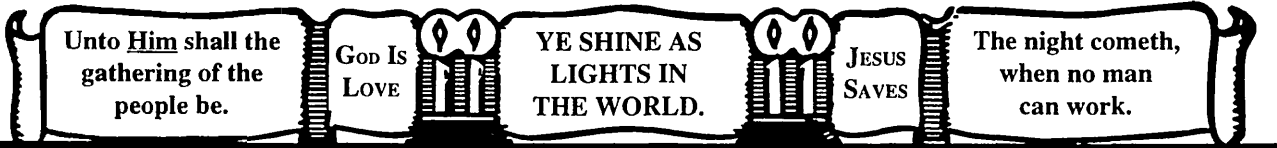


FAITH AND VICTORY

USPS184-660

Church of God Servant



Volume 77, No. 10 77th Year Guthrie, Oklahoma \$3.00 Per Year Jan., 2000

Another Year

Another year I enter,
 Its history unknown
 Oh, how my feet would tremble
 To tread its paths alone.

But I have heard a whisper,
 I know I shall be blessed;
 "My presence shall go with thee,
 And I will give thee rest."

What will the new year bring me?
 I may not, must not know;
 Will it be love and rapture,
 Or loneliness and woe?

Hush, hush, I hear His whisper,
 I surely shall be blessed;
 "My presence shall go with thee,
 And I will give thee rest."
 —Bessie Magness Dickerson

In Philadelphia, in 1875, evangelist Dwight L. Moody observed the closing of the old year with a special service. At this service, he and a respected Bible scholar, William S. Plumer, were seated on a platform before an audience. The scene was described thus by friend Henry Clay Trumbull:



"Mr. Moody was on this occasion represented, not as the teacher, but as the inquirer. Plumer stood out as the teacher, to whom the younger Moody came with his questionings of heart. Few men, if any, in the world better knew the anxious cravings and doubts of the inquiring soul than Moody, as he had met with them in his varied evangelistic labors.... (And) few theologians could have more wisely and simply answered those inquiries than the large-hearted, large-framed, venerable patriarch (Plumer) before whom Moody stood.

"The whole scene evidenced the simplicity of trust in God as the sinner came to Him through Jesus Christ, in his need and in his confidence.

"Moody and Plumer were at one in this interview. A few specimen questions and answers will illustrate."

Moody: "Is any given amount of distress necessary to genuine conversion?"

Plumer: "Lydia had no distress—we read of none. God opened her heart, and she attended to the things spoken by Paul. But the jailer of Philippi would not have accepted Christ without

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some alarm. If you will accept the Son of God, you need have no trouble. There is nothing in trouble that sanctifies the soul."

Moody: "Well, what is conversion?"

Plumer: "Glory be to God there is such a thing as conversion. To be converted is to turn from self, self-will, self-righteousness, all self-confidence, and from sin itself, and to be turned to Christ."

Moody: "Can a man be saved here tonight, before twelve o'clock—saved all at once?"

Plumer: "Why not? In my Bible I read of three thousand men gathered together one morning, all of them murderers, their hands stained with the blood of the Son of God. They met in the morning, and before night they were all baptized members of Christ."

Moody: "How can I know that I am saved?"

Plumer: "Because of the fact that God is true. 'Let God be true, but every man a liar.' If I accept Jesus Christ, it is not Mr. Moody's word, nor Mr. Sankey's; it is the Word of the living God, whose name is Amen. 'He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life.'"

Moody: "What if I haven't got faith enough?"

Plumer: "Glory to God, if I can touch the hem of my Saviour's garment I shall be saved. A little faith is as truly faith as a great deal of faith. A little coal of fire in the ashes is as truly fire as the glowing heat of a furnace."

Moody: "I don't feel that I love Christ enough."

Plumer: "And you never will. To all eternity, you never will love Him as much as He deserves to be loved."

'Had I ten thousand tongues,
Not one should silent be;
Had I ten thousand hearts,
I'd give them all to Thee.'

"As the hour of midnight approached, the appeals of Mr. Moody, following this illustrative inquiry meeting, grew more and more earnest, and the solemnity of the service deepened. Just before twelve o'clock he asked all present to join in silent prayer.

"While all heads were still bowed the profound stillness was broken by Mr. Sankey's singing of *Almost Persuaded*. Then the closing moments of the passing year were given to earnest prayer, especially for those who had risen to ask for it at Mr. Moody's call, and were now urged to a final decision.

"When at midnight the sounding out of the bell of Independence Hall was the signal for all

the bells of the city and the steam-whistles on every side to greet the incoming year, Mr. Moody wished all a 'Happy New Year,' and that never-to-be-forgotten watch-night service closed. Its echoes are still resounding in many hearts on earth and in heaven, and their gratitude is now deeper than ever to dear Mr. Moody and his fellow-worker on that sacred occasion."

—Taken from *The Life of D. L. Moody*



The Greatest Gifts



As the month of December and Christmas-time approached, many were busy with the bustlings and activities of purchasing and preparing "gifts" for their loved ones. While it is all very good to remember those you love, especially at Christmas, let us not forget what the greatest gifts really are. For so many, when the holidays are passed and gone, so is their "spirit of Christmas"—their joy and happiness in giving.

Sometimes I think that the very greatest gifts we can give or receive in life are the little, everyday opportunities to bring happiness to others. How about giving someone a nice, big smile and a pleasant "good morning?" The **gift of your cheerfulness** may go a long way in helping that person have a good day. Or maybe you could send a friendly note to someone you love. The **gift of your thoughtfulness** may give them a lift that day. And what about that prayer you whispered for the one in need? Your **gift of concern** will surely be felt! How about being a contented and willing worker? The **gift of your cooperation** will help keep peace among those with whom you live closest.

I read about some children who were arranging the figures of Mary, Joseph and the Baby Christ in the manger scene. They lit two candles and carefully tried them in various positions until the light fell exactly where they wanted it. One child excitedly said, "Be sure that Jesus shows!"

If we could just grasp hold of the thought of carrying this out in our daily, sometimes complicated, lives! One way to be sure that our candles are lit and shining so that Jesus may be seen is through giving the common, "everyday" little gifts that mean so much!

—Raleah Campbell



The Scriptural Meaning of Prophets and Prophecy and Can Women Share In This Gift?



By Bro. Harlan Sorrell
(Continued from last month.)

It is Holy Spirit leadership and control that makes the Church of God the Church of God. Without it the Church loses its divine and heavenly attributes and ceases to be "of God." The human element then moves in where the divine should be, and the result is "false prophecy." This presents a distorted view of the truth and the church too, because prophecy that proceeds from human wisdom is earthly, rather than divine and heavenly. It cannot search the heart and meet the real need of the soul, because it does not carry with it divine insight. It is important that we realize the utter inadequacy of human understanding and judgment in spiritual matters, lean very heavily on divine wisdom for guidance to tune our spiritual ears to the voice of the Holy Spirit, know when He is speaking and when He is not speaking, and to ever retain an "open ear" for Him to speak to us through whatever means He chooses.

Many times I have attended a Spirit-led service and been richly fed through vessels I had previously supposed to be not so capable. Something happened that was beyond the human—they prophesied! The Spirit spoke through them. And because I had my ear tuned to the voice of the Spirit, I got the message in spite of the vessel. The result was that I was edified, stirred, inspired and challenged. This is the purpose of the assemblies of God's people, that we may edify, challenge and comfort one another. Why prefer one above another or prohibit any member of the body to speak on the grounds of gender, if that member is inspired by the Holy Spirit? Such restrictions of man-rule can only serve to grieve the Spirit and deprive us of valuable edification. We should not look so much upon the instrumentality, but rather the divine unction being administered through the instrumentality. If the unction is not there, then we have a right to question the instrumentality. But if it is, then we should respect it, and recognize what God is doing. Let us remember the admonition of I Thessalonians 5:19-20: "Quench not the Spirit. Despise not prophesyings." Our own prejudices can cause us to quench the Spirit. Let us beware!

Now I would like to consider a scripture from I Timothy 2:11-15, which is supposed by some to be evidence against women preaching the gospel. The scripture reads: "Let the woman learn in silence with all subjection. But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence. For Adam was first formed, then Eve. And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression. Notwithstanding she shall be saved in childbearing, if they continue in faith and charity and holiness with sobriety."

A careful examination of this text will reveal that a domestic relationship is implied. Husband, wife and childbearing stand out as prominent features in the context dealt with here. Notice that Paul said "I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man." The man that Paul is referring to here is evidently the woman's husband. However far this text may be applied, it cannot possibly be justly applied in the prohibition of a woman exercising a spiritual gift bestowed upon her by the Holy Spirit for the overall profit of the body of Christ and the furtherance of the gospel. Furthermore, nowhere in the New Testament are women commanded to subject themselves to men in a general sense. They are commanded to subject themselves to their own husbands, but then only as is fit in the Lord. Also, in the New Testament Church, all of us, both men and women, are required to submit ourselves one to another and be clothed with humility. (See I Peter 5:5.) There are no "big I's" and "little you's" but all are equal in Christ Jesus.

There is one other text which is supposed to teach that women are prohibited to preach the gospel. It is found in I Corinthians 14:34-35. It reads as follows: "Let your women keep silence in the churches: for it is not permitted unto them to speak; but they are commanded to be under obedience, as also saith the law. And if they will learn any thing, let them ask their husbands at home: for it is a shame for women to speak in the church."

I would like to conclude this writing with a
(Continued on page 13.)

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, 4318 S. Division, Guthrie, OK 73044 (USPS184-660).

(Periodical postage paid at Guthrie, OK)

Notice to subscribers: When 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.

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Single copy, one year \$3.00
 Package of 5 papers to one address, one year \$12.00
 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; 1 Chron. 29:9; 11 Cor. 9:7; and Luke 6:38.

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

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

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

FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE

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 Office phone numbers: 405-282-1479, 800-767-1479;
 fax number: 405-282-6318; home phone: 405-282-6170.
 Internet address: <http://www.faithpublishing.com>

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



The January 1999 editorials opened with these words: "This month of January discovers us poised at the headwaters of uncharted territory."

We have now completed the year of 1999, and experienced what God had in store for the gospel printing work.

With gratitude we acknowledge He has been faithful.

We thank God for making it possible to complete another year of spreading His message. Besides publishing the *Faith and Victory*, *Bible Lessons*, *Beautiful Way*, tracts and books, and carrying on personal correspondence with those who contact the Print Shop, we have also made the Gospel available world-wide over the internet. Efforts have also been made to maintain a vigorous foreign missionary project, as well as make the *Faith and Victory* available on cassette tape. All these efforts are done in order to "sow beside all waters." (Isa. 32:20.) We appreciate the co-workers who have used their time and abilities to assist in advancing the cause.

This work continues to be an undertaking of "faith and victory." Faith Publishing House came into existence through the trials experienced and overcome by Bro. Fred Pruitt, my grandfather. His example of dependence on God is something we rely on yet today. And we are finding God's mercies in response to our needs just as large and the victories just as refreshing.

As we enter a new millennium, it seems beyond comprehension that the Lord will not have returned before another 1000 years passes. But of that we cannot be certain. Even if the Lord withholds His coming, within a century almost every person will have changed residence from earth to eternity. That alone is a sobering thought and one which should affect how we live from day to day. Changes are inevitable, and so we accept life a day at a time and thank God for His promise to be with us always, even unto the end of the world.

A supply of wall calendars for the year 2000 are in stock and ready for sale. Also available are 1999 yearbooks for both the *Faith and Victory* and *The Beautiful Way* Sunday

School papers. Calendars sell for \$3.00 each and yearbooks of both the *Faith and Victory* and the *Beautiful Way* are \$5.00 per copy. All prices include the cost of postage and handling.

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We thank everyone who remembered us over the holiday season with cards, letters, offerings and words of encouragement. The children of God are a special people and we appreciate your thoughtfulness.

If in the new year we can be of assistance to you, please let us know. **Our telephone number is 1-800-767-1479.** If you would like to reach my office directly, dial extension 101. Otherwise, when you call, if you are uncertain about which extension to dial, just hold the line through the recorded message and someone should answer.

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May this year of 2000 be an outstanding one for each of you.

Love in Christ, —Bro. Wayne Murphey

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Prayer Requests



NC—"Please pray for me. I need help from the Lord." —Sis. Faye Minton

MO—"I have a prayer request for two of my sons who are in need of salvation." —Sis. Nelva Stanley

NC—Pray for Sis. Margaret Dunn who has severely injured her arm in a fall.

FL—"We would like to pass along three very urgent requests for prayer. Please pass these on to anyone you know who knows the power of prayer.

"The first one is for a man by the name of Willie. He is the brother of my Aunt Linda. He has been diagnosed with cancer which has spread to different parts of his body. He is a saved man and it is remarkable to hear what God has already done for him. The doctors have been surprised by his progress. Please pray that God will heal him and lengthen his life and manifest his power in this affliction.

"The second request is for a young man by the name of Josh Henderson. He is only 23 years old and has severe hepatitis. He is now in

the hospital in a coma and needs a liver transplant. The family has no medical insurance and they need to have at least \$200,000.00 before Josh will even be considered for the transplant. Please pray earnestly for this dear young man. We know God is able to heal him and cause him to not even need the transplant.

"The third request is for a young lady by the name of Debbie Holden. She is only in her thirties and has cancer. She has seven children. This dear lady really needs earnest prayer. We are sure it is her desire to live to raise her children "

—Kevin Smith

"Bro. Wayne, we are in real need of prayer. One of our granddaughters had a very unfair situation in her childhood days. As a teenager, she turned to drugs, and got mixed up in a wrong crowd. She has a baby girl who is not yet a year old. For awhile we thought she was going to change for the baby's sake, but she has returned to her former friends. We just learned today that she is expecting another baby. This is heartbreaking for these poor little innocent babies, and her own soul. She knows there is a better life, but is so bitter about her younger days. Please help us pray her back to God. I am sure you get many of these requests so please include ours. Jesus is coming soon and I feel our time is short in praying for souls."

—Name withheld

— — — — —

Standing Prayer Requests

Sis. Lydia Bennett

Sis. Alscene Breckenridge

Bro. Jon Busbee

Sis. Mamie Butcher

Bro. Nathan Carver

Bro. Daniel Davis, Jr.

Bro. Dale Doolittle

Sis. Elaine Dunn

Sis. Olive Gettersen

Sis. Pauline Hall

Bro. Ben Harrison

Sis. Janice Johnston

Bro. Louis Kimble

Sis. Helen Lambright

Sis. Betty Lassché

The Lounds sisters

Sis. Mattie McIntyre

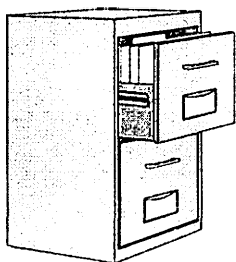
Sis. Bertha Miles

Sis. Virginia Myers

Sis. Dollie O'Neal

Bro. O. C. Porter

Sis. Melba Powell
 Sis. Rose Samons
 Sis. Myrtle Savoie
 Bro. Rudolf Schmidt
 Sis. Kay Stover
 Sis. Marie Weatherford
 Bro. Curtis Williams, Sr.
 Bro. Max Williamson
 Sis. Esther Wilson



From
 Our
 Letter
 Files

OR—Dear Bro. Wayne and all at the Print Shop: Greetings in Jesus' name. We trust that this will find everyone there well and happy in your service to the Lord. I have been logging on to your web page and really appreciate the interactive forum. I wonder if there is any particular time of day that would be most active?

We are doing well, thanks be to God, and are enjoying the blessings we receive each day. We are so thankful for the service you provide with the *Faith and Victory* paper as well as the tracts and books which you print.

Recently I have been meditating on Psalm 15 and its relevance to our everyday life. All the instruction that anyone needs to live right in this present world is available in the Word of God. Praise His Holy Name!...

With Christian love, —Bill and Ruby Busch

OK—Dear Bro. Wayne and all the workers at Faith Publishing House: I look forward each month to my *Faith and Victory* paper.

I have been sick the past two weeks. I want to thank all those who have been praying for me.

May God bless you all for the work that you do for Him.

Christian love, —Sis. Mamie Butcher

OH—Dear Bro. Murphey: Thank you so much for taking time from your busy schedule to write me an encouraging letter. I am very thankful to have Jesus for my dear Savior. I am glad that He is King of Kings and Lord of Lords, and that He knows just how to help and bless us.

Please continue to pray for me and all of my loved ones, especially those who are not yet saved. My greatest desire is to please God and have His stamp of approval upon me, and for more souls to be born unto the kingdom of God.

I need a lot of grace and wisdom and understanding of God's Word. I ask the dear Lord to help me to be a doer of the Word and not a hearer only.

Thank you again for your prayers....

—Sis. Janice Shaw

OK—I want to thank each and every one of the saints who sent cards and food, made phone calls, and for the many prayers prayed on our behalf after the loss of my companion, Joe Taylor.

I have felt the uplifting strength the Lord gave me through the many prayers. It is hard to give up a companion after 59 years of marriage.

We worked side by side for about 50 years in the greenhouse work. I have lots of good memories during that time. We both enjoyed growing plants and flowers. I told Joe I enjoyed helping him, but that I would like to have flowers for our yard. So he let me have all I wanted. I enjoyed having a beautiful yard. Our patio was always a beautiful flower garden, from early spring until late fall. He loved the flowers as much as I did.

In more recent years, after we retired from the greenhouse work, Joe enjoyed being in church services even if he couldn't hear well. He was always ready to go to service.

Please pray for me for I have a heavy load to carry.

Lovingly, your sister in Christ,

—Imogene Taylor

CA—Thank you for reminding me that it was time to renew the *Faith and Victory*. I look for it every month. I pray for you faithful workers often, that God will continue to bless you. —Sis. Willa Oglesby

AR—Dear Bro. Wayne and all: I do appreciate the work you all are doing in getting the gospel out to the world.

I like to read the *Faith and Victory* paper.

The Lord is so good to us day by day.

May God bless!

Christian love,

—Wanda Evans

FL—Dear believers: God has been very good to us, but we feel the truth is getting watered

down so your paper is a real welcome soul strengthener.

Sincerely, —Mr. and Mrs. Doyle Plank
 — — — — —

OK—Dear Bro. Wayne and dear saints abroad: I wanted to tell you all of the wonderful things the Lord has done for me. I had been having some severe pain in my jaw and ear area, and ended up having to go to a dentist because of it. I went to him several times and so the bill grew extensively. After all of that, the bite plate he had made for me to wear didn't fit right and so it seemed all that time and expense was for naught. I paid on the bill a little at a time, as I do not have much money coming in. I was really worried about it and had requested prayer several times for the Lord to work it out in some way.

A few days ago the girl in the office came and showed me the bill. It said, "Balance: \$0.00." She had even called the dentist office to make sure that that was correct, and sure enough it was. I thank the Lord for that. It was just like our Lord to do something special for me. I give Him all the glory and praise for helping me in this.

My leg, which I had broken last year, is much, much better. It only hurts once in awhile. I also thank the Lord for this.

I also want to thank you all so much for the *Faith and Victory* tapes. I enjoy them so much.

Please pray for me, as I also have other ailments that cause me much pain at times.

Your sister in Christ, —Marilyn Randall
 — — — — —

LA—Dear Bro. Wayne and Sis. Mary: May God's blessings be upon you at this season when we are celebrating the birth of the Christ child. We sang some lovely songs Sunday about the birth of the baby Jesus, but the one that meant most to me was the final one, "Redeeming Love." It speaks of the man of sorrows, Christ the Lord, buying the soul with His own blood, and bringing a peace this world cannot afford. This brings to my mind a quote that I keep where I can often read it: "I thank thee, O Lord, that thou hast set eternity within my heart that no earthly thing can ever satisfy me wholly." The only thing that really satisfies me today is that deep peace which passes all understanding that Paul speaks of in Philippians 4....

Though I am getting a little old to be very active or "outstanding" in work that would be noticed, I have a card ministry with many shut-ins, and others who need a word of encourage-

ment. Perhaps the Lord let me have the experience of the years with Ken's illness to show me how to help others now facing the same heart-break. One is a soft spoken man about 70 years old who has been diagnosed as having Alzheimer's, and his wife looks to me. Another is a doctor whom Ken and I considered a true Christian, and he considered us his friends, some of his favorites. His wife writes to me, and seems to look to me for encouragement. Then there is one I still hear from whose husband died with Alzheimer's before Ken did, plus a first cousin of mine in a nursing home whose husband had died of the disease a year before Ken did. She has had to have shock treatments, and yet gets physical and mental therapy. I could go on even to tell about a lady at Chapelwood who is so mixed up. It's a pathetic case. Then I can't forget a very quiet little lady, a native of Indiana, who has no blood relatives—just her husband's nephew and wife) to help her. She has to have shock treatments and I understand those treatments last a couple of hours. I have related all of this to let you know I need prayer to be able to encourage all these. The other morning, I woke up praying God to let me see myself as He sees me, and having no pretense, no sham, no insincerity, so I might be of use to Him.

Christian love, —Gertrude Pickett
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KY—Dear workers at the Print Shop: Please pray for me and my family. I lost my brother on October 25th, after a long illness, and my husband is in the hospital in Columbus, OH, in the Intensive Care Unit. He was injured in a car accident. We have almost lost him many times. He suffered severe injuries, plus two heart attacks.

We desperately need the love and strength only God can give. May God bless us all.

Yours in Christ, —Wilma Horsley
 — — — — —

OK—Dear Bro. Wayne and workers at the Print Shop: We send greetings of love in Jesus' dear name. We are thankful today that He came to this world to bring salvation to all who would love and follow Him.

May you each one be blessed with peace and happiness in your hearts and lives.

In Christian love,
 —Bro. Edwin and Sis. Lillian Eck
 — — — — —

OK—Dear Bro. Wayne: Greetings of Christian love. I hope all is going well there with you

and all the workers. I am sure it has been a busy time. I thought I would write you again before this year gets away.

There is a scripture which has been on my mind for several days. It has meant much to me. It causes me to have an increase of faith and hope in God and His Word. "For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away: But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you." I Peter 1:24-25. The Word includes all the truths of the Bible, both the Old and New Testaments. This gospel, when received, believed and obeyed, gives us hope and faith in God. It affords us with all the grace we need here and prepares us for glory hereafter.

I am glad we can put our hope and trust in the eternal Word of God. In Deuteronomy 33:27 it says that the eternal God is thy refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms.

I hope the year 2,000 will be a glorious year for us all.

Your saved brother, washed in His blood,
—T. V. McMillian

KY—Dear Bro. Wayne: Greetings in Jesus' precious name!

Continue to remember my husband, Matthew, and me in your prayers. We are young in the Lord, as well as in age. (He is 20, going to be 21 in March, and I am 18.) We have been married since April 10, 1998, and God has blessed us with a wonderful marriage. Praise the Lord!

We will keep the Print Shop and workers in our prayers.
—Sis. Sarah Howard

LA—Dear Bro. Wayne: Greetings of Christian love to you and all who labor with you in putting out the pure gospel to a lost world. Oh, if only everyone would be interested in the beautiful story of Jesus, God's precious Son, whom He sent to be the Savior of the world! The sad truth is that the majority of people want to go on living as they desire, living after the flesh even though the Word so plainly tells us if we live after the flesh we will die. I thank the Lord for the few who have chosen to live after the Spirit, having chosen eternal life.

In this day of turmoil and peril, seemingly with dangers on every hand, it is so wonderful to have our blessed Savior going by our side to

be our guide and protection, and to know that He said, "I'll go with you all the way." (Matthew 28:20.) Underneath us are the everlasting arms. (Deuteronomy 33:27.) I thank the Lord for His Word, which we have to lean on and trust in....

It seems there are so many places to give—places in need. I trust that the saints aren't spending more for themselves than they should, making less to go to the Lord's work. It looks like the chapel building in New Orleans, LA, has been at a standstill for months now. There is no place there for them to worship.

I am sorry I have written such a long letter for you to read. Excuse the mistakes and consider it is written by an 88 year old woman with vision in only one eye. I do miss the vision so much in my right eye, but I am very, very thankful for my left eye vision.

I am praying for the Assembly meeting there. I think Dean, my grandson, hopes to go to part of it. It is so wonderful to see him saved. He had been delivered from drinking for years, and since he was saved at the camp meeting in July, he has been completely delivered from smoking. All thanks goes to my dear Savior.

May the Lord bless in the great work there. I am so thankful you are moving into the new building.

Christian love and prayers,
—Alta Flynn

FL—Bro. Wayne Murphey: I am thankful for another birthday. I am 88 years old. Jesus is good to me and I mean to let my life tell the Gospel story. Give my love to Sis. Murphey and the Print Shop workers.

Please keep me in your prayers.

—Sis. Kathleen Williams



MISSIONARY REPORTS

From Mexico...

Dear Bro. Wayne: I praise God His Spirit is working here in Mexico. Last Saturday evening, Joe and Judy Fine, Tim and Pam Huskey, James and I met to review what we had been doing and to discuss plans for the future. After each reported on their area of responsibility, we all felt content with past progress. While we were discussing future activities the three young

men that we are mentoring were doing the same, although we did not know it. When they came in and shared with us their ideas, we were blessed to know that God was dealing with them in similar ways as He was with us. "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity! ...for there the LORD commanded the blessing,..." Psalm 133:1, 3.

One activity impressed on both groups was to fast and pray that through our outreach a congregation could be raised up on the east side of Ensenada. We decided to fast every Tuesday at noon and pray together that hour. The following Tuesday God's Spirit sent two very sincere men to Tim's house where we were having prayer meeting. Sis. Lupe (one of Sis. Opal Kelly's converts) was helping me clean so she also went to the meeting. Thus our prayer meeting for the outreach served as a small outreach itself. Of the twenty persons present, I believe nine prayed.

The Fine family and Michelle left early Wednesday morning for Oklahoma. Tim was working late that night getting ready to leave the following morning. We dismissed our usual Wednesday night prayer meeting so James and I were home when a young couple came to visit. Isn't God good to arrange things?

For several months we have been going to a condominium complex, passing out literature and talking with whomever will give ear. This Saturday only James, Saul, Marco and I were here to go. James and I found no one interested in talking but we did invite many children for meeting at 3:00 p.m. Sunday. Saul and Marco found two persons interested in hearing more.

Saturday evening we went to the rehab center to visit Ruben, an alcoholic that was pan-handling in the park up town, and after many visits James persuaded him to go to the rehab center. He is very thankful to be off the bottle. As we arrived the group was loading up to go to church service up the valley. We were glad we went because Ruben went to the altar and we were there to pray with him.

We discovered at the church Saturday night a bus service which charges about a third of the regular fare. When Saul went early Sunday morning to get his ticket, he was told that all the seats were full. We made special supplication for God to intervene. Saul felt God wanted him to go and witness to his family while they were grieving the loss of their father who just passed away. Saul met the driver and explained his

need. The driver found space for Saul. Upon boarding he also saw a Christian whom he knew. Saul had a friend to go with him. Isn't God good?

Only James, Marco and I were left to have the open-air children's meeting we had announced for 3:00 p.m. in a park. A family had promised to go with us but called to say the wife was sick. We got our things together; books and twenty-five balloons (hopefully one for each child) and started out, when a family of five came to go with us. When we got to the park, the Catholics were having their traditional "Posada" for the children right across the street from the place we had designated for our meeting. It looked as if a hundred children were there with piñatas, candies, drinks and music. My anticipations of a good children's meeting fell to the bottom of my boots, but I never let on. My hopes arose quickly when I saw a group of preteen boys running toward our van. James gave them the job of tying balloons to the nearby swings. These boys and others soon arrived and stayed through the service and never once showed the least bit of disrespect. And by the way we had just enough balloons for each one.

We came home encouraged and with new volunteers to help build a congregation there. God's Spirit does much more than we can ask or think and there are little surprises to enjoy along the way. —Sis. Charlotte Huskey

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From India...

November 15, 1999—Dear Bro. Wayne Murphey and dear saints abroad: Greetings to all you dear ones in the glorious name of Jesus Christ. Thank you for your letter dated November 3rd and the enclosures were noted with much gratitude. May God bless each saint who prays and supports the work in India.

A terrible cyclone in Orissa, one of the states in North India, sucked away the life of thousands of people and animals there.

Lord willing, our 35th General Convention will be held during the second week of January 2,000. Pray for its temporal and spiritual needs. Spiritual services in all of our congregations are going on fine. Persecutions for Christians are going on in different parts of India.

Our prayers are for you as you do for us.
Yours in Him, —Bro. John Varghese

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India Report

A chapter in the history of the mission work

in India closed with the death of our dear Bro. P.D. Mathunni. The marks of his life are engraved on the hearts of many Indian natives and Americans as well.

Bro. Mathunni passed away on August 23, 1999. Upon hearing of his illness I felt impressed of the Lord to fly to India. I arrived in India the day after his passing. I was able to attend the funeral and was greatly moved as so many people from all walks of life recounted the effect that he had on them. Many were led to the Lord through the efforts of Bro. Mathunni; others were challenged to a deeper experience. There were hundreds in attendance. Their testimony of his life showed that he was truly a man of God who gave himself wholly to the work of the Lord. He will be greatly missed.

I was able to stay for a few weeks. While I was there, I visited with several of the congregations and I also met with the ministers and gospel workers that Bro. Mathunni had been working with. It was my desire to get a feel for how the work would progress in that area. There are approximately nine congregations in that area that are a direct result of Bro. Mathunni's ministry. His main burden was that of an apostle. He planted churches. He would teach young ministers the principles of the Scriptures and send them forth to establish a congregation in an area where no congregation existed. This is the foundation of each congregation. This is how each one of the congregations were established. They would go door to door teaching and sharing the gospel with anyone who would listen; and slowly they have built the congregations to what they are today.

In each congregation there is an average of seventy people. The majority of these congregations have been established in the last five years. They are continually expanding the congregations and endeavoring to add more congregations. I was able to visit a new congregation and its pastor on this last trip. I am very inspired with the work in India. It is progressive.

Though there are adjustments that must be made, the ministers were in agreement that the work must go forward. One minister spoke with me and said some were asking, "How can the work go on without Bro. Mathunni?" His response was, "This is God's work and God will prosper it." This seemed to be the general consensus of the ministry. I was very thankful and encouraged to find the ministry and saints with

a determination to continue the spread of the gospel.

They need our continued prayers. The government in India has changed. The majority party is now Hindu and their history shows that they oppose other religions, especially Christian. So please pray for the saints and work of God. I feel very confident that the Lord is blessing the mission work and that He will continue to prosper it.

I'd like to share with you something that Bro. Mathunni expressed to me during my first visit to India in January 1998. He had been earnestly praying that God would send someone from America to India for the encouragement of the saints. His desire was for the Lord to give someone a burden for the work there. He had been very sick from time to time and felt that God could take him at any time but he wanted someone to come to India that would have a burden to continue the work. He said to me, "I believe the Lord sent you here to continue the work after I am gone." I did not think much about that statement then. But it came back to me as I traveled to India and attended his funeral.

The second time I visited India was in January 1999. Bro. Brett Butler and I spent nearly three weeks in India. We visited many congregations and were able to hold open-air meetings. The Lord blessed the efforts then and I felt a greater burden to help in the support of the mission work there.

I feel that burden even more now. The ministers are full-time in the ministry, spending five to six days a week in reaching the lost. They hold Bible studies and cottage prayer services in various homes. They hold open-air meetings and go door to door witnessing, etc. They have no job to support their families. Their ministry is their life. It takes approximately \$60.00 to support a minister each month. Some of the congregations are without church buildings and there are other needs that exist. If anyone has a burden to help in the support of the work there, your help will be greatly appreciated. You may send your contributions to: Church of God, Work of the Ministry, PO Box 171077, Dallas, TX 75217.

In August 1999, I returned from India by way of Frankfurt and I was able to spend nearly a week with the saints in Germany. I visited the congregation in the village of Roetgesbuettel.

The fellowship of the saints was blessed.

I was able to be in three services with them and feel that the Lord blessed the efforts. The saints there are confronted with many of the same problems that we in America have. But I found them to be encouraged and endeavoring to live solid lives in the midst of an evil generation. They send their love to the saints here and requested that we pray for one another.

Your fellow laborer, —Darrell Johnson
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From the Philippines...

November 25, 1999—Dear Bro. Murphey: Greetings in Christian love to you and your family and to all the patient workers in the Lord's Print Shop.

I received the November issue of the *Faith and Victory*. I appreciated the article of Raleah Murphey. I think she is your daughter-in-law. May the Lord bless these young people, that they may continue to be a blessing to the church and other people.

I am now here in Guimba. I live alone in my new home. I rented it for 2,000 pesos a month. [Approximately \$53.00.] There is a little space where a few people can gather for Bible study and worship. I am now busy going from house to house distributing tracts and making appointments for home Bible studies. May the Lord give me a good harvest of souls in this place.

Guimba is a good place for evangelistic campaign. It is located near the boundary of the province of Tarlac surrounded with many towns and barrios. I do not know anyone here, but I trust the Lord will take care of me.

I asked my daughter, Sis. Ruth, to take care of the church in San Jose and the surrounding congregations and she said she will do her best. I asked her to conduct the preachers monthly meeting. I went home the other day and she was very happy to report that they have new strategies for the gospel work.

May I say again thank you so much for all your loving sacrifices for us. May I appeal to all the brothers and sisters in the U.S.A. as a whole, to continue to help us, especially this newly opened place for the gospel work in this area of Luzon. We want to extend the gospel of salvation as far as we can and as early as we can.

Your brother in the gospel field,
—Bro. Matias S. Tangunan and family



Zella Evins Dollins was born December 12, 1919 and went home to be with her heavenly father on December 7, 1999.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Loyd; her parents, Cleve and Bertha Evins; three brothers, Roy Evins, Troy Evins and Marvin Evins; and a sister, Nell Carey.

Zella is survived by six children, Dennis Dollins, Republic, MO, Bill Dollins and wife, Ruth, Oklahoma City, OK, Gary Dollins and wife, Millie, Blue Springs, MO, Steve Dollins and wife, Marilyn, Strafford, MO, David Dollins, Strafford, MO, and Connie Faris and husband, Eric, Brookline, MO; 15 grandchildren, 19 great-grandchildren; a brother, Orval Evins, two sisters, Ollie May Werle and Evelyn Butts and numerous other relatives and friends.

Zella was a Christian and her life shone with the love of God. She was an inspiration and shining example for many.

She was a mother figure to many and known as "Mom" and "Grandma" to all. She loved to read and was an avid gardener. She was loved so much, and will be deeply missed and remembered by her family and friends for her caring and loving spirit.

Bro. James Bell officiated at the funeral service for Sis. Zella, and interment was in the Timber Ridge Cemetery, Elkland, MO.
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Bro. Pakayil Daniel Mathunni was born on March 11, 1939, in the state of Kerala, South India. He was the oldest of seven children born to Daniel Vakayil and Kunjamma Daniel Vakayil.

At the age of fifteen he moved with his parents to the village of Wynad in the northern part of Kerala. Though he had not accepted Christ as his personal Savior, he was seeking for the meaning and truths of life. Upon their arrival to this new area an incident took place

that caused him to look to God as his all in all.

His father had entrusted the family's savings to a relative in that village who was to purchase a home and land and make arrangements for the arrival of his family. Upon their arrival to the village they discovered that they had been deceived by the relative and no arrangements had been made. They were left devastated and destitute; but through divine providence, God allowed a widow to support the family and help settle them in that strange village.

He was challenged to see God's hand in the storms of their lives. He found the real God "Jehovah Jireh," "My provider." It was at this time that P.D. Mathunni gave his heart to the Lord and lived faithfully until his death.

He continued his education and was blessed with a good job with the Bombay Burma Corporation as a civil engineer. While working with this company he was involved in an accident in which he received serious injuries. He was hospitalized and the doctors predicted that he would lose his right hand. The thought haunted him day and night and he became very depressed. Finally he began to plead with God to heal his hand. He promised the Lord that if He would heal him he would dedicate his life fully to the ministry. By the grace of God he was completely healed. Shortly thereafter he attended a meeting and was challenged by the verse, "The harvest truly is great but the labourers are few." Luke 10:2. After much prayer he resigned his job and entered full-time into the ministry in 1963.

On April 21, 1966 he was married to his wife, Shirly. They had a happy family life. To this union were born three daughters and one son: Jaimole and Rick Rhoads of Sapulpa, OK, Jemi and Binu Kuriakose of Trichur in Kerala, South India, Jeena Pakayil and son, Jino Pakayil, both of Tulsa, OK. He is also survived by two grandsons, Caleb Rhoads and Joshua Kuriakose; one granddaughter, Kayla Rhoads, his mother, brothers and sisters.

For the last eight years Bro. Mathunni suffered from kidney problems. But he remained active in serving the Lord even unto the end. He passed away on August 23, 1999. His funeral was held on August 24, 1999, in the city of Trichur, in Kerala, South India.

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Thelma Mae Feilds was born January 12, 1919. She was the fifth child of Abe and Ella Mae

Greer, all of whom preceded her in death, except for one brother. Sis. Feilds departed this life November 5, 1999, at the age of 80 years, 9 months and 24 days.

She was united in marriage to Alex Feilds, who passed away in 1984. Sis. Feilds was a loving wife and mother of their six children. She was a faithful member of the Church of God for over forty years.

She leaves to mourn, her six children, Ella Rose Mitchell of Britton, OK, Abie Lee Mosby of Smyrna, GA, Agnes Marie Brown of Marietta, GA; three sons, Alex Eugene of Purcell, OK, Sylvester Sherman of Jackson, MS, and Timmie Anthony of Oklahoma City, OK. She also leaves nine granddaughters, ten grandsons, fifteen great-grandchildren and a host of relatives and friends. She loved God and her family, the saints and her community. She will be missed by all who were blessed to know her.

The family wishes to thank you for the many acts of kindness during her illness and death.

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 On February 19, 1930, the youngest of twelve children was born to Joseph and Elizabeth Hall. They named her **Queen Esther**.

Queen Esther lived in Haskell, OK, with her parents until their passing, when at the age of thirteen she moved to Tulsa, OK, to live with her sister, Maple Littlejohn, and her family. While in Tulsa, Queen Esther continued her education, and in 1947 she graduated from Booker T. Washington High School.

As a young adult, Queen Esther found the Lord and devoted her life, time and talents to the work of the Lord. As a member of the Church of God for over four decades one could ascertain Sis. Queen Esther's enduring voice instantaneously for she led songs, read Scriptures and taught both Sunday School and Bible Study.

Queen Esther was a dedicated wife, mother and grandmother as well as a caregiver and friend to many. She loved God, her family, the saints and her community, and will be missed by all who were blessed to know her.

In addition to her parents, four brothers preceded her in death. She leaves to cherish her memory, her husband, Willie B. Jordan; her daughter, Gwendolyn Bruner; three beloved grandchildren, Erich, Rondrea and Evan Bruner, all of Tulsa, OK; five brothers, Joe Hall of Los Angeles, CA, James Hall of San Francisco, CA, Johnny Hall of Tulsa, OK, David Hall and Edgar

Hall, both of Haskell, OK; two sisters, Maple Littlejohn of Tulsa, OK, and Gloria Ross of San Francisco, CA, and a host of nieces, nephews, saints and friends.

Funeral services were held in the Tulsa, OK, Church of God chapel, officiated by Bro. Charles Lowe. Burial was in the Green Acres Memorial Gardens, Tulsa, OK.



The Scriptural Meaning of Prophets and Prophecy

(Continued from page 3)

quotation from D. S. Warner's comments on this scripture, published in the Gospel Trumpet, October 1, 1887, under the title, "Woman's Freedom in Christ." He says:

"To understand the restriction of I Corinthians 14:34-35, you should read the whole chapter, and learn to distinguish between 'prophesying' and 'speaking in the church.' The former is speaking in divine worship, the latter in business, etc. The former is thus defined: 'But he that prophesieth speaketh unto men to edification, and exhortation, and comfort. (I Corinthians 14:3.) This includes all speaking in the Church in the form of public worship.

"On the day of Pentecost, Peter quoted Joel 2:28-29, and said it was there being fulfilled. (See Acts 2:16-18.) Now if the women had all kept silent on that glorious occasion, Peter could not have truthfully said, this is that spoken of by the prophet Joel, namely, 'I will pour out my Spirit in the last days, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,' and my servants and my handmaids shall prophesy. What is the record of that meeting? We are told that after the ascension of Christ the disciples returned to Jerusalem, 'went into an upper room,' etc. These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brethren. (Acts 1:14.) 'And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.' (Acts 2:2-4.)

"Both men and women were there assembled. All of them were filled with the Spirit, and began

to speak with other tongues. 'We do hear them speak in our tongues the wonderful works of God.' (Verse 11.) So the prophesying of the sons and daughters, servants and handmaids of the Lord began on the day of Pentecost, and consisted in testifying of the wonderful works God had wrought in their hearts by the glorious Sanctifier they had just received. This prophesying in the Spirit, by both men and women, having begun on the day of Pentecost, was to continue through the Holy Spirit dispensation, and to be one of the marked characteristics of this dispensation. For the 'last days' embrace the whole period of this last age. It cannot be supposed that the inspired Apostle would forbid women to do the very thing the Scriptures say they shall do in the dispensation. No indeed. Therefore, in the same chapter in which the above restriction is found, he says, 'I would that you all (i.e., all the members of the church) spake with tongues, but rather that ye prophesied.' (I Cor. 14:5.)

"This shows conclusively that every member of the body of Christ, both male and female, had liberty to 'speak unto men to edification, and exhortation, and comfort:' for that is just what 'prophesy' means as defined in the same chapter.

"If therefore the whole church be come together into one place, and all speak with tongues and there come in those that are unlearned, or unbelievers, will they not say that ye are mad? But if all prophesy, and there come in one that believeth not, or one unlearned, he is convinced of all, he is judged of all.' I Corinthians 14:23-24.'

"The whole church may speak with tongues and prophesy. 'All prophesy.' These words are very clear and positive. In the light of these words, women can only be excluded on the ground that there were no women members of the church; but this chapter and all the New Testament history shows the contrary to be true.

"What then did the Apostle mean by his restriction in verses 34-35? 'Let your women keep silence in the churches: for it is not permitted unto them to speak; but they are commanded to be under obedience, as also saith the law. And if they will learn any thing, let them ask their husbands at home: for it is a shame for women to speak in the church.'

"Observe that the Apostle now changes his form of expression from 'prophesy' to 'speak.'

The former relates to the worship of God, the latter to business matters or by way of interrupting a speaker. This is evident from the fact that Paul would not say, 'ye may all prophesy,' and in the same chapter forbid the women to speak, if by prophesy and speak he meant the same thing. Again the reasons assigned, or rather the substitution given for that speaking, proves he is not talking of speaking in public worship to God. Instead of speaking out in the church she is required to ask her husband at home. But no woman can ask her husband at home anything that would take the place of confessing Christ and His salvation in the assembly of His saints. But if she were inclined to interrupt a speaker to ask a question, she could avoid that breach of womanly modesty by asking her husband at home to give her the desired information. 'Let your women keep silent in the church.' Why? Answer: 'If they will learn any thing let them ask their husband at home.' So it is only when they would speak to ask for some information that they are required to keep silent. This kind of speaking is forbidden, because 'they are commanded to be under obedience as also saith the law.' For a woman to arise and speak out in the assembly, and ask to be taught something would be dishonoring her husband; because it would show that she was not subject to her husband, but repudiated him. The Apostle's restriction was also according to the law. Now in the synagogue worship, a man sitting by while another was speaking had a right to interrupt the speaker to ask a question, or to put in a thought. But this privi-

lege was not extended to Israelite women. And the same rule the inspired Apostle thinks good in the Church of God. So just before his restriction he says, 'If any thing be revealed to another that sitteth by, let the first hold his peace.' (Verse 30.) This verse clearly defines what kind of speaking the Apostle forbids women to indulge in. This, and the fact that she was to be subject to her husband and to ask him at home, all show that the prohibition only refers to making herself too free, and conspicuous in business and ruling affairs in the church. The custom in the synagogue would naturally be the people's standards of

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tion, and blesses
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women's modesty, and to depart from it would expose the church to unnecessary reproach. It is very clear upon the face of this whole chapter that the speaking that is forbidden is something outside the several parts of spiritual worship to God, and is wholly of an intellectual, governmental and business charter.

"And I entreat thee also, true yoke-fellow, help those women which laboured with me in the gospel, with Clement also, and with other my fellow-labourers, whose names are in the book of life.' Philippians 4:3.

"Would anyone imagine that the Apostle would take with him female helpers, and then

put a veil over their faces, a gag in their mouths and command them to keep silent in the church? No, he declared that they labored with him in the gospel, even as Clement and other fellow-labourers did. Then Paul was not opposed to holy women using the voices and talents God had given them to preach and testify the gospel of the grace of God. Therefore let no man, or false doctrine, silence the voice of women, who are inspired of God, to praise and glorify Him in His sanctuary. It is a fact that the Spirit of God leads redeemed women to prophesy in the congregation, and blesses them in so doing. To quench the Spirit brings spiritual death. And any interpretation that conflicts with the Spirit of God is erroneous; for the Word and the Spirit agree.

"There are then no Scriptures that forbid woman using her sanctified voice and talents, in all the several parts of public devotion to God, preaching not excepted when called of God. In all these things, 'there is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus.' (Galatians 3:28.)

"Confessing Christ before men is even a condition of salvation. (See Romans 10:10.) Again, 'if we confess Christ before men, He will confess us before the Father and the holy angels.' Are the sisters cut off from this great blessing? By no means; for God is no respecter of persons. Therefore O ye daughters of Zion, having the glory in your souls, 'keep not silent;' but 'lift up your hands in the sanctuary and bless the Lord.' 'Rejoice and be exceeding glad, for thy Maker is thy Husband.' Therefore lift up your

voices freely to tell of the love of God, and 'show forth the praises of Him that has called you out

of darkness into His marvelous light." "Obey God rather than man." Amen!"



Sharing Burdens

By

Bro. Don Elwell

Recently I have been impressed with the thought of prayer and how it relates to the saints, specifically as burdens are shared publicly in local congregations, at camp meetings or in the *Faith and Victory*.

Each month a list of requests is included in the *Faith and Victory* and many times it is easy to look at them as just that. And every week in our congregations, our brothers and sisters bravely share information that is dear to their hearts. It isn't always enough just to listen to these requests. I have felt challenged to give more consideration to them. They are a cry for assistance and reinforcement in the battle. In Galatians 6:2, 5, there are two guidelines for this thought of sharing burdens in prayer.

First, we shall consider verse 5, "For every man shall bear his own burden." It is biblical to say that a burden must first be "prayed out" by ourselves. We must first carry it alone to the Lord. I am persuaded that a good illustration of this can be drawn from the Lord carrying His physical cross as long as the physical body permitted Him to do so. It was at the point of His body collapsing that the man from the crowd was summoned to assist Him.

It is not right to have a burden for a lost soul, or an affliction, and simply request prayer while neglecting to pray yourself. It is wrong to burden the saints if we do not deem it important enough to pray ourselves. The saints, however, should gladly participate in the burden regardless of what the person who requested it does. It is a wonderful thing to be able to request prayer for your burdens, but be certain that you have fulfilled your responsibility and that you continue to do so after the request has been made. A request is for assistance in praying, not a substitute for one's own praying.

Galatians 6:2 reads, "Bear ye one another's burdens and so fulfil the law of Christ." Again, we wish to consider this in light of the burdens shared in the form of prayer requests. The Bible teaches that we as saints should help each other with our burdens.

I was blessed with a little thought about

buying a house. Imagine there are three different families, A, B and C. Each family can take out a 30-year loan and buy a house. Each family will pay for its own house separately. At the end of 30 years, the families will have their separate homes paid for.

However, there is another option. The three families could all move into one house. All three families could share a payment until the house was paid in full. Then family A could remain in that home while families B and C moved to a new house. All three families could continue to make regular payments on the second house until it was paid for.

Now we ask, what would be the advantage of this? If the families buy their homes according to the second plan, all three families will own a personal home, paid in full, after 15 years. That means with a little sacrifice, they will save themselves 15 years of paying interest. Now I ask, "Could it be possible that we could save each other some interest in our prayer lives if we "moved-in" together? Is it really possible that we could reach some conclusions to our prayer requests if we all made some personal sacrifice for the benefit of the whole?"

This sharing in the burden is not a one time thing either. It is a commitment. When you tell someone that you will pray about a need, you have committed yourself to share in that burden.

In the story of the three families, would it have helped family A if family B only paid for one month? How about if family B paid once every 6 months? Yes, it would have been helpful, but would not have done much to save family A interest paid in the long run. Similarly we must maintain our commitments to prayer day in and day out.

What is the law of Christ? A law is something used to govern our society. What governed Christ? Was it not love, divine love? Christ lived to help others. We must do the same, especially in prayer.

I can't express enough how important it is to respond to the pleas of our brethren who are

under a burden! If we can't weep with those who weep, it will be difficult to rejoice with those who rejoice. If we are unwilling to help carry the burden, I don't see how we can experience the fullness of victory. Besides all this, there is a great comfort in knowing that your brothers and sisters are right beside you in the midst of the battle. Often Satan makes us feel lonely, but we need to be able to take courage in our brethren and their importuning to the Lord, who brings victory and peace.

With heaviness of heart I sincerely covet the prayers of the saints. I have been praying for my mother for some time now. Within an 18-month period she lost three close loved ones. She suffers sorely from depression, alcohol abuse and glaucoma, which causes blindness. She does not know the Lord, nor His warmth. I would also ask that you agree with me in prayer as to how I should handle this delicate situation.



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**Excerpts Taken From
Jan., 1950 Faith and Victory**

"Do we care to work with dirty dishes? No, we make sure the inside is spotless before we use a dish. It is the same with our Lord. He wants clean vessels, and He makes sure that we are spotless before He can use us in His work. We clean the inside of the pots and pans as well as the outside; and the Lord wants us to be clean in heart and on the outside too.

"When we start to do our wash, we look at the children's dirty clothes and wonder if they will ever be made clean and spotless, but it takes only a little soap and water and our effort to make them free from spot and dirt. Some have their hearts so dirty that it would hardly seem that they could ever be free from spot, but the Lord is able to clean them up, not with soap, but by the blood of Jesus as it is applied to our hearts by faith.

"We want our sheets to be spotless, and it is restful to crawl between them each night and rest until morning. When our hearts are in like manner clean and spotless, we can rest in peace with the Lord each day. As we go about our work each day it gives us satisfaction to see the different things with which we work clean and spotless. Even so the Lord gets pleasure and satisfaction out of us, His workmanship, when we are pure and spotless in soul, mind and body.

"My prayer is that I keep pure and spotless to please my Lord."

—Evelyn Linch