

# FAITH AND VICTORY

## The EVENING LIGHT WATCHMAN



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### LOVE AND KINDNESS

Angry looks can do no good,  
And flowers are dealt in kindness;  
Words are better understood,  
If spoken but in kindness.

Simple love far more hath wrought,  
Although by childhood mutter'd,  
Than all the battles e'er fought,  
Or oaths that men have utter'd.

Friendship oft would longer last,  
And quarrels be prevented,  
If hard words were let go past—  
Forgiven, not resented.

Foolish things are frowns and sneers,  
For angry thoughts reveal them.  
Rather drown them all in love,  
Than let another feel them.

Speak gently to the little child,  
Its love be sure to gain;  
Teach it in accents soft and mild;  
It may not long remain.

Speak gently to the aged one;  
Grieve not the careworn heart;  
The sands of life are nearly run,  
Let such in peace depart.

Speak gently: 'tis a little thing,  
Dropped in the heart's deep well;  
The good, the joy that it may bring,  
Eternity shall tell. —Selected.

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### Salvation Is Ready Now

"For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succored thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation." 2 Cor. 6:2. Divine inspiration brings words together that belong together.

Notice, we have two words in the above text:

salvation now, and the word, behold. Salvation is ready now. The preparation for it has been made; it is finished. All things are now ready. The feast is ready and the invitation has gone out.

The sinner needs salvation now, today. He needs it in this life, and he needs it that he may gain a home in heaven when this life is over. God would not offer it now, if it were not needed now. He would not urge anything upon us for the present if it were not needed for this life.

The very nature of salvation presents the value and importance of seeking and receiving the experience. We need forgiveness now. We need a new heart now. We need it to help us through life's burdens and sorrows and temptations. We truly need the grace of God in this life. (Heb. 4:16). Notice, it says, "Come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

We need a present salvation in this life. One may say, "If I could only know that I was saved, I would get saved." Thank God, you can know you are saved (Luke 1:77). Notice, it says, "To give knowledge of salvation by the remission of our sins." Yes, we can know we are saved. "We know we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren." He that loveth not his brother abideth in death (1 Jno. 3:14). Yes, it is a know-so salvation, thank God! we can know we are saved. 1 Jno. 5:20, Notice, "We know that the Son of God is come, and hath given us an understanding, that we may know him that is true, and we are in him that is true, even in his Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God, and eternal life." Yes, thanks be unto our God, we can have salvation in this life.

Notice Luke 1:74, 75: "That he would grant unto us, that we being delivered out of the hand of our enemies, might serve him without fear in holiness and righteousness before him, all the days of our life." Titus 2:11, 12, "For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in this present world."

Now let us notice the word, **behold**, found in 2 Cor. 6:2. The Lord wants us to see and know that we can obtain salvation now, and here in this present world. Behold, **now**, today is the time which God has appointed. Since He has set the time, one should not put off obtaining it. God doesn't have anything better to offer us than he has NOW.

Dear unsaved friends, you need salvation now. Why put it off? The Lord says, "Today, if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts." Heb. 3:15.

Behold, today. Delay will not make it any easier. Putting it off will make it harder to get saved. Christ gave himself for our sins. That is what he came into this world for (Matt. 1:21). He came as a deliverer from sin and the world. In Gal. 1:4, notice he **delivers** from this PRESENT evil world, according to the will of God and our Father. The great question of our present eternal destiny is settled in this life, here and now. God says, "Choose ye this day whom ye will serve." Behold, now, this day you can be saved if you will. "Whosoever will may come" Rev. 22:17. Thanks be unto God, you can be delivered from every sin and bad habit and set free. John 8:36.

You may say, "I am too bad to get saved." But the Lord says in Isaiah 1:18, "Come now and let us reason together, saith the Lord; though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow: though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool." Listen to the loving invitation of Jesus in Matt. 11:28. "Come unto me all ye that labour, and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." The poet has said: "Just as I am without one plea, But that thy blood was shed for me, And that thou bidst me come to thee, O Lamb of God I come, I come." —U. G. Nave.

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### The Pearl Harbor Disaster

Clarence E. Mason, Jr. wrote an article by this title. It appeared in the April 18, 1942 issue of The Sunday School Times. After calling attention to the fact that the United States "has been basically righteous in fulfilling her treaty obligations to every nation, including Japan," and that we have "not committed any act of aggression," and that "we can now do no other than defend ourselves," Mr. Mason calls attention to national sins which have already been punished, in part, by national calamities, such as the crash of 1929 and the depression years that followed. But instead of repentance, he says, "our country went on to greater sin.

"(1) We repealed prohibition and tried to drink ourselves sober!

"(2) We tried to spend ourselves rich, and ran up the greatest national debt in our history.

"(3) We preached and practised the gospel of plenty through scarcity, defying all the laws of God

in nature, by slaughtering our pigs and cattle and plowing under our wheat and cotton when millions were hungry. If we, like Joseph, in Genesis, had stored our surpluses, what a blessing they would prove to us now in this national emergency and to a starving Europe after the dread conflict is over. . . . As a result we had unprecedented floods, earthquakes, and tornadoes; an amazingly large section of our country became a Dust Bowl. These disasters, like the falling of the tower of Siloam (Luke 13:4-6), were not designed to judge a particular group of individuals . . . but were object lessons and warnings to the whole nation of their wrong doings which must inevitably lead to greater disasters. The few got what we all deserved. By such tragic reminders did God in grace seek to lead us to repentance and spare us greater pain and sorrow. But there was no repentance and no call to repentance.

"It was only after the collapse of France and when England was in the throes of the super blitz that a call to a day of prayer was issued, but it was poorly publicized. . . . It remained for the terrific shock of Pearl Harbor disaster to bring forth an adequately publicized day of prayer (January 1) backed by the personal example of our President and responsible leaders."

Then Mr. Mason shows that even though America is not really a Christian nation, and some have argued that the Scriptures can be applied only to the Christian constituency of the nation, God does call on nations to repent. Through Jonah God called on Assyria to repent, and the people did, and God forgave them and spared them.

Mr. Mason tells us for what we as a nation need to ask forgiveness. "Not only for the sins of the 1920's and the 1930's, which I have already enumerated, but also for our failure to evangelize Japan; and for our sin in sending liquor, corrupt movies and corrupt morals, to Japan. We have also been guilty of a cruel cooperation with Japan in the brutal destruction of millions of Chinese, by being the chief source of supply for the oil, airplane motors, trucks, guns, rubber, and above all scrap iron for bullets and bombs necessary to run her war machine. We became Japan's arsenal for slaughter."

Now we are reaping the whirlwind, and Japan is using these things against us!

And then there was our double sin against ourselves of (a) our notorious Saturday night drinking, in both the armed forces and civilian life; and (b) the consequent late sleeping and ignoring of the use of the Lord's day as a day of worship. It significant that Japan struck at America's weakest hour of the week, 7:30 Sunday morning! Yes, it was on a Sunday morning that America paid for the national habit of a debauched Saturday night and a neglected Lord's day!

Pearl Harbor was unmistakably God's judgment on America. . . It is quite evident that "God permitted our usual efficiency to slip that in the very first moment of this great war we might see that apart from Him there is no real safety. By this tragedy God tried to shock America into a recognition of her sinful complacency and unrepentant pride.

Let us remember that "nations are not only punished for their sins but by their sins. (Cf. Obadiah, v. 15). . . Our Lord's words in Luke 13:1-5 concerning the tower of Siloam establish the principle that the Lord does not immediately send judgment for a nation's sins upon all the individuals constituting that nation, but object lesson disasters upon a fragment of the nation to warn the WHOLE nation of what their wrong-doing deserves, and will receive, IF repentance is not forthcoming.

"If America does not see God's hand in Pearl Harbor, I tremble for us. We have sinned. . . Oh Christians, Pray that God will bring America to her knees. . . let us tell others that" what America needs is not simply tanks and planes and armed forces, but forgiveness and mercy of God!" (Condensed).

—Christian Victory.

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### The Merciful Shall Obtain Mercy

How great is thy mercy toward those that seek thy mercy? "For as the heaven is high above the earth, so great is His mercy toward them that fear Him. As far as the east is from the west, so far hath He removed our transgressions from us. Like as a father pitieth his children, so the Lord pitieth them that fear Him. For he knoweth our frame; He remembereth that we are dust." Psa. 103:11-14. "The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy. He will not always chide; neither will he keep his anger for ever. He hath not dealt with us after our sins; nor rewarded us after our iniquities. For as the heaven is high above the earth, so great is his mercy toward them that fear Him." Psa. 103:8-11.

"And the Lord shall utter His voice from His army: for his camp is very great: for he is strong that executeth his word: for the day of the Lord is great and terrible; and who can abide it? Therefore also now, saith the Lord, turn ye even to me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning: And rend your heart, and not your garments, and turn unto the Lord your God: for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repenteth him of the evil." Joel 12: 11-13.

"His mercy is on them that fear Him from generation to generation." Luke 1:50. "For thou, Lord, art good, and ready to forgive; and plenteous in mercy unto all them that call upon thee." Psa. 86:5.

"Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands, Serve the Lord with gladness: come before his presence with singing. Know ye that the Lord, He is God: it is He that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are His people, and the sheep of His pasture. Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto Him, and bless his name. For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth to all generations." Psalm 100.

"And the Lord passed by before Moses, and proclaimed, The Lord, the Lord God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abundant in goodness and truth. Keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, and that will by no means clear the guilty; visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children, and upon the children's children, unto the third and fourth generation." Ex. 34:6, 7.

As our God is merciful toward man, even so He wants his redeemed ones to be merciful toward those that hate them, and despitefully use them. For He was treated maliciously by those that hated Him, though all heaven would have defended Him, had he called upon the angels. But instead of revenge, He cried, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." He manifested the mercy of God, right in the time of great suffering. He was being offered as a lamb, and suffering that all men might be pardoned, and delivered from sin and guilt; but in their pride and religious bigotry, they hated Him, and would not have Him rule over them, and would not honor Him as King. They hated his mercy, and cried, "Crucify Him! Crucify Him! In the sermon on the mountain He said, "Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy." Matt. 5:7. But the Word says nothing like that about those that have no mercy upon others. Those that are merciful toward the poor, God will be merciful to them. Prov. 14:21. Yes, God is merciful toward the merciful.

We reap what we sow.

—Edith Kriebel.

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Washington, D. C.—Dear Bro. Pruitt and family, Greetings in the name of Jesus. Tonight finds me still saved and pressing on the upward way. New heights I'm gaining every day. I am thanking and praising the blessed Master for keeping me each day of my life—keeping me from sin and condemnation—and I expect to go all the way with him. Pray much for me, that I may ever keep humble at his feet where he can use me. I am very well at this writing and singing the gospel. I am going to and fro, singing and giving praises to him for keeping me. I hope some day, if it is the Lord's will, that I will meet with the saints at Guthrie in some of their meetings. It was there in your meeting in '38 that I was helped so wonderfully. I am Bro. M. J. Phillips' sister-in-law. Pray much for me and daughter that we will stay consecrated to sing his praises.

I wish some of you could come this way some time. I long for a good Holy Ghost meeting again.

Love to the saints,

Mrs. Missouri Tillman

**"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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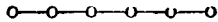
Its motto: Have faith in God. Its object: The glory of God and the salvation of men; the promulgation and restoration of the whole truth to the people in this "evening time" as it was in the morning Church of the first century; the unification of all true believers in one body by the love of God. Its 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—such 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

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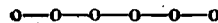


"Work on, work on, nor doubt, nor fear.

From age to age this voice shall cheer:

Whate'er may die or be forgot,

Work done for God, it dieth NOT."



St. Elmo, Ill.—Dear ones: I wrote to you for prayer when my heart was so bad, and praise God, it is well. I give God the praise, and thank all of you for your prayers. I thought I would get to go to camp meeting but the way seems very dark. If God will make a way, I am coming and hope to see all of you.

God bless you all. Do all the good you can; it seems time is short. Your saved sister, Laura Smyth

**Editorials**

We are very much pleased to note the many new subscribers for the "Faith and Victory" paper. We rejoice to know that God is so wonderfully working and blessing the many readers of this messenger of love and mercy to souls. Our fervent desire is to be a blessing to all that we can and an injury to none. The enemy hates the truth and causes people to become evil affected against the innocent even as some were against Jesus. According to their judgment, they see great wrongs in others, even as they did the innocent Jesus, and try to make them out as evil, even as they are themselves. They make me think of a drunk man who thinks everybody else is drunk because he is. I was traveling on the train in Ala. once. As we pulled into Mobile, the depot platform was thronged with people. A crazy man was on the train with his head out of the window. He looked upon the throng of people, waved his hand and yelled out, "You are all crazy, you are all crazy."

The religious Pharisees were so full of evil, guile, hypocrisy, envy, and hatred that they looked upon Jesus as such and spoke evil of him, misconstruing his words and making them mean what he did not say, belittling him to lift up themselves and hold their favor with the people. They watched him and grabbed at every thing that they thought they could use to twist around and injure him with. That same spirit is in many professors of religion today. They array themselves against the innocent, speaking evil of them and showing retaliation even without cause. Such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into ministers of righteousness, subverting souls and enticing the innocent away after them for selfish gain, making merchandise of many of the lambs of God through their crafty, "wolf in sheep-skin religion." They roar like lions to frighten and confuse and make all whom they can to believe that they are the great power of God. Satan has truly transformed himself into an angel of light in these days of the Lord's preparation. "And the work of righteousness shall be peace, and the effect of righteousness, quietness and assurance forever. And my people shall dwell in a peaceful habitation, and in sure dwellings, and in quiet resting places." A hint to the wise should be sufficient.

At this present writing, June 12th, Bro. Ostis Wilson, Jr. of Anthony, Kans. is holding a revival meeting here at Guthrie. The interest is good and the word is being preached in the power and demonstration of the Spirit. We feel sure that God is carrying the truth to many hearts and we are expecting good results.

Sister Harris of Dixon, Ill. is visiting in our home on a vacation and is enjoying the meetings. She came here to get spiritual help and healing. She told me this morning that she was feeling so good and

was so much encouraged. We are expecting others to come in for the meeting; also, some other ministers to help along in the good work begun.

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August is the month that the office workers take vacation to be in campmeetings and get needed rest from the close confining work; so as usual, we shall not print and put out any "Faith and Victory" paper for August. However, Lord willing, we shall print the "Bible Lessons" and send them to all who get the rolls for Sunday School use. Those who are not getting rolls can notify us if you desire these lessons sent to you. We shall be glad to send to any who desire them.

Your servant with several others expects to leave for Hammond, La. on the 26th of June to attend the Southern Campmeeting and engage in revival work as the Lord leads. Our address while there will be in care of Box 370, Hammond, La.

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There are some sect religious bodies that practice promiscuous kissing. The Bible teaches the "Holy Kiss," but never a kiss of lust. The brethren greet the brethren and the sisters greet the sisters as they have fervent love one to the other. We should always let the wisdom of God govern us in this privilege as we may meet in places where it would be improper for us to greet with an holy kiss for the sake of others consciences. If it is not prompted by pure love, it would not be a holy kiss. To practice greeting the opposite sex would be lust and would have the appearance of evil, bringing shame on the righteous cause of God. Let God lead us by his Spirit and word in these things.

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In this issue of the "Faith and Victory" we have articles which different ones have written on the church and its function in this time world.

We find in Matt. 16:18, that Jesus says, "Upon this rock I will build my church." So the church has a solid foundation—truth that is immovable. Jesus is the builder; it has no human founder, governor, or ruler. In Isaiah 9:6 we read, "For unto us a child is born [Jesus] unto us a Son is given [Jesus] and the government shall be upon his shoulder." (Jesus' shoulder). In the seventh verse, the prophet says, "Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end." He is still governor and shall always be. In Hebrews 8:2, we read of Jesus being "A minister of the Sanctuary, [church] and of the true tabernacle, [the church] which the Lord pitched and not man." Man has nothing to do with the building of the true church only as the Lord functions through him to the saving of souls. The Lord adds members to the true church (Acts 2:47). God sets the members in the body, or church as it pleases him (1 Cor. 12:18). In the 27th verse he says, "Now ye are the body of Christ and members in particular."

In the 23rd verse of the 6th chapter of Ephesians, he tells us plainly that he is the head of the church, and in the 24th verse he says the church is subject to Christ. In the 26th verse the church is sanctified and cleansed. In Eph. 2:20, 21 we see that Jesus is the chief corner stone, denoting him to be the governing and ruling power, and all the members or saved people are "fitly framed together"—framed together with Christ. "Ye are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit." By these scriptures it is plain to see that no man or set of men are the head of the church that Jesus has built. We are all just members in the building, functioning in our proper places where God has set us. Christ is the head, the ruler, the governor and all the members are subject to Him and to one another in the fear of God. (1 Pet. 5:5).

I have been saved and sanctified for twenty-five years, and have never gone back on the Lord, even in the many fiery furnaces and severe testings of being in "peril among false brethren." Jesus has always been my comfort and the "form of the fourth" has brought me out into a large, even place. During this twenty-five years, the Lord has had us right in the front of the battle and we have met up with nearly every kind of evil spirit that works through men to keep the flock or church divided, or to injure, abuse, lacerate, or divide those that are gathered together. The most clever, crafty, and destructive spirit today is the one that possesses a preacher in "Sheep's clothing," who being covered as he is, deceives precious souls and works havoc in confusing, scattering, and dividing the flock. They certainly do hate the Lord's true ministers that discern them and try to cast them down as being evil as they themselves. They generally brand them just like they themselves are in heart, and do all they can to turn precious souls against them so they can continue their influence over them in making vain profit of them. Paul says such are deceitful workers.

The church in its true sense is the Body of Christ that is in the world today, and as the religious Pharisees sought to injure Christ, casting his name out as evil and piercing him and slaying his body, so these "deceitful workers" in "Sheep's clothing" today are applying themselves to injure the church, the Body of Christ, to cripple or slay it, divide it up, while at the same time claiming to uphold it and to love the church or the body. The Pharisees claimed to love God and to serve him and at the same time was trying to injure or slay God who was Christ. Old Satan ever works the same, and the words that Jesus spoke to the scribes and Pharisees is being fulfilled again in these last days when the body of Christ is coming into plainer view, and it will be more so as time goes on. My brother, sister, beware of these "Deceitful Workers." 2 Cor. 11:13.

In the "Editor's Confession" of the June issue wherein we stated that we stood ready to confess and rectify any wrong or injury we have done any person, we did not mean that we would confess to folks who just imagine that they have been wronged and demand unreasonable terms. Some preachers and others are possessed by spirits that one can never satisfy. They seem to be like the spirits that watched Jesus, looking for imaginary faults and sins. If one confesses once, they will soon have something else for him to confess. They want you to accept them as your God in judgment. Such spirits need to be rebuked rather than confessed to. Jesus rebuked his accusers and said, "Ye are of your father, the devil." John 8:44.

Bro. Willie C. Murphey and Frances Edna Pruitt were united in marriage on June 6, 1942 in our home here in Guthrie near the Faith Pub. House. The ceremony was performed by Elder O. B. Wilson, Jr. of Anthony, Kans. in the presence of thirty-five or forty invited guests, after which ice cream and cake was served. Many useful gifts were presented to the couple, which were appreciated and received as tokens of love and good-will. Bro. Murphey has made his home in Guthrie for seven years or more and is loved and respected by all who know him. At present, he is Linotype operator for a printing company here in Guthrie. The Lord has called him to the ministry and evangelistic work. He has a trailer house and they expect to travel in evangelistic work.

Frances is the youngest child of your editor and wife and has been saved for many years and working here in the "Lord's Print Shop." We shall miss her in the work and in the home very much, but rejoice to know that she will continue in the service of the Lord. She is the last of our six children that have married and left the parental roof. It is rather lonesome now as we sit together with the children absent; but we must yield to the Lord's will in these marriages, for such are ordained of God. Pray that the Lord will make them useful in his vineyard.

#### **"SELECT HYMNS" SONG BOOKS Should Be Reprinted**

We have been doing our best to secure used "Select Hymns" song books for the saints. We have been able to get a few, but now it seems there is no hope of being able to secure more. The saints are unanimously agreed that the majority of the songs in this book are spiritual and given of God, and there is no other song book published before or afterward that equals it; therefore they are crying for these books. The Gospel Trumpet Co. have discontinued printing it. We have written to them about buying the plates so we could reproduce the book. They answered that they would sell the complete lot for \$500.00. To make them new would likely cost a thousand dollars.

Our impression from the Lord is to start a "Select Hymns" song book fund, and all those who are interested in buying these plates to reprint the "Select Hymns" song books can send in your offering and we will keep an account of it and preserve it. Should we not receive sufficient funds to purchase the plates (which is not likely) it would be returned to you or used otherwise for the Lord as you may direct. Some may be led of the Lord to send five dollars, some ten dollars, others, twenty-five, fifty, or a hundred dollars. The Lord may impress one saint to send half or even the whole amount. This is a good investment for the Lord's work, as it will preserve these good songs for the saints.

The book is very large and bulky and expensive to print as they are, and we had in mind that three or four hundred of the best songs could be selected. This would make a smaller book and could be paper bound with good strong material and retailed at fifty cents each. However, all this could be decided after we secure the plates. This is a good investment for those who care to lay up treasures in heaven, for surely God wants these good spiritual songs to continue to be sung by the saints.

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#### **Obituaries**

Bro. Virgie E. Hardman, 81, of Tarlton, Ohio died at 3 a. m. Tuesday after a short illness. He was an old time minister of the Church of God. He had never compromised the truth, but preached it straight and c'ean from the Bible and truly practiced what he preached. Bro. Hardman was born in Rome County, W. Va., Feb. 11, 1861. He married Sarah Nancy Ware who died March 4, 1923. Nine children (four of whom preceded him in death) were born to this union. He later married again. He is survived by his widow, Mrs. D. M. Curry Hardman. His living children are: Lenoard of Tarlton, Ohio, Virgil of Jeffersonville, William of Columbus, Alfred E. of 703 Jefferson Ave., and Mrs. Anna Jones, Washington C. H., 26 grandchildren and 29 great-grandchildren. The funeral sermon was preached by Bro. Arpsrup of Lucasville, Ohio. He was laid to rest in the Frankfort Cemetery beside his companion. He is greatly missed by all who knew him. He was a loving companion and Father.. He trusted the Lord until the last and went home to glory.

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Little Jimmie Harppe, 10 months old, grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Harppe of Ford's Branch, Ky. went to be with the Lord Thursday night, May 14, 1942. He was burried in Ford's Branch Cemetery Sat., May 16.

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Mrs. Lizzie Hopkins, 66, wife of James E. Hopkins died at her home in Ford's Branch, Ky. May 16, 1942, following an illness of four months.

At the outset of Mrs. Hopkins' illness Mrs. B. M. Montress, missionary of the Church of God, was called in to pray with her. Mrs. Hopkins had been a member of the Christian denomination for many years, then decided to join the Baptist denomination. But she embraced the true faith of the church of God a few weeks before her passing. She said she was going home to rest.

She leaves to mourn the loss of a good wife, loving mother, and devoted grandmother, two daughters, Mrs.

Millard Blackburn of Ford's Branch, Mrs. Virgie Thompson of Gary, W. Va., several grandchildren, and great grandchildren. Her granddaughter Opal lived with her and Thelma was called from Detroit, Mich. to her bedside. They were very devoted and deeply feel their loss of one so dear.

The Christian women came in and laid the body out. Sister Hopkins must have had a heavenly vision just as she left this world, for on her face rested the sweetest smile, though she had suffered so much.

#### CARD OF THANKS

To the Christian friends and neighbors of the Hopkins' Home

We wish to thank the Christian friends and kind neighbors for their loving service rendered during the illness and death of our beloved mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, wife, and sister. We especially thank the dear friends and Christian sisters who so tenderly came to our aid and laid our loved one out. Husband, children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren

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### Church of God Campmeeting Places and Dates

#### NATIONAL—MONARK SPRINGS, MO.

Five miles east of Neosho.  
July 17-26.

#### CALIFORNIA STATE—PASADENA, CALIF.

Near corner of Mentone and Washington Sts.  
August 21-31.

#### DOVER, OKLAHOMA

One mile north and 2½ east of Dover.  
August 28-Sept. 6.

#### GENERAL SOUTHERN—HAMMOND, LA.

One mile southwest of Illinois Central Depot.  
June 26-July 5.

#### UNION CITY, INDIANA

Corner of Carter and Union Sts.  
August 14-24.

#### OREGON STATE—SCIO, OREGON

At country home of Sister Emma Busch.  
July 2-12.

#### OKLAHOMA STATE—GUTHRIE, OKLA.

Near corner of Sixth and W. Warner Sts.  
July 31-Aug. 9.

The CALIFORNIA STATE CAMPMEETING of the Church of God will be held at Pasadena, beginning Aug. 21st, lasting over two Sundays, if the Lord is willing.

We are expecting a refreshing time from the presence of the Lord; and that able ministers will be present to set forth the Word of God in all its purity, backed up by the power of the Holy Spirit. The meeting will be supported by free-will offerings. A cordial invitation is given to all saints and lovers of the truth to attend. There is ample room for tents to be put up on the camp ground. We are trusting that tents will be available to all who desire them. However, we would suggest to those having small tents to bring them with you. The camp ground is located near the corner of Mentone and Washington Sts.—accessible by rail or highway. Pasadena is located about ten miles from the city of Los Angeles. For information write to Bro. Earle E. Forbes 4250 Perlita Ave., Los Angeles, Calif., or Bro. R. W. Morgan, 1302

Lincoln Ave., Pasadena, Calif., of the campmeeting committee. We earnestly desire the prayers of the saints for the success of this meeting. —Emma Holden Cage

The BOLEY, OKLAHOMA CAMPMEETING of the Church of God will be held Aug. 14th to 23rd. Come praying that God will have His way and souls and bodies will be benefitted, and the name of the Lord will be magnified. The meeting will be run on the free-will offering plan. Bring your bedding. Straw will be furnished. Come, enjoy the good things of God. The tent and chapel is on the north side of the Boley High School building. We expect to feast at Father's table.

Be sure to bring sugar ration books or sugar.  
For particulars write Sis. Lizzie Jones, Boley, Okla.

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Tillamook, Ore.—Dear Saints: Greetings in Jesus' dear name. I feel led to write you my testimony although I know that words cannot describe the love I have in my heart for our Lord and Savior. He has been so dear to me in the past few months, and has blest our home with a tiny baby girl, which I know is an answer to prayer. How I thank Him for his kindness and care, and especially for being an ever present help in the time of need.

Please pray for me that I continue faithful and that my life will be an encouragement to those around me who yet have not turned to the Lord.

Your Sister,

Mrs. James Mapes

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Hammond, La.—Dear Bro. Pruitt, Greetings to all of you at Faith Pub. House. Hope you are all well in body and soul. I am still praising God for his goodness and mercy to me. It will soon be two years since he saved me, and I want to say that I am not sorry that I gave my heart to him when I did, for His service grows sweeter each day. I can look back over my past life and see where the Lord has had his protecting hand stretched out over me, and although I was unsaved, he spared my life in answer to prayer.

The campmeeting to be held here is not far off. We are praying and looking forward and expecting to have a real good meeting.

Pray for us that we may ever be found up and doing in the service of the Lord. My desire is to do the will of the Lord and serve Him all the days of my life.

Yours in Christ,

Max F. Williamson

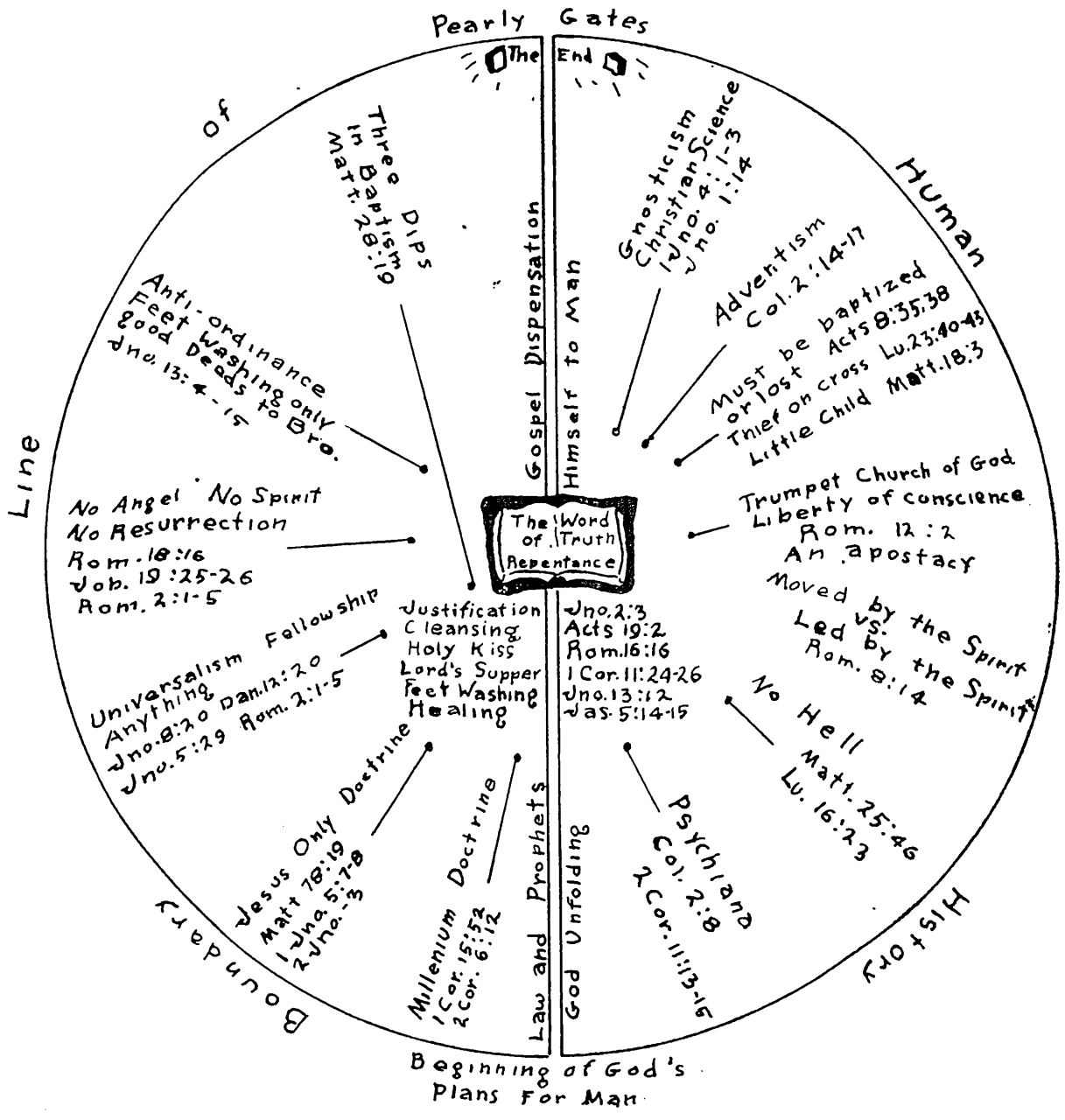
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Shawnee, Okla.—Dear Bro. Pruitt: I feel like writing my testimony this morning for the Lord. I want to tell what he did for our little girl, and many other things he does daily. I am still saved and enjoying the Lord. The Lord healed our little girl of the Diphtheria, when we and all who saw her gave her up, thinking she was dying. We just gave her to the Lord and he gave her back to us. He touched her instantly and in two or three hours she was up playing. I am truly thankful to the Lord and all the saints for all their prayers. I promised the Lord if he would heal her I would write my testimony. I know the Lord can heal any manner of disease. I am trusting him for my whole family. I am having a battle now for my own health, as I have heart trouble that keeps me from working or doing anything. I desire the earnest prayers of all the saints everywhere. I know the Lord can heal me when he sees fit. So pray for me.

Your brother in Christ,

Archie Souders

If you want the Sunday School Lessons for July, let us know by mail, and we shall send them to you at once.



In the figure, the lines having dots on the end represent the sects of men. They are sects—that is, they contain only a part of the whole; only a part of the Bible. They are pointing toward the Bible; they all base their claim on it, and their foundation in it; but it will be seen that none of them reaches it, except one as shown that goes past it, hence all of them miss it. But it is plainly obvious that, if the one going too far would have stopped in the Bible, and all those who did not reach it had not stopped until they got there, all would have met it and been one, as a natural consequence. Thus all would have met in Christ, and all would have been complete in him (Col. 2:10 and 4:12). All would be one in Christ (Gal. 3:28), and saints of the Most High, especially. Let us go to Eph. 3:3-6 and have a perfect meeting

in the Christ of the Bible, in the unity of the Spirit, in the bond of peace and humble ourselves down to God, and let this God (ver. 6) work His own pleasure in us all, and through us all, and get rid of the terrible overhanging menace of a schismatic spirit that is chuckling about the camps of the saints to work their ruin. It's awful! My soul is greatly burdened about it! If every religious professor in the world would humble himself down to God, and all meet strictly on Bible grounds, and stay that way, schismatic spirits would have to go out of business. And there would plainly appear ONE outstanding church all working in harmony looking forth as the morning, fair as the moon, clear as the sun, and terrible as an army with banners (Solomon's song 6:10).

—J. H. Pierson.



# « Young People's Section »

## ARE YOU?

Are you willing to go to the harvest,  
Are you willing to sacrifice all,  
Are you willing to leave all behind you  
To answer the dear Saviour's call?

Are you seeking lost souls around you,  
Are you touched with their sorrow and care  
Are you pointing them ever to Jesus  
Who offers them heaven so fair?

Are you living the life as demanded,  
Are you sending your light o'er the flood,  
Are you telling them how he has loved them  
And purchased them with his own blood?

Are you ready to go out to meet him,  
Are you anxiously waiting his call,  
Are you listening with ears ever open  
For those words from his sweet lips to fall?

Are you ready to face your past record,  
Are you holding your dear Saviour's hand,  
Are you keeping that peaceful assurance  
As you take your last witness stand?

Are you able to stand in his presence  
And his face of bright glory to view  
As he calls for those who are ready,  
And seeing you there, asks, "Are you?"  
—Clifford W. Wilson

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## Editorials

The apostle Paul, in his epistles shows much concern for the spiritual prosperity of the various congregations of saints. He taught and exhorted them to live victorious, fruitful lives; but with some their spiritual progress was very slow, and some faltered and missed the path of right. To one church he wrote these words, "Ye did run well; who did hinder you that ye should not obey the truth?" They had made a good start and run well for a while, but some hinderance arose to stop their progress. The question was: Who or what thing had hindered them that they should not obey the truth? The thing that sidetracked them perhaps would not affect us at all today, but it is a fact that folks who had run well are being hindered to the extent that they are not obeying the truth. There are those who are like the seed that fell on stony ground and sprang up and endured for a while, but when tribulation or persecution arose because of the Word, by and by they were offended. Many causes arise which detract from the narrow

way. Some become unfruitful because the care of this world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the Word.

The devil well knows that the reward of the righteous will be received only after they have endured the storms and trials of life unto the end, so it is his business to devise schemes by which to overthrow their faith and confidence in God. He begins in small things, and if they are allowed to continue their work, the result is that "the little leaven leaveneth the whole lump." But those who are enduring temptation can be comforted by this promise that "blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life which the Lord hath promised to them that love him." Let us who have been released from bondage "stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free."

A number of campmeetings are scheduled to be held this summer, and we want to encourage all the young people, saved and unsaved, to attend at least one of these meetings if the way is opened for you to do so. The Lord wants to save those who are not saved, and those who are saved will want to go for spiritual encouragement and to be a blessing to others. In these meetings there will be a time for young people's services, so come and receive your share of spiritual blessings. Remember that a time is coming when you will need all the spiritual strength within your reach. Fortify now against the enemy of your soul.  
—L. D. P.

oOo

Hamilton, Miss.—To all the dear young saints scattered abroad, Greetings in Jesus' dear name. I am sending in my testimony for the first time. This leaves me saved and ready to do all I can to help or encourage some poor soul along the narrow way.

I am young and haven't been saved but about one year. And at the present time I am isolated from all the true saints of God (I mean from the ones that are in the true light). So please pray for me that I will let my light shine, and that I will be faithful until the end.

Now I want to recommend a little book to all of you young Christians. The title of it is, "The Instruction of Youth in the Christian Life," written by C. E. Orr. I have read this little book and I think it is as good as any I have read except the Bible. I am sure you can still order it from Faith Publishing House. The price is only ten cents.

O, let us serve Jesus  
In spirit and in truth.  
O, let us serve Jesus  
While yet in our youth.  
O, let us serve Jesus  
In this body of clay;  
Then when this life is over  
Our new bodies won't decay.

A young brother in Christ,

Vada McMillian

## MOTHERS AND SONS

I have felt burdened to write about the situation we are now facing when so many mothers are having to say good-bye to their sons who are to go out to be in service for their country. Mothers wherever I go are saying, "Pray for me that I'll be able to stand it, pray for my boy or boys."

We read about wars and rumors of wars, and now it's no longer just rumors of war, but war with all its horrors. Yet there is a God in heaven who hears and answers prayer.

This surely is a time when mothers need to be brave; it is no time to faint by the way-side. We read about men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things that are coming on the earth, but with the saints of God we must be brave. In these perilous times is a good time to be an example of the believers, as Paul instructed Timothy to be in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity. Surely we need to manifest faith in God; we need to have that Christ-like spirit, be forgiving, and keep ourselves pure in heart.

Mothers need to commit their sons so entirely to the Lord they can have victory inasmuch they can comfort others with the comfort wherewith they are comforted of God. (1 Cor. 1:4).

I am encouraged to know of some sainted mothers who are on victory's side. It is not a matter to be lightly considered; and oh, the grace mothers must have to endure! yet His grace is sufficient for thee, and He has promised to not put upon us more than we can bear.

I was much impressed by one mother saying, "I don't like to think of my boys having to go across the waters, but I have them committed into the hands of a just God." A mother like that will surely be able to comfort some one else who doesn't know how to cast their burden upon the Lord.

I see other mothers who are pining away, worrying so much, when God has taught us to trust Him, and in 1 Peter 5:9, we read the same afflictions are being accomplished in your brethren that are in the world. Dear mother, you are not the only suffering mother, but you are one among many. Take courage, look up.

One poet said, "The bravest battle that ever was fought, Shall I tell you where and when? In the books of the world you'll find it not—'Twas fought by the mothers of men."

While the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, they are mighty thru' God, and the effectual, fervent prayer of one who is righteous has power with God. Mothers, pray on.

Another mother said when war was declared it seemed she couldn't bear it, because her son was soon to sail on a ship. But she said she poured out

the burden of her heart to God, and got victory. Soon an unsaved mother, whose son was in the Pearl Harbor attack, came to her, weeping, bowed down with her trouble and the weight of her sins. Together they prayed. The unsaved mother found forgiveness and went on her way, rejoicing, trusting in the Lord. In due time she learned her son was sent back to the States, slightly injured, but, thank God, his life spared.

The other mother's son has since visited her, and he sails the seas, but a mother's prayers follow him. Isn't God upon the ocean just the same as on the land?

Trusting this will be some encouragement to those who are mothers, I remain in Christ Jesus,

—Ruth Murphey

## CORRESPONDENCE

Greetings in Jesus' name: I am praising the Lord for his saving grace and keeping power and the encouragement he gives me from day to day. I am so thankful we can live so close to him as to hear his still, small voice. I have been praying for the prison work, and have been so burdened for it. The other morning while praying the Lord to send the prisoners the gospel, a voice seemed to say, "And what are you doing to help answer your prayer?" I said, Lord what can I do? but received no answer till I received the Faith and Victory paper. While reading in it where you had the addresses of several prisons and other institutions, the Lord said, now you can help answer your prayer," and showed me to send you this \$5.00 for that work of sending the gospel to them. My heart is rejoicing in doing his will. Praise the dear Lord.

—A sister in the Lord.

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Watonga, Okla.—Dear saints of God: I have often wanted to send in my testimony. Now the Lord has given me one to send in. The Lord has blessed. He has saved my soul and sanctified me, and made me whole. I was in bad health, and before I was saved I depended on doctors, but I found out my present Doctor is great and can heal any disease. I was in bad health nineteen years, and before the Lord saved me I had given up hopes of ever finding anything that would do me any good. After the Lord saved me, I found out differently. Praise His holy name. Sometimes I would suffer so I would pray for the Lord to take me on out of my suffering condition; but the Lord knew what was best. If I had not suffered I would not be here, because I would not have turned from the world. It had a great hold on me, but I have given up all the world to follow Jesus.

I have an afflicted stomach for which I desire prayer, and have an unspoken request Will all the saints please pray for me to overcome this burden and do what He would have me to do? He has chosen me to work for Him. I promised him that I would if he would only make me able.

Wesley Smith

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Bartlett, Kansas—Dear Bro. and Sister Pruitt: Greetings of love to you in Jesus' dear name. I truly thank the Lord for salvation. I am so glad for the truth and the way. There are so many ways in the world today, but yet there is only one way; and Jesus says, He is the way. As never before, I feel so thankful I found the way. There are so many so-called churches of God, but

we find there is only one. Truly, the scripture is fulfilled in Isa. 4:1, "And in that day seven women shall take hold of one man, saying, We will eat our own bread, and wear our own apparel: only let us be called by thy name, to take away our reproach." That is what the so-called churches of God are doing today. They are eating their own bread; but Jesus says He is the bread of life. And we find we can not produce that meek, humble life of Jesus without eating the bread of life. They are ashamed to be clothed with the righteousness of God, so they just hold on to this old sin-you-must-dress, and go around looking dirty with sin. But praise the Lord, there are a few that have washed their garments in the blood of the Lamb, and are clothed in fine linen which is the righteousness of the saints. Truly, we as the people of God should as never before let our lights shine so the honest souls in these dark places can see the way of life. I want you to send me some good tracts on the church and on the Baptism of the Holy Ghost, and if you have any on the line of using bad language, please send me some; also on women smoking, and any others you feel would be good. I have given out quite a number of tracts since I have been here and trust they will open the dear people's eyes to the truth. Pray for us to be all the Lord wants us to be. This is a sinful place. We don't know of any saints here, but we mean by God's grace to live the life, and do what we can for him, and lost souls. Yours in Christ, Margaret Eck.

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Iaeger, W. Va.—May God bless you dear people in his print shop that you may keep His work going strong for Him. This leaves wife and me settled in the will of God. Ero. Pruitt, I would like to appeal to God's people who know the worth of prayer to agree with me in prayer for this war-torn, sin-cursed world. And pray for our dear boys on the battle field, giving their lives that we as a free nation of people may keep our freedom, so we can worship our blessed Lord in the old fashioned way, and keep our blessed Bibles open to this lost and lying world. Dear ones, we know that we as a nation have pulled away from God and left him out of our program, generally speaking. But praise His holy name, he still has a few blood-washed saints who know Him as their blessed Saviour. So let us go to God in earnest prayer for our dear boys and the rulers of our nation. Dear ones, some of these dear boys are dying without prayer because they do not have a praying mother or father. Lord have mercy on the mothers of our nation. We have seen them in the Devil's garbage cans, drinking and smoking. O God, have mercy and save America. Dear ones, I believe God and know his Word is true. Read James 5:17, 18. Remember, I am praying. Will you agree with me? Your Brother in Christ.

A. L. Bright.

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Mahile, Ala.—My son, Peter, got hurt on the forehead. Blood was just running down. It was a deep cut—bad enough to rush him to a doctor. Two unsaved ladies were standing near me who told me to put medicine on his forehead. But I didn't. I didn't feel like I should. A miracle happened. I prayed for my son and the next day it was healed. Praise Jesus for ever! One of the unsaved ladies saw what our Jesus had done and she said she believed Jesus heals now, which she never believed before. She never had seen Jesus perform miracles. I hope she is saved today. And our Lord saved our lives not very long ago on the highway.

Mrs. J. W. Haddock.

## THE HARVEST IS RIPE

As we look around us, we remember the verse stated in St. Luke 10:2, "Therefore said He unto them, The harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few; pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth labourers into his harvest."

This does not mean foreign fields only, nor in our congregations; but it also means in our own homes. In so many homes, we find so many parents neglecting to work for Jesus in bringing up their children. They take them to meeting and that is all.

My friends, it needs to be more than that. Let us not leave all the responsibility to our Sunday School teacher, or pastor. Let us all realize it is our duty in our homes to be laborers for Jesus.

Just as soon as a child is old enough to talk, teach it to pray. Try to make them understand that they are talking to Jesus and not to you when they pray. Explain to them that when they pray believing, Jesus will heal them and take all pains away. If you will put this in their minds when they are small they will grow up knowing there is no other way.

When evening comes, gather up your children and tell them Bible stories. I find these are the best bed time stories. Don't forget the stories of Jesus. These are the most beautiful stories in the whole world. Tell them that if they love Jesus his love will just shine right out of their hearts, and other little boys and girls will see it and glorify God. For in Matt. 5: 16 we read: "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven." Teach them to be good to one another, for in so doing they are doing good to Jesus. Also in Matt. 7:12, "Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do unto you, do ye even so to them. When they do good to others, others will do good to them."

Many times we see small children quarrel. We think it is only an innocent quarrel that they'll soon forget. This is a bad mistake. They'll grow up, and you'll neglect teaching them to forgive or ask to be forgiven. When a child is taught to forgive while young, it will be much easier to forgive one who has wronged him when he grows older. Matt. 6:12, "For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you."

Teach them portions of the Bible, and give them a verse or two to memorize each week. Explain each verse to them as they learn them.

Let us not forget that we are parents with children, and remember that in our own home there is a harvest ripe, and the way we labor in this field of work will be seen as our families grow up. One verse which the children need to learn is Matt. 5:44, "Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to

them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you; that ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust." Teach them God has no respect of persons. We must love all regardless of what color or race. Jesus loves them all.

When someone hates them or mistreats them, teach them not to fight back, but rather go to Jesus and tell him all about it.

At this day and age we find so many professed Christian homes where children are dressed with hardly any clothing. Remember, parents, if you believe it is sin for you to dress so, why do you dress your children so? It is just as much sin on your part to dress your child so. The way we train up our children when they are small is the path they take after they grow up. Beware how you train your child. Parents, be faithful laborers in your home first, then look around you. The harvest is ripe elsewhere too, but the laborers are few. Pray ye for laborers and ask God to help you to be a faithful laborer, for the harvest is ripe now and God needs you. My prayer is that we will all obey 1 Thess. 2:12, "That ye would walk worthy of God who hath called you unto his Kingdom and glory"; and Matt. 22:37, "Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind."

Friends, if any of you who are saved in Christ would like to write to me, I would enjoy your encouraging letters very much. Pray for me.

—Mrs. Sam Jantz, R. 2, Tampa, Kans.

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### *"Am I My Brother's Keeper?"*

These were the words of Cain as he answered God concerning Abel, whom Cain had just slain (Gen. 4:9). Why be agitated and concerned about the welfare of others? a worldly minded man once asked a Christian.

Should I have any responsibility and concern about my fellow creatures? Has my coming into this world helped to make the life of some other one better and more worthwhile? Has the influences of my life contributed in helping make the abode of mankind a better place in which to dwell? Do I not serve to live and live to serve since none of us liveth to himself, and no man dieth to himself? (Rom. 14:7)

If my life has demonstrated and reflected Christ to even one unsaved person who found peace to his soul, then my coming into this world has not been in vain, for God has been glorified through my efforts.

No servant of the Lord is content to stop at helping to save just one lost person, but is pressing on to help others, and to daily possess the key of

the kingdom of heaven, ever ready to unlock the door leading to the unsearchable treasures of the kingdom of God through the works of salvation.

I feel from the depths of my heart affections that I owe my fellow creatures the very best unselfish and helpful life that I can possibly live to help them get out of life true Christian virtues and worths that their lives may be much more worth living for and dying for.

No one can well be a Christian without being concerned about the salvation and spiritual welfare of their fellow creatures. Ye are the light of the world, said the Saviour (Matt. 5:14). Light must naturally shine out and dispel darkness. The law of created power makes that possible to function and fulfill the purpose or motive of light.

The new-born life of a saved person must and will naturally function by the power of God by spiritual contact with others. In the midst of a crooked, preverse, and sinful world, a truly saved person's virtuous, holy life will shine out and reflect the beauty and glory of righteous living.

It is just as natural for this one great thing to take place as it is for a live tree to bud and leaf out in springtime. Automatically will come that natural urge and heart-felt love from within the depths of the human heart and soul that craves to co-operate with God to help save the lost everywhere. I am come that ye might have life, and have it more abundantly, is the promise of the Lord. To possess this more abundant life is to be deeply spiritually minded concerning the lost and to possess that holy wisdom and knowledge to rightly interpret the Word of God that they may clear up a mighty complex today among many organizations who are not preaching a definite, clear, full gospel ministry due to deception and a mistaken idea of the principles of godliness.

It is a very sad thing when someone you have known for years suddenly dies unsaved, and to think you never spoke to them about their salvation or gave them a gospel tract or paper to read, or have it read to them! Does it not make your heart bleed to visit an aged person on their death bed and when all hopes of salvation is past, to ask why they had gone all through life to the very end and had not sought God; to learn no one cared for their soul? (Psa. 142:4) Due to ones unconcern or neglect of those whom they might have helped to find peace to their soul, will not the spirit of the lost appear to haunt or accuse your conscience for their miserable lost estate? When you stand by and see your friends or loved ones sick unto death, no doubt, you would say, I wish it were possible for me to help them get well. You then feel a sense of great seriousness for them. Do you feel that burden of souls as your golden opportunity and privilege to lay up treasures in heaven? Oh, that the church would have more deeply concerned ones of the life and spirit of Jer-

emiah that could lament and weep for those whose greatest need is to repent and get right with God lest the bondage of sin should carry them away to everlasting captivity, grief, and destruction from the presence of the Lord.

He that goeth forth and weepeth bearing precious seed (the full gospel) shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him. *Psa.* 126:6.  
John H. Griffith.

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### Problems for the Anti-Ordinance People to Solve

I have two tracts before me: one entitled 'The True Church,' the other 'The Kingdom of God'—both written by anti-ordinance men, which would make the teaching of Christ and his apostles a lie. Let God be true and every man a liar.

There are two phases to the Church of God, spiritual and literal. The writers of these tracts do not seem to see the literal side—but this is in harmony with what Jesus said, "Except a man be born again he can not see the kingdom of God." *John* 3:3. Then according to English language, a man that is born again can see or discern the literal phase of the church. One of these writers said the body (outward man) is not in the church, and will not be until the resurrection. But in *John* 17:16, Jesus was praying for his disciples thus, "They are not of the world even as I am not of the world." If they were not fit for the church (according to one of these writers) then Jesus himself could not be, for they were no more of the world than he was. This writer claims that spirits only are in the church. Jesus was not praying about spirits; but men, his disciples, living beings. Paul, in *Rom.* 8:8, 9, said, "They that are in the flesh [fleshly mind] cannot please God, but ye are not in the flesh [fleshly mind] but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you." Paul, also, was talking to people, not spirits.

We quote again from this tract, "The True Church": "Man's person or the fleshly outward man is not fit to be a member of his church, till Christ comes to redeem it." Now listen to Paul again in *1 Thes.* 5:22, 23, "Abstain from all appearance of evil, and the very God of peace sanctify you wholly, and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ." And yet you say he is not fit for the church? Such teaching comes from those who claim their soul is saved, but the body sins every day. Now read *1 Cor.* 6:18, "Every sin that a man doeth is with-out the body"; again, "The soul that sinneth, it shall die." *Ezek.* 18:4.

Again the writer of this tract said, "Our bodies are temples of the Holy Ghost"—and yet not fit for members in his so-called church! Absurd! Paul

said, "Know ye not that your bodies are the members of Christ?" *1 Cor.* 6:15. But this writer says the spirit but not the body is a member of Christ. Read *Eph.* 5:30, "For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones"—human beings, not spirits. So he is wrong again. How could a spirit be a member of his body, blesh, and bones? "Christ is the head of the church and he is the savior of the body," so we see the church is composed of soul and body. In *Rev.* 1:9, John said he was in the kingdom (church) and his body had not yet been resurrected.

In the face of all these scriptures, how can a born-again man say his body is not in the church till it has been resurrected from the tomb? But listen again: Paul wrote to Titus (1:5, 6), "For this cause left I thee in Crete, that thou shouldest set in order the things that are wanting, and ordain elders in every city." These elders must have been men, not spirits. If any be blameless, the husband of one wife, having faithful children." He was talking about people, was he not? Do spirits marry and have children? Was Titus asked to set spirits in order? Shame on such ignorance.

Listen again to what this (true church ?) writer says, "There isn't a hypocrite in Christ's church, nor a Christian outside of it." To this we say, amen; but how could mortal man be a follower of Christ and not be a Christian? for that is the meaning of Christian. And if he is a Christian, according to this man's statement he is not outside of the church, and according to another of his statements he is not, and will not, be in the church till after he is resurrected. Then where is he, if he is neither in nor out, "O, Consistency, thou art a jewel!"

It is true, man must be immortalized in the resurrection to get into heaven. All, whether dead or living will be changed at that moment. *Job* 14:14 and *1 Cor.* 15:50-53, "We shall be changed."

Notice the writers of both of these tracts which came to me from Hanover, Pa., are agreed against the ordinances that Jesus instituted himself (these had nothing to do with the Jewish ordinances which were nailed to the cross (*Col.* 2:14)). These writers class the Lord's Supper with oyster suppers or any other feast or supper, and calls our teaching on the New Testament ordinances "theological rot." Such language is sacrilegious, and makes of none effect the commandments of Jesus.

How does their teaching compare with that of Jesus and his apostles, "Go ye therefore and teach all nations, baptizing"—men and women, not spirits. They say in their tracts that man has no right to baptize, yet here in his last commission we find Jesus telling men to teach (get people saved; baptized into the one body, (*1 Cor.* 12:13), then baptize them. In the Spirit or with the Spirit? No! That is the work

of the Holy Ghost, and has already been done for those who are ready to be baptized in water and thus fulfill the command of Jesus. Again, "teaching them to observe [put in practice] all things whatsoever I have commanded you." I do not see how a man could be so blind after reading the 12th chapter of 1st Cor. as to not see men, soul and body in the church.

Now let us see what Peter said about water baptism in 1 Pet. 3:20, 21, ". . . eight souls were saved by water. The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ." This was taught by Peter about 27 years after Christ said, "Go ye into all the world. . . teach . . . baptize." Noah's ark was a figure of our ark, Jesus. They went into the ark before they went into the water. So we go into our ark (Jesus) before we are baptized in water—"not the putting away the filth of the flesh" like the Jewish washings. Baptism typifies a death, burial, and resurrection. As He was raised from the dead, so are we raised from our dead state of sin (typified by our raising up from the watery grave) to walk in a new life.

Now, "To the law and the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them." Isa. 8:20. Again in 1 Cor. 11:23, Paul is speaking 26 years after Jesus said in Matt. 28:20, "Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you." Here is one of the "all things," "For I have received of the Lord . . . the same night in which he was betrayed took bread: And when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this DO in remembrance of me. After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this Do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me. For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do show the Lord's death [How long?] till he come."

Also in the 13th chapter of John, Jesus set an example. This is another one of the "all things" Jesus commanded us to observe. "For I have given you an example that ye should do as I have done to you." "If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them."

Concerning Paul's letter to the Colossians, it is true perhaps that all the Gentile converts knew of Jewish ordinances was what they had been told; but there were hundreds of converted Jews who taught the Gentiles saying, "Ye cannot be saved except ye be circumcised." All these Jewish ordinances were nailed to the cross (Col 2:14) but none of the ordinances that Jesus instituted were nailed to the cross, for we find his disciples practising all of them years after Jesus went to heaven. —G. E. Harmon.

## Is The Church of God an Organization?

In the strictest meaning of the term, we say the church is not an organization, but rather, an organism, while according to the various standard dictionaries there are points of similarity, yet in its very formation and functioning, there is rather a contrast. These authorities define an organization as a number of persons systematically united for some kind of work; an organism as a spiritual body composed of a number of essential and mutually dependent parts, all partaking of a common life, each member co-related to the others, being a constituent part of the whole. When the term organization is applied to a religious body or system, it may be described as a body of persons built around and bound together by humanly devised principles, doctrines, and creeds which govern the whole; while an organism as applied to the church consists of believers in the Lord Jesus Christ vitally united—not by principles of new doctrines or creeds, but to the living Head, Christ whose very life pulsates through every member so united, and that each member has the same care one for the other and to him. Thus the whole becomes one indivisible body connected with Jesus, its living head which operates and controls the entire body.

Eph. 4:13-16 beautifully expresses such an organism in its functioning: "Till we all come into 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. May grow up unto him in all things which is the body even Christ: from whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth according to the effectual workings in the measure of every part maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love." —an organism so complete that each member functions without any friction, and so oiled by love that each member never wears out its usefulness, but is supported by each member in the entire body.

This kind of an organism is continually kept in operation by divine leadership through the Holy Spirit's leadings. Col. 2:19 adds further, "And not holding the Head from which all the body by joints and bands [love] having nourishment, ministered and knit together increaseth with the increase of God." The Church of God as an organism shall never become defunct or out of date; whereas, an organization of men and by men by reason of authority or the process of time may cease to function or exist. Time changes many things, but God's church, being a divine organism, can never change in this time world. It perpetuates itself, hence it never grows out of date. Each joint gets its proper nourishment ministered through its divine head and flows out

through each member until the whole is edified in itself. The church of God has organs or members that work in each particular place in which it is set.

This organism composes the body of Christ, and is as eternal as he is, as his Spirit works in each member and carries out his divine plan. God sets the members in his body as it pleases him. Members being so set show an organism different from anything else, and God rules over the whole body, giving each one the mission or work that Jesus wills us to do here on earth, carrying on the great salvation work that Jesus began. And as He (Jesus) "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" Eph. 4:11, in these different departments there is full proof of divine organism, which shows unity as the ultimate goal that is the measure of the fulness of Christ. Every God-appointed worker works for the success and furtherance of divine unity—the nature and kind Jesus had with God as recorded in John 17:21: "That they all be one." Each member is in perfect harmony with every other member so that there is no friction (wear), each joint being knit together in love so that each member helps to edify each other, hence a continual organism that never will wear out or become deranged. Men's organizations or churches change, become out of date, so that they have to be reorganized as some churches are. Can we see the beauty of the church which Jesus built (not man) and set in order, working so harmoniously that the "Lord added daily" such as were being saved? Had the church of God been a man's frame up, it would have ceased to exist, but being a divine organism, man has nothing to do with it, can not take in members and can not turn them out, can not legislate. Men have tried this, but failed, only to get themselves out of the body of Jesus Christ, who is the divine head (Col. 1:18) and gives each member divine guidance so that each working in his place can never have any division. —E. M. Zinn.

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## ONE BAPTISM

"He that refuseth instruction despiseth his own soul." Prov. 15:32.

When I was between eleven and twelve years of age, we lived in Washata Co., Ark. The Baptist church was on one side of our home. They had their worship and Sunday School in the morning. The Methodists had their worship in the evening in the school house on the other side of our home.

The Baptists had their meeting first. We went to it and I went for prayer almost every time I had an opportunity. The meeting closed and I was under conviction. We went to the Methodist meeting. The preacher, Bro. Roary, was a fine preacher. One night

his text was, "Lost, Lost, Lost." It seemed that my hair would raise on my head when he would say, Lost. I went for prayer and knelt down at the altar and God saved me. I joined the Methodist church and was baptized (or went through the motion). I lived a Christian to the best of my knowledge. We came to Texas when I was 13 and I joined the Missionary Baptist church when I was past fourteen. I lived a Christian and prospered in our religion as much as anybody, as Paul says in Gal. 1:14. I lived closer to the Lord than any of the other young people, but not close enough to please him. I would drift. God chastises those whom he loves, so He would bring me back.

I longed to have faith like the saints in the Bible and believed all the time I would see some of God's saints on this earth before I left this earth. I was hungry to trust God for healing and just be led by the Holy Spirit, and be filled with the Holy Ghost. They would tell me that miracle days were passed, but I never did believe it. They wouldn't recognize the Methodist baptism (I didn't see any difference, and still don't); so they baptized me over for John the Baptist who baptized Jesus.. They think there isn't but one baptism, and they are right about that part.

I wanted the faith once delivered to the saints, and wanted to be happy. The Lord showed me to leave off the parties, so I quit them and didn't go back to them. I enjoyed singing love songs. I could sing almost all night and not sing the same one twice. But God told me that was wrong and of the world. "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world." 1 John 2:15. I told Him that if it were wrong to let me have lung trouble or take my voice away if I didn't quit. I took lung trouble, and am bothered sometimes with it yet, but I don't sing love songs any more. I would quit awhile then I would sing some again. Papa said that some of them were wrong and some weren't, so I sang what he said were not wrong; but God will tell us if we seek Him in prayer. About five years ago I quit singing any of them. It was a task, but by the help of God I did quit.

For about five years I was church clerk in the Baptist church. But my Bible says (Luke 10:20) that our names are written in heaven, so God is the church clerk of his church.

Three years ago this September, I told them to take my name off their book, for I believed in divine healing and being filled with the Holy Ghost. I had not heard a church of God preacher preach, and did not really know that God's church was called the church of God. 2 Tim. 3:5 says, "Having a form of godliness but denying the power thereof. From such turn away." So I turned away.

About a year after that I got a Pentecostal preacher to baptize me (or go through the motion). They



trusted God for healing (or pretended to) and they will baptize without opening the doors of the church. They showed me some scriptures on being baptized in Jesus' name, and I was baptized, but I was still searching for the truth. I prayed for God to send a preacher full of the Holy Ghost and power, and one that could interpret the tongues or explain them. I was under the Pentecostal evil spirit power about a year and a half, or may be longer, trying to be filled with the Holy Ghost. I tried to get a Pentecostal preacher here to hold a meeting, but tried in vain. Paul spoke about being baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus, and after I was baptized the Spirit said, "You ought to obey Jesus Christ." He said, in Matt. 28:19, 20, "Go ye therefore and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father of the Son and of the Holy Ghost; teaching them to observe all things." The Bible tells us to do all that we do in the name of the Lord, so one must observe ALL things. So after all of these so-called baptisms, I hadn't been baptized yet.

God sent Bro. C. C. Carver and wife, Sister Ruth Murphey, Sister Katherine Simpson, and Sister Eva Mitchel to preach the truth, and I saw the church of God baptism. I read the church of God tract and saw the church before they came. Acts 20:28, "Take heed, therefore, unto yourselves, and to all the flock over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood." Eph. 3:14, 15, "For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of the Lord Jesus Christ, Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth IS named" (IS means present tense or NOW). Ephesians 4:4, 5, "There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; One Lord, one faith, one baptism." We must believe in the church that Jesus built and be baptized by a Holy Ghost filled preacher, ordained of God and sent, or it is just a form. There is only one church and one baptism. 1 Cor. 12:13, "For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body"—the church of God. Mark 16:16, "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved." The ones who had baptized me were unbelievers, for they did not believe what the Word said about the one church; so they hadn't been baptized either. Mark 16:17-20 tells who believes and who don't. Are you in the right church? Do you believe the Word? You can believe a lie and be damned. In Matt. 16:16-18, we read of the one church—IT means one.

Jesus is the same yesterday and today and for ever (Heb. 13:8). He suffered to sanctify the people (Heb. 13:12). The whole family is named after Jesus' Father, and his Father's name is God (Eph. 2:20-22; Eph. 3:14, 15). Who can open and shut the door of the church of God? No man or preacher; Jesus Christ, the door is open before you. Will you enter through the door or try to go through a preach-

er's door—try to climb up some other way. The same is a thief and a robber. You are robbing God of precious souls when you try to climb up some other way.

—Nellie Lovell.

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## WISDOM FROM ABOVE

We are all earnestly seeking more knowledge and wisdom and understanding of the Word of God, and how to live a life that will be pleasing to God.

Wisdom appears to be as a stream, constantly flowing. The down stream is foul with yesterday's mistakes! The world seeks and finds its wisdom downstream (or second-handed). So it behooves us to seek it at the source, where we will find it to be good, pure, and true—for, "The wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gently, and easy to be entreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy." James 3:17.

We know that the source of all good things is God. Then let us seek wisdom and understanding at the source of the stream, and we shall not lack inspiration.

Wisdom is the gift of God, and like faith, comes not of ourselves. "For God giveth to man that is good in his sight, wisdom and knowledge and joy." Eccl. 2:26. And "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not, and it shall be given him." (James 1:5).

After receiving wisdom from the source of the stream (God) let us use it according to the measure it is given us. "See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise." Eph. 5:15. "Who is a wise man and endued with knowledge among you? let him show out of a good conversation his works with meekness of wisdom." James 3:13.

Let us rejoice in our measure of wisdom, using it so as to glorify God; for, "Happy is the man that findeth wisdom and draweth out understanding."

Wisdom as described in James 3:17, would not allow us to be hasty in reproving others, yet would enable us to receive reproof with meekness and an open heart. Such wisdom will permit us to live together peaceably and gently and lovingly.

Such wisdom is honest.

Such wisdom is pure.

Such wisdom will enable us to make our lives an open and honest testimony of the love of God in our hearts.

Such wisdom refuses to quarrel with untruth, but concentrates on proving God's truth.

This wisdom refuses to store up anger, to feed ill-will; but delights in stirring up love and sympathy—takes joy in changing anger and resentment to good-will.

This wisdom enables the teacher to instruct with patience and love.

—Virginia Wittenborn



**THE CHURCH**

After accepting the Christ,  
Life's door you unlock;  
Don't start to join churches.  
That aren't built on the Rock.

Christ's gospel will tell you,  
You're saved from above.  
How can you join something  
You're now a part of?

If you do join something,  
It sounds like a whim  
That your eyes are on something  
And not upon him.

There is a heavenly cure  
For this earthly pain;  
It's to obey in baptism  
Into Christ who was slain.

You have accepted his gift,  
You have accepted his call,  
You're a part of his church  
As a brick in a wall.

And the winning of souls  
To the church built above,  
Is the Mission of Christ  
You're now a part of.

Upon that first day  
Three thousand did flock.  
To become a part of  
The church, built on the Rock.

The Rock is the Christ  
The church formed above,  
There is nothing to join  
Which you're now a part of.

—R. D. Cramer.



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**BIBLE LESSONS**

**GOD THE CREATOR**

Sunday, July 5, 1942

Daily Readings and Meditations

June 29 to July 4.

- M. The creation of the universe Gen. 1:1-5.
- T. God the Creator of man Gen. 1:24-31.
- W. God's existence manifest Rom. 1:18-25.
- T. The power of God Isa. 40:27-31.
- F. The glory of God Psalm 19:1-6.
- S. The wisdom of God Psalm 104:24-31.

Printed Portion .....Genesis 1:1-5, 24-31; 2:1.

Gen. 1:1. In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.

2. And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.

3. And God said, Let there be light: and there was light.

4. And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness.

5. And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day.

Gen. 1:24. And God said, Let the earth bring forth the living creature after his kind, cattle, and creeping thing, and beast of the earth after his kind: and it was so.

25. And God made the beast of the earth after his kind, and cattle after their kind, and every thing that creepeth upon the earth after his kind: and God saw that it was good.

26. And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.

27. So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

28. And God blessed them, and God said unto them. Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.

29. And God said, Behold, I have given you every herb bearing seed, which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree, in the which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed; to you it shall be for meat.

30. And to every beast of the earth, and to every fowl of the air, and to every thing that creepeth upon the earth; wherein there is life, I have given every green herb for meat: and it was so.

31. And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day.

Gen. 2:1. Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them.

Golden Text: "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth." Gen. 1:1.

Practical Truth: Only as we love and serve God do we fulfill the purpose for which we were created.

**COMMENTS AND APPLICATION**

Without the book of Genesis the other books of the Bible would be very hard to understand, for it tells us how we were made and why we are here, and accounts for our moral condition and our consequent need of re-

demption by Christ. As we approach the study of the book, our purpose should be not to ascertain historical facts, but to bring to our minds again the power, love and mercy of God, and to increase our faith in Him who made and controls the universe.

It is not our business to write a convincing argument to prove that there is a God and that He did create all things. The simple story of the creation combined with the instinct that God has planted in every heart is proof enough to the honest heart. The others have hardened their hearts and closed their eyes and would not believe, though they were outwitted a thousand times in an argument. This simple truth has stood the test of the ages though brilliant minds have attacked it with their most powerful ammunition.

The youth of today feel the attack very keenly, for they have been reared in homes where God is given very little or no consideration, so they are not at all acquainted with Him and His power. Then they meet the question in the modern schools and are required to decide which is truth. They have nothing to encourage their faith in God; hence the athiests' poison arrows—labeled science and facts—find a place of lodgement in their hearts. Miserable, indeed, are they then, for they have practically lost sight of the only means of peace and true happiness. "The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God." When man loses faith in a higher power he is often driven to do desperate things. We cannot understand why anyone would be so foolish as to throw away their only hope.

A famous infidel, who had tired of his vain efforts to prove there is no God, wrote the following:

"I've tried in vain a thousand ways,  
My fears to quell, my hopes to raise,  
But what I need, the Bible says,  
Is ever, only Jesus.

"My soul is night, my heart is steel—  
I cannot see, I cannot feel;  
For light, for life I must appeal,  
In simple faith to Jesus."

As we study about the creation of literal things, it reminds of God's new creation, which is as real as the creation of the universe. Souls that have been brought to Christ in a chaotic state of sin, darkness and death, have received forgiveness, light, and life—this is God's new creation. It is blessed to be a new creature in Christ.

When each day's work was completed God did not carelessly dismiss it from his mind, but He saw that it was good. How much better off we would be, if at the end of each day's toil we would take time to see if it has been good.

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#### ADAM AND EVE: TEMPTATION AND SIN

Sunday, July 12, 1942

##### Daily Readings and Meditations

July 6 to 11.

- M. Temptation and sin Gen. 3:1-13.
- T. Works of the flesh Gal. 5:16-24.
- W. God hates sin Prov. 15:1-9.
- T. The consequences of sin Rom. 6:15-23.
- F. Contrition for sin Psalm 32:1-7.
- S. Christ overcomes temptation Matt. 4:1-11.

Printed Portion .....Genesis 3:1-13, 23, 24.

Gen. 3:1. Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And

he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?

2. And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden:

3. But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die.

4. And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die;

5. For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.

6. And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.

7. And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons.

8. And they heard the voice of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day; and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God amongst the trees of the garden.

9. And the Lord God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou?

10. And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.

11. And he said, Who told thee that thou wast naked? Hast thou eaten of the tree, whereof I commanded thee that thou shouldst not eat?

12. And the man said, The woman whom thou gavest to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat.

13. And the Lord God said unto the woman, What is this that thou hast done? And the woman said, The serpent beguiled me and I did eat.

14. Therefore the Lord God sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from whence he was taken.

15. So he drove out the man; and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden Cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life.

Golden Text: "The soul that sinneth, it shall die." Ezekiel 18:4.

Practical Truth: In the end it never pays to disobey the commands of God.

#### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Good military generals learn all they possibly can about the enemies' methods of attack so they can know the best way to arrange their defense lines; so it is well for those who wish to fight life's battles on God's side against Satan to study his methods of attack on the human soul in order to be victorious in the conflict. As we read today's printed portion we realize that his attack on the first human beings was just about the same as it is in modern times.

Verse one describes the enemy as being very subtle, which means shrewd, artful, or crafty. He presents himself to the soul of man in the most fascinating way. He used God's command to engage Eve in a conversation and get her interested. He often uses the Word of God, but it is always for mischief.

He did not attempt to talk to Eve about the bliss they were enjoying and about the fruit of the many trees which God allowed them to have—that would have strengthened her desire to live for God and keep his command—but he drew her mind from the goodness of God to the one forbidden tree to cause her to think God

had deprived her of a great privilege, and to be dissatisfied in her present state. When he drew her to doubt God's word, she could freely disobey it and persuade her husband to do the same.

God has said, "The soul that sinneth, it shall die;" but the devil has the great mass of people deceived into thinking that God did not mean that. The world lies in wickedness and sin; people are giving free vent to their fleshly lusts, and yet most of them believe that in some way it will all turn out well in the end, and that God is too good to let them go to hell.

After the fall Adam and Eve had a consciousness that they were naked, and sought something to conceal it. Righteousness is represented in the Bible as a garment and without it a soul is poor, blind, and naked. Adam and Eve sought to cover their nakedness with fig-leaf aprons; today men seek to cover it with self-righteousness, church membership, religious professions and ceremonies—all are insufficient; it takes the blood of Jesus.

They were filled with a dread of God and tried to hide from him. This was unnatural, for he had made them to have fellowship and communion with him. It was also foolish, for all the trees in the world are not sufficient to hide one from God. "Be sure your sins will find you out."

When people begin to neglect prayer, the reading of God's Word, and assembling at the house of worship, it is a good sign that they have lost their first love and are trying to hide from God. Like Adam and Eve they often seek to vindicate themselves by blaming it on others.

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CAIN AND ABEL: A CONTRAST

Sunday, July 19, 1942

Daily Readings and Meditations  
July 13 to 18.

- M. Well-doing and evil-doing Gen. 4:1-8.  
T. Evil-doing punished Gen. 4:9-15.  
W. Well-doing rewarded Matt. 25:14-23.  
T. Evil-doing through jealousy James 3:13-18.  
F. Well-doing through faith Heb. 11:1-6.  
S. Faith and works James 2:14-26.

Printed Portion .....Genesis 4:1-15.

Genesis 4:1. And Adam knew Eve his wife; and she conceived and bare Cain, and said, I have gotten a man from the Lord.

2. And she again bare his brother Abel. And Abel was a keeper of sheep, but Cain was a tiller of the ground.

3. And in process of time it came to pass, that Cain brought of the fruit of the ground an offering unto the Lord.

4. And Abel, he also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of the fat thereof. And the Lord had respect unto Abel and to his offering;

5. But unto Cain and to his offering he had not respect. And Cain was very wroth, and his countenance fell.

6. And the Lord said unto Cain, Why art thou wroth? and why is thy countenance fallen?

7. If thou doest well, shalt thou not be accepted, and if thou doest not well, sin lieth at the door. And unto thee shall be his desire, and thou shalt rule over him.

8. And Cain talked with Abel his brother: and it came to pass when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother, and slew him.

9. And the Lord said unto Cain, Where is Abel thy brother? And he said, I know not: Am I my brother's keeper?

10. And he said, What hast thou done? the voice of

thy brother's blood crieth unto me from the ground.

11. And now art thou cursed from the earth, which hath opened her mouth to receive thy brother's blood from thy hand:

12. When thou tillest the ground, it shall not henceforth yield unto thee her strength; a fugitive and a vagabond shalt thou be in the earth.

13. And Cain said unto the Lord, My punishment is greater than I can bear.

14. Behold, thou hast driven me out this day from the face of the earth; and from thy face shall I be hid; and I shall be a fugitive and a vagabond in the earth; and it shall come to pass, that every one that findeth me shall slay me.

15. And the Lord said unto him, Therefore whosoever slayeth Cain, vengeance shall be taken on him sevenfold. And the Lord set a mark upon Cain, lest any finding him should kill him.

Golden Text: "By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous." Heb. 11:4.

Practical Truth: Our brother's welfare should be a concern of us all.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Though man had woefully fallen from his righteous estate and brought death upon all men by his fall, God did not leave them without a ray of hope. He gave them the promise that the seed of the woman would break the power of the serpent. When children were born to them, it was the beginning of the fulfillment of that promise. No record is given of the instructions which God gave them concerning the mode of worship which would be acceptable in his sight, but it is not likely he would leave them without instructions on this important matter. The fellowship between God and man had been broken and now they could only find favor with God by offering sacrifices which would typify the coming sacrifice of God's Son—the acceptance of which would bring them back into fellowship with God again.

Abel's offering was typical of the sacrifice of the Lamb of God, but Cain's was only the fruit of his own labors. "Without the shedding of blood there is no remission of sins." So Abel's sacrifice was accepted and Cain's was not.

Some think this was unfair because both men offered sacrifices of that which they had. But we can not win God's favor by sacrificing our substance. God's ways are not our ways and we must come God's way if we wish to be accepted of Him. There are untold numbers of Cain's in the world today, who feel that they have a right to worship as they please. Instead of submitting themselves to God's righteousness, they go about to establish their own righteousness. Why do they do this? The answer that God gave Cain applies here: "Sin lieth at the door." They hate God's people who have been saved by the blood of Jesus and would, no doubt, kill them as they did in the days of the early church if the laws of the land were not against it. As it is, they say all manner of evil against them and persecute them in different ways. For all these things they will be brought into judgment. God will avenge his elect even as he did the blood of Abel. Beware how you talk about a child of God.

One would think that such a small family in a large unhabited world would be able to get along, but sin in the heart caused trouble.

The following is taken from the booklet, "Truths On Sanctification" by Ostis Wilson, Jr.:

"In Eph. 2:3 we read, '... and were by nature the

children of wrath even as others.' Born within us all was a very nature of wrath. The very first man who came into the world after the fall of Adam and Eve, and was born after their likeness (Cain, their firstborn) and not after the likeness of God, rose up in wrath one day and slew his brother. As we look back over the history of man, we find the most outstanding characteristic to be selfishness, which, with its accompanying fruits of greed, covetousness, self-promotion and the pleasing of one's self, has resulted in hatred, clash, confusion, strife, war, and destruction. . . . This very sin principle or 'Nature of wrath,' which was in the heart of Cain from the likeness of his father, was crouched in his heart and at the opportune time sprang up to work destruction. It would appear that up to this time all had been going well with both Cain and Abel; but now, at this given signal from without, the principle that had been in his heart from his birth, that crouched monster of sin lying at the door taking occasion of the rejected sacrifice of Cain, pounced upon him and became active in the form of jealousy and hatred and worked destruction."

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### NOAH: GOD'S COVENANT WITH MANKIND

Sunday, July 26, 1942

#### Daily Readings and Meditations

July 20 to 25.

- M. God's covenant with mankind Gen. 9:1-7.
- T. The sign of God's covenant Gen. 9:8-17.
- W. Deliverance of the godly 2 Pet. 2:1-9.
- T. A covenant of peace Ezek. 34:25-31.
- F. An everlasting covenant Psa. 111:1-10.
- S. The new covenant Jer. 31:31-34.

Printed Portion .....Genesis 9:1-16.

Gen. 9:1. And God blessed Noah and his sons, and said, unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth.

2. And the fear of you, and the dread of you, shall be upon every beast of the earth, and upon every fowl of the air, upon all that moveth upon the earth, and upon all the fishes of the sea; into your hand are they delivered.

3. Every moving thing that liveth shall be meat for you; even as the green herb have I given you all things.

4. But flesh with the life thereof, which is the blood thereof, shall ye not eat.

5. And surely your blood of your lives will I require it, and at the hand of man; at the hand of every man's brother will I require the life of man.

6. Whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed: for in the image of God made he man.

7. And you, be ye fruitful, and multiply; bring forth abundantly in the earth, and multiply therein.

8. And God spake unto Noah, and to his sons with him, saying,

9. And I, behold, I establish my covenant with you, and with your seed after you:

10. And with every living creature that is with you, of the fowl, of the cattle, and of every beast of the earth with you; from all that go out of the ark, to every beast of the earth:

11. And I will establish my covenant with you; neither shall all flesh be cut off any more by the waters of a flood; neither shall there any more be a flood to destroy the earth.

12. And God said, This is the token of the covenant which I make between me and you, and every living creature that is with you, for perpetual generations:

13. I do set my bow in the cloud, and it shall be for a token of a covenant between me and the earth.

14. And it shall come to pass, when I bring a cloud

over the earth, that the bow shall be seen in the cloud:

15. And I will remember my covenant, which is between me and you, and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall no more become a flood to destroy all flesh.

16. And the bow shall be in the cloud; and I will look upon it, that I may remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is upon the earth.

Golden Text: "I will remember my covenant" Gen. 9:15.

Practical Truth: God's promises are dependable, whether a sign is given to remind us of them or not.

#### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

A great length of time intervened between the murder of Abel and the covenant that God made with Noah and his sons in today's lesson. In the meantime men had given way to the sin principle in their hearts instead of trying to control it and be its master, they let it master them until they had become so wicked that God could extend his mercy to them no longer. He sent a flood to destroy all but righteous Noah and his family. God told Noah what he was going to do and planned a way for his escape. Noah believed God—righteous people always believe God—and built a huge ark according to God's plan in which he, his family, many animals and birds were saved.

The ark was a type of the church of God which Jesus built, which we can enter now (be spiritual'ly born into it) to escape the wrath of God when he shall soon destroy the world by fire, according to his word. Wicked men and seducers are waxing worse, deceiving and being deceived. They say, "Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation."—Read all of the third chapter of 2 Peter. Some say they believe God and that he is going to destroy the earth, but they put off salvation. Their condition is as dangerous as those who do not believe, for there is no place of safety outside the ark. Thank God, a few have entered the ark and are safe if they endure unto the end and do not leave the ark.

After the flood, Noah and his sons were the heads of the race, as Adam and Eve were before the flood. God blessed them as he did Adam and Eve in Gen. 1:28.

If it were not for the promise which God made in the second verse, man would long ago have been destroyed by animals, for they are much stronger. God's doubters and enemies would have us believe that man overcame animals because of his intelligence. This is partly true, but after all God gave the intelligence. However, most animals have an instinctive fear of man and will flee from him unless very hungry or cornered. Man has trained some animals to serve him, and sometimes treats them in a very brutal way. They would not have to endure such treatment for their strength is much greater than man's. But they do it because God ordained it so.

In verse three, God, for the first time, gave permission to man to eat flesh. God forbids man to eat the blood of animals in both the Old and New Testaments.

The reason for the sacredness of human life is that man was made in the image of God.

The rainbow covenant should help draw us closer to God. The next time we see the bow let us remember that God too is looking at it and is remembering his covenant with mankind. Would it not be the reasonable and fair thing for us to make a covenant that we will whole-heartedly serve such a merciful and mighty God?