

# FAITH <sup>AND</sup> VICTORY

## The EVENING LIGHT WATCHMAN



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### IF JESUS HAD HIS WAY

"Peace on earth goodwill toward men,"  
Is what the angels sang  
When Christ was born in Bethlehem,  
And loud their anthems rang.

Peace and goodwill are here today,  
If men would have it so,  
And even love their enemies,  
And never fight a foe.

God's precious Word, the holy Book  
Says man was made upright  
But he of many sins partook,  
Which makes him quarrel and fight.

Whose fault is it—pray tell me now—  
If dark war clouds arise  
And hide the Face of Him who wills  
Not war, but paradise?

—Geo. W. Stephenson

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### Our Citizenship in Heaven

When a foreigner comes to this country and decides to become a citizen, he meets the conditions that will make him a citizen. Then he loses his citizenship in the foreign country. So it is with one who wants to become a child of God. He meets the conditions that will make him a child of God.

The first condition he must meet is to see and feel himself a sinner in the sight of God. He must realize that he has really sinned against God and now with godly sorrow for his sins, desires to become a child of God. Next, he must repent to God and ask God to forgive him and make him one of His children. He must be willing to forsake sin and then God will make him a citizen of heaven. Eph. 2:19, "Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God." Hallelujah. One cannot be a friend to the world and be a citizen in God's family, so he loses his citizenship with the world and

the devil. James 4:4, "Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? Whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God." Notice now, that you cannot be a friend to the sinful practices of the world: such as, picture shows, dances, etc., and still belong to God. 1 John 2:15,16, "Love not the world neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof; but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever." The one who holds his citizenship by obeying God will continue to be a citizen in heaven. John 15:18,19, "If the world hate you ye know that it hated me before it hated you. If ye were of [a citizen] the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of [a citizen] the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you." Gal. 1:4, "Who gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father:" Thus we see that it is the will of God for us to be citizens with him. Eph. 2:1-3, "And you hath he quickened, who were dead [foreigner] in trespasses and sins: Wherein in time past ye [were a citizen in the world] walked according to the course of this world, according to the [devil] prince of the power of the air, [the devil] the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience: Among whom also we all had our conversation [when a citizen in the world] in times past in the lust of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature [citizens] the children of wrath even as others." We as ministers are not responsible for God's Word, but we are responsible for the way we give it out and hold people to measure to it. We are watchmen. Ezek. 3:17, "Son of man, I have made thee a watchman unto the house of Israel: therefore hear the word of my mouth, and give them warning from me." and 2 chapter 6-8 verses, "And thou, son of man, be not afraid of them, neither be afraid of their words,

though briars and thorns be with thee, and thou dost dwell among scorpions: be not afraid of their words, nor be dismayed at their looks, though they be a rebellious house. And thou shall speak my words unto them, whether they will hear, or whether they will forbear: for they are most rebellious. But thou, son of man, hear what I say unto thee; Be not thou rebellious like that rebellious house: open thy mouth, and eat that I give thee." This is God's truth, not mine, so we as his ministers (or citizens) must preach his word in all its fullness, for the gospel is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth. Rom. 1:16. By obeying it one becomes a citizen with the saints. Eph. 2:19. 2 Tim. 3:16,17, "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable [to make one a citizen in heaven] for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man [or citizen] of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works." Therefore, one can be a perfect or law abiding citizens. May God bless this message to all who read it that they all may get a real benefit to their souls. —U. G. Nave

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## "I Have Played The Fool."

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These words are recorded in 1 Samuel 26:21: "There was not among the children of Israel a godlier person" than Saul and "God gave him another heart," yet because of disobedience God rejected him from being king, he acknowledging "I have transgressed the commandment of the Lord because I feared the people," and again, "I am sore distressed, for the Philistines make war against me and God is departed from me and answereth me no more." He had "played the fool."

When Samson, with his head on Delilah's knees, awoke out of sleep "He wist not that the Lord had departed from him," but he soon found it out when "the Philistines took him and put out his eyes . . . and bound him with fetters of brass and he did grind in the prison house." Think you he remembered the good times he had as judge of Israel, and his freedom and wonderful strength, and said, "I have played the fool?"

Nebuchadnezzar, who saw God's power in protecting Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego from the flames, made a decree that every people, nation and language which speak anything amiss against the God of these men shall be cut in pieces . . . "because there is no other God who can deliver after this sort." The prophet Daniel warned this king thus: "O king, let my counsel be accepted unto thee and break off thy sins by righteousness and thine iniquities by shewing mercy to the poor." At the end of twelve months the king spake, "Is not this great Babylon that I have built . . . for the honor of my majesty?" Just then "there fell a voice from heaven, O, Nebuch-

adnezzar, to thee it is spoken, 'The kingdom is departed from thee' . . . and he was driven from men and did eat grass as oxen and his body was wet with the dew of heaven till his hairs were grown like eagles' feathers and his nails were like bird's claws." He had "played the fool."

King Ahab, who petulantly informed his wife Jezebel that he had been refused Naboth's vineyard, was informed by her, "I will give it thee." She had Naboth slain. When Ahab went to take possession, the prophet Elijah was there. God had sent him. Ahab asked: "Hast thou found me, O mine enemy?" and he answered, "I have found thee, because thou hast sold thyself to work evil in the sight of the Lord. Behold, I will bring evil upon thee . . . and the dogs shall eat Jezebel by the wall of Jezreel." Looking back over his life on a career of which it is recorded "there was none like unto Ahab which did sell himself to work wickedness," he surely could say, "I have played the fool."

Judas, who betrayed Jesus and afterward declared "I have sinned in that I have betrayed innocent blood" and "went and hanged himself," had worse than "played the fool," for it is recorded and Jesus said it, "Woe unto that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed."

A rich man once said, "I will pull down my barns and build greater and say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease; eat, drink and be merry; but God said, "Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee." But the climax is reached when the rich man who fared sumptuously every day (but failed out of his abundance to show human sympathy to the one who was laid at his gate in destitution and misery) died, and "in hell he lifted up his eyes, being in torments." Enough said. He had "played the fool."

In taking a retrospective view of life, many of us can now recognize where we have erred in judgment or committed some sin, we regrettingly say, "I played the fool," but none will say it with such earnestness and such self-condemnation as the one who heard the invitation, "Behold, I stand at the door and knock," and, refusing to open, hear him say, "Because I have called and ye refused . . . I also will laugh at your calamity. I will mock when your fear cometh."

It is human to regret past failures, but why live in the past when the future may be bright? "Come, now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord. Though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool." Isa. 1:18.

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." 1 John 1:9. —A. H. Dugdale

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"I would rather be called a fool for being a Christian than to be a fool for not being one."

## REPENTANCE

Texts of God's Word from the sacred Scriptures: God commandeth all men everywhere to repent (Acts 17:30).

Except ye repent ye shall all likewise perish (Luke 13:5).

Repent that your sins may be blotted out (Acts 3:19).

Peter said, "Repent" (Acts 2:38).

Let the wicked forsake his way and the unrighteous man his thoughts; and let him return unto the Lord and He will have mercy upon him; and to our God for He will abundantly pardon (Isa. 55:7).

Before God sent Christ into the world, He sent John the Baptist to preach and tell the people they must all repent. When Christ Jesus, our Lord came, in His first sermon He said, "Repent."

Christ Jesus sent out the twelve apostles and they told the people to repent. Christ also sent out seventy men to preach and they preached repentance. After all this Christ Jesus said that if you do not repent you will be lost. If you do not repent on earth you can not live with God. You must repent. God commands repentance and will not accept any other thing, no matter how good it is in the place of repentance. God will not let us choose what we will do, but He tells us what we must do, and unless we do what He says, He will never take us to live with Him.

God says every person on earth has sinned and sin takes us away from God. Nothing but repentance can bring us back to God. With one sin unforgiven we can not go to live with God and God never forgives sin unless we repent. He says He will forgive all sin when we repent and also take away the evil things that are within us that cause us to sin; such as anger, pride, hatred, lying, bad appetites, evil desires, evil passion, etc. He will take away our evil natures and then when those evil things are gone He will put good and holy things in their places and give us a holy nature so we can live a holy life. God will begin to work in us and help us as soon as we repent.

True repentance is an honest unchangeable purpose of heart to cease from all sin and obey God in all things forever. Many people quit large sins but continue to commit small sins. One sin caused God to put Adam and Eve out of the garden and keep them out; and one sin, no matter how small it is, if we love it and continue to do that sin, will keep us out of God's home forever and will take us to hell. We can not cease from sin of ourselves, but if we wish to quit and cry to God He will give us the ability to cease. The devil will, every hour, try to make us sin, but if we watch for him and cry to God He will give us power to refuse to do the wrong and to do the right. St. Peter says we are kept from sinning by

the power of God, but we must ask God to keep us and believe He will do it.

Sinners do not read God's word and do not know how He wishes them to live. True repentance will cause people to read the sacred scriptures to learn what God has told them to do so they can do it. No one can obey God until they know what He wants. God says He likes obedience to His Word better than all the good works we can do. True repentance will cause us to talk to God in prayer, praise and thanksgiving. God loves us and thinks of us and does for us daily and He wants us to think of Him and talk to Him continually. The sinner forgets God. When he repents he will remember God. Repentance is an entire change of life. Instead of forgetting God, we think of Him, obey instead of disobeying, try to please Him and not ourselves, quit sin and live holy. Repentance includes restitution. If in the past you have injured, or defrauded, or robbed, or deceived, or spoken evil of any one, you must ask his pardon and undo the harm as much as possible.

Old debts must be paid as soon as possible. If the wicked give again that he hath robbed, walk in the statutes of life without committing iniquity, none of the sins that he hath committed shall be mentioned. (Ezek. 33:15,16.) "He that covereth his sins shall not prosper; but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy." Prov. 28:13.

This life will soon be ended and we shall have to leave the world and all we have in it. We shall then need a home. God offers us a home of riches, beauty, joy and rest if we will truly repent. If we do not repent, no matter how many good works we do, God says we must have hell for our future home. God loves us with a wonderful love and begs us to repent today, right now, as you read this article. God says you do not know when you might die and He begs you to not wait even one day before you repent, lest you should die without repentance and fail to enter His home.

God says, "now is the accepted time." Now is the time to repent. Now is the time to have God forgive all your sins, take out of you all that is not good and put within you a new, holy nature and make you fit to enter His home. If any man is in Christ Jesus old things are passed away. All things are made new. 2 Cor. 5:17. Oh! repent this very moment. Tell God that with His help you will turn away from all sin forever and obey Him and ask him to make every evil thing pass from you and to fill you with a new holy nature that will cause you to live a holy life for God.

—C. N.

### Notice

Bro. J. H. Pierson and wife live four miles from Valeene, Ind. and would be glad if any saints passing near would stop and see them. They are isolated saints.

**"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."

**Are They Praying?**

Are they praying for us back home?  
Are they meeting together for prayer?  
Or are they going on the usual way,  
As they did when I was there?  
We thank them all for their money,  
We thank them all for their care;  
But, Oh, just tell them, dear mother,  
We are needing so much their prayer.

—From Australia by a soldier.

**CONCERNING THE SONG BOOKS**

It seems that we have been continually disappointed about the song books and we are sorry to say that it seems we can get no song books printed at the present time.

We told the saints in the Nov. issue of Faith And Victory paper that we were negotiating a deal with the Gospel Trumpet company whereby they would print us a song book of our selection of songs from the "Select Hymns" song book and the "Reformation Glory" song book. This statement was true; but just after we had mailed the paper out we received word from them that the various officials of the company had met to make decision about the plates and the song books and their conclusions were to scrap the metal contained in the "Reformation Glory" song book plates. They also said they would make a selection of songs from the "Select Hymns" song book calling it "Select Hymns No. 2" and publish this book in the near future, perhaps January or February of next year. They claimed that they were in a jam on this song book proposition because of the Government Conservative Order M99.

They have agreed to send us a list of the songs they select, together with the price of printing us a thousand or two books with our imprint on them when the selection is made. If the songs they select seem to us to be a good selection of songs for the saints we are expecting to place an order for the books so we can have them in stock for the saints to send for them any time they need books.

I am as much or more disappointed than you are because we did not get the plates so we could have them to reprint when needed but we submit it all to God for we have done the very best we could. One thing has been accomplished by our making effort to get the plates and that is the plates of most of the "Select Hymns" book is preserved whereas they would have been destroyed long ago.

According to our promise, we have begun to send the money back to all those who sent in offerings to purchase the plates. Some has already been returned and the others will receive their money back just as soon as we can get to it, as some of our workers are on vacation at present in Louisiana, visiting and attending the Hammond, La. Assembly meeting.

There has been nearly seven hundred dollars sent in by one hundred and seventy five different parties and it will take considerable time and work to write each one and return their money, so if you will bear with us, we will have your money all back to you by Christmas. If any one fails to get his money back by that time, please write us immediately so we can look into the matter at once and see that you do get your money.

—Fred Pruitt

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**Assembly Meeting Notice**

The State Assembly Meeting of the Church of God will be held at Guthrie, Okla. at the saints' chapel, located on the corner of 6th St. and W. Warner. It will begin on Dec. 25th and continue ten days.

We are expecting the usual good meeting as ministers will be here from all over the state and from other states to preach the old time truth of the Bible—justification through repentance toward God and faith in the atoning blood of Jesus; sanctification, or Holy Ghost baptism, by obedience, believing the promises, and faith in the cleansing blood; the church, which is the body of Christ; and

other sound Bible truth that will edify and unify all humble believers.

The cost of the meeting will likely be much heavier than usual and those who have means to help along or can bring eatables of any kind may send it to Bro. G. W. Winn whose address is 1311 W. Mansur or to the Faith Publishing House at 920 W. Mansur Ave. It will be taken care of and used in the upkeep of the assembly meeting. Show your faith and interest by helping in the financial need of the meeting.

Those coming should not forget to bring their quilts, blankets, and pillows for such articles will be scarce in winter time. The saints will do their best to provide a place for all to stay who come to the meeting and extend a hearty welcome to everyone that loves peace, harmony, oneness and Bible unity. Any minister that may be out of harmony with the meeting and in trouble with the Lord will not be allowed privileges and freedom in the meetings. Settle all your differences at home and with the Lord before coming to the meeting.

This meeting will be a good place for souls to get saved and bodies to be healed and to learn the true ways of the Lord. We are expecting all to receive good things from Father's table. Come and treat your soul to the feast which will be spread.

You are welcomed by the saints at Guthrie.

—Committee

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**Obituaries**

Peter G. Conkle was born Dec. 26, 1846 near Bucyrus, Ohio and died April 11, 1942 at Ontario, Calif. at the ripe old age of 95 years, 3 months, and 15 days.

He was married to Frances E. Leighton on Feb. 24, 1867 at Wheelers Grove, Iowa. To this union, five children were born; two daughters and three sons, who still survive him.

At the age of 33 years he gave his heart to God and has tried to live to please his Creator all his remaining years, and to make the world better by his having lived in it. He often said that was the best thing he ever did, and he never tired nor became discouraged in the Christian life.

He was widely known and greatly beloved by all who knew him.

When he was told that it would only be a short time until Jesus would send for him, he said, "Praise the Lord!" He was waiting and longing for the summons to come.

His funeral services were conducted by Bro. J. W. Youngblood and Sister Nellie Poulos. Text: Rev. 14:13, with other scriptures. Interment in Bellevue Cemetery.

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**GOD and SATAN**

We read in the sacred scripture that, "God is a spirit: and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth." John 4:24.

Knowing that God is a Spirit and must be worshiped in spirit and in truth and that none can worship Him in spirit and in truth except those who are possessors of His spirit, it behoves each and every one to be sure that they are really possessors of His spirit and not some other spirit. Satan, our enemy, is also a spirit and plays God to the sinner and the deceived professor. Satan has no Bible but he uses God's Bible and wrests the scriptures from their

proper meaning just enough to deceive and keep his subjects and preachers deceived and deceiving others. It is abundantly evident to the heavenly enlightened children who behold the awful corruption, worldliness, envy, jealousy, hatred, strife and slaughter of human life which is sanctioned by nearly all professed ministers, that Satan has a thousand preachers in this world to God's one and that the nations have forgotten God and according to the sacred word will be turned into hell (Psa. 9:17) unless they repent and forsake sinful worldliness and all evil.

Satan's subjects and preachers will profess Christ and use good scripture to cover themselves with while they do their dirty work of murdering and slaying the true Christ that is in the hearts of true believers who fail to watch and pray and continue in the, "More excellent way." 1 Cor. 12:31. Satan could not do much damage to the cause of God in this enlightened age except he live in a minister who preaches a high standard of Bible truth (Read 2 Cor. 11:13-15) professing to be sanctified, and even a saint of God, for only in this way would he be able to fool, deceive and associate with the clean and pure in heart and by his pernicious ways do damage to the bright shining of the church, the body of Christ.

Paul had much trouble in his day with false brethren and deceitful workers as he called them. In Acts 20:29, he says he knew that after his departing greivous wolves would enter in among them, not sparing the flock, and also said that even among our own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things to draw disciples after them. If Paul had such distressing things to contend with in the morning church, is it any wonder that we who are in the evening light church should have similar conditions? For the church in the morning gradually became darkened until the midnight was upon all and the scripture was fulfilled which reads, "I will cause the sun to go down at noon, and I will darken the earth in the clear day." Amos 8:9. Years ago the church began to emerge out of this spiritual darkness of midnight and the light is shining brighter and brighter as the evening of this gospel day is upon us. It will be brighter until before his coming the church, which is His body, will be singled out of sect-ish rubbish and spirits and will grow in oneness and unity, glowing and shining so brightly that the host of religious spirits will become enraged. The Spirit of Christ in the body will be a reproof to sinners and self-righteous professors, and judgment upon the prince of this world, the devil. John 16:8-11. Many of the saints will be lied upon, slandered, persecuted and slain with carnal weapons and according to Rev. 20:8-10, Gog and Magog will gather their hosts together to battle the saints. They will compass the camp of the saints about, the beloved City, the new Jerusalem, and while in this act fire will

come down from heaven and devour them. The Lord will take his wife away and burn up the wicked with the earth and all things therein. The devil that deceived them will be cast into the lake of fire and brimstone where he and his host will be tormented day and night forever and ever. Rev. 20:10.

The judgment will set and the dead, small and great, will stand before God and the books will be opened. Another book will be opened which is the book of life and all will be judged according to their works. Brethren, we had better be very careful what kind of works we have for all is recorded in the book and will some day be opened before us. The 15th verse of the 20th chapter of Rev. says, "And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire."

Some may say how can these men that claim to be saved and sanctified and that do signs and wonders be deceived? 2 Thess. 2:9. There are many ways by which men become in that state. Some are born bastards spiritually speaking, while others begin to love the world and fleshly lusts and gradually become a hireling minister, pushing on a soft pedal or having their eyes punched out like Samson and grind for some sectish order. Still others may have been born of the spirit but through carelessness, self love, (Prov. 24:30) and being void of true understanding, they allow the wall of salvation to be broken down and other spirits enter in. Thus they are left with a self-righteous profession and become carnal in trying to make all believe that they still possess the spirit of the Lord. They become easily offended and ready to nettle or thorn any who discern them and they have a hard time trying to fit in with the pure in heart and in time they become persecutors of the Lamb's wife, the life which is from heaven, the body of Christ in the world.

We exhort the pure in heart, for we know these things are upon us, to be watching, praying and doing. Put on the whole armor of God that ye may be able to stand. Continue in the "more excellent way" and having done all to stand stand, having your loins girded about with truth. Sanctify the Lord God in your heart. Set Him apart to live there in spite of surroundings and the very God of peace will be with you.

—Fred Pruitt

### — oOo — Somewhat Against You

While reading in Rev. what the Spirit saith to the churches my soul has been stirred. Remember, He who speaketh is he that liveth, who was dead but is alive forever more, it is he who holdeth the keys to all things, the King of kings and Lord of Lords. His eyes are all aflame as He and his blood washed army go forth, conquering and to conquer. Dear saints, He is all and in all, first and last to every one of his

remnant, therefore, surely we should give diligent heed to every word. Rev. 2, where He speaks to the church of Ephesus, the second verse, "I know thy works, and thy labour, and thy patience, and how thou canst not bear them which are evil: and thou hast tried them which say they are apostles, and are not, and hast found them liars: And hast borne, and hast patience, and for my name's sake hast laboured, and hast not fainted."

This surely sounds like a zealous church and one that was pressing forward, but listen to verse four, "Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love." Oh, may our dear Redeemer help each one of us to closely examine ourselves to see if we in any way have left our first love. Remember when God first flooded our souls with the eternal light and truth and the Holy Spirit witnessed to our hearts and souls that we stood redeemed by the power of his blood, through his mercy and grace. Oh, how it changed things. How we loved Him and all mankind, even our enemies if we had any. How the glorious creation of God looked more lovely and as we drank deep of that pure river of life, how completely the material things of earth faded from our hearts and our desires were only to lose ourselves in his love. How glorious it was to sacrifice earthly things for Him and His cause. How we loved His worship and how sweet the prayer meetings. We often walked miles to be able to worship with His saints and the blessings we received can never be told. How is it now? Have we in any degree left our first love? If so He tells us to hold fast and repent, not get discouraged but repent of our failures and sink so deep into his unfailling love that we can feel his love in every part of our being. Then we can sing with our heart, "I see this world with all its sinful follies conquered at my feet."

Dear saints, the Spirit surely is calling for a deeper walk with God and the more of the pure love of God and His Christ we can obtain, the stronger each one will be to cope with the fearful conditions under which we are now living. Seek more of His love, a deeper love. Hide in His love, it is our only refuge. Oh, for a simple trust in God that will cause us to sing with our very soul, "All nature may perish, the heavens may fall, but Jesus is ever my all and in all; creation may crumble to chaos and dust, in God my salvation securely I trust." Oh, praise God for a sure foundation, a safe and sure retreat.

Always remember, it is he that endureth to the end that will be saved. In the name of the captain of our salvation who never lost a battle, let every one press on, fight the good fight of faith and finish the course. Seek more of his deep rich love. Amen.

Pray for me, your blood washed brother, kept by the power of God, ready to be revealed.

—Sam Wilson

### *“Abstain From All Appearance of Evil”*

Only the foolish person will play with fire, trifle with venomous snakes, rashly handle high explosives. Why? Because of the danger connected with any of these practices. However brilliant he may have proved to be intellectually, however charming his personality, or however gripping his preaching, that minister reveals himself worse than an imbecile who steps the bounds of rugged propriety in any of his dealings with women. Better for one to be known as “a woman-hater” although there is little opportunity for that verdict, than for the preacher to take even the slightest risk of moral failure.

Every preacher needs to hear the words of Paul’s wisdom ringing clearly and constantly in his mind: “Let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.”

This ever-present moral hazard however makes it imperative for the minister to “fight a good fight” if he is to retain the whiteness of his soul. “The very nature of his calling,” says Vance, “makes him an easy mark for attacks that imperil his moral integrity.” The tragic collapse of a minister whose morals have sagged and surrendered under temptation is one of the saddest calamities to befall Christ’s cause. The preacher must fight for his morals. Even the Lord’s anointed is not safe. Some of the most gifted have slipped and fallen.

The young preacher offers a field of peculiar charm to this segment of women in the parish. Not long since a mature preacher attended a conference, while a young and popular minister was speaking, heard one whisper to another, seated a pew forward: “Isn’t he a dear! It would be very easy for me to fall in love with him.” The other woman admitted that such an amorous experience would not be difficult for her either. Both women were married; both were mothers. This is indicative of the handicap under which nearly every young minister initiates his work.

It should be observed, however, and with inflexible constancy, that the minister who is past forty is in no sense immune to this malady. Strangely enough, the most dangerous period for most pastors in this regard is from forty to fifty-five. This is a peculiar phenomenon, nevertheless true. Both the physiologist and the psychologist offer rather convincing evidence to support this assertion. Case after case has come to public notice, unfortunately, of long experienced ministers who have played the fool with women.

No preacher, irrespective of age, should ever allow himself to become familiar with any woman except his wife. Here is an arbitrary ruling which cannot be softened in any particular, if the man is to insure the purity of his soul and the continuing success of

his endeavors. Feminine flattery should be disregarded and inwardly scorned as an instrument of evil. There is positively no prohibition against the normal and desirable commendation and compliment when such is in order. Flattery and appreciation are not synonymous. Jeremy Collier once observed: “Flattery is an ensnaring quality, and leaves a very dangerous impressions. It swells a man’s imagination, entertains his vanity, and drives him to doting on his own person.” These are words of truth and wisdom. Too often the element of flattery becomes an intoxicant which prepares the way for unhappy results.

That women must be received by the minister in his study, alone, is an obvious fact. He must be accessible to every person who wants and needs his assistance. If not, he will fail utterly in his service. But he may well make it a rule of his life, a practice with which all should be more conversant, never to allow any woman to remain longer than fifteen minutes in his study without the presence of a third party. It should always be kept in mind that scandal is precipitated by the merest and often the most innocent incident. When once this force gets under way, it rolls on with the speed of a wind-driven prairie fire. Many hearts have been broken and hurried to the grave because of a diseased imagination plus a vicious tongue.

Repeated calls upon any woman, unless she is beyond all question one of “the mothers in Israel,” aged and infirm, should be studiously avoided. The preacher may well see that a third party is present when he is calling upon a woman confined to her bed particularly in the home. The situation is much different if the sick one is in the hospital, although it will never be cause for regret if another person is present then. Pastoral prayer for and with hospital patients have often proved a source of real inspiration to nurses in attendance. This fact should be kept in mind always.

It will be greatly to a minister’s advantage to refrain from walking with any woman in his parish for any considerable distance on the street. Chance meetings are bound to occur from time to time. The preacher who is spiritually crafty, shrewd in the field of spotless ministerial deportment, will see that the companionship never exceeds a full block after the meeting. Some reason, possibly very quickly discovered, can take him in another direction. Seems this a small matter? Often such is not the case, since tongues can wag much in relation to trivial things.

The wise preacher will refrain from taking a woman in his car alone. There will come times when to adhere to this rule will not be easy, but nevertheless the rule should stand. Neither should the minister allow himself to be taken in a motor car calling, nor on any other errand in the parish, by a woman

alone, no matter how splendid her morals or motive may be. The preacher must remember that of all people, ministers must abstain from every appearance of carelessness and evil. True this is often an artificial standard, but rigid adherence to it will in the long run prove of immense value.

Another suggestion of golden worth is that the preacher shall let it be known, tacitly if possible, but from the pulpit if necessary, that he and his wife enjoy happy domestic life and understand each other with mutual satisfaction. To drop even the slightest hint by word or act that he is misunderstood by his wife, is to open the preacher to an unnecessary barrage of dangerous feminine attention.

Probably no person can ever reach the point where the siren call of impurity will be free from allurements. Even the perfect man was tempted, tempted in all points like as we are—yet remained sinless. Man, therefore, must expect these severe testings but God is able to keep him from falling.

Someone has said, "The human mind is like a camera film. After exposure to an impure thought or suggestion, it is possible to do one of two things: either to delay and develop the plate, which fixes the picture permanently, or instantly flood the plate with the light of Christ. The light is here in abundance. It is ours for the asking. If we are so disposed we can instantly ruin the unwholesome pictures which come temptingly to the very heart every day.

God bless the noble, self-sacrificing, pure women of our congregations. Their influence inspires; their service is of uncalculable worth. God pity the preacher who because of his own weakness or through long-continued temptations, allows himself to fall victim to any one of the few women in every parish who seek emotional expression regardless of cost.

May the mercies of high heaven keep every preacher, young and mature alike, from the supremely dangerous assumption that he has reached the point of immunity. The Damoclean sword is forever suspended by a single hair over the life of the preacher.

—Copied

### Signs of Spiritual Decay

1. When you are averse to religious conversation or the company of heavenly minded Christians.
2. When, without necessity, you absent yourself from religious services.
3. When you are more concerned about pacifying conscience than of honoring Christ in performing duty.
4. When you are more afraid of being counted over-strict than of dishonoring Christ.
5. When you trifle with temptation, or think lightly of sin.
6. When the faults of others are more a matter of censorious conversation than secret grief and prayer.

7. When you are impatient and unforgiving to others.

8. When you confess but do not forsake sin, and when you acknowledge but still neglect duty.

9. When your cheerfulness has more of the levity of the unregenerate than the holy joy of the children of God.

10. When you shrink from self-examination.

—Selected.

### ARTICLES FOR CHRISTMAS PRESENTS

The articles listed below are in stock at this office ready to be sent to you.

New Testament with references, clear print, overlapping cover, size 4 x 6½ inches. Just the Testament for ministers and gospel workers. Price, \$1.25

New Testament called the "Pilgrim Bible." This Testament has references and underlined scriptures. The scriptures pointing the way to heaven are underlined with blue lines; and those that impart danger, with red. Overlapping cover. Size 4 x 6¼. Price \$1.75.

Christmas Post Cards Scripture Text. 15c Per doz.

Old Folk's Bible Large print with center references, gold titles with flexible limp binding, durable, Holman superior edition, size 9¼ x 6¼ in. Just the Bible for mother or father. Price \$3.50.

Book for Children "True Stories of the West for Children," and "Father's Evening Stories" combined. Illustrated with pictures. Fifty pages and beautiful paper cover. Price 10 cents.

"Life Sketches of Mother Sarah Smith". Paper bound containing 47 pages of thrilling spiritual life. 8c each.

"Truths on Sanctification" 31-page book, paper bound. 8 cents each or two for 15c.

"A Religious Controversy" by the late C. E. Orr. This book is paper bound, containing 95 pages with a number of pictures. It is exceedingly interesting while it imparts to the reader spiritual awakening truth that feeds the soul. Price, 10c each.

"Helps to Holy Living" Book No. 2. Paper cover, 48 pages. 10c each.

"Instruction of Youth in the Christian Life." Paper cover. 32 pages. Price 10c.

"The More Abundant Life." 32 pages. 5c each.

The above four books were written by C. E. Orr.

"An Appeal To Reason" by Geo. Peck, paper cover, 60 pages. 10c each.

"From Sin to Salvation" by H. W. White. Paper cover, 62 pages. Price 10c.

"Select Songs" word edition. 155 old familiar songs. paper cover. Price 10c.

Scripture Text Metal Motto Tags for cars. 25c each.

Bedtime Prayer Reminders A beautiful cross that glows in the dark. Price 15c.

Christmas Folders with envelopes. Scripture text, lovely DeLux. 21 in a box. \$1.00 per box.

Christmas Folders with envelopes. Scripture text. 12 in a box. Price 50c.

1943 Calendars Beautifully colored, scripture text. Ready to hang on the wall. 9½ x 16 in. Price 30c each, 4 for \$1.00, or 12 for \$3.00.

Above articles all postpaid

Orders will be filled the same day received as long as our supply lasts. Order early to avoid the congested Christmas mail.

Send all orders to Faith Pub. House, 920 W, Mansur, Guthrie, Okla.



# « Young People's Section »

## Childhood's Happy Hours

Long ago in days of childhood,  
 When our hearts no anguish knew,  
 When our trusting hearts were laughing  
 And found joy the whole day through,  
 Then our lives were filled with pleasure,  
 And the evil days came not;  
 Our laugh and play with others mingled,  
 And our sorrows were forgot.

Joyful rapture filled our being,  
 And when others did us wrong  
 We forgave with childish pleasure  
 And went back to play or song.  
 But we found as we grew older  
 That our hearts and minds both changed,  
 And we found forgiving harder  
 Than when childhood's blessings reigned.

Have childhood's joys flown forever,  
 Or will they return again?  
 Will our lives once more be happy  
 And our hearts be freed from pain?  
 Yes, my friend, there is a secret,  
 Which will make our lives once more,  
 Clean and pure and—yes, forgiving,  
 And more blissful than before.

Pure salvation is the secret,  
 Bought by Jesus with His blood;  
 And if we will just accept it,  
 He will fill us with His love.  
 Peace, sweet peace, will reign within us,  
 We once more will be a child;  
 And our Father will instruct us  
 How to walk each blissful mile.

—Alice Elizabeth Hall.

## Editorials

### Bethlehem Star Still Shines

Christ's birth should have greater meaning to his followers today than ever before for His mission and work in the earth is in bold contrast to the present world-wide conflict. Instead of accepting the angelic proclamation of "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men" (Luke 2:14) the world is almost literally beating their "Plowshares into swords and pruninghooks into spears," as recorded in Joel 3:10. Instead of following the star of Bethlehem with its light of love and offering gifts to the Giver of light and life, the nations are stumbling in the night of hate and destruction and offering gifts to the gods of war.

Remember, dear reader, that the star of Bethlehem

still shines, as it has done through the centuries, to guide the honest heart in the way of everlasting life. The good tidings of great joy is to all people. Let us join with the heavenly host in praising God, and proclaiming more loudly to all the earth the birth of Christ—our Saviour—as the only hope for a sin-stricken world.

When the child Jesus was brought into the temple, Simeon, a just and devout man, took Him up in his arms and said, "Lord now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, for mine eyes have seen thy salvation, which thou hast prepared before the face of all people; a light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel." Christ was the light of the world while here, and His Word and Spirit still guides us to that light of life. But the light of Christ that convinces the world is that which shines out through His people. May it ever increase and let us hold high the torch of freedom for sin-enslaved peoples.

—L. D. P.

Franklin, Pa.—Dear Bro. in Christ: Greeting in His dear name. This day finds me saved and sanctified and with a stronger determination to do the Lord's will. In these times of trouble it is a wonderful consolation to study the promises of God and know that he is able to fulfill that which he has promised. My soul is made glad with the promise, "My grace is sufficient for thee."

In this time of war we must pray and guard ourselves that hatred enter not in our hearts against our enemies. All the saints of God are born through the same spirit into one church which is the church of God that Christ bought on the cross and fully set up on the day of Pentecost.

My soul rejoices that we can live above the evils of the world; live a life of holiness which is pleasing to God and if we are faithful, we shall walk with him in white for that would make us worthy.

I enjoy the Faith and Victory paper very much. Keep printing it pure and undefiled.

I am sending this subscription list filled out and a check for them. You may use the balance for whatever you see fit. Your brother in Christ, —Paul R. Thompson

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## HE CARES FOR YOU

1 Pet. 5:7 "Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you." This one promise alone should be enough to lift us above the clouds of discouragement in this life. If it does not, it is only because we do not have faith enough to believe He really cares for us for "His promises are yea and amen to them that believe" and "There hath not failed one word of all His good promises."

Isn't it wonderful to know that God cares for us; just to know that the very hairs of our head are all numbered? He proves that he cares for us by

telling us to cast all our cares upon him. He knew that we would have the cares of life to contend with, and He also knew that man was unable to bear those burdens alone so He extends the wonderful invitation to all, "Come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." Oh, if we could only fathom the great love He has for us and behold His look of compassion upon those of His children who are struggling along life's highway burdened down with the cares of this life. How grieved He must be and how anxious He is for that one to bring everything to him in prayer. "Oh what peace we often forfeit, oh, what needless pain we bear; all because we do not carry everything to God in prayer."

God cannot work until we cast our cares at His feet. It is not enough to ask Him to take our burdens but we must cast them upon Him and have faith to believe He will work everything out to our good and His glory. When we submit everything into His hands we then feel the river of peace flooding our soul, but if we kneel and ask the Lord to take our burdens and then go away still anxious about the matter, the Lord cannot give us that peace. That care will gnaw at the very vitals of our soul until we find ourselves completely without grace when we are called upon to go through the fiery furnace. The enemy then has full advantage of us.

Nothing in life is too trivial to take to the Lord. He has an interest in the very smallest concerns of our daily life. "In everything let your request be known unto Him." Why worry or fret when everything seems to go wrong? Right then is the time to seek the place of our refuge and the storms of life cannot move us. We need only to let go of everything and let God keep us. We can then sail out into the ocean of God's love, not having a worry or care. Oh, weary one, Jesus will disentangle all the cares of life if you will only let Him. Cast all your care upon Him and He will pilot you safely to the other shore.

—Ruby Ellen Doolittle

## CORRESPONDENCE

Rockville, Ind.—Faith and Victory Pub. House and to all the good saints of God. I wish to request prayer of all the saints of God for my healing and getting well. I am a strong believer in God and in prayer and I feel my little children need me so bad in these evil days. My foundation is Jesus Christ which cannot be moved. I am abounding in the truth but I have been very sick and it seemed I could get no better. One night while laying here so bad off I couldn't sleep and praying as usual, all at once something laid its hand on my side. I turned to look, thinking it was a nurse but I couldn't turn my head. The hand still lay there on my side so I tried again to look but I couldn't turn my head. I just confessed it was the power of the Lord and when I looked there was no one to be seen. I was so happy I can't even express it and ever since I have been getting better. Thank the good Lord. I am not strong enough to tell all the Lord has done for me at the present time but I have faith and hope

that I will be well in the near future. I am standing on the promises of God and his mercies. I trust my Lord for everything and I have never trusted him in vain. I feel his love and tender care and I believe I will be well again. A sister in Christ, —Dollie Stepp

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Rayville, La.—Dear Faith and Victory readers:

As this is my first attempt to write you all, I hardly know how to start. About one year ago I received the Faith and Victory paper. I enjoyed reading it very much and let some of my neighbors read it. I received it each month for three months. They didn't write and tell me, but I knew my sister and her husband, Brother and Sister Miller had it sent. I neglected to renew my subscription so I received it again Sept. the first. They were so interested in me they had sent it again. Brother Key and Bro. Miller came here to my home and held a meeting of eleven nights. One of my near neighbors, Sister Towers, was saved and a number of others were made stronger in the Lord—me for one. I praise God for sending Bro. Key to this community.

Please remember me and my family in your prayers. I have two sons, one step-son, one brother, and several nephews in the U. S. A. service.

May God bless all of you in your work for Him,

—Mrs. W. J. Greer

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Marshall, Mich.—Dear Bro. in Christ: Greeting in the name of our blessed Lord, the one in whom we trust. I feel led this evening to write a testimony for the little paper and for the glory of God. I also want to let the dear saints know that I am still praising God for His wonderful salvation and for His great love He has for poor unworthy me. He protects me day by day and helps me in every time of need. We are still moving along by God's help. Wife and I had the opportunity of attending an all-day meeting at Bro. Earl Brown's the fourth of Oct. It was sure food to our souls. Bro. Bowen of Chicago and Bro. Brown preached and the power of God was manifested. There was fair attendance; some of the Gospel Trumpet people were present.

We are still holding prayer meeting every Friday night. People are not interested; they rather go to shows. We need your prayers; pray that God will lead in and bless our work. I feel I have great reason to praise God and mean to go all the way by the leading of the Holy Spirit. Pray for wife and me that God will have his way in our lives.

—Wm. L. Van Zandt

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Philadelphia, Pa.—Dear Bro. Pruitt: I received the tracts you sent me and have given them all out. I thought they were all very good and always ask God to take care of the good seed sown. He has promised that it would not return unto him void and I believe just what he has said. He has a wonderful way of spreading his word and I want to do all I can for the building up of his kingdom. He has been a merciful God to me and my family. My husband was at the point of death but we called on God's mercy and he saved him. He is not completely healed as it seems hard for him just to commit his body as well as his soul, but please pray with me that he will just have faith to do so. His condition was Asthma and lung trouble but I do thank the Lord he does not look at the disease but at our faith in him. My husband is able to do his work and he knows God has blessed him many times.

I do pray God will bless you all for your efforts in his work. I am enclosing one dollar and fifty cents for tracts, and use the rest in the Lord's work.

Ever your sister in Christ, —Mrs. Geo. Kelley

## CALIFORNIA ASSEMBLY MEETING

The annual holiday assembly of the Church of God of southern Calif. will begin its meeting on Christmas night Friday, Dec. 25, to last 10 days.

Services will be held in the Chapel on the corner of Walnut and Naoma Sts. in Los Angeles. Meals will be served in the dining hall adjoining the Chapel.

Come expecting to help and get helped, but leave your grievances at home. These should be settled in your local congregation.

Those coming from a distance come to 6th and Main Sts. where you can go anywhere as both Pacific Electric trains and busses leave at 6th and Main. Transfer to a Central Ave. car to Walnut St., go east to Chapel.

For further information write Bro. Hodge, 1666 East 117 St. Los Angeles, Calif. Phone Lafayette 9043.

Send your offerings and produce to the above address.  
By order of the congregation. —E. M. Zinn

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Osyka, Miss.—Dear saints everywhere: I thank the Lord this morning for saving me from the sins of this world and placing my feet on the rock Christ Jesus. The Lord has blessed me so wonderfully since we learned to trust him. He supplies our needs in different ways. Once at the Hammond Campmeeting we needed money to buy special food for our baby who had been sick. We didn't tell anyone, but the Lord knew about it. He told a Sister to give us five dollars, and she did. We thank the Lord for his goodness.

Our Lord is our healer also. He healed our baby who was almost gone in June. The baby had been deathly sick for two weeks when the Lord wonderfully healed him. He had been so sick that he had to learn to sit alone, crawl, and walk all over again. The Lord did surely bless our baby.

Our little boy nine years old is having trouble with his ears. He suffers severe pain. The Lord has blessed him and he is better. We want the saints to pray that the Lord will completely heal his ears. He has trouble with them often.

We thank the Lord for the privilege of serving Him. My desire is to live for him all the days of my life.

Your Sister in the Lord, —Wilma Lea

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Springfield, Mo.—Dear Bro. and Sister Pruitt:

Greeting in the precious name of Jesus. God bless every one of you. My daughter wanted me to have an x-ray picture taken of my lungs and they said I had a tumor. I was having hemorrhages of the lungs then so I wrote to you for prayer and I haven't had a hemorrhage since. I will soon be 84 years old.

I met you at Monark Springs. I am living with Sister Porter. I love the Lord and expect to trust the Lord as long as I live so please pray for me that the Lord will completely heal my body. I go to the little Chapel and the Lord blesses us. Sometimes the Devil tries to discourage me so please remember me in prayer. I don't think I will be here long and I want to be ready when the Lord calls for me. I pray the Lord to richly reward you for your faithfulness in his cause. I love the dear saints.

—M. A. Hardison

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Olla, La.—Dear saints at the office and everywhere. Greetings in the precious name of Jesus. This morning finds me still saved and trusting in God for both soul and body. I am glad indeed I ever found this blessed way, and ever learned to put my trust in One that knows all our troubles and heartaches. Oh, how good it makes us feel when we pray for something and can see how wonderfully the Lord hears and answers our prayers.

Some times we have some hard tests to go through but if we hold out faithful He always comes to our rescue. He will never leave us nor forsake us if we live true and hold out faithful. Oh, how wonderful to know of the mighty power of God. I wish every one could just have one little taste of His blessed goodness to the children of men. If they would only trust Him.

I have left all to follow Jesus and I mean to go all the way with Him. I intend to make heaven my home at any cost. If everyone else should give up, I would still serve my blessed Lord. I feel good in my soul this morning.

I am not well in my body but I know he is faithful who promised. His word is full of blessed promises and they are for every one who will trust him. Why won't people turn away from the pleasures of this world that will soon fade away to serve a God that can care for them in every time of trouble?

My son came home from the army about three weeks ago. I had to stand at the station and see the train take him away again. Oh, how it hurts to see them leave. I have turned him over into the hands of One who is able to take care of him even on the battle front. Oh, if there were more mothers who would just put their boys in the hands of God! It truly helps us to bear our burdens.

Pray for me that I would ever be what the Lord would have me to be and that I know his will. I want all the saints every where to pray for Willard, he needs our prayers. He has an affliction that is bothering him awfully bad. He also needs a car or some means of transportation to be in the work of the Lord more.

Your Bolod Washed Sister, —Mellie Esters

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Ellisnore, Mo.—Dear Bro. and Sister Pruitt: I thank the good Lord for his goodness and kindness to us. We are both well and still trusting in our blessed Saviour. I give God all the praise and glory for keeping us saved, and I praise him for his Holy Ghost power and divine healing power. It is truly wonderful to put our trust in our blessed Saviour. We surely did enjoy ourselves at the Union City campmeeting and met several new saints. It was the first time I had seen your son, Lawrence. Sure was glad to meet him.

I had something on the corner of my right eye and the Lord healed it and took it clear off just as smooth as it ever was. I give the Lord all the praise and glory for it. Praise his precious holy name.

Bro. Pruitt, I am asking all of you dear saints to pray earnestly and fervently for my boy. He wrote me a letter and asked me and all the dear saints to be sure and pray for him. He once was saved but wandered back in sin. He said he was very deep in sin and couldn't seem to get back without our prayers. I just had to take a big cry, I felt so sorry for him. I know we will all have to pray hard for the poor boys. It looks like it will take all of our boys pretty soon; but it is like the Bible says, we are having perilous times now. I just pray the dear Lord to make an end to this old war.

I can truly say the Lord was with us in getting our little house built. Praise the Lord for it. Closing with Christian love to all, —Sister James E. Morris

Hennessey, Okla.—Dear saints in the one body:

Greetings in Jesus' dear name. This day finds me saved and encouraged to go all the way with the dear Lord. The Lord has wonderfully blessed my soul and body with good health. The Lord wants us to prove him, that he is able to keep us everyday free from sin. The Lord wants us to lift Him up that he may draw all men unto him. (John 12:32) The Lord wants us to lift him up everyday. All the saints pray for me. Your brother in the one body, —Thomas Davis

Snyder, Okla.—Dear Bro. Pruitt: I am writing you a few lines to let you know we appreciate the papers and tracts and the two books, one on sanctification and the "Religious Controversy." They all sound like the old truth that I once heard when I first came in contact with the whole truth over 30 years ago. I wish I had investigated the Faith Pub. House literature several years ago. I was poisoned against you people by Gospel Trumpet preachers; but I can see now that you folks still preach and practice the same old truth that Bro. Warner and other pioneer ministers preached. It still is good to me today and just the way I have always believed and preached and lived it. Oh, how we love the truth and we know we have found what our hearts have been longing for for years. We had to come out of the sect called the Church of God and we have been standing alone for some time, hunting for the true saints, believing that God surely had some true ones somewhere. Oh, how we want to become more acquainted with you folks. We want to be with God's true saints that love Him and His people and His glorious truth. Thank God I am free again from sects as I was when I first saw the truth over 30 years ago. Pray for us. I have catarrh, asthma and a bad rupture. Please pray for my healing of the three afflictions. Your Bro. in the one body the church, saved, sanctified and kept by the divine power of God,  
—John M. Stephens

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Payson, Okla.—Dear Saints: I send greetings in Jesus' name. We are so glad to get the paper, for each time it comes it gives us strength. It comes in the home to preach to us. Praise the Lord! I thank the Lord for those he has called out to preach by the printed page.

May our Father keep his dear ones there from all harm and put it into the hearts and minds of many people to help send the gospel into many homes and other places.

From one who is pressing onward in the way of the Lord. Oh, I'm glad I found the way.

—Rena Armstrong

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Benson, La.—Dear Bro. and Sister Pruitt:

Greetings in Jesus' precious name. This leaves husband and me saved. I am thanking and praising God for what he is to me. He is my all and in all. He is my healer and my Doctor. He has healed me so many times. Praise his dear name. My husband and I have some sort of an affliction preying upon us and we are asking the true saints of God to please pray for our healing if it is his will for us to be healed. We truly need prayer in order to hold up until the Lord gets ready for us. We are looking for our blessed Lord at any time. We are old and not able to work but we have a little income and we thank God for it. We are praying for the work at the print shop. May God bless everyone is my prayer. Amen. Your Sister in Christ,  
—Dollie Brown

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Madisonville, Tenn.—This is a request for prayer to the saints. I am much afflicted in my body in different ways. My eyes are giving me trouble too. I read so much in bed, it is so much food to my soul. I have sent requests there before and the Lord surely did touch my body. I know you all can pray the prayer of faith. That is what it takes. I surely do love my brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus and would like so much to meet you all some time on earth, but if I can't, all of God's children will meet up in heaven where there will be no more pain or sorrow, no parting with loved ones.

I have a boy across seas. Pray for him. All of my children are in sin. I pray for all the saints childrer and all that duty binds me to pray for. Your sister in Christ Jesus,  
—Martha Jenkins

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Highland, Calif.—Greetings in Jesus' dear name. Today finds us still determined to go all the way with Jesus and fight the good fight of faith. I find his service sweet and do not see how I could get along without him. This has been a very busy summer for me. I attended two camp meetings; one in Oregon, and one at Pasadena. The meetings were good and our souls were blessed. Then we have been in other meetings over Sundays.

It does not seem it has been so long since I first came to Calif., but fourteen years ago the 14th of Oct. husband and I began to walk life's journey together and God has walked with us and been with us in the afflictions to heal and in the trials and hard places to bless. O, what a mighty God we serve. I want to do all I can for him in these perilous times. Pray for us, and we will and do pray for you and the work at Guthrie.

Your sister in Christ,

Nellie Poulos.

## ASK

In Matt. 7:7 the word of God says, "Ask and it shall be given you." Every word Jesus spoke is truth because He said, "Thy word is truth." Obedience to God brings satisfaction; not only to you, but to God the Father and Christ the Son and to your own heart and soul. Ask and it shall be given unto you. God wants to give us something so that we can stand the test in the judgment; a clear conscience, a pure heart a holy life; daily walking before man blameless in the fear of God. He is ready to give every soul this wonderful experience if we obey the word of God. "Ask and it shall be given unto you; seek and you shall find." If your soul is in trouble and you want rest, stop, turn, and seek the Lord with all your heart and you will be found of the Lord. His hand is not shortened that it cannot save; neither His ear heavy that it cannot hear. But your iniquities, the indwelling principle that is in your heart has separated you from your God. But if you seek the Lord He is ready to minister grace unto your soul and make you a living witness for Him right here in this present world.

Knock and it shall be opened unto you." Rev. 3:20. Read, "Behold I [the blessed redeemer, the mediator between God and man] stand at the door and knock; if any man hear my voice and open the door [humble himself and give his heart to God] I [the Christ of the Bible] will come in to him and will sup with him and he with me." God is not short nor slack concerning His promises. He says, "For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth and to him that knocketh it shall be opened."

For my own experience, I humbled myself, gave my heart and life to God and I find I can sup with Him and He with me. If you ask it shall be given you. If men being evil give good gifts unto their

children, how much more shall your heavenly Father  
give good gifts unto them that ask of Him?

—Lewis Williams

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### Human Love—Divine Love

Human love is an emotion;  
Divine love is a state of being.  
Human love seeks possession of its own;  
Divine love wants every one to possess it's beloved.  
Human love dominates;  
Divine love shares.  
Human love dictates;  
Divine love co-operates.  
Human love imposes bonds;  
Divine love liberates and sets free.  
Human love is perishable;  
Divine love is everlasting.  
Human love is partial;  
Divine love is without partiality.  
Human love dissolves under stress of great trial;  
Divine love is purified and strengthened under  
pressure of trial.  
Human love seeks fulfillment;  
Divine love is fulfillment.  
Human love is beautiful;  
Divine love is holy.  
Human love is born of the flesh;  
Divine love is born of the spirit.  
Human love is good;  
Divine love is perfection.  
Human love dies, if without any manifestation of  
requital;  
Divine love lives through faith.  
'See that ye love one another with a pure heart  
 fervently.' 1 Peter 1:22. —Virginia Wittenborn

—oOo—

### How Can We Stand Aside?

How can we stand aside,  
And see poor sinners die?  
How can we listless be;  
And hear their plaintive cry?  
When we should strive with all our might,  
To lift aloft the gospel light,  
And turn them to the right?

How can we idle be  
When souls are going down?  
How can we hope to gain  
A starry golden crown,  
If to the work we do not go;  
And loyalty to Jesus show,  
And in His love be found?

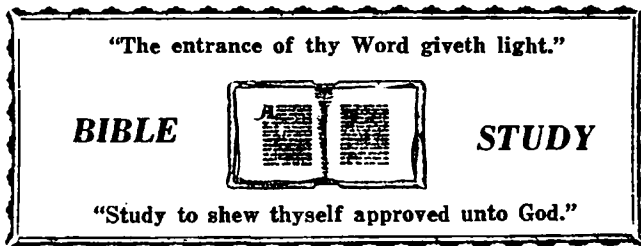
Have we a kindred dear,  
Whose life is stained with sin?

Brother or sister near,  
Who have not entered in?  
Point them to Christ and let them see  
The way that leads to victory,  
That they the crown may win.

Small and great everywhere,  
Are drifting in the dark;  
A ray of hope and cheer  
To shine upon their barque,  
May help them shun the shoals of wrong;  
Guide them to the land of song;  
And save them from the rocks.

If we should faithful be,  
In the service for our God;  
And one more soul would win  
By holding forth His word;  
In heaven there would be "more joy,"  
More songs of praise our tongues employ,  
When we shall meet our Lord.

Ulysses Phillips



Order Sunday School supplies about the middle of  
December for the new quarter. The price of the Pri-  
mary Picture Roll is \$1.15, and the Lesson Cards are  
4 cents 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 MEANING OF CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

Sunday, December 6, 1942.

Daily Readings and Meditations  
November 30 to December 5.

- M. Accepted of God Acts 10:44-48.
- T. Courageous testimony Acts 4:5-13.
- W. Many members in one body 1 Cor. 12:26-31a.
- T. Christ our life Col. 3:1-4.
- F. New life in Christ Col. 3:5-11.
- S. Christian behavior Col. 3:12-17.
- Printed Portion .....Colossians 3:1-17.

Col. 3:1. If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those  
things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the  
right hand of God.

2. Set your affections on things above, not on things  
on the earth.

3. For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ  
in God.

4. When Christ, who is our life, shall appear then  
shall ye also appear with him in glory.

5. Mortify therefore your members which are upon  
the earth; fornication uncleanness, inordinate affection,  
evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry:

6. For which things' sake the wrath of God cometh on the children of disobedience:

7. In the which ye also walked some time, when ye lived in them.

8. But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth.

9. Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds;

10. And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him:

11. Where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond nor free: but Christ is all, and in all.

12. Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering;

13. Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye.

14. And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness.

15. And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.

16. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

17. And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.

Golden Text: "Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular." 1 Cor. 12:27.

Practical Truth: Every born again Christian is a member of the body of Christ, which is the Church of God.

#### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

As Christ in a literal way was crucified and resurrected, his followers in a spiritual way must crucify the old man of sin and be resurrected to walk in newness of life—the life of Christ. This new life is made possible by the atoning blood of Jesus. In different places the Word of God calls the Christian people blood-bought, also blood-washed, which means the same. Sin marred God's image in the soul and left Satan's image there. When we allow Jesus to wash us from our sins in his own blood, the original image (new life) is regained—or in other words, redeemed. All who have been thus redeemed constitute the blood bought church of God.

In our lesson the Lord gives definite instructions to those who are members of the blood bought church of God (Acts 20:28) in order to retain the new life. This is a valuable lesson for the Christian, too lengthy to be explained in detail here. It is very plain language, and needs more believing and practising than explaining. It is impossible to practise it unless one is risen with Christ (especially the 17th verse).

The lesson title draws our special attention to the 15th verse. Comments in denominational Sunday Schools tend to destroy this scripture to justify division. One denominational author writes, "In this passage the church is referred to as 'one body,' the mystical body of Christ, consisting of those who let the peace of Christ rule in their hearts. In Paul's day all baptized Christians were regarded as members of the church since denominational divisions did not exist." The "one body" truly has reference to those who let the peace of Christ rule in their hearts; but it is not a mystical body divided into hundreds

of factions. Mystical means: baffling understanding, unknowable, obscure, mysterious or emblematical. A body means an organized substance all working together. Think how the all-wise God made your body. How would it function if He had divided it up into factions, each faction fighting the others? Then are you going to accuse Him of building a church (which He calls one body) that way? No; let us place the blame where it belongs, God made and intended that it should always be "one body," but man influenced by Satan has made a divided body (??) by which they would mystify or obscure the true church of the living God, if possible. There was a time when God permitted his people to stay in these denominations with His blessings, but now His command is, "Come out of her, my people." Paul said he got the gospel he preached directly from the Lord, then he preached it as it should always be. He condemned divisions. People had as many individual differences then as now, but the indwelling Holy Spirit caused them to be drawn together in worship then, and will do the same today.

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#### THE VALUE OF THE CHURCH TO THE SOCIAL ORDER

Sunday, December 13, 1942.

Daily Readings and Meditations

December 7 to 12.

- M. Salt and light Matt. 5:13-16.
- T. Good citizenship Mark 12:13-17.
- W. The Golden Rule Luke 6:27-31.
- T. Community uplift Acts 8:4-8.
- F. Patriotism and piety Rom. 13:1-7.
- S. The law of love Rom 13:8-10.

Printed Portion.....Matt. 5:13-16; Mark 12:13-17;  
1 Peter 2:13-17.

Matt. 5:13. Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savor, wherewith shall it be salted? it is henceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out and to be trodden under foot of men.

14. Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid.

15. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house.

16. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

Mark. 12:13. And they send unto him certain of the Pharisees and of the Herodians, to catch him in his words.

14. And when they were come, they say unto him Master, we know that thou art true, and carest for no man: for thou regardest not the person of men, but teachest the way of God in truth: Is it lawful to give tribute to Caesar, or not?

15. Shall we give, or shall we not give? But he knowing their hypocrisy, said unto them, Why tempt ye me? bring me a penny, that I may see it.

16. And they brought it. And he saith unto them Whose is this image and superscription? And they said unto him, Caesar's.

17. And Jesus answering said unto them, Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's. And they marvelled at him.

1 Peter 2:13. Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake: whether it be to the king, as supreme;

14. Or unto governors, as unto them that are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers, and for the praise

of them that do well.

15. For so is the will of God, that with well doing ye may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men:

16. As free, and not using your liberty for a cloak of maliciousness, but as the servants of God.

17. Honor all men. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the king.

Golden Text: "Ye are the salt of the earth . . . Ye are the light of the world." Matt. 5:13, 14.

Practical Truth: The church has a beneficent effect upon every phase of human life.

#### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Salt preserves food and makes it palatable. There are two ways in which Christians preserve the world. Their lives and the Word of God which they preach and teach and practice remind the sinners of the judgments of God on ungodly men and keep them from going to the excess of riot that they would if they were not reminded of these things—in other words, it prevents moral and spiritual decay. Then the prayers and intercessions of Christian people for those in sin stays the mighty hand of God from destroying the world of sinners. "The effectual, fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." The "savour" or preserving quality in a Christian is the divine love of God. When a sinner is hiding under the name "Christian" he is of no benefit to God or man. Satan piles them up in front of the door to the heavenly way to obscure it if possible. Figuratively speaking, they have to be trodden under foot of men who would enter in spite of Satan's would-be stumbling blocks of worthless salt.

"Ye are the light." An empty, dirty vessel cannot give light; but it must be clean and full of oil, or be connected to the power line. The brighter the light; the less visible the vessel (lamp or bulb). This is all true in Christianity. One in his own strength may try to shine with good deeds and usefulness, but such light is darkness; for it does not show people groping in sin the way to God. People can only see the vessel and are drawn to its outward polish or glow. If it were connected up to God's power line or filled with the oil of the Holy Spirit and made clean by the blood of the Lamb, people could see the light plainer than the vessel and would be guided to the right way.

"The powers that be are ordained of God." Why? "For he is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil." The saints of God are commanded to obey the laws of the land in well doing; but if a law conflicts with God's law and the obeying of it would cause God's people to disobey God, then the rulers have over-stepped their God-given authority, and in such cases saints should obey God rather than man even at the peril of their lives.

The Christian belongs to God, so he must render to God that which is his—himself and his service. When he renders himself to God, he must obey Him on every line. God requires him to have certain attitudes toward his country:

1. To obey all laws though they may not meet with his personal approval so long as they do not conflict with God's laws.

2. To render all their dues—tribute, custom, fear, and honor. Taxes are to be paid without murmuring on the part of the Christian. If your property is taken from you, God will enable you to obtain more if He wants you to have it. Perhaps He wants to shake you loose from earthly things to which you are attached. A Christian has no carnal rights, but if he holds his peace God will fight for him.

3. Pray for all that are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. (1 Tim. 2:1-6).

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#### THE BIRTH OF JESUS

Sunday, December 20, 1942.

Daily Readings and Meditations

December 14 to 19.

M. The announcement to Mary Luke 1:26-33, 38.

T. The birth in Bethlehem Luke 2:1-7.

W. The angels and the shepherds Luke 2:8-14.

T. The shepherds and the child Luke 2:15-20.

F. The Word was God John 1:1-13.

S. The Word made flesh John 1:14-18.

Printed Portion ..... Luke 2:8-20.

Luke 2:8. And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

9. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.

10. And the angel said unto them, Fear not, for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

11. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour which is Christ the Lord.

12. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

13. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,

14. Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

15. And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.

16. And they came with haste, and found Mary and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger.

17. And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child.

18. And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds.

19. But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart.

20. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.

Golden Text: "Thou shalt call his name Jesus: for he shall save his people from their sins" Matt. 1:21.

Practical Truth: Christ came into the world to make possible the salvation of men.

#### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

The Christian's heart swells with praises to God as he once again reads this record of the Christ child's birth, and as he realizes the meaning of the angels' song, he responds with a hearty "Amen." The skeptic cries, "The whole thing is a fake—at least it is nothing more than a beautiful myth, and the condition of the world today proves it." The angels' song did not promise peace to a single Christ-rejecter.

The sinful nature in man was God's enemy; "Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be." God's law requires the penalty of death to be meted out

to offenders. Since God was the Creator and could deal with his own according to his law, man would have been hopeless if God had not been merciful and planned a way for his escape through the atoning blood of Jesus. When Jesus was born into the world it was the beginning of the fulfillment of this great plan of mercy to offenders. Before there can be real peace, conquered nations must agree to the terms in the treaty of peace required by the conqueror. Even so, if man desires peace with God he must surrender to him and agree to do all that God requires. God requires faith in his Son, love, and obedience. Aren't the terms reasonable, since this is the only way to get rid of sin, which is God's enemy?

The people who lived before the birth of Christ could escape the wrath of God by faith in the coming Messiah and obedience to God.

When God's Son was born, there was great rejoicing in heaven. The angels knew it was a valuable gift which had been sent to man. They sang the tidings of great joy "which shall be to all people." God extended his offer of peace to all people; but what has man done about it? The humble have heard thereof and are glad, The coming of the Prince of Peace was not in vain. He did not come looking for great numbers to accept him; for he said, "Strait is the gate and narrow is the way that leadeth unto life and few there be that find it." The few may be in remote places as the shepherds were, but when they hear the tidings they are willing to leave their worldly pursuits and go with haste where Christ is that they may worship him, then when they see him (are born again of his spirit) they will publish abroad the things which their eyes (spiritual eyes) have seen. The unbelieving world may mock, but the truth has entered their hearts, and like Mary, they keep it there and ponder over it.

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### DYNAMIC CHRISTIAN LIVING

Sunday, December 27, 1942

Daily Readings and Meditations  
December 21 to 26.

- M. Living sacrifices Rom. 12:1-3.
- T. Love of the brethren Rom. 12:9-16.
- W. Overcoming evil with good Rom. 12:17-21.
- T. Wisdom in a virile life James 3:13-18.
- F. "Think on these things." Phil. 4:4-8.
- S. The life of faith Heb. 12:1, 2.

Printed Portion .....Romans 12:1-3, 9-21.

Romans 12:1. I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

2. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

3. For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.

9. Let love be without dissimulation. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good.

10. Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honor preferring one another;

11. Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord;

12. Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer;

13. Distributing to the necessity of saints; given to hospitality.

14. Bless them which persecute you: bless, and curse not.

15. Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep.

16. Be of the same mind one toward another. Mind not high things, but condescend to men of low estate. Be not wise in your own conceits.

17. Recompense to no man evil for evil. Provide things honest in the sight of all men.

18. If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men.

19. Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.

20. Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head.

21. Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good.

Golden Text: "Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good." Rom. 12:21.

Practical Truth: The secret of dynamic Christian living is the giving of ourselves fully to God.

### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

A dynamic Christian life would be one with energy and power. This cannot be cultivated, but it can be obtained from heaven by the entrance of the Holy Spirit into one's heart. This experience in a Christian's heart is sometimes called sanctification, or the second work of grace.

To obtain the experience of sanctification, one must have previously repented of the sins which he has committed and received the experience of justification or peace with God, then (and only then) he can present his body a living sacrifice, holy, which God will accept and seal with the Holy Spirit of promise. Jesus sacrificed his life for us so it is only reasonable that we sacrifice our life for him. It means more than saying, "I belong to the Lord. The sacrifices which were offered under the law were to be the best of the flock, without spot or blemish, and the whole thing was to be sacrificed—no part kept back for another purpose.

The body is the instrument with which the soul does business with the material world. The body has five senses which clamour for attention, and if these are not surrendered completely to God the demands of the flesh would be so great that the outward man would display itself so much the inner man would be smothered out and could not be seen by the world. When the flesh is crucified, the world can see Jesus in you. This experience is absolutely necessary. They that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts thereof.

Pride, luxury, vanity, extravagance in dress, and riotous living prevail among the world (unsaved people); but the Christian must not be conformed to these things. They are injurious to the soul. Inward change will produce an outward change. An inward change will not last long unless the outward change follows; and an outward change is of no value without the inward change, or transformation.

Paul exhorts us not to have hypocritical love. A display of love (falsely called) in order to accomplish selfish ends is hypocritical. Prove your love to God by obedience to Him and by kindly attitudes and deeds to all of His human creatures. This will tend to develop spiritual fervency, and keep the flesh crucified.