

FAITH AND VICTORY

The EVENING LIGHT WATCHMAN



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Keep Your Armor Bright

Dear brother, keep your armor bright,
And stand for Jesus in the fight,
E'er keep your spirit free from sin,
With courage press on to the end.

Though many trials throng the way
And we for strength must often pray,
Yet trusting daily for His grace,
We'll some day see His smiling face.

I'm glad you're pressing on your way
To heaven's bright, immortal day;
Where all with joy and peace are blessed
There where the weary be at rest.

In this dark world the fight is on,
But trust in Jesus right along;
Be not discouraged, *watch and pray*,
And you shall conquer in the fray.

The trials may come thick and fast
But we are sure they will not last.
If unto Him we will be true,
He's sure to bring us safely through.

How good when we can say at night,
Today I've fought a faithful fight.
We feel so thankful then to God
That He has been our staff and rod.

When we at last seek to retire,
And feel within the glowing fire,
We have assurance then and there
That God has heard and answered prayer.

Then when our life on earth is done
And we the Christian's race have run,
We'll reach our great reward with joy
A glorious crown without alloy.

—Ulysses Phillips

God Changes Not

Without the right vision the people perish. I received through the mail the February number of the little paper, "The Million Campaign News," edited by the Gospel Trumpet Company, which I felt led of the Lord to read. It stated the Trumpet paper had been edited sixty-five years and the foreign missionary board has sixty missionaries on the foreign fields—the largest number ever—and have definite plans to increase that number to one hundred (forty more) in strategic centers within five years.

The Lord by His Spirit began to reveal some important truths to me after reading the above statement. The Holy Spirit reminded me of the church's condition in the morning time: how the church received power and began to preach the good news of salvation; how the devil was enraged and caused great persecutions to arise at Jerusalem, thus scattering God's people everywhere who went forth into all parts preaching the gospel. They had not the education, training, etc., that so many think today one must have to be successful in the gospel work; but signs and wonders followed their ministry, and untold numbers were added to the church. May our Father in His mercy awaken the church of today to the tremendous duty and opportunity opened to us for the salvation of souls in Japan and especially China with the teeming thousands elsewhere.

Man, with his imaginary scheming and machinery can not move fast enough to please the Father for the salvation of the thousands of souls that are going into eternity lost every week. We must clear our hands of their blood, get where the Father can pour out His Spirit upon us as in the morning time in order to see the required results from the preached Word of God. Professed followers of the meek and lowly Christ, we who have had the light given us, should shun the very appearance of evil, knowing all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eye, and the pride of life is not of the Father, but is of the world. (1 John 2:16).

"If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him." 1 John 2:15. If we persist in acting, dressing, and being like the world, the light in us will become dark as King Saul's light became

when God rejected him and no longer comforted him.

In the morning time the example given us to evangelize the world was to be born again, receive the Holy Ghost, and begin to preach and teach the gospel everywhere with signs following. They were not told to go to school, train, and have a board to collect money and send out and support workers. Our Lord has sent the Holy Ghost to abide in the hearts of men to teach and reveal the Father's will and the Spirit of God has called and sent out workers in times past, and ordained men for the ministry. The Holy Spirit must use and operate through man. The apostle Paul is a wonderful example of being called and ordained by the Holy Ghost. He was not sent of nor by men. The Lord laid His hand upon him and Barnabas, commending them to certain ministry. The Father has not changed His plans and never will.

Saints of God, now is the day of salvation. The enemy is at work even as an angel of light. If it were left to man to save the harvest, all would perish, because man is too slow and his arm is too short of himself. His wisdom is foolishness to God. Shall we stubbornly disobey our Father and perish with them? We have a longsuffering Father, but He will not always strive with man. He that knoweth to do right and doeth it not, to him it is sin. We know how it pleases the Father to pray to Him and how He has promised to hear and do what we ask, if we keep His commandments. Whatsoever ye ask of the Father in Jesus' name, that He will give you. Oh, the wonderful privileges we have and enjoy in Jesus' name. I trust our Father in heaven has answered that Japanese plea. First, we need prayer. I for one am not satisfied yet. If the need of prayer was supplied, the world would know of a present, mighty revival not only in Japan, but throughout the world. Have faith in God. This means do more than pray. Zion must travail or millions will perish.

—S. A. Ayers

— oOo — SUBMISSIVENESS

"For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God." Rom. 20:3.

I have been much burdened about the overwhelming tendency of saint preachers to disagree and pull apart over some trivial matter when submissiveness to God would immediately settle the whole affair and maintain the unity so essential. Under a real burden, another church of God minister and I were talking on this subject a few days ago, about the seriousness of this situation and its cause and cure. While we were talking the Lord brought forcibly to my mind the latter clause of the above Scripture—"have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God"—as the cause of this schismatic condition.

Brethren in the Lord, can we not see that if we

fully submit ourselves to the righteousness of God and thus not go about to establish our own righteousness that it would make us a complete unit? Brethren, the situation is serious. That the time of the Gentiles is about fulfilled (Luke 21:24) is evident, and that we appear living in the *last hours* of the *last days* when the devil is come down to us having *great* wrath knowing he hath but a short time (Rev. 12:12), yet to get right down before God with unreserved submissiveness that characterized the course of the apostle Paul which enabled him to say, "*For to me to live is Christ, to die is gain*" (Phil. 1:21), is to put ourselves in a position before God that he can remove any abnormal spiritual condition that would allow the devil to make inroads detrimental to God's kingdom. Can we not see that to do less than this is to establish our own righteousness?—to have our own way, which must invariably bring final disaster?

Dear ministers of the living God, this heart-burdened appeal is made to you. Let us take such an inventory of ourselves that God can work through us for the *perpetuity* of his *one and only* church—the church of God. The time is short in which to work, and the need is exceedingly urgent. Jesus said, (Jno. 13:27). "That thou doest, do quickly." Let us remember God can do anything He ever could, or ever did—*all things*—but He must have submitted vessels to work through (1 Peter 5:6).

O beloved, what is there that God can not do through his true people, in destroying the works of the devil, if they will know nothing but the will of God?

—J. H. Pierson

— oOo — Touch Not The Unclean

"Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? *For ye are the temple of the Living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.*

"Wherefore come ye out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean; and I will receive you. And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty."

I have quoted the last of the sixth chapter of 2nd Corinthians, beginning at the 14th verse. I have left out the word "thing", because it was in italics which has been added by the translators for the purpose of making the Scripture plainer and more easily understood. But in this case it does not make the Scripture plainer, but is confusing to one's mind. For in the Old Testament the priests and others were not to touch defiled things; it was one of God's commands. When we read this line without using the word, "thing", we find out that God had a different thought

in mind, entirely. Here God is speaking of people, and not of things which we can handle with our hands. And the word, "touch", here means to fellowship. We are not to fellowship the uncleansed, or the unclean. God does not fellowship and neither are we to fellowship those who are still in their sins.

Leprosy is an emblem or symbol of sin. Anyone touching one afflicted with this terrible disease becomes afflicted also, unless like Christ, God is in it for his healing. This is why that one afflicted with leprosy was to call out, UNCLEAN! UNCLEAN!, that none would come too near. But today the world in general would have to cry out, UNCLEAN! UNCLEAN!, because of the awful sin upon the human family. Almost everybody claims that one can not be a "saint", can not be saved from all sin in this present evil world. This is the reason for this Scripture, *"Touch not the unclean, and I will receive you, and ye shall be my sons and my daughters."* One whom God has restored to His likeness must not fellowship sinners for this is truly touching the unclean, or the uncleansed.

If God has restored you to His likeness and you have been added to His family, the church of God, then this Scripture is to you. Touch not the unclean, the uncleansed; fellowship not with the uncleansed. If people are not saved from their sins and are still living in them and can not live a saint life here below, they are not ready to receive Christ Jesus the Bridegroom, when He comes to receive His bride, the church of the Living God, for our God is the God of the living and not the God of the dead.

God is a jealous God, and especially over His saints. Then let us all fear God, and keep this great commandment that is given to the saints in light, for if we do not obey this command, we shall be punished with the wicked. He says that those who obey are His sons and His daughters, which means that these are in the household of faith and are God's elect, His chosen bride out of this world, the bride that Christ died for, the bride that He shed His precious blood for. None in sin are in this fold of Christ.

The Bible was written that Christ might have a pure, clean, cleansed bride, and the people restored to "God's image" are His holy, cleansed bride.

By the grace of God, —I. E. Kriebel

National Camp Ground Building Project

Tulsa, Oklahoma,—To all the saints scattered abroad: I feel like giving a brief report on the Monark Springs, Missouri, building project.

The basement is dug out. We have endeavored several times to get a well driller to drill the well, and now at last we have secured a contract to sign for a driller, and should get the well drilled in the next week or two. This matter has delayed work on the building.

We expect to take time off from our job the first week in May (D. V.) and go up there and pour the concrete foundation if we can get enough workers on the job. About 3000 concrete blocks are ready to be hauled on to the grounds, and we intend to secure over 10,000 feet of native oak lumber from saw mills near there.

We will say that we are in need of money to finish the building. Some have suggested borrowing it, but dear ones, I am sure that if *all* will do as the Lord leads, we will not have to do that. After all, God owns "the cattle on a thousand hills," so if you have any of the Lord's money to help finish the dining hall on the National campground at Monark Springs, Missouri, just mail it at once to L. D. Pruitt, Secy-Treas., 1005 W. Mansur, Guthrie, Oklahoma. We would like to get the building finished so we could use it at this summer's meeting, as the old dining hall in the public park is badly in need of repairs (screen wire and shingles) and the money that would be spent for those repairs could help that much on our own building.

Pray for us, and let us hear from those who can work in May and June.

—Brother and Sister Sam Barton

DINING HALL AT GUTHRIE, OKLA.

The city permit to build a new dining hall and dormitory on the Oklahoma campground at Guthrie was issued March 9, 1946. Since then preparations have been made for building. Fifty yards of rock and sand, and 173 sacks of cement were used in the foundation, reinforced with four strings of steel. Up to this date more than 1600 concrete blocks have been hauled on to the grounds, and several courses of blocks have been laid for the walls. It will take several thousand more blocks for the two-story building, size 30 by 74 ft.

Materials are scarce, and there are some items that we have not been able to secure. Therefore, we are kindly asking our readers to help us by asking at your local hardware and lumber yards for the following articles. If you find them, phone us collect. No. 1523J, Guthrie, and we can tell you whether we are still in need of them.

16 windows, 24 x 24 inch glass size.

22 windows, 24 x 20 inch. glass size.

2700 feet of No. 1 grade nine flooring.

200 feet of galvanized one-half inch pipe, with fittings such as els, tees, nipples, couplings, and unions.

All the saints in Oklahoma especially should co-operate to supply the means and material for this building so it will be ready for use during the Oklahoma state campmeeting which will begin the first Friday in August. Let us again review our consecration and see if all that we possess still belongs to the Lord and He may use it wherever He chooses in His service.

—L. D. Pruitt, Member Trustee Board

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Lord, Thou knowest what is best;

I leave it all to Thee and rest.

May thy sweet Spirit guide my soul

Till I shall reach that final goal.

—Hazel E. Creson

"FAITH AND VICTORY"

16-PAGE HOLINESS MONTHLY

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

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

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

FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE

920 W. Mansur Ave., Guthrie, Oklahoma

The chapel where the church of God meets in Guthrie, Okla. is located on the corner of 6th St. and W. Warner Ave. Regular Sunday services are: Sunday School, 9:20 a.m.; preaching services, 11 a.m.; young people's meeting, 6 p.m.; and general services, 7:30 p.m. Mid-week service prayer meeting Wednesday, 8:00 p.m. All are welcome.

DOVER, OKLAHOMA

The Lord willing, the Dover campmeeting will be held from August 30 to September 8 inclusive. Bring your bedding, sugar or sugar stamp. Anyone desiring to be met, be sure to notify us in time. The camp ground is one mile north and two and one half miles east of Dover. Pray for the meeting.

—Henry Caldwell and Ulysses Phillips

Editorials

At the time when we had the April issue of the *Faith and Victory* about ready for the mail, we received a letter from Bro. Ray Key of Hammond, La. requesting us to meet him in Dayton, Ohio to help him in a meeting there. The saints there were much in need of help. I was acquainted with many of them. The Lord burdened me to go. As I boarded the train at Guthrie March 29th God let His blessings down upon my soul showing His approval and making me know that I was in divine order.

Before this we had received calls from Bro. Roy Harmon at Springfield, Mo. to go there and help him pray for Bro. Freeman who was very sick, so we stopped at Springfield for this purpose. We found Bro. Freeman in much pain and suffering and held on to God for his healing. The Lord relieved him from pain and suffering and he testified that it was all gone. That was shortly after we arrived at Springfield at 3:00 p. m. We returned to his home again that night and several of the saints had gathered there. Bro. Freeman had weakened in faith and the suffering had returned. Again the Lord relieved suffering in answer to prayer.

We left there that night on the Frisco train for St. Louis and on to Richmond, Ind. and New Paris, Ohio where we visited in the home of Bro. and Sister Wm. Jenkins. From there we went to Dayton, arriving there Sunday. When we met the saints there, we were informed that Bro. Cleo Murry, who has been pastoring there was in Oklahoma attending the funeral of his brother-in-law who had died suddenly. This was a surprise to Bro. and Sister Key, Bro. William Pearson, and myself, as we expected him to be there so we could meet with him and the others and have some understanding about the meeting as the congregation was in much confusion. Some had been renounced, others discouraged, and some were backslidden until hardly anyone was attending services and services were suspended much of the time in the meeting house.

Bro. McCoy and Bro. Sowders, two of the trustees there and also pillars in the church, wanted the meeting in the meeting house that the saints had built, so they unlocked the door for us to go ahead with the meeting.

Out of all the congregation there, only one man and his wife fellowshipped Bro. Murry, and they were comparatively young in the faith and were confused and hardly knew what to do, so we did not blame them as they have not been in the way long.

The meeting continued for twelve or fourteen days. The last Friday night of the meeting Bro. Murry came in, bringing with him two preachers from Urbana, Ill. to defend his reputation, although they knew comparatively little about his daily walk among the saints at Dayton. "Christ made himself of no reputation." Phil. 2:7.

God blessed much in the services from night to night and the messages went forth in the power and love of the Spirit. Several were reclaimed in the meeting and the saints were greatly encouraged. On Friday evening Bro. Murry and his preachers were there at the meeting. When we arose from prayer, Bro. Murry took the pulpit (ahead of the usual time). He said that he had been pastor there and was still pastor. Then he began to accuse us ministers for being there holding the meeting, and talked very insulting to us. He said he had seen a lawyer that day and had some written statements which he was going to serve on the two trustees. His lawyer had advised what to do and he was going to hold the meeting house. He then called on his preachers to testify. After they testified and the two there who were somewhat under his influence, he began to rage on us again, slandering us, accusing us, and calling us hypocrites and crooks and in different ways trying to justify himself. When he had behaved in this manner for some fifteen or twenty minutes, he endeavored to dismiss the congregation. But the Lord gave us grace to testify. We told them how we had been teaching others to keep calm and sweet in their souls when being accused and slandered, and that we felt the Lord was testing us out that night. I could truly testify that God gave quietness, calmness, and sweet heavenly peace in my soul throughout this ordeal and I was thankful for that. I also told them that I was disappointed when I arrived there for the meeting and learned that Bro. Murry was out of town—This I said because Bro. Murry had impersonated me in his speech, calling me a crook and accusing me of taking advantage of his absence to go there to hold a meeting, saying that I knew he was gone (which statement was untrue).

Bro. Key announced that the meeting would continue on and that they would have the meetings in private homes for awhile. I had made arrangements to leave that night for Union City, Ind. where I was to have meeting over Sunday.

The next day in prayer and meditation I was wondering what we should think of a man that acted up like that and how he should be classified. The Spirit of the Lord clearly brought to my mind the third epistle of John wherein he writes of Diotrephes. If you want to know this man's number and the number of any other preachers who act like him you can turn to the third epistle of John and begin reading at the ninth verse. This is the judgments of God upon this man and others like him. We advise the dear saints everywhere not to allow yourselves to get under his influence, not even in a small way. Paul says (Rom. 16:17). "Mark them which cause divisions and offenses contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them." If you want to keep out of trouble and grief you had better take heed to the warnings. This is not retaliation, God forbid; but we feel the responsibility that is placed upon

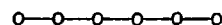
us as a minister of the gospel to shield and protect God's little ones everywhere from wrong influences in this sinful religious world.

The two services at Union City, Indiana were much blessed of God. A goodly number of saints came in from different parts of the country, and we were glad to see them once again in life—also others whom we had never met before. The fellowship was sweet and heavenly. While there, we stopped with Bro. and Sister Nottingham, who are the main pillars in the congregation there. The two Bros. Martin from Anderson, Ind. attended the services there. I went home with them and shared the hospitality of Bro. G. M. Martin and his wife over night.

On Monday we visited Bro. Baker and family at Garret, Ind. They are isolated saints and appreciate visits from the saints. Bro. Baker and his wife were afflicted in body and need the saints prayers.

On Tuesday we visited Bro. and Sister Priem at Elkhart, Ind. They are very zealous for the Lord, so the visit was refreshing. We had some very precious talks together on things pertaining to the kingdom of God. Sister Priem is badly afflicted and is not able to do her work, and has to be waited on very much. This confines Bro. Priem so he cannot get out to work for the Lord nor attend the camp meetings as they both would love to do. Let all the saints everywhere pray for them.

Wednesday morning I went to Kalamazoo, Mich. and stopped in the home of Bro. and Sister Everett Hilbun, who are the pastors of the little flock at Kalamazoo. I found them happy in the Lord and quite contented and satisfied at Kalamazoo. They had announced services for Wednesday night and had sent invitations to saints living in the surrounding country and a nice congregation assembled there in the meeting house. The Lord gave us a message on Christ the True Vine and led us to expound scriptures which described the true and false church. The saints seemed to enjoy the truth which the Lord revealed to them of the message. I was delighted to meet so many precious saints. Their faces shone with the glory of God. I would have enjoyed staying there several nights for service, but duties at Guthrie were pressing, so I went to Chicago, and boarded the Santa Fe streamliner train there for Guthrie and arrived home after two o'clock Thursday night very tired and worn in body, having been gone from the office three weeks.



Some people seem to think that all miracles and healings done in these last days are of God, but such conclusions are not scriptural. While God is performing healings and miracles, yet according to the scriptures and observation, God is allowing the devil to perform miracles and do wonders. If you will turn to the seventh chapter of Exodus, you will read where Pharaoh's sorcerers and magicians were able to perform miracles. When Aaron threw down his rod and it became a serpent, they did likewise; but take

note that Aaron's rod swallowed up the others.

Hear what Jesus said to his disciples (Matt. 24: 4, 5), "Take heed that no man deceive you. For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ and shall deceive many." Then again read the several verses beginning at the 23rd verse of the same chapter. The 24th verse reads as follows, "For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall show great signs and wonders."

Read what Paul has to say in 2 Cor. 11:13, "For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. And no marvel for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works."

Satan's ministers preach many right things and put on a very pious appearance and claim to follow Christ. His ministers were like that when Christ was here, but Jesus said, "Ye are of your father the Devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do." It is recorded in another place that he called them "whited sepulchres" (Matt. 23:27). He also said, "Even so, ye also outwardly appear righteous unto men, but within ye are full of hypocrisy and iniquity." He also said they were as graves that appear not (Luke 11:44). In other words, they seemed to be alive to the things of God and yet were dead. The world at present is cursed with just such ministers, and the multitudes are as blind people following the blind and their end will be according to their works. "Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the LATTER times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils; speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron." 1 Tim. 4:1, 2. Paul prophesied of them thus: "Whose coming is after the working of Satan, with all power and signs and lying wonders, and with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; BECAUSE THEY RECEIVE NOT THE LOVE OF THE TRUTH, THAT THEY MIGHT BE SAVED. And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: that they all might be damned who believe not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness."

By this we understand that the coming of the Lord is after Satan has worked in deceiving and doing lying wonders with power and signs. Many of Satan's ministers in these days are preaching many right things and are so covered with a cloak of piety that they deceive many, and because of advantage they speak great swelling words of vanity, deceiving those who love not the self-denying and crucified way. There are very few religious people in the world who love to take the way of the cross, the crucified way; therefore the world of religious people are ripe for delusions. When one has a delusion from the Lord, he becomes sure he is right and defies any teaching that would bring him into the crucified way which separates people from the religious world.

Many teachers become such as Paul described in Phil. 3:17, "Brethren, be followers together of me, and mark them which walk so as you have us for an example. (For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ: whose end is destruction, whose god is their belly [fleshly lusts], and whose glory is in their shame, who mind earthly things.)"

Following is what the apostle John saw when he was in the Spirit on the Lord's day (Revelation 16: 13, 14), "And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs [slimy and slick] come out of the mouth of the Dragon [pagan Rome], and out of the mouth of the Beast [Catholicism], and out of the mouth of the false Prophet [Protestantism]. For they are spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth [influential preachers. They are of the earth and not of heaven. They are kings because they govern so many religious people in a spiritual sense, and by their cunning, crafty ways deceive them into their false doctrines and anti-Christ ways.], and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of the great day of God Almighty."

Brethren, these spirits of Devils are at work in this evening time and are gathering all nations (unholy nations, Mystery Babylon and her harlot daughters. God's people are a holy nation). These "kings of the earth" and false prophets have so deceived almost all who are under their influence that they are ripe to receive the Dragon's teaching (paganism) and be drawn under his octopus power. Let us beware and keep loving the crucified way, the way separate from this religious world. Let us be not conformed to the world but be transformed by the renewing of our minds, and thereby prove what is that good and acceptable, and perfect will of God. Let us keep in mind that we have been delivered from the power of darkness, and have been translated into the kingdom of his dear Son (Col. 1:13). Also remember the exhortation that Paul gave in Col. 3:1-3. "If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affections on things above, not on things on the earth. For ye are dead, and your life is hid [or should be] with Christ in God." Why? "When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with Him in glory."

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Obituaries

On March 21, 1944, in Bakersfield, California, a baby boy was born to Elder and Sister E. J. Trotter whom they named Cecil Clearance. He departed this life March 20, 1946, at the age of one year, eleven months, and twenty-nine days.

In June, 1944, his parents moved to Fresno, California and lived in and about this vicinity. Little Cecil was much loved by those who knew him, because he was of such sweet disposition. His parents would bring him to Sunday school and church services. We loved little Cecil, but God loved him best and took him home to heaven.

Little Cecil leaves his father and mother, Brother and Sister E. J. Trotter, nine sisters and brothers, Vivian, Azor, Clara, Margaret, Elizabeth, Donald, Vesta, Christine, and Rosa Marie, all of Fresno, California.

Funeral services were conducted by Brother Isaac Chandler. Scripture text: Luke 18:15, 16, 17.

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Cora B. Hill, eldest daughter of Amos and Mary Ellen Hill was born in Orange County, Indiana, July 21, 1881 and departed this life March 27, 1946 at the age of 64 years, 8 months, and 6 days.

She was united in marriage to Joseph H. Pierson Sept. 10, 1896. She leaves nine children: Otto and Chester of Paoli; Mrs. Martha Eickelberger of near Paoli; Elmer, Wilmer, and Francis of Detroit, Mich.; Mrs. Irene Boggess and Mrs. Esther Knight of New Albany; and Mrs. Pauline Knight living at home. One daughter, Mary, preceded her in death August 24, 1926. Also surviving are her husband, J. H. Pierson; father, Amos Hill of Paoli; four half brothers; eleven grandchildren; and one great-grandchild; besides many other relatives and friends.

Cora was converted to the Lord between 40 and 45 years ago. She lived a beautiful Christian life and was a devoted wife and mother. She was loved by all who knew her. She bore her suffering patiently. In the early days of her sickness, before she lost her speech, she once said after a restless night, "Wearisome nights are appointed to me." At the last she made known that she wanted to go home to rest.

A loved one from us is taken;

A dear voice with us is stilled;

A place in our heart is vacant

That never can be filled.

Funeral services conducted by Bro. Wm. Pearson.

Campmeeting Notices

The national campmeeting of the church of God will convene July 19 to 28 at Monark Springs, Mo. Further information will appear next month.

HAMMOND, LOUISIANA

The general southern campmeeting will be held at Hammond, La. from June 28 to July 8 inclusive. For further information write Max Williamson in care of Post Office or Ray Key, Box 370, Hammond, La.

MIDWAY, LOUISIANA

The Midway campmeeting will be held July 12 to 21 inclusive. The saints hope to have the tabernacle finished for this meeting. This was an especially good meeting last summer, and we are praying for a better one this year. Saints and ministers attending the Hammond campmeeting are urged to come expecting to stay for, and attend this one. Sleeping and eating quarters on the ground. Those coming who have tents or other camping equipment, please bring them and also sugar or ration stamp.

Midway is not a Post Office, but a small locality about half-way between Trout, Louisiana, and Jena, Louisiana, on Highway 84. Bus service from Alexandria, Louisiana, also from Clarence, via Winnfield, Louisiana.

We want to urge saints from the North, East, and West to attend these two meetings this year if possible. Those wanting more information or desiring to send provisions, write Eva Mitchell, Route 1, Trout, Louisiana, or Cassie Price, Route 1, Trout, Louisiana.

TULSA, OKLAHOMA

Lord willing, the saints expect to hold a campmeeting at Tulsa, Oklahoma, convening July 5 to 14, 1946.

Come, bringing bedding and cot straw ticks. We will have steel army cots to rent at \$1.00 each, so order early and we will furnish space for cots free. Order cots from Brother Sam Barton, Route 11, Box 119, Tulsa, 15, Oklahoma, Phone 29495. Please state when ordering cots which meeting you want the cot for, as the Monark Springs, Missouri meeting follows the Tulsa meeting on Friday afterwards.

Any information desired or anything to be sent to the meeting, send to S. L. Burks, 1514 North Norfolk St., phone 2-7371, as the campmeeting will be held at 1517 North Norfolk Street or on corner of Pine Place and Norfolk Street.

Please bring your own sugar—at least one half pound for each person. Offerings, groceries, and canned goods will be greatly appreciated.

Come praying for a good meeting.

GUTHRIE, OKLAHOMA

The Oklahoma State Campmeeting will be held from August 2nd to 11th. For further information write to Fred Pruitt, 920 W. Mansur Ave., Guthrie, Okla. Particulars will be given later.

KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN

The Michigan State Campmeeting will be held from July 12 to 21. For further information write to E. W. Hilbun, 516 Howard St., Kalamazoo, Mich. Phone 4-2872.

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PRAYER REQUEST

New York,—Dear friends in Christ Jesus,—I am only a girl of fifteen years of age. I have written to you before for tracts, and now I have a request for prayer. We live in a nursing home and don't have enough patients to enable us to meet expenses. Mother is getting old and needs rest. We want to sell the place, but have not been able to sell it so want you to pray that the Lord will send us a buyer. It is a large, lovely house with twenty-one rooms and could be easily converted into a two-family house.

Our family is all saved and the Lord has blessed us in a mighty way. He has done marvelous healings in our family. I do praise His blessed name.

—Miss Christina Jobmann

CORRESPONDENCE

Oklahoma—Dear saints,—I feel like writing my testimony. Praise the Lord because He saved me. I thank Him for His Word which is true and we can stand on the promises at all times. The Lord has been so merciful to us all that we should be willing to go through anything for His sake. Our lives are short, and most of us have wasted much of our lives. I am glad to know that I can live for Jesus in this world. I am going through by God's grace and help. His Word is forever settled in heaven and all of His promises are for us today. I praise God for old-time religion that saves and keeps us pure and on the highway of holiness. His ways are brighter and sweeter to me each day.

I surely enjoy the "Faith and Victory" and get blessings from reading it. I have been reading it for twenty-

two years and do not think I could be without it. May God bless you and all the workers there and help you to keep the good work going until Jesus comes.

My prayer is that every one who reads this testimony will accept Jesus Christ as his personal Saviour.
Mrs. H. J. Hiebert



Ohio,—Dear brothers and sisters,—I am saved and sanctified and living a holy life each day. I am isolated from the saints but the blessed Saviour is always with me. I rest on every promise that God has given to all who obey His Word. He said, "Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world." I am glad for His Word and to know that I am in the beautiful church of God. I read in God's Word where He told us we would have great tribulations but to see that none of these things move us away from the love of God. We are living in the evening time when God said it shall be light. Men choose darkness rather than light because their deeds are evil.

I am glad I was settled in the truth when the awful wave of compromise came. I had salvation in my heart and could tell the difference between the truth and sounding brass and a tinkling cymbal. Before the compromise we saw the Lord working with the saints in mighty power. Miracles were performed in His name and there was healing in almost every meeting. But they lowered the standard and failed to hold up God's truth. They no longer dressed in humble, plain attire as the Bible teaches, but began to cater more and more to the lust of the eye and the pride of life, dressing to please proud men rather than God. Instead of all remaining equal brethren and workers together, some desired the preeminence and considered themselves the "head ones" and annexed titles to their names.

Because I would not compromise I was accused of leaving the church. I told them I was still standing on the promises of God and that the congregation had just left me. I asked them why they went back to wearing the tie. One answered, that times had changed and people would make fun of them if they dressed as they did in the beginning of the reformation. I told him that I knew times had changed but the Word of God never changes. As Satan beguiled Eve, he is still beguiling God's people. God's Word tells me that if we build again the things we destroyed we make ourselves a transgressor. Some of those who laid away their silk dresses, jewelry, and gay clothing are like the man who had his house swept and garnished then allowed seven spirits more wicked than the first to enter and abide. When the compromise came it gathered every fashion there was—bobbed hair, wearing of gold, ornaments, ruffles, etc.

I was glad when I heard the Voice, "Come out of her my people. She is the cage of every unclean and hateful bird." The day I was saved I wore a hat which was decorated with big artificial flowers. As we rode home from meeting in a big two-horse wagon I took every flower off and threw them out along the road. We as children of God must live as Christ tells us. When He appears we shall be like Him, but if we are to be like Him we must live like Him every day.

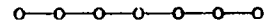
Part of the church have already gone on to glory, and I do thank God for the remnant of the dear saints who are born into the church of God found in Revelation 21. Christ is the vine and we are the branches. So long as we stay in the vine God's approval is on us and we will obey His Word and do the things that are pleas-

ing in His sight. We know that the Word never changes.

Many say they are trusting God for soul and body, but when they have a little affliction they call for a doctor. How I thank God that He is our great Physician. I have had bones broken in my feet, breast, hip, and wrist, and the Lord healed them. People who do not know the Great Physician urged me to get them set. When I fell and broke my hip, they raised me up and I was fainty and sick for awhile. When I came to, I thought I was dying, but a voice from heaven told me that God took a rib from Adam's side and made woman. I asked the Lord to heal me and I would not have a doctor or nurse nor go to a hospital. One man who helped me up said to his wife, "She is a Christian Scientist." But I said, "No, I am a Bible saint." I thank God for all His gracious dealings with me.

Your sister in Christ,

—Amanda Jones

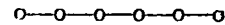


Alabama,—Dear saints,—“If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.” Col. 3:1. Truly, I am risen with Christ and earnestly seeking those things which are above. I had wanted to understand more about New Jerusalem and had prayed often that the Lord himself would make known to me what I desired to know. This morning while I was kneeling in prayer and pouring out my heart to the Lord, this thought came to me: God sometimes has others to tell us what we desire to know, if we are willing to receive it from the one He has chosen to make it known to us. I arose from prayer and the Spirit led me to get the little book I had in my drawer, “The New Testament Church,” so I obeyed and began to read the topic, “City of God.” And oh, how my heart was filled with joy, and magnified God! My heart cried out, “She (New Jerusalem) is so sweet! Oh, I love her, the bride of Christ, the undefiled.” She is so clean and white. I will seek her and love her with an everlasting love.

Please pray for us here in Birmingham.

Sister in Christ,

—Viola Lowla



To the dear saints one and all,—I want to thank you for your interest and prayers. God did answer prayer in my behalf. My head is healed. By God's help and grace I want to live for Him more perfectly every day, so I can have God on my side. How I thank God tonight for the many times He has answered prayer for me and my family. Pray God to strengthen my faith. I am much afflicted in body and in my feet and legs. Dear saints of God, please be agreed in prayer for me that God will heal me from the soles of my feet to the top of my head. I know God can, for He has never failed to answer yet. My Brother O. B. Wilson and wife and Brother and Sister Charles Smith and family, and Sister Babcock were here last week. We had meeting in my home. We had some real service for God was with us all. We were very glad they came. We plan to have prayer meeting every Wednesday night in my home here.

Any time any of you saints feel led of God to come our way, our home is open. We love to have you. You could have one night's service with us or a week.

Pray for us we will be faithful until the end. Pray for me and my family and my mother, Sister W. M. Wilson. We always need your prayers. I live on the road to Cane Hill by Park's Corner. Inquire there for Wells Brockman.

Mary Brockman, Lincoln, Arkansas, Route I

Young People's Section

Something for Jesus

I want to do something for Jesus,
I want to labor and pray,
I want to work in His vineyard
While it is called today. (John 9:4).

I want e'er to be up and doing—
The night cometh soon we know. (John 9:4).
He'll close the door to His vintage, (Isa. 32:9, 10).
Then man can work no more. (John 9:4).

The harvest truly is plenteous (Matt. 9:37).
And laborers are so few,
I'll do what I can for Jesus—
He died for me and you. (I Thess. 5:10).

The hour nor the day no man knoweth (Mark 13:32)
When Jesus will come again
To say "Well done" to the faithful (Matt. 25:21)
With Him they'll ever reign. (I Thess. 5:10)

—Mrs. E. C. Wiggins

Editorials

When the Lord saves young people, He has a work for each one to do. He does not save anyone merely to take them to heaven, though that is the final home of the faithful. He makes saints out of sinners so that they may be His servants and witness for Him in the world. Jesus says, "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven." Do not think to put your light under a bushel, for it will soon go out. Watch and pray always lest when the Bridegroom comes you be found like the five foolish virgins whose lamps had gone out. They had failed to check up on their oil supply and consequently they were unprepared to meet the Lord. Only those who were ready went in, and the door was shut.

The resurrection of Christ is an essential part of the redemption plan for man. The Apostle Paul tells us that Jesus was "delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification." The apostle says again, "And if Christ be not raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins. But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the first fruits of them that slept." I Cor. 15:17, 20.

When Jesus was at the grave of Lazarus He said, "I am the resurrection and the life." This was true not only for physical resurrection but also for the spiritual resurrection—the resurrection of the soul

of man from the death of sin. Jesus did not officiate at any funerals, but whenever He came in contact with the dead physically they were resurrected to life. He said to John the Revelator, "I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore." Rev. 1:18.

—L. D. P.

California,—Dear Saints,—I am thanking God for salvation and His goodness to me. How I thank Him for saving me from sin. I always had a desire to serve the Lord but the devil had me so entangled in sin I could not see how I could give up my bad habits. But, praise the Lord, when I made the start, He came to my rescue and gave me the strength to rebuke the devil.

The Lord has been so good to me I can not find words to tell of all His goodness. He more than supplies our needs and heals our bodies. He wonderfully touched my body instantly after I gave my heart to him. The doctor told me just a few weeks before that I would have to be operated on and there was no way out of it. But, praise God, I am healed and a knife never touched me.

My little boy got a terrible burn. He was crying with terrible pain. I prayed and God instantly stopped the pain. He didn't heal the sore, but the child never had another pain. How that increased my faith, as every day when I dressed the sore it reminded me of what a wonderful God we serve. If I had depended on doctors, the child would have suffered much pain.

My husband is still in the service and I am with him. There are no saints here, but it is wonderful how God can teach us when we are isolated. Remember me in your prayers that I may be all God would have me to be.

Your sister in Christ, Mrs Hazel (Doolittle) Phipps

Canton, Illinois.—Dear Young People (and all readers of the "Faith and Victory").—Greetings in the name of Jesus. I just feel like writing to you through the little paper.

I am so thankful to the Lord for salvation and the many blessings he bestows upon us daily.

Truly the Lord was merciful to me as I spent the last three years in sin. Without His mercy, I could have been called into eternity unprepared to meet God.

The Lord had been talking to my heart for quite some time. About two weeks ago I yielded to him right here in our own home and found him very precious to my soul. Oh! what a wonderful feeling to have the love and peace of God in our hearts.

There are no saints near here, and this is such a wicked place, but I know God's grace is sufficient for me. He has promised that if I abide in Him and His words abide in me, I shall ask what I will and it will be done unto me. Isn't that a precious promise? He did not say there had to be a crowd before He would answer prayer. He put it down to one individual, and I am claiming that promise. Oh! praise His dear name!

My husband is not saved, but has always wanted me to live right. I just feel like saving right here that some have blamed him for me backsliding, but that is not true. I remember that before I did backslide he knew I was discouraged so he got around (without me knowing

it at the time) and asked some of the saints to come to our home to sing, read, and have prayer for my encouragement. He has cried and wanted me to live right. Had I been true to God maybe my husband would have been saved by now. I went out in sin and found the devil to be a very hard pay master.

Our home has not been blessed with children of our own, but we keep two precious little girls, ages three and five years. Their father was killed and their mother deserted them so I feel a great responsibility rests upon me. I realize I need much wisdom and patience to teach them right.

I have an affliction that has bothered me for several years. It keeps me feeling weak and nervous so much of the time. I wish you saints would be agreed, that if it could be the Lord's will, He will heal me completely. I know he is able to do it. I would be so thankful.

I truly desire your earnest prayers that I will know and do the will of the Lord at all times. I want to be a real example in my home so my husband and little girls can see I have been with Jesus and learned of him.

Please be agreed with me in prayer that my husband and our unsaved brothers and sisters will be saved before too late. It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God. We would be glad at any time to have any saints that could stop in to visit with us.

With Christian love, —Fern (Wilson) Johnson

Scio, Oregon,—Dear Young Saints,—I am rejoicing and praising the Lord this evening for His wonderful love. I know that if it was not for His mercy I would never be where I am now. The devil was getting me as fast as he could when the Lord called after my heart and I answered that call.

We received the "Faith and Victory" today and it was so encouraging to see so many testimonies in it.

The saints here are truly enjoying the free salvation that was purchased for us when our dear Saviour died on that cruel cross. We have surely been hearing the truth. The Lord saw we needed it preached straighter than before. We have heard a lot on dress and the saints are lowering the length of their dresses. I know I have had one time out-talking the devil on that line. He would tell me my dress was longer than some of the other sisters, and if they lengthened theirs then I could lengthen mine, but praise the Lord, I have defeated the devil and you will not see me wearing another short dress.

The devil tries me in every way he can, but I am determined to go all the way with the Lord. I ask the saints to pray for me.

One of God's little ones, —Marie Busch

Bakersfield, California,—Dear Young Saints,—The Lord has impressed me to write a few words of consolation that it may be a help to souls. The time has come that every little thing we can do for the Lord is that much against old Satan, for we know old Satan is on his watch trying to get us in everything. Let us young people get more interested in our souls and live according to the Holy Word. If we be led by the Word we can not go wrong.

I have lived a saved life for four years and a few months and I am learning more all the time. It means a lot for the young saints to trust in the Lord for every thing and have faith in what we ask Him for. But it does not matter what it may be, it is not too hard for the Lord.

He is sweet to me and He has healed my body many times. Even before I got saved He healed me. I lived in sin for seventeen years. Until I found Christ, I had an awful time with spells at night. I would sometimes have twelve and more every week. At times the ones who were sitting up with me night after night were looking for the Lord to take me out of my trouble, but He knew how much I could stand of that punishment and He knew I was not fit to die then. I found it so after I came to trust in the Lord. Let us give up the world and stay with our Saviour Jesus Christ. Let the young people do more reading in the Bible and more praying.

Young people, do not be persuaded by the people who are unsaved, for if you do, you will find yourself in a deep pit.

Pray for me that I may do all for the Lord.

—James W. Smith

Bakersfield, California,—Dear young saints scattered abroad,—This leaves me saved and living for the Lord every day. I am encouraged to press my way on through the many trials of life.

We, the young people here at Bakersfield, are having wonderful meetings. The Lord is blessing us with a good number of young people who seem to be very interested in working for the Lord. We have meeting Friday night or every week beginning at 7:15 o'clock. There are about thirty-five that are saved and many others that are faithful to attend and some seem very interested in the meeting. Very often there are souls at the altar for prayer and help. The Lord always meets them there. On Friday, April 5, the young saints from Fresno were with us in our meeting. Friday, April 12, Brother and Sister Fred Gatke of San Fernando, California were with us. We are very much encouraged to keep up our meeting. It will take the judgment to tell the good we are doing. Some of the old saints are always present to give some good instruction. If any of you pass through Bakersfield or near by, you will always have a hearty welcome from both young and old saints to stop and be with us. Our pastor is a faithful young minister, Brother Isaac Chandler, and he is a great help to both young and old. We need prayer of each and every one because our aim is to help others to come to the fold before it is too late. Pray for us at all times that we prove faithful.

The church of God at Bakersfield, California, is located at 505½ Brown Street and Virginia Ave.

—Helen Gaines

CORRESPONDENCE

Louisiana,—Dear saints,—I feel it is to God's glory for me to write my testimony. I have been heavily burdened of late for lost souls. My heart continually cries out for them. I am made to tell of the goodness of God to all and to warn everyone with whom I come in contact about the danger in delay. God tells us that today is the day of salvation, and now is the accepted time. We are not promised years, months, or days. Now is all we have.

We recently heard a message on "God's Will" which was a benefit to our souls and encouraged us much. The Lord says it is not His will that any should perish but that all should come to repentance. Oh, if people only knew how to lay their all on the altar and clean up for God that His will could be done concerning them! The time to get right with God is when one has life and health, and one should never wait until an affliction

seizes upon his poor body. There is no time to get right when one closes his fleshly eyes to awaken in eternity. The decision must have been made before that time. To be saved is the will of God, to be lost is terrible. Oh, souls, wake up while it is today, for the night cometh when no man can work. Time is short. All signs point to the END. It is a terrible thing to go on heedlessly and carelessly. The devil doesn't have anything to offer excepting hell fire; but wonderful glories await those who serve the Lord. Sinner friend, please wake up and call on God for mercy. Just think; once lost, forever lost. You only go this way once.

I am very glad that God called after my soul and I am saved and willing for God to have His way with me. I was healed last summer of a terrible affliction in my breast. God gets all the glory. I am satisfied with Jesus' dealings with me. I have had many trials and have been tempted, but praise God, I have victory over the devil and this world has no charms for me. I have left all the world to follow Jesus. I am not tired of serving God. The way grows brighter as I journey along and eternity is looming in sight.

There are some afflictions on my body for which I am expecting healing. Please pray God to heal me and give grace along the way. —Mr. T. J. Davis

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Ohio,—Dear saints of God,—Greetings in Jesus' precious name. I am glad that I have learned to put my trust in the Lord and I am thankful most of all for His saving and keeping power.

I wish to say a few words for the encouragement of the sinner and the backslider. It is dangerous to put the Lord off and neglect your soul's salvation, but if you do it in ignorance I believe that if you call upon God and cry to Him with your dying breath that God will take you in. You say that is imposing on God. We all impose on His mercy. Anything short of that mercy to all reflects on the Son of God who died on Calvary for us. As Jesus forgave the thief on the cross He will forgive anyone who truly, repentingly cries to Him for mercy and forgiveness.

We who are saved must encourage the backslider to return to God. We must talk to him as though we want him to return to the Lord and believe he will come. "Touched by a loving heart, awakened by kindness, cords that were broken will vibrate once more." We should never tell him, "You do not want God." Many would be standing today if someone had encouraged them and said, "God bless you, I am praying for you. Keep looking up. You will have temptations but we are believing in you." It may look as if that backslider does not want God, but it is likely that in his heart there is a longing for the joy he once had.

Very few can believe or realize that the religion of the Lord is so wonderful that it changes a man's life and changes all his desires. Praise God! It changes him until the things he once hated he now loves.

Oh, you that are hungering and thirsting for God, He is able to take that disposition out of you that is so easily discouraged, that disposition that so easily upsets you and worries you and causes you to do things you do not want to do. He wants to cleanse your heart from all sin and fill you with the Holy Spirit and make you stand out as a blazing testimony for Jesus. He is able to give perfect peace, perfect rest, and perfect satisfaction if you give your all to Him.

Pray much for me, for I mean to go through.

—Ethel Mohr

Louisiana,—Dear Bro. and Sister Pruitt,—I want to tell you how the good Lord has blessed us through the prayers of the saints. I wrote you requesting prayer for mamma's jaw to be healed. She had such pains in her jaw she could hardly stand it. The Lord has healed her and the pain is gone. She has been healed, too, of a terribly sore finger which bothered her for years. About a month ago my little boy's thumb rose. It was sore for about two weeks. It got so bad it was twice the size of his other one and looked like it was turned wrong side out. He could hardly sleep at night. It was inflamed, too. I wrote to Brother Marion Trisler and asked him to pray for his healing. I could tell just when the Lord heard the prayer. His thumb became easy and he slept all night. From that day his thumb began to heal. The Lord doesn't half do these things, He completely heals. The Lord is very good to us all. I want to thank all of you for your kindness to us in always being ready to pray for us.

Always remember us when you pray.

With love and best wishes to all,

—Clara Pecanty

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Nebraska,—Dear precious ones in Jesus,—A beautiful lesson and encouragement came to me this morning and I will pass it on.

The beautiful picture came to my mind of Jesus walking slowly and carefully and leading his sheep with the mother sheep so close to His feet looking up into Jesus' face as Jesus is carrying her little lamb.

When I began to meditate on this beautiful thought, Jesus encouraged my heart. I look up to Jesus to protect the little one in my care, my granddaughter, and daily we plead for Jesus to protect and carry her along until she is able to walk and follow Jesus. When we keep our hearts up on Jesus and stay close down at His feet, and we keep trusting, praying, and pressing, surely God will hear us and undertake for He is a loving Saviour and a precious Shepherd to follow closely.

My heart goes out for the little ones who have to go alone in this world with a sinful mother who does not know Jesus only by form as they see Him afar off. But my heart rejoices for the dear mothers and dear fathers who cling closely to Jesus and realize His closeness, love, and protection. How the great need of the day is for mothers to cry out to Jesus and fathers to cry out to Jesus, to be drawn to His feet where they can look up into His face pleadingly for their boys and girls.

Then I look back on the flock of sheep and they are trodding on with their eyes on their Shepherd with perfect confidence and trust. Away back, they seem a bit laggard and a sheep or two or three are following afar off where there is danger of being frightened or misled or indifferent and get caught in a snare.

Oh, how needful it is for us, His sheep, to keep our hearts upon Jesus and keep so close to His feet that Jesus can help us and our cries will not be faint. May God so work upon the hearts of dear parents and help them to see the need of being led by Jesus our good Shepherd.

May God keep His holy eye upon His flock and draw us closer and closer each day as we live, is the prayer of this heart.

Your sister in Jesus,

—Jessie R. Sultzbaugh

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Louisiana,—Dear saints,—Husband and I are both afflicted in body and desire each one of you to get under

the burden for the health of our bodies. We have no other physician but God and I firmly believe that if you will pray for us we will be healed. Our son, Jack, also has a breaking out on his body that I would ask you to pray for. Help us to pray until God answers or shows us if there is something hindering.

We feel the need of drawing closer to Him. We don't get out to service as often as we should for we have no car and live about four miles out of town. The Lord is able to work. Nothing can hinder him. There is nothing too hard for Him to do. It seems that if I didn't have God in my life it would be blank.

Thank all of you for your help.

—Mr. & Mrs. E. C. Wiggins

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Predictions and Prophecies

On the cold, bleak Tuesday night, December 18, 1945, about 6:25 p. m., I looked up into the sky to see the moon, which at that time was not far from the horizon. For several days I had anticipated observing the moon on this particular night. My reason for wanting to look at the moon on this night was: the astronomers had informed the public that there would be an eclipse of the moon. They gave the hour and the minute that the moon would enter the shadow and the minute it would leave. Sure enough, it came to pass. Every few minutes I would go back and look at the moon, until finally it was engulfed in the shadow and the night had become as dark as if the moon had not risen. Then in a few minutes it began to brighten on one side and continued to brighten until all was clear and bright again.

The mystery in my mind was, how did the astronomers know this incident was going to happen on this particular night and at this designated time? I understand that by previous study and experience, and by the use of delicate astronomical instruments and careful calculations they were able to tell at what time and place this eclipse would be visible.

As I meditated, I thought of what Jesus said on one occasion when some of the Pharisees and Sadducees desired that He would show them a sign from heaven. "He answered and said unto them, When it is evening, ye say, It will be fair weather: for the sky is red. And in the morning, It will be foul weather today; for the sky is red and lowering. O ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky; but can ye not discern the signs of the times?" Matt. 16: 2, 3. In another place He said, "When ye see the south wind blow, ye say, There will be heat; and it cometh to pass." Yes, men can trace the course of many of the stars and planets with a certain degree of accuracy, and send out some accurate weather forecasts; but when it comes to making spiritual observations and discerning of spirits and the signs of the times, one must have in his possession something more than man-made instruments and human wisdom. He must have the Word and the Spirit of God.

When Joseph told Pharaoh there would be seven years of plenty and seven years of famine, he said, "God hath shewed Pharaoh what he is about to do."

Agabus signified by the Spirit that there should be a great drouth throughout all the world: which came to pass in the days of Claudius Caesar.

A brother at one time had been praying very earnestly for a sick child. One day he went over a little hill to pray and while there agonizing in prayer, there appeared to his vision a little white casket, and a voice spoke saying, "There is no need to pray against the will of God."

Paul, by the Spirit of God, discerned the spirit of divination in the woman that followed them saying, "These men are the servants of the most high God, which shew unto us the way of salvation." And Paul being grieved turned and by the power of God cast the evil spirit out of her.

Sometimes men fail in their predictions and calculations, but the Word of God never fails, and the Spirit of God never fails. The Word of God informs us that in the last days perilous times shall come, and tells us the reason why. It is as plain to be seen by those who are spiritual-minded as the eclipse of the moon was on the night of Dec. 18, 1945. "Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils."

There is a vast difference between the revelation of God and presumption; between the Spirit of God and the spirit of accusation. There have been times when good-meaning people, thinking they had a divine revelation (when in reality it was only a presumption), have accused some one of being possessed of this or that spirit, or of being guilty of this or that, and have missed the mark. Miscalculations and presumption will never be able to give the right information, but Jesus never fails; the Spirit never fails; the Word of God never fails. "For the Word of God is quick and powerful, and sharper than any two edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and open unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do." Heb. 4:12, 13.

God knows the movement, speed, and action of every man; He knows the purpose and intent of every heart. He knows the outcome of every undertaking. The living Word of God was made flesh and dwelt among us. Isaiah said his name shall be called "Wonderful, Counsellor." His counsel is always safe. He has never missed a hair's breadth, and he never will. "Remember the former things of old; for I am God, and there is none else; I am God and there is none like me, declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, my counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure. . . I have spoken it, I will also bring it to pass; I have purposed it, I will also do it." Isaiah 46: 9-11. David had had experiences with God from his boyhood days when he used to care for his fath-

er's sheep until he was by God's hand established king in Israel. One day while thinking upon the providences of God, he cried out, "O Lord, thou hast searched me, and known me. Thou knowest my down sitting and mine uprising, thou understandest my thought afar off, thou compasest my path and my lying down, and art acquainted with all my ways. For there is not a word in my tongue, but, lo, O Lord, thou knowest it altogether." Psa. 139:1-4.

And not only is this all-wise and omnipotent God able to tell the course of individuals, but also to see and foretell the course and destiny of nations, as portrayed in his covenant with Abraham wherein He said that his seed should sojourn in a strange land, and that they should be brought into bondage, and evil entreated for four hundred years and afterward they should be brought forth with a strong hand, and that He would dispossess the Canaanites and give the land to Abraham's seed. This came to pass according to the Word of God. Now listen again: "I shall see him, but not now; I shall behold him, but not nigh: there shall come a Star out of Jacob, and a Sceptre shall rise out of Israel, and shall smite the corners of Moab, and destroy all the children of Sheth." Num. 24:17. "But unto the Son he saith, Thy throne O God, is forever and ever; a sceptre of righteousness is the scepter of thy kingdom." Heb. 1:8. "The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come: and unto him shall the gathering of the people be." Gen. 49:10.

These latter prophecies were fulfilled by the coming of Christ. Many more could be mentioned, but these will suffice for this time. One more great event is foretold in the volume of Holy Writ that we want to mention: that is the Judgment Day and the final wind-up of this time world.

Many have endeavored to tell us when this event would take place, but we have found all their predictions to be failures because they were not backed up by either the Word or the Spirit of God but only by men's presumptions and miscalculations. Because of these things, some seem to doubt as to whether such an event will come to pass. But be not deceived, "That awful day will surely come, the appointed hour makes haste, When I must stand before my God and pass the solemn test." Peter says that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, saying "Where is the promise of his coming, for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of creation." He further says that "The Lord is not slack concerning his promise as some men count slackness, but is long suffering to usward." God is giving the people a chance to repent. That will be an awful time when the wrath of God breaks forth upon this sin-cursed world, when there will be no interceder, no one to plead for mercy when the great Intercessor shall have left the mediatorial throne. Just the thought of such an event ought to cause men and women to

tremble. Peter also tells us that "the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up" (Not "burned over," but "burned up.") "But the heavens and the earth which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men." 2 Peter 3:6-7. When Paul was before Felix, and by the inspiration of the Spirit of God reasoned of righteousness, temperance, and judgment to come, Felix trembled. Men and women should tremble today, and not only tremble, but cry mightily unto God while there is one to intercede; but the hearts and minds of the majority are filled with so much unbelief, covetousness, and self-will that they are fast formulating the conditions that Jesus spoke of when he said, "As it was in the days of Noe, so shall it be in the days of the coming of the Son of Man." Because men and women do not believe the Word of God, that will not hinder it from being fulfilled. In Acts 17:30, 31 we read, "And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men everywhere to repent. Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead." Yes, there shall be a great Judgment Day when the small and great shall stand before God and be judged by the righteous Judge. "We must all stand before the judgment seat of Christ." When the angel shall stand with one foot upon the land, and the other upon the sea, and declare by him that sits upon the throne that time shall be no longer, then shall the millions of earth realize that God's Word is true, and that what He has said, He is able to bring it to pass. That will be a greater event than any lunar eclipse the sages of this world has ever seen. That will be the event of events, the crashing of ages, the locking of the wheels of time, the second coming of Christ the Judge. And every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him. Every knee shall bow, and every tongue shall confess to God.

Dear reader, are you concerned about that coming event? Have you made preparation for the coming of the day of the Lord, the great Judgment Day? "That awful day will surely come," be ye also ready. —Ulysses Phillips.

SELECT SCRIPTURES

"Let nothing be done through strife or vain-glory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than themselves." Phil. 2:3.

"Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus." Phil. 2:5.

"Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamor, and evil speaking, be put away from you,

with all malice: and be ye kind one to another, tender hearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you." Eph. 4:31, 32.

"But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication, out of your mouth." Col. 3:8.

"Put on therefore as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, long suffering, forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye. And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness. And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs; singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. And whatsoever ye do in word or deed do all in the name of the Lord Jesus giving thanks to God and the Father by him." Col. 3:11-17.

—Selected by Cora McMillian

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TWO BROTHERS LEARN TOLERANCE

Sunday, May 5, 1946

Printed Portion Mark 3:14-17; Luke 9:49-56;
1 John 4:7, 8.

Mark 3:14. And he ordained twelve, that they should be with him, and that he might send them forth to preach,

15. And to have power to heal sickness, and to cast out devils:

16: And Simon he surnamed Peter;

17. And James the son of Zebedee, and John the brother of James; and he surnamed them Boanerges, which is, The sons of thunder:

Luke 9:49. And John answered and said, Master, we saw one casting out devils in thy name; and we forbade him because he followeth not with us.

50. And Jesus said unto him, Forbid him not: for he that is not against us is for us.

51. And it came to pass, when the time was come that he should be received up, he steadfastly set his face to go to Jerusalem,

52. And sent messengers before his face: and they went, and entered into a village of the Samaritans, to make ready for him.

53. And they did not receive him, because his face was as though he would go to Jerusalem,

54. And when his disciples James and John saw this, they said, Lord, wilt thou that we command fire to come down from heaven, and consume them, even as Elias did?

55. But he turned, and rebuked them, and said, Ye know not what manner of spirit ye are of.

56. For the Son of man is not come to destroy men's lives, but to save them. And they went to another village.

1 John 4:7. Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God.

8. He that loveth not, knoweth not God; for God is love.

Golden Text: This commandment have we from him, That he who loveth God love his brother also. 1 John 4:21

Practical Truth: Those who truly learn of Christ will have a spirit of good will toward others.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Notice the purpose for which Christ chose and ordained the twelve. Notice also in the other parts of our lesson how these who had been ordained by Him received His rebukes and instructions and willingly yielded to Him. Man often takes it upon himself to ordain workers, supposedly for God, but their power and authority is only of human origin and they are subject to the will and Word of God only as it pleases man. God's preachers and workers must still be chosen by the Lord. When he chooses them they have heavenly power and authority and are subject to His Word. However, God's Word instructs his church to ordain elders. That is, the church by the act of ordination recognizes the choice which God has already made and qualified.

Last week our lesson dealt with Peter. This lesson is upon two other men whom Christ ordained. They, too, were ignorant and unlearned fishermen (Acts 4:13) and made mistakes, but Christ saw in them a willingness to yield to the Potter who would make of them "vessels unto honor."

John's hasty conclusion that the man should be rebuked did not meet with the approval of Jesus. This should teach us a lesson in tolerance, but it does not teach—as some think—that we are to accept as saved and bid God-speed to all who claim to be doing works in the name of Jesus (Read Matt. 24:24; 1 John 4:1; and 2 John 10, 11.) The Word of God is plain and distinct against false teachers. God gives His people discernment of spirits and they are not to fellowship those who walk disorderly and teach contrary to sound doctrine. No doubt, this man, unknown to John was a true follower of Jesus or Jesus would not have honored his faith (Read Acts 19:13-16). Jesus expects His commands to be followed closely yet His Spirit and the spirit of his disciple is to manifest love for all.

In Jesus' Sermon on the Mount He plainly taught "good will" toward one's enemies, but the disciples could not do this because they were not sanctified. When carnality is present it will manifest itself in some way, and often the one who manifests it will find an example in the Old Testament to justify his actions. The standard of Christ is that of a sanctified heart, which is higher than Old Testament characters could attain.

LEARNING TO LIVE TOGETHER

Sunday, May 12, 1946

Printed Portion Matthew 18:15-17, 21, 22; Mark 10:35-37, 41-45.

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

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

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

21. Then came Peter to him, and said, Lord, how oft shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? till seven times?

22. Jesus saith unto him, I say not unto thee, Until seven times: but, Until seventy times seven.

Mark 10:35. And James and John, the sons of Zebedee, come unto him, saying, Master, we would that thou shouldst do for us whatsoever we shall desire.

36. And he said unto them, What would ye that I should do for you?

37. They said unto him, Grant unto us that we may sit, one on thy right hand, and the other on thy left hand, in thy glory.

41. And when the ten heard it, they began to be much displeased with James and John.

42. But Jesus called them to him, and saith unto them, Ye know that they which are accounted to rule over the Gentiles exercise lordship over them; and their great ones exercise authority upon them.

43. But so shall it not be among you: but whosoever will be great among you, shall be your minister:

44. And whosoever of you will be the chiefest, shall be servant of all.

45. For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.

Golden Text: By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another. John 13:35.

Practical Truth: In order to derive much satisfaction out of life, people must learn to live in harmony together.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

The Word says, "Behold how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity." It is good and pleasant in the sight of man and of God, therefore God gives much instruction in His word for the purpose of keeping unity among His children. Those who are not God's children have no disposition to live at peace with their fellowmen when it means humility and a sacrifice of self love on their part, unless they are forced by circumstances or by law to do so; but a true child of God has grace to estimate the cause of God and the welfare of others higher than his own self.

Any human being is likely to make a mistake and offend someone else without intentions to do so. God does not impute such mistake as sin unless the offender refuses to rectify it when he realizes he has offended. However, if the offense has come because the Word of God has been taught in truth, the one who preached or taught it has no apology to make unless he has used the Word in a way to purposely club another. The offended one must deal with God if he has taken offense at His Word. One must deal with an offender in brotherly love. There must be no thought of selfish resentment, but a desire to help the soul of the offender. With an outsider it is best to overlook an offense to avoid a quarrel, but among believers such things must be cleared so fellowship can continue to flow from heart to heart. Notice

the reason for getting misunderstandings or offenses cleared is to "gain thy brother," and not to gain a victory for self. After the Bible steps are taken and the offender refuses to humble himself he is to be treated as a heathen and a publican. Some seem to have the idea that this means he is to be treated with contempt, but not so. How did Jesus treat heathen and publicans?

Often we hear people express their thankfulness that God is a merciful God and willing to forgive. We need to keep in mind that He forgives us only to the extent that we forgive others.

There would not long be a difference between God's people and the world if He would grant requests prompted by ambitions of unsanctified hearts. If our requests are not granted we should consider the answer that Jesus gave James and John. Perhaps we know not what we ask or why we ask.

The worldly standard for greatness is often estimated according to one's ability, position, riches, and power, but those who are great in God's sight are often scorned by the world. Let us seek the honor which cometh from God only.

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A FRIEND WHO LEARNED TO BELIEVE

Sunday, May 19, 1946

Printed Portion John 11: 7, 8, 16; 20:24-29.

John 11:7. Then after that saith he to his disciples, Let us go into Judea again..

8. His disciples say unto him, Master, the Jews of late sought to stone thee; and goest thou thither again?

16. Then said Thomas, which is called Didymus, unto his fellow disciples, Let us also go, that we may die with him.

John 20:24. But Thomas, one of the twelve, called Didymus, was not with them when Jesus came.

25. The other disciples therefore said unto him, We have seen the Lord. But he said unto them, Except I shall see in his hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into his side, I will not believe.

26. And after eight days again his disciples were within, and Thomas with them: then came Jesus, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, Peace be unto you.

27. Then saith he to Thomas, Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand and thrust it into my side; and be not faithless, but believing.

28. And Thomas answered and said unto him, My Lord and my God.

29. Jesus saith unto him, Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed.

Golden text: Blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed. John 20:29.

Practical Truth: Though Christ is no longer in the flesh, yet there are sufficient evidences of his deity to warrant belief in him.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

It seems unfair to Thomas to know him only as the doubter. Surely Jesus saw more than that in him or he would not have chosen him to be one of the twelve. The Bible does not tell us much about him, but John recorded a statement which proves he was a devoted follower of Jesus. Jesus desired to return to Bethany because of the

death of Lazarus. The disciples felt that the Jews would surely kill him if he went, for they had tried to do it before; but Christ would not be dissuaded for he had some work to do there for His Father. Thomas loved Jesus so much that he was willing to die with him. Jesus said, "Greater love hath no man than this that a man lay down his life for his friends." Church history tells us that Thomas was a zealous missionary and was a martyr for Jesus. He was thrown into a burning oven in one of the heathen countries where he was laboring as a missionary. Often honest doubters become the firmest of believers when their doubts are dispelled.

Thomas was only asking for evidence such as the others already had. They were not so bold in expressing doubts but their actions showed that they were surprised when they learned that he had risen. Perhaps these doubts came because of a human inability to realize His power as the Son of God. He had seen him perform miracles and knew that He was powerful, but it was an unheard of thing that anyone should arise from the dead as Jesus did. God's people now often entertain doubts of the same nature though not on the same subject. They know that He is all-powerful yet they often limit His power by their unbelief and in actions say as Thomas did, "I will not believe unless I see." They come face to face with some difficulty which seems very great and often decide in themselves that because they do not know of any time when God worked out such a difficulty He won't do it now. Then they are often made ashamed of their unbelief when God does work it out.

How did Jesus know about Thomas' doubts and the test he requested? Do you think Thomas applied the test?

The Lord does not often accept a challenge to produce evidence of His resurrection, but if the doubter is honest and will not close his heart against evidences, the Lord will faithfully deal with his soul until he can know beyond a doubt that the Lord still lives. Faith precedes the blessing, but the blessing is glorious when we who have not seen will believe. Have you experienced this blessedness?

— oOo —

FINDING A NEW SENSE OF VALUES

Sunday, May 26, 1946

Printed Portion Luke 12:19, 20; 18:24-30; 19:1-10.

Luke 12:19. And I will say to my soul, Soul thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry.

20. But God said unto him, Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided?

18:24. And when Jesus saw that he was very sorrowful, he said, How hardly shall they that have riches enter into the kingdom of God!

25. For it is easier for a camel to go through a needle's eye, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God.

26. And they that heard it said, Who then can be saved?

27. And he said, The things which are impossible with men are possible with God.

28. Then Peter said, Lo, we have left all, and followed thee.

29. And he said unto them, Verily I say unto you, There is no man that hath left house, or parents, or brethren, or wife, or children, for the kingdom of God's sake,

30. Who shall not receive manifold more in this present time, and in the world to come life everlasting.

19:1. And Jesus entered and passed through Jericho.

2. And, behold, there was a man named Zaccheus, which was the chief among the publicans, and he was rich.

3. And he sought to see Jesus who he was; and could not for the press, because he was little of stature.

4. And he ran before, and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see him; for he was to pass that way.

5. And when Jesus came to the place, he looked up, and saw him, and said unto him, Zaccheus, make haste, and come down; for today I must abide at thy house.

6. And he made haste, and came down, and received him joyfully.

7. And when they saw it, they all murmured, saying, That he was gone to be guest with a man that is a sinner.

8. And Zacchaeus stood, and said unto the Lord; Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have taken any thing from any man by false accusation, I restore him fourfold.

9. And Jesus said unto him, This day is salvation come to this house, forasmuch as he also is a son of Abraham.

10. For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.

Golden Text: The kingdom of God is not meat and drink, but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost. Romans 14:17.

Practical Truth: The highest values lie in the realm of the spiritual.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

This lesson is intended for a temperance lesson, and the scriptures are appropriate, for when one learns to value the soul more than anything else in this world, he will essentially "be temperate in all things." These scriptures tell about two men who had distorted senses of value and two who had a true sense of value and were willing to give up anything to gain the "Pearl of Great price." As you study about these men, decide which one you would rather be if you could exchange places with one of them. Remember, you are not any better than either of the first two if you are letting anything stand between you and the salvation of your never-dying soul.

The rich man who is mentioned in the first part of our lesson decided that to live in ease and eat, drink, and be merry was the ideal life for him, but he failed to consider some facts about life. Even if one should live several years upon earth after he chooses such a life, he should not lose sight of the fact that there are reckoning days ahead both in this life and in the life to come.

The second man valued his riches more than eternal life. It is hard for a rich person to love and trust Christ in every respect above his riches. That is the reason it is so hard for a rich person to get saved and keep an experience, but it is just as hard for one who "would be rich." Some rich people have given up all for Jesus.

Peter was not a rich man, but he had things to give up for the Lord which some people will not give up. We are sure he would sing with others who are redeemed, "I'm glad I counted the cost."

Zacchaeus valued the soul riches which Christ came to bestow more than the fleeting things of this life, and if he kept the new sense of values to death, he is now enjoying eternal wealth.