

FAITH AND VICTORY

The EVENING LIGHT WATCHMAN



Volume 13, No. 9

Published at

Guthrie, Oklahoma

25c Per Year

November, 1942

WEEDS AND DEEDS

"A naughty little weed one day
Poked up it's tiny head.
Tomorrow I will pull you up,
Old Mr. Weed, I said.

"But I put off the doing till,
When next I passed that way,
The hateful thing had spread abroad
And laughed at my dismay.

"A naughty little thought one day
Popped right into my mind.
O-ho, I cried, I'll put you out
Tomorrow, you will find.

"But once again I put it off
Till, like the little weed,
The ugly thing sprang up apace
And grew into a deed.

"So, boys and girls, heed what I say
And learn it with your sums:
Don't put off till tomorrow, for
Tomorrow never comes.

"Today pull up the little weeds,
The naughty thoughts subdue,
Or they may take the reigns themselves
And some day master you."

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THE FAMILY ALTAR

A home is never quite complete until the father takes his place before his household, as a priest. I do not mean as an ordained minister, but rather as one who realizes that he is responsible for the spiritual interest of his household. It is not enough that we should provide for the mental comforts of our children. It is by no means enough that we should be concerned for their intellectual development. The spiritual nature must be cultivated, and the moral atmosphere surrounding our children, carefully considered and properly developed. I know of no one

thing that can so aid in doing this as that the day should begin with family prayer.

It is a sad thing to realize that some children have never heard their fathers pray. I sincerely pity the father of whom this can be said, and the child who is thus deprived of an influence, which almost inevitably makes for strength of character. I am quite sure that one reason why so many men shrink from holding family worship is this: they do not feel that they are able to make a sufficiently long and intelligent prayer. Perhaps they feel that they are too busy to read an extended lesson from the scriptures. I am so positive that one reason why the children in the household may find family worship irksome is this: the prayers are too indefinite and sometimes meaningless, while the reading of the Scriptures is too long drawn out, and the passages selected inappropriate to the occasion. Most of us fail in our praying at the point of definiteness.

I know of an aged man who used to begin every day by praying with his household. The servants came to family worship, the men from the fields came to sit with the household and worship God. The name of each one was mentioned, and an individual petition offered for each. They sang a hymn together, they had a brief Scripture lesson, and all went forth to toil, realizing that God was with them.

Children are always quick to detect the note of insincerity, and there is no place where this reveals itself more clearly than in the words we use in prayer. It is not so much what we say, when we pray, as the way we say it. As a matter of fact it is not so much what we say, and the way we say it, as what we are, that counts. There is one prayer which the head of the household should continually offer. It is this: "Search me, O God, and know my heart; try me, and know my thoughts; and see if there be any wicked way in me" (Ps. 139:23, 24). Then, too, it is necessary that the prayer offered in the morning should be lived throughout the day. We cannot pray one way and live another. We can't ask for patience, and be impatient, or pray for love and be unlovely.

The influence of family worship is as lasting as eternity. Many a boy who appears restless at the family altar has an impression made upon him which comes back to him with tremendous force in after years when he is out in the world battling with sin. Many a girl is kept from doing what is inconsistent because of her recollection of the trembling tones

heard in her father's prayer, and the sound of her mother's voice in song. Many times when we find ourselves drifting we suddenly stop, as if a hand reached out to hold upon us. It is impossible to drift farther, and all because the hand is a memory, and the memory brings before us the period of family worship, when our fathers were praying and the very atmosphere of Heaven was about us.

Let it not be said that life in these days is too strenuous for real family worship. It is possible that we may not have the time for extended worship, but five minutes each morning thus given to God would protect a household. Surely it is possible, when the Lord's Day comes, to assemble the entire household, sing a hymn, read the Scriptures together, bow in prayer, and thus pledge ourselves to a faithful and consistent following of Christ in the days ahead of us. A prayerless home is a powerless home. A household protected by prayer cannot drift far from God. Therefore, if we would have our home right with God, and our children kept from drifting, we must pray, not only for our loved ones, but with them, and do it every day. —J. Wilbur Chapman

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Lights In The World

"Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee. For behold the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the Lord shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee. And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising." Isa. 60:1-3.

In this dark, sinful world we have many kinds of lights, but the most important one is the true light, (Jesus) which lighteth every man that cometh into the world. We read in John 1:1-5, "In the beginning was the word, and the word was with God, and the word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not anything made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not."

Dear reader, the gospel is our light, and the entrance of its words giveth light. 2 Pet. 1:19, "We have also a more sure word of prophecy; where unto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts."

God is the author of light. Isa. 45:7, "I form the light." Jesus speaks to us in John 8:12, saying, "I am the light of the world; he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life." His mission in the world was to open our eyes, and to turn us from darkness unto light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that we may receive forgiveness of our sins and an inheritance among them that are sanctified by faith in him.

We also read in 1 Peter 2:9, that we Christians are a chosen generation (not denomination), a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a peculiar people. We are wise enough to obey every word of the Lord, and

adorn the gospel of Jesus in every walk of life, that we should show forth the praises of him, who hath called us out of darkness into his marvelous light.

We are commanded in Rom. 13:12, to "cast off the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, and walk honestly as in the day, not in rioting, and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying, but put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provisions for the flesh, to fulfill the lusts thereof." David said in Psalm 119:105, "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path." All Christians were once in darkness. Eph. 5:8, "but now are we light in the Lord: walk as children of light." 1 John 5:6-7, "This is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light and in him is no darkness at all. If we say we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth; but if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his son cleanseth us from all sin." So we see that it is very necessary for us to walk in the light, obeying his word to have the light of life. Phil. 2:15, "That ye may be blameless, and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation among whom ye shine as lights in the world. Doing what? Holding forth the word of life.

Matt. 5:14, Jesus said to his disciples, "Ye are the light of the world." Acts 13:47, "For so hath the Lord commanded us saying, I have set thee to be a light of the Gentiles, that thou shouldst be for salvation unto the ends of the earth." Jesus, in speaking of John, said he was a burning and a shining light, and that is what he wants us to be in this dark and sin-cursed world, that the people might see how to get to Jesus.

Dear brother and sister, if we do not receive the word of God, and let the spirit of Jesus shine out of our lives, many souls will be lost. If we are willing to obey every word of the Lord, his blessed Holy Spirit will guide us into all truth, and our life will reflect the light of Christ until others will desire to follow Jesus. —Gladys Weiss

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SUCH LOVE

There never was a mortal man
With such great love as God;
But when it comes to loving sin,
He'll always draw his rod.

We may presume upon God's love
And think he'll let us by;
But when too late, we'll meet our fate—
Escape? It's vain to try.

Behold how good, and how severe—
Romans 11:22—

Oh! sinner man, you'll speechless stand;
He'll have last word with you.

Erle E. Forbes.

HOLY GHOST FIRE

Many people have been puzzled about the meaning of the scriptures in 1 Cor. 3:11-15.

In the first place, we note the apostle said that no other foundation can be laid but the one which is Jesus Christ. This truth should be a settled fact with every believer. The gold, silver, precious stones is unquestionably the precious vital truth of the inspired Word of God; and the wood, hay, and stubble would mean, without doubt, false doctrines and systems of men. Although they may really have Christ for a foundation, yet have added so many false doctrines, systems, and committies with many other man-made regulations that Christ can hardly be seen any more.

In the thirteenth verse he says, "Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is." The day undoubtedly has reference to this gospel day in which we live, for the prophets have reference to the time of Christ and the Holy Ghost as the Gospel day. Zech. 13:1; Mal. 3:2, 3; Mal. 4:1. The fire could not mean literal fire, because literal fire could not burn spiritual building of systems and false doctrines, so we must conclude that the fire is Holy Ghost fire, bringing light and truth to deceived men so they can, or have an opportunity to, cease from darkness and rely only upon God-given truths, built upon the true foundation which is Christ.

The Prophet Isaiah, speaking of Christ and his work, said that the battles of this world were fought with confused noise and garments rolled in blood; but the battle of the Lord will be with burning and fuel of fire (Isa. 9:5). In the third chapter of Matt. we hear John speaking of Jesus and his work in the eleventh verse thus, "He shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire." In the 12th verse we read, "Whose fan [Holy Ghost] is in his hand, and he will thoroughly purge his floor [the hearts of men], and gather the wheat into his garner," those who will not cling to the chaff, wood, hay, or stubble, but hold to the precious stones, gold, and silver, the real truths of God's Word. The chaff, those who hold to the wood, hay, and stubble, shall be burned up. In this gospel day, the Holy Ghost is bringing clearer light and knowledge to the meek and humble. It is as fire to the wood, hay, and stubble that men are and have been piling upon Christ. Their false doctrines and systems must fall and be consumed away from them as by fire if they are saved in the final Judgment day, for the gospel day will declare the truth and show that these things are not of God.

In the 15th verse we read, "If any man's work shall be burned he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire." If the man who has built up wood, hay, and stubble will believe the Holy Ghost truth when it is as fire burning in his soul and will let his false theories and systems be burned up or destroyed by the Holy Ghost fire and hold on to the real truth of the Word, he will be saved, so as by fire (Holy Ghost fire). —Fred Pruitt.

WATCH

What a warning—a timely warning—this is, and especially since it is given from the mouth of the Lord. In Matthew 22:42-46, we read the following: "Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come. **But know this**, that if the good man of the house had known in what watch the thief would come, he would have watched, and would not have suffered his house to be broken up. Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh. Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his Lord hath made ruler over his household, to give them meat in due season? **Blessed is that servant**, whom his Lord when he cometh shall find so doing."

In verse three we read about Jesus sitting on the Mount of Olives when his disciples came to him and asked him to tell them when certain things he had told them would come to pass and what would be the sign of his coming and of the end of the world. The first thing that he told them was to take heed that they be not deceived.

In Luke 12:40-42 we read also, "Be ye therefore ready also: for the Son of man cometh at an hour when ye think not. Then Peter said unto him, Lord, speakest thou this parable unto us, or even to all? And the Lord said, **Who then is that faithful and wise steward**, whom his Lord shall make ruler over his household, to give them their portion of meat in due season?" Then in verse 43 it says, "Blessed is that servant, whom his Lord, when he cometh, shall find so doing."

The serious thought we get out of all this is: there will be no special warning of the immediate approach of Christ at his second coming, which will be as quickly as the lightning flashes across the sky. And there will be no "blessed servant" then, but the one who is watching.

Oh, what a time of unprecedented consternation—just a little ahead—awaits this worldly generation of unconcerned, frivolous, vain, pleasure-loving, indifferent and mocking souls! Oh, God of love and mercy, can there be some way in thy kind providence of love to awake the world from its present awful stupor before the judgment is so unexpectedly upon them?

We know that God is right now in the act of waking up the nations, but how many will be sacrificed to one that is saved under present conditions? is the terrible question that right now confronts us.

—J. H. Pierson.

—NOTICE.—

New Castle Ind.—Dear Bro. Pruitt and saints at Guthrie: Greetings in holy love. We are still saved and praying for the Church in these trying times.

I would like for you to announce in the paper that we have moved from our former address in Middletown and are now living at 934 So. 15 St. New Castle Ind.

We invite all saints who are passing through to stop.
Bro. Wm. Pearson

Pray for Brother Frank Blair, Sr., of Catlettsburg, Ky., to be healed of a major rupture and heart dropsy.

“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.

(Entered as second-class matter June 30, 1930 at the Post Office at Guthrie, Oklahoma under the act of March, 3, 1879.) —SUBSCRIPTION PRICES—

Single copy, one year	\$.25
Single copy, five years	1.00
Five copies to any address, one year	1.00
Twelve copies to any address, one year	2.00

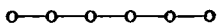
Its motto: Have faith in God. Its object: The glory of God and the salvation of men; the promulgation and restoration of the whole truth to the people in this “evening time” as it was in the morning Church of the first century; the unification of all true believers in one body by the love of God. Its standard: Separation from the world and entire devotion to the service and the will of God. Its characteristics: No discipline but the Bible, no bond of union but the love of God; no test of fellowship but the indwelling spirit of Christ; and separation from all human organizations—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
920 W. Mansur Ave., Guthrie, Oklahoma.



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

— NOTICE —

I am asking for the saints to pray for me for my hands. Whenever it gets cloudy, they hurt and draw up, but I am trusting the Lord for healing. Also pray for my daughter and granddaughter who want to be saved and healed. And pray for my grandson who is to be called to camp, that he may get saved and trust the Lord.

Lizzle Murdock

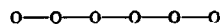
Editorials

In the October issue of the Faith and Victory paper, we told our readers that we expected to have some definite information to insert in this November issue of the paper concerning the “Select Hymns” song books.

We have been corresponding with the Gospel Trumpet Co. about printing a good supply of either the “Select Hymns” song book or one selected from this book and the “Reformation Glory” song book, for us. They have made us some offers on doing the printing, but up to date we have not made any deal with them to have the work done.

The Lord is making us feel pretty clear to have them make us a book containing near 360 songs, selected from the “Select Hymns” song book and perhaps fifteen or sixteen from the “Reformation Glory” song book, making a book with cloth binding containing 384 pages, including the Index pages.

Those who have sent in money for the plates, which we did not get, can have some of these books or their money back, or part of it in books and the rest of the money back, just as you please. Several have written us already and told us that since we could not get the plates, to use their money in the Lord’s work in sending out tracts, papers, and booklets to needy souls. We have three ways in which money is needed in the work: that is, tracts to be sent to the many prisons in the U. S.; tracts, books, and papers to be sent free to those unable to buy, and to tract distributors; also, money for the general up-keep of the work. We want each one to be free to tell us just what your wish is, so we shall know just how to clear up satisfactorily with every one. We are as much or more disappointed than you are that we were not able to get the “Select Hymns” song book plates. We have done the very best we could in the matter. If we had not stirred them up about letting us buy the plates, they would have destroyed them; so our effort has been the means of preserving the plates a while longer, and we shall have a new supply. Thank the Lord for that much.

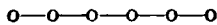


In the last issue of the paper we sent out self-addressed envelopes and subscription blanks with space for twenty “Three Months” subscriptions on each blank, making it convenient for our readers to send in subscriptions to the paper for their friends and neighbors. A goodly number of the subscription blanks have been filled out and returned already, and we are looking for many more to come in before November 15, 1942, when this offer will expire.

Please get them all in before, or by, the 15th, as we shall start all these “Three Months” subscriptions with the December issue so all the subscribers will have the paper to read during the three winter months.

If you need any more envelopes and blanks, you may send for them, as we have more to send to all who want them. Just fill out the blank with twenty names and addresses, and enclose a dollar bill. Send it to us, and the subscribers will receive the paper during the three winter months. If you want one of the seven premiums offered on the blank, just mark an "x" by the one you want and enclose five cents in postage stamps for wrapping and mailing, and you will also receive the premium.

We are very desirous to have a large list of these subscribers to send the paper to this winter, that many more souls may be saved ere the spring comes again. We are expecting to have articles on salvation in every issue of the paper so people will not fail to know how to really get saved and be ready for heaven.



At this writing, Bro. Ulysses Phillips of Dover, Okla. and Bro. Willie Murphey and wife are engaged in a revival meeting at Tulsa, Okla. They are expecting it to be a two-weeks' meeting, or longer as the Lord may lead.

Bro. Darius Gibson and family are at, or near Louin, Miss., where they are doing work for the Lord. They have their trailer house there and some of the saints have let them have a small house to live in, so the Lord is providing for them that just will put their trust in Him. "His eyes are over the righteous, and his ears are open to their prayers."

Obituaries

Little Osceola A. Williams, Jr. was born July 28, 1934. Departed this life Sept. 12, 1942.

He leaves to mourn his passing, Father, Mother, two sisters, one brother, grandparents, uncles, aunts, and other relatives and friends.

Sleep on baby and take your rest,

We loved you but God loved you best.

Text: Matt. 25:18, by Bro. Dan Richardson of Hoffman, Okla.

Sister Daisy Foster was born May 11, 1883 at Holly Springs, Miss. She passed Oct. 7, 1942 at her home six miles south of Bristow, Okla. at the age of 59 years. At an early age her parents moved to Muskogee, Okla. where she grew into womanhood. At an early date she united with the Methodist Church and lived faithful to it's precepts.

She was married to Mr. Nelson Jameson who preceded her in death. To this union was born one son who lives at Bristow, Oklahoma.

January 1908, she married again to E. R. Foster and to this union was born six sons and four daughters who with their father survives her.

Later in life, after hearing the truth preached by Bro. S. T. Walker she united with the Church of God. Nothing could satisfy her better than to be in the services of the Lord. She bore her brief illness with patience.

Aside from her immediate family she is survived by one sister, two brothers, seven grandchildren and a host of friends and other relatives who mourn her passing.

Funeral preached by Bro. Ulysses Phillips,
Text: Job 7:6; Heb. 9:27. Interment in Crown
Hill Cemetery near Tulsa, Okla.

May God bless the bereaved family is our prayer.
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The People Of God

"Ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people, that ye [his children] should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light: [Notice they are a holy nation now, not going to be.] which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy." 1 Pet. 2:9, 10.

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ: according as he hath chosen us [not going to] in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love." Eph. 1:3, 4.

"Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you. These things I command you [his people] that ye love one another. If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you. If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you." John 15:16-19. Notice: His people are not of this sinful world. God's people are the fewest of all people. "For thou art an holy people unto the Lord thy God: the Lord thy God hath chosen thee to be a special people unto himself, above all people that are upon the face of the earth. The Lord did not set his love upon you, nor choose you, because ye were more in number than any people; for ye were the fewest of all people" (and his people are still the fewest of all people). Deut. 7:6, 7.

"And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation. These are the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel." Ex. 19:6. The same words apply to his people today. "And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead and the prince of the kings of the earth, unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood, and hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father [not going to make us kings and priests unto God, but hath already done it when we were washed in his blood] to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen." Rev. 1:5, 6.

"And they [his people] sung a new song, saying, thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof; for thou wast slain, and hath redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation; and hast made us unto our God, kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth." Rev. 5:9, 10. Hallelujah! His people are reigning now over the world, the flesh and the devil.

We read in 2 Cor. 4:10, 11 that His people have the life of Jesus within them: always bearing about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our body; for we (his children) which live are always delivered unto death for Jesus sake, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our body. For we which live (his children) are always delivered unto death for Jesus' sake, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our mortal flesh. God dwells in his people. "And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye [his people] are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them and walk in them; and I will be their God and they shall be my people." 2 Cor. 6:16. 18th verse: "And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty."

"For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God, and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God? and if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and sinner appear? Notice, there are three classes of people mentioned here: the righteous, or the people of God; the ungodly, and the sinner.

One does not sin with the body only, as some would have us believe, for the heart, the inner man or spirit rules or controls the body. 1 Cor. 6:18: "Flee fornication. Every sin that a man doeth is without the body." Take the spirit out of a man, and the body is dead. "What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?" Rom. 6:1. No, those who are born of God do not sin. See 1 John 3:9, 10. "Who-soever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed [grace and word of God] remaineth in him: and he cannot sin because he is born of God. In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil." That is the way we can tell them apart: one sins and the other does not sin.

Rom. 6:17: "But God be thanked, that ye were [in times past] the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered unto you. Being then made FREE FROM SIN, ye became the servants of righteousness." 20th verse: "For when ye were the servants of sin, ye were free from righteousness," (V. 22) "But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye [his children] have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life." —U. G. Nave.

oOo

Be Not Deceived

"Little children, let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as he [Christ] is righteous." 1 John 3:7. God knew that false prophets were gone out into the world with sheep's clothing (church profession), and would deceive many honest hearted, weak children; especially new converts; and if possible, the very elect. Therefore, He warns them to be not deceived by the false spirits that would try to seduce them by teaching that

Christ does not come in the flesh, therefore the body of flesh could not be cleansed, made free from sin.

That same old anti-Christ spirit is still going strong and deceiving many by teaching that it is impossible to live free from sin while in this world, and the fleshly part of man sins more or less every day, but the spirit or inner-man does not sin. Such a preacher once said to me, "I (the outer man) am full of sin; but the inner man or spiritual man, which is Christ in my heart by faith, does not sin. He, Christ, is my substitute for my sins in the flesh that I commit daily." How can such teachers harmonize their doctrine with such plain scriptures as Mark 7:20-23? which says, "That which cometh out of the man, that defileth the man, for from WITHIN out of the HEART OF MEN proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness: all these evil things come FROM WITHIN and defile the man." According to the Word of God, all these evil things proceed, or come, out of the hearts of men. Yet the advocates of "Carnal Security" doctrine claim that they have had a change of heart, been born again, etc. One thing I would like for them to explain and prove by the Word of God is: How can Christ, God the Father, and the Holy Ghost come into a man's heart or body (the body is the temple of God) and the man's heart contain such things as are mentioned in the above scripture? Also in Gal. 5:19-21, "Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these: Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that THEY which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance, against such there is no law. And THEY that are CHRIST'S have CRUCIFIED [HAVE crucified it while living in it in this world] the FLESH with the affections and LUSTS. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit."

You surely can see by the Word of God that the works, or deeds of the flesh is what will cause a man to lose his inheritance or soul, which is eternal life in the kingdom of God. Some say they are Christ's children in the Spirit, but not his in the flesh. Please note Gal. 5:24, "And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts." And you that claim to live in the Spirit: Why can't you walk in the Spirit? The way that seemeth right is the way that tries to hold to God with one hand (Spirit only) and hold to Satan with the other (fleshly nature). This is nothing more nor less than a double minded man trying to serve two masters at the same time, which cannot be done.

Some humanly built churches (not the one that Christ built) are founded on creeds that make broad provisions for the fleshly, carnal nature, and will only receive members into their church who will agree and adhere to their doctrine. If a really converted, born again child of God for lack of under-

standing, should try to join their church and confess that the blood of Christ had cleansed him from all sin, sanctified his carnal nature with the Holy Spirit, and that he was living above sin, he would not be accepted into their fellowship. LET no man deceive you, is my prayer. —C. S. Wyatt.

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CHARITY DEFINED

There has been quite a bit of speculation as to what charity really is; but I am sure of this one thing: if we will turn to the thirteenth chapter of first Corinthians and study it carefully, with an honest, open heart, we will find to our own satisfaction just what the word "charity" means.

Charity is the all-important element, above all other things, essential to salvation. We may be able to speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and if we have not charity we are no more than sounding brass or a tinkling cymbal. And though we may have the gift of prophecy so we can correctly foretell all things and understand all mysteries, and have all knowledge, and though we have the kind of faith that is needed to move mountains, and have not charity, Paul says that we are just nothing. Some people seem to think that if they give of their means to help needy people, that it is charity. But listen to what Paul tells us: "And though I bestow ALL my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing." All the religion in the world is useless unless charity is included in it.

Paul tells us what charity is by telling us what it does, or will do, if we have it.

"Charity suffereth L-O-N-G." If what you have doesn't suffer long, it is not charity. And after it suffers long, if it is not KIND it is not charity, for the precious old Book tells us that charity suffers long and is kind. There is no envy (jealous desire) in it, and it does not vaunt (boast or brag of) itself. It is not puffed up. Charity makes us humble, charity does not behave itself unseemly, but it causes us to behave ourselves wisely as David did in 1 Sam. 18:14-15. "Seeketh not her own." Charity in us crowds out all the selfishness. "Is not easily provoked." This corresponds with long suffering. There is a sense in which one can be easily provoked and still have charity. That is, being provoked to good works; or in other words, stirred up to do good works. But provoked in this verse means easily vexed or irritated. "Thinketh no evil." Charity in the heart will do away with all evil surmising. God tells us in His Word: "And let none of you imagine evil against his brother in your heart."—Zech. 7:10. Also read Zech. 8:17. Charity rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth. True saints love the truth and cannot rejoice when false doctrine or something to tickle the ears is being preached or taught. Charity beareth all things. Professed saints who do not have their tongues bridled are not likely to bear very much. Some professing to be saints get offended so easily, but the good Book says, "Great peace have they that love thy law, and nothing shall offend

them." If it doesn't bear all things, it is not charity. "Believeth all things" that are true, because the Holy Spirit in us will guide us into all truth. "Hopeth all things." Charity in us will cause us to rejoice in hope of the glory of God; and not only so, but we will glory in tribulations also, knowing that tribulation worketh patience; and patience, experience; and experience, hope: and hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.

And last, but not least, it endureth all things. Charity makes us patient and keeps us sweet in our souls when everything seems to go wrong. Charity endures all things when tried and tested. Charity never fails. If what we have fails, it is not charity.

Oh, God, give us more charity! Peter exhorts us to have charity among ourselves (the saints). 1 Pet. 4:8, "Above all things, have fervent charity among yourselves: for charity shall cover the multitude of sins." (or faults). If we have this fervent charity among ourselves, we will not be telling the faults of our brothers and sisters to others. Then in 1 Pet. 3:8, we read, "Finally, be ye all of one mind, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous." "Covet earnestly the best gifts: and yet I shew unto you a more excellent way," which is charity that never fails, and suffers long, and is kind.

—Geo. W. Stephenson.

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Ministerial Qualifications

It is needful to understand about the qualifications of a minister, as well as his power and authority, so I feel it will be pleasing to God to write on this subject. Much harm has been done by preachers out of God's divine order, and many mix-ups could be avoided if the ministers were better qualified.

Paul gave the instructions: "For this cause [the work of God] left I thee in Crete that thou shouldst set in order the things that are wanting, and ordain elders [ministers] in every city as I had appointed thee. If any be blameless, the husband of ONE wife, having faithful children not accused of riot or unruly." Titus 1:5, 6. While the qualifications given here were to Titus, yet I am sure they come right down to us.

First, "must be blameless"—that is, living clear and clean before God and man, no black deeds and debts booked up against them. As I understand bishops and elders mean the same thing in our way of expression we mean ministers. These were to stand before the people as a target, or as Paul again expressed it, a "spectacle" or theatre, on the stage for critics to accuse and those who do not want the truth according to sound doctrine.

"The husband of one wife"—not two or three wives. We have come to a point and an important one too, because certain teaching is being preached and taught that for one cause they can separate, divorce and re-marry as often as they desire. If you will search diligently, you will find a difference between fornication and adultery. Fornication means sexual intercourse by the unmarried; adultery, un-

lawful sexual intercourse by married. According to God's Word, two people who get married are joined for life. Only death can separate them. Should either get into the sin of adultery, they may separate, but must remain unmarried or be reconciled.

Then if a man has more than one wife, he is not qualified for the ministry and should stay out of the pulpit. Some say after being separated and divorced that God gave them a wife or husband. I emphatically say, God did not do such a thing. God never did cross his word, and I doubt very much if real love figured in the case, but mere lust. Most of the cases of this kind use this: "God gave her to me," or "The Lord showed me to marry."

I am sure God wants his ministers to be able to preach against everything contrary to God's Word, and one in these mix-ups could not preach against what they themselves were guilty of; hence the workman must first be partakers of his own fruit. Or in our way of thinking they must measure up on all lines, before they are able to minister the word of God effectually.

The Word of God says, "Let him that stole, steal no more." A person with light on the marriage and divorce question who goes into these things surely is an adulterer in God's sight, and not fit for the ministry, and neither will God call such an one into the ministry. God's church is a pure church with a pure ministry to plant the truth and keep it clean. Oh, how many cases we have seen where saints were tied up, so to speak, because of unscriptural marriages. Then if one or both are in adultery and the condition remains unchanged, are they not yet adulterers? and could they continue to live in adultery? could they keep saved if they have light?

A qualified ministry will have apostolic power, because God has a pure, clean channel to work thro. A minister may be able to preach fluently, but unless he is clean in every way God will never back up his preaching with real anointing, and a minister without anointing will drive more souls from the truth than gross infidelity. Souls who have gotten into these snares without light, I surely pity and my sympathy goes out to them; but one with light knows what to do. If I steal a man's money, does merely the fact that I quit stealing clear me? No, you say, you must restore the stolen money. If I leave my wife and go get another man's wife, what must I do? Would it not be just as reasonable to take the man's wife to her original husband as to take the money back to the one from whom it was stolen? But suppose a reconciliation could not be effected? Then God's word said, "Remain unmarried, or be reconciled." That is, stay in a place where you can be reconciled according to God's word. The ministers are to be responsible for not warning people of these dangers.

"Apt to teach" means also able to teach God's Word, clear of all man-made interpretations—a faculty of explaining the truth in a way that can be understood. God, knowing his own business, lays the call on a man's heart, deep seated soul burden, with a feeling of responsibility and dependence in God. This will eliminate all preach spirits. Some

have claimed they were called to preach because some brother said, "You will be a preacher." Others have been advised to take up the ministry, thinking that at a later time God would help out. Reader, get your calling from God, and be sure you can measure up to the New Testament qualifications. God never did call a minister who was not qualified, as regarding a holy life. Some have run, but God never sent them. A God-sent minister will work for God directly, and will look directly to God for his support. I trust I am not too hard. God's word is definite, unchangeable. For God to have the kind of a church that John saw coming down from heaven, clear as a crystal, so transparent, without spot, no darkness, then the ministers must be of this type to carry out God's divine plan here on the earth.

The wise man caught a glimpse of the church and asked, "Who is she? coming forth as the morning?" Later, by inspiration, he was made to realize, "She is the only one of her mother." How could a minister preach the truth with a feeling that sectism is a part of her? How could a minister with more than one wife preach the exclusiveness of God's pure church, and compare her to Eph. 5:22-33. God has likened his church to many things, but every reference shows purity, freedom from every defilement.

I know this may hurt some in the double marriage mix-ups, but it may also keep some from getting in bondage, and it is my purpose to not intentionally hurt any one, but to help all I can to free themselves and keep free. Apostolic power comes in and thro a qualified ministry, and we can and must have this.

We believe we have a ministry on the move for God. On the other hand, some movements are lowering the standard and letting in ministers who have more than one wife, also joining up with ministerial unions; but God is not in this. Much could be written, but trust this may suffice for the present.

—E. M. Zinn.

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Bakersfield, Calif.—Dear Bro. Pruitt: I am glad to testify today that the Lord saves and keeps me by power divine. He heals my body, for which I give him all the glory due his name.

Our meeting began Sept. 4th and lasted over two Sundays. The dear Lord blessed it from start to finish. Several souls gave their hearts to God and got saved, some sanctified, some healed and all of our souls were uplifted and fed on the good things from Father's table. We had Bro. Manley Spears from Okla. City the first ten days of the meeting, Bro. and Sister Davey, Father and Mother Harmon and others. There were nine souls who took the watery grave, bidding this old sinful world good-bye. Fifty-two followed the Lord in Feet-washing; and the Lord's Supper was observed.

We are praying that you all will remember us here in Bakersfield. There are a goodly number of young saints here. Pray much for us all for while the devil is raging, that we go down in the dust of humility and stand true to our God. —I. C. Chandler, Pastor

« Young People's Section »

More Thankful I Would Be

More thankful, Lord, I want to be
As years do come and go;
For all the things thou doest for me
While in this world below.

More thankful for my health and strength,
And all my daily food;
For clothing, shelter, and at length,
Dear Lord, for all that's good.

More thankful for the trials and test,
That thou dost take us through;
For, Lord, we know thou workest best
In everything you do.

More thankful for the victories won,
By looking, Lord, to thee,
Our Father's true begotten Son,
Who died on Calvary.

More thankful for that heavenly home
That will be ours to share;
More thankful for the joys to come,
If we the cross will bear.

Yes, thankful, Lord, I want to be
For all thy blessings true;
And may I show my thanks to thee
In everything I do.
—Olive A. Phillips.

Editorials

“Ye Are Not Your Own”

“What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.” 1 Cor. 6:19-20.

The child of God who truly accepts and embraces these verses has solved some of the deepest problems in life. Those who recognize God's absolute ownership of their bodies are not long in doubt as to where they should go, or what they should do. Consecration is simply a matter of letting God have what He has paid for.

“Ye are bought with a price.” God paid an infinite price. It was vastly more valuable than silver and gold—the precious blood of His only begotten Son. 1 Peter 1:18. God emphasizes the tremendous cost of redemption as an appeal to the heart of the redeemed. The price He has paid measures His love for us. He does not give a life so dear to Him for a soul that is worth nothing to Him. He has laid down the gold of His heart—even Jesus Christ. If we would

go and stand on Calvary's hill, and consider what it has cost heaven to purchase our salvation, we could not long withhold from Him what He rightfully owns—the full service of spirit, soul, and body. Yet how many are satisfied to say, “Jesus is mine,” who never go on to say, “I am His.” One who takes this higher ground is certain to be careful what he does with property that belongs to another.

When the thought of His ownership becomes uppermost, then we will simultaneously recognize the fact that being His, we are temples of the Holy Spirit. Conscious and thoughtful of our Divine Guest—the Holy Spirit—it is only natural that we should glorify God in our bodies and in our spirits, which are His. This means to exhibit the power and character of God in that we are His.

The Christian's greatest joy is found in letting God possess His own property. —L. D. P.

THE IMPORTANCE OF PRAYER

Even a cursory perusal of the scriptures will reveal the large and important place which the doctrine of prayer finds therein. The Christian life cannot be sustained without it; it is the Christian's vital breath (pray without ceasing) to cease breathing is to die.

It's importance is seen when we recall: That neglect is grievous to the Lord (Isaiah 43:21, 22); that many evils in life are to be attributed to the lack of prayer (Zeph. 1:4-6; Daniel 9:13, 14; Hosea 7:13, 14; 8:13, 14); that it is a sin to neglect prayer (Samuel 12:23); that to continue in prayer is a positive command (Col. 4:2; 1 Thes. 5:17); we are commanded to take leisure or a vacation for prayer (1 Cor. 7:5); this is God's appointed method of obtaining what He has to bestow (Dan. 9:3; Matt. 7:7-11; 9:24-29; Luke 11:13); that the lack of the necessary blessing in life comes from failure to pray (James 4:2); that the Apostles regarded prayer as the most important employment that could engage their time or attention (Acts 6:4; Romans 1:9; Col. 1:9; Prov. 30:5).

Selected by Sister Gladys Weiss

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Eakersfield, Calif.—Dear Young Saints: Tonight finds me still saved and with a desire to live for the Lord. I thank him for what he is to me every day. I want to follow him to the end. I thank him for the good meeting he is giving us. I thank him for the number of young people who were saved in the meeting that was held here recently. I see the need of living saved more than ever before and I need the prayers of all the saints that I ever live a life pleasing in his sight. The Lord surely gave us a good meeting. Bro. Manley Spears was with us, also Father and Mother Harmon and a number of other saints.

Pray for me that I live for him and be all that he would have me to be. Yours in Him,

Henrietta Francisco

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Correspondence

Okeene, Okla.—Dear Bro. Pruitt and workers in the Lord. May the dear Lord bless you in the good work. We are still pressing on and trying our best to stand

for the truth and do what is right. The battles get hot but his grace is sufficient. Praise God for this wonderful way of salvation. The Lord wonderfully helped me when I sent in request for prayer for I was healed the Sunday prayer was offered for me and I have been well ever since. I have been healed of that awful hay fever I had. I could hardly stand it, but that day of prayer my head just got so clear and light and I just praised the Lord I was so happy and still am.

My husband is suffering again with his stomach, it is out of order and he wants you to remember him in prayer. I am glad we can pray for each other and the Lord can really help.

We are sending a small offering to be used in the work wherever it is needed. We are encouraged to go all the way.

Bro. and Sister D. W. Haas

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Okeene, Okla.—Dear Bro. Pruitt and family, We are wishing you God's richest blessings. How are you getting along in the Lord's work? I guess the battle gets real hot at times as it does everywhere else, but praise God for the wonderful victory and the shining crown at the end of the way. We are going on and enjoying it more every day. It's getting glorious and brighter. The Lord wonderfully helped us again. My husband is well and we surely give God all the thanks.

Bro. and Sis. D. W. Haas

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To the saints everywhere, greetings of love in the sweet and precious name of Jesus. I am glad that I can report victory in my soul today, and that my heart is fixed, trusting in the Lord (Psa. 112:7).

I am truly glad for the way the Lord has led me by His Spirit, and thank Him for enabling me to go to the Hammond, La. campmeeting last June. I was so delighted to meet with such humble, consecrated saints, and to see their lives in harmony with the teachings of the church in the days of the apostles and in the early days of this reformation movement of the church of God.

I learned of this movement in the year 1906 when I was 21 years of age. I was saved when only a child, and had walked in the light I had received, but was not satisfied, for I couldn't find a denominational church that taught all the doctrines of the New Testament, and my heart was hungry for the whole truth.

When I began to read Bro. C. E. Orr's and D. S. Warner's writings, and others, my heart was made to rejoice because of the harmony of their teachings with the Word of God, and I continued to walk in the light. I rejoiced because I could discern the body of Christ, the church of the living God as being all of God's people, and was no longer looking or seeking to find the true church. But when the split came, the compromise side thought the other side was fanatic and I never kept in touch with them. Several months ago I received a "Faith and Victory" paper. I didn't know just what it was then, but I liked it very much and subscribed for it at once, and have been a reader of it ever since. I have learned that it is put out by the original church of God, and is standing for the whole truth without compromise, praise the dear Lord! And I praise the Lord for his leadings since the campmeeting. He led me here to Good Pine, La., or to the Midway congregation to work in His vineyard, and I am doing what I can in His service.

I have felt a call to work for God from my teen age, and had never gotten out into the work as I desired. When I left my home in Alabama and my children to come to the Hammond campmeeting, I left with the intention of entering into the work of the Lord and giving the re-

mainder of my life to his service. I asked the saints at the meeting to be agreed with me in prayer that God would direct me and put me in his work just where he wanted me, and I am praising him for his leadings. I praise Him for the few faithful saints here at Midway that are standing true, and I do want to be a true shepherd over the little flock here, doing all I can to reach out and bring others to the fold. I desire the prayers of all that I may ever be found faithful to duty and ever keep humble and pliable in God's hands. I want to stay in the center of his will.

Your blood-washed sister,

Cora McMillian.

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Jefferson City, Mo.—Dear saints in one body, Greetings in Jesus' dear name. I am happy to report victory in my soul. I truly find Jesus precious to my soul and body. Bless His sweet name on high. He will heal. He has healed me in walking. My back has been hurting for nine years. It is better; I asked the heavenly Father in prayer last night if I would send in my testimony if He would heal my back and I am still willing to go all the way for my heavenly Father. The Lord has done so much for us and Jesus has answered my prayer lots of times.

I had a son in Washington state for two years without seeing him and so I prayed to our heavenly Father a month ago for some way to have my son come back. I heard two months ago that he had gone back. My husband wants to stop using tobacco and drinking. Please pray for him that he will stop and pray for me that I will keep holy.

I intend to press the battle on and make heaven my home. I don't know what I would do some times if it was not for my heavenly Father to give me strength to go. Thank God, I have faith that God will do these things that we ask and have faith for.

We live 11 or 12 miles from a church of God meeting and have no way to go. Pray that the Lord will make a way for us if it is His will. Also pray for my sons to come and to write to their mother. Praise God on high.

Your Sister in Christ,

Eva L. O'Brien

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Webb City, Mo.—Dear Bro. Pruitt, In the name of our dear Savior I greet you this beautiful morning. Wife and I are both saved and well for which we thank the good Lord. And we are decided to go through by God's help as long as He spares our lives here in this dark and sinful war torn world, for it is plainly evident that there is only one way that is right, and that is the Bible way, which is so plain that a wayfaring man, though a fool, shall not err therein.

I live by the 119 Psalm and the 165 verse. "Great peace have they which love thy law: and nothing shall offend them." So I won't be offended at anything you see fit to print or not to print. I am now well past 83 years of age and no one feels better than I do, no difference how young or how middle aged or robust and healthy they are, they don't feel any better than I do, but of course I am not able to exert myself to any extent on account of old age. But God has not promised to keep us young all our lives. But unless I happen to eat something that does not agree with me, or I fall and hurt myself, I don't have an ache or pain for days and weeks, and even months at a time. for which I give God all the praise and glory.

Your saved Brother in Christ,

E. M. Wood

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Cove, Washington—Dear saints and Bro. Pruitt, I want to tell you how wonderfully the Lord delivered me from that dropsy condition I wrote you about. He healed me and at this time there is no sign in my flesh. At the time I wrote you, I did not know that it was caused

from hop poison but it was. God is a wonderful friend.

The other sister had it and was not fully trusting God for her healing. Her face was badly swollen and she could hardly see in the morning. It was also broken out over her body. But I truly thank God for His goodness in answering prayer for me through your prayer.

Just a few days ago the Lord pressed it upon my heart that the saints need to pray much for me. He knows just what I need and I am still looking forward to your prayer and will remember you in prayer here.

Yours in Christ, Marie Whiteside

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Ithaca, Mich.—Dear ones in Christ, Praise the Lord. I received your letter and thank the Lord for it. Our meeting is past but I believe I can say all received good to their souls. About 48 in all were here. My mother, sister, and brother all came and seemed to drink it in.

Bro. Bowen from Chicago was with us, but many whom we expected were hindered by work and so didn't come. There was a sweet spirit felt in the meeting and not a discord seen or felt from any one.

Hazel Brown

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Oklahoma City, Okla.—Dear saints, The Lord has been so good to me I feel that I should write my testimony that perhaps some soul will receive help from it. I am so glad that I am saved and sanctified and the Lord is my healer.

About four years ago I was sick and the doctor told me I had an abdominal tumor and would have to have an operation or I would never really be well. He told me as time went on I would of course get worse and I would be confined to the bed. I told him I would rather trust God and if God did not see best to heal me I would just die that way because I didn't want an operation.

I was not concerned much at that time as I got better and was not bothered much. But the last year I had suffered so much I began to pray for healing and ask others to pray for me. One day as I was praying the Lord said, "In patience possess ye your soul." I took this as my promise from God that if I would be patient He would completely heal me, but if I gave up and went to doctors for help I would lose my soul. Therefore, I stood on that promise for about two months before God healed me. But praise God, on the third day of August, 1942, I was healed instantly. He caused it to pass and spoke to me and said, "Your tumor is gone".

I had a fight of faith. The devil made me suffer more that week than I had for some time and the thought kept coming to me to see a doctor, but I just refused to be bothered about the doctor but sent for one of God's ministers and his wife to pray with me that the devil would be defeated and the Lord did this for me and I have not been bothered since.

A sister in Christ, Maude Hornbeck

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Elysia, Ohio—Greetings in Jesus' name, I would like to tell of God's dealings with me in harmony with the scripture, Rom. 8:28. Can anyone imagine any good that could come from anyone losing his right eye? I will tell you my personal experience, and you can draw your own conclusions. I was working in a steel plant and was struck in my right eye with a piece of steel. I was taken to a hospital in hopes that my eye could be saved, but in spite of the treatment, my eye went blind. I was kept for some time. It was during the last week I was there I was given my clothes and liberty to visit the patients.

I am a firm believer in God and Jesus Christ. And I was given just the right message that it was my privilege to lead three precious souls to Christ.

One was a law student on a vacation when he met with an accident. He was seriously injured and his partner was killed. I asked him where he would be now if he had been killed and he answered, "I suppose in hell." I pleaded the cause of Christ with him and how important it is to be always ready for what may happen. He agreed with me and accepted Christ. And the next day he told me that God was calling him to preach His gospel and when he got out of the hospital he was going to quit law and study for the ministry.

That was twenty years ago and I believe he is winning souls for Christ today.

The next was an old man 72 years of age. He said that no one had given him the royal invitation. I asked if he were a believer in Christ. He had never thought much about it. I showed him how important it was to gain a home in heaven. He agreed with me. It was two days before he accepted Christ. And he, like the young man, thanked me for showing him the way, and he said he would meet me in heaven. It made me rejoice to see two souls won for Christ.

The next was a young lady, a nurse student of about 18 years of age. An older nurse told me to talk to her and so I asked her if she were a Christian. She said no. Then I pleaded the cause of God—gave her the message and she accepted Christ right then and there. And I believe she was sincere as were the other two. I talked to her afterwards and she held true.

I thank God it was my privilege to give my right eye, for it meant the saving of three precious souls and I believe that one of them is winning other souls for Christ.

I talked to two other men that believed what I told them but I am not sure of their conversion.

I am quite sure that Romans 8:28 has been true in my experience.

W. N. Waterhouse

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Grand Island, Nebr.—Dear Bro. Pruitt:

Greetings in the name of our Lord, hoping this finds all well. I am glad to report victory here for our Lord, oh how he cares for us. He protects and keeps us from many evil things in this life if we will just trust him fully. I am glad and thankful for his wonderful mercy and goodness to usward. He surely knows and understands our troubles, sorrows and heartaches.

This Lord's day still finds me determined to serve Him who suffered so much that I might have salvation. Praise his holy name. Yes, the Lord surely blesses those who put their trust in him. How comforting to know that he can heal us of our infirmities and afflictions.

Bro. remember us here in your prayers. We will not be here long now and will try to get down that way before long.

Your Bro. and Sister in Christ Jesus,
Mr. and Mrs. Ray Harmon

o o o o o o

Harrisburg, Pa.—Dear Bro. and Sister Pruitt: I want to greet you again in Jesus' dear holy name; the one who has done so much for us all, keeping us saved and free from all sin, Praise God.

This is surely an awful time and age we are living in. The Devil is so busy, and it keeps us busy watching and praying. But I thank my dear Lord that we, his children can have victory over all the power of the wicked one.

I am much encouraged, and feel like pressing on the upward way until I reach my heavenly home, and then our work on this earth will be done, Praise the Lord.

May the dear Lord bless and keep you all true to Him to the end at any cost.

I always pray for the Lord's work there at the "Lord's Print Shop, also, you dear ones and all the workers. I realize how much we need to pray for one another and more especially in these awful times.

I will close with best wishes and love to all.
Sister A. C. Krause

Hoffman, Oklahoma.—Dear saints scattered abroad, I want to tell the goodness of the Lord who is my healer and also my family's, in fact everyone's. My little granddaughter was very sick. In answer to prayer, the Lord touched her body. I sent for Bro. Richardson of Hoffman, Oklahoma, and he came and anointed and prayed for her and the Lord wonderfully touched her body, for which we give Him all the praise.

The next week I was ill, and the saints came. They anointed and prayed for me, and the Lord wonderfully touched my body and I still give Him all the praise.

I am your saved sister,
Lizzle Murdock

Holland, Mich.—Dear ones, We are well and pressing on with the Lord. We thank Him for His wonderful salvation that saves from all sin and gives us victory over the things of this old world. He is my all and in all, and by His grace I mean to walk with Him all the days of my life, and be true to Him and to our fellowmen.

We attended the meeting at Bro. Brown's house, and had a good time in the Lord. Our souls were blessed of the Lord.

May the blessings of the Lord be with you all and ever keep all in the love of God. Mother and I want to do all we can for a lost world of men and women.

Pray for us.
Bro. and Sister Brandt.

Catlettsburg, Ky.—Dear saints of God in the one body, Praise God for victory in my soul. The deepest desire of my soul is to be kept daily in the very center of His divine, tender, loving, will.

I felt inspired and lifted up as I read the contents of your card. And the Lord has touched my body in so many ways. Until now I feel about as well as I ever felt in my life, and that is a large statement, for I had good health until I went under radium for that malignant cancerous tumor in 1929. The Lord is the one who raised me up from death's door to do a work for Him from which I had been trying to play Jonah for years. But the storm of disease overtook me and was about to throw me overboard into a devil's hell. But I cried to God and He lifted me up out of that horrible pit and placed my trembling feet on that firm foundation, Christ Jesus our Lord and Saviour, bless His name!

Many things have come against me to try my faith but I have never lost sight of my dear Saviour's face looking down with tender mercy upon me with just the needed grace to bring me safely through it all.

I have a special request for prayer to present to you dear ones. God has moved me to this new field and I find more work here than I left at the other place. God is using me in His service. Many poor souls are upon my heart and have an interest in my prayers.

The Lord healed a girl's thumb after the doctor had lanced it and said it would have to be amputated if it didn't get better. She went back to him within thirty-six hours after I had prayed for it and it was as whole as the other. The doctor could not understand.

Space will not permit me to tell the many ways in which God has used me. I could easily spend all of my time for Him in this needy field.

Here is my problem: A family who live on a farm

has offered me a room and meals if I will help them. There are no men folks to do chores, so I would have to feed, milk, bring in coal for five grate fires, help keep house, help iron, wash, mend, etc. I am not lazy. I'd love to work and could have a job drawing a good salary, but God called me to leave secular work and work for Him. If I should agree to help on the farm, there would be no time left to work for God, pray, or read my Bible. But if I don't, I'm confronted with a rent problem, and I have no income, only as the Lord supplies. I have two rooms and could use the third (which the people want me to take) and turn the front room into a place of service. They ask \$12.50 per month and they pay gas, electric, and water bills. Then I have the offer of a room for \$4.00 per month but it is back off the street. Now, I want you to agree in prayer for me that the Lord will provide the rent for at least one room, so I can be alone with Him and be free to go when He says "Go."
Mrs. B. M. Montress

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WHAT IS HELL?
(Concluded from Oct. issue.)

- 26—A place where the whole body is cast. Matt. 5:30.
- 27—A place where they will be tormented with fire Luke 16:24.
- 28—A place where they will be tormented with brimstone.
- 29—A place where they will burn like lime. Isa. 33:12
- 30—A place where they will drink the wine of the Wrath of God. Rev. 14:10.
- 31—A place where they do not want their loved ones to come. Lk. 16:27.
- 32—A place where their breath will be a living flame. Isa. 33:11.
- 33—A place prepared for the devil and his angels. Matt. 25:41.
- 34—A place where they scream for one drop of water Luke. 16:24.
- 35—A place where there are dogs and sorcerers and Whoremongers. Rev. 22:15.
- 36—A place where there are murderers and liars, fearful and abominable. Rev. 21:8.
- 37—A storm of burning coals of fire. Psa. 11:6.
- 38—A lake of fire into which people are cast alive. Rev. 19:20.
- 39—A place where the smoke of their torment ascendeth up forever and forever. Rev. 14:11.
- 40—A place of damnation world without end.

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Order Sunday School supplies about two weeks before the beginning of each new quarter. The price of the Primary Picture Roll is \$1.15, and the Lesson Cards are 4c per set. Each set contains cards for one pupil for each Sunday in the quarter. These sets cannot be broken. Order from Geneva Ray, 920 W. Mansur, Guthrie, Okla.

"The entrance of thy Word giveth light."

BIBLE



STUDY

"Study to shew thyself approved unto God."

THE CHRISTIAN VIEW OF MARRIAGE

Sunday, November 1, 1942

Daily Readings and Meditations

October 26 to 31.

- M. The crown of creation Gen. 1:24-28.
- T. Adam and Eve in Eden Gen. 2:18-24.
- W. Isaac and Rebekah Gen. 24:61-67.
- T. Jacob and Rachel Gen. 29:13-20.
- F. Builders of happy homes Jer. 29:4-6.
- S. "What God hath joined." Matt. 19:3-6.

Printed PortionGen. 2:18-24; Matt. 19:3-6;
John 2:1-5.

Gen. 2:18. And the Lord God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him.

19. And out of the ground the Lord God formed every beast of the field, and every fowl of the air; and brought them unto Adam to see what he would call them; and whatsoever Adam called every living creature, that was the name thereof.

20. And Adam gave names to all cattle, and to the fowl of the air, and to every beast of the field, but for Adam there was not found an help meet for him.

21. And the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof;

22. And the rib, which the Lord God had taken from man, made he a woman and brought her unto the man.

23. And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called woman, because she was taken out of man.

24. Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.

Matt. 19:3. The Pharisees also came unto him, tempting him, saying unto him, Is it lawful for a man to put away his wife for every cause?

4. And he answered and said unto them, Have ye not read, that he which made them at the beginning made them male and female,

5. And said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh?

6. Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh, What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder.

John 2:1. And the third day there was a marriage in Cana of Galilee; and the mother of Jesus was there:

2. And both Jesus was called, and his disciples, to the marriage.

3. And when they wanted wine, the mother of Jesus saith unto him, They have no wine.

4. Jesus saith unto her, Woman, what have I to do with thee? mine hour is not yet come.

5. His mother saith unto the servants, Whatsoever he saith unto you, do it.

Golden Text: "Marriage is honorable in all." Heb. 13:4.

Practical Truth: The marriage of one man and one woman in perpetual wedlock is a part of God's plan for the human race.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Some may think that lessons on marriage should be confined to the adult classes; but very early in life children are confronted with the devil's view of marriage, so it is very important that they be taught the Christian view. Teachers should emphasize the value of a Christian home and show the dangers of one that is not ruled by the Word of God in love.

In the two following lessons different phases of marriage and the home life is discussed, so it seems that we should stress the importance of choosing the right companion today. I know of no better comments on this subject than those found in Bro. Orr's book, "Instruction of Youth in the Christian Life." The last chapter is entitled "Courtship and Marriage," part of which I shall copy here:

"There is nothing relating to the earthly life of man of greater importance. The first act of God after making man and putting him in the garden was to make a life companion for him. The Creator had put in the constitution of man a desire for companionship. When woman was created the Lord brought her and presented her to the man. This was the first marriage. . . Marriage is pure, honorable and heaven ordained.

"That which is the purest when corrupted becomes the most corrupt. That which is the highest can fall the farthest. All that was pure in the life of man has been corrupted and perverted by sin. That man and woman might live together agreeable and happy, God put in their nature a quality called, in our English language, love.

"This as given of God is pure. But this, like other God-given passions can be corrupted, and perhaps no pure virtue ever given to man has been so shamefully corrupted as this love of man and woman. Wrecked and ruined lives occasioned by this perverted love are all around us. It is not love, but lust. Thousands have been led into the married life through lust instead of love. Dear young saints, beware. You need to live very close to God and keep your affections pure.

"A young man asks, "Does God have a part in the matter of marriage? Will He select a companion for me?" Just as truly as He made Eve for Adam, or selected a wife for Isaac. . . God will get a companion for you if you will but await His time.

"God wants you to be guided, not by your feelings, but by His providences, by the counsels of true friends, and by the good sound mind He is willing to give you."

Husband and wife should be companions, with similar aims and ideals, so they can strive together for a successful, happy, Christian home.

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CHRISTIAN NURTURE IN THE FAMILY

Sunday, November 8, 1942.

Daily Readings and Meditations

Nov. 2 to 7.

- M. God's Word in the home Deut. 6:4-9.
- T. A father explains Scripture to his son Deut. 6:20-25
- W. A mother dedicates her child to God 1 Sam. 1:21-28
- T. Job's family altar Job 1:1-5.
- F. Knowing the Bible from childhood 2 Tim. 3:14-17.
- S. Bringing the children to Jesus Matt. 19:13-15.

Printed PortionDeut. 6:4-9, 20-25; 2 Tim. 3:14, 15.

Deut. 6:4. Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God is one Lord:

5. And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.

6. And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart:

7. And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.

9. And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes.

8. And thou shalt write them upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates.

20. And when thy son asketh thee in time to come, saying, What mean the testimonies, and the statutes, and the judgments, which the Lord our God hath commanded you?

21. Then thou shalt say unto thy son, We were Pharaoh's bondmen in Egypt; and the Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand;

22. And the Lord shewed signs and wonders, great and sore upon Egypt upon Pharaoh and upon all his household, before our eyes:

23. And he brought us out from thence, that he might bring us in, to give us the land which he swore unto our fathers.

24. And the Lord commanded us to do all these statutes, to fear the Lord our God, for our good always, that he might preserve us alive, as it is at this day.

25. And it shall be our righteousness, if we observe to do all these commandments before the Lord our God, as he hath commanded us.

2 Tim. 3:14. But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them;

15. And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

Golden Text: "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it." Prov. 22:6.

Practical Truth: Parents are responsible for the Christian nurture of their children.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Much stress is put on a proper physical diet for children. It is even more important that they have the proper Christian nurture, or diet, since it affects the life that now is, and that which is to come. The responsibility of this rests chiefly with the parents, but we have seen cases where even the youngest member of the family would live so close to the Lord that it would be a regular missionary in the home, teaching the others the ways of the Lord.

One of the first essentials is for the parents to have a genuine experience of salvation, so they can give an answer which is right according to the Word of God when the children ask, "What mean the testimonies, and the statutes and the judgments which the Lord our God hath commanded you?" The example which parents set is of utmost importance. If they do not live up to their profession the children will probably either be turned against religion, thinking there is nothing to it; or they will believe the lie that is acted out before them that a person may live almost any way and still be a Christian and get to heaven. But if parents daily walk

with God and seek him for wisdom in dealing with their children, the children will not be able to forget it even after they leave the parental care. This explains the golden text. One can not train up a child in salvation, but he can teach him the way until he will always know truth from error. Children are quick to imitate their parents. If trained and taught that they must repent, and have a personal experience of their own, they will probably desire it as soon as they can understand. Even young children are conscience of wrong-doing, and can be taught the need of forgiveness of sins. Simple truths concerning God and Christ can be understood by children when they are old enough to understand almost anything. Children should not be urged to get saved before they understand what it means, neither should they be discouraged and told they are too young if they feel their need. Children differ, so there can be no age limit set, but it certainly should be the chief concern of parents to encourage their children to desire to serve the Lord.

It would be useless to talk about the Lord and his Word if the family does not come together for daily communion with the Lord and to read His Word. Family worship is very important.

THINGS THAT MAR FAMILY LIFE

Sunday, November 15, 1942

Daily Readings and Meditations

Nov. 9 to 14.

M. Murder in the first family Gen. 4:8b-12.

T. Strife between brothers Gen. 27:30-35.

W. Evasion of parental duty 1 Sam. 3:10-14.

T. Evasion of filial duty Mark 7:10-12.

F. Quarrels over property Luke 12:13-15.

S. Christ's law of divorce Matt. 5:31, 32.

Printed PortionGen. 27:30-35; Matt. 5:31, 32; Luke 12:13-15.

Gen. 27:30. And it came to pass, as soon as Isaac had made an end of blessing Jacob, and Jacob was yet scarce gone out from the presence of Isaac his father, that Esau his brother came in from his hunting.

31. And he also had made savoury meat, and brought it unto his father, and said unto his father, Let my father arise, and eat of his son's venison, that thy soul may bless me.

32. And Isaac his father said unto him, Who art thou? And he said, I am thy son, thy firstborn Esau.

33. And Isaac trembled very exceedingly, and said, Who? where is he that hath taken venison and brought it me, and I have eaten of all before thou camest, and have blessed him? yea and he shall be blessed.

34. And when Esau heard the words of his father, he cried with a great and exceeding bitter cry, and said unto his father, Bless me, even me also, O my father.

35. And he said, thy brother came with subtily, and hath taken away thy blessing.

Matt. 5:31. It hath been said, Whosoever shall put away his wife, let him give her a writing of divorcement:

32. But I say unto you, Whosoever shall put away his wife, saving for the cause of fornication, causeth her to commit adultery: and whosoever shall marry her that is divorced committeth adultery.

Luke 12:13. And one of the company said unto him, Master, speak to my brother, that he divide the inheritance with me.

14. And he said unto him, Man, who made me a judge or a divider over you?

15. And he said unto them, Take heed, and beware of covetousness; for a man's life consisteth not in the

abundance of the things which he possesseth.

Golden Text: "Bear ye one another's burdens and so fulfil the law of Christ." Gal. 6:2.

Practical Truth: Family life may be marred or its happiness completely ruined, by selfish attitudes and unchristian deeds.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

We like to talk about the beauties of a Christian home, but we must learn some of the things that will mar that beauty. We hear much about "little foxes" that spoil the vine. Can you name some little foxes that need to be watched lest they spoil a beautiful home? Would partiality on the part of parents do it? What about greed, envy, jealousy, or selfishness on the part of children or parents. Tell how these things might work to mar family life. What happened to mar the family life of Adam, Eve, and their children?

The first part of our lesson tells how a home was almost ruined. The father loved Esau and the mother loved Jacob better. She helped Jacob to deceive his father. It caused his father to be very grieved. It caused Esau to hate him, and he had to leave his home to face the hardships of the world.

When little foxes (such as mentioned above) continue to steal the grapes, they grow into big foxes, which do great damage. Can you name some little foxes which grow into the big fox called "divorce"? Think of the awful damage this big fox is doing today. Why did Jesus say that Moses allowed the people to get divorces? Would Jesus ever be pleased with a person who has a hard heart? Give scripture to prove your answer.

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MOTIVES THAT STRENGTHEN FAMILY LIFE

Sunday, November 22, 1942

Daily Readings and Meditations

Nov. 16 to 21.

M. A good man Prov. 4:10-18.

T. A worthy woman Prov. 31:28-31.

W. Husband and wife Eph. 5:28-33.

T. "A goodly child" Exod. 2:1-4.

F. Children and parents Eph. 6:1-4.

S. Home and Temple Luke 2:41-51.

Printed PortionExodus 2:1-4; Josh. 24:14-15; Eph. 5:28-31; 6:1-4.

Ex. 2:1. And there went a man of the house of Levi, and took to wife a daughter of Levi.

2. And the woman conceived, and bare a son: and when she saw him that he was a goodly child, she hid him three months.

3. And when she could not longer hide him, she took for him an ark of bulrushes, and daubed it with slime and with pitch, and put the child therein; and she laid it in the flags by the river's brink.

4. And his sister stood afar off, to wit what would be done to him.

Josh. 24:14. Now therefore fear the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and in truth: and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the flood, and in Egypt; and serve ye the Lord.

15. And if it seem evil unto you to serve the Lord, choose ye this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell; but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.

Eph. 5:28. So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself.

29. For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church:

30. For we are members of his body of his flesh, and of his bones.

31. For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh.

Eph. 6:1-4. Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right.

2. Honour thy father and mother: which is the first commandment with promise;

3. That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth.

4. And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

Golden Text: "Charity never faileth" 1 Cor. 13:8.

Practical Truth: Wise living in the home will bind the members of the family closely together.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

This lesson on ways to strengthen family life can be divided into four sub-topics: The Influence of Children; Serving the Lord; Love; and Obedience. Let us discuss the lesson using these sub-topics:

1. The Influence of Children. Children are one of the strongest influences to bind husband and wife together and make a happy home. Married couples who deliberately avoid having children are harming themselves more than they realize and a Christian will not do it. People today have become so self-centered that it is not popular to bring children into the home or at least usually not more than one. Jesus prophesied that such a condition would exist, and lamented the fact when they were about to crucify him. He told some women who were following and weeping, not to weep for him but to weep for themselves and their children. See Luke 23:28, 29. Neither is it good to limit the family to one child, for a lone child in the home is less happy, will likely be selfish and difficult to rear, and usually develops undesirable traits.

2. Serving the Lord. This is the most important influence for a happy home. Joshua said, "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." It was a great blessing that he could include his family in this statement and know they would cooperate with him. A mutual faith in God gives the family strength to face and meet successfully trying situations which might break up a family if they did not have the Lord to help them. A Christian husband and wife can trust each other, and if one makes a mistake, will apologize and ask forgiveness, thus avoiding breaches. There are no divorces where husband and wife are both faithful to the Lord.

3. Love. Some may think that love should be placed as the most important influence, because even unsaved people can get along if they love each other. This is true, but human love without the Lord sometimes fails, but if a couple are serving the Lord, He will give them a love that will stand the tests of life and it will not fail.

The Bible gives definite instructions for husband and wife, which, if obeyed, will result in a happy home. Our third printed portion records some instructions for the husband. The class should begin reading at Eph. 5:21. This includes instructions to both husband and wife. Also read Col. 3:8-25.

4. Obedience. Parents are to blame if children do not obey them, especially when they are young, and according to God's word, He will hold them responsible. Can you think of an instance recorded in the Bible where God punished the father because he did not control his children? It seems that some parents do not realize that God has

given them any authority in their homes. This is a sad condition, and does not make a happy home.

"Provoke not your children to wrath" has no reference to needed correction. Teasing or harsh methods of correction will usually provoke them to wrath. Discipline should be rendered in the spirit of firmness and love not in fits of anger.

THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH

Sunday, November 29, 1942

Daily Readings and Meditations

Nov. 23 to 28

- M. Brotherhood Matt. 18:15-17.
- T. Witnessing power Acts 1:6-11.
- W. Winning men to the church Acts 2:37-42.
- T. Sharing with the needy Acts 6:1-6.
- F. Famine relief Acts 11:27-30.
- S. Missions at home and abroad Acts 13:1-3.

Printed PortionMatt. 18:15-17; Acts 1:8; 2:42; 6:1-4; 11:27-30; 13:1-3; 1 John 1:3.

Matt. 18:15. Moreover if thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother.

16. But if he will not hear thee, then take with thee one or two more, that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established.

17. And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it unto the church: but if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee as an heathen man and a publican.

Acts 1:8. But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem and all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

2:42. And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.

6:1. And in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplied, there arose a murmuring of the Grecians against the Hebrews, because their widows were neglected in the daily ministrations.

2. Then the twelve called the multitude of the disciples unto them, and said, It is not reason that we should leave the word of God and serve tables.

3. Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business.

4. But we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the word.

Acts 11:27. And in these days came prophets from Jerusalem unto Antioch.

28. And there stood up one of them named Agabus, and signified by the spirit that there should be great dearth throughout all the world: which came to pass in the days of Claudius Caesar.

29. Then the disciples, every man according to his ability, determined to send relief unto the brethren which dwelt in Judaea:

30. Which also they did, and sent it to the elders by the hands of Barnabas and Saul.

13:1. Now there were in the church that was at Antioch certain prophets and teachers; as Barnabas and Simeon that was called Niger, and Lucius of Cyrene, and Manaen, which had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul.

2. As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them.

3. And when they had fasted and prayed, and laid their

hands on them, they sent them away.

1 John 1:3. That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that he also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ.

Golden Text: "As the Father hath sent me, even so send I you." John 20:21.

Practical Truth: The mission of the church is to win souls for Christ and help them to live Christlike lives.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Read again Matt. 16:16-18 to see what the church is. Peter had left all to follow Jesus, and God had honored his faith by giving him the revelation that Jesus was the Christ, the Son of the Living God. Jesus is the foundation of his church. When one comes to Jesus and believes on him (which means that they believe he is all that the Word represents him to be, and requires all of us that he says he requires) the Father will reveal this same truth to his heart, at which time he becomes a member (a lively stone) of the church that Jesus built. He will be one with others who have become members of His church in the same way (which is the only way), if he does not side-step from the Word of God to join a man-made institution and obey doctrines and commandments of men. In former days God allowed his people to be scattered in the different denominations, but now they have become corrupt and the true light about the church is now shining, when God is calling his blood-washed church together out of the cages of men. If they fail to heed his call and remain in the cages, they will partake of the sins so prevalent in them and receive the plagues which God has said would be poured out on them.

Our lesson today deals with the mission of the church, which is the one body of blood-bought believers. It includes:

1. A rule for the behavior of brethren toward each other. This scripture in Matt. is often sadly neglected—perhaps through lack of knowledge, often. Why should we want to gain our brother? Does it not bring reproach to the cause of God when differences arise and some fall by the wayside?

2. A part of Christ's great commission to the church. Also, the source from which their power comes. Would it give power to the church that Jesus built to have popular socials to gain numbers? No; those who have to be won by an appeal to the flesh, would not be won to Christ at all, but to those things which won them. Spiritually, they would be worse off after they take upon themselves a profession than they were before, for then they would not only be dead in trespasses and sins, (or lost), but they would be deceived into thinking they were on the way to heaven.

What does the Holy Ghost power enable the church to do?

3. Doctrine. The true church needs no doctrine, but the apostles' doctrine. One of the marks of the church is that they "continue stedfastly" in it.

4. Works of charity. Part of the apostles' doctrine is that the people of God have a care one for another. "But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him?"

5. Gifts and operations of the Spirit. Members of God's church are qualified for the work which He wants them to do by gifts of the Spirit. Our lesson gives examples of this. Read also 1 Cor. 12.