

# Faith *and* Victory

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

VOLUME 2,  
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"This is the VICTORY that overcometh  
the world, even our FAITH." 1 Jno. 5: 4.

GUTHRIE, OKLA.  
JAN., 1925.

## ANOTHER YEAR

*A New Year's greeting, bright and glad,  
To every one we bring:  
May care that's past be laid aside  
And all hearts made to sing.*

*Another year before us lies,  
With prospects fair it teems;  
For us remains to seek the good,  
For "all's not gold that gleams."*

*No let us, through this coming year,  
Seek not a glittering show,  
But set our aim for things worth while,  
And forward bravely go.*

*To live for self is all in vain—  
This oft has proven true—  
Then let us seek our brother's gain  
In all that we shall do.*

*Some little act of ours this year  
May help a fallen one  
New courage take to try again  
And past mistakes to shun.*

*While other's good we would promote,  
Let's not forget to ask  
The help of Him who loves each one  
To fruitful make our task.*

SEL. BY CELENA LACUE.

## DECEIVE NOT YOUR OWN HEART

We wish to call the attention of the brethren and sisters to the twenty-sixth verse of the first chapter of James which reads, "If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridleth not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion is vain." Now it may not be clear to some just how a man would deceive his own heart, and this is the very knowledge that the enemy would keep us blinded to if possible.

In the first place we wish to say that there are many, yes very many, in these days that are deceiv-

ing their own hearts and have a vain religion and this fact is what gives us a burden of care and love in writing this article, that souls that are thus enticed and led into error may recover themselves by resisting the devil and walking the humble obedient life before God, proving their love by keeping His commandments which are not grievous to those who delight themselves in the Lord.

The widow that Elijah stayed with during the famine was so convinced by his deeds with power given from God that she cried out, "I know that thou art a man of God, and that the Word of the Lord in thy mouth is truth" (1 Kings 17: 24). So we see by this statement that there is a possibility of the Word of the Lord in our mouth being a lie. In first John, second chapter, beginning at the third verse we shall read, "And hereby we do know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments. He that saith, I know Him, and keepeth not His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. But whoso keepeth His Word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in Him. He that saith he abideth in Him ought himself also so to walk even as he walked." In the third verse we find out how that we know Him, and so knowledge is imparted to us that we know Him and are sure of this if we keep His commandments. In the fourth verse we find how that one may say that he knows Him, but by not keeping His commandments proves himself to be a liar, and the truth not be in him and this brings us back to the thought in the beginning concerning the one that seems to be religious and bridleth not his tongue. He may be a preacher and tell the people the commandments of God and dwell much on right living and may be handy with the language of Canaan, pass himself off to be a saint, and yet by not doing the word of God himself, as far as he is concerned, it becomes a lie in his mouth and his religion is vain, not having any reward at the end. In the fifth verse we find that the one that is keeping His word will have the love of God perfected in him

and will know by this that he abides in Him. To have the love of God in us means getting rid of or dying to self which manifests itself in pride, refusing to be classed by the world as peculiar people, putting on of apparel or costly array, adorning the body with needless articles of dress that belong to the world and its fashions, loving ease and praise of men, giving where their giving will be known and scattered around that men may look upon them as very God-fearing and liberal at heart, and many other selfish desires that bloom out (as time goes on) contrary to the commandments of God. In the sixth verse we find that we that abide in Him ought, or are duty bound, to walk even as He (Christ) walked.

Now brethren let us notice a little how Jesus walked while on earth in a human body. We find that He was of poor, humble people, born in a humble out-of-the-way place, reared in poverty, working with hands for His bread. And it was testified of Him that He had never learned His letters, and when the time had come He went out to minister and to teach, often having no place to lay His head. He condescended to men of low estate and fed, forgave and healed the poor, taught men to forsake the world and to follow Him. Yea, He kept teaching and practicing the truth of God until men that bridled not their tongue and possessed a vain religion slew Him, crucified Him, nailed Him to the cruel cross. But the love of God and truth was so great in His soul that with His last breath He prayed the Father to "forgive them; for they know not what they do." Brethren are we bearing the cross? which means walking opposite from the world. Are we willing to suffer shame and reproach and know it to be gain? Let us take heed unto ourselves that we be not found with a vain religion, and the Word of the Lord in our mouth found to be a lie, for Jesus said to the disciples concerning the Pharisees, "All therefore whatsoever they bid you observe, that observe and do: but do not after their works: for they say and do not" (Matt. 23: 3). By this truth we see that men may be very religious, give good advice to others, and yet fail to be doers of the Word themselves, possessing a vain religion, a religion that will not give them an entrance in to glory. And many, yes, very many, sad to say, in this day, have looked into the perfect law of liberty (the Bible), have seen and know how God's Word commands us to dress, but now have gone their way and are putting on the togs and ornaments that belong to the world, proving a love for the world and its ways, bringing grief and sadness to the hearts of separated-from-the-world saints. But, brethren, you who are

faithful, be patient, tender and kind, for God will avenge His elect who cry unto Him, for all vengeance belongs to God. Do not mind how many miracles they do, how big sermons they preach, how popular they seem to be, nor any other sign they may show, if they keep not the commandments of God, their religion is vain and will not profit. For Jesus says, "If ye love me, keep my commandments" (John 14: 15), and again in the twenty-third verse, "If a man love me, he will keep my words." And John says in his first epistle, fifth chapter and third verse, "For this is the love of God that we keep His commandments."

So, brethren and sisters, let us be diligent to be doers of the Word, not hearers only, deceiving our own souls, and let us be slow to speak, bridling our tongue, that it may not be speaking many things for others to do that we are not doing and observing ourselves, and the grace of God will be sufficient. With care and concern. —FRED PRUITT.

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#### IS REGENERATION FULL SALVATION?

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This question is engaging the mind and tongue of many today. This question must either stand approved by the Word of God or must fall. The writer believes that regeneration is not full salvation or heart purity. Satan once held the people to believe in the old beast as long as he could, then when he could no longer hold them in that faith, God having advanced through Luther the doctrine of justification by faith in Christ, satan then began to work on the minds and hearts of those of that faith, that all sin could not be blotted out and that they were guilty and must sin more or less every day. And today we have throngs of people who believe that lie of the devil. Then when God began to advance the doctrine of full salvation and that the heart could be set free and kept free, the devil then made a tremendous leap or change in tactics: He swept to the position that in regeneration the soul is made holy, and that when one obtained this experience there was no further work of divine grace to be had, and many today are standing in that faith, and we wish to show by the Word of the Lord that this too is a lie of the devil. We wish to be of help to all who desire to know the truth on this subject. Evidently, there is nothing in nature to give us the right to say by way of reason that spiritual birth means purity or perfection, but we must call your attention to the Word of God.

In the first chapter of 1 John, 8th and 9th verses, we have this reading: "If we say that we have no sin we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we

confess our sins He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." The Bible throughout recognizes two kinds of sin. One is an act, the other is a nature, and it is this kind of sin that the apostle is here making mention of. They being so diverse, are described differently and must be treated differently. The word used by the apostle in the 8th verse (sin) stands for nothing more or less than the nature that was from Adam, and the sins in the ninth verse stands for our own personal wrongs that we have committed from childhood. There are two different kinds of sin made mention of, and it is a blind man that cannot see them, and an opposer who will not admit to this fact. It is shown forth clearly how we may get rid of them both. The first, and which is the duty of every sinner, is to confess his sins to God. This is found in the ninth verse, and it says God will forgive. But the sin of nature is not forgiven for it was never a transgression of our own, but it is removed from our hearts after we have been forgiven and are walking in the light. Walking in the light is something no sinner can do, but is only the duty of Christians.

There are two experiences to be seen in this chapter, one for the sinner and the other for the Christian. The blunder made by the objectors is in making regeneration mean purity, when it only means life, or the forgiven state. By no means is it purity: it is the step required to obtain it. According to Paul in Romans, justification unto life is brought to the race through Christ. If we, coming from childhood into years of accountability, realize condemnation, it is not for inbred sin but for our actual transgressions. Every child is born justified before God. If the child dies in early life the only work of the Holy Spirit is to cleanse its soul from inbred sin. This is the only way that one work can be taught and proven from the Bible and that is in the childhood state. For conclusion we wish to say to those who believe in only one work of grace, "If we say we have no sin (after pardon), we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us."

—R. M. WHITEHOUSE.

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### SIGNS OF THE TIMES

*Who can read them?*

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Primitive Christianity arose under tremendous difficulties and the stubborn opposition of heathen powers. Truly the blood of the martyrs became the seed of the church. Even the bloody persecutions before the wild beasts of the Arenas failed to stop the onward sweep of the apostles' preaching and teaching

and healing power. A most wonderful spiritual awakening took place and the church was the seat of holiness and power. But this is the age of dispersion when the devil is lulling the people to an awful indifference and carnal slumber. Multitudes are in the devil's cradle, with his imps fanning stupor-filled souls with the broad palm-leaves of worldly pleasure. Awake, ye careless people! Open your ears to the cry of the sturdy prophet, "Woe unto them that are at ease in Zion."

The great cycle of history is repeating itself. The pitiful tragedy of Samson and Delilah is being re-enacted before our very eyes. The under-world attempts to convert the Christian world, and use the powers of government to persecute the righteous! A rising tide of old Paganism betokened by the shameless dress of many women and girls is sweeping over the fair land of the rugged pilgrim fathers and mothers. The angry, lurid glow of Sodom appears upon the western horizon. Awake! Contend for priceless spiritual principles (Jude 3).

Let righteous judgment awake and contend against commercialism and profiteering in high places. Corporation tactics and military "drives" do not reflect the faith and love of Jesus Christ. Reject the Holy Spirit and the ancient spirit of the boycott and the Inquisition revives to trouble the earth! Men's hearts are failing them through fear. Return, O Spirit of love and understanding, to a world wrecked by Compromise and Division. Abide in the Living Vine and let the devil worry. Fix your heart upon the unchanging Christ. Let not changing men destroy faith in heaven. Through fervent prayer, God will overrule in the affairs of mankind. Seek the fellowship of the meek and lowly. God is faithful who hath promised: He has been true to me, and I am carrying a heavy load of benefits. There is power in the blood of Jesus to save to the uttermost all who meet the conditions of repentance, confession and faith in His name. Now at the Evening Light period of church history, the Spirit is calling all of the true children of the House of God to the mount of holiness, unity, peace and plenty. There is joy in the service of the Master. Fallen, fallen are the creeds of men. Now sounds the call from heaven to "come out" of the religious confusion of "Babylon" for her sins have reached unto heaven. Read Revelation 18.

*"Wake, ye nations, gather near;  
Heaven's truth you now must hear,  
By it stand approved in white;  
Or condemned in heaven's light."*

—R. F. LAMM.

## 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.

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We are making a tract out of the article that appeared in the Nov. issue, entitled, "Forty-Eight Hours In Hell." We will soon have it ready for mailing.

We print fifty different tracts bearing on gospel truth, and will send you a sample of them at your request. We send these tracts out free (Matt. 10: 8), as God permits, to all who will carefully and prayerfully distribute them. We are anxious to get the truth to the people, and we are giving all that God puts in our hands with this end in view (Psa. 54: 6).

We are glad to say that the tracts and papers are called for much and they go out all the time to different parts of the world. We are very busy here and the Lord is increasing the work. Pray for us.

\* \* \* \*

The Church of God Assembly held at Guthrie is now in the past and in thinking and meditating on the good things that we have heard, we still rejoice and our hearts go out to God for more of Thy fullness (Eph. 3: 19). In the first place, we wish to say that we consider it as the best Assembly we ever attended. The saints had the victory in the beginning and the meeting ended with victory. Although the snow was on the ground and the weather cold, yet there was a goodly number attended from various parts of the state and some from other states were present.

While the saints had the victory, yet the enemy was bold to attack, hating to see the saints enjoying God so immensely (Phil. 4: 9), and as Bro. Mason expressed it, "got his finger on the button and nearly blocked the whole thing," and stated that "you people do not know how much scuffling went on in the pulpit. The devil arrested and hand cuffed me right in the pulpit, and also threw icebergs in there." Although the attack was bold with well laid plans, yet the majority of the saints discerned things and got under the burden and the enemy was repulsed and driven back, and the meeting moved on with victory.

Bro. Mason from Pittsburg, Pa., did most of the preaching and he gave us good sound advice on "The qualifications of a minister, the duties and obligations in the home, and the care and raising of children." This teaching is much needed, and very few are qualified to teach on these subjects, although many attempt

it. When the Word went forth clear, plain and radical the saints rejoiced, were braced and built up, and wave after wave of glory swept over them. The naked truth given in a definite manner is what feeds the soul and fortifies the saints against the devil and his by ways. Brother ministers, we stand flat footed and rough shod against "chalk water preaching," thinking and guessing so, modifying, explaining with much human wisdom. We have the truth and let us be definite, for we are the ambassadors of Christ and are clothed with authority. We say, Preach the Word as it is written, straight, strong and definite, and back it up with a definite holy life, and your preaching will be effective, will feed the saints and brace and fortify them against these slimy, cunning, crafty spirits that lead to compromise (Eph. 4: 14; 2Cor. 4: 2) and lack of faith in God and His power over the devil. Brethren, there are too many among us that are ready to cry fanaticism, extremism, when the Word is going forth, we might say in a naked manner. Why is this? Simply because they are sympathizing with those who are not measuring up. Brethren if we sympathize with the world and those that are partaking of the world, we will soon be of the world (Isa. 52: 11).

God has ordained us to be examples (1 Pet. 5: 3) to the flock, and this maybe-so, guess-so life and teaching will not keep the saints on the right track. For an illustration: Suppose you were in a strange country. You would inquire the way to a certain city, and the one inquired of would say, "I think you go three miles west, and, if I am not mistaken, one and a half miles south; I, I believe four miles west and then somewhat south again. I think that will take you there." Well, you would go on your way with questions in your mind as to whether your advisor knew the way himself, and if you should come to a road (the devil has lots of them) that was well used and those traveling it would say, "Come on, this is the way," would you not be tempted to follow them? This is the reason so many have started out well and then have gotten into other ways and out of the true way.

Divine love is the greatest of all the gifts. It is God dwelling in us. Knowing that love is the greatest, the devil loves to go in this garb, and is mixing with the saints causing them to sympathize with ungodliness and those who partake of the world, through fear of hurting some one's feelings, or as they often term it "driving them from the truth." Brethren, one who means to go all the way will rejoice to hear the truth clear and definite, and will go about with a glad heart measuring up. The one that loves you most will definitely warn you of dangers, and will speak language that you can clearly understand to brace and encourage you in the right way. (There is a difference between a harsh driving spirit and the clear strong, definite voice of the Holy Ghost).

Another thing that was brought up in the meeting and spoken much upon was the subject of contracting debts. We feel assured that the devil slays many souls by getting them tangled up in debts. Paul

writes in Second Timothy 2: 4, "No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life: that he may please him who has chosen him to be a soldier." As it was stated in the meeting, "The borrower is servant to the lender." Brothers and sisters, let us have faith in God and strip for the race (Heb. 12: 1), cut every shore line and refuse to let the world, through carnal men, have any strings on us. Prove God. Prepare not to go in debt, for we serve the stronger man, even Almighty God, and He is able to give or withhold at His pleasure. Bro. Mason brought out a good thought when he said, "If your minister is in debt, it is not he but you that are in debt." This statement is true and we heartily agree with him, but one thing we refuse to do, and that is to count ourselves in debt to a minister that is careless and extravagant in living, or who makes debts with an eye on the saints to meet the obligation. And another thing, a minister who has handicapped himself with debts is not an example of faith in God. We declare in the fear of God that if those who are tempted to go in debt would take the matter to God with a few days of fasting, there would be fewer debts made. We have proved God on this line and found it to be so, and can speak with authority as we make no debts, and when in need we ask God, and He either gives us the needed thing, or gives us grace to do without it. The way of faith is a way of suffering in the flesh, a humble way, a despised way, but it is God's way and leads to heaven and to God. We are not making a law that no saint should make a debt, but those who do are getting on dangerous ground, and throwing themselves open to temptation, and therefore we say it is wrong to encourage men to go in debt. The minister whose credit is good all around town, and he knows it, is in a dangerous position, for he will be tempted to use that credit, and likely out of the will of God. To have that reputation is good and pleasing to God. To use it may mean, in time, to lose it. So, brethren, let us have faith in God as a real living God, one Who knows, cares and does. Those who are burdened and troubled with debts are in the greatest need of this exhortation and warning, as God would not lead a person to go in debt and then permit him to be burdened and troubled over them later.

During the meeting there were some good sermons went forth on unity, and the saints were drawn together with clear Bible truth as God was magnified. The preaching was of such a nature and so impartial that the unity was with God. There has been a good deal of unity preached in the past trying to unify the saints with some person or company of persons which only causes trouble and confusion as some saints are not willing to unify with anything but God. Unifying with God can only be brought about by the definite preaching and living of God's holy Word. Brethren, there are too many among us who by actions and deeds say, "I am Christ, follow me."

If an evangelist goes to a congregation that is

somewhat separated and divided and, without favor, preaches the Word of truth clear and plain, it will unify them with God, as such preaching gives the Holy Ghost freedom to apply where it is needed. Should he go there and take sides he would only cause trouble, confusion and separation. Teaching the naked truth backed up by a definite holy life, showing no favoritism to man, not being moved by sympathy-seeking spirits, knowing only "Christ and Him crucified," will bring about unity with God (1 Cor. 2: 2).

There were three ordained to the ministry during this meeting, or rather the ordination given of God was recognized by the laying on of hands and prayer. Their names were as follows: Bro. J. T. Spears, of Hitchita, Okla., Sister Rachel Edwards, of Okmulgee, Okla., and Bro. R. Johnson of Twitty, Texas. We felt good about their ordination, and shall pray that God keep His hand on them and that they keep sound in the faith (2 Tim. 1: 7-14), rightly dividing the word of truth (2 Tim. 2: 15), magnifying God in word, action and deed, making full proof of their ministry (2 Tim. 4: 5). This is a solemn charge: to be an ambassador of Christ, being here in His stead (2 Cor. 5: 20), standing between the living and the dead. Surely this is the greatest of charges and your deportment means life or death to many. We exhort you to be watchful, prayerful, sober and vigilant.

Another service that was enjoyed very much was the Missionary talk given by Sister M. Elizabeth Purdy, who has been a missionary among the San Blas Indians. Sister Purdy went there by direct order of the Lord, and looked to the Lord who sent her for her daily food, and for wisdom in teaching and leading the Indians to the Lord. The Almighty God verified His promises and showed Himself strong in providing for all of her temporal needs, and delivering her out of the assassin's hand. She is feeling that the Lord would have her return to the Canal Zone country in the near future. Those wishing to write her can address letters to this office.

The meeting closed on Sunday night with a crowded house, and Bro. Sam Walker was used in bringing a message on "Christ coming in the flesh," which was very edifying and enlightening, and the meeting closed with victory and the enemy silenced. The parting of ones drawn so closely together with holy love was no easy thing, but God provides grace for all occasions and thus the saints parted, and we feel assured that all will be better qualified for service now than ever before.

Yours in the faith.

—FRED PRUITT.

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#### CORRESPONDENCE

Wellsville, Ohio.—To all the dear faithful saints Greetings: Our testimony is: the Lord hath done great things for us. Before leaving Delaware, after waiting upon the Lord in fasting and praying, we had the assurance as written in Joshua 1st chapter,

that the Lord would be with us in all places whithersoever we go, and that no man shall be able to stand against thee all the days of your life. Surely these words have been fulfilled. God has blessed us among strangers in a strange land: Opened hearts before us, gave us wonderful meetings time after time, witnessing precious souls being saved and sanctified, also devils cast out of some, by the power of God.

We shall never forget the precious season at dear old Homestead, Okla. The loved ones there will ever be in our remembrance; also the loved ones at Guthrie. We shall never forget the glorious meetings at Webb City, Mo., where good work was done in bringing the church into closer fellowship; also at Monarch Springs, Mo. Let us pray for the dear ones in those places who have sweet, perfect salvation. At Oldfield, Mo. also we had overflowing times and God gets all the praise and honor. Since we left Mo. till we reached Wellsville, Ohio we have met no clear saints, that is, no *old time saints*. And now we truly rejoice and our souls do magnify the Lord with much thanksgiving for preserving us to meet the dear faithful saints here at Wellsville, Ohio.

In all our travels we have met only a very few true, plain saints. Not many will leave all the world to follow Jesus. Thank God for the few. The few are more precious to us than thousands impure. We pray that the Lord grant us grace to bear with the few, and die among the few, that we may unite in the grand reunion among the millions in that eternal land of rest and peace forever more.

—BRO. AND SISTER J. D. LLEWELLYN.

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Beni Suef, Egypt.—Beloved saints of God and the dear readers of Faith and Victory. We send greetings in Jesus' name from the heart of Egypt, and wish to extend our sincerest thanks for your kind tokens of love and sympathy. Though we cannot reward you ourselves, yet it is encouraging to know that our Father in Heaven keeps a record of all the good deeds and will amply recompense each one by and by and in due time. On our way here the Nile was very rough, the wind blew hard, the sky was filled with black thick clouds and the rain fell in such a terrible state that much of our furniture was drenched with water. I was obliged to sleep on an empty can and continued for two nights sitting on that empty tin can because there was no dry place in the ship. The blanket with which I covered myself was drenched with water too. The ship was exposed to drowning, and the thieves fired their guns but they were somewhat far from us. The Lord overruled everything for His own glory, praise His name. I spent eight days in the ship which equals only two hours by train. The present pressing circumstances enforced me to do so.

On the 23rd of Oct. I left for Fayoum on account of the death of Sister Shihata, who departed this life to be with the Lord. On my arrival I found that the dear saints were in deep sympathy for her loss as she was a true devoted Christian. Although they were

somewhat in heaviness, yet they were still on fire, zealously and actively engaged in His service, determined with the help of the Almighty God to do their part in the great work of helping to rescue the lost world for Him. As the Word of the pure and full gospel went forth from time to time, the clouds of sadness and mists of bereavement melted away. Bro. Shihata, a devoted man of prayer, got the victory and was much comforted and greatly strengthened in the love of God. There were quite a good number of people attending the services, among whom were some government employees, a post master from another town, with several others who listened attentively to the unchangeable and eternal Word of God, which drew up their minds and hearts toward the celestial mansion of glory and bliss where there is no sorrow nor death. Most of the preaching was for edification according to present circumstances, and I believe much good was done which eternity alone can tell.

We desire by the help of the Lord to be our best for Him and to work faithfully with our brethren for the futherance of the full light of God, until every corner in Egypt shall know of the power to save. We are not to regard the alarms of Satan or the trials of life, for if we do, we shall not reap any golden sheaves of souls at the last great day. Asking the prayers of all God's true children in behalf of the work here, I remain your humble servant in the battle field for life.

—BRO. HANNA ARSANIOUS.

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Bend, Oregon.—Dear Bro. Pruitt and wife, and all saints abroad, Greetings in the sweet name of Jesus. Now, my dear Brother and Sister I desire your most faithful prayers in behalf of a new brother who was born again Sunday, Dec. 7, at his home, under my direction as set forth through the power of the Holy Ghost. I anointed him according to James 5: 14-15 for asthma. Please pray that his faith does not fail, and that God will continue to shield him against the devil and all his demons. His dear wife yielded her life to her Savior also, as well as their two oldest children, a boy and a girl. Praise the Lord! God is willing to save souls if those whom He must work through are willing to get into the vineyard and become workers together with the owner of the vineyard. This dear brother had just started to take up Christian (so-called) science for his healing, when God had him cross my path. How thankful we all are that God sent him to me and me to him. His wife, and our sister in Christ now, was a Mormon until Sunday, Dec. 7, 1924. But God called her and she obeyed for which we all are very thankful to God. Please pray for her that she will remain faithful to the true convictions as the Holy Spirit leads her on toward home and Heaven.

Now, I thank you both, and in return I pray God to strengthen your faith and guide you both unerringly along the highway of holiness, with everlasting victory in your souls eternally. Then I have been awful hard up this winter and have not been able

to respond as generously as my heart desired in regard to money, but I believe that I will be able to give monthly for the spring and summer. Please find a mite enclosed to be used as you see fit. It is yours from your Father and Savior Jesus Christ, through your brother in them both.

—EDWARD T. CALLAN.

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Unionville, Mo.—Dear saints: As I feel like writing in praise of the Lord and am due you a letter, will say that I hope the good Lord has been blessing you, for we as the saints of God, are few and need His guidance. I know that as saints of God we have all been sinners in the same sense as Paul called himself. Not that we are all sinners, but I am one of the chief of sinners that was saved by God's grace, and if saved, then we are not in that sinning class. But we are never free from sin until we have come to Jesus and accepted Him. This means that we have been somewhere, that is, in sin, and now we are born of the Spirit, that is, partaking of the thing giving birth, the Spirit of God. Paul puts it this way, "Know ye not that you are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?" The Holy Ghost is a teacher (John 14: 26). Paul says in speaking of the Holy Ghost, "What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own. For ye are bought with a price, therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit which are God's."

It is no wonder that the newly converted would say, "O, for a thousand tongues to praise my great Redeemer." Yet, each of us has only one tongue, and this tongue is the expressive of the heart's thoughts, and if we have Christ in us, in our hearts, then these words would represent a window through which people could see Christ in us. Christ lets us know we cannot serve God and mammon. In other words, our heart cannot pour out pure and impure thoughts at the same time, hence if Christ is in us then our thoughts are pure. We keep ourselves unspotted from the world, and through this the world can look on and see Christ in us as saints. Now, from the thoughts and speech comes our conduct. The conduct of the saints is different from that of the sinner or the worldling, for we are born again, a new creature, old things are passed away. Our walk of life is not in and among the things of this world. John says, "He that doeth righteousness is righteous even as He is righteous. He that committeth sin is of the devil. Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin" (1 John 3: 7, 8, 9). There is no grade in sin. God's Word is the fiat, and if He does not grade sin in degrees, then, as we are judged by it, we cannot.

When the world is cloaking together with its boasted protective institutions and is trying to get the saints numbered with them for their influence, if we were to go with them, we then would lose that sweet influence of the Holy Ghost, which is hid deep down in our hearts where the world could look and

see, not the Christ life, but the life of the worldling. We might say that our minds are fed upon the much reading we get from the current news papers, and when we see that they are all for the world, then we see at a glance that what we get from them is in a sense poisonous to the spiritual mind. So we should be careful as to what papers we read. Books are the same way. The novel reader is known to finally come to a suicidal mind. This does not belong to the saint family.

I enjoy reading the Faith and Victory, and hope it can keep up. I would like that there were more of my acquaintance could enjoy reading it as I do. I will send a check, but money is hard to get by some. May God bless you in the coming year is my prayer.

—J. T. CULLOR.

o o o o

Fresno, Calif.—Dear ones in Christ. I have been thinking my time is about up on Faith and Victory, although you send it to me free, yet I feel you have to have something to live on while you are publishing it. I wanted to send you a nice little donation this month, but could not make my pension go as far as I wanted it to, so will have to wait a while yet. So I will only send you 40 cents in stamps and you can still send me the precious little paper. It surely does me lots of good to read it, and helps me live a better Christian life. It takes all the help we can get in these perilous times to keep us in the narrow way and help us to detect the awful deceptions that are flooding the world today. Well, I am another year older now, so please pray for me that I may live the rest of my life more to the glory and praise of my blessed Savior and my kind, loving heavenly Father than I ever have in all my past life. For it seems to me as if I have served Him so poorly in all my past life, that I want to serve Him so much better than I ever have, so I need the prayers of all my dear brothers and sisters in Christ to help me. Oh, it is such a blessing to know that God's children are praying for me, and how I do appreciate the prayers of the dear saints now in my lonely days and as I am growing so much older. May the dear Lord abundantly supply all of your needs is my earnest prayer.

Yours in Christ.

—SISTER A. J. ULSH.

o o o o

Ennis, Texas.—Good morning, my dear brothers and sisters in Christ: As I have just received the little paper and just read some of the good encouraging articles laid down by the children of God, oh, it does my very soul good to know that there are others traveling the same path I myself have been traveling for 13 years—not tired of the way yet. Although my pathway has not been strewn with flowers all the way, but, oh, how I thank God for the sweet settled peace deep down in my soul and for the grace that He gives me to overcome the hard tests and trials of this life. But, thank God, He said, "If we suffer with Him, we shall also reign with Him" (2 Tim. 2: 12). Glory to God. I thank Him for every trial that has come



up before me. I thank Him for every persecution and test of life. I thank God this beautiful Xmas day on which He gave the most precious Gift that has ever been given to mankind. I am so glad this morning because one day He saw fit to save my soul, sanctify me, and fill me with the Holy Spirit, glory to God. I love Him, bless His dear name.

I want to thank you for the little paper. I am so glad to get it for it is food to my soul. I am trusting that God will continue to bless you in spreading the gospel. Pray for me that God will use me as an instrument in His hands, and for my companion that God will sanctify him wholly and set him on fire for God and the right. Truly yours in Christ.

—SISTER C. M. EDGAR.

o o o o

Silverdale, Pa.—To the dear saints scattered abroad: Greetings in the precious name of Jesus. This day finds me saved and still satisfied in Him who is reigning above. So I feel I should write a few lines to the saints who read Faith and Victory. The Lord is very precious to me, especially this last Christmas time. We can surely be happy without telling others about Santa Claus, but by telling them about our great Christmas Gift to the world, *Christ, the Savior of the world*. We as Christians should live such a life before this sinful world that will show that there surely is a Savior, one who not only can heal our sin-sick souls, but our natural bodies of any affliction that may come upon us. It certainly is blessed to know we can go to Him (Jesus) and He will hear and answer our prayers, if we believe Him. Then we can truly say, "By faith and not by sight," we have received the promise.

I have just finished reading the paper. It is food to my soul. Oh, how my heart goes out for the lost souls of this world. I mean by the help and grace of God to do my part in helping to spread the Gospel to needy souls. If there is any young Christians between the age of 15 and 20 who wish to write to me may do so, as I would like to correspond with some young person who is out and out for God. Your saved sister in the Lord.

—EDITH R. SHAFFER.

o o o o

Pomona, Calif.—Dear Bro. and Sister Pruitt: Greetings of love in the Lord and His truth, wishing you health, strength and prosperity, spiritually physically and financially, also in your labor of love and work of faith for His name's sake. Yes, my prayer for you is that you may be kept humble, very near the Lord, and faithful in duty for His cause and souls' sake, and your own advancement, spiritual strength and efficiency.

I trust all are well. You see I am in Calif. I had a very pleasant and safe trip, and found good friends and associates. I distributed literature, read and talked to many people on the way. I have been to meeting here, and a good many friends and saints have visited me at my home. So I have had a good time in the Lord, and I am unusually well in my body too,

thank the good Lord. Please pray expressly for me that God give me the grace and wisdom that I need to do His bidding.

Your sister in Christ. —JULIA MYERS.

o o o o

Allen, Okla.—Greetings to all the readers of Faith and Victory in the name of Jesus our blessed Savior. I do love to read the little Faith and Victory paper, and I think it has its right name and may the Lord keep it as clean as it is now. It has so many good testimonies that it does my soul good for I am isolated here. I don't know of anyone of our belief, and to read those good pieces written by God's children it seems they are not far away. You know God's children love one another no matter where they are. I love every one of you. I would to God I could meet with every one of you. I know we will meet around God's throne some day where we can all sing and praise Him more perfectly than we can here, praise His holy name. Isn't it glorious to know we will be like Him after the resurrection morning.

Please continue to send me the paper and also some tracts to distribute. I love to read them myself. I am close now to a Sunday School and I think I can do a little work for the Lord. I do feel so small in the sight of God, but I want to do something for Him. Pray for me. I am afflicted in my lungs, and pray for the Lord to send some of His servants to anoint me and pray for me that I may be healed. If anyone wants to come this way, I live one-half mile east of McCall's chapel.

Yours in Christ. —SISTER M. F. KEENER.

o o o o

Concrete, Wash.—My precious brethren in the Lord. I was so glad to get your cheerful letters. It makes me think the Lord is at work, praises be to His name. I was just about to write when I received your last letter, so now will answer both in one. This is a wonderful world in which we live, and a mighty God who made it, and I am praising Him more and more as the days go by and light breaks upon my vision. When God puts His Spirit upon a man or woman, it is for His glory, and He means for them to make use of the time given in His own way, not theirs. I am praising Him for all these things and for granting me the privilege of sitting with Him in His kingdom. What a wonderful place to be. Yes, I am growing, praise the Lord, and I never want to get to the place where I stop growing until I fulfill the will of Him who created me for the work laid out for me to do.

I have not answered Bro. Callan's last letter which I received about 3 weeks ago. He has charge of a ranch and peddles produce and distributes literature and talks to the people wherever he goes. Now brethren, I have a very sore eye. It is so inflamed and painful that I cannot see very good out of it. My daughters want me to put a poltice on it, which I have refused to do. So just be agreed with me according to God's Word and I am sure the work is

(Continued on page 10)



# LITTLE FOLKS' PAGE

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

## WHAT HAVE I?

*I have two little hands to work for Jesus,  
Two little lips to sing His praise;  
Two bright eyes to read the Bible,  
Two little feet to walk His ways.*

—JEAN LEVY.

live for the dear Lord and to be able to trust everything, ourselves and all we have in His loving care. I have oh, so much I would love to tell you of His kind dealings with me and others, for He cares for His children all alike. Not one does He ever forget. They are all precious in His sight.

—AUNT LOEY MCKAY.

Utica, Penna.—Dear children: On this cold and frosty morning I want to talk to you a little while, as it is Christmas day, our dear Savior's birthday. O, how many are happy today in the giving and receiving of perishable gifts, which of course we prize as tokens of love from our dear ones: fathers, mothers, sisters and brothers and many, many other loved ones, but, Oh, how happy are we that have accepted and received the Gift that is above all gifts, at the hands of our kind Heavenly Father, His only Son, our blessed Lord, who gave His life for us on the cruel cross. And can we ever repay Him for what He has done for us? Dear children, if we give Him our hearts and live for Him He will be with us continually and be more to us than any earthly friend can be, not only in your youthful days, but even down to old age. How I do rejoice today that I gave my heart to God when just a young girl, and Oh, how much He has been to me all along through life's journey. The nearer I get to the end of my journey, the more precious He is to my soul.

I would love to know that every child that reads these lines would accept the dear Lord as their Friend through life. Oh, how He cares for and protects not only ourselves, but all we have, all that He has blessed us with. Everything we have we can commit to His care and keeping. It comes to my mind just now of once years ago how the dear Lord awakened me out of my sleep to save my little Jersey cow which surely would have been dead when I would have gone to milk her had He not in His kindness warned me. I was sleeping sweetly at about the break of day when I felt the divine hand laid upon my left shoulder, with a quick move and the words as plain as a human voice could speak, "Go quickly! There is trouble at the barn." I slightly robed myself and hurried to the barn. There I found my little cow with the rope I had snapped around her horns with the other end tied through a hole in the upper manger board, her head over in the manger, the rope around her horns several times, drawing her head down flat on the side of her neck. The harder she would try to raise her head, the deeper the board was pressing into her throat. But right there lay the knife I had cut pumpkins with the night before. So I cut the rope and let her up. Oh, how thankful I was to Him for saving my little cow's life, but still more thankful for His tender care and mindfulness of poor unworthy me and mine. Oh, dear children, it is so precious to

## MOTHER'S QUESTION

"Mother, please give me a cookie."

"Not now, my dear, I don't like to have you eat too many cookies."

"But I am hungry, Mother."

"It will soon be dinner-time, Betty. But if you are too hungry to wait, I will give you a piece of bread and butter. But Betty, do you know where our bread comes from?"

"Didn't you bake it, Mother?"

"Yes, but where did I get the flour to make it?"

"From the store, didn't you?"

"But where did the storekeeper get it?"

"Oh, I don't know, Mother. Tell me."

"Why the storekeeper gets the flour from the miller. And the miller makes the flour from wheat which he buys from the farmer. The farmer, you know, plants his wheat either in the spring or fall. Then the next summer when it is ripe he gathers it in. But can you tell me, Betty, what makes the wheat grow and ripen?"

"Why, the sunshine and rain."

"And where do they come from?"

"Why, Mother, the Lord sends them."

"Then really our bread comes from God, Mother."

"Yes, Betty, and let us thank Him for it."

## LET GOD USE YOU

*Let God use you to tell the old, old story,  
Go let thy love for wayward souls be shown;  
There is some heart that needs a friend like Jesus,  
Some sinsick soul that stumbles on alone.*

*Let God use you! O listen to His pleading,  
"I freely gave my life to set you free;"  
Is there no need of love I ought to render  
For all the sacrifice He made for me?*

*Let God use you! HE CAN IF YOU ARE WILLING;  
Let Jesus fill you with His mighty power;  
You then will find a joy in helping others,  
And grow in grace and knowledge hour by hour.*

*Let God use you, for souls are dying!  
Tell them of Him who saves without delay;  
The blood of Jesus life supplying,  
Let God use you to win some one today.*

—SEL. BY MATHILDA PAULSEN.

(Continued from page 8)

done. I am not afraid to trust God for anything and everything. I am His child. I am sending a small offering with this letter, and may God bless the work there and keep you in His love is my prayer. It is wonderful how we can let loose of this old world and yet enjoy ourselves so immensely while in it: the joy unspeakable and full of glory that no man can take away from us. Your sister saved and kept.

—IONE E. ROBBINS.

o o o o

New Bloomfield, Pa.—Greetings in the precious, lovely name of Jesus, our Savior, who died for us while we were yet sinners that we might have life and have it more abundantly. Surely we owe a great debt of love to Jesus for doing for us what no other friend could do, or would do for us. We never can appreciate this as we should till this mortal body shall put on immortality. Well, I thank God for this great salvation that we can enjoy even if we were not worthy of it. I think of what Jesus said, "After ye have done all, count yourselves unprofitable servants" (Luke 17: 10). Now *all* surely means much, and how often I come short of all. We are unprofitable at our very best, then just think how much we are indebted to Jesus, our Savior.

I have been thinking of writing before this but never got at it. I surely think the Faith and Victory is good and if you have any extras left please send me a few. I would like to have a few of the last issue if you have any more. It surely was fine. Every one seems to get better: that is what I like to see. I hope and pray the Lord that it will ever continue to keep pure, for if ever there was a time that the world needs pure literature it is now in these perilous times when the world is flooded with all kinds of literature, teaching for doctrine the commandments of men. Surely there is a great need of pure gospel teaching. May God's blessings rest upon you and the work He has given you to do, that it may prosper for the glory of God and the good of souls. Your brother for the cause of Christ.

—CHAS. L. HOUCK.

o o o o

Branson, Colo.—Dear Bro. and Sister Pruitt: Greetings in Jesus' dear name. Today still finds me saved and with my trust still in the Lord. This is Sunday and I surely would love to be there to attend the Assembly meeting. We are all well, that is, all of us at home. Carl was not feeling very well the last letter we had from him. We only get one letter a week and it has been several days since we heard from him. We are praying that he is better now and that he will soon be so he can write more often if he has to stay in that place. We certainly would be thankful if it was the Lord's will to have him home with us. It will soon be 9 months since we saw him. It is so hard to think about him being sick and so far away from any of his people, and especially from mama and papa. It almost breaks my heart to think of it. A lady there that goes to see Carl sent me his

picture sitting in the bed, and I can't bear to look at it without crying. He looks so lonesome in the bed and no one close to him. He looks so pitiful. I had rather he had been in a chair. Dear ones God only knows what I suffer. It seems sometimes I can't stand it any longer. Sometimes it seems that the Lord has forsaken us, but we have His promise that He will never leave nor forsake those that put their trust in Him. So we just keep trusting the dear Lord, for we have no one else to trust in. The letters little paper, and the tracts you have sent have been a great encouragement to us. We certainly need the prayers of the dear saints for God to give us grace to submit to whatever He sees fit to permit to come upon us. May God's blessings rest upon you and the work there. Yours in Jesus.

—SISTER WALTER BUSH.

o o o o

Stapleton, Nebr.—Dear saints and readers of Faith and Victory: I do thank God for all He has been to me, and for the many blessings I receive from Him each day. I have received several copies of Faith and Victory and truly say that I enjoy reading them and would very much like to have the paper keep coming. It keeps one encouraged to read of so many that have real Bible salvation. I am so glad God is able to save to the uttermost. My determination is to do His will at all times. Pray for me that I may be His true follower. With Christian love.

—SISTER R. I. GIBBS.

o o o o

Greenville, Ohio.—Dear Bro. and Sister in Christ: Just a few lines this morning in the name of Jesus. God bless you and your work. You have no idea how much your letter encouraged us, and to know you are letting God have His way with you. We got the tracts and Faith and Victory and are so thankful for them. It makes us stronger and more determined to go on, and is food for our souls. We are trusting the Lord to help us in handing them out where they are needed most, and the Lord is having control of our hearts, directing us the way we should go, and we want you always to remember us in your prayers. We went to see a sick woman yesterday and found her very much discouraged. She has had so much false doctrine handed to her, and she does not get what her soul craves. She is badly afflicted with heart trouble and goiter. She was so glad to get the tracts. Please pray for her complete healing and that she will get a perfect understanding of God's will, and please send her Faith and Victory. She is starving for the truth. Pray for us. Yours in the one body.

—BRO AND SISTER W. L. RAPP.

o o o o

Afton, Okla.—Dear brother in Christ Jesus. I will say that as a little flock here, we are scattered, and no shepherd here. We still pray for one. If it is not asking too much I would be glad if you know some way of assistance. Please send me a few tracts to distribute. Your brother in the Lord.

—G. E. DRAKE.

State Penitentiary, McAlester, Okla.—My dear Christian friends at Faith Pub. House, and those scattered throughout the world: I greet you one and all in the loving name of Jesus, thanking all for the letters and papers you sent me in answer to my letter to you in Faith and Victory. I have five letters before me filled with messages of God's love. Oh, I am so thankful for them, and will answer one and all by mail if permitted.

We do have so many benefits to thank the dear Lord for. I am thankful to Him in the name of Jesus for the spiritual uplift of His saving and healing power. Oh, it is so wonderful when I awake in the dark hours of the night and meditate over God's goodness and mercy toward us people in prison. I just get thrilled through and through. Oh, how I wish for and am praying for a Bible, one with helps and thumb index, King James version. You that are seeking after the lost in prison, don't get discouraged, God will reward you openly. I would to God that all people would read the eighth chapter of St. John down to the 13th verse and follow the example that Jesus has set forth in His teaching. To you that become discouraged, look to Jesus, He will carry you through.

I am so happy in God's love, to think how merciful He is toward us that love and serve Him. I will say to the young people that are starting out to serve God, don't get discouraged. If temptations come just stop and ask yourself the question, "What would Jesus do?" Always have good thoughts and you will stay out of prison. Jesus said, "Suffer little children to come unto Me, and forbid them not, for of such is the kingdom of heaven." I am praying for you every one and may the dear Lord bless you for all your kindness to me. Sincerely in Christian love.

Box 398

—OSBORN SUTES—14098.

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#### AN OPEN LETTER

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Dear brother in Christ:—We send greetings to you in the blessed name of Jesus who fully saves from all sin and makes us one in Him, bless His name. We received your letter some few days ago and were truly glad to hear from you and to know that you are pressing on in the narrow way that leads to glory and to God. We rejoice to know that you are busy scattering tracts and books that will enlighten men and lead them to Christ, who reconciles them to God the Father. We know that God will bless you for this service and your reward will be over there.

All of your brothers and sisters at Faith Pub. House join in sending thanks to God and to you for the offering you sent to help along in sending out the pure gospel of Christ. May God bless you for this kind act to ones who are unworthy of blessings and favors sent from the Lord upon us, while we humbly accept the means as stewards of God, at the same time we beg to assure you that it shall be used to the glory of God in the best way that He gives light and knowledge, as we have put our all into the

Lord's work and all that He sends or puts into our hands is used in the spread of the gospel.

We note in your letter that you speak of giving a tenth. This is well and good as far as it goes and we do not fall out with those who are giving a tenth, for we have observed that a tenth is more than the majority of professed Christians give, and if one gives a tenth freely and gladly as unto the Lord (and not through compulsory measures) we feel it to be accepted of the Lord and blessings and favors will follow as God sees best. We do not feel that a gift is accepted of the Lord unless it is given freely and gladly, and we would not accept means or any other gift unless we believed that the giver was giving of his or her free will. There are some that make a law out of giving as well as of many other things. We believe that Christ fulfills the law and the prophets, and that He so fills our hearts with love that we cheerfully and willingly give of our substance to upbuild His cause in the earth, and to convince unbelievers of the reality of the saving and keeping grace of God.

There are some, who claim, to be Christ's and teach against giving a tenth, that give little or nothing toward the spread of the gospel. Such souls are in a sad condition and are in much need of the love of God in their hearts. Others will say to the true laboring saint in action and deed, "Let the good work go on," and will, with careless indifference, continue on gratifying their lusts and heaping to themselves the perishable things of earth, proving themselves of possessing a heart far from having its affections on things above. Thus we find many, yes, sad to say, a great many, who, looking into the perfect law of liberty (the Bible) go their way and straightway forget what manner of men they are. They forget that Christ has purchased them with His own precious blood, and that they are not any longer their own, and if they would truly and sincerely count themselves as belonging to Christ, they could and would see that all that they have and call their own is His for use where and when it is His pleasure.

We shall gladly list the names you sent in to receive Faith and Victory, and shall pray that its pages contain light and knowledge for their souls from month to month, that the Holy Spirit will do His office work in convicting and drawing them to Christ and to God through the cross. We also shall send you another supply of tracts and papers and expect them to reach you in not less than ten days. Should they fail to arrive, just notify us and we will mail more to you.

We shall close expecting to often remember you at the throne of grace and wishing you a joyful Christmas and a continued happy, prosperous New Year, and beg to be remembered by you while calling upon God our Father.

Your brother, purchased by the slain Lamb of God.  
—FRED PRUITT.

## IS THERE UNRIGHTEOUSNESS WITH GOD?

This question seems to be in the hearts of very many today. But the answer was, is, and ever shall be, emphatically, No: "God forbid." Those who love some pet sin, who serve the flesh and are blinded by the god of this world say, "Can God be just and righteous, a God of love, and have a place of banishment and torment prepared for souls to spend eternity in?" But, oh man, what art thou? In your natural state you are altogether vanity. The natural man can not discern the holiness and purity of God. If you thus rebel against the righteousness of God and try in some way to establish your own way of righteousness, you shall never enter the kingdom of heaven. There are many incidences in God's Word that show His righteousness in a severe way. When the earth opened and swallowed up Korah and all that rose up against Moses and the righteousness of God, the heart that is not purified so as to see God, would say He was not righteous. They claimed they were holy. But Moses fell on his face before God and asked Him to attend to the matter, then said, "The Lord will show who are His, and who is holy." Oh souls, who are every one of you dependent upon God for every breath you draw, humble yourselves under His mighty hand, and do not charge Him with unrighteousness. You may live on in the luxury and desires of the world and flesh, and not be destroyed in a literal way as these men were, but Jesus warned them that if they die in their sins "Whiter I go ye cannot come" (John 8: 21).

But God's ways are so unsearchable and above man's ways that unless the heart is cleansed and filled with God's pure love, even the saints of God would be tempted to think God was not dealing righteously with them. But dear soul, though temptation may come like that, our God will make the way of escape. Has God made a promise to you and now it seems that, even as it was with Abraham, He is going to destroy it all? Oh, dear soul, God is only desiring a perfect heart toward Him. Have you prayed in this way, "Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts; and see if there be any wicked thing in me?" Now when God goes about to do it and lays His hand upon, and calls you to sacrifice the the nearest object to your heart, will He find obedience while proving you? This is a time that you may be tempted to charge God foolishly or unrighteously. Has He called for a dear child of your own flesh that He has given precious promises concerning his future career? Now death is upon his brow, or

he is taken from your presence as Joseph was from Jacob, and it seems the enemy has full control. Yes, the enemies of God and righteousness mean it for harm but God means it for good, and you will see the fulfillment of it as you endure. Are you asking, "How long, Lord, must this state be?" He will fulfill His Word where He says He will make a way of escape that you may be able to bear it. "Blessed is the man that *endureth* temptation" (James 1: 12). Keep obedient, prayerful and steadfast in the faith and God's glory will come forth and your soul will rejoice in the deliverance He has made.

Does it seem that God has removed His hand of protection from you and the devil is given liberty to do all but take your life? Remember God only wants you to be true in the fire, that when you are tried you will come forth as pure gold. He wants you to bless Him and know He is righteous when He takes away as well as when He gives. Bless His name. Oh! it increases love, faith and confidence in God, for He wants to show Himself strong in your behalf. There is nothing worth more than the excellency of the knowledge of Christ: His abiding presence within, for which, if needs be, all things can be lost. Though the fiery trial is great and it may seem as though a strange thing has happened unto you, rest in knowing that "all things work together for good to them that love God," and it is not strange to the Lord, He knows all about it. Dear saints of God, the trials of faith and tests of perfect obedience and submission to the whole will of God will only work for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory as we are exercised in them. Let the truth sink down into your hearts that "The Lord is righteous in all His ways, and holy in all His works" (Psa. 145: 17), and there is no unrighteousness in Him. —ROBERT LONGLEY.

## WHERE ART THOU? AND WHAT DOEST THOU HERE?

These are two old familiar Bible questions and texts which have been often preached from. The first was asked by God to Adam in the Garden of Eden after he had sinned. The next was asked by God to Elijah when he was in the cave whence he had fled from the woman Jezebel. Let us apply these two questions to ourselves and see where we are and what doest thou here? Take as a study the children of Israel coming up out of Egypt. The Lord worked many miracles and wonders to get them to believe in Him and the leaders He had sent to lead them out of Egyptian bondage. Where art thou? In Egyptian bondage or on your way to Canaan? Many start out

of Egypt's night (sin) but many fall in the wilderness as did the ones who fell a lusting for the leeks and garlick and flesh pots of Egypt, who turn back in their hearts to the world (Egypt) and meet destruction of their souls. As it was then, so it is similar today. Many fall a lusting after the things they have left and turn back towards them, thus being banished from God's people. Many fall at Kibroth-hattaavah (the grave of lust).

"And Miriam and Aaron spake against Moses because of the Ethiopian woman whom he had married: for he had married an Ethiopian woman. And they said, Hath the Lord indeed spoken only by Moses? hath He not spoken also by us? And the Lord heard it" (Num. 12: 1-2). How many long tongue gossipers are saying the same thing today: Has not God used us (me) to preach, heal, pray etc.? Have not I spoken in tongues and prayed for the sick and they got healed? Why should I be less honored than this meek man, Moses (my brother)? I am just as good as he. Miriam and Aaron just said we will not be less honored than Moses, we will be leaders too. But was God pleased at such thoughts? No. God showed His disapproval by sending leprosy upon Miriam, which is a type of sin. When the gossipers get together and talk about some of God's little ones and say wrong things about them, then they become affected by sin. Where art thou? ought to be a daily question asked to yourself to see if you have avoided Miriam's tent of gossip. Not only did Miriam's gossip affect herself with leprosy (sin) and kept her out of the Camp of God seven days, but greatest of all retarded the progress of the children of God and the whole camp of Israel. James warns us of the great evil the tongue can do. It is a little member, but boasteth great things. It is a little fire that kindles a great matter. It is a fire, a world of iniquity, it defileth the whole body. It is an unruly evil full of deadly poison. With it men are cursed and damned, and with it God is blessed and praised. But both can not come from the same mouth.

Some are among the company of Korah who withstood Moses and Aaron and rebelled against God and His chosen leaders and fell in the wilderness without reaching the promised land. Most people who start out with Jesus and for the promised land are like the children of Israel who rebelled at Kadesh-barnea and would not go over into the promised land, which is a type of the modern Christian. They rebel at Kadesh-barnea, meaning consecration or holiness. Most people will not say yes to all of God's will and walk by faith into a land inhabited with giants to battle with

them. Many faint at the report of the giants that live over in the land of their inheritance. The giants may live there but according to God's Word they can be driven out, and by His power we can come in possession of our inheritance which is true holiness of heart, or sanctification of the Spirit and the baptism of the Holy Ghost. Many die at Kadesh-barnea (holiness). Where art thou? With the murmurers against God or in Miriam's tent of gossip, or with Korah's band of rebels? If so, what doest thou here?

Art thou with Elijah under the juniper tree of discouragement? (Read 1 Kings 19). Elijah wanted to die and get out of trials etc., like many today, as soon as they get saved they get discouraged and want to be out of the battle against sin and the devil. It has been said the devil's best tool was the tool of discouragement. Many a poor soul gives up the fight when discouraged and lose their soul in hell. Are you discouraged by some one you have lost confidence in? Or because the church is not doing what you think it ought to do? Are there trials in the home that seem more than you can stand? Is discouragement preying upon you in any way? If so the angel of the Lord will soon come and touch you and say as he did to Elijah, "Arise and eat." Oh, how blessed then when we are fed by the angel of the Lord and how strengthened we feel and discouragement vanishes and hope soars high and reaches the promises of God and we conquer. True, Elijah was a man of like passions and was as easy discouraged as some today. The two previous days before the juniper tree episode were great days of victory for Elijah who called fire down from heaven and killed 850 false prophets, and prayed rain down from heaven after 3 years and 6 months drouth, and ran 18 miles before the chariot of Ahab, and then a day's journey into the wilderness fleeing from the sword of Jezebel. We may say he had a right to feel fatigued and tired and went off to sleep discouraged. Some preachers might have accused him of sin for running from his enemy when God had done miracles by his hand the day before, but not so with the angel of the Lord who said gently, "Arise and eat," and came again and said, "Arise and eat, for the journey is too great for thee." How the Lord can come and touch us when discouraged and say, Arise and eat, and we can go in the strength of that a long time. Art thou discouraged? If so, arise and eat, for there shall no temptation befall you but what is common to man, and He will with every temptation make a way for escape.

Take Jonah, for instance, who was fleeing from God and duty. Many are following Jonah today. Like

many church members, he might have said, "Well, let God destroy the city, they are of another kingdom and are the enemies of Israel." Some say let them be destroyed, they don't belong to our church or agree with us. But not so with God who is merciful unto all, and commands us to "be ye therefore merciful even as your Father in heaven is merciful." Where art thou, friend? in Jonah's ship of desertion, leaving the call of God and going from duty? God sees and knows and will bring every deed into judgment.

We have another type of modern Christians of today in Jacob's skin of deception. Paul speaks of them, "Evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived." Yes, there are many deceivers today in the religious world. Where art thou, friend? What doest thou in this condition? My friend, are you on the ship bound for Tarshish leaving Nineveh and the call of God? Jump overboard and face Nineveh and the duty God has laid upon you to do. Do not feel too secure of your landing at Tarshish. A boisterous wind will overtake you, and a whale will swallow you up. Do not try to desert your God-given duty. Where art thou? Trodding Lot's slippery path toward Sodom (the world)? Many have lived with righteous Abraham, so to speak, but like Lot, lifted up their eyes and beheld beautiful Sodom and all the plain of Jordan: beautiful to look upon and pleasant to possess. Sad to say, many Christians lift up their eyes and desire the things of the world and start towards it, but the wrath of God abideth upon them. Art thou facing Sodom and Jordan's plain (the world and its sins)? Where art thou? With Peter warming by the world's fire, or fire of denial. Art thou ashamed to confess Him before men? Who is on the Lord's side? who will go for Him?

Where art thou? Like Judas using the kiss of betrayal? leading the forces of evil against the righteous? Helping the strong against the weak? Art thou with Ananias and Sapphira trying to deceive God or His people by withholding the means God has laid upon you to give? Surely spiritual death will overtake you, if not bodily death. 2 Tim. 4: 10: "For Demas hath forsaken me, having loved this present world." We might add: this present *evil* world. Where art thou? In the class of Demas, forsaken the work of God and turned to the world, having loved it? "If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him" (1 John 2: 15). Positive fact spoken by the Son of God. If all the Achans were out of the Church and stoned in the valley Achor, then would the glory of God shine forth from Zion and souls

would be born into the kingdom of God; then the gospel of Jesus Christ the Son of God would be preached in all the world for a witness, and souls would be saved. But every one is looking for gain from his quarter and for his own gain, and will even go so far as to covet the Babylonian garment, silver and the golden wedge, which never fails to bring defeat to the people of God. They will not preach God-given truth for fear they will not get the silver and gold of Babylon. Cursed is he that withholds his sword from blood. God wants fearless warriors, with faith in Him. Where art thou? Art thou an Achan who will soon meet destruction in the valley Achor? Flee these things, my beloved, and renew your consecration and fidelity to God. Obey His Word, believe His promises. Nothing is impossible to him that believeth.

Some who have lived for years in Jerusalem have turned to persecuting the true disciples of Christ, and if the Lord would call out to them as He did to Adam in the Garden, "Where art thou?" They would be found in the company of persecutors on their way to Damascus. My friend, art thou saying, doing things to hurt God's faithful children? If so, you are with Paul's band of persecutors on their way to Damascus.

Have faith in God little ones, and look up at all times, for all things. When God calls, "Where art thou?" Be sure you are not in the disciples' ship of little faith, or on Peter's house top with respect of persons in your heart. Neither be as the servant with one talent who kept it hid. Jesus said, Let your light shine. For ye are overcomers by the blood of the Lamb and the word of your testimony. Be witnesses for Jesus in your every walk of life. Then when God shall call to thee and say, Where art thou? answer at once and say, Here am I, Lord. I am in the lion's den for being regular in prayer. I am in the fiery furnace because I refused to bow to the gods of this world. I am in prison because I dared to preach the truth and love my enemies. Here I am, Lord, still in the old paths, the paths of holiness, where the unclean cannot walk. Here I am, Lord, they cast me out of the church because I insisted sanctification kept a man from sinning. Here I am, Lord, "a wonder to all them that know me," because of the great change in my life by the new birth and sanctification wrought by the baptism of the Holy Ghost.

Where art thou? In sin and despair? Jesus will save all that come unto Him. Art thou sick, afflicted? Jesus will heal. "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and forever." Where art thou? Art thou ready to meet God? Is thy heart right with God?

Beloved, let us be faithful to Him that called us with an holy calling, that when He shall appear we may be like Him: clothed with His righteousness, filled with His Spirit; that we may have no condemnation on our heart when Christ shall burst asunder through the clouds and declare that time shall be no more, and shall call all nations to the great judgment, after He shall have separated the sheep from the goats and placed the wicked on the left hand and the righteous on the right and say to them on the right hand, Come ye blessed, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. And then to those on the left hand, Depart from me ye workers of iniquity, I never knew you, and these shall go away into everlasting punishment prepared for the devil and his angels. Picture yourself at the judgment and then ask yourself the question, as from God, Where art thou?

—IRVIN H. WHITEHOUSE.

#### THE RIGHTEOUS, THE UNGODLY, AND THE SINNER

“*And if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear?*” (1 Peter 4: 18). We learn from the above text that there are three classes of people in this world: the righteous, the ungodly and the sinner. Now, let us see what kind of people these three classes are, and just where they will spend eternity.

##### WHO THE RIGHTEOUS ARE

The righteous are a people that have had Godly sorrow for their sins, repented of them, and been saved from them all. They are dead indeed to sin, dead to all the world, its treasures, forms and fashions, its pastimes and pleasures. They are new creatures in Christ Jesus. All the things of the world and sin that they once loved they now hate. They have presented themselves a living sacrifice unto God. They walk in all the light they can get. In other words, they are absolutely surrendered to God. They have no desire to have their own way or will unless it be God's way or will.

##### WHO THE UNGODLY ARE

A great many think the ungodly are a people that are just as wicked and hard hearted as anyone can be in this world, or someone that doesn't believe there is a God, heaven or hell. But, no indeed, the ungodly are not that kind of persons at all. The ungodly are nothing but professors of religion, perhaps saved from a few sins, sometimes not committing any sin at all in the eyes of the world. Sometimes they do very many good deeds. They have their names on some church record. They think they are Christians, and

are called Christians by the world. They are subject to all their so-called church rules. Sometimes they can tell all about the Bible from Genesis to Revelation. Some are well posted as to what is in the Bible: some are not. Some of them do what the world calls lots of church work. Some of them fill the pulpit very often. They claim to love God and to be a follower of Jesus, but when it comes to practicing what they read in their Bibles, they are far from it. They do just what suits them best and leave off, or out, all that doesn't suit them. They have a way of their own. They do as they please, go where they please, and say just what they please. They seek everything but God and Godliness. They are seeking the things of this world. They love its treasures and are laying them up here, or wanting to. They love to engage in all kinds of games and all kinds of other worldly amusements. Some of them belong to lodges and life insurance companies. They are conformed to the world, keep up with its fashions and styles in wearing apparel, in hair dressing and face dressing, such as powder and paint of all kinds. They will gossip and engage in all kinds of worldly, unclean and filthy conversation. Some will use that filthy tobacco in some way or other, that a pig will not put his nose in, let alone take it in his mouth. They will get angry and cross with their loved ones or any one else if their ways, wishes or desires are crossed. They want revenge in words, acts or thought, if they are wronged in any way. They get angry and impatient with every thing that does not go to please them in every way. Some of them will take God's name in vain. Now, no one person may be guilty of all these things we have mentioned, but let it be just one, or all of them, or more besides, it is ungodly, it is not Christ-like. So they are ungodly in the sight of God Almighty, let it be just as it may.

##### WHO THE SINNER IS

Now the one that the world calls the poor sinner doesn't profess to know God at all. He has never had his name put on any record as a Christian at all. He loves the world and its ways. He goes where he pleases, does and says just as he pleases. They lay up their trueasures here, or would if they could. Some of them belong to some lodge or life insurance company. They engage in all kinds of games and all other worldly amusements. The most of them engage in all kinds of worldly, unclean, filthy conversation. They keep up with all the latest styles of wearing apparel, hair dressing and face dressing, powder and paint. Some use that filthy weed, tobacco, some way or other. They get angry, cross and impatient with



loved ones or any one else and everything that does not suit them. Some of them take God's holy name in vain. Some of them are real kind and do good to everyone and every thing: good neighbors, do many charitable acts, are honored and highly respected by the world at all times and everywhere.

Now, dear reader, I can say from the depth of my heart and before God and all heaven that I love all three of these classes. Now let me ask you in the name of Jesus and before God and all heaven, Where do you stand? Which one of these classes are you in? Dear reader, if you were pressing a dying pillow, oh, if the cold death perspiration had gathered on your brow, and the death rattle had come in your throat, which one of these classes do you feel you would have to take your stand with? Could you take it with the righteous? or would you have to take it with the poor ungodly, or with the sinner? If you are not holy and righteous, and you are not what is called the sinner, you surely are the ungodly, and if so, will you please for Jesus' sake tell me how much difference there is in your walk, acts, ways, looks and words, and those of the poor old sinner? Dear reader, I must tell you before God and with a heart full of love, there is no difference at all in the eyes of this wicked world, unless they look on some so-called church record or happen to see you in the so-called church house. And I must tell you with a heart full of love for you, and while life is extended and mercy's door is still opened, that you poor lodge and life insurance professors of religion (young or old); you poor treasure seeking professor of religion (young or old); you poor worldly amusement-seeking professors (all kinds: you old ones and young ones); you jesting, joking and filthy mouth tobacco and snuff using professors (young or old); you poor, proud, fashionable and up-to-date dressed professor (man or woman, young or old); and you poor powdered and painted face, bobbed hair professors (young or old)—you are surely going to take your stand side by side with the poor old sinner in that bottomless, never-ending pit of fire and brimstone after the judgment, for there is absolutely no difference in you and the poor sinner in God's sight in this life, for all of this in unrighteousness: it is unChrist-like. Remember that all unrighteousness is sin, and also remember our text says, "If the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the *ungodly* and the *sinner* appear?" And we are told too, in God's Word that the "*ungodly* shall not stand in the judgment, nor *sinner*s in the congregation of the righteous" (Psa. 1: 5). Also that the way of the ungodly shall perish. So we are told very plainly where each class

is going to spend eternity.

Now, dear reader, don't try to make yourself believe you are safe and alright. Oh, dear souls, don't get angry and say, Oh, I guess I know; or that my pastor and friends say I am alright. Remember, dear ones, the truth is going to meet you at the judgment bar of God. It is by His precious Word we are going to be justified or condemned. You need not get discouraged either, dear reader, nor need you try to get rid of your ungodliness in your own strength, for you absolutely can not do it. Jesus can, and will, do the work for you. Praise God, He died for the ungodly as well as the poor old sinner, and when we were without strength, we are told, "In due time He died for the ungodly." Dear reader, Jesus said, "If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed." That means free from all ungodliness as well as all sin. Your sister and friend dead indeed to this wicked old world and sin. —IDA LEE.

#### THE GREAT HINDRANCE TO PRAYER

Satan sentinels the gateway of prayer. Andrew Bonar has left it on record that he never entered into a season of pure prayer without a fierce battle at the threshold. Satan dreads nothing like prayer. He knows he cannot frighten saints with hideous features, or overcome them by coarse enticement. He stands at the portals of the Holy of Holies as an "angel of light." He does not openly attack, he diverts. The Church that lost its love, was full of good works (Rev. 2: 4). Activities are multiplied, that meditation may be ousted, and organizations are increased, that prayer may have no chance. Souls may be lost in doing good works, as surely as in evil ways. The one concern of Satan is to keep the saints from prayer. He fears nothing from prayerless studies, prayerless work, prayerless religion. He laughs at our toil, mocks at our wisdom, but trembles when we pray.

Andrew Murray says: "Prayer is the strategical point which Satan watches. If he can succeed in causing us to neglect prayer, he has won, for when communion between God and His people is broken, the true source of LIFE and POWER is cut off."

In a large measure, Satan has succeeded in causing the Church to neglect faithful, constant, prevailing prayer. With little effort, one may get plenty of help to conduct bazaars, socials, suppers and even meetings, but when it comes to real intercessory prayer, prayer that truly reaches the throne of God and brings things to pass, such intercessors are few. What we really need is more power and less machinery.

"Prayerlessness shows that we do not value communion with God." "Men ought always to pray and not to faint" (Luke 18: 1). Some one has said—"Satan trembles when he sees, the weakest saint upon his knees." —SEL.