

FAITH ^{AND} VICTORY

The EVENING LIGHT WATCHMAN



Volume 17, No. 3.

Published at

Guthrie, Oklahoma

25c Per Year

October, 1946

Sea And Waves Roaring

Not the waves of the Arctic and Atlantic so wild,
But the billows sweeping o'er every sin loving child
That now constitute the raging, like thunders that
 roar,
Now sweeping the desolate banks of man's trembling
 shore.

This sea is the life of the human family forlorn,
Groaning in their travail from morning until morn:
Fulfilling the divine wrath was foretold for the race,
All because God's perverse creatures won't stay in
 their place.

The nations are in turmoil, trouble's stalking the
 earth—
No such breakers were dashing since the time of their
 birth.
And the roaring is increasing as sin runs rampant,
And the devils are now chuckling as the race they
 enchant.

The Lord has foretold us that these things surely
 would come,
But about it the nations are inexcusably dumb.
The sea and the waves roaring, men's hearts failing
 for fear—
That time, O careless mortal, can't you see it is here?

This condition was to be at the end of all things,
The wicked on every side walking—both vassals and
 kings—
Evil men and seducers waxing worse—as it be—
Until very little righteousness could any one see.

Never before were men's hearts so failing them for
 fear,
And for hanging to the things in sin's hellish career.
And never before such distress of nations was known,
By this, the very near coming of the Saviour is shown.

Perplexed are the nations, as to what they should do
To relieve the situation that's brought on such a stew.
And they are going to pieces on the rocks of distress,
So that the chaos that's coming no tounge can express.

There's only one refuge—they can have if they will—
The One who said to the frenzied billows, "Peace, be
 still."

And if they reject him, to perdition they will go,
Then just torment forever is all they'll ever know.

This human sea is raging with millions on its brink,
On the brink of perdition, now just ready to sink.
O my God, save the nations from the devil's fierce ire,
And hell's awful reward of everlasting fire!!

—J. H. Pierson

oOo

GOD'S FAMILY

Father, Mother and Children

Most religious people recognize the fact that God
is our Father, therefore we are called the "sons of
God"; but if we have a father we must also have a
mother. We read, "whole family in heaven and in
earth,"—one family, Father, Mother, and children—
"All ye are brethren."

In Gal. 4:21-31 it is written: "Tell me, ye that
desire to be under the law, do ye not hear the law?
For it is written, that Abraham had two sons, the one
by a bondmaid, the other by a free woman. But he
who was of the bondwoman was born after the flesh;
but he of the free woman was by promise. Which
things are an allegory: for these are the two cove-
nants; the one from the mount Sinai, which gendereth
to bondage, which is Agar. For this Agar is mount
Sinai in Arabia, and answereth to Jerusalem which
now is, and is in bondage with her children. But
Jerusalem which is above is free, which is the mother
of us all. For it is written, Rejoice, thou barren that
bearest not; break forth and cry, thou that travailest
not: for the desolate hath many more children than
she which hath a husband. Now we, brethren, as
Isaac was, are the children of promise. But as then
he that was born after the flesh persecuted him that
was born after the Spirit, even so it is now. Never-
theless what saith the Scripture? Cast out the bond-
woman and her son: for the son of the bondwoman
shall not be heir with the son of the free woman. So
then, brethren, we are not children of the bondwoman,
but of the free."

In the foregoing Scripture the Apostle Paul used very clear, strong, decisive argument to show the law system had come to an end. To prove it, he used an allegory. The two women, Hagar and Sarah represent the "two covenants." Hagar was an Egyptian slave, a bondwoman. She represents the first covenant, the Mosaic law, given on mount Sinai. Ishmael, her son, represented the children of Israel. They were children of the first covenant. That proves that the covenant, the first covenant, was the bondwoman and that she was the mother of the Jewish people. The Jewish people were the Old Testament church of God.

Sarah was the freewoman and represents the new covenant, for these two women, says the Apostle, "are the two covenants." That proves that the NEW COVENANT is the freewoman, "who is the mother of us all,"—all of God's children, or all Christians, every saved man and women in the New Testament dispensation, "the sons of God," yes, the second covenant children. And Isaac represents the children of the new, the second, the New Testament covenant, the church of God, children of God. This truth is a wonderful revelation, that if understood would thrill the hearts and souls of all true Christians. The two mothers represent two covenants. The first mother, Hagar, represents the law or Mosaic law system, which was a yoke of bondage. Ishmael, her son, represents the Jewish people. The second mother, Sarah the freewoman, represents the second covenant. She is the mother of us all who are born of faith and compose the NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH. She represents the law of liberty, truth and grace that makes us a free people. Isaac, her son, represents all Christians of all nations, Jews and Gentiles.

Again, Ishmael was "born after the flesh." that is, his parents were in the prime of life. His birth was natural, and a birth after the common order, or a birth after the flesh. Likewise, by natural or fleshly birth the Jews became members of the Old Testament Church.

Even today in this dispensation some denominations are trying to live under the old covenant and are trying to perpetuate the old Mosaic law government in organizing and controlling their churches (so-called). Such lack spiritual light and understanding. They do not realize that the first covenant was abrogated or abolished in, as well as by Christ when he took away the old and established the new covenant, the New Testament Church. Hence church people who try to live or adhere to the Mosaic law system are in bondage today just like the Jewish people under the first covenant. They are under a yoke of bondage.

Sarah was a freewoman. Her son, Isaac, was "by promise," that is, "born after the Spirit." His birth was a supernatural birth. Paul states that Sarah "was as good as dead," too old to bear children. Hence Isaac represents the children of the New Testament Church under the new or second covenant, for only by spiritual birth can men or women become members of the New Testament Church. Jesus taught

that in order to enter his church, "Ye must be born again." The children of the Old Testament church under the first covenant were born after the flesh. That is, when a child was born into a Jewish family, it became a member of the Old Testament church. But when Jesus came and abolished the old and established the new, a child could no longer become a member of the church of God because its parents were.

Again, "What saith the Scriptures, Cast out the bondwoman and her son; for the son of the bondwoman shall not be heir with the son of the freewoman." Just as Hagar and Ishmael were cast out of Abraham's home, so the old covenant church was also abolished, and the Jewish people and all who cling to the old Mosaic law are cast out of the Kingdom. "The kingdom was taken away from them," and given to the spiritual children of God, children of the new covenant whose spiritual Father is God, whose spiritual mother is Jerusalem which is from above, and "all ye are brethren"—"whole family in heaven and earth."

All the children of God of the new covenant are the children of the freewoman, children of the free, and the law of truth which came by Jesus Christ. The freewoman is the new covenant, the church of God, which is termed in the New Testament "Jerusalem from above." She is our spiritual mother, "The mother of us all."

The church of God is the wife of Christ." She is already married to bring fruit unto God (Rom. 7:1-4). In the morning time of this dispensation, or before the apostasy, the church was a unit. "It was not the divided mess which we see around us today of so-called churches; but a unit, "workers together with God." The different divided divisions cannot represent the Mother. We have only one spiritual Mother, and one covenant. It takes the Church of God, ONE church, and the New Covenant, ONE covenant, to constitute our spiritual Mother. The church of God, through the ministry of the Word of God, effects the salvation of souls in connecting with God through the Holy Spirit, bringing newborn babes into the family of God, the church of God, the household of God. We acknowledge no other family or church. We belong to no other church. We are born again, born of the Holy Spirit, and are legitimate children of God—freeborn. We stand free from Babylon with all its compromises and harlots (Rev. 18:2-7).

In about 1880, D. S. Warner and many other ministers and true Christians received the great light of Christian UNITY, and took their stand for the truth, all of God's Word. On this truth we stand today and invite every true minister and child of God to come out and walk in the light and truth of God. That means obedience to God instead of traditions, dogmas, and man-made ideas, rules, and dictatorship.

—Charles A. Grant.

A company of us from Guthrie, Okla. has promised, Lord willing, to help in a revival meeting east of Louin, Mississippi to begin on Sunday, Oct. 6th. Pray for this meeting.

Our Inheritance Through Christ

It is good for us as followers of Christ to really know what manner of folks we are and to often consider the inheritance which we have through the sufferings, death, and resurrection of Christ our Lord.

Many religious people make great speculations and foster many great imaginations of a fleshly nature concerning the state of man beyond the grave, but there are some very clear truths set forth in the Word of God which the Spirit can and will convey to the hearts and minds of persons in spiritual Israel, which is in the world but not of the world, that will bring joy, satisfaction, and contentment to them beyond words to express.

The inheritance we have in Christ, if fully known and understood, far exceeds all of man's fleshly imaginations, and becomes so real and sure to the enlightened child of God that he will certainly have the same persuasion which Paul had when he said, "None of these things move me." It is hardly possible for any soul to become truly settled, established, and grounded in God without going through much sufferings and afflictions. I do not mean sufferings brought about by our own faults, carelessness, or indifference to His pleasure, but sufferings that come to us because of righteous acts and firm belief in Christ, separation from the world, the just suffering for the unjust; the sufferings which comes when one lifts up Christ as being the governor and ruler over and above Satan and all of his pomp and show in the world and acting upon His own words which he spoke to his disciples just before his ascension when he said, "All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth." Look around you and see how many who profess to follow Christ are really acting like they believe his words.

To those who are really living in the Spirit, we wish to give some Scriptures that show up our full inheritance in Christ to the joy and comfort of the soul.

When Jesus was giving up his life on the cross he said, "It is finished." John 19:30. The Lamb of God had been slain, the supreme sacrifice had been made, the innocent blood had been poured out, an atonement for our sins had been wrought, God's righteous wrath had been appeased and the death penalty which hung over our heads had been paid, the debt that we owed God through manifold transgressions had been paid. God had seen the travail of His Son's soul and was satisfied with the sacrifice made. When we in godly sorrow (2 Cor. 7:10) for our sins and transgressions repent, confess and ask forgiveness, and accept the Blood of Christ as an atonement for our sins, his innocent blood as a covering, it will bring the peace from God in our souls, and put God and man together as lovers. All the sins that we have committed will never be remembered against us any more forever. Then by His grace and strength we are to walk in his steps who did no sin neither was guile found in his mouth, when

he was reviled he reviled not again, when he suffered he threatened not, but committed himself unto him who judgeth righteously. This is a part of our inheritance which we enjoy now. But the Lord also promised us something more in St. John 14 and 16:7.

When Jesus was here in the body with the disciples, he was a comfort to them, and all their hopes were in Him. He admonished them, reproved them, taught and instructed them, comforted and loved them, and by his words built up bright hopes for the future in their souls. The time had come when it was necessary for Him to go away, and he told them that he would pray the Father and He would give them another comforter "that he may abide with you forever." John 14:16. These words are recorded in the 26th verse, "But the Comforter which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you." In Luke 24:49, we read that he said, "I send the promise of my Father upon you; but tarry ye in Jerusalem until ye be endued with power from on high." In Acts 1:4 we read where they were commanded not to depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father. The second chapter of Acts tells about the coming of the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, upon the one hundred and twenty who were tarrying in the upper room and believing that God would fulfill His promise. A mighty change took place in them. With wisdom, power, and authority they went forth preaching the Word and miracles were performed and believers were added to the church daily. In this we see and know that we have received more of our inheritance through the death and resurrection of Christ.

These two promises fulfilled in Christ are very precious to us and also real in this life, but there is another promise that the Lord made to his disciples of an inheritance that is to be given at the end of the race. It, also, was purchased for us through the death, resurrection, and ascension of Christ. It is the greatest portion and means more to us than all the rest, yet without receiving these first gifts we would not be eligible to receive the third and last gift.

This promise given by the Saviour is also recorded in the fourteenth chapter of St. John. We shall give you these Scriptures and many others to prove that we can now be assured of receiving it in its fulness at the end of the race, or at the coming of the Lord, the great judgment day when every man will be rewarded according to the deeds done in the body.

If you will read and consider carefull the 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, and 17th chapters of St. John, you will notice that nearly all of the Lord's teaching was to the disciples given at a time when he was trying to prepare them to be faithful while he went away and was crucified, encouraging them to continue to believe in him in spite of what took place.

(Continued on Page 7.)

Question: On what does war continue to thrive?

Answer: On the sinfulness of the human heart.

"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.

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

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

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

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.

Alfred Jenkins, born February 21, 1886, departed this life August 16, 1946 at the age of 60 years 5 months, and 26 days. He was united in marriage to Miss Martha App December 17, 1905, to which union eight children were born, three of whom preceded him in death.

He is survived by his wife and five children, Lloyd of Loudon, Tenn., Ishmeal of Vonore, Tenn., Dillen, Kenneth and Nellie Fay of Dayton, Ohio, and many relatives and friends.

Bro. Jenkins was saved and enjoying the blessings and peace of a Christian life, bearing the fruits of righteousness in much patience during the last weeks of his illness so that all who saw it could see what God can do for those who are in trouble. His last testimony was that he was ready and anxious to go. He wanted all to go with him to meet the Lord in peace. —Bro. Ray Key

I wish to add a little to what Bro. Key has written concerning the last week of Husband's stay here on earth. I am happy in my soul to know he was ready and waiting for his call from earth to heaven. I can truthfully say he was made a new creature in Christ Jesus. Some trials he had shortly before he passed away made him get closer to his Lord and everything of the world was taken out. He manifested the sweet Spirit of Christ for weeks before his death. I want to encourage wives who have unsaved husbands to continue to pray for them and not give them up, for God will not fail those who do His will and obey the Bible. Let us also hold on to the Lord for our unsaved children. Pray for me that I may be faithful to the end of the way. —Mrs. Martha Jenkins.

Editorials

The national ministers' meeting, which is to be held here at Guthrie from the third to the tenth of November, inclusive, has attracted the attention of ministers far and near. We are looking forward to a precious, heavenly meeting. All true ministers should be present, but those ministers who have been drinking of sectish Babylon wine should humble down, confess, and clear up before expecting liberty and wholehearted fellowship with a body of Holy Spirit filled ministers. Those who have been estranged from the saints and separated for different causes can no doubt find help if they will come to the meeting with a humble, teachable spirit and not try to justify themselves in their present divided state. It is advisable for ministers who can to bring a blanket or two with them, for bedding seems to be short here at Guthrie when there are so many to care for.

o—o—o—o—o—o—o

Bro. F. E. Arch and wife from the West Indies attended the Oklahoma State campmeeting here at Guthrie then went to California where they attended the State campmeeting at Pasadena, and word has been received that at this writing he is holding a revival meeting at Pomona, Calif. By information given by some good, established ministers, we understand that he holds some things a little different from the saints here in this country, but we are praying and looking to God to cause all these things to vanish away as the ministers wait before God in prayer being filled with divine love and good-will toward all men. "The meek will he guide in judgment, the meek will He teach his way." Let us remember that every soul is precious in the sight of the Lord.

o—o—o—o—o—o—o

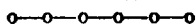
Man in his natural, carnal, sinful state is without divine love in his heart; but when he yields to God through godly sorrow and repentance and the precious, innocent blood of Christ covers his soul and he is filled with divine love he becomes a wonderfully changed man or woman.

Often people permit their lives to be controlled by affections which are not God given. There is a carnal human love and also lustful free-lovism, and saints should be very careful to prevent the enemy from deceiving them off into some love that is contrary to divine love. Carnal, human love will cause some to love the things of the world, and conform to it in different ways and manners. They will begin to put on adornments which they knew were wrong and for which they had no desire when they were filled with divine love. When carnal love begins to take the place of divine love, one will not be so careful to keep all the teachings of the New Testament. They wrest the Scriptures to justify themselves and not only become compromisers themselves, but make compromisers out of others who would be saints if they had the proper instruction. The enemy seems to have a religious spirit in the world that upholds carnal religion and makes people feel that they are

on the road to heaven in such activities. Human, carnal love and satanic, religious spirits go hand in hand; and the possessed will become much interested in pleasing the world in their dress, in a salary or pay for their services in the gospel work, forced tithing, insuring their lives (which shows their trust is in the arm of flesh rather than in God), seminaries, self, human rule and government in place of Holy Spirit government, "wooden brethren" (musical instruments) in worship, a big show of religion, prefixing "Rev." and "LL.D." to their names, receiving flattery and flattering one another. Carnal love will make a distinction in races, and manifest the sin of being a respecter of persons, loving preeminence and positions of worldly honor, and seeking the praise of men. In Col. 2:6 Paul says, "As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him." Divine love ruling in the heart will regulate human love to the will of God.

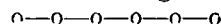
Free-lovism is another love that some ministers and others give way to and permit it to take the place of divine love in the soul. This causes them to have an inordinate affection for the opposite sex and other certain ones, and the devil has them so blinded and fooled that they think it is divine love working in them. Preachers in that state often continue to preach and imitate the working of the Spirit of God to the extent that they deceive many souls. They seem to be very zealous for the cause of God.

Religious professors who are filled with carnal love and free-lovism become the enemies of the cross of Christ and as Paul says in Phil. 3:19, "Whose end is destruction, whose God is their belly [fleshly, lustful desires] and whose glory is in their shame [Their deeds are shameful in the sight of God.], who mind earthly things." In many ways they become earthly, sensual, and devilish putting private interpretation on the Word of God, deceiving and being deceived.



We are taught in the Word of God to die out to sin, the flesh, and the world; mortify the deeds of the body (Col. 3:5) for we are not our own but have been bought with a price, not with corruptible things as silver and gold but by the precious blood of Christ: therefore we are to glorify God in our bodies and spirits which are his. Paul says, "For ye are dead and your life is hid with Christ in God." Col. 3:3 Whatever God teaches us in his Word to do, he will make us able, by his grace, to do as we yield ourselves unto him. Paul practiced this life of being dead, and said in Gal. 6:14, "But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world." In Gal. 2:20 he said, "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh, I live by the faith of the Son of God who loved me and gave himself for me." To be crucified with Christ means to be dead with him. Yes, whatever he teaches us in his Word to do is possible by his grace. Brethren, let us not become weary in well doing, for we shall reap if we faint not. Giving up

and turning to indifference and slackness will mean we are fainting. Paul said, "I have fought a good fight, I have kept the faith." We shall have to continue to keep up the fight against sin, the Devil, the world, and all fleshly lusts that war against the soul if we keep ready for the change.



Since Genevieve Capps, one of the office workers, has married and moved to Shreveport, La. to live, it leaves a vacancy in the "Lord's Print Shop." We are praying the Lord to send someone to take her place, one who is consecrated to deny self and suffer for Jesus sake. The workers that the Lord has sent to work in the Print Shop heretofore have not been promised any stipulated amount of salary, but they look to the Lord by faith to provide for their needs, and they all seem to be happy and contented with God's dealings with them. They labor day by day as unto the Lord, having a burden to get the gospel to lost souls.

I would not want to encourage any one to come here to work with the expectation of earthly gain, as one's heart ought to be set on gaining eternal profits. Some said they would follow Jesus and he gave them no encouragement in an earthly way, but said "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of man hath not where to lay his head." Luke 9:58. If the Lord talks to you about coming, write to us about it. The Lord needs one to help operate the Intertype, fold tracts, operate the presses and proof read.

—o—o—o—o—o— Meeting Reports

Dover, Okla.—To the dear saints and readers scattered abroad, greetings in Jesus' name.—We are glad to report victory in the name of our blessed Lord. The Dover campmeeting has come and gone, and is now recorded with the events of the past. The Lord was with us from the beginning to the end. There were saints and lovers of the truth from far and near in attendance at the meeting. Several ministers were present to deliver the Word, which was preached under the anointing of the Holy Spirit, which caused much rejoicing in the camp. Several who intended to come to the meeting were delayed and hindered by the death of Sister Douglas of Tulsa, Okla., but in all we believe the attendance was greater than ever before, as there was a goodly number present that had never been here until this year.

It seemed rather hard to get the unsaved to see their need of a Savior; however, two came forward for prayer. Bro. L. Williams attended to the baptismal services. The ordinances of the house of God were observed. About fifty-one happy saints participated.

Peace, harmony, and co-operation prevailed throughout the meeting from the dining room to the pulpit. Many prayers went up to the throne between services, asking God to let the Holy Spirit have His way in the midst of the people. These prayers were answered by the Lord on high, and we truly give Him all the praise. Many expressed their desire to come again when, and if, the Lord permits us to have another campmeeting in this place.

Our neighbors and friends were very kind and gener-

ous to us in helping in various ways. Some let us have bedding, springs, cots; some, melons, chickens, peas, and other commodities, and some gave of their means, for all of which we are thankful. Truly, the gates of heaven were opened again in this place and the people had an opportunity to enter in, as Jesus has said, "Behold I set before you an open door." We feel sure the ministers did their part as they stood before the people to break the bread of life. We felt sorry to see the old tabernacle taken down, leaving so many on the outside not yet prepared to meet the Lord. Our prayer is that they may yet turn before they are called to go. Pray for us that we be faithful in our Master's service.

Ulysses Phillips and Henry Caldwell

—O—O—O—O—O—O—

Langdon, Mo.—Dear Bro. Pruitt, Greetings,—We are encouraged to press the battle on and see the end of a Christian race. We believe our campmeeting was a success. Some claimed to get saved and some sanctified. Saints were made stronger and much encouraged. We had a week's meeting after campmeeting and four were saved. People seem to be interested also in small towns around and are enquiring about this way. We are having mid-week prayer meeting. More people come than have for a long time. They seem interested. We would like to have another meeting at this time. Egbert Allen.

—O—O—

ASSEMBLY MEETING NOTICE

The assembly meeting of the church of God at Hammond, La. will start Wednesday night of November 17th and run through December 8th Lord willing. We expect the Lord to send ministers who will preach the gospel under the anointing of the Holy Spirit.

—Max Williamson.

—O—O—

1947 Scripture Text Calendars

A shipment of beautiful 1947 Scripture text Calendars has just been received. Send your order early so you will be sure to get the calendars you need. They will be sent post paid to any address in the United States at thirty cents (30c) each, four for one dollar (4 for \$1.00), or twelve for three dollars (12 for \$3.00), twenty-five for six dollars (25 for \$6.00). Get ahead of the rush by sending your order now.

—O—O—

Obituaries

Mrs. Mary Rebecca (Mallie) Beebe departed this life to be with Jesus July 5, 1946, at the age of 70 yrs., 6 mos., and 15 days. She was the wife of the late Pleas Beebe, who preceded her in death in 1942.

She had accepted the church of God doctrine several years ago and during the last few months of her life she gave more diligent heed to the Word of God, and said on her deathbed that she loved the Lord. She asked the family not to give her any medicine as she wanted to go on to rest.

She leaves to mourn her departure, five children: Mrs. Beulah Carter and Clyde Beebe of Shreveport, La.; Mrs. Lona Cryer and Pleas Beebe, jr. of Texarkana, Ark.; and Mrs. Ella Mae Martin of Natchitoches, La.; also, fifteen grandchildren, eleven great-grandchildren; and a host of other relatives.

Mother lived a sweet, calm life and was an inspiration to those with whom she came in contact.

"Does Jesus care when I've said goodbye,
To the dearest on earth to me?"

When my sad heart aches till it nearly breaks,
Is it aught to Him? Does He care?"

"Oh yes, He cares, I know He cares;
His heart is touched by my grief."

Her funeral service was held at Lena Station, La. with Bro. Willie Jackson of Simpson, La. officiating, assisted by Bro. Cecil Carver of Shreveport, La. Burial was in Pineville, La. —Beulah Sneed Carter, daughter.

—O—O—O—O—O—

Sister Hattie Lee Douglas was born May 7, 1877 in Shelby County, Tenn. and departed this life August 28, 1946 at 8:45 a. m. in her home at Tulsa, Okla.

She was the daughter of John and Sophie Walker. Her parents moved to Faulkner County, Ark. in her infancy, where she spent her childhood. April 16, 1901 she was united in marriage to B. J. Douglas in the home of her parents, to which union eight children were born, five sons and three daughters. Her husband and four children preceded her in death. In the spring of 1908 she with her husband and three children moved to Boley, Okla.

At the age of sixteen she professed a hope in Christ and was united to the Missionary Baptist Church where she remained until she saw greater light. At Boley she heard the full gospel preached, which she accepted, and was saved with the saints according to the light which shines in this evening time, in 1913. In later years she was called to the ministry and was ordained in 1935 at Guthrie, Okla. She lived a true and saved life and was faithful in service until the end.

She leaves to mourn her departure three sons, Luray, Alfred, and David; one daughter, Almita Gaines; one sister, Salissa Griffin; three brothers, H. A., A. L., and S. L. Walker; three grandsons and four granddaughters; five nieces; seven nephews; and a host of relatives; saints and friends. The funeral service was conducted by Bro. Manley Spears of Okla. City. Text: Rev. 14:13. Interment: Boley Cemetery.

CARD OF THANKS

The members of the family wish to express their thanks to the saints and friends for the kind words of sympathy, florals, condolences and telegrams during the loss of our dear mother and sister, Hattie Lee Douglas.

—The family

—O—O—O—O—O—

Bro. Donald Ervin Evans was born in Pluffton, Ind. May 20, 1892. He was called from this life July 14, 1946, age 54 years, 1 month, and 24 days, after a lingering illness. In 1941 he was married to Sister Sadie L. Gatke. Surviving are his wife and two step children, Sister Lucille Elliott and Bro. Fred Gatke.

During his illness he found the Lord his Savior and when he neared the end of life he said, "It is just like going home." Only a few hours before he died, he prayed aloud even though his words were hardly distinct. The funeral service was conducted by Bro. E. A. Harmon of Glendale, Calif.

—O—O—O—O—O—

Bro. William H. Knight of the Tulsa, Okla. congregation passed away to his reward June 24, 1946. The funeral services were held July 2 at the chapel.

"The Lord remembers we are dust
And all our frailty knows;
Man's days are like the tender grass,
And as the flower he grows."

OUR INHERITANCE THROUGH CHRIST

(Continued from Page 3.)

In the first verse of the 14th chapter he said, "Let not your heart be troubled, ye believe in God, believe also in me." Jesus knew that things were going to take place that would trouble them in heart and shake their belief in him. He said, "Ye believe in God." He knew that it was easy for them to believe in God, for all the Jews did that. The Pharisees were great believers in God, but they rejected Christ; so he knew that it would be easy for them to be tempted through the trials that were ahead to drop back with the Pharisees and just believe in God after he was crucified, buried, and gone; so he said, "Believe also in me." Then to encourage them still further to be true, he gave them the promise which is to us as well as to them: "In my Father's house are many mansions." The Father's house consists of his whole family both in heaven and in earth. Paul makes it plain in Eph. 3:14, 15.

The remainder of this verse says, "If it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you." The thought on the Saviour's mind was the cross, and for that he was trying to prepare his disciples. When he went to the cross, he purchased redemption, not only for the soul, but also for these bodies in which we live which are decaying and going back to dust. In other words, he was promising the disciples if they would be faithful and continue to believe on him through the darkness and severe trials that was soon to follow, that the Father would have a mansion for them, a glorified body in which to live that would not suffer pain, affliction or decay.

In the next verse are more words of encouragement and promises: "And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also." He still had in mind that mansion, and said at his coming he would receive them unto himself.

Notice what Paul has to say about what will take place at his coming when the last trump of God shall sound. "Behold, I show you a mystery; We shall not all sleep [be dead and in the grave], but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible [this decaying body] must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality." 1 Cor. 15:51-53.

Paul says again in his letter to the Philippians (3:20, 21), that "our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ: who shall change our vile body, [According to the dictionary, "vile" means a thing of little value; a worthless thing. This clay house or tabernacle is decaying and going down and could be only termed as a dilapidated shack in comparison to our house from heaven, our mansion or glorified body, for this mansion which the Saviour promised will never suffer affliction, fade, nor decay] that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body." Just think of it, dear

brethren, when we get out of this vile body, or decaying tabernacle, we shall step into our mansion and explore all heaven with the Lord; for we shall have a body like his glorious body, for we are joint or equal heirs with Him (Rom. 8:17). He could go through the doors when they were shut, and also soar away to heaven (John 20:19; Acts 1:9).

Our clay bodies will be changed and we shall receive our glorified bodies, or mansion, at the end of the race. For this reason we are exhorted much to be faithful unto the end, because in this life we only receive an earnest of our inheritance. Jesus says that many are called, but few are chosen. Only the faithful ones will be chosen to dwell with him in a mansion, a glorified body. Jesus says again, "He that endureth unto the end, the same shall be saved" Matt. 24:13. In the first chapter of Ephesians where Paul speaks of the "Holy Spirit of Promise," he says it is the earnest of our inheritance, until the redemption of the purchased possession. What is the purchased possession? When he died on the cross he purchased us, soul, body, and spirit. His life dwelling in the soul now is just an earnest, a small portion, of what we shall have when the body is changed, redeemed from corruption into an immortal or glorified body or state. That is why we are exhorted and besought by Paul in Romans 12:1 to present our bodies as a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is our reasonable service; for he alone has power to keep this earthly body as a clean vessel for his Spirit to continue to dwell in. Paul said, "I keep under my body and bring it into subjection." 1 Cor. 9:27. He looked to the Lord for grace and help to bring it into subjection to God's will regardless of its natural desires, which would be earthly.

Paul said in the first few verses of the fifth chapter of 2 Corinthians, "For we know [It was a sure thing to him; and so it is with us who have the Spirit within us] that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved [decay or die], we have a building of God [a mansion the Father gives us], eternal in the heavens." This building will be eternal, always and forever. "For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed upon with our house which is from heaven." He continued to talk about it, then said, "Clothed upon, that mortality might be swallowed up of life. Now he that hath wrought us for the self same thing is God, who also hath given unto us the earnest of the Spirit." Now we possess the earnest of the Spirit, and by retaining that Spirit in the soul, that life from heaven, we shall inherit the glorified body, or mansion. This corruptible body inherits nothing but decay, corruption, and dust.

Now let us read 1 Cor. 15:50, "Now this I say brethren, that flesh and blood [this vile, corruptible body] cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither does corruption inherit incorruption." By this Scripture we can readily see that it will take the eternal life of God in the soul to inherit (come into possession of) that imperishable, glorified body (mansion) which the Father gives to us in heaven. Jesus said,

"Strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it." Matt. 7:14.

—Fred Pruitt

—oOo— Let Down Your Nets

"Now when he had left speaking, he said unto Simon, launch out into the deep, and let down your nets for a draught." (Luke 5:4).

When we read the above words, our minds eagerly look to the one of whom it is said, "And he arose and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, Peace, be still. And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm. And he said unto them, Why are ye so fearful? how is it that ye have no faith? And they feared exceedingly, and said one to another, What manner of man is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him" (Mark 4:39-41); to the one who walked upon the waters (Mat. 14:25, 26) of turbulent Tiberius as easily as we walk upon the earth; to the one who came and touched the bier and they that bare him stood still, "and he said, Young man, I say unto thee, Arise. And he that was dead sat up, and began to speak. And he delivered him to his mother" (Lk. 7:14, 15). Yes, we look to the one concerning whom it is recorded: "And when he had taken the five loaves and two fishes, he looked up to heaven, and blessed, and brake the loaves, and gave them to his disciples to set before them; and the two fishes divided he among them *all*. And they did all eat and were filled. And they took up twelve baskets full of the fragments, and of the fishes. And they that did eat of the loaves were about five thousand men" (Mark 6:41-44); to the one who commanded, "Then went the devils out of the man [See also Matt. 8:32] and entered into the swine: and the herd ran violently down a steep place into the lake, and were choked." A vast number of devils possessed this man—a legion. At various times in the Roman army, a legion comprised from three to six thousand foot soldiers.

The foregoing are some of the works of the beautiful Christ of the Bible, who also delegated this power to his followers (Matt. 10:1; Luke 9:1). Also in Mark 16:17, 19 he tells us, "And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; they shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick and they shall recover." Not only did Jesus do these wonderful works and empower his followers to do them, but he said, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, he that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and *greater* works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father."

The beautiful church of God is now, and has been since Christ's ascension, living in that Holy Ghost dispensation of which he spake. Oh, beloved church of God: to see thee shake off the shackles of unbelief and slavery; threatening compromise and come fully into thy own to meet the awful need of the last hours of time and to glorify the name of the Father in heaven!

God help the church to "let down her nets for a draught," for the deep things of God that are so much needed today to convince the world of righteousness and judgment to come and discriminate between the true and the false. —J. H. Pierson

—oOo— Christ's Life Within

Those who do not have the Christ Life within will never enter heaven, for it takes the life of Christ to make them what they ought to be to witness for God here upon earth. Jesus said, "I am the vine, ye are the branches: he that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing." John 15:5.

Being forgiven of our sins is just the first steps of the righteous life. All that left Egypt at the time of the Exodus never entered the land of Canaan. Many fell because of unbelief and disobedience, and perished in the wilderness, though God furnished them both food and water in a dry and thirsty land and caused their clothing not to wear out. Only two faithful souls, Joshua and Caleb, who were older than the twenty-year-old ones, were allowed to go into the land flowing with milk and honey. "For the Lord had said of them, They shall surely die in the wilderness. And there was not left a man of them, save Caleb the son of Jephunneh, and Joshua the son of Nun" Num. 26:65.

May we take this lesson to heart and remember that we must not trifle with God. We must let God have HIS way with us. Each converted soul should make a complete surrender of himself to God that Christ might have the right-of-way in his heart. This is a soul's only hope of heaven, "Christ in you, the hope of glory." Col. 1:27. One must become established in Him. God must see Christ's image in the soul before He is pleased with it. Then the soul is a joint heir with Christ. Let us read it: "The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: and if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ, if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together." Rom. 8:16, 17.

One must become established in Him. God must see Christ's image in the soul. Each saint must walk in the footsteps of Christ to be like Him, for he plainly tells us that without him we can do nothing. Without him we are none of HIS, and without HIM we shall never enter heaven.

He has come to earth to redeem us, and make us like himself that He should have a holy bride, and this bride is his blood-bought throng that will dwell with him forever. Let us give diligent heed to the Word of God that we may be one of this throng that enters heaven when this life is over. If we, the REDEEMED are true to God to death, then God will take us home to be forever with HIM in glory and we can enjoy the glories of heaven with our God, our Saviour, our King for eternity. Praise God for his wonderful love toward man. —I, Edith Kriebel

Young People's Section

HEARTS UNITED

Brooklets joining form the river,
Rivers joining form the sea;
Love uniting hearts together
Beat as one eternally.

God by law of his creation
Creates in one the happy twain;
Hand and heart they are united
As they pass adown life's stream.

See the flowers greet each other,
And the sunlight kiss the sea;
See the waves clasp one another,
Why not hearts united be? —C. E. Orr.

Editorials

Genevieve Capps, who has been a worker in the Lord's Print Shop for the past two years, was united in marriage to Arnett J. Carver of Shreveport, La. on Sunday evening, Sept. 8, 1946 in the home of the editor and workers. Bro. C. C. Carver, father of the groom, officiated at the ceremony. Besides the parents of the bride and groom, Bro. and Sister Capps of Owasso, Okla. and Bro. and Sister C. C. Carver of Shreveport, La., there was a large group of saints and friends in attendance at the wedding.

The couple are at home in Shreveport, La. where Bro. Arnett Carver is employed in the Post Office.

These young saints have been serving the Lord several years, and we pray the Lord's blessings upon this union. Sister (Capps) Carver rendered willing service to the Lord in operating the Intertype, cylinder press, and folders here at the print shop. The editor and workers join in wishing for them a happy journey together on the path of life in the service of God.

o-o-o-o-o

The devil, the enemy of all righteousness, has many snares and traps set for the young people, and especially is working hard against those who have given their hearts to the Lord and are endeavoring to serve Him.

We might notice one particular line along which the enemy is working, and then hoist some warning signs from God's Word above the treacherous shoals which have wrecked so many young lives on the voyage of life.

Marriage is an institution ordained by God. Therefore, young people, from their God-given nature and instinct, arrive at the point and place where they desire a companion and a home of their own. Saved young people must face and deal with this problem of courtship and marriage, and since it is such a solemn affair and obligation before God, it is absolutely necessary that the child of God always live in the attitude before God so that he may know the will of God or else not make a plan or move until the will

of God is known. The inexperience of youth most surely needs divine guidance on such a momentous question.

There is a dangerous tendency in youth to think they know, and then take the matter completely in their own hands, making hasty decisions without proper consideration. As a result, oftentimes after a hasty courtship and marriage, the youth awakens too late to the fact that he or she was out of the order of the Lord—a broken home and blighted lives. Many have failed on this point, yet how many more come right along and stumble at the same place with their eyes seemingly wide open. If they would speak now they would tearfully advise you to wait patiently on the Lord. In a matter of such serious consequence, the advice of older, established saints would be well worth considering.

Sometimes young women fear they may become "Old maids," and make a hasty, ill-advised choice. It would be well for such to consider the truth of the statement expressed by a Sister this way, "I would rather be an old maid than to wish that I was one."

A saved person should not marry an unsaved person. Paul says, "Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers." 2 Cor. 6:14. The apostle further advises the believing woman whose husband is dead that she is at liberty to marry whom she will "only in the Lord." 1 Cor. 7:29. In other words, she may marry only one who is saved with the Lord's approval.

Since courtship presupposes marriage, then it is wrong for a saved person to court or "keep company" with the unsaved. Many a young saint has been wrecked for a life time on this rock through the affections of a worldly lover, and many more have been trapped into eternity's night. Oftentimes a profession of salvation is made to win the heart and hand of the unsuspecting. Beware, young saints, of the company you keep, for it will surely affect the tone of your spiritual life. Seek the companionship of the spiritually minded—not the giddy or foolish.

Another danger along the way is petting and kissing before marriage. Such indulgences are common in the world of sin, but should not be practiced or sanctioned among young saints, notwithstanding the many opinions to the contrary. Only after the marriage vow does the twain become one flesh, and a "hands off" policy should be adopted until such event.

—L. D. Pruitt

o-o-o-o-o

La.—Dear Saints scattered abroad, greetings,—I want to testify about God's goodness to His people.

Not long ago, boiling hot food was spilled on my leg and foot. I thank God that he helped until it hardly blistered. After that I thought of how bad hell would be if just that hot food could burn so badly; but oh, how much worse hell will be to burn forever. I surely want to make heaven my home in the end. Thank God that

He does hear and answer our prayers. Pray for me that I will ever live in the fear and order of God.

Your sister in Christ,

Aquila Green

—oOo—
If Everyone Would

Remember and keep his or her marriage vows.
Follow after things to make for peace.

Do unto others as you would have others do to you.

Obeys Gal. 6:10, "As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith."

Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves (Phil. 2:3).

Do all things without murmurings and disputings (Phil. 2:14).

Speak kindly.

Endeavor to make burdens lighter for others.

Be godly parents and not neglect their precious jewels (children), but teach them truths of the Bible and be examples before them.

If everyone would do these things—parents, companions, loved ones, in-laws, friends, neighbors, etc.—wouldn't it be a blessing to this old sin-cursed world? Most of the troubles, sorrows, and heartaches would not exist. If you will meditate upon these things and try to fathom the full meaning, you'll see in them a remedy for almost every trouble.

God bless and help us all. —Mrs. Lowell Bowers

—oOo—

One qualification of a pastor—"Ruling well his own house. Unless a man has sufficient wisdom, authority, love, and firmness to govern and control his own children, he certainly can not be used of God to oversee the church of God." From *The Gospel Day* by C. E. Orr.

Correspondence

La.—Dear faithful ones,—I want to honor the Lord for his goodness to me. I have been having terrible pains in my back. This morning I took it to the Lord in prayer and told Him I would tell of His wonderful healing power if He would stop the pain and he touched my body and healed me instantly. He has done many wonderful things for me. I am glad I have a Savior on whom I can depend at all times to get help for soul and body.

Your sister who loves the truth, Sidonia Benjamin.

—oOo—

Nebr.—Dear saints and readers of the "Faith and Victory" paper, greetings to all in Jesus' dear name,

I feel the Lord will be pleased if I write my testimony with His help. At this time I am saved and pressing on to do God's will. I can say, "Lord, what will you have me to do?" The dear Lord has come to my rescue many a time. I do praise His name. Last winter He came in and gave me the gift of healing. The Word says all good gifts come from above. I am ready to go where His Spirit leads. I trust in Him for soul, body, and spirit. I thank the dear Saviour for His wonderful care over his own.

"And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose." (Rom. 8:28). One who is pressing on, Sister Edith McMahon, 2940 Dudley St., Lincoln, Neb.

—oOo—

Oklahoma—To all the saints scattered abroad,—This morning as I thought of all the wonderful care our Lord has for his smallest child, I was made to want to tell of His goodness to us and of how He answered prayer in our behalf. We have always felt that we should work with our hands both to support ourselves and help support the cause of God, and God always blesses our efforts; but this summer we had tests along that line and it seemed we had come to the end of the lane of our efforts financially. Husband is a builder and work in the building line had taken a reverse. Then, too, it was soon to be time for the Monark Springs campmeeting and we had to be off for that to do our part there. We had gone our limit, so I went off in secret and prayed for God to make a way. He answered in a wonderful way and made a way for us to meet our monthly obligations. It seemed the car and about everything had given out all at once, but the Lord faithfully came to our rescue in time for us to go and care for the Monark meeting. We were kept so busy with temporal affairs there that when the meeting was over we felt like we had not had much meeting, so husband felt like he should take in the Guthrie meeting. Again we were put to a test, and it was a real one; since we had always made our own way to keep from being a burden to the saints. The Bible says the workman is worthy of his hire, but we had always thought it was only our part to try to care for ourselves and help bear the expense of carrying on the gospel. The Lord let husband attend he meeting at Guthrie. Then he worked four days and our girl got her vacation and wanted us to go to California with her. We began to consider going though we couldn't see our way through. Some work had to be done on the car, then our spare wheel was stolen at the last minute. Then a car stopped in front of us and caved in the front of the car and that had to be fixed; also, our ice box went bad.

At last we started. I prayed as we left home that God would not permit us to have a flat while running, for I knew we would have to do some fast driving to make such a long trip. Again God answered prayer. We had only one flat in 4400 miles, and it was while the car was standing still. Oh, what a mighty God we serve. We started with only three good tires, expecting to get one along the way. We were a long ways on the route before we found one, but it was through prayer. Husband began to think we would not get one and I doubted if we would see them outside of a filling station, so I remarked "Let us pray about it." We hadn't gone much farther until we saw a whole truck load of tires just unloaded. The man had to check them so he could price them for us.

We arrived in California and took in part of the campmeeting there. We found the saints just as precious there as any place. Our tests were not over, but the Lord took us through them all, and the saints proved their trueness by giving us more than we deserved; but God will bless them. They never can guess how many years of service it takes for every blessing we receive, but I do love these blessings in disguise, don't you? We had a safe trip home.

Remember the congregation at Tulsa in your prayers for we want it counted for God. Some of the older ones are passing away and we trust the Lord to raise up others to take their places.

Yours for the gospel,

The Sam Bartons.

Calif.—Dear Bro. Pruitt and other saints,—Greetings in Jesus' name, who saves, sanctifies, and keeps.

I feel led of the Lord to use the "Faith and Victory" as a medium to let you dear folks know how very much we enjoyed being with you during the camp meeting, and how we appreciate your kindness and everything you did to make us happy.

We especially fell in love with the young people, and trust and pray that each one may continue to serve the Lord in the beauty of holiness, never be a friend to the world, to this compromise stuff that is so prevalent.

We solicit your prayers for the work in the Islands, and articles for the "Gospel of the Kingdom."

You will be in our memory till death. God bless you.

Yours for truth, Fossie and Gloria Arch, from B. W. I.

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

Calif.—Greetings in Jesus' name to all the saints everywhere,—I am praising Him this morning for all He is to me, for He keeps me saved and He heals when I get sick. This morning the devil tried to put upon my body much pain for awhile. I told Jesus if he would heal me I would tell to the world what a mighty God we had to heal. I pray that I will live close to Him all the time for I do love him more than all this old world.

I thank God for the blessing at the Oregon camp meeting. It was food to my soul. It was a wonderful meeting. Now I am at home and feel so all alone. I would love for any of the saints that happen to pass this way to stop and see us. All will be welcome. Pray for us. Your sister in Christ, Alta Bonner, 433 Douglas St., Petaluma, Calif.

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

Indiana—Dear Bro. Pruitt,—This week we received the September issue of "Faith and Victory." How it blesses me! I have read it several times. I certainly appreciated it coming when it did.

Thanks for praying for my mother when I sent an air mail letter requesting prayer August, 1944. She got much better and was up and around. But on December 12, 1945 we lost her. Oh, how I miss Mother.

God bless you in the Lord's work. Thelma Hawver

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

Fla.—Dear Bro. Pruitt, greetings in Jesus' dear name, I want to let you know how much I appreciate the "Faith and Victory." It is an out and out holiness publication that does not make merchandise of salvation by begging for money in every issue or wanting to sell something. I hope you keep the little paper as clean and clear of that money evil as you have in the past, and God will see that you come out more than victorious. Praise God from whom all blessings flow!

Pray for me that I hold out faithful to the end. I am almost 68 years old and got full salvation thirty years ago. Glory to Jesus. God bless you all, is my prayer. Your brother in Christ Jesus, Max Price.

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

Miss.—Greetings to all,—I am still trusting the dear Lord for both soul and body. I was not able to attend a campmeeting this year, but if I am living and the Lord is willing, I hope to meet all of you in some of the Oklahoma campmeetings. I am here living the life so the world can see I am not of the world. I have lived in Boley and Okmulgee, Okla. The dear saints were a great help to me and I am thankful for them. I am still going through. I was saved in a Boley campmeeting. I knew when I left the dear saints that I had to go deeper and higher. Bro. Ulysses Phillips was strong when I left them. I have been away from them sixteen years.

The Lord has been my shepherd and leader. I did not go with those who compromised. I just went among them to see their works and saw another babylonish sect. The Lord told me I could not go with them, and said he would knock the props from under them, which he did. No one can spot my life while I am in this holy way. I am here to show the world a holy life.

Oh, I wish I could tell how good the Lord has been to me. He healed my eyes and I haven't worn glasses for thirty years. I can read all day. I did not ask anyone to pray for Him to give me sight to read. I just waited till He got ready. It was pitiful. I went to Sunday School and could not see a letter in the Bible nor song book. I waited, and when he got ready I asked the minister to let me read. I got the Bible and opened it and read and I have been reading ever since. Sarrie Smith.

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

Tulsa, Oklahoma—Dear Brother,—Greetings in Jesus' precious name, with much love for you and family and workers. I will undertake to try to write my testimony concerning the double marriage in which I have been living over thirty years. I have begged the dear Lord to forgive me, and now I am begging the dear saints for their forgiveness or pardon. I truly thank you for your many prayers. I thank the dear Lord for delivering me out of the seat of the scornful and by his grace I mean to stay out. Yours truly, E. M. Miles

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

Michigan—Dear Bro. and Sister Pruitt and all the dear workers at that place,—I wrote to you last spring for prayer when I was having heart trouble so bad no one except some of the saints thought I could live; but God healed me. Now I work six days a week. My wife wrote to you and asked you to pray for our daughter who lived in Arkansas (She now lives in Calif.). God spared her when no one thought she could live. Please pray for me and my unsaved children. —Ray Cade.

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

Ohio—Dear saints, Greetings in the blessed name of Jesus. My whole trust is in God. I have been afflicted with arthritis in my left limb since Christmas, and have had to walk with a crutch part of the time. But about three weeks ago when I got out of bed one morning I could walk. The leader is drawn a little which causes me to walk lame, but we have God's promises to keep us encouraged. He said that they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength. He renews us both soul and body. He tells us to give our bodies a living sacrifice, and praise His dear name, he will take care of this clay temple. Our bodies are the temples where the Holy Ghost dwells.

Since I have been crippled, I have had two light hemorrhages of the lungs or stomach—I do not know which—and a bad rupture which I had when I was younger but it had never bothered much until one day when I went out in the garden to pick some beans. I had to walk on the crutch and the rupture came down in my right side nearly as large as a goose egg. I got sick and husband came out to the garden and helped me to the house. He put a cloth around me and put me in bed. I lay there three days and quoted Scriptures. The Word tells us the afflictions of the righteous are many but He will deliver out of them all. Oh, what a mighty God we serve! Husband was frightened about me and urged me to wear a bandage all the time even after I got up, but I told him that when Jesus raised Lazarus he told them to loose the napkins and let him go. So I took the bandage off and was well. The devil will try

us all. The neighbors would tell husband that he should have a doctor for me for I was bad crippled. I told him that my Physician was right with me and had done many great miracles of healing in my home and for many people far away whom I had never seen. I have received letters from people who say they have been healed of cancer, T. B., sugar diabetes, and many kinds of diseases. Praise His dear name, He is just the same today and I am determined to trust Him to the end, then He will say, "Enter into my joy prepared for the faithful."

No wonder Jesus told His followers to be as wise as serpents and harmless as doves. Sect church members come to be prayed for. They try to tell me there will be a Millennium and the righteous will be caught up and then Jesus will bring them here to reign over the wicked a thousand years. I tell them I was in Babylon once, but I thank God I am out of it and it is out of me. God wants his children to be established and to stand firm at any cost. We know Jesus is with us and we can just anchor our souls in the haven of rest.

I learned a great lesson from Bro. Pruitt and Bro. and Sister Key. It was a great help to me to see how sweet and calm the Spirit kept them in a time when they were being abused. Amanda Jones.

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

Ala.—For the glory of God I desire to give my testimony. Just recently the Lord wonderfully healed me of pleuralgia. I suffered with pain and soreness in my right lung and my breath was very short. I could hardly breathe deep enough to live it seemed. My folks wanted to call a doctor. I told them that I did not want to take any medicine or be operated on, but I would agree for the doctor to come and diagnose my case, so he did, and pronounced it a side pleurisy. I told him that I did not want any medicine. He asked me if I was a Christian Scientist. I told him that I was not, but I was a Christian and believed in divine healing and wanted God to be glorified in my healing. He talked very nice.

I wrote to my son in Missouri and to other saints at Guthrie, Okla. and sent a telegram to Bro. Pruitt for prayer. It was wonderful how soon I began to get better. In two days I could breathe deeply and easily without pain. Praise the dear Lord. I can never praise Him enough for all his goodness to me. He has healed me many times of different ailments.

About one year ago I had a bad case of rheumatism in my legs and He completely healed me. After I had been a shut-in for about two months with this affliction I had a good lesson in patience, but I enjoyed my shut-in days. I read my Bible through and did more reading beside. I know it pays to live for God and serve Him with a perfect heart. This is the greatest desire of my heart. Saints, pray for me. —Cora McMillian

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

Ore.—Dear saints of God,—Greetings in Jesus' name. I pray God's blessings on all of his saints. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all who prayed for me when my ankle was bad. I thought the bone was broken. I went to a doctor and he said it was a valve over the ankle bone closed and told me to bind it up and keep off it and be careful not to bump it, for if I got it punctured it would be an ulcer. I prayed earnestly and wrote to Faith Publishing House for prayer. That day a few of us were praying in my house and I felt the power of God go all over me. The next day I received a letter from them, and I knew I was healed. Praise God, it hasn't hurt since and I am on my feet a lot working. I give God all the praise and thank every one that offered prayer for me. God bless and reward every one. I thank

God also for saving and keeping me. I am quite isolated here and laughed at and put under by some who call themselves church of God people because I do not drink coffee and tea and do other things. I was taught those things are not right. It is very hard for me as my husband meets for worship with these people and if I go I surely get persecuted. It is hard, but God is with me and I know He will keep me. Some time ago the minister's wife told me I gagged at a gnat because I would not drink coffee. I said, "Just so I don't swallow a camel." It is like that all the time. It is hard to keep all the old time truth mingling with other people.

Your sister,

Mrs. Fannie Weaver.

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

Mich.—Dear saints,—I am glad I can testify to saving grace of God. For more than ten years I have been leaning on an experience which is not sound. I was told to believe in Jesus and I would be saved. When I said I did believe the preacher told me I was saved, so I built on this and claimed salvation. I tried to live and do right but always things would come until it seemed I could not do right. Later I received light or understanding as to what the true church of God is.

I have heard people testify of a holy life but in conversation most of them would admit they came short or they called it mistakes and being overcome by the enemy, but they said God overlooked all this. I never felt right about all this. I would hear some true saints testify how God had kept them from sin for years and how their old nature had been eradicated or taken out or wholly sanctified and the Holy Ghost had taken his abiding place within their hearts. I would want this experience also, but did not realize that I had not been born again. I am glad tonight I know I am saved from my sins and am in need of entire sanctification. I want the Holy Ghost to come within my heart so that by his power I can live a holy life.

I fear there are thousands of poor deceived souls which have had experiences of some kind but have not truly been born again. I would read how Paul and other gospel writers wrote against sin and would wonder if they had such a hard time as I did until one night God seemed to show me I was on a road of total darkness. It all seemed dark around me as though I was about to fall off a high cliff into outer darkness. I cannot explain how dark it seemed nor how I felt. I hardly slept that night and when I did doze off it seemed like I was falling into a dark pit and would wake up. It would seem I had been asleep a long time but according to the clock I could sleep only five or six minutes at a time. I spent the whole night that way and was glad when day break came. The next day I could keep busy so it would not bother me so much, but almost all day my heart was troubled. A voice seemed to say, "You are lost! You are lost! You have been deceived; you are lost." I was very tired when night came. I would tell myself, I believe in Jesus so I am saved. He died for me." I tried to search out my heart and would excuse some things. I now realize that one can not search his own heart when he is not saved, for God says that the heart is deceitful above all things and desperately wicked, who can know it? (Jer. 17:9).

I was in this horrible condition for about a week. The above Scripture came to me a few nights after I wrote to you. I got my Bible and looked up the text, and, thank God, I read on down. Verse ten says, "I the Lord search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways and according to the fruit of his doing."

I cried like a child and said, "Lord, forgive me of my mistake. I now see that my own heart searching is as nothing. Now, Lord, you search my heart. You try the reins." How thankful I am that I let God search my heart. When He searched it, he broke me up. Isaiah 55:6, 7 came to me, "Seek ye the Lord while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near; Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts, and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him." I knew by that that I could believe in Jesus from now until the judgment day and still be lost, for we must forsake our ways and doings and turn to God with all our hearts, then we can look to the Lamb of God who takes away our sins. Glory to God!

I want to thank you for praying for me.

As I think of others who may think they are truly saved, but are deceived it makes my heart cry within me. They may understand what the church is and have much light and still be lost. Oh, how terrible it is!

Please pray that I may be wholly sanctified.

Bro. Gerrit Joostberns.

UNITY

Romans 12:5, "So we, being many are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another." If we truly are following Christ as we should, we are all members of his body and should have perfect harmony and understanding on the Word. If one body, we must be able to get along here in this world if we ever expect to get to our eternal home; for there will be perfect unity there, and this world is our dressing room. We must have unity here before we are prepared to die.

How is unity obtained? 2 Cor. 13:11, "Finally, brethren, farewell. Be perfect, be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace; and the God of love and peace shall be with you." First, we must follow Christ; which, if done diligently, will bring unity. Then love for and confidence in the saints will naturally help our unity to grow. As a general rule, a cat and dog do not have much unity because of their different natures or characteristics; but many loving masters have taught a cat and dog to eat together. With human souls, our loving Master can take the one with a lion nature and destroy the lion nature and give him a divine nature; then he will have rest and unity with lambs.

Do we want greater unity? If so, let us follow closer to Christ in all things. When we have aught against our brother, let us first pray, then go to him in love and have a heart to heart talk with him before telling anyone else. This will clear up most matters; but if not, the Word teaches us what step to take next.

What are the effects or fruits of unity? Acts 4: 24, 31, "And when they heard that, they lifted up their voices to God with one accord. . . . And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together." This shows that when the saints were in perfect agreement, they had power with God through prayer, and He manifested it to all. If our prayers are not being answered, a lack of unity of agreement may be hindering.

Acts 2:46-47, "And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, . . . and the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved." If we want our meeting to be on fire and souls added to the church, we must have that unity which the early church had.

What happens when we do not have unity? Rev. 2:4, "Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love." When we fail to have the unity God intended us to have, we shall not have power with Him in prayer. Our souls will not prosper as they should, and our meetings will become dead and formal to the point that only a few of the more spiritual ones will take part in the prayers and testimonies. He that hath ears to hear let him hear, or God will remove our candlestick. —Carl M. Busch

FOR US

"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. And Jesus said unto him, Forbid him not: for he that is not against us is for us." Luke 9:49, 50.

Surely one can see with a fair and candid look that Jesus was never exacting, binding, or technical in His teachings. While the expression, For us, means much, it is, like all of Christ's teachings, beautiful for its simplicity. Jesus would have us understand, as He intended John to understand, that to follow Him and receive His recognition did not necessitate following any man or set of men; but to be *for him* meant to not be knowingly out of harmony with any of His principles of righteousness and having at heart a readiness of mind to comply with any of His will that might be revealed, farther on. His will put one in a position to be acceptable with and used of God whether he ever saw another saint or congregation of saints or not. On the other hand, to follow another person or association of persons for a license to do business for the Lord is to lay souls liable to deep-seated deception. Some of the rankest deceptions (Matt. 23:3) in their literature put out some of the best looking "pieces" (as I heard a soul say who was following a compromise movement) designed of Satan for a bait. The writer is well acquainted with a once-great movement that was of God, which is now a most shameful compromise (Gal. 2:18) wielding a great and world-wide influence, going right on putting out many "good pieces" (in themselves) as when the movement was of God. *Such is a snare of Satan*, a bait to catch the unwary. If it is tampered with, it is appalling how many souls such good pieces from a bad source will sweep from their Christly moorings, and even has already so done. Such following today Christ would be far from saying is "for us." But He would surely say, "He that is not with me is against me; and he that gathereth not with me scattereth abroad (Matt. 12:30).

—J. H. Pierson

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

BIBLE STUDY

Order Sunday School supplies about two weeks before the beginning of new quarter. The price of the Primary Picture Roll is \$1.15. and the Lesson Cards are 4 cents per set. Each set contains cards for one pupil for each Sunday in the quarter. These sets cannot be broken. Send order to Faith Publishing House, 920 W. Mansur, Guthrie, Oklahoma.

PAUL'S BACKGROUND AND EARLY LIFE

Sunday, October 6, 1946

Printed Portion Acts 21:39; 22:3, 27, 28; 26:4, 5; Philippians 3:5, 6.

Acts 21:39. But Paul said, I am a man which am a Jew of Tarsus, a city in Cilicia, a citizen of no mean city: and, I beseech thee, suffer me to speak unto the people.

22:3. I am verily a man which am a Jew, born in Tarsus, a city in Cilicia, yet brought up in this city at the feet of Gamaliel, and taught according to the perfect manner of the law of the fathers, and was zealous toward God, as ye all are this day.

27. Then the chief captain came, and said unto him. Tell me, art thou a Roman? He said, Yea.

28. And the chief captain answered, With a great sum obtained I this freedom. And Paul said, But I was free-born.

26:4. My manner of life from my youth, which was at the first among mine own nation at Jerusalem, know all the Jews;

5. Which knew me from the beginning, if they would testify, that after the most straitest sect of our religion I lived a Pharisee.

Phil. 3:5. Circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, an Hebrew of the Hebrews; as touching the law, a Pharisee;

6. Concerning zeal, persecuting the church; touching the righteousness which is in the law, blameless.

Golden Text: Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth. Ecclesiastes 12:1.

Practical Truth: Good training is helpful to a child in many ways, but salvation can only be obtained by a personal choice.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

It is not the purpose of the Bible to give the world a biography of any man or group of men, hence we know very little about the early life of Paul, and even less about the early lives of some of the other apostles.

When Paul desired to testify concerning the change which Christ had wrought in his life, he briefly referred to his former life. Today's lesson is composed mostly of these references.

Verse 39 is Paul's introduction of himself as he addressed the Roman captain who had rescued him from the angry mob which had dragged him out of the temple at Jerusalem with the intent to kill him.

If you have a map of the old country find Tarsus of Cilicia in the southeastern corner of Asia Minor. Though Paul was a Jew he was born in this Roman province and

was a Roman citizen which permitted him to have greater privileges than the Jews of Palestine who had been brought under the Roman yoke.

Saul was his Jewish name; Paul was his Roman name.

Paul was a son of a Pharisee (which was the strictest law-keeping sect); he sat at the feet of one of the most learned and influential teachers of his day; he was sincere in his belief and devoted to the outward rites and ceremonies of his religion; was "blameless" in conformity to the law; and was an ideal Jew, honored and respected by his countrymen. If any one could gain a right to heaven by works, surely Paul could have for he unhesitatingly laid claim to more grounds for boasting than any other Jew. But, thank God, there came a day in Paul's life when he learned that one did not inherit salvation by a natural birth, neither obtain it by training, culture, sincerity of aim, or good works, but "By grace are ye saved through faith and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God: not of works lest any man should boast." The poet expressed it thus: "For nothing good have I whereby thy grace to claim, I'll wash my garments white in the blood of Calvary's Lamb."

May those who study Paul's life profit by the lessons he learned:

1. That one cannot inherit salvation of the soul from parents.
2. That one can be a star student in the best seminaries and colleges in the world and still have no knowledge of the righteousness which is of God by faith.
3. That one can submit to all the ordinances named in the Bible—baptism, Lord's Supper, etc.—and his heart still be void of the grace of God.
4. That one can have a great head knowledge of the Bible and be zealous to defend it, yet not have the peace of God ruling in his heart.
5. That one can be a member in good standing of the strictest sect in existence and yet not be in favor with God.
6. That one can diligently work to promulgate what he thinks is God's cause and still be wrong and an enemy of the cross of Christ.

—oOo—

PAUL MAKES A NEW START

Sunday, October 13, 1946

Printed Portion Acts 26:9-18; 1 Cor. 15:8-10.

Acts 26:9. I verily thought with myself, that I ought to do many things contrary to the name of Jesus of Nazareth.

10. Which thing I also did in Jerusalem: and many of the saints did I shut up in prison, having received authority from the chief priests; and when they were put to death, I gave my voice against them.

11. And I punished them oft in every synagogue, and compelled them to blaspheme; and being exceedingly mad against them, I persecuted them even unto strange cities.

12. Whereupon as I went to Damascus with authority and commission from the chief priests,

13. At midday, O king, I saw in the way a light from heaven, above the brightness of the sun, shining round about me and them which journeyed with me.

14. And when we were all fallen to the earth, I heard a voice speaking unto me, and saying in the Hebrew tongue, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me? it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks.

15. And I said, Who are thou, Lord? And he said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest.

16. But rise, and stand upon thy feet: for I have appeared unto thee for this purpose, to make thee a minister and a witness both of these things which thou hast seen, and of those things in the which I will appear unto thee;

17. Delivering thee from the people, and from the Gentiles, unto whom now I send thee,

18. To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me.

1 Cor. 15:8. And last of all he was seen of me also, as of one born out of due time.

9. For I am the least of the apostles, that am not meet to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God.

10. But by the grace of God I am what I am: and his grace which was bestowed upon me was not in vain; but I labored more abundantly than they all: yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me.

Golden Text: This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. 1 Tim. 1:15.

Practical Truth: There is power in the grace of God to change a person and make a new creature out of him.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Before Paul was saved he "thought with himself," and those thoughts which were contrary to the thoughts of the Lord, caused him to walk in his own way which was contrary to God's way. But when he met Christ he gave up his own thoughts and testified, "We [Christians] have the mind of Christ." He had learned that "the carnal mind is enmity against God." The change in his mind made a change in his actions. It works the same with others. Too many are claiming to belong to the Lord whose carnal minds cause them to "think with themselves," and act as they choose. This is the cause for the divided condition of the religious world. The Lord does not give his people a right to their own thoughts and opinions about Him and his Word.

When Paul followed the dictates of his carnal mind he was one to fulfill Jesus' prophecy, "The time cometh that whosoever killeth you will think that he doeth God service." Verse 11 describes his persecutions against the saints as being so severe that some recanted. Is it any wonder that the Lord permitted him to undergo such great suffering after he was saved?

Perhaps most sinners are not so "exceedingly mad" against the saints as Paul was, yet nearly all persecute them in some manner, though they may not even be aware of the fact that their actions are making the cross heavier for the saints.

Paul's experiences with the Lord did not stop at conversion. The Lord said he would make him a witness of the things which he had seen—the miraculous conversion on the road to Damascus—and "of those things in the which I will appear unto thee." Many people seem to think that personal experiences with the Lord ends with conversion. Something is wrong if one does not continue to have experiences with the Lord. Conversion starts the stream of peace and joy flowing, but the stream should widen and become deeper as time goes on.

Meditate much on verse 18. Does it have a special significance to you? Notice in it the teaching of two works of grace.

From this lesson let us learn that we cannot safely follow our thoughts unless they are directed by the Spirit and Word of God. Can you think of others besides Paul who went wrong by doing what they thought was right? Divine grace can change the worst of sinners. God hears and answers the prayers of his people. We

can be quite sure that in obedience to Matt. 5:44 many prayers had ascended to God from his children in behalf of Paul their persecutor. Nothing transpiring on earth can be hid from the eyes of the Lord. One cannot be a true messenger of the Lord unless he gets his message directly from Him, and when He chooses a messenger, He gives him a message. The purpose for which Christ sends his ministers and witnesses out is to turn souls from sin to salvation—from darkness to light.

—oOo—

PAUL TRAINS FOR HIS LIFE WORK

Sunday, October 20, 1946

Printed Portion . . . Acts 9:19b-22; 11:25, 26; Gal. 1:17-24

Acts 9:19b. Then was Saul certain days with the disciples which were at Damascus.

20. And straightway he preached Christ in the synagogues, that he is the Son of God.

21. But all that heard him were amazed, and said; Is not this he that destroyed them which called on this name in Jerusalem, and came hither for that intent, that he might bring them bound unto the chief priests?

22. But Saul increased the more in strength, and confounded the Jews which dwelt at Damascus, proving that this is very Christ.

11:25. Then departed Barnabas to Tarsus, for to seek Saul:

26. And when he had found him, he brought him unto Antioch. And it came to pass, that a whole year they assembled themselves with the church, and taught much people. And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch.

Gal. 1:17. Neither went I up to Jerusalem to them which were apostles before me; but I went into Arabia, and returned again unto Damascus.

18. Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to see Peter, and abode with him fifteen days.

19. But other of the apostles saw I none, save James the Lord's brother.

20. Now the things which I write unto you, behold, before God, I lie not.

21. Afterward I came into the regions of Syria and Cilicia;

22. And was unknown by face unto the churches of Judaea which were in Christ:

23. But they had heard only, That he which persecuted us in times past now preacheth the faith which once he destroyed.

24. And they glorified God in me.

Golden Text: Straightway he preached Christ in the synagogues, that he is the Son of God. Acts 9:20.

Practical Truth: Those who have received Christ should witness for him.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Last Sunday we had a confession from the lips of Paul how he had persecuted the saints of God and the wonderful vision of how he met Jesus face to face and at the same time received the call to be an apostle of the Lord to carry the message of salvation to the Gentiles. Today we find that he went immediately to the work God had given him to do, not conferring with flesh and blood because he had come into personal contact with Jesus and was anointed and ready to go. It is true he had been taught in the school of Gamaliel, had many things in the flesh whereof he could boast; but when he found Christ he counted all else but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Him. He counted not himself

to have apprehended, but was determined to forget those things and press on to the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus, determined to know nothing but Jesus Christ and Him crucified. He declared that his speech and preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and power of God. The natural man cannot receive or know spiritual things because they can only be discerned by the Spirit, and that Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God. This is why saints are so foolish in the eyes of the world. They can never understand what pleasure we get in life when we are so separate from the things of the world. But there are pleasures, joy, happiness, and peace in our souls this world knows nothing about—glory to God! He reveals unto us mysteries that human words cannot express and these things are rich to our hearts. The preaching of the cross is to the world foolishness, but to us which are saved it is the power of God. He saith, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise and bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent." The world by wisdom knew not God. Then Paul declared that the foolishness of God is wiser than men and His weakness is stronger than men. Read 1 Cor. 1:17-31; 2:1-16.

The kingdom of God is not in word but in power. Peter was unlearned, yet look how God used him after he was sanctified (baptized with the Holy Ghost). This proves that God does choose the foolish things of earth to confound the wise. Acts 1:8 says, "Ye shall receive power after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you."

Jesus said the Holy Spirit would be our teacher (Jno. 14:26). Verse 17 says that He is the Spirit of truth whom the world cannot receive because it seeth Him not neither knoweth Him. Without this great Teacher, we are miserable failures in this life and especially so in the ministry even though we hold all the degrees possible for us to obtain in the schools and theological seminaries.

Bessie Metcalf

— o o o —

PAUL'S WIDENING FIELD OF SERVICE

Sunday, October 27, 1946

Printed Portion Acts 13:1-5; 13, 14, 44-46, 48, 49;
Acts 14:26, 27.

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

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

3. And when they had fasted and prayed, and laid their hands on them, they sent them away.

4. So they, being sent forth by the Holy Ghost, departed unto Seleucia; and from thence they sailed to Cyprus.

5. And when they were at Salamis, they preached the word of God in the synagogues of the Jews: and they had also John to their minister.

13. Now when Paul and his company loosed from Paphos, they came to Perga in Pamphylia: and John departing from them returned to Jerusalem.

14. But when they departed from Perga, they came to Antioch in Pisidia, and went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and sat down.

44. And the next sabbath day came almost the whole city together to hear the word of God.

45. But when the Jews saw the multitudes, they were filled with envy, and spake against those things which were spoken by Paul, contradicting and blaspheming.

46. Then Paul and Barnabas waxed bold, and said, It was necessary that the word of God should first have been spoken to you: but seeing ye put it from you, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, lo, we turn to the Gentiles.

48. And when the Gentiles heard this, they were glad, and glorified the word of the Lord: and as many as were ordained to eternal life believed.

49. And the word of the Lord was published throughout all the region.

14:26. And thence sailed to Antioch, from whence they had been recommended to the grace of God for the work which they fulfilled.

27. And when they were come, and had gathered the church together, they rehearsed all that God had done with them, and how he had opened the door of faith unto the Gentiles.

Golden Text: It pleased God . . . to reveal his Son in me, that I might preach him among the heathen. Gal. 1:15, 16.

Practical Truth: Planting the gospel in new fields is difficult work, but it is part of God's plan.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

The Spirit of Christ is a missionary Spirit. When Paul first got saved he was imbued with this Spirit. He had met Jesus face to face and received from Him the commission to carry the good news of salvation to all nations of the earth. Paul caught the vision. Jews and Gentiles, learned and unlearned, rich and poor—all people must hear the gospel message, and Paul felt indebted to carry it to them. We feel greatly impressed when we think of the passion which possessed these early pioneers of the church of God. It got hold of them when they received the Holy Ghost at the city of Jerusalem. They were faced with hard and discouraging situations. Things which would have defeated men and women of less faith and courage, even though they had to undergo hardships and deprivations yet they did not murmur or complain. The consciousness of a mission possessed them; the urgency of the message God had given inspired them. Paul burned with a passion to get the truth to the nations and consumed with a zeal to carry it at any cost and the price of any personal hardship or sacrifice. He felt deep down in his heart that he just must get to people with this message. When in prison in bonds he wrote letters to them. Then he was not satisfied only to get it to them but he felt he must get results. They must believe and accept the truth. Paul was so sure, so positive of his message that it was God-ordained and heaven-sent that nothing else mattered. He put his very life into it and loved it not unto death. The urgency of the message burned within him like fire.

D. S. Warner and others felt the same and made a great sacrifice to gather God's people together into one fold. This was the great essential of Christian doctrine in his day. He never lost an opportunity to press the need home to the people. If it is just a good message, yet one that could be omitted, people will never be brought to action. We must burn with a passion to preach it, then to bring them to make the decision to accept it.

Then, dear saints, let us remember it takes the same Spirit that Paul possessed to reach the people today and bring them to the truth. Amen. —Bessie Metcalf.