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The Jungle Prince-A Pawn Of War

His name was Kaboo. His father was a tribal chieftain. But, though Kaboo was his eldest son and a prince in rank, no more wretched creature existed in the whole world. He had fallen from a position of freedom and honor to one of disgrace and worse than slavery.

In those regions it was the custom for a chief who was defeated in war to give his eldest son as a pawn or hostage to insure the payment of war indemnity. If payment lagged, he was often subjected to torture. Such was the fate of Kaboo.

While Kaboo was yet a child his father had twice been defeated in wars with neighboring tribes. Each time Kaboo had been put in pawn with the victorious chieftain. The first time occurred when Kaboo was too young to remember. His father was able to pay the indemnity promptly, and his son was soon restored to him. The second time Kaboo was held captive for several years before his father could complete his ransom. This had been an experience so dreadful that Kaboo would never speak of it.

He had been home only a short time when his tribe again became involved in a disastrous war. A coalition of enemies led by a cruel and depraved chief defeated Kaboo's people, laid waste their crops, and burned their village. His father was compelled to sue for peace and to pledge a much larger indemnity than his wasted territory could well afford to pay. Kaboo, who was now about fifteen years old, was put in pawn for the third time to insure the carrying out of this harsh treaty.

Kaboo's father came on the payment date with all the ivory, rubber, kola nuts and other articles of trade his people had been able to gather together. The victorious chief took all that he brought and, after setting his own price upon it, declared that it did not fulfill the pledge. He refused to give up the pawn.



Free At Last!

Exodus 14:10; 13-28, 30

10 And when Pharaoh drew nigh, the children of Israel lifted up their eyes, and, behold, the Egyptians marched after them; and they were sore afraid: and the children of Israel cried out unto the Lord.

13 And Moses said unto the people, Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord, which he will shew to you to day: for the Egyptians whom ye have seen to-day:... ye shall see them again no more for ever.

14 The Lord shall fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace.

15 And the Lord said unto Moses,... speak unto the children of Israel, that they go forward:

16 But lift thou up thy rod, and stretch out thine hand over the sea, and divide it: and the children of Israel shall go on dry ground through the midst of the sea.

17 And I, behold, I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians, and they shall follow them: and I will get me honour upon Pharaoh, and upon all his host, upon his chariots, and upon his horsemen.

18 And the Egyptians shall know that I am the Lord, when I have gotten me honour upon Pharaoh, upon his chariots, and upon his horsemen.

19 And the angel of God, which went before the camp of Israel, removed and went behind them; and the pillar of the cloud went from before their face, and stood behind them:

20 And it came between the camp of the Egyptians and the camp of Israel; and it was a cloud and darkness to them, but it gave light by night to these: so that the one came not near the other all the night.

21 And Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and the Lord caused the sea to go back by a strong east wind all that night, and made the sea dry land, and the waters were divided.

22 And the children of Israel went into the midst of the sea upon the dry ground: and the waters were a wall unto them on their right hand, and on their left.

23 And the Egyptians pursued, and went in after them to the midst of the sea, even all Pharaoh's horses, his chariots, and his horsemen.

24 And it came to pass, that in the morning watch the Lord looked unto the host of the Egyptians through the pillar of fire and of the cloud, and troubled the host of the Egyptians,

25 And took off their chariot wheels, that they drave them heavily: so that the Egyptians said, Let us flee from the face of Israel; for the Lord fighteth for them against the Egyptians.

26 And the Lord said unto Moses, Stretch out thine hand over the sea, that the waters may come again upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots, and upon their horsemen.

27 And Moses stretched forth his hand over the sea, and the sea returned to his strength when the morning appeared; and the Egyptians fled against it; and the Lord overthrew the Egyptians in the midst of the sea.

28 And the waters returned, and covered the chariots, and the horsemen, and all the host of Pharaoh that came into the sea after them; there remained not so much as one of them.

30 Thus the Lord saved Israel that day out of the hand of the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead upon the sea shore.

(Look for "The Message" and "Questions" on page 3.)

Verse to Memorize

Thus the Lord saved Israel that day out of the hand of the Egyptians;...

Exodus 14:30.



Most of us know nothing of slavery or bondage. We were born in a free nation and take for granted the right to live happy, independent lives. On the fourth of this month we will celebrate the anniversary of the independence of our nation.

Kaboo was not so blessed. Though he was the son of a king, when he became a pawn of war he lost all his rights. He was subjected to savage and inhumane treatment with no way to free himself from torture and impending death. Only God could set him free and He did so through a miraculous intervention. Kaboo never forgot that day. He called it his Deliverance Day and as long as he lived he always celebrated that day, Friday, by fasting, taking neither food nor water.

The Israelites were a free people when they moved to Goshen in the land of Egypt. But, with the passing of time the Pharaoh who came to power began to look on them with fear and suspicion. He made the Israelites his slaves and made their lives miserable.

Finally the Israelites cried to God for help. God heard their prayers and sent Moses to deliver them. When Pharaoh refused to let the Israelites go, God worked many miracles, even bringing heavy plagues upon the Egyptians. With the last plague, the death of every firstborn son, Pharaoh commanded the children of Israel to leave Egypt and take everything they owned.

In a few days Pharaoh was sorry he had lost his slaves. He decided to recapture the Israelites. So he gathered all the chariots of Egypt and the captains over them. Confident of an easy victory over the unarmed Israelites, he foolishly pursued them right into the Red Sea. As the walls of water crashed over him and his army Pharaoh realized that God Himself defended His people, the Israelites.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

The Message: The Israelites were slaves in Egypt. They had no power to gain their own freedom but God delivered them through mighty miracles.

Questions:

- 1. Who marched after the children of Israel?
- 2. Who would fight for them?
- 3. How were the Israelites to go across the Red Sea?
- 4. Who went before the camp of Israel?
- 5. What came between the camp of the Egyptians and the camp of Israel?
- 6. How did the sea become dry land?
- 7. What made walls on both sides as the Israelites crossed the Sea?
- 8. How did the Lord trouble the Egyptians?
- 9. How many of the Egyptians escaped?

No ransom payment was sufficient which did not keep him well supplied with liquor.

Knowing in advance the injustice of this drink-crazed chief, and fearing lest his son could not survive longer torture, Kaboo's father brought with him on his second visit one of his attractive daughters to put in the boy's place as a pawn.

Kaboo objected: "I can bear the punishment better than my sister. Let me remain." His father realized that further tribute was impossible. He could do nothing but return homeward with his daughter, leaving Kaboo to meet his certain fate.

When the father of Kaboo failed to come again, the infuriated chief ordered Kaboo to be whipped every day. Each beating was more prolonged and severe than the one before. A thorny poison vine was used as a whip. At each stroke it tore the flesh and implanted a fiery virus. The agonized victim felt as if his whole body were afire.

Each time the chieftain's executioner tormented Kaboo, a Kru slave, who was an eyewitness of the beating, was sent to Kaboo's father with a harrowing story of the ordeal, and a warning of worse to follow if he did not redouble his efforts to meet the full demands of his conqueror.

Kaboo's wounds did not have time to heal. The flesh of his back hung in shreds. Soon he became so exhausted from loss of blood and the fever induced by the poison vine that he could no longer stand or even sit up. A cross-tree was then erected and he was carried out and thrown over it while he was again beaten over his raw back.

Kaboo hoped that death would release him before he met the awful fate of an unredeemed pawn. A number of Kaboo's tribesmen had been taken as ordinary slaves by this brutal chief. Several of them had been accused as bewitchers. Kaboo had seen them literally torn to pieces by drunken and frenzied men. But he was now faced by an even more diabolical fate.

Already, they had dug a pit in anticipation of the possible failure of his father to return. If his final beating induced no further payment, he was to be buried up to the neck. His mouth would then be propped open, and smeared with a sweet mixture to attract the ants from a nearby anthill. The resulting torment would merely prepare for the final act when another type of insect-the dreaded driver ants-would be permitted to devour his living flesh bit by bit. After the ants had cleaned his bones of every particle of flesh, his white skeleton would then be placed in front of his execution hut as a gentle reminder to all future debtors.

As Kaboo was flung upon the cross-tree for his final beating, all hope as well as physical strength left him. He longed only for the boon of death.

Then, suddenly, something very strange happened. A great light like a flash of lightning broke over him. The light blinded all about him. An audible voice that seemed to come from above commanded him to rise and flee. All heard the voice and saw the light but saw no man.

---Sis. Nelda Sorrell (To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. The Egyptians. 2. The Lord. 3. On dry land through the middle of the sea. 4. The angel of God. 5. The pillar of the cloud. 6. Moses stretched his hand over it and the Lord caused a strong east wind to blow all night to divide the waters. 7. The waters. 8. He took off their chariot wheels. 9. Not one.)



The Miraculous Escape

(Continued from last week.)

As Kaboo was flung upon the crosstree for his final beating, a bright light suddenly blinded his tormentors. They heard a voice that seemed to come from above but they saw no one. At the same time there occurred one of those instantaneous healings which science can neither deny nor explain. In the twinkling of an eye Kaboo found his strength restored. He had had nothing to eat or drink all that day. Yet he felt neither hunger nor thirst nor weakness. Leaping up, he obeyed the mysterious voice and fled from the astonished natives with the speed of a deer.

What was the source of the mysterious light that had brought him new strength and freedom? Kaboo did not know nor suspect. He had never heard of the Christian God. He knew nothing of special acts of Divine Providence. He had never heard of a Saviour who had once been put in pawn, a ransom for many. The earthly prince who had just hung over a cross-tree of torture did not dream of a heavenly Prince who had been mocked and beaten as a prisoner and had suffered a degraded death by slow torture upon a tree.

But Kaboo did know that some strange and invisible power had come to his rescue. At one moment he had been too ill to sit erect and now he was running away at top speed. It was on a Friday that he made his escape. Kaboo never forgot that day. He called it his Deliverance Day and as long as he lived he always celebrated that day of the week by fasting, taking neither food nor water.

The Kindly Light

Kaboo hid in the hollow of a tree until nightfall to elude his pursuers. When night came Kaboo realized that he had escaped one kind of death only to plunge into another deadly hazard. He was alone in the jungle where no unaided man could hope to survive for long. Worst of all, he was not only without friends and weapons, but also without home or destination!

He dared not return to his own tribe and family. To do so would bring upon his people the bitter revenge of their enraged conqueror. He dared not be seen by a native of another tribe lest he be returned to his former captor for the large reward usually paid for an escaped pawn.

In the midst of his new despair, another marvel appeared. In those regions the dense forests are dark even during the day; at night they are impossible to penetrate. But the same friendly light that had flooded the scene of his intended execution shone again around him. Wandering in another wilderness, a company of liberated bondsmen long ago enjoyed a similar guidance when "the Lord went before them by day in a pillar of a cloud, to





Acts 9:1-18

1 And Saul, yet breathing out threatenings and slaughter against the disciples of the Lord, went unto the high priest,

2 And desired of him letters to Damascus to the synagogues, that if he found any of this way, whether they were men or women, he might bring them bound unto Jerusalem.

3 And as he journeyed, he came near Damascus: and suddenly there shined round about him a light from heaven:

4 And he fell to the earth, and heard a voice saying unto him, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me?

5 And he said, Who art thou, Lord? And the Lord said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest: it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks.

6 And he trembling and astonished said. Lord, what wilt thou have me to do? And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go into the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do.

7 And the men which journeyed with him stood speechless, hearing a voice, but seeing no man.

8 And Saul arose from the earth; and when his eyes were opened, he saw no man: but they led him by the hand, and brought him into Damascus.

9 And he was three days without sight, and neither did eat nor drink.

10 And there was a certain disciple at Damascus, named Ananias; and to him said the Lord in a vision, Ananias. And he said, Behold, I am here, Lord. 11 And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go into the street which is called Straight, and inquire in the house of Judas for one called Saul, of Tarsus: for, behold, he prayeth,

12 And hath seen in a vision a man named Ananias coming in, and putting his hand on him, that he might receive his sight.

13 Then Ananias answered, Lord, I have heard by many of this man, how much evil he hath done to thy saints at Jerusalem:

14 And here he hath authority from the chief priests to bind all that call on thy name.

15 But the Lord said unto him, Go thy way: for he is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel:16 For I will shew him how great things he must suffer for my name's sake.

17 And Ananias went his way, and entered into the house; and putting his hands on him said. Brother Saul, the Lord, even Jesus, that appeared unto thee in the way as thou camest, hath sent me, that thou mightest receive thy sight, and be filled with the Holy Ghost.
18 And immediately there fell from his eyes as it had been scales: and he received sight forthwith, and arose, and was baptized.

The Message: Jesus chose to manifest Himself to Saul suddenly when he least expected it. Through this vision of Christ. Saul was just as suddenly changed from a persecutor of the saints to a preacher of the Gospel.

(Look for "Questions" on page 3.)

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.



Saul, later called Paul, was changed instantly. At one moment he was scheming how he could best stop the spread of Jesus' teachings. In the next moment, suddenly struck to the ground by a great light from heaven, he was talking to Jesus, asking what he should do.

The change was as complete as it was sudden. All the pride of being a strict Pharisee, all the dignity that his education afforded him, all the zeal of defending the Law collapsed as he lay on the road. He was struck blind physically, but at once his soul could see. Trembling and astonished he asked, "Lord, what will You have me do?" Now he plainly saw that Jesus was indeed the Son of God.

The appearance of the great light that saved Kaboo's life reminds us of the great light that struck Saul to the ground. It was a miracle of God's mercy that saved Kaboo's life. There is another instance of similar mercy. A missionary to China told of a boy named Ging-Hua who was also his father's eldest son. He, too, was carried off and held for ransom by a band of men who were in the habit of torturing their captives in order to extract ransom money from their families. Ging-Hua was lying bound with ropes and surrounded by his captors when suddenly a golden light shone around him. He recognized that it was of heavenly origin. By its

illumination he was able to untie his ropes and to escape from the camp.

But where was he? He did not know what direction to take. It was dark, and his captors had taken him far from home by unfrequented paths. Then the kindly light formed itself into a long beam pointing from heaven right on the path ahead. The light led him, step by step, straight to his family and safety.

In John 8:12 Jesus says, "I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life." He came into the world for one purpose, and that was to make a way for all men to be saved from sin and its awful consequences. Jesus rarely comes to us as a flash of lightning, as he did to Saul and Kaboo. More often He comes gently and, through the Holy Spirit, He shows us our sins and offers us salvation. As we believe and obey His words we will be changed just as completely and quickly as Saul from a life of sin to one of service to God. -Sis. Nelda Sorrell

Questions:

- 1. Who was Saul threatening?
- 2. Where did he go to search for believers?
- 3. What caused him to suddenly fall to the ground?
- 4. Who spoke to Saul?
- 5. What was Saul to do?
- 6. Why were the men with Saul speechless?
- 7. How long was Saul blind?
- 8. Why was Ananias afraid to go to Saul?
- 9. What happened when Ananias prayed for Saul?

lead them the way; and by night in a pillar of fire, to give them light." Whether it was an external light or a mental illumination that guided Kaboo, his pathway was made clear.

And he needed such light quite as much as did the children of Israel. Poisonous cobras, puffadders and vipers lay in wait along Kaboo's pathway. The great python hung overhead. But more than the glaring eyes of leopards and the stings of poisonous serpents he had to fear his own kind. In the forests of this vast region lived some of the most savage races in the world. Cannibalism was still widely practiced.

But through all these obstacles and dangers the kindly light led Kaboo. By its aid he could see at night to gather fruits and roots for nourishment, and to cross lakes and rivers where luminous eyes betrayed the lurking crocodiles.

During the daytimes he continued to hide in tree trunks to avoid village outposts. After traveling many nights Kaboo arrived at a plantation on the outskirts of a town beside a river. Up to this time he had not met a single human being. No human guide had directed him through the wilderness to this spot.

At his first glance he saw that this was not a native village but some kind of foreign settlement peculiar to the white man. He would have been afraid to approach their buildings if he had not seen one of his own Kru race busy at work in the distance. Kaboo approached him and learned to his joy that he had come into the hands not of slave-traders but slave-liberators. The mysterious light had led him to a settlement near Monrovia, the capital of Liberia.

To appreciate this third manifestation of divine favor, one must recall that almost the whole of Liberia at that time was still a wilderness under the domination of jungle law. Even as late as 1934 a League of Nations Committee reported that in Liberia many children were still given as pawns for sums which their parents could not redeem. When Kaboo reached Monrovia it was the only important stronghold of civilized law. Thus, Kaboo had been led to the one community out of thousands where he was to be really safe.

Kaboo emerged from the forest to safety on Friday, his original Deliverance Day, weeks after he had first made his escape from death.

He sought employment and found it on the coffee plantation where the other Kru boy was working. For his labor he was given a bunk in the barracks, his board, and such cheap clothing as was worn by the native laborers.

His Kru companion had been listening to the missionaries and had learned to pray. Kaboo saw him on his knees, both hands lifted up and face upturned. When Kaboo asked him what he was doing, he replied, "I am talking to God."

"Who is your God?" asked Kaboo.

"He is my Father," answered the boy.

"Then you are talking to your Father," said Kaboo. Ever afterward he called praying, "talking to my Father." To his childlike faith, prayer was as simple and as sure as conversing with an earthly parent. —Sis. Nelda Sorrell

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. The disciples of Jesus. 2. To Damascus. 3. A bright light from heaven suddenly shone around him. 4. Jesus. 5. Go into the city. 6. They heard a voice but saw no one. 7. Three days. 8. He had heard the evil Saul did in Jerusalem. 9. He received his sight.)

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A New Name

(Continued from last week.)

The next Sunday Kaboo was invited to attend church. He found a crowd gathered around a woman who was speaking through an interpreter. She was telling them about the conversion of Saul; how a light from heaven suddenly shone upon him and a mysterious voice spoke from above.

Kaboo cried out: "That's just what I saw! I have seen that light! That is the same light that saved me and brought me here!" Kaboo had been wondering all the time why he had been so marvelously saved from death and guided through the forest. Now, in a flash he began to understand.

God cannot save a soul until that soul has knowledge of Him and exercises conscious faith. But the Providence of God often spares the lives and heals the bodies of those who are yet strangers to Him, either in answer to the prayers of believers or for His own good purposes.

But, Kaboo was still blind to the meaning of salvation, as was Saul when he was stricken on the way to Damascus. Saul needed some believer to instruct him. Just as the divine command came to Ananias, so the responsibility for the enlightenment of Kaboo was placed upon this missionary from whom he had just heard of the conversion of Saul of Tarsus. She was Miss Knolls, formerly a resident of Ft. Wayne, Indiana. She had been educated at Taylor University, which was then located in that city and known as Ft. Wayne College. She had just come to Liberia. Many others later helped to instruct Kaboo, but it was Miss Knolls who guided him into God's Kingdom, and awakened him to his true mission in life.

Kaboo became a regular attendant at the religious services and classes conducted by Miss Knolls. She gave him his first elementary lessons in reading and writing the English language. Little by little, he learned the beautiful story of Jesus' birth in a manger; His ministry to the humble, the sinful, and the diseased; His atoning death and resurrection. Kaboo readily accepted this newfound Saviour of souls as the same "Unknown God" who had previously saved his body.

But Kaboo was not satisfied. He was beginning to wish that he could be like the saintly missionary. He longed to be able to preach to his own Kru people in their own language the same glad tidings of God's love which had brought peace to his own soul. But he felt his utter lack of fitness and authority for such a mission in life.

Like every Christian convert Kaboo soon became conscious that redemption from the guilt and penalty of past



The Guiding Light

Matthew 2:1-15

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, and all Jerusalem with him.

4 And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, 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,

6 And thou Bethlehem, in the land of Juda, art not the least among the princes of Juda: for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel.

7 Then Herod, when he had privily called the wise men, inquired of them diligently 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 When they had heard the king, 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 when they had opened their treasures, 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 When he arose, he took 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.

The Message: God will guide those who want to find Jesus. We should humbly and thankfully follow every direction that leads to the Son of God.

(Look for "Questions" on page 3.)

Verse to Memorize

Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth:... John 16:13.



Among the ancients the appearance of a new star or comet was regarded as an omen of some remarkable event. The wise men had seen an extraordinary star in their country, which was in the east. As they had not seen anything like it before, they considered this as evidence that the longexpected King of the Jews was born.

The king's palace in Jerusalem seemed the logical place to find the newborn King. But Herod, the king, knew nothing about any new king. In fact, he was obviously troubled because of their inquiry. After consulting with the chief priests and scribes, Herod told the wise men that, according to prophecy, a Savior would be born in Bethlehem.

So, leaving the palace, the wise men turned toward Bethlehem. Then they saw it! The star, which they had seen in the east, was shining down on them brightly. How happy they were to see it! They followed as the star went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was.

Similarly, after the Israelites finally escaped from Pharaoh's bondage, God led them, not by a star, but with a cloud. "And the Lord went before them by day in a pillar of a cloud, to lead them the way; and by night in a pillar of fire, to give them light; to go by day and night." Exodus 13:21.

Kaboo escaped immediate death when he ran from his captors. But he was still in a deadly hazard. Without friends or weapons, he was alone in the jungle where no unaided man could hope to survive long. But God did not leave him to die in the jungle. Suddenly the darkness was penetrated by light. Each night the same friendly light enabled him to avoid the many dangers and find food until, finally, he was led to safety.

The Holy Spirit is like the light that guided the wise men, the Israelites and Kaboo. When we are saved we are brought out of the darkness of sin; we begin a new life for Jesus. Then, as we look to Him through prayer and reading the Bible, He guides us step-bystep, day-by-day by His Holy Spirit. We are never left to face temptation and the enemy alone.

Kaboo was desperate to escape his tormentors and never once thought about returning to them. Sin is just as deadly as the fate intended for Kaboo. Kaboo's worst enemies were men who would gladly return him to his captors for a reward. The devil, our enemy, tries his best to keep us bound by sin. He makes sin look harmless and inviting to entice us while making the way of salvation look hard and dangerous.

Like Kaboo, we must run for our life, following the light of the Holy Spirit. Never think about turning back to a life of sin. Unless we escape, eternal death will be our fate!

-Sis. Nelda Sorrell

Questions:

- 1. Where was Jesus born?
- 2. Who came from the east looking for the new King of the Jews?
- 3. Who was troubled by the news of a new King?
- 4. How did the chief priests and scribes know where Jesus was to be born?
- 5. What did Herod ask the wise men privily?
- 6. When he sent them to Bethlehem, what did he tell them to do?
- 7. How did the star guide the wise men?
- 8. What did they do when they saw Jesus and Mary, His mother?
- 9. Why didn't the wise men return to Herod?

sins does not free from the dominion of future sins through the weakness of the flesh. His flesh bore the stripes of his many beatings as a pawn, and his mind had naturally been habituated to fear and hate during years of cruel suffering. The degradation he had undergone gave him a hopeless feeling of inferiority. Ignorant and outcast, he could see no future for himself short of another miracle.

Kaboo did not know that God has provided just such another miracle for every believer through the work of the Holy Spirit. For redemption is by power as well as blood, and it is the power of the Spirit that purifies the heart of all bitterness, and commissions and endows the believer for efficient service to God. Kaboo had never heard of this divine Helper who comes in His fullness only after conversion, when the believer is conscious of his defects and ready to consecrate his life wholly to God.

But the Holy Spirit, who is also the very Spirit of Truth, came to the aid of poor Kaboo. For it is the mission of this Helper to give "first aid" to all honest seekers, "for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered." (Romans 8:26.)

So Kaboo was encouraged to keep "talking to his Father" night after night when his work was done. He wrestled in prayer with such an agonized voice and made so much disturbance in the bunkhouse that his fellow workers finally reached the end of their patience. They warned him that he would have to keep still or seek other quarters. Kaboo went into the woods to pray.

He remained in the forest one night until after midnight. Later he related what happened: "I went to my bunk, weary and heavyhearted, and lay down to rest. My tongue was still, but my heart went on praying. All at once my room grew light! At first I thought the sun was rising, but the others all around me were sound asleep. The room grew lighter till it was full of glory. The burden of my heart suddenly disappeared and I was filled with a sense of inner joy.

"My body felt as light as a feather. I was filled with a power that made me feel that I could almost fly. I could not contain my joy but shouted until everyone in the barracks was awakened. There was no more sleep there that night. Some thought I had gone crazy; others, that a devil had gotten into me. But I knew my own heart—this was my adoption. I was now a son of the heavenly King. I knew then that my Father had saved me for a purpose, and that He would work with me."

This was that complete and harmonious union with God through the Holy Spirit that equipped Kaboo with superhuman power for victorious leadership. Kaboo was baptized under the name of Samuel Morris. This name was chosen by Miss Knolls in honor of her benefactor, Samuel Morris, who was a banker of Fort Wayne, Indiana. In doing so she little guessed that this dark namesake would confer the greatest honor upon the name of her benefactor. —Sis. Nelda Sorrell

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. In Bethlehem of Judaea. 2. Wise men. 3. Herod. 4. It was written by the prophet. 5. What time the star appeared. 6. To find the Child, then come and tell him how to find Him. 7. It went before them until it came and stood over where the Child was. 8. They worshiped Him and gave Him gifts. 9. They were warned of God to not return to Herod.)

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Spiritual Leadership

(Continued from last week.)

Samuel Morris lived in Liberia for some two years after his baptism. He left the plantation and worked in Monrovia doing odd jobs such as house painting. He helped to paint Liberia College. His earnings were barely enough to keep him alive, but Sammy was happy. He was so interested in religion that he sought out and talked to every missionary in that region.

He did much work for the missionaries. He learned many of their religious songs by heart, and could sing them with wonderful effect although he did not know the meaning of some of the words. Soon he earned the reputation of being the most consecrated and zealous Christian in that part of Liberia.

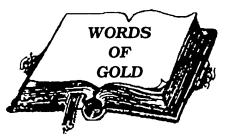
Not long after his own conversion he led another young boy to accept Christ as his Saviour. By a remarkable coincidence this African was an escaped slave who had been held by the same cruel chieftain in which Samuel had been last in pawn. This slave had been present at the final torture of Kaboo, and had seen the mysterious flash of light and heard the voice commanding Kaboo to flee.

An ordinary slave was of little value compared to a chief's pawn.

Hence, it had been comparatively easy for him to escape and to travel safely by day along a conventional route. He was baptized under the name of Henry O'Neil. He confirmed the testimony of Kaboo regarding his miraculous escape from pawn. Their joint testimony made a great impression upon the people of Monrovia.

Already, Samuel Morris began to show that amazing power of spiritual leadership that was to win him fame in later years. The following incident shows his unique method of influencing others, not by sermons or arguments or by any human force, but simply by invoking the Holy Spirit to act for him.

Three women in Monrovia agreed to conduct prayer meetings lasting from midnight to daylight. In this way they sought to bring a spiritual awakening to the entire community. But they lacked a convert whose example might encourage the others. One night a boy entered. He prayed for hours, prostrated before the pulpit. The women, supposing him to be a new convert, hurried out to bring the good news to others. When they returned they found that the boy was Samuel Morris. He was praying not for himself but for others. His prayers were heard. Soon fifty young people accepted Christ at the following meetings.





Acts 2:38-41

38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

39 For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.

40 And with many other words did he testify and exhort, saying, Save yourselves from this untoward generation.

41 Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.

Acts 3:2, 6-10

2 And a certain man lame from his mother's womb was carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple which is called Beautiful, to ask alms of them that entered into the temple;

6 Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk.

7 And he took him by the right hand, and lifted him up: and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength.

8 And he leaping up stood, and walked, and entered with them into the temple, walking, and leaping, and praising God.

9 And all the people saw him walking and praising God:

10 And they knew that it was he which sat for alms at the Beautiful gate of the temple: and they were filled with wonder and amazement at that which had happened unto him.

Acts 4:1,3-4, 18-19, 21

1 And as they spake unto the people, the priests, and the captain of the temple, and the Sadducees, came upon them.

3 And they laid hands on them, and put them in hold unto the next day: for it was now eventide.

4 Howbeit many of them which heard the word believed; and the number of the men was about five thousand.

18 And they (the rulers and leaders) called them, and commanded them not to speak at all nor teach in the name of Jesus.

19 But Peter and John answered and said unto them. Whether it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto you more than unto God, judge ye.

21 So when they had further threatened them, they let them go, finding nothing how they might punish them, because of the people: for all men glorified God for that which was done.

The Message: Three times Peter denied that he even knew Jesus. After receiving the Holy Spirit he preached boldly that Jesus was indeed the Christ.

Questions:

- 1. What must we first do to be saved?
- 2. What gift will God give those who believe and obey?
- 3. How many people were saved that day?
- 4. What was wrong with the man who lay at the gate of the temple?
- 5. What did he ask for?
- 6. What was it that Peter did not have?
- 7. In Whose name did Peter command him to rise up and walk?
- 8. How many believed because of this miracle?
- 9. What did the rulers and leaders command them?

Verse to Memorize

Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John,...they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus. Acts 4:13



Just before Jesus returned to heaven He told His disciples, "And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high." Luke 24:49. Obediently one hundred and twenty believers gathered into an upstairs room where they expectantly prayed for the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Then, suddenly there was a sound from heaven like a strong wind blowing. It filled the whole house where they were gathered. Something like tongues of fire sat upon each of them and they were all filled with the precious gift of the Holy Spirit.

Now each of them spoke boldly in various languages, telling the story of Jesus. People from many nations and different languages heard the gospel in words that they could understand. "What does this mean?" the amazed people asked.

Then Peter, the one who denied that he knew Jesus even though it was only a girl who accused him, spoke boldly. Standing where everyone could see him, he preached to them about Jesus. As a result three thousand people accepted Jesus as their Saviour.

One day as Peter and John were going into the temple to pray they saw a crippled beggar lying by the gate. When the man asked for some money, the two apostles stopped and looked at him. The lame man looked at them, expecting to receive a coin. "Silver and gold have I none," Peter told the man, "but what I have I give to you." Then he commanded, "In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk!"

Peter then reached down, took the surprised man by the hand, and lifted him up. At once strength came into the feet and ankles that had never walked before. The man walked and jumped, praising God as he went into the temple with Peter and John.

Soon a crowd gathered. They recognized the lame man and wondered how Peter and John made him able to walk and jump now. They decided Peter and John must be gods. "Why do you look at us as though by our own power or holiness we made this man walk?" Peter asked the people. Then he again boldly preached to them about Jesus and His power to save them if they would repent and believe. Many who heard his message believed. Of those who heard his words, five thousand people gave their hearts to Jesus.

The priests and Sadducees were angry when they found Peter and John preaching to the people. They were determined to stop them so they had them put in jail until they could decide what to do with them.

The next day Peter and John were brought out for questioning. Peter boldly answered their questions. Beside him were John and the man who had been crippled, perfectly well and beaming with joy and happiness. They could see that a great miracle had been done and many people had seen it. All they could do was threaten them and demand they stop teaching about Jesus. —Sis. Nelda Sorrell Rev. C. E. Smirl, a missionary to Liberia, told Sammy that he needed education in order to become an effective minister to his own people, and that such an education must be acquired in America. Although Sammy did not possess a cent of money he hoped that the Lord would somehow provide the hundred dollars needed to take him across the ocean. But his final determination to go to America was caused by a desire for something far more important than book learning.

The sermons of the missionaries to people like himself had been quite elementary. They stressed salvation through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, but revealed little about the specific person and unique function of the Comforter. One day a Spirit-filled missionary read to Sammy the 14th chapter of St. John in which the Saviour first announced to His assembled disciples the coming of a new and powerful Helper, the Holy Ghost. Already, Sammy had experienced the blessing of this divine Spirit in his heart; but this was the first time his head had been introduced to the name and full significance of the Holy Spirit.

When he first understood that this Spirit works here on earth, and is an actual, living Person, he had no words adequate to express his wonderment and happiness. He found it easy to attribute the mysterious voice that had led to his escape from pawn to God's Spirit who spoke to him, as to Samuel of old, ere he yet knew the voice of the Lord. He made long journeys to talk to missionaries about the Holy Ghost. The 14th chapter of St. John became Sammy's constant study.

He came so often to visit the missionaries and asked so many hard questions about the Spirit that one was finally compelled to confess: "I have told you everything I know about the Holy Ghost." But he persisted, "Who told you what you know about the Holy Ghost?" She replied that she owed most of her understanding of this subject to Stephen Merritt, who was then home secretary to Bishop William Taylor.

Samuel then asked, "Where is Stephen Merritt?"

The missionary replied: "In New York."

Samuel Morris promptly declared, "I will go to see him!"

Without further ceremony he started on his way, running direct to the sea coast. He no longer bothered his head about getting the hundred dollars for the passage money. The Holy Spirit was more important than money; He would provide the way. When he arrived, a sailing ship was anchored in the offing. He was filled with joy. His Father had answered his prayers.

A small boat was put out from the ship and came ashore bearing the captain and some of the crew. When the captain stepped ashore to attend to the loading of the cargo, he was confronted by an unattractive black boy, who said: "My Father told me you would take me to New York to see Stephen Merritt."

The captain said, "Where is your father?"

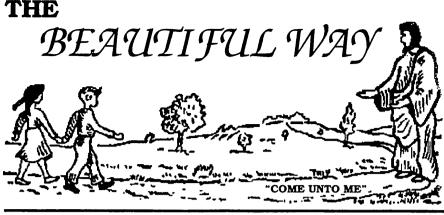
Samuel Morris replied, "In heaven."

The captain was a very gruff man. He said, with an oath, "My ship does not carry passengers. You must be crazy." —Sis. Nelda Sorrell

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. Repent. 2. The Holy Ghost. 3. Three thousand. 4. He was lame. 5. Alms (money). 6. Silver and gold. 7. Jesus Christ of Nazareth. 8. Five thousand. 9. Not to speak nor teach in the name of Jesus.)

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A Columbus Of The Spirit

(Continued from last week.)

Samuel Morris stood guard near the small boat all day. That night, when the captain returned to the boat. Samuel Morris again beseeched him to take him to New York. The captain threatened to kick him, and the boat returned to the ship without him. But Samuel continued to believe in his Father's promise. He slept on the sand where the small boat had landed and prayed again most of the night. The next day he was again refused, but such was his faith that he would not leave the beach although he had had nothing to eat for two days. The next morning was Sunday. The captain and crew came again to shore. When the captain stepped ashore this time, the Kru boy hurried up to him, saying: "My Father told me last night that you would take me this time."

The captain looked at him in amazement. Two of the crew had deserted the ship the previous night, leaving him shorthanded. He recognized that Sammy was a Kru and assumed that he was an experienced sailor, as were so many of his countrymen. "How much pay do you want?" he asked. "Just take me to New York to see Stephen Merritt," replied Sammy. The captain turned to the boat crew and told them to take the boy out to the ship.

Samuel Morris was delighted. His prayers had been granted. He was on board a ship bound for America.

It is safe to say that Samuel Morris was the first explorer to sail the Atlantic in quest of the riches of the Holy Spirit. The New World discovered by Columbus was only an extension of the Old World of perishable physical things. Samuel Morris adventured forth to find the New World of the Spirit which will endure in the "new earth" yet to be.

His own voyage was to prove as dangerous and thrilling as that of Christopher Columbus. He was to spend nearly a half-year aboard that vessel, and to pass through many perils before he reached his goal. The ship was a tramp vessel owned by its captain. He intended to put in much time in coast-wise trading with the Africans before he steered for America with a full cargo.

On boarding the vessel Sammy found a young man lying helpless on the deck. He had been serving as cabin boy for the captain. He had been severely injured, and was unable to walk. The black boy knelt down beside him and prayed for him. The young man immediately arose and walked. Divine healing had made him



The Holy Spirit

Acts 2:1-8; 11-18

1 And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.

2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.

3 And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them.

4 And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

5 And there were dwelling at Jerusalem Jews, devout men, out of every nation under heaven.

6 Now when this was noised abroad, the multitude came together, and were confounded, because that every man heard them speak in his own language.

7 And they were all amazed and marvelled, saying one to another, Behold, are not all these which speak Galilaeans?

8 And how hear we every man in our own tongue, wherein we were born?

11We do hear them speak in our tongues the wonderful works of God.

12 And they were all amazed, and were in doubt, saying one to another, What meaneth this?

13 Others mocking said, These men are full of new wine.

14 But Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and said unto them, Ye men of Judaea, and all

ye that dwell at Jerusalem, be this known unto you, and hearken to my words:

15 For these are not drunken, as ye suppose, seeing it is but the third hour of the day.

16 But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel;

17 And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams:

18 And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy.

.

The Message: The disciples were given great power to witness and work for Jesus after they received the Holy Spirit.

- 1. On what day was the Holy Ghost given to the disciples?
- 2. What kind of noise did they hear?
- 3. What sat upon each of them?
- 4. What did they do as soon as they were filled with the Holy Ghost?
- 5. Why were the people confounded?
- 6. What were they telling about?
- 7. Who stood up and preached?
- 8. What prophet told of the coming of the Holy Spirit?
- 9. What did he say the people would do when the Spirit was poured out on them?

Verse to Memorize

But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you:... Acts 1:8.



When Jesus told His disciples that He would soon be crucified it brought them great sorrow. They had left everything to be with Him constantly the past few years. It seemed impossible to face life without His daily instruction and encouragement.

Jesus understood. "Because I have said these things unto you, sorrow hath filled your heart," He told them. "Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you." John 16:6-7.

Although the disciples could not understand at the time, there were several reasons why it was better that the Holy Spirit come in Jesus' place. First, although Jesus tried to convince His disciples that His was a spiritual kingdom, still the disciples had hopes that Jesus would deliver the Jews from the Romans and then become their king. His crucifixion crushed all such expectations.

Also, the Lord Jesus had to first perform His great work of atonement by shedding His blood on the cross. Until then the way was not open for the Holy Spirit to descend and perform His part of the great plan. When Jesus had completed His portion of the work and had left the earth, the Spirit would teach men the wonderful plan of salvation and apply it to their lives. The Holy Spirit would live in the heart of each believer whereas Jesus could be bodily present in only one place at a time.

When we read the book of Acts we

see how the coming of the Holy Spirit transformed the disciples. Before Jesus was crucified Peter was afraid to confess he even knew Jesus although it was only a girl who accused him. After being filled with the Holy Spirit, he could boldly preach to multitudes, telling them what they must do to be saved.

We must have this same power. The blood of Jesus Christ atones for our sins. But we must have the Holy Spirit to keep us saved and free from sin. Our lives will also be transformed when we invite the Holy Spirit to come into our hearts and possess us completely. He is a Person and actually comes into our clean, consecrated heart to live there forever!

Do you know that God understands that we do not know how to pray as we ought to? He gives us the Holy Spirit to pray for us. Romans 8:26-27 tells us: "...for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God."

The Holy Spirit is a great teacher. He will lead us into all truth. In the Bible Peter says that holy men wrote the scriptures as the Holy Ghost moved them. This certainly proves He can teach us exactly what God means in each word. As you read your Bible, invite Him to interpret it to you. He will teach you its deep rich truths and apply them to your life.

Samuel Morris understood that this Spirit works here on earth, and is an actual, living Person. He was willing to make any sacrifice to learn more about Him. He found it easy to attribute the mysterious voice that had led to his escape from pawn to God's Spirit who spoke to him.

-Sis. Nelda Sorrell

every whit whole!

This grateful youth learned that Samuel had not eaten since Thursday evening. It was then Sunday noon. Sammy was led to the mess room, but the cook refused to serve him because he was a Negro and no orders to feed him had been given by the captain. However, Sammy's newfound friend managed to secure food for himself and shared it liberally with his dusky benefactor.

When the captain came out to the ship that night, he questioned Samuel and soon found that he was a complete landlubber. He was told that he would have to be put ashore at once because he would probably be seasick all the time and unable to work. The ship was a three hundred and fifty foot three-master, and a very rough-riding vessel.

Sammy assured the captain that he would not get sick, and would work for him every day until he reached New York. The young man who had been healed through Sammy's prayers then came up and begged: "Please take him, Captain. Look what he has done for me!" That night they weighed anchor and the Kru boy was on his way to a New World.

Life aboard this ship was a continuous round of cruelty. Almost every word was accompanied by an oath, a kick, or a cuff. The captain was a hard bargainer and a harsh master. He did much business with the Arab traders when they came to the coast. Here it was a case of "Greek meeting Greek," an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth. The captain had been hardened in such ruthless encounters. Life or death was at his command aboard his ship. All lived in dread of him.

The crew was a motley group picked up in the four quarters of the globe. Sammy was the only one of his race aboard ship, and the whole crew resented his presence and began to plan to do away with him. Blows and abuses were rained on his head from all sides.

On their third night out Sammy was lashed to a spar in the ship's rigging where he could help reef the sails and pull the ropes. That night a tropical storm came up suddenly and caught the ship with all canvas spread. She was lightly laden. There was no time to reef the sails. They had to ride out the storm. Sammy prayed: "Father, I am not afraid, for I know that you will take care of me. But I don't like to be on the mast. Won't you please make it so that I won't have to come up here?" He felt assured that his prayer would be answered, but his faith was sorely tried.

The spar on which he was bound was often under water or drenched with spray. Sammy swallowed so much seawater that he became deathly ill. When he was at last untied and brought down to the foot of the mast. he fell in a heap. The captain came up to him and kicked him. The deck was still awash and the ship was rolling and pitching heavily. Sammy got to his knees, sick as he was, and with uplifted hands prayed: "Father, you know I promised to work for this man every day till I got to America. I cannot work when I am sick like this. Please take away this sickness." Then he rose to his feet and resumed his tasks. He was never ill again on that ship.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. Pentecost. 2. As of a mighty rushing wind. 3. Cloven tongues like fire. 4. They began to speak in other languages. 5. Because every man heard the message in his own language. 6. The wonderful works of God. 7. Peter. 8. Joel. 9. Prophesy.)



Vol. 51, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 6 Aug. 6, 2000

Mastering A Brutal Seaman

(Continued from last week.)

The next day after Sammy was healed of seasickness, he was about to go aloft, when the cabin boy came up to him, saying, "Sam, I heard you praying during that storm. I don't like it below the decks, and you are not trained to work in rigging. Let's trade places." Sammy accepted his offer, and another prayer had been answered.

When Sammy reported to the captain for duty, the latter was drunk. He registered his disgust by striking Sammy with his fist, knocking him to the floor unconscious. When Sammy regained consciousness the captain had sobered somewhat. Sammy got up and started about his work as cheerfully as if nothing had happened. He asked the captain if he knew about Jesus. Vague memories of his mother and childhood days stirred in the brutalized mind of the mariner. Sammy knelt down and prayed for the captain with such sincerity and fervor that he was moved to bow his head in spite of himself. It was the beginning of a period of conviction.

However, there was little time for meditation just then. The severe storm that had just passed had badly wrenched the superstructure of the ship. The hull had opened many seams and was leaking badly. A small island was sighted nearby, and they anchored to leeward to make repairs.

While the carpenters and caulkers were busy, the rest of the crew had to man the pumps to keep the ship afloat. Sammy was posted at one of the pumps which must be kept going night and day. The task was a hard one for an able-bodied, seasoned sailor. Sammy was a small, frail boy in his teens. Yet he was forced to pump along with the strongest. He pumped and prayed, and prayed and pumped.

The crew was furnished rum to keep up their courage and deaden the pains of fatigue. Sammy was offered rum also, but he said that his Father in heaven would give him strength. For two weeks they pumped. Sammy's strength was tried to the fainting point, but the Holy Spirit gave him the strength and endurance he lacked by nature.

When they hoisted anchor again for the open sea it was a day of general rejoicing. The captain issued an extra ration of rum to all hands. They were filled and fired with the crude liquor. Late in the afternoon, a free-for-all fight started aft. It was a meaningless brawl caused by a flaring up of racial prejudices. A big Malay, who thought himself insulted, seized a cutlass and



Conquering A Giant

I Samuel 17:4, 10-11, 32, 40-51

4 And there went out a champion out of the camp of the Philistines, named Goliath, of Gath, whose height was six cubits and a span.

10 And the Philistine said, I defy the armies of Israel this day; give me a man, that we may fight together.

11 When Saul and all Israel heard those words of the Philistine, they were dismayed, and greatly afraid.

32 And David said to Saul, Let no man's heart fail because of him; thy servant will go and fight with this Philistine.

God is more mighty than all our foes; and he can defend and save us; see Psa. 118:6. "The Lord is on my side; I will not fear: what can man do unto me?" The proposition advanced in this **40** And he took his staff in his hand, and chose him five smooth stones out of the brook, and put them in a shepherd's bag which he had, even in a scrip; and his sling was in his hand: and he drew near to the Philistine.

41 And the Philistine came on and drew near unto David; and the man that bare the shield went before him. **42** And when the Philistine looked about, and saw David, he disdained him: for he was but a youth, and ruddy, and of a fair countenance.

43 And the Philistine said unto David, Am I a dog, that thou comest to me with staves? And the Philistine cursed David by his gods.

44 And the Philistine said to David, Come to me, and I will give thy flesh unto the fowls of the air, and to the beasts of the field. **45** Then said David to the Philistine, Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield: but I come to thee in the name of the Lord of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom thou hast defied.

46 This day will the Lord deliver thee into mine hand; and I will smite thee, and take thine head from thee; and I will give the carcases of the host of the Philistines this day unto the fowls of the air, and to the wild beasts of the earth; that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel.

47 And all this assembly shall know that the Lord saveth not with sword and spear: for the battle is the Lord's, and he will give you into our hands.

48 And it came to pass, when the Philistine arose, and came and drew nigh to meet David, that David hasted, and ran toward the army to meet the Philistine.

49 And David put his hand in his bag, and took thence a stone, and slang it, and smote the Philistine in his forehead, that the stone sunk into his forehead; and he fell upon his face to the earth.

50 So David prevailed over the Philistine with a sling and with a stone, and smote the Philistine, and slew him; but there was no sword in the hand of David.

51 Therefore David ran, and stood upon the Philistine, and took his sword, and drew it out of the sheath thereof, and slew him, and cut off his head therewith. And when the Philistines saw their champion was dead, they fled.

(Look for "Questions" on page 3.)

Verse to Memorize:

...If God be for us, who can be against us? Romans 8:31.



We who love God are safe. We have the power, in Jesus' name, to defy all the powers of Satan when he comes against us. David proved this when he went against Goliath in the name of God. Sammy proved this as he fearlessly faced the brutal seaman. Years after the battle with Goliath David wrote, "The Lord is on my side; I will not fear what man can do unto me." (salms 118:6.)

A Would-Be Murderer's Arm Paralyzed

A prominent minister in Canada relates the following remarkable instance of God's miraculous care over His people: "I am frequently impressed by the Spirit to perform action, at the time unaccountable to myself. These impressions are so vivid that I dare not disobey them.

"Some time ago, on a stormy night, I was suddenly impressed to go to the distant house of an aged couple, and there to pray. So imperative was the call that I harnessed the horse and drove to the spot, fastened the horse under the shed, and entered the house unperceived, by a door that had been left open. There, kneeling down, I poured out my petitions to God, in an audible voice, for the divine protection over the inmates; after which I departed and returned home.

"Months after, I was visiting one of the principle prisons in Canada, and moving amongst the prisoners, was accosted by one of them who claimed to know me. I had no recollection of the convict, and was fairly startled when the latter said: 'Do you remember going to such a house one night, and offering prayer in the dark for the inmates?' I told him I did, and asked how he came to know anything about it. He said: 'I had gone to that house to steal a sum of money, known to be in the possession of the old man. When you drove into the yard, I thought you were he, and intended to kill you while you were hitching your horses. I saw when you spoke to the horse you were a stranger. I followed you into the house, and heard your prayer. You prayed God to protect the old people from violence of any kind. and especially from murder; and if there was any hand uplifted to strike them, that it might be paralyzed.' Then the prisoner pointed to his right arm, which hung lifeless by his side, saying: 'Do you see that arm? It was paralyzed on the spot and I have never moved it since. Of course, I left the place without doing any harm. but am here now, for other offenses!"

---Reported by Lily Blakeney Howe, Taken from *Touching Incidents*.

<u>The Message: When we put our</u> <u>battles in the Lord's hand He will</u> <u>fight for us and give us victory.</u>

Questions:

- 1. What was the name of the Philistine champion?
- 2. Who did the giant defy?
- 3. Who was afraid when they heard the champion?
- 4. Who volunteered to fight the giant?
- 5. What weapons did he carry to kill the giant?
- 6. What did the giant threaten to do with him?
- 7. In whose name did David fight?
- 8. How many stones did it take to knock the giant down?
- 9. How did David cut off the giant's head?

rushed at some of his shipmates with murder in his heart. Sammy stepped between the Malay and his intended victims and said in his quiet way: "Don't kill, don't kill."

As it happened, this very Malay had boasted to the crew that he intended to kill Sammy. He had a special hatred for all Negroes. His cutlass had been fatal to many Africans in previous encounters. He was a killer of the most dangerous type. Even the captain kept shy of him.

As Sammy advanced to meet him, he raised his weapon and scowled at the boy as if he would cut him to pieces. Here was his opportunity to make good his threat. But Sammy looked him straight in the eye, and made no movement to defend himself. The Malay slowly lowered his weapon, and went back to his bunk. This Godless ruffian was face to face with a power stronger than man.

At that moment the captain, hearing the turmoil, came on deck with a pistol in each hand ready to shoot down the troublemakers. When he saw that the crew had suddenly stopped fighting because Sammy had interceded, he could not but recognize that this African boy possessed a mysterious power that was stronger than the animal passions of the most brutal of men. He went below deck with Sammy who dropped to his knees and prayed for the entire crew. For the first time the captain joined in prayer, a prayer of thanksgiving that the Lord had sent such an ambassador of peace among them. In that moment he repented of his sins and found newness of life. He was but the first of many Christian converts to be made by Sammy aboard that ship.

Sammy found the captain's cabin a dark and dismal den. Sammy gave that cabin a baptism of soap and water. One of Sammy's sayings was, "The Spirit will not dwell where filth abides." The captain was pleased, and showed his "new quarters" to the ship's officers.

Gradually, Sammy won the captain's heart completely. At first he had been annoyed by Sammy's frequent prayers; now, he stood silently, cap in hand, while Sammy prayed. Under this new influence, the captain no longer paid his crew with rum. Serious fights among the crew ceased. Now, the captain would call his crew to quarters for prayers. On such occasions Sammy's clear, strong voice and the songs he had learned by heart, played a great part in winning the goodwill of the crew. Captain and crew when off duty would sit for hours and listen to him sing those soulstirring songs, which never lost their power and charm. As Sammy would sing, voice after voice would catch up the melody of the chorus until all would come under the spell of the gracious words.

The cutthroat Malay who had threatened Samuel Morris took dangerously ill. He sank so low that all hope was abandoned for his recovery. Sammy did not know his language and had nothing in common with him. But when he heard of his illness, he went to his bunk and prayed for him. He was healed. This burly ruffian had known no God and had lived only for the lusts of the flesh. He had hated the Negro race and never lost an opportunity to show it. All that was now changed. The Malay would have given his life for this black boy.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell (To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. Goliath. 2. The armies of Israel. 3. Saul and all Israel. 4. David. 5. A staff, a sling and five stones. 6. Give his flesh to the birds and wild animals. 7. The Lord of hosts. 8. One. 9. With his own sword.)



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A Bloody Battle

(Continued from last week.)

The captain's trade with the people on mainland and islands was unusually profitable. A few more stops, and the captain would be ready to steer straight for New York.

Late one evening they sighted a large island. The next morning the captain decided to go ashore with a stock of merchandise with which to barter. He loaded the ship's boat heavily and took along a larger boat crew than usual. Something seemed to tell him that all was not well. He had armed his men and instructed the lookout in the crow's nest to scan the shore carefully at all times, and to wigwag him if anything unusual took place. When the boat was about halfway between the ship and shore, the lookout saw hundreds of people approaching the beach carrying long, light, narrow boats, which they shot out into the sea like so many arrows. The lookout signaled the captain to return to the ship.

The captain started back but his loaded craft was no match for the long, light boats. Soon they were close astern and some, shooting close alongside, prevented the crew from using their oars. The natives did not expect a fight. They were bent upon capturing the boat, the ship, and its entire cargo without a struggle. Their leader was a renegade white man. Some weeks before this time he had led his followers in a successful mass attack upon an outbound trading ship loaded with rum and other goods. The captain of that vessel, finding himself surrounded, had given up the ship in the hope of saving the lives of himself and the crew. The ship was looted. Soon the looters became a drunken mob. With the consent of their leader the captain and every member of his crew were compelled to walk the plank.

Emboldened by that success, they now hoped to repeat their maneuver. But Sammy's captain was shrewd enough to take advantage of their overconfidence. As they swarmed around, he and his crew opened fire upon them at such close range that every shot took its toll. Having thrown them into a panic, the boat crew fought its way within gunshot of the ship. The crew on the ship then poured a withering fire into the attackers. The captain and crew managed to climb aboard, though they could not hoist the boat.

But while the ship's crew was engaged in the rescue of the captain and his boat crew, another group, headed by their white leader, began to board the ship on the farther side. The vessel was heavily laden and riding low. They had made boarding ladders of



The Enemy Self-Destructs!

II Chronicles 20:2-6, 10-15, 17, 20-25

2 Then there came some that told Jehoshaphat, saying, There cometh a great multitude against thee...

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: even out of all the cities of Judah they came to seek the Lord.

5 And Jehoshaphat stood in the congregation of Judah and Jerusalem, in the house of the Lord, before the new court,

6 And said, O Lord God of our fathers, art not thou God in heaven? and rulest not thou over all the kingdoms of the heathen? and in thine hand is there not power and might, so that none is able to withstand thee?

10 And now, behold, the children of Ammon and Moab and mount Seir, whom thou wouldest not let Israel invade, when they came out of the land of Egypt, 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, Hearken ye, all Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem, and thou king Jehoshaphat, Thus saith the Lord unto you, Be not afraid nor dismayed by reason of this great multitude; for the battle is not yours, but God's.

17 Ye shall not need to fight in this battle: set yourselves, stand ye still, and see the salvation of the Lord with you, O Judah and Jerusalem: fear not, nor be dismayed; tomorrow go out against them: for the Lord will be with you.

20 ...Jehoshaphat stood and said, Hear me, O Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem; Believe in the Lord your God, so shall ye be established;...

21 And when he had consulted with the people, he appointed singers unto the Lord,...
22 And when they began to sing and to praise, the Lord set ambushments against the children of Ammon, Moab, and mount Seir, which were come against Judah; and they were smitten.

23 For the children of Ammon and Moab stood up against the inhabitants of mount Seir, utterly to slay and destroy them: and when they had made an end of the inhabitants of Seir, every one helped to destroy another.

24 And when Judah...looked unto the multitude, and, behold, they were dead bodies fallen to the earth, and none escaped.

25 And when Jehoshaphat and his people came to take away the spoil of them, they found among them in abundance both riches with the dead bodies, and precious jewels, which they stripped off for themselves, more than they could carry away: and they were three days in gathering of the spoil, it was so much.

(Look for "The Message" and "Questions" on page 3.)

Verse to Memorize

...For the battle is not yours, but God's.

II Chronicles 20:15.

2



Jehoshaphat was greatly alarmed when he heard that such a great army was coming against him. With their great numbers he knew he was totally incapable of repelling this host of invaders. His only hope was that God would intervene for them in an extraordinary way and deliver them by His strong arm of power.

The need was so urgent he called all his subjects together to Jerusalem to seek the Lord by fasting and prayer. Then, in his prayer, Jehoshaphat reminded the Lord that He had commanded the Israelites to not invade the land of these enemies. "Now look how they reward us!" Jehoshaphat continued. "They have come to cast us out of the possession which You gave us. O our God, won't You judge them? We have no might against this great company that comes against us, nor do we know what to do! But our eyes are upon You."

Through Jahaziel God assured the people, "Don't be afraid or alarmed because of this great multitude. The battle is not yours, but God's. Tomorrow go out against them. The Lord will be with you!"

Obediently Jehoshaphat and the people got up early to meet the enemy. They were so firmly convinced that God would fight for them that singers went before the army praising God for His holiness and mercy.

Reaching the watchtower in the wilderness they looked out over the enemy. But imagine their amazement when they saw that they were all dead bodies; no one had escaped! As the people were singing and praising the Lord, He caused the enemy to fight among themselves until every one helped destroy another.

How different this was from the bloody hand-to-hand battle Sammy's captain and crew had to fight! All Jehoshaphat and his people had to do was gather the spoil. There was such an abundance of riches and precious jewels it took them three days to gather it. The fourth day they spent in thanksgiving to the Lord for His great deliverance.

-Sis. Nelda Sorrell

The Message: God rules over all the kingdoms of the earth and in His hand are power and might. He caused Jehoshaphat's enemies to destroy each other because Jehoshaphat trusted Him.

Questions:

- 1. What did Jehoshaphat do when he heard a great army was coming against him?
- 2. Why did all the people of Judah gather together?
- 3. Who rules all the kingdoms of the heathen?
- 4. Who confessed that they did not know what to do?
- 5. For what cause did the prophet assure Jehoshaphat he need not fear the great enemy?
- 6. What did the Lord do when the people began to sing and praise Him?
- 7. When Judah looked at the enemy army, what did they see?
- 8. How was the enemy army destroyed?
- 9. Why did it take three days to gather the spoil?

ropes, and were soon fastening them to the rail of the ship on every side. Their leader was among the first to reach the deck. He spoke English. Approaching the captain he shouted a demand for the surrender of the ship. But the ship's crew had had time to make preparations for the expected battle. Armed men had been posted high up in the rigging. One of them shot the leader and he was thrown overboard. Some of his followers however dashed for the hatch and reached the hold of the ship, expecting to loot it.

Sammy was standing by the captain's side when the renegade white man was shot. When the captain saw the natives going into the hold of the ship, he ordered Sammy to go to his cabin, lock and bolt the door on the inside, and guard the ship's valuables. He hoped this plan would also keep Sammy out of harm's way.

The crew fastened down the hatches so that those already in the hold could not get out. Then the crew turned their attention to the others who by this time were swarming onto the deck from all sides. Sammy could see no more of the fighting, but he could hear the crack of the guns, the thud of men falling to the deck, and the cries and groans of the wounded. It was a fight to the death. About midday a stiff breeze sprang up, and the ship began to roll so that it could no longer be boarded. The gunfire ceased. Soon Sammy could hear the click, click of the anchor chains as they wound round the capstan. The ship began to move. For hours afterward, he could hear the tramp of heavy, booted feet on the deck, and then the splash of bodies falling into the sea. It was nightfall before Sammy heard the hatches opening and the crew coming down into the hold of the ship to seize looters who had imbibed their fill of rum and were easily overcome.

The captain then went to his cabin and signaled Sammy to unlock the door. When the door swung open, the captain staggered into the room. He was completely exhausted from loss of blood and the long, terrific struggle. He sank to the floor in a faint. Sammy pulled him into his bunk, and bathed and dressed his wounds as best he could. Then he kneeled down beside the bed and poured out his very soul in prayer for his friend.

The captain revived while Sammy was praying. "Sammy!" he said, "Your prayers have saved us. We were outnumbered ten to one. Few of the enemy had firearms but they all had knives or war clubs. If the wind had not sprung up so that the ship rolled and dragged her anchors, they would have swarmed over us like ants."

The next morning was a sad one for all aboard the ship. Many of the crew had been severely wounded, and several had been killed. Sammy's grief was heavy when he saw the bodies of friends whom he had learned to love dropped into the sea. But he was soon too busy for sorrow. To the living he became physician, nurse, and comforter throughout the remainder of the voyage. His cheerfulness and his complete faith in God's Providence soon transformed the spirit of the ship. All went about their tasks willingly without the usual oaths and cuffs. -Sis. Nelda Sorrell

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. He set himself to seek the Lord and proclaimed a fast throughout Judah. 2. To seek the Lord. 3. God. 4. Jehoshaphat. 5. The battle was the Lord's; He would fight for them. 6. He set ambushes against the enemy. 7. All dead bodies. 8. Each killed the other. 9. There was more than they could carry at one time.)

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New York Bows To Sammy

(Continued from last week.)

When at last the tramp ship reached New York, Sammy had been aboard about five months. He had come aboard in jumper and overalls without shoes. He had worked for his passage. The crew took up a collection of clothing, and pieced together a suit for him with cap and shoes so that he could go ashore decently dressed.

Sammy was all excitement as the harbor was sighted. Hardships and suffering were all forgotten. Everyone aboard that ship was now his friend, the once bloodthirsty Malay the fondest of all. As they all shook hands with Sammy for the last time many of these hardened men wept like children. God's ambassador had dwelt among them. Through him they had come to realize that there is a personal, prayer-answering God.

It was again Friday, Sammy's original Deliverance Day, when the ship was warped into her dock at the foot of Pike Street on the East River. When the gangplank was lowered, he was the first one to go down it. A man was just passing as he reached the dock. Sammy at once hailed the stranger with the question, "Where can I find Stephen Merritt?" The passer-by had met Stephen Merritt at his mission. He promptly answered, "I know him; he lives away over on Eighth Avenue—on the other side of town. I'll take you to him for a dollar."

The ship had docked more than three miles from the Bethel, in a district where Stephen Merritt was unknown. Had it not been for the guidance of the Holy Spirit and Sammy's faith in his mission, it might have proved difficult for him to find Mr. Merritt.

Sammy had not a penny to his name, but he accepted the tramp's offer in the serene faith that the dollar would somehow be produced. The tramp led Sammy along many streets and through great crowds of busy, hurrying people. It was getting dark when they reached Mr. Merritt. He had closed the office and was just locking the door when they came up. The guide said, "There is Stephen Merritt, that man who is putting the key in the door."

Samuel ran forward, exclaiming: "I am Samuel Morris. I have just come from Africa to talk with you about the Holy Ghost."

Merritt was both amazed and amused at this odd greeting. He asked Sammy if he had any letters of introduction.

"No, I had no time to wait," replied Sammy.



Paul Journeys Toward Romes

Acts 26:31-32

31 And when they (Agrippa and Festus) were gone aside, they talked between themselves, saying, This man doeth nothing worthy of death or of bonds.

32 Then said Agrippa unto Festus, This man might have been set at liberty, if he had not appealed unto Caesar.

Acts 27:1-13

1 And when it was determined that we should sail into Italy, they delivered Paul and certain other prisoners unto one named Julius, a centurion of Augustus' band.

2 And entering into a ship of Adramyttium, we launched, meaning to sail by the coasts of Asia; one Aristarchus, a Macedonian of Thessalonica, being with us.

3 And the next day we touched at Sidon. And Julius courteously entreated Paul, and gave him liberty to go unto his friends to refresh himself.

4 And when we had launched from thence, we sailed under Cyprus, because the winds were contrary.

5 And when we had sailed over the sea of Cilicia and Pamphylia, we came to Myra, a city of Lycia.

6 And there the centurion found a ship of Alexandria sailing into Italy; and he put us therein.

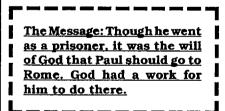
7 And when we had sailed slowly many days, and scarce were come over against Cnidus, the wind not suffering us, we sailed under Crete, over against Salmone;

8 And, hardly passing it, came unto a place which is called The fair havens; nigh whereunto was the city of Lasea.

9 Now when much time was spent, and when sailing was now dangerous, because the fast was now already past, Paul admonished them,
10 And said unto them, Sirs, I perceive that this voyage will be with hurt and much damage, not only of the lading and ship, but also of our lives.

11 Nevertheless the centurion believed the master and the owner of the ship, more than those things which were spoken by Paul.

12 And because the haven was not commodious to winter in, the more part advised to depart thence also, if by any means they might attain to Phenice, and there to winter; which is an haven of Crete, and lieth toward the south-west and north-west. 13 And when the south wind blew softly, supposing that they had obtained their purpose, loosing thence, they sailed close by Crete.



(Look for "Questions" on page 3.)

Verse to Memorize

And the night following the Lord stood by him, and said, Be of good cheer, Paul: for as thou hast testified of me in Jerusalem, so must thou bear witness also at Rome.

Acts 23:11.



"This man has done nothing to deserve death or even imprisonment," King Agrippa and Festus concluded. "He could be set free if he had not appealed to Caesar!"

But Paul knew he had made no mistake in appealing to Caesar. While in Jerusalem, the Lord stood by him the night following his imprisonment and said, "Be of good cheer, Paul. As you have testified of me in Jerusalem, so you must bear witness of me in Rome also." This was good news to Paul. He had desired to go to that city for a long time so he could preach the Gospel of Christ there.

Not long after it was determined that Paul must appear before Caesar, he and other prisoners were delivered into the care of Julius, a Roman centurion. Festus ordered Julius and his soldiers to take the prisoners safely to Rome and deliver them to Caesar. So, finding a ship sailing toward Italy, Julius put the prisoners on board. As the ship left Caesarea, Paul no doubt knew he would never see his beloved homeland again. It was a great comfort to have Luke and Aristarchus sailing with him.

The next day the ship stopped at Sidon. By this time Paul had won the respect of Julius. He gave him permission to go ashore to visit his friends. Paul, Luke, Aristarchus and a soldier guard had time for a short visit with the Christians at Sidon. This greatly refreshed them. The ship docked at Myra, its last stop. Julius found another ship ready to sail for Italy. He had the soldiers and their prisoners board this ship. It set sail and soon they were back in the great Mediterranean Sea.

But sailing was not good. The winds were strong and from the wrong direction so they could only sail slowly for many days. Finally they reached a harbor named Fair Havens on the island of Crete.

Winter was coming on and sailing was already dangerous. Julius was so anxious to get back to Rome he ignored the danger. Paul told him and the owner of the ship, "Sirs, this will be a dangerous voyage. If you sail now there will be injury and much damage."

Because Fair Havens was not a good place to spend the winter, the owner and Julius ignored Paul's warning. They decide to go farther south before stopping for the winter. When a soft south breeze blew, they figured this was a good sign they could sail. The ship glided out of the harbor and into the broad sea.

-Sis. Nelda Sorrell

Questions:

- 1. What did Agrippa and Festus decide after hearing Paul's defense?
- 2. Why could they not set him free?
- 3. It was determined that Paul was to sail to what country?
- 4. Who was Julius?
- 5. What courtesy did Julius show Paul?
- 6. Why were they forced to sail so slowly?
- 7. Who warned that the trip would be dangerous and with much damage?
- 8. Who did the centurion believe more than Paul?
- 9. Why did they decide it was safe to sail?

Stephen Merritt kindly told Sammy that an appointment at that hour did not leave a moment's time to talk to him, but that if he would step into the mission next door and wait, his entertainment for the night would be arranged.

Sammy started for the mission when the tramp who had guided him called out, "Where is my dollar?" Sammy, who never doubted the Providence of his heavenly Father, merely waved his hand in the direction of Stephen Merritt, saying, "Stephen Merritt pays all my bills now." Merritt smilingly handed over the dollar to the tramp and entered his coach.

Stephen Merritt kept his appointment and then went home. As he was leaving his coach, he suddenly remembered the African boy and had his coachman drive him back to the Bethel. He found Samuel Morris surrounded by seventeen men prostrate on their faces before him. He had just told them about Jesus and they were rejoicing in His pardon. On his first night in America this young African who could scarcely speak our language had brought nearly a score of souls to Christl When the group had been dismissed, Stephen Merritt, who was deeply moved by this extraordinary sight, took Sammy home with him in his coach. It was his first ride in a coach and behind a fine team of prancing horses. He was thrilled. Such a team of well-matched and finely gaited horses is a beautiful sight for any eyes. But to this Kru boy, reared in the jungle and gifted with an unspoiled instinct for the natural beauty of living things, these spirited horses were delightful beyond words. Merritt could hardly coax him away from them after they had arrived.

It was one o'clock in the morning when they reached his residence. Merritt showed Sammy to his room and then, since he had never slept in a real bed, showed him how to open and get into one, how to light the gas and to turn it out. As he started to leave, Sammy extended his hand to him and asked him to kneel with him in prayer. The soul of Samuel Morris was on fire. The light that had led him so far from home was to be shared with his host that night. This man who had been preaching the Gospel for years received a new visitation of the Holy Spirit. In those few moments of prayer uttered by an unlettered boy, Stephen Merritt had a revelation of the reality and power of the Comforter such as he had never known before.

When Sammy awoke the next morning he hurriedly made up his bed, tidied the room, and then found his way down to the stables. There he immediately went to work, helping the groom care for the horses. Stephen Merritt rose late. He went to the bishop's room, but the "angel in ebony" was not there. When at last he was found at work in the stable he was brought into the house by Mr. Merritt and introduced to his family. Breakfast was just ready.

It was Sammy's first meal in America. He had to be shown how to eat the strange food. Under Mr. Merritt's kindly directions he did justice to the fine meal. He was hungry enough, having had nothing to eat from Thursday evening till late that Saturday morning. —Sis. Nelda Sorrell

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. Paul had done nothing worthy of bonds or of death. 2. Because he had appealed to Caesar. 3. Italy. 4. The centurion in charge of Paul and other prisoners. 5. He gave him liberty to go to his friends and refresh himself. 6. The winds were contrary. 7. Paul. 8. The master and owner of the ship. 9. The south wind blew softly.)

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A Funeral Becomes A Revival!

(Continued from last week.)

Stephen Merritt was a very busy man. His time was taken up with his church work. That Saturday morning he had to conduct the funeral of a prominent man in Harlem. He took Sammy along with him in the coach. On his way he stopped to pick up two eminent divines who were to assist. him with the funeral services. When the first of these doctors of divinity looked into the coach and saw a black boy sitting there, the minister started to draw back. He waited a moment, expecting the shabby youth to get out. When they finally got in, they were plainly shocked to be obliged to ride with this humble African. They said nothing but cast glances in his direction that spoke their disapproval.

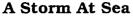
It was embarrassing to Stephen Merritt. As a diversion he tried to entertain Sammy by pointing out all the interesting places they were passing such as Central Park, the Grand Opera House, and other notable sights. But Sammy was interested in something even more wondrous than the wonders of this great city. Putting his black hand on Merritt's knee, he said, "Did you ever pray while riding in a coach?" Merritt answered that he had frequently had blessed times while riding about in a coach, but that he had never engaged in formal prayers.

Sammy said, "We will pray." And they did. It was the first time that Stephen Merritt had ever kneeled down in a coach to pray. Sammy began at once: "Father, I have been months coming to see Stephen Merritt so that I could talk to him about the Holy Ghost. Now that I am here, he shows me the harbor, the churches, the banks and other buildings, but does not say a word about this Spirit I am so anxious to know more about. Fill him with Thyself so that he will not think, or talk, or write, or preach about anything but Thee and the Holy Ghost."

What happened in that coach was no ordinary manifestation of divine favor. Stephen Merritt had participated in the consecration of many missionaries, the ordination of many ministers, the installation of bishops, and the laying on of hands by holy people. But he had never experienced the burning presence of the Holy Spirit as he did while he was kneeling in that coach beside Sammy Morris who was penniless and clad in tattered garments. Merritt's whole life was changed in that amazing moment.

When they began their ride these reverend gentlemen had been a little





Acts 27:14-28

14 But not long after there arose against it a tempestuous wind, called Euroclydon.

15 And when the ship was caught, and could not bear up into the wind, we let her drive (drift).

16 And running under a certain island which is called Clauda, we had much work to come by the boat:

17 Which when they had taken up, they used helps, undergirding the ship; and, fearing lest they should fall into the quicksands, strake sail, and so were driven.

18 And we being exceedingly tossed with a tempest, the next day they lightened the ship;

19 And the third day we cast out with our own hands the tackling of the ship.

20 And when neither sun nor stars in many days appeared, and no small tempest lay on us, all hope that we should be saved was then taken away.

21 But after long abstinence Paul stood forth in the midst of them, and said, Sirs, ye should have hearkened unto me, and not have loosed from Crete, and to have gained this harm and loss.

22 And now I exhort you to be of good cheer: for there shall be no loss of any man's life among you, but of the ship.

23 For there stood by me this night the angel of God, whose I am, and whom I serve,

24 Saying, Fear not, Paul; thou must be brought before Caesar: and, lo,

God hath given thee all them that sail with thee.

25 Wherefore, sirs, be of good cheer: for I believe God, that it shall be even as it was told me.

26 Howbeit we must be cast upon a certain island.

27 But when the fourteenth night was come, as we were driven up and down in Adria, about midnight the shipmen deemed that they drew near to some country;

28 And sounded, and found it twenty fathoms: and when they had gone a little further, they sounded again, and found it fifteen fathoms.

The Message: For Paul's sake the lives of all two hundred seventy-six persons would be saved. The lives of the wicked are often spared because God interposes to save the righteous.

Questions:

- 1. What was Euroclydon?
- 2. Why did they let the ship drift?
- 3. Why did they lose all hope of being saved?
- 4. What did Paul tell them they should have done?
- 5. How many lives would be lost in this storm?
- 6. What would be lost?
- 7. Who had stood by Paul that night?
- 8. How would they be saved, according to Paul?
- 9. On what night did the shipmen discover they were near land?

Verse to Memorize

Saying, Fear not, Paul; thou must be brought before Caesar: and, lo, God hath given thee all them that sail with thee.

Acts 27:24.



A gentle south wind was blowing when the ship carrying Paul toward Rome left the harbor at Fair Havens. They did not aim to go far, but only to another port of the same island. called Phenice, to spend the winter there. So, against Paul's advice, the captain of the ship set sail. But they had scarcely left the harbor when a tempestuous wind, called Euroclydon, swept down upon them. Now there was no turning back. Nor could they make any headway against the hurricane-force wind. The ship was tossed like a cork by the angry waves. It seemed it would be torn to pieces at any minute! The owner of the ship could not help remembering Paul's advice and warning.

Since the sailors could not make it back to shore it was safest to keep as far from it as possible. So, heading out into the open sea, the ship was left to run at random driven by the fierce wind. Doing all they could to save the ship they strengthened it by passing four or five turns of a cable-laid rope round the hull or frame. This, they hoped, would enable the ship to resist the violence of the seas. Then they began throwing the cargo overboard. On the third day the tackling of the ship was thrown out. Now they could only wait anxiously for the storm to pass.

Day after day the storm howled around them. They saw neither sun nor stars for many days. This dense darkness made the tempest all the more terrible. When they could see neither sun nor stars the sailors had nothing to guide them, making their situation all the more hazardous. Now all hope of being saved from certain death was gone.

But God was in still in control and right through the storm He had His eye on Paul and those with him. One morning Paul called everyone to him. Above the roar of the storm he told them, "Sirs, if you had listened to me. this would not have happened. But be of good cheer; even though we shall lose the ship, no one will lose his life. Last night an angel of God, whose I am and whom I serve, stood by me saving, 'Fear not, Paul. You must be brought before Caesar. And God has given you all them that are with you.' I believe God, that it shall be even as it was told me!"

The angel's message assured Paul that he would come safely to Rome. The rage of the most stormy sea could not prevail against God's purpose. Paul's work was not finished. He must be preserved in this danger, for he is reserved for further service.

Paul's words were comforting but still the storm raged on. Two weeks passed. Then one night, about midnight, the sailors discovered they were nearing land. No one knew where they were, since they had drifted on the waves for many days. They had no idea what latitude they were in, much less how to steer their course. They did not even know whether they were nearing a rocky coast or a sandy beach. Yet God, for Paul's sake had undertaken to bring them to an island that would prove to be a refuge for them.

Fearing they would be wrecked on a rocky shoreline in the darkness, the sailors threw the anchors overboard and waited anxiously for morning to come. —Sis. Nelda Sorrell ashamed to be seen riding with such a ragged Negro. After Sammy's prayer service, it was they who felt ashamed of their own spiritual shabbiness. They felt that Sammy's outer garb should be more in harmony with his inner grace. So, at Merritt's suggestion they stopped at a clothing store to buy a new outfit for their guest.

Stephen Merritt told the storekeeper that "nothing was too good" for this boy. He then stepped aside to send a message. When he returned he found Sammy trying to recognize himself in a mirror which reflected the heart of Africa in the fashion of Fifth Avenue. Merritt smilingly paid the goodly bill. In fact, even the queer old clothes there discarded by Samuel seemed precious in his eyes. He saved and exhibited them in his office for many years afterward.

After Sammy had been clothed in fine style, they drove directly to the funeral. A great many people came to honor the dead. Stephen Merritt had expected a large gathering and had carefully prepared his funeral sermon. But that prayer in the coach had given him a new spirit. Old things had passed away. People marveled at the sermon he preached that day.

The very heavens seemed to open as he forgot his formal speech and poured forth a message of tender sympathy inspired by the Comforter Himself. The other two ministers felt the same divine inspiration. In their shorter tributes they spoke with such power that, as they remarked afterward, they were surprised at their own eloquence.

The people listened in rapture, little dreaming that these gifted orators were but the medium through which a poor, black boy had turned a scene of mourning into one of joy. Though it was his faith that had brought the unction from on high Samuel said not a word during the services. He simply sat there, so filled with the Spirit that in a vision he seemed to see all the way to the threshold of heaven. He could feel the touch of angelic wings.

He felt the beauty of this solemn Christian ceremony in contrast to former scenes of savage brutality. He had seen his own people slaughtered like cattle and left without burial. He remembered the depraved rites of the Leopard Worshippers. He had seen other pawns and slaves tortured and killed with never a word of comfort spoken at their burials. He had seen sailors who died of violence dropped overboard with no more ceremony than if they had been so many stones. How different this Christian funeral! His soul cried out that it was heaven even to die in this Christian land.

Then there occurred one of those unusual manifestations which so often proved that Samuel Morris possessed the superhuman power conferred only by God's own Spirit. As the service went on, man after man came forward, without spoken invitation and kneeled beside the casket. They came not as mourners of the dead but as penitents from the "body of death" which is sin, drawn by the divine Light that radiated from the soul of Samuel Morris.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell (To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. A tempestuous wind. 2. They could not bear up into the wind. 3. They had seen neither sun nor stars for many days and there was still a great tempest. 4. Listened to him and stayed in Crete. 5. Not one. 6. The ship. 7. An angel. 8. By being cast onto a certain island. 9. The fourteenth.)

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Sammy Goes To College

(Continued from last week.)

After the funeral, Merritt took Sammy with him in the coach to his office. On the way Sammy asked so many searching questions about the Holy Ghost that Merritt soon discovered that he was the one taught rather than the teacher: that Samuel Morris' religious experience exceeded his own studied knowledge of God's invisible Messenger. At the office Merritt dictated a letter to the president of Taylor University, the one located in Ft. Wayne, Indiana. He said that he was sending to them a diamond in the rough for them to polish and to send out to enlighten the world.

The next day was Sunday. Mr. Merritt said to Sammy, "I would like you to accompany me to Sunday school today. I am the superintendent and may ask you to speak."

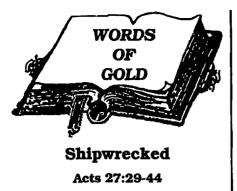
Sammy answered, "I never was in a Sunday school, but all right!"

Stephen Merritt smilingly introduced him as one, Samuel Morris, who had come from Africa to talk to their superintendent about the Holy Ghost. The school laughed. After this introduction, Merritt was called from the platform to attend to another matter. A moment later when he returned—loi the altar was full of young people, weeping and sobbing. Sammy was standing by the railing, praying.

Sammy himself was perfectly calm. He was unusually quiet by nature. When he prayed he always used the same matter-of-fact tone that one would use in speaking to a human friend. He just "talked to his Father" earnestly but calmly. His audience was not swayed by any of the oratorical tricks of the professional revivalist. It was not his exact words or manner that seemed to matter, but the presence of the power of the Holy Ghost was so clearly felt that the entire place was filled with His glory.

It had been decided that Sammy should have an education. By the middle of the week he was ready to take the train to Ft. Wayne. Samuel Morris reached that town on Friday, his Deliverance Day, his day of fasting and prayer. At the time of his arrival he was little better off than he had been when he descended from the ship as a stranger in a strange land. He had some books which he could not read, some clothing, and a few gifts of nominal value. To all he seemed just a poor, black boy whose preparatory training had been sadly neglected.

Nevertheless, this young man soon revealed a spirit all too rare among Christians. When the college president asked him what room he wanted, Sammy replied, "If there is a room nobody wants, give that to me." Of



29 Then fearing lest we should have fallen upon rocks, they cast four anchors out of the stern, and wished for the day.

30 And as the shipmen were about to flee out of the ship, when they had let down the boat into the sea, under colour as though they would have cast anchors out of the foreship,

31 Paul said to the centurion and to the soldiers, Except these abide in the ship, ye cannot be saved.

32 Then the soldiers cut off the ropes of the boat, and let her fall off. 33 And while the day was coming on, Paul besought them all to take meat, saying, This day is the four-teenth day that ye have tarried and continued fasting, having taken nothing.

34 Wherefore I pray you to take some meat: for this is for your health: for there shall not an hair fall from the head of any of you.

35 And when he had thus spoken, he took bread, and gave thanks to God in presence of them all: and when he had broken it, he began to eat.

36 Then were they all of good cheer, and they also took some meat.

37 And we were in all in the ship two hundred threescore and sixteen souls.

38 And when they had eaten enough, they lightened the ship, and cast out the wheat into the sea. **39** And when it was day, they knew not the land: but they discovered a certain creek with a shore, into the which they were minded, if it were possible, to thrust in the ship.

40 And when they had taken up the anchors, they committed themselves unto the sea, and loosed the rudder bands, and hoised up the mainsail to the wind, and made toward shore. 41 And falling into a place where two seas met, they ran the ship aground; and the forepart stuck fast, and remained unmoveable, but the hinder part was broken with the violence of the waves.

42 And the soldiers' counsel was to kill the prisoners, lest any of them should swim out, and escape.

43 But the centurion, willing to save Paul, kept them from their purpose; and commanded that they which could swim should cast themselves first into the sea, and get to land:

44 And the rest, some on boards, and some on broken pieces of the ship. And so it came to pass, that they escaped all safe to land.

The Message: God displayed His great power and wisdom to the two hundred seventy-six people who sailed with Paul on this tempestuous voyage. No doubt this brought a fear of God on them and probably through this many were saved.

(Look for "Questions" on page 3.)

Verse to Memorize

But the centurion, willing to save Paul, kept them from their purpose; and commanded that they which could swim should cast themselves first into the sea, and get to land.

Acts 27:43.



Up in the bow of the ship a conspiracy was taking place. Some of the sailors were laying a plan to escape with the small boat that had been hauled up on the deck. They planned to lower the boat and board it under the pretence of casting anchors out of the bows. Thus they would escape to land and abandon their friends to the raging sea. Paul became aware of their plan and quickly called the centurion and his soldiers. "Unless these men stay, we cannot be saved," he warned.

Julius sprang into action. Aquick command sent one of his soldiers to the side of the ship with drawn sword. He brought it down sharply on the rope and severed it, and the little boat disappeared in the darkness. Without a boat they were even more helpless but the plot was ended.

The captain of the ship thought it might be possible to steer the ship into the mouth of the creek and beach it. He gave his orders quickly. The rudder was unlashed, the anchor ropes at the stern were cut, a light sail was hoisted to the mast, and the battered ship lumbered toward the shore. They did not get very far, for the coast was unknown to them, and in a place where two currents met, the vessel grounded on a sandbar, and with a grinding noise her bow stuck fast.

As the breakers beat upon the stern of the boat, they could all see that there was no hope of her getting off the bar. The waves were still rolling in fury, and the planks of the ship were loosening. Up in the bow of the ship the Roman soldiers, knowing that their own lives would be forfeited it they lost their prisoners, went to their commander saying, "Sir, we cannot be responsible for our prisoners any longer. No man can swim through these angry waters chained to another. Would it not be wise to kill them all now?"

But Julius had come to know and love Paul, so for his sake he ordered that the prisoners' chains be loosened and all who could swim should make for the shore. Those who could not swim caught up planks and broken pieces of wood to which they clung as they slid or jumped over the side and were carried by the waves to shore.

They were a miserable band of men, weak and exhausted, who gathered on the beach and watched the ship break up by the pounding of the mighty waves. But they were all there—to a man—bruised, tattered, half-drowned, and shivering in the rain: but they were safe at last! —Taken from *The Life and Journeys* of Paul, by Charles Ferguson Ball

Questions:

- 1. Why did they cast out anchors and wait for daylight?
- 2. What were the shipmen really trying to do when they let down the small boat?
- 3. What did Paul tell the centurion?
- 4. What action did the soldiers take?
- 5. While they waited for daylight, what did Paul beg them to do?
- 6. How many people were on board the ship?
- 7. What happened to the ship when it ran aground?
- 8. What was the soldiers' counsel?
- 9. Why did the centurion keep them from their purpose?

this incident he later wrote: "I turned away for my eyes were full of tears. I was asking myself whether I was willing to take what nobody else wanted. In my experience as a teacher, I have had occasion to assign rooms to more than a thousand students. Most of them were noble, Christian young ladies and gentlemen, but Sammy Morris was the only one of them who ever said, 'If there is a room that nobody wants, give that to me."

However, when the president enrolled him, it was with a heavy heart. He could see no talent in this unattractive black boy: he could see only another weight added to the financial burden which was already too great to be borne. Making a strong appeal for aid, he told them about the Sammy who had arrived on Friday from Africa without a dollar to his name; how he had accepted him as a student in the faith that some would come forward to help support and educate him. The financial response to this appeal was discouraging in the extreme. It was almost a flat failure. A Mr. Thomas handed him fifty cents. But that was all.

As the president was leaving the next day, a butcher, a poor man, called to him. "I heard your appeal for help for that poor boy from Africa," he told the president. "The Spirit tells me to give to your Faith Fund." He handed him a five-dollar bill.

But he gave something even more valuable. That five-dollar bill gave him a new idea that pierced the gloom hanging over the University. The president appropriated the butcher's phrase, and started the Samuel Morris "Faith Fund" with that five-dollar bill.

Other donors soon began to contribute to this Fund. When Sammy was informed of the increasing amounts coming in for him, he said to the president: "No, that money is not mine. That is God's money. I want you to use it for others more worthy than I." Samuel Morris never put a penny of this Fund in his own pocket. He never bought anything for himself. The president paid for his meager necessities. He would accept nothing else.

At one time he even came to the president and asked him if he could leave the school for a while to go out and earn money. The president was taken by surprise. Sammy explained: "I do not want to leave school. But I want to earn money enough to bring Henry O'Neil over here to be educated. He is a much better boy than I. He worked with me for Jesus in Liberia."

The president told Sammy to pray over it and a way would be provided to bring Henry to America. Next morning, Sammy, all smiles, came to him, saying, "Henry O'Neil is coming over soon. My Father has just told me."

The president wrote Stephen Merritt about it, and found that one of the missionaries who had been in Liberia when Sammy and Henry were doing such valuable work had returned to St. Louis and was arranging at that very time to have Henry brought over and educated. He was brought from Africa—the first fruits of Samuel Morris' own ministry.

---Šis. Nelda Sorrell (To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. They feared they would fall upon rocks. 2. They were trying to escape. 3. "Except these abide in the ship, ye cannot be saved." 4. They cut the ropes and let the boat fall into the sea. 5. To eat. 6. 276. 7. The forepart stuck fast and the hind part was beaten in pieces by the waves. 8. To kill all the prisoners. 9. To save Paul's life.)



A Minister Ordained By Heaven

(Continued from last week.)

The Apostle Paul often affirmed that, unlike the other apostles, his license to preach came not from men but directly from heaven. That was true of Samuel Morris.

On the Sunday following his arrival in Ft. Wayne, Sammy asked if there were a Negro church in Ft. Wayne, and was told that there was. He started out to find it, but it was so far from the college building that he was late in reaching it. The preliminaries of the service were all over. The minister was in the pulpit, had announced his text, and was ready to preach. Sammy walked straight down through the church to the platform and went up a step or two toward the pulpit.

The minister was a very strict disciplinarian and set in his ways. Sammy's boldness was very disconcerting to him. Sammy said, "I am Samuel Morris. I just came from Africa. I have a message for your people."

The minister's first impulse was to refuse him, but when he looked into Sammy's radiant face and flashing eyes, he sensed that there might be a message. He asked Sammy if he had his sermon prepared, thinking he was an ordained minister. Sammy said, "No, but I have a message."

Sammy was given the pulpit. The pastor had hardly sat down by the collection table when he heard a commotion and looked up to see the whole body of the congregation on their knees, weeping, praying and shouting for joy. Sammy was in the pulpit, not preaching, but praying-"talking to his Father." Afterward the minister said of this occasion. "I was seized with an overpowering desire to pray. What I said and what Sammy said I do not remember, but I know my soul was on fire as never before. The light that had brought Samuel Morris out of bondage in Africa was surely shining into the hearts of our brethren there in Ft. Wayne. No such visitation of the Holy Spirit had ever been witnessed by that congregation."

The meeting lasted long after the allotted time. When the people finally left for their homes, they carried with them the realization of a living revelation of the Holy Ghost. Samuel Morris had spoken the language of the human soul. He had appealed to their heavenly Father from the depths of his own soul. His intercession had been uttered in absolute faith, and the Spirit was there in answer to that



Bitten By A Viper! Acts 28:1-11

1 And when they were escaped, then they knew that the island was called Melita.

2 And the barbarous people shewed us no little kindness: for they kindled a fire, and received us every one, because of the present rain, and because of the cold.

3 And when Paul had gathered a bundle of sticks, and laid them on the fire, there came a viper out of the heat, and fastened on his hand.

4 And when the barbarians saw the venomous beast hang on his hand, they said among themselves, No doubt this man is a murderer, whom, though he hath escaped the sea, yet vengeance suffereth not to live.

5 And he shook off the beast into the fire, and felt no harm.

6 Howbeit they looked when he should have swollen, or fallen down dead suddenly: but after they had looked a great while, and saw no harm come to him, they changed their minds, and said that he was a god.

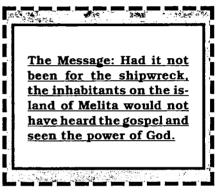
7 In the same quarters were possessions of the chief man of the island, whose name was Publius; who received us, and lodged us three days courteously.

8 And it came to pass, that the father of Publius lay sick of a fever , and of a bloody flux: to whom Paul

entered in, and prayed, and laid his hands on him, and healed him. **9** So when this was done, others also, which had diseases in the island, came, and were healed:

10 Who also honoured us with many honours; and when we departed, they laded us with such things as were necessary.

11 And after three months we departed in a ship of Alexandria, which had wintered in the isle, whose sign was Castor and Pollux.



Questions:

- 1. To what island did they escape?
- 2. How did the island people show them kindness?
- 3. How did Paul help?
- 4. What fastened itself to his hand?
- 5. What did the people think about Paul?
- 6. How did Paul react when he saw it hanging from his hand?
- 7. What did the people finally decide about Paul?
- 8. Who was Publius?
- 9. What did Paul do for Publius' father?

Verse to Memorize

And he shook off the beast into the fire, and felt no harm. Acts 28:5.



The plight of the shipwreck had attracted the natives. They watched anxiously from the shore. As soon as they were near enough many of the natives ran to help the strangers, lighting fires so that they might warm themselves. It was then that the shipwrecked men learned where they were. They had landed on the island of Melita, only sixty miles from Sicily, a Roman possession.

As soon as Paul got to shore, he joined the others in bringing sticks for the fire. With an armful of brushwood, he approached one of the fires and laid his burden in the flames. Suddenly a viper, which had been clinging to the wood, unseen by Paul, was stung by the heat and jumped for safety, fastening itself upon his hand. For a second it clung there, and a cry of fear went up from the horrorstricken onlookers. With one quick motion Paul shook it off, and it dropped back into the fire.

Here was a prisoner, they thought, who had escaped the sea, but the vengeance of the gods had followed him, and his hour had come. They knew the deadly poison of the viper and the speed with which it acts. They expected to see Paul sicken and fall dead in a matter of minutes. With horror in their faces they watched him. They were sure he had committed some terrible crime to meet death by so sudden a stroke.

But in Paul's mind there was no such thought. He was not afraid, for he believed God and was confident that he would preach the gospel in Rome, as he had been promised. The minutes sped by and Paul prodded the fire, moving closer to it to dry his clothing and to warm his body. Closely they watched him; and as each moment passed, their amazement grew even greater. He did not seem pale, nor did he look like a dying man.

One by one the superstitious islanders nodded their heads and concluded that he must be a god in disguise. This, combined with what followed in the next few days, gave Paul an opportunity to preach the gospel of the one true God, who can protect His servants from every evil.

The islanders took the shipwrecked people to the governor, whose residence was close to the scene of the disaster. His house and outbuildings were large and his heart was larger, so he made provision for them all for three days. Publius, the Roman governor of Melita, had an aged father living in his residence, who was sick with a fever. When Paul heard of this. he asked to see him and, receiving permission, he laid his hands on the old man. Lifting his eyes to God in heaven, the apostle prayed fervently that a miracle would be done and that this man might be healed as a testimony to the power of God and the truth of the gospel.

The Lord heard that prayer, and the governor's father was made well. Publius heard the good news, and so did many of the sick. By the score they came, hoping that the man Paul might heal them, too. And so for three winter months, while Julius and his prisoners waited until the sea became navigable again, Paul and his friends, Luke and Aristarchus, preached the gospel of Christ, and God confirmed their words by miracles.

Special honors were given to Paul and his friends. They had won the love and confidence of many people. Those of high degree and low had seen the mighty power of God, and some believed. —Sis. Nelda Sorrell childlike faith. They all went home rejoicing.

In a single day, the unknown Samuel Morris had become a name to reckon with in Ft. Wayne. The local newspapers ran editorials about Samuel Morris' great revival that Sunday at the African M. E. Church on East Wayne Street. Religious papers far and wide copied and commented upon this wonderful spiritual manifestation. All Ft. Wayne knew about the new African student at Taylor University before he had been there a week.

However, the education of Samuel Morris presented a serious problem. He could not enter any of the regular classes. He would require several years of continuous training before he could be enrolled as a college student. He was about eighteen years of age, but in book learning he was like a child of seven or eight years. The only solution was to arrange for a long period of private instruction through tutors. At chapel, Dr. Reade explained Sammy's difficulty, and called for volunteers to teach this boy. It would be no light task. Miss Harriet Stemen, daughter of Dr. Christian Stemen, a Christian physician, and Dr. Reade's own daughter, both volunteered as tutors and were duly assigned to the work. Others, including Dr. Idora Rose and Miss Grace Husted, subsequently assisted Sammy at various times with his lessons. But Harriet Stemen assumed the chief responsibility for his educational progress.

Samuel Morris was a diligent student. Every word, every thought, every principle, taught him was indelibly fixed in his mind. The refined expressions and the musical accents of his teachers' voices were transferred to his own conversation. Yet he remained original in his thinking. His

grouping of words into sentences was a wonder to all. His sentences were short, but every word in them had meaning. Idle talk was unknown to him. High ideals and noble purposes were his very existence. Miss Stemen and Miss Reade soon learned that the burden they had volunteered to carry was to become a well-rewarded labor of love. Every day brought new blessings to his consecrated teachers.

But Samuel continued to regard the divine Spirit of Truth as his chief instructor. Often in solving a difficult arithmetical problem, he would say in low, audible tones, "Lord, help!" He spent more time "talking to his Father" than he did with any earthly teachers. The Holy Spirit brought God as close to him as any earthly teacher could be, and made Him equally real.

Many came from a distance to see Samuel Morris and to talk to him, but he had no time for mere gossip. After the customary greeting Sammy would hand the visitor the Bible, opened at the chapter he wished to study, and would ask him to read aloud. Sammy undertook to have the entire Bible read to him in this way. It was not always easy to get an immediate audience with Sammy. He would not admit anyone when he was engaged -Sis. Nelda Sorrell in prayer.

(Continued from last week.)

(Answers: 1. Melita. 2. They built a fire. 3. By gathering sticks for the fire. 4. A viper. 5. That he must be a murderer. 6. He shook the viper off into the fire. 7. That he was a god. 8. The chief man of the island. 9. He healed him.)

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The Student Leader

(Continued from last week.)

There was a young man at the University who was an atheist of the aggressive type. He was not satisfied to let others believe as they pleased. He was well versed in all the stock arguments of the atheistic cult, and never lost an opportunity to engage in an argument with believing students. This atheist prevailed upon some of the students to take him to Sammy's room and introduce him. The atheist was all wound up for an argument, and expected an easy victory. As usual Sammy handed him the open Bible and asked him to read a chapter. The atheist threw the Bible on the table. and said, "I do not read that book any more. It is full of love affairs, wars, and a lot of big 'fish stories.' I don't believe a word of it."

Sammy had never talked with an atheist before; even the African pagans believe in a deity. He sat still and eyed the atheist until he had run down. Then Sammy arose to his feet and said, "My dear brother, your Father speaks to you and you do not believe Him?" Your Brother speaks, and you do not believe Him? The Sun shines and you do not believe it? God is your Father; Christ your Brother; the Holy Ghost your Sun." Then, putting his hand on his visitor's shoulder he said: "Kneel down, and I will pray for you." A soul was at stake; the divine Spirit taught him how to speak in the language of this brother's heart. He touched the tenderest cords. The atheist resisted until he was leaving the room when he felt the dart of the convicting Spirit in his heart. At the end of that term, he left the university a praying, working Christian. Later this one-time scoffer became a minister!

The leadership of Samuel Morris was no less felt by the majority of the student body than by the exceptional skeptics among them. While most of the students were sincere Christians, this was a period in which there was a weakening of faith and a growing worldliness among churches and church colleges. The Darwinian theory of evolution then seemed to strike at the foundation of Biblical authority. The increase of wealth through scientific inventions fostered materialism.

John Wesley had taught that the state of pure love and holiness so often enjoined by the Scriptures can actually be maintained by the cleansing power of the Holy Spirit. Such a blameless life was not free from temptation or the power to sin. But, the sanctified believer was given the power not to sin because his will had been



Rome At Last!

Acts 28:12-31

12 And landing at Syracuse, we tarried there three days.

13 And from thence we fetched a compass, and came to Rhegium: and after one day the south wind blew, and we came the next day to Puteoli:

14 Where we found brethren, and were desired to tarry with them seven days: and so we went toward Rome.

15 And from thence, when the brethren heard of us, they came to meet us as far as Appiiforum, and The three taverns: whom when Paul saw, he thanked God, and took courage.

16 And when we came to Rome, the centurion delivered the prisoners to the captain of the guard: but Paul was suffered to dwell by himself with a soldier that kept him.

17 And it came to pass, that after three days Paul called the chief of the Jews together: and when they were come together, he said unto them, Men and brethren, though I have committed nothing against the people, or customs of our fathers, yet was I delivered prisoner from Jerusalem into the hands of the Romans.

18 Who, when they had examined me, would have let me go, because there was no cause of death in me.

19 But when the Jews spake against it, I was constrained to appeal unto Caesar; not that I had ought to accuse my nation of.

20 For this cause therefore have I called for you, to see you, and to speak with you: because that for the hope of Israel I am bound with this chain.

21 And they said unto him, We neither received letters out of Judaea concerning

thee, neither any of the brethren that came shewed or spake any harm of thee.

22 But we desire to hear of thee what thou thinkest: for as concerning this sect, we know that every where it is spoken against. 23 And when they had appointed him a day, there came many to him into his lodging; to whom he expounded and testified the kingdom of God, persuading them concerning Jesus, both out of the law of Moses, and out of the prophets, from morning till evening.

24 And some believed the things which were spoken, and some believed not.

25 And when they agreed not among themselves, they departed, after that Paul had spoken one word, Well spake the Holy Ghost by Esaias the prophet unto our fathers,

26 Saying, Go unto this people, and say, Hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and not perceive:

27 For the heart of this people is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes have they closed; lest they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them.

28 Beit known therefore unto you, that the salvation of God is sent unto the Gentiles, and that they will hear it.

29 And when he had said these words, the Jews departed, and had great reasoning among themselves.

30 And Paul dwelt two whole years in his own hired house, and received all that came in unto him,

31 Preaching the kingdom of God, and teaching those things which concern the Lord Jesus Christ, with all confidence, no man forbidding him.

(Look for "The Message" and "Questions" on page 3.)

Verse to Memorize

Wherefore, sirs, be of good cheer: for I believe God, that it shall be even as it was told me. Acts 27:25.

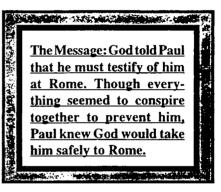


The three months went by quickly. With the first balmy breezes of spring, the masters of the ships in the harbor began calling back their crews and made ready to sail. Julius was restless to go, and when he made arrangements with the owner of another wheat ship of Alexandria, the soldiers with their prisoners prepared to depart. By this time Paul had many friends, and they were sorry to see him leave. In token of their love, they brought gifts and provisions and, gathering at the quay, they waved farewell. The heavy ship was paddled out into the bay and the sails were hoisted. The soft winds blew, and after a day of good sailing with sunny skies above and blue waters about them, they reached the ancient city of Syracuse, nestling on a beautiful gulf of Sicily. For three days Paul and his companions, under Roman guard, visited this great city

But the ship sailed on. Upon her bow, as she cut through the waves, were large ornate figureheads of the twin brothers, Castor and Pollux, who in ancient mythology were the sons of Zeus. The sailors were proud to be on such a ship, for these heavenly twins were said to protect seamen on their voyages.

Paul's feet touched Italian soil first at Puteoli. Julius stayed for a while in that city, and during that time Paul was allowed to see his friends freely. During the seven-day layover the Christians had opportunity to send word to Rome of Paul's arrival. The believers in Rome were happy to see the man who had spent his life in the service of Christ. Many determined to go out on the highway to meet him and accompany him back to Rome.

When Paul saw the friends from the church at Rome, his heart was moved. He thought of the trial that awaited him and the possible condemnation, but when he saw the love and devotion of these friends for Christ and His servants, he thanked God and took courage. —Sis. Nelda Sorrell



Questions:

- 1. How long did they stay at Syracuse?
- 2. How long did they stay with the brethren in Puteoli?
- 3. What caused Paul to thank God and take courage?
- 4. To whom did the centurion deliver the prisoners?
- 5. How was Paul treated differently?
- 6. After three days whom did Paul call together?
- 7. When the Jews rejected the Gospel, to whom did God send it?
- 8. How long did Paul live in his own rented home?
- 9. What did Paul do while he lived in Rome?

З

liberated from the power of inbred evil and its hindering or over-mastering temptations.

Regardless of disputes over this doctrine of sanctification, it is certain that the key to Wesley's own amazing power of leadership was found in his boldness of faith in the miraculous power of God's Spirit. In fact, the dynamic of all successful evangelism is found in the power of a Spirit-filled life. But this kind of faith and power had begun to wane at Taylor as elsewhere.

Samuel Morris electrified the entire university from the president down to the newest freshman by demonstrating the simplicity and power with which the Holy Spirit can confer all the graces of leadership upon the humblest human being. The whole school was lifted to a higher plane in which the students were not merely "saved," but spiritually strengthened to save others.

The Spirit of God is the guarantor of material as well as spiritual blessings. The spiritual leadership of Samuel Morris, who sought first the kingdom of Heaven, did not fail to bring to Taylor University "all these other things," as added blessings. It was during his student days that the university came to the end of its financial resources, and the board of trustees held what appeared to be their last meeting. It was the inspiration of Samuel Morris that came to the rescue.

The Samuel Morris Faith Fund took the present writer to the university at the time when the trustees were singing their swan song. It seemed that no school with such an asset as Samuel Morris could perish. I believed that his fund would bring in enough cash to tide us over, and I expressed that conviction. The president of the Board, said, "But what can we do now? Where can we go? We must move from here soon."

I replied, "Come to Upland. We will receive you with open arms."

They consulted together and then said, "We would need ten thousand dollars and ten acres of land."

With the infection of Sammy's own faith, I replied, "Gentlemen, you will go to Upland. I have no authority to enter into a contract with you to that effect, but tomorrow I will go to Upland and telegraph you to come there and get you ten thousand dollars and select your ten acres of land."

Samuel Morris held my overcoat for me that morning when I was getting ready to go to the train. To me he was the Moses that would lead Taylor out of the wilderness into the land of promise. I arrived in Upland about ten o'clock. By two o'clock the ten thousand dollars had been raised. and enough more to buy the ten acres of land. Samuel Morris and Taylor University were on every tongue in Upland. A committee was appointed to go at once to Ft. Wayne to negotiate a contract with the trustees. The Committee visited Sammy and was as much impressed by him, as were we who had known him longer. The contract was signed, and the beautiful site of the present campus was selected. -Sis. Nelda Sorrell (To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. Three days. 2. Seven days. 3. The brethren from Rome who met him. 4. The captain of the guard. 5. He was allowed to live by himself with a soldier to guard him. 6. The chief of the Jews. 7. The Gentiles. 8. Two years. 9. He preached the kingdom of God and taught them about Jesus.)

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The Last Adventure

(Continued from last week.)

There was nothing abnormal about Samuel Morris. Child of the wilderness, he remained a lover of nature. He found God not only in the Spirit within his breast but also in the external beauty reflecting the handiwork of the Creator.

He often compared the beauty of America with that of his homeland. In Africa they had beautiful flowers, but without perfume. He loved to take long walks in our woods, inhaling the odor of our wild flowers and listening to the enchanting songs of the robins, meadowlarks and mocking birds. When fall began to tint the leaves of the trees with many hues and colors, Sammy, accustomed only to the green of the tropics, beheld them with an ecstasy of joy. He would fairly shout his thanks to his heavenly Father that his eves had seen such wonders. He would often say, "God is surely good to you folks in Indiana."

On Thanksgiving evening, after the usual dinner, Sammy was asked by Dr. Reade which country—Africa or America—he liked best. He laughed and replied: "Which is better, roast turkey or raw monkey?" "Why Sammy," Dr. Reade said, "you did not eat monkeys?" "O yes, sir," he answered, "I ate many monkeys and ate them raw!" Yet it was to his own land that he yearned to return in order to share his newfound blessings with those of his own kind and color.

One time when he hurt the back of his hand so that the outer skin was removed, he put ink on the lighter tissue exposed. He explained to his teacher that he was afraid that it would turn white, and be a disgrace and hindrance to him when he returned to Africa to preach. Because he was God's child, he was never ashamed of his color.

The first snow that fell after Sammy came to Ft. Wayne happened to be of the large, flaky kind. It began in the night and was still falling when Sammy awoke in the morning. When he looked out of the window and saw everything covered with a sparkling white blanket, his surprise and awe knew no bounds. There was no word in his language for snow, for it was unknown in his native region. He had never seen or even heard of it. He rushed out into the snow and gathered up a handful, saying, "These must be messages from Heaven to us. If I could only read them, what a wonderful story they would tell us! Earth has nothing half so beautiful. God alone has such a pattern."



Stephen's Last Testimony

Acts 6:5, 8-15

5:and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Ghost, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolas a proselyte of Antioch:

8 And Stephen, full of faith and power, did great wonders and miracles among the people.

9 Then there arose certain of the synagogue,...disputing with Stephen.10 And they were not able to resist the wisdom and the spirit by which he spake.

11 Then they suborned men, which said, We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses, and against God.

12 And they stirred up the people, and the elders, and the scribes, and came upon him, and caught him, and brought him to the council,

13 And set up false witnesses, which said, This man ceaseth not to speak blasphemous words against this holy place, and the law:

14 For we have heard him say, that this Jesus of Nazareth shall destroy this place, and shall change the customs which Moses delivered us.

15 And all that sat in the council, looking stedfastly on him, saw his face as it had been the face of an angel.

Acts 7:2, 54-60

2 And he said, Men, brethren, and fathers, hearken; . . .

54 When they heard these things, they were cut to the heart, and they gnashed on him with their teeth.

55 But he, being full of the Holy Ghost, looked up stedfastly into heaven, and

saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God,

56 And said, Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God.

57 Then they cried out with a loud voice, and stopped their ears, and ran upon him with one accord,

58 And cast him out of the city, and stoned him: and the witnesses laid down their clothes at a young man's feet, whose name was Saul.

59 And they stoned Stephen, calling upon God, and saying, Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.

60 And he kneeled down, and cried with a loud voice, Lord, lay not this sin to their charge. And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

The Message: Stephen died praying God to forgive his murderers. Paul was saved in answer to this prayer.

Questions:

- 1. Who was full of faith and the Holy Ghost?
- 2. What kind of works did he do among the people?
- 3. Why were those who disputed with him not able to resist his reasoning?
- 4. What kind of witnesses accused Stephen?
- 5. What did Stephen's face look like?
- 6. How were the listener's affected after Stephen's speech?
- 7. Who did Stephen see when he looked up to heaven?
- 8. How did they kill Stephen?
- 9. Where did the murderers lay their clothes?

Verse to Memorize

And he kneeled down, and cried with a loud voice, Lord, lay not this sin to their charge. And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

Acts 7:60.



As the church grew rapidly the apostles were faced with the problem of taking care of the many widows. Calling the multitude of disciples together they explained, "It is not right for us to leave the word of God and serve tables. Choose seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business. But we will give ourselves continually to prayer and preaching the word."

The first man they chose was Stephen. Another was Philip. Both these men were preachers of the gospel. Little is known about the other five. After prayer the apostles laid their hands on the seven, asking God's blessing upon their work.

Everywhere throughout Jerusalem people talked about Stephen. Because he was full of faith and power he did many wonders and miracles. Then certain religious leaders argued with Stephen about his teachings. They tried to prove that Jesus was not the Christ. But God gave Stephen such wisdom to speak about Jesus that the leaders were left without a word to say.

They were enraged by Stephen's convincing proof that Jesus was indeed the Christ. Since they could not stop his teachings by disputing them, they hired men to go among the Jews and accuse Stephen. Wherever these men went, they lied, "We have heard Stephen speak against Moses and against God!"

The people were upset by these words; some believed it was true. As

soon as the rulers and scribes heard it, they seized Stephen and brought him before the council.

The men who had been hired to tell lies about Stephen came to the council meeting too. They were called on to tell what they knew about Stephen. They said, "This man never stops saying terrible things about the temple and the Law. We have heard him say that Jesus of Nazareth will destroy the temple and change the customs that Moses gave us."

While the false witnesses spoke, the council watched Stephen closely. Even though his face shone like an angel's, they proceeded to accuse him.

Bravely Stephen stood up and faced his accusers, telling them the familiar story of their people, beginning with Abraham. He reminded them that their fathers had disobeyed God's laws.

Enraged by his words, the leaders were furious that Stephen would dare accuse them of doing wrong. To give him courage to face his enemies, God let him see into heaven. Looking up, Stephen said, "I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God."

At once the rulers cried out loudly. They held their hands over their ears so they would not have to hear Stephen say another word. Suddenly they rushed at him, seized him, and dragged him outside the city gate and stoned him. His murderers laid their clothes at Saul's feet.

As the rocks beat him mercilessly, Stephen called upon God, saying, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit!" Then kneeling down, he cried with a loud voice, "Lord, lay not this sin to their charge."

-Sis. Nelda Sorrell

As he spoke, his warm hand melted the snow in it. He said to Dr. Reade, "Where did it go? It has left only a few drops of water!" His black face was a picture of adoration. His eyes filled with tears. He raised his hand, and prayed to his Father to teach him and all about him how to read these beautiful messages from Heaven. As he finished his prayer he said, "A year here is worth a lifetime in Africa."

That winter an evangelist conducted a series of joint revival services. A great throng attended nightly. Samuel Morris especially enjoyed the singing. His very soul seemed set to music. When the congregation sang, his voice could be heard in every corner of the big building.

He was always given a place on the platform. If the floor workers encountered a stubborn response, a sign from one of them would catch Sammy's eye. In a short time there would be two on their knees, or Sammy would return bringing a penitent to the altar. No one hesitated or refused his invitation to kneel and pray. High hats and silk gowns were no bar. His race and color did not offend, for all recognized his spiritual power and grace. He did little exhorting that winter but much singing and praying.

The tortures Sammy had endured in Africa while serving as a pawn and the severe hardships he had suffered aboard the tramp ship had greatly weakened his frail constitution. Our rigorous northern climate with its long, cold winters was an unnatural environment for one reared in the tropics. Nevertheless, Samuel Morris continued to be a regular attendant at religious meetings during the exceptionally severe winter of 1892-93.

He caught a severe cold but he kept silent about it and borc his illness as if nothing were amiss. It did not matter to him that the night was dark and stormy with a temperature of twenty degrees below zero. He felt it was his duty as well as pleasure to be in services. His honest, black face and his simple, steadfast faith were an inspiration to the minister to give his best to his congregation.

Samuel Morris sacrificed his health to the service of God. The very last meeting at the church was attended by him. Some still remember how he stepped forward just before the benediction and led the congregation in one of the tender anthems beloved by millions of Christians, "The Old, Old Story...of Jesus and His Love."

Though Sammy lacked the resistance to shake off the cold he had contracted he continued to attend his classes as usual. But his strength waned. He developed the symptoms of dropsy and could no longer hide the fact that he was gravely ill. When Dr. Stemen observed his condition. he was taken to the St. Joseph Hospital. Had he been the president's own son, he could not have had kinder and better care. Many who had learned to love him and whose souls he had blessed came to visit him. They brought him tokens of their affection. Love he gave, and love he received beyond measure. -Sis. Nelda Sorrell (To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. Stephen. 2. Great wonders and miracles. 3. He spoke by the Spirit with great wisdom. 4. False witnesses. 5. An angel's. 6. They were cut to the heart. 7. Jesus standing at the right hand of God. 8. By stoning him. 9. At Saul's feet.)

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He Being Dead Yet Speaketh

(Continued from last week.)

At first Sammy could not comprehend why he should be ill. He said, "When I froze my ears last winter, they hurt me very much. I asked my Father about it, and they quit hurting me right away. Now, I cannot get well. I cannot understand it."

But one day when the students came to pay him their daily visit, Sammy told them with quiet joy that he now understood it all. He said: "I am so happy. I have seen the angels. They are coming for me soon. The light my Father in heaven sent to save me when I was hanging helpless on that cross in Africa was for a purpose. Now I have fulfilled that purpose. My work here on earth has been finished."

Dr. Reade questioned him about the great work he had planned to do among his own people in Africa. Sammy answered, "It is not 'my work. It is Christ's work. He must choose His own workers. Others can do it better."

Dr. Stemen lived directly across the street from the hospital. In the forenoon of May 12, Dr. Stemen was mowing his lawn. He heard a voice calling, "Don't work too hard, Dr. Stemen." He glanced up and saw Sammy looking out of the window of his hospital room. They waved greetings. Sammy left the window and reclined once more in his chair. Dr. Stemen returned to his work.

A few minutes later Sister Helen of the hospital came down and notified Dr. Stemen and his family that Sammy seemed helpless. When Dr. Stemen reached him, the young African was sitting peacefully in his chair. He was dead.

His face wore an expression of solemn joy like that with which he had often intoned his favorite hymn—

Fade, fade, each earthly joy, Jesus is mine. Break every tender tie, Jesus is mine! Dark is the wilderness, Earth has no resting place, Jesus alone can bless. Jesus is mine! He had gone to meet his heavenly

Father as calmly as he would have greeted one of his beloved teachers. The "angel in ebony" had joined the angels of all the ages and all the races.

Yet his March of Faith had only begun! Above all Sammy had desired to bring the message of Christian salvation and of the power of the Holy Spirit to his own people in Africa. But had Samuel Morris himself lived to return to Africa, his personal influence would have been limited to some one small region of that vast continent. His departure from this life led



Paul, The Pattern

I Timothy 1:12-17

12 And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who hath enabled me, for that he counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry;

13 Who was before a blasphemer, and a persecutor, and injurious: but I obtained mercy, because I did it ignorantly in unbelief.

14 And the grace of our Lord was exceeding abundant with faith and love which is in Christ Jesus.

15 This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief.

16 Howbeit for this cause I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might shew forth all longsuffering, for a pattern to them which should hereafter believe on him to life everlasting.

17 Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

I Timothy 2:1-7

1 I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men;

2 For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all god-liness and honesty.

3 For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour;

4 Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.

5 For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;

6 Who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time.

7 Whereunto I am ordained a preacher, and an apostle, (I speak the truth in Christ, and lie not;) a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and verity.



Questions:

- 1. What is a pattern?
- 2. What did Paul do when he was a bad pattern?
- 3. Who, through mercy, made him a good pattern?
- 4. What kind of sinner did Paul say he was?
- 5. If Jesus could save Paul, can he save us?
- 6. Why should we pray for those in authority?
- 7. Who does God want to be saved?
- 8. Who is the mediator between God and us?
- 9. Who gave Himself a ransom for all?

Verse to Memorize

...Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief.

I Timothy 1:15.



When we think of Paul and how he did not believe that Jesus was the Saviour who was to come to this world, it helps us know how some in the world today feel. Some today will not accept Jesus as their Saviour. Of course the law today protects us from those who would do as Paul did.

In Paul's day it seems that many in authority were against Jesus, and Paul received letters from them to go to other towns and bring Christians up before the court, and they were condemned to death. We read how Paul stood by while Stephen was stoned to death because Stephen loved Jesus and told those who were around him that they had killed the one whom God had sent to save them from their sins.

In our lesson Paul tells Timothy about his past life. He said he was a persecutor. He made fun of those who loved Jesus. He did all he could to cause them to stop loving Jesus. He told them that Jesus was not the true Saviour. He did all he could to cause trouble for those who loved Jesus. He did many things to injure them. He committed many sins and did not care if he harmed people. He even said he was a chief of the sinners.

But one day, as he was going to Damascus with letters to bring up some Christians, God stopped him. God saw that Paul was having a hard time doing wicked things. God needed Paul to work for Him. He dealt with his soul.

Suddenly a light from heaven shone around him. Paul fell to the earth. He was afraid. As he lay there, he heard a voice which said, "Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou Me?" (Paul's name was Saul then but was changed later to Paul.)

Paul was surprised to be asked a question like that. He didn't understand so he asked, "Who art thou, Lord?"

Then Jesus spoke to him and said, "It is hard for thee to kick against the pricks." It was hard for Paul to go on in sin like he had been. Jesus wanted him to know that when he didn't accept Him as his Saviour that he was persecuting Him. When a person does something evil to one of those who love Jesus, they are doing it to Jesus.

Paul was astonished but he was a humble man. He was a changed man. Now he was convinced that Jesus was truly the Saviour. He knew in his heart that he had been wrong all this time. Now he knew that he was on the wrong way and he needed to change his way. Oh, how sorry he was that he had been sinning. He asked Jesus to forgive him. Jesus was glad to do that and how happy Paul felt.

Now he would not harm anyone anymore. Now he would go out and try to get others saved. Now he would live a different life. Now he was a different man. That is what salvation will do for every boy and girl. Paul is a pattern for us to follow. If we will confess our sins and forsake them we, too, can be saved. (Acts 9:1-21.)

Won't you give your heart to Jesus today? —Sis. Marie Miles

(Taken from the October 11, 1964 Beautiful Way lesson.) immediately to a manifold increase and spread of missionary effort.

At the first prayer meeting held after Sammy's death, a young man arose and said: "I feel impressed this moment that I must go to Africa in Sammy's place; and I pray that as his work has fallen upon me so the mantle of faith may likewise fall upon me." He was at once followed by two other volunteers for the African field. And these were but the vanguard of still more to follow.

Also, we have already been told how Sammy converted an aggressive atheist to Christianity. After this same atheist had become a preacher, he met one of his old atheistic friends who was just as aggressive as he himself had once been. There was a clashing of minds at once, and the argument waxed warm. The preacher said something that angered his antagonist so much that he dealt the minister a blow. It felled him to the ground unconscious. When he became conscious he was filled with wrath.

His antagonist was standing over him exultingly. Suddenly, the minister thought of Samuel Morris when he was lying on the cabin floor of the tramp ship, felled by a blow of the captain's fist. He said to himself: "If Samuel Morris could forgive that cruel captain and help him to be saved, why can't I do the same for this man?" His anger left him; he got to his knees and began praying for his enemy. As he prayed, the atheist knelt down by his side, put his arm around him, wiped from his face the blood that was still flowing, and begged his forgiveness. Soon he was crying to the Lord for forgiveness of his sins. His surrender was complete. He was baptized and became an active leader in church work.

Thus, Samuel Morris' influence continued. Through his godly example another leader endowed with all his own charity and spiritual power was raised up; and he, in turn, had communicated the same Christian spirit to yet another soul who became a leader also.

The new spirit which Sammy infused into the ship's crew of rough seamen during his voyage to America was no transitory change. Several years after Samuel Morris came to New York on the tramp ship, the old captain returned to New York and sought out Stephen Merritt. When Merritt told him that Samuel Morris had gone to glory before he was twenty-one years old, the old captain was so overcome that he could not talk for some time.

He stated that most of the old crew were still with him, and were anxiously awaiting his return for word from their hero and minister. He said that Sammy had offered the first audible prayer ever heard aboard his ship. He testified to the wonderful influence Sammy exercised over such a motley crew of hardened men. That crew had become like one family. Sammy's teachings had wrought lasting benefits.

Upon Stephen Merritt himself the influence of the African boy who could scarcely speak English proved to be life-long. Sammy had spent only a week with him in New York; yet the strong faith of the "angel in ebony" continued to work miracles as long as Merritt lived. After Sammy's departure Merritt went to the hospitals for the insane and prayed for them, and many were restored to reason; he visited hospitals for the ill and prayed for them, and many were healed.

---Sis. Nelda Sorrell (The end.)

(Taken from the book, Samuel Morris)

(Answers: 1. Something or someone we copy after. 2. He was a blasphemer and a persecutor. 3. Jesus. 4. The chief (the worst). 5. Yes. 6. So that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life. 7. All men. 8. Jesus. 9. Jesus.)

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Wee Janet's Problem

Everything small and helpless was once afraid of a certain ragged barefooted little boy who had recently come to live in the country. His home was the old Perkins' house, in which no one had lived for years; at least no one but wild-wood folks, like birds and squirrels. They didn't stay long after the arrival of Pete and his family, because Pete threw stones even at the bluebirds.

Wee Janet was afraid of Pete. All the Primer Class children who attended the country school were afraid of the boy. He used to chase them and threaten to cut off their ears; once he whispered across the aisle to Bessie Saunders that he would like to eat little girls, and she believed it.

The teacher said that Pete was a bad boy. There was never a school day when the child wasn't justly punished for something. It did seem as if no one ever said a kind word about Pete. Wee Janet thought that even his mother was discouraged, because he cruelly teased his own brothers and sisters until they were in tears half the time.

No one in the country knew where Pete and his family lived before they came to the Perkins' farm. In reply to that question Pete said, "None of yer business!" to the Sunday school superintendent. Wee Janet was much troubled about Pete. "He'll be a dreadfully bad man," she said to her mother, "unless someone can make him into a good little boy. The teacher says she can't do it—she's tried. She says it's a big problem."

"I'll tell you what to do, little daughter," said Wee Janet's mother. "Try to think Pete is the lovely boy he might have been if he had been born in the Perkins' house, and dear old Grandma Perkins was his own grandmother."

"But—my thinker isn't strong enough," objected Wee Janet. "Besides, that wouldn't make Pete into a different kind of a boy."

"No," agreed Wee Janet's mother; "but if you could imagine Pete is lovely, you must treat him in a different way, and it might make him better."

The following day Wee Janet tried her best to do as her mother suggested. The day after she begged all the little girls in the Primer Class to treat Pete as if he were a good boy. At last Wee Janet and the Primer Class gave it up.

"Well," replied Janet's mother, "there is one thing you can do, and that is, always be polite and kind to him. 'Overcome evil with good.'"

Days passed. Every night when she said her prayers Wee Janet re-



A Daring Deed

Jeremiah 32:2, 6-7, 9-17

2 For then the king of Babylon's army besieged Jerusalem: and Jeremiah the prophet was shut up in the court of the prison, which was in the king of Judah's house.

6 And Jeremiah said, The word of the Lord came unto me, saying,

7 Behold, Hanameel the son of Shallum thine uncle shall come unto thee, saying, Buy thee my field that is in Anathoth: for the right of redemption is thine to buy it.

9 And I bought the field of Hanameel my uncle's son, that was in Anathoth, and weighed him the money, even seventeen shekels of silver.

10 And I subscribed the evidence, and sealed it, and took witnesses, and weighed him the money in the balances.

11 So I took the evidence of the purchase, both that which was sealed according to the law and custom, and that which was open: 12 And I gave the evidence of the purchase unto Baruch the son of Neriah, the son of Maaseiah, in the sight of Hanameel mine uncle's son, and in the presence of the witnesses that subscribed the book of the purchase, before all the Jews that sat in the court of the prison. 13 And I charged Baruch before them, saying,

14 Thus saith the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel; Take these evi-

dences, this evidence of the purchase, both which is sealed, and this evidence which is open; and put them in an earthen vessel, that they may continue many days.

15 For thus saith the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel; Houses and fields and vineyards shall be possessed again in this land.

16 Now when I had delivered the evidence of the purchase unto Baruch the son of Neriah, I prayed unto the Lord, saying,

17 Ah Lord God! behold, thou hast made the heaven and the earth by thy great power and stretched out arm, and there is nothing too hard for thee:

The Message: Having faith in God in times of trouble will cause others to know that your God is real to you.

Questions:

- 1. Where was Jeremiah when the enemy's armies were at the gates of the city?
- 2. What did God tell Jeremiah to do?
- 3. How much money did it cost?
- 4. Where was the evidence of purchase placed?
- 5. What did God say about the houses, fields and vineyards?
- 6. Did it take faith for Jeremiah to obey God and why?
- 7. Why did Jeremiah say of God, "There is nothing too hard for thee?"

Verse to Memorize

...He that scattered Israel will gather him, and keep him, as a shepherd doth his flock. Jeremiah 31:10.



We must always have faith in God. In times of trouble, don't forget that God is greater than any trouble or anything that might face you. Hold your faith in Him. Believe God's Word and stand upon it.

Jeremiah had faith in God's Word to him. God had told him that He would give peace to the land of Judah again. He believed God even if the large army of Babylon was right at the gates of the city.

God told Jeremiah to buy the field of his cousin. It was just outside the city and the birthplace of Jeremiah. Jeremiah was a prisoner in the court of the prison. He had been put in a dungeon but had been taken out by the king and he was able to stay in the court. Jeremiah didn't like to see the property pass out of the family so he weighed out the money and bought it. They made out the deed and had witnesses sign it. A seal was put on them and then one was put in an earthen vessel or a pottery jar. This was to take care of it. But boys and girls, just think of the faith that Jeremiah had. An army was at the very gates of the city to destroy it, vet Jeremiah had faith in the Word of the Lord so much that he went right ahead and bought the land. He knew that God was going to bring the people back to the land and they would buy and sell again. It was a daring deed, but Jeremiah had faith in the words of God. He

believed that God would do as He had told him He would.

After Jeremiah bought the land, in the face of knowing that the army would take over and take the people back to their land, he rested the whole thing with God. He said, "There is nothing too hard for Thee." He believed God would some day bring the people back to their land and Judah again would be a flourishing place.

Boys and girls, keep in touch with God. Read His Word and believe it. If you have not given Him your heart, God wants you to give Him yourself and your all. Love Him and pray to Him often. You will find a deep peace down in your very soul that will bring happiness to your life. —Sis. Marie Milies

(Taken from the November 27, 1966 Beautiful Way lesson.)

Buy the Field

Buy the field of full salvation,
It is thine to win and bless!
Tidings glad to every nation
In this age of dark distress.

There are treasures everlasting
In this field for thee to find;

Earthly pleasures from thee casting,

- To the will of God resigned.
- Buy the field, 'tis thine for ever
- Though the earth and heavens fade,

It will be thy portion ever: The redemption price was paid.

—Leslie Busbee

membered Pete. Each day she tried to be kind to him in every way known to a little girl eight years old and extremely small for her age. He threw the flowers she gave him into the dusty road and danced on them. He accepted her gifts only to destroy them, every one, and then called her "Crybaby."

At last the Sunday school superintendent learned that Pete was born and had lived all his life in a tenement house in a great city. His father died in State's Prison. After that it seemed to Wee Janet that there was almost no hope for Pete.

One Thursday morning the little girl's mother asked her to carry a pail of buttermilk to Aunt Nancy. "You needn't be afraid to go by the Perkins' house this morning," she said, "because your father was told that Pete went fishing today."

Wee Janet was half way to Aunt Nancy's when not far up the road she beheld Mr. Mason's red cow eating grass outside instead of inside the fence.

"Oh, the hooking cow!" exclaimed the child, almost dropping her pail of buttermilk.

At that moment the red cow lifted her head and started walking toward her. Janet, too frightened to stir, began to scream in terror. That scream brought a barefooted boy running over the fields. That boy was Pete.

"What's the matter, Wee Jan?" he called.

At that moment Pete looked beautiful to Wee Janet. It seemed to her she never saw a finer looking boy. He picked up a stick and made the cow turn and go the other way.

"Come on, Wee Jan," called Pete. "I won't let her hurt yez. I'll drive her back in her pasture and lock the gate. See if I don't!"

After the cow was in her pasture Pete insisted upon going to Aunt Nancy's with Wee Janet. "Ye might see a rattler," he explained as if such a thing were probable.

"Now I'll take ye home," the boy observed when Wee Janet found him waiting at the gate. "Yer too little to be out alone."

Janet's mother thanked Pete for taking care of her small daughter. Then she gave him a piece of gingerbread. After that she showed him Wee Janet's robin's nest and told him all about how the mother robin worked to build the nest, and how long she sat upon the eggs before the little nestlings were hatched. Father Robin scolded the boy so vigorously Wee Janet was afraid Pete's feelings might be hurt. "You see," she explained, "he knows that you're a stranger. Now, Father Robin, don't make such a fuss. If Pete took care of me, he'd take care of your babies, too. Wouldn't you Pete?"

"Sure!" Pete replied with a broad grin.

From that hour there was a change in Pete. He told Wee Janet's mother that he never knew anything about birds before; whereupon he was invited to come every day to visit all of Wee Janet's birds' nests and to read her bird books.

Before the end of the year even the little girls in the Primer Class forgot, or appeared to forget, that Pete was ever a bad boy. He is in high school now, in town, and his mother never looks discouraged when she speaks of her eldest son, Peter.

As for Wee Janet, to this day she sometimes wonders how it all came about. —Taken from a previous *Beautiful Way* lesson.

(Answers: 1. Shut up in the court of the prison. 2. To buy a field. 3. Seventeen shekels of silver. 4. In an earthen vessel. 5. They would be possessed again. 6. Yes. He knew the enemy would conquer his people and possess their land. 7. Because God made the earth by His great power.)



The Shepherd And His Family

School would be out in just two more days. Carla and Juan were counting the hours until they would be free to roam the great outdoors. They lived in a mountainous part of the country where their father herded sheep for a neighboring rancher.

Just a few short months ago they had moved here from a large city many miles away where their father had worked in the mills. Owing to ill health the doctor had ordered him to leave for the wide open spaces where he might regain his health.

Carla and Juan, as most teenagers, were looking forward to the summer vacation with high hopes. The weather was too cold when they moved to do much exploring, only near their little cabin. Their younger brother Mike was forever teasing them to take him up on the mountains where their father kept the sheep. Juan had explained over and over that they couldn't go until after their school was closed and now in two more days they would be free to go.

This morning as Carla and Juan walked slowly over the rough ground to meet the school bus, they made all sorts of plans for the summer months. Wouldn't their friends in the city envy

them if they could see them now? Why, in the city you scarcely ever could see the moon and stars even! Never did you dream there could be trees, mountains, rivers and such wonderful pure air as there was out here in this country, and such exciting places just waiting to be explored. They had almost three miles to walk to the mail road to get to the bus, but neither one noticed the distance for there was so much to see and talk about.

Their mother was a real saint and taught her children the best she knew. As far as they knew, their father had never been saved. He was a real father who loved his little family. Mother always had worship with the children, but as yet neither one had given their hearts to the Lord. It grieved her for there was no church near enough to go to that she knew of. That was the only thing she really missed since leaving the city.

When the children arrived at school this particular morning, there was much excitement on the playground. Two ranches had been raided during the night and one rancher was badly injured. Evidently the sheep had been loaded in a large truck for the tracks were plainly visible in the soft earth. One of the neighbors had trailed them as far as the highway but lost them due to the traffic.



God Yearns For The Lost

Luke 15:11-24

11 And he said, A certain man had two sons:

12 And the younger of them said to his father, Father, give me the portion of goods that falleth to me. And he divided unto them his living.

13 And not many days after the younger son gathered all together, and took his journey into a far country, and there wasted his substance with riotous living.

14 And when he had spent all, there arose a mighty famine in that land; and he began to be in want.

15 And he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country; and he sent him into his fields to feed swine.
16 And he would fain have filled his belly with the husks that the swine did eat: and no man gave unto him.

17 And when he came to himself, he said, How many hired servants of my father's have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger!

18 I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee,

19 And am no more worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of thy hired servants.

20 And he arose, and came to his father. But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on

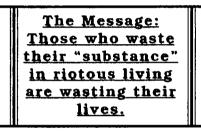
his neck, and kissed him.

21 And the son said unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called thy son.

22 But the father said to his servants, Bring forth the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet:

23 And bring hither the fatted calf, and kill it; and let us eat, and be merry:

24 For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found. And they began to be merry.



Questions:

- 1. What did the boy ask of his father?
- 2. What did the son do after he received his part?
- 3. How did he waste his substance?
- 4. What are husks?
- 5. Did the boy become humble and what did he do?
- 6. Who was the father watching for?
- 7. How was he treated when he got home?
- 8. Does God long for us to come home?

Verse to Memorize

For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.

Luke 19:10.



The parable in our lesson today teaches us the great love of the heavenly Father in seeking the salvation of souls. The two sons in our lesson needed God. Let us see the great need of the one who stayed at home. He was a selfish boy and guilty of ingratitude. He needed the love of his father as well as did the one who went away.

The father gave the sons some of their share of the money that would fall to them when the father was gone. He did not give all because he was still in possession of the estate when the youngest son returned.

It probably took some days for him to turn the cattle, etc. that he received into cash, but he gathered together all that he had and went far from home and there he wasted his money. What can a person waste in riotous living? He had money and there are those in the world who will be your friend if you have something to hand out. Notice how many at school or at other places are around you with a smile on their faces if you are giving out a treat. As soon as it is gone, who stays with you? Those who stay are your true friends. This boy, no doubt, lost his character, his reputation and maybe his health. Smoking, drinking, gambling, telling dirty stories, lewdness, fornication, hatred and many other things came into his life and heart. The devil is never satisfied until he takes a person down so low that he feels there is no hope for him. This poor boy was finally broke, with no friends, and sought a job. He was sent out into the fields to feed the swine.

The husks mentioned in our lesson are the fruit of the carob tree. It produces pods, shaped like a horn, varying in length from six to ten inches and about a finger's breadth or rather more; it is dark brown, glossy, filled with seeds and has a sweetish taste. It is used for food by the poor, and for feeding swine in Syria and Egypt. (Smith's Dictionary.)

Probably the boy was to climb the trees and shake down the pods for the hogs to eat. God talked to him out there alone. That is the time God can often speak to people, when they get to the end of their way. He wants them to do as the prodigal and make a decision to turn to the Lord with all of their hearts. God is waiting with outstretched arms for them to come. He will bless them and welcome them home.

He will forgive them of their sins and make them pure and clean again. He will put the white robes of salvation on them. They were "dead in trespasses and sins" but are made alive in God. They were lost but are found. There is joy among the angels when one sinner repents. The saints rejoice, but most of all, the person who is saved is made happy.

-Sis. Marie Miles (Taken from the February 19, 1967 Beautiful Way lesson.)

There Is No Depth

There is no depth of sin and woe Which cannot pardoned be If in contrition deep we go By faith to Calvary.

There is no path that leads astray From which we cannot turn; There is no night but what the day Can light for those who yearn.

With welcome arms the Father still Awaits His wayward child: Through mercy in His gracious will, The lost are reconciled.

-Leslie Busbee

Juan immediately thought of his own father all alone on the mountain. Would they dare to come that far from the road? He knew his father wouldn't give up the sheep without a fight. Juan could scarcely keep his mind on his lessons all day. On the way home that evening he talked to Carla about it but she wasn't too concerned. Their mountain was a long way from the highway. How could they get a big truck back there through those narrow paths? Surely someone would find them before they could load the sheep and get away.

Juan wasn't too sure that they wouldn't find a way, for the price of sheep was especially good right now. Those raiders would never stop if there were a chance at all. Besides the sheep his father herded were known to be the best herd in the entire community.

Mother was busy getting a garden plot ready to plant out back of the cabin when the children got home. Juan and Carla took care of the milk cows, then went to help their mother get supper, for father usually came in at six o'clock sharp and was always hungry. They wanted everything ready when he came.

Supper was ready but where was father? He was always here by this time. Surely he wasn't trying to bring them into the shelter back of the cabin by himself. Juan always went out after supper to help him bring the sheep in. They liked to graze a little before being penned in for the night.

Little Mike was fed and was soon asleep on the rug by the fireplace, but father wasn't in sight yet. Juan felt he ought to tell his mother about the raids but Carla didn't want to worry her. Seven o'clock came and everything was so quiet, not a sound anywhere. Mother went to the other room and kneeling by the bed called on God for help. "Heavenly Father, You know where big Juan is and why he is late. Oh God, we need Your help. Please take care of him. I am Your child, but he isn't saved. Speak to his heart another time, dear Lord. Give him another chance. And, dear Lord, help our children to see their need of a Saviour. They are lost too. I am putting all in your hands. Don't let the enemy discourage me in any way. Keep us safe from all harm. Amen."

Carla and Juan went to the front of the cabin trying to see if there was any movement on the mountain path that their father had to come on. Everything was hushed; even the night birds and animals were quiet for once. Something must be going to happen. All at once Juan noticed a faint little light somewhere. It moved, then seemed to vanish.

"Mother," said Juan. "I have something to tell you but don't get too scared." Then he told her about the raids on the neighboring ranches and of his own fears, also about the light he had seen.

"Mother, can't Carla and I go up the path toward the pasture where Father keeps the sheep? Maybe Father is injured. Surely he wouldn't stay away unless something was wrong. It is really dark now. Please, Mother, may we? We'll be careful and if we hear or see anything, we'll come back as quickly as we can."

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. His share of the inheritance. 2. Went to a far country. 3. In riotous living. 4. The fruit of the carob tree. 5. Yes. He was willing to become a servant. 6. His youngest son. 7. He was welcomed with honor. 8. Yes.)

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The Shepherd And His Family

(Continued from last week.)

As Juan begged to go in search of their father, Mother looked at him and Carla, then up toward heaven. Juan could see her lips moving in silent prayer. Again she looked at him and Carla. "Somehow, Juan, I believe God wants me to let you go, but please do be extra careful."

Juan and Carla ran to get heavy wraps, for the night air was getting quite cold. Bundled up, they ran for the path. They knew it even in the dark, but Juan wished they had brought a flashlight. They might pass their father and never see him. The moon would soon be up high enough to see by, but it was sure dark now.

Carla had never been too brave and now she began to be afraid. What her mother had said about them being lost worried her. "Juan," Carla turned to him in the dark. "What if someone is up there and they should catch us. We are not saved. Juan, we would be lost for sure. Do you think God would hear us if we prayed now?" Carla all at once began to cry.

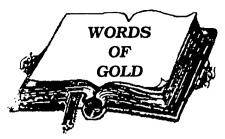
"Carla, why do you talk like that? You'll have me scared too. We have never prayed, only at night when we have worship. I don't know if He would listen to us or not." And Juan sounded like he was getting a little worried now.

Carla thought for a minute, then said, "Juan, God must be talking to me now for I feel so lost and alone. Remember the lies we told Mother that day we were late for school, and I have been so hateful and mean when Mother asked me to mind Mike for her. I know that I am a terrible sinner, Juan. I am lost. What shall I do? Will you pray with me?" By this time Carla was sobbing as if her heart would break.

Juan became really concerned for his sister. Wasn't she his best pal? If she was lost, so was he. All at once he realized that he was a sinner too, and if they should die out here they would both be lost forever. If Mother was only here, she would know what to do.

By this time Carla was crying out loud. "Juan, please, will you pray with me? I want to get saved now and live like Mother. Let's kneel down right here." And Carla pulled Juan down beside her. There in the dark they cried out to God for the forgiveness of their sins. Their father and the sheep were forgotten as they sobbed and called upon God.

And God, who is always waiting for His children to come home, did



Faithful In Little Or Much

Luke 16:10-15

10 He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much: and he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much.

11 If therefore ye have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon, who will commit to your trust the true riches?

12 And if ye have not been faithful in that which is another man's, who shall give you that which is your own?

13 No servant can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.

14 And the Pharisees also, who were covetous, heard all these things: and they derided him.

15 And he said unto them, Ye are they which justify yourselves before men; but God knoweth your hearts: for that which is highly esteemed among men is abomination in the sight of God.

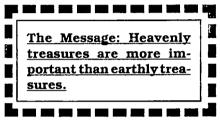
Luke 17:7-10

7 But which of you, having a servant plowing or feeding cattle, will say unto him by and by, when he is come from the field, Go and sit down to meat?

8 And will not rather say unto him, Make ready wherewith I may

sup, and gird thyself, and serve me, till I have eaten and drunken; and afterward thou shalt eat and drink?

9 Doth he thank that servant because he did the things that were commanded him? I trow not. **10** So likewise ye, when ye shall have done all those things which are commanded you, say, We are unprofitable servants: we have done that which was our duty to do.



Questions:

- 1. Tell the parable that Jesus told about the unjust steward.
- 2. What was his purpose in getting in good with the debtors of his lord?
- 3. Are we to use the chance we have in this world to get in good with God?
- 4. How can we get the favor of God upon our lives so He will take us to His eternal home?
- 5. Are we stewards of all that comes into our hands and to whom do we give an account?
- 6. Tell the last parable of our lesson.

Verse to Memorize

He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much: and he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much.

Luke 16:10.



The unprinted part of our lesson is the parable that Jesus spoke to the Pharisees and to His disciples. A rich man put a steward over all of his business. He trusted him to be wise and take care of it for him. One day he checked into his business and he saw that the steward was wasting his goods. He called the steward to him and said, "What is this that I hear about you? I want you to give an account of your stewardship. I no longer want you to be my steward."

Now the steward was in trouble. He thought to himself, "What shall I do? I am losing my job. I am too old to dig for a living and I am ashamed to dig." Then as he continued to think about it he said, "I know what I'll do. I'll do a good turn for all of the people who owe my master money and get on the good side of them. Then when I am put out of my job they will take me to their homes."

He called those who owed his master and said to one, "How much do you owe?" He said, "I owe 100 measures of oil." The steward said to the debtor, "Take thy bill and sit down quickly and write fifty."

The steward called another debtor to him and said to him, "How much do you owe my lord?" The debtor said, "100 measures of wheat." The steward said to him, "Take thy bill and write 80." This was a worldly way of taking care of business. He worked hard to win the favor of the people. While it was in his hand he could do this and he did it quickly before he lost his job. He made good use of his last hours before he lost his job. His master commended him for his diligent work and cleverness.

Now Jesus wants us to learn a lesson from this parable. As one put it, the whole earth is the house. The heavens are the roof, the stars the lamps, the table that is spread are the fruits of the earth. The owner and builder of this house is God. Man is the steward. Into his hands the business of this house is committed. Sometimes man forgets that God is watching and he must give an account of his actions. He eats, drinks and does as he pleases in a careless manner. The owner (God) sees this and puts him out of the house into torment. He doesn't take care of his business right. He uses the things of God to serve another master with. He is more diligent to obey the devil than God, yet God has given him all that he has.

Our lesson tells us that we can not serve two masters. God wants us to love Him more than the things He gives to us. Some people love money more than God. They will do wicked things to get it. They will seek after worldly pleasures more than after the things of God. They want to be "highly esteemed among men." But it is more important to put high values on the things of God as they are to be first.

The last parable in the lesson is to make us know that we are not doing God a favor by worshiping Him. We are the ones to lose if we disobey God and do not serve Him. We were lost in sin and could not help ourselves. We can only plead mercy at the hand of God. He will save us through His great love. All that we might do, we are still unprofitable servants. We can never repay God for all He has done for us. ---Sis. Marie Miles

> (Taken from a previous Beautiful Way lesson.)

not disappoint them. In I John 1:9 He says, "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." In just a few minutes they arose with shining faces, happy in the knowledge of sins forgiven.

Then they knelt and asked God to take care of their father and help them to find him and the sheep safe. Hand in hand they went on up the path looking and listening. Before long they came to a small stream where the sheep drank on their way home. Just beyond this stream they saw two small lambs standing near the path acting as if they were lost.

"Father must be close by for these lambs are very young," said Juan. "They couldn't have traveled very far by themselves."

Hearing a noise back of some bushes, they went to see what it was. By this time the moon was up high enough for them to see faintly. There lay their father moaning. Both children knelt by his side trying to examine him and find out where he was hurt. In a moment he began to rally some and tried to answer them but was unable to keep his thoughts together.

"What happened, Father? Where are the sheep?" Juan asked.

Finally his father looked up and said, "What time is it?"

"Almost eight o'clock now." Juan answered.

"Juan, I remember now. There is no time to lose. Will you go over the mountain to Mr. Jacobs? Tell him to get help and stop a big truck when it comes to the highway. They have taken all of the sheep but a few little lambs and they have only been gone a few minutes for I looked at my watch. They were chasing me when I fell. They will have to travel slowly with such a heavy load and it is a long ways around the mountain by the path. You take the short cut and you should beat them by several minutes."

Juan took off on a run. He had only been on that path but once before but felt that the Lord would help him.

"Carla, you run back to the cabin and ask Mother to call Dr. Black and get someone to help me. I'm sure my leg is broken, besides injuries to my head. I fell in a hole and they ran back to get the truck and got away. I tried to fight them off, but they were too much for me. Run, Carla, don't be afraid. I'll be all right until you get help."

Carla sped down the path as if on wings. It was all downhill so she could go much faster. When she was within calling distance of the cabin, she could see Mother in the doorway waiting and watching. Mother called the doctor and the nearest neighbors to go after the injured man.

In the meantime, Juan was speeding over the almost overgrown trail to Mr. Jacobs. Once or twice he was sure he had lost the trail, but soon found it again. He could hear the truck as it labored to go over the rough mountain path scarcely wide enough for a wagon. He ran as he had never run before unmindful of the deep scratches he was getting from the briars along the way. His breath came in great gasps.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 2. So they would take him to their homes when he lost his job. 3. Yes. 4. By using our money, our strength, our time and all we have to serve Him. 5. Yes. We must give an account to God of how we use it.)



The Shepherd And His Family

(Continued from last week.)

The Jacobs family was almost ready for bed when he arrived, but as soon as Juan had stated his errand, they were calling the neighbors for help. There was only one trail the truck could take to go to the road and it came out on the highway a short distance north of the Jacobs' farm.

Logs were hurriedly loaded on a small truck and taken to this trail. The men rolled them off and stacked them across the end of the trail where the truck would have to stop and remove them before it could go on. The sheriff had been called and came just as the last log was put in place. Then every man hid in the dense brush and waited. In a very short time the big truck could be heard coming slowly without lights. As soon as it stopped to remove the logs the sheriff called for them to halt. Three men were in the truck and all were soon under arrest. A neighbor took Juan home, while some of the others drove the truck load of sheep home and penned them up.

When they arrived the doctor and the neighbors were just ready to leave. "Father," cried Juan as he rushed into the cabin, "the sheep are all safe and the men are taken to jail. And Father, we must thank God for helping us catch those men and for bringing you safely home and for saving Carla and me. Mother, did Carla tell you we are both saved now?"

"Yes, son," said Mother as she caught him in her arms and held him tight. "Carla told me and it made me so happy even though I was worried about your father. Now Juan, you and Carla run on to bed. You have had enough excitement for one evening."

"Juan," called Father from the bedroom. "Don't go to bed until you pray for me. Mother, bring Carla too, and let's all pray together. After all God has done for me tonight, I can do no less than give my heart and life to Him. I've been putting it off for a long time. God has been talking to me, but I was too stubborn to listen. My family is all saved and I am still out in the cold. Please pray with me that God will forgive me too."

They all knelt around his bed, pleading and calling on God to save him and give him the peace they were enjoying now. A short time later, a happy family retired for the night, secure in the fact that all were saved and ready to meet the Lord any time He should call them.

God, in His loving mercy, reached down and healed their father in such a short time that it was unbelievable. The neighborhood was stirred for miles



The Right Way To Pray Luke 18:1-14

1 And he spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint;

2 Saying, There was in a city a judge, which feared not God, neither regarded man:

3 And there was a widow in that city; and she came unto him, saying, Avenge me of mine adversary.

4 And he would not for a while: but afterward he said within himself, Though I fear not God, nor regard man;

5 Yet because this widow troubleth me, I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me.

6 And the Lord said, Hear what the unjust judge saith.

7 And shall not God avenge his own elect, which cry day and night unto him, though he bear long with them?

8 I tell you that he will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?

9 And he spake this parable unto certain which trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others:

10 Two men went up into the temple to pray; the one a Pharisee, and the other a publican.

11 The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, God, I thank

thee, that I am not as other men are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican.

12 I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess.

13 And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner.

14 I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other: for every one that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.

<u>The Message: Prayer brings the</u> <u>soul in touch with God, but with-</u> <u>out faith it is but a husk.</u>

Questions:

- 1. What is prayer?
- 2. Repeat the parable that Jesus told.
- 3. Tell what it means.
- 4. Tell about the publican's and the Pharisee's prayer.
- 5. Why did Jesus say that the publican's prayer was right?
- 6. Can you name other people who have prayers in the Bible?
- 7. How are we to pray; when, where?
- 8. Tell about a prayer that you know of that was answered.

Verse to Memorize

Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.

Matthew 7:7.



Praver is talking to God. We cannot see God with our eves but when we close our eyes to things around us we can know that we are in His presence. We know that He is near and that He hears our prayer. We talk to God just as we talk to our parents. We let Him know about our needs. We let Him know that we are thankful and happy that He hears us. We tell Him that we love Him and want to please Him. We know that we can't do the right without His help because we have an enemy of our soul, the devil. He would block our way to do right if we did not have some help. He is bigger than we are but God is bigger and more powerful than the devil. We need to daily ask God to help us to overcome the devil and live for God. God will do that if we will but ask Him.

Jesus told a parable to the disciples after He told them to always pray and not faint. When we need God's help, we must keep asking and not become weary. He said there was a judge that feared not God nor regarded man. He probably didn't let too many know this but some did know. There was a widow in the city who was being mistreated and she asked the judge to see that she got justice. Day after day, morning, noon and night the poor widow came to him. The judge would not hear her. He would not do anything to help her. Finally the judge said that he would help her out because her continual coming wearied him. Now Jesus wanted His hearers to get the point of the parable. He said, "And shall not God avenge (or help) his own elect (His children) which cry day and night unto him, though he bear long with them?" God will render justice. He loves His own and will help them and care for them. But we must ask of Him.

The last part of the lesson tells about the two men that went up to the temple to pray. The one that God commended didn't pray a long prayer but it was sincere and from his heart. The other prayer was a selfish prayer and self-righteous. God wants us to pray sincerely and with faith.

The apostle Paul tells us "in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God." Philippians 4:6. So we want to always tell the Lord thank you for the many things He does for us. Can you name some of the things God does for you? Most of all we should never forget to thank Him for sending His Son to die on the cross for our sins to bring us salvation.

Boys and girls, be sure that you pray often. You do not always have to kneel to pray but you can pray in your heart as you walk to school or just anywhere. Live for God and He will bless you. —Sis. Marie Miles

(Taken from a previous *Beautiful Way* lesson.)

Teach Us To Pray

To pray aright we must be taught The will of God, and how we ought To ask in faith and waver not By living pure and free from blot.

And if we know our pray'r is heard According to God's holy Word How steadfast must our faith so be Until the answer we shall see.

So let us set ourselves to pray Not fainting as we press our way Until the goal breaks on our view And we shall prove His promise true. —Leslie Busbee around. Their father was soon back on the mountain herding the sheep. He could be heard singing the praises of God as he worked. —Iva Branner (The end.)

Deliverance

God could have kept Daniel out of the lions' den. He could have kept Paul and Silas out of jail. He could have kept the three Hebrew children out of the fiery furnace. But God has never promised to keep us out of hard places. What He has promised is to go with us through every hard place, and to bring us through gloriously! —Driftwood

Today We Are Happy!

This is the story of a Scotch boy who explored the wildest regions of Africa, made friends of fierce old native chiefs, defied cruel slave traders, and rescued hundreds of African children from slavery and death.

Dan Crawford, the Scotch boy, was born in Gourock, a little village along the coast of Scotland. His father was the master of a schooner that sailed up and down the seacoast, carrying supplies from one town to another.

As a very small boy Dan stood on the wharf and watched the little boat go sailing out to sea.

"Some day," he told himself, "I'll go, too. And some day I'll be the master of a schooner all my own."

Then Dan began to hear stories about some other Scotch boys who had grown up to be great men—Robert Moffat and David Livingston. They had gone to Africa to teach the people about God. He heard too, how much the people in that faraway country needed help.

So, although he was only nineteen years old, he signed up to go to Africa. It took him thirty-eight days by boat; but after he got to the continent, he had to travel on foot for months to reach the part of the country that was to be his home.

At last—over a year from the time he left his home in Scotland—Dan Crawford reached the part of Africa that was ruled by King Mushidi.

Now Mushidi was a cruel old chief who sold his people just as he sold his ivory. He put hundreds of people to death whenever the idea struck him. But from the very first, old King Mushidi took a liking to Dan. Often when the old chief was about to sell some of his people, or punish them by some terrible means, Dan would talk him out of it.

It wasn't all as easy as that, however, for Mushidi liked the gold that came to him from the slave trade.

After Mushidi's death, a new king ruled the kingdom; and this king. Mwenda, became a Christian. He looked at his people and saw that they were sick, afraid, unhappy. "Tell them the story of Jesus," he used to say to Dan. So for thirty-six years Dan Crawford traveled all up and down the interior of Africa, telling the people about Jesus, the Son of God. He helped them build clean, sturdy homes; he taught them how to take care of the sick, and he told them that God wanted them to live together in peace.

"The years before you told us about Jesus," the people said, "were sad years. Today we are happy; we are strong."

Dan Crawford smiled. That's why he had come to Africa—to tell them about Jesus Christ who would change their lives. —N. Tyndale

> (Answers: 1. Prayer is talking to God. 5. It was a humble, sincere prayer from his heart. 7. We are to pray without ceasing, everywhere we go.)



In A Lumber Camp

It was the daybreak hour of an autumn day. In the dim light two men were treading their way through a pine forest.

Tim was short and humpbacked, with long, sinewy arms. Notwithstanding his deformity and his tangled, dark hair and beard, it was a kindly, if not clever, face which peered up at Raymond.

Raymond, who had newly arrived in camp, was younger, tall, broadshouldered, and carried himself proudly erect. He had a fair, clear-cut face and steel-blue eyes.

"Ray, ye've got a lot to be thankful for."

"!?"

"Yes," and Tim cheerily refused to note the scorn in the other's voice. "I don't jes' know what's in the few years behind ye, nor what brought the likes of ye here, but ye're straight and strong, ye know books and ye've had a chance. The boys here are different, but ye've had a chance, Ray."

"It's nobody's business but my own," he said to himself, trying to forget the counsel of his aged father. "Well, I'm free from the old superstitions, yet sometimes I ask myself if freedom is worth the price I paid for it." Haskins' Camp was situated in northern Minnesota. Raymond had arrived but three weeks before. His fellow-workmen saw at once that he was not one of them. They resented his correct speech, personal neatness, and especially his refusal to join in their rough amusements.

Thanksgiving day came. On that morning, Raymond awoke from a troubled sleep. All night his dreams had been haunted by visions of his past.

Snow was falling rapidly, for winter had already come to that northern land. Raymond and Tim were working with a large party of choppers.

At that moment a monarch of the forest came to the ground with a resounding crash. Above this noise rang out a cry of terror and pain.

It was poor, crippled Tim. He had chanced to stand where the great branches swept him from his feet and pinned him to the earth. Raymond was the first to reach his side. Carefully the men freed him, finding the poor, bent body fearfully mangled.

"I guess it's all over with me boys," he said, trying hard to keep his voice steady.

"Ray, stay by me. O, be careful!"

They carried him to the camp. A man started on horseback to the nearest village, twenty miles distant, for a



What Is Faith?

Matthew 8:5-13

5 And when Jesus was entered into Capernaum, there came unto him a centurion, beseeching him,

6 And saying, Lord, my servant lieth at home sick of the palsy, grievously tormented.

7 And Jesus saith unto him, I will come and heal him.

8 The centurion answered and said, Lord, 1 am not worthy that thou shouldest come under my roof: but speak the word only, and my servant shall be healed.

9 For I am a man under authority, having soldiers under me: and I say to this man, Go, and he goeth; and to another, Come, and he cometh; and to my servant, Do this, and he doeth it.

10 When Jesus heard it, he marvelled, and said to them that followed, Verily I say unto you, I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel.

11 And I say unto you, That many shall come from the east and west, and shall sit down with Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, in the kingdom of heaven.

12 But the children of the kingdom shall be cast out into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

13 And Jesus said unto the centurion, Go thy way; and as thou hast believed, so be it done unto thee. And his servant was healed in the self-same hour.

Hebrews 11:1-6

1 Now faith is the substance of

things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

2 For by it the elders obtained a good report.

3 Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.

4 By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts: and by it he being dead yet speaketh.

 $\hat{\mathbf{5}}$ By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God.

6 But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

The Message: Faith is believing God from the heart that He will do as He has promised.

Questions:

- 1. What kind of a disease did the servant of the centurion have?
- 2. How did the centurion treat the men that were under his authority?
- 3. Did Jesus feel the centurion did not have any faith?
- 4. What elders were mentioned in our lesson who were men of faith?
- 5. What two steps mentioned in verse six must we take to get a reward from God?

Verse to Memorize

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

Hebrews 11:1.



Some might say that if Jesus were here on earth and they could see Him they would believe that He would do what they asked Him to do. But our lesson teaches us that the servant of the centurion did not see Jesus. His master asked Jesus to heal him and told Him that He need not come to his house, but just speak the word and the man would be healed. We need not see Jesus today with our eyes, but must see Him through the eye of faith.

Our lesson tells us that we understand by faith that God created the world and all that is in it. We were not there when the world was made but we see it now. God has told us in Genesis how the world was made and we believe it. We do not doubt it. We do not believe as some do that it came into existence little by little, but we believe it was created just as God has told us in the Bible. We must have faith in God.

Today many are losing their faith in God. Boys and girls, it is a dangerous thing to not believe God. Whether you believe Him or not, you are going to have to deal with Him some day. God will always be God whether people believe in Him or not. Some people in their lifetime said they didn't believe there was a God but at death they called out that they wished they had lived differently. They changed their minds then but it was too late for many of them. We must have faith in God.

Our lesson tells us that we cannot please God unless we have faith in Him. When we come to God we must believe that God is the God of all creation. We must believe that He is all-powerful, all-wise, and can see everything and is everywhere. We must believe that He will help us when we earnestly ask Him. Sometimes we must ask again and again before we receive because God is testing our faith. Maybe we will have to ask until we get in earnest about it.

Down through the years and since time began God has blessed those who have loved Him and had faith in Him. Boys and girls, you, too, can be blessed if you will always hold your faith in God steady.

To be ready for heaven we must have faith in God. We must believe that Jesus died on the cross for our sins. We must believe that when we are sorry with a godly sorrow for our sins and ask God to forgive us that He will do it. This will bring a blessing. Then we must believe that God will give us the Holy Spirit when we meet the conditions. We can be healed from all of our diseases today when we believe that God will heal us when we ask Him to. Many blessings are given to us through faith in God.

--Sis. Marie Miles (Taken from the January 9, 1966 Beautiful Way)

Have Faith in God

Have faith in God, believe He is The Lord of earth and heaven. That pow'r to bless is truly His— Thus life and breath is given.

Have faith in God, believe His Word For us that's been appointed For not one soul hath e'er been heard Who has been disappointed.

The pow'rs of evil 'round about' Seek well our faith to plunder; But let us triumph over doubt And shout our faith like thunder! —Leslie Busbee doctor. All feared Tim would not live until the doctor arrived, and his suffering was great.

When he had been laid on a rude bunk near the great stove he looked up wistfully into the faces of his companions.

"It's death, boys. Tell me 'bout God—no one ever told me."

A strange silence fell upon the group of men, a silence broken only by the howling wind outside. Tim spoke again, "Ray, tell me. It must be ye know, 'cause ye're different from the rest of us."

All eyes turned toward the young man. He bent lower over Tim, asking: "What is it you want to hear?"

All 'bout Him. Will He be mad 'cause I never thanked Him? You see, I don't know much, and nobody ever told me. Can't you, my boy? Pray for me."

Raymond Lee's face grew stern and white. His father was a minister. He had himself been a theological student. The influence of a skeptical classmate and the reading of books loaned to him had instilled doubt into Raymond's mind. Dominated by an idea of his own mental superiority, the youth went on, until a day came when he scoffed at the faith of his dead mother, and denied God. He resolved to cut himself loose from home ties. He wrote defiantly to his father of his change of views, and went out into the world, leaving no clue whereby he could be traced.

Dark days followed. He had to learn the emptiness of a life without hope in God. He hungered for the sound of his father's voice, but was too proud to return home and ask forgiveness. In a fit of desperation he had hired out to the foreman of Haskins' Lumber Camp.

All these things flashed through his mind in a moment. This dying man was asking him to pray. A groan broke from his lips. "Tim, I cannot. I—" and he paused, unable to say that he did not believe in the God to Whom, in the hour of death, even Tim had turned.

"Can't! Why, I s'posed ye knew Him. Ye've had a chance."

Raymond could bear no more. Turning away, he rushed out into the storm. For hours he strode back and forth through the trackless forest. He heeded not the wind nor the snow. Face to face he met and grappled with the problem of a man's relation to his Creator.

Raymond Lee was alone with God. In that hour his boasted skepticism fell from him. The theories of science and law, upon which he had rested, gave way beneath him. There was but one sure Foundation.

Shadows were beginning to gather in the room where Tim lay when the door opened to admit Raymond. With a firm step he crossed to the side of the dying man.

"Tim, I have been with God. He has forgiven me, sinner that I am. Now I have come to tell you of His love."

Simply, tenderly, he told the story of God's love in sending His beloved Son into the world to die for sinners to become the Sin-bearer of all who will put their trust in Him as Saviour.

"God commendeth His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." —Romans 5:8. "The blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin." —I John 1:7.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: He was sick of the palsy. 2. He commanded them to do as he wished. 3. He said he had great faith. 4. Abel and Enoch. 5. First, believe; second, diligently seek Him.)

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A Boy Prays In A Saloon

There was a terribly wicked man who kept a saloon where whiskey was sold and where young men got together at night to drink and gamble. "I was very anxious to get this man's children into Sunday school," Mr. Moody writes. One day he called on the man and said, "Mr. Bell, I want you to let your children come to Sunday school."

The man was terribly angry, and he said that he did not believe the Bible, school, or anything else, and ordered him to leave the house.

"Soon after," writes Mr. Moody, "I went down again and called on this man, and asked him to go to church, and again he was very angry. He said that he had not been at church for nineteen years, and would never go again, and he would rather see his boy a drunkard and his daughter a bad girl than that they should attend Sunday school. A second time I was forced to leave the house.

"Two or three days after I called again, and he said, "Well, I guess you are a pretty good-natured sort of a man, and different from the rest of Christians, or you would not have come back'; so seeing him in a good humor, I asked him what he had to say against Christ, and if he had read His life. He asked me what I had to say against a book that Paine, an infidel, had written. I said that I had never read it; whereupon he said he would read the New Testament if I would read that book, to which I agreed, although he had the best bargain: and I did so. I did not like it much and would not advise any person to read it. I asked Mr. Bell to come to church, but he said they were all hypocrites that went to church. This he would do, however; I might come to his saloon if I liked, and preach."

"Here, in this saloon?" asked Mr. Moody.

"Yes, but look here, you are not to do all the talking." He said that he and his friends would have their say as well as I. I agreed that they might have the first forty-five minutes, and I the last fifteen of the hour, which he thought fair, and that was settled.

"The day came, and I went to keep my appointment, but I never in all my life met such a crowd as when on the day appointed I went to that saloon such a collection of infidels, deists, and reprobates of all kinds, I never saw before. Their oaths and language were horrible. Some of them seemed as if they had come on leave of absence from the pit. I never was so near hell before. They began to talk in the most horrible way, using many curse words. Many used the precious Lord's



What Faith Is Built Upon

John 20:24-31

24 But Thomas, one of the twelve, called Didymus, was not with them when Jesus came.

25 The other disciples therefore said unto him, We have seen the Lord. But he said unto them, Except I shall see in his hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into his side, I will not believe.

26 And after eight days again his disciples were within, and Thomas with them: then came Jesus, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, Peace be unto you.

27 Then saith he to Thomas, Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side: and be not faithless, but believing.

28 And Thomas answered and said unto him, My Lord and my God.

29 Jesus saith unto him, Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed.

30 And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book:

31 But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name.

Romans 10:8-17

8 ...The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach;

9 That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath

raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.

10 For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

11 For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed.

12 For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him.

13 For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

14 How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?

15 And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written. How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!

16 But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Esaias saith, Lord, who hath believed our report?

17 So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

<u>The Message: Jesus is the Rock upon</u> which we build our faith in His words.

Questions:

- 1. What do we build our faith on?
- 2. Did doubting Thomas believe Jesus arose after he saw Him?
- 3. Tell what Jesus said about those who believe and have not seen Jesus with their eyes.
- 4. How do we get saved?

Verse to Memorize

And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven.

Matthew 16:17.



If someone told you that while you were out of town visiting at your grandmother's house that the governor of your state had come to your town, would you believe it? Perhaps if just one person told you about it you would doubt it. You might ask someone else or perhaps three or four others. If they all told you that he had been there, then you would surely believe it, wouldn't you? In other words you would have faith in their word. You would believe it so much that you probably would mention it to your grandmother when you wrote her thanking her for the nice time you had at her house.

Now our lesson tells us that "faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." So your faith is built up by hearing or reading the Bible. We believe that Jesus one time came here from heaven and was born into this world just as all boys and girls are. You don't have to take just one person's word for it but there were a lot of people who saw Him. A lot of people saw Him even after He arose from the grave. They tried to make His grave safe, as they were afraid some men would come and take His body away. They put a governor's seal on it. They placed soldiers around it. But man could not hold His body in the grave. It came forth. The soldiers fell down as dead men. Jesus arose and is alive forevermore! A number of witnesses saw Him rise up into the cloud out of their sight.

So many today are like poor Doubting Thomas that our lesson tells us about. He just couldn't believe that Jesus had risen. Others told him about it but he said that he just must see for himself those nail prints and that side that had been pierced by the sword. Jesus loves to help those who have a hard time believing, so one day He appeared unto Thomas. How glad Thomas was to know that his precious Saviour, whom he loved so dearly, had risen. He saw Him with his own eyes. But Jesus said, "Blessed are those who believe, yet have not seen Me with their eyes." Boys and girls, we are blessed because we do believe that Jesus arose from the grave and is our Saviour today even though we have not seen Him with our natural eves.

Our lesson teaches us that all who will call upon the Lord and confess their sins will be saved. Have you been saved? Do you know that your sins are all forgiven? If not, I beg you, in Jesus' name today, to call upon the Lord. With tears, tell Him how sorry you are that you have sinned against Him. Ask Him to forgive you. He is ready to do that. He will wash away all your sins and you will be made happy and free. Then you can help others. –Sis. Marie Miles

(Taken from the January 9, 1966 *Beautiful Way* lesson.)

name in vain, which was painful to me. Some of them thought one thing, some another; some believed there was a God, others not; some thought there was a man as Jesus Christ others that there never was; some didn't believe anything. They couldn't agree. They disputed each other's words and very nearly came to fighting with one another before their time had expired.

"I had brought down with me a boy, an orphan, and when I saw and heard such terrible language and actions I thought I had done wrong to bring him there. When their time was up, I said that we Christians always began services with prayer to God." 'Hold,' said they: 'two must be agreed first."

"Well, here are two of us, said I. And so I prayed, and then the boy did so, and I never heard a prayer like that in all of my life. It seemed as if God was speaking through that boy. With tears running down his cheeks he besought God, for Christ's sake, to take pity on all of those poor men and that went to their very hearts. I heard sobs throughout the room, and one infidel went out at this door and another through another door.

"Mr. Bell came up to me and said, 'You can have my children, Mr. Moody.' And the best friend that I have in Chicago today is that same Joshua Bell, and his son has come out for Christ and is a worker for Him." (Taken from a previous Beautiful Way Lesson.)

In A Lumber Camp

(Continued from last week.)

Others gathered around the bed. Could they doubt the truth of the words spoken, when they saw the light that came in Tim's face? "I see," he gasped.

Raymond knelt down. First one

then another of the rough men dropped upon their knees. Never had Raymond Lee prayed as in that hour. God was with him. Round him were men who, in Tim's own words, had "never had a chance." He prayed with a faith born of absolute belief in God's willingness to save.

"It's all right," Tim murmured. "I'm going to Him. Ray, you tell everybody."

"Yes, Tim, I will spend my life telling this story."

The dying man said feebly, "I thank Him." A few moments more and all was over.

Raymond faced his fellow-workmen. "Tim is gone. Boys, I have gone back to the service I pledged to God many years ago. You will forgive the spirit I have shown toward you, and let me begin by telling you?"

"Yes, we will," was the reply of one. "When we come where Tim is, we will wish we had heard." That night Raymond wrote a long letter to his father. The next night he held a meeting and began to tell the story of Jesus—His death and resurrection.

At the close of Raymond's heart to heart talk the third evening, the door opened; a stranger with show white hair entered. "Father!"

"My son! I came to help you here," and Raymond Lee was clasped in his father's arms.

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." —I John 1:9

-Taken from a tract

"Sin goes deep, but Christ goes deeper."

(Answers: 1. Upon Jesus and His words. 2. Yes. 3. They are blessed. 4. By calling upon the Lord and confessing our sins.)

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"Dist A Bistit"

"In the early 1930's when the entire nation was in the depths of a depression, and many people were close to each other because of dire need, I taught a school in Andrew County, Missouri. My salary was small and I didn't have any luxuries. I did have good food and a good bed, for which I was thankful.

"It was my custom to have a different pupil eat with me each day. Every child took his turn. I never knew whether a child ate with me because he liked me, or because he was hungry and thought perhaps I would share my lunch with him. Most of the time it was probably for the latter reason.

"One day Jimmie's turn came. He looked at my lunch as I opened it, then looked into his own sack, and remarked, 'Dist a bistit.' That was his lunch! Just a cold biscuit.

"On returning to my boarding place that night to a good farm supper, I could not help but wonder what Jimmie had for his supper. His remark, 'Dist a bistit' haunted me. Thanksgiving was the following week, and the thought of these poor children having so little to eat brought sadness to my heart. I thought of the verse, 'But whoso hath this world's goods, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him?' Surely there was some way I could help these children.

"I made plans to have a delicious meal with turkey and dressing for the fourteen school children, ranging in age from seven to seventeen. I would arrange for someone to take me to school that day with all the food, rather than to walk as usual.

"That morning was very cold but after some time the pot-bellied stove sent out a little heat to most of the room. The table was spread and the children's eyes sparkled with delight. Jimmie said, 'Let's bow our heads and t'ank God for 'dis food.' He was one of the youngest children in the school. but some of the older ones were too shy to speak out and others were not accustomed to asking the blessing over their food. As Jimmie praved, his words showed the depth of thankfulness he felt in his heart. Although he had so little of this world's riches, one would have thought God had supplied him with a bounty of goods as he thanked God for the 'mighty blessings' given. I could feel the tears swell up in my eyes at his humble prayer.

"That was a good Thanksgiving and I have not forgotten the lesson I was taught—that of being thankful to the Lord for the things in life we often take for granted. —Selected from a previous *Beautiful Way* lesson.



What The Apostles Said **About Thanksgiving**

Colossians 3:15 15 ... be ye thankful Colossians 2:6-7

6 As ye have therefore received

Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him:

7 Rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving.

Colossians 4:2

2 Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving.

1 Thessalonians 5:18

18 In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

1 Timothy 6:6-8

6 But godliness with contentment is great gain.

For we brought nothing into this 7 world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out.

8 And having food and raiment let us be therewith content.

1 Timothy 2:1

1 I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men.

Philippians 4:6-8

6 Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.

7 And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

8 Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.

Hebrews 13:5

5 Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said. I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.

Hebrews 13:15-16

15 By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name.

16 But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.

Revelation 7:11-12

11 And all the angels stood round about the throne, and about the elders and the four beasts, and fell before the throne on their faces, and worshipped God,

12 Saying, Amen: Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honour, and power, and might, be unto our God for ever and ever. Amen.

The Message: God wants people to thank Him all year long, not just at this season of the year.

(Look for "Questions" on page 3.)

Verse to Memorize

In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you. I Thessalonians 5:18.



The story is told of a rich baker who decided to give away his day old bread in a big basket in front of his bakery.

Every day the big baker stood near the basket while the street urchins pushed and shoved their way to the basket hoping to get the largest loaf. Occasionally a big boy would try sneaking a loaf to a younger brother, but the clever baker always caught them.

Bess was a little girl who lived with her widowed mother. She too went every day to get bread. The baker noticed that she never pushed her way to the front, but waited at one side until all the others took the larger loaves of bread, then she would take a loaf from what was left. She always smiled and told the baker, "Thank you," and skipped away towards the hut where she lived.

Day after day the baker watched Bess. Day after day he saw the smile on her face and heard her say, "Thank you."

"I am going to teach the children a lesson," he said one day. He baked a very small loaf of fresh bread and put it in the basket with the day old bread. As usual, the boys threw it aside and grabbed the larger loaves. When all the boys and girls had gone, little Bess took the tiny loaf of bread. She felt sad because it was so tiny and it was all the food she and her mother had, but she gave the baker the same sweet smile and said, "Thank you," in the usual way.

When she got home, she cut open the loaf and out fell some gold coins!

Quickly she took them back to the baker thinking the coins had accidentally fallen into the dough. "The coins are for you and your mother," the baker said, "because you always thanked me for the bread."

Soon, news of the gold coins reached every child in the village.

We should be just as polite and thankful as Bess, although we may never be rewarded by gold coins. Those who are thankful do receive other rewards. A thankful person is a happy person, and that is a great reward.

To be a thankful person, we must be content. People enjoy being around a contented person, so another reward will be having friends. My grandson was sweeiping the walk and happily whistling as he worked when a man walked by. A few minutes later, this same man came back and put a dollar into his hand—another reward. Yes, a thankful person is rewarded by both God and men.

—Sis. Charlotte Huskey (Taken from the November 19, 1989 Beautiful Way lesson.)

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Questions:

- 1. Should every person be thankful?
- 2. For what should a person be thankful?
- Being contented will help a person be more _____.
- 4. What should a prayer always contain?
- 5. Name some things we should think on.
- 6. Will thinking on these things help us to be more thankful?
- 7. Should we be thankful that Jesus will never leave us?
- 8. With what kinds of sacrifices is God well pleased?
- 9. What did the angels say about thanksgiving?

Experience Of Jane Pithey

Jane Pithey has become known to a wide circle of Christian friends as one who lives wholly by faith. For several years she has been disabled by a shaking palsy, and has received all her supplies in answer to prayers. She lives in a small frame house, on a narrow and unpleasant street; but though suffering much from disease. being quite helpless in her chair, she is uniformly patient and cheerful. Her first experience of the readiness of her heavenly Father to hear her prayer was when she was living in Ireland and was but sixteen years of age. Having learned to play on the piano at school, she was very anxious to possess one, but the ordinary price was far above the family means.

One day it occurred to her that God heard prayer and that it might be He would give her a piano. She prayed to Him with childlike simplicity and faith. A day or two later she was walking along the street and saw a music store which she entered. She inquired the price of a piano which stood before her. To her amazement, the man replied, "Five pounds." Seeing her surprise at the low price, he added, "I know nothing of this piano, except that it was brought here to be sold for five pounds."

She hastened home, told her mother, obtained the money, and secured her heart's desire. This fact taught her a lifelong lesson—to carry all her wants, small or great, to her heavenly Father.

When her husband died, he left in his pocket only two silver quarterdollars. Besides the little cottage, this was all with which to support herself and a bedridden mother of nearly ninety years. She went to God in prayer, and day by day, ever since, each want has been met. Each needed article was asked for by name, until her hired girl was astounded at the constant answers given.

One morning, as Mrs. Pithey was rising from her knees at family worship, the girl burst out: "You have forgotten to pray for coal and we are entirely out." So, as she stood, she added a petition for the coal. About an hour after, the bell rang. She went to the door and there was a load of coal! She opened the kitchen door and quietly said, "The coal has come."

The girl clapped her hands together, and, with an exclamation of astonishment, leaped from the floor. The coal was sent by a man who knew nothing of her want, and had never sent anything before, nor ever has since.

Mrs. Pithey's sympathy with others equals her freedom from anxiety in her own behalf. When a foundlings' home was started, she gave the first dollar before anyone else had thought of such an idea. The superintendent of the home said that he never knew her to worry but once, and that was when she had unexpectedly two barrels of flour in her house instead of one and had not been able to get one of them carried to the foundlings' home.

Wishing to give a marriage present to a girl who had lived with her, she fixed upon a certain sum, in her mind, and then asked the Lord for the money. In a short time a city missionary handed her that exact sum, which had been sent to her from Massachusetts. –Prayer And Its Remarkable Answers

(Answers: 1. Yes. 2. For everything. 3. Thankful. 4. Thanksgiving. 5. Things that are true, honest, just, pure, lovely, good, and virtuous. 6. Yes. 7. Yes. 8. Sacrifices of praise and thanksgiving. 9. They said it should be given to our God forever and ever.)

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George Washington At Prayer

While the army lay in the neighborhood of White Plains, a farmer, whose dwelling was near the camp, one morning at sunrise, while passing a clump of brush, heard a moaning noise. Thinking his ox or his ass had fallen into a pit, he, on going to the spot, heard the voice of a person in prayer. He hid in the thicket, and listened, waiting to see the speaker. Having finished praying, this man of God came forth from his hiding place. It was George Washington. When the farmer entered his dwelling, he said to his wife: "I heard the man George Washington send to heaven such prayers for the cause and country. and I know they will be heard." Thus Washington rose with the sun and prayed for his country.

We would add to this, that while a student at Princeton we heard a testimony from an old man. He stated that he belonged, for several months, to Washington's bodyguard, and that it was his duty to stand guard from two until five o'clock each morning and that it was the general's custom to rise at four o'clock and read the Word of God and kneel down and pray out loud for several minutes after which he began the business of the day. He stated moreover that he punished all profane swearing in those under his authority. The memory of the piety of such a man should be cherished as a rich legacy to this nation of which he was the father.

"Let thine ear now be attentive, and thine eyes open, that thou mayest hear the prayer of thy servant. Nehemiah 1:6. —Selected

Keeping His Covenant

I was greatly impressed with a true story that I heard recently concerning a young fellow who enlisted in the army of the South during the Civil War. This young fellow had been raised in a true Christian home, and as he prepared to leave for the front, his godly mother took him in her arms and persuaded him to make a covenant with her that each morning and evening, every day, they would come before God in prayer at the same hour. She would kneel beside his bed at the appointed time, and wherever he might be in the battle lines he would meet her in prayer, before the throne of God.

Soon he found himself surrounded with all the elements of warfare; far from home and little sympathy among his fellows for such a thing as prayer. He tried to slip out near his tent to keep his prayer rendezvous with his



The Great Feast

II Kings 23:21

21 And the king commanded all the people, saying, Keep the passover unto the Lord your God, as it is written in the book...

II Chronicles 35:2-3, 6-10, 13-19 2 And he set the priests in their

charges, and encouraged them to the service of the house of the Lord,

3 And said unto the Levites that taught all Israel,...serve now the Lord your God, and his people Israel,

6 So kill the passover, and sanctify yourselves, and prepare your brethren, that they may do according to the word of the Lord by the hand of Moses.

7 And Josiah gave to the people, of the flock, lambs and kids...thirty...and three thousand...

8 And his princes gave willingly unto the people, to the priests, and to the Levites:...two thousand and six hundred small cattle, and three hundred oxen.

9 ...his brethren, and...{the chiefs} of the Levites, gave...five thousand small cattle, and five hundred oxen.
10 So the service was prepared, and

the priests stood in their place, and the Levites in their courses,...

13 And they roasted the passover with fire according to the ordinance: but the other holy offerings sod they in pots...and divided them speedily among all the people.

14 And afterward they made ready for themselves, and for the priests: because the priests...were busied in offering of burnt offerings and the fat until night; therefore the Levites prepared for themselves, and for the priests...

15 And the singers the sons of Asaph were in their place,...and the porters waited at every gate; they might not depart from their service; for their brethren the Levites prepared for them.

16 So all the service of the Lord was prepared the same day, to keep the passover...according to the commandment of king Josiah.

17 And the children of Israel that were present kept the passover...and the feast of unleavened bread seven days.

18 ...there was no passover like to that kept in Israel from the days of Samuel the prophet;...

19 In the eighteenth year of the reign of Josiah was this passover kept.

The Message: The people of Israel were blessed of the Lord because they obeyed and worshiped Him.

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Questions:

- 1. What did King Josiah command the people to do?
- 2. How many animals were used during this great feast?
- 3. Who killed the animals and cooked the meat?
- 4. What did the porters do?
- 5. How many days did the people feast?
- 6. How did it compare with other Passover feasts?
- 7. How old was King Josiah at the time of this Passover?

Verse to Memorize

Happy is that people,...whose God is the Lord. Psalms 144:15.



Many years before Josiah became king, the Israelites were slaves in the land of Egypt. God sent many terrible things upon the Egyptians because of the way they treated the Israelites. Finally, when God sent a death angel and every firstborn in Egypt died, the slaves were freed.

God told Moses to tell the Israelites that this would happen. They were told to eat at midnight and be packed, fully dressed and ready to travel in a moment. They were also commanded to put blood from a lamb over and on the sides of their doors. This was a sign to God that they really believed He would send a death angel. The death angel would not enter the homes of those who believed God's Word.

At midnight, while they were eating the cooked lamb with bitter herbs, they heard the Egyptians crying. They knew the oldest child in each Egyptian family was dead. The Egyptian king sent servants to command the Israelites to leave at once, because he knew their God had sent the death angel.

To remember this important day, God said, "The month that you escaped from Egypt and from death shall be the first month of the year. Have a feast every year in that month. Have it on the same day that you were delivered. Call it a Passover Feast, because the death angel passed over and struck only the Egyptians."

When Josiah read this from the newly found book of laws, he said,

"This is a commandment of God, so we will do it." He and his helpers read very carefully the instructions for this feast.

The feast was announced throughout the land and people began bringing in animals so there would be plenty for everyone. Josiah gave thirty-three thousand lambs and kids from his own flocks. His brethren, the princes, and the leading Levites also gave thousands of small cattle and hundreds of oxen.

On the 13th day of the first month, people began coming into Jerusalem. Tired, hungry, thirsty men, women and children poured into the city. Some had traveled many miles; some had not walked so far. They built shelters from palms and other brush. "Tomorrow the Passover Feast will start," they shouted one to another.

The Passover started early the next day. There was lots of work to do. Every man, woman, and even the children had plenty to do. There were fires to be made and kept burning, and offerings to God for the priests to make. Animals had to be prepared for roasting and boiling, bread baked and camping places to be made.

The priests and Levites had to serve the people first, so it was late before they had a chance to eat. The priests were still making burnt offerings to God when night came.

Everyone slept outdoors. They slept in the booths they had made.

The next day was a day of holy quietness before the Lord. No one was to work that day. They worshiped God and rejoiced that He had delivered their fathers from the Egyptians, also that He had delivered them from idol worship that had kept them from enjoying these great feasts. —Sis. Charlotte Huskey

(Taken from the November 25, 1990 *Beautiful Way* lesson.)

mother, but his comrades laughed and jeered him to scorn. So he decided he would slip out in front of the battle lines alone and find a secret place to pray, and he discovered a cave among some rocks that afforded a most desirable place of private prayer.

As days went by, suspicions began to prevail throughout the camp that the secrets of the army were being given to the enemy. Every move, every strategy seemed to be anticipated by the Northern army, and as a consequence the losses of the South were mounting higher and higher. Every move of every man was watched to discover the traitor, and soon this young man was seen to slip out day after day, each morning and evening, towards the line of the enemy. After several days he was taken into custody and brought before the courtmartial. He was tried and convicted of treason, in spite of all his protests; and when he sought to persuade them that he had only gone out there to pray because of the ridicule that had been heaped upon him in the camp. his story was brushed aside as ridiculous. The day came for his execution. They dug a grave and stood him beside it. The firing squad loaded their rifles and prepared to fire the fatal shots, when the old General stepped forward and said to the boy, "Well, have you a confession to make or anything to say further, before we shoot?" And the boy replied, "No, sir. nothing else than what I have repeatedly told you; I only went to pray at the appointed hour, as I promised my mother before I left home." "Well." said the old General, with a sneer stealing across his face, "if you have been doing so much praying out there alone every day, you ought to have plenty of practice by this time. Suppose you kneel down there and show

us how you do it!" The boy fell to his knees and turning his face toward heaven, began to pour out his heart to God with all the earnestness of his being. Soon he became utterly lost in prayer. He seemed to have shut himself in alone with God, utterly oblivious to his surroundings and the circumstances under which he was praying.

One by one, the firing squad lowered their guns to their sides, as they wiped a falling tear from their faces. With increasing earnestness and passion, that boy prayed on. At last the General could stand it no longer. He walked up beside the lad and laying his hand on his shoulder, said, "That is enough, my boy; stand to your feet." The young fellow rose to his feet. clicked his heels together, saluted the General and said, "All right, sir, I am ready to die." But the old weatherbeaten face of the General beamed with assurance and gratification as he stepped up to the boy, and loosing his hands that had been bound behind the lad, he said, "No, my boy, I am convinced you have been telling the truth, for nobody could pray before others as you have done unless they had done a lot of praying in secret. somewhere."

Ah, my friends, that is the great spiritual secret and mystery of Power in Prayer! No one ever learns how to pray effectively except in the secret place of prayer where God can deal alone with the heart. —Selected

(Answers: 1. To keep the Passover. 2. 800 oxen; 7,200 small cattle; 33,000 lambs and kids. 3. The priests and Levites. 4. They stood at the gates. 5. Seven days. 6. It was the greatest since the days of Samuel 7. 25 years old.)



A Christmas Welcome Home

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believeth on Him should not perish."

The train was crowded, and the only seat left was beside a young lad who looked to be no more than fifteen years of age. The minister set his handbag down and sat beside the boy. Desiring to be pleasant, he made some commonplace remarks about the fact that everyone was hurrying home for Christmas, but the lad did not answer; he had been crying. Puzzled, the minister ceased his attempts at conversation and waited for the boy to speak.

It was going to be a white Christmas all right. Great flakes of snow were coming down, and the window was almost covered. He thought of the long ride ahead of him and wondered how far the boy had to go.

"Excuse me, son. I do not know about your troubles, and you do not have to tell me unless you want to---but, I am a preacher, and I might be able to help you with your problem."

The boy looked at the minister for a moment, and then said, "I want

to tell you—I have got to tell someone."

"All right, then—let's hear it."

The boy laid his head back and looked out the window as he began, "I guess I do not deserve much Christmas, but I cannot help wanting it. I have been away from home four months now. I got fed up with school and all the chores I had to do. Nothing ever happens in our town. Dad has a store and farms on the side. We keep two cows, too. I got tired of milking them in the winter mornings before daylight and then coming home from school to feed and water them all over again. All the older fellows were getting jobs.

"One day I ran away from home. I did not think much about how bad it was, or how I would get along after I got to where I was going. I just went-hopped a freight train that went through town early in the morning, and by night I was in St. Louis. I had never seen as big a place as that, and I was scared. I had some money with me, but it did not last long...I guess grown folks can tell how old a boy is no matter how big he looks. They told me to go back home-but you see, that was the trouble. I felt my parents would be angry with me, and even if they were



Be Careful To Obey

Jonah 1:1-12, 15-17

1 Now the word of the Lord came unto Jonah...,saying,

2 Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and cry against it; for their wick-edness is come up before me.

3 But Jonah rose up to flee...from the presence of the Lord, and went down to Joppa; and he found a ship going to Tarshish: so he paid the fare thereof, and went down into it,...

4 But the Lord sent out a great wind into the sea, and there was a mighty tempest in the sea, so that the ship was like to be broken.

5 Then the mariners were afraid, and cried every man unto his god, and cast forth the wares that were in the ship into the sea, to lighten it of them. But Jonah was gone down into the sides of the ship;...and was fast asleep.

6 So the shipmaster came to him, and said...What meanest thou, O sleeper? arise, call upon thy God, if so be that God will think upon us, that we perish not.

7 And they said every one to his fellow, Come, and let us cast lots, that we may know for whose cause this evil is upon us. So they cast lots, and the lot fell upon Jonah.

3 Then said they unto him. Tell us,...What is thine occupation? and whence comest thou? what is thy country? and of what people art thou?

9 And he said unto them, I am an Hebrew; and I fear the Lord, the God of heaven, which hath made the sea and the dry land.

10 Then were the men exceedingly afraid, and said unto him, Why hast thou done this? For the men knew that he fled from the presence of the Lord, because he had told them.

11 Then said they unto him, What shall we do unto thee, that the sea may be calm unto us? for the sea wrought, and was tempestuous.

12 And he said unto them,...cast me forth into the sea; so shall the sea be calm...for I know that for my sake this great tempest is upon you.

15 So they...cast him forth into the sea: and the sea ceased from her raging.

16 Then the men feared the Lord exceedingly, and offered a sacrifice unto the Lord, and made vows.

17 Now the Lord had prepared a great fish to swallow up Jonah. And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

The Message: All who dare to disobey God will suffer the consequences for their actions.

Questions:

- 1. What did God tell Jonah to do?
- 2. Why did Jonah flee to Tarshish?
- 3. What did God send?
- 4. What did the mariners do?
- 5. Where was Jonah while the tempest howled?
- 6. How did the mariners decide Jonah was the guilty man?
- 7. How did the men feel after the tempest was calm?
- 8. What did the men do after the storm quieted?
- 9. How did God save Jonah?

Verse to Memorize

...If thou wilt not hearken unto the voice of the Lord...to do all his commandments and his statutes...all these curses shall come upon thee, and overtake thee.

Deuteronomy 28:15.



We learn many eternal principles from the story of Jonah. I am sure you can name several. This first chapter shows that God, Who created the sea and the dry land, is very powerful. He is to be feared and obeyed, and those who dare to disobey will suffer.

Although Jonah is grouped with the minor prophets, he had a great job to do. Hosea and Joel prophesied to the descendants of Abraham and Jacob. These were people who knew God but were sometimes disobedient. God sent Jonah to people whose ancestors did not know God. He was sent to Nineveh, the capital of the Assyrian Empire. It was one of the most ancient cities of the world. The tenth chapter of Genesis says that Asshur built Nineveh a few generations after the flood. In Jonah's time, about 1400 years later, it had grown into a wicked but awesome city. Its walls were said to have been 100 feet high, and so wide that three chariots would run side by side upon them.

Archaeologists have discovered it had many temples and palaces. A system brought water into the city from the mountains miles away. The largest palace had 71 rooms. All of this is evidence that it was a powerful city.

This powerful enemy had taken advantage of both Judah and Israel many times. Sometimes there was war between Assyria and these countries.

The last chapter of Jonah tells us that Nineveh had 120,000 people who did not know their right hand from their left. Bible teachers believe this means children too young to know the difference between their left hand and their right hand. Computing very moderately that would make at least 600,000 people. Think how frightened Jonah must have been to warn such a powerful enemy that they were doomed! Surely they would put him to death, or might torture him until he wished he could die.

Well, Jonah's fear so discouraged him that he took a boat to a city in Spain, about 3,000 miles west of Nineveh. Exhausted from the mental struggle, he fell asleep in the hold of the ship, and slept soundly during a terrible storm.

The sailors tried many things to combat the storm and keep the ship afloat. Finally seeing all was in vain, they sought God for an answer. The solution was to throw Jonah into the sea. God, however, was watching out for him and had a great fish swimming alongside the ship.

—Charlotte Huskey (Taken from the April 30, 1995 Beautiful Way lesson.)

Jesus Is Able

The "Princess Alice" was an excursion steamer sailing on the Thames River. It sprang a leak and began to rapidly sink. Seven hundred persons went down to a watery grave.

A man who had a boat began to rescue the drowning ones. He loaded his boat so that he dare not take on any more. But around in the water were struggling men, women and children who looked toward him and cried, "Oh, save me, save me!"

In agony of his heart he threw up his hands and cried, "Oh God! That I had a bigger boat!" His heart was big enough to save all, but his boat was too small.

It is not so with Jesus. He is able to save all who will come to Him.

-Selected

not, I hated to go sneaking back like a whipped dog. I got awful lonesome, especially at night. I went home with another boy, but it was not like my home.

"Finally, I wrote Dad. I did not give him an address, but I told him I would be on this train today. If they wanted me, I would stop; if they didn't want me, I would keep on going. I guess it was a foolish thing to do, but I just could not stand to thing of getting a letter from him telling me he did not want me back, and I did not want him to come after me. I figured out this way, so it would be easier on us all. But now I'm scared!"

The preacher looked at his young companion and knew that he meant it. "What are you afraid of, son?" he asked.

"I am afraid they won't want me." "But how will you know?"

He rubbed his fist on the steamy pane until a small portion was clear. It was growing dark now, and the snow was falling fast, but the few houses stood out as if etched against a soft, fuzzy sky.

"Just a little farther," he said in a low voice, and then he hid his eyes. "I can't look," he said, desperately, "I can't!"

"What is it you're looking for? Some sign to let you know if they are expecting you?"

"Yes, that's it," came the muffled reply, "I told Dad if he wanted me back, to tie a white rag in the old apple tree in the front yard. It is near the railroad, and we can see it plainly. We're just about there now, but, I just can't look!"

He was crying now; the minister's eyes were misty. Leaning over he put an arm around the youngster and patted his shoulder. "I'll be your eyes—I'll be your eyes—I'll tell you when I see it."

"But I'm afraid you won't see it," he sobbed. "I'm afraid they won't tie the rag there; I'm afraid they don't want me anymore."

Suddenly the hoarse note of the train whistle broke in upon them and the boy sat up. "We are almost there," he cried. "You look and see— I can't."

The train was slowing to a stop as it came around a long curve. The minister strained his eyes to peer through the falling snow. He must not fail. But he need not have worried for a half-blind man could have seen THAT tree.

Laughing and crying, the minister pulled the lad up to the window. "Look there," he said, "the apple tree is all bloomed out!"

And sure enough it was, for upon its bare branches, not one, but at least fifty white rags gaily fluttered in the brisk wind like victory banners of forgiving love.

Such is the spirit of Christmas, and such is the welcome and unbounded forgiveness of our heavenly Father when the penitent sinsick wanderer returns to the Father's house. —Selected

(Answers: 1. To cry against Nineveh, for their wickedness had come up before God. 2. He was fleeing from the presence of God. 3. A great wind and mighty tempest in the sea. 4. They cried to their gods and lightened the ship. 5. Asleep in the sides of the ship. 6. They cast lots and the lot fell on Jonah. 7. They feared God exceedingly. 8. They gave sacrifices to God and made promises to Him. 9. He prepared a great fish, which swallowed Jonah.)



Susy Diller's Christmas Feast

"Pleas'm, only a penny, I'm 'most froze and starved!"

The carriage stood at the edge of the sidewalk, and Mrs. Linley was just going out with her two children to buy some Christmas gifts. Nellie had a happy face framed with golden curls, and her brother, Frank, was not a whit behind in elegance, though a trifle more haughty, as you could tell by the wide distance he gave the miserable little beggar.

"Get away!" said Mrs. Linley, with a disdainful sweep of the hand.

The woman and the child looked at each other—one of those glances that stamp a face upon one's memory. Mrs. Linley was always afraid of street people. They might have a disease lurking in their rags.

The carriage drove on. The children were happy, generous, well-behaved, and belonged to a Christian family. They were going to prove all this now. Besides gifts for Mama and Papa, and some little cousins, half a dozen poor children were to be remembered.

They spent all the pleasant, sunshiny middle of the day going from shop to shop. What hosts of tempting things! It was like a glimpse of fairyland. "Poor children love to play just as rich children, don't they?" said grave sweet Nellie. "It is so nice to make them happy!"

Mrs. Linley gave her darling a smile. "I hope you will never forget, my dear, that we are all created alike, and that all the poor little ones are just as precious in God's sight."

"And Christ the Lord was born for everybody," Frank added in a reflective manner. "My teacher told me so last Sunday—so that all little children might be saved, and have a merry Christmas."

"Maybe they can't all have a merry Christmas. Some are very poor and sick, and nobody seems to care for them—like the little beggar girl who stood watching us when we started. Oh Mama! Isn't it hard? What becomes of them?"

The sweet face was full of tender pity.

"God takes care of them, like the sparrows," said Frank.

Mrs. Linley did not answer. Already her heart condemned her, for after all, she was a kind-hearted woman. She half expected to find the wretched object on her doorstep. If so, she would try to make amends for her harsh words. But she was not there.

When they returned home from shopping, they shivered with the cold and ran to the stove. Then Papa came



Jesus Reigning In My Life Luke 13:18-21

18 Then said he, Unto what is the kingdom of God like? and whereunto shall I resemble it?

19 It is like a grain of mustard seed, which a man took, and cast into his garden; and it grew, and waxed a great tree; and the fowls of the air lodged in the branches of it.

20 And again he said, Whereunto shall I liken the kingdom of God?

21 It is like leaven, which a woman took and hid in three measures of meal, till the whole was leavened.

1 Corinthians 4:20

20 For the kingdom of God is not in word, but in power.

Romans 14:17

17 For the kingdom of God is...righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost.

Romans 5:1

1 Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:

Romans 5:9-11

9 Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.

10 For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life.

11 And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement

Romans 5:17

17 ...Much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.

Romans 5:21

21 That as sin hath reigned unto death,

even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord.

Galatians 2:20

20 I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.

1 John 5:5-6

5 Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?

6 This is he that came by water and blood, even Jesus Christ; not by water only, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit that beareth witness, because the Spirit is truth.

1 John 4:4

4 Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.

1 John 4:15

15 Whosoever shall confess that Jesus is the Son of God, God dwelleth in him, and he in God.

1 John 5:4-5

4 For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith.

5 Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?

1 John 5:12

12 He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.

1 John 5:18

18 We know that whosoever is born of God sinneth not; but he that is begotten of God keepeth himself, and that wicked one toucheth him not.

(Look for "Questions" on page 3.)

Verse to Memorize

Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.

1 John 3:9.



Jesus came into the world to establish the Kingdom of God. Although He was a celestial, eternal being, which had been in existence since before the creation of the earth, He was willing to condescend and be incarnated into a human body. The Bible teaches that He was tempted in all the usual ways that people are tempted. Although we are each different yet we have human passions and emotions to deal with. Everyone is tempted through these avenues.

Even though Jesus was tempted in every way, He did not yield to any temptation. He overcame every thought that suggested He do something which was not pleasing to God, His heavenly Father. He now gives to each one who has been born of His Spirit the power to overcome. After a life is cleansed from sin and completely submitted to God's will, the Holy Spirit comes into it, cleansing even the root of sin. (I John 3:9.) Then the seed of God is in one's heart.

In a seed is the life to grow another like itself. A bean seed produces beans. From a peach seed comes a peach tree that bears peaches. A potato grows potatoes, etc.

Jesus said the Kingdom of God was like a seed. Even the very smallest has the characteristic of the plant or tree from which it came. Found in the tiny acorn is the characteristics of a large oak tree. If God's seed is in a person, the person will have characteristics like God.

He also likened it to leaven, which is yeast. Yeast is a plant that grows rapidly until it has made the bread light and tasty. When yeast is put with flour to make dough, the yeast affects all of the dough. When we eat a slice of bread it does not have some very hard, dry, tasteless parts. No, the whole piece is the same because the yeast penetrated all the dough. Just as the yeast penetrated all of the dough, so the Kingdom of God will fill each area of the Christian's life with righteousness and true holiness. Therefore every area will be pleasing to God. One cannot reserve one area for self to commit some loved sin, for if the Kingdom of God is within it will cleanse every part.

As the seed and leaven (yeast) grow when provided with the right growing condition, so the Kingdom of God grows within the Christian. When one is first saved and filled with the Holy Spirit, he has the seed of this Kingdom within. Give this seed good care and it will be forever alive in the Kingdom of God of which Jesus is the King.

—Sis. Charlotte Huskey (Taken from the November 9, 1986 Beautiful Way lesson.)

Questions:

- 1. Unto what did Jesus resemble the Kingdom of God?
- 2. Explain why Jesus used these things to resemble the **Kingdom** of God.
- 3. Name some things that the Kingdom of God is.
- 4. What is reigning in one's heart before he is saved?
- 5. What is reigning after being saved?
- 6. What does one overcome when Jesus is the Son of God?
- 7. Who dwells in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God?
- 8. How are we to overcome the world?
- 9. Can the devil cause one to sin?

home, and they had the happiest Christmas Eve imaginable. Of course one cannot make one's charities go all around the world, but Mrs. Linley thought she had stretched hers a long distance. So she had. And yet she might have given the child at her door a few pennies. But street beggars are so often thieves!

Meanwhile the beggar girl wandered on. For nearly a week she had slept in the station house and begged a little during the day, just enough to keep body and soul together. She used to sell matches and pins, but she had no money to buy a new stock, and there were so many in the trade. A month ago the old woman with whom she had lived died suddenly. Then she had to live the best she could.

She went on asking now and then for a penny. Some gave the forlorn little beggar a scowl, some did not even look at her, and one or two men spoke roughly to her. Oh! She was so hungry and so cold.

She looked wistfully into basement windows. She stared at the merry, happy children who ran by in warm clothing. Her shoes had holes in them and her ragged dress flapped in the biting wind.

It was growing colder and colder. She ran along until she came to a restaurant. Such a delightful smell came through the grating. Not a mouthful of anything had she eaten since yesterday noon. People went along with great market baskets full; men with bundles in their arms, girls and boys with Christmas gifts, all hurrying homeward.

The pain gnawing at her stomach was so hard to bear. There was a jacket she might steal—. No, she couldn't. She never had been a thief. She remembered her mother who had died two years ago. The pretty lady getting into the carriage had made her think of her! Her mother had said, "Jennie, never tell a lie; never steal." Oh! How good it was that the dear mother would never be hungry again.

She sat down on a doorstep and began to cry. It was very cold now. She curled herself up in the corner. If she could only go to sleep.

"Hello!" said a cheerful voice, and someone shook her by the shoulder. "You'll freeze to death here! You better run home!"

"I haven't any home."

Sturdy young Susy Diller, herself a poor working girl, dragged up the forlorn little object and scanned the thin blue face.

"Where have you been?"

"Station houses and such," the child answered. "After old Molly died, they turned me out. I haven't any money, so I had to go out of trade. I've tried to beg—"

Susy stood considering. What would Granny say if she brought the poor thing home? "Don't you ask another one to your Christmas dinner," she had said already. "There won't be room for 'em to stand on one foot." Susy drew her sleeve across her eyes. Somehow her heart had grown very tender since she had been going to the mission school. A little scene flashed into her mind: On Sunday, Mr. Linley (the most splendid man in the world, Susy had insisted to Granny) had been explaining to the boys and girls how even the Saviour of all the world had been homeless.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. To a mustard seed and leaven. 2. They are very small but have life within that causes them to grow and reproduce. 3. It is love, joy, peace, and righteousness. 4. Sin. 5. Grace and righteousness. 6. Sin. 7. God. 8. By being born of God. 9. No, not if we keep ourselves in the love of God.)

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Susy Diller's Christmas Feast

(Continued from last week.)

Mr. Linley told his Sunday school class that even Jesus had been homeless. "I wish I'd been there!" said Susy bravely, "I'd have taken Him in."

"Susy," replied Mr. Linley, "when we do such a thing for the very poorest, we do it for the Lord." Then he read the beautiful commendation that the Saviour was to bestow at the last upon those who did what they could in this world, picturing their blessed joy and surprise as they said, "Lord, when saw we thee an hungered, and fed thee? When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in?" (Matthew 25:37-38.)

So Susy had announced to Granny that she meant to give a Christmas dinner.

"I thought you were going to get that nice new jacket. And you have just money enough."

"I'll wait two or three weeks for that," declared Susy. "You see it's so much nicer on Christmas. I don't understand a bit how the Saviour did come down to earth, but when you think of all that, you can get closer to Him, just as I do to Mr. Linley, our Sunday school teacher.

"Maybe, if we ask in the poor and lame, He will look down and think we are trying to keep Christmas the right way. There'll be lame Tim Jenkins you know he was run over by the street car, and Humpy, whose mother is dead, and the little Smith boy whom I set up in the paper business, and Kit Benner, who's been sick and lost his place, and—"

It was then that Granny had said. "Don't ask another one. There won't be room enough for 'em to stand on one foot."

"And we'll have a roastin' turkey. I know where I can get one real cheap and cranberry sauce, and pickles, and mince pie. A regular feast—and no mistake!"

But finally Susy had found two more; so now there were six of them. Susy had worked in a factory and took care of Granny, who was too old to do much of anything, and was almost bent over with rheumatism. They had a room on the second floor of a tumbledown barrack, and one small bedroom out of it; but Granny thought it almost a palace, because Susy was so good to her.

Now here was one more to share their Christmas dinner. What would Granny say? But the young missionary did not stop long to consider the matter. Here was a case of real suffering, and Susy's conscience quickly adjusted itself.

"Come along," said Susy to the little vagrant, thinking somehow of



John The Baptist

Malachi 3:1

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.

Malachi 4:5

4 Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord.

Matthew 3:1

1 In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judaea.

Matthew 3:4-8

4 And the same John had his raiment of camel's hair, and a leathern girdle about his loins; and his meat was locusts and wild honey.

5 Then went out to him Jerusalem, and all Judaea, and all the region round about Jordan,

6 And were baptized of him in Jordan, confessing their sins.

7 But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees come to his baptism, he said unto them, O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come?

8 Bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance:

Matthew 3:10-11

10 And now also the axe is laid unto the root of the trees: therefore every tree which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. **11** I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire.

Matthew 11:7-14

7 And as they departed, Jesus began to say unto the multitudes concerning John. What went ye out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken with the wind?

8 But what went ye out for to see? A man clothed in soft raiment? behold, they that wear soft clothing are in kings' houses.

9 But what went ye out for to see? A prophet? yea, I say unto you, and more than a prophet.

10 For this is he, of whom it is written, Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee.

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.

12 And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force.

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.

(Look for "Questions" on page 3.)

Verse to Memorize

And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force.

Matthew 11:12.



John the Baptist was a cousin of Jesus. When the angel, Gabriel, told Mary that she would have a child, he also told her that her cousin. Elizabeth. would have a child that was six months older than Jesus. (Luke 1:36.) Mary went to see her cousin. Elizabeth. They rejoiced together about the wonderful thoughts of having such wonderful boys. Elizabeth told Mary about her husband, Zacharias, who was a priest, being in the temple of worship and burning incense before the Lord. An angel appeared before him. The angel told him that in his old age his wife would bear him a son and he should call him John. The angel also told Zacharias that John was to be a special messenger from the Lord and that "many of the children of Israel would be turned to the Lord their God." (Luke 1:5-41.) Zacharias could not believe the words of the angel, Gabriel. Because he doubted, the angel told him he would be dumb. or not able to speak, until the child was born. (It doesn't pay to doubt God, does it?) When the child arrived they were going to name the baby after some of his relatives. But Elizabeth told them that the baby's name should be John. Finally, they made signs to the baby's father and he asked for a writing tablet. When he wrote, saying, "His name is John," his tongue was loosened and he could talk again. (Luke 1:57-64.)

John grew and the Spirit of the Lord was upon him. He lived in the wilderness and many went to hear him preach. Many repented and believed and turned from their sins.

One day Jesus came to be baptized

by John. As he baptized Him, a dove came from heaven and sat upon Him. A voice spoke out of heaven saving, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." (Matthew 3:13-17.) Later, when John saw Jesus walking along he said. "Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world. The Spirit made me know that upon whom a dove would come from heaven and sit, that He would be the Lamb of God, or the Messiah," (John 1:29-33.) Later, John was beheaded because he told Herod that it was not lawful for him to have his brother's wife. (Matthew 14:1-12.)

John was the one that Malachi, the prophet, had said would go before the face of Jesus and prepare the way. He was the messenger sent from God.

---Sis. Marie Miles (Taken from a previous Beautiful Way lesson.)

Questions:

- 1. Who was the messenger Malachi prophesied would come to prepare the way of the Lord?
- 2. How did this messenger dress?
- 3. What did he eat?
- 4. Why did people from Jerusalem, Judea and other places go out to see John?
- 5. What did John say would happen to every tree (person) that did not bring forth good fruit?
- 6. With what did John say Jesus would baptize them?
- 7. Of whom was Jesus speaking when He said that there was none greater born of women?
- 8. Who did Jesus say is greater than John the Baptist?

(Answers: 1. John the Baptist. 2. He wore a coat of camel's hair with a leather belt. 3. Locusts and wild honey. 4. To be baptized. 5. It would be cut down and cast into the fire. 6. With the Holy Ghost and with fire. 7. John the Baptist. 8. He that is least in the kingdom of heaven.) the Lord of all Who had nowhere to lay His head.

"For maybe if He were here," she soliloquized, "we shouldn't be able to tell Him from anyone else. And it's just—anybody."

Susy took the little stray by the arm, and hurried her along. Poor little Jennie! Her feet seemed hardly to touch the ground, they were so cold and numb. She didn't much care even if she was being taken to the station house.

But she wasn't. After awhile she felt the warmth and heard the voices, but she was so tired and sleepy that she dropped into a little heap before the fire and only heard her young rescuer say: —"Let her sleep, Granny; it'll do her more good than anything else."

"But, Susy, child, we can't take care of her all the time." And—Granny stopped there, looking into Susy's eyes.

"It's Christmas Eve, Granny. I feel as if we ought to do something."

By and by, Jennie Morgan, the poor little waif, woke up, had some supper and told her story. It was like hundreds of others, only her mother was a beautiful lady. She had seen someone in the street this morning who looked just like her.

"She's smart and chipper, Granny, and she'll soon be better," said Susy.

Jennie's cheeks were very red the next morning, and her eyes very bright; moreover her voice had a curious tremble in it but she declared she was quite well. It was so delightful to be housed and warmed, and to have no great hunger pangs gnawing at her stomach.

Susy went out awhile, and Granny prepared her turkey to roast. Poor Jennie thought there never had been such a savory fragrance before.

It was a famous Christmas feast. There was lame Tim with a clean face, and a new red shirt to do honor to the occasion; Humpy, as the little fellow was called, who sold pins, tape and shoe strings on the corner and had grown deformed from a bad fall; Kit Benner, looking white enough and thin enough to frighten you; three others, and the little stray Jennie Morgan, besides Granny, in a new cap and new calico dress.

Such a time they had! They were so crowded around the table that they had hardly elbow room. They laughed, drank, and ate and were as happy as the happiest.

Meanwhile, over at Mr. Linley's they had a grand day. Nellie, dressed like a fairy, distributed the gifts, carefully laying aside those for the poor. Of course they could not ask such people into their festivities. Then Mrs. Linley played, and they had some charming carols.

They also sang two or three songs at Susy Diller's. Susy had learned them at the mission school. Finally Jennie begged to lie down in the corner by the stove, for she felt a little chilly, and her head was aching.

"Oh, Susy, won't you sing again?" she pleaded. "It's like heaven. Mother used to tell me about it. And do you suppose that the Lord Jesus cares for little girls who have to live on the street and sleep where they can?"

"Yes He **does** care. Mr. Linley told me so. You see," and Susy laid her forefinger in the palm of the other hand, "you see, this is the way; He puts the thought into other people's hearts, 'cause He isn't here any more to do the work."

"Oh," said Jennie slowly, and with a sage nod. "Wouldn't it be good, Susy, if He would put it into the hearts of rich folks? They could do so much."

(To be continued next week.)

(Look for "Answers" on page 3.)



Susy Diller's Christmas Feast

(Continued from last week.)

"Sometimes rich people do help the poor," Susy assured Jennie. "Look at the newsboys' dinner! And there's a good many things."

Poor Jennie sighed a little. She could not make it out straight in her tired brain.

The crowd went away presently, declaring that it was the happiest sort of a Christmas. They thanked Susy and Granny over and over again.

The next day was Sunday. Susy begged Mr. Linley to come and see the little sick girl at her house. One way and another, the story of the Christmas feast came out.

Jennie, the little beggar girl, was very sick. Cold and hunger had done their worst. It had been so hard and dreary since her mother died, with no one to care for her, and to have to dodge around continually, kicked, cuffed and almost starved. And if the Lord up above **did** care—

"She's a pretty sick little girl," said Susy, "but Granny and I will do our best to pull her through."

Mr. Linley felt the pulse and shook his head. The fever was high and there was no strength to battle with it.

Then he looked into Susy's great wistful eyes, and was touched to the

heart. She had learned the sweetest and noblest lesson of all. She had gone out into the highways and hedges, she had gathered in the lame and halt and the blind.

"You see I've grown fond of her, already," explained Susy. "I'd do anything for her."

"I'm afraid it's too late, but I will help in any way I can. I will send some things from the house."

"If you please, I'd rather not have you send anything. You see, Granny spoke a little cross at first, and now she's trying to make it all up to her. She'll feel better if she does everything; Granny has a good heart."

What a point of conscience here amid poverty and ignorance!

"The lessons have not all been on my side," said Mr. Linley to his wife afterwards. "The poor little factory girl has taught me something that I shall never forget. To think of her going without her coat that she might provide a dinner for some homeless, hungry children. I wish you would go and see them, my dear." Mrs. Linley went with her husband.

Susy stared as if she had seen an angel. Granny dropped a curtsy, and dusted a chair with her apron.

"Little Jennie," Susy whispered, "poor little girl, can't you open your eyes a minute?"



The City of Bethlehem

Micah 5:2

2 But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting.

Matthew 2:1-13

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, and all Jerusalem with him.

4 And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, 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,

6 And thou Bethlehem, in the land of Juda, art not the least among the princes of Juda: for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel.

7 Then Herod, when he had privily called the wise men, inquired of them diligently 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 When they had heard the king,

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 when they had opened their treasures, 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.

Verse to Memorize

Hath not the scripture said, That Christ cometh of the seed of David, and out of the town of Bethlehem, where David was?

John 7:42.



Our lesson today is mostly about the thought that Micah was informed, through the Spirit, where Jesus Christ, (the Messiah) would be born. Be sure to note in our lesson that when the wise men came to King Herod and asked where the Christ was born that the scribes and chief priests had to look in the old Testament books to find the place. We have those same books today and it's wonderful to know how their prophecies have been fulfilled.

The word, *Bethlehem*, means, "house of bread." We read that one time Jesus said of Himself, "I am that bread of life." John 6:48 Bread is something that is important to sustain life. Just so, we need bread to sustain our spiritual life. Jesus is eternal life and we want to have that, so Jesus is our Bread. He is our Saviour and gives us life. He is the One who took our sins so we can live in heaven in bliss and glory. Praise God! The city of Bethlehem is where the "Bread of Life" was born. How wonderful!

The Jews were under the rule of the Romans. Caesar Augustus made a decree that all the world, which was under his rule, was to be counted and therefore be taxed. Each was to go to the town where he was born and register. Joseph and Mary went up from Nazareth, which was in Galilee, where they lived, to Bethlehem, because they were of the house of David. There was no room for them that night in the inn so they got off the street into a stable where Jesus was born that night. Do you remember reading how the angels from heaven appeared to the shepherds and they came to see the Saviour of the world?

Our lesson takes place later when the wise men in the east saw the star and they followed the star to Jerusalem. They inquired, "Where is the king that has been born?" When they left for Bethlehem, King Herod told them to come back and let him know where He was. But God warned them in a dream not to return to Herod and tell him about the Baby, because he would kill Him.

Today we rejoice because Jesus was born! If He had not been born, He could not have gone to the cross and died for our sins. We know that there is no record of the exact date, but we do know that it happened one day. Surely it's important that we think about His birth and rejoice. —Sis. Marie Miles

(Taken from the December 23, 1979 Beautiful Way lesson.)

- **Questions**:
- 1. From what city did Micah say Christ would come?
- 2. Who came from the east to Jerusalem seeking Jesus?
- 3. What had they seen to indicate the birth of Jesus?
- 4. Why was Herod troubled?
- 5. How did the priests know where Christ was to be born?
- 6. What did Herod tell the wise men to do when they found Jesus?
- 7. What did the wise men give Jesus?
- 8. What did the angel tell Joseph in a dream?
- 9. Who would seek the Child to destroy Him?

She opened them wider and wider. Then she rose a little and stared around—stretched out her trembling hands towards Mrs. Linley, and cried, "Oh Mother! Mother! Susy said I should find you. I tried to be good, and not to lie or steal, though I was nearly starved. Susy's been so—kind. She brought me in—to the Christmas—dinner—"

Mrs. Linley caught the swaying form in her arms. The last words quivered slowly on her lips and her eyes dropped. She remembered just where she had seen the child, and a pang of bitter self-upbraiding pierced her heart. She kissed the still lips for her mother's sake, and laid her gently down. Had Susy and Granny entertained an angel unawares, while her blind eyes had not been able to discern "the least of these?"

"Oh!" said Susy sobbing, "I'm so glad you came. I suppose she thought it was her own mother, for she has talked about her all the time. Poor little girl! I shall always be thankful that I brought her in out of the cold, though I never guessed she was going to die."

"The fame of your Christmas feast has gone up among the angels, Susy," said Mr. Linley reverently. "And now, my dear girl, have little Jennie buried where you like, and bring the bill to me. I want to share in your good work."

Mr. and Mrs. Linley walked home quietly. Had they borne any such fruit as this?

"For I was an hungered and ye fed me." —Selected

A Guiding Voice

A touching story came to us one winter from Minnesota. A farmer living on the edge of one of the many lakes of that state, started to cross in a small sailboat one evening after dark.

The wind changed and a gust of wind overturned the boat when he was

in the middle of the lake. The surface of the water was covered with large masses of floating ice.

The farmer was a good swimmer, and struck out boldly toward the part of the shore where he thought his house stood, but he grew confused in the darkness. The ice formed rapidly over the whole lake.

He was in a small, quickly narrowing circle, in which he beat about wildly, the chill of death creeping over his body. He gave up at last, and was sinking in the freezing water when he heard a sound.

It was the voice of his little girl calling him, "Father! Father!"

He listened. The sound of her voice would tell him which way home lay. It put fresh life into him. He thought, "If she could only call once more, but she will be frightened at the dark and cold. She will go in and shut the door."

But just then came the cry, loud and clear: "Father!"

"I turned," said the man afterwards, in telling the story, "And struck out in the opposite direction. I had been going away from home. I fought my way; the ice broke before me. I reached the shore and home at last. But if my dear little girl had not persisted in calling me, though hearing no reply, I should have died there alone under the ice."

The story of many a man's life is like that of life's voyage. We need the guiding voice of the Holy Spirit to guide us to our heavenly home.

-Selected

(Answers: 1. Bethlehem. 2. Wise men. 3. A star. 4. He was afraid this new King would take his throne. 5. The prophets had written where He would be born. 6. Come back and tell him where to find the new King. 7. Gold, frankincense and myrrh. 8. To take the Baby and His mother and flee into Egypt. 9. Herod.)

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⁽The end.)



Father's Love

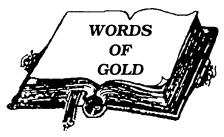
My name is Anthony Hunt. I am a drover, and I live many miles away upon the western prairie. There was not a house in sight when we moved there, my wife and I; and now we haven't many neighbors, though those we have are good men.

One day about ten years ago, I went away from home to sell some fifty head of cattle—line creatures as ever I saw. I was to buy some groceries and dry goods before I came back, and above all, a doll for our youngest child, Dolly (she never had a shop doll of her own, only the rag babies her mother made her). Dolly could talk of nothing else, and went down to the very gate to call after me to "buy a big one."

No one but a parent can understand how my mind was on that toy, and how, when the cattle were sold, the first thing I started off to buy was Dolly's doll. I found a large one with eyes that would open and shut when you pulled a wire and had it wrapped up in paper and tucked it under my arm while I had the parcels put up. It might have been more prudent to have stayed until morning, but I felt anxious to get back and eager to hear Dolly's prattle about the doll she was so eagerly expecting.

I mounted a steady-going old horse of mine and, pretty well loaded, started for home. Night set in before I was a mile from town and settled down dark as pitch while I was in the midst of the wildest bit of road I know of. I could have felt my way through. I remembered it so well, and it was almost like doing that when the storm that had been brewing broke and the rain fell in torrents. I was five, or maybe six miles from home, too. I rode as fast as I could, but suddenly I heard a little cry, like a child's voice. I stopped short and listened. I heard it again; I called, and it answered me. I couldn't see a thing; all was dark as pitch. I got down and felt about in the grass; called again, and again was answered.

Then I began to wonder. I'm not timid, but I was known to be a drover, and to have money about me. I thought it might be a trap to catch me and there to rob and murder me. I am not superstitious—not very but how could a real child be out on the prairie in such a night at such an hour? It might be more than human. The bit of coward that hides itself in most men showed itself to me then, and I was half inclined to run away. But once more I heard that piteous cry, and, said I: "If any man's child is hereabouts, Anthony Hunt is not the



Jesus' Teachings

Matthew 5:27-28

27 Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time. Thou shalt not commit adultery:

28 But I say unto you. That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart.

Matthew 5:32

32 But I say unto you, That whosoever shall put away his wife, saving for the cause of fornication, causeth her to commit adultery: and whosoever shall marry her that is divorced committeth adultery.

Matthew 5:38-46

38 Ye have heard that it hath been said, An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth:

39 But I say unto you, That ye resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also.

40 And if any man will sue thee at the law, and take away thy coat, let him have thy cloke also.

41 And whosoever shall compel thee to go a mile, go with him twain.

42 Give to him that asketh thee, and from him that would borrow of thee turn not thou away.

43 Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbour, and hate thine enemy.

44 But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;

45 That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust.

46 For if ye love them which love you, what reward have ye? do not even the publicans the same?

Matthew 6:3,6

3 But when thou doest alms, let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth:

6 But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly.

Matthew 7:1

1 Judge not, that ye be not judged.

Questions:

- 1. When did God first tell people "Thou shalt not commit adultery?"
- Concerning marriage, Jesus said, "What therefore ____hath joined together, let not man put asunder."
- 3. What does the Bible say to do if someone smites you on the cheek?
- 4. How should we treat our enemies?
- 5. What are we to do to people who persecute us?
- 6. Does God do good to evil people?
- Name some good things God does for people who don't even serve Him.
- 8. Where does the Bible tell us to go to pray?
- 9. Why should we not judge others?

Verse to Memorize

Judge not, that ye be not judged.

Matthew 7:1.



After reading our lesson about Jesus' teachings you may think that they will be hard to obey. But it will not be hard if you will truly give your heart, mind, soul and strength to the Lord. You then can ask for power to obey them. Remember that we will be judged by what the Bible says. Do not think that you can get around any of the teachings of Jesus. You can obey them, but you will have to die out to self. Self must be killed and only Jesus live in your heart and life. You must say, "Not my will but Jesus' will be done." You can't have your own way because you must take Jesus' ways.

You must watch and take care of your body. Remember that the apostle Paul has told us that "marriage is honorable in all, and the bed undefiled." (Hebrews 13:4." Kissing and other affections should not be carried on until after marriage. God designed this for a husband and wife. If loose living is carried on before marriage, it could lead to adultery. We must teach you about these things, as in this day and time it seems that the world thinks one can dojust anything and it's all right, but it's not right if it's contrary to God's Word. Boys and girls need to dress modestly and cover their bodies. Jesus said that if you look at someone and "lust after" them you commit sin. If one dresses and acts in a way to cause another to do this, he has sinned. We must be careful how we act, dress and conduct ourselves.

What did Jesus say about the teachings under the old law, or in the old Bible, about an "eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth?" Jesus brought something better. If someone hits you then what are you to do? Jesus has told us. It doesn't harm you to be hit. Take a few things from another person; it's better than getting into a big fight and hurting each other. God can help vou. It's not wrong to run. Remember when Paul ran away from those who wanted to kill him? He was lowered down in a basket over the side of the wall and he got away. (Acts 9:24-25.)

"Give and it shall be given to you. If you are compelled to give something then give twice that much. Go the second mile. God will reward you, and what He gives will be better than that which anyone else can give you.

Pray for your enemies and those who do you wrong. If you just love those who love you what reward do you have? God loves those who hate Him. He lets the sun and rain come down upon them and takes care of them. Let us be like God. Our goal is to live in eternity with Him some day. Forgive those who do you wrong. But it will take prayer and you must go into your closet and shut all other thoughts out so you can pray to the Lord.

Be careful about finding fault with others and judging them. You do not know what is in their hearts. Let God be their judge. If they disobey God's Word and you see that, then it's God's Word judging them and not you. Don't imagine that you know something evil about someone. Don't believe everything you hear. Things can be told and not be exactly true. So be careful.

—Sis. Marie Miles (Taken from the December 30, 1979 Beautiful Way lesson.) man to let it lie here and die."

I searched again. At last I thought of a hollow under the hill and groped that way. Sure enough, I found a little dripping thing, that moaned and sobbed as I took it in my arms. I called my horse, and he came to me, and I mounted, and tucked the little soaked thing under my coat as best I could, promising to take it home to mama.

It seemed tired to death, and soon cried itself to sleep against my bosom. It had slept there over an hour when I saw my own windows. There were lights in them, and I supposed my wife had lit them for my sake; but when I got into the dooryard, I saw something was the matter, and stood still with dead fear of heart five minutes before I could lift the latch. At last I did it, and saw the room full of neighbors, and my wife amid them weeping. When she saw me she hid her face.

"Oh. don't tell him," she cried; "it will kill him."

"What is it, neighbors?" I cried.

And one said: "Nothing now, I hope. What's that in your arms?"

"A poor lost child," said I. "I found it on the road. Take it will you? I've turned faint." And I lifted the sleeping thing, and saw the face of my own child, my little Dolly. It was my darling, and no other, that I had picked up on the drenched road!

My little child had wandered out to meet papa and the doll, while her mother was at work, and for her they were lamenting as for one dead.

I thanked God on my knees before them all.

Now I think of it often in the night and wonder how I could bear to live now, if I had not stopped when I heard the cry for help upon the road—"The little baby-cry, hardly louder than a squirrel's chirp."

Is God less pitiful than man? "Like a father pitieth his children, so the Lord pitieth them that fear Him." —Touching Incidents

The Cause Of His Interest

While traveling down the Ohio River on a steamboat my attention was called to the pilot who was a coarse-looking man. The captain informed me that three weeks ago, as the boat was going through the rapids, the pilot called him to take the helm. He had just seen a boy struggling in the water. He sprang into the boiling waters and saved the boy. I went up to the brave man and spoke to him.

"Do you ever see the boy whom you saved?"

"Yes," he answered, "at every trip he comes down to the boat to see me."

"And how do you feel when you see him?"

"More than I can tell you." he replied. "More intense interest than in any of my own seven at home for whom I have run no such risk."

Thus there is "joy in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance." Thus Jesus will regard those whom He has saved with more interest than the angels. —Selected

(Answers: 1. In the ten commandments which He gave Moses. 2. God. 3. Turn the other cheek. 4. Love them, bless them and do good to them. 5. Pray for them. 6. Yes. 7. He gives them health, sunshine, rain, etc., (answers will vary). 8. Into our closet (in secret). 9. We cannot know what is in their hearts. (God is their judge.)

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