Faith and Victory

Arm thyself with Faith and Love; this brings Victory from above.

Volume 2, Number 7.

VECTT PRESENTATION DE LE PROPERTIE DE LA COMPANIE D

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

GUTHRIE, OKLA. Feb., 1925.

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VICTORIOUS FAITH

Oh, for a faith that will not shrink,

Though pressed by every foe,

That will not tremble on the brink

Of any earthly woe!—

That will not murmur nor complain

Beneath the chastening rod,

But in the hour of grief or pain,

Will lean upon its God;—

A faith that shines more bright and clear,
When tempests rage without;
That when in danger knows no fear,
In darkness feels no doubt;—

A faith that keeps the narrow way
Till life's last hour is fled,
And with a pure and heavenly ray
Lights up a dying bed.

Lord, give us such a faith as this,
And then, whate'er may come,
We'll taste, e'en here, the hallowed bliss
Of an eternal home.
—Sel.

BIBLE UNITY

In order to be a Bible unit, we must all be made one in Christ Jesus: First by a spiritual birth. "Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. * * * Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God" (John 3: 3-5). Thus we are made a family unit, by virtue of a spiritual birth. "For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ. For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit" (1 Cor. 12: 12-13). Thus we can see that Holy Spirit baptism causes us to drink into that one Holy Spirit, as we shall see by the following Scriptures: "I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but He that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: He shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire: Whose fan is in His hand, and He will thoroughly purge His floor, and gather His wheat into the garner; but He will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire" (Matt. 3: 11-12). "For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ" (Gal. 3: 27). Alas! Some think they can put on foolishness, coveteousness, worldly conformity, see more, and show more dresses, rings, bracelets, feathers, flowers and other adornments. "But ye have not so learned Christ." We must be as Paul says he was, "I am crucified to the world, and the world is crucified to me." Do we ever see two men. both dead, transacting business with each other? No: then crucify the flesh with the affections and lusts thereof. "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to Himself by Jesus Christ'' (2 Cor. 5: 17-18).

What, then, will this Spirit baptism do for God's family? "Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular. And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues' (1 Cor. 12: 27-28). In other words, organizing His church, and setting it in order so each one may know his place so as to work in harmony with other members of the body. A gift of the Spirit is a qualification. If you receive the gift of teaching, you will be qualified to instruct, to enlighten, to give knowledge, and with every other gift God qualifies you for that special work. If every member knows his place in the body, and keeps it, as Peter says, "As ye have received the gift, even so minister the same one to another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God," there will be unity in the body,—harmonious oneness. But if one is jealous of the other and try to crowd each

other out of the place God has set them, there will be discord and confusion that will surely end in division. To illustrate: The physical body is one. Each member is in the place where nature placed it. If the nose should try to be an eye, could it see? If the foot should try to be an ear, could it hear? If it were possible for the members to change places we would only have disorder and confusion, and the body would lose its efficiency. So it would be with the body of Christ. Brethren, let us find our places and be humble enough to keep them, thereby keeping the unity of the Spirit. "I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called, With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love; Endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; One Lord, one faith, one baptism, One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all" (Eph. 4: 1-6). Unity of the faith is necessary. Hence the gifts of the Spirit. "And He gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into Him in all things, which is the head, even Christ: From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love" (Eph. 4: 11-16). God surely has it planned right to make and keep unity if men and women will submit to His plan. But many today think to change to their way, wresting these Scriptures, as also others, to their own destruction as well as those that give heed to them. "Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints" (Jude 3).

Some things that will destroy unity: Giving heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils, compromising with the spirit of the world, conforming to the world, covetousness, seeking to please men, and many other things might be mentioned. Jesus said, "If ye love me, keep my commandments, and I will love you and manifest myself unto you." Hear, O Israel, and your heart shall live. Amen.

-ELIHU KEY.

DIVINE LOVE IN ACTION

It seems that some have gotten the idea that we are fighting Bro. Janes, but this we mean not to do by the grace of God. But we expect to reprove, rebuke or admonish, through the printed page and otherwise, as God shows it is needful, for the good of the readers, whether it be him or others, letting the Holy Ghost freely apply all teaching wherever the need This paper stands for a clear straight-forward work, teaching the truth in love, care and concern for the welfare of those that read, and we shall not print any articles that we feel are written in a spirit of revenge or to needlessly hurt anyone whether it be friend or foe, neither shall we take up a reproach against our brother in any wise; but expect by the help of God to teach, print and send out the clear, definite gospel of Christ in such a manner that lost souls will "come to themselves," weak ones will be made strong, and that Christ will be lifted up and the goodness of God will be magnified.

Whatever has been, or has seemed to have been our attitude in the past, will henceforth be in the past, for we mean to press forward for the prize of the high calling in Christ Jesus with our eyes on the Captain of our salvation. We expect to do unto our brother as we would like for him to do unto us, by "bearing one another's burdens and so fulfill the law of Christ" (Gal. 6:2). Brethren we need more of that love manifested by Christ toward His enemies. Think of Him climbing the mount of Olives and looking back over Jerusalem that doomed city and thinking of those people that rejected Him, that cast His name out as evil, that were wanting to murder Him, and see how He wept and mourned for them. See Him hanging on the cruel cross (after those He loved had completed the act that was in their hearts) and with His last breath cries unto the Father in their behalf, "Father, forgive them, they know not what they do" (Luke 23: 24).

Your brother that you see to be the weakest, having the most faults and wrongs, needs your pity, love, care and patience the most. Did you not know, brother, that the heaviest cross you have to bear comes from those who profess to be one with you? and some-

times really saved, but are going back, and persecute you because you do not follow or indorse their back sliding. Let us have patience, dear brethren, and not become weary in well doing, for we shall reap if we raint not. It is a sad fact that the enemy gets some to looking at self and the wrongs of others until they are doing nothing for the rescuing of the perishing. They will even hold their dollars from the Lord's work for fear they might give to someone that has gone, or will go, wrong. Brethren, if you give out of love for God and souls, you will be blessed and rewarded, it matters not what the other fellow may do, for after you have given it you are no longer responsible, but responsibility rests upon the possessor and he will have to give an account of its use before God. His doing will not affect your blessings and reward if you do not let him get between you and Jesus. Someone sent us a little verse the other day that is real good:

> "Look to self to be miserable; Look to others to be perplexed; Look to Jesus to be happy."

This verse is true, and if we keep our eyes on Jesus and His love, care and suffering for those that hated Him, it will not be hard for us to love and hear with them that wrong us purposely or thoughtlessly.

Jesus said that "If any man sue thee at the law, and take away thy coat, let him have thy cloak also. And whosoever shall compel thee to go a mile, go with him twain' (Matt. 5: 40-41). Brethren, these are words from the heart and lips of Jesus and should not be considered lightly, for His words are going to judge us in the last day. Examine yourself and see whether you are going the "second mile." Jesus went the last mile when He suffered so fearfully in the Garden, before Pilate, and on the rugged cross, suffering for those whom He had not wronged; for those who were vile and wicked at heart. Stephen also went the last mile with those who hated and persecuted him, and while being stoned to death he asked God "not to lay this sin to their charge." Do you know of one who has wronged you or who accuses you of wronging them? Pray earnestly for that one. Ask God to bless them and turn all vengeance over to God. Tarry and seek God for divine love, to love them as He loves them, and as He answers this prayer your heart will be filling with patience, long suffering and tenderness in a way that will cause you to marvel, and you will have gained a victory over self and the devil. Brethren if Christ be ruling our hearts it will be no longer a tooth for a tooth, nor an eye for an eye, but we will

suffer ourselves to be defrauded and take wrong rather than grieve God and bring condemnation on our souls; we will continually commit ourselves and others and all they do and say to God who judgeth righteously and to whom all vengeance belongs.

In Hebrews, tenth chapter and thirteenth verse, we read, "Vengeance belongeth unto me, I will recompense, saith the Lord." Our duty to God is to keep filled with love divine that God working through us can reproduce the life and ways of Christ in the earth amongst sinful and wicked people, that their hard hearts may be broken up and tendered by our continually pouring warm, heavenly love upon them, by going the last mile, patiently taking abuse, resisting not evil but committing all to God, who has called us to a holy walk with Him. For we are "heirs of God and joint-heirs with Christ, if so be that we suffer with Him" (Rom. 8: 17). Remember that Jesus sends us forth as "Lambs among wolves" and warns us to be "wise as serpents and harmless as doves" (Matt. 10: 15). -Fred Pruitt.

The foreskin of our hearts have been circumcised by the seeing of the blood of Christ, and are laid bare before God. We are praying God to feed us on loaves and fishes that we may break and give out to hungry and thirsty souls, that we may be made a channel through which God can pour out His love, care and truth to the people in such a clear, definite manner that men and women will be brought to repentance, and saints edified and built up in the faith.

GOD WILL TAKE CARE OF THEE

There comes to me over, over and over, A voice that is sweet as can be, Whispering still and low to my spirit: "Thy God will take care of thee."

I know that He will! In past ages
He ever hath cared for His own;
By a dream, lo! He comforted Jacob,
Who lay upon a pillow of stone.

When Job was in dire affliction, In agony, sorrow and strife; The eyes of the Lord were above him, And Satan dared not take his life.

When Joseph was sold by his brethren, Into Egypt's dark prison was cast; Ah, long were the days, and so lonely, But glorious light broke at last!

Be still, O my heart, and be trustful,
There are ways that thine eyes cannot see,
But safely He'll carry thee over—
"For God will take care of thee."
—D. T. LEVELY.

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.

The work at the office is moving along nicely and God is blessing our souls, showing His hand of love and care in many, many ways, and our anchor is holding strong within the veil.

We have just finished a run of over sixty thousand tracts and calls are coming for them every day. Pray that God make us able to keep the supply up with the demand. Our hearts are in the work and our hands are willing; may God give the increase.

In the Bible we find what sin is: We find that sin is committing an offence against a righteous Creator. We find that the effect of sin is condemnation, and the wages of sin is death (Rom. 6: 23), spiritual death or separation from God, and that continued rebellion against the will of God will end with eternal punishment.

"The Kingdom of God is not meat and drink, but righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Ghost" (Rom. 14: 17).

When man accepts Christ and is born again, receives the Holy Spirit, he has an earnest of his inheritance, being bought by the precious blood of Christ, and becomes God's purchased possession.

Men that are saved will be changed in the twinkling of an eye, will put on immortality and will live forever with God and all that is pure and holy, suffering no pain, having no aches, and will be out of the reach of slimy Satan. "Mark the perfect man and behold the upright, for the end of that man is peace" (Psa. 37: 37).

In the Bible we find that God is our Creator, creating us in His own image, for His pleasure and glory. We find that man disobeyed God and rejected His counsel because of sin or evil in his heart: That God so loved those whom He had created that He gave His Son to bleed and die on the cross, that whosoever believeth on Him should not perish, but have everlasting life (John 3: 16): That believing in Christ as an atonement for sin will bring peace to the soul

of any man, will give rest to those that labor and are heavy laden, that His burden is light and His yoke is easy (Matt. 11: 28-30).

From the way the Lord has been chipping and chisling, it has dawned upon us when found we were greatly in the ruff.

Though the Lord's lessons seem severe and sometimes prolonged, yet we covet teachings from the Lord, knowing that He is chisling us for eternity.

Those who fail to put in practice what they see in God's Word will soon lose interest in reading His Word.

The more divine love you have in your soul, the more of God you have, and the more of God you have the more of the fruit of the Spirit you will bear. Some seem to forget that patience and longsuffering are fruits of the Spirit that please God much and prove our son-ship.

Bro. DeWitt, of Canada, is visiting among us at present. We are glad to meet this brother and to have him among us, and pray God to bless him and to help him along in the narrow way.

Sister M. Elizabeth Purdy, of Mass., who has been visiting with Bro. L. Y. Janes and family and other saints for the last month, has gone to Oklahoma City to hold some meetings, and from there she will go to Kansas to hold meetings in various parts of the state. She is a very precious saint, and has been much in the tropics as a missionary to the San Blas Indians. She has four of these Indian boys in school in the United States. They expect to return to their native country and carry the gospel of Christ to their brothers in darkness.

CORRESPONDENCE

Utica, Pa.—Greetings in our precious Savior's name. O, I would just love to tell, not only you, Bro. and Sister Pruitt, but all the dear readers of Faith and Victory, of how the dear Lord kept His precious Word in coming to my rescue when in much need. A few winters ago my husband awakened me with groans of suffering one night and asked me to fill the hot water bottle and put to his back and hot irons to his feet, which I did. He seemed to be suffering dreadful. The next morning he was spitting blood and coughing hard. Sad to say, his confidence being in the arm of flesh, he sent for the doctor who told him he had flu and pneumonia. He kept getting worse and looked so pale and death-like, still spitting blood. He said. "Well, Loey, it has come. For the doctor has told me for years that if ever I got pneumonia it would finish me." And really I didn't, myself, expect to ever see him well again. But I must tell you how the

dear Lord came to my rescue. The dear woman who was helping me became afraid of the flu, as her own husband had been near death's door in the hospital the winter before. So of course I could not blame her for not staying. O, dear ones, there are no hard places when we have Him. All is right at all times, and under all circumstances. In the evening while alone I thought, Well, here I am after 73 years of life's journey, and in my declining strength, left alone with my sick companion. It came to my mind of other times when I had been in need of help, how marvelously He had sent me help, even speaking to ones miles away and they didn't know why they came until they got here. Well I knew the promises were mine, so I just knelt before my kind heavenly Father, told Him He had promised to be a present help in every time of need, and now I could sweetly trust Him to fulfill that premise to me. Oh, such a joy filled my soul. Well He did more than to send a helper, praise His holy name, He healed my companion completely. He slept like a little child all night. He got up the next morning well, dressed himself and came to the sitting room where I was, for I had not yet gone to the kitchen. He said, "Loey, I just feel good this morning. You must have been trying Christian Science on me." Of course he knew better. I said, "William, do you think nothing other than Christian Science could be done for you? No, William, it was none other than the precious Christ which you have to deny in your Mason lodge room." But, Oh, our blessed Lord is kind to the unthankful and untrue, but how sad that any should deny Him. But we do rejoice that He has given us His holy Word, and the dear Holy Spirit to interpret it to our hearts and understanding, that our lives by it may be molded. Oh, praise His holy name. I must add that my husband now at 77 years has better health than for many, many years, and I give God all the praise. Your true sister in Jesus. -SISTER WM. MCKAY.

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Judsonia, Ark.—Dear ones at Faith Pub. House and saints abroad. I come again praising God for hearing and answering prayer and healing me of a cancer. I kept growing worse till the 23rd of Dec., when two-thirds of my breast was black and one-half was scabbed over, but the dear Lord blessed me so much. Many times when I was too weak to get up I would call on Him for strength, and He would give me strength to be up and go about. So on the morning of the 23rd, I was with my mother at Searcy, Ark. I had only been up a few minutes that morning when one of the worst pains struck me. It seemed to go direct to my heart. All turned black before me and I was so helpless my brother had to carry me to the bed. All I could pray was, Lord, my trust is on your Word; die or live, I am Thine. I knew it had come to a change, so after the real healing touch was applied I began to gain at once, and now, on Jan. 14th, my breast is well only the skin is red and tender yet. I give the dear Lord all the praise, because I did not take a dose of medicine or rub a dose on. Dear saints continue to pray for me, and pray that the Lord will send us a real soul-saving meeting here soon. May He bless you each one and the work in the office.

Your sister in Christ. —ESTHER FINLEY.

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Mitchell, S. Dak.—Dear Christians: I have read with delight your tracts, and hasten to send for some more. I thought I would tell you something of our work. The Faith Home and School located at Mitchell, S. Dak., is absolutely a work of faith. It is interdenominational in its work, undenominational in relationship. There is no sect, church, denomination, club, or society back of it financially. It has no endowment, and no wealthy patrons. They do not beg, solicit, advertise, appeal, or hold "suppers" to get finances. They "stand squarely on the principles of Faith, as declared in the Word of God, and look to Him only for the supply of all our needs."

They are now in the fourth year. They have a Faith Home, a Faith Home Orphanage, a Faith Home for Girls, a Faith Home for Boys, a Faith Home for Elderly Ladies, and they have a very complete Bible School, a Complete High School, a Grade School, and a School of Music. We also have two Faith Home Stores. We have a student enrollment of 170, with a corps of 14 qualified teachers; there are 23 men and their wives, and a total mumber of about 200. Some of these live in Mitchell, some hire rooms, or board outside, leaving about 100 to be provided with food. We use a ton of coal a day in Winter.

No teacher, worker, or officer draws a cent of salary, or receives any allowance. The work is all in the name of the Lord, to His glory, in His strength and through His provision. Our success is our embarrassment, for we have many calls that must be turned away for lack of room. We do not desire numbers, but we do desire such a spiritual atmosphere that all who do come shall be saved and sanctified and taught to serve. We have students ready to leave for the foreign fields at the close of this school year. We ask the prayers of all of God's children that we may be kept humble, and not get side tracked, nor puffed up, but always abounding in the grace of God. Any inquiries will be promptly answered if addressed Miss Winnie Crouch, Faith Home and School, Mitchell, S. Dak.

I am not an officer, only a "shut-in," provided a home here with these people. Yours in Jesus.

—C. H. GIBBONS.

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So. Mansfield, La.—Dear saints at Faith Pub. House and scattered abroad: I am praising God today for life, strength and health, for I know that it is in Him we live and move and have our being. I thank Him most of all for full salvation, and that I can say I am one of them. Oh, it is so sweet to trust in Jesus. Dear ones, I feel like going on. I received your dear letter and did so much enjoy reading it. It was much strength to my soul. I also received the little Faith and Victory paper. It has been a blessing to me ever since I have been reading it. It is God's

way of feeding my soul. O, I do thank and praise God for it. The brethren are holy (1 Thess. 5: 27); their hands are holy (1 Tim. 2: 8); their conversations are holy (1 Pet. 1: 15); their sacrifice is holy (Rom. 12: 1); God's church is holy (Eph. 5: 25-27); God only deals with those that are holy (2 Pet. 2: 18; 2 Tim. 1: 7; 1 Cor. 6: 14: 18); none will ever see God but those that are holy (Heb. 12: 14).

Now the sign over the store will note the public what is sold inside. If one read "Smith's Grocery" over a store he would not go in there to buy a wash kettle or plow point. If he read "Patterson's Hardware" he would not go in there to get a prescription filled for tooth drops: and if he did he would be nearly as big a fool as the man who tries to condemn holiness and back up an unholy life by the Bible, when he can read the sign on the back which makes known the contents of the Book.

SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES AND SEE WHETHER YOU ARE RIGHT OR WRONG.

God's Book containing His Word is holy: see back of Bible. God is holy (Lev. 11: 44-45); God's name is holy (Psa. 111: 9; Isa. 57: 15); God's Son is holy (Acts 4: 27); God's Word is holy (Rom. 1: 2); God's dwelling place is holy (2 Cor. 6: 16); God's temple is holy (1 Cor. 3: 16-17); God's calling wherewith we are called is holy (2 Tim. 1: 9); God's heaven is holy (Psa. 20: 6); God's city is holy (Rev. 21: 1-4); God's way is holy (Isa. 35: 8); God's will is holy (1 Thess. 4: 3-4); God's works are holy (Psa. 145: 17); God's commandments are holy (Rom. 7: 12); God's Spirit is holy (Acts 4: 31); God's preachers are holy (Tit. 1: 8); God's people are holy (1 Pet. 2: 9); God calls us to live holy in this present world (Luke 1: 74-75; Tit. 2: 11-12).

-MARY B. WHITE.

Lititz, Pa.—Dear ones in Christ, in whom we live and move and have our being, and by whom we are what and where we are this beautiful morning. Praise His holy name for this wonderful privilege we enjoy, while many, many others are laid on beds of affliction and others have died. Many of our neighbors died this winter and we are still among the spared ones, praise God. And many others are living as if they would never die, and still others would like to go to heaven by professing and at the same time sinning every day. There is but one holy, pure way, and I am so glad the good Lord opened my eyes to see this true way and my heart to accept it. I am going to stay on it by God's help. By my own strength I am not able to do it, but by His help we can overcome all things, let come what will. We live in perilous times when even some that were true saints once, now can not see the difference between a true saint and a backslider. It is awful. Is it any wonder these are called perilous times? In Eccl. 8:5 we read, "whoso keepeth the commandment shall feel no evil thing: and a wise man's heart discesneth both time and judgment." Then again in Malachi 3: 18, "Then shall ye return, and discern between the righteous and the wicked.

between him that serveth God and him that serveth Him net." If we are so backslid that we can't see this any more, then we are pretty far gone. It is just as a dear sister said: So long as we do what is right, we can not be deceived. That is as true as the Bible.

I am so glad there are a few true, humble saints srattered all over the world. Let us watch and pray and stand together as one man for God. I mean to go through at any cost. I read in the daily papers that they killed 200 Christians in India for not farming opium, and that the same fate is facing 1500 more who are refusing the same thing. But if God be for us who can be against us? They can kill our bodies but not the soul, praise His holy name forever more. Send Faith and Victory till I say so. Pray for me and mine and I will do the same for you. Yours in Him.

—Bro. H. H. Shank.

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Fairview, Okla.—Dear Bro. Pruitt: I send greetings in the loving name of Jesus. Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord, according as His divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him that hath called us to glory and virtue, whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust. Praise His holy name. Dear Bro., I rejoice greatly to find you faithful and walking in truth, as we have received a commandment from the Father. And now I beseech you, dear brother, let us love one another, for this is love that we walk after His commandments. This is the commandment, that as we have heard from the beginning we should walk in it. Truly many deceivers are entered into the world. Dear ones, let us look to ourselves, that we lose not those things which we have wrought, but that we receive a full reward. Whosoever transgresseth and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ hath not He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and Son. Praise His holy name. Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health even as thy soul prospereth. Beloved, thou doest faithfully whatsoever thou doest. Be bold and courageous, for the Lord will give you undersanding in all things. We are praying for you, dear brother, just go on with the good work and whatsoever the Lord has for you to do. He will be with you. God said to Joshua, "As I was with Moses, so I will be with thee: I will not fail thee nor forsake thee. Be strong and of a good courage, for unto this people shalt thou divide for an inheritance the land which I sware unto their fathers to give them. Only be thou strong and very courageous, that thou mayest observe to do according to all the law, which Moses my servant commanded thee: turn not from it to the right hand or to the left, that thou mayest prosper whithersoever thou goest. This book of the law (the Word of God) shall not depart out of thy mouth, but thou shalt meditate therein day and night that thou

mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success" (Josh. 1: 5-8).

"Now the Spirit speaketh expressly that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils" (1 Tim. 4:1). "I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at His appearing and His kingdom; Preach the Word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away their ears from the truth and shall be turned unto fables" (2 Tim. 4: 1-4). By what God said to Joshua, we are told not to turn from the truth (God's Word), and by so doing and observing, to do according to all the Word of God, we shall make our way prosperous and shall have good success. Praise His name. And again we are warned by what Paul said to Timothy against the times we are in, for I do believe that we are in those times. So, dear brother, let us be watchful and careful. Again Paul says in 1 Cor. 2: 2-3, "For I determined not to know anything among you save Jesus Christ and Him crucified. And I was with you in weakness, and in fear, and in much trembling." The two most impressive thoughts upon my mind are, knowing of Christ and His Word, and to be in much fear and in much trembling. It seems to me if I would be in much fear and trembling I would be very careful in preaching and teaching the Word of God, and it seems to me that this is lacking by some, or a good many. Dear brother, I am persuaded that this is not the case with you, for I believe that the Faith and Victory is better than it was. To God alone be all the glory. I am thankful at this writing for full salvation and a deep determination to follow Jesus all the way. I am content and satisfied in the narrow way, praise His holy name. Pray for us. Will close with Christian love. Your brother in the one body, for the —R. B. Еск. whole truth.

0 Macungie, Pa.—Dear workers at Faith Publishing House: God bless you and keep you. I like to read the good encouraging testimonies of the dear sisters and brothers in Faith and Victory. They are so straight, sound and true. May the good Lord watch between me and thee till we meet with Jesus and the loved ones gone on before. Some day our time will come. Let us be ready for the summons. Let us praise the Lord. We have so many things to thank Him for. The first copy of Faith and Victory was sent to me from a very dear sister in Jesus, Miss Jean Levy. I can never thank her dear heart for sending it to me, for I truly wish to become a sister of the dear ones in Christ Jesus our Lord who died that we might live. 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. Pray for me that I be true to all God shows me and walk in the light He gives. May the dear Lord bless and keep each one in victory. Yours in Jesus' name.

—E. E. STAEGER.

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Lawndale, N. C.—Greetings in Jesus' name to all the readers of the little paper, Faith and Victory. For the glory of God I will write a little of my experience. I was gloriously saved at the age of 15. I was just like I had been asleep and the light of Jesus shone in my soul and awakened me. Later on I found I could not live a victorious life, for the nature of sin was in my being and would overthrow me and cause me to say things that were not right. But one day I heard the full gospel and I said, "That is what I want." It was sometime before I received the blessing, but when I put self down and consecrated all to God, the Holy Ghost and fire came and burned up the sacrifice and left me with the will of God and His Spirit abiding within. The quickening Spirit of God is my life and strength. He is my healer and keeper. He never forsakes nor leaves me. My daily prayer is to bless all the saints and workers of God. I am thy sister under the blood. -Mag Wesson.

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Natchitoches, La.—The Lord has done great things for me whereof I am glad. On July 20th, 1924, I was healed of kidney trouble. My breath was so annoying to others while I was afflicted, but when I went to God in fasting and prayer, He wonderfully healed me. My mother receives the Faith and Victory and I find much wholesome food to my soul, and also from the precious little tracts, but especially do I love my blessed old Bible, God's own Words. On Jan. 14, 1925, I became burdened to know with an assurance what the will of the Lord was for me. I had promised God to fast till the 19th to have victory. God saw the earnestness of my soul and brought me victory through 1 Thess. 5:18, contained in the little tract, "Concerning You." "In everything give thanks, for this is the will of God concerning you." God is so wonderful to me. May God forever be with you. Pray for me. -Welsh H. Tolton.

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Breckenridge, Mich.—Dear ones in Christ: As I have been a reader of Faith and Victory for some time, I think it to be a clean little paper. I feel sure that God purposed that the gospel of Christ should be preached free of charge. I think when God makes a man a minister of the New Testament, He gives the minister the message to give to the people. Should the minister hold it from the people until they paid him for it, I think he would soon cease to be a message carrier for God. When God lays a message on a man's heart, it burns on the heart to be delivered. May God bless you all and keep you on the Bible line and crown your works with success. Please send me some tracts to read and distribute. Your brother in the one pody.

—Washington Rouse.

Herrin, Ill.—Dear workers at Faith Publishing House: Greetings in Jesus' name. I received a sample copy of Faith and Victory that a sister gave me. I think it one of the best papers I ever read. It filled my heart with joy as I read some of the articles and testimonies. I am glad I can say by way of testimony that I am a child of God. I enjoy this great salvation each and every day. I thank God for divine love I have in my heart for God's people everywhere. I am glad there are a few people that are serving and worshipping the Lord in the beauty of holiness. Praise the Lord. I love the way of holiness. I am glad I know that Jesus saves, sanctifies and heals: the same yesterday, and today, and forever. Thank God He answers prayer today in the same old-fashioned way, hallelujah! It fills my soul with joy to think of the great things the Lord has done for me. May the blessings of God be upon you dear saints in the work God has called you to in sending out those good papers to spread the gospel of Jesus. Your sister in Him. —Mary Pease.

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Madisonville, Ohio.—Dear beloved in Christ Jesus, greetings. I praise the dear Lord for victory and the settled peace that I have in my soul, and decision to go on in Jesus' name. I pray that each of you may prosper in health in soul and body. This leaves all well here, and we praise the Lord for the faithful few He has added to His church here in having meeting from house to house. Eight souls have been added to the Lord and a goodly number are following, as we go from house to house, to hear the Word of God. Two have been raised from their sick beds, completely healed, and are praising God. Tonight we are called to a very sick woman's house to have meeting. We desire your prayers that she too might be healed. I showed some of the dear ones the little Faith and Victory paper and they like it and desire to have it. Just as soon as I can obtain their addresses I will send them in. Dear brothers stand fast in the faith once delivered to the saints and the dear Lord will reward you. Your brother in the one body. —A. D. WASHINGTON.

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Bennington, Okla.—Dear saints at Faith Pub. House and those abroad: Greetings in Jesus' dear name. This leaves us well and saved and sanctified and meet for the Master's use. I have read and reread the little paper and tracts. The greatest pleasure I have in this world is to teach my children the precious Word of God. We have a Sunday School started here. Please pray that it may be successful and that God will have His way in it. I see hundreds of children living in idleness on the Lord's day. I think the saints scattered abroad ought to lift up their voices mightily to God in one accord that He will undertake for us. I don't know what will become of this generation. Please continue sending me the little paper. It is much help to me. I am praying God to keep it clean for His use in sending out His

truth. Please send me some tracts to distribute. The Lord being my helper, I will place them where they will count for Him. Your brother in Jesus.

-E. P. Albright.

GOD'S GRACIOUS DEALINGS

"Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord delivertth him out of them all" (Psa. 34: 19). The sweet Psalmist of Israel in this Psalm gives a wonderful consolation and encouragement. All the righteous people, through all ages have experienced the same testimony of David. And all such God has proved, and caused them to be heroes of faith and of noble experience with the Lord. Many are their afflictions, because through them God finds opportunity to be glorified and honored. Afflictions are caused through opposing elements: fiery darts, which God permits that we may prove His strength. He permits them that He may say, "My strength is made perfect in weakness." Satan was permitted to afflict Job, but Job's testimony was, "Though He slay me, yet will I trust in Him."

We truly magnify our Lord God today more than ever, for we see that we have an High Priest that was in all points tempted like as we are (Heb. 4:15). When I review the past, I clearly see wherein I have almost in all points been touched. At the age of 15, while working in a blacksmith shop in one of the mines in Wales, a steel punch from the anvil flew and struck my left eye, severely afflicting my sight. Though then I knew nothing about divine healing, neither of the Evening Light, yet the Lord did the work and healed my eye. Since I have been in the work of the Lord, given wholly to His will, surely my testimony is many a time have they (evil elements) afflicted me from my youth (Psa. 129:1-2).

Soon after fiinding and receiving the truth, and the hand of the Lord being greatly upon me, while working in the Hot Mills, three times melted greece flew and struck me in the right eye. The third time it covered my eye and some was in my eye. There was great danger now of losing my sight. The rules in the mill were that all afflicted employees had to take a note to the physician. This I did and he bandaged me up. After leaving the doctor's office, the devil began to speak to me: "There, where is your faith now?" I looked up to God and cried, "My God, lose my eye or not, I will trust in Thee." That evening two saints came to visit us. They anointed and prayed for me, and that moment I felt the moving in my eye. I said, "The Lord has done the work." The next morning I took a piece out from the corner of the eye. I was healed, Praise the Lord.

The next experience that gave me a good testimony unto the Lord is about my feet. Before finding the clear light of the gospel, once I jumped over a high wall, or rather left myself drop from the top of a high wall in the dark to save time. My foot caught (Continued on page 11)

LITTLE FOLKS' PAGE

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

JESUS LOVES THE LITTLE CHILDREN

Jesus calls the children dear:
"Come to Me and never fear,
For I love the little children.
I will take you by the hand,
Lead you to the better land,
For I love the little children."

Jesus loves the little children, All the children of the world: Red and yellow, black and white; They are precious in His sight, For Jesus loves all the little children.

Jesus is the Shepherd true,
And He'll always stand by you,
For He loves you, little children.
He's a Savior great and strong,
And He'll shield you from the wrong,
For He loves all the little children.

-ANNA E. OZER.

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Garrison, Texas.—Dear readers of the Children's Page: I am 16 years of age today, Feb. 1st., and I desire to tell through the page what God has done for me. I was taken very ill on the 22nd of Jan., caused from a bruise on my hip. I had a very high fever, sick stomach, and pain in my head. I was not saved. My mother and I began on Sunday night, Jan. 25th, to ask God to save and heal me. I was healed of the fever, sick stomach, and pain in my head, but my hip continued to pain me, and on the night of the 29th my hip was worse than ever. But we prayed more earnestly than ever for God to save me and heal me completely, and near two o'clock God did save my soul and took all pain from my hip, praise His name forever. Now my only desire is to live for Him and suffer for Him. I have no desire to turn back to the world and sin. Jesus has done so much for me, praise His name! Now I ask all the readers to pray with me that I be true to my Savior to the end. Yours all for Jesus. -Willis Lee.

[P. S. Dear children: God has surely done for this little boy all that he has said. Now don't you think that he and I (his mother) will be happy together? He and I are all alone. His papa has been dead 14 years. His two sisters are married, but we are as happy as can be. Praise God.—Mrs. IDA LEE.]

AN ANGEL VISIT

"When they shall rise from the dead, they ... are as the angels which are in heaven" (Mark 12:25).

For the glory of God and for the encouragement of His obedient children, I record this bit of marvelous history, which occurred in the month of February, A. D., 1887, in the northern part of Darke county,

Onio. About three miles from the town of Possville, there lives a family by name of John and Hattie Hittle. They had six children, whose names and ages respectively were as follows: Ora, twelve; Henry, ten; Lizzie, eight; Ida, six; Nettie, four; and Pearly, two. They were religious people, and enjoyed the blessing of entire sanctification. Their home was for many years been the home of the itinerant preachers.

There was a protracted meeting in progress in the neighborhood, and the parents and Ora were going to the meeting, while the rest of the children were to stay at home alone. They had never stayed alone before, and therefore protested against it on the plea that they were afraid. But the mother told them not to be afraid, for God and the angels would take care of them.

Finally they consented, and after the parents were gone they lowered the blinds, locked the doors, and gathered together on the sofa to have their family worship. Pearly, however, had already been put to sleep in the cradle in the bed-room. After they had all said their prayers, they pappened to get hold of Foster's Child's Story of the Bible, which had been presented to Ora on his twelfth birthday. They began to look at the pictures in it, and presently they came to the picture of an angel, whereupon Henry exclaimed, "O, I wish I could see an angel once!" And each one of the rest said, "I wish I could, too!" They had hardly said this when they heard some one stamp on the porch and knock at the door. So they all jumped up and ran to the door to see who was coming. They raised the curtain and looked out, and behold! to their great surprise, an angel came right in through the glass and stood among them. His presence, however, did not in the least frighten them, for, they say, he looked so pleasant, and immediately began to talk to them. He asked them where their parents were, and they told him that they had gone to meeting. Then Lizzie, who happened to be standing by the rockingchair, said to him, "Take a chair and sit down." He answered, "O, I can't stay long." But he took the chair and drew it up toward the stove and sat down, saying as he did so, "You have a nice stove and a good warm fire." Then the children noticed that he was barefooted, and as the weather was quite cold and the ground was covered with snow, they would naturally suppose that he must have cold feet. Therefore Henry said to him, "Put your feet on the railing of the stove and warm them." The angel did so, and then called the children up to him. They, however, were still wondering in their minds why he should be barefooted in such cold weather, and this made them take particular notice of his feet, which, they say, looked perfectly white and glistened like wax. He then reached out his hands and drew them closer to him, and then raised them upon his knees, two on each knee, and caressed them by putting his hands upon

their heads as if he was blessing them. At the same time he kept talking to them all the while, and told them to be good children and not neglect to keep on praying to God, etc. They say his voice was clear and perfectly charming, his hair very fine and wavy, and he wore a beautiful little crown on his head.

After he had thus held them and talked to them for awhile he put them down again. And rising from the chair, he began to walk around in the room and looked at the pictures on the walls. And as he was walking around they noticed that his garment was loosely thrown around him and extended a little below his knees. It consisted of the finest white fabric, and rustled like leaves, or like silk, as he moved around. They could now also have a better opportunity to see his wings, which were quite large, and fairly glittered for whiteness. The children all followed him closely wherever he went, and presently they came to the bedroom where Pearly was sleeping. With the children still close at his side, he went to the cradle and took up Pearly in his arms and kissed her, and then laid her down again, saving as he did so. "When Pearly gets older you must tell her to be a good girl and pray, too." Then he said to them, "Well, I must go now," and began to shake hands with each one of them and thus bid them good-bye. And it is impossible to describe the lovliness of his hand as they took hold of it. It felt just like snow, or like a soft, downy cushion. And, like his feet, it was perfectly white and glistening. He wore a most heavenly smile upon his countenance. His voice was most tender and sweet. His entire demeanor was marked with gentleness and kindness, and his whole appearance was only that of grandeur and beauty. So that not only their fears were all banished, but they also felt perfectly at home and enraptured by his presence. And it really made them feel sad when he told them that he must go.

But after he had bidden them good-bye, he started immediately for the door through which he had come in, while the children were still standing at the bedroom door. When he came to the door he paused a moment and the children noticed that he had a long staff which he held horizontally in his hands, and in an instant they saw him gliding out through the unopened door in the same manner that he had come in.

As soon as they saw that he was gone, they instantly made a rush for the door, literally stumbling over one another to get there first, and when they got to it and had raised the curtain and were looking out, they saw him standing on the edge of the porch and a bright cloud had gathered around him. Then they saw him glide out into the yard. His body was now in an inclined position, with his feet extending backward and his wings partially unfolded, while the lower part of his garment and the bright cloud seemed to roll and fold themselves together in a most unique manner. He went on in this way until he came about half way between the house and a pear tree, which was standing in the yard, and then he ascended up-

ward, and the last they saw of him was his beautiful white 'feet. Then one of the children exclaimed, "Now he is gone!" and another said, "I wonder why there was no bright cloud around him while he was with us in the room," and still another said, "I wonder how long it will take him to get to heaven?"

And the next thing in order was to wait until the return of the parents and Ora, that they might tell it to them. They could scarcely wait until they came. they were so anxious to tell them. In the meantime they carefully examined the door from top to bottom, rubbing their hands over it, to see if there was not a crack or a break of some kind where he had come in and gone out. But to their astonishment they could not find the least sign of a crack, either on the door, the glass, or on the casing of the door. After awhile they heard their parents coming, and they were all up ready to meet them. The mother went to the house first, while the father and Ora put away the team. But who can imagine the bustle and excitement which ensued as the mother entered the house. Henry, Lizzie, Ida and Nettie, each one trying to tell it first. They jumped, they laughed, they clapped their hands, and were perfectly wild with joy. So great was the noise and holy racket that the father and Ora heard them at the barn, and wondered what in the world .was the matter with the children.

"Who do you suppose was here, mother, while you was gone?" they all exclaimed with one accord. "An angel, yes, an angel. O mother, an angel was here." And then when the mother had quieted them sufficiently, they went on to describe him, how he looked, what he had done, and what he had said.

Their shining faces, their exultant spirits, their positive declarations and the unison of their assertions, soon overwhelmingly convinced the mother of the truthfulness of her children's story, and of the reality of the vision which they had seen. Besides, being a spiritual woman and having an insight into spiritual things, she could all the more easily be persuaded of the facts in the case. She listened to them with suppressed emotions until her heart could no longer contain the joy which filled and thrilled her whole being. Then, going to the bedroom, she threw herself upon the bed and gave vent to her feelings with loud shouts of Glory to God. She felt that the very house was hallowed by the presence of the Lord, and that from henceforth more than ever, her home should be like a little heaven on earth. After arising from the bed, she seated herself in a chair near the stove and buried her face in her hands.

Presently the father and Ora returned from the barn, and as they entered the room where she was sitting she exclaimed. "O. father, you ought to hear the children tell of the wonderful visitor which they had while we were gone!" whereupon the children began to tell the story to their father and older brother. "Ah," said the father, "you are only excited, it was simply your imagination. You did not see an angel." "Yes, yes, father; sure, sure," came from every one of them. And so positive were they

and still so overwhelmingly happy, that the father could not long withstand their simple arguments, but was compelled to believe that what they were telling him was true, and soon he also began to praise the Lord, and to participate in their joy.

—Sel.

(Continued from page 8)

somehow and threw me on the rail and struck my right foot. From this I suffered a long while. A few years after I fell from a bicycle and the same foot was affected again. Another time my right foot was struck. In later years, while in Wales, the left foot got severely twisted twice. For a time it seemed that both of my feet would be helpless, and what could I do to travel in this work the Lord had appointed me. Some would say, "If the Lord wanted him to do this work in traveling. He would heal him." Surely many were my afflictions, but the Lord did deliver me out of them all. Today I am strong upon my feet, and glory be unto our God, surely He delivered me out of all my troubles. Mostly in the days of my vouth my afflicions were many, but this poor man cried and the Lord heard him and saved him out of all his troubles (Psa. 34:6).

About 13 years past I suffered with chronic indigestion, and with this I got afflicted in my heart. My hearing was also affected, but out of all this the Lord hath delivered me. When I read of the suffering of Paul in 2 Cor. 11: 24-28, and his perils, we realize it is no strange thing if some of these things happen to us. We have surely met some perils with affliction, and perils in the sea. Some evil persons threatened to throw me overboard. Perils on the highway: some with fists to my face ready to tear me to pieces. When building the Faith Gospel Car many times my life

was in peril, warned from vain persons.

After returning from Wales and traveling from Oct., 1922 to Feb., 1923, through very cold climate, holding meeting most every night, changing beds, I caught severe cold. After returning from holding meeting at Richwood, W. Va., and Wyatt, W. Va., I lay upon the bed nearly passing to the life beyond. Early one morning I thought this was my last morning. My wife got up to pray and prayed a long while but I did not gain. Then I thought my hour had come to leave this world. I said, If I die, I will die on my face before God. So somehow I got strength and rolled out of bed. It was cold. Now I lay upon the floor and could hardly breathe, but silently prayed to God to help me to pray. So He did. I began to pray and my wife said I prayed about an hour. I felt my prayer sweeping through to the throne of grace and when I got up there was not a single pain in my body. I went back to bed and slept like a little babe. The next day I got up and went out to the garden. The snow was heavy upon the ground. Some of the people of the house said, "That man is crazy. Last night he was dying." But I knew the Lord had done the work, so I stepped out on faith. I was healed. Praise the Lord forever.

My last experience with the Lord, I cried unto

Him to have all the glory and give me a testimony. On Dec. 30, 1924, at the dinner table, when I took the first bire of meat I accidentally swallowed a bone. I could not get it up or down. Afterwards I could not eat nor drink, and the pains severely increased growing worse and worse. A dark, dark gloom hovered over the home. The faithful saints here with my dear wife feared sudden death. They fasted and prayed and mourned and wept. I also felt unless God would soon intervene and take up my case I could not last long. There were agonies of pains in my throat, breast, shoulders and back, and especially was there pain if I tried to swallow the least drop. One ungodly man said to my wife, "He will die." But to convince the wicked of their evil sayings, for I was closely watched, we went to a throat specialist, not for medical aid, but only to confirm the truth that God had done the work. Saturday morning I got better, about the time the saints had news all abroad. The specialist examined three times, but could not find the bone and charged nothing. So God did have all the glory, praise His name, and today I am well and able to eat and drink, for the Lord took away the bone and all the pains, glory be to His name.

"Now if must needs glory, I will glory of the things which concern mine infirmities. The God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which is blessed for evermore, knoweth that I lie not" (2 Cor. 11: 30-31). In all these things we are more than conquerors through Him that loved us. For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other creature shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

With holy love. —J. D. Llewellyn.

AN OPEN LETTER

Dear Bro. in Christ:—We send greetings to you in the blessed name of Jesus, who lives and abides forever. Your letter came to hand a few days ago. We were glad to hear from you and to know of your long, continued service in the Lord's vineyard. Surely there is great reward for the faithful.

We have carefully read over your letter and it seems that your burden is that the papers, or rather those editing them, get together, work under the same roof and put out one paper. Now this plan looks nice, but we do not feel that it is God's way, for we are sure that God calls men to print and send out the gospel just the same as He calls different ones to go and preach the gospel from the pulpit. We worked with Bro. Janes as long as we could, and we believe as long as God wanted us to. We have a plain call from God to publish the gospel in printed form, and we are not doubting but that Bro. Janes has a similar call: he in his way, and we in ours. The Bible was written by various persons each having his manner of expression, yet all teaching truth, and what we do not get in one we find in another. We would not

think of doing without any one of them. And we feel that God calls different men today to write the gospel, print it and send it out to the people. We do not feel that God is pleased with big heads here in the earth, for men are so prone to lean on them, get at ease in Zion, lose sight of the despised, suffering way, and look to their head for directions in place of God.

We believe that if God calls a brother to print the gospel, he ought to begin doing so and send it out free to the people: just as free as God gave it to Him. And we also believe if God calls one to print the gospel He will make all grace abound so that he need not charge, beg, or hint for means to do it with. We are sure that God will enable him to send out all that He gives him, and will work with the message and make it effective on the hearts of seeking souls.

We are glad to note your interest in these things, and we feel that most of the saints will understand better as time goes on, as they seek God and God talks to their hearts. We do not know about printing article you spoke of, as we do not feel that you see just as God has taught us. Perhaps there is not much difference.

We believe that Bro. Warner was a man taught of God and given light to give out to the people, and many men's eyes were opened to truth that they had never seen, and we believe that God is still giving light to those that are dead enough to send it forth without permitting themselves to be made a king. That Bro. Warner had and taught the fundamental truth of the Bible, we do not doubt.

We do not know the Sister Pruitt you spoke of and we have no relation in this reformation that we know of, except spiritual. We shall close, praying God to bless you and hover over you with His wings of love. Please write as the Lord leads and pray for us and the futherance of the work He has burdened us with. Your Bro. in Christ Jesus.

-Fred Pruitt.

FOR THE JOY SET BEFORE

In the Word of God we are told that we are called unto suffering, "because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example that ye should follow His steps" (1 Pet. 2: 21). To the soul who seeks and desires to "wholly follow the Lord" it is a delight and pleasure to study His life and steps while on earth in the flesh. And what a high and holy calling and privilege to be called unto the fellowship of the Son of God, who "for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God" (Heb. 12:2). It is a true saying that joy follows grief: The deeper and weightier the grief and sorrow, the greater the joy that "cometh in the morning" when the cloud is lifted and the brightness of the glory of heaven shines within and upon us. Jesus

was 'a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief,' and knows just what mortal man is passing through. Our Great High Priest is touched with the feeling of our infirmities, and is now seated at the right hand of our Father in heaven. He came not to this world to be ministered to, but to minister and to give His life a ransom for many.

Let us consider what the joy is that was set before Him, that through love caused Him to gladly endure the cross and be despised and rejected. Was it that He wanted to hastily finish His work here and be taken back to His place at His Father's throne to share in His glory, and leave us comfortless (orphans)? No, no, for "He is able also to save them to the uttermost that come to God by Him, seeing He ever liveth to make intercession for them" (Heb. 7:25). And above all He sends the promise of the Father, the Holy Ghost, the Comforter, to abide in and comfort every one who obeys God. His joy is the salvation and blessing of everyone who repents and finds pardon and cleansing in the Atonement He has made. Why, the angels of heaven rejoice more over one sinner who repents than over ninety nine just persons who need no repentance. And, too, Jesus purchased the church, the redeemed ones of the Lord, with His sufferings and blood, and broke down the middle wall of partition, making all one in Him. He so loved the church that He gave Himself for it, "That He might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the Word, That He might present it to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing: but that it should be holy and without blemish" (Eph. 5: 25-27). Dear souls, when He now looks from heaven upon the earth, do you think His heart is filled with joy, when He sees and hears strife and envy, division and carnal working among those professing Godliness?

Jesus arose and stood to see the first martyr for His sake, and though Stephen was suffering the torture of being stoned to death, there was a joy set before him and God permitted the heavens to be opened and Stephen to see what he would enjoy in eternity. His prayer was filled with the same love that caused Jesus to suffer and die on the cross, and we see that his prayer was answered in behalf of Paul who was there witnessing and consenting to the scene and holding the coats of those who threw the stones. After this also he persecuted many of the disciples of the Lord and caused them to suffer, "breathing out threatenings and slaughter" against them. But God in His mercy, grace and love forgave it all and made him a bold and strong witness to the faith which he once destroyed. But with God's call also came this sentence, "For I will show him how great things he must suffer for my name's sake."

The apostles rejoiced that they were worthy to suffer shame for His name. Friends, we are called to suffer and endure the cross too. But let us be reminded to look unto Jesus, keep our eyes upon Him, and not on our suffering or the things that cause the suffering, then we will surely share in His glory, no matter how heavy the cross. He has already borne the heavy end and let us just follow on, rejoicing in tribulation, for it is through much tribulation that we ascend the hill of the Lord, and enter into the kingdom of heaven. Many souls draw back when the shame and reproach of the cross comes against them. But let us ever choose to suffer affliction with the people of God, rather than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season. God has no pleasure in a soul that draws back. Has there come a cross to you from someone that has defrauded you in any way? Look ahead to the joy of them being brought to repentance by you suffering loss, taking and bearing the wrong, suffering yourself to be defrauded. Many souls have been brought to repentance through the longsuffering of others. Dear ones, there is an eternal, everlasting joy set before us that we long to reach and enjoy, but let us not forget that there is a purpose now in suffering, both for our own good and often for the good of others. It will not be long till everyone that is faithful will hear the words, "Enter thou into the joy of thy Lord." But the prize is not to those who run well for a time, and then when fiery trials, shame, reproach and tribulation come, turn back from following the Lord, but they that endure to the end shall be saved. Let us remember that "Though He were a Son, yet learned He obedience by the things which He suffered" (Heb. 5:8). And now on our pilgrim way, "Let us run with patience the race set before us, Looking unto Jesus, * * * who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, * * * For consider Him lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds" (Heb. 12: 1-3).

"Fade, fade, each earthly joy,
Jesus is mine;
Break every tender tie,
Jesus is mine.
Dark is this wilderness,
Earth has no resting place;
Jesus alone can bless,
Jesus is mine.

Tempt not my soul away,
Jesus is mine;
Here would I ever stay,
Jesus is mine.
Perishing things of clay,

Rorn but for one brief day, Pass from my heart away, Jesus is mine."

-ROBERT LONGLEY.

IF THOU KNEWEST THE GIFT OF GOD!

A weary one sat at Jacob's well. He had left the city and land of the Pharisees. It is Jesus. In love to His own, He had come to save them from their sins; but they received Him not. Weary and grieved was His tender heart as He sat, about noontime, at Jacob's well.

A woman is coming with her water-pot to the well. She is one to whom the proud Pharisee would scorn to speak, a despised Samaritan. And that is not all she is a poor, wretched being living in open sin. She little knows that the eye of Him who knows all that she ever did is upon her. She arrives at the well; and is astonished that a Jew should ask her to give Him to drink. "Jesus answered and said unto her." If thou knewest the gift of God and who it is that saith to thee, Give Me to drink; thou wouldest have asked of Him, and He would have given thee living water."

Note well, my reader, He did not say, If thou wert not so great a sinner, nor If thou wilt reform and become a holy woman, then I will give thee living water. No! No! He let her know that He knew all that ever she had done. But there was such a depth of pity grace and compassion in His countenance—such tender love to the sinner in those words—that it won her heart, it converted her soul. Christ—the Son of God, the Saviour of sinners—was revealed to her; and leaving her water-pot, she went to the city so full of Christ that, forgetting her own shame, she said, "Come, see a man which told me all things that ever I did: is not this the Christ?"

My reader, can you meet the eye of Him who knows every thought of your heart from childhood—all that you ever did, open and naked to His eye—and can you say that you are not a sinner? How was it, think you, that this wretched sinner is not repelled, but attracted to Jesus? Ah, "if thou knewest the gift of God!" Of whatever nation my reader may be, whatever the sins you may have committed, the first thing you need is, to know, and to receive, this "gift of God."

Do you ask, What is that gift of God? The very same, my reader, that met that poor Samaritan sinner—Jesus, the Son of God; as it is written, "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that Whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." "The gift of God is eternal life." "He that hath the Son hath life; he that hath not the Son of God hath not life."

My reader, it is a gift, A GIFT! Oh, if thou knewest this! Thou canst not buy it; thou canst not merit it. He that knows all that ever thou didst, all that thou art, sets before thee Jesus the crucified and risen One—Jesus the glorified. Dost thou know Him, hast thou received Him!?

Dost thou say, "But my sins are heavy; they press me down; what must I do?" If thou knewest the gift of God! Yes, if thou hast committed every sin that has been done in this dark world, yet God's gift, "redemption through His blood," abounds above it all. "The blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanseth us from all sin." He came to save just such burdened, heavy-hearted sinners as thou art. Receive Him, and change of life and holiness will follow. But the first thing is, "the gift of God." He freely offers it. Receive it, and, like this woman when fully blest, tell it to others.

—Sel.

SACRED MARRIAGE

To look at marriage properly we must look at it through a saved heart, cleansed by the Blood of Jesus Christ. We can not comprehend, much less fully appreciate, any of God's gifts without His grace. Many people look at God's Word through unregenerated hearts and see nothing but mysteries, contradictions and impossibilities. But let them get the Spirit of the Divine Author and every page is ablaze with light, harmony and glorious possibilities. So in God's sacred institution of marriage—two hearts, souls and lives in one—we must have the Spirit of the Divine Author to appreciate and complete His design. He is a poor commentator on the Scriptures, and unsafe to follow, who does not partake deeply of God's Spirit and nature and yield all its fruits. And they are poor, commentators on marriage, and unsafe to follow, who do no live in God, the fountain head of love, truth and purity.

Because of its delicacy this subject is too often untouched which is, in importance, next to salvation—in fact it greatly affects the salvation of thousands.

It is written: "Seek ye first the kingdom of God. and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." If we adopt this as our motto through life we will be saved from many unnecessary heart aches, and receive many precious blessings from God, warm with His tender love and "formed solely for us." He is our God-the only being our hearts may worship and adore. He is a jealous God and must have our first love, our highest devotion. And if we thus keep Him on the throne of our hearts and His glory in view, He will give us all we need though not all we want. If we do not "follow for the loaves and fishes" but for pure love to God, He may give or withhold and we will still say with faithful Job, "Blessed be the name of the Lord." It is only when we submit and give all things unreservedly into God's hands that He can work for us. How much souls lose by holding back and trying to work things out for themselves, and how much they would gain by giving all to God! We read of the traveler, who in climbing the steep and treacherous Alps, lays the reins on the neck of the accustomed climber, fearing lest a slight pull on the reins might unbalance and hurl them to the awful abyss below. So in these treacherous times when there are so few who are really marriageable, and God alone knows our future and the hearts of men and women, we must give ourselves unreservedly to Him, make our requests known, then "lay the reins on on the neck of Providence" and He will insure our safety and make us as happy as a pilgrim and stranger should be in this vale of tears.

The next great help in deciding the question of taking a life partner is to consult a true friend or your father or mother in the Gospel, if you are so favored as to have one. "Obey them that have the rule over you" (Heb. 13:17) is a positive command though almost totally disregarded in these days of religious anarchy and "Spirit-leardership" which usually means self-leadership. Truly "Where no counsel is the people fall: but in the multitude of counsellors there is safety," and "he that harkeneth unto counsel is wise." (See Prov. 11: 14; 12: 15.) To those who have a submissive heart, set to do God's will, it is a relief to unbosom the heart to one who is human, who feels, who cares, who undersands the deepest and tenderest feelings of the heart and who will seek your highest good and greatest happiness for time and eternity. We do not mean that your own choice or feelings shall be disregarded, but such a friend would help you to decide whether you are suitable or worthy of each other, mentally and spiritually, as one's own will and inclinations and hasty or immature affections are so often mistaken for God's will and choice. If God has a special work for you that marriage would hinder or defeat. He will help you to give up even the "lawful" things which are not always "expedient." Though the cross may be heavy, God's approval and hope of future reward will be greater, and you will have fellowship with Him "who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross and despised the shame." Think how He deprived Himself of all the comforts of Heaven to do His Father's will. Pour out your aching heart to Him who walked lonely and homeless through this world, and if you have a true friend allow them to fulfil the Scripture-"Bear ye one another's burdens," for a burden shared often loses half its weight.

God and circumstances may appear to you to be the devil closing up your way and robbing you of blessings, but if faithful to God you will find later it was your guardian angel in disguise trying to guide you to the one who would be a real helpmeet to you, or keeping you from uniting with one who would make your life bitter, or perhaps He sees He will have to spoil your life picture to save your soul, as so many who marry settle down and do nothing for the salvation of souls, set their affections wholly upon mortals and anchor themselves to earthly things. If you marry out of God's will or plan you will not only blight your own but another life, and who can tell the awful consequences of lives started in a wrong channel!

God does not send or permit any sorrow to come to His faithful ones only that which will be for their greater good. Our attention was lately called to a cartoon which is a fine illustration of this thought: A wild horse, young and unwary is gallaping up to a bluff where, crouched behind the bushes, is a hungry tiger just ready to pounce upon his prey when the horse is frighened away from this unseen danger by a snake in the path at his feet. So when God sees it will take some life long disappointment to turn us aside form Eternal Disappoinment, His is not a foolish, indulgent love to give us what we want but what we need; that is, if we are really in earnest to get to Heaven.

On the other hand if God sees it will be most to His glory and your good, He is able to give you a companion after His own heart. And remember, if He gives you one, he or she will be a blessing and your "Overseer" and all the spiritually minded will see it is of God. They will not only be truly saved and one in spirit and doctrine but suitable in disposition and calling so your union will not conflict with your work for souls or your place in the Body of Christ. Your aims and ambitions will be one and you will "sweetly draw together in the yoke." A true companion, says one writer, is a "congenial spirit, one possessed of an interior constitution of soul similar to our own, of similar opinions, tastes, habits, modes of thought and feeling. congenial spirit is one who, under any given combination of circumstances, would be affected and feel and act as we ourselves would. It is one who would enjoy what we would enjoy, dislike what we would dislike, approve what we would approve and condemn what we would condemn, not for the purpose of agreeing with us, but of his or her own This is a companion; one who is kinfree will. dred in soul with us; who is united to us by the ties of spiritual harmony so that our hearts are bound as well as our sentiments in holy union."

companion as the above, life here will never be without it thorns and crosses. He generally gives us greater bleessings and greater helps that we may bear heavier burdens. So if you do not obtain grace to live victoriously in a single state, you will not have grace to live happily and victoriously in the married state. But if thus united, as described in the foregoing, you will have a good start; and if you continue to "give love a religious treatment" it will continue to grow. There is no reason why husbands and wives should not be the same lovers after ten, twenty or fifty years only because of sin and selfishness on the part of one or both, or allowing the cares and trials of life to crowd out instead of increasing love. Never neglect the "little deeds of love," the words of appreciation and praise. Show sympathy in suffering and trial, consult each other in all your plans and always keep a yielding spirit, ever more kind, thoughtful and obliging than any one else could be, and you will never want for companionship and there will be no room for jealousies. If your heart's affections are centered on God first, then on your godly companion, all will be done in love and harmony; but if self takes the first place, then you will rather please self than your companion and love will be wounded finally crucified and will die, and love once dead is seldom resurrected. Many men think more of financial prosperity than of their wives, and will neglect or overwork them to make their business a success, then keep all the money and make the wife beg for what she gets though she is a joint-partner with him. Others will do the work they like whether it brings a living or not until the frail wife has to take up the double burden of helping to support the home. And on the other hand some women do not seem to know enough to appreciate a good husband and do not gladly obey wherever they can in righteousness and reason. Others love the pocket-book more than the man and are not careful to save his hard-earned money and to do their part, when they are able to make home the warmest and most inviting place in the world-not by vanity or extravagance but by cleanliness and loving attention to his comfort.

Yet remember, if God should grant you such a

We can not mention the countless things that cause the decline of love, but will name one more. We believe one of the greatest love-killers and home wreckers is lust—a selfish, unrestrained indulgence—"Passion unsanctified by holy love and unrestrained by a pure mind." But when the husband according to commandment, "loves his wife as his own body" and "as Christ loved the Church, and gave Himself

for it'' he will not abuse her health and happiness. No! No! True love and wisdom will settle all in favor of the "weaker vessel," as it does of a truth look out for the best good of its "other self," making use of "temperance in all things" and "total abstinence" when necessary. "As the wife has the inconvenience, privations, pains and dangers of motherhood to bear, the husband should most assuredly bestow on her the honor of saying when and how often it is safe for her to take upon herself the burdens of maternity." The man who will not do this, no matter what his profession of religion, does not "love his wife as his own body" and needs to repent, forsake and find pardon and grace like any other sinner. A marriage license is never a murder license. "It is selfish to say the least, to impose on a wife burdens unasked for and which her soul rejects. Whenever a man requires of his wife that which loving instinct does not prompt her to yield, he is tyrannical and unmanly; he humiliates himself and her." To bring a new life into existence should be the most pure, solemn, deliberate act of both lives, and a woman knows best when she is in a condition to "call more children to her arms." We talk of "sacred motherhood." Only when a woman prayerfully and cheerfully chooses motherhood can we truly call it sacred. One has rightly said: "Of all subjects which concern the human race, the subject of is perpetuation is treated with least intelligence and deliberation. artist spends months and years of patient toil in the exeuction of a statue; but a living form, an immortal soul, is invoked from above by blind, unthinking passion, and the circumstances of its birth, which will affect it for life, are left to chance."

How seldom, oh, how seldom does marriage come up to the dreams of courtship days! And how often are God's institutions and sacraments "turned into lasciviousness" till love is crucified, happiness wrecked and asylums and graves filled with the victims of lust! And how many loving, confiding wives wake up to the fact that they have a "serpent" from the devil instead of a "fish" from the Lord, and if they do not make use of "self-preservation" will soon find themselves fading, breaking down and dying under the heavy burdens that are thrust upon them. This is one cause of the great wave of infanticide that is sweeping over the land. It is true that many women are guilty of this crime because of their love for prosperity, pleasure and society and seen totally "without natural affection," but there are others who follow in their wake because their family burdens seem greater than they can bear, the husband insisting on self-

indulgence instead of self-denial. And though we greatly pity the condition of these suffering ones, yet "there is no case so aggravated as to excuse this crime." "The woman who produces abortion or allows it to be produced risks her own health and life in the act and commits the highest crime in the calendar, for she takes the life of her own child. Sh defrauds the child of its right of existence in the world and deliberately strikes with the red hand of murder, terminating the life of her own child and in the sight of God is guilty of the crime of all crimes." We read that in Chicago alone there are fifty or sixty thousand of these murders annually. Many of this class everywhere are professors of religion and walk with high head and unblushing countenance, seemingly with no compunction of conscience. What awful things the Judgment day will reveal when the parents, midwives and doctors who are partakers in this "murder of the innocents," with the lawyers who defend them, will all be brought to justice and their dark deeds to light!

But we must return to our thought of marriage as it should be, by saying that those who marry solely for love— whom God joins together in the highest sense of the word and who are kept by His power not only live far above such an atmosphere as the foregoing but live so considerate of each other's feelings in all things, in such harmony and confidence and so heavenly minded that they look upon one another as angles yes "with reverence, knowing their hearts have been sprinkled with the Blood of Christ and have recovered something of the image of God." We believe the confidence, respect and favor of a godly wife is one of the best recommendations a man can have, and without it we know there is something wrong.

We do not want to close without saying to those from whose homes the precious light of love has fled through "lack of knowledge," and not obeying the laws of God, and also to those whose fitness for marriage was not what it should have been, that there is yet help and hope in God. There is a "cure" for every sin, a remedy for every evil, cleansing in the Blood and healing for the broken heart; but there is nothing like a "preventative" by salvation and proper training in childhood, keeping the youthful feet in God's ways, and the whole "spirit, soul and body preserved blameless" and pure as a dew drop until united with another as pure as itself to live on in the sacredness and purity of marriage as it was in the beginning when God said, "It was very good." -Sel.