

FAITH AND VICTORY

The EVENING LIGHT WATCHMAN



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The One I Love

Jesus, the one I serve and love,
Was sent by God down from above.
He is the one who first loved me,
And brought salvation full and free.

He took my sins and made me white,
And turned my darkness into light.
He died upon the cruel tree,
That you and I might be made free

From Satan's power, and sin's corrode,
To walk the strait and narrow road
That leads from earth to heaven's gate,
Where crowns of glory do await

His saints who are made white and tried,
Blessed by God and sanctified.
His promises to us are sure,
If we but to the end endure.

Ask, He said, and you shall receive;
All is possible; just believe.
'Tis by His stripes we all are healed
If on our knees to him we yield.

Then from death's tomb he did arise,
Ascended up into the skies.
A place he has gone to prepare
For those who 'scape from Satan's snare.

Eternal life to all He gave
Who would believe His power to save.
His Holy Spirit us hath sealed,
His precious word to us revealed.

So when we've run this Christian race
And conquered by His matchless grace,
We'll stand before Him unashamed
Because we've trusted in His name.

—Max F. Williamson

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How Much Do You Value Christ?

"Then one of the twelve, called Judas Iscariot, went unto the chief priests, and said unto them,

What will ye give me, and I will deliver Him unto you? And they covenanted with him for thirty pieces of silver." Matt. 26:14, 15. We know from a heart knowledge and the Word of God that Christ came into this world to redeem man from sin. He came as a "friend of man," but down through the ages some have regarded being friends with Christ as of little value. In the Scriptures just quoted Judas sold Him for the price it took to buy a cemetery. Some today seem to value His friendship less than did Judas Iscariot. Jesus says, "Ye are my friends if you do whatsoever I command you." John 15:14. The way we regard His Word shows how much we value His friendship. To have a right value of Christ will cause us to fervently and diligently obey His commands and deep down in our souls have a burning love when we do them. The spirit that rules our heart is made manifest by our actions.

Let us imagine ourselves standing before the great white throne of Heaven (Rev. 20:12, 13, 15) and being judged by the Word of God (John 12:48). We are now to answer to God for the life we have lived in this short time world.

Jesus came to this world to free us from the things that God hates because it unfits man for the fellowship with the Father, which He desires. Therefore if we cling to the things of this world, we will not care for the fellowship of Christ. That is why there is to be a judgment: to reward men for what they have loved and worked for all or part of their lives. Jesus did not love the world (John 2:15, 16, 17), so to enjoy heaven we cannot love it either.

Do you love worldly pleasures? Jesus did not. The Word says (1 Tim. 5:6), "But she that liveth in pleasure is dead while she liveth." Jesus will take the love of worldly pleasures out of your heart, but if you cling to them, you will not enjoy Christ's company.

Someone has done you an injustice. What are you going to do? When Jesus suffered he threatened not. (1 Peter 2:23). "Father, forgive them." Luke 23:34. That was his attitude. The Spirit that lived in God's Son was manifesting itself. Now if we act differently we are not in fellowship with Christ, and have not His Spirit. (Rom. 8:9.)

"My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me." John 10:27. Now in Revelation 18:4, God is heard calling his sheep, or people, out of Babylon, or man-controlled religious bodies which teach for doctrine man's word and traditions of men—and some of God's Word, for you cannot make a man believe all lies. "But why?" says one, "Cannot I stay down there and save or help someone?" No, because God says, "It is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird." Rev. 18:21. One cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of devils: "Ye cannot be partakers of the Lord's table and the table of devils" 1 Cor. 10:21. Only in Mt. Zion is the food pure and clean. Only if you have the Spirit of Christ which puts us in fellowship with Him will you enjoy your food pure and clean (1 Pet. 2:2).

In Rev. 18:6 God says, speaking of Babylon again, "Reward her even as she rewarded you, and double unto her double, according to her works: in the cup which she hath filled fill to her double."

We hear again the question: "Why?" Because, out of His loving heart God answers, "In her was found the blood of prophets, and of saints, and of all that was slain upon the earth." verse 24. Now if you are still in Babylon, your influence for God is going to help build up one of the gates of hell (Matt. 16:18). You will be found an unprofitable servant, and "outer darkness" will be your eternal home. (Matt. 25:30).

How much do you value Christ? Like Judas, many are selling Him for the things of this world that will perish with the using. Judas sold him for a potter's field (Matt. 27:7). What is your price, brother and sister? I think I can hear many redeemed souls shout to high heaven and their voices echoing down the corridors of time, "NOT FOR SALE." H. Curtis Bedsole.

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Comments on 7th Chapter of Romans

(Editor—We have taken the following truths from Adam Clark's comments on the 7th chapter of Romans, and have arranged them into a reduced article to bring out vital truths for the children of God and to enlighten those in erroneous thinking.)

The Apostle, having in the preceding chapter, shown the converted Gentiles the obligations they were under to live a holy life; addresses himself here to the Jews, who might hesitate to embrace the gospel lest, by this means, they should renounce the law, which might appear to them as a renunciation of their allegiance to God.

In the fifth verse he gives a general description of the state of the Jew in servitude to sin considered as under the law. In the sixth verse he gives a summary account of the state of a Christian or believing Jew, and the advantages he enjoys under the gospel.

In the third verse he says, the woman whose husband is dead is no adulteress though she be married to

another man and is trying to impress upon the Jew that he should not imagine that this change should be an argument of his disloyalty to his Maker, for God has determined that the law of ordinances should cease, therefore you (the Jew) are no more bound to the law than a woman is to a deceased husband. You are free to receive the gospel of Christ, as a woman under such circumstances would be to marry.

Concerning the fourth verse we have the following comment: You were once under the law of Moses and were bound by its injunctions; but now ye are become dead to that law; for the law which was once your husband is dead. God has determined that it should no longer be in force; so that now, as a woman whose husband is dead is freed from the law of that husband, or from her conjugal vow, and may legally be married to another: so God, who gave the law under which ye have hitherto lived, designed that it should be in force only till the advent of the Messiah. That advent has taken place. The law has, consequently, ceased and now you are to take on you the yoke of the gospel, and lay down the yoke of the law; and this is the design of God that ye should do so. "That ye should be married to another . . . who is raised from the dead." As Christ is the end of the law to every one that believeth, the object in giving the law was to unite you to Christ. And as He had died, He not only abolished that law which condemns every transgressor to death without any hope of revival; but he has made that atonement for sin by his own death, which is represented in the sacrifices prescribed by the law. And as Jesus Christ is risen again from the dead, he has therefore given the fullest proof, that by his death he has procured the resurrection of mankind; and made that atonement required by the law, that we should bring forth fruit unto God. We, Jews, who believe in Christ, have, in consequence of our union with Him; received the gifts and graces of the Holy Spirit; so that we bring forth that fruit of holiness unto God, which without this union it would be impossible to produce. Here is a delicate allusion to the case of a promising and numerous progeny, from a legitimate and happy marriage.

In the sixth verse he teaches us plainly that we are delivered from the law; that is, to us who are believers in Christ, this commandment is abrogated. We are transferred to another constitution; that law which kills ceases to bind us: it is dead to us who have believed in Christ. Jesus is the end of the law for justification and salvation to every one that believeth, that we should serve in newness of spirit.

We are now brought under a more spiritual dispensation, now we know the spiritual import of all the Mosaic precepts. We see that the law refers to the gospel, and can only be fulfilled by the gospel.

The law is just as necessary to the Gentile, to the present hour. We do not find true repentance taking place where the moral law is not preached and enforced. Those who only preach the gospel to sinners, at best, only heal the hurt of the daughter of my people slightly. The law is the grand instru-

ment in the hands of a faithful minister, to alarm and awaken sinners, and he may safely show, that every sinner is under the law, and consequently under the curse, who has not fled for refuge to the hope held out by the gospel: for in this sense, Jesus Christ is also the end of the law for justification to them that believe.

In the 14th verse he says, "I am carnal, sold under sin." It is difficult to conceive how the opinion could be thought true, that the apostle speaks here of his regenerate state and that if that were true of himself it would also be true of all other believers. The opinion that Paul was speaking of himself in a regenerate state and at the same time was carnal, sold under sin is most pitiful and shameful. Not only has it lowered the standard of Christianity, but it has also destroyed its influence and disgraced its character. It requires but little knowledge of the spirit of the gospel, and of the scope of this epistle, to see that the apostle is here, either personating a Jew under the law and without the gospel, or showing what his own state was when he was deeply convicted that by the deeds of the law no man could be justified; and not as yet heard those blessed words that Jesus Christ had fulfilled the law and the prophets abolishing death and bringing life and immortality to light through the gospel.

The work of such a person that is "carnal, sold under sin" is to make provision for the flesh, to fulfill the lusts thereof. He minds the things of the flesh and is at enmity with God. In all these things the saved man is the reverse, for he lives in a state of friendship with God and Christ, and the Spirit of God dwells in him, his soul has dominion over the appetites of the body and the lusts of the flesh. His passions submit to the government of reason, and he, by the Spirit, mortifies the deeds of the flesh. He mindeth the things of the Spirit. The Scriptures therefore place these two characters in direct opposition to each other.

Now the apostle begins this passage by informing us that it is his carnal state that he is about to describe, in opposition to the spirituality of God's holy law, saying, but I am carnal.

Those who are of another opinion, maintain by the word carnal here, the apostle meant that corruption, which dwelt in him after his conversion. But this opinion is founded on a very great mistake; for although there may be after justification the remains of the carnal mind, which will be less or more felt, till the soul is completely sanctified; yet the man is never dominated by the inferior principle, which is under control, but by the superior principle which habitually prevails.

Sold under sin is one of the strongest expressions which the Spirit of God uses in Scripture to describe the full depravity of fallen man. We must therefore understand the phrase, sold under sin, as implying that the soul was employed in the drudgery of sin; that it was sold over to this service and had no power to disobey this tyrant, until it was redeemed by another. Universally through the Scriptures man is

said, to be in a state of bondage to sin until the Son of God makes him free. But in no part of the sacred writings is it ever said that the children of God are sold under sin. Christ came to deliver the lawful captive and take away the prey from the mighty. Whom the Son maketh free, they are free indeed. Then they yield not up their members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: for sin shall not have dominion over them; because the law of the spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made them free from the law of sin and death.

That all that is said in this chapter of the carnal man, sold under sin did apply to Saul of Tarsus, no man can doubt: that what is here said can ever be, with propriety, applied to Paul the apostle, who can believe? Of the former all is natural; of the latter, all here said would be monstrous, and absurd, if not blasphemous. The very genus of Christianity demonstrates that nothing like this can, with any propriety, be spoken of a genuine Christian.

It must be allowed that, whatever was the experience of so eminent a man, Christian and apostle, as saint Paul, it must be a very proper standard of Christianity. And if we are to take what is here said as his experience as a Christian, it would be presumption in us to expect to go higher; for, he certainly had pushed the principles of his religion to their utmost consequences. But his whole life and the account which he immediately gives of himself in the succeeding chapter, prove that he, as a Christian and apostle had a widely different experience; an experience which amply justifies that superiority, which he attributes to the Christian religion over the Jewish; and demonstrates that it affords salvation to the uttermost, to all those who flee for refuge to the hope that it sets before them. Besides there is nothing spoken here of the state of a conscientious Jew, or of Paul in his Jewish state; that is not true of every genuine penitent; even before, and it may be long before he has believed in Christ, to the saving of his soul. The assertion that every Christian, however advanced in the Christian life, will and must feel all this inward conflict; is as untrue as it is dangerous. That many, called Christians, and probably sincere, do feel all this, may be readily granted; and such we must consider to be in the same state as Saul of Tarsus; previously to his conversion: but that they must continue thus is nowhere intimated in the gospel of Christ. We must take heed how we make our experience, which is the result of our unbelief and unfaithfulness, the standard for the people of God: and lower down Christianity to our most reprehensible and dwarfish state, at the same time we should not be discouraged at what we thus feel, but apply to God, through Christ, as Paul did; and then we shall soon be able, with him, to declare, to the eternal glory of God's grace, that the law of the spirit of life in Christ Jesus, has made us free from the law of sin and death. This is the inheritance of God's children; and their salvation is of me, saith the Lord.

"Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof." Rom. 6:12.

"FAITH AND VICTORY"

16-PAGE HOLINESS MONTHLY

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

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Five copies to any address, one year	1.00
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

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

WANTED

A colored sister to share my home, doing the light house work of three rooms in return for your room.

Sister Gertie Radcliff, 1702 So. Central Ave., Los Angeles 21, Calif.

Editorials

The March issue of "Faith and Victory" was enlarged to twenty pages in order to have space for the many good articles and testimonies which were sent in for publication. Again it seems necessary to make this April paper twenty pages because some were left over from last month, and even if we make it twenty pages this month there will not be space for all the accumulated articles, testimonies, etc. To all who have sent in manuscript, we say: You need not think your writings are rejected if you do not see them in print this month; but just remember that our space is limited and we can use only a small amount at one time. Some of our readers have written that they like to have the Bible Lessons printed on a supplement sheet, loose in the paper, then they can use them in Sunday School without the whole paper.

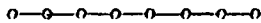
The printing work is moving along nicely and the Lord is blessing and encouraging our hearts to do all we can to get the truth to the people by the printed page. The many letters that we receive from day to day from our readers tell us that God is working with the printed page, and by His Spirit is carrying the truth to the hearts of men and women, and causing them to be fed and built up in the truth of His Word.

For the last few years we have been looking to the Lord to enable us to install more printing machinery so we could keep up with the demand for the tracts, papers, and booklets. This desire and prayer has been partly fulfilled, as we have been able to install a good proof press, a new metal trimming saw, a new 26-inch paper cutter, and just recently we have installed a 38-inch automatic paper cutter, which will be used for the larger cutting. Also, we have received word from the American Type Founders Co. of New Jersey that the 12 by 18 Little Giant Automatic Printing Press is now ready to be shipped to the "Lord's Print Shop." We ordered this press a year ago last October, but the company had so many orders ahead of ours that it has just now come our turn to get a press. When we get this press installed we expect to be able to keep up our stock of tracts and do much more other printing. This press, being automatic, will turn off the tracts and booklets very fast. It has three speeds, 2500, 3500, and 4000 impressions per hour. Printing machinery is very high. This press will cost \$4000.00, but it is the only way we can keep up with the demand for the literature.

We ask our readers everywhere to pray for us and the workers here at the Lord's Print Shop. We are anxious to get the truth to men by the printed page and are putting all the strength and wisdom He gives us into the work of the Lord, together with all financial aid furnished by His consecrated saints. As the Lord supplies we put it into the work of the Lord and thus the poor have the gospel preached to them.

This work is carried on principally by freewill offerings, and the workers whom God sends here to help give their time and labor freely as unto Him

who died and gave all for them. We make them no promise of any remuneration only as God supplies and directs; and in this way the Lord talks to consecrated, talented young Christians, and by His Spirit sends in the help that is needed. He makes no mistakes. The workers are precious sanctified children of God, and it makes a heavenly place in the Lord's Print Shop and also in the home. The Lord's ways are always right and there need be no doubts accepted which assail us from the enemy of righteousness, for there is no power or wisdom greater than "Our Own God's."



The confusion, rivalry, and hatred that is existing in the world today is anything but encouraging to those that love peace. Satan is not satisfied with the recent war, which caused the slaughter of many and great grief, sorrow, and distress in the land, but is firing up the evil passions of men filled with greed and gain to bring about another and perhaps worse war. The saints who have hope in God need not be disturbed in mind and soul, for the devil can go no farther than our God permits him. Men's hearts, in a general sense are filled with unbelief and rebellion against God and his sacrificed Son—and many of them with a hypocritical profession—so God is allowing them to be filled with their own ways which lead to suffering, misery, blood shed and destruction.

These things that are coming upon the earth have all been prophesied by Jesus and his apostles and no power on earth will be able to stop them. Our blinded government officials are spending billions of the people's money in an effort to stop the onward march of Communism, which is a cloak or covering for the evil and wicked spirit called in Rev. 20:2, "The Dragon, that old Serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan." This is the same old wicked spirit that persecuted the saints in the early morning church, and they overcame him by the Blood of the Lamb and the word of their testimony, because they loved not their lives unto death. Rev. 12:11. This wicked, evil spirit that is covered up by the word "Communism" is the same evil power that the early saints fought against, designated in Rev. 12:7, which reads thus, "And there was war in heaven: [an heavenly place where the saints were raised up to and were resting] Michael [Jesus] and his angels [his saints] fought against the Dragon [the old serpent called Satan and the Devil]; and the dragon fought and his angels [his followers] and prevailed not; . . . And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world." This wicked evil power had the whole known world deceived at that time and was trying to crush out and destroy the seed of Christ and the gospel that was planted in the hearts of men by the Lord. But it goes on to say that he was "cast out into the earth"—was defeated by the saints who loved not their lives unto death, and they (the wicked persecutors) settled down to earthly pursuits and left the saints alone.

In Rev. 20:3 it says that he was cast into the bottomless pit. The angel shut him up and put a seal upon him. God would not allow him to fight the saints in the same manner until a long period of time, designated by the term, "a thousand years," but after that he must be loosed a little season. This same old dragon spirit, called Satan and the Devil, is being allowed of God to be loose a little season now because the nations in their wickedness and rebellion have become ripe for this very thing. No doubt, before this wicked spirit and power runs its course, many of the saints will suffer, having their property taken away from them, houses burned, put in jail, tormented, slain by the edge of the sword, starved to death in crowded camps, torn to pieces and fed to the dogs and vultures. But let all endure with patience, for in the 7th, 8th, 9th, and 10th verses of this same chapter we see encouragement for the saints. When this wicked power, called Satan, deceives the nations (They are being deceived now,) in all the four quarters of the earth and in number as the sand of the sea, they will compass the camp of the saints about (who are called the "Beloved City") in order to give them a final blow and crush them from off the earth, then God will intervene with His superior power and send fire out of heaven and devour them, thus winning the battle for the saints and preserving His children. Then we read that the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone where the beast and the false prophet are.

Our nation is doing a foolish thing, trying to stop this power of evil that is turned loose in the last of the last days; yet, according to their earthly wisdom they are doing the wise thing; but absolutely foolish and vain in the sight of God and his angels, or saints. Many are blaming Russia for this invading force of evil that is overcoming nations and bringing the people under bondage to slavery and sinful practices; but Russia, while being as is thought, the father of this wickedness, can no more keep this deceiving overcoming evil spirit from marching on and ruling the people than the weakest child in America can control it.

The proud, haughty, and hypocritical people that in a general sense fill up this country of ours are ripe for the government to be overthrown and misery and destruction to take place in every part of the country and none can stay the almighty hand of God, who is allowing the prophecies to come true. Brothers and sisters, let us yield ourselves completely to God and be ready to seal our lives with our blood rather than to make peace with the enemy by yielding to any of their wrong ways. We can overcome and be victors if we will keep our souls covered by the blood of the Lamb and testify for Him in word and deed and love not our lives unto death. Although many of us may be slain and reach our heavenly abode long before it is all over, yet, just a little while and we all that remain faithful, shall be there for God is faithful and will fulfill all of his precious promises to his faithful and trusting children.

CARD OF THANKS

Mo.—Dear readers of "Faith and Victory"—I want to thank each and every one who have been so kind in helping us after our house burned last November.

On the 3rd of March we moved to a little two room house, for which I am thankful.

Many people helped us in many different ways—many whom I have never seen, and some whose names I do not know; but I want all of you to know that I am thankful for every act of kindness you have shown.

May the dear Lord bless you all, Alice Campbell

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NOTICE

The Kalamazoo, Mich. congregation is in need of a place of worship and also needs facilities for carrying on the campmeetings from year to year. We have the prospect of buying a cement building 50 x 75 ft. built in the form of a tabernacle, which would meet both the need for a chapel and also take care of our campmeeting needs for years to come. Connected to it is a large unfinished room which could be used for dining hall.

Any one desiring to help us lift this load may send your gifts to the secretary, Brother Clare Blanchard, 129 E. Ransom St., Kalamazoo, Mich., or to the pastor of the Kalamazoo congregation, Earl M. Brown, 3606 S. Westnedge Ave., Kalamazoo 56, Mich.

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We hear that a mission, or Church of God service is starting up here in Bellflower, California, but do not know its whereabouts. Please give your name and address so those in nearby localities will know where to attend. Telephone Torrey 7-1356, Bellflower, Calif.

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The saints at Shawnee, Okla. expect, Lord willing, to have an all day meeting at their chapel located at 207 South McKinley, the fourth Sundays in April, May, and June. Dinner at the chapel. Saints from other places are invited to come and be with us. Come, all who can, and let us have a wonderful day in the Lord. For any particulars, address O. B. Wilson, 728 N. Union, or Archie Souders, 225 S. McKinley, Shawnee, Okla.

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PRAYER REQUEST

Please pray for a young father. Since his return from service he has taken up bad habits and neglects his home. Pray for his salvation and that he get a good position near home and not go on long, hard, dangerous trips. Please pray for his wife and children, and that things be adjusted in the home. Thank you.

Obituaries

A. A. McGlassen was born in Texas, April 23, 1875 and passed away at his home in Shawnee, Okla. Feb. 21, 1948, aged 72 years, 9 months, and 29 days.

He was married in 1901 to Mrs. Mary E. Summers at Chandler, Okla. To this union five children were born, three of whom survive. Survivors include Mrs. Mary E. McGlassen of the family home; one son, Jasper McGlassen of Mt. Pleasant, Mich., two daughters, Mrs. Ethel Coffey and Mrs. Iva Tripp both of Shawnee, Okla.; one step son, Clyde Summers of Chowchilli, Calif.; one step daughter, Mrs. Mamie Brickley of Shawnee; 19 grandchildren, 20 great-grandchildren; 3 brothers, L. C. and James McGlassen both of Oklahoma City, and Geo. McGlassen of Los Angeles.

Brother McGlassen came to this community from Green Co. about forty years ago. He met the saints

many years ago and embraced this truth which we love so well. He preached for a number of years in the church of God, and died in the faith. On his death bed he said he was not afraid to go out to meet the Lord.

Funeral service by O. B. Wilson and Archie Souders in the saints' chapel in Shawnee. Text: Rev. 14:13. There was a large congregation of relatives and friends.

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James W. Huston was born in Illinois on Dec. 11, 1854 and passed away at his home in Anthony, Kansas March 4, 1948 at the age of 93 yrs., 2 months and 23 days.

He came to Kansas when he was a young man. On October 23, 1879 he was united in marriage to Rebecca Jane Thayer at Phillipsburg, Kans. and to this union were born ten children. They lived at Kensington, Kansas until 1922 when they came to Anthony, where they have made their home continuously. He has been a member of the Anthony church of God congregation for 26 years.

He was preceded in death by five children and his wife. Survivors are: Five children, Charles of Florence, Colo., Tillie Baker of Canon City, Colo., Ella Kerwood of Hutchinson, Kans., Fannie Huston of Anthony, Kans., and Harry of Florence, Colo.; three sisters, Rosie Burley of Winfield, Kans., Martha Dodson of Hunter, Okla., and Maybelle Becheel of Medford, Ore.; one brother, Joseph Huston of Donel, Wyoming; thirty grandchildren; and thirty-five great-grandchildren.

The funeral service was conducted by Fred Pruitt. Text: Job 14:14. Burial in Anthony Cemetery.

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Samuel S. Allenbaugh, age 81, died at his home in Gerty, Okla. Feb. 27, 1948. He was born Dec. 7, 1866 in Pennsylvania, and came to Gerty twelve years ago from Harrah, Okla.

Survivors include his wife, two sons, Vernie S. Allenbaugh of Independence, Mo., and Sammy R. Allenbaugh of the home; five daughters, Mrs. Signa Bray, Traver, Calif., Mrs. Eva Kuryansky, Oklahoma City, Mrs. Aldean Chartney, Jones, Mrs. Louise Pulsey, Traver, Calif., and Mrs. Veota Williams, Oklahoma City; 22 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

He repented of his sins and gave his heart to Jesus a few weeks before he passed away, and often called for prayer. The night before he passed he told them he was going and was ready to go. He asked the Lord to take him on, said he saw a beautiful garden. Once he called it a beautiful peaceful valley.

Funeral service was conducted by Bro. O. B. Wilson and Bro. Archie Souders of Shawnee, Okla. Burial was in the Oak Park cemetery at Chandler.

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What Lack I Yet?

Have you given Jesus the Master Key to your life?

Have you given Him the key to the library of your life, or do you just read what you please?

Has the key to the dining room of your heart been given to Him, or do you feed your soul with prayer and God's Word?

Has He the key to the recreation compartment, or do you just go where you please?

Does He have the key to your wardrobe? Do you adorn yourself as becometh godliness with shamefacedness and sobriety and with a meek and quiet spirit?

What about the key to your treasures? Are you laying them up where moth and rust doth not corrupt

and where thieves do not break through and steal?

In Matt. 20:16-23, when Jesus told the young man his lack, he went away sorrowful. He would not give Christ the Master Key.

—Rada Watkins

oOo Be Earnest

This is an exhortation to the children of God to be earnest and sincere in serving Him who is the same yesterday, today, and forever. Bless His precious name.

"Then shall the kingdom of heaven be likened unto ten virgins, which took their lamps and went forth to meet the bridegroom. And five of them were wise, and five were foolish. They that were foolish took their lamps, and took no oil with them: But the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps. While the bridegroom tarried they all slumbered and slept. And at midnight there was a cry made, Behold, the bridegroom cometh: Go ye out to meet him. Then all those virgins arose and trimmed their lamps. And the foolish said unto the wise, Give us of your oil, for our lamps are gone out. But the wise answered, saying, not so; lest there be not enough for us and you." Matt. 25:1-9.

Webster's definition for "virgin" is: "Chaste, pure, undefiled." All ten were virgins; all were living clean, wholesome lives, yet something was wrong with five of them. One thing they lacked, and that was oil in their vessels. Their lamps had gone out and they had no oil to refill them. Once their lamps had been burning, or they would not have gone out. But now they have gone out and the bridegroom has come. What can they do? Oh, what a sad thought! Once they had been filled with the Spirit of God and had known his love and tender mercies, and now that he has come for his bride they are not prepared but have carelessly let the spirit or love of God die out of their hearts. And they hear Him say, "Depart, I know you not."

Dear ones, can you see that if we grow indifferent and neglect to pray, read His Word and keep in close communion with God, we shall lose our integrity with Him? It is written in Revelation, "So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold or hot, I will spew them out of my mouth."

There is a teaching that after one has been born again or has been filled with the Spirit or love of God that regardless of how he lives he will not lose his eternal rest with Jesus. But be not deceived, loved ones, for this will not stand in the day of judgment. All sin will be cast into hell, for sin or sinful people can not enter into heaven. Satan is very clever. He would have us believe if we visit the sick, give to the needy, help support the ministry, go to services regularly, oppose all sin and stand for that which is good, we have nothing to fear.

Let us turn to Rev. 2:5 and see what the Son of Man told John the Revelator to write unto the angel of the church at Ephesus. "I know thy works, and thy labor, and thy patience, and how thou canst not

bear them which are evil: and thou hast tried them which say they are apostles, and are not and hast found them liars; and hast borne and hast patience, and for my name's sake hast labored, and hast not fainted. Nevertheless, I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love. Remember, therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come quickly and remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent." Therefore we cannot enter heaven on our good works. We may live clean honest lives and do many good deeds, yet if we have not charity it profiteth us nothing. Paul wrote (1 Cor. 13:1-3), "Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal. And though I have the gift of prophecy and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge: and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains and have not charity, [Spirit of God] I am nothing. And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor and though I give my body to be burned and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing." We must either have our lamps trimmed and burning bright with our vessels (body) filled with oil (Spirit of God) or when Jesus comes for his bride we shall be as the foolish virgins, crying for help, but it will be too late.

Jesus said in Matt. 7:21-23, "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? And in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity."

Seeing what a great penalty we shall have to pay for neglecting this so great salvation, let us take heed to the words of Paul to the saints at Ephesus in Eph. 6:11-18, "Put on the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Wherefore take unto you the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; and your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; above all, taking the shield of faith, whereby ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. And take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints."

May God help you to understand if you have lost that first love and joy you received when you were saved, you have no oil, and I beseech you as one who loves your soul to repent and do your first works, for Christ cometh as a thief in the night; and then it will

be too late. Let us keep ourselves pure and holy, shunning the very appearance of evil, praying without ceasing, that we may be found blameless and without spot or wrinkle at the great judgment day. I know some teach we cannot live holy lives, but this, too, is false. 1 Cor. 3:16, 17 reads, "Know ye not that ye are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy: for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are." So his spirit will not dwell in an unclean temple, for his temple is holy. Praise His name.

May God bless you loved ones as you read this, to take earnest heed how you walk, and talk before Him with your hearts filled with his Spirit of love, that you may be found blameless and without spot when you stand before that judgment bar of God.

—Mrs. H. M. Cones

Not Service but Suffering

Our holy salvation is different from all other religions. It is a thing of virtue and graces. It is a new heart and spirit, which is Christ like and heavenly minded. A new heart will I give thee. Dear ones, this does not mean an old one that has been improved, reformed, or polished. God purposes to give us a new heart. Jesus settled that long ago when He said, men do not put new wine into old bottles, else the new wine will burst the bottles. Luke 5:37.

God's order is first a new heart and a new spirit. In Ezekiel 36:27 the Lord says, "And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes." The Holy Ghost is put in the center of your spirit. It is like the main spring of a fine watch which causes every spring to move and to keep perfect time. So the Holy Ghost within the believer moves the machinery of the soul, controlling the emotions and affections. The Holy Ghost moves us to pray. When we have the Holy Ghost it makes all our activities easy. The yoke of Christ is lined so that it does not chafe nor hurt. The yoke submitted to is transformed into wings which bear the soul upward. The burden is light; that is, anything that Christ places on you is light. The ridicule, opposition, and persecutions of the world you can bear upon your shoulders as did Samson the Brazen Gates of Gaza. Bear them away to a certain hill called Calvary. Then you can rejoice. The Holy Ghost is to cleanse the heart from all sin, and to enthrone Christ within. Then it is easy to be Christ-like. So many try to work themselves up to submission. They say, I will be kind and gentle; I will be like Jesus; but fail and come short. When you get the Holy Ghost these bad dispositions are gone. We keep sweet, tender, and GENTLE (lamb like). The Spirit causes us to be so. Keeping sweet is the cap stone of any Christian. Nothing will blight your influence quicker than failing to keep sweet. A bad temper and an impatient spirit is like burning acid in your soul. The very nature of God is that divine sweetness. The Holy Ghost is the divine which imparts this heavenly sweet-

ness of spirit. So many try to cause themselves to keep sweet, only to fail because of remaining carnality in their souls. But thank God, the Holy Ghost burns out and destroys carnality. Glory to His name! When the bread burns or the cow kicks you or you mash your finger you will be sweet. Nothing attracts the world more than a sweet, humble spirit, which is the essence of the heavenly life. Jesus went as a lamb before the shearers; opened not his mouth. He says we shall be like Him.

If we have the Spirit within, it is like an artesian well whose streams rise of themselves, causing us to be victorious. John tells us, greater is he (Christ) that is within you, than he (Satan) that is in the world. That is the easy secret of victory. He, the Christ, gives victory over temptation. The Holy Ghost cleanses the heart from all the roots of bitterness. Then the Holy Ghost is our reinforcement against the enemy. When Satan comes, he finds his old ally is swept away, and there is nothing within the purified soul that wants to respond to Satan's suggestions. A great passage in the book of Colossians is connected with our sufferings. "Strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power, unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness." Col. 1:11.

There is nothing we need more than power to keep sweet, and to sweetly yield our will to God, take up our cross, accept wrong from others, and even the hardest trial from our Father's hand. This is the triumph of spiritual power, to have the love that beareth all things, hopeth all things, and best of all endureth all things. The strength of metal is shown in the amount of pressure it can bear. God tests us most by what burdens He rolls on us. The crowning glory of holy character is not usually service, but suffering.

R. C. Williams

Come To Christ

The Lord in His small sweet voice is saying, "Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if any man hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to him and will sup with him and he with me." Rev. 3:20. Do not put off Christ too long. In the day ye hear His voice harden not your heart, or you will die in your sins. Come to Him; put your trust in Him, for He died for us on Calvary's tree to save our souls and make us free. If there is sin between you and God, you are dead; but if you give yourself to God, and let Him impart His life to you, you will be like the branch that beareth much fruit. "If a man abide not in me He is cast forth as a branch and is withered, and men gather them and cast them into the fire and they are burned."

Jesus said, "To him that overcometh, will I grant to sit with me in my throne even as I also overcame and am set down with my Father in his throne." Praise the Lord! Does this mean anything to you? If you want to be an overcomer, you should start now, for the night cometh when no man can work.

—Harvey Johnson

CHILDREN'S CORNER

Hello, Children:

We want to write to you today about the first two boys who lived on the earth. I can hear you say, "It's Cain and Abel." Yes, that is right.

These boys did not have any other playmates and should have been kind and good to each other, but Cain had a very jealous disposition. That is, he did not want his brother to have anything he did not have.

One day when the boys had grown large, they decided to offer a sacrifice to God as they had been taught to do. They built altars, and Cain, being a gardener who raised fruits and vegetables, put some on his altar. They may not have been his best ones.

Abel, a shepherd, selected the best lamb he could find, and probably the largest, as he wanted to please God.

When everything was ready God looked down upon the altar and into the boys' hearts. He was pleased when he looked into Abel's heart. He could see that Abel really loved him and God blessed Abel and his sacrifice. But when he looked into Cain's heart he saw evil and things that made him sad. Cain noticed God was blessing his brother and he became angry and jealous. God talked to Cain, as he does to you and me, warning him not to feel that way and to do better, but Cain would not listen, and soon he was talking angrily to Abel. One word brought on another, and one day when they were in the field, Cain killed Abel. What a terrible thing to do! But as Cain let the seed of jealousy into his heart it began to grow and took possession of him and caused him to do this terrible deed.

Once God asked Cain where his brother was, and he tried to cover up and said he didn't know. So God told him because he had committed this terrible deed, he would have to leave his home and become an out-cast.

So, dear children, let us be careful and not let the seed of jealousy get into our hearts, as it surely will grow if allowed to stay.

Sometimes we receive nice things, so let us be glad when other children receive something nice. That will be resisting jealousy. God will bless you and when your deeds are good you will develop into noble men and women, but if they are evil you will be cut off from God and heaven. —Aunt Marie

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He Went All the Way for Me

From glory down to Bethlehem,
O Lord, how could it be?
In love and pity Jesus came
To seek and ransom me.

To Egypt's dark benighted land,
From Herod he did flee,
Not for Himself alone, oh no—
He went all the way for me.

Then He returned to Nazareth,
And preached in Galilee;
Not only for the prophets' sake;
But He went there, too, for me.

For me He prayed and fasted,
For forty days and nights;
And overcame the tempter
Upon the mountain's height.

Down in the land of Zabulon,
And Nephthalim by the sea,
Where the light shined in the darkness—
It was shining there for me.

All night my Savior prayed for me
In the mount alone with God.
Again He prayed in Gethsemane,
Where his sweat ran down like blood.

Not my will, Lord, but thine be done,
He prayed, and went away
To meet the traitor, and be mocked
All night, until the dawn of day.

He wore the purple robe, and crown
Of thorns, and bore the cruel cross.
His life He gave my soul to save—
My redemption! What tremendous cost!

Yes, from the cross to Joseph's tomb,
Then ascended to the throne.
He went all the way for me
That I should ever be his own.

—Ulysses Phillips

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Salvation

The word salvation as it generally occurs in the New Testament Scriptures, means deliverance from the power of sin and Satan. It is wrought by the power of God through His Word, His Spirit, and the blood of Jesus Christ. It includes the forgiveness of all past sins that have been committed; also the cleansing of the human heart, soul, spirit, mind, and affections from all acquired and inherited sin. It is wrought by two separate, distinct, definite, and positive works of divine grace, known as justification and sanctification.

The justified soul is forgiven, washed, born again, converted, and made a new creature (or creation) in Christ Jesus. This wonderful experience is sometimes called a resurrection. The old life is past and gone. The new life begins and the soul begins to enjoy the true sabbath of the Lord. This wonderful experience is freely given to us through the mercy and grace of God on the conditions of repentance toward God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. This repentance is brought about by a deep godly sorrow for sins committed against God and man, and it will move the penitent soul to make a full confession to God and man of all known sins that have been committed, and as far as possible to make restitution for

the same. When this sincere and earnest repentance and confession has been made, then faith in the promise of God becomes active and the soul begins to breathe the new spirit of life of Christ and cry, "Abba Father." The new birth has taken place, and the soul is at rest. "Therefore, being justified by faith we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ."

In this glorious Holy Ghost and gospel dispensation God is calling upon all men everywhere to repent and believe the gospel and to be baptized in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, and live a holy life free from all sin. And He has promised to give us grace to do his will. We have no excuse.

Sanctification, like justification, is a work of divine grace wrought in the heart or soul of man by and through the Word and Spirit of God, and the blood of Christ, by which the soul is cleansed from all carnality of heart. The heart is made pure and holy and perfected in the love of God. "He hath perfected forever them that are sanctified." This experience is sometimes referred to as Holy Ghost baptism, in which the soul is immersed in and filled with the fulness of God's love. The Holy Ghost comes into the human soul as an abiding Comforter to guide, teach, direct, and anoint us with power to do God's will in all things. In this wonderful experience the kingdom of God is set up in our hearts and we are made to reign in life with Jesus Christ. Thus the soul is made perfectly pure and fit for heaven. Some will tell us that this experience cannot be attained until the hour of death. Others say that a place called purgatory is necessary to do this work and fit the soul for heaven. But we know that the New Testament teaches and the Holy Ghost bears witness that the blood of Jesus Christ cleanses from all sin of every kind, and makes the heart pure. Amen.

The word salvation is sometimes used in connection with the resurrection of the human body in the last day when our bodies will be raised up and put on immortality and made like unto his glorious body. Then Christ's redemption work will be complete and He will deliver the kingdom to the Father, and we will reign with Jesus and all the heavenly host in all eternity. Amen.

Conclusion. This article pertains to the gospel dispensation only, of which God called me to be a minister. I am not debating the many ways in which God dealt with mankind before Christ came. I am content to preach the gospel which is the power of God unto salvation to all men that believe.

—J. W. Youngblood.

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THE NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH

"Upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." This truly rejoices my soul this cool wintry evening as I sit down to write this little article in Jesus precious name, all for His glory. How it blesses our hearts to know that we are found in the church of the living God and he in us even as the Father is in him and he in the Father. Glory be to His holy name, the same yesterday, today, and forever more.

His same wonder working power has the same virtue for soul and body. It is his will to save, sanctify, keep, and heal us. There are no disappointments in Jesus. whatever we believe for we shall receive, for the good old Book tells us if we abide in him and He abide in us, we may ask whatever we will and it shall be given us. Truly we know we are the church of the living God, for his Holy Spirit witnesses with our spirits that we are his children and when we call on him he verifies his promise and answers us. It is our heart's desire to do his will, love Him with all our hearts and live in obedience to his divine Word and trust him in all circumstances of life. We are willing to suffer martyrdom rather than to compromise or lower the standard of that dear old blood stained banner. The dear old church stands out today in all her beauty and power as on the day of Pentecost. There are still a willing few who are real blood-washed, Spirit-filled saints, who walk not after the flesh but after the Spirit, who will lay down their lives rather than to lay down the way of the cross.

Our faith in Jesus gives us sweeping victory. We have won many victories over sin and conquered thru faith in the past year that is gone into eternity. Let us each one who has named the name of Jesus, look to him as never before. He is the author and finisher of our faith. He alone has the power to make us more than conquerors thru him who loved us and gave his life's blood to save us.

Dear readers of this little paper who are yet unsaved, let me plead with you: be ye reconciled to God. Seek the dear Saviour, repent and believe. Jesus will pardon, cleanse and relieve you of your burden of sin, write your name down in the Lamb's book of life and give a joy and peace within your heart that the world cannot give nor take away, bless His holy name. If you do not turn to Him, how sad it will be. Sooner or later you'll hear that awful sentence: "Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels." Come now and drink of the water of life freely. I am so glad that I have come to this fountain and have obtained eternal life. If you come now with your poor broken heart, Jesus will give you rest and you will be able to say with me: "I have found a friend in Jesus; He is everything to me; my Saviour, Sanctifier, and Healer divine." Glory be to his Holy name. It is joy unspeakable and full of glory to know your sins are all forgiven and that we have such a real personal Friend who will never leave us nor forsake us; but in sorrow He is our comfort, in trouble He will be our stay; and tells us all our cares on Him to cast for He careth for us.

Thank God for His wonderful love to the children of men. No wonder the Psalmist said, "Oh, that men would praise the Lord for his goodness and His wonderful works to the children of men." His name is worthy to be praised from the rising of the sun to the going down thereof. Take the Savior here below with you everywhere you go, and you'll have the joy bells ringing in your souls. "Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light."

Praise His holy name, we are in the world, but not of it even as Jesus was not of the world. This world is not our home, we are only passing through. Our treasures and our hopes are all beyond the blue. Let us keep waiting and watching, for it will not be long until our Lord shall come and gather his loved ones home.

Yours for the faith of our Lord, Sister Olga D Costa

"My sheep hear my voice, and I know them and they follow me." St. John 10:27.

CORRESPONDENCE

Guthrie, Okla.—Greetings to all the saints scattered abroad. We take this means and opportunity to testify for the Lord who has bestowed so many blessings upon us. First, we are most thankful for the gift of salvation and a knowledge that we have been translated from the kingdom of darkness into the kingdom of His dear Son. Though the kingdoms of this world rise and fall, yet this is a kingdom that cannot be moved but shall stand forever in spite of all the shells and atomic bombs that may be hurled. The gates of hell cannot prevail against the church that Jesus built, and when He returns again He will find a people, though few in number, that He can call His bride and arrayed with the robe of righteousness. By the unmerited favors of the Lord we mean to be among that number "when the saints go marching in."

It was one month ago today (Feb. 16) that our 1946 Plymouth car collided with another car near Oklahoma City, badly bruising my wife and me, and ruining the car, which was finally sold to a salvage company. The driver of the other car pleaded guilty to a charge of reckless driving. In no way did we receive any payment for damages to our car, but that matters little in comparison to the blessing that neither we nor anyone involved were seriously injured. Surely the Lord spared our lives, for it could easily have been much worse. Though at present we still feel the bruised places, we were in bed only a few days after the accident, and the Lord wonderfully healed and raised us up without medical aid, for which we give the Lord all the praise and honor. We do not feel at all like murmuring at what God permits to come our way, for there is a blessing in it somewhere. The Lord gives, and He can take away. The Scripture has come to us often that "all things work together for good" to them that love God, and surely this is true.

We wish to express our heart felt appreciation to all the saints for their prayers, letters of comfort and encouragement, cards of sympathy, and offerings toward the purchase of another car. To Maud and Dillard Hornbeck of Oklahoma City and the Guthrie congregation, we are grateful for their prayers and aid when we were unable to help ourselves. May the Lord abundantly reward everyone.

Continue to pray for us that we will fulfill the purpose in our lives for which the Lord spared us.

Yours in Christ, Lawrence and Mae Belle Pruitt

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Mich.—Dear sister in Christ,—I was pleased to hear that you are still standing for the truths of the Bible, and the faith of Jesus Christ. I have been trusting in the Lord for over fifty years like the old time saints, and I do not like the new way of such styles, curling of the hair, and wearing of gold. I put off all those when I came out in the evening light and I cannot get back in the sect way.

I am feeling well in body now. The good Lord has done much for me, for which I give Him all the praise. I cannot praise Him enough for what he has done for us all. He healed me when I could get no help from a Dr.

Please pray for my daughter's eye. She is nearly blind. Something is over it. We thought a blood clot had come over the sight. She did not go to see a doctor about it, but I am asking the Lord to let the sight return.

I liked those tracts, I have read them all and gave them to my granddaughter to read. I thought they were fine. Oh, if every one would measure to the Bible, how good it would be!

Mrs. Eulia Sherman.

Iowa—Dear brothers and sisters in the Lord,—I still love the Lord and desire to be found in His will continually. My earnest prayer is that the Lord will be with you all, and that He will continue to bless the work there in a great way. I enjoy the articles in the paper "Faith and Victory." It teaches the truth.

I love the people of God, and altho I have not met any of the saints that are preaching and teaching this good old time gospel that saves men and women from sin and the world, I love every one of you. I hope some time to meet some of God's children that have come out from under the devil's bondage entirely, and are standing firm on the Lord's wonderful promises. We have no old time saints here. There is a Gospel Trumpet church, but they are so dominated by Anderson that nothing can be done unless it is approved there.

They have the people under great bondage, especially on tithing. Thank God, we do not have to be preached to about giving. The Lord makes us want to give and we love to.

Sister Edith Knott.

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Oklahoma—Dear saints and readers of the "Faith and Victory,"—I surely praise the Lord this morning for what He has done for me. The greatest thing I thank Him for is salvation and knowing how to trust Him completely for healing.

This morning when I woke up my hands were all swollen and hurting, and my knee was also hurting quite badly. I didn't know what was the matter, but I didn't care about knowing because I knew it did not make any difference to God about healing. Mother and Daddy decided I had better not go to school. About 9:15 Mother and my two little sisters left to take care of Daddy's shop while he was gone. As my baby brother was the only one left with me, I lay down and opened my Bible and began to read the Word. God knew what I needed most. As I started to open my Bible it seemed to fall open to Hebrews 10:23 about faith. After I read and studied a few chapters, I got down on my knees and began to pray. I stayed there until I knew I was healed and got up praising God. I started writing this about 10:45 a. m. and before Mother left, I did not feel like getting up. I truly give God all of the praise, for I have never been taught to trust anyone else for my afflictions.

I know the devil will get after me whenever I have the victory, but if God is for you who can be against you? I need your prayers that I might stay faithful. There are all kinds of worldly things the devil has to get the young people with, then to be trapped in the everlasting fire at any time life is cut off. Pray for me, that I might not be found wanting in the day of judgment.

Wilma Melot

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

Mo.—Dear Bro. Pruitt and co-workers,—Greetings in Jesus dear name. I am glad to say this finds me feeling much better, and I truly thank God for His healing power. I am glad that I learned to know and trust the dear Lord. I know I need more faith, and believe He will give me more as I travel on life's pathway. We enjoy the "Faith and Victory" paper very much. It contains much soul nourishing food.

My heart is burdened this evening for a lost and dying world. May the Lord help each and every one of us to be on fire for God and his cause. May God's richest blessings rest upon you and yours in the great work you are doing. Your brother in Christ,

H. A. Decocq

Missouri—Dear ones,—Greetings this morning in the name of the Lord! I am thankful for the blessings of the good Lord. We have found a place to which we have moved, but there are still no saints close to us but our two sisters-in-law. We enjoy visiting together and would enjoy any of the saints coming our way to stop and be with us. I enjoy the little paper "Faith and Victory" very much. It gives me faith to press on to higher goals.

I would like to be remembered in prayer for my body. There is a hurting in my stomach.

Mrs. Nels Allen

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Ohio—Dear brothers and sisters,—Greetings in the blessed name of Jesus. I am saved and living free from sin. Those whom Jesus sets free are free indeed. Praise His dear name, when he set me free I never wanted to go back in bondage. It is blessed to know we are saved and kept by the power of the Holy Ghost who guides us into all truth. I am in the strait and narrow way, pressing on to my heavenly home, and I mean to obey God's Word and trust in every promise. We must read his Word to know his promises to us, and then obey it, for obedience is better than sacrifice.

I receive many letters in which people tell me they cannot have faith for healing. The Lord said to me, "As your faith is, so be it unto you." Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God. Without faith it is impossible to please God. God's Word is sharper than any two-edged sword. When he cleanses our hearts, then the inside is clean and the sharp sword of God will trim all the bumps off the outside. He is no respecter of persons, and expects all to lay aside those things which His Word condemns, such as the wearing of jewelry and other adornments. Women are instructed to adorn themselves in modest apparel, and not adorn themselves with costly array, gold, etc. Many plead for their wedding rings with the excuse that they see no harm in them. We need to obey God's Word. When He cleaned me up from sin I did not want such ornaments, though I had some fine jewelry. I pulled it off and have not put it on again. We know if we build again the things which God's Word instructed us to destroy we make ourselves transgressors, and the way of a transgressor is hard.

I was born into the church of God, the one described in Rev. 21. Old things passed away and, behold, all things became new. Instead of playing religion I am living salvation, glory to his precious name. He has been my physician ever since he saved my soul, and he has laid judgment to the line and righteousness to the plummet. Dear ones, so long as we stay on the good old Bible line the old devil cannot side track us.

I want all the saints to be agreed with me for my family. I have a son on the ocean who is an engineer on a submarine. Pray that God will save him and bring him safe home. I have only seen him once in eight years. If he were only saved I could give him up better, for I know if he would go to the bottom of the ocean God would take his soul to heaven.

Amanda Jones

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Ohio—Dear brothers and sisters in the Lord,—Greetings in Jesus' precious name, and may His blessing rest upon you as you labor for Him. Praise His holy name!

We thank God for such dear brethren as you, and for the good paper. May He ever bless and prosper your efforts for Him, and supply your every need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

Will you please pray for my wife who is not at all well? Also continue in prayer for our daughter, that God will give her the victory over this evil that is drag-

ging her down; also for the spiritual condition of our pastors and churches in this part of the country, that God will work out everything to His glory, and that "Zion (the church of God) once more will be a praise in the earth." The spiritual condition here is very low, and going the way of Babylon. Oh, that God would once more redeem spiritual Israel, and that with judgment, and that those who call themselves "church of God" would quit playing with religion and get under a real burden for the lost souls going into eternity by the thousands every day without God and without hope. God help his people to wake up, and "work while it is yet day, for the night cometh when no man can work." Let us not be as the foolish virgins, but as the wise, and go forth to meet the bridegroom with our lamps filled, and trimmed and burning bright, that the world may see Jesus in us and have a desire to partake of his goodness and blessings; and in turn, live for Him and serve Him.

God help us all to be faithful and profitable servants working and watching for His coming. Yours in the service of the King, Bro. Earl and Sis. Alma Yantis

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

Texas,—Dear sister,—The tract you sent caused the glory of God to overflow within our hearts. In fact, when my sister Essie read it, she was so full she just shouted, and I praised the Lord to see her rejoice for she had been going through some severe trials in her home. I am praying for her to be able to glory in tribulations, for it seems these trials hurt her so bad. We know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose.

We had many rats here. I put out poison for them and they would not eat it, so I began to pray for them to die or leave. We could hear them running around like a drove of cats in day time, and they made so much noise we could hardly sleep at night. The Word came to me, "Be still and know that I am God." I quit putting out the poison, but my husband put out some. Some of the rats ate it and died. Then he set a trap and caught four in one evening, and three after we went to bed. Nearly as fast as he could get up and take one out and bait and reset the trap he would catch another. Then the rest left. I surely am thankful to the Lord who supplies our needs according to his riches in glory.

Christian love,

Nellie Lovell

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

Ohio—Dear brethren in Christ:—This Friday, March 5th, will be a week since I applied the anointed handkerchief that I received, and today I am walking better than ever since my limb began to pain me. It hardly hurts at all. Praise His holy name forever and ever, and thank you dear saints for the handkerchief and your prayers.

Yours in Christ,

Elnora Ayers

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

W. Va.—Greetings in the dear name of Jesus:—The Lord has been bringing to my mind that we should write our testimony of the dealing of our Lord. We always enjoy reading the letters from the saints. Always we find something to encourage us in the paper, and, too, it is good to hear from the ones we know.

First, we want to tell of the goodness of God unto us, how wonderfully He healed us. Many times have we both been afflicted, but we have had our trust in God and His mercy has been upon us, for which we do praise Him. And we say unto all, that it pays to trust in God. The way may look dark and the sickness be severe, but our God will undertake in His time. All we need to do is to stand still and see the salvation of our God. As my mind goes back over the past I think of

how the Lord so wonderfully healed my husband of rheumatism. He was in a helpless condition, could not feed himself or walk. This was our first trial after we both had been saved, but we had no other desire only to trust God.

We were at this time living in Richwood, W. Va. Bro. Peek was our pastor. He came to our home on that Sunday morning, anointed my husband and prayed the prayer of faith. My husband was instantly healed. He got up without any help and began to walk and praise the Lord. The swelling went out of hands and feet while he was walking the floor praising the Lord. It had been something like three weeks that he had not been able to use his hands or feet and was in a helpless condition. We had prayer for him many times, but he did not get any better, but we had no desire to do anything but to continue to hold on to God. When His time came, He heard and answered.

We were in Seattle, Washington for two years. While there, my husband became very ill and was bedfast ten days. This was a severe trial to us both as we could not get in touch with any saints for prayer. We only knew of one there in that city, Sister Adelia Davis, and at that time she was visiting in the state of Calif. We had always been where we could call in the saints for prayer. We called earnestly on God, asking Him to heal. He would get better and I would be so happy and praise the Lord, then probably in less than an hour he would be worse than ever. Then I thought of fasting and praying. I wrote to some of the saints for prayer and to you folks there to be agreed with us. It was only a few days until God touched him and he was healed. He had something like the typhoid fever. It is always so precious when the dear Lord heals, and we get such a wonderful blessing when we stand true to God.

This last summer while here in Charleston, W. Va., almost over night a lump formed under my left ear. It seemed to be on the bone. I could hardly open my mouth. I could only take very small bites of food, and that with great pain. Thinking that it might be caused from a bad tooth, I went to see a dentist. After thorough examination he said I should see a bone specialist, and gave me the address of one here in the city. I had no intention of going to a bone specialist. I made an appointment to go back to the dentist to have my teeth cleaned. I knew I could not go unless the Lord healed me, as I could not get my mouth open. I began to pray and call upon God and asked the saints to pray for me.

I wanted to be healed above all things because the dentist had given me the address of the bone specialist. I knew if God did not heal me I could not go back, and that would bring reproach on the cause of God. The Lord brought to my mind the eighth chapter of Ezra, verses 21-23. He wonderfully touched me, so I could go back to the dentist and have my teeth cleaned, and I told him I had trusted the Lord. I continued to be much better, but was not completely healed. Many times I would suffer severe pains and the lump was still there, but I thanked the Lord for what had been done.

In August of last year we went back to Seattle, Wash. On Oct. 4th, my husband and I with Sister Davis drove to Chehalis, Wash. to Bro. Grant Wilson's. Bro. and Sis. Sam Wilson, Sister Lydia White, and Bro. Trimble were there. Bro. Sam Wilson preached Sat. night and Sunday morning, which was a feast to our souls, as we had not been with the saints for about three months. Bro. Wilson anointed us and prayed the Lord to heal our jaw. We do thank and praise our God for healing. We give God

all the glory for this healing. Many times we have felt that we should write and tell about this and the other healings, as we know how this can encourage others to hold fast to God. We do thank and praise our God for all His dealings with us, for truly His mercy has followed us all the days of our life.

While in Seattle this last time my husband was not well. The climate did not agree with him. We asked God to heal, so we could stay if it was His will, but for some reason we do not know the Lord did not want us there. We left there last November. The second day after leaving he began to feel better and has been well ever since. Some of the saints here felt like we should not have left here when we did and that was why he did not have health there. We do not know; all we do know is that we desire above everything to do His will, and that is what we do so far as we know.

We traveled something like seven thousand miles both going and coming and were in twenty-four states. We gave out papers and tracts wherever we stopped and left some at the mail boxes as we drove along. We trust our trip was not in vain for the Lord.

At this writing we are here in So. Charleston doing what we can for the Lord. The saints here are pressing on in the Lord's work, having weekly prayer meetings on Wednesday night, cottage prayer meeting on Thursday night, and a nice little Sunday School. We all feel encouraged. We feel that the Lord is stirring some hearts here in this city and some are being added to our number.

We need your prayers. We pray the Lord to bless you one and all in the work of the Lord.

Beatrice and Thos. Spaur

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

Guthrie, Okla.—Dear Bro. and Sister Pruitt,—Greetings in the name of our Lord. I feel like testifying to the wonderful saving and healing power of God. He has healed me so many times and of different ailments. As you know, I fell and broke my hip. God kept me from suffering. He healed me of the flu and gave me strength of body to take care of myself, and gave me strength so I can walk. I walked six blocks and was not tired. Two weeks ago I asked God to help me to get into the bath tub for a bath. I asked as I was having my morning prayer. God said, "Are you willing to fast today?" Praise God, I said, "Yes, Lord," and He helped me. He gave me strength to get in and out of the tub easier than I did before I fell. Glory be to God! Then I did my washing, ironed, cleaned up my house, and worked on quilt blocks. Praise God for His healing me. This evening before supper I felt very dizzy and sick. I went and knelt down and asked God to heal me. He told me He would if I would write a testimony. I told Him I would, so He said, "It is done." Praise God, it was done, all taken away, glory be to God. I love to read His Word, and it is a pleasure to trust the Lord. He helps me every day in my daily duties of life. I hope and pray God will bless all His people. Blessed be God forever. Amen.

Your sister in Christ,

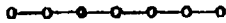
Martha Winch.

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

Mo.—Dear saints,—Greetings of love in Jesus' dear name. It has been some time since I have written any in the "Faith and Victory" paper. I feel like the Lord would have me write a few lines at this time. I am glad that I am still saved and living for the Lord. I feel deep down in my heart that I am as happy as a true soldier can be. Praise the dear Lord! I have been serving the Lord for several years and am not tired in the least of this way. Sometimes it is not the easiest way, but I can say from my heart it is the best way. I am so glad I ever found

this wonderful prize and was willing to pay the price to obtain it. Some may say, "I didn't think salvation cost anything." It does not cost anything in money, but it does cost our own way. We have to give up our own way and take the Lord's way. That seems to be the reason the rich young ruler did not accept the Lord. (Matt. 19:16; Mark 10:17; Luke 18:18). He seemed to want his own way and go through life the easy way so far as the flesh was concerned. Also the rich man did not want to be bothered with poor Lazarus. But for me, I would rather suffer the afflictions of the saints than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season.

Dear ones, pray for me, that I'll ever be faithful. I do want to meet you all in glory. Katie Marler.



Allegan, Mich.—Dear ones in Christ,—I feel it would please God for me to write my experience which I left out of my testimony last fall. I have before me many letters and cards asking for the part left out. I have letters from many different states and Canada, which I have not yet answered. I want to ask forgiveness from all these for being so slow in answering. Some of these letters have criticized me, some have sent very encouraging letters, others seem to think I made a grave mistake, some say I have sinned against the Holy Ghost. I received letters from some who have backslidden, some who are in confusion, etc. I want to thank you one and all for your letters and ask God to help, guide, and bless each of you. Now I will relate the part of my experience left out last fall:

My Call to Preach While with the Tongues Movement

In July, 1941 I received the baptism of tongues, as I related before. Then shortly after this experience I was awakened at about 3 o'clock in the morning by a voice calling me by my name. I got up and went into the children's room and found them sound asleep. My wife also was asleep. I went back to bed, thinking I had been dreaming. I soon dozed off again. I was awakened again by the same voice calling me. I got up as before, looked at my wife and children in the next room and they were sleeping as before. I put on my clothes and went out of doors, walked around the house and went into the garage and chicken house, but found no one. This was about 4 o'clock. It was break of day and we were having a warm rain. I did not have to go to work till 8 o'clock, so I went back to bed and lay awake a short time and then fell asleep again. But I was awakened again for the third time by the same voice calling me. I sat upright in bed and listened. The voice was so clear as though someone stood by my bed side. Just then another voice said, "Jesus is calling you." I jumped out of bed and got on my knees and started crying. I answered, "Here I am, Lord." Soon the same voice that had called me said, "Son, I want you to preach the gospel." I was crying like a little child and answered, "Lord. I can't go. What will my wife say? What will my father and mother think? What will the children think? What will my friends think?" He answered, "He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me. He that loveth husband or wife more than me is not worthy of me. He that loveth children or friends more than me is not worthy of me." I cried and said, "Lord, I can't go. I am not able to speak well enough." He answered, "Son, I have given you the Holy Ghost. He will speak through you." That put me to silence, for my excuses were all put to naught. I cried for awhile, trying to make a decision. Finally I said, "Lord, I am in debt so far. Wait till I get my bills paid and I will go then." I was still crying. He let me cry for a short

time. Then the voice said, "Son, stand upon your feet." I got up, for I had been on my knees all this time. Next he said, "Son, walk to the door and look out." I obeyed. As I stood there looking out it seemed as though I could see someone standing beside me. I saw him lift his hand and point to the northeast toward a big pine tree, and said, "Son, see that big pine tree?" I cried and said, "Yes, Lord." Next I saw him point toward a huge rock directly across the road from where I was standing. He said, "Son, do you see that big rock across the road?" I answered, "Yes, Lord." Next I saw him point toward the grass in the front yard. He said, "Son, do you see the green grass and the warm rain?" I answered, "Yes, Lord." He spoke again and said, "Son, if I, the Lord your God, am able to create that huge pine tree, and that big rock, and the green grass, and then send the rain to make things grow, am I able to pay your bills?" I answered, "Yes, Lord." He answered and said, "Son, you go and preach the gospel and I will pay your bills." I answered, "Lord, I will go." At this point the one standing beside me made a move forward and disappeared from my sight.

Now the question in my mind was: Was this the Lord who talked with me and stood along side of me, or was this Satan who appeared as an angel of light? I believe it was Satan, for I think you will recall, as I stated in my previous testimony, I was unsaved when I received the baptism of tongues. I was unsaved when I had this call to preach. Now did Satan want to send me out to preach this false tongues doctrine and deceive others? I believe he did. God does not send out any unsaved people to preach, nor does God give any unsaved person the Holy Ghost. I believe this was Satan standing by me as an angel of light, even claiming to be the creator. I am not finding fault with the Pentecostals. I believe that many honest hearted souls are being deceived through them. Will a Christian who was baptized with the Holy Ghost steal, lie, live in adultery, drink, smoke? Answer: No. Now I know many in tongues movements who do the above things and still talk in tongues claiming to be filled with the Holy Ghost. I also believe that others have received a call to preach by the arch deceiver, and they believe it was of God.

Oh, dear ones, make your calling and election sure. Are you sure that God has called you, or did Satan deceive you? Try the spirits and see if they are of God.

Some dear souls have written to me and said they believed this was Jesus because he quoted Scripture. because he called me son, because he said he created all these things I mentioned, and because he did not get harsh. I have had enough experience with this deceiver to know it was Satan. The old devil is one of the best Bible students and can quote Scripture. Just consider how he tempted my loving Savior (Read Matt. 4:1-11.) Read how he deceived Eve in the garden (Gen. 3.) how he appeared to King Saul (1 Samuel 28). Read how Satan deceived the chief priest and elders to kill our loving Saviour. I could quote more texts. But now consider the next thought: because he called me son. Unless we are born again, or saved, we are of our father the devil. I was unsaved at that time (Read John 8:42-44). He could rightfully call me son. Next, because he said he created the trees, rocks, grass, and sent the rain. The devil is a liar (John 8:44). He is the father of liars whether they speak in tongues or not. He is a deceiver (Read Mark 13:22). Next, because he did not get harsh. The devil will come as a wolf in sheep's clothing, so beware. (Read Matt. 7:15.) Next, because he promised to pay my bills. This he did not do. I upheld my part. I

went to preach the tongues doctrine, but kept going farther into debt. I have preached for the Victory Evangelistic Church Association, also the Full Salvation Union, but went farther into debt; so I know it was not God, for God would have kept his word, for he cannot lie.

I am now in God's church, been born again. I received a call to preach the gospel. This was in a meeting one Sunday night in Kalamazoo, Mich. in the Y. M. C. A. building where the true church of God now gathers for services on Sundays where Bro. Earl Brown is the pastor. This call was not by a strange vision, but the love of God filled my soul, and a still small voice said, "My child, will you preach the gospel and tell the people of my love?" While I sat there in the meeting I promised God I would, but first I believe God wants me to pay my bills so there will be no reproach upon the church. I also need to sit at the feet of Jesus and learn of Him.

You dear saints pray for me and my family that we may live for God and do his will. Gerrit Joostberns

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Calif.—Greetings to all the dear saints everywhere in the holy name of Jesus.—I have not written my testimony to "Faith and Victory" paper for a long time, so I felt I should now, and let the many who are acquainted with me know that I am saved and enjoying salvation and God's way, for God's way is best at all times. I have much to thank and praise Him for. He pours out many blessings daily on me. I have many sick spells and He heals me of them shortly. A few weeks ago I had a terrible pain in my right hip joint for one day and night. Saints prayed for me and I was relieved of suffering. The next night it got bad again and crossed the small of my back. I got up but was suffering too bad to eat breakfast. I lay down on a couch and kept getting worse, so I decided to get up and call Bro. Stover and others for prayer. I managed to get my feet off on the floor but could not get up. I was paralyzed across my back. I tried to pull up, but could not, so I called on God to search my heart and life and if anything was wrong so as to hinder healing to show me what it was so I could get it out of the way. He showed me nothing. Then I said, "Lord, you showed me nothing wrong. Now I am your child, and my trust is entirely in you to heal all my diseases for you have promised to heal all our afflictions and you know, Lord, I don't take medicine and have no doctor, nor go to any hospital, and now it is up to you, Lord, to heal me or take me." Dear ones, I never made a move to rise up, but God lifted me up, and when I took notice I was three or four steps from the couch on my feet praising God. There was not a pain in my body. He poured my soul full and running over; for he had not only healed me, but had showed me I was his child and clear in my soul. Oh, the glory and praise it brought to my soul! I cannot quit praising Him! And this is just one of the many healings He has given me.

Last Tuesday I took the flu. All night and till ten Wed. morning every bone in my body ached bad and my head felt like it would burst every time I moved it. I had a high fever. The saints came to prayer meeting and came in and prayed for me, and I began to get easy. In a few hours time all pain and fever was gone and I was sweating, so I dressed and went in to meeting. All the rest of the day I was up doing my work. What a wonderful God we serve!

I know I have had at least twelve miraculous healings in my life with God my healer. Two of them were broken bones. He healed and never a cast or bandage went on them. Oh, I cannot praise my Jesus enough. I have been isolated so much in my life, but my best

friend never left me alone. Now in my old days he has placed me here in rooms joining the church building, and I hardly ever miss a meeting. It is so good to live among the saints of God.

Dear ones, I am pressing on for my heavenly home, and do not have a thought or desire to go back in sin of any kind. I am settled in God and mean by His help and grace to live so I can live all through eternity with Jesus. I desire your prayers. Your sister with victory over all worldly things,
Bonnie Wells

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Tenn.—Dear Bro. Pruitt,—Greetings in Jesus' name. I am glad I can report victory over sin, the flesh, and the devil. The Lord truly saved me. Then two weeks after I was saved from sin the Holy Ghost sanctified me as a second definite work of grace. That was in 1903. Then the denomination to which I belonged turned me out, they said for teaching heresy. Jesus opened the door in St. John 10:7-9. Verse 7 reads, "Then said Jesus unto them again, verily verily I say unto you, I am the door of the sheep." Verse 9 reads, "I am the door; by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out and find pasture. So I was born into the church. Jesus is the door keeper. "But rather rejoice because your names are written in heaven." That is why I am happy, praise His holy name!

Yours for lost souls,

R. C. Williams

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

Louisiana—Dear saints,—Greetings in Jesus' precious name. I am thankful to say I am still saved and sanctified and satisfied in this precious Bible way to heaven. The Lord is wonderfully good to me. He blesses and cares for me each day.

I enjoy reading the good testimonies and articles written by different precious saints scattered throughout the land. I am greatly encouraged in the Lord and expect by the help and grace of God to make heaven my home.

I ask an interest in your prayers for my unsaved children and loved ones. Your sister, Mrs. H. C. Miller.

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Calif.—Dear readers of "Faith and Victory,"—For some time I have felt to write to the paper and feel this morning is the time. Praise the dear Lord for all He is to me and mine! "Blessed be the Lord who daily loadeth us with benefits." My heart is full of love and thanksgiving to Him. He is our helper in every time of need, our healer, and our keeper. We can never praise Him enough for the hope in our souls of eternal life through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Last October our little four year old boy David was seriously burned by scalding water. I believe he had third degree burns on his chest, stomach, and down his right leg to the knee. He suffered much pain for a little while and we called out for prayer. The Lord surely heard and answered and healed him. I believe it was only about eight days after he got burned that he was up dressed and out playing. He always wants to show everyone the new skin Jesus gave him. I do not believe there will be any scars left. Praise our God.

The dear Lord has been stirring my heart for a closer walk with Him. I have felt the need of being deeper, stronger, and more settled in the Lord, not to be moved by feelings. I have longed for a deep, steadfast faith and have been seeking God for it. I know He is helping me. I have an affliction for which I truly, with all my heart thank God, for He says to give thanks in everything, and we know He permits only those things to come our way that work for our good. About the 9th of Nov., 1947, I got a hard knock on my left shin, caus-

ing a bone bruise. Apparently there is infection in the bone, as there is a running sore. For about two months I could not walk except a little on crutches. Then one morning I was thinking of how God's children were fasting and praying for me and I knew they did not cry to God in vain. The Lord inspired faith in my heart, and I laid the crutches aside and stepped my weight on the sore limb. Praise God, there was no pain. I had tried several times before to walk, as it was quite difficult to do my work, but the pain was so severe and my whole limb so weak, I could not. He not only made me able to walk, but strengthened me too.

I still have the running sore, but I do not suffer much with it. I have God's promises that I am just resting on, knowing that when He sees I am right where He wants me, He will completely heal me. I have not gone to a doctor nor used any medicine on it, but am fully trusting my great Physician who suffered stripes for our healing. When this healing is complete, only God will have the praise for it. I have made many mistakes, but He has forgiven me and is teaching me precious lessons. His chastening is sweet.

About 4:00 this morning I was suddenly awakened and a very solemn thought was stamped on my heart that impressed me deeply. I got up and wrote the following lines. I recalled bits of a stirring message I heard several years ago on "passing this way but once." I surely feel to be busy for God, doing His will at all times. Pray for me. Yours in Christ, Virginia Elwell.

PASSING THIS WAY BUT ONCE

We're passing this way but one time,
Our steps we cannot retrace;
The mistakes we make, are made,
We cannot go back and erase.

If I could only live my life over—
Often we hear this remark made—
I surely would have done different
And a better foundation I'd have laid.

Dear ones, we've no time for musings,
Of the things that are past and behind;
But let us gain and profit
By earnestly redeeming the time.

We are not coming back this way
The good we do must be done as we go;
Let us pass up no opportunity
The seeds of kindness and love to sow.

Let's be watchful and prayerful, awake,
Being sure we have ears to hear
The gentle voice of our loving Savior,
Obeying His Word in godly fear.

Let's be sure we have eyes to see
Those around us in need and despair;
In Jesus' name we can help them
And lift some of their burden of care.

Much precious time has been wasted
In idleness and selfish gain;
Not laying up treasures in heaven,
But struggling here in vain.

By keeping our eyes, our thots on Jesus
The mistakes we make will be few;
And since we're passing this way but once,
To our God, and every soul, be true.
—Virginia Elwell.

Mich.—Dear saints,—May the Lord's richest blessing rest upon each and every one of you is my prayer. It has been some time since I have given my testimony in the "Faith and Victory," but will say that the Lord has kept me sweetly saved from all sin, and I am abiding in His love continually. He is so precious to my soul. I praise His holy name for ever leading me out of Roman Catholicism, which I once thought was the only true way. I considered their weird incantations very sacred. But the Lord has enabled me to see the evil in all sectism.

Oh, what a blessing it brings to my soul when I read all those good promises in the Word of God. How anxious Jesus is to lead us unto his glory. In his prayer to the Father (John 17) he said, "Father, I will that they also whom thou hast given me be with me where I am that they may behold my glory which thou hast given me." And Peter speaks of an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for us. And the Lord has given many other precious promises which He will fulfill. Why people will leave this good way and go back to the beggarly elements of this world, I cannot understand.

Nearly ten years ago I made my final decision to serve the Lord the remaining days of my life. I have trials aplenty, but I thank God His grace has been sufficient to keep and sustain me every day of my life.

I truly thank Him for keeping me well in soul and body and enabling me to perform my daily tasks. I often sing that beautiful song:

"When at the golden portals I am standing,"
All my tribulation, all my sorrows past,
How sweet to hear that blessed proclamation
Enter faithful servant, welcome home at last."
Your saved brother, J. C. Wauchek

—o0o—

Mortality Swallowed Up of Life

"For we that are in this tabernacle do groan, being burdened, not for that we would be unclothed, but clothed upon [newness in Christ] that mortality might be swallowed up of life." 2 Cor. 5:4. The apostle Paul was thinking about the dissolving or end of this mortal life. The great question may have presented itself to him as to which he would prefer, that is, to be perfectly willing to remain in the mortal state and continue in the service of the Lord to bring light, hope, faith, and salvation to many precious souls, to rather depart and receive the crown of righteousness the Lord had laid up for him. His willingness to remain in the service of the Lord showed his great concern for the lost and that he was much more concerned in this great work than he was in the reward awaiting him at the end of the race. The faithful servant loves his work or service and is free from complaint. He will not strike nor quit the job because he is in it because of a love, interest, and heartfelt purpose to serve to live and live to serve, that he may get out of life that which is more worthwhile, and the question of wages is not his sole desire.

Paul was convinced that if mortality be swallowed up of life, it meant a definite living sacrifice of ones self must be willingly made (Rom. 12:1).

The faithful, loyal, sincere minister and consecrated worker, called and sent of God for service in the vineyard and harvest field of the Lord are in-

deed happy, whether their service be to minister or to print the gospel, provided they do it with pure love and joy to bring hope, light and full salvation to starving souls in need of the bread of life, and keep from wage agreement for their services. These consecrated workers have left this old world far behind, for all worldliness has been swallowed up of life, and they have passed from death unto life (John 5:24). The servant of the Lord who wars a good warfare will not permit worldly entanglement or affairs of this life to hinder, that he may glorify Him who hath chosen him to be a soldier (2 Tim. 2:4).

This is a far greater honor, trust, and privilege than to be a powerful king or ruler over any people, even Solomon in all his greatness and glory. Paul had many things to think about on his past and present life, but they to him were swallowed up of life. He says therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed (concern) to the things which we have heard lest at any time we should let them slip. (Heb. 2:1). The great preparation that God has made for those who love and do His will on earth coupled with the great promises of our Lord, has cheered many a weary pilgrim and helped them to be more patient to the end (See. Psa. 126:6).

"For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us." Rom. 8:18. Later on Paul exclaims: "For our light affliction which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory." 2 Cor. 4:17. If any of us should get word that a relative had died and left us a great fortune, we would naturally be much concerned. God has promised us far greater and better things than these, yet the tempter would work on our mental powers to draw us away from the true riches.

So many are unwilling to die because no crown of righteousness awaits them and there is nothing to comfort or rejoice their hearts. Multitudes allow Satan to deceive them with a lie that death ends all concerning a future state of the soul; but the absolute truth of God rebukes the devil by declaring the soul or spirit of mortals shall return to its Creator (Eccl. 12:7).

—John H. Griffith

Where is Your Treasure?

Dear reader, where is your treasure? Do you have your affections on the world? "Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth" Col. 3:2. Are you living for God? It takes the love of God to live for Him. There is a difference between love and lust. People of today need to get their eyes off the world and turn to Jesus.

Would you rather go to the movies or a ball game than to go to church? A real Christian does not partake of the devil's amusements. Many belong to a denomination, but still partake of the devil. Nobody can be saved by joining a denomination. It takes the blood of Jesus to save.

There is a difference in profession and possession. To profess religion does not mean that one possesses

salvation. When one really possesses salvation, his sins are washed away by the blood of Jesus. Jesus' blood cleanses from sin. ". . . though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool." Isa. 1:18.

Where is your treasure? "Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." Luke 12:34.

Sam D. Price.

— o o o —

Pomona, Calif.—To the dear saints scattered abroad, greetings in Jesus' dear name,—This beautiful morning finds us happy in the blessed service of our dear Lord. Truly he is good to his children. We had a blessed day yesterday here in Pomona. Every Wednesday is set apart here for prayer and fasting. The dear saints begin gathering in at the chapel at 9 a. m. and we spend the day together fasting and praying for souls and the sick. We receive prayer requests from different places, also others that hear of this are coming for prayer, so saints, pray with us. The dear Lord is working.

Bro. Ira Stover is pastor here and the dear Lord is blessing his labors. This is truly a faithful congregation.

Since we left Missouri and came to California, we have spent the winters here in Pomona. Lord willing, we shall be leaving here some time in May or at the longest, by the first of June. We plan to go to San Diego, El Paso, Tex., Dallas, then to Hammond, La. We would like to visit as many of the saints as possible on this trip. We especially like to visit the dear isolated saints and try and encourage them. If you are on or near the route we shall be glad to come by and be with you and have meeting, or just visit and pray with you. Any one desiring us to stop, please write us here soon, and if you have meetings, let us know when your prayer meeting is or other meeting days are, and we'll try to plan to be by your place at that time. If Sister Hays of Okla. City reads this, let us know your granddaughter's address. Ruby in Arizona, and we'll try to find them. If we get many places to visit on our way we may even start earlier than the middle of May. If not, we'll hold meetings here in California until that time, as we desire to get to Hammond in time to hold some meetings in that part before the campmeeting there. Pray for us that the good Lord will make us a blessing everywhere we go. We truly desire to do all we can for him. He has done so very much for us. We expect, Lord willing, to be continually out in His fields of labor all spring, summer, and fall. We hope to see many of the dear people scattered in different places, who have been writing us after reading my tract "Marvelously Healed." How we would love to see every one. But be assured, dear ones, everyone who has written for prayer is being continually held up to the throne of grace. We are praying that if we never see you in this time world, we will see you in heaven.

We are thankful that the dear Lord sent Bro. Pruitt and his son Lawrence this way, also Brother Stroud and Bro. Huskey. Bro. Huskey has been holding revivals out here ever since. We had the happy privilege of attending some in Glendale. The dear Lord is blessing his labors. We truly thank God for all his ministers and workers, and Brother and Sister Pruitt and all the dear workers at the print shop. We are praying God to help us all to do our best for this precious cause of Christ. A city set on a hill cannot be hid. Yours in his service. Brother John and Sister Essie Wilson, 611 E. 10th St., Pomona, Calif.

"I'm walking on the gospel road,
With joy my soul doth sing;
And when my journey ends I'll see
The face of Christ my King.

"I'm walking where the good and blest,
With songs of praise have gone:
My Saviour went this way before,
And I will follow on.

"I could not choose a better path,
It rises steep, I know;
But holding fast his blessed hand,
I cannot fear to go."

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The past is finished and laid away,
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The third and the last of volume three
Is locked from sight. God holds the key."

—oOo—

BIBLE STUDY

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A PROPHET AMONG THE EXILES

Sunday, April 4, 1948

Printed Portion.....Ezekiel 1:1-3; 3:11, 17-21; 4:1-3.
Ezek. 1:1. Now it came to pass in the thirtieth year,

in the fourth month, in the fifth day of the month, as I was among the captives by the river of Chebar, that the heavens were opened, and I saw visions of God.

2. In the fifth day of the month which was the fifth year of king Jehoiachin's captivity,

3. The word of the Lord came expressly unto Ezekiel the priest, the son of Buzi, in the land of the Chaldeans by the river Chebar; and the hand of the Lord was there upon him.

3:11. And go, get thee to them of the captivity, unto the children of thy people, and speak unto them, and tell them, Thus saith the Lord God; whether they will hear, or whether they will forbear.

17. Son of man, I have made thee a watchman unto the house of Israel: therefore hear the word at my mouth, and give them warning from me.

18. When I say unto the wicked, Thou shalt surely die; and thou givest him not warning, nor speakest to warn the wicked from his wicked way, to save his life; the same wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at thine hand.

19. Yet if thou warn the wicked, and he turn not from his wickedness, nor from his wicked way, he shall die in his iniquity; but thou hast delivered thy soul.

20. Again, When a righteous man doth turn from his righteousness and commit iniquity, and I lay a stumbling-block before him, he shall die; because thou hast not given him warning, he shall die in his sin, and his righteousness which he hath done shall not be remembered;

but his blood will I require at thine hand.

21. Nevertheless if thou warn the righteous man, that the righteous sin not, and he doth not sin, he shall surely live, because he is warned; also thou hast delivered thy soul.

Ezek. 4:1. Thou also, son of man, take thee a tile, and lay it before thee, and portray upon it the city, even Jerusalem:

2. And lay siege against it, and build a fort against it, and cast a mount against it; set the camp also against it, and set battering rams against it round about.

3. Moreover take thou unto thee an iron pan, and set it for a wall of iron between thee and the city: and set thy face against it, and it shall be besieged, and thou shalt lay siege against it. This shall be a sign to the house of Israel.

Memory Verse: Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh. Matt. 24:44.

Practical Truth: Faithfulness to our loving Lord will be rewarded by a crown of life.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

This lesson will do us little good unless we apply it to the time in which we are living today. Just as God's voice came expressly to his faithful prophet Ezekiel, asking him to warn the people for him, so his voice comes to his faithful ones today; for God is still warning the people of today through his faithful servants. He is telling us to faithfully warn the people lest He require their blood at our hand. We hear Jesus saying (Luke 9:23), "If any man will come after me let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me." The harvest is great but the labourers are few. Who will hear the voice of the Lord and be faithful to warn the people for him? God loves the sinful people here on earth, and it is not his will that any one of them should be lost. Who will lend a listening ear to the Lord like Isaiah of old (chapter 6). He said, "Also I heard the voice of the Lord saying, Whom shall I send and who will go for us?" Are we willing like old Isaiah to answer and say, "Here am I send me?" Are we ready and willing to be a watchman for the Lord and warn the people? or will we neglect so that God will require their blood at our hand? There never was a time when the world was in spiritual darkness as it is today, so God needs faithful watchmen on the wall of Zion (the church) to warn these poor blinded souls of the impending judgment. Jesus said in the 16th chapter of Revelation, "Behold I come quickly [suddenly, or as a thief] blessed is he that watcheth and keepeth his garments lest he walk naked and they see his shame." I warn every one of you to be sure that you have on the wedding garment the Lord has provided for every one and be sure that your garment is not defiled. Rev. 3:4, 5, 6. As God told Ezekiel to take a tile and draw a picture of Jerusalem and lay seige against it to show the people of that day that the destruction of their city was nigh, so he is now warning the people of the time that the destruction of this old world is close at hand. And Jesus said, "What I say unto you, I say unto all WATCH."

—G. S.

—oOo—

GOD'S MESSAGE TO A PEOPLE IN EXILE

Sunday, April 11, 1948

Printed PortionEzekiel 18:1-4; 34:11-16; 36:25-28.

Ezek. 18:1. The word of the Lord came unto me again,

saying,

2. What mean ye, that ye use this proverb concerning the land of Israel, saying, The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge?

3. As I live, saith the Lord God, ye shall not have occasion any more to use this proverb in Israel.

4. Behold, all souls are mine; as the soul of the father, so also the soul of the son is mine: the soul that sinneth, it shall die.

Ezek. 34:11. For thus saith the Lord God; Behold, I, even I, will both search my sheep, and seek them out.

12. As a shepherd seeketh out his flock in the day that he is among his sheep that are scattered; so will I seek out my sheep, and will deliver them out of all places where they have been scattered in the cloudy and dark day.

13. And I will bring them out from the people, and gather them from the countries, and will bring them to their own land, and feed them upon the mountains of Israel by the rivers, and in all the inhabited places of the country.

14. I will feed them in a good pasture, and upon the high mountains of Israel shall their fold be; there shall they lie in a good fold, and in a fat pasture shall they feed upon the mountains of Israel.

15. I will feed my flock, and I will cause them to lie down, saith the Lord God.

16. I will seek that which was lost, and bring again that which was driven away, and will bind up that which was broken, and will strengthen that which was sick: but I will destroy the fat and the strong; I will feed them with judgment.

Ezek. 36:25. Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean: from all your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you.

26. A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh.

27. And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments and do them.

28. And ye shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers: and ye shall be my people, and I will be your God.

Memory verse: Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

Practical Truth: In turning to the Lord we get a new spirit (His Spirit) put in us, and also a new heart.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Again we hear the voice of God saying, Why do you use this proverb? The fathers have eaten soul grapes and the children's teeth are on edge. Or in other words, Why do you say the children must suffer for their parents' sins? Exodus 34:7 speaks of the iniquities of fathers being visited on their children even to the third and fourth generation. But God's plan was to make a new covenant with His people whereby any who would accept it could be saved from sin, then each one would be responsible for his own sin. As God speaks in this lesson which we study today, He seems to be much displeased with the children having to suffer for their parents' sins, so we are instructed not to use that proverb any more; for God will have each one to suffer for their own sins. He says, "All souls are mine," then He makes the broad

statement: "The soul that sinneth, it shall die," or be eternally separated from God, unless that soul repents of its sin before it is too late. The Lord shows in this lesson that he is intensely interested in all of his people, especially all those who have come to him for salvation.

We who love the Lord are spoken of as His sheep, and His great loving heart is grieved when His sheep wander away from Him. So He says that He will seek for His sheep that are scattered and His purpose is to bring them back. "None of the ransomed ever knew, how deep were the waters crossed; Nor how dark was the night that the Lord went thru, ere He found His sheep that was lost." Jesus said, "Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be filled." Jesus also said, "I am the good shepherd, and I know my sheep and am known of mine." He is inviting His scattered sheep to come back to Him, and He says He will feed them in a good pasture and away up on the high mountains of Israel shall their fold be.

I knew of a shepherd who would take his sheep up on the high mountains in Colorado to an altitude of eleven thousand feet above sea level. The high mountains get lots of rain and snow so the pasture there is the very best to be found. Also in the spiritual sense, the very best feeding place is to be found on the high mountain.

If any who study this lesson feel like you have been neglected, just turn to Jesus with all your heart and He will do for you all He promises in this lesson.

— oOo — THE RETURN FROM EXILE

Sunday, April 18, 1948

Printed Portion . . . Ezra 1:1-4; 4:24; Haggai 1:3-8, 13, 14

Ezra 1:1. Now in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, that the word of the Lord by the mouth of Jeremiah might be fulfilled, the Lord stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia, that he made a proclamation throughout all his kingdom, and put it also in writing, saying,

2. Thus saith Cyrus king of Persia, The Lord God of heaven hath given me all the kingdoms of the earth; and he hath charged me to build him an house at Jerusalem, which is in Judah.

3. Who is there among you of all his people? his God be with him, and let him go up to Jerusalem, which is in Judah, and build the house of the Lord God of Israel, (he is the God,) which is in Jerusalem.

4. And whosoever remaineth in any place where he sojourneth, let the men of his place help him with silver, and with gold, and with goods, and with beasts, beside the freewill offering for the house of God that is in Jerusalem.

Ezra 4:24. Then ceased the work of the house of God which is at Jerusalem. So it ceased unto the second year of the reign of Darius king of Persia.

Haggai 1:3. Then came the word of the Lord by Haggai the prophet, saying,

4. Is it time for you, O ye, to dwell in your cieled houses, and this house lie waste?

5. Now therefore thus saith the Lord of hosts, Consider your ways.

6. Ye have sown much, and bring in little; ye eat, but ye have not enough; ye drink, but ye are not filled with drink; ye clothe you, but there is none warm: and he that earneth wages earneth wages to put it into a bag with holes.

7. Thus saith the Lord of hosts; Consider your ways.

8. Go up to the mountain, and bring wood, and build the house; and I will take pleasure in it, and I will be

glorified, saith the Lord.

13. Then spake Haggai the Lord's messenger in the Lord's message unto the people, saying, I am with you, saith the Lord.

14. And the Lord stirred up the spirit of Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and the spirit of Joshua the son of Josedech, the high priest, and the spirit of all the remnant of the people; and they came and did work in the house of the Lord of hosts, their God.

Memory Verse Then was our mouth filled with laughter and our tongue with singing. Then said they among the heathen, The Lord hath done great things for them.

Practical Truth: It pays to serve the Lord and be true to Him.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

In Isaiah 45:1 we read, "Thus saith the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus whose right hand I have holden to subdue nations before him and I will loose the loins of kings: to open before him the two leaved gates, and the gates shall not be shut." This prophecy of Cyrus was more than a hundred years before he was born. We read in the 5th chapter of Daniel of Belshazzar's impious feast at which time Darius the Median took Babylon and Belshazzar was slain and the Medes and Persians took over Babylon where the children of Israel had been in exile for seventy years according to Jeremiah's prophecy (Jer. 25:12). God always has the right man at the right time. So Cyrus, God's anointed man was moved by God himself to release the children of Israel and send them back to Jerusalem to rebuild the walls of the city and also the temple. Now let us go back again to Isa. 45:13, speaking of Cyrus, "I have raised him up in righteousness and I will direct all his ways: he shall build my city and he shall let go my captives, not for price nor reward, saith the Lord of hosts." So we see how God moved on Cyrus and stirred up his spirit to let His people go free. And Cyrus gave them all they needed for the rebuilding of the walls of Jerusalem; and more than that, Cyrus gave them all the gold and silver vessels that Nebuchadnezzar had taken from the temple at Jerusalem when the children of Israel were taken captive and carried to Babylon.

The seventy years of captivity were finished and God's people were free to go back home. What a time of rejoicing it must have been. We hear them saying, "The Lord hath done great things for us whereof we are glad." Psalm 126. Read the last four verses of the third chapter of Ezra, and you can see how happy they were. Though the work of reconstruction was hindered for awhile, God's people were at home again.

—oOo—

ZECHARIAH PLEADS FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS

Sunday, April 25, 1948

Printed Portion Zechariah 1:1-4; 7:8-14; 8:16, 17.

Zechariah 1:1. In the eighth month, in the second year of Darius, came the word of the Lord unto Zechariah, the son of Berechiah, the son of Iddo the prophet, saying,

2. The Lord hath been sore displeased with your fathers.

3. Therefore say thou unto them, Thus saith the Lord of hosts; Turn ye unto me, saith the Lord of hosts, and I will turn unto you, saith the Lord of hosts.

4. Be ye not as your fathers, unto whom the former prophets have cried, saying, Thus saith the Lord of hosts; Turn ye now from your evil ways, and from your evil doings: but they did not hear, nor hearken unto me, saith the Lord.

Zech. 7:8. And the word of the Lord came unto Zechariah, saying,

9. Thus speaketh the Lord of hosts, saying, Execute true judgment, and shew mercy and compassions every man to his brother:

10. And oppress not the widow, nor the fatherless, the stranger, nor the poor; and let none of you imagine evil against his brother in your heart.

11. But they refused to hearken, and pulled away the shoulder, and stopped their ears, that they should not hear.

12. Yea, they made their hearts as an adamant stone, lest they should hear the law, and the words which the Lord of hosts hath sent in his spirit by the former prophets: therefore came a great wrath from the Lord of hosts.

13. Therefore it is come to pass, that as he cried, and they would not hear; So they cried, and I would not hear, saith the Lord of hosts.

14. But I scattered them with a whirlwind among all the nations whom they knew not. Thus the land was desolate after them, that no man passed through nor returned: for they laid the pleasant land desolate.

Zech. 8:16. These are the things that ye shall do; Speak ye every man the truth to his neighbor; execute the judgment of truth and peace in your gates:

17. And let none of you imagine evil in your hearts against his neighbour; and love no false oath: for all these are things that I hate, saith the Lord.

Memory Verse: Righteousness exalteth a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people.

Practical Truth: Our choice in this all important matter seals our destiny for eternity.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

All down through the years of time God has been speaking through His prophets, pleading with the people to live like His Word teaches. Away back when Moses was God's faithful leader we hear Him saying (Deut. 5:29), "O, that there were such an heart in them, that they would fear me and keep my commandments always, that it might be well with them and with their children for ever." Rom. 10:21, "But to Israel he saith, All day long have I stretched forth my hands unto a disobedient and gainsaying people. Ezekiel 33:11. We find the Lord pleading again, "Say unto them, As I live saith the Lord, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live: turn ye, turn ye from your evil ways: for why will ye die. O house of Israel?" Again in Isaiah 48:18 we hear God earnestly pleading, "O, that thou hadst hearkened to my commandments, then had thy peace been as a river and thy righteousness as the waves of the sea." No doubt the Lord is still sore displeased with the worldly professors of today.

Our loving Lord is still calling to a disobedient and gainsaying people, often reminding them of what they have missed by not following him, as we read in the last four verses of the 81st Psalm. So often as God plead with the people, but they refused to hearken, and they hardened their hearts and stopped their ears. Jesus said to the Jews, "How oft would I have gathered you, but ye would not."

Dear fellow traveler, will you listen to God's prophet Zechariah and all of his other faithful ones who are calling you to righteousness? Refusing to obey means that you will go back to eternal destruction. "Turn ye, turn ye, for why will ye die?"