

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 47, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 1 July 7, 1996

A 19th Century Prophet

(Continued from last week)

"Pray without ceasing. In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you."
I Thessalonians 5:17-18.

Joshua came running to Ann. "I'll get a spanking if I don't find Papa's shovel," he wailed. "Please ask your Father where it is."

Turning her face toward the sky, Ann asked, "Father, where is it?" They stood silent for a moment. Then Ann walked out the door and down through the garden. Joshua dashed behind her. At the back side of the garden in some tall grass, Ann showed Josh the shovel.

"How'd God tell you where it was?" Joshua ask. "I didn't hear Him say anything."

"When you get saved and sanctified, you'll understand," Ann answered. "That's when God becomes our best friend. When I got santified, someone told me to pray without ceasing. 'Impossible!' I thought, when I had so much work to do. But I found that praying is just talking to my best friend, like I'm talking to you. You talk to your friends, don't you?"

"Sure," Joshua answered and ran to put away the shovel.

All the Reid children came to Ann with their problems. "What shall I do about this?" they often asked. Ann

would close her eyes a moment, then quote a verse that would give the answer. Soon their friends and other people heard about Ann's wise advice. Christians from all over town began coming to her. Ann gave a Bible verse for almost every answer, and it always fit the need.

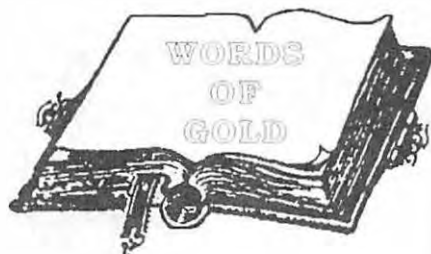
"How does Ann know so many verses?" a sister of the church asked Marie.

"It's a mystery," Marie answered. "She cannot memorize a poem, nor street names, nor numbers. Yet, when she needs an answer, she can quote God's words.

Marie continued. "Ann does study her Bible a lot. Henry and I used to laugh when watching her. She would turn the Bible upside down and right side up several times before she settled on which way was right. Then she would talk to God about each word. 'Lord what is it?' she would ask. 'Oh, yes, thank You.' Then she would say the word and move on to the next word, asking again, 'What is it?' 'Oh, Yes, thank You.' We often wondered how she made sense of what she was reading. Now she can read her Bible very well, but she cannot read any other thing. The first time she read aloud at the church the ladies shouted, and so did Ann. It was funny."

"Does she pray a lot?"

"She talks to God all day long while working and she also has 'closet prayer.'



A Prophecy of Christ's Kingdom

Haggai 2:1-9

1 In the seventh month, in the one and twentieth day of the month, came the word of the Lord by the prophet Haggai, saying,

2 Speak now to Zerubbabel...governor of Judah, and to Joshua..., the high priest, and to the residue of the people, saying,

3 Who is left among you that saw this house in her first glory? and how do ye see it now? is it not in your eyes in comparison of it as nothing?

4 Yet now be strong, O Zerubbabel, ...and be strong, O Joshua, ...and be strong, all ye people of the land, saith the Lord, and work: for I am with you, saith the Lord of hosts:

5 According to the word that I covenanted with you when ye came out of Egypt, so my spirit remaineth among you: fear ye not.

6 For thus saith the Lord of hosts: Yet once, it is a little while, and I will shake the heavens, and the earth, and the sea, and the dry land;

7 And I will shake all nations, and the desire of all nations shall come: and I will fill this house with glory, saith the Lord of hosts.

8 The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, saith the Lord of hosts.

9 The glory of this latter house shall be greater than of the former, saith the Lord of hosts: and in this place will I give peace, saith the Lord of hosts.

Christ the Temple

John 2:18-22

18 Then answered the Jews and said unto him [Jesus], What sign shewest thou unto us, seeing that thou doest these things?

19 Jesus answered and said unto them, Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.

20 Then said the Jews, Forty and six years was this temple in building, and wilt thou rear it up in three days?

21 But the spake of the temple of his body.

I Corinthians 3:16, 17

16 Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?

17 ...The temple of God is holy, which temple ye are.

The Message: God's presence once filled the temple in Jerusalem. Today He fills men's hearts, for we are the temple of God.

Questions:

1. Did Haggai encourage the people to work?
2. Why were the people strong?
3. What would God do when he shook all nations?
4. Did God shake all nations by sending Jesus?
5. Which of God's houses would be the greater?
6. In what place will God give peace?
7. What did Christ call His body?
8. Today, where does God's spirit dwell?
9. What is God's temple today?

Verse to Memorize

The glory of this latter house shall be greater than of the former, saith the LORD of hosts: and in this place will I give peace,...

Haggai 2:9.

Let's



Talk . . .

Less than a month after Haggai's first prophecy, God gave him another. This one was not a reproof. It was a message of encouragement because the people had turned their hearts toward constructing the temple, which he called God's House. Already they had cleared and built the foundation, which revealed the outline of the future temple. For this, God was very pleased. So He said, "I am with you, fear not!"

After encouraging the people, Haggai prophesied about another temple that would be much greater than any temple the Jews had built. The one that Zerubbabel was now building was smaller than the huge one King Solomon had built. But the future one of which Haggai spoke would be so great it would fill the whole earth. Solomon's temple could not even be compared to it.

Haggai was prophesying of the Church of God: a Church not built with stones or boards, but built by the souls of the redeemed. It is a spiritual building made of lively stones, which are living people (I Peter 2:5). It is not built on a stone foundation as other buildings. Its foundation is the teachings of the apostles and prophets. This is indeed a strange building.

The Kingdom of God is a spiritual kingdom. Its temples are not made by men. They are people, something that only God can make. Jesus called His body the temple of God. He instructed us that people are also His temple.

Years ago, when Solomon dedicated the temple, the Spirit of God came into it. When Zerubbabel dedicated the smaller temple, the spirit of God came into it. When people left the temple, they could not take God's spirit with them. Just as His spirit filled the temple when it was dedicated, so His spirit fills men's hearts when a person dedicates himself to God. Wherever we go, God's spirit goes with us, for it is in us. This kind of relationship with God is much more glorious. The latter temple does have more glory than the first. (Verse 9.)

Hebrews 12:22-29 explains the prophecy of the shaking. God said He would shake the heavens, the earth, the sea, the dry land and all nations. All this shaking took place when God, through Jesus Christ, destroyed the old system of worshipping Him through sacrifices of animals and obeying of laws. When he died on the cross, a great earthquake shook Jerusalem. The temple shook so violently that the huge, heavy, leather curtains of the temple were torn from top to bottom. Now men, women and children can enter into a holy place with God. There is no more need for the temple. God's spirit moved out of the temple at Jerusalem and moved into peoples' hearts.

—Charlotte Huskey

She is praying as we go to sleep. We awake to her praising God. That's usually about five o'clock.

"One night when a friend slept in her room, she heard Ann talking to God as she bathed. It was dark. First Ann said, 'Father, where did I leave my dress?' Then 'Thank you, Father.' Then she filled the wash basin and suddenly stopped. 'What's that you say, Father?' A moment's pause. Then 'Yes, that is it. Thank You, Father.' And as she splashed around bathing, she was quoting the following verses, 'Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean from all your filthiness, ... A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you, and I will take away the stony heart... And I will put My spirit within you...' After getting ready for the day, she knelt in prayer for about an hour."

"Now I understand why she can give such wise advice," the sister told Marie.

That night Ann was unable to go to church, so the girls went alone. "Did you enjoy the service?" Ann asked when they came home.

"We didn't even go," spouted Joy. "Marie lost her money on the way, and we spent the whole evening looking for it."

"Remember the verse God gave me this morning?" questioned Ann.

"Let's see. Oh, yes. 'All things work together for good to them that love God....' But how could this be for my good, when it was all I had?" wailed Marie.

"We will see," answered Ann.

"Ann, please find it for me," begged Marie. "I need it this next week."

During family prayers, Ann said, "Father, You said all things work together for our good. Now you know where the money is, please keep it for me until morning."

Early the next morning God said to Ann, "Arise and get the money you gave me to keep last night." Then the

devil suggested that she should not go out in the cold. Ann lay in bed and had almost fallen asleep when God spoke again. "Go get the money I kept for you."

Ann bundled herself in her warmest clothes and went out. As she walked down the lane to the main road, her Father said, "Stop!" Looking down she saw the corner of a green paper buried in a snow drift. Picking it up, she walked across the street to her friend Mrs. Hughes. "Is this not a dollar bill?" Ann asked.

"It's a five dollar bill!" Mrs. Hughes said in amazement. "Where did you get so much money?"

"I found it," Ann said seriously. "Let's praise the Lord."

After a good time of prayer and praise, Ann went home.

"Where is it?" the girls asked when Ann entered.

Laying it on the table, she said, "There it is, God kept it for us."

"And we looked so long," the girls said.

"I hope you won't testify about this in church," Marie said.

"Why?"

"Everyone will think I am awfully careless."

Ann didn't answer. She thought Marie must feel kind of like she felt when she didn't want to testify about the hen laying eggs in the house.

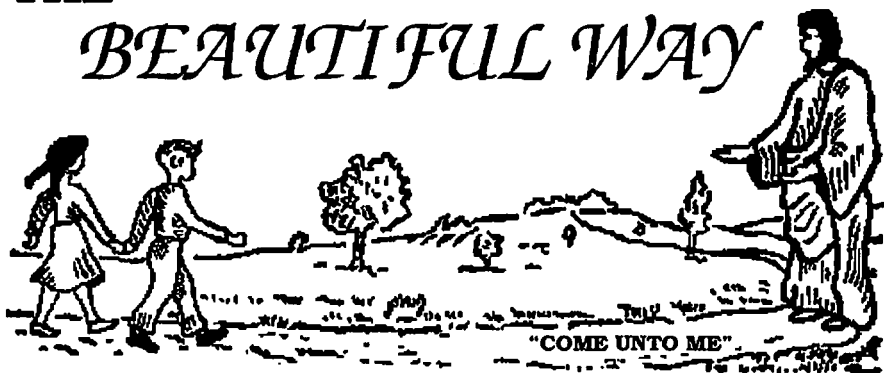
(To be continued next week.)



(Answers: 1. Yes. 2. Because God was with them. 3. He would fill the house with glory. 4. Yes. 5. The latter one. 6. In Jerusalem. 7. The temple of God. 8. In the hearts of people. 9. It is not a building. "Ye are the temple of God." (1 Cor 3:16.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 47, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 2 July 14, 1996

A 19th Century Prophet

(Continued from last week.)

"Thou desirest truth in the inward parts:...thou shalt make me to know wisdom." Psalm 51:6.

Henry flopped the sack of flour on the table, then reached into his coat pocket. "A letter for you," he said to Ann.

Ann looked at the letter and frowned. "It's from your sister, Mary," he said, knowing that Ann could not read.

When Marie came in from hanging the clothes out to dry, she read the letter for Ann.

My dear Sister,

Greetings in the precious name of our Savior Jesus Christ. I am happy in the Lord. I trust your leg is completely well, and that you too are still praising God.

I have very sad news for you. Mama is very sick...

"Oh, my dear mother, my dear mother," interrupted Ann, as she covered her face. Then she mumbled "If only I had not said..."

Marie continued reading. *We are doing all we can for her, but she does not seem to be improving. Papa is well and all the family.*

James is causing Mamma and Papa much sorrow, for he stays drunk most of the time. He has a sweet little girl, but he is forcing her mother to work and take care of the child. Please pray that God will change James' heart....

That night when the children went to bed, they could hear Ann praying for her sick mother and her brother, James.

The next morning she said to Mr. Reid, "I would like to send for my brother and his family, if you think it would be all right."

"I think it is a good idea," he said. So Ann had Marie write a letter to James asking if he would like to come to Canada.

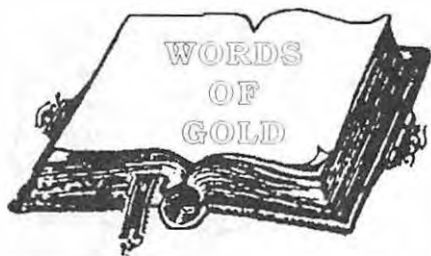
The hope of having her only brother near put new life into Ann. She talked with her Father about it all through the day. She planned how James would find the wonderful joy that she had, and they would rejoice together. He would be so happy that he would stop drinking.

"Be sure and check the post office to see if I have a letter," she would say every time any of the family went into town.

Each time she asked, the children shook their heads and explained again that it would be at least six months before she could get a letter back from across the ocean.

Ann always responded, "How many months has it been?"

After weeks of this, Henry brought a big calendar and spread it on the dining table. Ann stared at the calendar trying to figure out the marks and squares. "Now let's count the days in six months. Each square is one day. You point to the days and I will count."



God Blesses The Obedient

Haggai 2:10-15, 17-23

New Word—Signet: A special ring used to seal legal documents.

10 In the four and twentieth day of the ninth month, in the second year of Darius, came the word of the Lord by Haggai the prophet, saying,

11 Thus saith the Lord of hosts; Ask now the priests concerning the law, saying,

12 If one bear holy flesh...and...do touch bread,...or oil, or any meat, shall it be holy? And the priests...said, No.

13 Then said Haggai, If one that is unclean by a dead body touch any of these, shall it be unclean? And the priest answered...It shall be unclean.

14 Then answered Haggai, and said, So is this people,...that which they offer there is unclean.

15 And now, I pray you, consider...from before a stone was laid upon a stone in the temple of the Lord:

17 I smote you with blasting and with mildew and with hail in all the labours of your hands; yet ye returned not to me, saith the Lord.

18 Consider now from this day...even from the day that the foundation of the Lord's temple was laid, consider it.

19 ...From this day will I bless you.

20 And again the word of the Lord came unto Haggai...saying,

21 Speak to Zerubbabel, governor of Judah, saying, I will shake the heavens and the earth;

22 ...I will destroy the strength of the kingdoms of the heathen:...every one by the sword of his brother.

23 In that day, ...will I take thee, O Zerubbabel, my servant, ...and will make thee as a signet: for I have chosen thee, saith the Lord of hosts.

The Message: God blesses those who honor Him above everything else.

Questions:

1. What was the day and month of this prophecy?
2. Could anything become holy by being touched by a holy thing?
3. If a person is unclean can what he touches become unclean?
4. Will an unclean person's offering be clean or unclean?
5. Did the blasting, mildew and hail cause the people to turn to God?
6. What day did God begin to bless?
7. What would God do to the heavens and the earth?
8. What will happen to the kingdoms?
9. What had God chosen Zerubbabel to be?

Verse to Memorize

...From this day will I bless you.

Haggai 2:19.

Let's



Talk . . .

Let's review what has happened in Judah to better understand this prophecy. Captain Zerubbabel led the captive Jews from Babylon back to their homeland. Then they began building the foundation of a temple in which they could again worship God in holiness. Conflicts among themselves and their neighboring nations, caused them to quit working. Fifteen years passed during which time the foundation crumbled and became buried under brush and other vegetation. Chapter one of Haggai shows that the people were not sinning as the nations around them, but neither was God first in their lives. Their jobs, their homes, their education, their personal fun came first. After taking care of all those things, there was no time or money left for God. The people were awakened through Haggai and other prophets. They began reconstructing the foundation.

This lesson starts with a question for the priests. Haggai asked, "If a priest is carrying a holy offering, will the things he touches become holy? They answered, "No." Then he asked, "If a person is unclean after touching a dead body, will the food he touches become unclean?" They answered, "Yes." He asked these questions to show them how easily a person can become unclean (sinful) and how difficult it is to be holy. We know a sinful person can easily influence others to sin, but living holy takes great effort. It cannot be done by only being friends with a holy person, although it is good to have Christian friends.

Any offering must be holy to be accepted by God. For it to be holy, it

must come from a holy heart. A person's heart is holy if that person loves the Lord more than anything else. This love is proved by a person's actions. Praise is an offering which God loves to receive. There are many people praising God. Praise and adoration stir a person's emotions to praise God more. This is great! But no praise is accepted by God unless it comes from a holy heart. If a Christian loves God more than anything else, his praise is pleasing to God. If there is sin, ungratefulness, or any impurity in his heart, praise from this person will not be accepted as an offering.

When Judah was sinful, their offerings were unholy (verse 14). Now that God has first place in their lives, their offerings are holy. God began blessing as soon as they gave Him first place in their lives. They cleared away the rubbish and soon reconstructed the foundation (verses 18 and 19). From that day God's blessing came. They gave to God and did His work first, then they had plenty left for their own needs. They finished the temple which God had told them to build.

Zerubbabel was the leader. He kept God first in his life. For this he received a special blessing. God told Haggai to tell him that in the future God was going to overthrow the kingdoms of the earth, and make Zerubbabel as a signet. (A signet was used to form a seal to make a document official.) How was Zerubbabel used as a signet? The document that assures every saved person an entrance into heaven is sealed with the blood of Jesus. Jesus is from Zerubbabel's family, so they had the same bloodline. In this way Zerubbabel is a part of the signet (the blood) that seals every Christian's covenant of salvation. He led the people away from captivity in Babylon and back to their homeland. Christ is the captain of our salvation and will lead us to heaven (our homeland) if we give Him first place in our lives.

—Charlotte Huskey

Ann began pointing to the squares as Henry counted. "One, two, three, four, on and on they went through one month, two, three, four months, until he had counted all the remaining days. "That's how long it will be," he said. "So, no use asking for a letter until the pumpkins are orange in the fields."

Ann didn't ask again. One day when the big pumpkins were beginning to change color, a letter came from James. He wanted to move to Canada.

Ann had been saving all her wages. That evening she asked Dr. Reid if he thought she had enough for their tickets.

"I'll check how much you have and let you know," he said.

The following evening he told Ann he had checked on her savings, and the cost of the trip and that she had almost enough. He would loan her the rest. Marie wasn't home, so Joy wrote two letters. One was for Mary to buy the tickets, the other for James, welcoming him to Canada.

To Ann a week was a month and she began asking if James would soon be arriving. Henry had found out that seasons meant time to Ann, so he explained that James would not arrive until spring when the trees were again green and flowers were blooming.

All winter Ann waited for spring. The wait was so long. She watched the ice slowly melting from the pond, and the days growing longer and warmer. Small green buds showed on the trees. Her hopes soared.

One afternoon while churning, she talked excitedly to her Father about preparing for James' coming. "I will clean the dairy cellar," she said. Each farmer kept the milk in a dairy cellar which was deep under ground in back of the regular cellar. After churning, Ann set the buttermilk on one of the cellar steps, and did not take it into the dairy cellar.

As she came up out of the cellar, she noticed a man walking up the lane toward the house. There were no other

houses nearby and she was all alone, but she was not afraid. Seeing a rip in the carpet, she knelt on the floor to mend it while she waited to see what the man wanted. Looking up from her work she saw the man disappear into the hedge and come out with his arm in a sling. "Poor man," she thought.

He came to the door and said, "Could you give a needy man a little money?"

"I have no money," Ann answered.

"Do the girls have some?" he asked as if he knew the family.

"They are away for the afternoon," Ann answered.

"And the boys?"

"They are cutting wood."

"Back in the brush?" he asked.

"Yes," Ann answered ignorantly.

"I see you have been churning, surely you have some buttermilk. Could you get me a nice cold drink of buttermilk from the cellar?"

"Yes, I can do that," Ann answered. Getting a dipper, she went down into the cellar. As she was going down the steps, her Father said, "Quick, Ann, get out of here."

Ann pushed her dipper into the milk and rushed back up the stairs almost charging into the man who was then entering the cellar door.

He almost fell backwards trying to get out of Ann's way. She noticed his hands were trembling when she handed him the milk, which he drank.

"Very kind of you," he said, trying to act calm. Then he asked, "Madam, would you please sew up my pants? I tore them on the hedge while trying to fix my sling. I see you have a needle and thread."

Now Ann, too, was trembling. "What did this big man plan to do to her?"

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. The 24th day of the ninth month. 2. No. 3. Yes. 4. Unclean. 5. No. 6. The day the foundation of the temple was laid. 7. He would shake them. 8. The kingdoms will be destroyed. 9. A signet.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 47, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 3 July 21, 1996

A 19th Century Prophet

(Continued from last week.)

"The angel of the Lord encampeth round about them that fear Him, and delivereth them."
Psalms 34:7.

Ann usually helped strangers because the Bible says, "Be not forgetful to entertain strangers; for thereby some have entertained angels unawares." (Hebrews 13:2). But she had a feeling that if this man was an angel; he must be an angel of the devil. "Father, I need You," Ann prayed to herself. "There is no one close enough to hear my call for help."

"Madam would you please mend my trousers," the stranger asked again.

"Well,—," Ann said wondering how to answer him. Then she heard the squeaking of the well. "Oh, Mr. Reid is here. Do you want to talk to him?"

"No—no, thank you. I'll be going, th-th-thanks for the mm-mm-milk," He said trembling like a leaf in a bad wind storm.

Three days later Ann noticed an odd looking old lady tottering up the long lane toward the house. "That lady looks familiar," Ann said. "Father, who is it?"

"It's the man who tried to go into the cellar with you the other day," God said.

"Oh, is it?"

"Yes, it is," her Father answered.

"And I'm alone again." She stepped

out of the cookhouse and greeted the old lady. "May I speak with the boss?" the old lady asked in a strangesqueaky voice.

"Step right into the house and have a seat," Ann said politely. "I'll call him."

Ann hurried out toward the well, calling loudly, "Mr. Reid, Mr. Reid."

The old lady peeked around the corner of the house and said, "Oh never mind, never mind, don't bother him right now." Then she hobbled off down the lane.

As soon as the old lady was out of sight, Ann turned to her Father. "Have I sinned?" she asked.

"What was that, Father?"

"Oh, yes, Thou shalt not bear false witness."

"Did I bear false witness?"

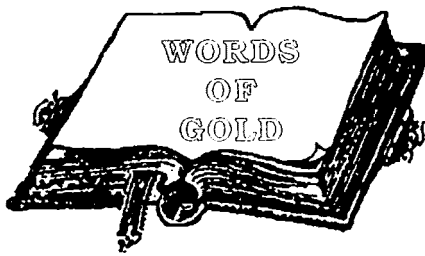
"No."

"What's that?"

"Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may...enter...into the city, For without are...murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie." (Rev. 22:14-15.)

"So I made a lie? But I spoke the truth the first time that man came...."

"What?—Yes." Then Ann moved her kettles off the stove and fled to her room, and begged forgiveness for making a lie. There she stayed on her knees until she found God's mercy and her heart was again peaceful.



God Restores Jerusalem

Zechariah 1:1-4, 12-21

1 In...the second year of Darius, came the word of the Lord unto Zechariah,...saying,

2 The Lord hath been sore displeased with your fathers.

3 Therefore say thou unto them,...Turn ye unto me,...and I will turn unto you, saith the Lord of hosts.

4 Be ye not as your fathers,...they did not hear, nor hearken unto me,...

12 ...O Lord of hosts, how long wilt thou not have mercy on Jerusalem and on the cities of Judah, against which thou hast had indignation these threescore and ten years?

13 And the Lord answered...with good words and comfortable words.

14 ...Saying, Thus saith the Lord of hosts; I am jealous for Jerusalem and for Zion with a great jealousy.

15 And I am very sore displeased with the heathen that are at ease:...

16 Therefore thus saith the Lord; I am returned to Jerusalem with mercies: my house shall be built in it, saith the Lord of hosts, and a line shall be stretched forth upon Jerusalem.

17 Cry yet, saying, Thus saith the Lord of hosts; My cities through prosperity shall yet bespread abroad, and the Lord shall yet comfort Zion, and shall yet choose Jerusalem.

18 Then lifted I up mine eyes, and saw, and behold four horns.

19 And I said unto the angel that talked with me, What be these? And

he answered me, These are the horns which have scattered Judah, Israel, and Jerusalem.

20 And the Lord shewed me four carpenters.

21 Then said I, What come these to do? And he spake, saying, These are the horns which have scattered Judah, so that no man did lift up his head: but these are come to fray them, to cast out the horns of the Gentiles, which lifted up their horn over the land of Judah to scatter it.

The Message: God offered mercy unto Jerusalem because the people turned again to Him.

Questions:

1. When did the Lord come to Zechariah?
2. Had their fathers pleased God?
3. What will happen if the people turn again to God?
4. For how many years did God have indignation against Judah?
5. God returned to Jerusalem with_____.
6. Where would God's house be built?
7. What had scattered Jerusalem?
8. What would the carpenters do for Jerusalem?
9. What would happen to Jerusalem?

Verse to Memorize

Turn ye unto me,...and I will turn unto you, saith the Lord of hosts.

Zechariah 1:3.

Let's



Talk . . .

Zechariah was sent of God to prophesy to Judah soon after they were released from captivity in Babylon. They had returned under the leadership of Captain Zerubbabel, who was anointed of God to rebuild the temple. After a short time of enthusiastic building, they became disheartened and stopped. Haggai had already inspired them to resume building, and Zechariah came to enforce what he had said. He also used Jerusalem and the temple they were building to illustrate the glorious Church which Christ would set up in the future.

He praised the people for not being like their wicked fathers who did not obey God. In this first vision Zechariah saw among the trees, men riding red and spotted horses. The angel told him that God had sent these men through the earth to check on it. When they returned, the men reported that the earth was quiet and at rest. This meant that the people were doing what was right. That is the only way to be at rest. Because they were doing right, God said that the cities would grow and prosper, and that He would return with mercy. He would comfort Zion and choose Jerusalem.

The second vision was of four horns. In the Bible "horns" represent power and authority. These

horns represented the powerful kings which came from four directions (north, south, east and west) and scattered Israel because of their rebellion. Then two carpenters appeared in the vision, and Zechariah asked, "What come these to do?" He was told that the carpenters were to destroy the horns, (the kings that were against Judah). God was showing, by these visions, that He would be helping the Jews because they were again obeying the Lord.

The book of Zechariah has three parts. The first part includes chapters one through six. It is a record of the eight visions which God gave to Zechariah. We have already discussed the two visions in the first chapter. The third vision is of a man trying to measure Jerusalem. God tells him that the new spiritual Jerusalem will be too big to measure. The fourth vision shows that in Christ's kingdom everyone will have a clean robe, which is salvation. The fifth vision is of a golden candlestick whose lamps never go out because oil is continually flowing into them. After that Zechariah saw two visions with the same meaning. One was of a roll and the other was two women carrying an ephah of wickedness out of the land into Babylon. These both show that there will be no evil in Christ's kingdom. The very last vision is about God's spirit going though the earth like chariots, destroying God's enemies and making crowns for the faithful.

I hope you will enjoy unraveling the meaning of each of these vision prophecies that God gave to Zechariah. —Charlotte Huskey

In late spring James and family arrived from Ireland. Ann was bubbly. She jumped from one to the other hugging each one at least a dozen times. Then she stood back and took a good look at them. James and his wife, Patricia, were skinny and haggard looking. Mary was pale as a ghost, and thin as one's shadow when the sun is setting.

Ann cooked rich Canadian food hoping they would gain some weight. She began feeding them God's Word, trying to convince James that he needed to give his heart to God.

Shortly after arriving in Thornhill, James knelt at the church altar and asked Jesus into his heart. Ann jumped out of her seat and began clapping her hands, then she bounced up the aisle and gave James a big hug. What joy! That night Ann had Marie write to Ireland and tell her family all about it.

Ann's happiness over her brother's salvation was mixed with the sorrow of Dr. Reid's sickness. He had helped bring healing to many people, but none of his medicine would cure him. She prayed for his healing. What would she and the children do without him?

However, Ann also prayed for God's will to be done, for she remembered with sorrow the time she prayed against God's will. It happened like this: A man said to Ann, "The doctors say there is no healing for my wife. We have children and they need her so badly. Please pray for her healing. I know your faith will bring new life to her."

Ann knew how shattered a family would be without a mother. She had held little Joshua many a night when he cried for his mother. She had prayed beside the girl's bed when they cried themselves to sleep. She understood the deep hurt she saw in Henry's eyes, and had prayed for him. "Yes, a family needs a mother," Ann said, and asked, almost commanded, God to spare the woman. "I am keeping Your command-

ments and doing the things that are pleasing in Your sight, and You have promised that whatever I ask, I would receive. I am asking that new life be given to this woman, and Father, I expect You to do it. Amen." God immediately healed the woman, but she lived a shameful sin filled life, and did not train her children to love and fear God. That experience taught Ann to say "Father, heal if it is best."

God saw it was not best to heal Dr. Reid. The men of Thornhill came to help lay the kind doctor away. He had been present when some were born, others he had attended in time of sickness. They praised the doctor and spoke comforting words to the now-orphaned children.

After the doctor was resting in the graveyard, Ann found her closet and began praying. "Father, You know Bro. Halliday married me to Dr. and Mrs Reid before Joshua was born. I promised to stay as long as they wanted me. What shall I do now?"

"Stand still and see the salvation of the Lord," God answered. "Remember? I promised to be with you all the way." "There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will...make a way...that ye may be able to bear it." (1 Cor. 10:13.)

Ann offered her service to the children. They decided to stay together on the homestead. The boys would continue farming, and with Ann's help, they could still be a family.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. In the second year of King Darius. 2. No. 3. The Lord will return to them. 4. Threescore and ten (70). 5. Mercy. 6. In Jerusalem. 7. The horns of the Gentiles. 8. They would fray the horns of the Gentiles. 9. It would spread (grow), it would be comforted and be chosen by the Lord.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 47, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 4 July 28, 1996

A 19th Century Prophet

(Continued from last week.)

"The god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not..."
II Corinthians 4:4.

It was a beautiful spring day in Canada—one of those days when nature calls to come out and share its beauty. The wood supply was low and the boys were busy breaking the ground for early planting. Ann finished the necessary chores around the house and went to gather fuel.

In a clearing deep in the woods, she found a fallen tree. Its wood was dry enough to burn well, but not so dry that it would burn too fast. Ann began chopping and stacking branches. Awhile later she saw a man at the edge of the clearing. Thinking he also might be gathering wood or walking to a distant farm house, she paid little attention. Later however, she saw he had no ax, nor had he gathered a pile of brush, but every time she looked up he was staring at her.

Soon he came over to Ann and said, "You are working very hard. Why doesn't your husband cut wood for you?"

Annoyed by his question, she answered, "I have no husband. I am joined to the Lord."

"Aren't you afraid out here alone?"

"Nope."

"How far is it to the nearest house?"

"Oh, it's a long ways," Ann explained.

"It's a shame you have to gather

wood," he said sweetly. "Tell you what—tomorrow, I will bring you a wagon full of wood."

"Wonderfull" Ann responded, thinking God must be sending her a special blessing.

"Meet me right here," he said. "I'll have to work until sundown, but I'll be here as soon as possible after that. Okay?"

"Okay."

That night God gave Ann a dream warning her not to meet the man in the woods.

Very often Ann visited her brother, James. She tried to keep him encouraged by feeding him God's Word. One day while visiting, she thought she smelled beer when he spoke to her.

"What's that I smell?" she asked.

"I don't know," he said looking around the room.

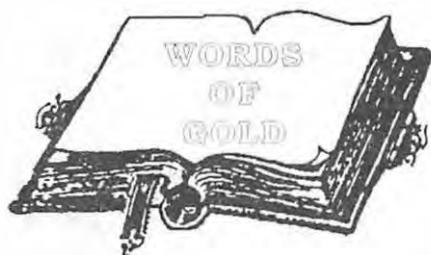
"You been drinking again?"

"Aw, Ann, a little beer ain't gonna hurt me."

Ann went home brokenhearted. "What do you say about beer?" she asked her Father.

God answered by bringing this verse to her mind. "Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging; and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise." (Proverbs 20:1.)

The next day Ann hurried through her work and took God's Words to James. "God says, 'Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging; and whosoever is



A Prophecy of God's Church

Zechariah 2:1-13

1 I lifted up mine eyes again, and looked, and behold a man with a measuring line in his hand.

2 Then said I. Whither goest thou? And he said unto me, To measure Jerusalem, to see what is the breadth thereof, and what is the length thereof.

3 And, behold, the angel that talked with me went forth, and another angel went out to meet him.

4 And said unto him, Run, speak to this young man, saying, Jerusalem shall be inhabited as towns without walls for the multitude of men and cattle therein:

5 For I, saith the Lord, will be unto her a wall of fire round about, and will be the glory in the midst of her.

6 Ho, ho, come forth, and flee from the land of the north, saith the Lord: for I have spread you abroad as the four winds of the heaven, saith the Lord.

7 Deliver thyself, O Zion, that dwellest with the daughter of Babylon.

8 For thus saith the Lord of hosts; After the glory hath he sent me unto the nations which spoiled you: for he that toucheth you toucheth the apple of his eye.

9 For, behold, I will shake mine hand upon them, and they shall be a spoil to their servants: and ye shall know that the Lord of hosts hath sent me.

10 Sing and rejoice, O daughter of Zion: for, lo, I come, and I will dwell in the midst of thee, saith the Lord.

11 And many nations shall be joined to the Lord in that day, and shall be my people: and I will dwell in the midst of thee, and thou shalt know that the Lord of hosts hath sent me unto thee.

12 And the Lord shall inherit Judah his portion in the holy land, and shall choose Jerusalem again.

13 Be silent, O all flesh, before the Lord: for he is raised up out of his holy habitation.

The Message: The Church of God, which is called Jerusalem in this prophecy is described by Zechariah.

Questions:

1. What was the man going to do?
2. What did the angel tell the man?
3. What would be as walls to Jerusalem, (the Church)?
4. What would be the glory of the Church?
5. Touching Zion (God's Church) is like touching what?
6. Why should the daughters of Zion sing?
7. Shall many nations be joined to the Lord in that day?
8. Will those who are joined to Zion be God's people?
9. Can every person be a part of Jerusalem, (God's Church)?

Verse to Memorize

**...He that toucheth you
toucheth the apple of his eye.
Zechariah 2:8.**

Let's



Talk . . .

This vision of prophecy is a picture of a man getting ready to measure Jerusalem, and an angel hurrying to tell him that Jerusalem is not to be measured. It would be as towns without walls. That is, it was to contain people from different parts of the world. There would be so many people they couldn't be put into a walled city.

Some people reading this prophecy might think that it means the city of Jerusalem was to again be a great city. But we know from written history that Jerusalem was never again restored to great glory. For this reason we know that Zechariah was speaking of the Kingdom of Christ.

The day that Christ died on the cross, the way was opened that every person could come into God's Kingdom. People of many nations have been coming into His kingdom since that day. It was the day when the Holy Spirit fell upon the believers. (Acts 2:37-41.) Thousands were added on the day of Pentecost and on the following few days. After those days, spiritual Jerusalem (the Church) was like a town without walls, because of the multitudes of men, women, boys and girls in it who did not live in a central location. God was again dwelling in Jerusalem, His Church, and has been from that time.

In verses six and seven, God tells His people to separate themselves from Babylon. In the New Testament, God told the people the same thing. He said, "...Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues." (Revelation 18:4.) Babylon was the

nation where the Jews were enslaved and where false Gods were worshipped. When God calls to come out of Babylon, He is calling people to come out of spiritual conditions that enslave them.

Many people are trapped in religions and lifestyles that make slaves of themselves. They are bound by a spirit or spirits that keep them from doing what they want to do. The spirit keeps them from loving God with all their heart. They are therefore worshipping some false god. Some false gods which men worship are money, fame, pleasure, sports and beauty. There are many others false gods. Can you think of some?

The last part of this chapter tells us that God really cares about His children. It says He will protect them just as we protect our eyes. Don't we always shut our eyes when we see something about to touch them? Even when we try to hold them open, our eyes will shut when they see an object getting close. God is watching over those in His kingdom just that carefully.

When we are suffering, we seem to forget that God is suffering with us. We feel that God is doing nothing to help us. The next time you suffer remember that God said, "He that toucheth you toucheth the apple of his eye." God also said of our enemies, "I will shake mine hand upon them, and they shall be a spoil."

Another great lesson in this prophecy is that Church leaders should not make lists of God's people. That's kind of like making walls around a certain group. Jerusalem cannot be measured. There are many people in the Church which we know nothing about. God's Church "shall be inhabited as towns without walls." Every Christian is a part of this great Church, why should walls separate them?

—Charlotte Huskey

deceived thereby is not wise," She said this thinking he would love her for sharing God's Word. Instead, he became angry.

"I tried your religion, but I wasn't happy. I've gone back to my own. It allows me to drink all the beer I want. Even our priests drink beer. Away with your fanatic ideas. It's just like Mom said, 'You have lost your mind.'"

Ann's heart was heavy as lead as she walked home thinking of her brother. And him saying she had lost her mind, reminded her of her dear mother who years ago had said the same thing. "Oh, my dear mother, if only I hadn't said... And my dear brother, God, will you please have mercy on him," she prayed.

Although it was hard, Ann continued to counsel her brother, but he rejected it and was soon an awful drunkard again.

One time, as she arrived she heard James saying to his little girl, "Why have you not brought my beer?"

"Sorry, I forgot," Mary answered.

"You forget again and I'll beat you within one inch of your life," he stormed. "Now be off with you, and don't you spill one drop."

"James, you should not send her to the tavern," Ann said.

"It's not gonna' hurt her."

"Don't do it. Don't do it. It will ruin sweet Mary," Ann wailed.

"Listen Ann," James said sternly. "You brought us to Canada, but I'm still an Irishman. I'll have my beer when I want it. You're not going to tell us how to live. understand? I'll do what I please with my family."

"You're leading them into the jaws of HELL, that's what you're doing," Ann snapped back.

James jumped to his feet and raising a chair high over his head, he started toward Ann who was sitting on the bed in the opposite corner of the room. "Get out!—Get out! I said—or I'll really kill

you this time, then we'll see who ends up in HELL!"

Ann jumped to her feet. Putting her hands on her broad hips, she answered, "The devil may have the chair, but my Father has control of it."

James dropped the chair so hard Ann looked to see if it had broken into pieces.

That night Ann prayed again for James, just as she had for months and months. "Seems he is determined to ruin himself and Mary. How can my brother be so blind?" she asked her Father.

God answered by bringing this verse to her mind, "The god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not..."

"Thank you, Father," she said. "Now how about Mary, won't you please spare her from the life of sin that she's headed for?"

God answered with another verse, "The righteous perisheth... and merciful men are taken away, none considering that the righteous is taken away from the evil to come. He shall enter into peace..." (Isaiah 57:1-2.)

"So You are taking Mary to heaven?"

"Thank you, Jesus. She'll be happy there."

The next time Ann went to James' home, he again sent Mary after his beer.

"This is the last time you will send her," Ann told James.

He just laughed.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. He was going to measure Jerusalem. 2. That Jerusalem would be a town without walls. This meant that it would be too big for a man to measure. 3. The Lord would be as walls of fire around it. 4. The Lord. 5. The apple of God's eye. 6. Because God would dwell in Jerusalem. 7. Yes. 8. Yes. 9 Yes.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 47, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 5 Aug. 4, 1996

A 19th Century Prophet

(Continued from last week.)

"The righteous perisheth,...and merciful men are taken away, none considering that the righteous is taken away from the evil to come. He shall enter into peace:..." (Isaiah 57:1-2.)

The little boy stood at the kitchen door looking up at Ann. Twisting his old cap, he said, "Mr. Perston said to tell 'Holy Ann' that Mary is very sick. He begs that Ann will come and pray for her," he said.

"Sure," Ann replied, "Tell, James I will be there as soon as I can."

Ann hurriedly finished cooking breakfast and put some potatoes to boil for lunch. Then she went to see James.

"Mary is very sick, won't you please pray for her?" James begged.

Ann went straight to Mary's bed, and sat down in the chair where Patricia, Mary's mother, had sat all night. Patricia climbed the ladder into the loft, and lay down on the pile of straw where Mary usually slept. Ann could hear her softly groaning. Mary's gaunt face was flushed from fever. Ann laid her broad, calloused hand on Mary's forehead. It was very hot. "Too hot," Ann thought.

Her sad, pleading eyes seemed to say, "Help me."

Ann broke into hard sobbing.

James looked puzzled at his strong sister. "I'm sorry for the way I have treated you," he apologized.

"Oh, never mind how—how—you have treated me," Ann answered, getting herself under control. "Apologize to God and Mary for how you've treated them. I begged you not to send Mary to the tavern!" James hung his head in shame. "Remember, I said, 'This will be the last time you send her there?'"

"Yes, why'd you say that?"

"My Father told me He was taking Mary out of this wicked world to save her from the evil."

"Oh, no! Oh, no!" James wailed. "Mary, my sweet Mary. What will I do without her? Oh, Ann, I'll change, I'll quit sending her into the tavern. In fact, that was the last time she went. I'll be a better papa if you will tell your Father to heal her. I know your Father will do whatever you ask of Him." By now James was on his knees in front of Ann. "Please ask Him, please."

"I will," she promised. "But it won't do any good."

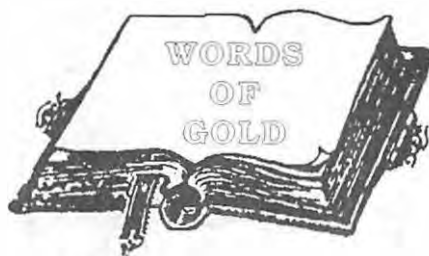
"Didn't Jesus say, 'If ye ask any thing in my name, I will do it?'"

"That promise is for those who love the Lord, and keep His commandments. 'If ye love me, keep my commandments,'" Ann answered as she stroked his head. (John 14:15.)

"How can I bear this?" James cried, hiding his face in his hands.

"The way of the transgressors is hard," Ann quoted. (Proverbs 13:15.)

"But you love Jesus and keep His commandments."



A Robe of Righteousness

Zechariah 3:1-10

1 And he shewed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the Lord, and Satan standing at his right hand to resist him.

2 And the Lord said unto Satan, The Lord rebuke thee, O Satan; even the Lord that hath chosen Jerusalem rebuke thee: is not this a brand plucked out of the fire?

3 Now Joshua was clothed with filthy garments, and stood before the angel.

4 And he answered and spake unto those that stood before him, saying, Take away the filthy garments from him. And unto him he said, Behold, I have caused thine iniquity to pass from thee, and I will clothe thee with change of raiment.

5 And I said, Let them set a fair mitre upon his head. So they set a fair mitre upon his head, and clothed him with garments. And the angel of the Lord stood by.

6 And the angel of the Lord protested unto Joshua, saying,

7 Thus saith the Lord of hosts; If thou wilt walk in my ways, and if thou wilt keep my charge, then thou shalt also judge my house, and shalt also keep my courts, and I will give thee places to walk among these that stand by.

8 Hear now, O Joshua the high priest, thou, and thy fellows that sit before thee: for they are men wondered at: for, behold, I will bring forth my servant the BRANCH.

9 For behold the stone that I have laid before Joshua; upon one stone shall be seven eyes: behold, I will engrave the graving thereof, saith the Lord of hosts, and I will remove the iniquity of that land in one day.

10 In that day, saith the Lord of hosts, shall ye call every man his neighbour under the vine and under the fig tree.

Revelation 19:7-8

7 ...The marriage of the Lamb [Jesus] is come, and his wife hath made herself ready.

8 And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints.

The Message:
God will ex-
change our
filthy garments
for a garment of
salvation.

Questions:

1. Where was Joshua standing?
2. Who was standing beside him?
3. What did the Lord say unto Satan?
4. How was Joshua dressed?
5. What was to pass from Joshua when he received new clothing?
6. What was promised Joshua if he would walk in God's way?
7. Who had made the bride ready for the marriage?
8. With what was the bride clothed?
9. In verse eight, what is the fine linen?

Verse to Memorize

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord,... for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness,...

Isaiah 61:10.

Let's



Talk . . .

Satan is an enemy to righteousness. He wages a constant war against righteous people, righteous laws, righteous thoughts and righteous ideas. When a person chooses to do evil, Satan is happy. He is angry every time one chooses to do right. For this reason there are many conflicts in the world.

These conflicts are very near to us. They are within our mind. Satan uses our flesh to war against the spirit of God. When a person chooses to put down the flesh and obey the Spirit, Satan tries his very best to keep them from doing it. He causes others to criticize. He paints sad pictures in our mind.

Satan has resisted those who seek to obey God from the beginning of creation. He resisted Adam and Eve, causing them to disobey. He caused Cain, their son, to kill his brother, Abel. On down through the ages Satan has worked against righteousness.

Zechariah saw that Satan was also resisting Joshua. But the angel of the Lord rebuked Satan and Joshua did not fall under Satan's power. No person needs to fall under the evil influence of Satan. The angels of the Lord will come to our rescue when we trust in God's power to resist evil.

Joshua was the high priest of Judah, but he was not pure before God. That is why he was clothed in filthy garments. Isaiah 64:6 says,

"...We are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags;..."

The soul of a person with sinful habits and bad attitudes is filthy, even though he or she may claim to be a Christian. God will take away all our uncleanness, our filthy habits (some which we cannot conquer), and then He will give us the righteousness of God. That righteousness is called a *garment of salvation*. "He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before my Father, and before his angels." Revelation 3:5.

This is a beautiful picture of the holiness found in Christ's kingdom or the Church of God. It was a vision of how things would be after Jesus' death and resurrection; a picture of the holy priesthood of which we are each a part according to I Peter 2:5. "Ye...are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ."

Do you wonder why the angel said that Joshua was a brand plucked out of the fire? Satan was right there beside the angel, ready to snatch Joshua and carry him off to the lake of fire. The angel rebuked Satan and Joshua was plucked from Satan's fire.

Every saved person is a brand plucked out of the fire. Each one is doomed to eternal fire, but faith in Jesus' blood saves us from that fire. Although Satan is an enemy of righteousness, Jesus in the King of kings. He will cause us to conquer Satan. —Charlotte Huskey

"Yes, James, but I have learned that God's wisdom is much better than mine. I dare not ask God to do something that He doesn't want to do."

"Sure—Papa—God—knows best," Mary said in a weak whisper. James put his ear close to Mary so he wouldn't miss a word. "I'm—going—to a place—where I'll—be forever happy. I love you,—Papa,—and forgive you. Please, please—meet me in heaven."

Those were Mary's last words.

— — — — —

Ann continued to visit James after Mary's death. She hoped he would live so he could meet his little girl in heaven. But he drank even more, saying he had to drink to keep from grieving.

When he moved five miles away, Ann felt sad. She could not walk so far and only on rare occasions would she have a ride.

One day, about noon, Ann's Father said, "Go visit James today."

"I'd be glad to Father, but how?"

"Do as I say," He answered. "Every beast of the forest is mine, and the cattle upon a thousand hills." (Psalm 50:10.)

"And the horses," she added.

As she was finishing the noon meal, God said, "Now is the time to go."

"I must go now and visit James," she told Marie. "You and Joy serve the dinner."

"But you must eat first. Why such a hurry?"

"My Father says, 'Go,'" she insisted.

"Okay. Could you stop in at Mrs. Hughes and ask her to send over two pounds of butter?"

As Ann hurried down the lane, she saw a gray horse coming over the distant hill. "There is your ride," God said. Ann relaxed. She would have plenty of time. As she turned into the house for the butter, she saw the driver of the gray horse going into the tavern. "That surely isn't the ride for me?" she questioned.

"Yes, that is the ride I have prepared for you."

While the man was in the tavern, a

kind-faced gentleman stopped and offered Ann a ride.

She climbed in. "We're just going two miles," the man said, "but we're always happy to take a person as far as we go."

Before long the gray horse caught up with them. "Would you please ask how far he's going?" Ann asked the driver.

"We've got a friend who needs a ride, how far you going?"

"Only two miles," he answered.

"Ask again," Ann said, "that's the horse my Father said would take me to my brother's house."

"Hey friend, what did ye say? Which way are you going? I have a lady who needs a ride."

"I'm going five miles down the valley, but I can't take a woman along. I'm a priest."

"My Father said He sent that horse to take me," Ann retorted.

"What do you mean? Who is your Father?"

"My heavenly Father," she replied.

"Well then, get in," he answered.

All along the bumpy, dirt road Ann talked to the priest about her heavenly Father. He was so impressed he offered to take her anywhere she wanted to go.

(To be continued next week.)



(Answers: 1. Before the angel of the Lord. 2. Satan. 3. The Lord rebuked Satan. 4. In filthy garments. 5. His iniquity (sins). 6. That he would judge God's house, keep His courts and be given a place among the angels. 7. She made herself ready. 8. With fine linen, clean and white. 9. The righteousness of saints.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 47, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 6 Aug. 11, 1996

A 19th Century Prophet

(Continued from last week.)

"...I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth;..."
Romans 1:16.

James took a big drink, sat his bottle down and asked, "Well, Ann have you come to torment us again?"

"I've come 'cause my Father sent me," Ann answered.

"Wish I—had—a—Father like that one you have," he said, shaking his drunken head.

A new hope sparked in Ann's heart. "You can," she said, sitting herself in a chair next to his. "My Father says, 'Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved.' (Acts 16:31.) He also said, 'Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works.'" (Rev. 2:5.)

James raised his drowsy head, "What? Work? I don't wanna—work." And while Ann was explaining how he could be saved, he fell into a drunkard's sleep.

Ann covered her hands and cried, "My brother, my brother, how could you be so unconcerned about your soul?"

Just then Patricia touched Ann. "Come in the other room and tell me how to be saved."

Ann followed Patricia into the kitchen. They sat across the table from each other. "Jesus said the greatest of

all the commandments is, 'Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength,'" Ann said. "Do you want to be saved more than any other thing?"

"Yes, yes I do. I must be saved to meet Mary in heaven."

"Are you willing to suffer?" Ann questioned. "...Because ye are not of the world.... therefore the world hateth you.... The servant is not greater than his lord. If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you.'" (John 15:19-20.)

"Yes."

"God also says, 'Him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out.'" (John 6:37.)

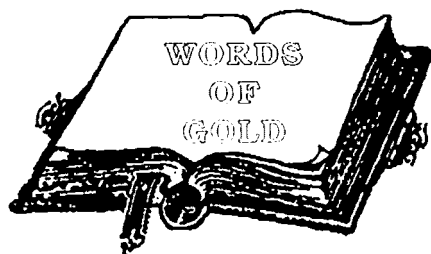
"Do you believe that?"

"Oh, Lord, help my unbelief," Patricia cried. "I want to believe. But I have been so evil, and I am so unworthy of God's mercy."

"Every person is unworthy, for we have all sinned," Ann said. "But 'If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.'" (1 John 1:9.)

"I do confess my sins," Patricia cried out. "Have mercy on me Lord."

Ann and Patricia prayed together a long time. Patricia was wonderfully saved. Later she was wholly sanctified and lived in close contact with the Father, just as Ann did.



The Candlestick of the Lord

Zechariah 4:1-6, 10-14

1 And the angel that talked with me came again,...

2 And said unto me, What seest thou? And I said, I...behold a candlestick all of gold, with a bowl upon the top of it, and his seven lamps thereon, and seven pipes to the seven lamps, which are upon the top...

3 And two olive trees by it, one upon the right side of the bowl, and the other upon the left side thereof.

4 So I answered and spake to the angel that talked with me, saying, What are these, my lord?

5 Then the angel that talked with me answered and said unto me, Knowest thou not what these be? And I said, No, my lord.

6 Then he answered...This is the word of the Lord unto Zerubbabel, saying, Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the Lord of hosts.

10 For who hath despised the day of small things? for they shall rejoice, and shall see the plummet in the hand of Zerubbabel with those seven; they are the eyes of the Lord, which run to and fro through the whole earth.

11 Then answered I, and said unto him, What are these two olive trees upon the right side of the candlestick and upon the left side thereof?

12 And I answered again, and said unto him, What be these two olive branches which through the two golden pipes empty the golden oil out of themselves?

13 And he answered me and said, Knowest thou not what these be? And I said, No, my lord.

14 Then said he, These are the two anointed ones, that stand by the Lord of the whole earth.

The Message:
The world re-
ceives the light
of God through
His Word and
His Spirit.

Questions:

1. What did Zechariah see?
2. How many lamps were on the candlestick?
3. How many olive trees were there?
4. What did the picture represent?
5. Which will prove best, might and power, or God's spirit?
6. What are the eyes of the Lord doing?
7. What were the two olive trees producing?
8. Where was the golden oil going?
9. Were the olive trees the two anointed ones?

Verse to Memorize

Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.
John 8:12.

Let's



Talk . . .

Zechariah lived many years before Christ. In those years the people were accepted by God if they obeyed His commandments. These laws were to govern people's actions, but not their attitude. After Christ died and rose again, men would have a relationship with God through His Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit would not only help people to govern their actions but also give them power to control their attitudes.

Christ said, "As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." (John 9:5.) He also told His disciples, "Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid." (Matthew 5:14.) Jesus is still the Light of the world. However, people cannot see Him unless they see Him in another person. So that makes Jesus followers' the "light." Jesus fills people with His Holy Spirit and they do the right. It is His spirit shining through these people that gives light to the world.

The vision of the golden candlestick shows this truth. There were seven lamps or flames on this candlestick. Seven in the Bible represents completeness. The seven lamps give a complete light or all the light that is needed. Jesus is all that our souls need. On either side of this candlestick were two olive trees, producing golden olive oil. There were pipes connecting the trees with the lamp. Oil was running through these pipes keeping the lamp fueled so it would never stop burning. Just so, the light of Jesus will never go out. It will be shining unto the end of the world.

The eleventh chapter of Revelation helps us to understand that these two olive trees are the Holy Spirit and God's Word. Their power in a person's life causes Jesus to shine through them. They are the fuel needed to make God's light always abide in the soul.

How does a person get the Holy Spirit and God's Word to fuel his or her life? At times the Holy Spirit talks with people who are not Christians. But it comes into a heart, "in full measure," when a person allows God to completely rule him or her. God's Word is like food for the soul. It is taken into our soul by reading and believing it. Just as we need to eat every day, so we need to read the Bible every day.

Many souls are so starved that their light cannot shine. But God's plan is that the Holy Spirit and His Word be always present in our hearts. The fuel from the olive tree was continually flowing into the lamps. They never went out. When God's Word and His Spirit is flowing in our hearts, it will shine out. We will be a light to the world.

The person who keeps these two in his heart will be happy and secure. Don't just obey the ten commandments and your parents, but surrender all to Jesus, study His Word and there will be a continual fire burning in your soul. What happiness!

—Charlotte Huskey



When Ann arrived at the Reid home, the children were around the table looking at a map. "Joshua and I have decided to go to New Orleans," Henry told Ann.

"New Orleans? Where on earth is that?"

"It's on the Gulf of Mexico, in the southern part of the United States of America," he answered with pride.

"Why so far away? We could never again see you," Ann said. Then she remembered those were the same words her Papa and Mama had said when she told them she was coming to Canada.

Joshua interrupted her thoughts. "Don't worry about us. We are old enough to care for ourselves."

"The rent from the farm should take care of you all," Henry added. But we will also send money home.

Ann felt the hot tears trickle down her face. Henry looked across the table and said, "Ann, you've served us all these years. You won't have so much to do with us gone."

"Yes, Ann," Joshua said, putting his arm awkwardly over her shoulder. "We'll find good jobs and see that you and the girls have everything you need. In New Orleans it's warm year round, so we can earn money right through the winter."

How Ann wanted to shout, "Don't go! We must stay together, we need each other." But she knew they wouldn't understand. She hadn't understood her own mama and papa. "Now I know how my Mama and Papa felt," Ann thought. "And if only I hadn't said..."

"It will be all right," Marie was saying. "Let the boys go for an adventure. They will soon be back."

Ann prayed every day for the boys. Often she asked Marie if a letter had come. Finally a letter did come from their cousin Kelly who had gone along. The letter said:

"Dear Joy and Marie,

We are all working and doing fine. I hope everything is okay there. New

Orleans is a big, big city. They say it is one of the five largest in America. There is plenty of work loading and unloading boats. Steamships, barges and small paddle boats bring products from northern cities down the Mississippi River to be shipped across the ocean.

Hope to hear from you all soon."

Not many days later, when Ann was praying for the boys, a very sad feeling came over her. She was so disturbed about it that she went to Mrs. Hughes, her closest Christian neighbor and asked if she would pray with her for the boys. They prayed. The next day she felt the same way, so she went again. They prayed earnestly for the boys. For two weeks Ann went every day to pray with Mrs. Hughes for the boys.

Then one night she had a dream.

"We need not pray for Joshua," she told Mrs. Hughes the next day. "He is already dead."

"Why do you say that?"

"My Father showed me in a dream."

"Your anxiety caused you to have the dream," said Mrs. Hughes.

"I am sure my Father gave it," Ann insisted.

No amount of persuasion could convince Ann that her beloved Joshua was still living. She mourned for him as if she had seen him in his casket.

(To be continued next week.)



(Answers: 1. A golden candlestick. 2. Seven. 3. Two. 4. The Word of the Lord to Zerubbabel. 5. God's spirit. 6. Running to and fro through the whole earth. 7. Golden oil. 8. Into the bowl of the golden candlestick. 9. Yes.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 47, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 7 Aug. 18, 1996

A 19th Century Prophet

(Continued from last week).

"Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou are with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.. Psalm 23:4.

After many weeks, a letter came from New Orleans. Trembling with excitement, Marie tore it open and read it to Ann.

Dear Cousins:

Please forgive me for not writing sooner. I did not write because we have all been sick. A terrible disease, called yellow fever, has swept the city. Thousands have been sick and so many dying that hardly any had funerals. The New Orleans Daily stated that more than 7,000 deaths had been reported.

The good news is that the wild disease is now under control. I did not write because I did not want you all to be worrying about us. I waited until everything was calm again.

I was awfully sick for a few days with head and muscle aches, fever and dizziness. Henry and Joshua were sick for many weeks. They had high fever, terrible aches and their bodies turned yellow. Even their eyes were the color of lemons. Henry is completely well and back at work. Joshua....

"Oh, no," Marie cried. "Not my baby brother."

"I knew it," Ann said very calmly.

"Knew what?" Marie asked, tears streaming down her face.

"That our sweet Joshua has gone to be with the Lord."

"That is exactly what the letter says," Marie sobbed.

"Remember the dream?"

"Yes. Let's see, I marked on the calendar the night of your dream." Marie wiped her eyes so she could see the calendar. "Joshua died that same day. But why Ann, why did God let Joshua die? We need him." She slumped into a chair and cried a long, hard, heavy cry.

To comfort her Ann said, "...Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord...that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them." (Revelation 14:13.)

"But what about us?"

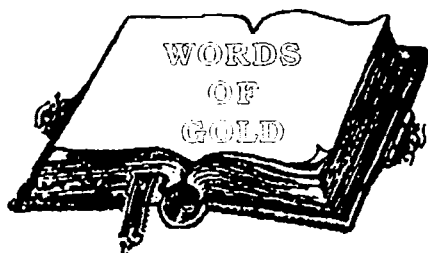
"...All things work together for good to them that love God,..." (Rom. 8:28) Ann said. "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou are with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me." (Psalm 23:4.)

"Oh, Ann, I wish I had your faith, your confidence and your trust. You're always happy no matter what happens."

"I was sad, too, when my Father told me that Joshua had died, but that was six weeks ago. He has already healed my hurting heart."

"I wish He'd hurry and heal mine. First Mother, then Dad, and now Joshua. Pretty soon there won't be any of our family left."

When Joy came home, Marie called her into their bedroom and told her



A Vision Of Christ's Pure Kingdom

Zechariah 5:1-11

1 Then I turned, and lifted up mine eyes, and looked, and behold a flying roll.

2 And he said unto me, What seest thou? And I answered, I see a flying roll; the length thereof is twenty cubits, and the breadth thereof ten cubits.

3 Then said he unto me, This is the curse that goeth forth over the face of the whole earth: for every one that stealeth shall be cut off as on this side according to it; and every one that sweareth shall be cut off as on that side according to it.

4 I will bring it forth, saith the Lord of hosts, and it shall enter into the house of the thief, and into the house of him that sweareth falsely by my name: and it shall remain in the midst of his house, and shall consume it with the timber thereof and the stones thereof.

5 Then the angel that talked with me went forth, and said unto me, Lift up now thine eyes, and see what is this that goeth forth.

6 And I said, What is it? And he said, This is an ephah that goeth forth...through all the earth.

7 And, behold, there was lifted up [the lid] a talent of lead: and this is a woman that sitteth in the midst of the ephah.

8 And he said, This is wickedness. And he cast it into the midst of the ephah; and he cast the weight of lead upon the mouth thereof.

9 Then lifted I up mine eyes, and looked, and, behold, there came out two women, and the wind was in their wings; for they had wings like the wings of a stork: and they lifted up the ephah between the earth and the heaven.

10 Then said I to the angel that talked with me, Whither do these bear the ephah?

11 And he said unto me, To build it an house in the land of Shinar: and it shall be established, and set there upon her own base.

Genises 10:8, 10

8 And Cush begat Nimrod: he began to be a mighty one in the earth.

10 And the beginning of his kingdom was Babel,...in the land of Shinar.

The Message: God's curse is over those who are dishonest. They will be removed out of His kingdom.

Questions:

1. What did Zechariah see?
2. What did this roll represent?
3. For whom was the curse?
4. Into where would the curse enter?
5. What did Zechariah see in the second vision?
6. What did the ephah and the woman represent?
7. What happened when the lead covered the ephah?
8. Where did the women take the ephah?
9. What was Shinar?

Verse to Memorize

Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour,...that he may have to give to him that needeth.

Ephesians 4:28.

Let's



Talk . . .

Each of the visions that Zechariah saw were prophecies of God's holy Church. This vision, although very different from the others, is also a picture of it. In this vision wickedness is destroyed, so in Christ's Kingdom there is no wickedness. It is pure; everyone in it is holy.

At first Zechariah sees a flying roll that goes over all the earth. The angel tells him that it is a curse. This curse is to all those who steal, swear or tell lies (swear falsely). It will enter into the house of every such person. None shall escape.

Then the angel showed him a woman in an ephah flying through the air. (An ephah was a unit of measure used in those times, so this was a measuring container, with a woman in it.) A heavy piece of lead was placed over the opening of the ephah and when it was lifted, two women with wings of a stork came flying out. Quickly they carried the ephah away.

The angel also tells the meaning of this vision. It is wickedness, and the women are taking this ephah of wickedness to Shinar. There it would be set upon a base and be established. Shinar was the place where Nimrod started Babel.

Babel was where the people tried to get to God by building a tall, tall tower. God confused their languages and they had to stop. From that time Babel has been known as confusion. Babylon is another name for Babel.

People who are confused in their spirit love and worship *things* in place of God. We say these people are in Babylon. These people are outside of the Church of God and are serving the gods of this world.

In what ways do men serve the god of dishonesty? By being dishonest. They cheat; just a little; they tell little *white lies*. They make something they sell appear better so they get more money than it is worth.

In Leviticus 19:36 God commanded the people, saying, "Just balances, just weights, a just ephah, ... shall ye have: ..." If a person sold goods from an ephah which was small, the buyer would not get what was due him. The seller would be stealing from the buyer. If anyone questioned him about the size of his ephah he would surely say it was the correct size. Then he would be lying. So you see the two visions were about being dishonest in actions and in words.

All this dishonesty was punished by God. It was carried away to Babylon. There would be no dishonesty in God's new Israel. God set up this new Israel when Jesus rose again. He called it by His own name, The Church of God.

—Charlotte Huskey



about Joshua. Ann could hear them crying.

The next day the girls did not go with her to church. Ann sat down near the back and listened while first one and then another gave their testimonies. One sister told how she had become so angry with her son that she boxed his ears. Then she apologized and they prayed together.

A man said that he was tempted to sell his cattle and raise barley for the brewers. "I could make a lot more money that way," he said. "Just pray for me to make the right decision."

Another told of being questioned about things she didn't want to tell, so she told a little "white lie" to get out of answering. "I hurriedly asked God to forgive me," she added.

One after another testified about temptations, failings or wanderings.

Ann was bubbling over with victory. Her righteous anger took over. Jumping to her feet, she marched to the front and turned to face them all. "This sounds more like a Jewish wailing place than a holiness testimony meeting. Would to God we could give testimonies of victory. These talks of turning aside and wandering around give our Father's table a bad name. You are keeping people away from the Lord. What sinner, after hearing you this morning, would want to be saved? The sinner would say, 'I've got enough problems already. I don't need the problems of religion.'

"The Christian life is a happy one, if you will 'pray without ceasing and give thanks for everything.' (1 Thes. 5:17-18.) I've tried it! It works! In sorrow, in death, in hunger, in sickness, in good times and bad, we can always have shouting victory, if we are daily 'speaking to ourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs; singing and making melody in our hearts to the Lord; Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father...' (Eph. 5:19-20)." Everyone was silent while Ann continued quoting verse after verse. Her voice

grew louder and louder until at last she clapped her hands and said. "Try it, brothers and sisters, try it. Get out of the pit and get going in this race if you want to win the prize." Then she ushered herself back down the aisle and out the door. She went home and prayed for the church.

From the day the girls had heard that Joshua had died, they had been acting strange. At first they just cried and cried and would hardly eat or go anywhere. Then Ann noticed them talking in whispers of traveling and building. She wondered if one was planning to get married.

A few months later, a letter came from Henry. "Ann," the girls called excitedly, "Henry has written you a personal letter."

"For me? Why not to all of us?"

"A surprise!" Joy said. "I'll read it to you."

Dearest Ann,

I want to thank you for all you have done for our family. We could never have made it through life without you. And now that we are all grown and do not need your services, I want you to know that I will always care for you. You can expect to receive from me regular checks so that all your needs will be supplied until your Father calls you home.

I love you and thanks again for all you did for us.

Love, Henry

Ann was wiping tears when Marie kissed her forehead and said, "Wasn't that a nice letter? Now go with us to town. We have another surprise for you."

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers. 1. Allying roll. 2. A curse. 3. For those who steal, swear or lie. 4. Into the house of the thief and those who tell lies. 5. He saw an ephah with a woman in it. 6. Wick-edness. 7. Two women with wings came out. 8. To Shinar. 9. It was the land where Babel [Babylon] began.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 47, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 8 Aug. 25, 1996

A 19th Century Prophet

(Continued from last week.)

"...If they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them..." Mark 16:18.

Joy tied the gray mare to a pine tree, and helped Ann out of the buggy. "Who are we visiting?" Ann asked.

"The home of "Holy Ann," Joy answered.

"Holy Ann? That's what people call me. Is there another woman called that?"

"Just one; the honorable Ann Preston," Marie answered, taking Ann by the hand and ushering her up the walk to the new white cottage.

"It is a pretty little house," Ann said.

"And it's yours!" the two girls shouted at the same time. Ann's mouth fell open. She stood in stunned silence for a moment. "This is where I'm going to live?"

"This is your new home; our gift to you. You are too old to keep up the homestead, and you will be safer here with close neighbors," Joy said.

"And you girls?"

"Joy and I plan to make a trip out West. We will be gone about a year," Marie said.

The following weeks were busy. Two men and a wagon were hired to move the best furniture from the Reid home into Ann's cottage. Some was

given to Ann, some the girls wanted her to keep for themselves. Their valuable silver, crystal, china and jewelry were also left in Ann's care. After Ann was comfortably settled the girls left to explore the new western states of Canada.

Ann's neighbors welcomed her. The nearest neighbor was very helpful. She carried water for Ann. When winter came, she kept the walks cleared and did Ann's shopping. Although Ann missed the children, she was happy. Now she could talk to her Father undisturbed by duties. Henry kept his promise and sent her money. She sat for hours in her comfortable chair, looking at her Father's handiwork, the distant mountains covered with evergreen trees, the flowers in spring and summer and the snow covered landscape in winter.

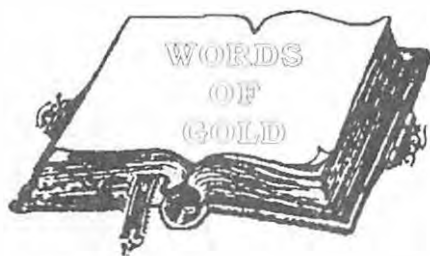
One day as she was talking to her Father, He said, "Ann, trust not your neighbor."

"What's that, Father?"

"The neighbor is helping because she wants those valuable things that the girls left."

"Oh, sure, Father, I'll be careful."

That day that very neighbor offered to clean Ann's house. Ann had always been a maid. Promptly she retorted, "I will clean my own house."



Getting God's Approval

Zechariah 7:1-14

1 And it came to pass in the fourth year of king Darius, that the word of the Lord came unto Zechariah...

2 When they had sent...Sherezer and Regem-melech, and their men, to pray before the Lord.

3 And to speak unto the priests...and to the prophets, saying, Should I weep in the fifth month, separating myself, as I have done these so many years?

4 Then came the word of the Lord of hosts unto me, saying,

5 Speak unto all the people of the land, and to the priests, saying, When ye fasted and mourned in the fifth and seventh month, even those seventy years, did ye at all fast unto me, even to me?

6 And when ye did eat, and when ye did drink, did not ye eat for yourselves, and drink for yourselves?

7 Should ye not hear the words which the Lord hath cried by the former prophets, when Jerusalem was inhabited and in prosperity, and the cities thereof round about her, when men inhabited the south and the plain?

8 And the word of the Lord came unto Zechariah, saying,

9 Thus speaketh the Lord of hosts, saying, Execute true judgment, and shew mercy and compassions every man to his brother:

10 And oppress not the widow, nor the fatherless, the stranger, nor the poor; and let none of you imagine evil against his brother in your heart.

11 But they refused to hearken, and pulled away the shoulder, and stopped their ears, that they should not hear.

12 Yea, they made their hearts as a ...stone,...therefore came a great wrath from the Lord of hosts.

13 Therefore it is come to pass, that as he cried, and they would not hear; so they cried, and I would not hear, saith the Lord of hosts:

14 But I scattered them...among all the nations...Thus the land was desolate after them, that no man passed through nor returned: for they laid the pleasant land desolate.

The Message: God expects his followers to obey Him, be compassionate and not even imagine evil about others.

Questions:

1. When did the Word of the Lord appear to Zechariah?
2. For what were Sherezer and Regem-melech sent?
3. What did they ask?
4. How long had they been fasting each fifth and seventh month?
5. What did God say was more important than fasting?
6. What were they commanded not to do?
7. Did God say to not imagine evil against a brother?
8. Why was God angry with His people?
9. Why did God not hear their crying?

Verse to Memorize

...Execute true judgment, and shew mercy and compassions every man to his brother.

Zechariah 7:9.

Let's



Talk . . .

The Word of God came to Zechariah in the fourth year of King Darius. The Israelites had been released from captivity and were rebuilding a place of worship in their homeland.

Onedaysomemen came from Bethel and asked the priest if they should continue to fast in the fifth month as they had done for seventy years while they were in captivity.

God answered, "I have commanded all Israel to fast on the Day of Atonement in the seventh month. This day shall be a day of rejoicing. The ceremonies you observe that day remove all your sins." Their fasting was a sign of appreciation, a thank you to God.

The Jews had added four other days of fasting. Each one was established after a national disaster. Nebuchadnezzar had sieged Jerusalem in the tenth month, captured it in the fourth month and burned the city in the fifth month. In the seventh month they fasted in consequence of the murder of Gedaliah.

All these fasts were self-imposed punishment. They were meant to get God's favor in times of trouble. But God's approval

is gained only by obedience and purity. It is never gained by punishing nor neglecting our bodies.

God asked them, "When you fasted, did you do it because you appreciated what I have done for you? Or did you fast to get what you wanted?" The people had to admit they had fasted hoping God would ignore their disobedience and give them what they wanted. God is merciful and loving. But God cannot lie. He had told His people many, many times that they would be destroyed if they continued sinning. They did not stop sinning. But when destruction came, as God said it would, they hoped that fasting would be a "quick fix" out of their troubles. It wasn't.

God helped them to see that their fastings were not getting God's approval. Then He told them some things that would gain it. God said, "Do not abuse the widows, orphans or homeless, and think only good thoughts about others." Another important factor in keeping God's approval is to be attentive to Him.

When you feel guilty about something you have done, stop. That may be God speaking to you. Ask some older person about the action you feel guilty about. Often God talks to us through teachers, preachers, or older people, just as He talked to the Jews through the prophets.

—Charlotte Huskey

"I know how you feel. You've always been able to work, but now you are old. Accept it and allow your friends to help." Saying thus she snatched the broom and began sweeping. Then she found a rag and began dusting. Ann watched carefully and saw her peeking into drawers and boxes. Sometimes she would whistle when she saw what was inside.

This generosity lasted for about a year; Ann protesting each time. One day when she came, Ann was very sick. "I know a tea that will make you well," the neighbor said, and hurried away to brew the tea. Soon she was back with a cup of hot tea.

When Ann started to drink it, her Father said, "I told you not to eat anything she brings."

With trembling hands, Ann sat the cup on the table beside her chair. "What, not going to drink it? Don't be so hard-headed. Don't you want to be well?..." She picked up the cup and put it to Ann's mouth. "Now drink it. I know what is good for you."

Ann refused.

"Drink," she shouted.

Ann shook her head and clamped her lips.

"Are you crazy?" she said, ridiculing Ann.

Finally she forced Ann to drink the tea.

"There now, that will take care of you. Just sit still and I'll be right back," she said as she left Ann alone.

Immediately Ann began praying. "Oh, Father, Father, forgive me. You know I love You better than anything in the world. You said, 'Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.' (Matt. 22:37.) I do. I do."

The devil shouted, "God won't hear your prayers, because you did not obey Him. He only hears those who obey all His commandments."

"I was afraid. 'Like as a father pitieth his children, so the Lord pitieth them that fear him.' (Psa. 103:13-14.) Pity me, I am but dust, but I fear Thee."

Instantly Ann felt forgiven and happy again. Then she remembered that apostle Paul was bitten by a poisonous snake and no harm came to him. Because of this she felt the tea was poisoned, but that God would save her life. Then she quoted to God, Mark 16:15, 17-18, "...Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.... And these signs shall follow them... if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them." I have preached Your Gospel by my life and testimony at every opportunity."

In a few minutes she became deathly ill and began vomiting. She did this until her stomach was empty.

God's marvelous saving of Ann's life did not stop the covetous neighbor. She tried many more tricks to steal the valuable things in Ann's cottage, but each time God caused something to happen to spoil her plans.

(To be continued next week.)



(Answers: 1. In the fourth year of King Darius. 2. To pray and speak to the priest. 3. If they should continue fasting the fifth month. 4. For seventy years. 5. Showing mercy and compassion. 6. They should not oppress the widows, orphans, strangers, the poor, nor imagine evil against a brother. 7. Yes. 8. Because they pulled away, stopped their ears and made their hearts as a stone. 9. Because they had not listened nor obeyed Him.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 47, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 9 Sept. 1, 1996

A 19th Century Prophet

(Continued from last week.)

"The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord: and he delighteth in his way." Psalm 37:23.

"Father," Ann said as she unfolded the letter, "As Hezekiah spread his letter before You, and You saved him from his enemies, so I give this letter to You."

She lay the letter from Kelly on the table and bowed her head, "I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread." (Psa. 37:25.) My neighbor read this letter to me which says that Henry has died. Lord, who will supply for my needs now?"

God answered by bringing this verse to her mind, "...My God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus." (Phil. 4:19.)

"Thank You Lord. I trust You," she answered.

Her good friend, Mrs. Hughes, had moved far away to the big city of Toronto. When she heard of Henry's death she came to visit Ann.

"I want you to come and stay with me for awhile," she said.

"How can I leave the things I am keeping for the girls?" Ann asked.

"I have already made arrangements for them. I was sure you would accept my invitation."

So Ann went to stay with friends

who had plenty to share with her.

While there Ann went to visit another friend who was Catholic. A great rainstorm blew in and she was still there on Sunday so the friend invited her to go to mass.

"To what?" Ann asked.

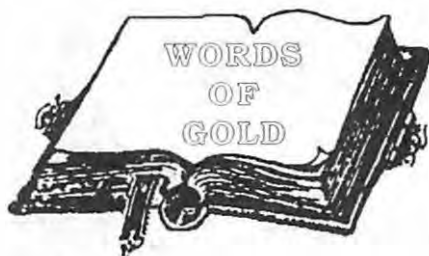
"To a Catholic church service," the friend explained.

"I am not Catholic."

"Come anyway. We worship your Father, too, and you'll enjoy seeing the beautiful cathedral," the friend urged.

The woman took Ann in to one of the front seats. The ceremony started, with lighting of candles, sprinkling of water and bowing and kissing. Then followed a repeating of words intermixed by kneeling and sitting. After this, the bishop gave his sermon. Unfortunately on this day, he tried showing the superiority of the Catholic church by comparing it to the different Protestant churches. Ann could not read books, so she knew very little about different religions or church history. Ann couldn't understand his sermon until he began saying the Methodists were a small church started by a cobbler. "Like a mushroom, it sprang up overnight, and thinks itself to be an important church."

This was too much for Ann. Standing to her feet she said, "Sir, I beg your humble pardon, but the Methodists are a large church that has been growing for many, many years. I have known



God Blesses The Righteous

Zechariah 8:3-5, 7-8, 11-13, 16-17, 21-23

3 Thus saith the Lord; I...will dwell in the midst of Jerusalem: and [it] shall be called a city of truth; and the mountain of the Lord...the holy mountain.

4 There...old men and old women dwell in the streets...

5 And...the city shall be full of boys and girls playing...

7 ...I will save my people from the east...and from the west...

8 ...And they shall be my people, and I will be their God,...

11 ...I will not be...as in the former days,...

12 For the seed shall be prosperous; the vine shall give her fruit, and the ground shall give her increase, and the heavens shall give their dew; and I will cause the remnant of this people to possess all these things.

13 And it shall come to pass, that as ye were a curse among the heathen,...ye shall be a blessing: fear not,...

16 These are the things that ye shall do; Speak ye every man the truth to his neighbour; execute the judgment of truth and peace in your gates:

17 And let none of you imagine evil...against his neighbour; and love no false oath: for all these are things that I hate, saith the Lord.

21 And the inhabitants of one city shall go to another, saying, Let us go speedily to pray before the Lord, and to seek the Lord of hosts: I will go also.

22 Yea, many...strong nations shall come to seek...and to pray before the Lord.

23 ...In those days it shall come to pass, that ten men...out of all ...nations,...shall take hold of...a Jew, saying, We will go with you: for we have heard that God is with you.

The Message:
God blesses
those who
seek Him;
then others
seek Him.

Questions:

1. Where was the Lord to dwell?
2. What would Jerusalem be called?
3. Who would fill the streets of the city?
4. Would God prosper Jerusalem?
5. How were the people to speak?
6. How were the people to treat others?
7. Was it okay to imagine evil?
8. What would the people of many cities do?
9. What would ten men do?

Verse to Memorize

...I will save you, and ye shall be a blessing: fear not, but let your hands be strong.
Zechariah 8:13.

Let's



Talk . . .

Zechariah uses the changes that were happening in Jerusalem to prophesy of the New Jerusalem in Christ's kingdom. The people had repented of being selfish. They were now doing the Lord's work first, then doing their own. The city was quickly becoming a wonderful place.

Through the years of rebellion there were many wars. Thousands of soldiers were killed, leaving saddened orphans and widows. Few men lived long enough to be old. And when an enemy conquered, they usually killed the aged and the little children because these were not useful to them as slaves. This left Jerusalem without children or old people. Now delighted old women sat watching their happy grandchildren playing, while the old men told tales of yester-years.

Gone were those times when a man could not work for wages (hire). Gone were the days when men were not safe to go and come as they wished. Now the fields would produce good crops because God would send the needed moisture (dew and rain). Just as God allowed them to suffer for their evil doing, now He would bless them for their right actions.

But to keep the blessing of the Lord, there were certain things the people were to do. They were to

speak the truth; no more lying or cheating. They should be fair, to both friends and enemies. God was also requiring that their thoughts and their desires be pure. They were not to imagine evil against others, nor love a false oath (vow).

The Bible says that man is sinful. He can only be pure if the Holy Spirit is living within him. So to keep God's blessing on our lives, we must allow the Holy Spirit to live within.

Verses 20-23 show how people will come to Jesus when they see others living as God commands. All kinds and races of people will be asking about God when we live right. You may have read the second chapter of Acts where it describes the day of Pentecost. People from "every nation under heaven" were there asking, "What must we do to be saved?"

Zechariah said the people would say, "Let us go speedily to pray before the Lord, and to seek the Lord of hosts." Then they would go to Jerusalem. This happened on the day of Pentecost. That was after Christ's Kingdom was set up, and the first Church of God was being established in Jerusalem. On that first day people of many nations entered into the Church. In a few days the Church had grown from less than 200 to 8,000. Many people believed when they saw that the Lord was with the disciples at Jerusalem. The men who wrote the New Testament use, "Holy Jerusalem" and "the Mountain of the Lord" when they are speaking about the Church in Christ's Kingdom.

—Charlotte Huskey

that church for over 40 years. There are many Methodists in Ireland from where I came and many here in Canada."

Her friend, knowing that only the ordained officers spoke in the Catholic church, began tapping Ann's leg trying to get her to sit down.

Ann, determined that the truth be spoken, turned to her friend and said, "Stop plucking me. I'm not a goose."

Suddenly two young priests were at her side. "Madam," they said very respectfully, "It is wrong for you to speak here. The Scriptures say that women must keep silence in the churches, and if they wish to know anything they must ask their husbands at home."

"I have no husband. I am joined to the Lord, so I will ask Him what I should do." At once she began praying. "Father, these men say I should not speak in the church. What shall I do?" In a moment she sat down and remained quiet through the remainder of the ceremony.

After the bishop had ended the service, the congregation burst into an uproar. "Throw that old lady out," one shouted.

"Take her to the back room and give her a flogging," shouted another.

"Anyone who dares to contradict the bishop needs to be hung," said a feeble voice in the rear.

Many gathered around Ann, shaking their fists in the air. "Let's get rid of her," they cried.

Ann's friend and a few others who knew her huddled around Ann, separating her from the angry mob. "Leave her alone. She didn't mean any harm," they repeated over and over as they forged her away through the crowd and out the door.

Now Ann was on the lips of every Catholic in Toronto, just as she had been the talk of Thornhill. She was despised by some, others admired the boldness with which she defended her faith. Soon word got around that the

old lady who corrected the bishop was "Holy Ann." "She's that peculiar little Irish woman that can get God to do whatever she asks," one told another.

People began bringing their sick. Many of them were wonderfully healed. Some were healed and later served the devil, which was a grief to Ann's heart.

In Brooklyn a woman with typhoid fever was on the edge of death. When Ann visited her, the lady said, "I have not been able to sleep for a long time. Please pray that I will be able to sleep for two hours."

Ann knelt beside the bed and prayed. Then she went into the next room and said, "Please be quiet so she can sleep. I asked my Father to give rest and I know He will."

The woman slept four hours. From that time her health improved until she was well again.

Another call came for Ann to go pray for a sick girl. Ann was taken to the worst part of the city and escorted into a house where "girls for hire" lived.

It was a wicked, eerie place. Ann could feel the presence of the devil. The man who greeted her at the door looked familiar. After awhile she remembered he was the man who had offered to bring her wood at night. "I'd be living in a place just like this if my Father had not warned me against meeting that man," she said to herself.

She prayed for the sick girl and thanked God again for His protection to her.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. In Jerusalem. 2. The mountain of the Lord, the holy mountain. 3. Old people and children. 4. Yes. 5. Truthfully. 6. With fairness. 7 No. 8. They will come to Jerusalem to seek God. 9. They will take hold of a Jew saying, "We will go with you; for we have heard that God is with you.")

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 47, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 10 Sept. 8, 1996

A 19th Century Prophet

(Continued from last week.)

"I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye." Psalm 32:8.

"We're going to have a new member in our family," Mrs. Bingham said to her daughter, Helen.

"A baby?" Helen questioned.

"No. Your papa and I decided to invite Ann Preston to live with us. She needs a home, and we need someone to stay with you children when we are away."

"Oh, goody," cried the younger boys, George and Charles. "Maybe we'll see some miracles, too."

"And maybe she'll wash dishes," Helen said hopefully.

"Miss Preston is 89 years old, so we can't expect her to work. Papa has gone to pick her up. You children must always be polite. Don't laugh when she does things that seem odd," Mother cautioned.

Ann arrived with only a small suitcase. Helen wondered how she could do with such a few clothes, then one day she said, "Cold weather is coming. I will go today and gather my clothes from the different homes where I have stayed. I will need them soon."

"Helen, you go with her. Carry her suitcase and help in any way possible," Papa said. He took them to the station, bought tickets and gave Helen money for their lunch.

"Where will we go first?" Helen asked, feeling grand that she had been chosen to escort such an important person.

"Well, let's see," Ann said rather puzzled, "I don't remember their names — but I know where they live."

They got off the train and started walking along the street. Suddenly Ann stopped, bowed her head and said, "Now Father which way should I turn." They walked on a ways then turned left and walked several more blocks. Ann stopped again and started praying.

Helen had never prayed on a street corner. She looked around to see if anyone was watching.

"Are you sure you are going right?" Helen asked, when they began moving again.

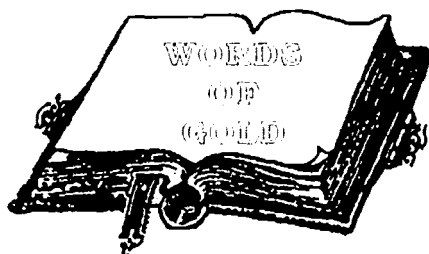
"Doesn't God always lead right?" she answered.

Finally they came to a store. On the sidewalk in front of the store, Ann looked up to heaven and said, "Father, what is the sister's name?" She paused just a moment. "Sure Father, that's it." Then she marched into the store and asked where Mrs. Cartier lived.

"She has moved to 437 N. MacDonald," the clerk answered. Then looking at Helen, he asked, "Do you know where MacDonald Street is?"

"No."

"I will write directions for you," he said, "Let me get my pencil from my desk." He disappeared into the back room.



A New Kingdom

**Zechariah 9:1, 3-10,
12, 14, 16-17**

1 The burden of the word of the Lord in the land of Hadrach, and Damascus...

3 And Tyrus did build herself a strong hold, and heaped up silver as the dust, and fine gold as the mire [mud] of the streets.

4 Behold, the Lord will cast her out, and he will smite her power in the sea; and she shall be devoured with fire.

5 Ashkelon shall see it, and fear; Gaza also shall see it, and be very sorrowful, and Ekron;...shall be ashamed; and the king shall perish from Gaza, and Ashkelon shall not be inhabited.

6 And a bastard shall dwell in Ashdod, and I will cut off the pride of the Philistines.

7 And I will take away his blood out of his mouth, and his abominations from between his teeth:...

8 And I will encamp about mine house...and no oppressor shall pass through them any more:...

9 Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy King cometh unto thee: he is just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon an ass,...

10 ...And the battle bow shall be cut off: and he shall speak peace unto the heathen: and his dominion shall be...to the ends of the earth.

12 Turn you to the strong hold, ye prisoners of hope: even to day do I declare that I will render double unto thee;

14 And the Lord shall be seen over them, and his arrow shall go forth as the lightning:

16 And the Lord their God shall save them in that day as the flock of his people: for they shall be as the stones of a crown, lifted up as an ensign upon his land.

17 For how great is his goodness, and how great is his beauty!...

The Message: God says the heathen nations will be destroyed, but Israel will receive an everlasting King who rides upon a donkey.

Questions:

1. Name some of the cities that God destroyed.
2. Describe the silver and gold of Tyrus.
3. What would happen to the king of Gaza?
4. What would happen to the pride of the Philistines?
5. What were the daughters of Jerusalem to do?
6. On what would their King be riding?
7. What would the King bring?
8. How far would His dominion reach?
9. What kind of prisoners were in His kingdom?

Verse to memorize

And Jesus, when he had found a young ass, sat thereon; as it is written, Fear not, daughter of Sion: behold, thy King cometh, sitting on an ass's colt.

John 12:14-15.

Let's



Talk . . .

In this prophecy God says that Damascus and the other cities around Jerusalem would be cast down by the Lord. Damascus is said to be the oldest city in the world with a continuous history reaching from the time of Uz (Noah's grandson), until the present day. The apostle Paul was on his way to Damascus to imprison or kill believers when God changed his mind. It is also believed that he was preaching in Damascus when a sleeping man fell out of the window. Today tourists can walk down the "Street called Straight" and see the house of Ananias in which he prayed for Paul and Paul's sight was restored. After Zechariah prophesied its destruction, the city was plundered by Alexander the Great of all its enormous treasures.

After a seven month siege, Tyre was also destroyed by Alexander the Great. Tyre was built on land and on an island about one half mile out in the sea. It became successful after a great, protective, stone wall was built that connected its two parts. This wealthy city had "heaped up silver as dust and fine gold as mud." Its walls were 150 feet high. This wall was demolished, houses burned, 10,000 defenders massacred and women and children sold as slaves. Tyre never again rose to greatness.

Zidon was noted for its wisdom, but it was not wise enough to escape Alexander. It was however,

wise enough to submit without a struggle.

Verse five, says, "the king shall perish from Gaza," and so it happened. The enemy soldiers tied Gaza's king to Alexander's chariot and dragged him around the wall. He also destroyed other native rulers and put his own man in authority.

After prophesying about the ruin of the neighboring nations which drank blood and sacrificed to idols, Zechariah spoke to the daughters of Jerusalem. He said, "Rejoice!" Why were they to rejoice? Because God was raising up a King that would bring salvation. This King would not ride in a luxurious chariot pulled by the sleekest horses in the land. He would be humble and ride on a donkey. But His dominion would cover the whole earth.

Never in history had one king ruled all the earth. But this new King had dominion over all the earth. He had a worldwide Kingdom, that will never end. He is King Jesus!

His Kingdom is a spiritual Kingdom. All the people under Christ's dominion are "freed out of the pit" (the pit of sin). He cares for them like a shepherd does his sheep. They are very precious to Him—more precious than the jewels of the crowns of other kings. Everyone in this Kingdom is a "prisoner of hope," serving voluntarily for this great King. These lines of a song illustrate this:

"I'm a prisoner of love,

A slave to the Master,

I willingly serve

In the heat and the cold.

The old Hebrew cities and the nations around them were destroyed, but this great city, (the Church of God) will never be destroyed. —Charlotte Huskey

"Father, don't let him find it," Ann said aloud. Helen hoped he hadn't heard.

After awhile he came back. "That's odd, I couldn't find a pencil anywhere. But I'll put on my hat and take you there."

When he had shown them the way and turned back, Ann, very pleased, said, "My Father told me He would always lead me or else send me a pilot."

Soon the clothing left at Mrs. Cartier's was in her suitcase and they were hunting the next house. Again Ann could not remember the person's name. Several times she said, "That looks like the house." But her Father would direct her to go on.

Finally, she stopped and said, "My Father says, 'This is the house.'"

"I'm embarrassed to knock when I don't know the people's name," Helen confessed, feeling she should go to the house and save Ann those steps.

"Don't you trust my Father?" Ann questioned. Then plodding up the steps, she rang the doorbell. The door was opened by the woman she desired to see.

Looking back at Helen she smiled and motioned her to "come on."

Through the day Helen stood mortified on a dozen street corners while Ann prayed for directions. This continued until it was too late to catch the train for home.

"Let's go stay at the Salvation Army," Ann suggested.

Helen had never stayed in a place for homeless, poor tramps. Again she was humiliated, but she had no choice but to go with Ann.

The group was singing hymns when they arrived. When the opportunity was given for testimonies, Ann jumped up and began joyfully telling how her Father had led her right all day long. Then turning to Helen, she said, "She was afraid to trust my Father. She didn't believe He would guide me to the home I needed to visit." When she was through

praising God, she turned again to Helen and said, "Now you get up and testify."

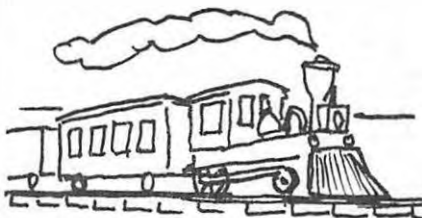
All eyes turned to Helen. How Helen wished a door would open in the floor, so she could fall out of sight.

Although terribly embarrassed by Ann's odd ways, Helen never felt hurt. She was awed by the close relationship which Ann had with God. It was a strange power that she had never before seen demonstrated.

On the way home the following day, Ann said to Helen, "When I was young like you, I tried very hard to learn street names and house numbers, but they would not stay with me. I begged God to teach me to read those little marks on the doors. But He said, 'No, for then you would go to places where they do not want you and where I did not send you. I will always take you Myself or send you a pilot.' I was so ignorant, I did not know what a pilot was. But one day a woman came asking me to go pray for her mother, who was dying. God said, 'Go, she is your pilot.'"

"Oh, Ann," Helen said. "You are the most marvelous woman I have ever known."

(To be continued next week.)



(Answers: 1. Hadrach, Damascus, Hamath, Tyrus and Zidon. 2. The silver was heaped up as dust, and the fine gold as mire (mud). 3. He would perish. 4. It would be cut off. 5. To rejoice. 6. An ass (donkey). 7. Salvation. 8. To the end of the earth. 9. Prisoners of hope.

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 47, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 11 Sept. 15, 1996

A 19th Century Prophet

(Continued from last week).

"Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong." I Corinthians 16:13.

The Bingham family had heard of wonderful things happening when Ann prayed. Each was anxious to see something. The younger boys, Charles and George, couldn't wait.

They planned a test for Ann. Charles caught the cat. Then posting George to guard the kitchen door, he hid the cat in the oven of the big iron cookstove. Then the boys went to Ann. She was sitting in her rocking chair in the living room. "Can you please find the cat for us," they begged.

Thinking they were seriously hunting the big furry cat, Ann closed her eyes and asked, "Father, where is the boys' cat?" A moment later she went straight to the stove and opened the oven door.

The boys soon planned another test. Ann always wore a hat when she went out. One day when the boys knew she was planning to go to church, they hid her hat in the bookcase. Then they sat down, pretending to be reading. When Ann was ready for her hat, they heard her saying, "Father, I am ashamed that I have forgotten where I left my hat. Where is it?" In an instant, she started toward the bookcase, saying, "Sure, Father, thank You." Many times the boys hid Ann's clothing, then watched

her find them after asking her Father where they were.

When Mother realized what they were doing, she admonished the boys that any dealing with God was very serious, not a play thing.

The boys, however, were still anxious to see what they called "a miracle." So one day George asked, "Why don't you do some miracles?"

"Well, Georgie," Ann answered, "whenever my Father wants one done, He will do it."

A few days later Ann heard the men talking—"That cow will have to be shot," Mr. Bingham said. "I've tried everything to cure her, but she's only getting worse."

Ann had lived most of her life on a farm. She was sad when an animal suffered, so she went out to see the cow. "This is bad," she said, as she gazed down at the ailing cow stretched out on the ground. "And it's terrible that this good family has to lose a milk cow."

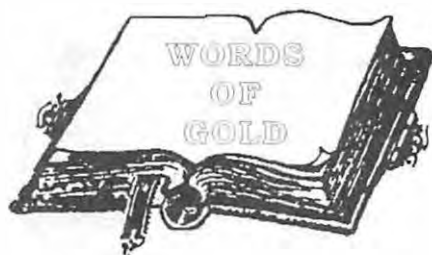
"Then here is your chance," her Father said.

"Chance for what?" questioned Ann.

"To show them that MY power has not changed."

Ann looked back at the sprawling cow. "Okay, Father, I'll take it by faith, but please give me a sign like You did Gideon when he went to battle with 300 men against the great multitudes of Midianites."

Ann prayed there in the pasture. God gave her a sign. "Please, Father, don't be angry with me," she prayed



A New Covenant Is Established

Zechariah 10:1, 6-10, 12

1 Ask ye of the Lord rain in the time of the latter rain; so the Lord shall...give them showers of rain,...

6 And I will strengthen...Judah,...for I have mercy upon them: and they shall be as though I had not cast them off: for I am the Lord their God, and will hear them.

7 And...their children shall see it, and be glad; their heart shall rejoice in the Lord.

8 I will...gather them: for I have redeemed them: and they shall increase as they have increased.

9 And I will sow them among the people: and they shall remember me in far countries;...

10 I will bring them again also out of the land of Egypt, and gather them out of Assyria; and I will bring them into the land of Gilead and Lebanon; and place shall not be found for them.

12 And I will strengthen them in the Lord; and they shall walk up and down in his name, saith the Lord.

Zechariah 11:7, 10-14

7 And I will feed the...poor of the flock. And I took unto me two staves: the one I called Beauty, and the other I called Bands;...

10 And I took my staff, even Beauty, and cut it asunder, that I might break my covenant which I had made with all the people.

11 And it was broken...so the poor of the flock ...knew that it was the word of the Lord.

12 And I said unto them,...give me my price:...So they weighed for my price thirty pieces of silver.

13 And the Lord said unto me, Cast (throw) it unto the potter: a goodly price that I was prized at of them. And I took the thirty pieces of silver, and cast them to the potter in the house of the Lord.

14 Then I cut asunder mine other staff, even Bands, that I might break the brotherhood between Judah and Israel.

The Message: The prophecies of latter rain, Christ's death and making a New Covenant have already happened.

Questions:

1. Would God give rain if they prayed?
2. What would God do for Judah (verse six)?
3. Who would see the blessing and be glad?
4. What would the people do after they are redeemed?
5. What would they do in far away countries?
6. Why was the staff, Beauty, cut?
7. How much was the price?
8. Where were the thirty pieces of silver thrown?
9. What brotherhood would be broken?

Verse to Memorize

...And they took the thirty pieces of silver,...and gave them for the potter's field,...

Matthew 27:9-10.

Let's



Talk . . .

In these two chapters we have another picture of Christ's kingdom. The people are told to ask for the latter rain. The latter rain was the rain that would come in the fall, after the crops had been harvested. It was a time of renewal for land after the hot summer. All plants and animals rejoiced because of this rain. These latter rains represented a renewing of God's blessings upon the earth. This renewal took place when God sent Jesus.

Many times God's people were taken captive into other countries. While in these countries the people would drift away from God and worship idols. This prophecy says that the people would remember God in far countries. They would not drift away as their forefathers did, but would be able to maintain a good relationship with God. Why? Because, when people become a part of Christ's kingdom, God changes their heart. He puts His laws in their hearts, and the Holy Spirit lives within, giving them strength to obey these laws. He is always with them, although they may be far from other Christians.

Zechariah also prophesied about Christ's death. The fulfillment of this prophecy is found in Matthew 27:1-10. Judas had re-

ceived thirty pieces of silver for taking Jesus' enemies to the garden where Jesus was praying. Later he felt terrible about it and returned the money to the chief priests. They did not want the money, because it was the "price of blood." The money was haunting whoever had it. In a desperate effort to relieve his conscience, Judas threw the money on the floor and hurried away. Minutes later he hanged himself.

The chief priests took the pieces of silver and bought a potter's field. A potter's field is a cemetery for the poor who have no place to be buried. We know that whatever God speaks through prophets will always come to pass, just as this did.

Verse ten is the prophecy of God breaking the old covenant and setting up a new covenant. (The old covenant is God's promise of salvation through obedience to the Old Testament laws. The New Covenant is God's promise of salvation through faith and obedience to Jesus.) Hebrews 8:13 reads, "...He hath made the first old. Now that which decayeth and waxeth old is ready to vanish away." Hebrews 8:10 says, "...This is the covenant that I will make...I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people."

That latter rain has come and refreshed the earth. It established a new Kingdom with a new covenant, and people can live free from the binding powers of sin and Satan. —Charlotte Huskey

again, "but I need another sign."

After the second sign, Ann was contented and went to the house. "Georgie," she said, "The sick cow will get well."

George clapped his hands and danced a little, happy jig.

Believing the cow would be able to walk, he went that evening to bring her into the barn with the other cows. But he could not get her up. Back he came to the house, his head hanging low. "She's not any better," he told Ann.

"But she will be, you just wait and see," Ann answered.

Back among the cedar trees the older boys had built Ann a little prayer house. Every day she went there to pray for about two hours. George often followed her, for he loved to listen to her talk to her Father. Sometimes he suggested things to pray about.

One spring day as they were walking to the prayer house, Ann asked, "Where is your brother?"

"He's gone with Papa and the neighbors to help Mr. Roy. He's been sick all winter, so they are cultivating his land, getting it ready for planting. But the rain is coming and they won't get to work."

"That is sad," Ann remarked.

"Why don't you ask your Father to stop the rain?" George asked. "Remember your poem that laughs at impossibilities?" Then he quoted it.

"Faith mighty faith, the promise sees,
And looks to God alone,

Laughs at impossibilities

And cries, "It shall be done."

"Sure, George, we will ask God to hold the rain."

After prayer, Ann said, "My Father says the men can finish their work: it will not rain."

The sky grew darker and darker. George hurried back to the house. Ann came when she was through praying.

"The storm is coming, I know," George said. "Look at the sky."

"My Father said, 'It will not rain,'" Ann assured him. "The sky looks the

same, and so did the sick cow, but did the cow get well?"

"Yes," George answered.

When George was in bed, sound asleep that night, the rain came.

The following winter the snow was deep. When George or Charles made a trail for her through the snow, she would bundle up in layers of wool clothing and go pray in her little prayer house. When they didn't, she prayed in her room.

One day when Helen came home from town, she saw Ann flying down a hill on the boys' sled.

"Ann," she scolded, "you're too old to be playing with the boys."

"Oh sure," Ann answered, "just 90 years young. But the boys must have something to laugh about."

Then she went down again. Half-way down the hill she rolled off the sled onto the snow. The boys roared. Charles slapped his hands on his legs and rolled over in the snow laughing hard. Ann got up laughing, brushed her big black coat off, and trudged back to the top of the hill ready to go again.

(To be continued next week.)



(Answers: 1. Yes. 2. He would strengthen and have mercy on them. 3. Their children. 4. They would increase. 5. They would remember the Lord. 6. That I (God) might break my covenant which I had made. 7. Thirty pieces of silver. 8. To the potter. 9. The one between Judah and Israel.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 47, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 12 Sept. 22, 1996

A 19th Century Prophet

(Continued from last week.)

"But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us. II Corinthians 4:7.

"Helen, remember you promised to pick up Mr. Archibald at the train station," Mother said.

"Are all the boys gone?" Helen questioned.

"Yes."

"Hitching up and driving the horse in good weather isn't so bad, but today a storm is brewing. You know lightning storms terrify me when safe at home. What if the horse gets frightened and runs away? What could I do?"

"Maybe you had better not go," her mother added thoughtfully. "It could be very dangerous."

"But we promised."

"Yes. Well, let's ask Ann's advice."

Immediately, Ann began talking to her Father about the weather. In a few moments she said, "Go ahead, Helen, it will not rain until you are safely at the station."

As soon as Helen had put the horse in the stable and met Mr. Archibald, the rain fell in torrents. From the shelter of the station, they watched lightning streaking across the sky and heard the loud claps of thunder.

"Ann sure got God's message right," Helen said to herself. "She is like the Bible prophets who received and gave God's messages. We have a record of what they did. The world needs to hear about this prophet, also." When Helen returned home she told her mother, "I think I will write a book about Ann."

"It should be interesting," her mother answered.

Helen began writing down the things she already knew. She wrote about the boys hiding things from Ann and God showing Ann exactly where to find them, about the cow getting well after Ann prayed for it, and God holding back storms in answer to Ann's prayers. She wrote about the day she had been terribly embarrassed by Ann praying on Toronto's streets, and the humiliation at the Salvation Army service. It had been a day filled with direct messages from God.

Then she began asking Ann to tell things that had happened during her long life. Evening after evening the two sat together while Helen wrote the stories that Ann told.

One evening Helen asked "Would you tell me some of the things you don't like to remember?"

"I hate to remember how I spoke to my dear mother before leaving Ireland. My whole family pleaded with me to stay but I paid no attention to their requests. Finally my mother began



Those that Pierced Jesus Shall Mourn

**Zechariah 12:1-3, 5-6,
8, 10-12, 14**

1 Theburdenof...theLord, which stretcheth forth the heavens, and layeth the foundation of the earth, and formeth the spirit of man within him.

2 Behold, I will make Jerusalem a cup of trembling...when they shall be in the siege both against Judah and against Jerusalem.

3 And in that day will I make Jerusalem a burdensome stone for all people: all that burden themselves with it shall be cut in pieces, though all the people of the earth be gathered together against it.

5 And the governors of Judah shall say in their heart, The inhabitants of Jerusalem shall be my strength in the Lord of hosts their God.

6 In that day will I make the governors of Judah like an hearth of fire...and they shall devour all the people round about,...and Jerusalem shall be inhabited again in her own place, even in Jerusalem.

8 In that day shall the Lord defend the inhabitants of Jerusalem; and he that is feeble among them at that day shall be as David;...

10 And I will pour...upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they shall look upon me whom they

have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his firstborn.

11 In that day shall there be a great mourning in Jerusalem,...

12 And the land shall mourn, every family apart; the family of the house of David apart, and their wives apart; the family of the house of Nathan apart, and their wives apart;

14 All the families that remain, every family apart, and their wives apart.

The Message: There are troubles to be endured, but also great blessings to be enjoyed in the "Gospel Day."

Questions:

1. Describe the greatness of the Lord who was talking to Zechariah.
2. What would happen to Jerusalem in that day?
3. Who would be gathered against Jerusalem?
4. Who would God defend in that day?
5. Who would be as David?
6. What would be poured upon the inhabitants Jerusalem?
7. What would the people who pierced Jesus do?
8. Would the people mourn together and comfort one another?
9. How did Christ say the world would treat His disciples?

Verse to Memorize

**And I will pour...upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him,...
Zechariah 12:10.**

Let's



Talk . . .

These last chapters of Zechariah are all one message, with different parts. It uses the phrase "in that day" thirteen times. By this we know that all three chapters are pointing to a certain time. That certain day is the "gospel day" which covers the years from Christ's coming until the end of the world.

Prophecies from these three chapters will affect us today. It speaks of all the people of the earth being against Jerusalem. We know the people of the world were against Christ and His followers. Jesus himself said, "If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, ... the world hateth you.... The servant is not greater than his lord. If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you;... (John 15:19-20.)

Faith in Christ brings peace in the soul. But many times it brings conflict with people who are not saved. Christ said in Luke 12:51 and 53, "Suppose ye that I am come to give peace on earth? I tell you, Nay; but rather division:... The father shall be divided against the son, and the son against the father; the mother against the daughter, and the daughter against the mother;...

In verses 11-14 in the *Words of Gold* section of this paper, the prophet said that the people would mourn because they had pierced Jesus. But they would not mourn together, and comfort one another. They would mourn apart. "Every family apart." This happened in Jerusalem after Christ was crucified. Some believed in Christ and were sorry they had crucified their Savior. Others were sorry, only because of the trouble that came upon their city after His death.

God promised to care for His children although there would be conflicts and persecution. Though all the people of the earth be gathered against them, He will protect them. "In that day" those who are "feeble shall be as David." This means that they will be a spiritual kings in the end. David killed the giant. God protected him all those years that Saul and his army tried to kill him. And in the end, he became king.

In Luke 10:19 Jesus told His disciples, "...I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you." This is a promise for us, too. Many people have testified that God has protected from many things, even from poison.

Yes, there are great things for us to enjoy, for we live "in that day," of which Zechariah prophesied.

—Charlotte Huskey

crying and said, 'Oh, Ann, I just can't let you go.' In a very cold, stoney way I answered, 'I will go. Sure, what's the difference? You won't live more than seven or eight years.' My sister and mother stood in the old road watching me until I had gone two miles. It was their last time to see me. Many a time those words and my mother's sad face have haunted me. Can you imagine me being so heartless?"

"No."

"Well, now you know God has really made me a *new creature*."

Helen then visited with Mrs. Hughes, a long-time friend of Ann. There she collected many amazing stories of God's dealings with Ann. Then she asked, "What do you think is the secret of Ann's power with God?"

"The Bible says, 'There is...no condemnation to them who...walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit,'" Mrs. Hughes said. "Unto the end of life, every person will be choosing either to satisfy the flesh or the spirit. Ann chose to please the spirit. She gave thanks in everything, and prayed without ceasing.

"You know how much she prays. She could have chosen to do other things that are not sinful, but she chose to spend much time with her Father."

"She talks to Him all through the day," Helen remarked. "besides hours of secret praying."

"This continual communion with God kept her from sinning. As it is written, 'He that abideth in Him sinneth not.' A sin free person, has much faith in God."

"Do you know of times when Ann did sin?" asked Helen.

"Well, one time she acted ugly to a man in church."

"Tell me about it."

"At every opportunity she testifies. You know that."

"Yes."

"As we were riding the street car to church, Ann's face shone as she testified to others. Her face was still aglow when she began testifying in church. As she was speaking, a man in the back of the house said, 'Praise the Lord.'

"Ann thought he said, 'Sit down.' She turned around quickly and said, 'I will not sit down till my Father wants me to.' Suddenly Ann's shine and her testimony was gone. She said a few words and sat down. Later she cried bitter tears about this action. So you see she failed when she pleased the flesh, just as you or I fail when we follow the flesh. She kept victory when she pleased God's Spirit.

"A few other times men have asked her to sit down, and she has sat down very politely. One man apologized for asking her to let someone else have a chance to speak. She seemed not the least bit hurt and answered, 'Great peace have they which love thy law: and nothing shall offend them.'" (Ps. 119:165.)

"She is a marvelous woman."

(To be continued next week.)



(Answers: 1. He stretched the heavens, layed the foundation of the earth and formed the spirit of man. 2. It would tremble and be a burdensome stone. 3. All the people of the earth. 4. The inhabitants of Jerusalem. 5. The feeble people. 6. The spirit of grace and supplication. 7. Mourn. 8. No. 9. The world would hate them.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 47, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 13 Sept. 29, 1996

A 19th Century Prophet

(Continued from last week.)

"And even to your old age I am he; and even to hoar hairs will I carry you: I have made,...and will deliver you." Isaiah 46:4.

Ann was old now, almost 94, and could not work for her living. She could barely care for herself. She had no children and liquor had destroyed her only brother. So when a wealthy man, far from Toronto, offered her a home she accepted.

Mr. Gray was very fascinated by Ann's victorious life and begged her to remain in their home as long as she lived. Without asking her Father if she should, Ann praised God for supplying her needs and consented to stay.

Day after day Mr. Gray read the scriptures to her. Through the years Ann had struggled to read the Bible; now she could listen all day to the scriptures being read and explained. She drank in every word.

He explained to her how the world was very much like it was in the days of Noah, when only Noah and his family were saved. Ann had rejoiced with God's people in every holiness church in the area. She had looked forward to the day when all God's children would be "caught up together...to meet the Lord in the air, and so shall we ever be with the Lord." Now however, as he pointed out the faults of different churches, she began to believe like him that only a very, very, very few would be saved; maybe just his

family and her.

Now Ann didn't communicate much with her Father. She had no questions to ask Him, this new friend was answering them all. Without Ann knowing it, Mr. Gray was taking the place of her Father.

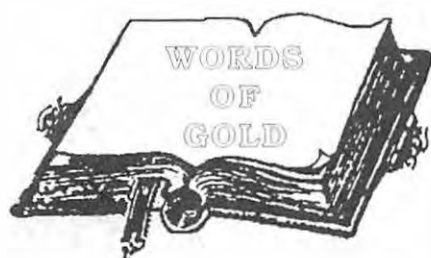
Bro. Bingham, a friend where she had lived, was asked to preach in the congregation which Ann and Mr. Gray attended. After his sermon, Ann stood on her feet and said, "This is my beloved Son, hear ye him." Then she pointed to Mr. Gray. After a long speech, she added, "The church must listen to his teachings, and if it does not, this church will not be blessed."

Bro. Bingham went home with them. After dinner he said, "Ann, I had a notion to get the congregation to singing so they couldn't hear what you were saying. Those words you quoted were what God spoke about Jesus when He was being baptized. They can be used only for Jesus."

"I don't think I mis-used the scriptures," Ann retorted angrily. Quickly Mr. Gray defended Ann. Quite a heated discussion followed.

Bro. Bingham was surprised. He had never seen Ann angry. And he had heard her testify how God had so completely cleansed her from an Irish temper.

With a broken heart, he went to the plush bedroom they had offered him. He was puzzled. What could have so quickly changed Ann?



A Great Description Of Christ

Zechariah 13:1-2, 5-9

1 In that day there shall be a fountain opened to the house of David and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem for sin and for uncleanness.

2 And it shall come to pass in that day, saith the Lord of hosts, that I will cut off the names of the idols out of the land, and they shall no more be remembered: and also I will cause the prophets and the unclean spirit to pass out of the land.

5 But he shall say, I am no prophet, I am an husbandman; for man taught me to keep cattle from my youth.

6 And one shall say unto him, What are these wounds in thine hands? Then he shall answer, Those with which I was wounded in the house of my friends.

7 Awake, O sword, against my shepherd, and against the man that is my fellow, saith the Lord of hosts: smite the shepherd, and the sheep shall be scattered: and I will turn mine hand upon the little ones.

8 And it shall come to pass, that in all the land, saith the Lord, two parts therein shall be cut off and die; but the third shall be left therein.

9 And I will bring the third part through the fire, and will refine them as silver is refined, and will try them as gold is tried: they shall call

on my name, and I will hear them: I will say, It is my people: and they shall say, The Lord is my God.

There's a Fountain of Blood

There's a fountain of blood that
atones for the soul,

And it flows from the side of the
Lord;

Oh, the dear lamb of God makes me
perfectly whole,

For I stand on the rock of His word.

The Message: This is a prophecy of the fountain in which every person can be forgiven of sin.

Questions:

1. Where would this fountain be opened?
2. For what would the fountain be?
3. What would be cut off when the fountain was opened?
4. What would happen to the unclean spirits?
5. What did the prophet say about Himself?
6. What were the wounds in his hands?
7. What would happen when the shepherd was hit?
8. What portion of the people would remain?
9. What would happen to the third part?

Verse to Memorize

In that day there shall be a fountain opened...for sin and for uncleanness.

Zechariah 13: 1.

Let's



Talk . . .

This is one of the most precious prophecies of the Bible. It speaks of the wonderful fountain that was opened to wash away sin and uncleanness. We would all be under condemnation if it wasn't for this Fountain. Through faith in this Fountain we can be free from the guilt of all sin.

John the Baptist said, "...Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world." (John 1:29.) This fountain was not only for sin, but also uncleanness. Every person in Christ's Kingdom can be forgiven of his sins. He or she can also be cleansed of uncleanness of the heart which was inherited from Adam's sin.

During Old Testament times almost every nation worshipped some kind of idol. Some worshipped images made of stone, wood, gold or other materials. Some worshipped the stars, moon, sun and other natural objects, such as "mother earth."

Others worshipped invisible things such as spirits of the dead, the wind, animal spirits, etc. Israel was the only nation that worshipped the living God.

This prophecy says that the names of the idols will be cut out of the land. There are people still worshipping idols today, so we know that "the land" in this prophecy is not meaning a nation or the earth. It is referring to the Church of God. Not one person in Christ's Church worships idols. Each one worships only the true God.

Chapter eight prophesied of Christ riding on a donkey. This was to show that He would be humble and not like other kings. I believe verse five is

another prophecy of His humility. He says, "I am no prophet, I am an husbandman."

Then He was asked, "But what are the wounds in your hands?" By this question He was saying, "The wounds in your hand are proof that you are that Prophet." Who had wounds in his hands? Didn't the wounds in Jesus hands prove to Thomas that He really was Jesus?

Just before Jesus died, He told His disciples that they would all be offended at Him and He quoted verse seven of this chapter, "...Smite the shepherd, and the sheep shall be scattered." So He was telling us that this prophecy is of Him. In Luke 12:32 He also called His followers His flock.

The last two verses, 8 and 9, show us that not everyone who is called will have faith in the fountain that Jesus opened for them. Let us keep our faith in this Fountain, and live carefully so that we will be accepted into heaven when we die.

—Charlotte Huskey

There Is a Fountain

There is a fountain filled with blood,
Drawn from Immanuel's veins,
And sinners plunged beneath that
flood
Lose all their guilty stains.

The dying thief rejoiced to see,
That fountain in his day;
And there have I, tho' vile as he,
Washed all my sins away.

Dear dying Lamb, thy precious blood
Shall never lose its pow'r,
Till all the ransomed Church of God
Are safe to sin no more.

E're since by faith I saw the stream,
Thy flowing wounds supply,
Redeeming love has been my theme,
And shall be till I die.

—Wm. Cowper

In another room Ann was crying out to God. Her display of a fiery temper made her realize that God's Spirit was no longer controlling her. "Father, I love You more than anything," she confessed. "I want Your blessing back in my life. Please, Father, please. I don't want that 'roller-coaster' life that I lived years ago. I don't want it Lord, I want victory again."

"Then you must get away from Mr. Gray's evil spirit. Leave this home," her Father said.

"But Father, I am old. I cannot work. Mr. Gray will take care of me until I die. Can't I live my last days in comfort?"

"I promised to be with you even to the end. Go home with Bro. Bingham. I will take care of you."

"Sure, whatever you say. Father."

Early the next morning, Ann knocked on Bro. Bingham's door. "My Father says I am to go home with you."

"I thought you told me yesterday that you were staying in this home until you died."

"I did, but my Father says. 'Go.'"

"I'm sorry Ann, but the train leaves at 5:00 and it's almost five now. I'll barely have time to catch it. I'll miss the train if I wait for you to get packed and ready."

Ann just stood there speechless as Bro. Bingham raced down the stairs. He waved and said, "God bless you," then disappeared out the door.

Ann's frail, worn mind snapped. She had always obeyed when her Father spoke, but this time she was unable to do so. She was so confused she couldn't find her room.

Bro. Bingham arrived at the station minutes before 5:00. He felt torn and broken for Ann. She really needed to get away from Mr. Gray, but the train would be arriving any minute. He paced the platform waiting for the train, troubled that he hadn't waited for Ann. Five minutes passed, then ten, then fifteen. The train was fifteen minutes late. Maybe Ann could have gotten ready in fifteen minutes; she was already dressed. An-

other fifteen minutes passed, then another. "I don't know why I'm so worried about Ann," he told himself. When he finally boarded the train at six o'clock, he felt sick.

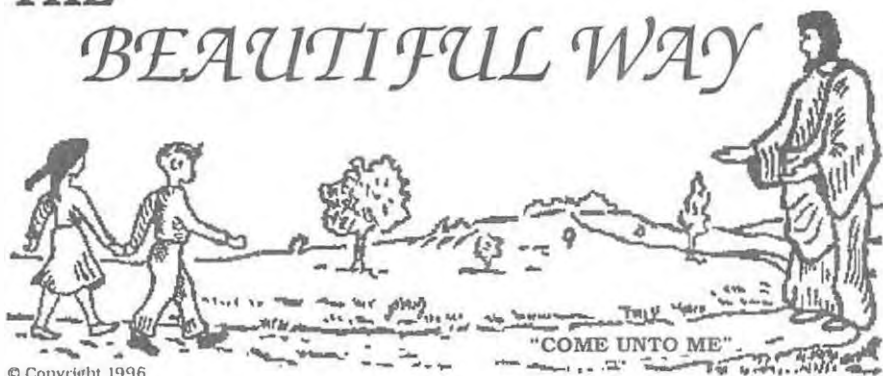
A week later the new friends, who had promised to care for Ann until she died, sent her back to Toronto. A poor widow, Sis. Pedlow, took Ann into her home and nursed her. The brethren in Toronto began praying earnestly for God to have mercy on Ann, and restore her mind. Weeks passed into months and Ann was still so confused she had to be watched all the time, but after several months God restored her clear mind. Again Ann communicated with her dear Father. Again she had wonderful victory. Again she testified at every opportunity. Often she said, "Sudden death will be sudden glory for me." Sometimes she talked of how she would run with arms open to meet her Father if He came bursting through the clouds before she died. Sometimes she had to pray for God to give her patience to wait for His coming. After her 96 birthday, people noticed she was longing even more to go and be with her Father. She often talked about it in the many different churches she visited on those warm spring days.

(To be continued next week.)



(Answers: 1. In the house of David. 2. For sin and uncleanness. 3. The Idols. 4. They would pass out of the land. 5. "I am no prophet." 6. They were wounds received in the house of a friend. 7. The sheep would be scattered. 8. A third part. 9. They would be refined by fire, and would call on the name of the Lord.)

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



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Vol. 47, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 1 Oct. 6, 1996

A 19th Century Prophet

(Continued from last week.)

“...I heard a voice from heaven saying... Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: *Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours: for their works do follow them.* Revelation 14:13.

On Sunday, June 17, Ann got up early and went to 7:00 a.m. prayer meeting at the Berkeley Street Methodist Church. She was back at the church for Sunday school and enjoyed the farewell sermon of the pastor, Bro. Pearson.

After the service, she hurried up on the low platform to bid him goodbye. “I have enjoyed your sermons,” she said. “I will be praying that my *Father* will bless you every day and make you a flame of fire in His kingdom.”

As she was talking, others crowded around to tell the pastor goodbye. Ann stepped back to make room for them. Still more came. A feeble old man came tottering up. To open a space for him, she took another step backward.

Off the platform she fell. All her 180 pounds hit the floor with a thud. The building shook. The windows rattled. “Oh my,” the people cried. “Ann has fallen!” Bro. Pearson and several healthy men scurried through the crowd and lifted her to her feet.

“I’m okay,” she said. “My Father is watching over me.” She dusted off her big black dress and walked out of the church.

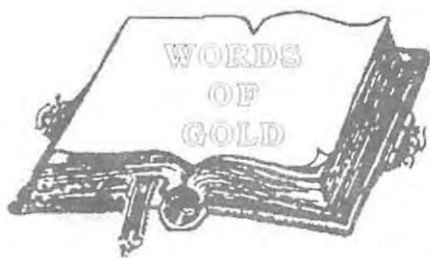
Mrs. Pedlow was waiting outside. “You didn’t hurt yourself?”

“Not a bit,” Ann answered. “Sure, I’m as good as ever.” They walked on home together.

Ann was back for the evening service. Up she jumped when Bro. Pearson asked for testimonies. “Praise God,” she said, clapping her hands. “The fire of the Holy Spirit is burning in my soul! I cannot keep quiet. He is too good to me. Sure, I’m 96 years old and fell, but I didn’t break a bone. Isn’t that marvelous?”

Monday morning she took her usual cold bath at 5:00 a.m. After an hour on her knees in prayer, she took her hymn book and sang for another hour.

“I’m going to the market,” Mrs. Pedlow said. “Your breakfast is on



Prophecies of the Church

Zechariah 14:1-5, 7-13

16-17, 20-21

1 Behold, the day of the Lord cometh,...

2 For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem...

3 Then shall the Lord go forth and fight against those nations,...

4 And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives,...and the mount of Olives shall cleave (split) in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west, and there shall be a very great valley; and half of the mountain shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south.

5 And ye shall flee to the valley of the mountains;...and all the saints with thee.

7 But it shall be one day which shall be known to the Lord, not day, nor night: but it shall come to pass, that at evening time it shall be light.

8 And it shall be in that day, that living waters shall go out from Jerusalem;...in summer and in winter shall it be.

9 And the Lord shall be king over all the earth: in that day shall there be one Lord,...

10 All the land shall be turned as a plain...and it shall be lifted up,...

11 And men shall dwell in it, and there shall be no more utter destruction; but Jerusalem shall be safely inhabited.

12 And this shall be the plague where-with the Lord will smite all the people that have fought against Jerusalem; Their flesh shall consume away while they stand upon their feet, and their eyes shall consume away in their holes,

and their tongue shall consume away in their mouth.

13 And it shall come to pass in that day, that a great tumult from the Lord shall be among them;...

16 And it shall come to pass, that every one that is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall even go up from year to year to worship the King, the Lord of hosts,...

17 And it shall be, that whoso will not come up of all the families of the earth unto Jerusalem to worship the King, the Lord of hosts, even upon them shall be no rain.

20 In that day shall there be upon the bells of the horses, HOLINESS UNTO THE LORD; and the pots in the Lord's house shall be like the bowls before the altar.

21 Yea, every pot in Jerusalem and in Judah shall be holiness unto the Lord of hosts ...and in that day there shall be no more the Canaanite (their enemies) in the house of the Lord of hosts.

The Message: Zechariah's prophecies were completed when Christ set up His church.

Questions:

1. What day was to come?
2. Who will be against Jerusalem?
3. Who will fight for Jerusalem?
4. Where will the Lord stand?
5. When will it be light?
6. What kind of water will flow from Jerusalem?
7. What will happen to the people who fight against Jerusalem?
8. What will happen to those who are unwilling to worship the King?
9. Will everyone in Jerusalem be holy?

Verse to Memorize

The law and the prophets were until John: since that time the kingdom of God is preached, and every man presseth into it.

Luke 16:16.

Let's



Talk . . .

This chapter is another treasure chest full of rich truths from the minor Prophet Zechariah. Worship service for the true God was centered at Jerusalem and in this city Christ began his ministry. For this reason, Zechariah refers to Jerusalem as God's Church.

Zechariah often said, "The day of the Lord cometh." In the Bible, 'day' is not always 24 hours. It often means a period of time. The "day of the Lord" is the era of time from Christ unto the end of the world.

During the day of the Lord "all nations will be against Jerusalem" (the church). This means all people and hell will be against the church. But "the Lord" will fight for the church, and hell shall not prevail. (Verses 2-3.)

Zechariah also said, "Christ shall stand on Mt. Olive," and Mark 13:3 tells us that Christ did stand on Mt. Olive. He also ascended from this mountain. (Acts 2:12.)

He also pictures the church as a valley from which water flows in all directions both summer and winter. That is an example of the Gospel going north, south, east and west to every nation, all times of the year. A valley is a low place. So the Church of God is a

humble place where Jesus, the Living Water can be found at any time a person repents. (John 4:10.)

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world." (John 8:12.) He was born in the evening time of the world, so Zechariah's prophecy, "At evening time it shall be light," was also fulfilled.

This lesson tells the following things about the Church:

1. Jesus is its everlasting king.
2. The Church is like a plane, because everyone in it is equal, yet it is lifted up and glorified by God. (Verse 10.)
3. Everyone in the Church is safe from destruction. (Verse 11.) Only when a person gets out of the Church can the devil destroy him or her.
4. Those who refuse the truth shall shrink spiritually, like a physical body wasting away. (Verse 12.)
5. There was a great turmoil when Jesus did away with the old laws and set up His Church. (Verse 13.)
6. People of all nations will come to worship Jesus. (Verse 16.) (Acts 2 tells about thousands that did come to Him.)
7. The Church of God is holy. (Verse 21.) Everyone in the Church is a holy vessel. (II Timothy 2:21.) Therefore there are no enemies in the church. All enemies are on the outside, only holy people inhabit the Church of God.

How thankful Christians are that Zechariah's last prophecy has already happened.

—Charlotte Huskey

the table when you are ready to eat."

When Mrs. Pedlow returned from the market, she found Ann lying paralyzed on the kitchen floor. Her bowl lay upside down beside her, and the oatmeal was scattered around. Ann moved her mouth as if attempting to talk, but she could not.

Mrs. Pedlow knelt beside the aged saint. Then putting one of her hands in each of Ann's she said, "Squeeze my hand if you can hear me." Ann squeezed both hands.

"Now squeeze my left hand if the answer is *no*, squeeze my right hand if the answer is *yes*." In this way Mrs. Pedlow found out what had happened.

News spread rapidly that Ann was paralyzed. In the following three days, friends rushed in to see her. The widow's little house creaked and groaned under the weight of so many people.

Thursday, June the twenty-first, Ann lay all day as if asleep. Many friends gathered in the evening after their day's work was finished. Joining hands they formed a large circle around Ann's bed, and sang:

"Abide with me; fast falls the eventide;

The darkness deepens; Lord with me abide!

When other helpers fail, and comforts flee,

Help of the helpless, oh, abide with me!"

As they were singing, "Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day," one of them noticed that Ann was no longer breathing. She had slipped away to meet her "dearly beloved Father" as the sun was setting on the longest day of the year.

(To be continued next week.)

LIFE AND DEATH FOR THE CHRISTIAN

What is this thing called life—

This short swift span of years

So veiled with mystery,

So filled with toil and tears?

What is this thing called life,

Dear friend, you ask of me?

'Tis but the threshold to

A blest eternity.

A time to love and serve

The Savior we adore,

A time to trust and pray,

And prove Him o'er and o'er;

A time to glorify

His great and holy name—

The wonders of His grace

Lost sinners to proclaim.

A time to walk by faith

And trust His power to keep;

A time to watch and wait

While others fain would sleep;

A time to yield to Him

The sacrifice of love,

E'er He shall open the gate

To glory up above.

And what is death you ask?

'Tis but the open door

To yon fair Land of Light,

Our home forevermore,

Where we shall gaze on Him,

With Whom we've walked below,

And sing His endless praise,

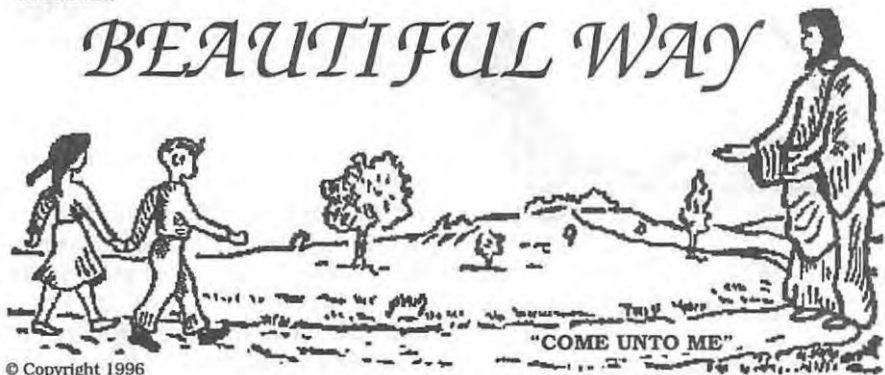
While ages come and go.

—Avis B. Christiansen

(Answers: 1. The day of the Lord. 2. All nations. 3. The Lord. 4. On Mt. Olive. 5. In the evening time, it shall be light. 6. Living water. 7. They shall shrink away. 8. There will be no rain on them. 9. Yes.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



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Vol. 47, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 2 Oct. 13, 1996

A 19th Century Prophet

(Continued from last week.)

Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints. Palms 116:15.

Ann's body was laid in a casket and carried to the Berkeley Street Methodist Church in Toronto. Hundreds of Christians from as far away as Montréal came to see their friend for the last time. Bro. Pearson, Bro. Bingham and other men wept like children losing a mother. "She was a great mother in Israel," Bro. Pearson said, as he looked into the face of Ann.

"Another in Israel, indeed," agreed Bro. Bingham. "I have not seen anyone so charged with the Holy Spirit. She puts all of us preachers to shame."

Helen Bingham clutched her father's arm, "Oh Ann, my Ann" she cried, "Speak to us again. Tell us the story of the dry well that was never again dry, of how God changed you from a lion into a lamb, of how He taught you to read, of the night of the robbers, and the woman who tried to poison you, of the sick who were made well—"

"And the cow," interrupted George.

Helen continued, "I know you would, dear Holy Ann, if you could, but your voice is forever still, yes still

to us on earth, but praising God in heaven."

"Yes, Helen," Bro. Bingham said, "Ann is not silent. She's rejoicing with her Father."

"I think she is talking to Him right now," Charles added. "Look, she's smiling."

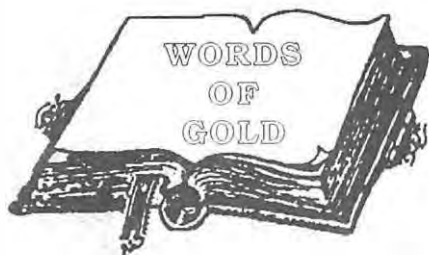
"Do you think she will take up all of God's time and He won't have any left for us?" asked George.

"No, Son," answered Mrs. Bingham, "God will still have plenty of time for everyone. But Ann is having the time of her life."

"I think she is jumping and clapping like she used to do when she was young," added Mrs. Hughes. "I remember when she jumped and clapped in almost every church service."

While hundreds were mourning the loss of their sainted friend, others were writing her praise. The following letter was printed in the *Montreal Witness*.

"Fifty years ago I took my first pastorship near Toronto. I lived at Thornhill where the Reid family also lived. Ann Preston, their servant, had the care of all the children, for both Dr. and Mrs. Reid had passed away. I soon discovered that I had in my charge a Christian of very remarkable attainments.



Why is There No Blessing?

Malachi 1:1-2, 4, 6-11, 13-14

1 The burden of the word of the Lord to Israel by Malachi.

2 I have loved you, saith the Lord. Yet ye say, Wherein hast thou loved us? Was not Esau Jacob's brother? saith the Lord: yet I loved Jacob,

4 Whereas Edom [Esau's family] saith, We are impoverished, but we will return and build the desolate places; thus saith the Lord of hosts, They shall build, but I will throw down; and they shall call them, The border of wickedness, and, The people against whom the Lord hath indignation for ever.

6 A son honoureth his father, and a servant his master: if then I be a father, where is mine honour? and if I be a master, where is my fear [my respect]? saith the Lord of hosts unto you, O priests, that despise my name. And ye say, Wherein have we despised thy name?

7 Ye offer polluted [unclean] bread upon mine altar; and ye say, Wherein have we polluted thee?...

8 And if ye offer the blind for sacrifice, is it not evil? and if ye offer the lame and sick, is it not evil? offer it now unto thy governor; will he be pleased with thee,...saith the Lord of hosts.

9 ...Beseech God that he will be gracious unto us:...

10 ...Do ye kindle fire on mine altar for nought? I have no pleasure in

you, saith the Lord of hosts, neither will I accept an offering at your hand.

11 For from the rising of the sun even unto the going down of the same my name shall be great ...among the heathen, saith the Lord of hosts.

13 Ye said also, Behold, what a weariness is it [to give to God]! and ye have snuffed at it,...and ye brought that which was torn, and the lame, and the sick; thus ye brought an offering: should I accept this of your hand? saith the Lord.

14 ...Cursed be the deceiver, which...sacrificeth unto the Lord a corrupt thing: for I am a great King, saith the Lord of hosts,...

The Message: God will bless those who give their best to Him.

Questions:

1. About which prophet are we studying?
2. Whom did God love?
3. What did Edom call their land?
4. Were the people honoring God as a father?
5. What were they doing which showed dishonor?
6. Would a governor be pleased to receive a blind cow as a gift?
7. Will God accept the blind, the lame, or the sick as an offering?
8. Among whom will God's name be great?
9. What kind of gift should be given to a great King?

Verse to Memorize

Out of all your gifts ye shall offer...the best.

Numbers 18:29.

Let's



Talk . . .

Malachi was the last prophet before Jesus. The next messenger from God was John the Baptist who came about 400 years after Malachi.

This prophecy is written like a conversation between God and His people. God says, "I love you."

The people ask, "Why have you loved us?"

God answered, "I love you because you are the children of Jacob, whom I loved. Esau was his brother, but he chose food rather than my blessing. You too, are dishonoring me like Esau did."

"In what way?" they asked.

"Instead of giving Me your best, you keep it for yourselves and give Me the old bread, and the sheep or cattle that are sick, crippled, or blind. Do you think your governor would be pleased to receive your old blind cows, and your crippled lambs as a gift? Neither am I pleased," said the Lord.

People are still giving their blind, lame and sick to God. They do so by not giving their best to the Church, to their pastors, or the gospel workers. They give whatever is easy to give. A woman said to a visiting preacher, "I want to give you a Christmas gift." She went to her garage where several dogs lived, and picked up two gallon jars of pickles from the floor. They were old and dirty, so old the

lids had rusted onto the jars. From her freezer she brought him a roast. The date on the wrapping showed it was four years old.

Others are giving their blind, lame and sick by giving only a small portion of their money. After they buy whatever they need, and have some recreation, they give God what is left. God's gift should be given first, then use what is left for ourselves.

God's laws said to give a tenth of all income and give for other special needs and to the poor. All together this would be more than \$1.00 out of every \$10.00.

Sometimes people wonder why God isn't blessing them as they wish. Could it be they are giving God the blind, the lame, and the sick? I think if a person believes an operation would make him well, he should give to God the cost of the operation, either before or after he or she is healed. Most surgeons work only if they are sure they will be paid. Neither do they give money back guarantees.

Even small children should give their very best to Christ. He gave His best for us. We give our very best to Christ by trying real hard to be good and by giving a part of our money to Him. If you get an allowance, always give God 10 cents out of every \$1.00. Also save a little back to help someone else, and to give as special offerings at church.

Rosi was very poor. A friend gave her \$1.00. She gave it all to Jesus, and two weeks later, she found \$20.00.

God always blesses those who give their best to Him.

—Charlotte Huskey

During my fifty years of ministry, no one has shown me so fully what real consecration means. All that is meant by "walking with God" and "talking with God" was illustrated more visibly and constantly by her than by any other person I have known.

A person could not talk with her without talking about Christ or His kingdom. Without her realizing it, she controlled all conversations. She spoke freely with the Almighty as did Job, and He spoke freely to her.

One time while visiting in the Reid home, Ann and I, as usual, were talking about the Lord. She told me about a temptation. I said, as if surprised, "You were tempted?"

"Oh yes, but I understand it, for I asked my Father about it and He said, 'Why Ann, you are always trying to tear down Satan's kingdom, of course he will not let you alone.'"

The most remarkable thing about this woman was her knowledge of scriptures and how she used them in prayer, conversation, counseling and admonishing others.

The generation of people and ministers stationed on Yonge Street where Ann attended church have been astonished at her familiarity with the Bible. All her desires, joys, sorrows and all her thoughts seemed to be most easily expressed in Scripture language. I've never heard anyone in the pulpit that could use Scripture as well as she did.

Ann made the highest profession. She affirmed that she was sanctified wholly, and that the blood of Jesus Christ cleansed her from all unrighteousness. I never knew anyone, even bold sinners, who said that her conduct or character was not what she professed. Best of all, those families with whom she lived or served praised her sincerity and consistency.

—Bro. E.B. Ryckman

When the Bingham family was returning home after Ann's funeral, George asked his father, "Did you hear what the mayor said?"

"No, Son, what did he say?"

"He said that the President of the United States of America had visited him this week."

"Wow! That's great!"

"Yes, Son, that is a great honor."

"And that is not all. He said that being a ball barer, whatever that is..."

The whole family laughed, "Apallbearer," Mr. Bingham corrected.

"What's that?"

"Apallbearer is a person who helps carry the body."

"Oh! Well, the mayor said that he liked being Ann's pallbearer better than visiting with the president. He said something about 'cause Ann was more important. How could a maid be more important than the president of a great nation?"

"It's 'cause Ann was so near to God," Charles answered. "She was higher."

The family laughed again.

Then Helen said, "For me, she is the most important person in the world. I don't think there is another person like her anywhere on earth. She was a saint, a real saint, an Irish saint." Helen paused. "And that is what I'll name my book, *The Irish Saint*."

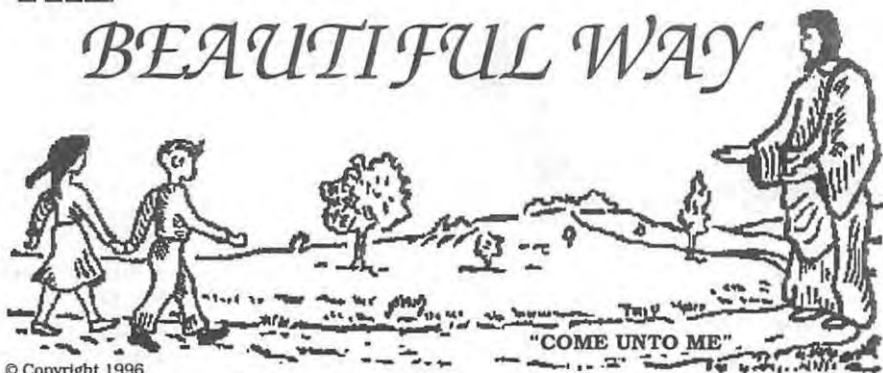
(The End)

—Charlotte Huskey

(Answers: 1. Malachi. 2. Jacob. 3. The border of wickedness. 4. No. 5. They were giving unclean bread, and sick, lame or blind animals to Him. 6. No. 7. No. 8. Among the Gentiles. 9. The very best a person has.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



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Vol. 47, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 3 Oct. 20, 1996



Mary's Lamb



"Go home, now, and learn your school lessons for tomorrow," said the mother to her little Mary, who was helping her bind wheat sheaves in the field.

Mary sprang gayly away; not only that she liked to obey her mother, but because it was also a real pleasure to her to study.

She came soon to a thick hedge, and, jumping over, saw something white lying on the ground. It was a little lamb, which gave no signs of life, but seemed to be dead. Mary had pity for the little creature, and stood over it with a sorrowful and troubled face.

"How came you here, you poor thing? Was your life frightened away by some naughty dog? Or did some cruel man kill you? Or did you stray away from your mother and die of hunger? Oh, you poor little lamb, how I pity you!"

So saying, she knelt down and stroked the lamb gently. She thought it moved a little. She stroked it again, and moved it on its side—the lamb stirred slightly.

How great was her joy! "Oh, you're still alive! You are only weak and

hungry. If I could only help you." She took it on her lap, stroked it and blew in its face, as if to breathe new life into it.

The lamb gave stronger signs of life.

"Oh, now I've thought of something!" exclaimed Mary, taking her milk can from her bag. There was still milk in the can. She poured some into the lamb's mouth, and finding also a piece of bread, she soaked it in the milk and gave it to the lamb.

The little creature gladly ate from Mary's hand—it had been dying of hunger, and Mary found her efforts to recall it to life were successful, for soon the lamb was able to rise on its feet.

Mary was delighted. She looked at the lamb and said, "But now, what shall I do with you? Shall I take you home with me? Yes; come, come, and I will take good care of you."

She hung her bag on her arm, and then took up the lamb, which was not yet strong enough to walk, and carried it, as if it were a child, to her mother's house.

Here she gave it more to eat, then seated herself to learn her lessons.

When the lamb had eaten, it came up to Mary, and looked into



Being Faithful

Malachi 2:1-12, 14-17

1 ...O ye priests, this commandment is for you.

2 If ye will not hear, and...give glory unto my name, saith the Lord... I will even send a curse upon you.... I have cursed them already...

3 ...I will corrupt your seed [your children].

4 And ye shall know that I have sent this commandment...

5 My covenant [my promise] was...of life and peace; and I gave them to him for the fear wherewith he feared... my name.

6 The law of truth was in his mouth, and iniquity [obscenity] was not found in his lips: he walked with me in peace and equity [fairness], and did turn many away from iniquity.

7 For the priest's lips should keep knowledge, and they should seek the law...for he is the messenger of the Lord...

8 But ye are departed out of the way; ye have caused many to stumble at the law;...

9 Therefore have I also made you...base...as ye have not kept my ways, but have been partial in the law.

10 Have we not all one father? hath not one God created us? why do we deal treacherously every man against his brother,...

11 ...Judah hath profaned the holiness of the Lord which he loved, and hath married the daughter of a strange god.

12 The Lord will cut off the man that doeth this,...

14 Yet ye say, Wherefore? Because the Lord hath been witness between thee and the wife of thy youth, against whom thou hast dealt treacherously [been unfaithful]: yet is she thy companion, and the wife of thy covenant.

15 And did not he make one?...And wherefore one? That he might seek a godly seed [children]. Therefore...let none deal treacherously [as a traitor] against the wife of his youth.

16 For the Lord, the God of Israel, saith that he hateth putting away: for one covereth violence with his garment,...therefore take heed to your spirit, that ye deal not treacherously.

17 Ye have wearied the Lord...Yet ye say, Wherein have we wearied him? When ye say, Every one that doeth evil is good in the sight of the Lord, and he delighteth in them; or, Where is the God of judgment?

The Message: God wants each person to be faithful to Him and every man to be faithful to the wife of his youth.

Questions:

1. Why had God cursed the priests?
2. What kind of covenant had God made?
3. What was in the priest's mouth?
4. What was not in the priest's mouth?
5. What should the priest speak?
6. Against whom did the men deal treacherously?
7. Why did God make the husband and wife into one?
8. What action does God hate?
9. Must a person watch his spirit to keep from being unfaithful?

Verse to Memorize

...God...hateth putting away...therefore take heed to your spirit, that ye deal not treacherously.

Malachi 2:16.

Let's



Talk . . .

In the spiritual world, there are two kingdoms. One is the kingdom of Christ, the other of Satan. Every person is in one of these kingdoms, but no one is forced to be where he or she is. Each person chooses for himself which kingdom he will be in. Some people think they can be outside of Christ's kingdom, but not in the kingdom of Satan, but that is not true.

Those who allow Jesus to be master of their lives are in Christ's kingdom. Those who do not are automatically captives of Satan.

In this prophecy of Malachi, he explains that God's promise to people was life and peace. In the beginning He created a perfect world for people. There was plenty of food, no weeds, no thistles nor thorns, and plenty of moisture. All God asked was that Adam and Eve would not eat of the tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil. But Satan persuaded them to eat of it.

Satan has done the same thing to every person. He plants thoughts in the mind that are so convincing that people yield to his thoughts and disobey God. Then they are in Satan's kingdom and have to be rescued out of it by choosing to allow Jesus to rule their thoughts and actions.

In the lesson today, Malachi said the priests had listened to Satan and departed from God's way and had caused others to stumble at God's laws.

In what way had they broken God's law? They were unfair and unfaithful to each other. The men had been unfaithful to their wives. They did not keep their promises and were not dependable. Then to make things worse, they divorced their wives to cover up their violence. God said He made a husband and his wife one, so their children would be good. Every child needs the care of a loving mother and the disciplinary strength of a loving father. That is God's design, and when husbands and wives separate, both they and their children suffer.

Many families are broken apart because the husband or the wife do not control his or her spirit. Proverbs 16:32 says, "He that is slow to anger is better than the mighty; and he that ruleth his spirit than he that taketh a city." It is very important that we control our spirit which is our emotions. Every young person needs to learn that before thinking of getting married. Controlling your emotions is being quiet when you feel like yelling. It is turning the other cheek when someone hurts you. It is forgiving others when they say or do wrong things to you.

Each of you must promise God that you will control your emotions. Also ask God to give you the right husband or wife, so you will not get one that will divorce you. God is wise enough to help you choose the person who will stand with you and help you to raise your children to love Him.

In this way your whole family will be in the same kingdom. It is very sad when some of a family are in Christ's kingdom and some of the family are in Satan's kingdom.

—Charlotte Huskey

her face as if to thank her. Then it laid itself down at her feet and slept.

Soon the door opened, and Mary's mother entered.

Mary ran towards her, followed by the now awakened lamb.

Mary related where and how she had found it. "I may keep it, dear Mother, may I not? I will so gladly share my food with it, and will eat less, in order to give it enough."

"But, my child, it is not yours. Today it is late. Tomorrow you must go and find the shepherd. It must belong to the keeper of the castle sheep. Should you not be able to find the real owner, then, if you wish, you may keep the lamb, though we are now poor and find it difficult to nourish ourselves. Make it a nice bed of clean straw, and tomorrow seek to find its owner, who can do more to nourish and protect it than we may."

Almost the entire evening she played with it, and liked it better every moment. Although she was a good and honest child, she wished, with all her heart, that she might be unable to find the shepherd.

With such thoughts she fell asleep. She dreamed the long night through of the lamb, and possibly, the lamb dreamed of Mary, for both seemed already to be good friends and love each other.

The next morning, Mary was awakened by its bleating.

"But must I really go and find the shepherd?" asked Mary.

Her mother looked at her a moment, wondering, and then said, "Mary, can you still ask?"

Mary understood her mother. And after sharing her stunted breakfast with the lamb, she took it quietly in her arms, and carried it, half

gladly, half sorrowfully to the cottage of the shepherd of the castle.

The shepherd recognized it at once. He was astonished to find it again. "I thought it was long since dead. Three days ago it was lost. Where, then, my brave little girl, did you find the lamb?"

Mary told him.

The good old shepherd was much pleased at Mary's kindness and care of the lamb. He sincerely wished he might give it to her.

"If it were only mine, now, I know what I would do, and now, perhaps..."

Just then an elegant carriage drew up before the door of the shepherd's cottage. Mary stroked once more the little lamb, took a sorrowful farewell of her pet, and then ran away.

The shepherd said to her, "Only wait awhile, child."

"Oh, no," replied Mary, "I will not disturb you," and off she ran.

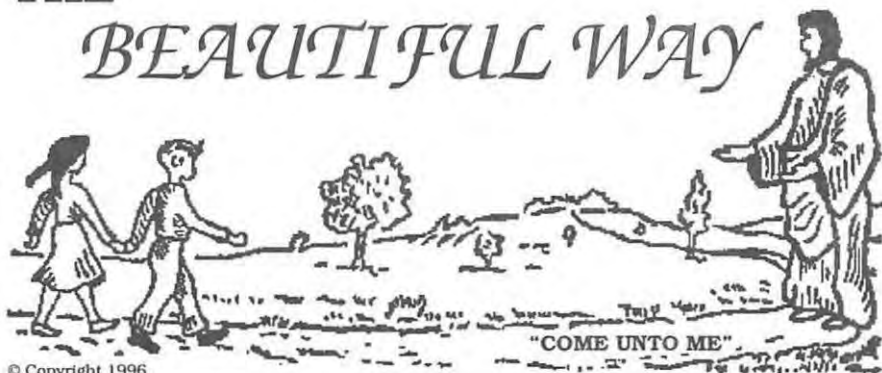
In the carriage was seated the countess, who owned all the lands in the neighborhood, and also the village where Mary and her mother lived. She had come to inquire of the shepherd if her sheep were doing well, for he had the care of them.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. Because they did not give glory to Him. 2. A covenant of life and peace. 3. The law of truth. 4. No iniquity (immoral sins). 5. Words of wisdom. 6. Against his brother and his wife. 7. To have good children. 8. Putting away a wife. 9. Yes.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



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Vol. 47, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 4 Oct. 27, 1996

Mary's Lamb

(Continued from last week.)

After making many inquiries regarding Mary's affairs, the countess observed the pretty lamb standing in the door of the cottage. She wished to know if it were the shepherd's pet.

He then told the kindhearted lady how he had lost it, and of Mary's finding it—her care, and sorrow at being obliged to part with it.

"Oh, but the good girl shall not part with it," said the countess. "She shall have it again. Send the lamb to her house. I will tell you how to arrange it, that she may not know she receives it from me."

Then after a few moments' conversation, the countess returned to the castle.

In the evening Mary sat alone in the room reading in her book. The door was partially opened, and in walked the lamb. The door closed again, and no one else appeared.

"Ah, here you are again! You dear one! But who brought you?"

She went to the door—looked out—and saw no one.

"Why, how strange it is! Did you come alone?"

She looked closely at the lamb, and saw a ribbon on its neck, from which hung a little note.

She took it off, but could not read it. Although she could read printed letters, she had not learned to read written characters.

She awaited her mother's coming and when she entered, Mary gave her the note, which read as follows: "Because you saved my life I will remain with you. From this moment I belong to you! The shepherd presents you with, —Your Lamb."

Mary looked at her mother. "Do I really dare to keep it?"

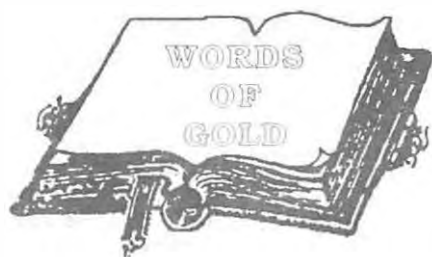
"Yes, dear child. Now it is your own. I hope you will nourish it with care, and faithfully watch over it."

"Oh, certainly, dear mother, that I will do gladly. And you, my darling lamb, you love me, do you not?" The lamb bleated, as if he would say, "Yes!"

Mary and her mother laughed.

From this time forth, Mary spread something from every meal to nourish and feed the lamb. In every play hour she would spend her time with it, and take it to the green meadow to play and roll in the long grass. It followed her everywhere, and the people in the village knew it by the name of "Mary's Lamb."

Still Mary did not forget her duties in the pleasure she thus re-



Christ Purifies And Cleans

Malachi 3:1-5

1 Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me: and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the Lord of hosts.

2 But who may abide the day of his coming? and who shall stand when he appeareth? for he is like a refiner's fire, and like fullers' soap:

3 And he shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver: and he shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the Lord an offering in righteousness.

4 Then shall the offering of...be pleasant unto the Lord,...as in former years.

5 And I will come near to you to judgment; and I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers,...the adulterers,...false swearers, and against those that oppress the hireling...the widow, and the fatherless, and that turn aside the stranger..., and fear not me, saith the Lord...

Matthew 3:1-3

1 In those days came John the Baptist,...

2 Saying, Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

3 ...Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.

Acts 5:1-5, 7-10

1 But...Ananias, with Sapphira his wife, sold a possession,

2 And...brought a certain part, and laid it at the apostles' feet.

3 But Peter said, Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost, and to keep back part of the price of the land?

4 Whiles it remained, was it not thine own? and after it was sold, was it not in thine own

power?... thou hast not lied unto men, but unto God.

5 And Ananias hearing these words fell down, and gave up the ghost:...

Acts 13:6-11

6 ...When they had gone through the isle...they found a certain sorcerer, a false prophet,...

7 Which was with the deputy...who...desired to hear the word of God.

8 But Elymas the sorcerer...withstood them, seeking to turn away the deputy from the faith.

9 Then Saul...filled with the Holy Ghost, set his eyes on him,

10 And said, ...thou enemy of all righteousness,...

11 ...Behold the hand of the Lord is upon thee, and thou shalt be blind,...And immediately...he went about seeking some to lead him...

The Message: Prepare yourself to serve Christ and let Him cleanse and purify your heart, for the wicked will surely be punished.

Questions:

1. What is God's messenger to do?
2. Where is the story of this messenger found?
3. Who will suddenly come into His temple?
4. What will the Lord do?
5. What kind of offering will the Levite be able to give?
6. Who will the Lord be a swift witness against?
7. What did John the Baptist tell the people?
8. Why did God bring judgment on Ananias and Sapphira?
9. What judgment was brought on the sorcerer?

Verse to Memorize

...He shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver,...

Malachi 3:3.

Let's



Talk . . .

The Lord said to Malachi, "I will send a messenger before I come. This messenger shall prepare the way before me."

About 400 years later an angel came to Zacharias and told him that he would have a child; and that the child would prepare the people for the coming of the Lord Jesus. The first chapter of Mark tells us that John was the messenger which the prophet said would come. Then in the third chapter of Matthew we can read what John preached. He said, "Repent and prepare ye the way of the Lord." We have read three of the many proofs that John was that messenger which Malachi told about.

Malachi also said that Jesus would be like a refining fire and like fuller's soap. A refining fire is used to make metals pure. Soap is used to clean things. This was God's way of telling us that Jesus' mission is to cleanse and purify.

A refiner's fire gets very hot, so hot that gold, silver or other metals will melt. When the metal melts, the pure metal stays down and the light substance (called dross) comes to the top. This dross is skimmed off with a long handled ladle. Sometimes the metal has to be heated and skimmed many times to remove all dross. Then the metal is pure. The prophet said Jesus will be as a refiner's fire.

Clothes were cleaned by men called fullers in Bible times. The fuller would stamp or beat the clothes in a tub of soapy water. Alkali and chalk were also used, and to whiten clothes the fuller would rub cimolite into them. The odors were so offensive that fullers were forced to work outside the city. Malachi described our lov-

ing Savior as fuller's soap.

The refiner puts heat to the gold or silver, to make it pure and beautiful. The fuller beats or tramps the clothes to remove the soil so they will be pleasant to use again. Jesus also allows Christians to suffer just as the metals endure the heat and the clothes the beatings. It is so we can be clothed in white robes of righteousness and be ready to enter a pure heaven in which no unclean thing can enter.

If we were to look into a pot of gold while it is being refined, we would see only the scummy impurities covering the top. After the impurities have been removed, we can see the gleaming gold. We would also be able to see our own face. After Jesus has purified us, He can see His image in our lives. Also a soiled garment is disgusting, but it is beautiful again after being laundered.

Every Christian must suffer. It may be sickness, poverty, abuse, persecution or other things. Suffering for Jesus cleans a person so Christ's beautiful character can be seen.

Jesus came stirring up trouble in order to cleanse the religious leaders of His time. They refused Him. But others, who were willing to suffer, were made perfect and used in marvelous ways. The two stories from Acts show how God used the apostles to be swift witnesses against sin.

Any person who is refined and cleansed will be a messenger for Christ. They will not be the special messenger that John was but they will be useful in preparing people to enter into the great Church of God.

—Charlotte Huskey

Be True

Be true, be true, ye mighty host,
With hearts made pure and true;
Stand fast for God at any cost,
And He will be to you
A present help in time of need,
A glorious conqu'ring pow'r,
He'll keep your spirit free indeed,
Each day and ev'ry hour.

ceived from play. She helped her mother even more industriously than before, learned untiringly her lessons, and it seemed as if, through the lamb, she became even a better child.

Could it but have spoken! She would then have told it her troubles. Often she wept on its neck when she saw her mother sinking under the bitter load of care and poverty—when she saw how wearisome was the toil which her mother daily endured, to receive only the smallest wages in return—perhaps only enough to keep them from starving.

Mary was taken suddenly ill. And now sorrow and anguish fell heavily on the heart of the poor, widowed mother.

Mary was obliged to lie in her bed, and was often quite alone during the long day, for her mother went out to work and could not stay to tend her suffering child.

The length and weariness of the hours were shortened by the faithful, loving lamb. It would lie beside the bed and look up tenderly and affectionately at Mary, content with the gentle stroking of her hand and the bits of bread it received from time to time. It seemed to know Mary suffered, and looked as if it would fain express its sorrow and sympathy.

Mary grew rapidly worse, until the mother thought she must die.

One morning a carriage drew up before the door of the poor cottage.

Mary's mother was not at home, and Mary lay very ill in bed. Still the lamb was beside her, watching.

A lady, simply dressed, quietly entered the room, and seated herself beside Mary. It was the countess.

She asked Mary how she came to be so ill, and why her mother was not there to watch her. Mary told, with tears, the necessity which caused her mother's absence.

"I have watched and observed you for a long time, my good child, have seen you for a long time, my good child, have seen your industry, know how faithfully and patiently you have assisted your mother, and know even how you have deprived yourself each day of a portion of your own meal, never too abundant, to nourish this beautiful lamb. It shall be well with you hereafter. You shall not die! I have brought a nurse to help you. "Do you, then, love the lamb so dearly?"

"Oh, yes," replied Mary, "and it loves me."

"Now, God will watch over you," said the good lady, as she took her leave.

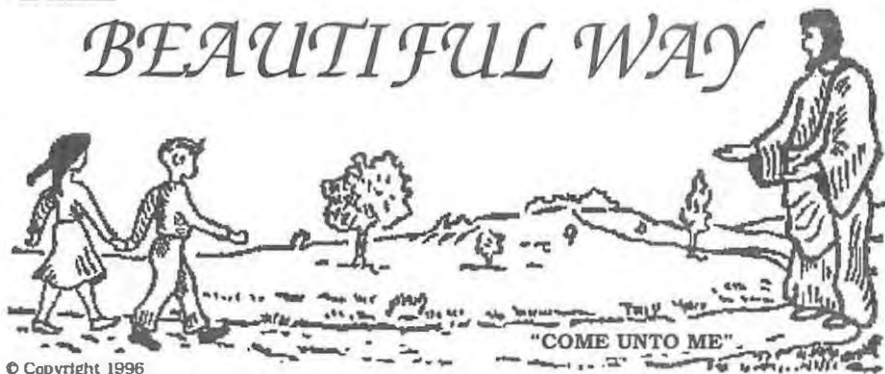
The countess sent a nurse to take care of Mary, and provided for her every want. Soon her illness gave way to returning health, and after a week or two, Mary was quite well again.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. He is to prepare the way for the Lord. 2. In Matthew 3. 3. The Lord. 4. He will purify the sons of Levi as gold and silver is purified. 5. A righteous offering that will be pleasant to the Lord. 6. The sorcerers, the adulterers, false swearers, those that oppress their workers, the widow, the fatherless, and the strangers. 7. To repent and make straight paths. 8. Because they swore falsely to God. (They did not tell the truth). 9. Blindness.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



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Mary's Lamb

(Continued from last week.)

Now peace and contentment visited the cottage again. Mary and her mother thanked the good God, who had watched over them, and in the darkest hour removed the trial and sorrow which surrounded them.

"The kind lady has done so much for you, Mary, you must thank her," said the mother one day. "Do you not think so?"

"Oh, certainly. I will go and thank her today!"

"Yes, but that is not enough. It is not enough to thank her with words. You must give to her, who has done so much for you, something in return."

"But, dearest mother, I have nothing. We are so poor. What could I give to the rich countess?"

"Have you not, then, a lamb?"

"My lamb! My good, gentle lamb! Oh, Mother, must I give my lamb?—But yes, I will do it!"

Mary turned away, went to the lamb, and kneeling beside it, wept on its neck.

The mother continued, "Now, Mary, when I return from my work, tell me you have been to the countess," and she opened the door to go.

Mary ran to her, as if to ask her something, but she turned again, and said, "Yes, mother, you are right. I will take my lamb to the countess."

When her mother was gone, Mary

took the lamb and washed it, then arranged its long, woolly curls, tied a new ribbon on its neck, and kissed it many, many times.

Then sorrowfully and seriously she led it through the village until she came to the castle which was built on a hill just beyond.

The countess received her with kindness and pleasure.

After Mary had stammered a few words of thanks, she said, "I have brought a little gift with me."

"For me," said the countess, "I am exceedingly pleased. Give it to me."

Mary went to the door, opened it, and her lamb entered.

"Oh, that is a real, living gift. Thank you, dear child! Now you must let me, also, thank you. But does it not make you unhappy to part with your lamb?"

"Oh, yes, I am, indeed, very sad. But—but—"

The countess did not permit her to continue, but conversed with her a long time about other subjects, and was glad to see by her answers that she was intelligent and had a good, honest heart; that she also knew how to be contented, and even thankful, in her humble position in life. After awhile she let Mary go home but she kept the lamb.

Although Mary knew how many thanks she owed the kind countess, and that the lamb would never repay her, or be a return for even half the lady had done, she could not but wish in her



Are You Robbing God?

Malachi 3:6-12

6 For I am the Lord, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed.

7 Even from the days of your fathers ye are gone away from mine ordinances, and have not kept them. Return unto me, and I will return unto you, saith the Lord of hosts. But ye said, Wherein shall we return?

8 Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings.

9 Ye are cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation.

10 Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me...saith the Lord...if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.

11 And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground;...

12 And all nations shall call you blessed: for ye shall be a delightful land, saith the Lord of hosts.

Deuteronomy 14:22, 24,

25, 28-29

22 Thou shalt truly tithe all the increase of thy seed, that the field bringeth forth year by year.

24 And if the way be too long for thee, so that thou art not able to carry it;...

25 Then shalt thou turn it into money, and bind up the money in thine hand, and shalt go unto the place which the Lord thy God shall choose:

28 At the end of three years thou shalt bring forth all the tithe of thine increase the same year, and shalt lay it up within thy gates:

29 And the Levite,...and the stranger, and the fatherless, and the widow, which are within thy gates, shall come, and shall eat and be satisfied; that the Lord thy God may bless thee in all the work of thine hand which thou doest.

Nehemiah 10:38

38 And the priest the son of Aaron shall be with the Levites, when the Levites take tithes: and the Levites shall bring up the tithe of the tithes unto the house of our God, to the chambers, into the treasure house.

Luke 11:42

42 But woe unto you, Pharisees! for ye tithe the mint and rue and all manner of herbs, and pass over judgment and the love of God: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone.

The Message: People are robbing God when they do not give a portion of their earnings to Him.

Questions:

1. Does God change?
2. What will God do if the people return to Him?
3. How had the people robbed God?
4. Why was the nation cursed?
5. What will happen when the tithes are in God's storehouse?
6. Was the increase of all their seed to be tithed?
7. What was to be done with the tithe every third year?
8. Who was to receive the tithe?
9. What did Jesus tell the Pharisees?

Verse to Memorize

Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me.... In tithes and offerings.

Malachi 3:8.

Let's



Talk . . .

"Thou shalt not steal," is one of the ten commandments. Stealing is taking and keeping something for yourself, that belongs to someone else.

Stealing can be done in many ways. Bank robbers steal money by holding a gun on bank workers. That is stealing by force. Some people borrow money and do not pay it back. That is another form of stealing. Others steal by tricking another person into giving them something they want. That too, is robbing. Another way of robbing is to deprive someone of what is due him.

God provides the ability to make money to everyone who earns it. God gives the farmer good soil, rain and sun to make his crops grow. Therefore some of the harvest should be returned to God and some of every person's earnings should be given to God. People are robbing God when they do not give Him a part of what they earn.

How much should a person give? God told Moses to teach the people that a tenth was due to Him. A farmer planted wheat. God supplied the sun, water and soil so that the wheat seeds grew into plants. Each plant produced many new seeds. When these were harvested, the farmer found that his profit was 5,000 pounds of wheat.

A tenth of 5,000 is 500, so God is due 500 pounds of wheat from that farmer.

In Bible times this offering was to be given at the place of worship. If it was too heavy to carry, then the farmer was to sell the seed and give the money.

The family of Levi was to receive the offerings. Then they were to give a tenth part of the offering into the treasury of the Lord's house. Every three years the people were to also share their tithe (tenth) with the widows, orphans, and strangers.

Malachi said, "You are robbing God because you have not been giving a tenth. However, if you will bring all the tithes into the storehouse, God will pour out a blessing that you cannot contain."

God will bless us too, if we always give to the Lord a tenth of the money we earn.

The Pharisees were the religious leaders who received the tithe when Jesus was on earth. They taught the people to give a tenth of everything, even the little herbs they grew. Jesus rebuked these men for being so selfish. He said that love and justice were much more important than giving or receiving of tithe. But, everyone should continue to give.

People who love God with all their heart have dedicated everything to God. Their money, their time, their talents, everything they have is for God to use when He wishes. There is no danger of stealing from God if everything is kept dedicated to Him.

—Charlotte Huskey

very heart that she might be permitted to take the lamb back with her.

Now, as alone and sadly shewent on her homeward way, she said to herself, "Of what use can my lamb be to that rich lady? She cannot love it. She will not feed it with her own hands and watch over it as I have done. She is so rich and has so many lambs! Oh, could she not have given me back my one dear lamb? But no, she was good to me, and so kind to my poor mother—and I am glad I could give her something in return. I will be satisfied. But how sorrowfully my lamb looked at me in parting! Must I forget it? Shall I never see it again? Oh—Jesus was called a Lamb. Now I know how God felt when He gave Jesus, His Lamb, to come to this world. I must be willing, like God, to give my precious lamb."

"You have been a long time in returning, Mary. See, the countess has sent a letter for you to take to the post office," said her mother as Mary entered the house.

This commission the countess gave Mary to remove her awhile from home.

Mary went to the post office. She thought all the time of the faithful companion no longer beside her; and she walked slowly, and her heart was very heavy. She had made a great sacrifice, for the lamb had been, next to her mother, the joy of her life.

Still she endeavored to strengthen herself to bear the loss, as she remembered that she had pleased her mother and had done right.

When she returned home and entered the house, how surprised she was to find two beautiful lambs side by side! The one she recognized as her own; the other was a stranger. Both were decorated with gay ribbons and wreaths of flowers and on the neck of each hung a letter.

Mary ran and clasped her mother. Her joy was too great to permit her to speak for a few moments.

At length she said, "Oh, mother, read me the notes."

Mary could now read herself with the assistance of her mother, and she read the letter first which she found on the neck of her own lamb. It was,—
"Dear Friend: I cannot be happy and livewithout you. I love you all too dearly. For this reason I return to you; and now, if you will let me, I will stay by you always and remain your true and faithful Lamb."

"Oh, how gladly, how gladly!" exclaimed Mary. "How kind is the good countess!"

Then she read the other note. It said,—
"Dear Mary: The countess will give me to you. I cannot livewithout her and be happy. I love her too well; therefore, as I belong to you, go with me to the castle; take, also, your own lamb with you, and tell your mother to accompany you, and for the rest, the countess will take care. —Your Second Lamb."

Mary and her mother, and the two lambs went together to the castle.

The countess took Mary's mother into her service and had Mary well cared for.

Mary rewarded her kindness by her industry and perseverance, her humility and gentleness, and in the castle of the rich countess she was the same good child she had been in the poor cottage.

After this Mary was never separated from her two lambs.

(The end.)

—"Bright Pictures From Child Life"
(Translated from German in 1857)

(Answers: 1. No. 2. He will return to them. 3. By not giving their tithe. 4. Because they had been robbing God by not giving their tithe. 5. He will pour out a blessing that they will not have room to receive. 6. Yes. 7. It was to be put in the gate of their city. 8. The Levite, the stranger, the fatherless, and the widow. 9. They should tithe and not pass over judgment and the love of God.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



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The Stone Gatherers

The two brothers, Frank and Arthur, both liked to gather pebbles and bright colored stones. They passed in this way many pleasant hours.

Each one endeavored to outdo the other in increasing the number, and collecting the greatest variety of beautiful stones. They went often together to the country near the city, and roaming through the fields and sand banks, and over rocky hills, would generally return heavily laden.

It was a bright morning, during their school vacation, that they asked leave of their mother to go to find new stones and pebbles.

The mother assented willingly, and said playfully, "Now the one who is the most industrious, and brings home the most beautiful stones, shall have this new, bright piece of money. And lest you should suffer from hunger and be tempted to bite the stones, you may each take with you a large piece of bread and two rosy apples."

The boys took leave of their mother. They went on their way by the side of a stream where they had often found smooth, white pebbles,

and many bright glittering stones.

They were met by their schoolmate, Charley, who asked if he might accompany them. The boys gladly assented. When they were gone a little distance, Charley exclaimed, "Oh, I have lost my desk key. I must have drawn it from my pocket with my handkerchief. I must find it! You go on, boys. I will go back and search for it."

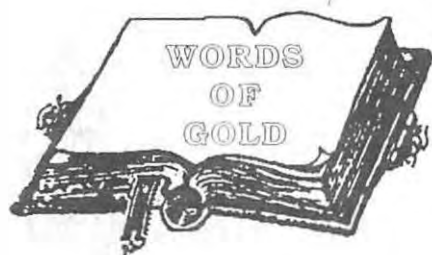
Arthur replied, "Oh, no, you have come with us, and we must keep you company. I will go and help you search for the key." And Arthur turned back with Charley, but Frank said, half aloud,—"What is the key to me? Look for it as long as you please." He went onward, hoping to find the best stones.

The other boys had not gone many rods when Arthur stooped down and exclaimed, "Here is the key, dear Charley! I have found it. Here it is!" Charley thanked Arthur and took the key.

As they went onward, they saw a poor little boy—a sand seller—speaking to Frank.

Frank had taken out his bread and apples, and was eating as he went along.

From the earnest, sad look of the poor little boy, one could guess what



God's Diary

Malachi 3:13-18

13 Your words have been stout against me, saith the Lord. Yet ye say, What have we spoken so much against thee?

14 Ye have said, It is vain to serve God: and what profit is it that we have kept his ordinance, and that we have walked mournfully before the Lord of hosts?

15 And now we call the proud happy; yea, they that work wickedness are set up; yea, they that tempt God are even delivered.

16 Then they that feared the Lord spake often one to another: and the Lord hearkened, and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the Lord, and that thought upon his name.

17 And they shall be mine, saith the Lord of hosts, in that day when I make up my jewels; and I will spare (save) them, as a man spareth his own son that serveth him.

18 Then shall ye return, and discern between the righteous and the wicked, between him that serveth God and him that serveth him not.

Revelations 13:8

8 And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him [Satan], whose names are not written in the book of life...

Revelations 17:8

8 The beast that thou sawest was, and is not; and shall ascend out of the bottomless pit, and go into perdition: and they that dwell on the earth shall wonder, whose names were not writ-

ten in the book of life from the foundation of the world, when they behold the beast that was, and is not, and yet is.

Revelations 22:14, 19

14 Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.

19 And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.

Revelations 21:27

27 And there shall in no wise enter into it [heaven] anything that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life.

The Message: A book of remembrance is being written for those who fear God and meditate on His name.

Questions:

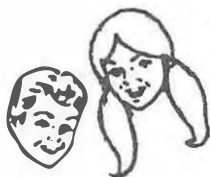
1. What awful things were the people saying?
2. What were those doing who feared God?
3. What was being done for those who feared Him?
4. Who are God's jewels?
5. Whom will be spared as a son?
6. Who will worship Satan?
7. Who will wonder after the beast?
8. What will happen to those that add or take away from the Bible?
9. Who will be allowed into Heaven?

Verse to Memorize

...They that feared the Lord spake often one to another: and the Lord...heard it, and a book of remembrance was written...for them that feared the Lord,...

Malachi 3:16.

Let's



Talk . . .

Do you write a daily ledger? Do you know someone who does? Things that happen during the day are written in a ledger or diary. These are books of memories, of things we don't want to forget. Malachi said that a ledger is being written of the people who speak often about God. Isn't it exciting to know that God loves us enough to keep a record of what we are doing.

Of whom do people write about in their diaries? Everybody? No. They write about friends? Yes, friends. They write about what their friend said, what their friend did, where he or she went, or the fun they had with the friend. If the friend hurts them or becomes an enemy, that is also written down.

Jesus said, "Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you." (John 15:14.) If we are doing Jesus' commandments we are God's friends, so He is writing about us. He writes about what we say, what we do, where we go, and about the time we spend talking with Him in prayer or listening to Him by listening to His Word.

We become Jesus' friend by repenting of the sins we have done. He then writes our name down in His Book of Life.

When our name is written down in the Book of Life, we are protected by Him and He gives us godly wisdom and understanding. Because of this we will not be easily deceived by false religions. He also gives strength and power to defeat the devil. (Rev. 13:18).

They will also have a right to the tree of life. (Adam and Eve did not

have this privilege after they sinned.) These will also enter into the gates of heaven. These are just a few of the blessings God has for those whose names are written in the Book of Life.

If your name is not written in the Book of Life, get it there today. Then you, too, will be God's friend.

Remember, a diary is being kept about ALL of God's friends. When we talk about Jesus it is recorded in God's book. All our actions and thoughts are also written down in His big diary. If we turn away from God and become His enemy, that, too is written down in His book.

Let's live carefully every day so we will be happy with the record being kept.
—Charlotte Huskey

**"And they shall be
mine, saith the Lord
of hosts, in that day
when I make up my
jewels;..."
Malachi 3:17.**

Jewels

When he cometh, when he cometh
To make up his jewels,
All his jewels, precious jewels
His loved and his own.

Chorus

Like the stars of the morning
The bright crowns adorning,
They shall shine in their beauty
Bright jewels in His crown.

He will gather, He will gather,
The gems for His kingdom:
All the pure ones, all the bright ones,
His loved and His own.

Little children, little children,
Who love their Redeemer.
Are the jewels, precious jewels,
His loved and His own.

he was saying to Frank. Frank, however, took no notice of him, shook his head, and moved off with quickened pace, as if he wished to rid himself of the beggar as soon as possible.

The poor boy went sorrowfully onward till he came to Arthur and Charley. Arthur gladly put into his hand the largest share of his slice of bread, and an apple, and Charley drew from his vest pocket a piece of money, with which he had intended to buy something to eat, and gave it to the hungry little sand seller.

"Now," said Charley, "you know all the places about here. Can you show us any spot where we may find pretty, bright-colored stones?"

"Oh, yes," replied the boy, and he guided them to a large pit, not far from the road side, from which sand had been taken.

Frank had run onward so fast, that he did not hear the boys cry out to him to come back.

The little sand seller thanked the good-hearted boys many times, as he left them.

They found in the pit beautiful stones of every description. Some were partly crystallized, others bright colored, of many hues. They filled all their pockets, as well as the baskets they carried for the purpose.

It was now time to return home. They climbed out of the sand pit, and went their way by the brookside, till they were come to the city.

As they entered the house, they found Frank telling his mother they had run away from him. Then Charley related all which had taken place.

Then he gave all his beautiful stones to Arthur, and said, "I do not

need them. Do take them. They will give you so much pleasure. I am so happy that you found my key again for me, I wish for nothing else!" And Charley went home.

Frank had found only common stones and returning home, had thrown them half away, disappointed and angry at his bad success.

Arthur had many beautiful stones. He received from his mother the promised bright, silver piece and also a loving kiss for his kind-hearted care for the poor little sand seller. Frank was vexed and disappointed.

The next day, Charley came again, bringing a long, wide box, nicely made and divided off by many shelves.

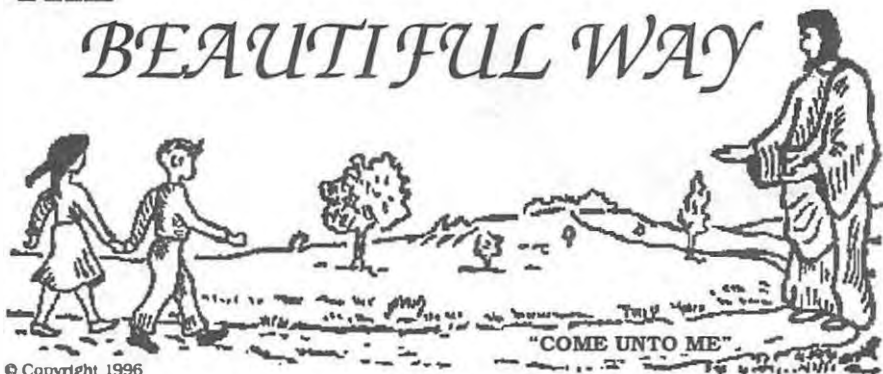
Charley said, "My father once had a cabinet of minerals. He has now only this box, in which they were arranged. He gave the box to me, and I wish to present it to a right good, industrious stone gatherer. But who? One of you? Yes, to you, dear Arthur!"

—"Bright Pictures From Child Life"
(Translated from German in 1857)

(Answers: 1. They were saying, "It is useless to serve God." 2. They were often thinking of or talking about God. 3. A book was being written about them. 4. The people who fear Him. 5. Those who fear God. 6. All those whose names are not in the book of life. 7. All those whose names are not written in the book of life. 8. All the plagues in the Bible will be added to them. 9. Only the ones whose names are written in the book of life.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



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The Basket Of Apples

"May I go on before you, dear father? I will certainly join you in the field."

"But you will see the soldiers long enough to satisfy you..."

"Yes, but I wish to see them march into the city; and I have thought about it so long! Do let me go, father! I will behave myself well."

"Very good. I am glad to give you a pleasure; you may go, and here are two pennies with which you can buy something on the way. I will come very soon, with your mother and little Mary."

"Oh thank you! Thank you! Good-bye!" Thus saying, Leonard ran from the house. With quick steps he hastened through the streets till he came to the city gates.

He stood still. Already he heard in the distance the ringing, martial music. He listened, delighted.

The music came nearer. He saw soldiers marching toward the city. His little body glowed with pleasure as he caught sight of the bright helmets, glancing in the sunbeams. In one long, unbroken line the regiment approached, surrounded by a noisy, buzzing crowd.

Leonard stood reflecting which would be the best place to take in following the soldiers to the parade ground—if he should go on the right or

left side, behind or before—when a little boy came across the street, panting under the weight of a basket of apples. He placed his burden on the ground, under the tree by which Leonard stood.

He drew a deep sigh as he took his place beside the basket; and, with a troubled glance, looked first at the coming soldiers, then at his basket; then he seemed to be searching for something along the street by which he came.

Leonard saw the apples; they looked so rosy and tempting that he decided to spend one of his pennies for apples. He drew near to the boy, who was still intently gazing into the crowded street, and who might have been a year older than Leonard, and said, "How many apples shall I have for a penny?"

"Four," came the reply.

"Can't you give me five?"

"No, I cannot."

"Well, then, give me four! But why do you make such a sad face?"

"Oh, I lost, on the way coming here, the cushion which I place on my head to carry my basket; and if I do not find it again, I shall be whipped when I go home."

"You poor boy!"

"If anyone would stay a moment by my basket, I could go and look for my cushion."



God's Inspired Word

Malachi 4:1-6

1 For, behold, the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble: and the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith the Lord of hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch.

2 But unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings;...

3 And ye shall tread down the wicked; for they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet in the day that I shall do this, saith the Lord of hosts.

4 Remember ye the law of Moses my servant...with the statutes and judgments.

5 Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord:

6 And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse.

Luke 1:13, 17

13 But the angel said...Fear not, Zacharias: for thy prayer is heard; and thy wife Elizabeth shall bear thee a son, and thou shalt call his name John.

17 And he shall go before him [Jesus] in the spirit and power of Elias, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just; to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.

Matthew 11:11, 13-14

11 Verily I say unto you, Among

them that are born of women there hath not risen a greater than John the Baptist: notwithstanding he that is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

13 For all the prophets and the law prophesied until John.

14 And if ye will receive it, this is Elias, which was for to come.

II Peter 3:10-11

10 But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.

11 Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness.

The Message: The last inspired book of the Old Testament is Malachi. The first of the New Testament is Matthew. Beware of other books which claimed to be inspired by God.

Questions:

1. What kind of day is coming?
2. What shall happen to the wicked?
3. Who will save those that fear God?
4. What were the people to remember?
5. What prophet was to come?
6. What will the prophet do?
7. Who is the prophet Elijah?
8. What will happen as a thief in the night?
9. What will happen on the great day of the Lord?

Verse to Memorize

For, behold, the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall...burn... up, saith the Lord...

Malachi 4:1.

Let's



Talk . . .

Several times in this small book, the prophet Malachi, mentions John the Baptist. This was very important, because John would be the next prophet of God. The people must not accept other men who claim to be prophets.

During the 400 years between Malachi and John, different men did called themselves prophets and wrote some books. These books are called the APOCRYPHA. They have been added to some editions of the Bible. These books declare themselves that the prophetic gifts had departed from Israel. Therefore the APOCRYPHA were not inspired by God and are not a part of the Holy Bible. (II Timothy 3:16.)

These books are good history. The events they tell about are valuable to us just as information of other history is valuable. But we must never consider them as the inspired Word of God.

It is very unwise to follow advice given in them. Malachi instructed the people, "Remember ye the law of Moses my servant." He was warning people to not follow false teachers, but to continue obeying the laws of God which Moses had taught them.

John taught the people to "make straight paths" for their feet. They could only do this by obeying God's laws which the Jews had not been doing. Soon after John taught this, Jesus began preaching that men must obey God's spirit, not only His laws. The laws which God gave Moses said, "An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth," but Jesus said, "resist not evil" just turn the other cheek. Moses said, "Love thy neighbor, and hate thy enemy." Jesus said, "Love your enemy." So Jesus' standard of conduct is straighter than that which Moses taught. John prepared the way for this new teaching.

Jesus fulfilled the old way which Moses had taught and set up a new living way. (Heb. 10:9-18) It was a marvelous day which men for

hundreds of years had hoped they would see. At last it came in the evening time of the world. The prophets called it "the great day."

In the Bible 'day' is not always 24 hours. When the verse says, 'the day' it means a period of time. We are living in 'the Gospel day,' or 'the day of Christ'. It is a period of time.

Now we are looking for the other 'great day' which Malachi also spoke about. It is the day when Jesus will come again and catch his people away in the clouds. (I Thessalonians 4:15-18) It will be the "last day". How careful we should live so that we can be in the group that will be caught away in the sky. For the earth will be destroyed, and all who remain on it shall be burned up.

We have now finished studying the minor prophets. These twelve men prophesied during almost 400 years of very troublesome times. They were called minor only because the books they wrote were shorter than those of the other prophets. These men were very powerful and important to God and man. Some prophesied for many years and in more than one country. Their messages were vital to the people of their time and in them we, too, find eternal truths.

John the Baptist was the next prophet sent from God. That was approximately 400 years after Malachi.

—Charlotte Huskey

Be Ready, All

In the awful day that's coming,
When heaven's trump shall sound,
And call the world to judgment,
Oh, where shall we be found?
Shall we cry for rocks and mountains
To hide us in that day
From him who comes in glory,
With all his bright array?

Oh, souls, be up and doing,
We have no time to lose;
There's life and death before us,
Oh, which one will you choose?
Then let us all take warning,
And heed the Savior's call,
Be robed in white adorning,
Then we'll be ready, all.

—H. R. Jeffrey

(Evening Light Songs, number 397)

"Then go! Go quickly and look for your cushion. I will stay by your basket of apples."

"Will you really do it?"

"Certainly! I won't stir from the basket till you return."

"Oh, I am so glad!"

"But come back quickly."

The boy ran off and was soon lost in the crowd. Leonard stood by the apple basket and thought to himself, "The poor boy! I hope, though, he will find the cushion soon. Now I must go behind the soldiers. But, then, what of that! I can see them march by, and I shall be on the field soon enough to see them exercise."

With loud music, the soldiers now entered the city gates.

The crowd preceding them was so great, that it seemed as if they must make their way by force.

The noise and laughter of the crowd mingled with the beat of drums, the ringing music and tramp of the soldier's feet.

Suddenly, a cushion flew into the apple basket.

"Now," thought Leonard, as he examined it, "the boy will soon follow."

The soldiers marched by—they were out of sight; but the fruit boy did not appear.

The crowd following had also passed along; it was now quite still in the streets.

Leonard still stood by the basket of apples. He looked longingly on every side for the boy; but he was not to be seen. He did not return, notwithstanding his cushion had been there a long time.

What should Leonard do? Should he leave the apple basket alone?

No! He could not do that. He had promised the boy he would stay by the basket till he returned.

But, then, the soldiers! Should he forego the long anticipated enjoyment? And should he lose it when within reach?

But if he went away, the basket of apples might be stolen. So he thought to himself, uncertain what to do.

"But," said he, "the boy must come soon," and he remained at the post to which he had bound himself.

At last, wearied, he laid the cushion on the ground, and seated himself on it beside the basket of apples, with a long-drawn "Oh!"

The people passing by looked at the well-dressed boy beside the apple basket with astonishment. Many recognized him, and wondered that the merchant's son should have become an apple seller, or that his rich father could permit him to be in such a position.

Leonard, who saw these persons observing him, blushed, and looked on the ground. Yet still he would not go away; he would not break his word.

He braved even the curious glances of the passersby with patience.

Some of his schoolmates, going along, exclaimed, "How many apples for a penny, Leonard?"

Leonard, taking their play in earnest, replied, "Four."

One of the boys came near and bought some apples. The others were amused at this, and bought apples also.

The apples speedily decreased, while the pennies increased.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. A day that will burn as an oven. 2. The wicked will be burned up. 3. The Sun of righteousness (Jesus). 4. The laws God gave to Moses. 5. The prophet Elijah. 6. He will turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to the fathers. 7. John the Baptist. 8. The coming of the day of the Lord. 9. The heavens will pass away with a great noise, the elements will melt with fervent heat, and the earth shall be burned up.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



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Vol. 47, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 8 Nov. 24, 1996

The Basket of Apples

(Continued from last week.)

Leonard saw three persons enter the city gate. They were his father, mother and sister, Mary.

"Why, there sits our Leonard by an apple basket!" exclaimed Mary.

The father and mother looked with astonishment, went up to Leonard, and heard from him who the real apple seller was; and of his weary watching, from which he hoped every moment to be freed.

His parents could but laugh. They thought it right for him to remain there, however, and his father said,— "Good my son! Now stay here, for a promise must be kept. When we come again, if you are still here, we will take you home. Am I not right?"

"Oh, yes! But..."

"Now sell all the apples you can, and then the time will not seem too long."

His parents and sister went away. The good boy's heart beat quickly, and the tears came to his eyes.

Little Mary came running back: "Do give me a penny's worth of apples, dear Leonard."

Leonard gave her four and took the penny.

"Shall I stay with you, you good brother?"

"Oh, yes—but now! Go, and enjoy yourself right well. I shall certainly

come soon."

Mary ran away, and Leonard was alone.

Many persons came to buy apples from Leonard, so that he had but few left in the basket, and his pockets were heavy with the money he had received.

Now he heard the firing on the field. One shot followed another and every moment it seemed to him he could not stay—that he must run away; but he remained beside the basket.

A police officer passed by, holding by the arm a boy, whom he led through the city gates.

Leonard looked at the boy. It was the owner of the basket of apples.

Longingly he looked toward Leonard, but the policeman would not let him go.

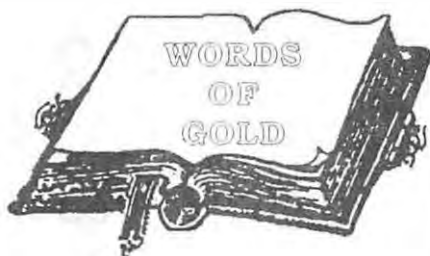
"What can have happened to the poor boy? Certainly, he cannot have been stealing! Oh, no! That I will not believe! I will still remain here—he may yet come." So thought Leonard, while the boy was being led to the watch house in the city.

A long, long time passed. Leonard had nearly sold all the remaining apples and there were but four in the basket.

Suddenly the fruit boy came running back to Leonard.

Both boys stood an instant gazing at each other.

"Where have you been staying so long?" asked Leonard.



Don't Be Afraid

Joshua 1:1-9

1 Now after the death of Moses the servant of the Lord it came to pass, that the Lord spake unto Joshua the son of Nun, Moses' minister, saying,

2 Moses my servant is dead; now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, thou, and all this people, unto the land which I do give to them, even to the children of Israel.

3 Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you, as I said unto Moses.

4 From the wilderness and this Lebanon even unto the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and unto the great sea toward the going down of the sun, shall be your coast.

5 There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life: as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee.

6 Be strong and of a good courage: for unto this people shalt thou divide for an inheritance the land, which I swore unto their fathers to give them.

7 Only be thou strong and very courageous, that thou mayest observe to do according to all the law, which Moses my servant commanded thee: turn not from it to the right hand or to the left, that thou mayest prosper whithersoever thou goest.

8 This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein:

for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.

9 Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.

Psalms 56:3

3 What time I am afraid, I will trust in thee.

I John 4:16-18

16 ...God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him.

18 There is no fear in love;...because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.

Ecclesiastes 12:13

13 ...Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man.

The Message: God will not forsake His children, therefore we must not be afraid.

Questions:

1. To whom was God speaking?
2. What happened to Moses?
3. Where was Joshua to lead the people?
4. Would God fail or forsake Joshua?
5. What was God's command to Joshua in verse six?
6. On what was Joshua to meditate day and night?
7. Under what conditions was Joshua promised success?
8. In verse 9, what did God command?
9. Did God promise to be with Joshua?

Verse to Memorize

...I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee. Be strong and of a good courage:...

Joshua 1:5-6.

Let's



Talk . . .

Many years ago God chose Moses to lead the family of Abraham out of the land of Egypt. Abraham's grandson, Israel, and his family of 70 persons left their homeland because of a severe drought. Joseph, one of Israel's sons, was at that time a ruler with great authority in Egypt. He invited them to move into Goshen, which was one of the most fertile parts of Egypt.

They lived comfortably in Egypt for many, many years. But as the time passed, the Egyptians forgot about Joseph, and how he had saved their country from starvation during seven years of famine. They began fearing that this large family, which had grown to a great nation of about one million people, might decide to conquer them. To avoid this the Egyptian king sent soldiers into Goshen and made slaves out of them.

These Israelites cried to God when the Egyptians took their food, forced them to work hard, and beat them. God listened to their cries for a long time. He wanted to take them out of Egypt because of the evil influence there. But He knew the people were not ready to leave. They were only hoping that their life would again become comfortable like it had been in years past.

When God saw that the Israelites were ready to leave Egypt, He allowed them to escape. But they suffered great hardships on their trip back to their homeland and before they arrived, they had become angry at God and rejected Him. Therefore they were forced to camp in the wilderness for forty years. During this time Moses grew old, and God chose Joshua to take his place as leader of the Israelites.

In our lesson today, God has told Joshua to lead the people across the

Jordan River and on into Canaan, their homeland.

God said to Joshua, "Be strong and of good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed. I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee."

Fear is an enemy that keeps people from doing many things that they could do. It kept all the adults who left Egypt from going into the beautiful land that they were to inherit from Abraham.

J.A. Frounde said, "Fear is the parent of cruelty." It is. We are cruel to ourselves when we allow ourselves to be afraid.

How do you think David felt when the giant Goliath came running at him? How do you think he felt when King Saul's sharp javelin whizzed by him and jabbed into the wall. He must have been afraid. Did David let his feelings stop him? No, He said, "What time I am afraid, I will trust in thee."

Fear is a giant that must be slain. God is love and "There is no fear in love;...because fear hath torment." Have we forgotten that God is the creator of the universe and we are His children? Have we forgotten that He lives in us? Is He not strong enough to protect? Is He not strong enough to make us able? Can anything happen to us that He cannot solve?

God's love will free us from 'fear' when we believe His Word which says, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." (Philippians 4:13.) When we believe that verse the giant will be conquered.

Moses conquered fear. Joshua conquered fear. David conquered it and so can we.

—Charlotte Huskey

I'll Not Be Afraid

I'll not be afraid for the terror by night,

Nor the arrow that flieth by day;
For the Lord whom I serve is my shield and my light,

He will guide and protect all the way.

"Oh, I have been so unfortunate! I went away into the crowd and had not gone far before I saw my cushion lying on the earth. I jumped to pick it up; the crowd pushed me and trod on me. I endeavored for a long time to get on my feet, and at length succeeded, when a big boy snatched the cushion from my hand and threw it over the heads of the people; this was just when the crowd was the thickest, and the soldiers and people entered the city gates. I could not go back. I could not get out of the crowd. I was marched onward in spite of myself a long distance, till we came to where the road widened; then I tried to free myself. I had almost worked my way out of the crowd, when I was seized by a policeman and taken to the side of the road. There he held me till all the soldiers had passed by—this took a long time. Then I heard from the policeman that he believed I was in the midst of the people to beg and steal. I related to him the story of my losing my cushion, and he said, 'Oh, yes, I understand that!' I thought he meant by these words that I could go. I started off when he caught me and told me to stand still. Just then a friend of his came up and talked with him. I became impatient. I thought of you. I wished to go. I was innocent. I ran away, but the man caught me again, and gave me blows on the ear; then he took me to the watch house, through all the streets. After we were there, he believed what I said, and let me go. See! There he stands by the gate, looking at us!"

"You have suffered enough today."

"Oh, yes! But you—have you eaten all my apples?"

"Eaten!"

"Or given them away?"

"There are four left. I will buy them."

"Yes, but all the others?"

"They are already sold."

"Sold, how?"

"Don't you believe me?"

"Oh, yes, but sold! Did you sell my

apples?"

"Certainly, and here you have the money. Count it over and see if it be quite right."

The fruit boy knew not what to say in his delight, or how to thank Leonard for his kindness. He grasped his hand and said, "Oh, how glad my poor mother will be!"

"You will sell me the four remaining apples?"

"Sell them! Oh, take them. Don't give me the money."

"No, no! I will give you, also, a very large penny. There..."

"Why! How! It is my cushion."

"It was thrown here on the basket, beside me; that is the best penny I have for you."

Leonard was just about to run off when he saw his parents and sister approaching. They had left the field early on his account.

The fruit boy went thankfully away with his empty basket, and Leonard, with a light heart, accompanied his parents home.

They told him that on the morrow another regiment would be on the field and gave him permission to be present.

This delighted Leonard extremely; and his father and mother were also pleased at his conduct that day, and loved him better for the self-denial he had shown in watching over the basket of apples.

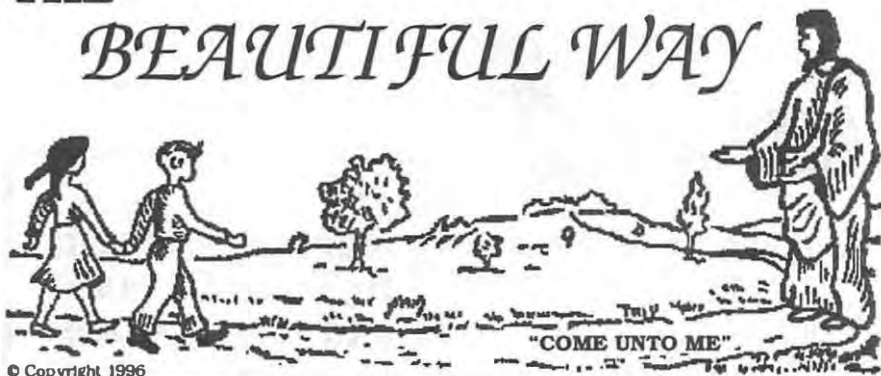
(The end.)

—"Bright Pictures From Child Life"
(Translated from German in 1857)

(Answers: 1. Joshua. 2. He died. 3. Over Jordan to the land God had given to them. 4. No. 5. To be strong and of good courage. 6. The book of the laws. 7. He would be successful if he obeyed all that was in the book of the law. 8. Be strong and of good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed. 9. Yes.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



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Vol. 47, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 9 Dec. 1, 1996

The Penny Roll

"We shall all die of hunger. What can I do? I am now eighty years old; have lived through many a hard year of care and want, yet never knew one like this. Had I but strength enough to work it might be well with us, but old and weak, fast going down to my grave, how can I help or protect you, dear ones?"

So said the old grandfather. His daughter, a young woman, whose husband had recently died, lay sick in bed. Ellen and Robert, her two children, sat sorrowfully in the corner listening anxiously to their grandfather as he continued, "I have worked today as long as I could. My old bones ached and my strength gave way. I earned but two pence. All I had saved went yesterday, and it was but a trifle."

"Yes, in order to make a good meat soup for me," said the sick woman. "Oh, you good father, how dreadful it is to see you suffer thus from hunger and not be able to help you! Our want is too great."

"Courage and patience," said the old man more cheerfully. "God will not let us sink and perish in our distress. Although we have eaten nothing today, I have a penny left to buy bread for tomorrow. Then I will work again. God will help!"

"Oh, that someone would aid us!" said his daughter, weeping.

"No one knows we are starving. We have never made our poverty known."

"But," said the poor woman, "might

not Robert and Ellen ask for..."

"Beg! No, honest waits long, even until the last stay falls away. I will not show them a path which might lead to lying, stealing and God alone knows what of evil! No, Robert shall go with me tomorrow and help me, that he may eat even his morsel of bread earned by honesty. He shall earn, not beg his bread."

"I will be industrious, dear grandfather," said Robert.

"If I could only help, too," said little Ellen.

"Stay by your mother, darling; watch over her, help and comfort her as much as possible."

"It is now quite dark," said Robert.

"Yes, go to bed, my child," replied the grandfather. "Sleep well, and forget your hunger and misery. Sleep is God's gift to the poor and wretched! Hunger and poverty, care and anguish, it drives away, if but for a little time. Sleep then, my children, for the good God will watch over us tonight and stay by us tomorrow."

As the old man sat silently by the wall, he heard little Ellen sobbing, and her brother saying in low tones, trying to comfort her, "Oh, dear Ellen, only wait until tomorrow and you will have bread."

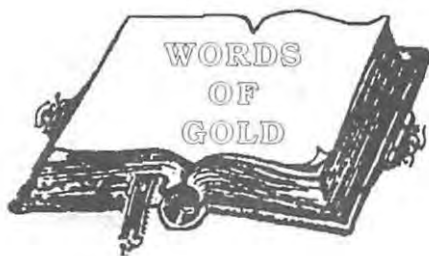
"But I am very, very hungry."

"Haven't you eaten anything today?"

"Oh, no, nothing."

"But the bread and meat from yesterday?"

"Mother ate it."



Obtaining An Inheritance

Joshua 1:10-18

10 Then Joshua commanded the officers of the people, saying,

11 Pass through the host, and command the people, saying, Prepare you victuals; for within three days ye shall pass over this Jordan, to go in to possess the land, which the Lord your God giveth you to possess it.

12 And to the Reubenites, and to the Gadites, and to half the tribe of Manasseh, spake Joshua, saying,

13 Remember the word which Moses the servant of the Lord commanded you, saying, The Lord your God hath given you rest, and hath given you this land.

14 Your wives, your little ones, and your cattle, shall remain in the land which Moses gave you on this side Jordan; but ye shall pass before your brethren armed, all the mighty men of valour, and help them;

15 Until the Lord have given your brethren rest, as he hath given you, and they also have possessed the land which the Lord your God giveth them: then ye shall return unto the land of your possession, and enjoy it, which Moses the Lord's servant gave you on this side Jordan toward the sunrising.

16 And they answered Joshua, saying, All that thou commandest us we will do, and whithersoever thou sendest us, we will go.

17 According as we hearkened unto Moses in all things, so will we hearken unto thee: only the Lord thy God be with thee, as he was with Moses.

18 Whosoever he be that doth rebel against thy commandment, and will not hearken unto thy words in all that thou commandest him, he shall be put to death: only be strong and of a good courage.

The Message: We must be willing to fight spiritually and to help others so we may all obtain our inheritance.

Questions:

1. What were the people preparing to do?
2. How many days until they would go over Jordan?
3. What had Moses promised to the families of Reuben, Gad and Manasseh?
4. What must the families of Reuben, Gad and Manasseh do?
5. Where would their wives and children stay?
6. When could they return to their families?
7. Would they be sinning if they did not help until all had their inheritance?
8. Who would punish them if they did not help?
9. What was the punishment for rebels?

Verse to Memorize

...If ye will not do so, behold, ye have sinned against the Lord: and be sure your sin will find you out.

Numbers 32:23.

Let's



Talk . . .

Wouldn't it be nice to inherit a million dollars, or a beautiful Victorian mansion, or a cattle ranch in Colorado? I'm sure we would all love to receive a great inheritance.

The people of Israel had inherited the fertile land of Canaan from Abraham, their great, great, grandfather. While they were away in Egypt other people had moved in and taken over. Their cities were filled with families of strangers. Giant-size men rode sleek horses down their streets. Tall, muscular servants grazed cattle on the fine pasture land. Large women drew water from the wells which Abraham's servants had dug.

The men who looked over the situation knew it would be a big, big job to get the land. Their first attempt to get their inheritance had failed because most of these men were fearful. They influenced the people into believing that conquering Canaan's giants was impossible. Because of this the Israelites had not gone into the land. They suffered poverty and unhappiness for forty years until all except two of the older people had died.

Their next attempt to obtain this inheritance met discouragement when the families of Gad, Reuben and Manasseh decided not to go with them. When they spoke to Moses about it, he was very upset. "Your brothers will not be able to obtain their inheritance in Canaan without your help," Moses said.

"We will go and help them," they promised.

"All your men?"

"Yes, all our men will cross the river and help until every family is

settled on their inheritance."

"Then you can have this land for your inheritance," Moses promised. "But if you fail to help the others to obtain their inheritance, you will have sinned. 'And be sure your sins will find you out,' for God will punish you if you do not help."

These stories in the Old Testament are recorded so we may learn from them. They are physical examples of a Christian's spiritual battles. According to 2 Timothy 3:16, they are for our instructions in righteousness.

God has many things for us to inherit. Heaven is our eternal inheritance, but there are many things for us to inherit in this life. We must conquer many spiritual giants before getting these. Some of these giants are fear, doubting, selfishness, bitterness, uncontrolled anger, slowness and laziness. If we conquer these, we shall inherit heaven, and at the same time will enjoy life much more. Peace, happiness, love, gentleness, kindness, faith, goodness, and patience are some of the inheritance that make life much richer. They are worth a good fight. Every Christian has a great inheritance from God.

Be willing to fight for your inheritance.

—Charlotte Huskey

(Story found in Numbers 32.)

Heaven Holds All to Me

Earth holds no treasures but perish
with using,
However precious they be;
Yet there's a country to which I am
going,
Heaven holds all to me.

Out on the hills of that wonderful
country,
Happy, contented and free,
Loved ones are waiting and watching
my coming,
Heaven holds all to me.

—Tillit S. Teddlie

(Evening Light Songs, page 362.)

"You poor Ellen."

"I kept saying I was not hungry, and I played about the room to make her think so. Mother asked me to eat, but there was so little, and she is so sick!"

Robert's tears fell fast, and his sobs were even louder than Ellen's. He could no longer comfort her, and said suddenly, "I am very hungry, and am in such pain!"

The grandfather would listen no longer to these poor little ones, whom he could not help. He called, "Robert, come with me to bed; and you, darling, lie by your mother's side and sleep."

And soon it was quiet in the humble dwelling, for God sent an angel to enfold them all in soft, peaceful slumber.

The new day broke. Ellen, suffering from the pains of hunger, was the first to awaken. She could no longer contain herself, but wept bitterly.

Her mother still slept. The grandfather entered the room; he knew the child's tears were caused by suffering.

Pleadingly, Ellen stretched out her arms and said, "Oh, grandfather, I am so sick! I am so hungry!"

"Only wait a little while," replied her grandfather, taking her in his arms and at the same time calling Robert.

Robert had just washed his face and hands in the spring water near the house. He came immediately at his grandfather's call.

"Your clothes are all torn, my boy; but who can mend them? Your poor mother sleeps yet; we will not wake her. Here, take my last penny. Go buy bread with it. There will be enough for your mother and Ellen. We must seek elsewhere for food. There, dear Robert, hold the penny fast. You know it is our all. Go, and come back quickly, and hear, don't bring a fresh baked roll, but one a day or two old, it will satisfy hunger better."

When Robert heard the last words, he ran quickly away.

It was a glorious spring morning. The sun's golden beams, brightening alike the palace of the rich and hut of the poor man, revealed this morning

much sorrow and suffering. The winter had been long and severe, provisions and fuel scarce, and many families were left, in early springtime, destitute of food, shelter or raiment.

Robert's grandfather lived in that part of the city inhabited only by the very poorest people, where seldom kind heart and generous hand came to relieve the misery or comfort the sorrow of the poverty-stricken and brokenhearted.

The boy was obliged to go through many narrow, dark streets before coming to a baker's stand. He held the penny pressed closely in his hand, knowing all its worth. As he drew near the baker's, he saw a boy begging at the window, and the baker reach him a piece of bread, which he ate eagerly.

Robert came to the window, and asked for a dry penny roll.

The baker offered him one, and when Robert opened his hand to give him the penny, alas...it fell, and rolled into the drain under the sidewalk.

Robert gave a loud cry of anguish. The baker, who had not seen what had happened, said, "Here, boy, here is your roll; where is your penny?"

"Oh, dear sir, I have just lost it, and I cannot get it again."

"Ay, ay, you young rascal, I understand that. You never had one!"

Robert looked with large eyes at the baker. He did not understand what it was to be called a cheat.

"If you haven't a penny, you don't get the bread," said the baker, laying it on the window sill.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. To go over Jordan River to possess their inheritance. 2. Three. 3. That they could have the land where they were camping. 4. Help their brethren until they were at rest. 5. On the east side of Jordan where they were now camped. 6. After their brethren had possessed their inheritance. 7. Yes. 8. God. 9. They were to be put to death.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



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The Penny Roll

(Continued from last week.)

"Oh, dear sir," pleaded Robert, with tears in his eyes, "give me the bread. Oh, if you only knew! My mother is sick, my grandfather..."

"Hush," said the baker, "everyone knows there is poverty enough that is real, but you are a young scamp. Lost your penny! Go, you little liar. I would have given you a piece of bread in this hard time, but you tried to cheat me out of a whole loaf. Off! Off, I say!"

"Oh, good sir, my mother is dying; my little sister is starving."

"All lies! Go and earn your bread."

"That I would gladly, but give me, now, only one little roll."

"If you are not off directly, I will send for the police," said the baker, closing the window.

Robert did not move. He could not go without bread. He thought what he should do, but his thoughts did not relieve him. He saw his grandfather angry; his sick mother, his suffering sister. He trembled with anguish—and there in the window lay the bread, tempting him.

Robert had always been truthful and honest. He was not accustomed to evil thoughts, yet in one breath he had heard himself called liar and cheat.

Now a dark, wicked thought came to his heart, yet to him it seemed a gleam of light in his uncertainty and distress. He saw the baker look at him, and then stand up as if he was about to come out of his shop and chase him away. A sharp pain shot through him, caused by long fasting and weakness. He thought of his lost penny, of the baker's injustice, and then quickly raising the window, he snatched the bread, and was off like an arrow.

The baker saw the act, ran quickly out of his shop and through the streets after Robert; but the boy went into narrow, dark byways and was soon out of sight.

When within a few rods of his home, Robert paused. Breathless and frightened, he looked around to see if he was still pursued. Then slowly, with weak steps, he went onward. The nearer he drew to home, the more he wished to linger on the way. The bread seemed heavy as a stone in his hands. A fear and dread, unknown to him until now, made him wish to throw the bread far from him. Only the thought of his mother and his sister restrained him. He reached the house—leaned up against its wall, but dared not enter.

Burning red glowed in his face and large drops of moisture stood at every pore.

He went to the door. Should he open it? Should he take stolen bread under the honest roof? Could he say, "It is stolen!" Should he say this to his upright grandfather, or should he take it back to the hardhearted baker?

Robert could scarcely stand. He was overcome by his fears and tormented by his sin.

The poor boy might have remained long standing at his door in this state of despairing uncertainty, had not his grandfather come out suddenly, saying, "He does not come! What keeps him? Oh, here he is. Thank God! Have you bread? Now, little Ellen, come, you shall eat."

"Come, Robert, come quickly into the house. Why do you stand trembling so? Why are you so purple-red? Bring the bread. How long you were! Ellen, my knife."

Robert could not look into his grandfather's face. He entered the room, but he held the bread fast with both hands.



Fighting God's Way

II Chronicles 20:2-4, 10-26

2 Then there came some that told Jehoshaphat, saying, There cometh a great multitude against thee from beyond the sea on this side Syria:...

3 And Jehoshaphat feared, and set himself to seek the Lord, and proclaimed a fast throughout all Judah.

4 And Judah gathered themselves together, to ask help of the Lord:...

10 And now, behold, the children of Ammon and Moab and mount Seir, whom thou wouldst not let Israel invade,...but they turned from them, and destroyed them not;

11 Behold, I say, how they reward us, to come to cast us out of thy possession, which thou hast given us to inherit.

12 O our God, wilt thou not judge them? for we have no might against this great company that cometh against us; neither know we what to do: but our eyes are upon thee.

13 And all Judah stood before the Lord, with their little ones, their wives, and their children.

14 Then upon Jahaziel...came the Spirit of the Lord in the midst of the congregation;

15 And he said...Thus saith the Lord...Be not afraid nor dismayed by reason of this great multitude; for the battle is not yours, but God's.

16 Tomorrow go ye down against them: behold, they come up by the cliff of Ziz; and ye shall find them at the end of the brook...

17 Ye shall not need to fight in this battle:...stand ye still, and see the salvation of the Lord...

18 And Jehoshaphat bowed his head with his face to the ground: and all Judah...fell before the Lord, worshipping the Lord.

19 And the Levites,...stood up to praise the Lord...with a loud voice on high.

20 And they rose early in the morning, and

went forth into the wilderness of Tekoa: and as they went forth, Jehoshaphat stood and said,... Believe in the Lord your God, so shall ye be established; believe his prophets, so shall ye prosper.

21 And...he appointed singers unto the Lord, and that should praise the beauty of holiness,...

22 And when they began to sing and to praise, the Lord set ambushments...

23 For the children of Ammon and Moab stood up against the inhabitants of mount Seir,...and when they had made an end of the inhabitants of Seir, every one helped to destroy another.

24 And when Judah came toward the watch tower...behold, they were dead bodies fallen to the earth, and none escaped.

25 ...They were three days in gathering of the spoil, it was so much. (The spoil is goods seized from victims after a military victory.)

26 And on the fourth day...they blessed the Lord:...

The Message: Spiritual and temporal battles are won when we follow God's plan.

Questions:

1. What did Jehoshaphat do when a great army came against his country?
2. What did the people of Judah do?
3. On whom came the spirit of God?
4. What did God's spirit say through Jahaziel?
5. How did Jehoshaphat and the people worship God?
6. What did the Levites do?
7. What did the enemy do when they heard the singing?
8. How many days did it take to carry away the spoil?
9. What happened on the fourth day after the battle?

Verse to Memorize

**Fight the good fight of faith,
lay hold on eternal life,
whereunto thou art also
called....**

I Timothy 6:12.

Let's



Talk . . .

A spiritual war is going on all the time. It is not a noisy war fought with guns, bombs, and missiles. It is a very silent war, fought within the mind. It is fought when we have thoughts to sin against God. We then must choose to obey God and do right, or we will be overcome by the devil and do wrong. The fighting is with ourself. It is forcing myself to do what I believe I should. It seems our bodies like to do evil more than to do good. That is why we must fight. Apostle Paul describes his fight like this. "...I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection [or obedience]:..." (I Corinthians 9:27.)

Fighting against the devil takes time and planning. What army goes to a battle without first studying the maneuvers that it will make? Units that win battles follow careful plans and only make authorized changes if there are any changes. If we conquer our spiritual enemies, we too will have to diligently study and follow the plans which God gives in His Word.

The first step in doing this is to organize each day to include time to pray and study God's Word. Sometimes we will have to omit other activities or work faster to complete them. We can also train our minds to concentrate on God's Word while we are working.

When Mary Slessor was eleven years old she had to work 12 hours a day in a cloth factory. She propped her book over the weaving machine and studied while weaving. In this way she finished school and studied

her Bible. By age 13 she was teaching a Bible class for children.

In the same manner, Sis. Christina Esquires memorized the sixth chapter of Romans while ironing clothes. We can also do two things at the same time.

Remember, fighting against Satan takes much time and thought. We will not know how to fight the devil, nor have time to fight him until we discipline our mind. It must be under the authority of the Holy Spirit.

Jesus must be our leader, for the devil has many tricks. He is much like the 'wait a bit' bush. This strange bush contains thin, but very strong, fishhook like thorns on the end of its branches. These will catch a person's clothes. The person caught with a hook, will usually get hopelessly entangled while trying to get free. Then he or she is forced to 'wait' until someone can free him. Just so a Christian can be easily snared by Satan unless he or she carefully follows Jesus. If anyone gets snared, he will have to wait until God looses him.

If we fight the way we think is best, the devil will catch us quickly. We must get our direction for this battle from God, for He knows how the devil will attack. We get our directions from Him by reading the Bible and obeying those in authority over us.

The Bible lesson today is of a battle in which the people did not fight. Their singers marched before the army. The three nations which had come to fight against them heard the singers singing and began fighting one another. When God's people looked down from the watch tower, they saw the enemy soldiers were already dead.

Whatever Captain Jesus orders, we must do. If He says, "Sing," we must sing no matter how sad we feel. Singing praises is sometimes God's way for us to win a spiritual battle.

—Charlotte Huskey

His grandfather shook his head and said, "What is the matter, Robert? Give me the bread! What are you thinking of? See, your little sister is starving."

But Robert, clinging to the bread, said, "Let me breathe. I must breathe so, before you eat this bread let me tell you how I got it. Oh, I am afraid, but I will tell you."

The mother was now awakened by the noise, and all looked in amazement at Robert, as he related, sadly, that the bread was stolen.

"We dare not eat this bread," said the grandfather. "Let us rather starve. Go, Robert, return it at once to the baker. Say we are starving, but we will not eat this bread. Entreat him to forgive you. He will, for he cannot be so hardhearted as to punish you. Oh God, that we should come to this!"

"Grandfather," said little Ellen, "Do not send the bread away. Oh, I am so hungry—so hungry!"

"I know it, my poor little one; but of this bread you shall not eat. Wait but a little while. You shall have bread in an hour, if I have to go and beg for you."

Robert retraced his steps to the baker's. He ran to the window, and holding up the roll, said, "Here is your bread again." He felt himself, in the same instant, encircled by two strong arms, and was carried into the shop in spite of his weak effort to resist.

The baker had seen him returning and thus secured him.

"Oh, forgive me," exclaimed Robert. "I am indeed not a thief. I will tell you everything if you let me go."

The baker now thought Robert was one of the wild, mischievous street boys who often tormented him by pretending to steal only to make him run after them. He seated Robert on a stool before him and said, "Boy, you did not want bread, for you brought it back, but you'll get paid for the trouble you have given me. Now take your choice. Shall I whip you, or send you to the police station?"

Robert replied, trembling, "Oh, sir, I will tell the truth. I took the bread."

"Hush," said the baker, harshly. "All lies! Shall I punish you, or have you put in prison?"

"Oh, yes, whip me. Don't send me to prison! Oh, my poor grandfather. Oh, have pity! I have a sick mother, a little sister who has eaten nothing for two days. I took the bread for them."

There was something in the earnest, child-like tones of the boy which touched the baker's heart. He was now convinced that Robert's story was true, and he said, more kindly, "But how was the penny lost? Why did you return the bread?"

Robert then related all which had taken place for the last two days in his grandfather's house.

The baker, who was really a kindhearted man, said, as Robert concluded his sad story, "Here, little fellow, take this bread again. I feel I did you wrong in calling you thief and liar, but I will prove I am as ready to do you a service. Take this bread. Come to me every morning, and you shall receive the same sized loaf. Will you come?"

"Oh, yes, gladly. How can I thank you?"

"Go, in God's name. Go quickly to your sister and grandfather."

Robert took the loaf from the baker and with arrow-like swiftness ran homewards, his heart loaded with joy and gratitude. He did not, as before, stand at the door, but with a cry of delight rushed into the house.

Many days Robert did go for the bread. The baker liked him better as he knew him, and made inquiries regarding his grandfather, whom he assisted to find employment suited to his years and strength. He did more. He took Robert into his own family and taught him, after a few years, to make the best bread in the city. And Robert never forgot the baker's kindness, or that he owed all his success to his grandfather's honesty in making him return the penny roll.

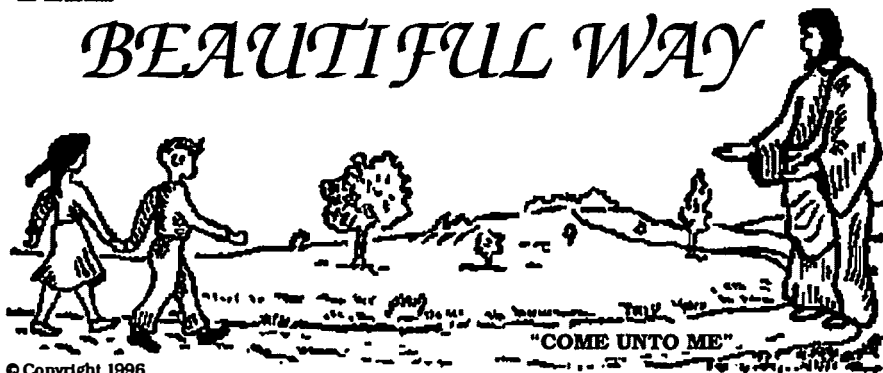
(The end.)

—"Bright Pictures From Child Life"
(Translated From German in 1857)

(Answers: 1. He began seeking God and proclaimed a fast throughout his country. 2. They came before the Lord with their wives, babies and children. 3. On Jahaziel. 4. "Be not afraid nor dismayed by reason of this great multitude; for the battle is not yours, but God's, and ye shall not need to fight in this battle." 5. They bowed with their faces toward the ground. 6. They stood up and sang. 7. They began killing one another. 8. Three days. 9. They assembled themselves to praise God.

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



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Good Advice

"Hannah! Before it is quite dark, go and fetch the water!" So said the mother.

Hannah made, as usual, when she heard this request, a sour, discontented face. Still, she went towards the water pitcher, which stood in the corner. She went as slowly and unwillingly as if she expected the water pitcher to come to her. It remained quietly in the corner, however.

Hannah at length took hold of its handle, lifted it on her head, and left the house.

Not far from the house was the well. Hannah placed her pitcher on the ledge stone, leaned both of her arms thereon, and looked first at the well, then at the pitcher, then towards her mother's house with a discontented air. The well would not give out water without pumping and the pitcher was too small to fill itself, and still less, if it were filled, could it go alone to the house?

There was no one at the well but Hannah. She looked again towards the house and saw her mother at the window and knew the sharp, angry glance she threw at her was intended to say, "Hannah, make haste!"

Now, suddenly, Hannah's eyes were filled with tears. She wept bitterly, as if the greatest misfortune had befallen her.

At this moment, Louise, a young girl, a good friend of Hannah's, came. She had also come to the well for water.

Half in earnest, half playfully, Louise said, "What is the matter, Hannah? Will you fill your pitcher with tears instead of well water?"

Hannah turned angrily away from her.

Then Louise changed her tone, not knowing

why Hannah was so afflicted, and said kindly and affectionately, "Dear Hannah, do tell me why you weep. Perhaps I can help you."

"Oh, I am so unhappy! So unhappy!" sobbed Hannah.

"But how then?" asked Louise.

"I have such a hard life! Every moment I must do something—bring something, take care of something! Father says, 'Make me this!' Mother says, 'Sew that!' Both are cross and though I am always doing things, I receive no thanks. So it always goes! I have not a moment's rest. Oh, I am so unhappy!"

"It is true that you have a hard time, but listen! Perhaps I can aid you. I will give you some good advice."

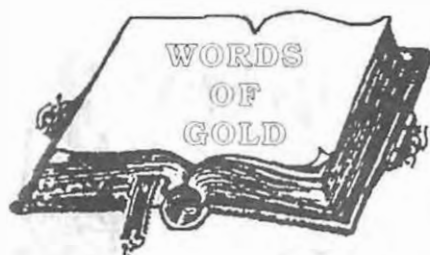
"Oh, do tell me what to do." And Louise said something very seriously to Hannah, who listened earnestly.

When Louise had ended, Hannah shook her head doubtfully. She had filled her water pitcher, and seeing her mother beckon from the window, she made haste to return home.

Louise said, "Good night, Hannah! Think of it! Try it!"

Hannah replied, "I do not know if I will try it. Good night."

Hannah went to bed early that evening. She lay awake a long time, thinking whether she should take Louise's advice. "Will it, then, help me? I cannot understand how it will! It is a strange means to try, still, try it for once, I can. Father and Mother have been so cross with all the orders they have given me today. Was it, then, my fault? I am so tired—so tired!" and turning over on the other side, she fell asleep. She dreamed of kind words and happy faces.



Resist Evil

I Samuel 24:1-13, 15-20

1 ...When Saul was returned from following the Philistines, that it was told him, saying, Behold, David is in the wilderness of En-gedi.

2 Then Saul took three thousand chosen men...and went to seek David and his men...

3 And he came to...a cave; and Saul went in [to sleep]; and David and his men remained in the sides of the cave.

4 And the men of David said unto him,...the Lord said unto thee,...I will deliver thine enemy into thine hand, that thou mayest do to him as it shall seem good unto thee. Then David arose, and cut off the skirt of Saul's robe...

5 And it came to pass afterward, that David's heart smote him, because he had cut off Saul's skirt.

6 And he said unto his men, The Lord forbid that I should do this thing unto my master,...seeing he is the anointed of the Lord.

7 So David...suffered them not to rise against Saul. But Saul rose up out of the cave, and went on his way.

8 David also arose afterward, and went out of the cave, and cried after Saul, saying, My lord the king. And when Saul looked behind him, David stooped with his face to the earth, and bowed himself.

9 And David said to Saul, Wherefore hearest thou men's words, saying, Behold, David seeketh thy hurt?

10 Behold, this day thine eyes have seen how that the Lord had delivered thee to-day into mine hand in the cave: and some bade me kill thee: but...I said, I will not put forth mine hand against my lord; for he is the Lord's anointed.

11 Moreover, my father,...see the skirt of thy robe in my hand:...I cut off the skirt of thy robe, and killed thee not,...there is neither evil

nor transgression in mine hand, and I have not sinned against thee; yet thou huntest my soul to take it.

12 The Lord...avenge me of thee: but mine hand shall not be upon thee.

13 As saith the proverb of the ancients, Wickedness proceedeth from the wicked:...

15 The Lord therefore...judge between me and thee,...and deliver me out of thine hand.

16 And it came to pass, when David had made an end of speaking these words unto Saul, that Saul said, Is this thy voice, my son David? And Saul lifted up his voice, and wept.

17 And he said to David, Thou art more righteous than I: for thou hast rewarded me good, whereas I have rewarded thee evil.

18 And...thou hast dealt well with me:...when the Lord had delivered me into thine hand,...

19 ...Wherefore the Lord reward thee good for that thou hast done unto me this day.

20 ...I know well that thou shalt surely be king,...

The Message: Being alert, resisting evil, and using God's Word against Satan is a sure way to keep victory.

Questions:

1. Whom was Saul hunting?
2. How many men were helping Saul?
3. Who was inside the cave when Saul went in?
4. What did David's men tell him?
5. What did David tell the men who wanted him to kill Saul?
6. How did David let Saul know that he had the chance to kill him?
7. What proverb did David tell Saul?
8. How did Saul praise David for resisting this evil?
9. Would David have become king, if he had not resisted the evil? Why?

Verse to Memorize

"...Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."

James 4:7.

Let's



Talk . . .

King Saul was sure that God had chosen David to take his place as king of Israel. Therefore he tried to kill David, hoping that he could continue to be the king. Saul had been chosen of God as king of Israel. He ruled well for a short while then sinned and was rejected.

Saul lacked proper respect for God. God said, "The sacrificing ceremony must be done only by the person anointed for the job. Samuel was anointed for this job, but Saul became impatient and did it himself. Disobeying God caused him to be rejected as king of Israel. If Saul had resisted sin and obeyed God, he would have had no reason to fear losing his throne to David.

David resisted the temptation to kill Saul when he could have easily done it. His men tried to persuade him that God had allowed Saul to be there so he could kill Saul. David remembered God's Word and did not yield. He used it as a weapon to resist these suggestions.

Christ used God's Word as a weapon against Satan when Satan tempted Him. God's Word is a very powerful tool to use when tempted. It is a sure way to win battles with Satan. James 4:7 reads, "...Resist the devil, and he will flee from you." We resist the devil by speaking God's Word when tempted. We conquer by obeying God's Word. The children of Israel conquered many nations by obeying God's Word. David conquered by obeying God's Words which say, "...Touch not mine anointed,..." (I Chronicles 16:22.)

When an army goes to battle, the captain does not do all the fighting, he only helps. Neither does Christ do all our fighting. Apostle Paul said, "I have fought a good fight." (II Timothy 4:7.) Resisting is fighting. We must *trust* like our salvation depends only on God, and *fight* (resist) like it depends only on us.

A very sly trick of the devil is to not send temptations for awhile. While we are happy that things are going well, we may get careless about reading the Bible and praying. Then Satan will slip in a very small temptation. Just a little 'no harm' thought or action, or he may rush in so suddenly with a temptation that it throws us off our feet. We know the act is wrong, but God's Word is not fresh in our minds so we have no weapon. Oops, we fall and do what Satan suggests. That is what King Saul did.

David was very alert. He had been fighting for his life, for a long time before having the easy opportunity to kill Saul. The relationship between King Saul and him hadn't been very good since he had killed the giant. Saul had tried for awhile to keep his feelings hidden and had almost killed David twice during that time.

We too, must stay alert, for we are in a constant battle against Satan. Being alert, resisting (fighting) and using God's Word as a weapon is a sure way to win. —Charlotte Huskey

Standing Firm

Hear the voice of our Commander
standing firm,
Holy pilgrims take the armor,
standing firm;
Shod in gospel preparation,
Sword and helmet of salvation,
Meekly hold the true position,
standing firm.

—B.E. Warren

With the rising sun Hannah awoke. Before this, Hannah would lie in her bed until she heard the call often repeated, "Hannah, get up! Hannah, don't lie in bed so long!"

This morning she did not wait for the call, but sprang lightly and cheerfully from bed.

Before this she had been long and lazy in dressing herself and always required assistance.

This morning she dressed herself quickly and neatly alone. She went with a cleanly-washed face to her mother, to say good morning.

Her mother was busy making breakfast. Hannah brought wood and laid it on the fire. "Can I do anything else, dear mother, to help you?"

"I must have milk. The milk pan is in the cellar and I can use it at once."

Without a word in reply, Hannah ran quickly and brought milk. Then she went to the dining room, and, without being told, made the table ready with cups and plates for breakfast.

She went again to the kitchen and said, "Shall I, perhaps, bring anything for you, dear mother?"

"Yes, the baker has not yet arrived. Take the bread basket and fetch some rolls."

Hannah did so as quickly as possible.

When she returned, she saw her father looking about the room for something.

Hannah guessed what he wanted and brought him his boots.

They were just what he desired and he thanked her pleasantly as he put them on.

The breakfast was ready. Father, Mother and Hannah seated themselves together at the breakfast table.

During the entire morning the parents had remarked, with astonishment, about the change in Hannah. Before this she never came unless called repeatedly; never did anything without being requested; and when told to do anything, would make up a dark, sour face and was as long and slow as possible in performing her task.

Today it was quite the contrary. The mother could not restrain herself from praising her good child and giving her a loving kiss on her bright, beaming face.

The father said, "But, Hannah, how is it that you are so changed—that you are so good today?"

Hannah looked first at her father, than at her mother.

"Did you not see yesterday, dear mother, that Louise was with me at the well, and that we were talking a long time together? I was then very discontented and unhappy. Louise told me a means by which I might be happy and gave me also good advice. I have followed it, and will continue to follow it, for I see what good it brings!"

Both father and mother asked kindly, "And what was the good advice?"

Hannah looked ashamed at first, and did not wish to reveal her secret, but at last she said, "Louise told me I must pray to God and ask Him to help me accustom myself to do willingly what my parents requested, then it would not seem so hard to fulfill my tasks. She said also that I must not wait to be told what to do, but must watch to see when anything was needed to be done, and do the things agreeable to my parents. And she said, also, I must often ask cheerfully if I could be of any use."

Hannah was silent. Her mother and father both praised the wise and discreet Louise, kissed Hannah, and said, "That was, indeed, good advice. Do always follow it."

Then her mother said, "Dear Hannah I wish very much for a piece of nice cake. Will you go and bring me the one I made yesterday?"

"Yes, certainly, mother!" Very soon Hannah returned with the cake and placed it before her mother on the table.

The mother took it and gave it to Hannah, saying, "For the good, industrious Hannah!"

Hannah took the cake and with many thanks ran quickly to her friend Louise, and giving it to her, exclaimed, "For your good advice!"

—"Bright Pictures From Child Life"
(Translated from German in 1857.)

(Answers: 1. David. 2. 3,000. 3. David. 4. That God had delivered Saul into his hands so he should kill Saul. 5. He told his men to leave Saul alone because God said not to touch His anointed. 6. By showing Saul the portion of robe which he had cut off. 7. "Wickedness proceedeth from the wicked." 8. He said, "Thou art more righteous than I." 9. Answers will vary.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



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The Tempting Gloves

It was Christmas evening. In the Christmas market sparkled numberless lights, and their bright beams were beautifully reflected by the various wares which tempted and invited purchasers.

Many children passed to and fro—gazed with wide-opened eyes at the wonderful array of pretty things—and some were induced, after long seeking, to spend the few pennies saved in the money box for this very occasion.

There were parents and other friends of children standing in the well-arranged shops, buying and examining the gifts with which they wished to delight their dear ones.

In the midst of the grown persons and children who thronged the marketplace stood a young girl named Magdelain. She was alone, and gazed sadly with a heavy heart at the brilliant and beautiful array spread out on every side.

Her parents were very poor, and for this reason had placed her in the service of a lady, where she was employed out of school hours in going on errands and in working with her needle. For her services she received small wages, which she faithfully took to her parents, who could do little for their own support, having other children to feed and clothe.

Magdelain was sent, this Christmas evening, on an errand by the lady with whom she lived. Her way led through the Christmas market.

How gladly she would have purchased some little thing as a Christmas gift! Yet, for

that money was needful, and money, she had none.

She thought and said softly to herself, "I could give up playthings, or pretty things I could well use, if I might buy a warm dress, a shawl or a pair of warm gloves."

It was very cold. Magdelain shivered and her teeth chattered, for she was but scantily and thinly dressed. She blew on half-frozen hands and wrapped them in her apron.

"I do not want either cakes or candy, nor dolls nor playthings. But oh, I wish so for a pair of warm gloves."

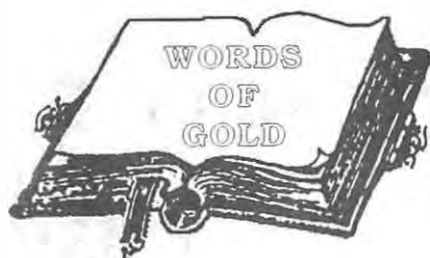
She drew near to one of the shops where many articles of wearing apparel were sold. The cold wind which blew the candle lights to and fro seemed to pierce to the very bones of the poor girl, and she tremblingly drew herself together to keep warm.

On the right side of the shop, on the counter, lay a pair of warm woolen gloves, lined with soft skin. Magdelain saw them, and the longer she stood looking at them, the better she liked them. They looked, too, as if they would just fit her hand.

Her gaze seemed fastened on the gloves—even from the moment she had seen them her hands felt warmer.

But buy—buy them she could not. They were well made and prettily wrought, and must be expensive.

Then came another thought to her mind, "I will secretly take them." The shopkeeper stood on the other side of the shop attending to a purchaser, and busily engaged in praising his goods. Magdelain stood alone, unnoticed, beside the gloves.



The Birth of Jesus

Isaiah 7:14

14 Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Emmanuel.

Matthew 1:18-25

18 Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost.

19 Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not willing to make her a public example, was minded to put her away privily.

20 But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost.

21 And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.

22 Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, [The first verse in this lesson is this prophecy.]

23 Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.

24 Then Joseph being raised from sleep did as the angel of the Lord had bidden him, and took unto him his wife:

25 And knew her not till she had brought forth her firstborn son: and he called his name JESUS.

Luke 2:7-14

7 And she brought forth her first-born son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

8 And there were...shepherds...keeping watch over their flock by night.

9 And, lo, the angel of the Lord came ...and they were sore afraid.

10 And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

12 ...Ye shall find the baby wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

13 And suddenly there was...a multitude of heavenly host praising God, and saying,

14 Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace, good will toward men.

The Message: Mary was a virgin when Jesus was born. Joseph was only the husband of Mary, but God was Jesus' biological father.

Questions:

1. Who did Isaiah say would have a child?
2. Who was the father of Mary's child?
3. What did Joseph decide to do?
4. Why did he change his mind?
5. What kind of bed did baby Jesus have?
6. In what kind of clothes was he dressed?
7. Who celebrated his birth?
8. What did the angels say about Jesus?
9. Is Jesus Saviour and Lord of your life?

Verse to Memorize

...Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Emmanuel.

Isaiah 7:14.

Let's



Talk . . .

About 700 years before Jesus was born, Isaiah prophesied of His birth. One of the many things which he said was that a virgin would give birth to a son. This is not normal. It is a miracle; a miracle which has only happened one time. Only when Jesus was born did a virgin give birth.

In a ceremony at her parents' home, Mary promised Joseph that she would love no other man. Joseph promised Mary that he would do the same. The wedding would be after he made arrangements for a wedding feast and a home for his new bride.

Days and weeks passed while Joseph prepared for their wedding. During this time, he was surprised to hear that Mary was expecting a child. He was so upset about it that he decided not to marry her. But he could not break their engagement unless he accused Mary of being impure.

If he accused her to the authorities of the city, she would either be stoned or burned to death. He did not want that to happen. The only way he could save her life and not marry her was to give her a divorce.

God knew that innocent Mary needed a husband to protect her and to supply for her and the baby. So in a dream God told Joseph to go ahead with their wedding. He did.

It is very important that we believe that Mary was a virgin. If she was a virgin, then God was Jesus' father. He is God's Son. Jesus is our Lord and Savior. He is the Messiah that the Jews were expecting.

If Mary was not a virgin, then Jesus is not God. He is just another man whom God used to teach His truths, and to perform miracles.

The apostles and many other people have been used of God in that way. Moses was used to perform the ten plagues of Egypt. The Jordan River stopped flowing and the sun stood still for Joshua. Elijah was used to raise the dead, make iron swim and other miracles. Sick people were healed if even the shadow of Peter fell across them. Jesus was only an equal to these men if Mary was not a virgin.

Mary was a virgin when Jesus was born and Christians must be very careful what Bible they read for many of the new (easier to read) translations call Mary a "young woman" not a virgin. Although the King James Version of the Bible is harder to understand, it comes to us undamaged by men. Instead of hunting a Bible that is easier to read, let us learn the meaning of the words which we do not understand. In this way we will also be able to enjoy other interesting old books—of which there are very many.

Have a happy Christmas and remember the Christ in the manger is the Lord of the universe. He will someday welcome us into His eternal home or reject us according to how we have respected Him. —Charlotte Huskey



Hear The Message

Hear the merry Christmas message
Ringing here and ringing there;
And the air is filled with music
And rejoicing everywhere.

Hear the angel's holy message,
"Peace on earth, good will to men."
It is joy to every nation,
All mankind, every kin.

— Ulysses Phillips

She thought and reflected—but the gloves were so pretty and seemed so warm. Her hands, which she had drawn out of the apron, were quite stiff from frost.

Already she had stretched out her arm. Already she was about to seize on the gloves and rapidly conceal them. Her whole body was hot and cold by turns. Her heart beat loudly. She could scarcely breathe. She trembled. Suddenly the organ of the neighboring cathedral rang out with clear, startling tones.

It was a voice, earnest and warning, speaking to Magdelain's heart. Quickly she drew back her arm, and the gloves lay still on the counter.

As a voice from Heaven did Magdelain receive the solemn organ tones. They seemed to say to her, "It is wrong, that thou wouldst do. Thou shalt not steal!"

Magdelain obeyed that voice. She turned to leave the shop just as there entered a lady richly dressed and warmly wrapped in a cloak of fur.

She examined and purchased some articles, and then took the gloves in her hand which had tempted Magdelain. She demanded the price and purchased them. Magdelain had seen this, and was glad that the fatal gloves were entirely removed from her eyes.

The lady turned to leave the shop, and Magdelain recognized her. She was the lady with whom she lived!

Now for whom had she bought the gloves? Surely not for herself. She could hardly wear them! Her mind occupied with these thoughts, Magdelain went hastily from the Christmas market to attend to the errand on which she was sent.

In returning home again, Magdelain came through the marketplace. She said, as she passed the spot where she had been so sorely tempted, "Oh, what a fearful moment that was! God, I thank thee, that thou didst warn and deliver me from the danger which would have destroyed me! No! Rather will I hunger and freeze than..."

"Away with you to prison, boy! You will learn hereafter to keep your hands off! We'll soon cure you of your fancy for stealing. March!"

Magdelain was startled by these loud words from the reverie into which she had fallen.

A police officer had seized a wild, unruly looking boy, and was taking him off.

Magdelain ran swiftly, with a beating heart, from the marketplace, and did not pause until she reached home.

She entered the room. Oh, what a surprise! There were pretty and useful articles,—cakes and candies, clothing, and, above all, the well-known gloves!

The lady with whom she lived came kindly to her, took her hand, and said, "Dear Magdelain, because you are so honest and industrious, so kind and true, and have served me so faithfully, take from me, as an expression of my gratitude, a Christmas gift. Look! All on the table is your own. Take all and be happy!"

Magdelain thanked her with tears of joy and surprise. Strangely, however, did she feel as her mistress singled out the articles and said, "See, here is a cap, here a pair of shoes, here a shawl, what do you say to these gloves? Do they please you? Yes, they will keep your hands very warm! Now take all these things to the house of your parents. Show them what you have earned by your honesty and industry."

On her mother's neck, with sobs and tears, did Magdelain relate the story of her temptation.

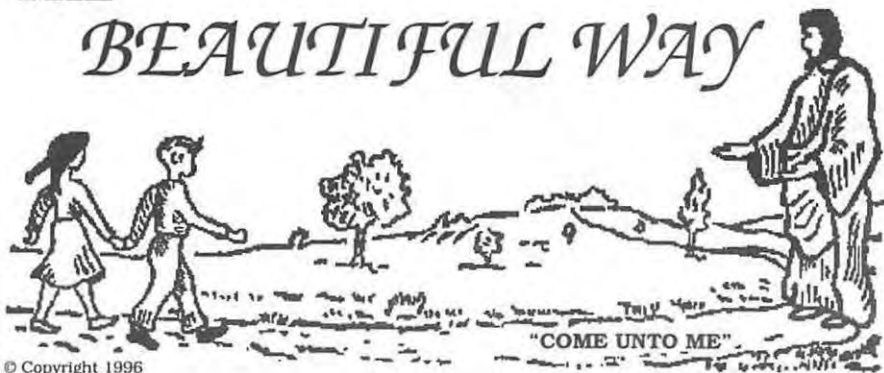
Her mother said, "Be good, my child, and pray to be kept from sinful desires, then it shall go well with you! And at night, before Magdelain went to her bed, she sank on her knees and sent a prayer to her Father in heaven, "Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil! Amen."

—"Bright Pictures From Child Life"
(Translated from German in 1857)

(Answers: 1. A virgin. 2. God. 3. To put away Mary (break their engagement). 4. Because God gave him a dream in which an angel told him to go ahead and get married. 5. A manger. 6. In swaddling clothes. 7. The angels. 8. They said Jesus was a Saviour and Lord. 9. (I hope the answer is yes. If not, ask your teacher to explain how you may take Jesus as Lord of your life and He will then be your Saviour.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



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The Ruined Kite

"At last it is finished, and I have worked at it so long! Mother, may I go out this afternoon on the avenue and there fly my kite? It is such pleasant weather! I know all of my school lessons by heart. Oh, I shall have such sport! Yes, it will fly so high! Dear mother, may I? Yes, do let me go."

"You may go, and I wish you a great deal of pleasure, dear. Only take care that your pretty kite is not caught by the high poplar trees which shade the avenue. It would be a pity to lose such nice painting and gilt paper ornamenting. Hold the cord tightly and look well where it flies. Will anyone go with you?"

"Yes, Mother. Philip will come for me after his dinner."

"Behave yourselves well," said the mother as she went again to her kitchen. Otto danced with pleasure about his kite, then carried it with the

long, ornamented cord to the sitting room, placing it upon the sofa and carefully arranging the cord so that it trailed over the sofa cushion. He jumped merrily from the room, his heart overflowing with anticipations for the afternoon's amusement.

Soon after dinner came his friend Philip. "Is the kite finished? Can we let it fly?"

"Oh, it is splendid, Philip. Magnificent! You must see it! And the cord is so long—so long—it will reach the sky! What sport we shall have! Won't we?"

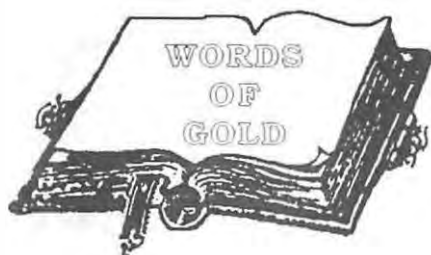
"Yes, indeed. I have thought of nothing else! But where is the kite? I see nothing of it."

"It is in the sitting room."

"Then go and fetch it. Let us be quickly off with it."

"Yes, I'll go at once." And Otto went to the door of the sitting room, opened it—but stood still on the threshold.

"Now fetch the kite, Otto," exclaimed Philip. "Why do you



The Visit Of The Wise Men

Matthew 2:1-5, 7-18

1 Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem,

2 Saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him.

3 When Herod the king had heard these things, he was troubled,...

4 And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes...he demanded of them where Christ should be born.

5 And they said unto him, In Bethlehem of Judaea: for thus it is written by the prophet, [Written in Micah 5:2.]

7 Then Herod,...privily...inquired of them...what time the star appeared.

8 And he sent them to Bethlehem, and said, Go and search diligently for the young child; and when ye have found him, bring me word again, that I may come and worship him also.

9 ...They departed; and, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was.

10 When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy.

11 And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and...they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh.

12 And being warned of God in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed into their own country another way.

13 And when they were departed, behold, the angel of the Lord appeareth to Joseph in a dream, saying, Arise, and take the young child

and his mother, and flee into Egypt, and be thou there until I bring thee word: for Herod will seek the young child to destroy him.

14 ...Hetook the young child and his mother by night, and departed into Egypt:

15 And was there until the death of Herod: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Out of Egypt have I called my son.

16 Then Herod, when he saw that he was mocked of the wise men, was exceeding wroth, and sent forth, and slew all the children that were in Bethlehem,...from two years old and under, according to the time which he had diligently inquired of the wise men.

17 Then was fulfilled that which was spoken by Jeremy the prophet, saying,

18 In Rama was there a voice heard, lamentation, and weeping, and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children, and would not be comforted, because they are not. [Prophecy found in Jeremiah 31:15.]

The Message: Faith was demonstrated in the lives of all those closely connected with Jesus' birth.

Questions:

1. Where was Jesus born?
2. Who was king when Jesus was born?
3. Where did Herod live?
4. Who came to visit King Herod?
5. For whom were the wise men looking?
6. What did King Herod ask the wise men to do?
7. What did the wise men give Jesus?
8. Why did the wise men not return to Herod?
9. Where did Joseph take Jesus and his mother?

Verse to Memorize

...Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

Hebrews 11:1.

Let's



Talk . . .

The beautiful story of Jesus' birth is a story of faith. From its very beginning faith was in action. Mary exercised faith to believe what seemed impossible. She demonstrated faith when she accepted the challenge of being the mother of God's Son.

Mary had pure character and a pure body. But we are sure that many people scorned her when they learned that she was to have a baby, for people are always more ready to condemn than to bless. Can't you imagine Mary going to the well for water and the other women and girls whispering about her? Can't you imagine the embarrassment she felt when Joseph found out? Who knows, maybe her parents didn't even believe her. Only her faith in God and her willingness to suffer for Him kept her through those struggling times when others questioned her purity.

Faith also brought the wise men from a faraway country to search for Jesus. They may have been scorned for what seemed to be a very dangerous, expensive trip which might turn out to be nothing. They had not received a letter or message from Jerusalem that the new King had been born. They only knew it had been prophesied that a new star would appear when the "King of the Jews" was born. They believed that prophecy when a new star was found. Is that much assurance that they would find Jesus? Possibly many of their friends and maybe their families ridiculed them for such a strange adventure. They came to Jerusalem by faith. They found the King. They left Bethlehem and

went home another way because of their faith in God's warning.

By faith Joseph took Mary to be his wife. By faith, he rose up in the night and escaped into Egypt with Mary and her baby. He was going into a country of a different language. Do you wonder how he bought food? Do you wonder how he earned a living when he could not speak their language? Joseph fled just in time to save Jesus, because he had faith in the dream.

The individuals closely connected with Jesus from his birth were people of faith. It is the same today. Everyone who is closely connected with Jesus is a person of faith. There is no other way to be close to Him. We cannot see Him. We cannot hear when Jesus speaks, nor touch Him with our hands. Every communication with Him is by faith.

Let us be courageous like Mary, Joseph and the wisemen. Ignore the scorn of the world, and allow God to use us in His great plan. By faith, let Jesus be born anew in our hearts, and by faith, follow Him each day.

—Charlotte Huskey

Come To Bethlehem

Come, go with me to Bethlehem,
Fulfill the King's decree,
Where all the country round about
Is in uncertainty.

In many towns throughout the land
They gather in by throngs;
But none are blessed like Bethlehem,
To hear the angels' songs.

Oh, yes, I love sweet Bethlehem,
Where shepherds vigil keep,
But greater still, I love the Christ
Who for my soul did weep.

Let's follow Him from Bethlehem,
He is our Star today,
To guide our feet to home at last
To the land of perfect day.

—Ulysses Phillips

stand there as if you were nailed fast?"

"Be still, Philip. Speak softly. Our kite flying is done for."

"How foolish you are! What is the matter?"

"Come gently here and see." Philip went to the door and looked in; then Otto drew him quietly back, closed the door softly and said, "No, I cannot do it. I cannot disturb my mother in her best sleep. Did you not see? She sits on the sofa and behind her back stands my kite. It will be quite ruined, and the cord also."

"Then draw it gently away."

"No, no! She might awaken!"

"And if she did awaken for a moment she would not be angry with you."

"No, I do not believe she would even give me a hasty word; but I cannot do it. Every day she makes herself tired with work, and today she has had many things to vex her. Now when she is having a little rest, I cannot and will not let her be disturbed."

"But today the weather is good, and all the week long we have not had a day when we could fly a kite. Who knows if we shall have just such another pleasant Saturday? You have made your kite for nothing if..."

"Ah, good Philip, don't ask

me now; let me alone, I entreat you."

"We shall play at something else. Come with me."

Otto took his friend with him. They went to the avenue and played contentedly together, forgetting soon the injured kite.

As they returned home at evening and the mother learned why they had not let fly the kite that afternoon, she drew her good son to her heart, kissed and blessed him.

When the next Saturday came, the mother presented Otto with a kite, larger and more beautiful than the one she had injured. It was painted with bright pictures and ornamented with gold and many colored ribbons, which she had tied to the cord with her own hands.

—"Bright Pictures From Child Life"
(Translated from German in 1857)

(Answers: 1. In Bethlehem. 2. Herod. 3. In Jerusalem. 4. Three wise men. 5. For the King of the Jews, (Jesus). 6. To search diligently for Jesus and let him know where to find Jesus. 7. Gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. 8. Because God warned them to not return. 9. To Egypt.)