

FAITH AND VICTORY

The EVENING LIGHT WATCHMAN



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THE CHALLENGE OF JEHOVAH

"I know, my child, that sorrows press,
I know thy inmost deep distress;
When others thoughtlessly pass by,
I understand, and hear thy cry;
But listen! listen, now to Me,
For I've a message just for thee;
'I am the Lord,' that is My Name,
From everlasting, still the same.

"Away back in the cycles vast—
The untold ages of the past,
Before the morning stars did sing,
Or man had form, or bird had wing;
'Before the mountains were brought forth'
Or ever I had formed the earth,
I dwelt in uncreated light
And ruled in majesty and might.

"The heavens My glory do declare,
The starry hosts My imprint bear;
I call by name those orbs of light
That glow and sparkle in the night;
My handiwork from day to day
The earth, the sky, the sea display;
Now listen! I will challenge thee,
'Is there anything too hard for Me?'

"Up in the high and holy place
I dwell in love, and light, and grace;
But with the humble, contrite heart,
With him I also have a part;
'Tis My delight to answer prayer,
Roll now on Me thine every care;
Again, My child, I challenge thee,
'Is there anything too hard for Me?'

"I know thy inwrought deep desire
To honor Me and spread the fire;
I know how Satan doth oppose,
And 'every stormy blast that blows';
I know the rugged pathway, lone;
The heavy burden for thine own;
I know, and care, and feel, and see;
'Is there anything too hard for Me?'

"Commit to Me thine every care,
Thy deepest sorrows, let Me bear;
Now lean thy head on Me, and rest,
Just as a little child, caressed.
My boundless grace thou soon shalt prove,
And know that with unchanging love
I will protect and succor thee,
And there is naught too hard for Me!"

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SPIRITUAL RESERVE POWER

To insure victory, an army must have a strong, well equipped reserve power of men, food, supplies, and equipment. We know, or should know at least, how vitally important it is that our natural or physical bodies should be carefully and well looked after to insure stored-up reserve energy or vitality that we shall so greatly need in our later days when the forces of nature lack that power to renew as it did in our younger days.

Self-abuse, lust of the flesh, or any sinful habits so common to mankind brings premature old age and sorrow to multitudes. It is likewise vitally important to the saved to daily store up spiritual reserve power against the day or time when unheard of or unthought of, severe, sore trials, temptations, and persecutions for the sake of righteousness shall assail us, coming through our fellow-creatures, even our own unsaved friends or loved ones whom Satan uses as his mouth-piece or agency to tempt and hinder the works of God. The early Christian martyrs fortified and stored up strong and mighty spiritual reserve powers for the great and supreme test of their faith in Christ, against the awful persecutions directed against them by the Papal Roman authorities in the 12th and 16th centuries.

It was because of their unwavering faith and loyalty to Christ that the Waldenses were ordered to be exterminated by the ungodly Pope Innocent in the 12th century. They were hunted down as dangerous wild beasts, but their love for Christ gave them everlasting faith, hope, and courage to the end. All down through the centuries of awful persecutions

the Christian martyrs, a mighty host chose to give up their mortal lives for Christ's sake.

John, on the Isle of Patmos, had a vision of a mighty heavenly host in white robes (heavenly purity) which no man could number, and who had come out of great tribulation and washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Rev. 7th chapter. The glory of heaven that awaited their happy souls was far beyond mortal words to express.

The apostle Paul had a vision of the eternal glory when he said there was a crown of righteousness laid up for him which the Lord would give him. 2 Tim. 4:8. It might be surprising just how many Daniels, Shadrachs, Meshachs, and Abednegos there are of God's loyal faithful ones who are fully ready with stored up reserve power against any compromise, persecutions, or sore trials, even of making the supreme sacrifice of their mortal lives for Christ's sake. So prepared was St. Paul when he declared: "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." Romans 8:38, 39.

Again in 2 Cor. 4:16, Paul speaks of the inward man (the soul) being renewed day by day. We all very well know how vitally essential it is that our heart must function regularly, normally, and constantly that physical energy and life be sustained. Likewise, our spiritual vital sensibilities or life must daily and constantly function with holy living by the workings of the Holy Spirit.

1 Peter 5:8, 9 warns the Christian to be alert, watchful, and sober-minded, because our greatest enemy, the devil, seeks to destroy our soul and thus rob us of our priceless heritage of heaven. Eph. 6:13 gives us to understand what the Christian must put on and daily wear. It is the whole armor of God (sanctified, or set apart life dedicated to God) measuring up to that high standard of holy living supported only by a full gospel ministry to be fully able to overcome Satan in the evil day. Thus it certainly indicates that the saved people of God must be spiritual geniuses and strategists, wise as serpents and harmless as doves (Matt. 10:16) to outwit the devil. Be very thoughtful lest you speak a word not fitly chosen nor do an act or deed that may not be exactly proper or right. Do not act unseemingly as a Christian when someone slights you or treats you in an unbecoming manner. Do not think it strange when someone, even your own relatives, criticize you or oppose your righteous way of daily living. It may be a fiery trial, and you will need stored up reserve spiritual power to keep sweet, lovely, and holy, forgiving them, also to pray that Jesus come into their lives.

Bear in mind that Christians are a peculiar people, adverse to the opinions, ways, and standards of worldly or ungodly living. Keep your chin up with a smile and be prepared to expect these things.

It is the prize at the end of the race, or the great goal of Christian hope that by a loving heartfelt faith which encourages the saint to rejoice in any persecution for Christ's sake to the glory of God.

"Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely for my sake; Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven; for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you." Matt. 5:11, 12. —John H. Griffith

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Will You Be One Of The Four?

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May God bless and encourage his children to work while it is day, for the night cometh when no man can work.

On April 12, 1937 a Voice awoke me, saying, "Will you be one of the four to help bring lost souls to Christ?" When the voice ceased, Mark 2:1-4 came to me. As I meditated upon this scene He showed me that these men let nothing keep them from taking that man to Christ.

I can look back over my life and see where I let the cares of life keep me from visiting some one that needed encouragement or many things I could have done to help some one who had fallen by the way side.

"Will you be one of the four?" the Voice said. Every one of the four men put forth every effort to carry him to Christ, but the crowd was in the way. When they arrived at the door, they could not get in for the press, but that did not stop them. They climbed upon the roof with him, and the roof did not stop them. They felt they must get the man to Christ. They showed their faith by their works. They tore up the roof to let him down to Christ. I learned such a good lesson from this, and pray that other children of God will do likewise.

People often say, "I would do this," or "I would do that if it weren't for ——" and they give numerous excuses. These men could have said, we cannot take him any farther, the press is too great, and could have turned back. They could have let the climbing onto the roof stop them, or the tearing up of the roof could have stopped them. But, No! they did not stop until they got the man to Christ.

Where there is no vision the people perish. May God help his children to get the vision and be as faithful as any of the four men to help bring lost souls to Christ.

Just before the war broke out with our country, a Voice awoke me saying, "Tell the people to read

their Bibles." That may seem strange to some, but when we read the Bible, God is talking to us. When we pray we are talking to God. —Neva Buchanan

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God Delighteth In Her

"Thou shalt be called Hephzibah, and thy land Beulah: for the Lord delighteth in thee, and thy land shall be married." Isa. 62:4. Then we ask, what is the meaning of Hephzibah? By looking into the Proper Names Helps in the back of some of our Bibles, we find that it means, "MY DELIGHT IS IN HER." It was also the name of Hezekiah's queen, mother of Manassch. 2 Kings 21:1.

Isaiah was the Gospel Prophet. In chapter 62 God seems to be talking through him. He says, "And thou shalt be called by a new name, which the mouth of the Lord shall name." Isa. 62:2. Thou shalt also be a CROWN of glory in the hand of the Lord, and a ROYAL DIADEM in the hand of thy God." Ver. 3. "Thou shalt be called Hephzibah, and thy land Beulah: for the Lord delighteth in thee, and thy land shall be married." Ver. 4, "And they shall call them, the holy people, The redeemed of the Lord: and thou shalt be called, Sought out, a city not forsaken." Isa. 62:12. "Sought out" or "called out" means ECCLESIA in Greek, meaning, they are God's called out ones.

By reading this chapter carefully, we find that the prophet does not mean just the seed of Abraham, but His spiritual KINGDOM ON EARTH, for in verse 2 we read, "Gentiles shall see thy righteousness, and all kings thy glory." Chapter 60:1, we read, "Arise shine: for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee. For, behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the Lord shall arise upon thee, and His glory shall be seen upon thee. And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising." Isa. 60:1-3.

"The sun shall be no more thy light by day; neither for brightness shall the moon give light unto thee: but the Lord shall be unto thee an everlasting light, and thy God thy glory. Thy sun shall no more go down; neither shall thy moon withdraw itself: for the Lord shall be thine everlasting light, and the days of thy mourning shall be ended. Thy people also shall be all righteousness: they shall inherit the land forever, the branch of my planting, the work of my hands, that I may be glorified." Isa. 60:19-21.

So we see that God's church is rightfully called Hephzibah, for God delighteth only in his church. God has no delight in the wicked, nor in the death of the wicked, but He does take delight in the lives, and the death of the righteous.

We see that this Jerusalem is no other than the Holy City the ELECT of God, His called out ones, His redeemed ones, redeemed through the blood of

the LAMB of God, that taketh away the sin of the world. Christ, her King, is the crucified SAVIOUR. Then we see that the Redeemed of the Lord make up this wonderful city of God. And everyone is righteous through the blood of Christ. No one is righteous of himself. All must pass through the blood, God's cleansing fountain. This is the way to enter through the gates into the city. All must come through salvation, all must depart from sin, all must be pure and clean in heart. This work is the work of the Holy Spirit. Man cannot do these things for himself; but God can, and will, if we obey him from the heart.

The Bride says, COME! the saints say, COME! God says, COME! All ye that fear the Lord, Let him COME, and partake of SALVATION, and drink from the fountain of life, and be pure and clean in God's sight. This beauty lasts forever. This righteousness in Christ is what makes his redeemed ones glorious, so that God can and will delight in HER.

People love to be beautiful in face and form, but what is that earthly beauty compared with heavenly beauty? the beauty of sinlessness, the beauty of holiness? Only those who have found CHRIST in the forgiveness of sins ever have had this holiness, or ever will have it. Only the redeemed of the Lord belong in this city of light, or can get into it.

Jesus said, "I am the door: by me if any man enter in he shall be saved." Yes, Christ is Lord of this City, He is KING of this city. All must be redeemed by His precious blood to enter in. The redeemed live here and glorify God. This is why He taketh delight in HER. —I. Edith Kriebel

Wonder Man Of Galilee

There is a man that all should know
Before in sin they deeper go.
He'll cleanse their hearts and make them free,
This wonder Man of Galilee.

They must have faith, and plenty, too;
Then they will win and go straight thru
The pearly gates, where they can see
This wonder Man of Galilee.

The Bible says this is God's plan,
That all must meet this Wonder Man.
To make us pure, He'd happy be,
This wonder Man of Galilee.

This sin cursed world in faith is low.
That is the cause of all our woe.
Let's turn to Him. This is His plea—
This wonder Man of Galilee.

—Written by a man who had been sick
seventeen months.

“FAITH AND VICTORY”

16 PAGE HOLINESS MONTHLY

An exclusive, full gospel paper printed and sent out in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ in the interest of all Christians, which body of believers constitute the one and only true Church of God.

This non-sectarian paper is edited and published each month (except August of each year which is Camp-meeting month, and we omit this month to attend these meetings) by Fred Pruitt, assisted by Mary A. Pruitt, and other consecrated workers at FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE, 920 W Mansur Ave., Guthrie, Okla.

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Single copy, one year	\$.25
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Twelve copies to any address, one year	2.00

Its motto: Have faith in God. Its object: The glory of God and the salvation of men; the promulgation and restoration of the whole truth to the people in this “evening time” as it was in the morning Church of the first century; the unification of all true believers in one body by the love of God. Its standard: Separation from the world and entire devotion to the service and the will of God. Its characteristics: No discipline but the Bible, no bond of union but the love of God; no test of fellowship but the indwelling spirit of Christ; and separation from all human organizations that are not authorized in the Word of God.

Through the Free Literature Fund thousands of gospel tracts are published and sent out free of charge as the Lord supplies. Cooperation of our readers is solicited, and will be appreciated in any way the Bible and the Holy Spirit teaches you to do or stirs your heart. “Freely ye have received, freely give.” Read Exodus 24:2; 1 Chron. 29:9; 2 Cor. 9:7; and Luke 6:38.

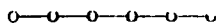
This publication teaches salvation from all sin, sanctification for believers, unity and oneness for which Jesus prayed as recorded in John 17:21 and manifested by the apostles and believers after Pentecost. By God’s grace we teach, preach, and practice the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ, the same gospel which Peter, John, and Paul preached, taught, and practiced; including the Divine healing of the body. James 5:14, 15.

Free-will offerings sent in to the work will be thankfully received as from the Lord and used in the furtherance of the gospel work as God directs unless otherwise specified. All personal checks and Post Office Money Orders should be made payable to Fred Pruitt, or to

FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE

920 W. Mansur Ave., Guthrie, Oklahoma.

“Work on, work on, nor doubt, nor fear.
From age to age this voice shall cheer:
Whate’er may die or be forgot,
Work done for God, it dieth NOT.”



Roll of 5 Faith and Victory papers, one year....	\$ 1.00
12 papers each month, one year.....	2.00
25 papers each month, one year.....	4.00
50 papers each month, one year.....	7.50
100 papers each month, one year.....	14.00

Editorials

For several years the Faith Publishing House has been sending tracts, booklets, and papers into the different Penitentiaries and charitable institutions throughout the United States. The Lord has been working in these dark places. Often we have received letters from the inmates of the various institutions telling us of the blessings and encouragement they have received in reading the literature. Now and then one would write us that God had saved them in there. This has been much encouragement to us to know that we could be workers together with God in the salvation of some of those precious souls.

The greatest and most precious encouragement that we have experienced from this source was on the first Sunday in February, 1942 when a middle-aged man of bright countenance visited us who had served nearly five years in the San Quentin Penitentiary of Calif. He told us how much he enjoyed reading the tracts and papers while he was in the prison, and how the other prisoners, when they would get these tracts and papers, would pass them around, read and talk about the truth in them, and of how the Lord would talk to his soul and convict him to get saved; but he kept putting it off. He said he would get saved when he got out of that place. He has been out nearly a year and just recently got saved. He was very happy. As he sat in our home and talked to wife and me and some of the workers of how the Lord was dealing with him and leading him to quit different things, our hearts were full, and our spirits rejoiced as his face was shining with a heavenly glow.

This dear man’s name was Joseph McGuigan. He was raised by Catholic parents in Philadelphia, Pa. He felt led to go to Wichita, Kans. By his request, we gave him tracts to use along the way. He said he would go to work for the Lord, for he was sick and tired of sin. Pray for this man that God will make a useful servant out of him all through the remainder of his life.

All of you dear saints that have been sending offerings to the tract fund have a part in the salvation of these precious souls. We have not been saying much about the need of this fund, and have just been sending the tracts as the Lord provided. We shall pray that God will stir up others to send in means for the printing work so a greater quantity of tracts and papers can be sent forth. We have the addresses of nearly 200 Penitentiaries and charitable institutions situated in the United States to which we send literature. This brother said that there were 2500 prisoners in the San Quentin Prison. Just think what an army of convicts who need to hear about the Lord, not to say anything about the nearly 200 other institutions. Brothers and sisters, we have a big work here to do for the Lord. Remember, if you are saved and have the life of Christ in your soul,

you are a member in His body, the church, and we should all function together as God makes us able to the salvation of precious souls. God has called us to print and send out the literature, has furnished us with a "Print Shop" with machinery and workers to do the work, and we are working at it all the time to the extent of provided means. It is not for us to tell you what God would have you do in this great work of harvesting the grain. He will do that as you listen to His still small voice. We do know that every member in the body has a place to fill, is a strength and a support in some way. All members are lively members in the building of God. Dear Mother Winn used to truthfully say, "There is not a dead stone in the building." God saves folks from the sin of laziness and idleness just the same as from other sins. Let each member yield themselves unto God so he can lead and direct you and work through you to His glory. We mean, by His grace, to keep faithfully at this work until he calls us from labor to reward. Dear brothers and sisters, pray for us when you pray, and if your heart is in the work of the Lord, let us know about it in some way. That will encourage us, also other members of the body will be encouraged. Let us not be weary in well doing for we shall reap if we faint not.

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A missionary who has been in the wilds of Brazil, South America for six years has recently been visiting a neighbor who lives across the street from us. This missionary, Matilda Paulsen from the state of Washington, lived here in Guthrie for several years over twenty-two years ago. She and I worked in a print shop together and I learned to esteem her very highly for her Christian virtues. Her life as a devout Christian was beyond reproach. She was just a girl of 18 at that time and had left the world to follow Jesus, who was her delight, comfort, and encouragement. She left Guthrie near twenty years ago and I had heard very little from her and knew but little about her during these twenty years.

While she was in active service in that foreign country she had collected many Kodak pictures. She had a machine that enlarged them, and while in our home she showed them to the workers here, and some of the other saints that gathered in, and talked to us about the circumstances connected with each picture. It was very interesting indeed, and stirred the hearts of some who saw and heard to be more zealous in the work of God and for the salvation of precious souls. She said that most of the people in that country were under the influence of dark Catholicism, and some under the influence of the devil's spiritualism religion. Truly, they were in a pitiful plight, and many of them desperately poor, scarcely having enough to keep soul and body together. It seems to me that those who are sanctified wholly and have been enlightened in the truth by the Spirit of God

would be committing a criminal act against God to live a selfish life and be a stingy giver to the furtherance of the gospel of Christ.

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Paul exhorts us to "Awake to righteousness and sin not."

For a number of years after launching out by faith in this printing work, we were sorely tried and the furnace was very hot. Much of the time we felt like Job in his sore afflictions. But when the Lord began to lift the burdens and the sun began to break through the clouds, which set cords of love vibrating; and the prolonged suffering and hard strange trials began to diminish, the Lord began to reveal to us in a clearer and more distinct manner the true church, the unbroken, undivided body of Christ. Recently, as we were thinking over these strange trials and the awful soul troubles we had passed through, the Lord brought the scriptures to our mind found in the fifth chapter of 1st Peter, tenth verse, "But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered awhile, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you." So we just thank God for all of it and know that "All things work together for good to them that love the Lord."

We are persuaded that no one who has a clear vision of the church of the living God, which is the unbroken, undivided body of Christ, can conscientiously fellowship and work with sectarians who belong to sect and man-made churches of the world. Those who do that will confuse souls and drift them into sectism, and thereby, many precious souls will be lost. There is not a scripture in the Bible, if properly understood that upholds division among God's family. Paul says they are joined together, framed together, compacted together, melted together, knit together, raised up together, made to sit together, and ascend to meet the Lord in the air together.

Paul compares the church to the human body, and Peter to a building. Jesus compares it to a vine. He is the true vine and saved souls are the branches. They must abide in the true vine in order to keep alive and bear fruit—no possible room for division. Paul beseeches the brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, "that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together, in the same mind, and in the same judgment." 1 Cor. 1:10.

There are many vines in the world that souls attach themselves to, but there is only one TRUE VINE. Take heed that no man deceive you.

— NOTICE —

A. Q. Bridwell writes me that he has reduced the price of his books. The book entitled "Causey-Bridwell Discussion" may now be obtained for 25 cents, and "Symbols, The Key to Revelation" for 15 cents each. Order from author at 223 College St., Popular Bluff, Mo.

LOOK FOR SUBSCRIPTION BLANK

If you fail to get the "Faith and Victory" paper the first of each month, please notify us so we can look it up and send you another paper.

A subscription blank will be inserted in the papers of those whose subscription has expired, which will make it convenient for you to renew for the paper. We would like to continue to send the paper to you without sending you an expiration notice, but the Post Office regulations are such that we are required to do this. We are not allowed to send the paper unless the subscription is paid or we have the promise of it. If for any reason we are mistaken about your subscription being expired let us know about it and we will put you back on the list. Or if you have sent in offerings to the work during the past year or so, and you want your subscription to continue from the offering, we shall be glad to send it. We are anxious to send the paper "Faith and Victory" to every one that wants it. We shall be glad to have your renewal to the paper at once so we can have you on the mailing list by the time the next "Faith and Victory" paper is issued.

Obituaries

Sister Worth Smit has departed this life and gone to be with Christ whom she loved with all her heart and life. He was her all and in all. She was born again, made a new creature in 1916 and was faithful till she passed away in 1942 at the age of 79 years.

Two sons, five daughters, and one brother are left to mourn their loss.

In Loving Memory of our Mother and Grandmother

Long days, long nights you bore your pain,
Waiting for cure, but all in vain.

God saw that you were suffering and that the hills
were hard to climb,

So He closed your weary eyes, and whispered,
"Peace be thine."

Funeral services conducted by C. Brandt of Holland, Michigan. Text used, Rev. 14:13; Psa 17:15

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Robert Logan Barbee, born April 29, 1887 at Polo, Mo.; departed this life Jan. 30, 1942 at his home in Compton, California at the age of 54 years.

He was united in marriage to Ethel Stover July, 1922.

Surviving relatives are: wife, Ethel Barbee; daughter, Marjorie Barbee-Compton; brother, Olen Barbee of Richmond, Mo.; sisters, Blanche Webster of San Diego, Calif. and Ella Dohl of Lebanon, Ore.; and mother, Mrs. Belle Barbee of Long Beach, Calif.

Funeral conducted by G. E. Harmon. Text, Heb. 9: 27, "It is appointed unto man once to die. After that the Judgment."

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Sister Eva Glasgow, wife of the late James Glasgow, passed to her reward on the 27th of Jan. 1942, at the age of 73 years and a few months.

The funeral service was held at the "Smith Funeral Parlor," conducted by Sister Lucas of Ponca City, Okla. and assisted by Fred Pruitt of Guthrie, Okla. The remains was laid to rest beside her husband in the Summit View Cemetery north-east of Guthrie.

In Memory of Sister John W. Wilson, who passed away one year ago the 7th of February.

Our dear mother is gone forever.
We'll see her face on earth no more;
But we know that she is resting
On that bright eternal shore.

While in this world she had to suffer
Many pains and heartaches sore,
But now we know that she is resting;
Her trials and troubles all are o'er.

"I'm so tired," were words she oft' said
When her pain was hard to bear.
So she left this world of sorrow,
And went to that city fair.

Her body, in the "city of the dead"
Lies beneath the flowers and sod;
Though we miss her house of clay here,
We know her spirit dwells with God.

We are lonely with no mother
'To guide our footsteps while we're here;
But if we are always faithful,
In death, like her, we'll have no fear.

So may we that remain here,
Our life's race with patience run;
That when we are brought to judgment,
We shall hear God say, "Well done."

—Her daughter, Mary Frances Wilson.

CRUCIFIED WITH CHRIST

"I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh, I live by faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me." Gal. 2:20.

The individual who can truly testify thus, possesses an experience worth obtaining at any cost.

Those who are crucified with Christ are dead indeed unto sin. Sin has been killed in their hearts, and they no longer manifest it in their lives; but Christ lives in them, and His life is manifested in their mortal bodies. Their hearts are pure and holy, filled with the love of God which has been shed abroad in their hearts by the Holy Ghost. "I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me." None of the old life exists. No envy, no hatred, no murder, no covetousness, no foolishness, no evil thoughts, no pride has a place in the heart of him who is thus entirely dead unto sin and alive unto God. Worldly pleasures and amusements have no attraction, because Christ to him has become "all and in all." He is free from the love of the world and the things that are in it. If one is crucified with Christ, he does just what Christ expects, or what he knows is expected of him. You never hear him say, "I will do this," or "I will do that," "I will not do this," or "I will not do that." A person who talks thus has never been crucified with Christ, but live for self alone. We will not hear them say, "I will not lengthen my dress. I don't care

what others may do or say. I will bob my hair and do and dress as I please." This is the talk of the unconverted, and has no place in the heart or life of a real child of God. It is not for us to dictate, but to humbly obey the Lord's commands, because Christ has become the bright and morning star. No person, place, or thing divides his heart, because this perfect salvation has made him a completely new creature, so that he loves Christ with all his heart, mind, soul, and strength. He does not find, neither does he seek to find happiness from any source but from God who has become his salvation. Peace that "passeth all understanding" now keeps his heart and mind through Jesus Christ, who assures us that none of our steps shall slide. What a wonderful salvation!

Some consider it so wonderful that they despair of the possibility of getting it in this life, and believe and teach that it is to be received in another world—heaven, or over in some great Millennial Dawnism age. They know not the scriptures, neither the power of God. They are still living the self life in the flesh. "They that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts." Gal. 5:24. Would to God, this poor, sin-benighted world would take up the cross and follow Jesus to the crucifixion, and lose this present life, that they might find it unto life eternal. Unless they do, they cannot be a disciple of the meek and lowly Saviour. This is God's appointed way of fitting men for heaven, and we cannot change it.

Let all who read this search and see for themselves, if they are crucified with Christ.

—Mrs. Artie Bowers.

BACKBITING

In Psa'm 15 it says, "Lord, who shall abide in thy tabernacle? who shall dwell in thy holy hill? He that backbiteth not with his tongue." Paul also says in Gal. 5:15, "But if ye bite and devour one another take heed that ye be not consumed one of another." In James 4:11, we read, "Speak not evil one of another, brethren."

Jesus says in Matthew 18:22 that we should forgive our brother (that means sister too) seventy times seven. How can I forgive my brother (or sister) if he does not come and tell me he has sinned against me? Or how can he forgive me if I do not tell him I have sinned against him? We must confess to each other. 1 John 1:9 says, "If we confess our sins he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

The definition for backbiting is: "To slander or speak evil of persons in their absence."—Webster.

Praise God for His word. We know it will abide forever. Pray for me that the Lord will ever keep me humble. I know what it means by backbiting, because I was doing it.

—June Badal.

To The Ministers

I thank the Lord for a salvation that saves from sin and the world. I have a real decision to stand true to the Lord and His word against sin in any form.

Dear Brother Ministers, Let us be true to our calling and preach the Word in all its fulness on every line. The devil would like for us to let down on different lines and get under that spirit of being careful to not hurt someone. The straight out sinners do not care how straight the Word is preached, but professed Christians in sects, also some of the professed saints, do not like to hear it preached "too strong," as they call it.

You and I have been set as watchmen, and the Lord wants us to speak his word unto the people, whether they will hear or whether they will forbear, for they are a most rebellious house. "But thou, son of man, hear what I say unto thee: be not thou rebellious like that rebellious house: open thy mouth and eat that I give thee." Ezek. 2:6-8. Read Ezek. 3:1-3. Notice, the Lord wants you and me to eat and be filled with his word, then give it out as he has given it to us. He said he would make his word fire in our mouth. Jer. 5:14. He makes his ministers a flame of fire. Psalms 104:4. Also His word is like a fire and hammer. So he wants his ministers to preach his word faithfully and with love. Jer. 23:28-29. He doesn't want his ministers to compromise nor be afraid of their looks. Jer. 1:8. Brethren, the Lord wants us to preach his word in all its fulness, and we as his ministers should feel our responsibility. And I believe we do.

I am so glad I heard the call to come out of Babylon, and I mean to stay out for I have found the true Church and people of God, praise His name.

Pray for wife and me, that we stand true to our calling. May God bless all his saints everywhere.

—U. G. Nave

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"FEED MY SHEEP"

Jesus said to one of his ministers, "Lovest thou me more than these?" The answer came, "Thou knowest that I love thee." Jesus said, "Feed my sheep."

Jesus is still calling to his ministers and saying, "Feed my lambs; feed my sheep." There are many hungry little flocks praying for God to send some one to feed them. Sometimes a minister will go and hold a meeting for a few days or a week or two and get them all stirred up and so hungry, and then go on and leave them to the mercy of hungry wolves who are always ready to devour God's deserted little flocks. I have heard quite a few of the old-time saints speak of the fatal mistakes they had made by holding meetings and then leaving the little help-

less flock to starve or to be eaten up by the wolves who are always waiting for a chance to tear up and scatter little helpless flocks. So often it is very hard to get them interested again.

This little flock here at Madisonville is the hungriest little flock I have seen for a long time. I wonder what they would have done if no one had come to feed them and care for them after the tent meeting. They are getting together nicely, and, no doubt, some precious souls will get saved.

This is a matter that should lay very heavy on the hearts of God's ministers. When God calls one of His saints to preach the gospel, I am sure he means for them to preach and feed his sheep. Our loving Lord, who has been so good to all of us, has many precious little flocks who are starving and dying, and some of God's ministers are neglecting them. Jesus said, "Feed my lambs; feed my sheep." Brother and Sister ministers, may God stir our hearts along this line.

—G. W. Stephenson

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HEALED OF INFANTILE PARALYSIS

I believe it would be to God's glory and my good to let others hear what He has done for me. He has done so much for me that it would take many pages to tell it all, but one of the main things that stands out in my memory is His healing me of the Infantile Paralysis about two and a half years ago.

One Sunday evening, July 31, 1939, I noticed a pain in my neck. It grew worse until I could not turn my head. After that I became ill and had to go to bed. I had no appetite, not even for water. My flesh felt as if it had been sunburned and I became so weak I could not walk. I was sick this way for about a week when I noticed that the eyelid on my right eye was about two-thirds shut. I also noticed that I couldn't use my right arm. I couldn't lift it six inches from my body without aid. Besides this, my right leg was partially paralyzed. I couldn't run or walk fast. We tried to find out what kind of disease it was I had, but the doctors said it must be Neuritis. We requested prayer through the Faith and Victory paper, and in a short time I had recovered from the lameness in my leg and my eye got all right, but the lameness in my arm didn't improve very much. I could only use it by favoring it and not doing too much with it. The shoulder muscles were the main trouble.

By this time I had started to school, a freshman in High School, and one of my teachers noticed that I could not throw a ball very well and asked me what was wrong. I told him how the disease had affected me, but didn't know what had caused it.

There had been many cases of Paralysis in Clovis and everyone was on the lookout for anyone who might have it. The nurse came to the school and asked the teachers if they had noticed anyone who acted peculiar or had any effects of the disease. The teacher that had noticed me, told the nurse about me. She asked me all about it and said it was undoubtedly the Paralysis. They advised me to go to Hot Springs, N. M. and have a brace put under the arm to keep me from using the weaker muscles and keep the stronger muscles from drawing the shoulder out of place. We did this as we knew it would be wrong to use the arm with it in this condition.

It had been three months from the time I took the Paralysis until the nurse told us what it was. By this time we were all praying earnestly, for we realized what the Lord had already done for me during those three months.

My arm and shoulder had withered until it was only about two-thirds as large as the left one. For three months I didn't take it out of the brace only to bathe and never let it down to my side. At the end of the three months we went back to Hot Springs. They all noticed a great improvement and we were much encouraged for my complete recovery. At Hot Springs they gave me about twelve exercises for the arm that I was to go through every night and morning. I had grown so much that some re-adjustments had to be made for the brace and I was sent one.

I wore the brace for almost three more months, and went back to see what they thought about it. They noticed that I could raise my arm up to the shoulder and in front and behind me with some difficulty. They told me to keep taking exercises and continue to wear the brace. I wore the brace until July, the month of the National Camp Meeting at Monark Springs, Mo., 1940.

I took the brace off just before leaving for camp meeting, and haven't had it on since. The brace held my arm from the shoulder to elbow at right angles from my body, and the arm from the elbow to the hand was held forward. I couldn't move my arm at all. I went to school six months with my arm in this position and had to write and do everything with my left hand.

At the Camp Meeting I met many young people and was much encouraged by the Young People's meetings. I hadn't been with many young people before this time. We had to leave about five days before the meeting closed and unfortunately haven't been able to attend Camp Meeting since.

After arriving home the nurses learned that I hadn't been wearing my brace. I was examined and the doctor said I had made a complete recovery. We all thanked and praised the Lord for what he had done for me.

While we had been trusting in the Lord and He had worked everything out so miraculously, I will show you how another boy, nine years of age, with identically the same effects I had, came out after having trusted in the doctors.

This boy took sick in October 1939. The doctors did everything for him they could. They put a brace under his arm and told him not to do any work. They found that he had the Paralysis at the very start, while I didn't know I had it at first and injured my arm by using it too much. His arm hadn't been injured and he had been given prompt service. The doctors did everything they could. The last time he went to them they told him they could do nothing more for him. Today his arm hangs useless at his side and he doesn't have the right use of his leg.

Today, my right shoulder isn't as strong as my left but I have very good use of my arm compared with other victims of the disease. Although heavy work isn't good for my arm, I can do as much work as almost anyone my age. I am thanking and praising the Lord for his blessings bestowed upon me. I have found that the Lord is a present help in time of need. Melvin F. Doolittle

"Let us lay aside every weight and the sin which doth so easily beset us and let us run with patience the race that is set before us." Heb. 12:1.

"Let your conversation be without covetousness" Heb. 13:5.

« Young People's Section »

I'd Rather Walk With Jesus

I'd rather walk with Jesus
And go through trials each day,
Than live in perfect sunshine,
And know not of God's way.

I'd rather walk with Jesus
And live in poverty,
Than own the many riches
The world could offer me.

I'd rather walk with Jesus
And walk with him alone;
Than have a million friends,
And God not own a one.

I'd rather walk with Jesus
In health, disease, or pain;
Than trust in earthly treasure
That's void of heavenly gain.

I'd rather walk with Jesus
And trust him all the way
Than live in worlds of pleasure
That at last will decay.

I'd rather walk with Jesus
Until life's work is done;
For then He'll say with gladness,
"My child, enough, Come home."

—Olive A. Phillips.

Editorials

What Is Your Defense?

The people in the city of God are well defended. The weapons of their warfare are not carnal, but they are mighty, and with the Psalmist David we can boldly say, "For the Lord is our defence; and the Holy One of Israel is our king." Psa. 89:18. To find a place of complete safety, turn to the Lord with your whole heart and get Him in you, and then you will be in the City. There you will experience no blackouts, for the Lamb is the everlasting light. Thank the Lord!

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When God created the world, He also created man to have dominion over the works of His hands—in other words, He made him a steward or trustee, but not the owner, as some suppose. A steward is one entrusted with something of value and of which he must give an account to the owner. Man cannot rightfully say that he owns anything, not even his life, yet he is made responsible for its use while committed to his trust.

In Bible times the steward was frequently a servant, or slave, into whose care all the possessions of his owner were given, and whose first duty was to take from the estate such portion as was necessary to maintain himself in order to administer wisely the balance of the capital in the interests of the owner. Being a slave, he owned nothing, not even himself. It is when Christian young people realize such a relationship to God that they can better meet the obligations of stewardship.

Jesus was a true example of stewardship. He was continually "about his Father's business." This attitude was expressed at the age of twelve years, and at the end his life's objective had been accomplished, as shown by his words on the cross, "It is finished." He could say at thirty-three what many cannot say at three score years and ten. Jesus used his time, talents, and even life itself to accomplish God's plan. He was the channel through which the power of God flowed. It was his duty to keep the channel clear and let the power through. This he did for the benefit of others. Will you keep your channel clear?
—L. D. P.

— oOo —

Guthrie, Okla.—Dear saints, This issue of "Faith and Victory" finds me saved and sanctified and more encouraged than ever before to see the end of a Christian life. What a wonderful place heaven must be, and how glorious will be the gathering of all those who are found faithful and true when they are called to meet the Lord. I thank God for the river of pleasure that flows in my soul and for the joy and pleasure I find in doing His holy will in this life. My only regret is that I did not get an earlier start in his service, but by His grace I intend to be faithful to the end. Pray for me.

Clifford Wilson.

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"What Think Ye Of Christ?"

While the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them, saying, "What think ye of Christ? Whose son is he?" They answered, "The son of David." Matt. 22:42.

Friend, what think ye of Christ? Do you believe that he is a Savior, but have never accepted him as your own personal Saviour? Yes, you believe that Jesus is the Christ who died to save sinners, but do you accept his sacrifice for your sins? You go to meeting on Sundays and perhaps your parents are both serving God. Maybe your brothers and sisters have accepted Christ; but, friend, let me ask you, how is it with you? What think ye of Christ?

Does this world's goods have a grip on you? Do you think more of it than you do of Christ? Jesus told of a rich man who purposed in his heart to tear

down his barns and build greater that he might have room to store all of his goods. Then he would say unto his soul, "Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry." But God said unto him, "Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be which thou hast provided? In all his planning, the rich man failed to think about God. The rich young man in Matt. 19:16 kept all of the commandments faithfully. When Jesus told him to sell his possessions and give to the poor, he went away sorrowful. He thought more of his riches than of Christ. What think ye of Christ?"

Are you making excuses for not serving the Lord today, and putting it off until a more convenient time? Read the parable of the great supper in Luke 14:16-24. Each one who was invited to come to the supper began to make excuses. One had married a wife, another had bought some land, and another said that he must go prove some oxen. Too busy to come! Poor souls, they rejected the invitation and others were called to fill the places where they should have been. God's servants and his Spirit are still inviting you to come and taste of the good things of God. Will you now come? All things are ready.

Are you letting a loved one or friend stand in the way? Jesus said, "And everyone that hath forsaken houses or brothers or sisters or mother or wife or children for my sake shall receive an hundred-fold, and shall inherit everlasting life."

Are you willing to take up your cross and follow Jesus? What think ye of Christ? —Fern Fortner.

CORRESPONDENCE

Elsa, Texas—Dear saints, I send you greetings in the name of Him who gave himself for us. I have wanted to write for quite awhile to tell you that the January issue brought a great blessing to my soul. God bless you all. Oh, I pray God will awaken and open up the hearts of people to accept the Truth. I thank God today for salvation and peace and joy in my soul, also for the way he is helping my loved ones to look to him and see his hand in the affairs of this life.

Please, dear ones, pray for my oldest boy who expects to go to Pearl Harbor in the near future. Pray for his dear soul. He has been away in school and learning his trade since he was 14 years old; so has suffered, I fear, by absence from our family altar.

Pray also for Bro. C. W. Mowry who lives at Leechburg, R. 1, Pa. He is getting up in years and has kidney trouble. He is trusting God. Lovina Eberle

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Fort Scott, Kans.—Dear Bro. and Sister Pruitt, Greetings in Jesus' dear name. This letter finds me feeling fine in soul and body. My prayer was answered and now I am at home with my dear children, healed, praise God!

Please pray for my sister's health. Pray that God will heal her of Sugar Diabetes and high blood pressure, and that she will have strength to endure her work.

I keep reading my Bible and looking up and praying. May God just bless you folks and keep you all in the true and narrow way. Pearl Saunstaire.

Shreveport, La.—Dear Saints of the Lord: It gives me great pleasure to report victory for the Lord. I am still in the fight for the Lord and standing upon His Word. He has done so much for me.

Our baby was real sick in the fall with the croup, and it went on into Pneumonia, we believe. He was so sick and wheezed so hard and had such a dry racking cough with pains with which he would scream out. They seemed near his stomach. The visitors felt like he had Lobar Pneumonia. Whatever it was, we know he really suffered. We were scheduled to hold a meeting near Loranger and my wife was not willing for me to go without her, nor for me to go off with the baby so sick. So we had to pray for the Lord to heal. We told Him that if we were to go to the meeting, he would have to perform a real miracle. The neighbors talked of coal oil and sugar, honey and the like, but we never gave him a thing, but did as one of the neighbors said. She said, "They are not doing a thing for that baby but getting down on their knees." I am glad that getting down on your knees is the very best way to get what you want. Monday night before we were to leave Tuesday morning the baby was so sick. Just before I came home from work at 11:25 p. m. the Lord touched him. He just fell over on his mother. She didn't know if he had fainted or what. Soon she saw he was breathing easily. He slept until 4 a. m. and then woke and asked for apple juice. He slept then until 7 and woke and got his own apple juice. He began to talk of going, and soon we were on our way. The Lord is mighty and to be praised!

We are working in a limited way for the Lord and feel that he is blessing our labors for His name. Pray for us and the ones with whom we are working.

Yours in Christ,

C. C. Carver.

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One Bank, Va.—Dear Brother in Christ, I am writing to tell you how much I think of the "Faith and Victory" paper. I read every word of it and like it fine. I can hardly wait for the next one to come, only wish it was every week instead of every month.

May the Lord bless all of you. Pray for me and my family that we may always have courage to walk as the Lord wants us and may be ready when the Lord calls.

Your sister in Christ,

Mrs. J. W. Mitchell

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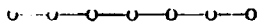
Wichita, Kans.—Dear Bro. and Sister Pruitt, also the saints of God, Holy greeting to you all. I am still saved and very much encouraged to press the battle on in this city where there isn't a real church of God to go to. There are two white Gospel Trumpet Churches and one colored here. They are so far from the real church that it grieves my very soul. Some of them that have recently come out of other churches would be precious saints if they had any leaders. Oh, it is sad. I am so glad I am in the church of the Living God to stay. I think of you dear precious saints and long to be with you in worship often; but I am content to battle for the truth wherever I am. I am praying that God will lay a burden on some saved family or man and wife to come here and help us three women out. We need a brother and his wife. There are three saved sisters of us, one a widow, one's husband not saved, and my husband, Bro. Gordon is satisfied to worship with these that are here even if he doesn't see everything as they do.

You dear saints pray with me that a real church will be established here before long. May the dear Lord bless every one of you is my prayer. I would enjoy hearing from some of you if the Lord leads you to write. My address is 1106 Cleveland Ave., Wichita, Kans.

Your sister in the one body, Bessey Gordon.

Allensville, Mich.—Dear Bro. Pruitt and workers in the Lord's print shop, Greetings in Jesus' dear name. I am so glad this morning that the love of God dwells in my heart and that I can testify to His saving grace and keeping and healing power. I have been saved five years and would not go back in sin and depart from the love of God and his blessings for the world. Glory to His dear name. I need your prayers. Also pray for my children to come to God and be saved. I have six boys and four girls. Some made a start but the cares of this world came upon them.

I enjoy the "Faith and Victory." It is food to my soul in this wicked place where I live. —W. H. C.



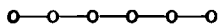
Perkasie, Pa.—Dear Bro. and Sister Pruitt: Greetings in Jesus' dear name. I thank God for salvation tonight. I am happy in Him as I draw nigh to Him. He says he will draw nigh to us. He is so good to me. He has healed me, for which I am grateful—a wonderful Redeemer, Healer, and a "very present help in time of need." Psa. 46:1. I wanted to write sooner but just did not get at it. There are so many things to call us away from what we really want to do. There are so many sad things in this world; much to pray for.

Today, Sisters Rosella Slifer, Julia Cramer and I went to a convalescent home at Sellersville about two miles from here. Sister Bean is there. She is 80 years old and is a sweet soul. She loves to tell of the Lord's dealings with her, but she is hard of hearing.

I want to thank you for the Christmas cards you sent me. I used them all. Also, thanks for your greeting, I also had one from Sister Krause.

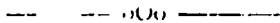
I would love to have about six of the pamphlets called, "What A Mighty God We Serve." I think it is good. Thank you for all and your prayers. God bless you and keep you true in these last days of test.

Love in Christ, Sister Martha Beer



Carrabelle, Fla.—Dear ones in Christ, I read the "Faith and Victory" paper once a month and I do get so much understanding and enjoyment from reading it. I want to stand true and stay in the body of Christ.

Pray for me, as I am the only one in my family that is living for the Lord. I am trusting him for both soul and body. It seems as though I am going to lose all of my teeth. They are all getting loose. Pray that the Lord will heal them. I know we are now living in a trying time and a dark hour, but praise the Lord, I know he is able to do all things for he said that his grace is sufficient. Pray that I may be able to look up to Him at all times. Yours in Christ, Mrs. Dave Thompson



To What Church Do You Belong?

This question was asked a large, mixed congregation; the tension was strong. Many, in their pride and zeal for their church, were anxious to assert their loyalty, but the message had been on "The SIN of division," and each saw the trap they would unwarily step into, and thus expose the ignorance of their position. Consequently, "mum" was the word. They were mostly good people, whose names were once written in heaven (when they were first saved—converted). But having joined themselves OUT to "a citizen of another country to feed swine," they forfeited their inheritance and there was (and is)

but one thing to do, and that was, to RENOUNCE their (your) position, break loose from their (your) environment (bondage) assert their (your) liberty, and return to Father's House "with songs and everlasting joy." To be fed upon the delectable mountains, with love, peace, and joy to their (your) complete satisfaction. For "He that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit." 1 Cor. 6:17. "And ye are complete in Him, which is the head of ALL principality and power." Col. 2:10. Thus they belonged to "the body of Christ," of which there are many members. Rom. 12:5. "For we are his flesh and his bones." Eph. 5:30. Read verse 29 to help you understand. "Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost? And ye are not your own." 1 Cor. 6:19; "Shall I then take my body and join it to an harlot," (system) to pay to its support, to work for it, use my tongue to talk for it, my feet to run errands for it, my ears to hear of opportunities to help it, hands to lead others to its altars, eyes to run to and fro to see its advancement to increase my pride? God forbids.

A mixed congregation constitutes the membership of ALL churches; some are saved, some live in open sin against God (rebellion and unbelief) while yet others openly denounce even the rules; i. e., discipline of the church to which they belong, and dare the authorities to take their names off the class-book. In almost all churches there are some as Good as they know how to be, but will goodness save a man? "By GRACE are ye saved through faith, and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God." Eph. 2:8; "Not of works [good works] lest any man should boast." Eph. 2:9. But I hear someone who is offended say, "They are ALL saved in OUR church." By what means, please? Answer: They were saved when they were baptized in the church. Who told you that? Did you get that OUT of the word of God (the discipline of the church)? I would answer, "A long ways OUT of it." If it is there, please give chapter, verse, and book. If they were baptized into the grace of God, and are sinning today in deed, word, or thought, then surely they are 'fallen from grace.' Take whichever end of the argument you like and you must admit there are sinners in your church today. Listen, "He that committeth sin is of the devil," for "He that is born of God doth not commit sin. In this the children of God are manifest and the children of the devil." 1 John 3:8, 9, 10. If you are saved (justified) through "repentance toward God, and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ" for "By Him all that believe are justified from all things." (Read Acts 13:39; 20:20, 21) then you have a direct commandment from the God of heaven to, "Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers." 2 Cor. 6:14. A man that is an heretick, after the first and second admonition reject. Tit. 3:10. Why so strong? Knowing that he that is such is subverted (upside

down) and sinneth, being condemned of himself. Titus 3:11. "In the mouth of two or three witnesses ALL things shall be established." See Deut. 19:15; 17:6; 2 Cor. 13:1. If we sin wilfully after we have received knowledge of truth, there is but a certain fearful looking for of judgment, for he that being oft reproved hardeneth his heart, shall suddenly be destroyed and that without remedy. Read Heb. 10:26-28, and Prov. 2:1. Take warning, my brother, my sister, Babylon is fallen and is become the **habitation of devils** (evil spirits) the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird. Rev. 18:2—Jail birds and all. Can you fellowship such? But you must or "Come out from among them and be separate, saith the Lord" 2 Cor. 6:17. "Obedience is better than sacrifice."

But another says, "We don't baptize them in, for they might go down into the water a dry sinner and come up a wet one. Water does not wash away sins anyhow. We take them in on probation. Six months or a years time should be sufficient time to test them out." But who is to be judge or **Probers**? Man looks upon the **outward** appearance, but cannot see the **heart**, the inner motive, or purpose of the act. They may become **judges of evil thoughts**. God is our judge.

But another says, "We don't take them in **either** of those ways, we vote them in; a kind of hand-picked fruit, so to speak, so we don't get those undesirables into our congregations (church)."

Thus they go on with **their** ideas, plans, etc. for receiving members and controlling them, thus substituting the "commandments of men" for the doctrine of God. Read Col. 2:18-23. Jesus Christ is the head of the church and as every member of my body is subject to my head (my mind, my spirit) even so, every member of the church is subject to **His** control. He is building the Church, and reserves the right to say who should join. He said, "Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God" (the church) John. 3:3. And unless he becomes a "New Creature" in Christ Jesus, he never can join himself to a spiritual body, for that body is Christ.

He named His church with his Father's name, thus honouring God. "All scripture is given by inspiration of God" 2 Tim. 3:16, and although Paul spoke these words, it is written, "Feed the **Church of God**, which He has purchased with His own blood." Acts 20:28. Also the name is **again** written for our consideration in 1 Cor. 1:2, 10:32; 15:4-9; 1 Tim. 3:5. Born of God, a result of conviction leading to repentance, one becomes a member of **THE** church of which God is the Father, Jesus Christ is the head, and the Holy Ghost is the guide, comforter, interpreter, and General Superintendent, Amen. Can you say so much for **your** church? Who named it? Who governs it? Who washed it in his own blood? Who gave himself for it? But you say, "We must have an **organ-**


ized church, consequently we must have a visible head." Most heartily, we agree. "Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God," the Father, **organizer** of the church; and "God hath set (placed) some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets (and our faith is built on the foundation—word—of the apostles and prophets, but Jesus Christ is the chief cornerstone) thirdly teachers, after that miracles, gifts of healings, helps, governments," etc. See 1 Cor. 12:28. These are gifts to and in the church (See Eph. 4:11-14) for the purpose of building up, encouraging, strengthening, and establishing believers in the truth that we be not children carried about with winds of doctrines, by the sleight of men (seductive deceivableness) nor believing that gain is godliness; **from such turn away.**

We see Jesus building His church, a visible structure (we are His flesh and bones, **visible enough**, don't you think?) with every member working at his job, in his place, under the direction of the Holy Spirit, according to their qualification by faith, for "without faith it is impossible to please him." Heb. 11:6. Let me candidly ask you if you are, or ever were, a member of the body of Christ, and have been segregated or isolated from the main body? Then let me as a brother, beseech you, in the name of Jesus Christ, "Come out" from, and break those connections, and enjoy the "glorious liberty of the children of God." Why remain in bondage when you may be free? Again, if your arm were taken off and cast off in one direction, a leg dragged off by the dogs another way, an eye gouged out and made a plaything by the cats, etc. how could the body function? **Never!** I hear you say. And neither can the body of Christ, the church get along very well without your cooperation. Therefore, come, let us go up to the house of the Lord, for he will speak peace to His people, by the mouth of His servants, the **true** ministry. Do you love "God's Church" better than man's church? If so, **obey his word**, "Be ye reconciled to God," and enjoy heaven for your eternal home. Better be safe than sorry. God's way is **best and safe**. Do not delay, "Come let us reason together," saith the Lord. But the question is, **Cannot I stay in my church, and get to heaven?** Did your church originate in heaven? Does it endorse all of God's word and **practice** it, or has it culled a **doctrine out of the word?** Man shall not live . . . but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God. "All scripture is given by inspiration of God and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works." "Preach the Word." Does your church do that? Does your preacher leave out some of it? Why? If you are agreed with God (the whole word) and **your church is not**, how can two walk together **except they be agreed?**

God exhorts us to "all speak the same thing, that there be no divisions among you." A house divided against itself cannot stand. Now, who will fall; i.e. give up, you or your church? Now back to your question again about your church. Certainly you can stay in your church if your church is "the church of God." "Of" denotes possession. Does your church possess God? Does God (love) possess your church? If so, why is there backbitings, tumults, divisions right among you? Why is it that some good Christians cannot belong to your church? They all belong to the church of God by virtue of the NEW birth, and there is no other way that has the sanction of Almighty God. Where will you be in the Judgment, on the right or left (wrong) side? Be saved now, be sure of it. Why not "come out" and identify yourself with the people of God? Answer God and your conscience about it, please.

—C. Z. Stonecypher

"The entrance of thy Word giveth light."

BIBLE

STUDY

"Study to shew thyself approved unto God."

The price of the Primary Picture Roll is now \$1.15, and the Lesson Cards are 4c per set per quarter. Please order about two weeks before the beginning of each new quarter from Geneva Ray, 920 W. Mansur Guthrie, Okla.

THE PARABLES BY THE SEA
Matt. 13; Mk. 4:1-34; Lk. 8:1-18.

Sunday, March 1, 1942

Daily Readings and Meditations
February 23 to 28.

- M. How the kingdom grows Mark 4:26-32.
- T. Finding hidden treasure Matt. 13:44-46.
- W. The separation of men Matt. 13:47-50.
- T. A pointed parable 2 Sam. 12:1-7a.
- F. The method of the parable Mark 4:9-13.
- S. One parable explained Mark 4:14-20.

Printed PortionMark 4:26-32; Matt. 13:44-50.

Mark 4:26. And he said, So is the kingdom of God, as if a man should cast seed into the ground;

27. And should sleep, and rise night and day, and the seed should spring and grow up, he knoweth not how.

28. For the earth bringeth forth fruit of herself; first the blade, then the ear, after that the full corn in the ear.

29. But when the fruit is brought forth, immediately he putteth in the sickle, because the harvest is come.

30. And he said, Whereunto shall we liken the kingdom of God? or with what comparison shall we compare it?

31. It is like a grain of mustard seed, which, when it is sown in the earth, is less than all the seeds that be in the earth:

32. But when it is sown, it groweth up, and becometh greater than all herbs, and shooteth out great branches; so that the fowls of the air may lodge under the shadow of it.

Matt. 13:44. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto treasure hid in a field; the which when a man hath found, he hideth, and for joy thereof goeth and selleth all that he hath, and buyeth that field.

45. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a merchantman, seeking goodly pearls:

46. Who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had, and bought it.

47. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a net, that was cast into the sea, and gathered of every kind:

48. Which, when it was full, they drew to shore, and sat down, and gathered the good into vessels, but cast the bad away.

49. So shall it be at the end of the world: the angels shall come forth, and sever the wicked from among the just,

50. And shall cast them into the furnace of fire: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Golden Text: "Never man so spake." John 7:26.

Practical Truth: The grace of God in the heart is valuable beyond price and should produce increasing maturity of character.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Today's lesson consists of five parables pertaining to the kingdom of God (or kingdom of heaven as Matt. expresses it, meaning the same thing). "Kingdom" is defined as a territory ruled by one of supreme authority. In the kingdom of God, God rules with supreme authority over the hearts and lives of His subjects, some of whom are in heaven and some on earth. It is the same as the church of God, except in some cases it is used in a broader sense.

The seed represents the Word of God; the man who sowed it, Jesus; and the ground is human hearts. The growth can be applied to individuals or the kingdom as a whole. When the word of God finds lodgment in a heart it will germinate and grow under proper conditions (as a seed that is cast into the ground) causing the individual to advance in Christian graces and bear fruit for God. This in turn will cause a growth of the church, both in power and numbers..

The beginning of the kingdom of God on earth was very small. Daniel describes it as a stone cut out without hands which became a great mountain and filled the whole earth. One writer has said of Jesus, the founder of the Kingdom, "Three years He preached His gospel. He wrote no book, built no church house, had no monetary backing; but after 1900 years, He is the one central character of human history—the Pivot around which the events of the ages revolve and the only Regenerator of the human race." The kingdom of God, which at first seemed as small as a mustard seed has become a great tree and fowls of the air lodge in its branches.

Sometimes we see great flocks of black birds lodge in the branches of a tree until they almost cover it and look like part of it. It seems at the present time that so many fowls (false movements and unregenerated people) are lodging on the kingdom that it can hardly be seen. They may look like part of the tree, but are not. Birds which lodge in a tree cannot bear the fruit of the tree.

The parables of the hidden treasure and the pearl of great price teach the same lesson—the value of possessing the kingdom or obtaining salvation through Christ. When its value is realized, a person is willing to part with anything to gain it, and is full of joy because he has the privilege of obtaining it at any cost.

The parable of the dragnet teaches a separation of the good and bad, who alike have been caught in the gospel net, at the end of the world.

DISCOVERING WHY PEOPLE DRINK BEVERAGE ALCOHOL

Sunday March 8, 1942

Daily Readings and Meditations

March 2 to 7.

- M. Drink and heredity Judges 13:2-7.
 T. The appetite for strong drink Isa. 24:5-12.
 W. Drink and disaster Joel 3:2-8.
 T. When leaders drink Isa. 28:1-7.
 F. A total abstainer Luke 1:13-17.
 S. The fate of the wicked Nahum 1:1-10.

Printed PortionGen. 43:34; Psa. 104:14, 15; Prov. 31:4-7; Eccl. 2:1-3, 10, 11; Isa. 56:12; 1 Cor. 10:6, 7.

Gen. 43:34. And he took and sent messes unto them from before him; but Benjamin's mess was five times so much as any of their's. And they drank, and were merry with him.

Psa. 104:14. He causeth the grass to grow for the cattle, and herb for the service of man; that he may bring forth food out of the earth.

15. And wine that maketh glad the heart of man, and oil to make his face to shine, and bread which strengtheneth man's heart.

Prov. 31:4. It is not for kings, O Lemuel, it is not for kings to drink wine; nor for princes strong drink;

5. Lest they drink, and forget the law, and pervert the judgment of any of the afflicted.

6. Give strong drink unto him that is ready to perish, and wine unto those that be of heavy hearts.

7. Let him drink, and forget his poverty, and remember his misery no more.

Eccl. 2:1. I said in mine heart, Go to now, I will prove thee with mirth, therefore enjoy pleasure: and, behold, this also is vanity.

2. I said of laughter, It is mad: and of mirth, What doeth it?

3. I sought in mine heart to give myself unto wine, yet acquainting mine heart with wisdom; and to lay hold on folly, till I might see what was that good for the sons of men, which they should do under the heaven all the days of their life.

10. And whatsoever mine eyes desired I kept not from them, I withheld not my heart from any joy; for my heart rejoiced in all my labour: and this was my portion of all my labour.

11. Then I looked on all the works that my hands had wrought, and on the labour that I had laboured to do: and, behold, all was vanity and vexation of spirit, and there was no profit under the sun.

Isa. 56:12. Come ye, say they, I will fetch wine, and we will fill ourselves with strong drink: and tomorrow shall be as this day, and much more abundant.

1 Cor. 10:6. Now these things were our examples, to the intent we should not lust after evil things, as they also lusted.

7. Neither be ye idolaters, as were some of them; as it is written, The people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play.

Golden Text: "Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging, and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise." Proverbs 20:1.

Practical Truth: With our present knowledge, there is no reason that can be given for drinking liquor that is sufficient to justify the practice.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

To some it may seem that the temperance lessons come too often. In the present war I have never heard anyone complain of the United States attacking the Japs

too often. No, as long as they are enemies, they will fight with all the strength they have. There is a great necessity of fighting the enemy alcohol, and one or two attacks against it is not enough. If you have run out of ammunition, do a little investigating. When you see the destruction that this enemy has caused, you will be constrained to join the ranks to fight against it in some way if it's nothing more than just using your influence against it, or you will have to take your place along with the "Cains" who say "Am I my brother's keeper?"

Today's lesson is given for the purpose of considering the reasons why people drink intoxicating beverages.

It was practiced by some as a social custom, by some to "drown their troubles," or to deaden senses to ease physical pain, by some who sought for pleasure to try to satisfy the soul craving which they did not seem to understand at the time that only God could satisfy, and by others because it had become a habit by which they were bound. But regardless of the reason which they had for doing it in Old Testament times, we need to realize that the displeasure of God rests upon such actions, and not "lust after evil things as they also lusted." They did not have the light and knowledge about the evil effects of alcohol that we do today. "The times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men everywhere to repent." Even in Old Testament times many outstanding characters, noted for their wisdom and godliness refused to drink intoxicants.

People who allow themselves to be persuaded to "take a drink" to avoid being called old-fashioned or a kill-joy, or to keep from hurting the feelings of the one who offers it are helping to lower social standards. If you do not have grace to refuse to do a thing that reason and conscience (if it is not seared) tells you not to do, you should change your social environment.

Those who drink to drown their troubles are deceived or they are cowards. Job said, "Yet man is born unto trouble as the sparks fly upward." Unless one stays drunk all the time, the troubles are just as great the next day or when the effects of the alcohol wears away as they were before they received the fake drowning—and perhaps greater. Then too, the dulled brain is not as capable of working them out or solving them in the best way. Those who seek to "escape" the seriousness of life via drink will soon have to face the startling realization that their "escape" has led them into death, from the seriousness of which there is no escape.

If those who drink for pleasure will follow Solomon's example and "look" they too will find it has given nothing but vexation of the spirit.

Led downward along the alcoholic path by the devil who has told them lies about the benefits to be derived from it, people fail to notice that they are being bound by chains of habit and broken will power, until it is too late and they become slaves. Thus the ruined victims continue to tread the downward path till death overtakes them in their miserable plight; unless they find the Savior who alone has power to deliver them.

THE MIGHTY WORKS OF JESUS

Matt. 8:23-34; Mark 4:35-41; Luke 8:26-56.

Sunday, March 15, 1942.

Daily Readings and Meditations

March 9 to 14.

- M. The winds and the waves obey Matt. 8:23-27.
 T. Power to cast out demons Matt. 8:28-34.
 W. Healing the blind John 9:1-11.
 T. Miracles not for show Luke 23:6-12.
 F. Miracles and moral improvement Acts 19:11-20.
 S. The significance of miracles John 6:26-35.

Printed PortionMatthew 8:23-34.

Matt. 8:23. And when he was entered into a ship, his disciples followed him.

24. And, behold, there arose a great tempest in the sea, inasmuch that the ship was covered with the waves: but he was asleep.

25. And his disciples came to him, and awoke him, saying, Lord, save us: we perish.

26. And he saith unto them, Why are ye fearful, O ye of little faith? Then he arose, and rebuked the winds and the sea; and there was a great calm.

27. But the men marvelled, saying, What manner of man is this, that even the winds and the sea obey him!

28. And when he was come to the other side into the country of the Gergesenes, there met him two possessed with devils, coming out of the tombs, exceeding fierce, so that no man might pass by that way.

29. And, behold, they cried out, saying, What have we to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of God? art thou come hither to torment us before the time?

30. And there was a good way off from them an herd of many swine feeding.

31. So the devils besought him, saying, If thou cast us out, suffer us to go away into the herd of swine.

32. And he said unto them, Go. And when they were come out, they went into the herd of swine: and, behold, the whole herd of swine ran violently down a steep place into the sea, and perished in the waters.

33. And they that kept them fled, and went their ways into the city, and told everything, and what was befallen to the possessed of the devils.

34. And, behold, the whole city came out to meet Jesus: and when they saw him, they besought him that he would depart out of their coasts.

Golden Text: "What manner of man is this, that even the winds and the sea obey him?" Matt. 8:27.

Practical Truth: Jesus has all power in heaven and in earth.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Jesus performed miracles when He was here in his fleshly body, and just before He went away He told His disciples that they should do greater works than He had done because He was going to the Father. Now He works miracles through His spiritual body, the church.

If those who claim to be Christians would spend their time, energy and talents which they use to prove that God does not perform miracles any more, in worshipping and serving God, they could like Paul, "turn the world upside down." When God created the heavens and the earth and all that in them is out of nothing, surely He performed a miracle. Is there anything too hard for Him? People have become so accustomed to the way He governs his creation that they call it "laws of nature" and think He has so bound Himself by His own workings that He can not intervene and cause events to vary from the ordinary course of nature. Some admit that Jesus performed healings, but say he did it through His strong and understanding personality over others. But how about the miracle in today's lesson, and the feeding of the five-thousand? These miracles cannot be so easily explained, neither do they need to be explained, but they need to be believed. Well did Jesus say, "Faithless and perverse generation!" Let us not limit the power of the Almighty God.

When He reaches down and touches down-and-out drunkards or miserable criminals, giving them power to clean up their lives and become new creatures in Christ Jesus, He performs a miracle. When He convicts moral

church members of sin, showing them that their self-righteousness is only as filthy rags in comparison to the robe of righteousness which His children must have, causing them to quit trusting in self and call on Him for mercy and pardon, He performs a miracle. But His power to perform miracles does not stop there. The writer is a witness that He heals afflicted bodies, supplies needs in miraculous ways, sends rain in answer to prayer, calms storms, handles unruly animals, and is a present help in every time of need. "What a mighty God we serve!"

JESUS THE MESSIAH FORTTELLS HIS DEATH

Matt. 16:13-28; Mark 8:27-37; Luke 9:18-25.

Sunday, March 22, 1942

Daily Readings and Meditations

March 16 to 21.

- M. Jesus anticipates Calvary Mark 8:27-33.
- T. A Paradox of self-sacrifice Mark 8:34-38.
- W. Christ's death in prophecy Acts 3:12-21
- T. Scriptures concerning Christ Luke 24:25-22.
- F. The only Saviour Isaiah 43:10-15.
- S. A perfect Saviour Hebrews 5:5-10.

Printed Portion Mark 8:27-37

Mark 8: 27. And Jesus went out, and his disciples, into the towns of Casarea Philippi: and by the way he asked his disciples, saying unto them, Whom do men say that I am?

28. And they answered, John the Baptist: but some say, Elias; and others, One of the prophets.

29. And he saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am? And Peter answereth and saith unto him, Thou art the Christ.

30. And he charged them that they should tell no man of him.

31. And he began to teach them, that the Son of man must suffer many things, and be rejected of the elders, and of the chief priests, and scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again.

32. And he spake that saying openly. And Peter took him, and began to rebuke him.

33. But when he had turned about and looked on his disciples, he rebuked Peter, saying, Get thee behind me, Satan: for thou savorest not the things that be of God, but the things that be of men.

34. And when he had called the people unto him with his disciples also, he said unto them, Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross and follow me.

35. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; but whosoever shall lose his life for my sake and the gospel's, the same shall save it.

36. For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?

37. Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?

Golden Text: "For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; but whosoever shall lose his life for my sake and the gospel's, the same shall save it." Mark 8:35.

Practical Truth: It was an essential part of the Messiah's work to die for the sins of man.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Peter, the spokesman for the disciples, confessed that he believed Jesus was the Christ, the Messiah for whom the Jews had long waited. In Matthew's gospel, we learn that the Father himself had revealed this unto him. It was important that they should believe this, for Jesus said, "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life."

In other words Peter was saved or justified. But a justified person has much to learn. The Father had not revealed everything to Peter, because he still did not know what it meant. They had some preconceived ideas about how the Messiah would come. They thought he would overthrow the Roman rule and set them free from their yoke, giving them places of honor around His literal throne. This was man's teaching because God had told them through the prophet Isaiah about the humble way in which He would come. How easy it is for unsaved people to receive the wrong teaching about the Word of God, then it is difficult for them to grasp the truth after they are saved. Previously Jesus had given them hints as to what would take place during His last days on earth, but now He tells them plainly that He MUST suffer, be rejected, and killed, then rise again. He must do this to pay the penalty for sin and conquer death. This idea was so foreign to what they had expected that they did not want to accept it, but Jesus let them know that man's ways were not God's ways. Later when Peter had received the Holy Spirit, his spiritual understanding was enlightened, as to why these things MUST be.

Not only did Jesus teach them that he must lay down his life, but taught that all who would be his disciples must follow the same path of self-denial.

Many have been accused by would-be friends and relatives of throwing their lives away when they leave their worldly pursuits to follow the Saviour. In reality they are losing their own life to let Jesus live in them, but they are gaining eternal life. This denial of self must continue to the end even if it ends in martyrdom. Many martyrs could have saved their lives here on this earth for a short time, by denying the faith, but they would have lost eternal life.

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THE TRANSFIGURED CHRIST MEETS HUMAN NEED

Matt. 17:1-20; Mark 9:2-29; Luke 9:28-43a

Sunday, March 29, 1942

Daily Readings and Meditations
March 23 to 28.

- M. The transfigured Christ Luke 9:28-36.
- T. Christ meets human needs Luke 9:37-43a
- W. Hungry men fed Matt. 14:14-21.
- T. Compassion for the helpless Luke 10:30-37.
- F. The need for salvation John 3:7-17.
- S. God cares for my soul Psa. 142:1-7.

Printed Portion Luke 9:28-43a.

Luke 9:28. And it came to pass about an eight days after these sayings, he took Peter and John and James, and went up into a mountain to pray.

29. And as he prayed, the fashion of his countenance was altered, and his raiment was white and glistening.

30. And, behold, there talked with him two men, which were Moses and Elias:

31. Who appeared in glory, and spake of his decease which he should accomplish at Jerusalem.

32. But Peter and they that were with him were heavy with sleep: and when they were awake, they saw his glory, and the two men that stood with him.

33. And it came to pass, as they departed from him, Peter said unto Jesus, Master, it is good for us to be here: and let us make three tabernacles; one for thee, and one Moses and one for Elias, not knowing what he said.

34. While he thus spake, there came a cloud, and overshadowed them: and they feared as they entered into the cloud.

35. And there came a voice out of the cloud, saying,

This is my beloved Son: hear him.

36. And when the voice was past, Jesus was found alone. And they kept it close, and told no man in those days any of those things which they had seen.

37. And it came to pass, that on the next day, when they were come down from the hill, much people met him.

38. And, behold, a man of the company cried out, saying, Master, I beseech thee, look upon my son: for he is mine only child.

39. And lo, a spirit taketh him, and he suddenly crieth out; and it teareth him that he foameth again, and bruising him hardly departeth from him.

40. And I besought thy disciples to cast him out; and they could not.

41. And Jesus answering said, O faithless and perverse generation, how long shall I be with you, and suffer you? Bring thy son hither.

42. And as he was yet a coming, the devil threw him down, and tare him. And Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, and healed the child, and delivered him again to his father.

43. And they were all amazed at the mighty power of God.

Golden Text: "And they were all amazed at the mighty power of God." Luke 9:43.

Practical Truth: A sense of the divine presence helps to strengthen our faith and to make us effective in our service of God.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Peter had confessed Jesus and heard the startling statement from the Messiah that he must be rejected and put to death. This, indeed, was a hard blow and, no doubt, the following days found some of the disciples somewhat cast down with gloom. But Jesus never permits the cross to be heavier than He gives grace to bear. He knew the worth of prayer. The song which we sing, "Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere? We should never be discouraged, Take it to the Lord in prayer," expresses in song what He taught His disciples to do then. What were the results? Surely, it wouldn't take more than one glimpse of the transfigured Christ to erase all the dark pictures that the Devil could paint on their minds!

Dear soul, if you are moping along in a dark valley, just remember how this "mountain-top" experience was obtained, and do like wise. Only, remember, it was the praying of Jesus that caused the change and not the sleeping of the disciples. How many times have you found that prayer altered the fashion of your countenance? and brought words of instruction from the Father?

The people of today need a vision of the transfigured Christ, and to hear the words, "This is my beloved Son: hear him." Moses and Elijah represented the law and the prophets, who served their purpose, and now we are to hear the teachings of the New Testament. It would put an end to the building of magnificent tabernacles, which are nothing more than stately tombs where dead faith is buried. People pretend that they have God shut up in them so they can go and bow down before Him in formal worship on Sunday, then go to their homes and live for sin and self during the week. We are told in the New Testament that He "dwelleth not in temples made with hands." "Hear ye Him."

Jesus came down from the mountain top to set the example of manifesting faith in God and ministering to human needs. If you are following Jesus, do not try to live in a state of ecstasy on the mountain top with God; but after he has strengthened you, follow the example that Jesus set and minister to those in need.