

FAITH^{AND}VICTORY

The EVENING LIGHT WATCHMAN



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QUIETLY

Quietly doth the sun arise
And the darkness flees away.
Quietly, the earth awakens,
At the dawning of a day.

Quietly will the love of God
Come into a willing heart.
Quietly, He'll take His abode
And never from it will part.

Quietly the Spirit of God
Will comfort us when we pray.
Quietly, the burdens vanish
As we all the cost do pay.

Quietly, doth our God lead us
Into paths of joy and peace.
Quietly He will care for us
Till time doth forever cease.

—A. Marie Miles

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Does My Life Please God?

1. Do I know I have been born again? (John 3:3).
2. Have I ever had a direct answer to prayer?
3. Have I done anything which has left me with a guilty feeling before God since I was born again?
4. Have I gone on to perfection? (Heb. 6:1).
5. Do I enjoy being a Christian?
6. Do I cherish in my heart a feeling of dislike or hatred for anyone?
7. Am I studying my Bible daily?
8. How much time do I spend in secret prayer?
9. Am I burdened for lost souls?
10. Have I ever won a soul to Christ?
11. Is there anything I cannot give up for Christ?
12. Do I place anything before my religious duties?
13. Am I honest with the Lord's money?
14. Do my actions prove that I value eternal things more than earthly things?
15. Have I neglected any known duty?
16. Is the world better or worse for my living in it?
17. Am I doing anything I would condemn in others?
18. Do I have a clear conception of my place in the Lord's work?
19. Am I doing as Christ would do in my place?
20. Would I be glad if Jesus would come NOW?

THE UNKNOWN GOD

In Acts 17:23 we read the following: "For as I passed by, and beheld your devotions, I found an altar with this inscription, TO THE UNKNOWN GOD. Whom therefore ye ignorantly worship, him declare I unto you." According to the chronology of the Bible it has been over 1890 years since Paul reported to the world, this idolatrous condition among the Athenians, in Greece. And it seems no trouble to acquiesce in the fact that it was easy to believe the existing condition at that time and in that country, and that Paul should give vent to the last part of the text, "Whom ye ignorantly worship, him declare I unto you;" but away down in this our day—in the very end of the world—does it seem surprising that this same language can be as appropriately applied to our conditions and with less effect? Yea, a more deceptive and universal idolatry is ours. Back in Paul's day it was a visible object in the form of a man or some kind of a monstrosity. Today it is any thing mankind hides away in his heart, and esteems (Lu. 16:15) more than he does God. He looks up to it; reverences it; worships it: his affections are set upon it; it is his God. And thousands, yea, millions of people today in like manner are worshipers of many gods as truly as were those idolatrous Athenians. Today the vast majority of worshipers among mankind are worshipping idol gods while the living and true God is unknown to them. Jesus said, "Ye worship ye know not what."

True worshipers of the living God have their location in Acts 17:30; Luke 13:3-5 (see also verse 21); Jno. 3:3, 7; I Peter 1:23; Jno. 17th chapter; Titus 2:11, 12; Heb. 12:14 (also verses 25 to 28); 1 Jno. 2:15. They pay attention to Jas. 4:4 and are warned also by 1 Jno. 4:4. They by no means trample under foot Eccl. 5:3, (last part) and 10:14, (first part). They hold inviolable Jno. 17:21. They accept the Bible teaching that today is the day of salvation and reject the unscriptural teaching of a coming millennium. In short, they reject all the dogmas and creeds of men and accept only pure, Bible truth.

—J. H. Pierson

JESUS KNOWS

When in deep trials, Jesus knows. He is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart (Hebrews 4:12, 13). All things are naked and opened unto the eyes of Him with whom we have to do. "Let us therefore come boldly unto the thorne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need." (Hebrews 4:16). There is nothing hid, Jesus knows. All things are opened to His eyes. All those little corners in our heart which we may try to make ourselves think are hid, are seen by our Saviour. "For there is nothing covered that shall not be revealed, and hid, that shall not be known." Matthew 10:26.

Many try to make others think that they are truly living for God, but they have something covered up in their hearts. The Lord described this kind of people in Matthew 7:15-21, "Beware of false prophets, which shall come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles? Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit... Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them. Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven."

His saints who live close to Him will have discernment until they need not be deceived by those who claim to be God's but are not. He said, "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow ME." Let us live so we can hear that still small voice when He whispers.

Jesus knows our lives. He knows if our garments are spotless, and if we have left the world behind to follow Him. "Look to yourselves, that we lose not those things which we have wrought, but that we receive a full reward. Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son. If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed: For he that biddeth him God speed, is partaker of his evil deeds." 2 John 8:10. We surely need to heed this scripture at present; for some have taught this glorious truth of God's Word in the past but have now gone their OWN way. They still teach the truth in part, and unstable souls are deceived by them. Let us repeat: "Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves." Some think we can go and pick out the good from the rubbish, but the Word says, "If any bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed." If you do, you will be partaker of his evil deeds.

—Alta Mead

Redeemed and Healed

It is with a prayer that someone may be helped on their pilgrim way or convicted of their need of God that I am writing this little testimony, "For there is no respect of persons with God." Romans 2:11. What He has done for one He will do for others if they let Him.

In the spring of 1942, I was a timekeeper on the W. P. A. I would go to meeting once in a while, but where I went, I saw nothing there to attract me to the Lord. On this same W. P. A. job was a big Sunday School superintendent who was just as wicked as I. I thought then if I ever got religion, I wanted something that would do me some good; and praise the Lord, He has it for every one that is willing to go the Lord's way.

On the 7th day of May, I was carried to a sanitarium. Our family doctor said he didn't know what was the matter. The specialists said I had an enlarged heart caused by the blood veins clogging. They didn't have any hopes of my recovery. They said they knew of one other case in medical history of a young man having that kind of heart trouble and he died. I was also informed that if I ever had another attack, I would die as one vein was closed, stopped up, and I was never to do any kind of manual labor as the speeding up of my heart beat would cause instant death.

Vision my case! I had broken every law in God's Book, was deep in sin, and without hope and God in the world. I realized I was on the way to hell with no one to blame but myself—"for by the law is the knowledge of sin" Romans 3:20. By this time I had become alarmed as to my condition. The devil became alarmed, also, as He saw one of his slaves begin to cry to God for deliverance. He would tell me, "Remember, you have a bad heart and if you become excited you will kill yourself." I would reply, "Well, I am on the road to hell anyway." But before long I wouldn't even listen to him at all. One night, as I had just gone to bed, I began to, or seemed to me, lose my weight. My first thought was, "I am dying." I continued to get lighter and lighter, until I seemed to leave my body and found myself in a region without a top nor bottom, and there seemed to be no ends. The light was dim, only a smoky darkness. The stillness of eternity held dominion over all. Was I scared? one may ask. No, I was not scared, I just had a great sorrow that I had done evil in the sight of God. Then, it seemed I found myself once again in my body which came back to its normal weight. I lay still and thanked the Lord.

By this time I had nearly forgotten about my overworked and strained heart. I had caught a glimpse of the goodness and holiness of Jesus, the blessed Son of God. I turned my back on sin forever, confessed them to God, and on a Sunday evening in June, 1942, about the middle of the afternoon, the awful burden of sin and guilt rolled away and I was a new creature in Christ Jesus. 2 Cor. 5:17. Praise the Lord! The sun began to shine again, the grass turned green, and the little birds began to sing sweetly in the tall pines that grew around my home. God was extra good and Jesus was wonderful. I loved God's Word, His ways, and His people. I was willing to fellowship everybody that went by the name of Christian. I started going to service and studying my Bible; but the Baptist Church which I attended and God's Word didn't agree, so I quit attending the Baptist Church.

In the meanwhile God had provided me a job which allowed me plenty of time to study His precious Word, which I didn't fail to do, and thereby received light on divine healing, which I began to practice.

A short time later, I had another heart attack which the heart specialist said would kill me. My breathing began to come in short gasps and there was a sharp pain in my chest. As numbness and coldness began to creep up my legs, I thought of an earthly physician, but dismissed the thought, and the Lord gave me Mark 16:18, "They shall lay hands on the sick and they shall recover." As I laid on hands, I told the Lord if He wanted me to die, all right but if not, to heal me and make me perfectly well if He wasn't through with me on this earth. Something gave way in my chest and I was healed. Praise the Lord!

Meanwhile, I had begun to search for God's Church, (Ezekiel 34:6) not knowing I was already in it (John 10:9 and Acts 2:47). While I was roaming around on the hills and mountains of Babylon, I found out I needed to know more about God. While fighting the foe without, there was also a foe within me helping the enemy on the outside. My evil nature didn't want to obey God. I read in Hebrews 10:14 where the ones that are sanctified are perfected forever, and I needed perfect love (1 John 4:17, 18). In Romans 12:1, 2, we are told what to do to be sanctified. When I was converted, the Lord showed me to take off my ring and tie, which comes from pride in the heart. They are unnecessary and ornaments. I took mine off. As I began to seek for a pure heart (Matthew 5:6, 8) on the fourteenth day of June, 1943, God filled me with His Holy Spirit and I understood John 3:16, which tells us why God sent His Son to die for our sins. The Lord has been so good to us. I can never thank Him enough.

Just recently, during the month of December, while a meeting of the saints was going on in Guthrie, Oklahoma, I sent in a request for prayer for the healing of my wife's feet of a painful disease. While in prayer in our home a few days later, the Lord touched them with healing virtue and they started improving immediately. The power of God was also manifested in the healing of fallen arches with which she had been afflicted for many years and she discontinued using arch supports which she had been wearing.

Pray for us that we may be obedient to the Lord in all things. Yours in Christ, —H. Curtis Bedsole

OUR TITHE, OUR ALL TO GOD

I was in a meeting yesterday, and heard a strong and powerful sermon preached on tithing. I had in the past heard many sermons preached on tithing and believed in it fully and we paid our tithe and that is all because we felt it was our duty. When I began to learn what real sanctification was and began to really consecrate my all to the Lord, I realized that if Christ died and paid it all on the cross, then I must die out to self and give myself and all that I possess to Him. Praise His holy name! As I sat there and listened to that sermon, I asked God to show me the truth regarding tithing and if I was to see it that way to let me see it now because I wanted an open heart.

God never forsakes us and He did answer my prayer. I dreamed several things last night about

spiritual things, and the first thing I did was pick up my Bible this morning and search the scriptures. I turned to Hebrews the 7th chapter in the New Testament where it mentions tithing and studied it carefully. I will try and prove by the scriptures, the authority of the New Testament, that tithing isn't taught in it. It says in the 4th verse that Abraham gave the tenth of the spoils. How many Christians, or so called, give a tenth even of the spoils?

In the 5th verse, we find that the "sons of Levi, who receive the office of the priesthood, have a commandment to take tithes of the people according to the law." The Levites received the tithes, the ones that did service in the tabernacle of the congregation and in return they were to give the priest, Aaron, the heave offering which is defined in the Bible dictionary as "free will offering" or "voluntarily given." In addition, they received a tenth of the tithe which was given to the Levites.

If the ministers of today would get their support the way the ministers or priests did in the Old Testament, it would be free will offerings and not tithes.

Now, in the 6th verse of the 7th chapter of Hebrews, we find that Abraham gave tithes to the people that were not even of his pedigree and they blessed him that had the promises of Abraham (remember Abraham was a type of Christ). The seventh verse says that the less (or common people) were blessed of the better (or Abraham, the priest).

In the 11th verse we read, "If therefore perfection were by the Levitical priesthood (for under it the people received the law), what further need was there that another priest should rise after the order of Melchisedec and not be called after the order of Aaron?" The 12th verse—"For the priesthood being changed, there is made of necessity a change also of the law." Verse 14, "For it is evident that our Lord sprang out of Juda; of which tribe Moses spake nothing concerning priesthood." The 16th verse says that Christ "Who is made, not after the law of a carnal commandment but after the power of an endless life."

19th verse—"For the law made nothing perfect, but the bringing in of a better hope did."

22nd verse—"By so much was Jesus made a surety of a better testament," or New Testament.

25th verse—"He is able to save them to the uttermost [or all of them] that come unto God by him."

Here is a key, verse 27—"Who needeth not daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifice, first for his own sins, and then for the people's: for this he did once, when he offered up himself." He gave His tithe, His sacrifice, His all for us on the cross. "It is finished."

This is the Word of God and can be used profitably to prove what our tithe really is.

Now let us read Hebrews 8:1-7. "Now of the things which we have spoken this is the sum: we have such an high priest, who is set on the right

(Continued on Page 6.)

"FAITH AND VICTORY"**16-PAGE HOLINESS MONTHLY**

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

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.

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.

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

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PRAYER REQUESTS

Sister Mellie Esters of Olla, La. asks all saints who feel led to fast and pray in agreement with her February 9th for the healing of her body. She has asthma.

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Sister Grace Jones of La Grande, Ore. desires the earnest prayers of the saints for her mother, Sister O. K. Myers, who has lost her mind and is in a pitiful condition.

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NOTICE !

Bro. J. H. Pierson of Valeene, Ind. desires a sister in the Lord to make her home with them and help with household duties. His wife has been afflicted and unable to work for some time. Write to him if you are interested.

Editorials

A brother has called my attention to a mistake which I made in wording a sentence in the editorials of the January "Faith and Victory." Since it leaves the wrong impression and is not what I meant to teach, I wish to correct the statement. It is found on page six in the second paragraph, and reads thus: "If we are aiding those that slaughter and kill God's created beings, we are rejecting Christ and His words." I should have written thus: "If we are knowingly and willingly aiding those in slaughtering and killing God's created beings, to that extent we are rejecting Christ and His words." The spirit of war and the Spirit of Christ does not agree.

We know that many poor boys are pressed into service who, in their hearts, are not willing to go. Others, through lack of light and understanding assist in killing and slaughtering. Light rates responsibility. There are boys who read in the Bible where it says to obey the rulers and those in authority, and think they have to go for this cause, and do not seem to know that the government has made provisions for them to engage in work which would not offend their conscience.

In the summer of 1940, before the nation was engaged in war, the ministers at the Monark Springs, Missouri, campmeeting discussed the problem and wrote a statement which expressed their views concerning participation in war. They were of the opinion that the saved boys could accept noncombatant service. It was called, "The Official Statement of the Church of God Relating to Participation in War." We printed many of these circulars and sent them to many of the boys who were being drafted for service. Our supply has been exhausted. At that time the government had not passed the "Selective Training and Service Act of 1940" which provided that boys who were conscientiously opposed to war could be placed in a Civilian Public Service Camp to do work of national importance. So the ministers knew nothing about this.

A representative of the National Service Board for Religious Objectors spoke here at Guthrie last summer. He said that it is a historical fact that for about two and one-half centuries after the ascension of Christ, no Christian participated in war. When a soldier became a Christian he quit the army.

One of God's young ministers who was called before the draft board, told them that he was a conscientious objector and could not participate in the war in a way to take life. He said he would be willing to drive a truck to take supplies to the wounded and aid in preserving life, but that he could not take the same truck and haul ammunition to the soldiers to kill others. It seems to me, that one holding that attitude would be manifesting the Spirit of Christ.

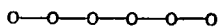
The saints of God are all law-abiding citizens, but God's law has first place in their hearts. They cannot conscientiously and knowingly participate in war and kill God's created human beings.

If the majority of the people in the U. S. had the life of Christ dwelling in their hearts, this country would need no defense plants nor war material, for they could come together in prayer and God would see their tears and hear their cries and would not allow another nation of people to take our country. But as it is, God's wrath is upon the people in general, because they have forgotten God. They will have to suffer what they have been sowing. It is recorded in the Bible how God at different times cared for His people, the Jews, when they as a nation were living to please Him. He sent His angel into the camp of the Assyrians and slew the soldiers, and thereby protected Jerusalem without them fighting at all. (Isa. 37:36).

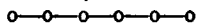
It is just and right for God to take vengeance and slay those of His creatures who justly deserve punishment because of their sins; but He has said in His word, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, saith the Lord." Rom. 12:19. If we take vengeance, we rob God of what belongs to Him and will be guilty before Him.

When God was dealing with literal Israel before Christ came and gave us the new covenant, He was with His people in war and sanctioned the wars in which they slew their enemies; but since we are living in the Holy Spirit dispensation, He plainly tells us to love our enemies and do good to them. And Paul writes: "For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds." 2 Cor. 10:4.

According to the sacred Word of God, wars and fightings in this grace dispensation are not of God, but come from lusts that war in the members of carnal men. Let us read the first three verses of the fourth chapter of James: "From whence come wars and fightings among you? come they not hence, even of your lusts that war in your members? Ye lust, and have not: ye kill, and desire to have, and cannot obtain: ye fight and war, yet ye have not, because ye ask not. Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts."



In the Jan. issue we printed a letter in which Lydia Brock of Rome, Ga. offered to pray for the sick until victory comes. Since then some of our readers have received literature from her which teaches things that the saints do not teach nor believe. We are sorry the results have not proved to be what we expected, and in the future we expect to investigate before we put innocent appearing advertisements in the paper. Pray that the Lord will guide us.



Recently I received a letter from a dear brother who was trying to get clergy rates on the railroads. He said that he had told them that he was an ordained minister in the Church of God and that "Faith and Victory" publishing company was the headquarters. Now we make no such claim as that, and never have made the claim of being the headquarters for the Church of God. The real Church of God is

the family of God, which is born from above and is the body of Christ, and the headquarters are in heaven, consisting of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. We as God's family are just members in Christ's body, and all functioning in their proper places make up the whole working body. God sets the members as it pleases Him, and gifts each member according to the work He chooses for him to perform; and all we, as members, have to do is to become pliable in His hands at all times and look to Him for grace and wisdom to perform that which He chooses to work in and through us to His good pleasure. As we are faithful in the little that He has for us to do, we shall increase with power, wisdom, and ability to do more and greater things.

We remember when God saved us and sanctified our nature near thirty years ago, and how we gave ourselves entirely up to Him and made it a business of our lives to always be led by His Spirit regardless of outside influences. As we did this the Lord blessed us in handing out gospel tracts and talking to souls in a personal way. The start was so simple, but the Lord just continued leading on and increasing our labors as we yielded to Him for Him to work in us both to will and to do of His good pleasure. As He increased our work for Him, there became a need for a greater increase of temporal things to carry on His work, wherein He was working in us. As He worked in and through us in the printing of the gospel and sending it forth by the printed page, our hearts began to cry unto Him for wisdom, power, and the literal things needed to carry on the work; and we found that God was not slack concerning His promises, even though He allowed us to be tested severely at times. It is not carnal covetousness to desire and ask God for literal things to use to accomplish work which He is working in us to do that He might be glorified and that precious souls might hear the gospel and be saved. Since we have looked to God by faith for years and years we have found that it matters not about the amount with God, but with Him it is just a matter of the need. He can and will supply a thousand dollars just as easily as one dollar, if it is asked for with an eye single to His glory. Too many prayers are prayed wherein the applicants are mixing up selfishness along with their praying, therefore they get disappointed.

The Lord has worked in and through this vessel of clay until the work requires much in a literal sense in order to keep up with His working. The gospel by the printed page is going forth in large quantities and reaching those in obscure places and in the byways and hedges where very little gospel is heard. We receive many letters telling of the great blessings that God is giving them through the literature, and we are persuaded that the tracts, papers, and booklets from the Faith Publishing House are reaching more souls with the Gospel by the printed page in a short time than any evangelist could reach in a life time. We know it is just the Lord and we receive no credit, neither do we deserve any. As a member in His body, we are fully given up to His will, and God is

giving the increase in needed literal things with helpers in the work literally and spiritually. Even though the Lord has gathered a few of His members together to print and send forth the Gospel, that does not make us the headquarters of the Church of God to those who have discernment and spiritual understanding of what the true Church of God is; for we are just members of His body and workers together with God in gathering together in one, even in Christ all souls that are born again, born from above and are not of this world. The Spirit cannot gather those who are more or less of the world. It is those that loosen from the world entirely that the Spirit can gather into One, even in Him who has risen from the dead. Brethren, pray for us that God will give us grace and power not to be moved by outside influences, but to continually yield to God that He may work in us and through us both to will and to do His good pleasure.

The 1944 "Faith and Victory" year books, which consist of the eleven 1944 issues of "Faith and Victory" paper bound together in book form are available at 40 cents each.

Beautiful 1945 Scripture Text Calendars are still available. Price, 30 cents each, 4 for one dollar, or 9 for two dollars, postpaid. Faith Pub. House, Guthrie, Okla.

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OUR TITHE, OUR ALL TO GOD

(Continued from Page 3.)

hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens. A minister of the sanctuary, and of the true tabernacle, which the Lord pitched, and not man. For if he were on earth, he should not be a priest, seeing that there are priests that offer gifts according to the law. who serve unto the example and shadow of heavenly things, as Moses was admonished of God when he was about to make the tabernacle: for see, saith he, that thou make all things according to the pattern shewed to thee in the mount. But now hath he obtained a more excellent ministry, but how much also he is the mediator of a better covenant, which was established upon better promises. For if that first covenant had been faultless, then should no place have been sought for the second," or New Testament.

The 13th verse says, "In that he saith, A new covenant, he hath made the first old. Now that which decayeth and waxeth old is ready to vanish away." or Old Testament ordinances and laws. Christ says in the 10th verse that He will write His law into their mind and hearts.

Now if we cling to the Old Testament to prove tithing is God's system for His people today, we could prove by the Old Testament that we should keep the seventh day. But the law was a shadow of things to come and the 7th day was to be a soul rest and when Christ was here it pleased Him that the disciples met on the first day of the week. John 20:19, "Jesus appeared with them and said, peace be unto you." showing His approval upon the meeting. We have it recorded in 26th verse that after eight days they met again and Jesus stood in the midst of them

and approved of this "first day of the week" meeting by saying, "peace be unto you," and also made a believer of Thomas.

So you see, the new was different and better than the old.

As He gave all for us on the cross, our tithe to God is to be sanctified wholly, giving ourselves a living sacrifice for Him. Hebrews 10:10, 14: "By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. For by one offering he hath perfected forever them that are sanctified."

When we are sanctified, our all belongs to God and when we see a need or the Lord directs and as He prospers us, we are expected to meet the needs that come before us. We are bought with a price and now we are His. Glory be to His name!

Here are some verses concerning the saints giving unto God:

2 Corinthians 9:5-15. Please read the seventh verse: "Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver." If we are forced or expected to pay a tenth of everything, it would be of necessity and not according to this scripture. God does not want money that is not consecrated and given cheerfully and from the heart and will not bless it. 1 Corinthians 16:2; Matthew 6:24; 1 Corinthians 9:9. These scriptures show plainly God's plan for His consecrated children, and he does not set forth the tithe system either. Because of this deception, ministers of the gospel, committees, boards, etc. have become covetous, lost faith in trusting God, and have become lovers of money more than souls. God said, "The love of money is the root of all evil." 1 Tim. 6:10.

Many ministers have much more than the laity and it makes the laity feel inferior to the preachers. Christ made himself poor so He could win the poor.

In some places the church (so called) has become a money racket and the world and souls have been kept out because they see the evil. Outrageous prices are charged for food. Pop and refreshment stands are kept open all day Sunday for profit and gain. Jesus would take the scourge and drive them out if He were on earth in these places.

God can't work in some places and most people see the need of spirituality and cry out against the dryness in the place when their first love is for their salary and for material things rather than souls.

May God help people back to a consecrated life, given fully to God. May the Lord help all who read this to see what He would have them to see.

—Mrs. Margaret Brant

—oOo—

CORRESPONDENCE

Bangor, Mich.—Dear saints,—I would like to put an announcement of our weekly prayer meetings in the paper. Some other saints may want to meet with us. We meet every Wednesday evening in our different homes at present.

Your sister,

Margaret Brant

Shreveport, Louisiana—Dear Brother Pruitt,—It is with joy and thanksgiving in my soul that I send you this report of our work here. On Thursday night, January 4, 1945, we had our first prayer meeting, marking an epoch in the work of God here in Shreveport. At our first meeting, there were thirteen present, and we had a wonderful time in the Lord. Twenty-three were present at our first Sunday services, including four ministers: Bro. Bedsole from Mansfield, Bro. Carver, Sister Carter, and I. The Lord is wonderfully blessing and two have claimed salvation. Some have raised their hands for prayer. We are expecting the Lord to glean out precious souls for His kingdom here.

The meetings at the present time are being held in my home, but we expect to locate an empty building somewhere in the city, or build a new one as God directs. Already we have received \$18.00 on a building fund.

We are in great need of some "Select Hymns" song books. We would certainly appreciate it if some of the congregations could each send us one. Maybe we could get enough that way to carry on services. Or if anyone knows where we could buy any number of them, please let us know.

Pray for us here that the Lord will have His way, and that the Holy Spirit will direct us in our efforts for Him. Those desiring to get in contact with us can find us at Brother Carver's home, 6125 Willard, Shreveport, Louisiana. Phone 7-0154. Mrs. W. D. Bunting

o-o-o-o-o-o-o

Anderson, Ind.—Dear saints,—Our new address is 1319 Brown Street, Anderson, Indiana. The saints are welcome to visit us in our new home. At 2 p. m. each Sunday a few saints meet in our home for testimony, praise, and prayer. The meetings are good, and there have been as many as twenty present. We are doing our best to live and teach the right way as God directs and hope and pray some will see the right way. We hope to have a public place for worship soon, Lord willing, a place where we can have regular meeting and a revival.

Your brother, William Pearson

o-o-o-o-o-o-o

4254½ Perlita, Los Angeles 26, Calif.—Greetings to the saints: We had a very good assembly meeting at Los Angeles. Sixteen young people were baptized and one man. The Lord blessed from beginning to end.

At present, Jan. 11th, we are in a meeting in Whittier, Calif. We plan to have some street meetings, also do some visiting. Bro. and Sister Orr are here with us. Bro. and Sister Wilson come almost every night, also ministers from other places. We have been having some good services. Egbert Allen.

o-o-o-o-o-o-o

Mt. Pleasant, Michigan—Dear saints of God,—Greetings in Jesus' precious name. I am a child of God and desire to do His will at all times. The dear Lord has been so good to me and I am so thankful to Him for it. Praise His dear name! Oh, I want to get closer to my Lord and do more for Him, but I want to be patient and wait on Him and let the Spirit lead me. I am nothing of myself. Only can I do things through Him. He is my strength and my all in all—glory to God.

I have been healed different times. I am asking you to please pray for me as I am not so well at present, but am trusting God will take care of it. He is faithful to all that trust Him. Do, please, remember my four unsaved children and husband that they will get saved soon. Do pray that I will be strong in the Lord at all times. We all need God so much. Mrs. Effie Wing

Eva, Louisiana—Dear Bro. and Sis. Pruitt,—May God ever bless all of you. Since I asked for prayer for my little boy, he has been doing fine. He is going to school and is perfectly well. I know through your prayers, God has healed him. I am so thankful, too.

Please pray for the healing of my body. I have a bad feeling in my breast which bothers me a great deal. I don't know whether indigestion causes it or not; but, any way, God can heal all manner of diseases. Also, please ask Him to remove this burden.

I often think of you good people and would love to meet you all. Your sister in Christ, Clara Pecanty

o-o-o-o-o-o-o

Clarkston, Wash.—Dear Bro. Pruitt,—I saw what the church of God is and thought I was out of Babylon twenty-seven years ago. I had a vision of the spotless Bride clear enough that I never have been able to work with the general ministry of the church of God (so called) of the Northwest, and many things the Gospel Trumpet published, I just could not sanction. I made up my mind that I would just step clear of all sects, and the Lord has helped me with a few others by sending Bro. Wilson and Brother Orr to preach and stir up our pure minds and bring certain truths to our remembrance.

I intend to soon put in full time in the ministry. We believe God wants a place where the hungry can be fed and sinners will be made sorry for their sins. I understand some of the brethren are coming for another meeting later.

May the Lord continue to bless His work.

With Christian love, S. A. Ayers

o-o-o-o-o-o-o

Florence, S. C.—Dear Brother and Sister Pruitt,—Sometime in November I received a "Faith and Victory" paper through the mail. I do not know who sent my name in, but the paper is food for a lonely widow like I am. My only child, a boy, is in the army and I live alone. I live four miles from any church and have no way of getting to services only when someone takes me.

Please pray for Mrs. Jesse E. Langston of Florence, S. C., who has been in a wheel chair for over six years.

Mrs. J. E. Fairey

o-o-o-o-o-o-o

Marshall, Mich.—Dear ones at the print shop and to all saints scattered abroad,—Greetings in Jesus' dear name. I am praising God for His great plan of salvation and for the leadings of His Holy Spirit. I have been asking God for some time to give me a testimony that would be for His glory. I can say that God is truly good to all who obey His word. God does wonders for us.

At ten o'clock one night my nose began to bleed and it bled until eight the next morning. God answered prayer and came to our rescue. We surely praise Him for it. He has done many other things for us of late but space will not permit them all. It pays to trust God. We are both old and not so well in our bodies, but we are praising God and pressing on.

We were much encouraged by Brother Pruitt's short visit, and it made us sad that he could not stay longer. It does us so much good to meet the dear saints. Brother Earl Brown from Alma, Michigan, called on us the 26th. It was a great comfort to have him come and talk and pray with us. It is truly encouraging to have the saints come in and pray with us and give us words of love and to help us along the way.

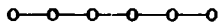
I hope this short testimony will be for the glory of God and a help to some precious souls. Dear saints of God, stand firmly upon the Word and do not weaken as

many are doing.

Dear saints everywhere, pray for us as we are needing your prayers. I have rheumatism quite bad and it is hard for me to get around. Wife needs help for her body.

May God bless the dear saints everywhere.

Wm. L. VanZandt



Some months ago, Mr. Glass of Fremont, Missouri, passed away leaving a widow of about seventy years old and five daughters, three of which are cripples, which disables them for much manual labor. The two normal girls have purchased a home in Neosho, Missouri, and the family have moved there. These two girls are making monthly payments on the home from their earnings and are trusting the dear Lord in their efforts together with the prayers of the spiritual co-workers, the sisters. If any one feels led of the Lord to lend a helping hand to help lift this burden, it will be highly appreciated by those needy ones. Matthew 25:38-40, "When saw we Thee a stranger, and took Thee in? or naked, and clothed Thee? or when saw we Thee sick, or in prison, and came unto Thee? And the king [Jesus] shall answer and say unto them... Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

Their address is: The Glass family, c. o. Miss Myrtle Glass, 734 Joplin Street, Neosho, Missouri.

Sincerely yours for the whole gospel, Alice Ank

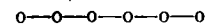


Boley, Okla.—Dear saints,—Greetings in Jesus' dear name. This leaves me yet saved and encouraged to live for the dear Lord. He is all I need in this life. He is my healer and my keeper and He supplies all of my needs for both soul and body. Praise His dear name.

I am yet thanking all of the dear saints for their love and care they showed me and my sick mother this year in sending us help in the time of need. The Lord is yet providing for us and I thank Him for it.

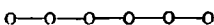
Mother is better but is yet helpless. Pray for us.

Your sister in Christ, Annie Bowen Box 251



Forbes, Mo.—Dear saints of God.—This New Year's Eve finds me pressing on to glory. Soon the dear Lord will say, "Enough!" By the help of the dear Lord, I want to live so He can say, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant." The dear Lord is so good to us all. There is no friend like Jesus.

We are having some cold weather now. Husband is not well, but I am so thankful God knows best. Further along we shall know more about it. Further along we'll understand why. May the dear Lord bless you all and supply all needs. Your humble sister, Mary Whitmore



Lake Charles, Louisiana.—Dear Saints abroad,—Greetings in the precious name of Jesus. For some time I have been thinking about the proper dress for a saint. Much is said in the Word of God in regard to people's clothing, and there is great danger of people falling short and not really measuring up to the requirements of God's word. I realize that some think there has been much said on this subject, but I still believe there is plenty more that should be said; not by way of criticism—God is witness. But I have heard Brother Stephenson say that when wolves are in the flock, we need to be fighting wolves. It would be useless to spend our time fighting other animals when wolves are the ones that are giving the trouble. So when people do not dress like they are instructed to in the word of God, that is the thing we need to warn the saints

about. People who profess to be saints should really be saints in dress as well as along other lines. This is really one thing that can easily be done at home and abroad.

I have noticed quite a difference in the way the saints dress, and feel that they all should be more alike in the way they dress. When standards are so different, someone must be trying to please self or the world, for God surely would not lead that way. God's people should not make standards of their own, but should measure to God's standard. There should be a willingness among saints to measure up perfectly along this line.

In the third chapter of the book of Jonah we read that the king of Nineveh arose from his throne when he thought the great city of Nineveh was going to be destroyed. He laid aside his regular attire and covered himself with sackcloth and sat in ashes. He commanded all in the city to humble themselves and to cry mightily unto God that they might be spared. He realized that if they received anything from the Lord they would have to get down to business before Him, and show their willingness to put away the evil of their ways which had so grieved the Lord that He threatened to destroy the city. When they got down in the dust of humility the Lord heard their cry.

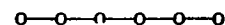
I am glad the Lord does not require us to wear sackcloth and sit in ashes in order to please Him, but there are other things which the Lord does require us to do to please Him. When they clothed themselves in sackcloth and sat in ashes it was an act of humility on their part and showed their willingness to please God and a giving up of their own pleasures. This was done for our learning. God still desires humble obedience. He has told us to dress in modest apparel, so we have the privilege of humbly obeying Him in our manner of dress. Then since we know that God says that He hates even a proud look, we know He wants His people to dress in a plain way, and not fashion themselves as do the proud, haughty people of the world.

Let us read Luke 6:46 carefully and prayerfully, "Why call ye me Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?"

I hope this will help some to realize that we cannot dress like the world and be in favor with God. I certainly admire the tract that was written on "Knees, Knees, Knees."

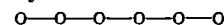
Yours for the whole truth,

J. S. Green



Fortesque, Mo.—Dear Bro. and Sister Pruitt,—Greetings in Jesus' name. Tonight finds me still saved with victory in my soul. The enemy is howling all around us. Souls are going back in sin who once were saved. Oh, how it grieves my heart! We ought to be very careful. When we look at man instead of God, we are sure to fall; when we lose confidence in the saints, we will fall every time; and if we try to follow all who think they are the only ones who are right, we will be mixed up all the time; so we must keep our eyes upon Jesus and let him lead us all the way.

The Lord is blessing me every day. I am still trusting Him for all things. May God bless all of you at the print shop is my prayer. Yours in the Lord, Cordia Stroud



Silva, Missouri.—Dear saints,—I really love the Lord and desire your prayers that I may live true to Him. Please pray for my husband and children who are in sin. And I have a son in a German prison camp. Pray that he may return home some day soon.

Your sister in Christ,

Mrs. James Twidwell

Young People's Section

The Land of the Free And the Home of the Brave

There's a land far above this dark vale of tears
Where no pain or sorrow we'll know;
And the dear, precious Son hath prepared a road
home,
And a robe that is whiter than snow.

The road is narrow, and gets rocky sometimes,
And so steep we must toil to climb;
But we must be brave with the freedom Christ
gave,
And press on; yea, abide in the vine.

This old world of ours is a dressing room fair,
For the bride of Jesus to dress;
It isn't her home for the bridegroom has gone
To prepare the home she'll possess.

In the city beyond the heaven of stars,
Is the land of the brave and the free;
And we'll reach it sometime, if we prove true to
God,
And abide there eternally.

For when we are saved, Christ makes our souls free,
And bids us to follow Him on.
So children, obey the dear, precious Word,
Till the morning eternal shall dawn.

—Alice Elizabeth Hall

Lake Charles, Louisiana—Dear Saints,—Greetings in
Jesus' dear name. I feel impressed to send in my testi-
mony today. I am still saved and trusting in the Lord.

This morning after I had knelt down for morning
worship, near the end of prayer, I started hurting in my
body. The pain went from my back and stomach to my
left side. It sure was a dreadful feeling. It felt as if
it was hurting both my back and stomach at the same
time. Then as part of the family were eating breakfast,
I sat in a chair by the fire. When Daddy was through
eating he came in and asked me if I wanted them to pray
for me. I told him I did and they came in the room and
had prayer for me. When prayer was over, I was feel-
ing some better.

Daddy had to leave to go to work. I knelt down and
had prayer myself. Then I went to sleep, and when I
awoke the pain had left my body. Praise the Lord! Af-
ter the pains left me I helped mother some.

The Lord sure is good to us. I surely desire to live
close to the Lord. I desire the prayers of the saints,
for I sure want to do the Lord's will at all times.

Your sister in Christ, Aquila Green

o-o-o-o-o-o-o

Scio, Ore.—Dear Brother Pruitt.—I am sending my
testimony in for the paper. I want to thank the Lord for
His kindness to me for the Lord surely is helping me in
every way. Even before I was saved, He protected me

from all harm. When I was little, a car ran over me, but
the Lord took me through it all, and I surely do thank
Him for it.

Many times I have to ask the Lord's forgiveness for
things I have done. But I'm thankful He will forgive us.
Pray for me.

Your brother in Christ,

Bob Busch

o-o-o-o-o-o-o

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma,—Greetings to the saints
scattered abroad,—I am saved and have a deep decision
to go all the way with the Lord, and never to go back in
sin. The Word says, "The wages of sin is death, but
the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our
Lord." Rom. 6:23. God help those who are laboring in
sin to realize that death is all they will receive at the
end. I do not want to ever serve sin any more, but I de-
sire to work for Jesus and gain eternal life.

I desire to tell about a great blessing which the Lord
bestowed upon my sister who is twelve years old. She
has been saved a little more than a year. In October
she became very sick. She had such a high fever that
she was unconscious part of the time. Her tongue had
a brown scale on it. There were times when we could
hardly understand what she was saying. She also had
a bad head cold and for more than a week had to breathe
through her mouth. Her throat was so sore we had to
warm her water for her because cold water hurt it. For
about a month she scarcely ate anything, but only drank
buttermilk.

Her patience and faithfulness to God during the
affliction was very encouraging to me. My father asked
her if she wanted a doctor, and she replied that she did
not. She would often ask for prayer. She was anointed
and prayed for, but her healing did not come immedi-
ately. The saints from Oklahoma City sent her an anoint-
ed handkerchief and it was not long until she was recov-
ering from her illness.

During her affliction someone suggested that we get
a doctor to see what was wrong with her; but my fath-
er, even though he is unsaved, refused, saying he did not
want to be a stumbling block in anyone's way. I thank
the Lord, because many unsaved parents would have call-
ed a doctor even if their child did not want one. I am
so thankful they did not get a doctor even to see what
was her trouble, because someone might have thought
we gave her medicine. No doctor entered the house
while she was sick, so the people know that Jesus heal-
ed her in answer to the prayers of the saints. I thank
the saints for their prayers and thank God for victory.

Some scriptures were very encouraging to me during
her affliction. Romans 8:28 tells us that we know all
things work together for good to them that love God.
1 Peter 4:12, 13, "Beloved, think it not strange concern-
ing the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some
strange thing happened unto you. But rejoice, inasmuch
as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when
His glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with ex-
ceeding joy." Our knowledge of fire should help us to
understand what He means by a "fiery trial." This
scripture tells us not to think it strange and to rejoice
in them. We know how Christ suffered and the trials on-
ly make us partakers of His sufferings. It also tells us
to rejoice when these things happen to us,

Brother Manley Spears left us a very encouraging scripture found in Hebrews 10:36, "For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God ye might receive the promise." That was encouraging to me because patience is much needed in this life. I have often heard my sister pray and ask God to give her faith and patience to go through. I thank God for the way He answered prayer. Oh, how encouraging it was to me to see how patient she was and how faithfully she waited upon God for her healing without complaining. It seemed in her heart she was saying, "Not my will, but Thine be done."

This was the best Christmas I ever had in my life. I attended the Assembly meeting in Guthrie, and my soul feasted on the good things that the Lord prepared for us there. I think of how so many little children came and knelt down at the altar, weeping and giving their little hearts to God while there are so many grown-ups who will not even take time to attend the services of God. I am so thankful for those little children. Jesus said in Matthew 19:14, "Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me, for of such is the kingdom of heaven."

A convicting message on the subject of "Time" was delivered by one of God's ministers during the meeting. I think "time" is something to seriously think about, for those who are in sin are shamefully wasting the precious time God has given them. When time ends, where will they dwell in eternity? They labor for the wages of sin, which is death; or give up sin and gain the gift God has promised to those who endure unto the end—ETERNAL LIFE!

Annie Bell Allen

Assembly Meeting Reports

The State Assembly meeting, which was held at Guthrie during the holidays and closed on New Year's Eve, was one of those blessed meetings that was prayed down from heaven and issued out through each lively member of His body, which is the Church, causing great rejoicing and the adding of members to His body, which is the Church of the living God, the pillar and ground of all the truth.

The attendance was so good that we had to open up the Sunday School room to accommodate the people with seats.

The Lord so richly blessed in the services, causing the saints to rejoice, sing, and testify, until there were times when it was hard to dismiss. The altar was often filled with those who desired help from the Lord. On the last night of the meeting about fifteen were at the altar for help. Souls were saved, believers were sanctified, bodies were healed, and the saints were edified and richly established in the truth which makes souls free. It did not seem that a meeting could be better. Truly, we were all raised up and made to sit together in a heavenly place in Christ Jesus.

The humble saints of God are the Church of the living God, the Body of Christ, which is visibly working in the world. They are the humble people of God, being "born again," souls that He has purchased with His own blood. They are not of the world even as Christ and His disciples were not of

the world. They do not dress in the immodest, indecent, vulgar fashions as others do in the man-made churches (so called) of the world; but are separated unto God as His sacred property, set apart for His service. They do not wear rings, gold, pearls, nor costly array; but dress in plain, modest apparel. They do not bob their hair nor use facial make-up nor nail polish; nor revel with the worldly-minded in shows, movies, bridge parties, dances, picnics, and ball games; but meekly and humbly practice the truth of God's sacred Word. They are a clean people in and out. The sisters are taught to dress in modest apparel according to the Word. They do not bare their arms with short sleeves, nor their legs with short skirts and bobby socks, neither do they practice the vulgar habit of baring their breasts and other parts of the body to public gaze. The doers of the Word are blessed of God; hearers who do not obey the Word are cursed of God. It is not surprising that God pours out His blessings from heaven upon a people who are clean within and without, who really do the Word of God and honor Him who has washed us from our sins in His own blood. The glory always lingers near the cross. —Fred Pruitt



Duarte, Calif.—Dear Brother Pruitt,—Greetings to you and family and gospel workers. May the Lord bless you throughout this year. I know heaven's blessings are on His work there, and I do join in the agreement with all true saints that this blessed truth may continue to spread as Paul said of the brethren, for from you sounded out the word of the Lord not only around in your city or state, but also in every place. "Faith and Victory" is spreading truth. Of course Paul was writing to the Church at Thessalonica (1 Thess. 1:8) but your labor of love from the Lord's Print Shop is going out in this evening time, which is a continuation of God's blessed truth as it began in the morning.

We have just closed our Christmas Assembly at Los Angeles and the Lord wonderfully blessed in the midst of His people. There was perfect harmony among all the brethren in light. It was a meeting of wonderful victory from start to the closing. Sometimes we say, "from start to finish," but, thank God, this meeting is still going on in the hearts of the people of both the old and young. Also we were assured by the Holy Spirit that impressions were made on the unsaved that will be a reminder to them both here and in the Judgment. Souls were reclaimed, sinners wept and prayed through, and believers were sanctified, and Jesus healed many. Children were saved, which made much joy on earth and in heaven. Others may make a report of this meeting, but I feel impressed to express by word what my eyes saw and my heart experienced. It was God's meeting for which we give Him the glory. I am sure the shaking time is on and many, sorry to say, have been shaken off. God is pruning, cutting off the withered branches that hinder, and men are already gathering them in bundles, and the Book says they are to be burned. Oh, how sad! I am hoping that there is a little life left in some of them. They can and will be grafted in again if they will quit following rebellious leaders. Some of their leaders are out of harmony with themselves and will soon be consumed.

May the Lord abundantly bless you all.

Bro. L. E. Davy

Obituaries

Ina Courtney, born at Winslow, Arkansas, November 7, 1894, departed this life December 15, 1944, at the age of 50 years, 1 month, and 8 days.

She was united in marriage August 22, 1910 to Ole O. Lowe of Checotah, Oklahoma. To this union were born nine children, 7 daughters and 2 sons. One son and daughter preceded her in death.

Beside her husband, she is survived by seven children: Helen Burdick, Pauline Brown, Virginia Harmon, Mary Cooksey, Dorothy Lanham all of Springfield, Mo., Violet Harmon of Richmond, California, Harry V. Lowe, Fireman First Class, U. S. Navy, Albany, California, and sixteen grandchildren.

She also leaves her mother, Mrs. Julia Ann Courtney, two sisters, Mrs. V. S. Todhunter and Mrs. Tom Logan of Okmulgee, Oklahoma; and one brother, John H. Courtney of Cleveland, Ohio.

Sister Lowe was converted into the Church of God in 1914, at Okmulgee, Oklahoma. Her testimony before departing was, "There is nothing standing between me and God. I'm ready to go."

The funeral services were conducted at Springfield, Mo., by Bro. R. Johnson of Guthrie, Okla. Texts: Rev. 14: 13; 2 Cor. 5:1-6; Deut. 30:19.

Sister Josephine (Daniels) Bell was born in Mount Pleasant, Texas in 1846 and departed this life November 7, 1944, at her home in Tulsa. She was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edd Steavens.

She was united in holy matrimony to Mr. George Daniels. To this union 15 children were born, 11 of which with the father preceded her in death. In later years she was married to Mr. Bell.

She leaves to mourn her departure, one son, Ed Daniels of Bakersfield, California; three daughters: Mrs. Lula Jackson of Oakland, California, Mrs. Hettie Edwards of Springfield, Ohio, and Mrs. Mattie Keys of Tulsa, Oklahoma; one grandchild whom she reared as a daughter, Eva Colbert of Columbus, Ohio; one sister, Mrs. Eliza Jones of Greenville, Texas; and a host of relatives and friends.

Our dear sister embraced this truth several years ago and often testified she wanted to live to see what the end of a Christian life would be. She was faithful to death to her God.

Funeral services were conducted by Brother Sam Barton of Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Word has been received that Brother G. J. Gallatin of Shelby, Ohio, (formerly of Dayton, Pa.) suddenly passed away on the morning of December 29, 1944. He was born March 2, 1871. He was a minister, who had been corresponding with us since March, 1944. He found a copy of the "Faith and Victory" while he was attending a minister's meeting at Columbus, Ohio, and wrote that he was highly pleased with the soul food that he found in it. He subscribed for the paper, and since that time has been handing it out to others.

A sister who lives in Shelby, Ohio, said, (referring to Brother Gallatin), "He walked up to me Sunday, December 24, after he preached and said, 'I'll just give this paper to this sister.' I decided after reading every word in the December issue—he had marked all through—I would subscribe for the three of us in memory of his last act to me—God bless his memory."

Others who knew him have described him as having a "Christ-like, brotherly spirit."

CORRESPONDENCE

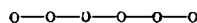
Hartsville, S. C., R. 4, Box 195,—Will the saints of God who read this fast one meal and pray earnestly for the Lord to give me the needed strength and help spiritually, and to heal me? I am bedfast. If the dear Lord will make me able to sit up and go on a rolling chair, I would be so thankful. Pray also for the Lord to give us (mother and me) victory over Satan and all his works, and give us a desired change in some things. I would be pleased to hear from any saints who will pray for me.

Bruce F. Jones



Rural Hall, N. C.—Dear Brother,—I am still faithful to the truth and on the battlefield against division and all man-made religions at all times. I am having some terrible battles with Satan and his ministers of self-made creeds. Through it all I am winning victory through our dear Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. I am trying to build up a work here for the truth that it might win others out of darkness into light. I am doing all I can to help Brother Vannoy in Reddies River, N. C. and he surely has been a blessing to me. I believe if there ever was a real born again man of God, Brother Vannoy is one. He is a real Christian and doing great things here for God in showing people the great Bible truth. I have been using every "Faith and Victory" paper you have been sending me. They are proving a blessing to people. Send me any tracts or books that you may have for the work here. I am planning on building a house for worship in North Wilkesboro, N. C. soon. I am very busy every day and night carrying on the work here, God has laid upon me to do. I don't get time to write many letters and please pardon me for not writing you more often. Brother, I have several requests for prayer I want you and the saints to remember. In all your services, please remember my brother, Walter A. Keyes, who is fighting in Germany. He has requested from the field of battle, that all Christians pray for him. Remember me in your prayers always. Please pray earnestly for the work here in North Carolina. I am planning with Brother Vannoy to attend the camp meeting next fall. I would be glad to hear from you. May God bless you and all you do in His name.

A brother in Christ, Evangelist Chas. A. Keyes, Jr.



Akron, Ohio—Dear saints,—I am so glad that I believe with my whole heart in the one church which is the Church of God. I am so glad that I accepted Christ in my life about fifteen years ago, and He has meant so much to me. I often wonder: "What would I do without Jesus? What would I do all the day, with no kind Saviour to help us, no one to care if we stray?"

The "Faith and Victory" paper gives me much encouragement. Please pray for my family and myself.

Florence Holley



Cushing, Okla.—Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,—Greetings in the name of Him who came to save us. How much His coming meant to a lost and dying world, and how much it means to us in this awful hour of turmoil and the fulfilling of prophecy! May He continue to draw us nearer to His precious, bleeding side. May God help you to preach the gospel for the time is coming. I believe, and may not be far off, when people will not be able to hear the Word of God.

Yours in Him, Elsie F. Connelly

Oklahoma City, Okla.—Dear saints,—May the everlasting God of all ages, the God of tender love and mercy ever encourage your hearts and stir you to write and preach the everlasting gospel. The Word of God is the only thing that will help us in that "great morning" if we have lived as our blessed Saviour has commanded.

I am studying the New Testament, reading St. John. I can see as never before that it was difficult for our Saviour to set forth the gospel to those who tried to oppose themselves. And it is hard today for a servant of God to stand completely on the Word of God and give it all out to the people in the face of those preachers who preach only the love and mercy of God. Truly God is love, and is merciful to everybody, but the only way any of us can have His favor is to first repent and let Him redeem us. Then we must obey His precious commandments every day, and then His loving mercy will guide us through life; but if we live in a half-hearted way, edging as close to the world as possible, His wrath and His Word are against us even if we do claim to be saved.

At present I can testify that I am saved and encouraged to move against the powers of darkness and night in Jesus' name. Amen!

Brother E. D. Crowl.

o-o-o-o-o-o

Chicago, Illinois—Dear Brother Pruitt,—Greetings to all you precious saints in Jesus' name. How I thank God for every one of you and I thank you for the prayers that went up for Richard.

We had a glorious time last night. The Lord sent Brother Key our way and my cup is overflowing today because Sister Badal received so much help through his preaching. Much darkness was removed. I cannot thank God enough for His mercy and kindness to His children. We are having the sweetest times together in our meeting place. The Lord is surely blessing us and at times I hate to go home. How I appreciate it! God is answering the saints' prayers.

Sister Wizenick

Dear Brother Pruitt,

I thank you very much for your prayers. I am ready for school. The Lord has healed me completely.

Richard Wizenick

o-o-o-o-o-o

High Point, N. C.—Dear ones at the print shop,—Greetings to all of you in Jesus' dear name. Oh, how I would love to be with you this morning and feel that sweet, loving Spirit of our blessed Saviour flowing from heart to heart as I did when I was there. Thank the good Lord!

I am so glad I am still saved this morning and healed. While I was there with you, I was prayed for and God healed me. Praise His dear name! I am asking you to still remember us sometimes when you pray.

While at lunch a few days ago, two men were at the table with me and were talking. One of them said his doctor had gone to Florida for three months and had closed his office. How my heart did rejoice to know that the One I am trusting, my blessed Saviour, never closes His office night or day.

I want you to help me pray for my boys in the different branches of the service. We have four over there somewhere and another one leaving this week, and not one of them is saved. Oh, how sad! Pray that the good Lord will convict them all and they will see their need of a Saviour. One of our boys returned from over seas the first of December. He was across about twenty-

six months. He saw men fall dead all around him in the different battles, and some of his close friends were killed, but he went through it all and never received as much as a scratch. I feel sure that it was in answer to the dear saints' prayers. So please help us pray.

Your saved brother, W. D. Lemonds

o-o-o-o-o-o

Dallas, Texas—Greetings to the saints everywhere—The Lord has moved upon my heart to bring this message to you since my visit to Guthrie, to be with my daughter, who is a worker in the print shop.

I was privileged to be in the first meeting of the Oklahoma State Assembly Meeting at Guthrie, for which I have been made to rejoice in the days since I have been home. One thing that impressed me while at Guthrie was the way they consulted the Lord about everything. Not knowing what song would be sung or who was to pray, they were guided by the Holy Spirit. Even thanks at the table was by whomsoever the Lord led. They live and are guided in everything as the Spirit moves upon them, and there is no lack.

I have no church services to attend in Dallas where my soul can find food. I have tried almost every denomination here, going mostly to the "Trumpet Church" where everything is "cut and dried" so to speak, as their services are not conducted in the Spirit as it should be. There was something inside me that gave me a vision as to what the true church was like. I knew it couldn't be like the "Trumpet Church." Thank God for a Christian mother through whose prayers the Lord kept talking to me and leading me out. I have been in this church for about seven years, my soul-hunger growing.

Through the "Faith and Victory" paper I have received many blessings. And it was through it the Lord taught, led, and guided my daughter to work for Him at the print shop. Just before the Lord called her to the work, the Lord woke me in the night. I felt like the Spirit had left me. When I tried to pray I was just an empty shell. I had a great struggle, but finally I received help. I realized I had not been living as close to God as He wanted me to. I made a greater effort to try to please Him. Having no one to turn to for encouragement, I could hardly give my daughter up but knew it was the Lord's will. Since then she has been such a help as she has grown so in the Lord. I thank God he has called her while she is young.

Being left alone. I got more in earnest before the Lord and He began to show me how I was to work for Him by visiting the sick and passing out tracts and placing as many "Faith and Victory" papers in homes as I could.

Then I had another trial. The Spirit seemingly left me again. I could get nowhere when I prayed, no matter how hard I tried. I phoned a sister (one of the four persons here who seems to want the whole truth), thinking I could get help from her, only to find she was in just as bad condition spiritually as I, due to severe trials she was having at that time. The sick lady whom I had been visiting and trying to help was worried. She couldn't pray, it seemed, and felt she wasn't right with the Lord. The old devil thought he had us, but the good Shepherd who watches over His own was still there.

I was led to write Brother Pruitt of our difficulty and ask him to come, but somehow it was not the Lord's will for him to come. He suggested I write Brother Carver at Shreveport, Louisiana, which I did. Our spiritual tide was at a very low ebb. I wrote Brother

Carver and he told later of how he and Sister Carver were sitting there wondering what the Lord had for them to do that week end. He didn't feel led anywhere. When my letter reached them, they said that was the answer. I soon received a telegram—he was coming. The promise of one of God's ministers was a great encouragement to us all. In a few hours he came. How our souls were blessed! My little boy, who took suddenly with a hot fever, was instantly healed. His fever was entirely gone within one hour.

The "Trumpet" minister permitted Brother Carver to preach Sunday morning. Everyone seemed to enjoy the service. There were more "amens" over the house than I ever heard in that church house, which showed their souls were hungry. Several asked if he would hold a meeting for them; but the by-laws would not allow a minister whose name was not in the year book to hold such a meeting. They cannot trust the Lord for their sermons for they got them out of a book; they can't trust Him for their healing, because they have the Dr; they can't trust Him for their needs for they draw a salary.

As Brother Carver prayed before he left, he said, "Now, Lord, these people will be troubling you from time to time until you send them some one to preach to them."—which we have done. Now He has placed me at this time to write these few words so some minister will read this and God will move upon his heart to come to Dallas to open up a work, as this is such a needy field.

We want a minister who is led by the Spirit, not afraid to step out by faith to trust Him for his needs. We want one who is filled with the Holy Ghost and on fire for God; who preaches to please God, not the people; to save souls, not for money. "How shall they hear without a preacher?" Romans 10:14. I am expecting to hear from someone very soon. God will not withhold any good thing from His children. Psalms 84:11.

Mrs. Edith Wall, 6163 Kenwood, Dallas, 14, Tex.

Louin, Miss.—Dear saints,—Greetings in Jesus' name. I am encouraged to live for the Lord, and am in normal health. The Lord is real to me. Praise the Lord!

I feel that I should write to you concerning the burdens of Bro. Frank McCarty. Some of you know him. He is a good man and has been in this truth thirty-five or forty years, during which time he trusted God for soul and body until last summer he became very sick and relatives took him into the hospital against his wishes. He was a very sick man and I feel like the Lord understood, and answered prayer. He has four sons in service, all across. He has received word that one of them is missing. Now his house has burned with all that was in it. He got there just as it was falling in. Someone said that he said, "Praise the Lord!" I feel sorry for them, and feel like they need our earnest prayers. And if any of you feel led to help them in this time of trouble, I believe the Lord will bless you for helping to bear their burdens.

For some time we have had Bro. Everett Hilbun and family with us. He preached every Sunday and was so much encouragement, but now they have moved to Louisiana. It is so lone-ome without a preacher. He plans to come back once a month for awhile.

Your sister in Christ, Novella Pugh

(Editor's note: If any of the saints feel led to help Brother McCarty, send offerings to Novella Pugh, R. 2, Louin, Mississippi.)

Stanley, Wis.,—Dear Bro. Pruitt,—Greetings in Jesus' precious name. My heart rejoices and praises God for a prophet that has courage to cry out against the sins of our times. I read in my Bible that is what the prophets of old did.

I would like your article in the January issue of "Faith and Victory" entitled "Who is to Blame?" in tract form. I would like to hand it to mothers.

I believe every true minister feels like Paul and wants God's people to pray for them that they may have boldness to speak the truth as it is in Christ Jesus.

We pray for you and your work. Pray for us that we may work out His will concerning our lives.

Your sister in Christ, Mrs. Alice B. Adams

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

BIBLE STUDY

Order Sunday School supplies about two weeks before the beginning of new quarter. The price of the Primary 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. Send order to Genevieve Capps, 920 W. Mansur, Guthrie.

JESUS' CONCERN FOR ALL

Sunday, February 4, 1945

Daily Readings and Meditations

Jan. 29 to Feb. 3.

- M. The call of Matthew Matt. 9:9-13.
- T. Jesus meets two brothers John 1:35-42.
- W. Jesus, friend of the needy John 5:1-9.
- T. Jesus among his friends John 15:1-14.
- F. The friends at Bethany Luke 10:38-42.
- S. Jesus befriends the multitude Matt. 15:32-38.

Printed Portion Matthew 9:1, 9-13, 18-26.

Matt. 9:1. And he entered into a ship, and passed over, and came into his own city.

9. And as Jesus passed forth from thence, he saw a man, named Matthew, sitting at the receipt of custom: and he saith unto him, Follow me. And he arose, and followed him.

10. And it came to pass, as Jesus sat at meat in the house, behold, many publicans and sinners came and sat down with him and his disciples.

11. And when the Pharisees saw it, they said unto his disciples, Why eateth your Master with publicans and sinner ?

12. But when Jesus heard that, he said unto them, They that be whole need not a physician, but they that are sick.

13. But go ye and learn what that meaneth, I will have mercy, and not sacrifice: for I am not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance

18. While he spake these things unto them, behold, there came a certain ruler, and worshipped him, saying, My daughter is even now dead: but come and lay thy hand upon her, and she shall live.

19. And Jesus arose, and followed him, and so did his disciples.

20. And, behold, a woman, which was diseased with an issue of blood twelve years, came behind him, and touched the hem of his garment:

21. For she said within herself, If I may but touch his garment, I shall be whole.

22. But Jesus turned him about, and when he saw her, he said, Daughter, be of good comfort; thy faith hath made thee whole. And the woman was made whole from that hour.

23. And when Jesus came into the ruler's house, and saw the minstrels and the people making a noise,

24. He said unto them, Give place: for the maid is not dead, but sleepeth. And they laughed him to scorn.

25. But when the people were put forth, he went in, and took her by the hand, and the maid arose.

26. And the fame thereof went abroad into all that land.

Golden Text: All things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them, for this is the law and the prophets. Matt. 7:12.

Practical Truth: Because Jesus understood the inherent worth of all men, he had a concern for the welfare of all.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Jesus' actions in today's lesson verifies His statement that He came not to the world to be ministered unto, but to minister. You will notice that even when he was eating at the feast which Matthew, his new disciple, gave in his honor, his purpose of heart was not to gratify his fleshly appetite nor to be honored of men, but to call sinners unto repentance. No class of people was too low for Him to help; neither did he refuse to help the higher class. Class distinction had no weight with him because he was not here to build up a reputation for himself and gain honor of men, but to do His Father's will, which was to seek and to save the lost. Human beings were esteemed highly by him because of the value of their souls, and not because of any earthly achievement or human marks of distinction. "There is no respect of persons with God." The only thing which has ever kept a needy person from receiving help from the Lord is an unwillingness on the part of the needy one to appeal to Him for help in the right way. The common people received more blessings and benefits from Him than others because they were willing to humble themselves to follow Him. It is said, "The common people heard him gladly."

Jesus showed his concern for the sinners, for the afflicted, and for those in distress. Notice the contrast in the way Jesus acted when in contact with the needy and the way a man, who does not have the love and power of God, would act. When man comes into contact with others who have gone deep into sin, he either shuns the sinners to keep from ruining his own reputation or "pats sin on the back," as it were, and makes allowances for it. (In these days of loose morals, the latter seems to be the prouder way of dealing with it.) Jesus neither endorsed sin nor shunned the sinners, but helped them out of it and instructed them to sin no more. All who have the love of God in their hearts will deal with sin and sinners as Jesus did.

When man comes into contact with disease he experiences with it. Sometimes he helps the sufferer, but often leaves him in a condition just as bad or worse than be-

fore; and much poorer financially, as was the case with the woman in our lesson. In these days of increased knowledge, medical science is being highly praised for its modern miracles (so called); but with all his knowledge, man has no virtue in himself to cause a disease to depart from one. Jesus had that power then, and "He is just the same today."

When man comes into contact with death, he is powerless. None but God has power over the spirit, to keep it in the body, or to return it after it has departed. Oh, how we need Jesus!

Can you name other ways in which Jesus shows his concern for the needy?

JESUS AND THE TWELVE

Sunday, February 11, 1945

Daily Readings and Meditations

February 5 to 10.

M. Jesus calls the twelve Mark 3:13-19.

T. The twelve sent forth Luke 9:1-6.

W. The seventy sent forth Luke 10:1-11.

T. The final commission Mark 16:14-20.

F. Co-laborers with God. 1 Cor. 3:1-11.

S. "A good minister of Christ." 1 Tim. 4:6-16.

Printed PortionMatthew 10:1, 5-8; 11:1, 25-30.

Matt. 10:1. And when he had called unto him his twelve disciples, he gave them power against unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all manner of sickness and all manner of disease.

5. These twelve Jesus sent forth, and commanded them, saying, Go not into the way of the Gentiles, and into any city of the Samaritans enter ye not:

6. But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.

7. And as ye go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand.

8. Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give.

11:1. And it came to pass, when Jesus had made an end of commanding his twelve disciples, he departed thence to teach and to preach in their cities.

25. At that time Jesus answered and said, I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes.

26. Even so, Father: for so it seemed good in thy sight.

27. All things are delivered unto me of my Father: and no man knoweth the Son, but the Father; neither knoweth any man the Father, save the Son, and he to whomsoever the Son will reveal him.

28. Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

29. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.

30. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

Golden Text: We are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you. John 15:14.

Practical Truth: Triumphant service is possible to those whom Christ calls and empowers.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

The disciples were only vessels which the Lord used to accomplish his work, so their names are not important,

but if the children are interested in learning their names, which are recorded in this tenth chapter of Matthew but omitted from our printed portion, here is a little rhyme which will help them to remember the names:

Jesus called and depended on
Peter, Andrew, James, and John;
Then came Philip, Thomas, too,
Matthew, and Bartholomew,
James, the one they called the less,
Simon, also Thaddaeus.
Twelfth apostle Judas made,
Jesus was by him betrayed.

Some of the disciples had more than one name, so in other gospels the authors refer to the same man but use different names. John calls Bartholomew, Nathaniel; Luke calls Matthew, Levi; etc.

The Lord had already called the twelve to follow Him, but in this lesson he called them together to give them instructions, warnings, and promises concerning a special mission which he had for them at that time, and also concerning their future work in His service. He also gave them authority over unclean spirits and all manner of sickness and disease.

The commission which he gave them was to preach that the kingdom of heaven was at hand. This preaching would not have stirred the people much nor had much effect upon them, if it had not been backed by the power of God. The design of the miracles was man's spiritual reformation. The kingdom of darkness (sin) offers sensual pleasures and gratifications which are hard for the sinful heart of man to give up. Also, the king (Satan) has much power over his subjects to keep them under bondage to him. So unless the King of the kingdom of heaven (Jesus) could show them that he had more power than Satan, they could not have been persuaded to change their citizenship. For this same reason, it is just as important or necessary at the present time for the preaching of the gospel to be backed by the power of God. When we can show people something better and more secure than that which they have, they will more readily accept it. However, even then, many will reject it as they have since the world began. Jesus was rejected in the cities where most of his mighty works were done. Read the parts of the 10th and 11th chapters which are omitted here.

It is comforting to the Lord's people now as it was to Him then that amid the general unbelief and rejection of the gospel by those who are wise in this world's knowledge, there are some childlike souls who welcome the truth. This does not mean that no people of great worldly intellect are saved; but salvation must be revealed by God and not comprehended by human intellect. If anyone will humble his heart and accept the gospel, he is included in the class which Jesus called "babes," regardless of how much wisdom he has. The Word tells us that not many mighty men are called. (Read 1 Cor. 1:18-31). This is because they trust in their human might and will not humble their hearts.

Christ's promise of soul-rest is to those who will come unto him. Church-joining, self-reformation, creeds, and ceremonies will not give rest, but Jesus will. You can find HIM when you seek for Him with all your heart.

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TREASURES OF THE KINGDOM

Sunday, February 18, 1945

Daily Readings and Meditations

February 12 to 17.

M. Value of the kingdom Matt. 13:44-46,

T. Jesus feeds the multitude Matt. 14:13-21.
W. Rich in healing ministry Matt. 14:34-36.
T. Rich in love Eph. 3:14-21.
F. Growth of the kingdom Matt. 13:31-33
S. Prosperity of the kingdom Isa. 11:1-9.

Printed PortionMatthew 13:44-46; 14:13-21.

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

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

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

14:13. When Jesus heard of it, he departed thence by ship into a desert place apart: and when the people had heard thereof, they followed him on foot out of the cities.

14. And Jesus went forth, and saw a great multitude, and was moved with compassion toward them, and he healed their sick.

15. And when it was evening, his disciples came to him, saying, This is a desert place, and the time is now past; send the multitude away, that they may go into the villages, and buy themselves victuals.

16. But Jesus said unto them, They need not depart; give ye them to eat.

17. And they say unto him, We have here but five loaves and two fishes,

18. He said, Bring them hither to me.

19. And he commanded the multitude to sit down on the grass, and took the five loaves, and the two fishes, and looking up to heaven, he blessed, and brake, and gave the loaves to his disciples, and the disciples to the multitude.

20. And they did all eat, and were filled: and they took up of the fragments that remained twelve baskets full.

21. And they that had eaten were about five thousand men, beside women and children.

Golden Text: Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning. James 1:17.

Practical Truth: The supreme treasure is the grace of God in the heart.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

The parables of the hidden treasure and the pearl of great price teach the same lesson, the value of possessing the kingdom or obtaining salvation through Christ. In last Sunday's lesson Christ sent his disciples out to preach "The kingdom of heaven is at hand." Today we learn a little about the price which we must pay to become citizens of the kingdom.

It is like a treasure hid in a field. It surely is a treasure, and not many realize its value. It includes the forgiveness of our sins, the sanctification of our natures (sanctification is the baptism of the Holy Spirit, who purifies our hearts by faith), and the assurance of a blessed life beyond when our lives on earth are ended. What treasure can compare with this in value? Is it not worth any price? Consider it carefully.

It is indeed hid, as we can know because of the fact that in spite of its great value, but few find it. We learned last Sunday that it is hid from the wise and

prudent; Isaiah tells us, "Your sins have hid his face from you;" and Paul tells us in 2 Cor. 4:4, "The god of this world hath blinded the minds of them that believe not." Anyone who desires to find this treasure must dig under and throw off those things which have been hiding it from view. The wise and prudent must become meek and lowly in heart, sin must be confessed and forsaken, and the "god of this world" must be renounced and deserted. When every hinderance is removed, the kingdom will be found.

When one finds the treasure his next step is to surrender all he is and all he has to God to gain full possession of it. Full possession includes sanctification. Jesus said, "Whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath, he cannot be my disciple."

Jesus once said that the children of this world are wiser than the children of light. We can see how true this is when we consider what great sacrifices the children of this world will make in order to gain the perishable treasures of this world. They will even risk their lives to obtain them. But the children of light often find this great salvation and carelessly let it slip from them, or go around with a long face telling of the hard trials they are having or the great sacrifice they had to make to obtain it. Some are so ashamed of it that they will not tell anyone they have found it.

The account of the feeding of the multitude does not seem to have much connection with the topic, "Treasures of the Kingdom," but it does cause the children of the kingdom to realize more fully the unlimited power of their King. He is able to supply the temporal needs of those who follow Him.

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JESUS, THE SON OF GOD

Sunday, February 25, 1945

Daily Readings and Meditations

February 19 to 24.

- M. Confessing Christ Matt. 16:13-20.
- T. Following Christ Matt. 16:21-28.
- W. The Christian test 1 John 2:18-25.
- T. Confession and salvation Rom. 10:1-13.
- F. Christ transfigured Matt. 17:1-8.
- S. Eyewitnesses of his majesty 2 Pet. 1:10-18.

Printed PortionMatthew 16:13-17; 17:1-9.

Matt. 16:13. When Jesus came into the coasts of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, saying, Whom do men say that I the Son of man am?

14. And they said, Some say that thou art John the Baptist: some, Elias; and others, Jeremias. or one of the prophets.

15. He saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am?

16. And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.

17. And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon, Barjona for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven.

17:1. And after six days Jesus taketh Peter, James, and John his brother, and bringeth them up into an high mountain apart,

2. And was transfigured before them: and his face did shine as the sun, and his raiment was white as the light.

3. And, behold, there appeared unto them Moses and Elias talking with him.

4. Then answered Peter, and said unto Jesus, Lord,

it is good for us to be here: if thou wilt let us make here three tabernacles; one for thee, and one for Moses, and one for Elias.

5. While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the cloud, which said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him.

6. And when the disciples heard it, they fell on their face, and were sore afraid.

7. And Jesus came and touched them, and said, Arise, and be not afraid.

8. And when they had lifted up their eyes, they saw no man, save Jesus only.

9. And as they came down from the mountain, Jesus charged them, saying, Tell the vision to no man, until the Son of man be risen again from the dead.

Golden Text: Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven. Matt. 10:32.

Practical Truth: We should ever hold fast the truth that Jesus of Nazareth was and is the Son of God.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

The Jews claimed to believe in God, but as a nation they rejected Jesus as being His Son, and those in authority agreed that if anyone should confess He was the Son of God, he would be put out of the synagogue. So before a Jew would make such a confession, he would certainly be persuaded in his heart that it was true. The task of the early church, then, was to persuade people that He was the Son of God. This they did by the scriptures, and the working power of the Holy Spirit.

Now times have changed. The teaching that Jesus is the Son of God has been in the world so long that most people accept it in their minds without giving it any consideration in their hearts; so since the scripture says, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved," they think their head belief saves them. Since a heart belief is essential to salvation, the task of the church now is to get people to realize that they really do not believe on the Lord Jesus Christ so long as they prove by their actions that they do not believe what he says. How could anyone possibly believe He is the Son of God and at the same time make him out a liar?

It would be profitable for the class to discuss some of Jesus' teachings and consider how people make Him out a liar. Jesus told the Jews they would not go to heaven if they died in their sins. People today admit they sin daily in thought, word, and deed, yet say they are going to heaven. Is not this making Jesus a liar? How many churches did Jesus build? Do men act like they believe this?

Before one can truly believe that Jesus is the Son of God, it must be revealed to his heart by the Father. He had revealed it to Peter, and the knowledge in Peter's heart caused him to leave his occupation and all he had to follow Him. When he cowardly denied Him, it caused him to weep bitter tears of repentance. It caused him to be willing to face hostile unbelievers to witness for Jesus. It caused him to be willing to suffer hardships and persecution for Him. Consider some of the hardships that the other apostles and Paul were willing to go through that they might be faithful and obedient to the One whom they knew to be the Son of God. Then ask yourself the question, "Do I really believe?"

Jesus knew he was the Son of God, and acted accordingly. God and all heaven proclaimed it. Oh, that poor, needy human creatures would awaken to the fact!