

Faith and Victory

Arm thyself with FAITH and LOVE; this brings VICTORY from above.

VOLUME 1,

NUMBER 4.

"This is the VICTORY that overcometh
the world, even our FAITH." 1 Jno. 5: 4.

GUTHRIE, OKLA.

JUNE, 1923.

BEHOLD THE FATHER'S LOVE!

It passeth knowledge; that dear love of Thine!
My Jesus! Savior! Yet this soul of mine
Would of that love, in all its depth and length,
Its height, and breadth, and everlasting strength,
Know more and more.

It passeth *telling!* that dear love of Thine,
My Jesus! Savior! Yet these lips of mine
Would fain proclaim to sinners far and near
A love which can remove all guilty fear,
And love beget.

It passeth *praises!* that dear love of Thine,
My Jesus! Savior! Yet this heart of mine
Would sing a love so rich, so full, so free,
Which brought an undone sinner, such as me,
Right home to God.

But ah! I cannot tell, or sing, or know,
The fulness of that love, whilst here below,
Yet my poor vessel I may freely bring;—
O Thou who art of love the living spring,
My vessel fill.

I *am* an empty vessel! scarce one thought
Or look of love to Thee I've ever brought;
Yet I *may* come, and come again to Thee
With this—the contrite sinner's truthful plea—
"Thou lovest me!"

Oh! *fill* me, Jesus! Savior! with Thy love!
May woes but drive me to the fount above;
Thither may I in childlike faith draw nigh,
And never to another fountain fly
But unto Thee.

And when, my Jesus! Thy dear face I see,
When at Thy lofty throne I bend the knee,
Then of Thy love—in all its breadth and length,
Its height, and depth, and everlasting strength,
My soul shall sing. —SEL.

THE MISSION OF JESUS

In speaking of the Comforter, the Holy Ghost, Jesus says, "but if I depart, I will send Him unto you. And when He is come He will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment." In the third chapter of St. John's gospel we find these words, "For God sent not His Son into the world

to condemn the world; but that the world through Him might be saved." The world, or man, was already condemned, the doom of hell, darkness, banishment from God and all that is pure and holy was hanging over their heads, and because of this curse many were cursing and swearing, others were proud and haughty, straining and trying to appear godly, whitewashing the outside as a covering for their corrupt hearts. But Jesus was God manifest in the flesh and He judged not according to the seeing of the eye nor the hearing of the ear, but their corrupt hearts were naked before His eyes and His words and deeds were condemning to them because they were evil and needed a Savior. They rejected the counsel and light of God and brought upon themselves swift destruction. They would not come to the light because their deeds were evil and they were proud at heart and loved the honor and praise of men more than the honor of God. They would not become fools that they might be wise.

Jesus says again, "For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved." So it is today. Many are self-righteous, haughty and proud at heart, but have it all covered so thoroughly with whitewash, such as false humility, meekness and Christ-likeness that the Spirit of God dwelling in the hearts of His little ones rebukes them oftentimes openly and leaves them with a prayer that they will consider and see the work that Christ has done for them, throw away their cloak of self-righteousness and get under the precious blood of Christ which will make a full covering that will take away all condemnation and will fully atone for the wrath of God which is hanging over your head. "If ye believe not ye shall die in your sins, and where I am ye cannot come."

Oh, dear soul hasten to the foot of the cross and weep and lament for your lost condition and believe that Christ has suffered all this agony of pain and anguish of heart, and His life's blood was poured out that you, yes *you*, might be made free from all condemnation in this present evil world, and be filled with righteousness and peace, together with the

Comforter to lead and guide you into all truth. Dear souls, it is not any works that you do, or can do, but it is seeing and believing what Christ has done for you that saves you. God accepts none of your works but looks only to see if the righteous blood of His Son covers you,—the only covering that is complete. Jesus is the way, the light and the truth; any other covering will be too short and will become the strength of sin, causing strife, contention and division, opening the heart for the workings of all kinds of evil, wicked and seducing spirits which can only flourish among those that are using other coverings besides the precious blood of Christ. The way is so plain and simple that many wise heads today are like the Jews: "having a zeal of God but not according to knowledge. For they being ignorant of God's righteousness and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God. For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone that believeth."

Paul, in speaking of the Jews, says they were cut off because of unbelief, and warns us that we stand by faith, and that we be not highminded, but fear, for if God spared not the natural branches, take heed lest He also spare not thee. God will work goodness toward us if we continue in His goodness, otherwise we shall be cut off. Oh, dear souls, this is not a complex way, but is a delightful and easy way as we cease from our struggling to be holy, and just let His holiness work in and through us to His glory, and then will be fulfilled the Scripture that says, "Be ye holy, for I am holy."

In trust,

—FRED PRUITT.

FATHER'S CORRECTION

"And ye have forgotten the exhortation which speaketh unto you as unto children, My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of Him: For whom the Lord loveth He chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom He receiveth" (Heb. 12: 5-6).

Often nothing but *adversity* will open our ears to hear and heed the divine call. This may be the loss of our good name, reputation, or earthly substance. Or it may be the loss of the friendship and the falling away of friends, and the wrath of enemies. Job had these in view when he gave utterance to the following words: "Behold, he breaketh down, and it can not be built again: he shutteth up a man, and there can be no opening" (Job 12: 14). "He hath made me weary: thou hast made desolate all my company." "I was at ease, but he hath broken me

asunder: he hath also taken me by my neck, and shaken me to pieces, and set me up for his mark. His archers compass me round about, he cleaveth my reins asunder, and doth not spare. . . . He breaketh me with breach upon breach; he runneth upon me like a giant." "My face is foul with weeping, and on my eyelids is the shadow of death" (Job 16: 7, 12-14, 16). "My days are past, my purposes are broken off, even the thoughts of my heart" (Job 17: 11). "He hath fenced up my way that I can not pass, and he hath set darkness in my paths. He hath striped me of my glory, and taken the crown from my head. He hath destroyed me on every side, and I am gone: and mine hope hath he removed like a tree." "He hath put my brethren far from me, and mine acquaintance are verily estranged from me" (Job 19: 8-10, 13).

Thus God speaks to us and we hear His voice, as we did not in prosperity. Said God by the prophet: "I spake unto thee in prosperity; but thou saidst, I will not hear" (Jer. 22: 21). We need to have our ears closed to earthly sounds, that we may hear those from heaven; to have our eyes closed to the pleasures of earth, that we may see those of the skies; to be turned out of a home on earth, that we may seek a home in heaven. Earth's pleasures, earth's pursuits, earth's associations are too seducing for us; and God breaks in upon them, and we are often led apart in desert places, where alone with God we are led to see our folly and repent of our sin. God can not trust us with too full a cup, or too pleasant a resting-place, lest we become enamored of the one, and unwilling to exchange the other for a heavenly. God can not trust some with health, friends, prosperity; they need *adversity* to *humble* them and keep them in the pilgrim's frame. Covetousness is bred of uninterrupted prosperity. Hence riches often take to themselves wings and fly away. We make idols of our friends, and God removes them. In all this, God deals with us not in wrath, but in great mercy. Never for a moment does He lose sight of us. It is the discipline of love; it is controlled by a kind and loving Father.

PERSONAL AFFLICTION

This rod is most frequently used by God for the correction of His children, because it is the most effectual. Satan well knew this when he, after failing in his purpose concerning Job, obtained permission to afflict his person; and what the removal of his children and property failed to accomplish, was soon, in part, brought about by severe personal affliction. Would you know how severe was Job's affliction, and the extent to which he was humiliated, while yet

maintaining his integrity? You have only to consider his own words: "So am I made to possess months of vanity, and wearisome nights are appointed to me. When I lie down, I say, When shall I arise, and the night be gone? and I am full of tossings to and fro unto the dawning of the day." "When I say, My bed shall comfort me, my couch shall ease my complaint; then thou scarest me with dreams, and terrifiest me through visions: so that my soul chooseth strangling, and death rather than my life. I loathe it; I would not live alway."

Said the psalmist under affliction: "Mine eye mourneth by reason of affliction: Lord, I have called daily upon thee, I have stretched out my hands unto thee. Wilt thou shew wonders to the dead? shall the dead arise and praise thee? Shall thy loving-kindness be declared in the grave? or thy faithfulness in destruction." "I am afflicted and ready to die from my youth up: while I suffer thy terrors I am distracted. Thy fierce wrath goeth over me." "When thou with rebukes dost correct a man for iniquity, thou makest his beauty to consume away like a moth." Isaiah gave utterance to the following words: "Mine age is departed, and is removed from me as a shepherd's tent: I have cut off like a weaver my life: he will cut me off with pining sickness: from day even to night wilt thou make an end of me. I reckoned till morning, that, as a lion, so will he break all my bones: from day even to night wilt thou make an end of me. Like a crane or a swallow, so did I chatter: I did mourn as a dove: mine eyes fail with looking upward: O Lord, I am oppressed; undertake for me."

Jeremiah expressed his feelings as follows: "I am the man that hath seen affliction by the rod of his wrath." "My flesh and my skin hath he made old; he hath broken my bones." "He hath filled me with bitterness, he hath made me drunk with wormwood." "Remembering mine affliction and my misery, the wormwood and the gall. My soul hath them still in remembrance, and is humbled in me."

The words of these eminent Bible saints, under affliction, are in harmony with the experience of God's afflicted ones in all ages of the world, and clearly show how effective is the rod of personal chastisement in bringing its subjects into a state of humiliation.

Sickness prostrates us; it cuts into the very center of our carnal nature; and oh, what vanity is seen when upon a sick-bed.

Sickness takes us away from the active pursuits of life and sets us aside, and alone with God. We are taken into His private chamber, and there He converses with us face to face. Our relish for the world is gone; our hopes for earthly good are in the

dust; our props are all struck away, and we are wholly cast on God. "If it were not for pain," says one, "I should spend less time with God. If I had not been kept awake with pain, I should have lost one of the sweetest experiences I ever had in my life. The disorder of my body is the help I want from God; and if it does its work upon me before it lays me in the dust, it will raise me up to heaven."

Sickness teaches us that activity of service is not the only way in which God is glorified. "They also serve who stand and wait." Active duty is that which man judges most acceptable; but God shows us that in bearing and suffering He is also glorified. Perhaps we were too much harrassed by worldly cares, and needed retirement, yet could find no way of obtaining it, until God laid us down and drew us aside into a desert place. No one of the family rods is more effectual than that of bodily sickness; no one is more frequently used. Let us kiss the rod, and the hand which afflict us.

The nature and design of all these chastenings are of the love, mercy and wisdom of our heavenly Father. Saith St. Paul, in Hebrews 12, "If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not? . . . Furthermore, we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us, and we gave them reverence: shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and live? For they verily for a few days chastened us after their own pleasure; but He for our profit, that we might be partakers of His holiness."

What are the prerogatives of a father? To direct, control, correct, and provide for his children. What a father does in these respects is at least done in love, if not always in wisdom. What our infinitely wise and good heavenly Father does, must always be right, and for the real welfare of His children.

Afflicted, chastened saint, forget not that an all-wise, all-merciful, and all-powerful heavenly Father controls the tempest, wields the rod, and directs the providence under which you are suffering, and that your *eternal good is the end He aims to secure*. Then, in humble, unquestioning submission, commit all to Him, and with the poet say,

"Thou knowest what is best;

And who, O God, but Thee hath power to know?

'Tis Thine alike with good to make me blest,

And Thine to send affliction's hour of woe.

"No questions will I ask,

Do what Thou wilt, my Father and my God!

Be mine the dear and consecrated task,

To bless the loving hand that lifts the rod."

—SELECTED.

FAITH AND VICTORY

FAITH and VICTORY is published and sent out in the interest of Jesus to His little flock scattered abroad, by yielded members of His Body at Faith Publishing House.

Faith and Victory will be sent free of charge to all who ask for it, as often as God permits by leading, blessing and supplying.

(There will be no charges ever made against you for Faith and Victory.) Address:

FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE,

611 W. MANSUR ST., GUTHRIE, OKLA.

We feel sure that God is blessing those who are sending in names for Faith and Victory. This will enable us to get the gospel to many more souls. As He gives, we freely give.

If you are interested in souls being saved, take it to God in fasting and prayer that He may show you what to do. "Love for Jesus will set a man to work."

Bro. Guy Little of Des Moines, Iowa, is here holding a series of meetings at the mission. A few souls have been saved and others have received healing to their bodies. This Brother has a call for Evangelistic work and those desiring meetings can write to him at this place.

God has many ways of killing out the self life. One way is to lead or permit a child of God to appear unstable to human intellect. God wants the human stubbornness and stiffness killed out that you can be all things to all men that some might be saved.

If Satan can get a soul to think that they have all the light that God is giving out they become very conceited and Pharisaical in spirit, word and deed, and become human builders instead of abiders in Christ.

Divine love in the heart will cause you to be gentle, lamb-like and filled with compassion for the weak, faltering brother; the same love will cause you to be strong and lion-like against wicked spirits, even as Jesus was toward the Pharisees.

Many dear souls will put human friendship and intellectual sociability before Christ, then wonder why they are lean in their souls. Human weakness loves to lean on visible things. The Word says "to endure as seeing Him who is invisible."

God's people can be one only as they see and flow together, and never by a collection of doctrines and rules laid down by human builders.

Satan has not lost the art of making clean the outside of the platter; also "graves that appear not" are still with us.

Brethren, whatsoever ye do, and whatsoever ye give, do it as unto the Lord, that God be glorified in all things and your treasures will be laid up in heaven, bless the Lord.

There are no doubt many peeping, muttering and familiar spirits working among what is called "the Pentecostal people." Some builders may and will proclaim the whole thing "is of the devil," and others for lack of knowledge will follow them in this. Oh, that we as creatures of earth could learn that we are but men and see through a glass darkly, then truly our light would be brighter, "For God resisteth the proud and giveth grace to the humble.

We have never spoken in tongues neither do we believe that speaking in tongues is "the only evidence of the Holy Ghost." Although we find recorded in Acts several times that those filled with the Holy Ghost spoke in tongues, no doubt this speaking was far different from much of the muttering, jabbering and barking, together with other peculiar sounds and strange actions we see today.

Because iniquity is abounding the love of many is waxing cold, and dear souls are becoming selfish and horders of corruptible things. Oh, that souls could see the debt we owe to our Savior for the sacrifice He has made, then they would continually be manifesting their labor of love in helping to get the gospel of Christ to lost souls. But because of the coldness and selfishness all around them they gradually begin to live for the present and become lukewarm toward the Master and faint by the way.

CORRESPONDENCE

Dent, Mo.—Dear saints of God: I feel the dear Lord wants me to write a few lines to tell some of the wonderful things that He has done for me. I have only been saved two years. I never fully turned myself over to the Lord for healing until a few months ago. I would take a little medicine at times. But I know the Lord has healed me of some of my many afflictions. I was healed of a hurting in my right side, which always bothered me when I walked any distance. Now it doesn't hurt any more. He also healed me when I had an awful cold or Flu last winter.

The dear Lord also healed my ten year old boy of what seemed to be pneumonia. Oh, how easy it is to train our children up to trust the Lord for healing. Sometime ago my boy had a hurting in his jaw and was in bed. I went out of the room and when I returned he looked up as happy as he could be and said, "Mama, my jaw don't hurt now. Do you know what caused the pain to stop?" I said, "Did you put some liniment on it?" He said, "No;

I prayed and asked the Lord to heal it myself, and it quit hurting right now." When he almost had pneumonia some of the family wanted me to give him medicine. So my son turned to me and said, "Mama, this is to try your faith." I prayed for him before going to bed. I awoke in the night and found he had a very hot fever. I prayed for him again, and the next morning when he awoke he turned over and said, "I am going to get up and play all day," and so he did. His fever was all gone.

My sister and I are all the saints close here. We have to watch and pray much, and depend on the Lord to take care of us, as we haven't any encouragement only from Him and our precious Bibles, together with some letters we get from the dear saints. We have so many precious promises in His blessed Word, which also says to call for the elders to anoint and pray over us. As we can not call for elders here, I will write to this paper so the dear saints can read of my request. Now I desire all that read this to pray for us, and pray for the Lord to heal me of my afflictions so I can be able to go about and do more for Him. If He will heal me, I will do any thing He wants me to do. I can see so many poor souls that need help. Oh, I do want to do something for the Lord for what He has done for me. Pray for us.

Your saved sister, FANNIE BROWN.

* * *

Perkasie, Pa.—Dear friends at Faith Publishing House: Greetings to you in Jesus' dear name. May I just tell you what joy and hope the little paper gave me last Sunday morning as I was reading it. A sister gave me a copy, and I just think it is filled with God's precious truths. Praise God. I am so young in the Lord and feel the need of much help. It is good food for my soul. Will you please pray for me and my family, that I may grow deeper in the knowledge of God. May God bless you. I would love to receive Faith and Victory whenever you have it by the blessings of the Lord to send. Trusting to hear from you, I remain a soul determined to follow Jesus.

—MRS. MARTHA BEER.

* * *

Solsberry, Ind.—Dear ones in Christ Jesus: I am thanking and praising God for His wonderful love and mercy and His free salvation. "Whosoever will may come and take of the water of life freely," praise His precious name. He is my Savior and King and I love Him with all my heart, mind, soul and strength. I can truly say I have given up all for Jesus. This vain world is naught to me, but "Jesus is all the world to me:—my life, my joy, my all. He is my strength from day to day, without Him I would fall." Praise His dear name, He is a satisfying Portion.

This great peace in my soul passeth all understanding. Listen to a few of His precious promises: "I will never leave thee nor forsake thee." "I will not suffer you to be tempted above what you are able to bear; but in every temptation I will make a way for your escape." "I will be with you in the sixth trouble, and in the seventh I will not forsake you."

"I will keep you from all evil." "I will not let any man pluck you out of my hand." How can we praise Him enough for all this? He will bless us more than we can think or ask, glory to God in the highest, peace and good will to men.

I have received two numbers of Faith and Victory and I like it because it is filled with truth. I love the truth that made me free. "Great peace have they that love thy law, and nothing shall offend them." Thank God, I am one of them. I will send a few names of my loved ones who would be glad to receive the paper, and I will gladly give out any papers or tracts you send. Yours in love for all truth,

—MARY E. HUDSON.

* * *

Milton, Pa.—To the workers at Faith Publishing House: A good Christian friend from Illinois sent me a copy of the little paper Faith and Victory, the first time I had ever seen it. It did me so much good. I see you can let me have it free. Please do so; I need it often to read over, then pass on to others. I am one of the Lord's poor. I am 58 years old, a shut-in all the year round. I am alone, or rather on the care and charge of others, but thank God He has blessed me with good hearted ones to help me. I have faith in God for divine healing, so please pray for me. I am very badly afflicted with paralysis, palsy, spinal trouble, weak nerves, and partial deafness. I am better now than I have been. I am interested in the Lord's work. Please send me tracts and papers and help me with your prayers. Your Bro. in Christ,

—ROBERT ROTHERMEL.

* * *

Bartonville, Ill.—My dear Sister in Jesus: I cannot begin to tell you how happy and glad I was when I received your dear Christian letter. It has done me much good. May our loving Father be very near you and bless you every day. Now I will tell you the reason your dear letter did me so much good. I am a helpless cripple, not able to stand on my feet, or to walk a step. I have sat here in my wheel chair for more than nine years, but I am glad and thankful that I have a wheel chair to sit in. We can always find something to be thankful for if we try. I have no home, or no money; but I do have true loyal friends, praise the good Lord. So I have to stay here in the Peoria State Hospital in Bartonville to find a home and care. I am a shut-in from the outside world. But, praise the Lord, I am not shut in alone—my Jesus is with me all the time. So you know now what a comfort and help your dear letter was to me. The big tears rolled down my face when I read your dear letter. I get lonely here so I know Jesus told you to write to me.

I am longing to be well so I can be with the outside people to tell them of Jesus and His great love He has for us all. I love little children and would love to be with them to teach them of Jesus. That has been the work I have wanted to do for God, but He had some other plans for me. I am now confined to a wheel chair afflicted with rheumatism for many years. I am trying to learn God's will, for I want

to be faithful and true to Him, to do the *little things* that will please Him. I am so glad that I came home to Jesus, that I ever learned to trust in God. "'Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus, just to take Him at His Word."

Oh, how precious He has been to me, and how precious is His love. Every day He is more dear to me as I sit low at His feet and learn sweet lessons of trust and joy. "And He walks with me and He talks with me, and He tells me I am all His own. Oh, the joy to share as we tarry there, His glory has ever known." Oh, how I wish I could tell every one of Jesus and His wonderful love. What great wonderful things Jesus has done for me, unworthy tho' I am. I am not tired of this narrow way, for it grows better and brighter all the way. May God's richest blessings be with you always. Pray much for me that I may be a true soldier for Jesus. With Christian love, Your Sister in Christ,

—MRS. RETTA C. PRENTICE.

* * *

Dardanelle, Ark.—Dear Bro. and Sister Pruitt: Greeting in Jesus' dear name. There is no other name under heaven whereby we must be saved. Praise the Lord. I have been thinking for some time I would write you people, thanking you very much for sending me the little paper Faith and Victory. I appreciate it so much. It is food to my soul to read it. I am sending you a list of names of my friends and loved ones who will enjoy reading Faith and Victory.

I am praising God this morning for His goodness to me. I am glad and rejoice from the depths of my heart for that blessed day when I saw the need of this precious Christ, accepted Him and took Him as my all in all. Bless His dear name forever. I find He is all I need. Truly He is my Refuge and Strength, a very present help in trouble. My determination is to follow in His foot-steps to the end and gain heaven. "Bless the Lord, Oh, my soul! and all that is within me bless His holy name. Pray for me that I may live humble at the foot of the cross and do God's will in all things.

Your Sister in Christ, —RUTH ROLLANS.

* * *

Garrison, Texas.—Dear workers at Faith Publishing House: I have received two numbers of Faith and Victory. I think it a fine, clean little paper. I find that every word does my soul good. I meant to write you and tell you I had received the first number, but I wanted to send a little offering when I wrote so I have waited until now and am yet unable to send any thing as I am a poor widow and don't have much income this time of year, because we do not have much time to work out, for it takes all of our time to try to raise a little crop at home. But I have some friends that I certainly wish could receive the paper, so I will send their names, praying the Lord will enable you to send the paper to them, and that they will be benefited and brought nearer to God, that they may lay hold upon Him for eternal life.

I surely enjoy all the testimonies of those who have trusted Jesus as their healer as well as Savior. Oh, how I do wish I could see them all and talk with them about salvation, and the precious things that accompany salvation, brought to this world by our dear Savior. He and His followers were hated and unpopular then, and so they are today.

LEFT ALL TO FOLLOW JESUS

(Tune: "*Heavenly Sunlight*.")

Once I did love this world and its treasure,
But I have left them all behind;
I am now seeking the heavenly treasure,
Glory to God! they are gone from my mind.

Chorus.

Halleluiah! I am so happy!
Since I have turned from darkness to light;
Halleluiah! I know He has saved me!
For He is now my only delight.

Oh! how I did desire the gold and the silver!
But I no longer do that crave;
It no longer has its glitters,
Since I have trusted Jesus to save.

I was conformed to all of the fashions,
And I did love them so dear;
But *the Blood* of Jesus has cleansed me,
And the way is now so clear.

Then I did love the praises and honors
Of this old world so dear;
But now I no longer desire these,
Since I have walked with Jesus so near.

I have left all to follow my Savior,
And He is keeping me from all sin;
I must trust Him, Oh yes, I am trusting,
And He will keep me to the end.

May God continue to bless you all is my prayer.
Your isolated Sister in Christ, MRS. IDA LEE.

THOUGHTS FOR MEDITATION

COMPILED BY CELENA LACUE.

"Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth" (Col. 3: 2).

Guard your heart. "Keep it with all diligence." See that all of its affections are on things above. Some of the earthly things that God has given into your keeping will want some of your affection. The beautiful home, the farm, the bank account, the domestic animals and even some things almost worthless will want a little of your heart's love. Your own talent and personal appearance may desire some of your affection, just enough to set you approving them for your sake.

"Rejoice evermore" (1 Thess. 5: 16).

"As sorrowful, yet always rejoicing." "Rejoice always; and again I say, rejoice." Count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations. This is the

power of a Christian life. We can always rejoice. We can be contented and happy, whatever our circumstances in life may be. God's grace will sustain us. Every day can, and should be, a day of rejoicing. God is pleased in having us happy, but He would have our rejoicing to be in *Him* and not in His blessings. To rejoice in the midst of trial is health to the soul.

"Look not every man on His own things, but every man also on the things of others" (Phil. 2: 4).

We should be as much concerned in others' welfare as in our own. He who is looking out for himself and neglecting others has not advanced very far in the Christian life. The Christian lives for others. He will overlook his own needs and see his brother's needs.

"Draw nigh to God" (Jas. 4:8).

The close of every day should find us a little nearer God than the evening before. We should hide a little more secretly in His pavilion. We should nestle a little more closely under His wing; His feathers should cover us a little more fully. Be the storms what they may, we can daily live very close to God, and what we can do, is our duty to do.

"Open thy mouth wide" (Psa. 81: 10).

We should daily live with wide-open mouth. If we will, the promise is that God will fill it. For God to be all to us we must expect all from Him. God can impart to us only what our hearts are open to receive. If we would live with God in our own soul, we must have all our soul open to receive Him. Many fail to see the beauty of a life hid with God because they are looking too much earthward. Opening the mouth wide implies an abandonment of ourself to God with a readiness to receive all that God has to give, together with an expectation to receive nothing that does not come from Him. Then God will fill us daily with Himself. There will be a constant inflowing from God.—of strength and ability to perform every duty of life, and of grace and peace to make life an emblem of heaven.

"Do all things without murmurings and disputings" (Phil 2: 14).

Let thy life be free from frettings and worryings. Let it be the calm flowing of the river. God is a strong and high tower, a refuge, a shield. With our life hidden in Him, worry and fretting can not reach us. We may be treated unjustly by a bosom friend, but we commit it to God, and instead of feeling the wound the friend gives, we feel the balm our Father gives.

"Be content with such things as ye have" (Heb. 13: 5).

"I have learned in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content." He who has gained contentment has gained more than he who has gained the wealth of a world, if it be contentment with godliness. A dis-

contented life is a dark spot on the page of human history. An even, contented life is as a lighthouse shedding its peaceful beam over the turbulent waters where voyagers come and go.

"I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me" (Phil. 4: 13).

"I am mighty enough for all things through Christ who empowers me"—*Rotherham*. There is no excuse for your not living a perfect victorious life today. You can be a conqueror. Temptations will assail you, trials will come, but you can ignore them in such a way as to show their author your contempt for both him and his temptation. I read just this morning this good suggestion: "Do not dwell upon your temptations." They are the little dogs that bark after a man that passes by; if he stops to drive them away, they bark more fiercely than before. You can do all things through Christ, but you must do them in His way. Ofttimes He would have you ignore temptations instead of fighting them. It is well, ofttimes, not even to ask, "Who is there?" when temptations come knocking at your door.

"Redeeming the time, because the days are evil" (Eph. 5: 16).

Time is more than money; it is life. Do not waste it. Improve its golden moments today. Be economical in its use. Many complain for not having time for devotional reading and for prayer, while if they would examine carefully, they would find that they trifle away as much time as would be needed for prayer each day.

A BACKSLIDER'S ADMONITION

Oh, how can I live without Him?

This Jesus so loving and kind;

Life indeed is so lonely,

No comfort here can I find.

There's naught here but disappointment,
Bitter remorse and woe;

No one to bear my burdens,
Whither, Oh, where shall I go?

Once I could cast them on Jesus,
My Savior so loving and kind;
Jesus would bear them for me,
In Him sweet peace could I find.

Then why did I leave such a Savior?
Oh, why did I wander in sin?

Oh! could I but get back to Jesus,
I never could leave Him again.

My dear Christian friend be faithful,
And ever to Jesus be true;

Oh heed a backslider's warning,
There's no pleasure in sin for you.

Don't ever let Satan tell you
There's no use to labor and pray,
If you let him make you believe it,
You will surely regret it some day.

Backsliding doesn't lessen your trials,
But just makes them harder to bear;
There is no one in sin that can help you,
But Satan will boldly declare—

There is no use to pray—you're a sinner,
You know the Lord will not hear;
But go to some worldly amusement,
And you will find comfort there.

You will soon forget all your trouble,
Have a good time while you live;
And sin just all you want to,
For Jesus will never forgive.

Thus Satan will come to argue,
Whenever we try to pray;
He always knows our weakness,
And knows just what to say.

Sometimes he comes all transformed,
As if he's an angel of light,
And quotes to us the Scriptures,
To make us think he's right.

So, Christian, don't listen to him,
But put him behind you today,
Please, never leave your Savior,
Don't turn from Him away.

There is no other friend like Jesus,
He loves and cares for you;
If you'll be a friend to Jesus,
He'll be a friend to you.

Why give up your hope of heaven,
And live in sin below?
Thus life will be but wretched,
No real joy here to know.

Once more let me beg you
To "be thou faithful" here;
With Jesus naught can harm you,
With Him there's naught to fear.

—BESSIE METCALF.

“HOW MUCH OWEST THOU?”

“And Jesus, answering, said unto him, Simon, I have somewhat to say unto thee. And he saith, Master, say on. There was a certain creditor which had two debtors: the one owed five hundred pence, and the other fifty: And when they had nothing to pay, he frankly forgave them both. Tell me, therefore, which of them will love him most? Simon answered and said, I suppose that he to whom he forgave most. And He said unto him, Thou hast rightly judged” (Luke 7: 40-43). Satan by his subtilty has inflicted a great, grievous and heavy debt upon the whole human family. This is sin which separates the soul from God who is pure and holy. But to try to work or pay ourself out of this debt only ladens the soul more heavily. “For by

grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves; it is the *GIFT of God.*” Condemnation and guilt rest heavily upon every soul naturally, whether outward sins have been many or few. True it is that confession and restitution are made,—fruits meet for repentance. But no more does an eye pay for an eye, or a tooth for a tooth. And, too, there are souls who have given way to inward hatred, or quick passion, and taken the life of another. This cannot be given again, and so rests the heavy debt upon the heart and conscience. But dear souls, behold how great is the forgiveness of our Lord Jesus Christ who tasted death in every man's stead. He “frankly forgives.” Praise His name.

Therefore He says, “Come unto me all ye that are heavy laden and I will *give you rest.* Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest to your souls.” “For the wages of sin is death; but the *Gift of God* is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.” Dear souls, our Father's love manifest in His Gift is the payment of our heavy and unpayable debt. “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.” “Hereby perceive we the love of God, because He laid down His life for us; and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.” Therefore we are exhorted to “Owe no man anything, but to love one another; for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law.” This is the debt that is ever and at all times due every man, friend or foe, and not to be paid only in word and in tongue, but in deed and in truth.

Paul had done many things contrary to Jesus of Nazareth, but when Jesus appeared to him and he saw he was even persecuting Jesus when he hailed men and women to prison, and consented to the cruel death of God's saints. Oh! the greatness of the debt that rested upon the heart and shoulders of Paul. He saw himself in the right light, as most every soul when truly convicted does—as the chief or most miserable and wretched. But bless the Lord, he also saw that Jesus came into the world for the very purpose of saving sinners. Though he obtained great mercy because he did many things ignorantly and in unbelief, yet in the beginning he was told, “For I will show him how great things he must suffer for my name's sake.” Since he saw that all his sin and iniquity, all the heavy unpayable debt was laid upon Jesus, and that He had forgiven all, this captivated Paul's heart and life and filled him with fervent love, and he was so diligent, obedient and consecrated that his persuasion was that nothing should separate him

from the Gift and bestowal of God's love within and upon him. This constrained him to spend and be spent for his fellow-brethren. "I am a debtor both to the Greeks, and to the Barbarians; both to the wise, and to the unwise. So, as much as in me is, I am ready to preach the gospel to you that are at Rome also. For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth" (Rom. 1: 14-16).

Oh dear souls that are weighed down by besetting sins, are hindered in the fight of faith and in running the race before you, and are awakened to cry out, "Oh wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death!" look up to Jesus who has been lifted up on the cross to give His life's blood to pay your debt, to bear your sins and to completely deliver you from this body of death.

One morning not long since, while hiding in prayer with the Lord, (yes, Satan had been assailing by his roarings and many other devices) He brought before my mind and heart the mailing list, that is, each individual to whom literature is sent from here. There the Lord showed me were many different conditions both of soul and body represented:—some so aged as to be unable to leave their home or attend meetings; some shut in away from the outside world, being invalids, cripples or suffers from effects of afflictions; many poor in this world's goods, widows and fatherless; some in literal prison, and no doubt some in prison or bondage to sin, needing salvation; some who once knew Jesus as their Savior, their hearts being flooded with His love, whom the tempter has taken advantage of by His subtilty, and who yearn and hunger for Him to come and abide within again. Indeed the vision showed a complex condition, from the burdened sinner to those joyously going onward with the Lord, loving His appearing and groaning to be clothed upon with the house from above. Thus was the Lord's way of increasing the knowledge of indebtedness and bringing a closer relation to all souls. Whatsoever may be the state or need, remember that *JESUS* is the way, the truth, and the life. Yes, in Him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily, "who is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness. and sanctification and redemption" (1 Cor. 1: 30). Bless the Lord, oh my soul!

Though charity doth cover a multitude of sins, yet charity will also reprove, or rebuke, or admonish in due season. Charity dwelling within Paul did not fail to withstand Peter for he was to be blamed. True charity will receive, as well as give, whatsoever the Lord directs. "Confess you faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be

healed." "And as ye would that men should do to you, do ye also to them likewise," and thus continually pay the debt of love.

—ROBERT LONGLEY.

JERUSALEM, OUR HOME

"Fair city of the gospel day,
 Long have we sung of thee,
 But sung thy glory far away
 And failed thy light to see.
 'Come,' said an angel voice to John,
 'I'll show the Bride of Christ.'
 He showed him New Jerusalem,
 In bridal glory dressed.
 This holy New Jerusalem
 Came down from God all pure;
 In Her the Lord doth dwell with men,
 And keep them evermore.
 Thou art the Mother of us all,
 Thou art 'the Church of God;'
 And all within thy sacred wall,
 Are washed in Jesus' blood.
 The Lamb of God, Himself, thy light,
 Shines out in crystal rays;
 We call thy walls salvation bright,
 And all thy gates are praise.
 Oh, City of eternal truth,
 Blest Mother of the free,
 As in the glory of thy youth,
 The saints have come to thee."

We are praising God for this precious evening light, and for a clearer vision of the New Jerusalem than we have ever had before. We believe Brother Warner indeed saw this heavenly bride when he wrote the above poem, and many other dear saints saw and accepted its glorious truth. But, alas, we see many who have lost sight of the heavenly structure and have drifted back to the sectish spirits of the worldly churches, some in one way and some in another. Some do not organize in one way, yet they do in another. Beloved, God does not want us to organize together in any way, but as we yield ourselves wholly and completely into His hands the Spirit of God within us will make us see and flow together.

Our counselling together and binding certain laws on people will never make us one. Only through the workings of the Holy Spirit within our hearts will make us fit together in Him. We can understand the doctrine and know all about what the saints believe, yet if Jesus is not abiding in our hearts we can never be together. May God help us to see this

precious truth and seek daily a closer walk with our Heavenly Father, and as we all draw closer to Him and die out to self and sin, we will draw closer to each other. Some may think we do not believe in unity but, my friends, this is a mistake. We do believe in unity, but only the unity that God makes within by His Holy Spirit.

The second verse of the poem says:—

“This holy New Jerusalem
Came down from God *all* pure;
In Her the Lord doth dwell with men,
And keep them evermore.
Thou art the Mother of us all,
Thou art ‘*The Church of God,*’
And *all* within thy sacred wall,
Are washed in Jesus’ Blood.”

Praise God for a pure, a holy, a spotless Church: one that is without spot or wrinkle or any such thing. This holy New Jerusalem, the Bride of Christ, and every soul that has had their sins washed away by the precious blood of Jesus, no matter who they are or where they got saved, belongs to this true Church of God. We remember at one time a woman was brought to Jesus and they told Him of her sin, and wanted to stone her, but Jesus freely forgave her and told her to go and sin no more. Then He told her accusers to let those of them who were without sin cast the first stone. Do we manifest the Spirit of Christ in forgiving others, or do we seek to cast stones at others? May He help us to be more like Himself in every way. We need so much help from the Lord. All, or most of us, make some mistakes but the Lord knows the intent of every heart, and is ever ready to forgive us of all our shortcomings. And just as we want Him to forgive us, even so must we forgive others. We cannot make people serve the Lord. All we can do is preach the Word and leave the results with Him. God does not always see others just as man does, for man looks on the outward appearance but God sees the heart. Let us pray earnestly for more heavenly wisdom and seek to draw closer to Him each day, and I am sure we will prosper more in our souls and the Lord will be better pleased with our lives.

—BESSIE METCALF.

MEET GOD YOU MUST: BUT HOW?

It is recorded of the accomplished, ingenious infidel, Altamont, that, when dying, he exclaimed, “Did you only feel half the mountain that is on me, thou wouldst struggle with the martyr for his stake, and bless heaven for the flames.”

His hell had begun on earth—already the fires

were kindling about him. The shadow of coming wrath had fallen upon his spirit. Face God he must. The God he had so wantonly belied and blasphemed, he now dreaded to meet.

And why did he dread to meet God? Ah! reader, let conscience speak. Was it not his sins?

BUT WHAT ABOUT YOUR SINS?

Oh, the power of conscience when fully aroused! When *your sins* crowd down upon *you* in all their resistless force, tremble you will. Yes, shake like a reed before a gale; but if shaken *now*, you would be like a young lady of whom I once heard.

When she was awakened to her lost condition, she cried, “I am ready for hell, and hell is ready for me.”

What a sight! At that moment she trusted Christ and His finished work, and was saved right where she was.

Dear reader, allow the writer to ask you earnestly and affectionately, Are *you* ready to meet God? for meet him you must. How very important to have divine certainty on such a subject. The soul’s eternal destiny is involved, and a mistake, therefore, would be eternally fatal.

Listen. There are but two classes of people in this world before God. (1) Those who are saved. (2) Those who are not.

What I mean by not being saved is, not having the forgiveness of sins, and settled peace with God. You, dear reader, can test yourself thus: Are my sins forgiven? Have I peace with God, and no dread of meeting Him?

Many people think that certainty on such a subject is unattainable on this side of the great white throne, albeit the Scriptures are so plain on this subject.

Such was the case of a man of highly respectable appearance, who fearlessly and boldly stated to me that it was *impossible* to be sure whether one was saved or not.

I begged leave to read to him one or two passages of Scripture. He consented. I read, “Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; *by which also ye are saved.* . . . For I delivered unto you first of all that which also I received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures; and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures” (1 Cor. 15: 1-3).

I said to him, “You see the Corinthians need not have remained in any doubt, being divinely assured of what had taken place. ‘*By which also ye are saved,*’ is very plain and emphatic language, and calculated

to banish any doubt that might arise in a timid soul."

"Well," he exclaimed, "I must confess I never observed those verses in the Bible before."

"But, nevertheless, they were there all the time, though you so fearlessly asserted that it was impossible to be certain on the subject."

Three grand facts were preached by the apostle Paul to the Corinthians. (1) The death of Christ, as that which met the judgment of God, the judgment which we, as sinners, deserved and should have justly borne in hell forever. (2) His burial, as the proof that death had actually taken place. (3) His resurrection, as the evidence of God's satisfaction in the work thus accomplished.

This was the preaching that saved the licentious, worldly-minded Corinthians, which, thank God, has saved thousands since, and which is just as able to save to-day.

If you, reader, are seeking salvation, if the desire of your heart is, "What must I do to be saved?" if your sins are troubling you, and you dread the thought of meeting God, there is but one answer to your anxious inquiry: "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved" (Acts 16: 31).

Though you may be the blackest of sinners, you need not despair, for Paul writes: "This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief" (1 Tim. 1: 15). Behold the salvation of God brought to you through what Christ has done. With His latest breath, He cried, "*It is finished!*"

Blessed be His name, the work is all complete, and now it may be your privilege, believing, to say, like a Roman Catholic Irishwoman, when dying, "Ten thousand thanks to You: Yourself has done it all!"

Oh, it is so simple: "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" (Rom. 10: 9).

Accept, then, the word brought to you; let it be truly in your heart as God's message to you, and salvation is yours at this moment, and, like the eunuch, you will go on your way rejoicing.

It may be the reader is like another I once met, who told me he did believe. In fact, he assured me he believed every word in the Bible, but somehow he did not feel happy. *His* believing had not brought peace to his soul.

But the question is, Did he truly believe? In whom and on what was his faith based? Had he really received God's testimony concerning Christ and His finished work?

Or, was he not after all, looking *within* to find

some good, like many others, and like what I did once myself, looking for some inward feeling as the ground of assurance.

I said to him, "Suppose you were involved to the extent of £1,500, and had nothing wherewith to meet your liabilities, how would you feel?"

"I would surely feel miserable," he replied.

"Suppose that to-morrow the postman brought you a letter, with your own name upon it, from a well-known firm of solicitors in America, which informed you that a friend had died, and in his will had left you £2,000. How do you think you would feel when you received such news?"

"*I would feel elevated,*" was his reply.

"What would elevate you?" I asked.

"Why, the knowledge that my friend had left me more than would clear me of all my debts."

"Exactly so; but what brought that knowledge?"

"The letter, to be sure."

"But suppose, when you read the letter, you said, 'I fear this letter is not for me; it must be for some other person of the same name.' Or, suppose you treat that letter as fictitious, and next morning return it to the postman, would you be elevated?"

"Of course not," he replied, "when I did not believe it."

"Well, now," I said, "here you are to-day, with all your sins upon you. Your conscience is burdened; your soul is miserable; and you dread the thought of meeting God, because you have sinned against Him. But God has come out in rich grace, and met your whole case by giving Jesus—His own blessed Son—to die for you. He 'was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification'" (Rom. 4: 25).

"Let me tell you plainly. *The reason of all your misery is, that you don't believe the gospel:* that is, you don't believe that Christ, by His death, has met your whole case, and that God has been perfectly satisfied about your sins. *If you did, you could not help being elevated.* Why, man, if you believed the glad tidings thus brought to you, you would forget all your misery."

Nothing can elevate man, or lift him out of the misery in which sin has plunged him, but God's wondrous grace. With all man's ingenuity, he has never discovered what will meet his own state. No wonder, then, the great apostle boasted, "I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation *to every one that believeth*" (Rom. 1: 16).

He had experienced its mighty power in himself—the chief of sinners. The mad persecutor had been transformed into the meekest and humblest as well as the happiest of men. So much had he experienced

its joy and power, that when standing, a chained prisoner, before King Agrippa, he exclaimed, "I would to God that not only thou, but also all that hear me this day, were both almost and altogether such as I am, except these bonds" (Acts 26: 29).

He had witnessed its effects on those sunken in the lowest forms of degradation and superstition, and therefore was not ashamed to go on declaring it to the end of his days *as that alone* which suited man's need. Is it any wonder, then, that men are living in misery and die in agony when they refuse to submit to it.

Ah, it is a solemn reality that death is in the world—it is rampant everywhere. It is God's judgment on account of sin. Its victims are numbered yearly by tens of thousands. The fear of it is on every man.

I know well there are those who say they have no fear of death; but when it comes suddenly, making them to feel they must die, where, then, could the man be found who would dare to deny the words of the great poet:—

"Darest thou die?

Death is a fearful thing—'tis too horrible!
The weariest and most loathed worldly life,
That age, ache, penury, and imprisonment
Can lay on nature, is a paradise
To what we fear of death."

Reader, if yet unsaved, *Awake! Awake!* "The coming of the Lord draweth nigh" (James 5: 8). At any moment the archangel's voice may be heard, and the trump of God sound, calling the redeemed out of this world to be forever with the Lord. The day of grace may leave you. Time is on the wing. The sharp, cruel arrows of death are flying fast and thick around you. Soon, very soon, you may be counted with those who have gone from this world. *But where? This is the great question.*

Where? Many have been your opportunities, great have been your privileges. To-day God speaks to you in mercy. To-morrow you cannot call your own. To-morrow may be too late. Judgment is God's strange work. He delights in mercy.

But if you go on in your sins, trifling with mercy, take care lest mercy forsake you. "Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation" (2 Cor. 6: 2).

"To-day thou livest yet,
To-day turn thee to God!
For ere to-morrow comes,
Thou may'st be with the dead."

Do not say, "I have no faith in sudden conversions." Let me remind you of the jailer in Acts 16,

who came trembling before the servants of Christ, whom he had shamefully beaten but a short time before. The terrors of coming wrath were upon him. The sharp prickings of conscience had done their work. His soul was filled with the dread thought of meeting God—that God he had sinned against.

A Savior he needed, a Savior he desired, and a Savior he found that very night.

"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house," was the message given to him, and the very message he needed, and the message he rested upon.

It was not what he had done, or could do, that the apostle directed him to, but to what Another had done for him as the *only means* of salvation.

He simply received and believed the message. The effect was soon manifest in his washing the stripes of God's servants and setting meat before them.

In his case we see the divine order. (1) He believed the message; (2) he rejoiced in what it brought; (3) he proved his faith by his works.

It is important to insist that because we are saved, and have the assurance of it through grace, that we are not to do as we like—live merely as we list. That would be to go on in sin, as people often say. No. On the contrary, we are exhorted to "adorn the doctrine of God our Savior in *all* things. For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Savior Jesus Christ" (Titus 2: 10-13).

Three things, then, God's grace teaches us. (1) What we ought not to do. (2) What we ought to do. (3) What we are to hope for.

Each most important in its place; and never was it more important than it is to-day to press on those who are saved to be "zealous of good works."

It is a day of lip as well as of loud profession—a day of lukewarmness connected with the greatest boastfulness—a day when men are dealing in the grossest, most carnal way with divine things. It therefore behooves those who are saved to be more intensely real than ever.

And if that "blessed hope" animates us, it will lead us to purify ourselves "*even as He is pure.*" What a standard!

"I would not work my soul to save,
That work my Lord hath done;
But I would work like any slave
From love to God's dear Son."

—PHILLIP WILLIAMS.