

Remember Lot's Wife

Many things have been forgotten That have taken place in life, And they pass on like a shadow Through the bustle and the strife.

But one thing we should remember, Though the story may be rife: We have all been warned and cautioned To remember Lot's wife.

No, it's not a passing fable Only for a child to read; But it's sound divine instruction, Each and every one should heed.

How God in his love and mercy Saved Lot's wife from Sodom's plight, Bade her not to look behind her; But flee to the mountain's height.

Her heart was still on things behind, Looking back she paused to halt; For disobeying, what a fine! She became a pillar of salt.

O dear friend, if God has blessed you, Though temptation may be strong; Never turn again to evil, Nor look back to do the wrong.

It will help you overcome them, Many though they be in life; If you'll keep God's Word before you And remember Lot's wife.

As Strangers and Pilgrims

"Dearly beloved, I beseech you, as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul." 1 Peter 2:11.

As God's people, we are "in this world, but not of this world." Our citizenship is in heaven, not in We are only passing through it as this world. "strangers and pilgrims" journeying homeward. To the people of this world we are as foreigners. Ofttimes foreigners, when coming to our country, will try to adapt themselves as quickly as possible to our customs, language, manners, and dress. As a result, they soon lose their identity. They become one of us. But as loyal citizens of God's kingdom, we are willing and glad to be known only as foreigners to this world. The spirit of this world is at enmity with God. We might try to adapt ourselves a little to the ways of the world, but in so doing we become also the enemies of God. He tells us plainly, "Be not conformed to this world," and "whosoever therefore will be a friend of this world is the enemy of God" (James 4:4). If we are not strangers to this world, we are strangers to God. We would be strangers to heaven with all of its delights. We could not enter.

Because this world is at enmity with God, if while we are in this world, we will live a separated life unto God, refusing to conform to the ways of this world, but living by His Word, we shall find that some of the hatred the world feels to God will fall upon us also. "If ye were of the world, the world would love its own. But because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you." John 15:19.

"I have given them thy word, and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world even as I am not of the world." John 17:14.

"They speak against you, as evil doers" 1 Pet. 2:12. "Wherein they think it *strange* that ye run not with them to the same excess of riot, speaking evil of you." 1 Pet. 4:4.

Are we living before the world in such a way that they can see something strange and foreign to this world about us? Or are we so afraid of becoming a "gazing stock" to the world that we more or less conform ourselves to it? We find it written concerning God's people, "Ye were made a gazing-stock, both by reproaches and afflictions . . . and ye became companions of them which were so used." Heb. 10:33, Let us willingly and gladly "go forth therefore unto him without the camp, bearing his reproach. For here we have no continuing city, but we seek one to come." Heb. 13:13, 14. Have we found greater riches in the "reproach of Christ" than in all this world has to offer? Then how gladly do we choose "rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season. Esteeming the reproaches of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt." Heb. 11: 25, 26.

May God help us all to be very careful to keep ourselves "unspotted from the world." May He give us grace to walk in all things in loyal obedience to our Lord, and as "strangers and pilgrims" to this ungodly world while passing through it. Thank God, we have transferred our citizenship. We were of the world and strangers to God and His people, but now we are no more "strangers and foreigners" to God's people. We are "fellow citizens with the saints, and of the household of God." (Eph. 2:19). We have now become "strangers and pilgrims" to the world to which we once belonged. Let us not be ashamed to "Whosoever therefore live and act like we were. shall be ashamed of me and of my words, in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him shall the Son of Man be ashamed when he cometh in the glory of his father with the holy angels." Mark 8:38.

----- 000 ------

—Faith Embly.

The Lord's Adornment

In the Word of God we are instructed to lay aside all worldly adornment: (1 Tim. 2:9) "In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broidered hair, or gold, or pearls or costly array, but (which becometh women professing godliness) with good works." (1 Peter 3:3) "Whose adorning, let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel; but let it be the hidden man of the heart." He gives to them who will obey him far more beautiful ornaments than any they have ever worn before. He does not desire us to be robbed of all adornment; but that which he requires us to give up is only such as would mar the real beauty of that which he desires to bestow upon us. Thank God. He wants all those who are of the Royal Family to wear gems of priceless value. He has promised to beautify the meek with salvation, which is a pearl of greatest price. He places upon us a robe such as is worn only by the Royal Priesthood of God-a robe of pure linen, clean and white, which is the righteousness of saints. Then he further adorns us with a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price. Compare this attire with that which is worn, trying to make their old fleshly self look beautiful and to look like the world. God's children are not following after the things of the world. The one is composed of a few trifling things that almost any one could have and that will last but a short time; the other of priceless value, an attire which none outside the Royal Family (God's sons and daughters) can ever possess.

But this is not all. There is another ornament, a precious gem that shines out in wondrous beauty when polished by the hand of God; and the more it is worn the more beautiful it becomes and the more it graces our lives. This gem is true humility. There is much feigned humility, but the only kind that will amount to anything and that will stand the test of the Word of God, is humility of heart. (Psa. 90:17) "And let the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us" is my prayer. Amen. —Artie Bowers

The Christian's Job

When one gets saved, he accepts a new job, for he has decided to walk the way God commands him to. He decides that he will see to it that he keep this decision to live a life like Christ lived to the best of his understanding. God accepts him on these terms. He has entered into an agreement with the Lord to this end. If he breaks his agreement then God cannot keep his side of the agreement, for he has departed from God.

Humanity is so changeable that it is in this like it is in many other things. There needs to be something to stablize. We record a deed to property to hold it, but in religion we practice it to hold it. In this way our purpose to live victoriously is kept up, and there are provisions for the renewal of it whenever it is necessary. This is found in 2 Cor. 13:5, which says, "Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ve be reprobates?" This Scripture was given us for our safety, for if we will obey it, it will help us to keep from getting away from God. There is also another Scripture nearly in line with this one that is given to help keep us from embarrasment. It says, "For if we would judge ourselves, we should not be judged." This is the easiest way out if we do find ourselves somewhat away from God. God gives each individual the first chance of correcting his mistakes. and thus keeping himself in harmony with what he knows to be right.

There is something in us-call it conscience or what you may-that sanctions the right whenever we have done right. But when we have not done right we generally know it also. But if we run over this something in us that tells us when we have not done the right, eventually we shall be seared and not be able to readily know the wrong. You can abuse anything until it will not be so favorable to you. We should do our best to measure up to all the known will of God and hold a readiness in our hearts for more light on his will. Thus we keep our spiritual vigor alive and grasping for more of God's ways to be known. These things are very important, for by disobedience we take ourselves out of the way of life, the way that leads to heaven, and place ourselves in the way that leads to torment. -Julia Tilton

February, 1948

The Lord's Day

There is no just cause for confusion concerning the day of the week which we are to remember. God the Father and His dear. Son at no time ever performs or causes an act to be performed without a definite reason, and each is timed for a definite purpose.

Therefore we find the innocent Lamb of God slain on the cross at Calvary on a fixed Friday. The cause of date was to place through the following day the blackest mark that was ever known or shall ever be known to the followers of Christ. The Christians and disciples of that time were depending upon this great Saviour, and here upon the Jewish Sabbath, the day He wished to cancel as a day of worship for His followers, He lay dead, cold and lifeless in a tomb. Their love, their hope, and the greatest Friend ever known to humanity was gone. If we could but visualize as they, that this as the final end, we could realize then the outer-darkness of this line drawn through the Jewish Sabbath, cancelled with fear and darkness forever.

The day following that darkest day is the brightest day of all times. Through the victory over Satan and death Christ our Lord was restored to us in all His glory. In Him lies our eternal hope. This also is the fulfilment of King David's prophecy: "This is the day which the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it." Psalm 118:24.—Clarence Furman

- 000 ----

Ohio—Dear friends in Christ,—We wish to witness to the glory of God of his goodness, love, and mercy to us during the past year. Truly he has blessed us far above what we deserve and given us grace to overcome many trials and snares laid by the enemy to drag us down. He has healed our bodies and supplied all our temporal needs so graciously. Our greatest desire is to live closer to him and uphold his standard more and more in the face of opposition by the enemy of our souls. May we be as "watchmen on the walls of spiritual Jerusalem" to warn of danger to his true saints. May God bless your efforts for him. Pray for us.

Your brother in the One Body, V. Earle Yantis

The Two Covenants PART ONE TYPES, SHADOWS, FIGURES, AND SYMBOLS

Much of the Old Testament Scriptures are symbolic, pointing to things in the New Testament dispensation.

Adam was a type of Christ. Adam had no earthly father, and Christ had no earthly father. Adam was created pure and holy in the image of God. Christ also was born pure and holy in the image of the Father God. Adam was the head of the old fleshly generation. Christ is the head of the new, the spiritual generation. Adam's wife (Eve) was taken out of his side and was bone of his bone and flesh of his flesh. Christ's wife (or church) was washed and cleansed by the blood that flowed from his side. Mother Eve was taught to be obedient to her husband. Even so, the church of Christ is taught to be

obedient unto him. As Eve was the mother of all living, even so the Church is the mother of all Christians. Mother Eve brought forth her children with much pain and sorrow. Even so does the church.

The Garden of Eden where Adam and Eve dwelt was a type of the Eden of the soul's resting place in Christ. The Sabbath of the Lord was a type of the Christian rest in Christ.

Abel was also a type of Christ. He was killed by his brother for his religious faith. Christ was also slain by his brethren for his religious faith and teaching. Abel's sacrifice was a type of the sacrifice that Christ made. As God was pleased with the sacrifice of Abel, so he was well pleased with the sacrifice of Christ.

Enoch was a type of Christ as he walked with God all the days of his life and pleased God and was translated. Even so, Christ walked with God and always pleased him and was translated.

Noah was a type of Christ. Noah built an ark to save his household. Christ built his church to save his household. The ark was a type of the church that Jesus built. The ark had but one door. The church that Jesus built has but one door. The only window in the ark was at the top. The only window in the church is at the top. Christ wants us to look up continually. When the ark was built, God drew by his Spirit every living thing that was saved into the ark for safety. Christ draws by the Holy Spirit, every one who will be saved to come with their own free will. When all had entered the ark who wished to do so, God shut the door. Just so, when all have come into the church that wish to do so, then God will shut the door and no more can enter. God took into the ark all manner of living creatures. He takes into his church people of every nation, kindred, and tongue. As God kept peace in the ark, even so Christ keeps peace in his church. He takes out all the lion. tiger, and serpent nature at the door of his church, and those who are admitted are all as peaceful as lambs and doves. God provided food for all in the ark. Christ provides food for all in his church.

Abraham was also a type of Christ. As Abraham was willing to leave his home and friends and, go into a strange country and die there, Christ left his home in heaven and came to this lost world to suffer and die.

Isaac was a type of Christ. As Isaac had a miraculous birth. even so Christ had a miraculous birth. Abraham consecrated Isaac as a sacrifice and God gave his Son as a sacrifice for sin. Isaac had but one wife. Christ has but one wife (his church). Isaac loved his wife. Christ loves his church. Isaac was circumcised in the flesh. Christ's people are all circumcised in the heart. Isaac was a man of peace. Christ and all his followers are children of peace.

Rebecca was a type of the church. She forsook a home and friends and loved ones to go and dwell with Isaac, whom she had never seen. Even so, the followers of Christ forsake all to follow him.

"Oh! who will come and go with us? We are bound for the promised land." —J. W. Youngblood

February, 1948

"FAITH AND VICTORY"

16-PAGE HOLINESS MONTHLY

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

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

Single copy, one year\$	25
Single copy, five years 1.	00
Five copies to any address, one year 1.	
Twelve copies to any address, one year 2.	00

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

Ohio—Dear Brother Pruitt,—I received the anointed handkerchief and applied it to my grand-nephew's nose and the Lord healed it. I asked the little boy how his nose was and he said it did not itch inside anymore. I certainly praise God for his wonderful healing power, and I thank you and your co-workers for the handkerchief and your prayers. I also thank you for my premium, the little book entitled, "God's Gracious Dealings." It is a fine and wonderful book and I enjoy reading it.

May God ever bless and richly reward you is my constant prayer. Your sister in Christ, Elnora Ayers

Editorials

We saints, as pilgrims and strangers in this world, are now traveling along in the year of 1948. Days and weeks are being left behind and the report of our deeds and words are recorded on God's book in heaven, there to appear before us at the judgment day. The All-seeing eye of God is watching each of us and all others. He often permits us to be tested and tried and sometimes in fiery trials we wait and suffer patiently, thereby retaining his name, a child of God. As Christ suffered in the flesh, so are we warned to arm ourselves "likewise with the same mind." 1 Peter 4:1. In another place we are exhorted to "be not weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap if we faint not." He also says, "In your patience possess ye your souls." Another precious promise that should be a great encouragement to every one that has "Christ, the hope of glory" in their souls, is found in Rom. 8:17, which reads thus, "If children, then heirs of God, and joint [equal] heirs with Christ: if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together." If we pat entry suffer with Christ in this world, then we shall each releve a glorified body as did Christ when he was resurfected from the tomb by the mighty power of God, and in this sense we shall be a joint heir with him. This is a glorious promise to the faithful in Christ. Paul believed this so strongly that in the next verse he said, "I reckon that the sufferings of this precent time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us." Keeping our minds and thoughts on things above and the glory that is to follow a life lived for God in this time world is one sure way of keeping happy and full of joy in the Lord while traveling along our pilgrim way.

Paul calls it a race and says in Hebrews 12:1, "Let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God." He exhorts us in the next verse to consider Him (Christ) who endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest we be weary and faint in our minds.

My dear brother and sister, if you are in much trials and sufferings, look above these things and see Jesus sitting on his throne in glory and remember that he too suffered for you and was in great agony until his sweat was, as it were, great drops of blood falling to the ground. He is looking on while you go through the fiery trial and will lift the troubles and strengthen you when he sees his image reflected in you more perfectly. Be patient, my brother and sister, and let the chisel of God shape you up for eternal glory.

> "Look to self to be miserable; Look to others to be perplexed; Look to Jesus to be happy."

When the 15th of December came, the time appointed for the beginning of the ministers' meeting at Guthrie, Okla., ministers began to arrive from all directions—from California to Louisiana and from La. to Ohio and Minn. It was refreshing to our souls to see them come in to meet together in holy assembly and see what God had in store for each as they counselled together in the fear of the Lord.

There were over sixty ministers in all. The discussions were heavenly as the Spirit of Christ prevailed. Many subjects in the Bible were brought up and considered in much waiting before the Lord that his true counsel on matters might be brought to light. These meetings have a good effect on the ministry as they share in a mutual sense the good counsels of God and as they are carried on by the Spirit of the Lord it tends to knit the ministers more closely together and eliminates misunderstandings that otherwise might exist.

The next National Ministers' meeting will be held at Guthrie, Okla. next July between the Hammond, La. campmeeting and the Monark Springs, Mo. campmeeting: All ministers should arrange to be present in this meeting.

The assembly meeting was also greatly blessed of God and the attendance was very good. The preaching was richly anointed from heaven and our souls were fed. We were raised up together and made to sit together in an heavenly place in Christ Jesus.

Quite a number of ministers were present to preach the Word and some souls were saved, others consecrated themselves to the Lord, and many bodies were healed of affliccions. There was much rejoicing as the heart-searching messages came forth uncovering Satan's hiding places and showing the way of eternal life to lost souls.

It was generally thought to be even a better meeting than last year as the presence of God was so much in evidence from the beginning of the meeting up to the end.

0-0-0-0-0

Paul exhorts us in Eph. 4:24 to "Put on the new man which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness." Lately I have been thinking much about "true holiness," and have decided (I believe I have the mind of the Lord) that much of the division in Christendom is caused by holiness believers who possess not true holiness. It seems that the enemy has succeeded in bringing in false holiness until nearly all are swept into it. Such makes a big show in the flesh and has the appearance of doing great things for God. This falce holiness spirit will cause one to preach much holiness doctrine and put it down strong, but does not give the preacher grace to live it or practice it in every day living; for ofttimes he will lie if it is to his selfish advantage, or resort to the carnal courts to defend his carnal ways and wishes. Some of these false holiness preachers have a trail of free-lovism back of them, and seem to think that this kind of love is godly love. When they are caught and uncovered by the "true holiness' workers you will find them sympathizing with one another and railing out on the innocent children of God that dare to expose their corrupted and defiled spirits.

Another sign of the absence of "true holiness" in the heart is a peevish, self-pitying, resentful disposition, especially when old age begins to creep upon them. When the new man is in the heart, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness, the person will ripen up for heaven in tenderness, loveliness, sweetness, and without self-pity. This self pity will try to make others believe that they are greatly imposed upon and are justified in speaking hard against another whom they consider as a crook or hypocrite. They become easily offended, especially by those whom they dislike. They can never see where they need any correction or adjustment, but consider themselves a greatly abused person. Oh, brethren, it means so much to get into "true holiness" and then to continue in that true and righteous way with the Lord. Jesus uttered eternal truth over nineteen centuries ago when he said, "Many are called, but few are chosen." In these last days when the light is shining more and more, the truth that he spoke in those words are in evidence everywhere, for we see wrecks all along the way. Those who were saved and called to follow in the steps of Jesus have made shipwreck or imbibed a false holiness spirit will never be chosen to dwell with Him through eternity. All these things sadden our hearts, and at the same time work a carefulness in our souls to mellow up in the Lord and to keep full of his divine love for any and all of our adversaries who may revile or slander. Brethren, let us all continue to sow to the Spirit of Christ in us so when He appears we may be found with "true holiness" in our hearts.

Obituaries

Little Delarise Wyles was born Sept. 22, 1947 and departed this life Dec. 25, 1947 at the age of three mos. and three days. Bereaved are her father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. Leon Wyles of Wisnes, La. and her sister Janice Fay, and grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Wyles. We know she is sweetly sleeping in the arms of Jesus.

0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0

William Luther Church, born Dec. 25, 1877, departed this life Dec. 17, 1947. The funeral service was conducted at Joplin, Mo. by Bro. Sam Barton of Tulsa, Okla. Text: Job 14:14; John 11:25.

Sept. 28, 1902 he was married to Anna Ripley in Lebanon, Mo. The bereaved are his wife; five children: Mary L. Flowers, Helen Cayoun; Chester, E. V., and Paul Church; six grandchildren; and one brother, T. E. Church of Los Angeles.

0-0-0-0-0

Bro. William Henry Slaving of Nash, Okla. departed this life Dec. 19, 1947, age 85 yrs. 1 mo., 15 days. He was the son of Lena and Frank Slaving, born Nov. 4, 1862 near Remslow, Germany. He came to America at the age of 17 years. Feb. 4, 1894 he was married to Lottie Louise Rauckman of Troxton, Mo. To this union five children were born. Three are still living: Mrs. Mary Bryant of Tulsa, Okla., Luther Slaving of Nash, Okla, and Mrs. Lena Page of Jet, Okla. The other two children died in infancy. The bereaved are: his wife, three children, three grandchildren, two brothers, and other relatives and many friends that loved and respected him for his faithful life to his Maker.

Bro. Slaving met and embraced the truth of the last reformation while a young man. He enjoyed a close walk with his Saviour and spent much time in reading the Word and in prayer. He left the testimony, "I am ready to go."

Funeral services were conducted at the Baptist church house in Nash, Okla. Dec. 21, 1947 by H. P. Huskey of Anthony, Kans. assisted by the pastor, Elder Rogers.

0-0-0-0-0-0

Bro. William Cherry, son of Willis and Eliza Cherry was born in Whitesboro, Grayson County, Texas Dec. 19, 1873 and passed away at Guthrie, Okla. Jan. 8, 1948 at the age of 74 yrs. and 20 days.

He received his education in the public schools of Ardmore, Okla. to which place his parents moved when he was quite young. On Dec. 25, 1895 he was united in marriage to Mary Elizabeth Perkins. To this union ten children were born, six preceded him in death.

In answer to the prayers of his faithful wife who is a saint of the Guthrie congregation, and others who were interested in his soul, he surrendered to the Lord and was baptized during the time of the Guthrie campmeeting in 1947. There were evidences of a changed life.

He was a faithful companion, a kind and loving father, a cheerful friend and neighbor.

Bereaved are: his wife, three daughters, one son, 3 brothers, 8 grandchildren, and other relatives and friends.

Funeral sermon by Bro. U. Phillips. Text: Psalm 116:15. Burial in cemetery near Guthrie, Okla.

- 000 -----

Prayer Request

Colo.—I want to request prayer through the paper for my healing. I am getting old, but I have trusted God for my healing for now going on forty years. Last Jan. 18th I lost my dear companion and since then I have just gradually gone down hill. I am suffering day and night. I am still trusting God, and I want the saints that are not afraid to trust God for their healing to pray for me. Some around here claim to trust God, but just as soon as they get any little thing wrong with them away they go for a doctor or to the hospital. Now I do not want that kind of a Christian (?) praying for me. I promised God when I was first saved to trust him and I know he is able to heal me yet. Wife and I have reared a family of thirteen and we trusted God all the way. Please pray for me. Your brother in the One Body, Lawrence Owens

0-0-0-0-0-0-0

Dear Brethren, Greetings in the Masters' name,—This evening finds me saved and with victory in my soul, truly praising His precious name. We have moved to North Bend, Oregon, and if there are any saints in or around North Bend write me or call at my home at 2139 McPherson St., North Bend. Your sister in Christ, Alta Mead

0—0—0—0—0

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, weight 7½ lbs. The regular price is \$8.75, but we are continuing to extend our special price to ministers and gospel workers. \$8.00 post paid to any address in U. S.

GOOD BIBLES IN STOCK

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

No. 0683X. French Morocco cover, Divinity Circuit, round corners, red under gold edges, Long Primer type, size 8¼ by 5½ by thirteen-sixteenths of an inch thick. Price \$10.75.

No. 03684X. Genuine Leather cover, Divinity Circuit, leather lined, round corners, red under gold edges, Long Primer Type, size 8¼ by 5½ by thirteen-sixteenth of an inch thick. Price \$13.00.

No. 0025X. Genuine leather overlapping cover, leather lined to edge, round corners, red under gold edges, Long Primer type, size $8\frac{1}{2}$ by $5\frac{1}{2}$ by one and five-sixteenth in. thick. Price \$13.50.

teenth in. thick. Price \$13.50. Oxford Red Letter Bible, No. Z-0463, reference and concordance, size 71/4 by 5 inches with streamline zipper. Price \$9.00.

Oxford Teacher's Bible, No. 0761X, French Morocco cover, center references and concordance, size 71/4 by 5 in. Only one inch thick, India paper. Price \$9.50 each.

Oxford Concordance Bible with reference, No. 0289X, size 7 by 4 and three-fourths and nine-sixteenth of an in. thick. Genuine Morocco cover, leather lined. \$10.50 each.

All the above Bibles have overlapping covers, India paper, references and concordance, Long Primer selfpronouncing ten-point type (the best faced type for Bibles), and will be sent to any address in the U. S. with postage paid at prices quoted. Order by Number.

They are Oxford Teachers' and Ministers' Bibles.

1948 Scripture Text Calendar depicting Bible scenes and characters, fixed to hang on the wall. Size 9½ by 15½ inches. It is, as usual, a beautiful calendar, price 35 cents each, three for \$1.00, 12 for \$3.50, twenty-five for \$6.75.

Above articles Post Paid to any address in U.S.

"FAITH AND VICTORY" YEAR BOOKS

The eleven issues of the 1947 "Faith and Victory" papers are now bound together in book form with a nice paper cover. Send now for your book. Price 40 cents each, post paid to any address in the U. S.

----- 000 ------

BIRTHDAY AND GET-WELL FOLDERS

Beautiful Birthday and Get-well folders with envelopes to match. Price 5 cents each or a box of ten assorted folders for 30 cents per box.

Ten Easter folders with envelopes in nice gift box. 50 cents per box. Post paid.

Small New Testament with imitation leather back with clear print. Price 25 cents each.

EXPERIENCES OF WESLEY TRIMBLE

Calif.—Dear saints in our blessed Lord Jesus,—Recently I was reading a stirring testimony in "Faith and Victory" and as I read the good Lord laid it on my heart to write my experience. I truly thank Him today for the precious blood of our Lord Jesus that made it possible for each one of us to enjoy this blessedness of having the great love of God shed abroad in our hearts. I have not enjoyed it as long as some, but, bless God, I have enjoyed it as much. I just dearly love to serve the Lord and my chief delight is in doing his blessed will in everything. I will not be able to thank him enough in this life, and I know I will be spending a big part of eternity praising and thanking him for this great Gift he has bestowed upon me.

I was deep down in terrible sin when he so mercifully reached down and brought me up out of that horrible pit and set my feet upon the Rock. Bless His name! I was in the terrible clutches of liquor and tobacco for over forty years and started using both before I reached my tenth year. I used to pick up pint whiskey bottles to sell and always there was a small amount in each one which I would tip up and drain. There was not enough in any of them to burn my throat, but plenty to create that terrible desire for alcohol that developed in later life. At the same time I was picking up cigarette butts and smoking them, and that awful habit (also chewing tobacco) fastened itself on my later life as well.

About 1900 my folks moved into Oklahoma and I got into a hard drinking crowd of young fellows there. When the state went dry about 1906 I started bootlegging, but drank up all the profit and got into trouble besides; so I drifted west on a bridge gang in Colorado and Wyo. It was the same wherever I would go—just drinking and more drinking. Oh, blessed God in heaven! how I thank Him for keeping His merciful, blessed hand on me during those awful years. I was near actual death many many times, yet He in His great compassion spared my then worthless life. Bless His Holy Precious Name forever! Right now I am weeping so the words are blurred, but I thank God they are tears of sheer gratitude and joy to my blessed Redeemer.

In 1911 I came to the west coast with another hard drinking young fellow and we drifted from lumber camp to harvest fields in Washington state, always deep in sin of nearly all kinds, beating our way on railroads, even putting up in a hobo's "jungle." We drifted south to Imperial Valley, Calif. and in 1912 I took up plastering, which proved to be another move toward drink, as they as a whole are a hard drinking set of men. I moved up to Los Angeles that same year, and in 1914 I married and tried to settle down. It did settle me in most ways and helped as far as steady drinking was concerned, but I still kept at it now and then. During the days of home brew I got back into it as bad as ever. In 1939 we moved on our little 5½ acre ranch here near Pomona, and I made a desperate effort to stop drinking. I went three whole months without taking a drink of any kind of alcohol and then weakened and started again.

It seemed like that was the turning point, for I grew worse steadily and during those last few years was drunk almost every night. I used to send my wife and little girl to a show and would get drunk. Once when I heard them drive in the yard I got into bed, dressed just as I was, shoes and all, expecting to get up later and undress, but woke up the next morning just like I had lain down. Once I was out of wine and I broke my baby's bank and stole what I needed. Another time I was out of money in pocket and tore out the whole side of an overstuffed chair to get 25 cents I knew had slipped out of my pocket previously. Once I was known to have an almost iron will, but that was gone and in its place a terrible sense of defeat. I felt almost like a whipped dog.

We had been sending our little girl (she is ten now) to Sunday School by a fine couple named Meyer. Wife and I cared nothing about our own souls, but wanted her to have a chance anyway. I knew Mr. Meyer was a good Christian, and in my desperation I asked him what I could do to break these terrible habits. I did not laugh at him, but I did NOT believe him, and went on two weeks more, getting worse. I know now the blessed Lord had me under conviction.

On the night of May 17, 1945 I was sitting by the silent radio smoking (nearly two packs daily) and as I had told wife to take baby and go to a show I was just waiting for the back door to slam so I could bring in my bottle I had hid out on the porch. But, praise God! when that door slammed something in the region of my heart seemed to move and the blessed Lord put these words into my mind and heart: "You had better pray, the Lord will help you; you had better pray, the Lord will help you." I put my cigarette up in the ash tray and before I hardly knew it I had bowed my head right where I sat and uttered the first prayer I had made since saying my "Now I lay me" prayer at my dear praying mother's knee. Oh, how I do thank God now for a praying mother. These are almost the words I said that wonderful night: "Lord, in the name of Jesus PLEASE deliver me from these sins, drinking, smoking, and swearing. Amen." As soon as I had said Amen, I KNEW, bless God, I knew by the witness He gave me inside that I would NEVER have to do those things again. I took a half pack of cigarettes out of my shirt pocket and laid them on the radio, and there they laid for weeks. Praise the good Lord! from the instant I said Amen I have never had the slightest desire for any of those things, and haven't uttered an oath since, and don't want to. Bless His name!

The next Sunday night Mr. and Mrs. Meyer took us to their church services. The minister brought an average good sermon and we got home about 9 p. m. Wife took our little girl and went into the house and I stayed out and talked to them.

Mrs. Meyer said to me, "Mr. Trimble, don't you think it about time you turned to the Lord and accepted Jesus Christ?"

I said, "Mrs. Meyer, it has been time a long long time ago. I know God has had me under conviction several times, and I always said NO, and I am worse than a Fiji Islander, for I was sent to Sunday School and have always believed every word of the Bible, and I have always believed that God was absolutely Almighty and there is nothing he cannot do. I've always believed that Jesus Christ was born of a Virgin mother and that the Jews murdered Him on the cross and buried Him in the ground"-and here is where the most beautiful thing happened that could ever happen to a human creature-"and the third day He rose, and"-Praise God forever! when I said that, it was just like I had been walking stooped over with a heavy weight on my back and a heavy black bandage over my eyes all my life, and sud-denly the weight of the whole world was lifted off my back and I stood straight up and was lifted nearly a foot off the ground. I stood there with my whole body as light as a feather and a great white light round about me. I did not know what had happened, but I KNEW the biggest thing had happened inside of me that a human being ever experienced. Oh, praise His blessed Holy Name for His goodness, sweetness, and faithfulness! I was scared and afraid Mr. and Mrs. Meyer would ask me about the beautiful light round us, so I bid them good night and hurried to the house. To get in our house we go up several steps and I don't ever remember touching those steps that night. It seems like I just scooted up them. Glory be to our God forever! The next morning I started breakfast and when my wife pushed the door open and I looked at her, her face was exactly like an

angel's face. She did not know a thing about what happened as she and baby were in the house then. I went out after breakfast to milk the cow and it seemed like everything had changed and grown beautiful. I still did not realize just what had taken place within me, as the blessed Lord had reasons to keep me in ignorance of it.

(Concluded in the March Issue of "Faith and Victory.") ______oOo _____ Let The Saviour Come into your Heart

> Tune: "Sweet Bye and Bye" If you want raptured joy, wondrous joy, Let the Saviour come into your heart. If you want raptured joy, wondrous joy, Let the Saviour come into your heart. He your sins will forgive, He your garments will wash white as snow; He your sad heart will cheer— Let the Saviour come into your heart.

If you want blessed peace, wondrous peace, Let the Saviour come into your heart. If you want blessed peace, wondrous peace, Let the Saviour come into your heart. He your sorrows will share, He your burdens will all roll away. He your gloom will dispel— Let the Saviour come into your heart.

If you want perfect love, wondrous love, Let the Saviour come into your heart. If you want perfect love, wondrous love, Let the Saviour come into your heart. He your scorn will remove,

He your hatred will turn into love.

Let the Saviour come into your heart.

If you want perfect faith, wondrous faith, Let the Saviour come into your heart. If you want perfect faith, wondrous faith, Let the Saviour come into your heart. He your sickness will heal, He your blind eyes and crippled limbs, too. He your healer will be—

Let the Saviour come into your heart. —Elnora Ayers.

- 000 ----

La.—Greetings of love in Jesus,—This leaves husband and me well and still trusting in the Lord. We have no desire to turn back to this world. The Lord completely healed me of shingles in the spring, and I truly thank the Lord and all the dear saints that remembered me in prayer. Emma Jackson.

^__^_^

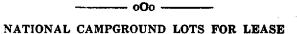
Okla.—Dear ones, greetings in Jesus' name to all the saints,—I am praising the Lord for salvation full and free. God's Word contains the only plan for deliverance from all the evils of this present life. Our dear Lord said in Rev. 3:20, "Behold, I stand at the door and knock: if any man open the door I will come in to him and sup with him and he with me." I am so glad that I heard his voice and opened my heart's door to my blessed Saviour. and I pray he will dwell with me forever. I know if we hold out faithful to the end we shall be saved. I feel the dear Lord wanted me to send in my testimony. I desire the prayers of the righteous ones. Pray much for me that I ever keep saved.

me that I ever keep saved. Your sister in Christ, Avie Breckenridge

0-0-0-0-0-0 Louisiana-Dear saints,-I feel like the Lord would have me write my testimony for the "Faith and Victory" paper. Maybe it will be an encouragement to some one.

A growth came on the side of my face about seven or eight years ago. It was not so noticeable at first as it was flat. It grew some and then a few months ago I was anointed and prayed for. Then I believe it was just a few days later the thing looked as if it might be coming to a head. I guess it stuck out about an inch or more from my face. It began to look as if it was not coming off and of course the devil made things pretty gloomy for me after it stayed like that a few months and so many people made remarks about it. Sinners thought I should have it lanced. The devil tried to make me think it would be all right, such a simple thing as that wouldn't be any more than opening a boil. But the Lord would rebuke me when I would have such thoughts. So once I told the Lord if he wanted me to go to a doctor and have it opened just reveal it to me, and he never did, so I just kept trusting him. Then one Sunday morning not long ago the devil was around pestering me as usual about this as I was getting ready for Sunday School. I believe I was combing my hair when it seemed as if the Lord just gave me such victory and I began to sing, "The Victory is Mine" aloud. I went on to Sunday School and before we dismissed I felt like I should testify about the victory the Lord had given me, and I did. Maybe it would have looked to some folks as if I were foolish when the growth had not changed in the least, but praise God, the victory came and it wasn't long. The next Thursday I noticed the growth had a purple spot on it. Oh, how the devil made me feel for a little while. I became so nervous, and the thought came, "It may be blood poison." I went to the Lord on bended knees in prayer and felt some better. Then that night at prayer meeting the saints were agreed in prayer for me. On Sunday morning (one week from the day I testified) at Sunday School I went in with the growth flat, which had run that morning. Oh, how the saints rejoiced with me! I'm not through praising the Lord for this miracle He performed for me.

Be encouraged, dear saints. Let us walk by faith and not by sight. The days of miracles are not passed, as some say. Please pray for me. I am not well in body, but am trusting the same God who removed the growth. A sister in Christ, Mrs. Charles Price



Last summer a number of saints inquired about lots to lease on the National campgrounds at Monark Springs, Mo. where the national campmeeting of the Church of God is held annually. At present three persons who had leased lots have offered their leases for sale. The lots are Nos. 9, 12, and 32, which are shown on plat of grounds. a copy of which will be furnished upon request. The long term leases sell for \$10 per lot, evidenced by a written lease contract.

For further information and descriptions, write the undersigned. —L. D. Pruitt, Secy-treas. 1005 W. Mansur, Guthrie, Okla.

CHILDREN'S CORNER

Hello Children:

We have been so glad for the letters and poems you have written for the children's corner. It makes us happy to know that some of our children love Jesus and that he is real to you. We wish all children loved Jesus, but it's sad to say that so many children never hear Jesus' name used only as a curse word.

A mother was talking to her ten-year-old boy about Jesus touching her body and she was feeling so much better. She went on to say as she fixed breakfast how good Jesus was to them. "He makes us so happy in our hearts, gives us food to eat, a nice warm bed to sleep in, and a roof over our heads, warm clothes to wear and a good Daddy who loves us. We sure love Jesus don't we?" Her boy said so earnestly, "Mother I hope I never stop loving Jesus."

That is my prayer for all the boys and girls who love Jesus, that you will never stop loving him. As you grow older and others make fun of you, it will take more prayer, but Jesus will help you to not pay any atention to what they say. I know you feel unhappy because unkind remarks are made and they won't play with you, but Jesus understands. When he was here on earth the wicked men were always trying to find a way to kill him and those he loved so much turned against him. So just tell Jesus about it and go on your way happy, as he has promised to "bear our burdens" for us, and that is what he means.

I heard some boys making fun of another boy their own age because he did not know about some big movie star. One said, "Come on, let's don't play with him, he is so little and doesn't know much." The boys went on and I am sure he prayed to Jesus because he played by himself and seemed to be happy. You won't forget to pray, will you?—Aunt Marie

CORRESPONDENCE

Okla.-Greeting to you all in Jesus dear name,-I am still saved and much encouraged to go all the way with the dear Lord. I just could not wait any longer to tell the wonderful work of the dear Lord. My baby, age 1 yr. and 4 mos., was very sick with a high fever and would not eat any thing. His mouth was sore. I wrote for prayer, and Monday night I sent for the saints of Hoffman to come. They came. The baby was very ill, but while we were praying he said something and wanted something to eat. The fever left before the saints left, and he has not had any since. I did not have a doctor or anything else but prayer. I trust in God for everything. I want to thank all of the saints for their prayers for me and my husband. Pray that we will stay saved and do everything that the Lord would have us to do. I can't thank God enough for healing my baby. I told him if he healed my baby I would testify to it. Praise his wonderful name! Lorene Payne

0---0---0---0

Mich.—Dear saints everywhere,—Greetings in Jesus' precious name. I believe God would have me write this testimony to his glory as it might help some soul. Since I have been trying to be a Christian it seems I got the victory for awhile and would then lose it and keep having to start all over, but praise God, the Lord kept leading me and helping me to make all my wrongs right and showing me more light, as I was honest hearted. He will lead any honest heart if they will let him.

The night before Christmas during prayer meeting I had a crushing burden. I could not understand why or what it was. At first I thought it might be to warn of some danger to some loved one or myself. We had prayed but I asked for more prayer. The burden seemed to lift a little, but still not all. I went home and investigated, but found nothing wrong. I went to prayer once more, but still found no relief. I felt burdened like this most of Christmas morning, then it went away until Saturday when I let the devil defeat me and I lost my temper. Then I could see why I had that burden. It seemed all was darkness and my soul was in despair. I called on God for forgiveness and believed he did, but still I was crushed and could find no relief. I went to church services Sunday morning and was condemned by the preaching of God's Word. I went again Sunday night. The Lord dealt again and I went forward to find relief. I was desperate. I would do anything to get peace in my soul. The devil is cunning and tricky. He tried to shame me and talk me out of this, but I stayed and I thought when I felt better that the work was done, but God used a brother to pray to this effect: "Don't let her just feel good, Lord, give her the victory." That was what I needed. Then I got down to business and in earnest and told the Lord to forgive me and deliver me of pride, self, jealousy, temper and all the rubbish that had been cluttering my life up all this time. He did, but when it came to laying it all on the altar, everything I have for Christ, I was bound and could not do it. T tried hard to do it but could not for the enemy of souls would bring all kinds of things to my mind, doubts and fears. Before it seemed I could not discern between the Spirit of the Lord and the spirit of the devil and this hanpened then. He would sav I wouldn't stand, I would fall again; but I made up my mind to stay there all night if needs be until I got victory. The saints were in unity about my trouble. The Lord revealed my confusion, so they laid hands on me in the name of Jesus and the devil did not want to give up. But by much prayer, God delivered me of this spirit. Praise God, Praise God, Praise God!! I got through to standing VICTORY. I knew the minute the devil let me loose and God took hold. I have never had anything to match this. This is like heaven right here on earth. Glory to God, praise His name!

Pray for me, as I know the devil doesn't intend to leave me alone, but I know I have victory. Praise Him. Yours in the Lord, Aneita Corteway.

Ore.—Bro. Pruitt,—God bless you in this good work. Use this money as you see fit. I know God is using you in a wonderful way. May you go forward to greater conquests in this coming year. Here is a prayer to God from me, composed this evening:

There are always places for our cash in these days of strife and stress;

- Oh! I've a lot of temporal needs for every cent, I guess.
- But I shall brush these all aside and give for Jesus' sake.
- I hope this small donation sent may some poor sinner wake
- Or wipe the tears from some saints' eyes or heal some sad heartache.
- What funds we give for just God's cause is all that's going to count;

But help me, Lord, to give you more within this coming year. —Grace Jones

Why Not Pray?

Does trouble come your way? Is there sorrow in your heart? Did you ever try to pray? If not you'd better start.

The Lord will lift all care, And set your heart at rest; He will your burdens share If you will take the test.

John M. Clingenpeel

La.—Dear saints of God,—I have been thinking for a long time that I would send in my testimony and tell what the good Lord has done for me. He has wonderfully blessed me, but I have carelessly neglected to tell about it. A few mornings ago I told the Lord that I would let that be the next writing I did, so now I am keeping my promise.

The 13th of last March I fell out of the door steps and hurt my right arm and dislocated my wrist joint; also suppose I broke my arm above my wrist. Some people say it is broken. No saints live right here around me but they got the news and came to see me and had prayer for me. The Lord wonderfully blessed me. The saints visited us often and helped my husband with the work and prayed with us from time to time. After about two or three days the back of my hand and down to the first joint of my fingers were swollen, puffed, and purple. It looked serious, but I still trusted the good Lord right on. We had prayer and the Lord took the swelling out and its natural color came back.

Pray that the Lord give me the natural use of my hand and arm. Your sister, Mrs. Annie Talbert.

W. Va.—Dear saints and lovers of the truth scattered abroad, greetings in Jesus' dear name,—May the dear Lord bless and encourage you all to fight the good fight of faith and to hold on to eternal life. I have been reading the "Faith and Victory" paper today and enjoyed the testimonies of the saints, especially those with whom I am acquainted. And as this is the beginning of a new year I desire to write my testimony for the paper.

The 18th of next month I will be physically 76 years old. Later I was born again so I am about 47 years old spiritually. I am old enough to be a perfect man in the Lord, but like Job said, "If I justify myself, mine own mouth shall condemn me; If I say I am perfect, it shall also prove me perverse." Job 9:20. I thank God I am fully persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him, and I believe I have it all committed to him. Praise His name!

I have been reasonably busy since the camp meeting, as we are building a place of worship here and trying to look after the work at Richwood. Sometimes I get tired and wonder if I am going to be able to carry on as I feel I must, then I realize the work is the Lord's and if he wants me to continue in his service he is able to give me strength. I just leave it in his hands, and he surely has given strength for my age. I am really in good physical health. I am not only overseeing the spiritual work here in Richwood, but I do much work with my hands. I built the bell tower to the meeting house, and had to get on the very tip to sheet and cover it. Some of the women passing by said they just trembled when they saw me away up there, with scarcely any support. Well, I am not going to do what the devil wanted Jesus to do, cast myself down. But the dear Lord has given me good health and a steady nerve and what I do I do as unto the Lord. He has been my Saviour, my Lord, and my only physician for forty odd years, praise His matchless name. I still feel like traveling on. Remember me when

you pray, that I keep in the perfect will of God.

Your brother earnestly contending for the faith, George Peek.

Okla.-Holy greetings to the saints and all readers of "Faith and Victory,"-I do thank the good Lord for keeping me saved daily and bringing me into this new year, 1948 with victory over sin. I am saved from sin to sin no more, for the wages of sin is death but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord (Rom. 6: 23). I mean to work for God who pays life and not death. I love the Lord because he first loved me. I want to please him in every deportment of my life and I know that we have no time to lose. We are one year nearer eternity than we were this time last year. I want to get closer and closer to Jesus every day and do more for our God this year than I ever have, working to rescue lost souls. Dear Christian people, or saints, let us see that we be busy workers for the Lord to get poor lost souls to see their lost condition. Salissa Griffin

0--0--0--0--0

La.—To the dear saints scattered abroad,—We greet each of you in the name of Jesus. It has been a long time since we have written through this paper. Since we know so many saints over the country, I feel we should write more often. We are glad we can say we are still saved and sanctified and satisfied with the Lord's dealings with us. There is nothing about His service that is irksome, but he always adds sweetness to each trial and gives joy which is our strength. Praise the Lord!

We are now in Bro. and Sister Harry Jackson's home near Batchelor, La. where we have been in meeting since Christmas day morning. The attendance has been good. The saints here are in need of a meeting house. Please pray that this can be worked out some way. There are a few very dear saints here.

The winter meeting held at Hammond Nov. 26 to Dec. 7 was good. Ten or more ministers were present, and most of the messages seemed inspired of the Lord. Quite a number took part in the ordinance meeting. There was some altar work done which we trust is permanent. The saints seem to enjoy these meetings, which I believe has a tendency of drawing them closer together. We are so thankful for the young ministers, and there are quite a number. I believe each one is determined to go through and preach the Word without compromise or fanaticism. There are two extremes, either of which will ruin any saint spiritually. So long as we keep the sweet Spirit of God in our hearts, we will be able to keep our balance.

Last July 17th we left home on a long evangelistic tour, Bro. Salvatore DiDio, Ray, and I. Our first stop was the Monark Springs campmeeting where we met more saints than for some while on a campground. Then we visited the Anthony, Kans. saints a short while and had two nights' meeting and found some there zealous for the Lord. Our next stop was the Guthrie camp meeting, where we again met quite a number of saints. Both campmeetings were good and brought encouragement to many hearts.

February, 1948

Then we started holding revival meeting, the first at Dayton, Ohio. We met a nice number of saints there who have had quite a struggle in the past, but we believe they are coming through. They had been without a minister or pastor for some time, but I understand they are having more help on that line now. The next meeting was at Union City, Ind., which lasted almost two weeks. This is not far from Dayton. This congregation is also without a minister. Let us pray earnestly for these two congregations. Then we went to Kalamazoo, Mich. for a few services and on the way stopped over night with Bro. and Sister Priem at Elkhart, Ind., who are isolated. At Kalamazoo the Lord seems to be gathering saints from different places and there seems to be a promising work there. Bro. and Sis. Earl Brown have the oversight of that work. From there we went to Minneapolis, Minn. where we held the last meeting which was in progress almost two weeks and met a few very dear saints. Sister Myrtle Grice of La. has the oversight of that work. This congregation is isolated and does not have the privilege of mingling with others as the rest of us have. We arrived home Oct. 3rd and felt that the Lord had had his way with us.

In our travels from year to year we contact a number of congregations with no pastor, who eagerly plead for a God-sent pastor to take over. Where are the pastors? That is a place in the body of Christ to which the Lord calls certain ones. The wrong pastor is worse than none but He does have God-fearing men and women for these places (Eph. 4:11).

We desire your prayers that we may always be all the Lord would have us to be, for we do desire to please him and live in heaven with him. Christian love to all. Katherine and Ray Key

0-0-0-0-0

Nebr.—Dear saints of God who are in different parts of our great American country,—I count it a great privilege of having the real truth come into my home thru the printed page. While I am isolated from any and all of the saints of the old time Church of God, yet I do rejoice to know that there are many who are still holding onto the faith that was delivered unto the saints; yes, for a faith for a real salvation of the soul and the healing of the body in ALL SICKNESS. Praise the Lord.

I have just finished reading Bro. Pruitt's book, "God's Gracious Dealings," and think it is wonderful. I was impressed with chapter 45 as much or more than any of the others. I believe when God governs the home He is well-pleased and he will supply all our needs.

We can talk about repentance, restitution, fasting and praying for days, and weeks, but there is one thing essential to salvation, and that is to BELIEVE. No one can believe who does not accept Jesus Christ as his Savlour. When one accepts Jesus Christ as his personal saviour, then the marvelous birth of the Spirit makes it possible for that one to do the whole will of God concerning him. What is comfort to the sinner and the backslider is comfort also to the heart who has been longing and seeking for the second blessing, the blessing of holiness. "And God which knoweth the hearts bear them witness, giving them the Holy Ghost even as he did unto us and put no difference between us and them, purifying their hearts by faith." Acts 15:8, 9. Here again we see it is necessary to BELIEVE.

The poet sang:

"Long my yearning heart was trying to secure a perfect rest,

When I gave all trying over, simply trusting I was blest." Nothing is too hard for the Christ of God. Think of it. These words were spoken to the broken hearted father whose son had a "dumb spirit, and wheresoever he taketh him he teareth him and he foameth and gnasheth with his teeth and pineth away. Ofttimes it hath cast him into the fire and into the waters to destroy him." Jesus said unto him, "If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth." And straightway the father of the child cried out and said with tears, "Lord, I believe: help thou mine unbelief." Mark 9:17-24. That was the secret, "I believe." He went home rejoicing. Let doubters and infidels laugh and scorn, but the Scripture cannot be broken. All who have obeyed this injunction have proved the promises to be true. The Word is not just the letter, it is the Spirit and the Truth.

I desire the saints to pray for me. My stomach is badly afflicted. James A Dyer

()---()---()---()---()

Calif.—Dear children of God,—Greetings in the name of our Saviour Jesus. This morning finds us happy in the kingdom of God and pressing on amid much opposition. It is precious to walk with Jesus within the narrow way, and we find his presence sweeter day by day. I do thank Him for his love and tender care. Just lately in our body we have been feeling the effects of the prayers of the pure in heart. I have never found one thing in the narrow way to discourage me. Some people say they have such a hard time. That is just proof enough to me that they just missed the straight gate and are professing to have something they do not possess. The Word says, "Strive to enter in at the straight gate, for many I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able." Luke 13:24.

Bro. and Sister Stubbs from Oregon have moved here. We are happy to have them with us. We find they are saints, real examples, filled with the love of God.

The devil through his agents surely is working hard against the Lord's work here at Orland, but God's Word tells us to stand steadfast and when we have done all to stand just continue to stand. Those who have not done all to stand, will not be able to stand when the powers of Satan come against them. The devil is very subtile, and how we must watch and pray! In Matt. 4:3, when Jesus came out of the wilderness and was hungry, Satan said, "If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread." He was the Son of God and could have turned the stones into bread, but would not obey the devil. Oh, how close we must walk by the Lord and how we must watch and do just the things the Lord would have us do and not give in to the craftiness of Satan and give room to delusion! We might pray ever so much, but if we do not watch Satan might get us to do something that the Lord would not have us to do at all, like he wanted Jesus to do in Matt. 4:3. When the devil covers himself with an angel-of-light coat (he has many coats) and makes it look just like it is of the Lord, if we are not watching we will not know that it is not of the Lord. Dear ones, let us be very careful what we profess. Many are professing to have the Holy Ghost who only presume they have it-just a presumption-and do things that the Holy Ghost would not lead anyone to do, thus hindering those that would enter in. May we draw very near Him and walk very careful, watchful, and prayerful.

I do pray God's richest blessings on all.

In Christian love, Tammy Severs

La,-Dear ones at the office,-I am sending in a request for prayer. I need the prayers of the saints. I am

sorely afflicted with something like neuritis in my hands. I can hardly use my fingers. There are enlarged places in my wrists. I also am sorely afflicted in my stomach. It seems to be a cancer, but whatever it is the Lord is able to heal. The Lord has wonderfully blessed me in behalf of the smothering. I am not completely healed of it. The Lord has done many wonderful things for us. He healed husband during campmeeting last year of Pneumonia. He is not in very good health now. The circumstances look dark for us at times, but he is able who promised. I want to live close to the Lord. Pray that I be encouraged and grow closer to the Lord. I know the effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much. God does hear and answer, so please pray for us, Mellie Esters and that we live close to the Lord.

0---0--0---0

Ind.—Greetings in the name of Him who said, "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them and they follow me."—I am so glad that Jesus know HIS sheep, and they love to follow Him because he is still the good Shepherd.

I am laboring under some heavy burdens. Our loved ones, so many of them are not in the ark of safety, and it seems that the time of the end is near, and it is so hard for us to think of them being eternally lost. Lost forever! It makes me tremble to think of it. But where can we go but to Jesus? He is the one that stands be-tween us and all danger. Oh, may God help us that our faith will not fail. I am so glad that I have confidence in Him who said, "Men ought always to pray and not to faint." If we would look on the dark side it would be hard to keep from fainting, but I am so glad for the bright side. Faith in our loving Lord will drive the clouds all away and bring us out into the bright sunshine of His love where we can live under a cloudless sky. Jesus, I am sure, will lead us on to certain victory if we continue to follow Him. Our dear beloved Paul spoke of the fightings without and fears within, and then in Heb. 4:1 we read, "Let us therefore fear lest a promise being left to us of entering into his rest any of you should seem to come short of it. With a fixed purpose of heart we will pray and not faint. The confidence we have in God causes us to cleave unto Him with a purpose of heart. We dare not fail, we must be true; so we will fight the good fight of faith and lay hold on eternal life. I am so glad that Jesus told us to dig deep and lay our foundation on a ROCK, then not a thing will be able to shake us. "And this word, yet once more signifieth the removing of those things that are shaken as of things that are made, that those things which cannot be shaken may remain. Wherefore we receiving a kingdom that CANNOT be moved, let us have grace whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear, For our God is a consuming fire."

May God richly bless each of you and help you to be good soldiers, willing to die at your post of duty.

0---0---0---0---0

Your happy blood-washed brother, G. Stephenson

Ark.—Dear saints—I am glad we have One on whom we can call and He will hear and answer prayer. A horse threw me and hurt my back so badly I could hardly breathe or turn myself. A Baptist minister was close so I sent for him. He advised me to send for a doctor. I told him I believed he was a good man and I wanted him to pray for me. He did and I prayed, and thank God for victory and all he has done for his children who put their trust in Him. I am your brother in Christ Jesus. **Pray** for me **that I** may ever be humble and live from day to day so to be pleasing in His sight. C. B. Cooper La.—Dear Bro. and Sister Pruitt,—May the God of all comfort and power be with you as you journey on to the great beyond. We think of you often and pray God to bless your labors for the good of precious souls.

Truly we are living in the closing of time, and how needful that we keep hid away with Christ in God that the devil can never harm our souls, for that is the only place of safety. As time goes on we can see and feel that the powers of the wicked one is increasing, but thanks be to God for his almighty power that he gives his trusting children that we through him have victory over all the powers of evil.

We trust you all are well and strong in body and that great victory is yours no matter what you may be going through. The dear Lord permits his children to go through the furnace for his glory. I have been reading about Joseph, how he had to suffer that the will of God could be worked out in his life, and 'tis true in all of our experiences. We sometimes must go through hard places, but as we yield to our Saviour and Lord we find the sweet, divine nature of God developing in our souls, and my soul longs above everything else to be more like Jesus for the secret of happiness is only found in the sweet will of God.

We had thought maybe we would be up there with you all in the meeting, but the dear Lord worked it otherwise so we want to keep in his will. We trust you are having a good meeting. May the abounding grace of God be with you all is my prayer. Lottie Joiner

0---0---0---0---0

Okla.—Dear Ones in Jesus,—Your prayers helped me. I knew when you were praying. The Lord put His hand on me, praise His name! I am still coughing, but not strangling. I know that God will clear up this cough. I just received a package of dope from my sister-in-law in Washington, just after I had written to you. It had plenty of strings tied to it. I just put it back in the box and sent it back. Doctor God is plenty good for me. Praise His name!

My brother is a widower. His wife got killed in the Woodward storm. He stays with me at nights. I am much better this morning and believe I will recover in the near future. Alpha Hawk

0---0---0---0

Ala.—Bro. Pruitt and the saints,—It is a great pleasure to me to receive the "Faith and Victory." It brings back to memory when I was a small lad and Bro. Montgomery came into our community. He had a large tent. How the people enjoyed the wonderful messages he brought to them. A number of people would not give up some of their habits and break loose from the sects, but a Bethel was built and a goodly number of saints were in that neighborhood. How I longed each year for the time to come when they would have their campmeeting near our home there in the Ozarks. I regret very much that there are no Bethel's near our home so I could be in the service with the saints. There is a Gospel Trumpet place in Mobile, but it doesn't seem to me that they preach the same old gospel as in those days.

I am very thankful that I met Bro. Nichols and he handed me a copy of the "Faith and Victory." He has moved to Louisiana, and is the same type of saint I met in my boyhood days. I am longing for the time to come when I can return to the full gospel ministry again. I ask the saints every where to pray for my wife. She has been in poor health for the past twenty years. Pray that her health may improve. And pray that all my children may be saved and sanctified. Your brother in His service, Elder Teddy I. Moody.

BIBLE STUDY

Primary Picture Roll, \$1.15; Lesson Cards 5c per set. Order from Faith Pub. House, Guthrie, Okla.

WHAT WE KNOW ABOUT JESUS: HIS WORK OF SALVATION

Sunday, February 1, 1948

Printed Portion . Isa. 53:4-6; Matt. 1:21; 5:17; 20:26-28; Heb. 4:15, 16.

Isa. 53:4. Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted.

5. But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

6. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.

Matt. 1:21. And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name Jesus: for he shall save his people from their sins.

5:17. Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil.

Matt. 20:26. But it shall not be so among you: but whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister;

27. And whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant:

28. Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.

Heb. 4:15. For we have not a high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.

16. Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

Memory Verse: The Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost. Luke 19:10.

Practical Truth: Christ is a sufficient Saviour and the only Saviour.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

In the first three verses of our lesson is a direct prophecy of Christ's mission to this earth, which was to bear our sins—take them upon himself—and heal all our sicknesses, comfort us in sorrow, and to open that fountain in the house of God, which is the Church of God, whereby our sins are all forgiven when we come to it. We must repent from the heart and forsake all sin in all forms. In Matt. 1:21 it says FROM all sin, not IN all sin. Rom. 6:1, 2 says, "What shall we say then? shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? God forbid. How shall we that are dead to sin live any longer therein?" Christ would never have come down to this world, suffered and died for us if we could ever get into heaven and keep on sinning. There would not be any reason for His coming if we could go to heaven in our sins. He wants a pure people.

Jesus said he did not come to destroy the law and the prophets, but to fulfill. All through the Old Testament it is prophesied that He was coming to save His people from their sins. God gave Moses the Ten Commandments to follow. Not one of them made allowance for sin. If we obey the Ten Commandments we will live free from sin, but we cannot do this without the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. Some point to Paul's writing about his life before his conversion in the seventh chapter of Romans to prove their claim that we cannot live above sin in this world. But we must not stop with that chapter. Read the sixth and eighth chapter too, and he tells how you must live to be a child of God. Jesus told those that asked about divorce that from the beginning it was not so. Moses permitted it because of the hardness of hearts, but from the beginning it was not so. The same applies to all sin. Under the law they could only be justified in what they did. Now that Christ has come and died, after his ascension he sent the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, to cleanse the very root of sin out of our hearts. After his suffering and sacrificing for us so he could have a pure and holy people free from sin, he could not let sin enter heaven. If he would, he died in vain. If God's Word is true (which it is) we have no chance of ever entering heaven if we commit sin. Rev. 21:27, "And there shall in no wise enter into it anything that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life." All sin is defiling and is an abomination in the sight of God. Christ the great one of all ages came meek and humble and serving his disciples instead of exacting services of them. He set an example before us by serving and teaching them, and we are to take our example and live like it. We can be just as pure and holy as he is if we spend as much time praying and sacrificing as he did. Paul tells us to come boldly to the throne of grace that we may obtain mercy, which is the forgiving of our sins. Come boldly and not be shy or timid, but seek God with the whole heart for His help and grace, which He will gladly give to the honest hearts that are willing to quit sin and bear the reproach of the cross. If we refuse to do anything we know to be wrong, God will take us to heaven to dwell in the never ending eternity. The prophets looked forward to this time when Jesus would save from all sin. They longed for this peace of mind and soul. Today people reject it and long to be back under the law, but the law will not save. God's Word teaches us all the way through that we must live without sin if we ever dwell with Him in heaven .-- C. S.

----- 000 -----

WHAT WE KNOW ABOUT JESUS: HIS NATURE

Sunday, February 8, 1948

Printed PortionJohn 6:35-40; Col. 1:9-20.

John 6:35. And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.

36. But I said unto you, That ye also have seen me, and believe not.

37. All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out.

38. For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me.

39. And this is the Father's will which hath sent me, that of all which he hath given me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day.

40. And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day.

Col. 1:9. For this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and do desire that

ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding;

10. That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God;

11. Strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power, unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness;

12. Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light:

13. Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son:

14. In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins:

15. Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature:

16. For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him:

17. And he is before all things, and by him all things consist:

18. And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence.

19. For it pleased the Father that in him should all fulness dwell;

20. And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven.

Memory Verse: Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God." Matt. 16:16.

Practical Truth: Christ possesses every attribute of deity, and through him the universe was created.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

"I am the Bread of Life," that is the Bread which gives life and preserves from death, and "he that cometh to me shall never hunger. The one who believes in the Lord Jesus as the great atoning sacrifice, shall be perfectly satisfied and freed from the condemnation of sin, which brings misery upon the mind and soul. All the guilt of his sins shall be blotted out and his soul shall be purified unto God: He then is enabled to love the Lord with his whole heart, and shall rest fully and happy, being hid away with Christ in God. All that are drawn by the Father (John 6:44), all that are influenced by His Spirit, and yield to those influences-for as many as are led (not driven or dragged) by the Spirit of God-they are the children of God (Rom. 8:14). Those who come at the call of God, he is represented here as giving to Christ, because it is through His blood alone that they can be saved. God, by his Spirit, convinces of sin righteousness, and judgment. Those who acknowledge their iniquity, and their need of salvation, he gives to Christ, points out unto them the Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world. "I will in no wise cast out." Never did Jesus reject the penitent soul however grievous his crimes might have been. He is come to the house of mercy. The Master appears and not only grants his suit, but receives him into the number of the family. He admits his unfitness, his unworthiness, his guilt, and his crimes and ingratitude, but no matter, all shall be blotted out through the blood of the Lamb, and he shall be put among the children.

Jesus didn't come to do His own will and act according to human motives, passions, or prejudices; but according to infinite wisdom, goodness and mercy. It is the will of God, that every soul who believes should continue in the faith, and have a resurrection unto life eternal. God gives the grace of repentance and faith to every man: and each must repent for his own sins, and believe in the Lord Jesus through the grace given, or perish. "Desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding." Nothing could satisfy the apostle but the fulness of the blessing of the gospel of peace. The Colossians had knowledge but they must have more, and it was their privilege to be filled with it. That ye might walk worthy of the Lord, suitable to your Christian profession, by a holy and useful life. That they should be fruitful in every good work. They must not be fruitful in some works and fruitless in others. They should increase in knowledge, by genuine Christian experience, more of God, of his love and peace day by day.

Man being in a sinful state—and there is no peace to the wicked—it requires a reconciliation to be made to restore peace between heaven and earth. Therefore the blood of the cross atones for sin, and the influence of the Spirit to reconcile the transgressor to Him against whom he has offended. —L. M.

---- 000 -----

THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Sunday, February 15, 1948

Printed PortionJohn 14:25, 26; Acts 2:1-4; 4:31; Gal. 5:22-26.

John 14:25. These things have I spoken unto you, being yet present with you.

26. But the Comforter, which is the Holv Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

Acts 2:1. And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.

2. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.

3. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them.

4. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Acts 4:31. And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness.

Gal. 5:22. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,

23. Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

24. And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts.

25. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

26. Let us not be desirous of vainglory, provoking one another, envying one another.

Memory Verse: Ye shall receive power after that Holy Ghost is come upon you. Acts 1:8.

Practical Truth God works through his Holy Spirit in bringing to us spiritual power and needed grace.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Jesus had to depart, but he promised his followers to send His Spirit in the place of his own immediate presence. The Holy Spirit was sent to the world on the day of Pentecost and took up his abode in the hearts of those who believed on Christ, according to Christ's promise, and immediately He became the teacher of the church. He gave power to have victory over sin and renounce it and to declare the gospel. It does not seem hard for people to believe that He was sent into the world at that time, but many stumble at the thought of His office and power in individual lives being the same today as it was then. John 17:20, and Acts 2:39 includes all believers to the end of time.

When a soul is in sin and away from God, the Holy Spirit woos and draws so long as that soul is not hardened. The song says, "Oft in the noonday, the evening, and in the stillness of night, sounds in the bosom this warning, 'Turn from the evil, do right.'" It is a dangerous thing to resist the pleadings of the Spirit, for the Lord warns that His Spirit will not always strive with man. Then when the Spirit gains the attention of a soul, He leads him to the cross where in repentance he confesses and forsakes his sins and is forgiven and his sins are blotted out by the merits of Christ's atoning blood. In this condition, the Holy Spirit is with him to lead him in paths of righteousness and to make Christ's words a living reality to him, and to lead him on into the deeper, fuller experience of perfect love. When the believer meets all conditions and consecrates body and soul, the Holy Spirit moves in and takes up His abode.

It is the Lord's will that each of His followers be endued with power from on high by the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, but it is a mistake to give much attention to outward physical demonstration as an evidence that He has taken up His abode in a soul. No Scripture teaches that He will enter each soul with the same outward manifestation. Let Him be His own witness, whether He comes in the form of a dove, streams of light from heaven, or as a flame of fire. He will not cause one to act unseemly, for He is pure: The evidence of the Holy Ghost is a transformed life. When one ceases to manifest the works of the flesh listed in Gal. 5:19-21 and bears the fruits of the Spirit listed in the last part of our lesson, there is true evidence of His presence.

Notice in John 14:26 what Jesus said the work of the Holy Spirit would be. The Holy Spirit works unity among believers and causes them to see eye to eye. He does not teach one person one thing and another something contradictory to that. The multiplied number of sects and creeds with all their evils in the world are existing because people have held to their own ideas and failed to let the Holy Spirit lead them into the way of all truth. Here is a brief summary of the work of the Holy Spirit according to the Scriptures: convict the world of sin (John 16:8), enlighten minds of believers (John 14:16), purify their hearts (2 Thess. 2:13), sanctify their natures (1 Cor. 6:11), witness with their spirits (Rom. 8:16), and confer upon them various spiritual gifts for the edification of themselves and the church (1 Cor. 12:7). -G. R.

----- oQo -----

THE FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIAN BELIEVERS Sunday, February 22, 1948

Printed PortionActs 2:37-47; Eph. 4:1-6.

Acts 2:37. Now when they heard this, they were

pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do?

38. Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

39. For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.

40. And with many other words did he testify and exhort, saying, Save yourselves from this untoward generation.

41. Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.

42. And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.

43. And fear came upon every soul: and many wonders and signs were done by the apostles.

44. And all that believed were together, and had all things common;

45. And sold their possessions and goods, and parted them to all men, as every man had need.

46. And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart,

47. Praising God, and having favor with all the peoplc. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.

Eph. 4:1. I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called,

2. With all lowliness and meekness, with long-suffering, forbearing one another in love;

3. Endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

4. There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling;

5. One Lord, one faith. one baptism,

6. One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.

Memory Verse: There is one body and one Spirit, even as ve are called in one hope of your calling: one Lord. one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all. Eph. 4:4-6.

Practical Truth: Fellowship between Christians is born of the Holy Spirit and promoted as they work together in the service of Christ.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

The lesson title suggests that our class discussion be centered on the topic of Christian fellowship. There is a human fellowship and a divine fellowship, and we need to learn the difference. Let us consider well the example in our lesson.

In the first part of our lesson Peter is addressing a large number of Israelites who had gathered at Jerusalem on the day of Pentecost to observe the feast of the harvest. If some of the modern-day preachers had been there, they would have called it a "fellowship" meeting and wreed them to extend to each other the "right hand of fellowship," for as human beings they had many things in common, even in religious beliefs—especially in the clamour concerning Jesus: "Let Him be crucified," and "We will not have this man to rule over us." A. Commence

In the same place was another company of 120 people who were there for a different purpose. When the Lord ascended to heaven a short time before this he had instructed them to "tarry at Jerusalem" until they were endued with power from on high. On this day the power came and they were filled with the Holy Ghost. Their fellowship was of a heavenly, divine nature, made possible by the indwelling Holy Spirit. Unity and oneness prevailed without being worked up nor urged on by suggestions from men. But a gulf existed between them and the other Israelites who were only experiencing human fellowship.

The Holy Spirit inspired Peter to preach the sermon recorded in Acts 2:14-46, which was supported by prophecies and corresponding facts and left them without excuse. The Spirit bore the truth to their consciences that there was no hope for them, but in the mercy of Him whom they had rejected and crucified, so their awakened souls cried out, "What shall we do?" The answer: Repent, be baptized, and receive the Holy Spirit. Those who believed, obeyed the instructions and became partakers of the divine nature and were then in heavenly fellowship with the 120.

This is the only possible way to experience divine fellowship. So long as people go on with a cold dead profession of religion, rejecting part of the words of Christ (this is crucifying Him), never awakening to their miserable state of being dead in trespasses and sins or seeing the need of repentance, fellowship meetings and handshakes to work up fellowship avail nothing.

There is nothing that the devil hates any more than the divine unity and fellowship of believers, so he arrays all of his powers to break it up. This he cannot do if man will keep his will yielded to the Lord and the leadings of His Spirit and instructions of His Word. Meditate much on the instructions given in the last part of our lesson taken from Ephesians. Do you understand what is meant by "one body?" — G. R.

----- 000 -----

THE WORLD MISSION OF THE CHURCH Sunday, February 29, 1948

Romans 10:8. But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach;

9. That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.

10. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

11. For the Scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed.

12. For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him.

13. For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

14. How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?

15. And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!

Eph. 3:8. Unto me, who am less than the least of all

saints, is this grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ;

9. And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ:

10. To the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly places might be known by the church the manifold wisdom of God,

11. According to the eternal purpose which he purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord:

12. In whom we have boldness and access with confidence by the faith of him.

Memory Verse: How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace. Isa. 52:7.

Practical Truth: The gospel is intended for the world and it is our duty to help to carry it to all men.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

"The word is nigh thee." The word of reconciliation is nigh and the way of salvation is both plain and easy. The death of Christ made it possible for the human family to be reconciled to God. The doctrine of faith in his death and resurrection is fully proclaimed, and is effectual to the purpose for which it was intended. By the preaching of the gospel the doctrine of salvation is nigh thee and the saving power at hand, easy to be understood. And in the heart, if you are upright before God, sincerely desiring to be saved on his own terms, not trying to es-tablish your own method of justification by the law, but believe in the heart and confess the Lord Jesus Christ as the only Saviour, he who died for your offenses has been raised for your justification, and if you depend solely on him for that justification, then thou shalt be saved. Man believeth unto righteousness, believes to receive justification, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. Those who believe aright in Jesus will receive such a conviction of their redemption that he will also confess his obligation to his Redeemer. There is no difference between the Jew or Greek, all regardless of race or color are equally welcome to this salvation. The Lord Jesus is rich in mercy to all who call upon him. He who asks for mercy from God in the name and for the sake of Jesus Christ, shall be saved. "How beautiful are the feet of them who preach the gospel of peace." Here feet may signify the principle on which he acts, and the disposition of his mind. The mission of the church is to proclaim this gospel of peace. Many are preaching who have not been sent of the Lord, and their gospel brings division and strife rather than peace.

The apostle was to magnify the grace of Christ in the salvation of the world, so he uses every way to prevent the eyes of the people from being turned to anything but Christ and him crucified. Altho he spoke of himself as being the particular instrument which God had chosen to bring the Gentiles to the knowledge of the truth, yet he does it in such a way as to show that the excellency of the power was of God and not of himself, and that he only had the heavenly treasure in an earthen vessel.

God's gracious design to save a lost world by Jesus Christ could not be defeated by any cunning, skill, or malice of man or devils, whatever hinderances are thrown in the way, His wisdom and power can remove. The manifestations of Christ and the glory which should follow were grand objects which God kept in view. It is only in the name of Christ we can pray to God, and it is only by Him we can come to God, none can give us an introduction but Christ Jesus, and it is only for his sake that God will either hear or save us. L. M.