

Faith and Victory

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

VOLUME 2,
NUMBER 5.

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

GUTHRIE, OKLA.
DEC., 1924.

SOCIAL CHRISTIANITY

*O Zion, haste, thy mission high fulfilling,
Proclaim to all the world that God is light!
That He Who made the nations is not willing.
One soul should perish, lost in shades of night.
Publish glad tidings, tidings of peace;
Tidings of Jesus, redemption and release.*

*Behold how many thousands still are lying
Bound in the darksome prison-house of sin,
With none to tell them of the Savior's dying,
Or of the life He died for them to win.*

*'Tis thine to save from peril of perdition
The souls for whom the Lord His life laid down;
Beware lest, slothful to fulfill thy mission,
Thou lose one jewel that should deck His crown.*

*Proclaim to every people, tongues and nation
' That God, in Whom they live and move, is Love:
Tell how He stooped to save a lost creation,
And died on earth that man might live above.*

*Give of thy sons to bear the message glorious,
Give of thy gold to speed them on their way,
Pour out thy soul for them in prayer victorious,
And what thou spendest Jesus will repay.*

*He comes again—O Zion, ere thou greet Him,
Make known to every heart His saving grace;
Let none whom He hath ransomed fail to greet Him,
Through thy neglect unfit to see His face.*

Every Christian has a social obligation. He is, in the most profound sense, his brother's keeper. Having become a child of God through accepting the Atonement of Jesus Christ, he becomes a brother to those who have found like precious faith, and a debtor to all mankind to make known the Glad News which has so changed his own attitude to God. Men everywhere are realizing that no individual can be absolutely independent of all others, even on the lowest plane of self-interest. Much less can the Christian, who has found the love of God in redemption—the most precious treasure in the universe—hug his riches to his own bosom. God gives him more wealth than he can use for himself: he must pass it on, for there are no swollen fortunes, no predatory rich, in the

Kingdom of Heaven. There, to give is to obtain; to hoard is to lose: in this world of spiritually bankrupt or impoverished souls, a child of God finds immeasurable opportunities to lay up for himself treasures in Heaven.

There is no room in that Kingdom, however, for Romish dogma of supererogation. God has forever destroyed, by the One great Sacrifice once offered for the sins of the whole world, all pretext for self-righteousness or earned merit. It is blasphemy to claim any merit before God for oneself, or for others as earned by oneself. The merit of Christ alone is all-sufficient for every sin of every earth-dweller, past present and to come, if that earth-dweller abandons all claim to self-righteousness and pleads the righteousness of Christ as his justification before God. The treasures in Heaven to which Jesus referred are rewards of deeds wrought or of victory won in Him through His Spirit after He has redeemed each soul; no works done either before or after redemption can count as meritorious in themselves, but only as love-gifts to our Redeemer, who from the fulness of His love rewards us in return. The idea of working for wages is forever outlawed in the vineyard of our Lord.

We must be certain, then, that our zeal for spreading the Gospel is not due to ambition to earn or to retain salvation, or to pile up merit for ourself or someone else; for if we so proceed we shall miserably and utterly fail. The only excuse for evangelism is pure love of introducing souls to God: nothing less will do. If we speak with the tongues of men and of angels and have not love, we are as sounding brass or a tinkling cymbal—empty windbags. From the Archbishop to the humblest layman, from the most gifted professional evangelist to the least esteemed one-talent "personal worker," one thing only counts: love of souls for Christ's sake. That is fundamental, and that is indispensable.

Given, however, a child of God thus imbued with self-forgetting love, we see an irresistible combination. The history of the Church is rich in human beings who, filled with the love of God, have gone forth conquering and to conquer. From St. Paul to the men

and women of today who carry the Glad Tidings to distant lands or to remote corners of our own half-heathen country, there have been and are thousands who, with God as their sole reliance, have wrought righteousness, obtained promises, subdued kingdoms, stopped the mouths of lions (often in a very literal sense). Who can read of saints like Paul, Barnabas, Polycarp, Augustine, Jerome, Luther, Francis Xavier, Raymond Lull, Wycliffe, John Huss, Zinzendorf, Wesley, Hans Egedt, Adoniram and Anne Hasseltine Judson, William Carey, John G. Paton, David Livingstone, George Muller, Andrew Murray, Jacob Chamberlain, and hosts of others whom Christ is not ashamed to call His brethren, and doubt that something more than ordinary inspired their lives? Men will go to the ends of the earth for wealth, or for adventure, or for fame; but there are comparatively few who go and remain there year after year for the love of their fellow-men. And what of the home missionaries who lay down their lives at their Lord's feet—the preachers and the schoolteachers who self-effacingly toil year in and year out in struggling churches, schools and colleges, that the love of Jesus Christ may be made manifest and His image formed in the hearts of people who would have little opportunity to know Him otherwise? What of the obscure folk in village, town and city whose lovingkindness cannot be pent up in their own souls but must find an outlet in ministry to others? Truly, this is a Laodicean age, but there are yet seven thousand (yea, and seventy times seven thousand) who have not bowed the knee to Baal nor sent their children through the fire to Moloch. Baal and Moloch are very busy and successful these days; but thank God! they cannot prevail against Him, and their time is short.

No; the business of Christianity is not primarily social reform. The Church of God exists to bring the transforming power of the Holy Spirit into contact with the lives of men. Social and philanthropic movements and reforms which spring from lives reborn of the Spirit, there have been and are. But, save as they result from the changed lives of its members, the church is not concerned with these things. Its sole excuse for existence is its message to men, not of socialism, not of civic uplift, not of national house-cleaning, not of world-wide leagues to enforce peace. The central, cardinal, dominating purpose of the Church is (or should be) *conducting the power of God to men*, that men may be redeemed, energized and set to work under God's direction at transforming other lives which they touch. Christianity is nothing if not a religion of contacts and electrification: the stringing of many wires and the establishment of many transforming stations

will be wasted labor unless the power of the Holy Spirit is turned through all the circuits. Insulated, short-circuited and burnt-out units of the church must be renewed and contact with the Power House re-established or they are unprofitable and will be removed (John 15: 2). Through the holy Church Universal, the sum of all true believers in the Lord Jesus Christ, the only catholic and apostolic Church, connection is made between God and men. In that Church dwells the Spirit of God; through its members that Spirit pours into other lives, and through these again into still others. As God touches and renews each life into a new creature, He wills that that creature shall have a definite part in the betterment of those with whom he makes contact. In the God-filled life there is scope for all abilities, all talents. Where talents are lacking God sometimes supplies them; always, He makes effective use of a life placed sincerely at His disposal. What astonishing material He often selects! And what amazing results He secures with it! The fisherman Peter preached a sermon and three thousand sinners turned to God. An obscure preacher faithfully delivered a message that seemingly fell flat, and Charles Spurgeon started on his career. A shoemaker determined to carry the Gospel to India, and William Carey became the apostle of Christianity in that land of a million gods. Surely, "God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty."

Nor did Christ intend that His Church should convert the world to Him. If He did, He has been bitterly disappointed these nineteen hundred years. The fundamental charter of the Church, given to His Apostles shortly before His ascension, reads in the Greek as follows: "Proceed, therefore; disciple (make disciples of) all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost, teaching them to observe all (things) whatever I enjoined upon you; and behold I (am) with you all the days until the end of the age" (Matt. 28: 19-20). "Proceed into all the world; announce the Good Message to all the creation. The believing and baptized (one) will be saved; he not (having) believed will be condemned" (Mark 16: 15-17). "Then He said to them, These sayings of mine which I communicated to you, being still with you, that it is necessary for all things written in the law of Moses and in the prophets and in the psalms about me, to be fulfilled. Then He opened their understanding for perceiving the writings. And He said to them that thus it has been written for the Christ to suffer and to be raised (literally stood up) from the dead on the third day, and for repentance to be announced in His name for re-

mission of sins in all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem; you (are) the witnesses of these (things). And behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you; tarry (literally, sit down) in the city until you be endued with (literally, clothed in) power from on high" (Luke 24: 44-49). The Church has not succeeded in converting the world in any generation since Christ purchased it with His own blood and established it in power, nor will it ever in this age of Grace. To go and baptize all the people in the world, regardless of their attitude to Christ, would clearly be absurd. Both Jesus and Paul make it plain that this is not God's intent. "The evangelization of the world in this generation" is possible of fulfillment if by evangelization we mean proclamation of the Gospel to all the *nations* of the world. It cannot be proclaimed to every *individual* among these nations, even with the greatly widened opportunities that are opening on every side, unless every one who names the name of Christ sets out to proclaim the glad tidings in some district where it has never before been heard—and that is extremely unlikely. Our Lord's idea seems to have been: "Carry the gospel to all nations, proclaim it among them, baptize all who accept, send them to reach others as soon as they understand the message well enough to transmit it." In that way the Apostolic church grew and multiplied; in that way Christianity has spread among the nations throughout the different generations, in spite of the opposition first of heathendom and later of the professed church. Today the Glad tidings is being carried by missionaries to individuals among savage tribes, and by these individuals to larger groups of natives whom the missionaries cannot reach. Multiplication of contacts is the method; wherever a real contact with God is made and maintained the result is a transformed life. The same method works equally well at home; those whom circumstances have kept from becoming missionaries have a wide circle of contacts in their own families and communities, and as they follow up their opportunities, will find with amazement that God is working miracles through them also, making them powerful to do His will and to touch other souls here and there into life by the power of the Spirit.

*Fling out the banner! heathen lands
Shall see from far the glorious sight,
And nations, crowding to be born,
Baptize their spirits in its light.*

*Fling out the banner! sin-sick souls
That sink and perish in the strife,
Shall touch in faith its radiant hem,
And spring immortal into life.*

*Fling out the banner! Let it float
Skyward and seaward, high and wide,
Our glory, only in the Cross;
Our only hope, the Crucified!*

*Fling out the banner! wide and high,
Seaward and skyward, let it shine:
Nor skill, nor might, nor merit ours;
We conquer only in that sign.*

—JEAN LEVY.

THE WRONG LEARNING

A man may know all about the rocks, and his heart remain as hard as they; he may know all about the winds, and be the sport of passions as fierce as they; he may know all about the stars, and be as a meteor, whose end, after a brief and brilliant career, is to be quenched in eternal night; he may know all about the sea, and his soul resemble its troubled waters, which cannot rest.

A man may know how to rule the elements, yet not know how to rule his own spirit; he may know how to turn aside the flashing thunderbolt, but not the wrath of God from his own guilty head. He may have all the knowledge of a Newton, a Laplace, a Watt; he may know many mysteries and understand many hidden things, but if he has no personal knowledge of the love of God, brought near to sinful men in Christ, what shall it avail?

"For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?" (Mark 8: 36-37).

—SEL.

THE BIBLE

THIS BOOK contains—The mind of God, the state of man, the way of Salvation, the doom of Sinners, and the happiness of Believers. Its doctrines are holy, its precepts are binding, its histories true, and its decisions are immutable. Read it to be wise, believe it to be safe, and practice it to be holy. It contains light to direct you, food to support you, and comfort to cheer you. It is the traveler's map, the pilgrim's staff, the pilot's compass, the soldier's sword, and the Christian's charter. Here Paradise is restored, Heaven opened, and the gates of hell disclosed. *Christ is its Grand Subject*, our good its design, and the glory of God its end. It should fill the memory, rule the heart, and guide the feet. Read it slowly, frequently, prayerfully. It is a mine of wealth, a paradise of glory, and a river of pleasure. It is given you in life, will be opened in the judgment, and be remembered for ever. It involves the highest responsibility, will reward the greatest labor, and condemns all who trifle with its sacred contents. —Sel.

"The great day of the Lord is near, it is near, and hasteth greatly, even the voice of the day of the Lord: the mighty man shall cry there bitterly" (Zeph. 1: 14)

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.

Your brothers and sisters at Faith Publishing House send Christmas greetings to all of our readers in the precious name of Jesus, the Gift of God for a lost people.

As Christmas time approaches, many folks are thinking, planning and hurrying about to get something suitable and proper to send or give to others.

We feel that it is proper and right and unavoidable for the truly born-again ones to have appreciation and joy in their hearts when thinking of the birth of the Son of God, who, by His suffering and death has blessed us with an earnest of heavenly things, and in bringing us back again as trophies to God.

Some give at Christmas time because their hearts are full of love and liberality, being thankful to God for prospering them through the year, also making some one happy and causing them to think of the Gift of God which is above all gifts.

We notice when the wise men from the East saw the star they came hunting the child Jesus and they gave their gifts unto the Lord. And this should be the proper spirit of giving at Christmas time: give as unto the Lord, and not a mere exchanging of gifts or giving expecting to receive as much again.

We would do well to do a little hunting as the wise men did that we could give our gifts as to the Lord for Jesus said, "Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me" (Matt. 25: 40). To give to those that cannot recompense you would be following the advice Jesus gave the man that made a great supper and bade his friends and rich neighbors" (Luke 14: 12-14).

The most of the rejoicing at Christmas time appears to be a fleshly rejoicing in which sinner and supposed Christian's participate and fellowship one another in gratifying their fleshly lusts and appetites and most all of the storm and bustle of celebrating the birth of Christ amounts to form and mockery in the eyes of God. Some give because they feel obligated to do so, and others give expecting something

in return, others give and make quite a spread at Christmas time to be like others, to show themselves as being of the world and alive to its ways, not behind the times. But we are glad and rejoice to say that there are some that out of a heart of love to God and His creatures will look up some poor, needy persons and without any display will give to their needs, receiving the smiles and approval of God, also making the needy rejoice to know that God cares for them.

We read in the Word how that Christ rejoiced in Spirit (Luke 10: 21) when considering how God had hid things from the wise and prudent and revealed them unto babes. So it occurs to us that the rejoicing (to be genuine) should be in Spirit, down deep in our souls—a real thankful appreciation of the goodness of God plainly manifested to lost men.

We truly thank God for His goodness to us during the past year and are glad at heart that another Christmas has come and finds us saved and with deep settled decisions in our hearts to know the end of a Christian race. We covet to have a testimony like Paul had when He says, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness" (2 Tim. 4: 7-8).

We are thankful at heart for all the readers of Faith and Victory, for your prayers and support otherwise, and pray God to bless each and every one of you and make the coming year one of active service in behalf of poor lost, needy souls, many who at this Christmas time will chuckle and laugh and spend money freely, reveling in their lusts, living in pleasure, being dead to God,—indeed very needy. They need the gospel of Christ, which if obeyed will bring about a death to the world and cause them to be made alive in Jesus. O for more consecrated men like Paul, that are willing to lay down their lives for their fellow-creatures. Paul declared that he was crucified unto the world and the world unto him (Gal. 6: 14). Quite a separation was it not? How many of us are like him today? Let us examine ourselves and see whether we are in the faith or not. Are we like Lot, pitching our tent toward Sodom?

Jesus says, "Let no man deceive you." Brethren, there are many vain and deceitful talkers in the world that would cunningly lead you to be like the world that the cross of Christ might cease, and you become as one of the "at-ease-in-Zion" ones. God says, "Woe unto them that are at ease in Zion" (Amos 6: 1). Let us as followers of Christ resist the spirit and fashion of the world and bear the cross that Christ and eternal things may be held up to a lost world as being worth while.

Satan is gratified and chuckles within when he can get a poor soul to make a profession without possessing Christ. Jesus says, "Ye shall know them by their fruits" (Matt. 7: 16), and gives us to under-

stand that many shall call Him Lord, Lord, whom He does not know. When we see men professing to know Christ and reveling and fellowshiping the world in spirit and in fashions, we know that Christ does not own them as His, no matter how loud they profess, for the spirit that loves and fellowships the world is the enemy of God (1 John 2: 15).

* * * *

We printed an over-supply of the last issue of Faith and Victory but the calls were so great for this number that our supply was exhausted long before all were supplied. We regret very much that we could not supply all of you with this number, and some we had to limit in the amount sent. We have done the very best we could in supplying you.

We are printing a larger number of this Dec. issue and will gladly send you as many as you wish to hand out to your friends or send to needy ones. Be free to order what you want: we are here to serve, and shall gladly do so to the extent of ability given from above.

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A great many of our readers liked the first article in the November issue entitled, "Forty-eight Hours in Hell." Some would like to have it in tract form. We also desire this and shall print it in a tract as soon as we get time with ability given. We will let you know through the paper when we get it ready to mail out.

* * * *

We can say that the Lord is blessing our souls in the spread of the gospel, and also is giving us some good meetings and heaven and eternal things seem very near at times.

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The Assembly of the Church of God will be held at Guthrie beginning on the twenty-sixth of December and lasting ten days. All are invited to attend and rejoice together with us in the Lord.

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CORRESPONDENCE

So. Mansfield, La.—Dear saints at Faith Pub. House and scattered abroad: Again the dear Lord has spared me to write you. I thank God that I am yet under the blood, saved and sanctified, washed in His precious blood, saved by His grace, sealed by His Spirit, and kept by His power divine. Praise His holy name. The dear Lord called me away from home on duty, and on returning home I found there a supply of pure food for my soul which the dear Lord, who supplies all our needs, had prepared through the dear saints at Faith Pub. House, for which I truly thank God and you. Dear ones I truly thank God for this blessed way. and that through His providence I got in touch with you who have been so much help to me. Life does not seem a burden; heart-aches, pains, sorrows, griefs, woes, dark days, sad, lonely hours, the vacancy made by absent friends who put me down because I love the Lord, are dismissed by the truths of God's Word in this blessed little paper

Faith and Victory; also the many soul-reviving, heart cheering pamphlets and tracts. It seems impossible to get so much light, truth, consolation, encouragement and strength in such small packages. Praise God. Your precious letter was so much food and strength to me. I read it to my husband, who is so dear to me and who I long to see saved. I ask you dear ones to please help me to pray that he see the light and walk therein. He is much devoted to the truth through me, but has not embraced it as life to his soul. Your letter had a deep effect on him. Praise God. I am taking pleasure in distributing the papers and tracts. Just send me any that you feel God wants the people to have. I am waiting to bear it to them. Pray for me. Your sister in Christ.

—MARY BELL WHITE.

o o o o

Richwood, W. Va.—Dear Brothers and Sisters: we greet you in Jesus' dear name this morning, praising Him for the sweet fellowship of His Holy Spirit, and how wonderful to know that fellowship flows from heart to heart. Truly we are all one in Christ Jesus, and if we walk in the light as He is in the light we will have fellowship one with another, and the blood of His dear Son cleanses us from all sin. We are sending you some more names to send the paper to. We thank you for sending us the extra copies, for we were wishing for them. Please continue to send us a roll of each issue, as we can use them. The people here are seemingly bewildered with so many false doctrines and the truth should be scattered in every place, for they don't fail to scatter their false doctrines, creeping into houses, leading captive silly women laden with sins, led away with divers lusts. And again the Word says "Many shall follow their pernicious ways, by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of" (2 Peter 2: 2). How we pray that God will see fit to send some one here to preach the truth, laying judgment to the line and righteousness to the plummet. We praise God this morning that He has a few here that are willing to take the Bible way. So many talk of being led by the Spirit and yet will not give heed to God's dear Word. How awful to be led by such a spirit! for God said His Spirit and Word would agree, and we are to examine ourselves by the Word. Well, we are truly thankful to God for His many blessings, and we pray that He will bless each of His true saints and keep you in His good old way. We are your saved Brother and Sister.

—THOMAS AND BEATRIS SPAUR.

o o o o

Lititz, Pa.—Dear ones in Christ Jesus our Lord, who died that we might live. I am so glad I am saved from all sin and well and happy in the Lord, bound for Glory Land. The good Lord did wonderful things for me the past summer. I worked almost every nice day. There are only a few of us here who worship God in Spirit and truth, but the Lord is looking for the twos and threes and He promised where they gather together in His name He is with them. Praise His name. I am so glad for the precious promises of God.

We are indeed in perilous times. We used to go to a place about 30 miles from here and there were a few true saints of God who met together to worship God. We had such glorious times together. But sad to say some crowded in who did not have salvation, and they were allowed to lead the meetings and Sunday School with all styles and fashions until the whole thing was leavened. The true ones had no courage to renounce them. They thought they could win them, but instead there came confusion and strife. We cannot mix oil and water, much less can saints and sinners mix in agreement with the good things of God.

We are doing what we can by God's help to encourage honest souls. Let us humbly watch and pray and let our light so shine before men that they may see a life lived to please and glorify our Lord which is in heaven. I like to read the good encouraging testimonies of the brothers and sisters in Faith and Victory. So long as it is straight, sound and true I will have it. May the good Lord watch between me and thee till we meet with Jesus and the loved ones gone on before. It can not be long for me as I am now 68 years old. One is dropping here and another there. Some day my time and your time will come. Let us be ready for the summons at any moment.

Yours in Jesus' name. —H. H. SHANK.

o o o o

Versailles, Ohio.—Dear workers at Faith Pub. House: God bless you and keep you in this evil time on the straight line of His eternal truth, free from fear or compromise with men or devils. God says, "He that hath my Word, let him speak it faithfully," and I say Amen. He told His prophets not to be afraid of their faces. Too many would-be preachers seem to be seeking the approval of men rather than the approval of God. He says, "Hearken unto *Me*; *hear* and your soul shall live." Again He says, "Fear not man whose breath is in his nostrils, who, when he hath killed the body, hath no more that he can do. But I will forewarn you whom ye shall fear: Fear God and give glory to *His name*." Pray for me that I keep true to the Lord.

—ELIHU KEY.

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Selbyville, Del.—Dear workers at Faith Publishing House: Greetings in Jesus' name. I am glad that I can still sing victory. The Lord is still with me, and He is my strength and all in all, and blesses me on my journey. We have so many things to thank Him for. I just feel like saying "Praise the Lord!" We have been tested and tried, and the Lord has brought us through. We feel very weak at times, but Paul said when he was the weakest, he was the strongest. The last Faith and Victory came just in a time of need, and was really food from heaven to my soul. It did me so much good. Oh, dear brethren, let us be true until Jesus comes. It will not be long and the battle will be over and we will go up to receive our crown. May the Lord bless and keep all true that trust in Him. A loving brother in Christ.

—HARRY C. HUDSON.

Patton, Pa.—Dear Bro. and Sister Pruitt: Greetings in Jesus' dear name, praying the Lord's richest blessings upon you and that the comforting and sustaining grace of God be given you, encouraging you in His service. May His everlasting arms bear you up and keep you amidst all trials He permits. Your letter came sometime ago, and I was glad for it: always glad to hear how the work there is getting along. Although I am not there, I am there in Spirit and you have my prayers that God lead and guide you as it pleaseth Him. Oh, to know and feel we have His smiles of approval upon us means more than all the smiles of the world, its applause and fame. We know these would only end in sorrow, remorse and shame, and how many are seeking this rather than the fear of God upon their souls. "Fear *God* and keep His commandments." This is our whole duty. In doing so we have found the true way of life.

I have surely enjoyed my stay with the dear saints at Silverdale. The Lord gave us such precious meetings. The last Sunday I was there the Lord gave such a precious ordinance meeting. He was near to bless and comfort our souls, proving afresh to all of our hearts, "If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them." Obedience to His Word brings the blessings to our hearts. There are only a few saints there but they are in perfect unity.

Be encouraged dear ones, for God has promised to supply *all* our needs according to His riches in glory. He will give us all that is good for us. No good thing will He withhold from us if we continue to walk uprightly before Him. I am so encouraged to live for the Lord, and decided by His help to "go on." Though the trials of my faith may be many, I will not murmur nor complain in my heart, but thank God that He sees what is best for me, or I would not have them. I feel and know there are still more ahead but I just ask the dear Lord to take me on *through* them all, asking Him for grace and to "lay up in store a good foundation against the time to come." "I *know* that *all* things work together for good to them that love the Lord." The dear Lord made this promise so real to me one morning and it is still burning in my soul. I know it is true. I feel I am increasing in the Lord, and my only desire is His divine approval and favor, and for this I also know I must drink "the bitter with the sweet." I am encouraged to press on. I am spending some precious seasons alone with the Lord, learning precious lessons from Him. "Happy place so near so precious," I desire to be found there each day. Let us continue on in the way of truth, looking unto Jesus who hath promised to never leave us nor forsake us. The Lord bless and comfort your hearts. Your Sister in Jesus, with holy love.

—CELENA RUTH LACUE.

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Oldfield, Mo.—Dear ones at Faith Publishing House. May God ever keep you saved and Faith and Victory clean for His use in spreading the Gospel of the Kingdom. The dear Lord marvellously sent Bro. and Sister J. D. Llewellyn this way in their Gospel

Car. They held meeting several nights in our school house, each night bringing wonderful messages of God's great plan of redemption to man. True, when God works, Satan works also. Satan brought all the powers of darkness upon the place that he could, but in spite of it all God's mighty power moved on the hearts of some. While Bro. and Sister Llewellyn went away not seeing much that they did, yet, thank God, the seed is sown.

We are praying that God will open up the way that we may be able to build some kind of a building in the near future where the true saints of God can come and preach the Gospel in its true light and purity, and not be hindered by the creeds of the world. I live in the country and if it is God's will next summer I want to erect a brush arbor near my place and equip it with seats and lights, and everything necessary for a place of worship. Then I would like to get in touch with some *true man of God* that could tell that God has called him to this place to preach, that we could hold a series of meetings to God's honor and glory. And I don't want to leave this out: I thank and praise His holy name forever for His great love that is in my soul.

*He brought me out of the miry clay,
He set my feet on the Rock to stay;
He puts a song in my soul to-day,
A song of praise, hallelujah!*

Oh how wonderful what God has done! To the down-hearted I would say, Read about our wonderful God in Psalm 139. If such a God be for us who can be against us? (Romans 8: 31). Pray for me that I may have more faith and be steadfast and unmoveable in the Lord. Yours in His precious name.

—BRO. J. E. JOHNSON.

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Richwood, W. Va.—Dear saints of God scattered abroad, greetings in the dear name of Jesus. Today finds us still saved and rejoicing in the love of our Savior. Although we have many severe trials and are persecuted by the enemy on every side, we praise the dear Lord that He is leading us by His unchanging hand. We have started to having cottage prayer meetings and are rejoicing to see the dear saints beginning to awaken from sleep and get into active service for the Master. Truly we feel that the Lord has been sifting His people here, and we are glad to see so many dear souls that are seeking after the truth. After the great delusion that has been practised here, it gives us great joy to meet in prayer with a few dear brothers and sisters that have stood true and have kept the victory. Truly we are living in the time spoken of in Rev. 16: 14 when the unclean spirits would be working miracles in the world to deceive the people. Oh, dear souls, will you not heed the voice of God that calls to you to come out from among them and be ye separate saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing and I will receive you (2 Cor. 6: 17). Dear saints of God let us rally to the standard of truth. "Cry aloud; spare not: lift up thy voice like a trumpet and shew my people their transgres-

sion and the house of Jacob their sins" (Isa. 58: 1). Dear and true saints of God, let us not be timid but in the strength of the Lord go forward. Pray for the little band in Richwood that God will send us some one to take the oversight of the work here, who is a true minister of the gospel of Christ. May the dear Lord bless and keep each one in victory over the enemy is the prayer of your saved Bro. F. L. ELEFRITZ.

o o o o

Sellersville, Pa.—Greetings in Jesus' precious name. "And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work" (2 Cor. 9: 8). I praise the Lord for His goodness and mercy to me, and for the leadings of the blessed Holy Spirit. We have very good prayer meetings. Though we are few in number, the Lord graciously meets with us and blesses His little flock.

We had the pleasure of having Sister Celena Lacue with us a short time ago. Our hearts were much encouraged by her coming unto us filled with the Spirit and power of God. How precious to meet young people who are following Jesus and have a zeal for God. The Lord was also pleased that we should have an ordinance meeting Sunday evening. This was my first privilege of seeing or taking part in an ordinance meeting of the saints. Most people don't believe in this and try to argue it away. But, oh! how precious it was to me, that I could follow my Lord in this humble, lowly way. While Jesus was so high and so holy, even the Son of God, yet He was willing and humble enough to stoop down and wash the disciples' feet. He gave us such a plain example and said, "If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them" (John 13: 17). How much Jesus suffered that we might go free! May we ever keep our eyes fixed upon Jesus: through Him we shall conquer every foe. I am your sister under the cleansing blood.

—JULIA CRAMER.

o o o o

Puyallup, Wash.—My precious brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus our Lord: I can send the best of greetings because my heart says amen to all His will and purpose in me. I feel that every child of God can say the same, and that nothing can by any means move them from following in His steps. Glory to His name. He is still with me and our fellowship is sweet indeed. Without Him I would be nothing, nothing; and with Him I can do all things: yet, not I, but the Spirit that dwelleth in me, it is the all things. Yes, Jesus and I are getting along wonderfully now, as He is teaching me precious lessons and I am a willing scholar. I love to take my Bible and read it, knowing that the Holy Spirit will reveal its meaning. I have been praying for wisdom and understanding, and God is giving it. Praise His name. I take note that God was well pleased with Solomon because that was the first thing he asked for.

In order to please God and get the things He has promised, we must first have knowledge how to use them after we get them. I think some times in

the past I have prayed for things and got them, then did not know how to use them to the glory of God, and so they were wasted, so I need your prayers and I am not just saying it for God knows my heart, and He has told us to pray one for another. God has a people that are going to stand true, no matter what the test, and they are a people that are getting their lessons and orders directly from Him in just the way He has promised, and they also get the blessings. So many people say they trust in God and believe Him, and at the same time if weighed in the balance would be found wanting. It means something to *believe God*: it means we shall see some signs following. O, but I want to be all that God requires. I must have that spirit that was found in Abraham, Daniel, Elijah, Elisha, Paul and the rest of the apostles. Nothing short of it will satisfy me. God has done wonderful things for my soul, and His hand is still upon me. I am healed soul and body, and am ready to meet Him face to face.

I feel sick in my soul this evening since going to prayer meeting and listening to the discourse of a once powerful man of God. I thought about poor old Saul, and wondered if it would be possible for one who had tasted of the good Word of God to become so blinded that they could fall to his level. Little by little an acorn grew, and little by little we fall or rise. O, but I want to be kept and led by the Spirit of God upward. This wearing of worldly apparel, taking up collections, insuring life and property, going to fares and such like innocent amusements is an abomination in the sight of the Lord. I was thinking as I walked home tonight to be sanctified means more than saying the word, it is the faith that gives us the victory over the world, the flesh and the devil. It is the faith that can say yes to God in the face of death by torture, starvation or any other conceivable device that satan can institute. People want to get healed of cancers and tumors, yet they don't believe God can do the work without a little earthly help. The fact is they don't believe God: His Word is a myth. Well, I can say "Once I was blind, but now I see," glory be to God, and I want to keep on seeing and telling the good news to others. I am anxiously concerned about this matter: I must be about my Father's business for the time is short. Please continue in prayer for me. May the Holy Spirit guide and keep each one of God's trusting obedient children in my prayer.

—SISTER IONE E. ROBBINS.

o o o o

London, Ark.—Dear ones at Faith Pub. House: Greetings in Jesus' great name. I am glad to say that I am still trying to hold up the standard for Jesus since I came out of the Pentecostal church. I have been permitted to see the light on God's Word, and have been having some tests with those who want me to go back to the Pentecostal church, but I don't see how I could come out and keep on going to the same thing. I surely need your prayers. I am 54 years old and if I do much for my Lord I must be at it now. I want to ask all of the readers of Faith and Victory

to agree with me in prayer that the Lord will heal my eyes for His glory. My eyes are so weak that I can scarcely see how to read the Bible. I certainly do enjoy the precious testimonies and truths in the little paper. They do me so much good and are food to my soul. God bless each of you and keep to true to the end. Your Brother in Christ.

—W. S. ASHMORE.

o o o o

Exter, Mo.—To all the people of God I pen these few lines. Faith and Victory some way came into my hands and I think it is the most soul-stirring as well as soul-food paper that I have read. It was so good to my hungry soul, I could not lay it down till every word was read, and I wished there was more of it. I can say the dear Lord has healed me many times in answer to prayer. I am asking agreement in prayer for my son who has been in the hospital 12 months. Pray that the Lord may heal him and restore his mind. Please send me some tracts and papers to use. I desire to work for the blessed Savior who has done so much for me. I am 64 years old and can not do much, just the little things, and am poor in this world's goods but God enriches me in faith and in prayer for all of His dear children. From a sister in Christ.

—MARY HARPER.

o o o o

Dornakal, Hyderabad State, S. India.—Dear friends in Christ: I am in receipt of your letter and the packet of tracts and papers. I heartily thank you for the same. And I feel very grateful to God who enabled you to write me an encouraging and sympathetic letter, besides the tracts which are second to no other religious tracts in helping a Christian in his spiritual life, and pointing out to non-Christians the need of immediate belief in Christ Jesus to get salvation. I shall take the advice you have given to me in using wisdom in giving out tracts to people. Already I have sent a few copies of your tracts to certain High Schools in Travancole, which is my native country, besides giving a few copies to some people here. I am not able to express with my tongue or pen how helpful the tracts and little paper are to me personally and I hope they are helpful to others also. Now I am at a loss to mention which among the tracts is most helpful; yet I take courage to say the tract, "This Thing is From Me" is the best, and all the others are equally best also. Now will you please send me more tracts regularly so that they might be of much help to more people in India. At the same time you can feel assured that the tracts and papers you send to me will not go to the waste-paper basket. I am responsible for them, not only to you, but to my Lord also. I also wish you to send me the paper Faith and Victory regularly. Now, let me tell you what I will pay you in return for all this: I will do only one thing. I will pray to my Lord in tears to bless you in your undertaking, and pay you a thousand times for me also. Pray for me and all souls here in India. Yours in my Lord's happy service.

—K. E. EAPEN.

LITTLE FOLKS' PAGE

"HE SHALL GATHER THE LAMBS WITH HIS ARM, AND CARRY THEM IN HIS BOSOM" (Isaiah 40 :11).

CHRISTMAS-TIDE

*Oh, the happy, joyous Christmas-tide,
The Christmas-tide with all its cheer!
Then Christian's hearts are open wide,
To give all praise to Him so dear.*

*Oh, the happy, joyous Christmas-tide,
When Christ came down from heav'n to earth!
The gates of life are, opened wide,
Remember Him around your hearth.*

*Then let our hearts be opened wide,
And let us welcome in our King!
For us He came, for us He died,
O children, sing! O joybells, ring!*

—SEL.

A CHILD'S FAITH

Johnny Hall was a poor boy. His mother worked hard for their daily bread. "Please give me something to eat, for I am very hungry," he said to her one evening.

His mother let the work that she was sewing fall upon her knees, and drew Johnny toward her. As she kissed him the tears fell fast on his face, while she said, "Johnny, my dear, I have not a penny in the world. There is not a morsel of bread in the house, and I cannot give you any supper to-night."

Johnny did not cry when he heard this. He was only a little fellow, but he had learned the lesson of trusting in God's promises. He had great faith in the sweet words of Jesus when He said, "Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name He will give it you."

"Never mind, mamma; I shall soon be asleep, and then I shall not feel hungry. But you must sit here and sew, hungry and cold. Poor mamma!" he said, as he threw his arms round her neck and kissed her many times to comfort her.

Then he knelt down at his mother's knee, to say his prayers after her. They said "Our Father" till they came to the petition, "Give us this day our daily bread." The way in which his mother said these words made Johnny's heart ache. He stopped and looked at her, and repeated with his eyes full of tears, "Give us this day our daily bread."

When they got through he looked at his mother and said, "Now mother, do not be afraid. We shall never be hungry any more. God is our father. He has promised to hear us, and I am sure He will."

Then he went to bed. Before midnight he woke up, while his mother was still at work, and asked if the bread had come yet. She said, "No; but I am sure it will come."

In the morning, before Johnny was awake, a

gentleman called who wanted his mother to come to his house and take charge of his two motherless children. She agreed to go. He left some money with her. She went out at once to buy some things for breakfast; and when Johnny awoke, the bread was there, and all that he needed!

Johnny is now a man, but he has never wanted bread from that day; and whenever he was afraid since then, he has remembered God's promises, and trusted in him. —SEL. BY AUNT LOEY MCKAY.

Silverdale, Pa.—Dear children: I feel it my duty to write a few lines for the paper. It certainly does my heart good to read the paper and Little Folks' Page, and hear how others have gotten salvation. I am fifteen years of age, but I have gone through trials at school and suffered several bad attacks of sicknesses, but, praise the Lord, He has healed me completely of all diseases. I can truly say Jesus is my healer. I often think, How can I praise Him enough for what He has done for me? I was only six and one-half years old when Jesus came into my heart. How could we live without Jesus? He is so precious to me. I do not want to go back into the world and its pleasures, no, never again. People may say we can not have any pleasure, but we surely can by working for Jesus: that is, tell others how He saves poor lost, undone souls of this world, and show them what it is to live for Jesus through our life. The Lord has helped me these past few weeks in my school lessons. He has done wonderful things for me, praise the Lord. Pray for me. Your saved sister.

—EDITH R. SHAFFER.

"Mama," said a little girl, "what is that, that is shining up there in the sky?" "That, dear, is the moon." "What is it up there for Mama?" "God our Father put it there, darling, to give us light at night." "Oh!" said the little girl, "how kind of Him."

"Alice," said a little girl to her friend, "What becomes of all the naughty things we have done and are sorry for?"

"Why," said darling Alice (who by the way is 7 years old) "God fastens them all to the cross and then forgets all about them." ("I will remember their sins *no more*," saith the Lord).

Rosa ran across the street to a rough looking man who sat on the cold stones alone, dejected and miserable-looking. She looked into his face and said, "Poor man, I am sorry for you, can I do anything to help you?" He said, "I am without a home or a friend on earth, child." Little Rosa said gently, "God will be a friend to you: He loves you." And this said by a little child brought the man's soul to Jesus, and he became a great missionary intensely loved and cared for by many

—JEAN LEVY.

State Prison, San Quentin, Calif.—Dear workers at Faith Publishing House. I am thankful to acknowledge that I love Jesus with all my heart because He first loved me and shed His precious Blood on Calvary's Cross to save a poor sinner like me. It is a great pleasure to me to be privileged to testify through the Faith and Victory for Jesus that others may know that I am enjoying His sweet presence from day to day. Praise His holy name. My heart is filled with His love. I praise God, from whom all blessings flow. I want to say to the glory of God, I shall always be found standing on the solid rock of His foundation. The Lord, our dear Redeemer, is very precious to my soul this afternoon. I am so glad to know that God has power to save and keep that which we have committed to His trust against that day. It pays to serve Jesus: I speak from my heart, He will always be with us if we do His will. May God bless every one that reads these few lines to His glory, and give them victory over every temptation that comes in their path. Praise God to the uttermost. Your brother in Christ Jesus.

—PETER G. FLEENOR—37205.

AN OPEN LETTER

Dear Brother in Christ:—We send greetings to you in the precious name of Jesus, who liveth and abideth forever. Amen. We received your letter some time ago and were glad to hear from you again and to know of your purposes of heart. May God bless and keep you in the narrow way.

We cannot feel that the union meeting held here was to the glory of God. They made a big show, some really are showing some fruits of repentance, but most of them have just eased their consciences by making a profession and I really believe that they are in a worse shape now than ever, and those that got saved are in a condition to soon backslide and be left with a profession. These things grieve our hearts and cause us to draw close to God and as far from this world and its current as possible. The professed Christians today are as far, or farther, from God in heart than the scribes and Pharisees were when Jesus was here, and were He to come, they would be as ready at heart to crucify Him as they were. Jesus told them that they were as whited sepulchers, which indeed appeared beautiful outward, but are within full of dead men's bones and all uncleanness. He told them that outwardly they appeared righteous unto men, but "within ye are full of hypocrisy and iniquity." So are most of the professed Christians. They have the outside white-washed and thereby fool nearly all people because of the blindness of heart, but they are not fooling God nor those that are living close to Him.

The world is fully ripe for destruction but God is very merciful and long-suffering and thus He extends time, bless His holy name. We could not send you the November papers as you desired, and as we would liked to have done. The call for them was so

great that we did not have enough to supply the demand, although we printed an over-supply. We will print more of this next issue. We do not have that piece, "Forty-Eight Hours in Hell" in tract form but we hope to be able in the near future to put it into a tract, and when we do we shall (if we do not forget) send you a supply of them.

We thank you for the remembrance of twenty cents. May God bless and prosper you and separate you fully from the friendship of the world. Be not ignorant of Satan's devices, brother, for he is very cunning and clever in his work of destroying a soul. The Word teaches us to make straight paths for our feet, and let not that which is lame be turned out of the way, but rather let it be healed. We can not win the world by stepping aside with it, but in that way the world wins us, and those that are watching us stop, stumble and fall. So let us walk in such a separated way from the world that we will be as bright shining lights in this dark blinded world of sinning religious people, in a way that our light may draw with warm heavenly love all honest, sincere souls, and at the same time will be a rebuke to cold formal professors.

Jesus said, "Ye are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hid" (Matt. 5:14). And He also said in the same chapter, "Ye are the salt of the earth, but if the salt have lost its savour, wherewith shall it be salted? It is good for nothing, but to be cast out and to be trodden under foot." So let us retain the clean, unadulterated Spirit of Christ in our souls. By doing this we shall be continually a mark for the devil, but let us bravely bear the cross now that we may have the approval of God on our souls in this world and in the end reap eternal bliss.

Our prayer is that God will help you to clear yourself from all sects and stand out clear and plain for God, and for all that is pure and holy, manifesting the love of God in godly deeds and gentle words with self-sacrificing ways that will prove our love for God and men. Will close this letter assuring you that nothing but love is prompting the writing of these lines. Let us hear from you as God moves upon your heart. Your brother in Christ Jesus.

—FRED PRUITT.

"And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird. * * * And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues. For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities" (Rev. 18:2,4,5).

TRUTHS ABOUT SIN

"All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness" (2 Tim. 3:16).

1. *What is Sin?*

"Any violation of God's will, in purpose or conduct."—Webster.

"Sin is a willful transgression of a known law of God."—Wesley.

There are two forms of sins: First, those of commission, or an intentional trampling on God's law. "Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law; for sin is the transgression of the law" (1 John 3: 4). Second, those of omission, or intentional neglect of known duty. "Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin" (James 4: 17).

2. *Is Sin Always an Outward Act?*

No. It may be in thought only. Notice above the definition, "Any violation of God's will in purpose," etc. "Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer" (1 John 3: 15). "Whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart" (Matt. 5: 28). "For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornication, thefts, false witness, blasphemies" (Matt. 15: 19).

3. *What Connection Has the Christian With Sin?*

None. He is free from it. "Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness." "But now being made free from sin, and become the servants of God" (Rom. 6: 18, 22).

4. *Can a Christian Commit Sin?*

Yes. Man is not a machine in God's hands, but a free moral agent, who can will to obey God or Satan, as he chooses.

5. *Can a Man commit sin and still be a Christian?*

No. "No man can serve two masters" (Matt. 6: 24). "Know ye not that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death or of obedience unto righteousness?" (Rom. 6: 16). "He that committeth sin is of the devil" (1 John 3: 8).

6. *How Many Sins Must a Christian Commit Before He Severs His Relation With God?*

ONE is sufficient. Adam by one act of disobedience disrobed his own soul of the purity with which he was clothed, robbed himself of peace with God, attracted the curse of his Maker, who drove him from the Garden, sent a destructive remor of physical degeneration through the race, belched forth a cloud of volcanic darkness and fire that has drifted into the bosom of every man save One, occasioned the populating of an awful hell with multitudes of human souls, the smoke of whose torment will ascend forever and forever, and necessitated the humiliation of the Son of God in the bloody anguish of Gethsemane and the unparalleled cruelty of His death on the cross. And still the stupendous and incomprehensible results go on and on—yea, the eternity of the damned will never lose the impetus of this one man's sin. Yes! Yes!! One willful sin is sufficient to damn your soul!

7. *Is Temptation a Sin?*

No. If it were, then Jesus was a manifold sinner, for He "was in all points tempted like as we are,"

(but the Scripture adds) "yet without sin" (Heb. 4: 15). Temptation is a solicitation or suggestion to do evil. The sin is in yielding.

8. *Are Mistakes Sins?*

No. Because they are not intentional digressions from God's laws. Not willfully committed. In other words, they are ignorant blunders.

9. *Does not a consistent Christian commit Sin?*

No. "Whosoever is born of God does not commit sin" (1 John 3: 9). "Whosoever abideth in Him sinneth not" (1 John 3: 6). "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" (1 John 5: 18).

10. *Does God expect Christians to commit Sin?*

No. Jesus says: "Behold, thou art made whole; sin no more" (John 5: 14). Again, "Go and sin no more" (John 8: 11). Paul says: "Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound?" God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?" (Rom. 6: 1-2). Again he exhorts: "Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage" (Gal. 5: 1). John speaks thus: "My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not" (1 John 2: 1).

11. *How Does God Look Upon Sin?*

As an offense so deep, broad and black that eternal death is the only sufficient punishment. "The soul that sinneth, it shall die" (Ezek. 18: 20). "The wages of sin is death" (Rom. 6: 23). "Whosoever hath sinned against me, him will I blot out of my book" (Ex. 32: 33). Further, as being so loathsome and deadly that nothing but the blood of Jesus could heal, or save us from its ravages. "Without the shedding of blood there is no remission" (forgiveness) (Heb. 9: 22). "God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3: 16).

12. *Can a Man Really be Saved From Sin?*

Yes. "Behold, the Lord's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither His ear heavy, that it cannot hear" (Isa. 59: 1). "And thou shalt call His name JESUS; for He shall save His people from their sins" (Matt. 1: 21). "For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil" (1 John 3: 8). "Wherefore He is also able to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by Him, seeing He ever liveth to make intercession for them" (Heb. 7: 25). "Come unto Me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest" (Matt. 11: 28).

13. *Can One Know That He is Saved?*

Yes. as definitely as when one is instantly relieved from physical pain. "He that believeth on the Son of God hath the witness in himself" (1 John 5: 10). "And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father" (Gal. 4: 6). "The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God" (Rom. 8: 16).

14. *If we do not have this Witness of the Spirit, Are we Saved?*

No. "If any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of His" (Rom. 8: 9). "No man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost" (1 Cor. 12: 3).

15. *How can we be Kept from Sin?*

If we continue to love and obey God, His ALMIGHTY POWER will keep us. "Now unto Him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy" (Jude 24). "(He) is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us" (Eph. 3: 20).

16. *Where will the Unrepentant Sinner abide after Death?*

In an endless burning hell too awful to be described by human language. "The Son of Man shall send forth His angels, and they shall gather out of His kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity; and shall cast them into a furnace of fire; there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth" (Matt. 13: 41-42). "The fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone; which is the second death" (Rev. 21: 8). "And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire" (Rev. 20: 15).

17. *Is it Possible for a Lost Soul to Ever Get Out of Hell?*

No. "The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of His indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone; * * * and the smoke of their torment ascendeth up forever and ever" (Rev. 14: 10-11). "Be not deceived; God is not mocked; for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting" (Gal. 3: 7-8). "Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these: Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, envyings, murders, drunkenness, revelings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance; against such there is no law" (Gal. 5: 18, 20, 21, 22).

How do you measure up? If you are professing salvation, are you saved from these things? Have you the fruit of the Spirit? You may deceive your neighbor, but you cannot deceive God!

EXAMINE YOURSELF

"If any man teach otherwise, and consent not to wholesome words even, the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which is according to godliness, he is proud, knowing nothing, but doting about

questions and strife of words, whereof cometh envy, strife, railings, evil surmisings, perverse disputings of men of corrupt minds, and destitute of the truth, supposing that gain is godliness; from such withdraw thyself" (1 Tim. 6: 3-5). —SEL.

TO THE DISOBEDIENT

"But to Israel he sayeth, all day long I have stretched forth my hands unto a disobedient and gainsaying people" (Rom. 10: 21). Every Bible reader will understand that Israel, or the Israelites, were the descendents of Jacob, the people that God had led through the Red Sea on dry land and fed them with manna and water in the wilderness. But we learn from the above text that they had become a disobedient and gainsaying people. Now disobedience and gainsaying are the things we want to call your attention to first in this text. Those who read the Bible will understand too that Israel had been God's people, but they had forgotten God; they had backslid and become disobedient; they refused and neglected to obey God Almighty. They had become gainsaying, which means to contradict, to oppose in word, or to dispute, Webster says.

Now, to be disobedient and gainsaying doesn't mean every time that one will be horribly wicked. This is another thing we wish you to bear in mind. People do not have to commit the greatest of sins and crimes to become disobedient and gainsaying. No, indeed. People can be disobedient to God and gainsaying and be locked upon by the world as Christians. No doubt numbers of the children of Israel would be called Christians today by this wicked world. But Paul says in the first of the 10th chapter of Romans that his heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel was that they would be saved, and, and in the second and third verses, "For I bear them record that they have 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." But regardless of their self-righteousness, Paul was praying to God to save them. They needed the religion of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Paul knew their own goodness or righteousness was as filthy rags in the sight of God (Isa. 64: 3). So to Israel God sayeth, "All day long I have stretched forth my hands unto a disobedient and gainsaying people."

Now we feel safe in saying, what could be said of the children of Israel in those days can be said of people today. They are in the same condition today that those people were in the days of Paul: They are a disobedient and gainsaying people. Yes, they pro-

fess to know God, they have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge. They are as Paul said, ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, and have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God. They haven't changed at all since the days of Jesus, neither has God: He is just the same loving, merciful and patient God He was when the words of this text were spoken. He is still stretching forth His hands unto a disobedient and gainsaying people, using every means He can to get people to drink at the fountain of life, but they are still refusing and neglecting to obey God; they are still denying God's power; they are still opposing God's way and Word. They are still opposing and disputing about the very things that are essential to salvation; they still want their way, and God's way left out; they still love darkness rather than light, as Jesus said they did in His day. They still hate the Truth, the doctrine of Jesus. They hate those that have the Truth, and those that come to them with the Truth, just as bad as they did in the days of Paul. When they are told of God's power to save from all sin in this life, and that they must have that faith or be lost, they will not obey, they are gainsaying, they will dispute it and oppose it. They will say they are already saved and have faith in God. When they are told of God's power to heal the sick, they dispute it and say this was only for the apostles. When they are told they must be dead to this wicked world, must forsake all to follow Jesus, they yet will not obey, and are gainsaying. They still contradict, dispute and oppose; they have a way of their own. When they are told they must not marry a divorced person, no difference what the cause was for them being put away, they will not obey, and are gainsaying. When they are told they must quit their tobacco and snuff and be Christ-like, Godly and holy, they still will use it just as the murderer, gambler, swearer, adulterer and adulteress, or any other sinner does. They will not obey and are gainsaying. Oh, God, have mercy on anyone that will wear the name of Jesus and use that filthy weed in any way. When they are told that they must come out of their old backslidden church and take a stand with God's clean, holy, peculiar people, they are still disobedient and gainsaying.

Oh, dear reader, are *you* disobedient and gainsaying? Have you a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge? Are you ignorant of God's righteousness, going about to establish your own righteousness, and have not submitted yourself to God's righteousness? Oh, dear souls, for God's sake and your own sake remember we are told in God's word that to obey is better than sacrifice, and that "rebellion is as the

sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry" (1 Sam. 15: 22-23). Dear reader, if you have received light on the eternal truth and have not walked in the light, you are under just as much condemnation before God Almighty as if you had never claimed anything at all. You need not think to walk in just part of the light (the thing that suits you best) will satisfy God. No, indeed; you must walk in all the light or be lost. For you to refuse just one thing will damn you, for that is stubbornness and rebellion.

Oh, may God help you if you are disobedient and gainsaying. Remember Jesus said they that are of God will hear God's words (St. John 8: 47). So if you are of God you will gladly walk in all the light you have had given to you. If you will not walk in the light it is an evident fact that you are not of God. Jesus said in the same 47th verse "Ye, therefore, hear them not (His words) because ye are not of God." And God's children will hear His true children when they come to them with the truth. 1 John 4:6 says, "We are of God: he that knoweth God heareth us; he that is not of God heareth not us. Hereby we know the spirit of truth and the spirit of error." So this is the way we can tell who are God's children and who are not. God's true children just will not be disobedient and gainsaying when they get light on God's eternal truth. They will walk in all the light they can get, and rejoice to have the opportunity. Praise God, they love light rather than darkness. Your sister for all the truth.

—IDA LEE.

THE HOUSE OF ISRAEL AND THE HOUSE OF JUDAH

One year and less ago the writer was much confused about the division among the saints. In the fall of 1899 God showed me the saints were right as against sectism, but after some years serving the Lord I backslid, and for a number of years my experience was such as is recorded in 2 Peter 2: 22. But God was faithful unto me and called me again to serve Him. While I was in this condition I knew a division had taken place in the church of God (not the true, but the professed church of God), so as the Spirit strove with me I began to attend meeting. I would go and hear this one preach on this side: It was Bible, and they claimed to be saved and sanctified. And then I would go and hear the other and they would preach Bible, also claimed to be saved and sanctified, but like the Jews and the Samaritans: one would not have any dealings with the other, so this confused me. I could not understand it. I knew that both could not be right and be like that, and I often said that one

or the other, or both sides, were wrong. While pondering over these things, one day the Spirit of the Lord said to me, "The Way ye know." I said, "Amen, Lord, by your grace I will follow the way as it was taught 25 years ago, and serve you regardless of this division." One day as I was working out in the field, the Spirit of the Lord again spoke to me saying, "Do you see the two separate, distinct bodies of saints?" I said, "Yes, Lord," and He said, "One is the house of Israel and the other is the house of Judah." I did not know that there was such a house except as recorded in Heb. 8: 8. I began to search the Scriptures, and I find the Bible has many passages and teachings about the House of Israel and the House of Judah.

Let us notice some of them. I will just give the location of them to avoid space: God's promise to Jacob who is called Israel (Gen. 48: 3-4; 49: 2); see the prophecy of Jacob to his twelve sons (Gen. 49: 1-28); notice the 10th verse, "And unto him shall the gathering of the people be" (this has an important part in the present day). First: Israel murmured, (Ex. 16: 2-4; 31: 1-6; 35: 3-35; Num. 13: 3-30; 14: 6-10; 24: 35). Second: Old stock did not inherit the promised land (Num. 26: 64-65; 32: 11-13). At one time Judah and Simon are the only tribes that obey the Lord (Judges 1: 1-3). Again Israel rebelled and Judah was the only tribe that followed the Lord (1 Kings 12: 1-19). See the fourth verse: the yoke was too grievous for them was why they rebelled. Likewise the way being so strait and humble the so-called saints desired to conform to the world and court pride and covetousness, that is what caused the division among the saints. And as in the 20th verse the tribe of Judah *only* followed the Lord, so today the tribe of Judah *only* are following the Lord.

Christ came from the tribe of Judah (Luke 3: 33-34; Heb. 7: 14; Rev. 5:5). Christ came unto His own people, the Jews, the children of Israel (John 1: 11; Luke 19: 10-14). What did the Jews do? Contended with Christ (John 8: 21-59), the same that they said about Christ in the 39th, 48th, and 52nd verses, the so-called modern 20th century saints say about the tribe of Judah that is following in the old paths today. What was the result then, and what is the result now with those that follow the Lord? (Matt. 5: 10-12; Luke 6: 22; 1 Pet. 3: 14; 4: 13-14).

What does John say the modern saints, or house of Israel is? (Rev. 2: 13-14; 3: 8-11). What must they do? Repent. (Rev. 2: 16). Why? If they don't He (God) will remove the candlestick out of its place (Rev. 2: 5). If they don't repent what will they say at the judgment? (Matt. 7: 22-23). May the

dear Lord give spiritual eyes and ears to all who read this, otherwise you will not understand it.

—E. CARTRIGHT.

Notice:—To saints desiring meetings and the truth along the old paths, Address:

Ernest Cartright, Tekonsha, Mich.

FED BY RAVENS

"The barrel of meal shall not waste, neither shall the cruse of oil fail" (1 Kings 17: 14).

In Mrs. Howard Taylor's address at the annual meeting of the China Inland Mission, as reported in *China's Millions*, she related the following experience of one of the Chinese converts:—

"Soon after Mr. Li's conversion he heard an impressive sermon upon the words, '*Covetousness which is idolatry.*' He was greatly concerned to think that, having given up idolatry, he might be betrayed into the same sin through allowing a covetous spirit to have any place in his heart. *To avoid this danger he determined to keep no money of his own and to possess no property.* His little house and farm he handed over to his nephew, and devoted himself entirely to making known the Gospel, sustained by the simple hospitality of those to whom he ministered, and to whom his prayers brought help and healing for body as well as soul. *His labours were wonderfully owned of God, and resulted in building up a church in the Yohyang district, which he has long shepherded with loving care.* As time went on he opened a Refuge for the cure of opium smokers, and in this way also was made a blessing to many. This work, of course, could not be carried on without expense, and *there were times when supplies ran short, and dear old Li was enabled to prove in very special ways the faithfulness of God.*

After some years a breath of what we may call, perhaps, 'higher criticism' reached this far-away province, and the old man heard in connection with the story of Elijah's being fed by ravens that they were not real birds that brought the bread and meat, but some kind of dark-skinned people, probably Arabs, who shared with him their supplies, for it was absurd to suppose that birds would ever act in the way described. It would be miraculous. But this way of explaining the matter did not at all commend itself to the old man's simple faith. *Miracles were no difficulty to him. He had seen far too often the wonder-working power of God put forth in answer to prayer.* And, besides, in this very connection he had an experience which no amount of arguing could gainsay. The story has been so carefully verified on the spot, by Mr. Lutley and others, that one has no hesitation in passing it on, strange as it may seem to our ears.

At one time, in his Refuge work, old Li had come to an end of all his resources. There were no patients coming for treatment; the Refuge was empty; his supplies were exhausted, and his faith was a good deal tried. Quite near by, in the large temple of the village, lived a cousin who was priest-in-charge, and

who when he came to see his relative from time to time would bring a little present of bread or millet from his ample store. The old man on receiving these gifts would always say, '*Tien-Fu-tih entien*'—'My Heavenly Father's grace'—meaning that it was through the care and kindness of God that these gifts were brought. But the priest did not approve of that way of looking at it, and at last remonstrated:

'Where does your Heavenly Father's grace come in, I should like to know? The millet is mine. I bring it to you. And if I did not, you would very soon starve for all that He would care. He has nothing at all to do with it.'

'But it is my Heavenly Father who puts it into your heart to care for me,' replied old Li.

'Oh, that's all very well,' interrupted the priest. 'We shall see what will happen if I bring the millet no more.' And for a week or two he kept away; although his better nature prompted him to care for the old man whom he could not but esteem for the works of mercy in which he was constantly engaged.

As it happened, this was just the time in which dear old Li was specially short of supplies. At last there came a day when he had nothing left for another meal. The Refuge was still empty, and he had not the cash to buy a morsel of bread. Kneeling alone in his room, he poured out his heart in prayer to God. He knew very well that the Father in heaven would not, could not, forget him; and after pleading for blessing on his work and upon the people all around him, he reminded the Lord of what the priest had said, asking that for the honor of His own great name, He would send him that day his daily bread.

Then and there the answer came. While the old man was still kneeling in prayer, he heard an unusual clamour and cawing and flapping of wings in the courtyard outside, and a noise as of something falling to the ground. He rose, and went to the door to see what was happening. A number of vultures or ravens, which are common in that part of China, were flying about in great commotion above him, and as he looked up a large piece of fat pork fell at his very feet. One of the birds, chased by the others, had dropped it just at that moment on that spot. Thankfully the old man took up the unexpected portion, saying, '*My Heavenly Father's kindness.*' And then glancing about him to see what had fallen before he came out, he discovered a large piece of Indian meal bread, all cooked and ready for eating. Another bird had dropped that also; and there was his dinner bountifully provided. Evidently the ravens had been on a foraging expedition, and, overtaken by stronger birds, had let go their booty. But Whose hand had guided them to relinquish their prize right above his little courtyard?

With a wondering heart, overflowing with joy, the dear old man kindled a fire to prepare the welcome meal; and while the pot was still boiling, the door opened, and, to his great delight, his cousin, the priest, walked in.

'Well, has your Heavenly Father sent you anything to eat?' he somewhat scoffingly inquired, saying

nothing about the bag of millet he had brought, carefully concealed up his sleeve.

'Look and see,' responded the old man, smiling, as he indicated the simmering vessel on the fire.

For some time the priest would not lift the lid, feeling sure there was nothing boiling there but water; but at length the savory odour was unmistakable, and, overcome by curiosity, he peeped into the earthen pot. What was his astonishment when the excellent dinner was revealed.

'Why,' he cried, 'where did you get this?'

'*My Heavenly Father sent it,*' responded the old man gladly. 'He put it into your heart, you know, to bring me a little millet from time to time, but when you would do so no longer *it was quite easy for Him to find another messenger.*' And the whole incident, his prayer and the coming of the ravens, was graphically told.

The priest was so much impressed by what he saw and heard that he became from that time an earnest inquirer, and before long confessed his faith in Christ by baptism. He gave up his comfortable living in the temple for the blessed reality that now satisfied his soul. He supported himself as a teacher, became a much respected deacon in the Church, and during the Boxer troubles of 1900 endured terrible tortures and finally laid down his life for Jesus' sake.

Oh, dear friends, we are dealing with the living God to-day just as really and truly as did Elijah and the saints of old. I have told this incident to some length just to bring home to our hearts a fresh realization of the blessed fact that what He was, He is. Our Heavenly Father is unchanged. He acts on the same principles still.'

"But my God shall supply ALL your need, according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus" (Phil. 4:19). *"God is able to make all grace abound toward you: that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work."* (2 Cor. 9:8).

—SEL.

THE "IF" IN YOUR LIFE

"Lord, if Thou hadst been here, my brother had not died." And He could have been there; He was not far away. He knew all about it, and He let him die. I think it was very hard for that woman. She loved Him though, and she fell down at His feet when she said, "Lord, if thou hadst been here, my brother had not died." Then you know she wept; and it is written that the Lord Jesus was "troubled." I think He is "troubled" now in such cases, for He is what He was.

I have come to think that there is an "If" in every life. The person may not tell it; but it is there. It is something that God could make different, if He had chosen, because He has all power; and yet He has allowed that "If" to be there.

I do not discount the "If" in your life. No matter what it is—whether it is in your circumstances, or in your make-up, or in your mental nature. How

many say, "If I were not as I am;" or "If my circumstances had been different!" If! If! If!

Come to the Lord Jesus with your "If," and let Him say to you what He said to Mary. He met *her* "If" with *His* "If." "Said I not unto thee that, if thou wouldest believe, thou shouldest see the glory of God?" "The glory of God" is to come out of the "If" in your life. There are terrible "Ifs" in some lives.

Now there are some who long ago believed fully in the Lord Jesus, and took the opportunity of the "If" in their lives, and turned the stream in the direction of usefulness.

Perhaps you have almost forgotten the "If" in your life. If so, it will be profitable for you to look at it a little while, and see how wonderful was the stream from the source of your "If."

I heard of a woman in California, saying, "For what I have suffered, one hundred women shall be relieved." You see how the stream has turned. Oh, when the books are opened, and we see it all; when it all comes back—what we cried over when we said, "Oh, anything but that!"—how we shall see it then—the "glory" from the "If" in the life!

There are so many people who, to my mind, are losing their chances, losing their opportunities of grand usefulness for God, by not saying, "I will win victory out of defeat, because of the 'If' in my life, or because of the 'If' in my being."

A woman once said to me, "If my family were not as they are—my husband is so against anything that is truly Christian; my children would all make sport of me if I attempted anything in the way of peculiar devotion to God. Oh, if you knew my circumstances!" With an impulse that I was so glad of afterward, I said to her, "Never mind your husband; never mind your children; take God for your circumstances, and put Him in between you and your husband; put God in between you and your children." She caught the idea, and exclaimed, "I will do it!"

"Next morning" (she afterwards told me) "when I went down for breakfast, there was my husband; and he almost always found fault at breakfast, about something. I looked at him and thought, It does not make any difference what he says. I have God between him and me." That woman lived to be a power in her family, and when I heard last, nearly every child (there was a large family) was converted. Do not be thinking of your "If." Make a power out of your "If" for God.

If I were this, if I were that, if I had talents I would do—*If! if! if!* Oh, listen to Christ's "If." "If thou canst believe, all things are possible." If we believe, it is a very wonderful thing. Faith carries a whole life with it.

"If"—do you know how often you say it or think it? Will you not take the other way and hear Him say His "If?" "Only believe." Step out and say, "Out of the 'If' in my life is to come my grandest life-work for God."

It was the desire of St. Paul's life to preach Christ at Rome, the center of civilization. He dwelt in Rome, chained to an uncongenial companion and shut up in that hired house. But he wrote letters from Rome! Letters from Rome! Have you sent any letters from your Rome? Have you sent any letters out from your "If?" Have you said, "Because I lack, there must be very many others who lack along this line, and so I will go right along this line?"

I remember once being at Niagara Falls and looking at the rapids. I had "rapids" in me; and so those rapids had for me a look that I cannot tell. I saw a twig, and it seemed to try its best not to go over. I said, "Oh, it will go! It will go!" And it went. Never did I see anything that looked so terrible as that great Fall did to me. Years passed, and I went to the Falls again; and as I entered the Cataract House, someone said, "You are just in time; the Falls are to be illuminated tonight." A pure white light beyond anything else I have ever seen was thrown upon the rapids and that great Fall of water, which had looked so terrible to me before. I stood and looked at it, and never saw anything so beautiful in my life. Sapphires! emeralds! rubies!

Do you know that a light is to fall on your "If" some day? Oh, widen your horizon! Then take in the possibilities, and say, "Nothing has ever come to me, and nothing has ever gone from me, that I shall not be better for God by it."

Face the "If" in your life; and now, standing in the presence of Christ, say, "Nobler, more useful, will I be because of my 'If.' If Thou hadst chosen, it could have been different; but Thou didst not. Now Thou art saying to me, 'If thou canst believe, all things are possible;' and I step out for the possibilities for time and the possibilities for eternity." —SEL.

—o—
PASS IT ON

"Cast thy bread upon the waters for thou shalt find it after many days" (Ecc. 11: 1).

When the Lord has given blessing by a tract or little book
Do not leave it idly lying in some soon forgotten nook,
There are others to be watered and hungry souls to feed
So seek to spread the blessing that has reached you in your need,
With its freshness yet upon you, ere the first glad glow has gone.
Let your heart look up for guidance, that your hand may PASS IT ON.
And the one from you receiving, blessing gaining, just like you,
Can keep that blessing flowing and "pass it on" anew.
And when "the day declares it" and you hear the words, "Well done,"
How sweet to know the Lord was pleased.
You have read this? PASS IT ON. —Sel.