

FAITH^{AND}VICTORY

The EVENING LIGHT WATCHMAN



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There Always Will Be God

They cannot shell His Temple,
Nor dynamite His Throne;
They cannot bomb His City,
Nor rob Him of his own.

They cannot take Him captive,
Nor strike Him deaf and blind,
Nor starve Him to surrender,
Nor make Him change His mind.

They cannot cause Him panic
Nor cut off His supplies,
They cannot take His Kingdom,
Nor hurt Him with their lies.

Though all the world be shattered,
His truth remains the same,
His righteousness still potent,
And Father still His Name.

Though we face war and struggle,
And feel their goad and rod,
We know above confusion:
There always will be GOD.

—Albert L. Murray

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Some of the Effects of Sin

One could write a book of a thousand pages on the subject of the effects of sin, and yet not exhaust the same. We shall not attempt at this time to cover so much of the territory that this subject occupies; but we just want to turn the search light of God's eternal truth upon some of the high spots (if we would be permitted to call them high. There is really nothing high about sin. Sin in all its forms and effects is low and degrading.) here and there, that we may more clearly see what an enemy sin is to the human race.

Ezek 18:3, 4 has this to say on the matter, "As I live, saith the Lord God, ye shall not have occasion any more to use this proverb in Israel. Behold, all souls are mine; as the soul of the father, so also the soul of the son is mine: the soul that sinneth, it shall die." The proverb referred to above is one that had been used among the children of Israel: "The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge." But God has said, "The soul that sinneth it shall die." Each individual is responsible to God for himself. We cannot lay the blame on others; each one must give an account of himself to God. The soul that sinneth, it shall die. Death means separation. Sin has separated the soul from God. There is no more sweet communion, no sweet fellowship; but a sense of guilt and condemnation, and God will not answer his prayers any more except he repents and comes back to God. Isa. 59:1, 2 says, "Behold, the Lord's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it can not hear: But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear." Man is unable to comprehend what an awful deplorable predicament a soul is in that is separated from God, the divine Father, on account of its sins. Sin has blighted the entire human family, and has brought suffering, shame, disgrace, despondency, sorrow, and death. The Word of the Lord tells us in Romans 5:12, "Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned." All are under the sentence of death, for all have sinned. This does not mean physical or natural death only; but also spiritual death. There are many seemingly strong and robust men and women who are the picture of health, from a physical point of view, who are dead in trespasses and in sin. Paul tells us in Tim. 5:6, "But she that liveth in pleasure is dead while she liveth." Oh, how many pleasure-loving and pleasure-seeking souls today are in their spiritual graves! lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God. Hear the voice of inspiration, "Wherefore he

saith, Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light." Eph. 5:14.

The sin of lust and adultery have broken many homes, separated husbands and wives, scattered innocent children to the four winds, so to speak, and is filling the world with disgrace and shame. Don't forget Sodom and Gomorrah, and don't forget that "God is not mocked; for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to the flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting." Gal. 6:7, 8.

Death is taking its toll through the channel of hatred and strife, drunkenness, murders, and so on; also the penitentiaries and houses of correction have been, and are being filled with the victims of sin.

Prov. 14:34 reveals to us the fact that "Righteousness exalts a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people." Regardless of their social standing or position in life, people who love sin do not love God. John tells us that if any man love the world the love of God is not in him. It is a sad thing to see people professing to be followers of the meek and lowly Lamb who are still living in sin, some actually pleading for the God-dishonoring thing. Jesus taught in his doctrine: "No man can serve two masters." God and the devil never were in partnership, and no man can serve God and the devil at the same time.

Sin is the most destructive element that ever struck this world. It is worse than any cyclone that ever passed through the land, worse than any earthquake, flood, or any of the other natural elements. It destroys hope, happiness, peace, life, and limb, sends thousands to untimely graves, fills hearts with sorrow, grief, and pain, and will finally bar many, many out of heaven. Would you flee from sin? It is not your friend, but an enemy —Ulysses Phillips

How We Ought to Behave Ourselves

Paul, in the third chapter of his first epistle to Timothy, said, "These things write I unto thee hoping to come unto thee shortly, but if I tarry long that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth."

Dear saints, we need much wisdom to know how to behave ourselves, and so much depends upon our behavior. The church will be a success or failure according to our behavior. If our behavior is as becometh saints, then our work is bound to prosper. How much we all need wisdom, and then more wisdom; like St. James recorded in the third chapter and the 17 and 18th verses, "But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, easy to be entreated, full of mercy and good fruits, and without partiality and without hypocrisy." 18th verse, "And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace of them that make peace." These are good wholesome instructions, which, if we will follow, will save ourselves and others much trouble. Even the right thing said or done at the wrong time is

not good; but the right thing spoken or done at the right time will always work good. Proverbs 25:11 is very good: "A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver." The following verse says, "As an earring of gold and an ornament of fine gold, so is a wise reprovcr upon an obedient ear." Yes, dear saints, we need much wisdom to know how to behave ourselves wisely in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth. When we fail to behave ourselves as becometh saints, then we misrepresent our loving Lord who gave us such wonderful examples of the very best behavior. When his enemies spared no means to heap insults on Him, He said, "Father, forgive them for they know not what they do." He left an example that we should follow in his steps.

When King Saul had plans to kill David, it is said that David behaved himself wisely inasmuch that Saul was afraid of him.

Oh, God, help all of us to behave ourselves very wisely so that our enemies will be afraid of us. Dear saints, if we will do this, I am sure that the work which the Lord gave us to do will prosper, and souls will be saved, backsliders will be reclaimed, and the 20th verse of Jude will be fulfilling itself in us who are saints: "But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost," and a few more verses we read, "Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life, and of some have compassion, making a difference, and others save with fear pulling them out of the fire, hating even the garment spotted by the flesh. Now unto Him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy."

Now in conclusion I want to say that I know of no way that we could misbehave ourselves more than just to do nothing. The harvest is great but the laborers are few. Your happy blood-washed brother who is much burdened for the work the Lord has entrusted to us, —Geo. W. Stephenson, Cartersburg, Indiana.

Endeavor to Keep Unity And Oneness

The apostle Paul exhorts the brethren to "walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called, with all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love: endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."

This exhortation was no doubt needed in Paul's time, but how much more is it needed in these later days when it seems that the devil is working over time to divide and sub-divide the children of God and cause the church to show weakness and the lack of oneness for which Jesus prayed, and said, "That they all may be one: as thou Father art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me." John 17:21.

It seems that Satan is enticing many to work for their selfish interests to the extent that they fail to "endeavor to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace," and they sow discord in one way and another and grieve saints and cause division and the loss of many souls.

In Proverbs the sixth chapter we read these words: "These six things doth the Lord hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto him: A proud look, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, an heart that deviseth wicked imaginations, feet that be swift in running to mischief, a false witness that speaketh lies, and he that soweth discord among brethren." You will notice in the beginning he singles out the seventh one and says, it is an abomination to Him. The seventh one is sowing discord among brethren.

If all saints would resist the devil and continue to live according to the word which reads, "With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love: endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace," Satan would have very little chance to make division and grieve the members of Christ's body. When any one gets to the place where he (or she) has very little care for the other members of the body unless it will further their selfish interests, it will be easy for that one to sow discord and try to justify themselves in doing so.

Saints sometimes have to do some things that naturally they do not like to do, but in order to fulfill the will of God and for the good of the church in a general sense, it must be done. Paul (Phil. 3:17) says, "Brethren, be followers together of me, and mark them so as ye have us for an example. (For many walk of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ: Whose end is destruction, whose god is their belly and whose glory is in their shame, who mind earthly things.)"

It was not a pleasant thing for Paul to think and write of any one in this manner, but he had the cause of the church and oneness of God's people at heart and it was needful for him to do so for the general good and preservation of precious souls. In recent years a minister in California got out of divine order and was sowing much discord among brethren, and the churches and the ministry had the unpleasant task of dealing with the man. They held him to confess and clear up before he would be given liberty and fellowship. When he came to Oklahoma the saints held him as wrong because he was wrong in his home state. If he would clear up there, he would be cleared here. Howbeit, some held to him and afterwards saw their wrong and asked forgiveness of the saints in repentance while others were shaken out with him. By the longsuffering and steadfastness of the true saints in this matter, it has worked out for good, and we enjoy oneness, quietness, and peace.

In these last days God is not only shaking earthly things, but is also shaking heavenly things, and only those things that cannot be shaken out will remain in that kingdom that cannot be moved. You will

read about this in the last part of the 12th chapter of Hebrews. The reason why so many little bunches are off to themselves is because this shaking is going on and some are being shaken out, but still call themselves by his name. They eat their own bread and wear their own clothes, but want his name to take away their reproach. Isaiah 4:1.

In order to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace it is needful for all true ministers to work together. When a minister is out of harmony in his own congregation he should not be encouraged and fellowshipped in other congregations until he clears up at home. If a minister is not working in harmony with the saints in Louisiana, he should not be encouraged, fellowshipped, and given liberty in California or other states, lest someone be found guilty before God of sowing discord among brethren and among the churches.

The campmeetings of the summer will soon be in progress, and those whom God has placed in authority in the different campmeetings will have to be on their guard and armed with the love and power of God to keep the pulpits clear of impostors and discord sowers that salvation work may go on unhindered and the oneness of God's people may be seen and known. A big show of salvation work will amount to nothing if it is not in harmony with God and his working body in the world. The sects that are cold and dead oftentimes work up a big show of salvation with many converts. Let us not be carried away with outward show and fleshly demonstration, but walk and teach so fully in harmony with God that his Spirit will draw souls unto himself and their deliverance will be true and lasting.

—Fred Pruitt

Ore.—Please read this notice in connection with the Jefferson, Ore. campmeeting notice on page seven.

The saints here bought a number of bed springs. These springs and straw will be free on the ground. Our home and Bro. Stubb's home is near the chapel and dining hall. We try to have rooms for the more aged saints where quite a few can sleep. We saints have three small tents and any more needed can be rented for \$3.00. Any who desire a tent should write us. Meals will be served in the dining hall supported by free-will offerings. All who can bring straw ticks, blankets, and pillows. Come, all who can. Pray for us and the work of God. Yours in the fight of faith.

Sam Wilson

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Opportunity

As along life's pathway you carelessly go,
Do you ever think of Jesus who loves you so?
He died that your sins with His blood he could blot,
And you go on carelessly, heeding Him not.

He's calling you, sinner, oh, do not delay.
Get treasures in Heaven—they do not decay.
Be faithful to Him, oh, trust Him always.
Yes, you can find joys in Him today.

—Betty White.

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

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

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An exclusive, full gospel paper printed and sent out in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ in the interest of all Christians, which body of believers constitute the one and only true Church of God.

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.

This publication teaches salvation from all sin, sanctification for believers, unity and oneness for which Jesus prayed as recorded in John 17:21 and manifested by the apostles and believers after Pentecost. By God's grace we teach, preach, and practice the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ, the same gospel which Peter, John, and Paul preached, taught, and practiced; including the divine healing of the body. James 5:14, 15.

Through the Free Literature Fund thousands of gospel tracts are published and sent out free of charge as the Lord supplies. Cooperation of our readers is solicited, and will be appreciated in any way the Bible and the Holy Spirit teaches you to do or stirs your heart. "Freely ye have received, freely give." Read Exodus 24:2; 1 Chron. 29:9; 2 Cor. 9:7; and Luke 6:38.

Free-will offerings sent in to the work will be thankfully received as from the Lord and used in the furtherance of the gospel work as God directs unless otherwise specified. All personal checks and Post Office Money Orders should be made payable to Fred Pruitt, or to

FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE
920 W. Mansur Ave., Guthrie, Oklahoma

The chapel where the church of God meets in Guthrie, Okla. is located on the corner of 6th St. and W. Warner Ave. Regular Sunday services are: Sunday School, 9:30 a. m.; preaching services, 11 a. m.; night services, 7:30 p. m.; Mid-week prayer meeting Wednesday, 7:30 p. m.; Bible Study Friday, 7:30 p. m.

A NEW BOOK

"Golden Rays" a new book composed of a collection of Bro. Phillips' writings is just off the press. One hundred pages; paper bound; price 25c post paid. Order from Ulysses Phillips, Dover, Okla., or from Faith Pub House.

Editorials

The printing of the gospel at the Lord's Print Shop is progressing nicely and the tracts, papers, and booklets are going out to all parts of the world in a steady stream and much good is being done. Souls are getting saved, others cleared up from division and strife, and the saints are greatly edified and built up in God.

The office force is very busy and will be until the first of July, as we are endeavoring to get the work in shape so the workers can be free to attend the campmeetings this summer. As most of our readers know, we do not put out a *Faith and Victory* paper in August. There will be no printing done at the print shop until after our campmeeting here at Guthrie closes on the tenth of August. We shall print and send out the Sunday School lessons or Bible Study for August, but no *Faith and Victory* paper. The rolls of "Bible Study" lessons will be sent to all who have subscribed for them. Those who are not getting a roll of papers for Sunday Schools will need to let us know if you want the "Bible Study" lessons for Aug.

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Wife and I and part of the office workers made a trip to northwest Kansas, June 6th, to visit Bro. and Sister Koehler. We took tracts and papers along and threw them out to folks along the way and scattered the gospel by the printed page to many precious souls, both going and coming. On our way up there we stayed all night at Dodge City, Kans. with wife's brother and his wife, and had a very pleasant visit with them. They seemed to be interested in the things of God.

We enjoyed ourselves at Brother Koehler's, and they seemed to be much encouraged by our coming, as they are isolated and do not get to be with the saints very much. On Sunday morning we all went over to McDonald, Kansas and had Sunday School and preaching service. The Lord blessed in a very precious manner and heaven filled the room and overflowed from our hearts. Bro. and Sister Koehler are standing firm for the truth, and are not shaken by the powers of darkness that surround them.

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A car load of us from the office usually attend the campmeeting at Hammond, La. This year we feel impressed of the Lord to be in the campmeeting at Kalamazoo, Mich. and since the two meetings overlap, we shall not be able to get to the Hammond meeting. But a car load of us are expecting to make the trip to the Kalamazoo meeting, then back to the Monark Springs campmeeting in Missouri. We are expecting the Lord to bless very much in the campmeetings this summer and that many precious souls will be saved, believers sanctified, bodies healed and the saints edified and strengthened in the Lord.

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For a number of years the Lord has been giving us messages to speak from the pulpit and to print in the paper of the coming persecutions from the Pagan power of evil that is loosed for a little season before

the coming of the Lord. We have often warned the saints and exhorted them to deepen down into God and be prepared to stand when the evil day comes, for the prophecies must be fulfilled and no man or company of men can stay them. In last month's paper we had an article of warning along this line entitled, "The false and the true church."

This power of evil (which in Revelation is symbolized as "The dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil and Satan") which is covering itself under the word "Communism" is an atheistic spirit. It is now deceiving the nations, both literally and spiritually. When its power becomes great enough many innocent people will be forced to serve it in its destructive work or suffer being jailed with property holdings taken away from them, and others will suffer cruel mockings, torments, tortures and will be slain. This government is awakening to the awful undermining and deceitful work of this evil power and is putting forth some effort to crush it. The European nations are being overcome with this power of evil, cloaked with the word "Communism." Hungary has already been overthrown and captured by this power and Bulgaria is tottering under its influence. Our government is sending millions of dollars to Greece and Turkey with a hope of staying this power, but such efforts are in vain for the prophecies of the Scriptures shall be fulfilled. This power of evil is right at our door, and persecution of Christianity has already begun. Just a few days ago I received a letter from Bro. George Stephenson, who has recently made a visit to Cuba and there saw the deplorable condition that existed, for Cuba is about to be overthrown by this power of evil. In the letter that I received from him he sent me a letter that he had received from Sister Faith Stewart who has an orphan's home with near eighty children, and missions established in different parts of the island. I shall here insert a portion of her letter, so you can see and know what we are facing here in the near future.

"Dear Brother Stephenson:—God bless you. We are having terrible persecutions from the Communists. They have planned and told that they had a plot to destroy the HOMES and me. A high police officer came here some weeks ago and told us, and warned me to be careful and to never go out unprotected. At last they made an attack and ended away three children, two one time and one another, and were responsible for a fourth one being taken. They have put charges against us in the court and a case is pending. Groups of Communists have come racing in the place here twice, and once rushed right into the BOY'S HOME without knocking or asking. They shook their fists and declared, "There is no God," and many other terrible things. I have not time to write much; but do pray, for this is a definite attack to destroy God's work. I have appealed to the American Council for protection, and they are working with the lawyer we have been compelled to get. The American Council and others say it is a definite attack of Communism against Christianity. Pray as never before. E. F. Stewart."

This is only a beginning because they are feeling their power and authority. What will it be when they get full control of things?

This country is ripening fast for a downfall, for the sin of the nation is great and Satan is loose for a season. Great persecutions will come to the faithful in Christ. Every saint needs to be rooted and grounded in God if he (or she) is able to stand in that great and terrible day that is sure to come. Let us each one be willing to patiently bear the reproaches now that come our way so we will have strength to stand when the great evil is upon us.

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Chosen and Elect of God

Beloved brethren, church of the living God, the elect, waiting bride of our King, who we can see by the eye of faith come for his waiting and watching bride without spot or blemish, robed in her pure white robe of righteousness.

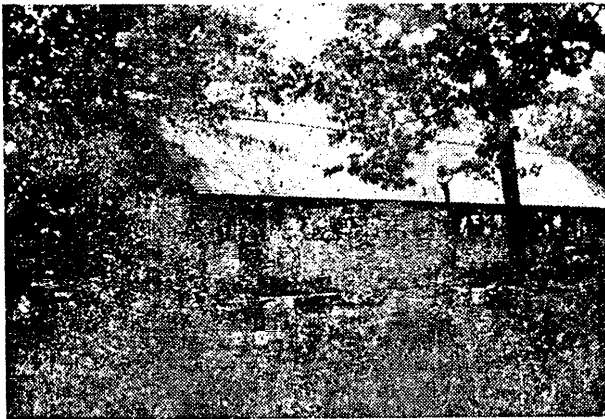
A most beautiful sight to behold was shown to me a few weeks ago. It has given me a greater determination to live more like Jesus to encourage the true children of God to so live that truly our lives will be as a city that is set on a hill. For with the life of Jesus within, we can truly shine for him, for he is light and life, and his life is the light of the world, and it is no longer we that live, but it is Christ that liveth in us. Bless his holy name!

Beloved ones, the last trump will soon sound, and we shall be caught up together with him in the air and enter our most beautiful mansion. What a glorious day that will be when our Saviour's face we see and hear his sweet welcome voice say unto us, "Well done, good and faithful servants, enter thou into the joys of your Lord and master." Then it behooves us, beloved ones, to remain in the old paths of perfected holiness and not to lower the standard nor to compromise with the formal worship of the world. Soldiers of the cross, arise, do not falter, do not fail, do not draw back from the old fashioned gospel, the old fashioned life; but still follow the old fashioned disciples and apostles as they were all of one accord in the upper room when they received the baptism of the Holy Ghost and the church of the living God was completed and sealed with power to go forth and do whatever He commanded to be done. The Word says, "Ye are my disciples if ye do whatsoever I have commanded you." "Wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?" Are we about our Father's business? Are we truly doing what he commanded us to do? If not, it is time to awake to righteousness and sin not.

There are a few questions God has laid on my heart, and as they are asked, honest hearts who really and truly want to see Jesus and have not yet measured up to God's Holy Word and those who at one time had measured up and have gone back down and have modernized the beautiful gospel church into a formal worship, search your hearts, and say, "Lord, is it I?" Jeremiah saw it was necessary to root out and to pull down, to destroy, and to throw down, to build and to plant. Let us read it, Jeremiah 1:10. It is time for the waiting church

to be grounded and established and settled in the truth as it is in Christ Jesus, God's elect. Are we a chosen generation? a royal priesthood? a peculiar people? Do we find in the New Testament and in the life of Jesus anything else but the will of His Father? Did he place in his church, first, immodesty? Did the word say to fashion ourselves after the former lusts? Did he place his work to uphold programs? Did he send them out with instruments? In his humble life of doing his Father's will, do we read of him playing a piano, carrying an accordion or drum, cornet, or any musical instruments of any kind? What kind of worship did he say we should have? Did not he say those that worship him must worship him in Spirit and in truth? If anyone disobey and rebel against the word of God you shall be as Bro. Paul said, be counted as the enemies of the cross of Christ.

God's true ministering angels, blow the trumpet and spare not or after all the profession you have made, at that last great day the dread answer shall fall, "Weighed in the balance and found wanting." Away with formal worship! Come back to Jesus, who is the way, the truth, and the life, and build upon the solid Rock Christ Jesus. He said the gates of hell would not prevail against us. Praise the dear Lord for faith and victory, for it is only through faith we will gain the victory, overcome and sit down at our Savior's right hand in glory. Your sister in the one true way, Mrs. Olga DaCosta, B. W. I.



The new dining hall and dormitory under construction on the national camp grounds, Monark Springs, Mo. A loan was received to get it ready for the coming campmeeting, and we are confident that the saints will respond to clear this indebtedness.

Campmeeting Notices

National Campmeeting

The National Campmeeting of the Church of God will be held July 18 to 27, 1947 on the camp ground at Monark Springs, Mo., which is five miles east of Neosho, Mo., the county seat of Newton County. We extend a hearty welcome to all to attend this national gathering of God's people—a place where you can receive salvation from sin, sanctification, healing, and spiritual food for the soul.

The only test of fellowship is the indwelling Spirit of Christ, as the Apostle Paul said, "If any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his." The spirits will be tried as commanded in the Word. The saints are endeavoring to continue the restoration of the whole truth to the people as was begun in the early days of this reformation, and the whole truth will destroy division and sectism. Spirits attending the meeting who have knowingly sown discord and fostered divisional elements will be bound by the Spirit and Word of God. God's ministers and saints will have freedom to exercise themselves as the Spirit directs. Come praying and expecting a profitable meeting.

We might state here that John Strech does not live at Neosho and has not been connected with the National campmeeting for several years. His conduct has proved him unworthy of the confidence and fellowship of the saints.

Monark Springs is not a Post Office or railroad station. Those traveling by bus or train should come to Neosho and take a taxi-cab to the camp ground. Highways No. 71 and 60 pass through Neosho, and all-weather roads lead to the campground.

The new dining hall will be ready for the meeting, and the floor above it will be for the women's sleeping quarters. The basement of the new dining hall and the old dining hall in the public park will be for the men. There is ample space for tents, trailer houses and campers. New tents will rent for \$4.50 each, and canvas or steel cots \$1.00 each. Those occupying cot space in the buildings may pay \$1.50 per person, but let none stay away who are unable to pay. Bring bedding and straw ticks, and come prepared for very cool nights. Straw will be furnished. If you want a tent and cot, please send your order, with money, direct to Bro. Sam Barton, R. 11, Box 119, Tulsa 15, Okla. by July 10th. Bros. Barton and Davis are the business managers for the meeting.

Meals will be served at the dining hall, financed by free-will offerings and contributions of groceries, fruits, and vegetables.

Help will be needed to get the grounds and buildings ready just before the meeting, and if you can come, please write Bro. Barton.

Each individual and congregation should have a special fund for the national campmeeting. Please send the offering to Bro. Sam Barton or to the undersigned by July 10th.

—L. D. Pruitt, Secy-Treas.

1005 W. Mansur, Guthrie, Okla.

Kalamazoo, Mich.

The campmeeting of the church of God at Kalamazoo, Mich. will convene from July 4 to 13th, 1947. It will be run on the free-will offering plan, and meals will be cooked and served in the basement of the Pastor Earl M. Brown's home at 3606 So. Westnedge Ave., on highway 131. Those coming should bring pillows and sheets if possible, also one blanket. We expect, with the Lord's help to be able to care for all who come. Anyone who desires to donate campmeeting supplies may send them to Bro. Hubert Corteway, 744 Hawley St. We are happy to inform everyone that the dear Lord has led Bro. Earl M. Brown of Alma, Mich. to take over the pastorate here, so they will be with us to help in this meeting. All coming may go to the pastor's home on U. S. Highway 131 and they will be told where to locate the campground. The pastor's house sets back of the stores at 3606 South Westnedge Ave. It is on the city bus line. Take the Egleston and So. Westnedge bus from down town and it will take you by the place. Pray for a good meeting.

Jefferson, Oregon

Lord willing, the Oregon campmeeting will be held this year on the saints' camp ground on Hazel St. in Jefferson, Ore., July 18-27. The chapel and grounds are one and one-half blocks from the bus depot on highway No. 99 through Jefferson. Our home (that God gave us) is one block south of the bus station. Since some who came in the night last year had trouble finding us, we will let our front porch light burn at night, at least during the first part of the meeting. It will be the only porch light on the highway and can be seen from the bus station. We are looking to God to send Holy Ghost ministers and workers. All pray much, and come who can. All are welcome.

For further information write Sister Emma Busch Scio, Ore., or Noah White, Jefferson, Ore. or the writer at Box 41, Jefferson, Ore. —Sam Wilson

Oklahoma State,

The Oklahoma State Campmeeting at Guthrie, Okla. will begin August 1st and continue ten days. The new pavilion is located in the 600 block on W. Warner Ave., and the two-story dining hall is just back of it on 6th St.

The sisters will occupy the upper story of the new dining hall, and the brethren the old dining hall. Rooms may be rented near the campground.

We are trusting the Lord to send able ministers to preach the Word and hold the truth of the full gospel before the people. If you are in need of soul help, come. We also pray for the sick according to God's Word.

Bring straw ticks, pillows, and sheets.

Midway, La.

The third annual campmeeting of the church of God of Midway, La. will be August 16th to 24th. The Lord burdened us about having camp-meeting here and has given us two good meetings, for which we are grateful, and we believe He will bless this year. The meeting will be run on the free will offering plan, no charge for bed or meals.

Midway is not a Post Office. It is located between Good Pine and Jena and is about 40 miles from Alexandria. Bus connections here: buy your ticket to Jena, La. Cab service from there to camp ground (about a mile). Come and be with us. Ruth Murphey, Box 673 Jena, La.

Northwest, Mo.

Lord willing, the campmeeting in northwestern Mo., near Langdon, Atchison County, Missouri, will convene from August 15 to 23, 1947. We are trusting the Lord for singers, workers, and ministers to come and help us.

All who come by train, come to Langdon, Mo. by the Burlington Route; and those who come by bus, come to Rockport, Mo. For further information write to Egbert Allen, Langdon, Missouri.

Boley, Okla.

The Boley campmeeting of the church of God will begin August 15th and close Aug. 24th, Lord willing. The campground is located just north of the Boley High School. All are invited to attend this meeting. We need your help both spiritual and temporal. This meeting will be run on the free-will offering plan. Please bring straw ticks, sheets, pillows, and any other necessary bedding, and any other help which the Lord may lead you to bring. We earnestly desire your sincere prayers that God will give us a real soul-stirring and soul-saving meeting.

For further information, write: M. J. Phillips, Boley, Oklahoma, Box 294.

Dover, Okla.

The Lord willing, the Dover, Okla. campmeeting will be held on the chapel grounds one mile north and two and one-half miles east of Dover, Aug. 29 to Sept. 7th, inclusive. Anyone who desires to be met at the bus station should be sure to notify us in plenty of time, stating, if possible, what time the bus is due to arrive in Dover. Please bring bedding and straw ticks.

Ulysses Phillips or Henry Caldwell, R. 1, Dover, Okla.

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Jumbo, W. Va.

Lord willing, there will be an old fashioned camp meeting at Jumbo, W. Va. beginning August 29, and continuing over two Sundays. This is a new place, and we are preparing to build a dining hall and bunk house in order to care for all who come. This is farther east than any other campmeeting that we know of, and we believe the Lord would have a permanent camp here. Bring your bedding. Straw will be furnished. The expenses will be cared for by free will offerings. Saint preachers and workers, come if the Lord directs.

The camp is one mile of Route 20 between Buchannon and Webster Springs on Holly River above Dianna. Leave the bus at Jumbo Road. Any one desiring to help in this project, see or write committee: Sister Maud Clifton, Bro. Auvil Gillis, or Alva Gum, R. 1, Webster Springs, W. Va. Come, one and all, and give or get help for soul and body.

—George Peek.

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California State

The California State Camp Meeting of the church of God will be held in Los Angeles August 22 to 31 inclusive, Lord willing.

We do not invite sowers of discord to the meeting, but if you have personal troubles or problems pertaining to your spiritual life, there will be ministers of God present who, by the grace of God, are able to give good wholesome advice and help to souls in these things. These ministers are sincere servants of God and of the church and are always glad to help any soul who needs help in every way possible.

The word of God will be preached by Holy Spirit filled ministers in the demonstration of the Spirit of God and power and all who love it that way are urged to attend this meeting.

The meeting will be run throughout on the free-will offering plan as is customary for all such meetings among God's true children who trust Him for all things.

As there are some details to be worked out yet as to location, etc., anyone planning to come should contact someone here for further information and directions. It would be to the advantage of all for as many as possible to contact us before hand, letting us know your intentions to come so accommodations can already be planned for as far as possible.

Address your communications to Erle E. Forbes, 4250 Perlita Ave., Los Angeles (26) Calif., I. D. Stover, 611 E 10th St., Pomona, Calif., C. L. Hodge, 1666 E 117th St., Los Angeles, Calif., or J. T. Sims, 11111½ Compton Ave., Los Angeles, Calif.

—O. B. Wilson, jr.

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MOUNTAIN CAMP MEETING

A camp-meeting will convene at Ivy Ridge, N. C. (Mailing address: Flag Pond, Tenn.) Aug 1-8. This camp-meeting will be run on the free-will offering plan and there are no obligations as to meals and board. We are trusting God by faith to supply the needs.

Ivy Ridge is located in the Blue Ridge Mountains of

Western N. C., 8 miles from Flag Pond, Tenn., 12 miles from Mars Hill, N. C. The air is cool and refreshing and a very pleasant place for vacation.

This camp-meeting is non-sectarian in spirit, not officiated by any movement, being directed by the Holy Ghost, standing for the oneness of God's people and for the great church of God in its holiness and purity.

Everyone is invited to attend regardless of finances.

Anyone desiring to help support such a camp-meeting may do so in the manner of money, canned goods, and groceries. Mail all donations to Mr. Everett Ingle, R. 1, Flag Pond, Tenn, or to the undersigned.

Yours for the complete unity of God's people,

C. A. Allison

Flag Pond, Tenn.—Dear Bro. Pruitt and friends in the Lord,—I received the "Faith and Victory" paper with joy. It filled and thrilled my soul, which has been saved, sanctified, and added to the glorious church of God by the precious blood of Jesus Christ.

In July 1936 I was saved, in April 1937 sanctified, and Feb. 1946, after nine years of ministry for the Missionary Baptists and Nazarenes, I saw the glorious truth concerning the great church of God; and, praise his name, I accepted it. It is a living reality to me.

Brother, I am sorry to say that many who say they are church of God here in this country are not. They use modern methods of sectarianism and do not let the Holy Ghost have leadership. It has been a hard fight for me because I was sick of sectism and to find out that the people who professed a great standard of holiness and the church of God indulge in such corrupt methods! But I have rolled up my sleeves, spiritually speaking, against this and it has brought me untold persecution, too numerous to mention. I pastor three rural congregations here in the rugged mountains. I have had to sell my car and part of my furniture to carry on, but thanks be to God from whom all blessings flow, the devil cannot stop me.

We are planning a camp-meeting here at Ivy Ridge, N. C. (Mailing address, Flag Pond, Tenn.)

Will you please pray for me as I endeavor to preach and teach this glorious truth. I love the church of God because it is pure and holy. I don't see how I can carry on much farther, but God always makes a way. I have given my life for this great truth. So agree with me in prayer concerning this problem.

C. A. Allison

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—Meeting Notice—

Lord willing, we shall have a tent meeting August 15-24. The meeting will be financed by free-will offerings and contributions. There will be able ministers to preach the full gospel in all of its purity. All Spirit-filled ministers have a hearty welcome that are in harmony with the church of God. For further information write to Sister E. Hudson, 724 Euclid St., Akron 2, or Sister Cordelia R. Jones, 740 Roscoe Ave., Akron 6, Ohio.

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CARD OF THANKS

Jefferson, Ore.—To all the dear saints, relatives, and friends, greetings—From the depths of our hearts we thank every one who so kindly donated to the fund to buy a car for us to use in the work of God whereunto he has called us. Above all we give thanks to our God who gives us all needed things for both soul and body. We feel unworthy of this token of love and confidence bestowed upon us. Oh, God help us to walk worthy before him by keeping our garments unspotted from the world. Such shall walk with him in white, for they are worthy.

We feel now our obligation to God and his work is greater, and ask prayer that we will never turn a wheel of his car for any cause except it be for his glory. It is a precious little car, and our dear, beloved fellow-laborer in the gospel, Bro. L. E. Davy of Duarte, Calif., has used it in the Master's service till his work on earth was finished and the Master called him to his eternal reward. We feel that if we, by the grace of God, will use it as faithfully for God as we are sure our departed brother did, that we can meet him and all the dear ones who helped to buy it and our blessed Saviour at the judgment and not be ashamed in that day. Dear ones, one and all, we cannot love you and appreciate this deed of love to us any more than we do unless our hearts were enlarged. With tears of love and thankfulness we again say, THANKS. Praise God. God bless each one. Sam & Beulah Wilson

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PRAYER REQUEST

Please, all saints of the church of God, pray for a brother in northern Kentucky, a minister of the holy church of God who is suffering very heavy burdens; wife in sectism and refuses the truth of the gospel; son unsaved, hard in sin, a heavy burden in home. Pray this home become one in Christ by the gospel.

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OBITUARY

Sister Lela Roberson, one of our well beloved ministers of Southern California, passed to her eternal reward March 10, 1947 at 5:45 p. m. She was born in Howland, Texas Jan. 28, 1892, being 65 years, 1 month, and ten days of age.

Sister Roberson became a Christian young in life and accepted the full truth of the gospel when she heard it, and remained a devout servant of God until her death. She had been an ordained minister of the church of God for a good many years with a steadfast, untiring zeal in the work of God. Her devotion and constant trust in God, her unwavering faith in His ability to guide and protect her, has been a shining example for all who knew her. Her carefulness in word and deed and her firmness for the right will be a lasting remembrance to all who knew her. "Mother" Roberson, as she was called by many, lived a life of complete unselfishness, giving her life to the cause of living the doctrine of Christ and spreading His truth to others. Among her crowning virtues was an intense love for her children and her home and the saints of God. Her counsel, advice, and reproof will long be remembered by them all, and her oft times warnings to live true to God. Not long before her passing she said in meeting, "Saints, when I am gone I don't want people to ask, how did she die? but, 'How did she live?' I want my life to tell for Jesus." Thus she lived that saints and sinners witness she lived what she professed. Though frail in body, she was unbelievably strong in spirit and mind. She fought hard against evil of every kind and was true to souls, and has passed to a dearly earned rest.

Words cannot express how she will be missed by the saints and ministers of southern California, but we resign to the will of God.

She leaves a husband, Mr. Lee W. Roberson, three sons, and a daughter, ten grandchildren, and a host of other relatives and friends who will mourn her passing.

The funeral was conducted by the following ministers: I. D. Stover, I. C. Chandler, O. B. Wilson, Jr., Emma Holden, and T. T. Holden. Scriptures used: Rev. 14:13, 2 Tim. 4:7; Psal. 116:15; and Psalm 91.

CHILDREN'S CORNER

There is a voice within
Drawing us away from sin.
Always listen to its call
And you'll never, never fall.

Hello Children: In the last paper we asked you to pray to Jesus every day. Did you remember to pray? I hope you did and I'm sure Jesus blessed you. Jesus will help you to be good if you ask him. And when you do good deeds he blesses you inside, but when you do wrong he makes you feel badly and ashamed. We want to always listen to his VOICE that tells us to do right.

Can you see the wind blowing? No, but you know it's blowing because the trees are moving and you can feel it. We can't see Jesus or his spirit, but we can feel him and hear him telling us to do right.

One day a little boy came to play with Harry. This little boy wanted Harry's best car to play with, but Harry wanted it himself. But the VOICE inside said, "Now don't be selfish, let him play with it." So Harry did and the little boy was so happy, and so was Harry because Jesus blessed him for not being selfish.

Jesus made Mary feel so good because she picked a bunch of flowers and took them to an old lady who didn't have anyone to cheer her up. Jesus wants us to do good deeds and be kind to everyone.

Jesus came to this world and was a little boy and he knows all about little children. When he grew to be a man he told us how to live and act so we could go to heaven. Things he did and said are written in the Bible. We are to keep his commandments. He told us not to take other people's things that do not belong to us; not to tell things that aren't true; to obey our Mother and Father; to love everybody and be kind; and he said he would help us to do these things, if we ask him.

But the devil doesn't want us to do good. So he tells us to tell lies, to steal, and to do all kinds of bad things. But we don't *have* to listen to him. Jesus is greater and has more power than the devil and he helps us, doesn't he? The devil doesn't want us to go to that beautiful, beautiful place called Heaven. He wants us to go to hell where he will be put and burn forever with him. But we are going to listen to Jesus' VOICE and do good, aren't we?

Don't forget to pray to Jesus, and he will help you.
—Aunt Marie.

Ore.—Dear Aunt Marie.—I was glad there was a children's corner in the "Faith and Victory." I hope there will be some more for us in other papers. I love Jesus. Just last week I fell seven feet and hurt my head. I was sick about two days, but Mama and others prayed and I soon got well again. I am sending some money and would like some tracts that a boy nine years old could understand.
Donald Mapes

A Reality

Today I have a new heart and a new soul
Because I was with God last night; He made me whole.

I begged Him to forgive my every past sin.
Smiling, with open arms, He said, "My child, come in."
It was a precious moment. I knelt, kissed His scarred hands,

While my tears fell unheeded, then at His command
Of "Go thy way and sin no more,
You now stand at the open door."

I was exalted and so relieved
I wondered why I'd never believed.
That is why I am new today,
Because I found God, yesterday.

By Midge McGee

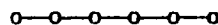
CORRESPONDENCE

To the dear saints and fellow-laborers in the kingdom of God. Grace and peace be with you continually.

I thank the Lord that through His "exceeding great and precious promises" I am saved and enjoy working in His great harvest field. In every trial or need I've always found His grace sufficient in abundance. Praise the Lord for His faithfulness!

We at Minneapolis are still in the battle, and, praise the Lord, we are on the winning side! The enemy presses very close at times in an effort to discourage the little remnant that is left, but with God's help, this will never be done. We have a refuge in the Name of the Lord!

A warm Christian welcome awaits each and every one who feels led to come our way. God needs more labourers in this part of the field, so won't you give Him a chance? Whether you are a minister or not, doesn't matter. If you are burdened for the Lord's work and He directs you this way, come and your soul will be blessed as well as ours. Pray much for us and the work at this place. We trust that some of you will be sent this way. Anyone who feels led to come, please write to: Miss Myrtle Grice, 2417 10th Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn. Or telephone Lincoln 2498. A sister, Myrtle Grice



Ia.—Greeting in the precious name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ to the saints,—Some time back my wife wrote you a letter which I knew nothing about until some time later, and since receiving the books which you sent her I have been reading two of them, and we have surely enjoyed reading them. I have been reading "God's Gracious Dealings," and it is truly wonderful what the Lord has done. We have certainly been encouraged to press the battle on and do more for God who saved us from sin about twelve years ago. When I read how God has so graciously supplied every need I don't see how any one who has ever had any experience with the Lord could keep from wanting to live closer to the Lord and do more after reading this book. We have been receiving the "Faith and Victory" paper for quite awhile, and we know that it has been a great help to us and has given us light on several things that we were in doubt about.

May the Lord richly bless you all. Pray for us that we may live ever close enough that we can truly say and know that by his hand he leadeth me. Roscoe Knott.

Dear saints,—I am thankful that I can report victory in my soul over all the opposing powers of the enemy.

I thank God that I have a salvation I can put in use every day. Most people have a salvation they use at church, but when they get home they just lay it on the shelf or disregard it. I have the kind I can put in use every day, and, thank God, I do put it in use every day. It is surely a joyful life you live if you have true salvation.

I have been learning many things in the last few weeks since I have deepened my consecration. One thing is to not question God's wisdom in the things he does, but if we will only be submissive to his will, then when the trial comes it will be easy to go through with it, and when it is all over we can look back and see how nicely God worked things out to glorify his name. "God's way is best though human wisdom, a fairer way may seem to show."

I am also made to realize that prayer changes things—if we only believe. I don't believe we will know the real value of a real prayer until we get on that other shore.

I have a desire to live a real Christian life, and, by God's help and grace, I can.

With Christian love,

Dale Doolittle

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Kans.—To the saints, greetings in Jesus' name,—This is my first experience at writing my testimony of healing, but I feel that it would please Him, so with His help, I hope to glorify His name by a few lines here.

I thank God that He is merciful, true, and ever faithful to help us in time of need. Truly He has been merciful to me today. This morning (Tues. June 3 about 11 o'clock) our family was working on some peas that had been gathered from our garden when my little sister saw that some of the bees we keep were swarming. So since my Dad was at work, I immediately began making preparations for putting them in a hive. When my mother and I went out to where they were settling, we noticed that they were restless, so we waited until they settled down a little more. Just the day before I had hived a swarm of bees with no trouble at all, yet today I felt rather hesitant to work with these, but felt as though I ought to go ahead. With the preparations and getting the limb cut that they were on we spent about thirty minutes, which made the time about 11:30. As I tried to move the main limb away from the smaller limbs that they were on, two or three bunches of bees fell to the ground. That made them angry and they started stinging me around my feet and hands. I laid the limb down as quickly and as easily as I could and started away from there. In all I must have gotten stung a dozen or so times, about seven of them around one ankle.

Very soon afterwards I began feeling flushed and dizzy and my skin began to itch as though the hives were trying to break out. I came into the house and lay down. My breathing became very hard. In fact, it got so that I could hardly tell where my next breath was coming from; but my two sisters and brother kept holding on to God while Mother was calling Bro. and Sister Albert Eck at Bartlett, Kansas, and other saints in town to request prayer. It seems hard to express in words my thanks to God for answering prayer, but we just came to God in faith believing and obtained the victory... Thank God, truly Faith and Victory do go hand in hand. Anyway, it didn't seem as tho I got much worse for which I thank God. About that time the ones Mother called began to arrive and they had prayer three or four times, each time with more of the saints here.

Finally, when all of them were here, they anointed me again with oil, and that time God witnessed to us that He had done the work. After prayer was finished I noticed that one good deep breath was easy for me. It's almost as tho it were a sign. My throat tightened again, but I began spitting up phlegm, and every time I would cough up some my breathing would get easier, till about 12:00 or 12:15, my breathing was getting very near normal. After that I broke out all over with hives and began to feel better.

(June 10th). The Lord gave us a good meeting last Sunday and a message that was a help to all of us. There is a possibility of at least two coming to services with us regularly, so we ask an interest in your prayers for His cause here, and that a way will be provided for their transportation.

In Christian Brotherhood and service, Gene Beisly

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On Tuesday, June 3, 1947, I was called from my work in Missouri Pacific shops, Coffeyville, Kansas, at 11:25 a. m. to go and pray for Gene Beisly who had just been severely stung a number of times by bees which were swarming. When I arrived Gene was lying on a bed, and his breathing was extremely difficult. His ears and face were badly swollen, as were other parts of his body. He didn't look natural. Gene was in a critical condition. We anointed him with oil, as taught in God's word, laid hands on him and prayed the simple prayer of faith, and our mighty God healed. Praise his dear name. He spit a few times and breathing became easier and natural. Today Gene is a well boy, thanks to the healing power of God yet today in 1947. Those who agreed in prayer were Bro. and Sister Ralph Beisly and daughter Marilyn, my mother, Sister Willa George, Sister Cotton, wife and I. To our precious Saviour be all the glory, honor, and praise forevermore. Dear reader, God is still on his throne and heals by faith today.

Muriel C. George

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Okla.—I am glad I can report victory today—saved, sanctified, and living for the dear Lord, and mean by his grace to go all the way with him. The Lord has wonderfully blessed me. It pays us to do whatever the Lord wants us to do.

On Friday night I lay on my bed talking with the Lord and he talking with me. On Saturday morning my neighbor and I went to buy some kerosene, and they gave us gasoline instead. The Lord surely preserved my life after I poured it into the stove. Praise His name! Your sister,

Annie Wiley.

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Dear saints of God, greetings in Jesus' name,—As I've never sent in my testimony before, I'll try and write one now. He saves me by his blood and keeps me by his power divine. He is my all and all.

I want to thank you dear saints everywhere for the prayers you sent up in behalf of my dear companion. She has now gone home above. I am left alone, but not entirely alone. The Lord is with me and and comforts me from day to day. I am very lonesome and need your earnest prayers.

As I walk from day to day and see the way the world is going many thoughts come into my mind concerning the world in its lost state. 1 Cor. 11:3, "But I would have you know that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man; and the head of Christ is God." Eph. 5:15, 16, "See then that ye [we] walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, redeeming the time because the days are evil."

Verses 22, 23, "Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord, for the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church; and he is the saviour of the body." Read verses 24-33.

If the wife is not submissive to her husband, then she is not unto God. If the man doesn't love his wife, then he is not submissive unto God. Verse 24, "Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ"—then we must be submissive unto each other if we are saved. He gave himself for us that he may present us a holy church without spot or wrinkle. If the husband and wife are divided, then where is the holy part?

We are in an evil day, so we must redeem the time. We are in a time when women want to show their authority over men, a rebellious time, rebelling against God, marrying and divorcing and living in adultery, deceiving and being deceived. When we know these things, what manner of people should we be? We are living epistles, being read by all men. If this is so, then we ought to love one another as Christ loved us, the church his bride, and be willing to give ourselves for each other that the church be not blamed.

May these few thoughts be a blessing to those who read this. If any of you saints care to write to me, you can write to Frank Brant, Bangor, Mich.

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Miss.—Dear brethren in Jesus' name,—This morning finds me happy in the Lord, praising his dear name and thanking him for what he means to me and how he has blessed me and our family. I have my hearing back in both ears. I just waited on the Lord and he came to my rescue, bless His dear name, the name above all names, "Jesus." He came to heal as well as to save. God is doing his part in sustaining me in every test, bless his holy name. I desire for you to pray earnestly for our daughter's unsaved husband. She desires to live right and to train her children right, but his example before them makes it very difficult for her.

I am glad you are getting along good with the dining hall, etc. I liked the plan at Hammond as I saw it carried out there. It all holds precious memories to me and I was made stronger by being there last year.

—Sister J. Strickler

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Ind.—Dear Bro. Pruitt,—I am glad to say that I am still saved and on my way to the Home above. I am determined to press on and live the life that will tell for God, for it is joy unspeakable and full of glory to know you are a child of God. I am happy in my God and he keeps me every day and hour, praise his holy name. I love him with all of my heart and mean to go all the way with Jesus. I am so glad I have found the way and I am happy, for Jesus said, "I am the way." I mean to go right on until the crown is won. I love the "Faith and Victory" paper.

Nettie Bereman

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Ala.—Dear saints,—Greetings in Jesus' precious holy name. I thought I would send in my testimony and let you know what the precious Lord has done for me. I was in a State school in Tuscaloosa, Ala. and sent in a request for prayer, and the dear Lord heard your prayer. Now I am free from the school. I was there twenty-four years, and I give the precious Lord all the praise, bless his holy name. Please pray that I will be free from sin and pray for all the boys at the Partlow State School, that they will be saved by the blood of our dear Lord Jesus who died on the cross for our sins. I enjoy the Faith and Victory paper very much and would like to

hear from any saints that would write me. The saints that write, this is my address: "Harvey Johnson, in care of James Jordan, R. 1, Box 151, Alexander City, Ala. May God bless each and every one of you dear saints for your prayers

Harvey Johnson.

La.—Dear saints,—Greetings of love to you in Jesus' precious name. This finds me still saved and satisfied with the Lord's dealings with me. It is so good to look back through my life and see the tender hand of God working with me. I think of the many times He has healed me and blessed through trials. I thank Him for all these things. I thank Him for healing a tooth just recently.

During the past few months I have come to know the comfort the Lord supplies His children upon the loss of a loved one. What a comfort to know Daddy is eternally preserved with the Lord. We ask the Lord's blessings upon the dear ones that showed love and kindness to him and the family during his illness.

May we all keep faithful and true to the end. I am encouraged to ever press on and make heaven my home.

Also, we are thankful to the Lord for working things out that we could get roofing for our house. It is good to take everything to the Lord, and better still to praise Him for all that He does for us. "Therefore with joy shall ye draw water out of the wells of salvation. And in that day shall ye say, Praise the Lord, Call upon his name, declare His doings among the people, make mention that his name is exalted." Isa. 12: 3, 4.

Pray for us. Yours in Christian love, Patsy Doolittle

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La.—Dear saints,—I thank the Lord that I can report victory in my soul over the powers of Satan. Praise be unto God. It means so much to be saved and enjoying the blessings of heaven. The further along this way I travel, the more vain the ways of men seem to me. Truly we realize more and more the truth that Jesus spake to his disciples: "They are not of the world even as I am not of the world." I love the Lord and I want to make my home with him in heaven. He tells us to strive to enter in, for many shall seek to enter in and shall not be able (Luke 13:24). "And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent taketh it by force." Matt. 11:12. Many professed Christians seem to think the way to heaven is down stream, but as we watch the current of the stream we notice that it is the dead things that are drifting with the current, but the live fish are going up stream. So it is in this world. The people who are taken in with the fads and fashions of this world, also habits and filled with pride, are like the dead fish drifting down stream. The world is going one way and God's people are going another. It seems that we are living in a time when people are taking it easy, and even some among the saints have become at ease, but we hear the voice of God saying, "Woe to them that are at ease in Zion." Amos 6:1; also "Awake thou that sleepest and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light." Eph. 5:14-21. Surely, dear people, we need to have on the whole armor of God, for as Paul says in Eph. 6:12, we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Read rest of chapter. We are surely living in an evil day. The devil is using the lust of the eye and the pride of life to drown men's souls in perdition, also his ministers are transformed as ministers of light, deceiving many. Let us take the sword of the Spirit, which

is the Word of God, the shield of faith, and the helmet of salvation and carry the battle to the gates of the enemy camp; also having our feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace.

The road to heaven leads us. It is a strait (difficult) way, also a narrow way (Matt. 7:14). It is too narrow for some of the bundles some people are trying to take over it; such as, pride, covetousness, adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like. Paul says, "They which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God." Christ says, "I am the door, by me, if any man enter in he shall be saved." All these things must be left at the door.

"Onward upward, Christian soldier,

Bravely push the battle on;

There's a great reward before us,

Soon the conflict will be won.

"Hallelujah, shout the chorus,

Onward upward is our song,

Crowns of victory lie before us,

Boldly march against the wrong."

Your brother in Christ, Max F. Williamson.

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

Mo.—Dear readers of "Faith and Victory," greetings in Jesus' precious name.—I enjoy reading every word of the paper and love the testimonies of God's dear children. May God help us to get under the burden and pray for the healing of the dear sister that sent an urgent request in June "Faith and Victory." I am praising the dear Lord for salvation from sin and for what he means to me. I am glad I have the peace and joy within. I love to praise him for his sanctifying and keeping power. He gives peace and joy to my hungry heart and grace to witness for him. By his grace I am determined to go all the way through and be what he wants me to be. He brought me out of terrible sickness through prayer and fasting, praise his wonderful name. To know him is life eternal. I am happy in his presence. I know he lives; he lives in my heart. Praise his dear name forever. Mrs. Hattie Munden

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Oreg.—Dear Bro. Pruitt, Greetings,—I am so thankful for our dear Saviour who blesses and keeps each day. I praise Him for ever calling after me and saving my soul from the power of the evil one. Geo. Galloway

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Wisc.—Dear Christian people,—I just received the "Faith and Victory" paper. My husband and I enjoy it. We are a young couple who find it rather discouraging being Christians in a community where people don't seem to want God. We moved here in October. We learned that the people around here did not attend services and we thought maybe it was so far to town was why.

We told my dad that he could preach in our home. He was glad to, so I sent out announcements. The first time only one man from this community came, the next time four came, the third time only a 7-year-old boy came, and the fourth time only one man came.

When I would invite people they would say, "Oh, we are so tired by the time we get chores done." But when there is a big dance somewhere you ought to see them!!

I just ache sometimes to have Christian friends, someone who likes to talk on the good things of God! The people here talk about the "good show they saw Sunday afternoon," or "The big dance Sat. night."

My husband and I are 23. I certainly would like to be able to write to some Christian young people. My address is: Mrs. Jesse Gregory, Star R., Bayfield, Wisc.

Texas—Dear ones in Christ,—I feel impressed to relate a few experiences that the Lord has given me recently, to His glory. I have endeavored to write before as I felt impressed, but felt that I could not help anyone. But today I received my "Faith and Victory" paper, also a card from Faith Publishing House in which they wrote that they were encouraged by my testimony, and God gave me grace to write. As I read Bro. Pruitt's letter where he said, "God gives us grace to testify," I just had to stop and praise God for his grace. He is a wonderful God. Then I read where one person had some sweet thoughts and was passing them on. Surely I could do as Jesus said in John 14:10, "The words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works."

As many of you know (as I wrote for prayer and some of you were at our meeting last summer) we had the itch. We have had it for over a year. It would heal up and get better then break out again. One time my little girl six years old broke out from her hips almost to her feet. I thought at the time it was poison oak. God healed it. Mother wanted husband to get something to put on it, but she went to visit my sister so he did not doctor it. In a few days it was all gone. Husband doctored all the children for the itch but the oldest girl. She held on to God and he healed her. They would get better then break out again. There were six children and we were expecting another one. Husband kept trying to get me to use medicine to heal the children before the little one arrived to keep it from taking it. But God had showed mercy on me and healed me of a terrible disease after I had, like the woman mentioned in the Bible, spent all my living on physicians and I still was not any better, so by his help I meant to be true to Him. Instead of one baby, twin girls were born into our home. I had taken the itch quite bad and had a few sores on me. God works in mysterious ways, his wonders to perform. Our oldest girl had not had very much on her since she was healed in the spring until three or four days after the babies arrived, then she broke out on arms, hands, feet, and legs with almost solid sores. Before the babies arrived I worked so hard trying to keep up everything possible to keep husband from fussing, then when the babies came I couldn't keep from crying. All things work together for good to them that love the Lord. Praise His name, I loved him; his way is perfect. The Word of the Lord is tried; he is a buckler to all those that trust in him, and I am trusting him. We all got worse and the babies took it bad. Even though God allows us to be tried and chastens us, his mercies are always along also. The arm which my little boy used to carry the wood was not as sore as the other one, and my right arm (which I use most) was not as sore as my left.

I had read about Moses leading the children of Israel and God delivering them, and that impressed my mind more than anything else. When God delivered me out of Babylon (the Baptist denomination) it seemed I was to lead someone else. The sorer we got the harder we had to work. As a rule, husband helped me when he was here, but because I refused to use medicine in any way, he would hardly help me—a family of ten with twin babies, and all of us sore to wait on, but God gave grace. Husband would come in cursing, and raving and would beat me. Husband's sister wanted to take the baby that was so bad home with her to doctor it. I felt that I couldn't stand that so God did not allow it, but she and husband doctored the children. He put sulphur and grease on me, but I

washed it off, and God gave grace to stand the abuse which I suffered the next day. One night I was holding the little baby that was so sore. Husband doctored it in my lap and I turned it over for him and probably pulled its dress off. I dreamed that night I was in some mud. I did this about two nights and dreamed about mud and water until the third night. He began to demand a little more of me and wanted me to hold her arm for him. The Lord showed me that I was getting as deep in the mire as he was in the mud, so I quit helping him, though I had to stand cruel treatment for doing so. The children cried and begged me to hold the baby's arm, but God gave me grace and I made up my mind that I would not help him any more. I had not meant to help him at all, but of course had been led on blindly. He said I would help him the next night or he would whip me. I prayed most of the night to have grace to stand, and God gave me grace. The next night he whipped with his hand, his belt, and a switch until it seemed he gave out. The children asked how I kept from crying. God gave me grace, and it didn't really hurt but two or three times. The children cried, begged, held, and pulled him to get him to stop. One time they had him until he could not get at me. But he had my left hand that was so sore. He squeezed it and mashed it as hard as he could, but I could praise God for my hand was almost completely well and did not hurt. That was wonderful. When he got tired and quit he said he wasn't going to have any prayer that night and didn't want to catch me on my knees any more. He had already forbidden my sister to come and pray with us. I continued to pray in spite of severe persecution from him, and the Lord even worked it out that he permitted my sister to come and pray once when we needed help with the little baby who was suffering not only with the itch but also with a carbuncle which had four heads.

The trial was great, but I can truthfully say that the Lord did not permit me to suffer more than I could bear, but made ways of escape, and often brought comforting scriptures which I would say over and over. The Lord came to our rescue at different times with healing power. The baby is almost well now.

I wish to thank each of you for your prayers in our behalf and also for the gifts you have sent to my home and sister Nellie's home. The Lord teaches us in His word that he will do exceedingly abundantly above all that we can ask or think, and that he will supply our needs. I am thankful for the good things he does for his children.

Just lately sister wrote requesting prayer for me a washing machine and cook stove, and here is a list of things we received: (Husband bought us a washing machine so the machine which was bought with the money that the saints gave was given to sister Nellie, which was highly appreciated and needed.) A new 5-burner oil stove, 3 new maid of honor aluminum stew pots, a 5-qt. copper teakettle, white enamel water bucket and dipper to match, aluminum canning dipper, set of 8 knives, forks, spoons, the babies some clothes and a box of dry goods. The good Lord only knows how much we appreciate it all. It is wonderful how He works. Sister Essie Moore

Calif.—Greetings to all the dear saints in the precious name of Jesus.—It has been quite awhile since I have sent in a testimony. I feel that it is the will of the Lord that I should let you know that I still love the Lord and that he still keeps me sweetly saved, and He is my all in all. He has been my healer for 36 years, praise his great name. He is worthy of all the honor and praise we can give him. I have it settled in my heart to live

for the Lord. If everyone else goes back in sin, I mean by his grace to go with him at any cost. He has done more for me and my family than space will permit me to tell you; so I will say just let us get closer to Jesus in this evil time, for I do believe the end is near. Please pray for the Lord to work in Fresno.

May the Lord bless and keep all his dear children free from all sin and confusion. Your sister in the One Body, L. P. Hamilton.

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A Lie

The wealthy man spoke

To his Christian maid:

"Please answer the call at my door;

I don't want to see them,

Tell them I'm not at home—

Those callers just come

By the score."

"Will you please excuse,"

Was the maid's prompt reply,

"'Spouse you tell them yourself,

Since I never lie." —Erle E. Forbes

A Sinner

By Jewell O'Brien

Though I am just a sinner,

I'm thinking of the times

I have been in tight spots

Or had trouble on my mind.

But when I am tired and weary

And things go from bad to worse,

There is One Friend I turn to—

The King of the universe.

I know I should show my appreciation

By living my life for Him,

But I just keep putting it off

While time grows short and lights grow dim.

I know we ask ourselves sometimes

If there's a heaven above,

But we should know by our feelings

There is a God of love.

For when we are distressed and troubled,

The first thing that we think

Is, O Lord, save and help me,

Or in distress I'll sink.

Yes, there must be a heaven above,

When we need a friend, our doubts vanish away,

For then we call on Jesus

And remember how to pray.

Our prayers will not be fancy,

No, not learned from a prayer book,

But coming from deep down in our hearts

Where Jesus wants to look.

So Christians from all over,

Remember as you kneel and pray,

I want my soul from sin saved

So I can see a better day.

(Ed. Note:—We are informed that the author, Jewell O'Brien departed this life shortly after writing these few lines which we print by request.)

The Rainbow

The wondrous works that men can do
Are great, and always something new:
But never man on hill nor plane
Could put the rainbow in the rain.

—Erle E. Forbes.

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A MAN WHOSE NAME WAS JOB

Sunday, July 6, 1947

Printed Portion Job 1:1; 27:1-5; 31:19-28

Job 1:1. There was a man in the land of Uz, whose name was Job; and that man was perfect and upright, and one that feared God, and eschewed evil.

27:1 Moreover Job continued his parable, and said,

2. As God liveth, who hath taken away my judgment; and the Almighty, who hath vexed my soul;

3. All the while my breath is in me, and the spirit of God is in my nostrils;

4. My lips shall not speak wickedness, nor my tongue utter deceit.

5. God forbid that I should justify you: till I die I will not remove mine integrity from me.

31:19. If I have seen any perish for want of clothing, or any poor without covering;

20. If his loins have not blessed me, and if he were not warmed with the fleece of my sheep;

21. If I have lifted up my hand against the fatherless, when I saw my help in the gate;

22. Then let mine arm fall from my shoulder blade, and mine arm be broken from the bone.

23. For destruction from God was a terror to me, and by reason of his highness I could not endure.

24. If I have made gold my hope, or have said to the fine gold, Thou art my confidence;

25. If I rejoiced because my wealth was great, and because mine hand had gotten much;

26. If I beheld the sun when it shined, or the moon walking in brightness;

27. And my heart hath been secretly enticed, or my mouth hath kissed my hand:

28. This also were an iniquity to be punished by the judge: for I should have denied the God that is above.

Golden Text: My righteousness I hold fast, and will not let it go; my heart shall not reproach me so long as I live. Job 27:6.

Practical Truth: It is possible through the grace of God to maintain such moral integrity that we are pleasing to him.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

"The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away: blessed be the name of the Lord." Job 1:21.

Job's temptation came to him late in life. He is described as being perfect and pure, one that feared God and eschewed evil. The Lord gives and the Lord takes away in His wisdom. It is not his will that we should possess all gifts. We have to realize our dependence upon one another. There are many who are tempted thru feelings of despondency because they see how little they can do, how far others are before them, who are tempted not to do what little they can do. We have not because God thinks it best for us not to have; we do not because God does not will us to do. The truer wisdom recognizes the fact that it is God who gives and God who withholds. What he wants is a humble, intelligent, and diligent use of the gifts He has given. You must use that which God gives, otherwise you may lose that which you have. Altho Job's affliction be long and hard, yet would he not speak wickedness, nor his tongue utter deceit. The main point is that he would tell the truth about his condition. To admit guilt as his friends tried to get him to do, would be wicked because it would not be true. Job now speaks as victor in the controversy and more solemnly than ever declares his purpose to maintain his innocence, notwithstanding his present treatment. Job is an example of a man suffering innocently, yet resolutely refusing to utter a single word contrary to his conscience. This confirms the testimony given of him by God himself. Satan was thus defeated and shown to be a lying slanderer in asserting that if sufficiently afflicted Job would renounce his religion—would "curse God to His face."

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GOD IN HIS WORD

Sunday, July 13, 1947

Printed Portion Job 38:1-7, 16-18, 22, 28, 31, 41.

Job 38:1. Then the Lord answered Job out of the whirlwind, and said,

2. Who is this that darkeneth counsel by words without knowledge?

3. Gird up now thy loins like a man; for I will demand of thee, and answer thou me.

4. Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth? declare, if thou hast understanding.

5. Who hath laid the measures thereof, if thou knowest? or who hath stretched the line upon it?

6. Whereupon are the foundations thereof fastened? or who laid the corner stone thereof?

7. When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?

16. Hast thou entered into the springs of the sea? or hast thou walked in search of the depth?

17. Have the gates of death been opened unto thee? or hast thou seen the doors of the shadow of death?

18. Hast thou perceived the breadth of the earth? declare if thou knowest it all.

22. Hast thou entered into the treasures of the snow? or hast thou seen the treasures of the hail,

28. Hath the rain a father? or who hath begotten the drops of dew?

31. Canst thou bind the sweet influences of Pleiades, or loose the bands of Orion?

41. Who provideth for the raven his food? when his young ones cry unto God, they wander for lack of meat.

Golden Text: The hearing ear, and the seeing eye, the Lord hath made even both of them. Prov. 20:12.

Practical Truth: The power and wisdom of God, as manifested in the universe which he created, surpass human comprehension.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

"Then the Lord answered Job out of a whirlwind." The "Lord," a name expressive of the mysterious attributes of Godhead: eternity, self-existence, unchangeableness, self-dependence, He who is and is to come. Job is singled out in this address as if he were the only person present. The three friends of Job were in greater error than he, yet only Job answered. He alone desired an answer from God and alone believed that such would be given. The tempest was raised for this purpose. Perhaps it was a similar storm to that employed in giving the law (Ex. 19:16). All nature is in His control, and ready at his call. The lightnings are His servants, saying, "Here we are." A storm is a symbol of judgment and the expression of power. The storm cloud served as His pavilion and the whirlwind as His car—terrible to have such a being for our enemy, blessed to have Him as our friend. Storms are in the experience of believers, but the Lord is in the storm and speaks out of it.

"Who is this that darkeneth counsel by words without knowledge?" Who so bold and foolish? Job is not reproved for his previous life, but his present language. Job "darkened counsel" by casting reflection on the Divine procedure and making that which is mysterious to us still darker by short-sighted reasonings. There's nothing in God's dealings but what is the result of an infinite and eternal forethought.

"Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth? declare if thou hast understanding. Who hast laid the measures [assigned the dimensions] thereof? or who hath stretched the line upon it? [the measuring line to regulate its form and dimensions for beauty and use] Whereupon are the foundations thereof fastened [where are its bases sunk?] or who laid the corner stone thereof?" (fixing so firm as not to fall to pieces). It is said of the earth: "founded upon the seas and established upon the floods." Psalms 42:2. Again, the earth was without foundations, being hung "upon nothing." "Hast thou entered into the springs of the sea?" (the fountain of the deep) Genesis 7:11. "Or hast thou walked in the search of the depth?" (Examine the depth of the ocean.) "Have the gates of death been opened unto thee?" (the place of departed spirits, 1 Sam. 28:8-15). "Or hast thou seen the doors of the shadow of death?" Of that world nothing is certainly known except as revealed in the Word of God. Men are unable to know its hidden regions except by bursting the bars of his enclosure. But one thing certain, a heaven of joy and bliss or a hell of woe awaits men after death, according as the deeds done in the body.

"Has thou entered into the treasures of the snow? or hast thou seen the treasures of the hail?" Snow and hail are here spoken of as "treasures" from their vast abundance, and as being apparently stored in the clouds. Snow and hail are many times used among the Creator's instruments in His government of the world, as a way of judgment. We have an instance in history where snow and cold was used as a means of judgment, causing suffering and destruction of Napoleon's Grand Army in 1812. Hail was employed as one of the plagues on Egypt (Exod. 9:18).

"Who provideth for the raven his food? when his young ones cry unto God, they wander for lack of meat." God himself provideth food for them. How powerless is man and unable to provide for them. Man, since the entrance of sin into the world is obliged to employ his intellect in destroying instead of supporting, and yet God

supplies and cares for all the beasts of prey. His divine providence is even directed to the young raven, when perhaps forsaken by the parent bird. Not even a cry of these young birds fails to enter into the ears of the great and gracious Creator (Psa. 147:9).

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JOB FACES THE PROBLEM OF SUFFERING

Sunday, July 20, 1947

Printed Portion Job 1:8; 2:7-10; 19:7-10; 42:1-5. James 5:11.

Job 1:8. And the Lord said unto Satan, Hast thou considered my servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a perfect and upright man, one that feareth God, and escheweth evil?

Job 2:7. So went Satan forth from the presence of the Lord, and smote Job with sore boils from the sole of his foot unto his crown.

8. And he took him a potsherd to scrape himself withal; and he sat down among the ashes.

9. Then said his wife unto him, Dost thou still retain thine integrity? curse God, and die.

10. But he said unto her, Thou speakest as one of the foolish women speaketh. What? shall we receive good at the hand of God, and shall we not receive evil? In all this did not Job sin with his lips.

19:7. Behold, I cry out of wrong, but I am not heard: I cry aloud, but there is no judgment.

8. He hath fenced up my way that I cannot pass, and he hath set darkness in my paths.

9. He hath stripped me of my glory, and taken the crown from my head.

10. He hath destroyed me on every side, and I am gone: and mine hope hath he removed like a tree.

42:1. Then Job answered the Lord, and said,

2. I know that thou canst do everything, and that no thought can be withholden from thee.

3. Who is he that hideth counsel without knowledge? therefore have I uttered that I understood not; things too wonderful for me, which I knew not.

4. Hear, I beseech thee, and I will speak: I will demand of thee, and declare thou unto me.

5. I have heard of thee by the hearing of the ear: but now mine eye seeth thee.

James 5:11. Behold, we count them happy which endure. Ye have heard of the patience of Job, and have seen the end of the Lord; that the Lord is very pitiful and of tender mercy.

Golden Text: Thou therefore endure hardness as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. 2 Tim. 2:3.

Practical Truth: Human sufferings may have a purpose which God himself may make plain.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

In our past studies we have learned that Job was a perfect and an upright man, one that feared God and escheweth evil; so it may seem strange to some why the Lord permitted him to have to suffer as he did. It would be easy to say that the suffering which the just God permits is a penalty for sin and that any special sufferer is a special sinner. This was the kind of doctrine that Job's three friends proclaimed. But Job would not admit that he was in any wise at fault. God's dearest children and most faithful servants may be the subjects of deepest suffering. In patience possess ye your souls. It was surely a test for Abraham to offer his only son as a

sacrifice, being a child of promise, but after he patiently endured, he received the promise.

By your endurance ye shall save your souls and bring your spiritual life safely through the coming troubles. It is not enough to say, Let us live the devoted, self-denying life which befits the humble followers of Christ, and leave aside all that distresses and distracts. We have a higher duty than this. The nobler our idea of the divine nature, the higher we rate our Christian privileges, the better our lives, the more we shall desire to testify of these things before the world of unbelief. If to our souls the revelation of Jesus Christ provides solutions for admitted ills; if it can comfort our aching heart in sorrows, and stir us to nobler acts in danger; if it draws man ever from himself, then surely we need not be afraid to be left face to face with the enemy. There is in the gospel a spiritual power which bears the pilgrims safely through the waterfloods. We may tremble and be perplexed yet we will not fail or fall. If God be with me, I will not fear what man can do unto me. So to us, to whom the Lord spake of patience, the darkest crisis will not be fatal, frightful though it may be, but from the wrecks of the past we shall emerge, strong in endurance, possessing our souls, ready for a larger future of faithful works.

Instead of cursing God, Job adores his justice, goodness, and holiness. Afflictions draw a godly man nearer to God instead of driving him from him. A sign of a gracious state is to be worshiping when God is chastising. The best way to bear and be benefitted by trials is to take them to God. The trouble cannot but be blest which brings us to our knees. "Naked came I forth." Job's first consideration is that nothing is originally ours. Man by nature is destitute even of clothes for his body. The second thought is that the earth is not our home. "Naked shall I return thither." We must leave the world naked as we entered it. Death strips the rich man of his fine linen and the poor of his rags. In all these trials Job kept from sinning, as Satan had desired and declared he would. Glorious triumph of grace it is to keep from sinning in such circumstances. Grace is given to keep us from sinning. Peter, looking to Christ, walked on the water, but looking at the wind and waves, he began to sink in it. A believer's duty and privilege is to walk in the Spirit and so be kept from fulfilling the desires of the flesh.

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WISDOM IS THE PRINCIPAL THING

Sunday, July 27, 1947

Printed Portion Proverbs 1:1-5; 3:13-18; 9:9, 10; James 1:5.

Prov. 1:1. The proverbs of Solomon the son of David, king of Israel;

2. To know wisdom and instruction! to perceive the words of understanding;

3. To receive the instruction of wisdom, justice, and judgment, and equity;

4. To give subtilty to the simple, to the young man knowledge and discretion.

5. A wise man will hear, and will increase learning; and a man of understanding shall attain unto wise counsels:

3:13. Happy is the man that findeth wisdom, and the man that getteth understanding.

14. For the merchandise of it is better than the merchandise of silver, and the gain thereof than fine gold.

15. She is more precious than rubies; and all the

things thou canst desire are not to be compared unto her.

16. Length of days is in her right hand; and in her left hand riches and honor.

17. Her ways are ways of pleasantness, and all her paths are peace.

18. She is a tree of life to them that lay hold upon her: and happy is everyone that retaineth her.

9:9. Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be yet wiser: teach a just man, and he will increase in learning.

10. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding.

James 1:5. If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.

Golden Text: Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom; and with all thy getting, get understanding. Prov. 4:7.

Practical Truth: Wisdom for daily living may in a large measure be attained through a knowledge of God and of his Word.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

True wisdom is never stationary, but always progressive. The one who is not adding, is wasting; he who is not increasing knowledge is losing from it. The wise man will increase in learning. There is an absolute promise in connection with spiritual wisdom. "Whosoever hath, to him shall be given, and whosoever hath not, from him shall be taken even that which he hath." (Luke 8:18). To those who are willing to hear, that which was once dark and difficult becomes clear and plain. "If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine," etc. (John 7:17). This growth in knowledge gives a man a guide for his own life, and enables him to be a help to others. Wisdom is to be found the same as precious metal and choice stones are to be found, and those who find them will have to dig for them, to seek for them, to give time, and strength, and wealth to the search. Wisdom, altho it be within the reach of man, must be diligently sought after, must be drawn out, many times from afflictions. Wisdom is to be found by study of Divine Word. All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and it is able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. Wisdom is beyond comparison with anything outside of herself because she gives blessings which wealth cannot buy. Wisdom gives a joy which has its home in the heart, and which increases with the increase of the years. The gifts of wisdom are forever. Many men have been morally destroyed because of riches, but true wisdom is that by which forms a holy character, the sustenance of the spiritual life. Riches may ruin, but the wisdom which God gives to those who seek it at his hand can only bless. "Let him ask in faith, nothing wavering." We might apply this statement to the professing Christians and not to the worldly. Even when we ask we might miss the response by failing to meet the conditions. We must ask for this daily divine help in faith. Prayer is an expression of the sense of need. It is one thing to lack wisdom and another thing to know that we lack it. It is one thing to know that we lack it and another to be willing to ask for a supply. Our truest prayers are but the echo of God's promises.

Comments by Loraine Modglin

BIBLE LESSONS

By Loraine Modglin

FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE

920 W. Mansur Ave., Guthrie, Oklahoma

PARENTS AND THEIR CHILDREN

Sunday, August 3, 1947

Printed Portion Proverbs 1:7, 8; 6:20-23; 17:6;
19:18; 22:6; 23:22-26.

Proverbs 1:8. My son, hear the instruction of thy father and forsake not the law of thy mother:

9. For they shall be an ornament of grace unto thy head, and chains about thy neck.

Proverbs 6:20. My son keep thy father's commandment, and forsake not the law of thy mother:

21. Bind them continually upon thine heart, and tie them about thy neck.

22. When thou goest, it shall lead thee; when thou sleepest, it shall keep thee; and when thou awakest, it shall talk with thee.

23. For the commandment is a lamp; and the law is light; and reproofs of instruction are the way of life.

Proverbs 17:6. Children's children are the crown of old men; and the glory of children are their fathers.

19:18. Chasten thy son while there is hope, and let not thy soul spare for his crying.

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

Proverbs 23:22. Harken unto thy father that begat thee, and despise not thy mother when she is old.

23. Buy the truth, and sell it not; also wisdom, and instruction and understanding.

24. The father of the righteous shall greatly rejoice: and he that begetteth a wise child shall have joy of him.

25. Thy father and thy mother shall be glad, and she that bare thee shall rejoice.

26. My son, give me thine heart, and let thine eyes observe my ways.

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

Practical Truth: Everyone living in a home should contribute something to its success.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

It is not mere children to whom he is speaking, but he is addressing young persons who have come to that period of life at which they can go wrong if they will, when the actual restraint of parents is past. The instruction and discipline of wisdom do at first seem difficult and hard, and are like fetters of iron restraining the corruption and rebellion of nature, but at length they are like chains of gold, worn like ornaments, and no burden at all. The first law which a mother instills is the Word of God dwelling richly in her own heart, and that she acts as a channel to convey that Word to the hearts of her children. Parents are, in an important sense, mediators between God and their children for a time. Bind them upon thine heart continually (forever) because all through eternity these commandments will be the very highest of affection. Holiness will be the great treasure of the blessed. Tie them about thy neck. Holiness is a bright ornament. Earthly wisdom is gained by

study; heavenly wisdom by prayer. If thou sleep with some good meditation in thy mind, it shall keep thee from foolish and sinful dreams and set thy heart in a holy frame when thou awakest. "How precious are thy thoughts unto me, O God." (Psa. 139:17). The reproofs of the law may alarm and terrify, but they are not to be less valued on that account. The threatenings of hell guard the way to heaven, and strongly urge us to keep in the King's highway, the only way of safety.

Children bring honor to their parents. They testify that the parents have trained them in the way they should go, that they have given them a good example as well as good advice. The parents are the glory of their children. Men glory in being descendants of God-fearing ancestors.

A great force of the rule is a timely application: "While there is hope." For hopeless the case may be if the remedy be delayed. The cure of the evil must be commenced in infancy. "Let not thy soul spare for his crying." This does not mean that parents should not feel, but that the knowledge of feeling is unavoidable, and that the strength and tenderness of it is likely to tempt parents to relent and leave their end unaccomplished. The child may cry and cry bitterly, but when you have reason to think the crying is for the rod rather than for the fault, then you must not allow yourself to be moved by his tears and decline its infliction. If a child perceives this (and soon children are sharp enough to find it out) he has discerned a way to move you the next time. Solomon bids us buy the truth, but does not tell us what it must cost, because we must get it though it be ever so dear; but "sell it not." Sell it not for the riches and honours of this world which we sacrificed for it. O, part not with the pearl of great price for the husks which the swine do eat.

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PURITY OF HEART AND LIFE

Sunday, August 10, 1947

Printed Portion Proverbs 4:23 to 5:4; 31:10-12;
James 1:13-15.

Proverbs 4:23. Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.

24. Put away from thee a froward mouth, and preverse lips put far from thee.

25. Let thine eyes look right on, and let thine eyelids look straight before thee.

26. Ponder the path of thy feet, and let all thy ways be established.

27. Turn not to the right hand nor to the left: remove thy foot from evil.

Proverbs 5:1. My son, attend unto my wisdom, and bow thine ear to my understanding.

2. That thou mayest regard discretion, and that thy lips may keep knowledge.

3. For the lips of a strange woman drop as an honeycomb, and her mouth is smoother than oil:

4. But her end is bitter as wormwood, sharp as a two-edged sword.

Proverbs 31:10. Who can find a virtuous woman? for her price is far above rubies.

11. The heart of her husband doth safely trust in her, so that he shall have no need of spoil.

12. She will do him good and not evil all the days of her life.

James 1:13. Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man:

14. But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust and enticed.

15. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.

Golden Text: Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life. Prov. 4:23.

Practical Truth: Everything which tends to overthrow moral purity should be avoided.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Man is as his heart is. The heart is the spring of all natural and spiritual actions. It is the great wheel that sets all the other wheels in action; therefore it should be kept with all caution, or else bid farewell to all true joy, peace, and comfort. We should keep our hearts as under lock and key that they may be always at hand when the Lord calls for them. It is the duty of every Christian to keep his own heart. Our hearts are the temple of the Holy Ghost; therefore we should keep a guard about them, that nothing may pass in or out that may be displeasing, grieving, or provoking to Him. The heart is a fountain—out of it flow “the issues of life.”

While we speak we should not forget that God is one of our constant listeners. If we could just realize the fact as Hagar, “Thou, God, hearest me,” and our words were all spoken in such a manner that we would not care for the Almighty to hear, how much purer and fewer they would be!!! When an evil thought is confined to a man's own spirit, kept within the limits of thinking or desiring, though it may blur his own soul with the darkness of perdition, the evil ends within himself. But when he allows his thoughts to become words, he kindles a fire outside himself which may go on burning even after the individual has forgotten about it.

Let thine eyes look right on. The pleasures of sin and the seductions of the world do not lie in the road to heaven. They belong to the by-paths. They will not therefore meet the eye looking right on.

The way of the world is slippery and dark (Psa. 35:6) so we must not lift up one foot until we find firm footing for the other. The feet of the soul is seemingly the affections, and surely we have need to ponder them before we give way to them. The best time to ponder any path is not at the end, nor even the middle, but the beginning of it.

When the Word of God enters the heart, it will banish all pollution of the tongue. Many times it takes painful experience to get wisdom and understanding. Therefore we should attend to it with fear and trembling.

In Prov. 31:10 we have a picture of a virtuous woman, a kindly wife, mother, and mistress. Although it is not absolutely stated, it is implied that godliness was the source of this character, that it was the fear of the Lord which enabled her to keep so even a balance of virtues as to set forth a perfect pattern to the women of every age and nation. She knew faithfulness in all things was expected of a servant of God, and that true godliness consists, not so much in the things done as in the spirit in which they are performed.

The Bible teaches us, and as Christians we believe, that there is a regular course of temptations for us in this life: that there are a number of objects and wishes constantly presenting themselves to us in the natural course of things here that we should not give way to, but resist, although they do present themselves. Man does not say directly that “I am tempted of God,” but he is ready sometimes to accuse Him indirectly by saying, “God has placed me in such and such circumstances, and therefore God is really the author of sin into which these circumstances have led me.” James insists that the real responsibility is when we are tempted it is in ourselves. To be tempted is to be “drawn away.” “enticed,” lured like a bird into a trap. By lust James means desire, longing appetite. “When lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin.” When lust is cherished, given way to, then it is sin, and sin is death: “For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.” Rom. 6:23.

SOUND ADVICE AGAINST STRONG DRINK (Temperance Lesson)

Sunday, August 17, 1947

Printed PortionProverbs 20:1; 23:19-21, 29-35; Ecclesiastes 10:17.

Proverbs 20:1. Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise.

Proverbs 23:19. Hear thou, my son, and be wise, and guide thine heart in the way.

20. Be not among winebibbers; among riotous eaters of flesh:

21. For the drunkard and the glutton shall come to poverty: and drowsiness shall clothe a man with rags.

Proverbs 23:29. Who hath woe? who hath sorrows? who hath contentions? who hath babblings? who hath wounds without cause? who hath redness of eyes?

30. They that tarry long at the wine; they that go to seek mixed wine.

31. Look not thou upon the wine when it is red, when it giveth his colour in the cup, when it moveth itself aright.

32. At the last it biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder.

33. Thine eyes shall behold strange women, and thine heart shall utter perverse things.

34. Yea, thou shalt be as he that lieth down in the midst of the sea, or as he that lieth upon the top of a mast.

35. They have stricken me, shalt thou say, and I was not sick; they have beaten me, and I felt it not: when shall I awake? I will seek it yet again.

Ecc. 10:17. Blessed art thou, O land, when thy king is the son of nobles, and thy princes eat in due season, for strength, and not for drunkenness!

Golden Text: Be not drunk with wine where is excess; but be filled with the Spirit. Eph. 5:18.

Practical Truth: The effects of drink are so injurious that it should be left entirely alone.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

One of the most outstanding problems that mankind has ever faced is the problem of strong drink. Surely we must be straight thinking and the conclusions we draw need to be based on facts.

It is most certain that there is no person who is now an abject slave to strong drink, who did not at one time say they would never be a drunkard. They probably took it for a long time without any evil effects seemingly, but one day the unhappy victim finds himself a subject of the most terrible habit that enslaves fallen humanity. Strong drink may truly be said to be a mocker when we see how poor souls appear to struggle to escape from its deadly poison and how unfruitful their efforts are. Wherever strong drink enters, every evil tendency is increased. The angry victim becomes a monster of cruelty, and perhaps he was before a harmless member, or even a useful one, but now becomes hurtful and dangerous. The restraints that are all powerful to govern a man while sober are all utterly useless when he is under the power of strong drink. The deceptive influence of strong drink and the miserable results of allowing it to gain the mastery, are all around in the lands today. None can be ignorant of its nature, or of its effects, for the world is full of homes ruined by it, hearts which it has broken and men whom it has changed into brutes. Experience sets her seal to Solomon's declaration, and brands those who play with such a deadly and treacherous enemy.

Strong drink deceives the nation by the vast amount of revenue that it pours into the public treasury. It is foolish and false economy to encourage the consumption of the article for the sake of revenue it produces. Drink generates pauperism and pauperism is costly. Drink generates crime, and crime is costly.

Who suffers like the drunkard himself? The wise man enumerates some of his miseries—woe, grief, contentions and wounds without cause, the sting of remorse, the disordered brain, and entire loss of consciousness and of power to defend ones own life and soul—this is the drunkard's heritage. And in the intervals between his madness he knows it and drinks to the dregs the bitter cup of bodily and mental misery that must always follow the wine cup. And yet his language is, "I will seek it yet again."

A consideration of the strength and nature of the drunkard's chain should lead all to shun that which enslaves him. Solomon's advice is to ensure safety, by not even "looking upon the wine when it is red."

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WISE WORDS CONCERNING HONESTY

Sunday, August 24, 1947

Printed Portion Proverbs 3:3; 11:1, 3; 12:17-22; 14:5; 20:10 ;23:10, 11; Matt. 5:37.

Proverbs 3:3. Let not mercy and truth forsake thee: bind them about thy neck; write them upon the table of thine heart.

Proverbs 11:1. A false balance is abomination to the Lord: but a just weight is his delight.

3. The integrity of the upright shall guide them: but the perverseness of transgressors shall destroy them.

Proverbs 12:17. He that speaketh truth sheweth forth righteousness: but a false witness deceit.

18. There is that speaketh like the piercings of a sword: but the tongue of the wise is health.

19. The lip of truth shall be established forever: but a lying tongue is but for a moment.

20. Deceit is in the heart of them that imagine evil: but to the counsellors of peace is joy.

21. There shall no evil happen to the just: but the wicked shall be filled with mischief.

22. Lying lips are abomination to the Lord: but they that deal truly are his delight.

Proverbs 14:5. A faithful witness will not lie: but a false witness will utter lies.

Proverbs 20:10. Divers weights, and divers measures, both of them are alike abominations to the Lord.

Proverbs 23:10. Remove not the old landmark; and enter not into the fields of the fatherless:

11. For their redeemer is mighty; he shall plead their cause with thee.

Matt. 5:37. But let your communication be Yea, yea; Nay, nay: for whatsoever is more than these cometh of evil.

Golden Text: Prove all things; hold fast that which is good. Abstain from all appearance of evil. 1 Thess. 5:21, 22.

Practical Truth: Complete honesty is a fundamental moral requirement.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

To bind God's law about the neck is not only to do it, but to rejoice in doing it. After it is put on, then exult in it as the fairest ornament. Mercy and truth—these meeting and kissing in the Mediator reveals the character of God himself. And He desires to see, as it were, a miniature of his own likeness impressed upon his children. An impress should be taken on our own hearts, that we may always have the will of God hidden within us. Their forsaking us is more than our forsaking them. Our forsaking them may come of our weakness, but their forsaking us comes of our wilfulness and hardness of heart in not entertaining them.

Surely he that weighs in a false balance is himself weighed by God in a balance of justice and the gain he gets he gets to himself from the Lord His just abominations. But a just balance is a delight unto God. Truth is both the surest and shortest road in every difficulty. The crooked way is a far more difficult one at the first, and the defence of it afterwards doubles the balance.

David said, "I will walk in mine integrity," and in doing anything there is no surer way of doing it than to have integrity of heart. Everyone that is truly godly has a faithful guide and an upright counsellor in his own breast. If the great joys of heaven is uprightness, and the price of wisdom above rubies, then integrity is the best guide in the world, for no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly. God is on the look-out always for an honest heart. "For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show Himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward Him." (2 Chron. 16:9). If there be one, God will not miss him, for his desiring, all-searching eye is running the world through to find him.

He that speaketh that which is truth will show righteousness. The rule which the Saviour gave in another case will hold as firmly in this: "He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much." (Luke 16:10). Men are slain and blood is shed by swords, but swords can only hurt those who are present and in places near by, but the stroke of the tongue will light most dangerously upon them that are absent. The tongue of truth is ever steady, but the tongue of falsehood is so but for a moment. Honesty is just truth in conduct; and truth is honesty in words.

Never must we forget that the most ancient landmarks of truth and duty are those which have been fixed here—in the Bible—by the hands of the prophets and apostles, under the immediate direction of the "Spirit of the Lord."

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WISE WORDS ABOUT WORK

Sunday, August 31, 1947

Printed Portion Proverbs 6:6-11; 18:9; 22:29; 24:30-32; 27:23; Ecclesiastes 5:12.

Proverbs 6:6. Go to the ant, thou sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise.

7. Which having no guide, overseer or ruler,

8. Provideth her meat in the summer, and gathereth her food in the harvest.

9. How long wilt thou sleep, O sluggard? when wilt thou arise out of sleep?

10. Yet a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep?

11. So shall thy poverty come as one that travelleth, and thy want as an armed man.

Proverbs 18:9. He also that is slothful in his work is brother to him that is a great waster.

Proverbs 22:29. Seest thou a man diligent in his business? he shall stand before kings; he shall not stand before mean men.

Proverbs 24:30. I went by the field of the slothful, and by the vineyard of the man void of understanding;

31. And, lo, it was all grown over with thorns, and nettles had covered the face thereof, and the stone wall thereof was broken down.

32. Then I saw, and considered it well: I looked upon it, and received instruction.

Proverbs 27:23. Be thou diligent to know the state of thy flocks, and look well to thy herds.

Ecc. 5:12. The sleep of a laboring man is sweet, whether he eat little or much: but the abundance of the rich will not suffer him to sleep.

Golden Text: Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might. Ecc. 9:10.

Practical Truth: Honest work contributes to our well-being both temporally and spiritually.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Nature is intended to be a moral teacher to man. He first announced this truth when he said to Noah, "I do set my bow in the cloud, and it shall be for a token of a covenant between me and the earth." Gen. 9:13. Nature becomes the instructor of those only who consider her ways. Here is an exhortation to gain instruction—to be stirred up to a sense of duty from a study of one of God's inferior creatures. Solomon's precept is, "Consider the ant." The amount of work done by this insignificant insect ought to be enough to shame any indolent man into activity. Our whole present life is the time for action, the future for retribution which the judgment shall usher in. Let the ant be a guide unto the sluggard and teach him to guide himself who guides herself so carefully. The ant in summer gathers whereupon to live in winter so every Christian in a time of quietness should gather out of God's Word, that in time of trouble and adversity he may have wherewith to live spiritually. We ought to labor by the example of the ant, that we get the fruit of good works, that in the time of winter and judgment we perish not with hunger.

How long wilt thou sleep, thou spiritual sluggard? Thou that art sleeping away the opportunities of grace; not "striving to enter in at the strait gate," taking salvation for granted, hoping that thou shalt "reap where thou hast not sown, and gather where thou hast not strawed." (Matt. 25:26). The ant has no guide. How many guides have you? She has no overseer. You are living before Him "whose eyes are as a flame of fire. She has no ruler calling her to account. "Every one of us must give account of himself to God."

The slothful man is a waster of God's most precious gift, "Time." Time is one of the most precious things in the world. When God gives us a moment, he does not promise us another; as if to teach us highly to value and improve it, for ought we to know, it may be the last. Time, when gone, never returns. A moment once lost is lost forever. When we realize what results depend upon what a man does with his time, we can see the force of the proverb, because a slothful man is a waster of the most precious commodity in this world.

A vineyard is not a heritage of little or no value. If rightly cared for and cultivated it will yield to its owner the means of obtaining an honest living, and it may be, put him in possession of wealth. The picture of our study is a representation of what is before our eyes every day. A vineyard of opportunities is inherited by a slothful youth who is too indolent and careless to improve them. The vineyard of a vast fortune is intrusted to one who is "void of understanding," who does not realize his responsibility to God or man. It was God's purpose that this vineyard should bring forth better things than thorns and nettles. He desired to see it covered with choice vines, whose branches should be loaded with clusters of refreshing fruit. But this could not be unless man would be a co-worker with him. God did his part. The rain watered the soil, the sun shone upon it, but man refused to dig and plant and cultivate.

Our souls are committed by God to our own spiritual cultivation. They will not thrive themselves. If we would have them "as a watered garden, and as a field which the Lord hath blessed," we must apply spiritual activity and labor to stock them with the appropriate graces, affections, and virtues. We must sow the seed and seek by prayer the showers of divine blessings. We must watch the germination, the springing and the growth. Without this, all will be stunted.

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GOD'S LOVE

Did it ever occur to you in trial that God had withdrawn himself? "Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you." Job had some experiences like this, but he was not discouraged. He said, "He knoweth the way that I take: when He hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold." It is a blessed thought to know "He knoweth the way that I take," to know He is ever keeping us beneath His watchful eye. Whatever God allows to come upon us is for our good and his glory if we are living close to him and trusting him as we ought: "All things work together for good to them that love God." The little things so many times are passed over or complained at, whereas if we would always take them to God they would only draw us closer to him: let us as James has said, "count it all joy."

—Neva Buchanan