Gladys Piper Estate	54,890.05
Refunds	39.32
Bank Interest	5,512.83
TOTAL INCOME	263,523.56

EXPENSES:

Brick Work	1,582.19
Building Site	34,843.22
Building Permits	1,286.30
Concrete Work	3,004.65
Electric Service	244.84
Electrician	21,465.43
Foundation	30,350.00
Frame	85,189.20
Heating and Air	16,111.69
Landscaping	19,034.95
Legal Services	213.00
Misc.	1,148.59
Painting	3,514.87
Plumbing	2,958.48
Sheetrock Work	37,115.68
Surveying	1,062.00
Title/Abstract	575.00
Temporary Water Well Pump	292.37
Bank Charges	40.40
TOTAL EXPENSES	260,032.86

ASSETS:

Cash in Bank	3,457.98
Cash on Hand	32.72

**Breakdown of Projected Cost
to Finish New Print Shop Building**

Electric	10,300.00
Lights	5,000.00
Ceiling tile and insulation	9,600.00
Fire and Burglar alarm	4,500.00
Interior doors and hardware	10,500.00
Plumbing fixtures and counters	1,450.00
Carpet and tile	5,500.00
Wood trim	1,000.00
Vinyl base trim	1,100.00
Counters	2,715.00
Storage shelves	5,000.00
Book and tract displays	500.00
Darkroom fixtures	3,000.00
Plate developing sink	785.00
Shelving and office furnishings	7,000.00
Telephone System	3,000.00
Septic system	3,000.00
Water lines, pump and tank	2,000.00
Sealed surface drive and parking ...	15,000.00
Outside lighting	300.00
Sidewalks	650.00
Loading dock	3,000.00
TOTAL	\$94,900.00

on the building, the cost has been very reasonable. In some cases, the labor has been donated totally.

The remaining figure of \$94,900.00 to complete the building seems an astronomical sum, and is somewhat higher than we previously anticipated, due to some unexpected expenses in the electrical wiring. Yet we launched upon this venture by faith, confident of God's leading and our great necessity to relocate out of the flood zone, and we therefore are relying upon His provision for the final phases of this project. We earnestly request your continued prayers for this need, as well as for the work here in general.

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Next spring will mark our 75th year of publishing, and we feel it would be appropriate to mark that milestone with a reunion of former workers and an open house for the new facility, if it is finished. We will keep you informed as plans develop.

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Who are we? Where are we now, and where are we going?

These are questions that must periodically and systematically be defined by any group or organization. In particular, it is the vision and self-identity which the Church of God must clearly understand about itself, and vocalize and teach to those new in Christ.

This need for a vision that makes for cohesiveness can lead into grievous error if not fixed within the bounds of the Bible and inspired by the Holy Spirit. The result of a vision outside of God's Word results in a manmade organization, by whatever name, where the keeping of outward observances and traditions are substituted for genuine spiritual unity.

When we feel the need to identify ourselves as something more than simple followers of Christ—when we are unsatisfied with that distinction alone—it could be that the flesh is at work, subtly seeking to glorify itself by assuming a title or an identity with a movement or a cause orchestrated through the flesh.

In the early 1500's, Martin Luther brought forth the dispensation of Justification. Then John Wesley, in the 1700's, was an instrument in the hand of God to teach of a sanctified life. At that point, the only thing lacking to make the Church what it was in its inception, was unity. Therefore in 1880, Daniel Warner, under the anointing of the Holy Spirit, preached that

Christians should come out from the confusion of sectarian bondage. Many responded by offering the hand of fellowship to every blood-washed believer.

Over 100 years have passed since that time and there is a need, as we await Christ's reappearance, to keep the fires of fervor burning. But in doing so, we do not look for another Gospel dispensation, for the Church is complete through justification, sanctification and unity.

Christ Himself prophesied what would take place during this waiting time and illustrated it with the analogy of the ten virgins, (Matt. 25:1-13), which contains a warning for us to keep oil in our lamps. To do this, we must approach God often, and draw from His vast storehouse of blessings for new anointing. We should not let the cares of life cause us to become lethargic.

Not only is a waiting time dangerous because of the peril of lethargy, but because of a vulnerability to rashness. When Moses went up on Mount Sinai to receive the Ten Commandments, the children of Israel grew weary while awaiting his return. They needed an identity of worship. This they did by melting precious metal to make for themselves a golden calf.

In this waiting period, let us not grow weary and foolishly attempt to create something to rally around. We have Christ to rally around. That is enough. The "golden calf" in many cases is nothing more than the desires and doctrines of men, and how inferior it is to worship an institution of man when we can worship God.

We are in the time when our purpose is to "occupy until He comes." (Luke 19:13.) One definition of "occupy" is, "To engage, employ, or busy oneself." What are we to be busy at in this evening time?

"And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come." Let us keep occupied spreading the gospel, so when Christ returns, the percentage of those ready to meet Him will be higher because of our efforts.

Through supporting the work of the Lord with our resources, our time and our talents, we stay involved, alert and encouraged, and avoid the threat of stagnation.

So what are we **to rally around and what is our identity?** Our identity is found in Christ. He is our rallying force. Our purpose should be to lift Him up in our daily lives, and in our individual spheres of influence. This we must

do so that others will come to Him and be saved. To accomplish this task, we must keep the Holy Spirit fresh within us and our energies focused on becoming more like our Saviour.

This must be our vision, and if we faithfully follow it, we will rejoice to see our Lord in the skies.



TN—"I need healing." —Virginia Hill

OK—"I have a prayer request for my son, Vernon, who has Alzheimer's." —Emma Dille

FL—"Remember me in prayer for a noise in my ears." —Kathleen Williams

LA—"I have a very urgent unspoken prayer request." —Sis. Sybil Goldsberry

OK—"Please pray for my children. I want so badly for them to be saved." —Patricia Munoz

FL—Pray for Sis. Helen Underdown's husband, Willard. His mind is failing.

FL—"Please ask the saints to pray for me. I am diabetic. Also pray that I will grow stronger in Jesus. My soul hungers for more and more of Him.

"My mother, Sis. Mattie Savage, is doing great. I cannot see her as often as I would like to because of a lack of transportation."

—Sis. Mary C. Williams

OK—Pray for Marvin Friend who is suffering with congestive heart failure.

EXERCISES TO AVOID

1. Jumping to conclusions
2. Spinning your wheels
3. Throwing your weight around
4. Running from the other fellow
5. Climbing the walls
6. Carrying a grudge
7. Flying off the handle

—Selected by Sis. Ruby Blanchard



Tulsa, OK—June 8-15

Jefferson, OR—June 13-22

Green Bank, WV—June 13-19

Loranger, LA—June 29-July 6

Fresno, CA—July 4-13

National (Monark Springs, MO)—July 18-27

Myrtle, MO—July 30-August 3

Bakersfield, CA—August 5-10

Boley, OK—August 18-24

California State (Pacoima)—August 22-31

Meeting Reports and Notices

WICHITA, KS MEETING REPORT

We are happy to report that God was faithful to us as always. He sent ministers for our whole meeting, with two (Sis. Mary Lawson and Bro. Charles Taylor) arriving the day before the meeting started. They were, therefore, able to attend Sis. Cornelia Williams' funeral on that Saturday. Sis. Cornelia will truly be missed by the congregation, but we submit to God's infinite will. The Lord, as always, sent in other ministers as some left, so that we always had the Word going forth. We had messages on: The Appeal of the Gospel, The Cross, A Touch from the Master's Hand, God Wants His People Victorious, Impunity and Persistence, Peace, The Heart, God Leads His Children Along, Fasting and Praying, Who Is Your God?, How Valuable are our Souls?, Standing in Faith, and Faith, Hope and Love.

The Lord knew what we needed and it is up to us to accept it and use what we hear so that we can progress and prosper in the things of the Lord. We appreciate the fact that God is so worthy of our love, life and time.

We appreciate the ones who came to be with us and help in our meeting. May they be rewarded for their sacrifice. The Lord sent Sis. Beverly Anderson from Dallas, TX and this was her first time to preach in one of our meetings. She preached some powerful and very effective messages. We praise God forevermore. May we all increase in strength. —Sis. Shirley Knight

MEETING REPORT FROM FOUR CORNERS, OK

Along with all those who feasted at the Master's table, we lift our hearts and voices in praise for the wonderful presence of the Lord during the recent revival, April 27- May 4. We stand amazed!

Having no scheduled minister as is sometimes customary, prayer was earnestly offered for a rich outpouring of Holy Spirit leadership. This we witnessed, and feel very humbled that He would move among us.

The Lord gave His gentle, loving correction, challenging, and uplifting conviction through various vessels. He sent a different minister for every service except one. He saw that many hearts were weary with battles recently fought. Many needed a deep stirring in their souls as they struggled with the cares of this life. Several young people were saved. Praise God, He knew just what we needed.

We appreciate those who obeyed the Lord and sacrificed to come and impart the precious Word to us. We desire to be responsible hearers and doers, and to be faithful to Him who is so faithful to us.

TULSA, OK CAMP MEETING

The Tulsa, OK, Camp Meeting, Lord willing, will begin on Sunday, June 8, and end on Sunday, June 15, 1997. The church address is: 1102 E. Pine Pl.

All are invited to attend these services. Please come praying that every soul will get the help they need.

There will be morning and night services, Monday through Saturday at 10:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m., with afternoon services on both Sundays.

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

—Sis. Portia Tompkins

GREEN BANK, WV CAMP MEETING

The camp meeting in Green Bank, WV, will begin Friday, June 13 and end Thursday, June 19. Two services will be held daily at 11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Accommodations are available for those wanting to stay on the grounds or in homes.

Motels are also close. Meals will be served daily.

To get to Green Bank from White Sulphur Springs, take Hwy. 92, which will take you by the church, on to Arbovale. The sign will be in the second large curve in Arbovale. From Elkins take Hwy. 250, south to Bartow. Go right at Hwys. 28 & 92. Come to Arbovale where you will see signs. We are expecting Holy Spirit filled services.

Please come with a burden for souls to be saved and the saints to be uplifted. If you need more information call Bro. Toney Samons: (304) 456-3017, or Bro. Mart Samons: (304) 456-4469.

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JEFFERSON, OR CAMP MEETING

The saints at Jefferson, OR send a hearty invitation to attend the annual camp meeting held June 13-22. RV hookups and other sleeping accommodations are available. Meals will be served in the dining hall. Let us know if you plan to come by bus, plane or train so arrangements can be made to pick you up.

For those driving: from Jefferson, go east on Marion Rd. approximately one mile, turn left on Skelton Rd. and go 1/2 mile. The chapel will be on the right. The address is 14810 Skelton Rd. SE, Jefferson, OR. For more information, contact Bro. Bob Wilson, pastor, at (541) 327-3621 or Bro. Clifford Smith at (503) 581-4575.

We are entreating the Lord to send vessels of His choosing, add a few to the fold and sanctify this gathering with His holy presence. Your presence would be a blessing to the saints at Jefferson.

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GENERAL SOUTHERN CAMP MEETING AT LORANGER, LA

You are invited to be a part of the camp meeting here. This will be the opportunity to receive lessons from God's Word and messages of His will. If we live by His spirit, His righteousness, His grace and faith, we can help one another make Heaven.

The meeting is to be Sunday, June 29th through Sunday, July 6, with services daily. Come preparing for a blessing. If you cannot attend, please pray for the Lord's work here.

There is a dormitory for the sisters and one for the brothers. Power and water hookups are provided for those with campers. Meals will be served and expenses met by freewill offerings.

From Loranger, go two miles south and

about three and one-half miles east on Hwy. 40.

For those traveling I-55, the grounds are about 10 miles east of the Tickfaw exit (take Hwy. 442 east which runs into Hwy. 40).

For more information write Nelson Doolittle: 51367 Narretto Rd., Loranger, LA 70446. Phone: (504) 878-6111. The chapel phone is (504) 878-2788.

FRESNO, CA CAMP MEETING

Lord willing, the Fresno, CA, Camp Meeting will convene July 4-13. There will be 7:30 p.m. services on the first Friday and Saturday. Three services will be held on both Sundays, with two services on the weekdays: 10:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.

Directions to the church are: Coming from the north on 99, take the Belmont exit, go east three miles to First St., turn right and go two blocks to Grant. The church is on First and Grant. Coming from the south, take the Venture exit, go east to First St., turn left and follow to Grant.

For further information, contact the pastor, Bro. Charles Taylor: (209) 348-9029, or Bro. Charles Parish: (209) 221-6808.

NATIONAL CAMP MEETING MONARK SPRINGS, MO

The National Camp Meeting of the Church of God will be held, Lord willing, at Neosho (Monark Springs), MO, July 18-27, 1997. All are cordially invited to come and bring others to enjoy the blessings we are expecting from the Lord.

The Monark Springs campground is located approximately five miles east of Neosho, MO. It is one mile east and 3/4 mile south of the intersection of Highways 86 and 71 Alternate.

If you travel to Neosho by bus, you may telephone the campground 472-6427, or Bro. Mike Hightower, 451-3636, for transportation.

The camp meeting is conducted on a free-will offering basis. There is no charge for meals or lodging on the campground. You are welcome to come and enjoy the meeting. We are confident that God will supply every need. Meals will be served in the dining hall. Dormitory space, tents and trailer spots are available on a first come basis. Trailer spots include

electricity, water and sewer hookups. Motels are available nearby, but reservations should be made in advance.

All correspondence about tents and dormitory spaces should be addressed to Sis. DeLoris Bradley, Rt. 1, Bartlett, KS 67332. Phone: (316) 226-3390. She will be coordinating requests for sleeping quarters on the campground.

—Business managers: Randel Bradley (above address), or Mike Hightower, 13896 Newt Dr., Neosho, MO 64850.

CALIFORNIA STATE CAMP MEETING

The Annual California State Camp Meeting at 12312 Osborne Place, Pacoima, CA, will convene, Lord willing, from August 22 through August 31, 1997. The first service will be at 7:30 p.m., on August 22. There will be three worship services daily: 10:30 a.m., 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., with the anticipation of God's blessings upon each one. Please pray that souls will be saved, sanctified, re-consecrated and encouraged, and will seek to be healed and blessed to the glory and honor of God.

For information or assistance, contact: Sunset Guest Home (818) 899-2022 or Bro. Ed Sorrell (818) 890-2536.

DUNCANNON, PA REVIVAL

Revival services are planned at the Church of God chapel in Duncannon, PA, for September 10-14, with morning and evening services scheduled. The first service will be Wednesday evening.

Accommodations and camper sites are limited, but we are looking to the Lord to supply all the needs for the meeting, both temporally and spiritually.

For further details and to acquire accommodations, please contact Sis. Virginia Myers: (717) 834-4541, or Bro. Stanley and Sis. Nancy Huss: (717) 834-4490.

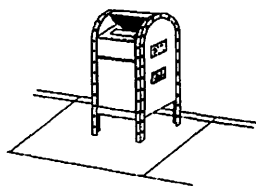
The chapel location is 5 1/2 miles from Duncannon on Route 849, on the right side of the road. The chapel number is: (717) 567-6988.

Please pray that the congregations will be more fully equipped as ambassadors for Christ and that souls will be added to His kingdom.

—Sis. Barbara Campbell

LETTERS FROM THE READERS

KS—Greetings in love to every reader of the *Faith and Victory*: It is with great thanksgiving to our wonderful Lord that we tell what He has done for us. I wish we had the words to praise Him, for He is WORTHY of ALL glory and honor!



On the morning of April 17, 1997, we read Psalm 115:11-15 in family worship. "Ye that fear the Lord, trust in the Lord: he is their help and their shield. The Lord hath been mindful of us: he will bless us;... He will bless them that fear the Lord, both small and great. The Lord shall increase you more and more, you and your children. Ye are blessed of the Lord...."

Late that afternoon, Herschel had a flat on the tractor, and was in a hurry to get it fixed before the station closed. It was one of those rare times when no one thought about the whereabouts of our baby, Davis, 14 months, who had been playing outside with the older children. Herschel could see there was no one on either side of the Suburban, but Davis was apparently directly behind. When Herschel backed up, he knocked Davis down and rolled over him. Then, in turning, the front wheel ran over his leg. Herschel thought it felt like one of the children's toys; then he saw his little boy lying in front of the vehicle.... One cannot describe the sheer horror we felt when we saw that such a dreaded thing had actually occurred. By the grace of God we were able to calm down, and immediately brought Davis into the house and began to pray.

We could see no blood anywhere. Davis was crying, and when I took him in my arms, he felt normal. Still, not knowing yet where the injury was, we expected to see him breathe his last any second. We prayed and knew God would not take our baby unless it was right. We had given Davis to Him at birth. We also knew that, without a doubt, we were praying to an omnipotent God Who had raised the dead to life, and could help us.

As we walked into the house, Herschel's mother was ringing our phone, and when I told her what had just happened, she immediately hung up and called around. We are blessed to have several saints living within a mile or two.

Soon, they began coming in. I asked someone to fix Davis a bottle, but he fell asleep before it was ready. We then began to examine him, and did not see any sign of injury until we took off his shoe. There was some discoloration on the bottom of his foot, a little swelling, along with some marks on both sides of his knee. *No broken skin, and apparently no broken bones!* We all began to realize that the Angel of the Lord had camped about us, and we had just witnessed a great MIRACLE. Just a few more inches, and the story would have been completely different.

That night, Davis slept all night. The next day, he crawled around and played happily. By evening, he was putting weight on that leg, and even took a few steps. The following morning, he was walking all around, occasionally getting down to crawl. Surely the Lord has increased us more and more, for it is like He has given us our children twice. Thank the Lord for His great mercy to us. What a mighty God we serve!

We also want to thank the Lord for touching our son, Walter, age 7, when he had the flu in February. His fever was so high it caused him to have a seizure. I was home alone with my children, and at the moment did not recognize it for what it was. Naturally, I was greatly frightened, and I thought I was holding my dying child! As I called on God for mercy, I felt a great peace. I do not know what danger he was in, but the LORD heard our cry for help, and came to our rescue. How thankful we were to be able to call the saints. They come quickly, and oh, what a comfort they are!

Long overdue in your hearing is thanksgiving to God for healing our son, Loren, of a health problem. This was a burden we had for almost two years, but the healing is complete. Thank the Lord.

We desire to raise our children to trust God. He is surely giving us the foundation to build upon. Our battles right now have a lot to do with the temporal burdens of life.... I am sure we are not alone in that! But we want to love the Lord more than anything, and not let the cares of life choke our spiritual growth. By His grace, we will live for Him and give Him whatever He calls forth from our lives.

Let us all be true and faithful to Him, and to one another. Again, we magnify His precious name.

—Herschel and Jeanne Eck,
Caitlin, Walter, Loren and Davis

MS—Dear Publishers of *Faith and Victory*: I would like to subscribe to your magazine and am enclosing the amount of subscription, plus a small love offering.

A few words as to why I am interested in your magazine. I am 53 years old and have been a Christian just over a year. My mother was a Christian at the time of my birth. My great aunt was staying with mother to help her at this time and Aunt Cora McMillan prayed for a blessing from God to be on that baby, me. She also gave me my middle name, Ray, after "Ray Key," whom she respected very much.

Aunt Cora has long gone to be with the Lord but I believe her prayers over the years, and those of my mother, Flora Keller, have stayed with me until I accepted the Lord as my personal Savior.

Mom is now 91 years old and still reads your paper faithfully. I have become so familiar with this paper over the years, I now want to become a subscriber myself....

Thank you, —Kenneth Keller
— — — — —

Grand Cayman—Dear Brother: I am writing this letter because I have read *Personal Experiences of S. O. Susag*. I am a Christian in the Church of God and I am going to continue to serve the Lord and work for Him, whatever He asks of me to do. I also believe in Holy Spirit healing and would like to become like Bro. S. O. Susag someday. I have a lot of faith in the Lord. My parents are both Christians, which I believe helps me to have faith in Jesus. My mother has been a Christian for over forty years, and my father for about twenty years.

One of my reasons for writing to you brethren is because the doctor says I have a virus in my body that they can't do very much about, but right now I am not sick. So I am asking you to pray for me, and whatever you can do for me by faith in the name of Jesus. Please pray that I may be delivered from this sickness in Jesus' precious name. Amen.

Yours faithfully, —James A. Bodden
— — — — —

NC—Dear Bro. Murphey: Praise the Lord. I give glory and praise in the name of Jesus. I thank the Lord that I am still saved.

I send tracts out. I have a mailing list and am steadfast in sending the tracts out. What a blessing all of you wonderful saints are in publishing the tracts to help lost souls through

our Lord Jesus Christ. May God bless you all.
Thank you, —Sis. Carol McCain
— — — — —

MI—Dear Bro. Wayne: Greetings to all of you in the dear and sweet name of Jesus. I praise the Lord for all He has done for me. He has healed me many times through the years of my life, and I love Him for it. I tell Him every day how much I love Him. Jesus is the love of our souls! I wouldn't want to live without my God, and am so glad we have heaven to look forward to. I thank all of you for the good *Faith and Victory* paper. It is a wonderful paper and a great blessing to my soul.

I am now feeling sick with the flu, but Jesus will heal me from it. He has never let me down yet. He doesn't forsake His children.

May God bless all of you dear loved ones in body and soul. I love you, and many thanks for your good prayers.

Yours in Christ, —Sis. Olive Getterson
— — — — —

OR—Dear Bro. Wayne and all at the Print Shop: Greetings in Jesus' name. We ask God's blessings on all there and that He will reward your labors with souls brought to Jesus for salvation.

So many each day are called into eternity without any time to prepare or get ready to stand in the last great judgment. So many are ignorant of their need for salvation while they are on the time side of eternity. Satan is surely loosed from the thousand years of being bound and is deceiving the nations, even as the Word of God has foretold.

Daily we pray for our unsaved loved ones, the loved ones of all the saints, as well as for all the unsaved in the world. May God help all who are trusting in Him to so live that our lives will bring no reproach on His name, and whatever influence our lives have on others will be for good and not for evil.

With Christian love,
—Bro. Bill and Sis. Ruby Busch
— — — — —

OK—Dear Bro. Wayne and saints: I rejoice in the Lord for who He is and for His goodness in saving my husband, Jackie Riley, March 3rd, 1997, after dealing with him mightily while he was in the prison in Miami, Florida. Surely God is almighty, still answering prayers, and is exalted above all the enemy's doings! I thank God and all the saints who prayed for my husband and his family over these many years.

I was in Florida seven weeks and visited him six times, witnessing for myself the complete and thorough deliverance of God in his soul. He sends his love to all the saints, thanking all for their prayers. He told me to tell the saints that "He is back and is in this forever." I cannot cease to praise God for the depth of conviction, humbling, and change seen in him through the power of God.

Please keep praying for him and his prison ministry. There are men calling for literature whose lives the Lord has touched through Jackie's witness. Also pray for my oldest daughter, little Bonnie, who's given her life to God also. Please pray for my other children that God will bring them into His ark before it's too late....

Yours in Him, —Sis. Bonnie Riley

LA—Dear Sir: Please remember me in your prayers. I need healing to my body. Two years ago next month, my husband dropped dead, and I have to live alone. I am the daughter of Etta B. Averett, who turned 98 the 20th of March, 1997. She stays at my sister's, and is bedfast with a broken hip.

Yours truly, —Mae Averett

MO—Dear Bro. Wayne: Greetings to you in the precious name of Jesus. I am glad that He is just the same yesterday, today and forever. It is wonderful that we can place our confidence in Him and go in a steady gait to do His will.

Isaiah said, "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee." I want to trust in Him for ever....

Your saved Brother, —T. V. McMillian

OK—Dear Bro. Wayne and Sis. Mary: I greet you in the lovely name of Jesus, our Saviour and Lord. I thank the Lord that He has blessed me at the age of 89 to still be able to read the *Faith and Victory* paper, which I enjoy so very much. It usually comes on the 1st of each month, so I am anxious to get a new one in the next couple of days. I enjoy the articles and especially the letters from God's family. May the Lord bless is my prayer.

Love, —Myrtis Flynn

Fear knocked on the door,
Faith answered.
No one was there.

MISSIONARY REPORT



From India...

April 17, 1997—Dear Bro. Wayne Murphey: Greetings to you and the dear saints in America.

God blessed our Vacation Bible School for children at Thrikkannamangal during the first week of April. More than 130 children attended, including children from Catholic and Hindu homes. We got a chance to teach them new songs and Bible lessons. Several children got saved.

God also blessed our conventions at Nadukkunnu and Kodali during the first and second week of April. We have the desire to conduct a youth camp meeting during the last week of April.

We appreciate the prayers of the saints for the needs of the Lord's work in India. Our prayers are for you.

Yours in Him, —John Varghese



Gladys Irene Thomas-House Jackson, eldest daughter of the late Robert T. "Thomas" House and Mary A. Phillips "Thomas" House was born in Dover, OK, on April 13, 1927 and passed away on February 24, 1997 at the age of 69 years, 10 months and 12 days in Oakland, CA.

She attended school in Dover at Lone Oak and Booker T. Washington. Personal illness caused Gladys to miss two years of her early education and she later stopped school. She

always had a desire to learn and in the last years of her life was being tutored.

Gladys and Samuel K. Jackson were married on January 6, 1949 in Kingfisher, OK. There were no children born to this union. As a young girl, Gladys helped her mother care for the younger children, and throughout her life she gave and offered advice to her sisters. She was always there and willing to take care of family members that became ill.

Gladys was an independent person; she was a domestic worker and homemaker. Her love for children prompted her to do child care in her home before she retired. She loved dogs, sewing and quilting, gardening veggies and flowers, and was quick to share things made or raised with her family.

She accepted Christ as a child and again took Him as her personal Savior 20 years ago. Gladys was a member of the Church of God. She loved the Lord and really enjoyed the Lord's services and doing things she felt God led her to do.

Her health condition was not good when she left for California, but she felt the responsibility to care for Aunt Alma. Gladys will truly be missed by many. Her husband, parents and three sisters preceded her in death. She leaves to mourn, then cherish her memory, seven sisters, Ardelia E. McCray-Ballard, Oretha A. Faust, Virgie L. Walker-Logan, Sonya M. House, Gaynell N. Ross and Mary E. "Ella Mae" Cooks, all of Wichita, KS, Ora D. Scruggs of Modesto, CA; two uncles, Taft House of Dover, OK and Lincoln "Demp" House of Oklahoma City, OK; two great aunts, Harriet Riley and Virgie Gattison of Oklahoma City, OK; five in-law aunts, Alice Gracey, Glennell Gracey, Marie House, Opal House-Spencer and Lois House; and an abundance of nieces, nephews, friends and saints.

Sis. Gladys's funeral service was held in the Jackson Mortuary Chapel, Wichita, KS, by Bro. Emmanuel Gracey and Sis. Essie Cleveland, with the final resting place being in the Maple Grove Cemetery, Wichita, KS.

— — — — —
Cornelia Lea Gordon Williams, eldest child of the late Robert and Bessie L. Gordon, was born in Okeene, OK, June 21, 1915, and passed away April 14, 1997, at the age of 81 years, 3 months and 14 days, in Wichita, KS.

She attended school at Dunbar High School in Hennessey, OK and has lived in Oklahoma, California and Kansas.

In her youth, she was born again and thereby, became a member of the Church of God. She loved the Lord and was faithful to attend church services. She knew the power of prayer and was a real prayer warrior who fought a good fight right to the end. In 1973 she married Lewis Williams, who was a minister and pastor of the Church of God at 16th and Ash in Wichita, KS. She was quite busy and involved for the 15 years of their marriage as a pastor's wife, until his death in 1989. She traveled many miles, doing a lot of the driving, and met and helped a lot of people, attending meetings in several different states. She was a gracious woman and an accent to her husband's ministerial role.

Cornelia was thought of by some as "an angel walking around on earth." She had the special gift of taking care of people. She loved people and always wanted to do something good for others. She had no children of her own but had ones special to her that she considered as her children. She will be dearly missed by many.

Her husband, Lewis Williams; her mother, Bessie Gordon; her father, Robert Gordon; one sister, Anna, and two brothers, Glen and Robert all preceded her in death.

She leaves to cherish her memory: one foster daughter, Izetta McCray; one brother, Lester Gordon of Natchitoches, LA; two sisters, Grace Williams Reece of Oklahoma City, OK and Audrey Brown Thompson of Lancaster, CA; one aunt, Hazel Clark of Pacoima, CA; a close friend and live-in companion, Rochelle Christian; her four special children, Sonja, Joy, Christena and Alice; one adopted sister, Ardelia McCray Ballard; one sister-in-law, Marie House of Dover, OK and a host of other relatives, saints and friends.

Funeral services were conducted by Bro. Emmanuel Grace and Sis. Shirley Knight. Sis. Cornelia was buried in the Darwin Cemetery, Okeene, OK.

— — — — —
Mamie D. Norcutt, age 88, died on Saturday, May 10, 1997 in Shawnee, OK. She was born on September 23, 1908, in Exeter, MO to Gilbert and Addie (Kelly) Norcutt. She graduated from John Brown University in Pittsburg, KS and was a teacher in a number of country schools around Ft. Scott, KS, where she had a profound effect upon the lives of many children. One of her students, Janice Russell, who is currently a district judge, beautifully captured the significance of Sis. Mamie's impressive teaching career, in a letter she wrote her dated

February 22, 1987. In part it said: *Dear Teacher, I have been intending so long to sit down and write to you, and send you this newspaper special that came out last summer. I thought that you would be proud to see that two of your girls are considered 'outstanding women' in this county. And there is absolutely no doubt in my mind that the good education you gave us, along with important lessons about hard work and independence, were big factors in the success that Charlotte and I have had.*

I often think back to those days at Poplar Grove, and I wonder how in the world you managed to teach us anything under those circumstances. Juggling so many different lessons for so many different grade levels must have been a nightmare. But you did it, and did it well, I think. I don't think one kid that went to school to you there had anything but a top-notch primary education. I knew all I really needed to know to get through high school and college, anyway.

And I remember all the fun we had, playing dare base and softball, and building hideouts. You know, we got so good at building those hideouts out of prairie grass that some of them were actually waterproof, and we could eat lunch in there even when it was raining.

And I remember those big boys, standing beside your chair, waiting to ask you a question, with their arms around your shoulders. Some of those boys were doing a man's work before and after school, and yet they were never ashamed to be affectionate toward you.

You were a good teacher, and we all loved you, and we all feel lucky to have gone to school to you. Love, Janice.

She moved to the Golden Rule Home in Shawnee, OK, in July, 1986. She was a member of the Gordon Cooper Church of God. She was preceded in death by her parents and six sisters, Olive Norcutt, Ora Wentworth, Lottie Saloan, Rachel Pruitt, Naomi McNiell, Ella Norcutt; and three brothers, Noble Norcutt, Forrest Norcutt and Myrl Norcutt. Survivors include a number of nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held at the Resthaven Funeral Home, conducted by Bros. Wayne Murphey and Michael Smith, with interment in the Johnson Cemetery, north of Shawnee, OK.

Lois May (Hightower) Davis was born May 22, 1932 to Alvin R. and Mabel (Kelley) Hightower, and passed from this life on March 17, 1997, in

Shawnee, OK, after having attained the age of 64 years, 9 months and 23 days.

Sis. Lois was reared in Oregon, also living in Arkansas and Missouri. She graduated from Cascade Union High School of Marion Co., Oregon in 1951, and moved back to Oklahoma in the late 1960's. She also graduated from Northeastern A & M of Miami, OK in 1970.

On January 8, 1973, she married Harold Davis in Guthrie, OK. She lived there for 20 years, and had recently moved to Shawnee, OK.

Sis. Lois was a member of the Shawnee Church of God. She gave her heart to the Lord at a tender young age and was baptized as a teenager. She worshipped all her life with the Church of God. She loved the Lord dearly and was faithful to her heavenly calling all of her life. She was very active and creative with her hands and loved to design and make crafts for her home and as gifts to others. She loved nature and the outdoors, often including flowers and plants in her crafts. While living in Guthrie, she enjoyed working at the Path of Life School.

She was preceded in death by her husband on October 6, 1981; her parents and a brother, James P. Hightower.

Survivors include two sisters and brothers-in-law, Roberta L. and Clayton Gaines of Thayer, MO, Charlotte N. and James Huskey of Ensenada, Mexico; one sister-in-law, Esther Hightower of Shawnee, OK, and numerous friends and family.

Funeral services were conducted at the Cooper Funeral Home, Tecumseh, OK, by Bros. Michael Smith and James Bell.



THANK YOU

Dear saints: We want to thank each person who sent flowers and cards when our mother died. I am sorry we haven't responded to each one, but we don't have addresses for all. We appreciate the love and kindness shown, and give our special thanks to those at the Golden Rule Home who helped us during Mom's last days. May God bless you all so much.

—Dena Porter, Donna Sorrell and families



Question and Answer

(Continued from page 3.)

saints. In Revelation 7:3 it says "...Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have SEALED [marked] the servants of our God in their foreheads." In Revelation 14:1 we read,

"And I looked, and, lo, a Lamb stood on the mount Sion, and with him an hundred forty and four thousand, having his Father's name written in their foreheads." This company represented the great host of triumphant, overcoming saints (the entire company of the redeemed) because we read in Revelation 3:12, "Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God,..." The votaries of this false religion received the name of the beast. The true people of God are all marked with His name in their foreheads.

"Forehead" is a symbol of intellect or mind and God marks all of His true followers with His law written in their minds and hearts—Hebrews 8:10. The members of this or any false religion are all marked with the laws, ordinances, doctrines, rituals and creeds of their respective religions in their minds and hearts—the "mark of the beast." God seals or marks His true saints with His Spirit, the holy Spirit of promise. (Ephesians 1:13; Ephesians 4:30; II Corinthians 1:22.) The Spirit of God, with His fruits as described in Galatians 5:22-23 being manifest in the life, is the identifying mark of all true Christians. So likewise, the false and apostate religions mark all their subjects with their spirit and the fruits of it in their lives. God's Spirit is the Spirit of Truth and guides His followers into all truth (John 16:13) and writes the truth in their hearts (II Corinthians 3:3). The spirit of this false system of religion is a spirit of error and marks its subjects with error, superstition, and doctrines of men.

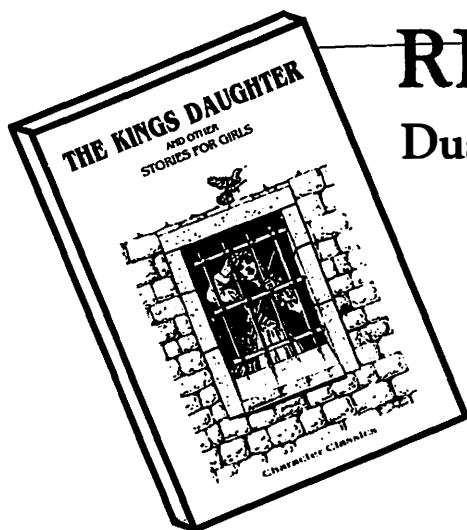
There have been three major systems of false religion dealt with in the Revelation. One is paganism or heathenism (the dragon). The other two are Papalism and Protestantism, symbolized by the two beasts of Revelation 13. The same false spirit runs through the whole line and it is all God-dishonoring. In this way the second beast (Protestantism) caused its subjects to receive the mark of the first beast (Papalism) by injecting into them the same spirit of error, also by copying in their man-made creeds and disciplines some of the errors of the first beast. Also, they patterned their system after the human system of man-rule and human government.

It is said that no man could buy nor sell if he did not have the mark of the beast. Buying and selling are symbols of the ordinary pursuits and privileges of an ordinary citizen in intermingling

with society. To be forbidden to buy and sell would be equivalent to being banished from society. This same principle has been carried over into human religious systems where one who does not fellowship their spirit and subscribe to their creeds and doctrines of men have no rights or privileges among them. The true ministers of God are not permitted to give out or preach the gospel (sell) in their assemblies and wherever the true ministers of God are preaching the truth, the votaries of these religions are warned to not go there or to be affected by their preaching (buy). This idea has been especially pronounced in the Papal system in so much that any of their members who ventured to attend a church service other than the Catholic are required to do penance for it and if they persist in such a practice they are renounced as heretics and excommunicated and consigned to hell and shunned by faithful Catholics as those accursed. I understand that in recent years the Catholic stand on this is being modified as an ecumenical move, but up until recent times, one was severely dealt with for failure to recognize the church and its decrees as absolute. They could not buy nor sell—engage in the regular pursuits of life and mingle with society.



Daniel "purposed in his heart." Let us purpose in our hearts to break cycles. Let us purpose to go home, talk through problems and live differently. I know from experience that you must go home, sit down and "confess your faults one to another that you may be healed" ...that your marriage may be healed. Husbands, acknowledge to your wife your inconsiderate ways, putting other people continually ahead of her. We know that sometimes you both have to put other things first, but that should not be the rule. You must chart your relationship together to fill each other's needs.



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**Excerpts Taken From
June, 1947 *Faith and Victory***

"Concerning my trip to Cuba: I had some knowledge of Sister Faith Stewart's work as a missionary in India. So I felt especially led of the Lord to visit Cuba and see her work. Now I want to tell you this, after spending twenty-four days in the children's home she is conducting and visiting the mission work the Lord has enabled her to raise up or establish, I am thoroughly convinced that Sister Stewart is doing a very commendable work."

—George W. Stephenson

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