

FAITH ^{AND} VICTORY

The EVENING LIGHT WATCHMAN



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Look to the Cross

Look to the cross, behold:
My hands and feet they pierced;
Bleeding, my weight they hold;
My side also they pierced.

And by loved ones denied;
I died for you in shame.
Upon the cross I cried—
Today my love's the same.

Harden not your heart now,
But hear my pleading voice,
To my cross come and bow,
Just make me now your choice.

I have called and pleaded
For you that are in sin,
Yet you've not conceded
To let me enter in.

There is a day coming
When you will plead in vain,
Then you will be running
At the sound of my name.

To the rocks and mountains,
"Fall on us," be your cry—
There'll be no more fountains
To save before you die.

Heed this invitation,
This day may be your last,
There's no consolation,
God's day of grace then past.

See me in the garden
In agony and pain:
Your heart do not harden,
Or you will call in vain.

Let me into your heart,
Take me along with you.
I will never depart
As long as you are true.

—Clyde Stroud

The Stone Which the Builders Rejected

"The stone which the builders refused is become the head stone of the corner." *Psa. 118:22.*

The first thought on this Scripture might lead us to believe it was written only to the Jews; however, as we meditate upon the words of the Psalmist, it is brought to our minds in a forceful way that this is the very thing overtaking Christendom today.

We find also in Matt. 21:42, Jesus bringing to their remembrance the words of David. In Acts 4:11, 12, Peter, filled with the Holy Ghost, is moved to warn the elders and rulers of the people. In verse 11 he says (speaking of Christ) "This is the stone which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner" (or church). Verse 12: "Neither is there salvation in any other, for there is none other name under heaven given among men whereby we must be saved."

It causes us to become concerned when we see the great majority of professing Christians standing before God guilty of this same offence. Thank God for a remnant who today still hold to the old paths and teach that the only corner stone is Christ and any other way is of the world. Protestantism is endeavoring to build upon their own man-made corner stone. They build with more works than faith. Even the so-called church of God has fallen in line with her and is trying to build on the stones of Protestantism.

1 Peter 2:1-10 also agrees with the former Scriptures. Verse 6: "Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect and precious; and he that believeth on Him shall not be confounded." Praise God.

It is no marvel that today the Christian people are so confounded and divided. They have built on their own ideas and works, and God does not honor such with his presence. Verse 9: "But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people." Here is a direct challenge to the church of God. We are most definitely instructed here that we are to be a holy people and a peculiar people.

We must be separated from all ungodliness and all things pertaining to worldliness. Nowadays it is difficult to tell the professor from the sinner in the way of clothing, make up, etc.

Great buildings are often seen with signs in front labeling them as certain churches. What an error! for God's people are the church and the building is only a meeting place. Man has called his great building of wood, stone, etc. "the church." Man is making his own doctrines as it was in Matt. 15:9. And Jesus said, "In vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrine the commandments of men."

At a campmeeting this last summer, a leading minister made this statement as he started to preach the sermon for the afternoon service: "Brethren, the committee asked me if I wouldn't preach this sermon." And he preached what men had asked him to preach. Woe upon ministers who dare preach the word of man rather than God.

We understand in the Scripture above that we cannot preach for doctrines the commandments of men. Such preaching is vain. Brethren, let us rise up and denounce these things. Let us seek the face and favor of God upon our ministry rather than man's favor. We are under authority to build on Christ's commandments and not man's ideas. We are to preach the TRUTH. The truth will divide and separate the church from ungodliness, and the precious Holy Ghost will move in our midst, and miracles will be done. We shall see the sick healed and devils cast out. Let us come away from man's authority and get into the will of God and be an holy peculiar people. Let our building be founded upon the rock Christ Jesus. —Edith Knott.

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Union and Unity

Nearly two thousand years ago our Lord and Master prayed for the unity of all believers (John 17:21) "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." After these many long years we see the majority of His professed followers divided into many different bodies, teaching different doctrines. Today they are beginning to cry for *union*. I understand that there is a move on now to unite all denominations into one body, form in a union patterned after the union of the U. S. of America.

Men may unite in one body to carry out certain plans, and leave God out. This is union. Union without unity is of men. God only is the author of unity. When we are one as Jesus and the Father are one, then we have unity. Everything short of this may be union, but not unity.

Jesus said, "I came not to do mine own will, but the will of the Father." "The Father in me doeth the works." This unity for which Jesus prayed was in the mind of God before the world was. The all-wise Creator knew that without perfect unity of His believers, His plan for the salvation of the world would be defeated. We cannot have unity without

submission. Jesus prayed, "Not my will, but thine be done."

Unity is the state of being one, where there is concord, agreement, harmony, coupled with love.

We have an example of perfect unity in the early church at Jerusalem. When a body of believers are united in one place, with one accord, with all wills submitted to His will, not speaking their own mind, but speaking as God speaks through them, then they will all speak the same thing and see eye to eye.

God's plan, will, and law must be carried out to have unity. Matt. 28:18-20, "And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, . . . teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world."

Dear saints, there is but one way to bring all believers unto the unity of the faith. Eph 4:11-13, "And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ." The God-given power and authority that is invested in God's officers of the church, as it is made known to us through the Word and the Spirit, must be recognized and obeyed by us, His humble saints, just as the disciples of old recognized, loved, and obeyed the Master if we are to have the unity for which Jesus prayed. Heb. 13:17, "Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief; for this is unprofitable for you."—H. P. Huskey

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Deliverance

"Repent ye therefore and be converted that your sins may be blotted out." Acts 3:19. "Let the wicked forsake his way and the unrighteous man his thoughts and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon." Isa. 55:7. This forsaking includes all evil habits of every description, no matter of how long standing or how deep in them men have gone. They must be forsaken, then God will deliver that individual from their power.

People who think they have the divine favor with God without forsaking of their sins are deceived. It does not matter if they have prayed every day and asked forgiveness, they are not saved while continuing to do the works of sin. And unless they come to the point where they actually turn from every wrong, and are saved from the past, they will be lost in hell with all of the non-professing sinners.

Listen to the Word: "If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me." Ps. 66:18.

If we excuse sin in our hearts and lives and ex-

pect to continue in it, we may pray as long as we live, but God will pay no attention to our prayers. In Mal. 2:13, we read of some people who were "covering the altar of the Lord with tears, with weeping, and with crying out," and still he would not regard them for their hearts were not right. But a broken spirit, a broken and contrite heart (the truly penitent heart) God will not despise (Prov. 51:17). When men become so broken in spirit that the hot tears of remorse and sorrow flow freely, when they realize their lost condition without Christ, then there is hope for them in God. Bless his name!

(The above is selected).

Many people are seeking a way to heaven without forsaking all to follow Jesus; but surely they are deceived and will be found wanting at the judgment day.

Oh! dear professor of religion, do not be deceived by the devil with all of his cunning and ways of trickery, for he is walking up and down in the earth seeking whom he may devour. I say, if men and women will love God as they should, they will not let the trifling things of earth stand between them and their God. But instead, their hearts will cry out with all hate against that sin monster that has separated the human race from God, causing all the trouble in the world today.

Oh, yes, we that are Christians do thank God for freedom from sin and for the power of deliverance from it. Now we are masters over sin instead of sin being master over us, praise His name forever. When we yield to Him and accept Him as our Savior and deliverer, it makes us more than conquerors through Him that loved us.

Many people are teaching that Jesus does not save to a full deliverance from sin, but saves them in their sins. But the Scriptural teaching is that his people are delivered from sin; and we thank God that we have this superior testimony. We are glad for the plan of God to redeem man and make us priests and kings unto God, so we may rule and reign in this life over sin, for sin shall not have dominion over the redeemed. Paul said he was not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God unto salvation, which means deliverance.

—W. C. McMakin

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Beware Lest Satan Beguile You

"For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after: they have erred from the faith and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

"They that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition." "For what shall it profit a man if he shall gain the whole world and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?"

Jesus said that every one who layeth up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God is like the rich fool whose ground brought forth plentifully. He

pulled down his barns and made them larger, and then he stored this great abundance of food in his big barns, all for HIMSELF, and he rejoiced because he had enough food stored up to last *himself* many years. When the great Ruler of the universe beheld him, He said, "Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee. Then whose shall those things be which thou hast provided?"

What a different picture all this would have made if this rich man had remembered the Giver of all good gifts and would have had pity on the poor, insomuch that he would have made himself a channel through which the Lord could have poured out his blessings on the needy. Prov. 19:17, "He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the Lord: and that which he hath given will He pay him again."

Just listen to these good sound instructions as they fall from the Master's lips: "Give and it shall be given unto you: good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over shall men give unto your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal, it shall be measured to you again." Think then how much we would have to give to them who are less fortunate than ourselves. Some people are so poor they have nothing but gold. "Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not high-minded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy. That they do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate."

Money is the medium of exchange, so it is needful that we have money, but let us be careful lest we allow our affections to become set on it. For then the devil will show us how to make lots of money and get rich quick. Sometimes this scheme of the devil works when all he has tried before has failed. Covetousness is born of the love of money, and the precious old Book tells us that covetousness is idolatry.

Now in conclusion, let us consider the love of money. First, it is the root of ALL evil. Next, it causes us to err from the faith that is so precious to all true believers. And last but not least, we pierce ourselves through with many sorrows and then drown in destruction and perdition. So let us beware of covetousness, but "seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness and ALL these things shall be added unto you." Heaven is the only safe place to lay up our treasures. —George W. Stephenson

ASSEMBLY MEETING NOTICE

Lord willing the Oregon assembly meeting will be held this season January 16 to 25, 1948, in the saints' chapel in Jefferson, Ore. We urge all saints in reach to come, as we feel God will bless all. Meals will be served in the dining hall and we feel that sleeping quarters can be supplied for all who come. If convenient, bring some blankets. Come praying for the meeting. We are looking to the Lord, and asking Him to send the ministers to us who love and preach the whole truth. Pray for us and the meeting. Anyone wanting further information write to Emma Busch, Scio, Ore., Noah White or Sam Wilson of Jefferson, Ore.

"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

Phone Number 1523-J

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.;

Color.—Dear Bro. Pruitt,—I was glad to get your letter, and so glad that God did heal me. It is wonderful what He did for me. I appreciate your prayers for me. Thank God for the victory for soul and body through Jesus. Yours in Him, Manly L. Jones

Editorials

By the time this issue of the "Faith and Victory" paper reaches our readers, the old year will have spent itself and the New Year of 1948 will begin its forward march.

It seems but a short time since the year of 1947 began to number its days, and as we think back over the days and months of the past year it brings to our minds many trials and triumphs of faith and victory which the Lord has permitted to be our lot in life. He has blessed the printing work and the workers at the shop and has made it a blessed heavenly place: peace and quietness in the home; and peace, quietness, and blessed assurance in the office work.

The office workers are all sanctified children of God whom the Lord himself has sent here to get this gospel out to men by the printed page; and the Lord makes it a heavenly place in the home and in the print shop.

Last summer some blood vessels bursted in my right limb just above the ankle, seemingly caused by being on my feet so much on the concrete floors in the press and composing rooms. It became so sore and painful that I could scarcely bear my weight on it. When on my feet very much it would swell and become inflamed. At times we would get victory over it but it would break out again because of too much use. The Lord saw the need, so He sent Bro. Clyde Stroud here from northwest Missouri to relieve me. The Lord has made him useful and a blessing, and I am enabled thus to keep off my feet much more than otherwise. Today there is a tender raw place left about the size of a silver dollar. We believe the Lord will completely heal it and make it normal again. Will you be agreed in prayer for us? He has promised to hear the cries of his children.

We do not know what the New Year holds for us, but we do know that He who is Almighty is abundantly able to keep that which we have committed unto him. We are facing the New Year with greater faith than usual, for He has proved His tender loving care for us so much that we can go forth with boldness and great confidence in His all-prevailing power; for we know that when Christ was raised from the grave and ascended up on high that he led "captivity captive" and set us free to glorify him, and by faith we arise in the strength of Jehovah and defy the enemy to block the ways of the Lord.

Satan has made many attempts in various ways to hinder and destroy this printing work, but in every battle the Lord has shown his conquering power and gave the victory. These evening light truths must go forth as there is an honest and sincere soul here and there that will hearken to the truth and get into the ark of safety. We shall, by the grace of God, dare to send it forth in its clearness that we may gather the few who will stand for the truth and dare to be true. The powers of darkness are gathering fast, deceiving many, but the true light from heaven is shining more and more in the hearts of the faithful and their courage is strong in the Lord to go through,

not counting their lives dear unto them that Christ might be seen, heard, and known. It is settled Bible truth that those that save their own lives in his world will lose eternal life. Brethren, God has grace for every need, and if the need becomes greater, he has more grace. Keep your faith and confidence in Him who has created the earth and all things therein, who has power over Satan and all evil. His omnipotent hand is underneath and He alone will hold you up and make you able to stand; therefore glorify Him in your body and soul which are his.

As we write the editorials for the January, 1948 issue of "Faith and Victory," the time is drawing near for the ministers' meeting to begin, and we are soon expecting a large assembly of clean sanctified ministers who really fear the Lord and mean by his grace, wisdom, and help to follow our Savior and abide in Him at any cost. The "getting together" of the ministry is a good thing, as it gives each one an opportunity to express themselves on different Bible subjects and hear what others have learned of the Lord on the same thing. Gatherings of this kind will help to root out any misunderstanding of Scripture and tend to unity and oneness in the faith, for there will be ministers here with different gifts of the Spirit. Some are gifted as apostles (planters of truth); some, prophets, some evangelists; some, pastors and teachers. These meetings will tend to the perfecting of the saints in the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: till we all come into the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ; that none will be as children tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine (of which christendom is full) by the sleight of men and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive.

The state assembly meeting will begin just five days after the ministers' meeting closes, and we expect to have meeting every night during this time, as we are expecting ministers to remain over for the assembly meeting. We are expecting the usual glorious assembly meeting. We shall, by the help of the Lord tell you more about these meetings in the February issue of the "Faith and Victory" paper.

In this last of the last days we find a multiplied number of false doctrines or winds of doctrine blowing that hinder and discourage many precious souls. Some are more destructive and soul-damaging than others. Among some of the worst is Spiritualism, Christian Science (so-called), Millennial Dawnism or Rutherfordism, and New Thoughtism.

One false doctrine that is very destructive to faith in God comes from a sect of people that claim to see the church and have many good Scriptures upholding the truth on this line; but they claim that all miracles ceased with the apostles and in this way deny the Scripture that says in Hebrews 13:8, "Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, and today, and forever." They limit the Holy Father and His Son down to their

little contracted faith and keep souls under bondage to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience. Souls that are taught and believe that they can never get free from sin in this life will never get free from sin, and souls that are taught and believe that God does no miracles in these days will never have faith to receive healing of the body and other miracles that God may and would perform for them. By this cunning and crafty teaching many souls are crushed and bruised under the power of the wicked one that otherwise might enjoy freedom and liberty given to men by the Almighty God that rules above all the powers of Satan.

It seems that many Christians think that most all the good things the Scriptures tell us about are for us over yonder after we pass from this life, and by believing such things they miss much joy and comfort and the reality of God working now which so edifies, builds up, and gives assurance in our present state.

There is a teaching among many that we are not married to the Lord until the judgment sets and we are judged worthy to go into the marriage supper, and then we are married to the Lord. They believe it thus because the Scriptures have been misapplied. The parables that Jesus uses were directed principally to the Jews for he said in Matt. 15:24, "I am not sent but unto the lost sheep of the house of Israel." When the Jews rejected Christ as a nation, in a general sense the "door was shut" to them and they could not go into the marriage supper. Read the 11th chapter of Romans from the 7th to 11th verses. Read Acts 28:26, 27; 2 Cor. 3:14, 15.

In Rev. 21:9, we read where the angel said to John, "Come hither, I will shew thee the Bride, the Lamb's wife, and in the next verse he was carried to a high mountain and saw the great city, the Holy Jerusalem (a symbol of the church, saved people) descending out of heaven from God. People that are saved and sanctified, having been born from above, receive their life, strength, wisdom, and power from above and are not of this world (John 19:14), therefore they are the bride, the Lamb's wife that have come down from God out of heaven and are in this world but not of the world. The Scriptures teach us very plainly that we are right now, when saved and sanctified, married to the Lord. In Romans 7:4 we read that the law, or the first husband of God's children (symbolically speaking) being dead, we should be married to another, even to Him who was raised from the dead, that we should bring forth fruit unto God. In Eph. 5:30 we read, "For we [the church, or saved people] are members of his body [the church, Col. 1:25] of his flesh, of his bones. And for this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh. This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church." If this Scripture does not speak plainly that the church at the present time is married to Christ, then the English language betrays us, which we know is not true.

There are also many other Scriptures that teach this truth, and to those that believe it, it becomes a deep realization in their souls and causes them to have more kindness and tenderness toward the Lord, with confidence and assurance in Him that he will give all needed sustenance to His bride, his wife, and will bring her to that great day of meeting Him in the air (1 Thess. 4:17) where she shall ever be in a glorified state with the Lord.

Another false teaching that is pressing and blowing against the faithful in Christ is the doctrine that is trying to do away with the ordinances which Jesus instituted and the apostles taught and practiced. They are presuming to have more knowledge than the Lord and the apostles and jungle up the Scriptures in order to do away with these sacred ordinances that, if properly understood and practiced, bring joy, comfort, and refreshing from above into the soul of faithful followers of the Lord.

Paul, who was sent from God and preached the gospel many years after Jesus ascended to heaven, said, "For I received of the Lord that which I delivered unto you, That the Lord Jesus the same night in which he was betrayed took bread." Read the account in the eleventh chapter of 1 Cor. This is verse 23. He goes on to tell them about eating of the bread and supping of the cup, which Christians are to do in remembrance of the Lord.

Brethren, let us follow the teachings of the Lord and the apostles, and we shall not be blown off into confusion and fancy ideas of men.

Just recently a tract has been circulated which teaches that if a person is scripturally married and then puts away his wife, getting a divorce and then in open violation to God's Word takes a second companion while the first is still living; he or she then breaks their wedlock or marriage tie from the first companion and such action would deprive them of having any companion while both are living.

We do not find any such teaching in the New Testament. Christ taught that when one is lawfully married to another, they are joined together until death parts them. This was God's plan and law from the beginning and no sinful act of man changes God's law. We read in Matt. 19:6, "What therefore God hath joined together, let no man put asunder."

By far the greatest evil that is working in the world today is the doctrine of Communism, under which atheism is hid. The word "communism" does not mean anything bad, but it is that old atheist dragon spirit told about in Revelation 20:2 that is being loosed again for a little season and is going about to deceive the nations, as spoken of in the 8th verse of the same chapter; and he is steadily moving on with his deceptive work. The U. S. Government is putting up quite a fight against the principles of Communism, but they are failing in their conclusions about the matter and what in reality they are going up against.

The prophecies are going to be fulfilled no matter what men may do. Our government is appropriating millions of dollars and sending to Europe to check and destroy the influence of this dragon power.

They are just wasting the substance of the people and weakening their own hands, for according to prophecy, this evil power is going to swallow up the nations in its deceptive ways.

The wise thing for the saints to do is to steadfastly hold their faith in God and be willing to give their lives, if needs be, for Christ's sake. For many of the saints no doubt will be persecuted, jailed, and slain by this power when it controls the governments. This government is doomed as well as others. God is the only hope for this nation, and they have gone so far in sin and evil, upholding the liquor traffic, lynching, degrading picture shows, and putting a premium on war, until it seems that they are fast ripening for great slaughter and destruction.

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Oneness

"STAND FAST IN ONE SPIRIT, WITH ONE MIND STRIVING TOGETHER FOR THE FAITH OF THE GOSPEL." Phil. 1:27.

Not one text in the New Testament teaches that division among God's people is right, but everywhere unity is enjoined and division is denounced. We read of ONE Lord, ONE salvation, ONE God, ONE faith, ONE Spirit, ONE mind, ONE mouth, ONE body, ONE baptism, ONE new and living way, ONE Bible, and ONE heaven, and in order to serve this ONE God aright, follow this one Lord according to his one new and living way, obey his one revealed Word, and go home to this one heaven, we must be ALL ONE IN CHRIST JESUS." —Selected by W. C. M.

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Obituary

Sister Mary Belle Babcock, 68, passed away Nov. 19, 1947 at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Sam Ritter in Wyandotte, Okla. She had been in failing health for the past several months.

She was born near Bramer, Mo. June 27, 1879, and when a small child, moved with her family to Clearwater, Nebraska. On December 25, 1894, she was married to Lee Babcock and in 1899 they moved to West Plains, Mo. In 1912 they moved to Dewey and they have made their home in Dewey since that time. Mr. Babcock preceded her in death in 1939.

Survivors include her daughter, Mrs. Sam Ritter of Wyandotte, Okla.; one son, Carl of Davenport, Iowa; three brothers, James Rayner of Tuxedo, and Guy and Earl Rayner, both of Dewey; one sister, Mrs. Ellen Dixon of Oakland, California; four grandchildren, two great-grandchildren; one uncle and several nieces and nephews.

Sister Babcock came among the saints about five years ago. She was a lover of the true way and the saints loved her. Her testimony on her death bed was that her deepest desire was to be what God wanted her to be. She said she had done all she could. She suffered much in her body in her last hours.

The funeral service was conducted at Dewey, Okla. by Bro. Sam Barton and Bro. Charles Smith.

A BUILDING PROJECT

Okmulgee, Okla.—To the members of the body of Christ, all assemblies, and individual readers of "Faith and Victory," greetings in the precious name of the Lord Jesus.

We, the saints of the Okmulgee assembly are asking all to help us. We need a dining hall, and the Lord is going to help us build at once. We already have a little finance and material on hand. We truly need your prayers; and should you send us a donation, we will thank you and God will bless and reward you for the same. Yours truly in His great name,

G. W. McMillan, O. Edwards, Corean Roberson, Cora L. Jackson, Frances Dixon, and others.

Send all money to G. W. McMillan, 1101 N. Sioux, Okmulgee, Okla.

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A SPECIAL OFFER UNTIL JAN. 15, 1948

Strong's Exhaustive Concordance, the only complete concordance of the English Bible. This book also has a dictionary of the words in the "Hebrew Bible" with their renderings in the "Authorized English Version"; also a "Greek Dictionary" of the New Testament. It has a good strong cloth binding; size 12 by 9 inches by 2 inches thick and weighs 7½ lbs. The regular price is \$8.75. Our special price to ministers and gospel workers until Jan. 15, 1948 is \$8.00 postpaid to any address in the U. S.

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The following "Oxford Bibles" are now in stock at this office:

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Fervent Love

My heart aches as I can see Jesus in my mind looking down upon Jerusalem when he said, "How often would I have gathered thy children together as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not." Matt. 23:37. I can see him looking down at the city in the moonlight while all others were asleep, see the tears on his cheek and in his eyes as he got up from prayer. He had plead with them and taught them how to get saved, but they had turned him down. But still he loved them fervently, and his desire was to see them turn from their wickedness and seek after salvation.

Jesus suffered untold agonies for our salvation and our healing. He made it possible for us to have both here on earth. In order to receive them, we must obey his words. The whole plan of salvation and healing hinges on love to God and to one another.

Under the anointing of the Holy Spirit, Peter wrote instructions to Christians to "love one another fervently." (1 Peter 1:22). Then Paul tells us in Rom. 12:9-21 to love one another preferring one another.

Oh, dear saints, can you say from the depth of your heart that you prefer your brother to prosper more than you in this world? That is just what Jesus meant. He wants us to have that much love for our brethren and act like it and prove it by going out of our way for our brethren. Let us not be envious, as some are who profess to love God.

What caused Jesus to go out night after night and pray alone in the stillness of night while others slept? It was love unfeigned. Prayer with love and anguish of heart for our brethren will move God on his throne to answer prayer. Love and a continual prayer without ceasing night and day moved God to deliver Peter out of the hands of Herod (Acts 12:

5-12). Their brother was in trouble so they all gathered together at Mary's house and went to prayer. No doubt they fasted and prayed just as if it were their own doom awaiting them. They did not just pray one or two prayers and get up and start talking about material things. No, they continued to plead with God for a brother, and they got results. We can do the same today when we get in earnest as they were.

If the saints today would gather together and forget about their work and all else but their brother or sister and fast and pray, there would be great healings done. But a prayer or two is usually offered and then they wonder what is wrong that the afflicted one is not healed. Oh, let us love fervently!

Do we pray enough? The apostles wanted to be released from some of their temporal duties so they could give all their time to prayer (Acts 6:1-4); but today most of us do not use what time we have to pray.

Elijah did not quit praying until a small cloud came in sight. He held on in prayer and God answered (1 Kings 18:42-46). Paul and Silas were praying until midnight, and no doubt the rest of the saints were praying too. As a result, the jailer was saved and they were delivered. Praise God, for this privilege of prayer to God! We can see Peter and John walking up to the lame man with confidence, and he was made whole, all because they were prayed up. God can and will do just as much today when the church prays as much as they did then.

God's ministers must forget about temporal things and live by prayer and faith. We cannot please God and be grabbing after the things of this world. I am seeing some great healings done today, but only through earnest, fervent prayer. Let us have more prayer and more healing. Please turn to Isa. 58:3-14 and see what is a false fast, also see what is a true and acceptable fast. When we fast in the Spirit, God will accept it and answer.

—Clyde Stroud

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Wesley on Dress

If you could be as humble as when you choose plain apparel (which I flatly deny), yet you could not be as beneficent, as plentiful in good works. Every shilling which you save from your own apparel you may expend in clothing the naked and relieving the various necessities of the poor, whom ye have always with you. Therefore every shilling which you needlessly spend on your apparel is, in effect, stolen from God and the poor.

For what end did you buy these ornaments? To please God? No, but to please your own fancy, or to gain the admiration and applause of those that were no wiser than yourself. If so, what you put upon yourself you are, in effect, tearing from the back of the naked; as the costly and delicate food which you eat, you are snatching from the mouth of the hungry. For mercy, for pity, for Christ's sake, for the honor

of His Gospel, stay your hand! Do not throw this money away. Do not lay out nothing, yea, worse than nothing, what may clothe your poor, naked, shivering fellow creature!

Many years ago, when I was at Oxford, on a cold winter's day, a young maid (one of those we kept at school), called on me. I said, "You seem half starved. Have you nothing to cover you but this gown?" She said, "Sir, this is all I have." I put my hand in my pocket, but found no money left, having just paid away all that I had. It struck me, will thy Master say, "Well done, good and faithful steward! Thou hast adorned thy wall with the money which might have screened this poor creature from the cold"? O justice! O mercy! Are not these pictures the blood of the poor maid? See thy expensive apparel in the same light; thy gown, hat, and head-dress! Everything about thee to lay out is the blood of the poor. Oh, be wise for the time is come! Be more faithful to God and man, more abundantly adorned (like men and women professing godliness) with good works.

It is stark, staring nonsense to say, "Oh, I can afford this or that!" If you have regard to common sense, let that silly word never come into your mouth. No man living can afford to throw away any part of that food or raiment into the sea which is lodged with him on purpose to feed the hungry and clothe the naked. And it is far worse than waste to spend any part of it on costly apparel. For this is no less than to turn wholesome food into deadly poison. It is giving so much money to poison both yourselves and others, as far as your example spreads, with pride, vanity, anger, lust, love of the world, and a thousand foolish and hurtful desires which tend to "pierce them through with many sorrows," O God, arise and maintain Thine own cause! Let not men and devils any longer put out our eyes and lead us blind-folded into the pit of destruction.

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Pa.—Dear Bro. Pruitt,—Greetings in Jesus' precious name. The Lord has been so very good to me and so near. I had been very sick; so sick I hardly knew I was in this world, but my dear heavenly Father touched my body, and here I am tonight writing this letter, praise His most holy name. It sure is sweet to trust in Jesus just to take Him at His Word. We feel encouraged and feel like traveling on until I reach that beautiful home of the soul built by Jesus on high, where we never shall die, 'tis a land where we never grow old. Praise God!

Dear sinner friend, don't you want to get ready to go along to that beautiful home where Jesus built the home of the soul, where we never shall die? Jesus is calling you to come to Him now; tomorrow might be too late. Come.

—Minnie M. Krause

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N. M.—Dear ones—I desire to write a word about the paper. I do love to read those good testimonies from the saints. We have a little class started here at last. I love to go and be with true saints of the Lord. Please pray for our little group here. We want the Lord to have his way with us and His will be done in us. We can see the time is short. Pray for us that we work while we can. Your sister in Christ, Mrs. J. J. Long.

CHILDREN'S CORNER

CORRESPONDENCE

Hello, Children:

I want to write to you today about something that has made my heart very sad. Lately, we have read in the newspaper of several boys and girls killing others. Oh, such an awful thing to even think of doing, and more terrible if it is done. One girl who killed another five-year-old child had killed little kittens and puppies before, and she said she just had a desire to kill.

Another nine-year-old boy killed another seven-year-old boy when he got mad because the boy was going to tell he had stolen ten dollars from his mother. These are terrible crimes to commit, and for our sweet little children to be able to do them.

Now children, let's think about why these boys and girls would do these things.

Some parents allow their children to come home from school and sit down by the radio and listen till bedtime to these stories that have killing, fighting, and shooting in them. Maybe within thirty minutes you have heard about two or three getting killed. These stories cause you to become excited and you don't sleep well, your food doesn't digest right, and some teachers say you can't study well, your mind is so full of those stories.

Then some boys and girls go to picture shows and see murder and shooting on the screens. Then the soldiers receive medals and great honor because they have killed so many. No wonder our children can kill kittens, puppies, and then children and adults. They have seen and heard of so much killing and a lot of parents seem to think it is all right what they have seen and heard.

So children, let's not listen to crime radio programs or go to picture shows. Jesus wants us to think about good things. Think about helping others and doing good. And if a bad thought or desire comes into your mind just don't think about it. Just refuse to let it stay and pray to Jesus to help you and he will.

Aunt Marie.

—oO—

HAPPY NEW YEAR

H is for happiness
All the year through,
P is for peace and
Perfection too,
Y is for yes;
Never delay,
Even tho' tired;
Work while 'tis day.
Years pass quickly,
Evening is nigh;
All on the altar,
Ready to die.

—Leslie Busbee

(9 years old, Guthrie)

La.—Dear brothers and sisters in the Lord everywhere, greetings,—Truly, this another Thanksgiving season, we want to renew our thanks to the great God of the universe, our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, for his precious love and kindness to the children of men, that through the precious blood of Jesus we can be saved, sanctified, and healed. I am indeed grateful to God for his mercy and love extended to me. I want to grow in grace and knowledge of the Lord and sink deeper into his will.

We indeed are living in perilous times, when men are lovers of themselves more than lovers of God, proud, blasphemers, covetous, boasters, having a form of godliness but denying the power of God; from such, turn away (1 Tim 3:2-5). We are living in a time when people are trying to convince the people that they are Christians by saying, "I am as good as you are" or that "I can tell you the time and the place," instead of proving that Christ reigns by living a holy life every day. Oh, if the people could realize what it will mean to stand before God with only a profession! The world is full of false religion, but what it needs is pure religion and undefiled before God. There was a time when God excused ignorance, but now commands men everywhere to repent.

God's Word says, woe be to them that are at ease in Zion. Saints of God, let us arise, shake ourselves, awake to the condition that surrounds us and renew our consecration and our zeal. Soon millions will be at the judgment, and many will be crying for the rocks and the mountains to fall on them to hide them from God whose Son's blood they have trampled under their feet.

Oh, that men would praise God for his goodness to the children of men!

To my friends, relatives, saints, and readers of this article, I'd like to give the words of a song. It is my testimony.

"I'm walking in the safest path
That anyone has ever trod;
It leads straight through this world of sin,
Up to the throne of God.

" 'Tis the good old way, the gospel way,
That my Savior's feet have trod;
'Tis the blood-stained way, the Calvary way,
But it leads straight up to God."

Your blood-washed sister, Beulah Sneed Carter.
2716 Southern, Shreveport, La.

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Washington, D. C.—Dear Bro. Pruitt and saints,—Greetings in the name of Jesus. I am still saved and pressing my way. I am thanking and praising God for His goodness to me. He is so good to me I don't know what I would do without the Lord.

I have been crippled in my knees for about two weeks and could hardly walk, but I just trusted in the Lord and thank him and praise him for his healing power. I am well enough to get out again, may His name have all the praise for his goodness. I was so sorry I could not get there for any of the campmeetings this year. I missed you all so badly for I do need your prayers that the Lord will completely heal my leg that I can still go and sing for Him. Please ask all the saints to agree in prayer for me and my home, that the Lord will ever keep me humble at his feet that he can get the glory out of my life.

Missouri Tillman.

Mich.—Dear ones in Christ,—Please pray for me. I have been very sick all day. I took a cold and cough quite bad and my nerves are bad. My eyes are also bad again. Ask God to help me bear all that is around me. The world is so wild. I am just as patient as can be, just like Will was. I want to see him in heaven so bad. O, I am so lonesome. I got a nice letter from Bro. and Sister Brown this week, which encouraged me much.

—Emaline VanZandt



Ore.—Dear workers and saints,—I felt impressed to write a testimony and a few words of encouragement to the saints. Today finds me saved and filled with the Holy Spirit and very much encouraged in the truth. I have had a number of blessings, tests, trials since I first met the saints about four years ago, but they have only made me stronger and more encouraged.

The good campmeetings that the Lord has given us have encouraged me very greatly, especially this last one. After this year's meeting I felt that the year between this meeting and the coming one would be the best year of my life; and so far it has been by far the best. The last few years the campmeetings here about tripled in attendance. I longed for years for the experience and the church of the Bible, and how glad I was when I found the saints. And the truth surely sounded good. The Lord had revealed a number of things to me already that was just like I heard preached.

My enthusiasm was very strong when I first met the saints, and I truly expected mighty things to happen in a short time, but I had to learn that the Lord may shew us things that may not mature for some time; also that the Lord many times spends considerable time preparing, qualifying, and teaching us both as individuals and as a body. The Lord has stirred my soul many times with Scriptures from Isaiah, Jeremiah, Daniel, and others in the Old Testament, prophesying of our day and what God would do for his saints; also promises and gifts for the church in the New Testament. I still expect God to fulfill what He has stirred my soul about and witnessed to my soul. I believe that the normal state of a saint that is living holy and walking to please God is to have a deep soul rest and receive much from the Lord and grace for every test and trial and to make every experience turn out a blessing or a valuable lesson.

I was deeply stirred in reading a number of the saints' books published before the compromise and the writings of those who have stayed true. Also, we hear the old saints tell of the mighty works and the way the early ministers went from place to place as the Lord led. My soul was stirred to expect more of it being done today as there are so few free to travel. I have felt deeply impressed that the Lord was calling me to be free to visit the scattered saints in the northwest, search out honest souls, and go where souls need help in soul or body. I am getting ready to move whenever the Lord makes known for me to leave the work here and go.

I want to encourage the saints to believe God and then by patience and faith inherit the promise. One will note that a great many of the greatest things that God did for those in the Old Testament there was considerable time between the promise and its fulfillment.

I have thought of the number that started to Canaan with Moses and those who reached it. And thought of the number who started well and murmured or lost their vision of the truth or got confused, and their life is more or less a wilderness, spiritually. We must either live

pure lives, walk with God, avoid all divisions and false spirits, or spiritual dullness will come over us, even though we may have considerable light doctrinally from past experiences.

I have found that the best way, and in the long run the easiest way, is to go straight through with God. Whenever you have a clear leading from the Lord, follow it as God makes each step plain. Believe God when you get a witness to your prayers even though you do not understand how it can come about.

I read the articles and testimonies in the November issue of the "Faith and Victory" the day it was received, and surely enjoyed it. Even scattered saints should prosper with such help and the Word and the Spirit to lead and reveal truth. Let us all live close to God and expect some edifying assembly meetings. —Bro. Vearl Kliever



Mo.—Dear ones—I am writing a testimony in Jesus' dear name. This leaves me still saved and trusting in Jesus all the way. I have some things for which to praise God. Four or five years ago husband took the itch. We had it from August, 1943 until April 27, 1944. Our bodies had scabs all over them. We used boxes of salve and all kinds of medicine to get rid of it, but we got no better; so we prayed. I asked God to heal us. The next time we went to services we went forward to be prayed for and God touched and healed us. That was April 27, 1944, and we haven't had the itch any more. The next morning after God healed us the scabs were all gone somewhere. I couldn't find them. Oh, praise God.

My husband had been going to town, playing cards and drinking beer. He would come home drunk. I cried and prayed to God to cause him to stop drinking and playing cards. Shortly after that he took sick. That has been three weeks ago and he has not drunk or played cards since. Praise God. I know He will answer prayer.

Pray that my back will straighten up. I cannot walk good. I am crippled up so I cannot go to services.

I love my children and mother and my husband, but I love Jesus the best of all. He is my best friend in every time of need. He healed my legs of sores and healed me of heart trouble. He can heal all manner of sicknesses if we will believe.

Eva O'Brien



Texas—Dear Bro. and Sister Pruitt,—Greetings to you in Jesus' dear name. I am so glad I can report victory over sin and the enemy of our souls. Also I am thanking our God for his goodness to me in everything that I need in this world, and also the world to come. I still find his Word to read just like it did thirty years ago. But how it grieves my heart to learn of so many who have gone after other gods. I could name some, but they are too numerous to mention. I do praise our God that I am still trusting the same God whom I trusted when he first forgave me of my sins. Oh, the souls that have gone to eternity since then, who did not hear God's message. And did we do all we could to warn them to flee the wrath to come?

May God help each one of His children to function properly as he is placed in the body of Christ (the church of God), where we are born by a spiritual birth and take our Father's name as Jesus prayed in John 17:11, 20.

There is so much sin in these days. We can see just throngs of souls rushing on down the broad road to eternity and so few are on the narrow way that leads to life everlasting. I am praising God tonight that the enemy of souls has never been successful in catching me

asleep enough to get me to join myself to another (sect) as the prodigal son did who ate the husk from the feed that he gave the swine. I am so ashamed that I did partake of sin after God first saved me, but praise our God forever, he has forgiven all and removed all inborn nature, and is keeping me day by day.

Wife and I are still isolated yet, as we have been for so many years; but, praise our God forever, we still have Jesus with us. Some have asked us why we did not start a church of our own. That is plain enough. Jesus has it already started (on the Rock) and we are in it now, and when I get to the pearly gate and my name is called, I expect to be there awaiting to pass on the right hand of God.

I did hate so much to miss the campmeeting at Monark Springs this year, but just could not make it it seemed. I am praying that I can come next year, and ask that you pray to that end, and especially pray that I can be a help to some souls in helping to reap the harvest that is so white and being wasted for the want of hands to help.

I am just following my leadings in writing this. I could give some experiences, but that would not save souls. We have God's Word and what Jesus did, so my experiences would possibly be of interest to some, but on account of time and space I won't tell them now, as I would not know where to stop.

Wife wrote for prayer and we prayed and she was healed and is still healed, praise our Lord forever.

—A. G. Duncan.



Va.—Greetings in Jesus' precious name to all the workers in the Lord's work,—Today I am saved and happy trusting in Jesus for soul and body. I am glad Jesus came looking for me and lifted me up and washed my sins away. I am glad today to know when we trust Jesus we do not have to wonder what kind of job he will do for us. We can have blessed assurance he will carry all of our sins and make us white as snow.

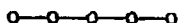
Are we willing to forsake all? "Except a man forsake ALL and follow me, he CANNOT be my disciple." Praise God, I have forsaken all and I find it pays to obey God, no matter what the cost may be. I do not mean to say everything at the time is easy to do, but when you face the fact that heaven or hell you are choosing and every minute you live, every breath you draw is taking you closer to the end and that life is just a vapor, you will not want to put it off. While God talks to you is the time to get saved. We cannot get saved just any time we want to. When God shows you and talks to you and you come to his plan, then he will save.

My trials and burdens sometimes are heavy, but I know Jesus won't forsake me. His Word says, "Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you as though some strange thing has happened unto you." 1 Peter 4:12. Think how Jesus suffered and died and then how people have to be begged to turn from their sin to follow Jesus. If we carry no cross here, there will be no crown over there.

I desire the prayers of all the saints that I stay true and follow Jesus all the way. Please pray for my unsaved son and his wife.

Your sister in Christ,

Bessie Faudree



Mo.—Dear saints everywhere,—Greetings in Jesus' name. I am so glad I can still report victory in my soul. Oh, how I do thank the dear Lord for saving me. Now

I can say, "Bless the Lord, oh, my soul." While I was about my work, I just stopped and thought, how many do really live the life that Jesus lived? He told us to live as he did, a sinless life, always about the Father's business. Are we doing all we can for Him? Oh, how careful we should be! What a close walk it takes to follow in His steps who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth. He was meek and holy, always helping others. He gave His life for us. Surely we ought to give our unworthy lives to Him that where He is, we may be in eternity. Oh, how careful we ought to be! Just one word might cause us to lose our soul or turn someone from God. Oh, it means so much to live for the Lord!

While Sister Elizabeth Glass and I were down in the Ozarks visiting isolated saints I learned some precious lessons. How we did enjoy being in their homes. Some were carrying heavy burdens. They seemed to be much encouraged. We believe there was much good done and we are encouraged to do the little that the Lord has for us to do.

I cannot give account for your life. I must give an account for my own life. Read Romans 14:12; Matt. 12:36; 1 Pet. 4:5. We have our own lives to watch. Oh, for the fulness of God's love, that we ever be found faithful and doing His will who bought us with His precious blood that we might be his chosen people. Oh, the joy of salvation that keeps the joy bells ringing in our souls!

Pray for me that I do God's will. Your sister under the Blood,
Mrs. Cordia Stroud.



Mo.—To all the dear readers of the "Faith and Victory" paper,—I have been impressed of the Lord for some time to give my testimony how the Lord wonderfully healed our two boys of the itch. We all had it, but I mentioned the two little boys because they had it so bad.

First I want to thank the Lord for saving my soul years ago and putting a desire in my heart for the truth. the Bible way, turning from the world and its ways, giving me a saved companion to be a help mate.

About a year ago, or a little over a year, we discovered we had the itch. The first thing we thought of to do for it was to go on our knees and pray for the Lord to heal it. We felt that this was not too great a thing for him to do, as we had trusted the Lord for every thing else in the past. So we just put our faith in the Lord and believed He would do it. We gradually grew worse instead of better, especially the two boys, until we voluntarily took them out of school. I went and told their teacher why we were stopping them. Their teacher seemed to be so sorry for them having this affliction and quitting school.

We still held on to the Lord. The Itch seemed to spread the more until it was all over the boys' bodies. It became so severe they could not rest at nights. Some of our relation suggested a remedy for it, which we did not accept, but kept our trust in the Lord.

One of wife's brothers came and saw the boys while they were so bad. We were told afterwards that he said Fred was going to die if we did not do something for him and he never would get well of it.

We were anointed and prayed for and in a few days the sores were healing and scabs falling off. Praise the Lord! He is a wonderful Saviour to put our trust in. To Him I give all the praise and honor for his goodness to me and my family. Your brother in Christ, A. J. Sorrell

Ohio.—Dear saints of God—I feel led to write my testimony. I am glad I have learned to put my trust in the Lord; and I am thankful most of all for His saving and keeping power.

I had a great burden on my heart for over a year. I took it to the Lord in prayer, and prayed and fasted about it. A week before this was to take place, God gave me the witness in my heart and took all worry away. I knew then that everything was going to work out well. How wonderful it is to know that God hears and answers prayer. I can do nothing of myself, but can do all things through Him that strengthens me.

I wish to say a few words for the encouragement of the sinner and backslider. It is dangerous to put the Lord off and neglect your soul's salvation. As Jesus forgave the thief on the cross, he will forgive anyone who truly repentingly cries to him for mercy and forgiveness.

Pray much for me. I mean to go through. I would be glad to hear from any of the saints. Ethel Mohr

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Mo.—Dear saints of God,—Greetings in Jesus' dear name. I feel the dear Lord would have me write a few more of my experiences in life while trying to serve Him.

When I was saved, the last night of the meeting a man got up and said he wanted to talk to the young converts, so I listened.

He said, "Now all of you that have started out to live for the Lord must not go to any of these worldly things, such as shows, dances, picnics. If you do any worldly thing you will leave Jesus on the road for he won't go with you." I took him at his word and never had any desire to go to the worldly pleasures. They do not bother me, and I thank the Lord for it.

Soon after I was saved I was reading in a paper about sanctification. I got down and began to pray for it. I told the Lord I was not getting up until He sanctified me. When I got up I was praising God, and surely was happy. I told a neighbor about it and they made light of me so I never have testified to it as I should.

Dear ones in Christ, do not turn a step backward, but obey in all things, for everything was taken away from me; but I held onto the dear Lord and he helped me thru, praise his name.

I left there and went to my folks, as my husband was in the hospital, so I called on you dear saints at the print shop to pray for him. He came home in about two weeks. He had been there over four years and he has been well ever since. Thank God for your prayers and for his coming home. I want to live closer to the dear Lord every day until he gets ready for me. I am still trusting him for soul and body. I have some awful trials, but he delivers me out of them all. Please pray for me and family. A sister in Christ, Nancy Sweezo.

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Mich.—Dear Bro. Pruitt:—This finds us saved and sanctified, for which I thank the good Lord. The Lord so wonderfully cares for me each day and so bountifully supplies all my daily needs. This past spring, I was so weak in my body it seemed soul and body just merely clung together. I kept looking to God for health and strength and now I can say He has restored me back to normal health and strength once more. To God be all the glory. I did not know but that my work was done on this earth, but I am still here for some good purpose.

I still am taking the "Faith and Victory" paper and it is a welcome visitor. I have taken it ever since it was

first published. It is food to my soul and I love to read the testimonies. They are a great inspiration to my soul.

I live all alone in the country and do not have many people come in to call on me, but I have an unseen guest that is with me night and day. He never leaves me nor forsakes me. Praise his dear name!

I have a brother that will be 82 years old the 16th of this month and is in very poor health. Will you please pray for the salvation of his soul? May God bless you and all the "Faith and Victory" workers.

Mrs. Lemuel Wright.

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

Ore.—Dear "Faith and Victory" print shop workers, May the dear Lord strengthen and encourage each individually, that the good work may continue.

I wish to testify this morning. I am happy in the Lord. It is wonderful how He works individually with His people. I believe it is pleasing in the Lord's sight to tell the good He does for us. He keeps me from day to day. I find Him perfect in power, in love, in charity.

When I become afflicted I lay that at His feet. I do the same with persecutions and all soon vanish away. Praise His name! Through prayer and supplications I am going all the way with the Saviour. By doing so we shall be as He is at His coming. I am so thankful for Him working individually, as we have to worship alone. It is the hard way. Praise His name, there is nothing impossible with Him. I have had a taste of worshipping collectively. It takes a real determination to stand alone, which we really have as, He has proven His great love for His people on this earth. Bertha Blais

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

Okla.—Greetings to the Young People,—At one time my heart was set on the world and I was continually thinking of how I might obtain more of this world's goods. I had not gone so deep in sin when the Lord began to talk to my heart. I was no longer happy in my condition and felt very much in need of the Lord. However, I was going to school then and knowing it would be hard to face my classmates in standing against the wrong, I said, "When I finish school I'll work for the Lord."

This excuse did not bring the peace and joy for which my heart was longing. As time went on the Lord helped me to realize the awful condition of my soul. After seeking the Lord several weeks I became willing to consecrate my life and all to Him. I can truthfully say the Lord has been a precious friend in every time of need. When my soul was filled with divine love I had plenty of grace to pass tracts to my class mates, and I was no longer ashamed of the gospel.

My desire is to press on to higher heights and deeper depths in the Lord. " . . . No man, having put his hand to the plow, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God."

As we look out upon the world and see the dangerous snares and pit falls set for the youth of today, it should put a stronger determination in our hearts to draw nigh to God, be watchful, prayerful, strengthened and established in the truth insomuch that we will be worthy of the grace which will be needed to keep sweet under all circumstances. "Walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God."

With much Christian love to all the young people.

Sister Dora Lela Sorrell

VOIT/PRAYER REQUEST

Miss.—Dear Sister Pruitt,—I want to request prayer for the healing of my body and ear. It still rises and runs. The doctor says it is a tumor and then he said it looked like a blood boil; but whatever it is and the other sufferings in my body, God is able to heal it all, and He promised never to forsake us.

Your saved sister in Christ, Mrs. W. H. Smith
oOo

God's Great Call

Spiritually speaking, there are only two classes of people on God's great earth; and in this evening of time there are two great calls: a call to repentance, and a call to unity. Everyone is included in one of these calls.

The sinner is called to repentance; and "except ye repent ye shall all likewise perish." Luke 13:3. This includes every sinner, the great and small. If you are guilty of sin, you are a sinner and need to repent. To repent means to turn from and quit the habits of sin. "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved." Acts 16:31.

The second call is to the righteous who need no repentance (Luke 5:32; Luke 15:7). The call to those who need no repentance is a call to unity.

Jesus' prayer in the 17th chapter of John was that his people be one even as he and the Father are one (John 17:11, 20-23). In 1 Cor. 1:10, we read, "Now I beseech you brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no division among you, but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment."

Now candidly! Does this sound like professed Christianity today, when there are hundreds and hundreds of different faiths and orders, each one contending for their own against the others? Is this the church shining in her splendor? No; no, a thousand times no. These represent Babylon confusion, and God is calling His people out of such.

"He hath set his hand again the second time, to recover the remnant of his people." Isa. 11:11. And in this evening of time, after the dark day of Catholicism and the cloudy day of sectism (denominationalism) God is again calling his people to unity. Babylon is fallen and He is calling His people out. See Rev. 18:4.

God's people are a called-out people. Jesus says they are not of the world even as he is not of the world. He prayed not that the Father would take them out of the world but that He would keep them from the evil (John 17:14, 16). And again He says, "Ye are the light of the world." The purpose of unity, in part, is that the world may believe (John 17:21).

"Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised in the city of our God, in the mountain of his holiness."

"Beautiful for situation, the joy of the whole earth is Mount Zion." Psalm 48:1, 2.

When God's children all hear the call to unity and take their stand for the whole truth, contend

earnestly for the faith once delivered to the saints (Jude 3) and let Him rule and reign in their hearts and lives, then her (church) light cannot be hid, and many people shall go and shall say, "Come ye and let us go up to the house of the God of Jacob, and he will teach us of his ways and we will walk in his paths." Isa. 2:3.

God hath set in the church, apostles, prophets, and teachers for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, till we all come to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God; unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, that we henceforth be no more children tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the slight of men and cunning craftiness whereby they lie in wait to deceive (Eph. 4:11-14).

Lord Jesus, true Shepherd of my soul,
Guide every sheep into the fold.

—Mrs. Cora Brant.

What Is A Fanatic?

Occasionally I hear some of the saints talking to acquaintances in a conciliatory manner, seeming to apologize for being, what most folks term, a "fanatic." Well, what is a fanatic? By searching the Word of God and Webster's approved dictionary, I find that being a fanatic for God is nothing to be ashamed of.

I do not see the need of noise and confusion in worship services, neither is the love of God manifested in a person, or group, when they gather and take their places with a limp expression, seeming to show by that attitude that their thoughts are elsewhere. I love "blessed quietness," but the people of God are happy people, and need to "bubble over" with enthusiasm occasionally. By that I do not mean dancing up and down the aisle, or unnecessary outcries; but a broad smile, praising the Lord is never out of order.

When I went to movies, ball games, dances, etc., no one seemed to notice the noise. But let some one come among the saints for the first time and often he labels us as fanatics for saying, "Amen," or "Praise the Lord."

My dictionary defines the word fanatic, thus: "One who is intemperately zealous or wildly extravagant, especially on religious subjects; visionary." Look up the word zealous, and it says, "ardent in the pursuit of an object; enthusiastic." The word enthusiast, "One who thinks himself inspired; a visionary." All of these definitions are man's, and right to a certain extent; but how can one say, "he thinks himself to be inspired"? God's people are inspired.

James 5:13 says in part, "Is any merry? let him sing psalms." 2 John 4 says, "I rejoiced greatly that I found of thy children walking in truth, as we have received a commandment from the Father."

Rejoice in the Lord.

Jewell McCaskill

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Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. 2 Tim. 2:15.

BELIEFS THAT MATTER

Sunday, January 4, 1948

Printed Portion John 20:30, 31; Acts 16:11-15;
1 Timothy 4:16; 1 John 5:1-5.

John 20:30. And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book:

31. But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name.

Acts 16:11. Therefore loosing from Troas, we came with a straight course to Samothracia, and the next day to Neapolis;

12. And from thence to Philippi, which is the chief city of that part of Macedonia, and a colony: and we were in that city abiding certain days.

13. And on the sabbath we went out of the city by a river side, where prayer was wont to be made; and we sat down, and spake unto the women which resorted thither.

14. And a certain woman named Lydia, a seller of purple, of the city of Thyatira, which worshipped God, heard us: whose heart the Lord opened. that she attended unto the things which were spoken of Paul.

15. And when she was baptized, and her household, she besought us, saying, If ye have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come into my house, and abide there. And she constrained us.

1 Tim. 4:16. Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself. and them that hear thee.

1 John 5:1. Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born of God: and every one that loveth him that begat loveth him also that is begotten of him.

2. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God, and keep his commandments.

3. For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous.

4. For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith.

5. Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?

Memory Verse: Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born of God: and every one that loveth him that begat loveth him also that is begotten of him.

Practical Truth: Our beliefs concerning spiritual things amount to nothing if they are not based on God's Word.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

In order to get the full meaning of our lesson today, we must go back a little and see what is in the preceding verses. We find Christ had performed many miracles while with his disciples. Then he was raised from the dead and was seen by several of his disciples. Thomas, being absent, doubted their word, but Jesus performed another miracle by appearing in the room where the disciples were gathered, the door being shut. Thomas also was present this time. When he saw Christ he believed. Jesus tarried on earth and did these things to encourage his disciples to be true and wait for the baptism of the Holy Ghost (Read John 16:13) And God has preserved a record of these things that honest hearted ones from then until now and in the future, might read and believe to the saving of the soul.

Now let us notice Paul's ministry. It follows closely to Christ's teaching. Altho Paul was not one of Christ's while here on earth, he certainly was taught of Christ by the Holy Ghost when he yielded his heart to God. Paul traveled from place to place wherever the Spirit led him, preaching the gospel of Christ and healing the sick and performing miracles in the same manner as Christ did. We are also taught to care for those who bring us the light of the gospel. Lydia took them to her house and proved her love for God by showing charity to those around her.

In Acts 28:8-10 Paul healed the ruler's father on the island where they were shipwrecked, also many others; and when they left the island they gave them of the goods that they had to take them on their journey. God tells us today to take care of those who teach us and labor for us. (1 Cor. 9:7-14.)

Paul stresses the fact that we must give heed to the doctrine which Jesus and the apostles set forth for us to follow. We must continue in these doctrines, loving our fellowmen and doing good at all times. Now every one that is saved has the love of God in his heart. Then if we have the love of God in our heart we must show the fruits of that love. It will take away all envy, malice, jealousy, and hatred. If we see our brother in need we will help him. We will never say anything bad about him. We will just love to do good to those who misuse us. Godly love will cause us to sacrifice our feelings for others, also our earthly goods to give to the poor, and those who have sickness or have lost loved ones, or lost their earthly possessions through misfortune. Godly love is charity. If we have charity we will want to share with those in need and enjoy doing so. Jesus so loved us that he gave his life for us. Can't we give our earthly possessions for His cause?

C. S.

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WHAT WE KNOW ABOUT GOD

Sunday, January 11, 1948

Printed Portion.....Isaiah 40:28-31; John 14:8-14.

Isa. 40:28. Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard, that the everlasting God, the Lord, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary? there is no searching of his understanding.

29. He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength.

30. Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall:

31. But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles;

they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

John 14:8. Philip saith unto him, Lord, show us the Father, and it sufficeth us.

9. Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? he that hath seen me hath seen the Father; and how sayest thou then, Show us the Father?

10. Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works.

11. Believe me that I am in the Father, and the Father in me: or else believe me for the very works' sake.

12. Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.

13. And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.

14. If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it.

Memory Verse Without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him. Heb. 11:6.

Practical Truth: When we are saved thru the atoning blood of Jesus, the infinite God is our Father, and we have a right to come to him with our requests.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

God is so great and His power unlimited that no one can truly search it and comprehend it. "O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and his ways past finding out!" Rom 11:33. God never faints and is never weary, but his mercy endureth forever to them that fear Him. There are times when human strength will fail, no matter how strong they may seem to be, and then it is that we need the strength and support of the Supreme Power. "The everlasting God, the Lord, the Creator of the ends of the earth" gives power to the faint. Notice, "He giveth," not "he gave" or "he shall give," but "He giveth," at the asking. He who fainteth not is drawn to those who do faint. God is never weary in caring for His people, in supplying their temporal and spiritual need, in strengthening them against temptation, and educating them for time and eternity. We should never grow weary of any kind of work for Him which He permits us to do. They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength, shall increase in strength. The word "wait" here implies the same meaning as "Be still and know that I am God." "They shall mount up with wings" of faith and love. The wing of faith is very essential, for it is a grace that looks not at the things that are seen, but at the things that are not seen, and it mounts or raises the soul to heaven and heavenly things. The wing of love is also a grace which unites the soul to Christ, and it is so strong that death cannot destroy it. But it is ever mounting and raising higher as the eagle—his all is above. Christ is all and in all to him. As the mounting soul is blessed, so is he ever safe and out of reach of this world's defilements. "Run and not be weary." Consecration is needed to keep up the running so as to win the crown. Running Christians have daily strength for daily needs. They find fresh spiritual food at every time of need, and they look to the end to the recompense of reward. Let runners beware of slacking

their pace. A very important thing in beginning this race is to get on the right path. Always remember that Jesus is "the way, the truth, and the life." Philip could not understand that Jesus was in the Father and the Father in him, and that Jesus was God in the flesh and that He was not preaching and teaching his own doctrine but his Father's. It seemed the Lord had to do much preaching to get some to understand that he was doing the works of His Father. It wasn't hard for them to believe on God, but to believe Jesus was God in the flesh was a mystery to them. But all those who have been born from above can understand this mystery, and the sinless life that Jesus lived while in the flesh enables us to keep the victory and mount above all the temptations of the wicked one and that life may be pure and clean and free from any stain of sin. —L. M.

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OUR RELATIONSHIP TO GOD

Sunday, January 18, 1948

Printed PortionRomans 8:12-17, 31-39.

Rom. 8:12. Therefore, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh.

13. For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live.

14. For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.

15. For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.

16. The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:

17. And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ, if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together.

31. What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?

32. He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?

33. Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth.

34. Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us.

35. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

36. As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long: we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter.

37. Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.

38. For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come,

39. Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Memory Verse: The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God. Rom 8:16

Practical Truth: God may and should be real in our lives.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

In the first verse "flesh" means the sinful, worldly, corrupted nature. And if we live to the flesh and fulfill

its desires, we shall die without a hope of a better life. But if we mortify (put to death) the deeds of the body (the body of sin) we shall live. Unmortified sin is against the entire design of the gospel and the death of Christ, as though his death were intended to indulge us in sin instead of redeem us from it. That sin should die, was the purpose of Christ's death. Christ died himself rather than let sin have dominion over us. And only he that raised up Christ from the dead shall quicken our mortal bodies by His Spirit. As many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God. The word "led" implies that our Leader moves along whenever and wherever He would have us go, so that we yield ourselves to His righteous leadings. Not only does he point out the way, but he also gives us grace to walk in it.

"If children, then heirs." A lawful son shares his father's estate the world over. He who belongs to God's family may safely have the question of his future inheritance in the hands of a parent who is too generous to leave any child without a portion.

The only test of our being genuine disciples of Christ is our having that mind in us which was also in him, and the proof of our being "sons of God" consists in our every day living under the influence of the Holy Spirit. How does the Spirit of God and your spirit bear witness that you are the children of God? If one be in the faith and believes and obeys the Word, then the Spirit is faithful to do the witnessing.

The question is asked: "If God be for us, who can be against us?" Many may try to be against us, but God has power to turn all their efforts to work for our good and His glory, and none can prevail over His own. Thru Him we have richly all things to enjoy. No person or power can come between God and his redeemed, and all Christians can have the same persuasion that Paul had. So long as one furnishes the willingness to remain true to God, He will furnish the grace though all the forces of hell oppose, but He does not furnish grace against the will of an individual. Man is a free moral agent, and our eternal security depends upon our continually choosing God and his ways. L. M.

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WHEN WE WORK WITH GOD

Sunday, January 25, 1948

Printed Portion 2 Corinthians 5:20 to 6:10

2 Cor. 5:20. Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God.

21. For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

6:1. We then, as workers together with him, beseech you also that ye receive not the grace of God in vain.

2. (For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succored thee: behold, now is the accepted time, now is the day of salvation.)

3. Giving no offense in any thing, that the ministry be not blamed:

4. But in all things approving ourselves as the ministers of God, in much patience, in afflictions, in necessities, in distresses,

5. In stripes, in imprisonments, in tumults, in labors, in watchings, in fastings;

6. By pureness, by knowledge, by longsuffering, by kindness, by the Holy Ghost, by love unfeigned,

7. By the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armor of righteousness on the right hand and on the left,

8. By honor and dishonor, by evil report and good report: as deceivers, and yet true;

9. As unknown, and yet well known, as dying, and, behold, we live; as chastened, and not killed;

10. As sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing all things.

Memory Verse: We are laborers together with God. 1 Cor. 3:9.

Practical Truth: Every Christian should be a fellow-worker with God in advancing his kingdom.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

In our lesson today there comes before us the fact that God needs fellow workers and that it is our privilege to work with Him and for Him. "If any man be in Christ he is a new creature" and has become an "ambassador for Christ." Now an ambassador is a representative of another charged with a special mission; an agent of high rank. We are ambassadors for Christ and have been reconciled to God, therefore we have a calling from the most High and are workers together with Him. We find that Christ was made sin for us, who did no sin, that we might be made the righteousness of God in him. Christ was made a curse for us. He did no sin neither was guile found in his mouth. When he was reviled he reviled not again; when he suffered he threatened not, but committed himself to him that judgeth righteously. We have been bought with a price, hence we are not our own to do as we please, but must work for our Master. We are ambassadors sent forth to do the will of God, whether it be great or small, or whether the task be long or short, hard or easy; yet we are working for him, we are not our own. Receive not the grace of God in vain. Let us ask ourselves, How can we receive the grace of God in vain? If we fail to put into practical use in life the spiritual benefits received by the favor of God, even His blessing and favor on us becomes to us a useless and empty thing. An unread Bible, a wasted period of time, and such knowledge of the truth as does not mold our lives are the grace of God received in vain. Shall the seed of the great Sower be received in good soil, but choked out with thorns, or so thin a covering of unbroken rock that after hasty growth it withers then the Sower has sown in these particular hearts in vain. The very message, "Be reconciled" may never be responded to.

In the last part of our lesson we hear Paul giving advice to the ambassadors and ministers of Christ, that they should give no offence in any thing, but in all things proving to be the ministers of God. The gospel will naturally offend the disobedient and those who do not have a willing heart to measure to its standard; but the offence spoken of here is an unbecoming act or word spoken that would bring a reproach to the cause of God. Notice the different afflictions and trials, and yet the grace of God is able to keep us blameless, the sons of God, even tho the circumstances be critical. Notice the plural form of each difficulty mentioned by Paul. Yet in the midst of all these, the church will shine by pureness, by knowledge, long suffering, kindness, by the Holy Ghost, by love unfeigned, by the Word of God, by the power of God, by the armor of righteousness on the right hand and on the left, by honor and dishonor, by evil report and good report; even tho we suffer as deceivers and yet true, misunderstood and condemned of men, we should leave our reputation in the hands of Him who knows us to be no deceivers and go steadily onward thru our work and labor for him. L. M.