

# FAITH AND VICTORY

## The EVENING LIGHT WATCHMAN



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### PRAY

The Lord of Hosts once spoke and said  
That men ought always pray;  
What e'er the need, just go ahead,  
Look up to God and pray.

Prayer is the key that's used by Faith  
To unlock heaven's door;  
And if the answer does not come,  
Go back and pray some more.

Just pray again, lift up your voice  
With earnest, fervent plea;  
He will regard your ardent cry  
And send relief to thee.

The unjust judge who feared not God,  
Whose heart was hard to press,  
Was moved by the contin'ous cries  
Of a widow's distress.

And shall not God avenge His own  
Who cry both night and day?  
Does He not know? Does He not care?  
Nor hear His children pray?

Oh yes, the Holy One above  
Who sleeps not, night or day,  
Will wipe the teardrops from your eyes;  
He'll hear you when you pray.

Are you real sick, or in despair?  
Does trouble come your way?  
Are all your burdens hard to bear?  
Look up to God and pray.

Look up to God and pray again,  
And pray, and pray some more;  
And if the answer does not come,  
Pray harder than before.

Although the powers of hell assail  
And darkness clouds your way,  
The prayer of faith will sure prevail,  
So do not cease to pray.

—Ulysses Phillips

### The Change From Law To Grace

There is a doctrine that some are trying to filter in among the saints which seems to be harmless, and yet will have a tendency to confuse and jumble up some on the Scriptures, if believed. This doctrine or theory is that when John and Jesus came on the scene and began to preach, none (not a single soul) were in a justified state and everyone had to repent.

Let us look into the Scriptures and quote some parts of the sacred Word and see whether this theory is in harmony with the prophets, Christ, and the apostles. The meaning of prophecies would not be clear or understandable if this theory were true.

Read Isaiah 6:12, 13, Daniel 2:41-46, and Malachi 4:2.

In the 17th chapter of Isaiah, beginning at the 4th verse, we can read what the prophet says about the coming of the Gospel Day. Among other things, he said, "The glory of Jacob [Jacob represents the Israelite people] shall be made thin." Verse 6, "Yet gleaning grapes shall be left in it, as the shaking of an olive tree, two or three berries in the top of the uppermost bough, four or five in the outmost fruitful branches thereof, saith the Lord God of Israel."

It is true that when John and Jesus began to preach, not many of the Jews were in favor with God, but there were a few lest the Scriptures be found untrue. Elijah thought that he was the only one saved in Israel at one time, but God let him know that he had seven thousand men in Israel who had not bowed their knee to the image of Baal. (Rom. 11:4).

It is true that when Jesus bled and died upon the cross the carnal ordinances and blood sacrifices for sin were done away with and God concluded all men under sin, and they had to repent and be saved by faith in his blood, which was and is the only atonement for sin; but up until that time the Israelite who brought his blood sacrifices to the altar of the literal temple for his sins and with faith looked forward to the coming Messiah, who was Christ, would be forgiven and justified before God; but having that sin nature in him which Jesus came to destroy, he would sin again and have to continually offer the animal blood-sacrifice to be forgiven and be justified

before God. Since, that sin nature is taken out by faith in the blood of Christ. Peter tells us that we are partakers of the divine nature. 2 Pet. 1:4.

The Jews who were in a justified state when John and Jesus began to preach repentance, would only have to believe in Christ and keep walking in the greater light to keep saved or in a justified state and after Jesus gave his body and blood as a sacrifice for sin and defilement in the soul, they could by faith be cleansed from the sin nature and receive the Comforter, which Jesus said, is the Holy Ghost. (John 15:26. Also read John 7:37-39). In Eph. 1:13, Paul calls Him the "Holy Spirit of promise," and says that we are sealed. The Holy Spirit of promise being upon us and in us identifies us as His "purchased possession" until this mortal shall put on immortality, or is changed from a mortal body to a glorified body to live with God in heaven. Having the divine nature in our hearts is just an earnest or small portion of our future glorification.

It is true that nearly all the Jews, or law keepers had corrupted themselves and become self-righteous in their forms and ceremonies and needed to repent, but there were a few who had held faith in the coming Messiah and were in favor with God. These did not need to repent, but knew and believed upon Jesus and kept walking in the greater light, and were justified.

In John 1:11, we read, "He came unto his own [the Jews] and his own received him not." Now listen to the following verse. "But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believed on his name."

By this Scripture we learn that there were some who were in a state of readiness and believed on Him when they saw him, and were received, having nothing of which to repent.

When Jesus saw Nathaniel coming to him, he saith of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile." John 1:47.

Malachi, the last prophet recorded in the Old Testament, prophesied to the lawkeepers, saying, "But unto you that fear my name shall the sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings; and ye shall go forth, and grow up as calves of the stall." This Scripture makes it very plain that some would fear his name and would become fat and flourishing in the courts of our God by walking in the greater light.

Listen again to the words of Jesus in John 15:22, "If I had not come and spoken unto them, they had not had sin: but now they have no cloak for their sin." Before Christ came and they had not seen or heard Him, they had no sin, were not under condemnation; but now, since they had seen and heard and rejected Him, they became sinners and would have to repent and receive Him to be justified again. If they had received Him and His words and continued to walk in His light, they would have had no need of repentance, according to the Lord's own words.

Jesus kept the law and commanded others to do so, even while he was teaching and instructing

them about the change from law to grace, for the law was in force until he was crucified and gave up the Ghost on the cross. The veil of the temple was then rent in twain from top to bottom (Matt. 27:51) and the law and prophecies were fulfilled and souls could not be justified by the law any more. In Gal. 3:11, Paul speaks the truth when he says, "But that no man is justified by the law in the sight of God, it is evident: for the just shall live by faith."

He goes on to say that "Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having been made a curse for us."

In Matt. 23:23, we read where Christ was rebuking the Pharisees for leaving off the weightier matters of the law but were careful to keep the law of tithing. He told them they ought to tithe (as the law was still in force), but not to leave off judgment, mercy, and faith. In this, the majority of Jews failed God. They had become so self-righteous in ceremonies and carnal ordinances, depending on the cold keeping of them rather than retaining the judgments of God, manifesting his mercy and having faith in the cleansing work of the coming Messiah. They ought to keep the law of tithing, for the law was still in force until Christ bled and died upon the cross. When he died upon the cross and fulfilled the law and the prophets, the tithing system went with all the other commands and sacrifices, for in Christ it is not a law of one tenth, but a full surrender of all into the hands of God, and we as stewards over whatever he allows us to possess or control. This truth is plainly set forth in the parable Jesus uttered which is recorded in Matt. 13:45, 46, in which he says, "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant man, seeking goodly pearls: who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had, and bought it." No one can possess Christ and be free from the law of tithing until he has really given all into his hands to be used at his direction and pleasure. All have to pay the same price for true Bible salvation. You cannot find bargains in true religion. The cost is the same for every soul.

Jesus did not come to destroy the law or the prophets, but to fulfill them. He also said, "Not one jot or tittle shall pass from the law until all be fulfilled." Here are more Scriptures to prove that the law and prophecies were fulfilled in Christ: Acts 15:24 and Gal. 3:24.

Truly, the Scriptures do prove to us, and the Spirit within us says amen, that some few at least were in a justified state when John and Jesus began to preach repentance, and all they needed to do was to believe on Him, receive Him and walk in the greater light. Jesus says, "I am the light of the world; he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life." Fred Pruitt.

He is a devout man who lives not to his own will or way, but to the sole will and way of God.

Does Christ take delight in you, and in all He sees in you? Is your heart such a garden that He can find no pleasure in dwelling in it?

## The Sanctity of The Home

The seventh commandment is a simple statement, "Thou shalt not commit adultery," but it is very comprehensive in its scope and in the disaster resulting from its branch. In many respects, it is one of the most personal of all of the commandments because it has to deal with the physical body, and it is one of the most vital in its effects upon civilization when it is ignored. A person who does not respect his own body, will scarcely respect God. This deals with one of the deadliest "lusts of the flesh," especially condemned by Jesus Christ (Mark 4:19).

When God created the beasts, birds, fish, and vegetation upon the earth, He gave each variety, species, and kind the power to produce its own kind by equipping the males and females with a reproductive system of which each had a part and of which each was the complement of the other; and so, while the act of creation was ended during the first week (Gen. 1:21-27), the reproduction of the identical species has continued and is continuing, and will continue until the Creator brings it to a stop. Plants follow definite laws and animals have God-given instincts, which they irresistibly follow in detail; and so they each yield fruits, seeds, and offspring after their own kind. Man was created as a complete individual (Gen. 1:27; 2:7), and later God took from man another creature to be the complement of man (Gen. 2:21-22). He would no longer be complete in himself, but this other creature would be his helpmeet, and reproduction of mankind would only follow the complete union of the two parts of man, the second part being called "woman."

The statement made by Adam at the time was: "This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of man." Then, as to the relationship of future men and women, Adam said, "Therefore shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh" (Gen. 2:23-24). They were each physically perfect and were also perfect in their relationship to God—so their perfect bodies needed no coverings. There was no sin to hide or to cause shame. The two were in reality one. This was God's plan in its perfection.

Jesus, about 4,000 years later, referred to this beginning of human family life when he said to the Pharisees who asked him about divorce, "Have ye not read that He, which made them at the beginning, made them male and female, and said, For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife; and they twain, shall be one flesh? Wherefore they are no more twain but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let no man put asunder" (Matt. 19:4-6). From this, it is apparent that the organs of reproduction of both the man and woman were for a distinctively definite purpose, and for nothing else; the proper God-given use of them constituted the family, and any improper use would be contrary to God's purpose, and, therefore, a sin subject to the punishment of all sin, viz, death.

The name of this particular sin is given in the Hebrew text as "Naaph" and is translated as "adultery." The first mention of this word, other than in Ex. 20:14, is in Lev. 20:10: "And the man that committeth adultery with another man's wife, . . . the adulterer and the adulteress shall surely be put to death." In God's sight, adultery is punishable with death, and this penalty can only be avoided by the acceptance of Jesus as Savior, and being cleansed in His blood to sin no more. Adultery is now, and for centuries has been, a very common sin, but the Bible has never condoned it or offered any compromise in the penalty. God has never winked at it or passed it over lightly. It is common today, and many people of influence and apparent respectability, but who have perverted minds and are not faithful to the teachings of God as given in the Bible, teach that adultery is a normal exercise of natural function which are only a part of the necessary education and development of knowledge and life of men and women. But in the Bible, there is no ground for such a false belief and such devilish teachings. In God's sight, any misuse of the reproduction organs is a sin and is punishable as such. The reproduction of our bodies is one of the most precious privileges which God has granted to man, and should be exercised only under His guidance, approval, and blessing.

Because of such false teachings as are common today, the lives of many boys and girls, as well as men and women, are sadly ruined, and countless homes are broken up, and terrible, deadly diseases have become a scourge of this country and hospitals are filled with the resultant misery. The whole power of the Federal and State governments is now being exercised in an endeavor to stamp out the ravages of these so-called "social diseases," but the results are negligible, for the diseases seem to be on the increase. War conditions have greatly accelerated the growth of this sin. The officials are "locking the door after the horse has been stolen." They should supervise the teachings in our schools, colleges, and army camps and absolutely prevent atheistic, ungodly, and immoral teaching regarding sex matters.

It seems odd that governments will spend millions to punish crime or cure diseases already incurred, yet they will not and do not spend a nickel to teach the Word of God and the morality of Christianity, which give the only cure and preventative for crime and this social evil. On the other hand, the governments foster and license the sale of alcoholic liquors and tobacco, the production and presentation of sexually emotional moving pictures and various kinds of sports and amusements, which have an underworld morality and tend to break down the conventions and barriers between the sexes and lead to physical excesses which result in this particular sin. It is an endless chain of licensed activities of Satanic origin and death dealing results. We should do more protesting against atheistic teaching which are the fountain heads of vice.

God has used the perfect married state as a type of the true church as the bride of Christ (Eph. 5:28-32).

—Selected by Sister J. Strickler

## "FAITH AND VICTORY" 16-Page Holiness Monthly

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

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

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.

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.

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.

Free-will offerings sent in to the work will be thankfully received as from the Lord. 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

Ind.—Dear Bro. Pruitt,—Greetings in Jesus' name. I truly thank God for all his healing power. Just recently my foot was giving me trouble. My toe was swollen, sore and inflamed; but, thank God, it is well now. Last night my throat was sore. Before going to bed, I asked God to heal it. It is well today, praise God.

I thank God for his saving and keeping power. Pray for me that each day I may be a witness for Jesus.

Your brother in Christ,

Ray Wilson

## Editorials

We are printing an extra supply of the July "Faith and Victory" paper, as we shall not be printing any August paper, which is our usual custom. Part of the office force will be attending campmeetings and otherwise busy for the Lord. My wife and others will take care of the necessary work at the office, but no printing will be done until the latter part of August. The Bible Lessons for Sunday schools will be printed and sent out to those who have subscribed for rolls of papers for use in Sunday schools. Any others who want the Sunday school lessons for August should let us know.

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At this writing, June the 8th, we are back at the printing office from the tent meeting in Deepwater, Mo. Bro. Egbert Allen, who has recently moved to Deepwater, pitched his evangelistic tent in his back yard and the Lord blessed in the services from night to night. It rained some nearly every day we were there, consequently, the attendance was less than it otherwise would have been, but a few were much interested in the truth, some were under conviction, and some rejoiced in greater light and knowledge of God.

Shortly before Bro. and Sister Hyrum Ray and I took our departure for home, Bro. Darius Gibson and family arrived there to help in the meeting, which will continue as long as the Lord directs. Bro. Curtis Bedsole of Mansfield, La. is there, also, helping in the meeting. We are praying and hoping that some souls will get saved and others cleared up in the full truth of His precious Word. There is plenty of work to be done in the great harvest field of the Lord if He can find souls that are fully consecrated to deny themselves and suffer the hardships in life for the salvation of precious souls. It is still true that one cannot entangle himself with the affairs of this life and at the same time be free to go into the by-ways and hedges and bring in souls. We cannot be a good soldier of Jesus Christ and at the same time be full of world affairs, seeking to gain and retain earthly wealth.

To be a "minute man" for the Lord, one must needs keep himself free from earthly obligations and be in a position to move for the Lord at a minute's notice from Him whose glory we should always seek, even though it may bring shame and contempt to us in this life.

While in the meeting at Deepwater, I was much in prayer with a burden for souls. I was meditating upon what it meant to follow in the steps of Jesus, who is our pattern to follow, when the word "figure-head" was dropped into my soul by the Spirit of the Lord. Figure-head—what is the complete meaning of that word? I remembered that I had heard men say that they were just figure-heads for others, meaning that others with much earthly wisdom and brain power would figure on them to use them to advance their earthly interests and get honor and glory to themselves, while the "figure-head" suffered inconveniences and was discommoded in many ways,

having poverty and sometimes suffering shame and dishonor that another might be honored and gather wealth, prestige, and standing in the world. Taking the meaning of the word "figure-head" in this sense, it began to dawn upon me that Jesus, while in the fleshly body, practiced being a figure-head for God, his Father; for he said, "I do always those things that please the Father."

In Isaiah 53:10, we read what the prophet wrote, "Yet it pleased the Lord to bruise him; he hath put him to grief . . ." 3rd verse, "He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not. Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed."

Jesus became poor that through his poverty, rejection, and humiliation, we might be made rich in the grace of God by sharing with him self-denial, sufferings, shame, and humiliation, and in the end share his glory. Paul said (Rom. 8:17), "And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together."

The sacred Word tells us that Jesus had not a place to lay his head. He wandered about, being persecuted by the religious leaders of earth, was ridiculed, slandered, lied upon, and many times reviled, mocked, scourged, wore a crown of piercing thorns, spit upon, slapped, betrayed by a supposed friend, given a mock trial, led to the cross as a criminal, lifted up before all the world as one cursed of God, buried in a borrowed tomb, resurrected the third day by God the Father, and his enemies were put to an open shame. He ascended up to heaven, and is now at the right hand of the Father, having all power and authority in heaven and earth.

We who are sanctified and take the self-denial route in retaining our sanctification, become as he was in this world—the just suffering for the unjust, that souls might be brought unto God and that Jesus might receive honor and glory out of our stay here in these earthly houses, and we become joint heirs with him in glory.

There are not many in this world who are willing to be a "figure-head" for Jesus as he was for the Father. Jesus said (12th chapter of John) "Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone; but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit." After saying this, and teaching us the way we should take in order to be his servant, he said, "Father glorify thy name." Then there came a voice from heaven, saying, "I have both glorified it, and will glorify it again." The people that stood by, and heard it, said that it thundered: others said an angel spake to him. It is sad to say that most religious people who read in the Bible about the crucified way for us will just hear it thunder and then go their way, seeking their own ways of ease, comfort, and

honor in this life, traveling the broad way with a profession of following Christ.

Hear what Jesus said to the people and to the disciples, beginning at the 34th verse of Mark 8: "And when he had called the people unto him with his disciples also, he said unto them, Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; but whosoever shall lose his life for my sake and the gospel's, the same shall save it. For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul? Whosoever therefore shall be ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation; of him shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he cometh in the glory of his Father with the holy angels." We should think seriously and prayerfully upon this Scripture, and not pass it up as "thunder," or mere idle words.

Hear what Paul says to converts that are drawing back from the self-denying, reproachful, and crucified way (Heb. 10: 32), "But call to remembrance the former days, in which after ye were illuminated, ye endured a great fight of afflictions; partly whilst ye were made a gazing stock by reproaches and afflictions; and partly whilst ye became companions of them that were so used. For ye had compassion of me in my bonds, and took joyfully the spoiling of your goods, knowing in yourselves that ye have in heaven a better and an enduring substance. Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompense of reward. For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise."

Brethren, we shall have to do the will of God and bear the shame and reproach of the cross in this world if we enter into his glory in that great judgment day; not just for a while, but all through life until he says, "It is enough, come up higher."

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#### NOTICE TO THE SAINTS

The national campmeeting at Monark Springs, Mo. will soon be here, and the grounds and buildings are in much need of being in readiness for the meeting. The secretary of the campmeeting committee informs us that very little funds have been sent in to meet these obligations. The money which was willed to the work at Monark Springs has not yet been received, and will not likely be coming until late in the fall, so the need now is urgent that all will be prepared for the campmeeting. Those who have some of the Lord's money should send it in at once. This is a national campmeeting, so every congregation should take up an offering for this need and send it in soon.

Send your offering to the secretary, L. D. Pruitt at 1116 W. Washington St., Guthrie, Okla., or to Bro. Sam Barton, R. 13, Box 119, Tulsa, Okla.

The more we make of God, the more we will be made like unto Him.

## Obituary

Mrs. Eliza McPhail Reese was born in 1865, in Detroit, Mich., and departed this life June 8, 1949, at the home of her daughter in Picher, Okla. She is the mother of eight children, four of whom preceded her in death. She is survived by one son, Donald McPhail, of Los Angeles, Calif.; three daughters, Mrs. Otto McKey, of Treece, Kans., Mrs. Lena Crewswell, of Picher, Okla., and Mrs. John Webb, of Cartersville, Mo. She was united in marriage a second time to Mr. Will Reese, who preceded her in death.

She embraced the truth in 1909, and for many years had been a steadfast saint. She made her home at Neosho, Mo. for a great part of her life.

Funeral services were conducted by Bro. Sam Barton at Webb City, Mo., with the text, Heb. 9:27; 2 Cor. 5:1; and 2 Tim. 4:7. Interment was at Cartersville, Mo.

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## Campmeeting Notices

(For full details of each meeting, see the June issue of FAITH and VICTORY.)

### KALAMAZOO CAMPMEETING

The fourth annual campmeeting of the Church of God at Kalamazoo, Mich. will convene July 1-10, at 516 Potter St. Bring your bed linens, towels, and Select Hymn song book, if you have one. For further information write Earl M. Brown, 3606 S. Westnedge Ave., Kalamazoo, 56, Mich.

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### WEST VIRGINIA CAMPMEETING

The West Virginia campmeeting, formerly held at Jumbo, W. Va. will be held at the saints' chapel in South Charleston, July 8-17th. The chapel is located on 10th and F Sts., So. Charleston.

This is a new field, and we feel that there are many here who will come the Bible way. This meeting will be run on the free-will offering plan. All who can, bring cots and bedding. For further information, write Mrs. Olive Keene, 1328 Frame St., Charleston, W. Va., or Mr. and Mrs. T. L. Spaur, 151½ 10th Ave., So. Charleston West Virginia.

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### OREGON CAMPMEETING

The Oregon campmeeting will be held on the saints' grounds at Jefferson, Ore. July 22-31. Everyone is invited to come. All who can, bring pillows and blankets; but come. God has always provided all the needs for us in his work, and we have no fear that he will fail us now.

Our house is one block from the Bus depot on Highway 99. The first part of the meeting we will have a porch light on, which can be seen from the bus stop. Come day or night, all are welcome. For further information, write: Emma Busch, Scio, Ore., Noah White, or Sam Wilson, Jefferson, Ore.

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### THE NATIONAL CAMPMEETING AND MINISTERS' MEETING

The National campmeeting of the Church of God will be held, the Lord willing, July 22-31, on the campgrounds at Monark Springs, which is five miles east of Neosho, Mo. The National ministers' meeting will be held July 20th and 21st, two days preceding the campmeeting. All ministers should remember these dates and be present.

Monark Springs is not a post office or railroad station. Those traveling by bus or train should come to Neosho

and take a taxi to the campgrounds, or phone some of the saints through the Monark Springs Grocery store (Phone 4441, Granby, Mo. switchboard) to come after you.

Individuals desiring space in the dormitories, the price is \$2.50 for space and a cot. Tents may be rented for \$5.00 each, and steel cots for \$1.00. If you desire a tent, send your order, with money, to Bro. Sam Barton, Rt. 13, Box 119, Tulsa, Okla. by July 10th. Let none stay away who are unable to pay. Bring bedding and straw ticks and come prepared for very cool nights.

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

Each individual and congregation should make an offering to the national campmeeting. Send it to Bro. Sam Barton, or L. D. Pruitt, 1116 W. Washington, Guthrie, Okla. by July 10th.

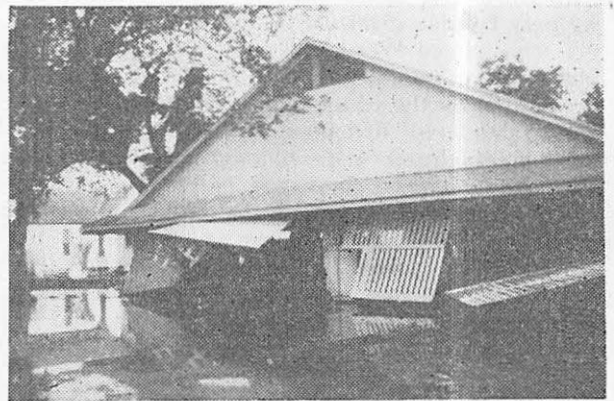
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### OKLA. STATE CAMPMEETING

The Church of God State campmeeting of Oklahoma will be held at Guthrie, Okla. Aug. 5-14, inclusive. The campground is located in the 600 block of West Warner St.

We have dormitory space for the women above the dining hall, and for the men in a building nearby. Cots, mattresses, and pillows are furnished. Bring the necessary bed linens.

For further information, write Bro. O. C. Porter, 511 E. Springer, Guthrie, Okla.



A view of the north end of the flood-damaged Okla. campmeeting tabernacle at Guthrie.

On May 19th, Guthrie had the worst flood in the city's history. The water was about six feet deep at the tabernacle and very swift. All of the church properties were damaged. The cook stoves, hot water tanks, speaker system and some bedding were under water. Special note to Oklahoma saints: It will not be possible to have a campmeeting until the material and labor are supplied to repair the buildings and equipment. Please send offerings to the treasurer, O. C. Porter, Guthrie, Okla.

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### MIDWAY CAMPMEETING

The 5th annual campmeeting of the Church of God of Midway, La., will convene Aug. 18-28, 1949 on the saints' campground. Midway is located on Highway 84, and is about 40 miles northeast of Alexandria, La., and about one mile from Jena. Bus connections are to Jena.

The meeting is run on the usual free-will offering plan; those who come will be cared for free of charge.

Midway is not a post office. For further information write: Willard Esters, Box 757, Jena, La., or Ruth M. Murphey, Box 673, Jena, La.



**DOVER, OKLA. CAMPMEETING**

The Dover campmeeting will be held Sept 2-11, Lord willing. The campground is located 1 mile north, and 2½ miles east of Dover. Dover is on Highway 81. Be sure to mark your bedding.

For further information, write Henry Caldwell, or LeRoy McCray, of Dover. Ulysses Phillips.

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**BOLEY CAMPMEETING**

The Boley, Okla. campmeeting of the Church of God will convene August 19-28, inclusive, the Lord willing, on the campground north of the high school campus.

The meeting will be run on the free-will offering plan as usual. Be sure to bring your bedding, such as quilts, sheets, pillows, and straw ticks. Straw will be furnished.

We desire your earnest prayers that the Holy Spirit may guide this meeting to his glory, the good of our souls, and the upbuilding of the church. Pray much for us. For further information write: Bro. C. A. Wallace, or Sister Mattie Celestine, Boley, Okla. M. J. Phillips

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**CALIFORNIA CAMPMEETING**

The California campmeeting of the Church of God will convene on the saints' new campground, 12312 Osborne Place, Los Angeles, Calif., August 19-28, inclusive.

For further information, or to send means to finance the meeting, write: Ira D. Stover, 611 E. 10th, Pomona, Calif., Erle E. Forbes, 12304 Osborne Pl., Pacoima, Calif., or O. B. Wilson, Jr., 4254½ Perlita Ave., Los Angeles, Cal.

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**MEETING NOTICE**

The regular third Sunday meeting of the saints in southeast Kansas and southwest Missouri will be held at the Church of God chapel in Chetopa, Kansas, on July 17, before the National ministers' meeting starts on July 20. We cordially invite anyone who is coming our way to stop and be in meeting with us.

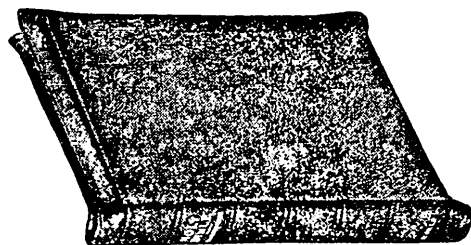
The chapel is located in the 900 block of West Locust, one block south of the highway.

We also have prayer meeting at Bro. and Sis. Beisly's home on Friday night. Anyone who is coming thru Coffeyville, come and be in meeting with us. Call 1169, or come to 407 Eldridge Street in Coffeyville.

—The Chetopa Saints

**JUSTIFICATION****SANCTIFICATION**

- |                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| 1. Gives us life.                 | 1. Gives us the more abundant life.       |
| 2. Gives us victory over sin.     | 2. Deliverance from the inbred sin.       |
| 3. Brought love.                  | 3. Brought perfect love.                  |
| 4. Takes us out of the world.     | 4. Takes the world out of us.             |
| 5. Gave something we never had.   | 5. Took away the "old man" we always had. |
| 6. Strips the worldly adornments. | 6. Clothes us with the wedding garment.   |
| 7. Makes our outward life clean.  | 7. Makes our inward life clean.           |
| 8. Makes us conquerors.           | 8. Makes us more than conquerors.         |
| 9. Gives us peace with God.       | 9. Gives us the peace of God.             |
| 10. Binds the "old man."          | 10. Drives him out.                       |
| 11. Makes our outward life holy.  | 11. Makes our inward life holy. —Selected |



**THIS IS THE "WORLD'S" THINTEXT CONCORDANCE** and Reference Bible, the magnificent DeLuxe edition. Size 8x5½ and 1¼ inches thick.

It has a divinity circuit, black morocco binding and leather lined, with gold edges and gold stamped cover. This is an ideal Bible for minister or teacher. Price reduced to \$9.00, postpaid to any address in the U. S. Authorized King James Version. Order No. 801C. Sample of type shown below:

my spirit upon him: he shall bring forth judgment to the Gentiles. ★	Phil. 2: 7. 1138
2 He shall not cry, nor lift up, nor cause his voice to be heard in the street. ★	b Mat. 3: 17. 926
3 A bruised reed shall he not break, and the 'smoking flax shall he not quench: he shall bring forth judg-	Mat. 17: 5. 942
	Eph. 1: 6. 1132
	c ch. 11: 2. 685
	John 3: 34. 1025
	1 Or, dimly burn- ing.

**PRIDE**

And now abideth pride, fashion, extravagance—these three; but the greatest of these is pride—simply because it is at the root of the whole matter. Destroy the root and the tree will die. It is hardly worth while to waste ammunition in shooting at fashion and extravagance as long as the root is alive. Most persons say that it does not matter how people dress, pride is in the heart. Very true, but straws show which way the wind blows. Plain exterior may cover up a proud heart, but depend upon it, a fashionable exterior seldom, if ever, covers up a plain heart. Some rules work two ways, but some will not. A lady once asked a minister whether a person might not be fond of dress and ornaments without being proud? - He replied, "When you see the fox's tail peeping out of the hole you may be sure the fox is within." Jewelry, and costly and fashionable clothing may all be innocent things, but when hung on a human form they give most conclusive evidence of a proud heart.

But is it possible that a man can be found at this advanced age of refinement who dares to write or peak a word against pride and its consequences? The pulpits have nearly all shut down upon that style of preaching. One who dares to speak out against pride at this day, makes himself a target for severe persecution. But it is still the duty of God's ministers to point out these evils plainly. In proportion as pride gains in a congregation, spiritual life dies out. They will not, cannot dwell together, for they are eternal opposites.

It is a sin and shame for men and women professing Christianity to spend money the way they do to gratify a proud heart, when ten out of every

twelve are yet unsaved, and a great many people have not so much heard the Gospel of Christ. There are many evils in the land, but I doubt if any one evil is doing more harm than pride. It has stolen into the congregations by degrees, and now rules many of them with a rod of iron. Congregations that were once noted for their plainness, and whose teachings still stand against pride and fashion, are practically powerless on the subject. It seems that nearly all creation is kept busy furnishing fashions enough to satisfy the cravings of the depraved heart.

The religion of Christ is pure, peaceable, gentle, easy to be entreated, and full of mercy. All true Christians mind not high things, but condescend to men of low estate. Their highest ambition is to honor God with all they have and are. They are not puffed up, not conformed to this world, but transformed by the renewing of their minds.—Rom. 12:16 and 12:2.

Pride is of the devil—it originated with him—and he is managing it most successfully in destroying souls. But who is to blame for this state of things? First, and mostly, the pulpit is to blame. Men who profess to be called of God to lead the people to heaven, have ceased to rebuke this soul-destroying, heaven-provoking spirit. But why? First for a living, then for popularity or numbers.

Congregations that were once powerful for good, are now well-nigh lost in form and fashions. Pride is eating the very life out of many of the heretofore best congregations in the land. The world is running crazy. The rich lead the way, because they can, while the poor strain every nerve to keep in sight—and the devil laughs to see them rush on.

Pride thrust Nebuchadnezzar out of men's society, Saul out of his kingdom, Adam out of paradise, and it will shut many more out of heaven who are now prominent religious leaders. Neither death nor the grave will change the character of any one. The same spirit that controlled in life will cling to the soul in death, and enter with it into eternity. The angels of God would shink from the society of many fashionable professed Christians of this day. A few such souls in heaven would ruin everything.

You had better get a clean heart, free from pride and "the carnal mind." Rom. 8:7.

"If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on earth. For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God." Col. 3:1. 1 John 2:15.

The life and death of our Lord Jesus Christ are a standing rebuke to every form of pride to which men are liable. Take for instance:

Pride of birth and rank. "Is not this the carpenter's son?"

Pride of wealth. "The Son of Man hath not where to lay His head."

Pride of respectability. "Can any good thing come out of Nazareth?" "He shall be called a Nazarene."

Pride of personal appearance. "He hath no form nor comeliness."

Pride of reputation. "Behold a man gluttonous and wine-bibber, a friend of publicans and sinners."

Pride of independence. "Many others who ministered unto Him of their substance."

Pride of learning. "How knoweth this man letters, having never learned?"

Pride of superiority. "I am among you as he that serveth." "He humbled Himself." "Made a curse for us."

Pride of success. "He came unto His own and His own received him not." "Neither did his brethren believe on him." "He was despised and rejected of men."

Pride of self-reliance. "He went down to Nazareth and was subject unto them."

Pride of ability. "I can of mine own self do nothing."

Pride of intellect. "As my Father hath taught me, I speak these things."

Pride of resentment. "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do."

—J. Weaver.

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## Heart Melodies

"Making melody in your heart to the Lord." No sweeter anthem ever rolled around the throne of God. Heart melodies is the only music ever heard in heaven. The songs of angels are not so delightful to the ears of God as the songs of a redeemed soul. The songs sung by Paul and Silas that night in the inner prison were heart-songs and they moved God to shake the earth. There is nothing in human life or in nature that is melody in the ears of the Almighty except it be the echoing back of His own voice. Nothing from this world reaches heaven only what is the rebounding back of that which has come from heaven. Nothing in us reaches God except it be born in us of God. The song of the soul to reach the throne of heaven must needs be begotten in the soul from heaven. When God gives a song to the heart, and there, mingled with the love and joy of human life, it is echoed back in the sweetest melody that ever reverberated through the corridors of the eternal world. God hears the melody of nothing that is not in unbroken fellowship with Him. It is not the mystical chanting, the trained voices of robed choirs, the music of skilled orchestra, the burst of the great organ, to which God gives ear, but to the heart-song of a redeemed soul which strikes chord with the eternal purpose of Him who created the heart for His fellowship. When the finger of God plays upon the love-strings of the human heart, angels still their harps and all heaven gives ear. It is not the harmony of stringed instruments, nor the melody of the human voice, but the song of the soul into which heaven has been breathed. Nothing goes up to heaven and makes fragrant the atmosphere around God's throne except that which has been instilled into the heart from heaven. It is not the song of the lips and vocal cords that is heard in heaven, but the songs of a heaven-born soul.

—C. E. Orr



# Young People's Section

## What Can I Do For the Master?

What can I do for the Master?

So often the question you ask,  
And maybe you've failed already  
To do some very small task.

There is the weekly prayer service,  
But how often do you pray?  
You'd rather sit in idleness,  
Not even an "Amen" say.

What about your testimony?  
I'm sure the faithful wonder.  
"Oh, no! I never could get up,  
I'd likely make a blunder."

Then surely you can sing a song—  
That's work for the Master, too.  
Again it's "No," or some excuse.  
My brother, this will not do.

Well, give then of your temporal means  
To further the work of God.  
You answer in the negative,  
And squeeze your dollar hard.

I'm certain you can sweep the floor  
And keep the meeting place clean,  
Every Sunday open the door,  
And at duty's post be seen.

But, "No," you say, "let someone else  
The menial labors do,  
I'd rather have a nobler task,  
Or some other course pursue."

What can I do for the Master?  
No longer this question ask,  
Until you have willingly done  
Some long-neglected task.  
—Olive A. Davenport  
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## How To Be Beautiful

Right. thinking men and women appreciate beauty that is more than skin deep—a beauty that is generated in the power-house of the soul by kind deeds, noble thoughts, and unselfish regard "for others." In order to have the right kind of shine upon our faces, we must BE, not simply APPEAR to others. Let no one deceive himself. It is vanity for humanity to search for the secret of true beauty among the powder, the paint, the stylish apparel, and the camouflage in general of the modern department store! The faithful prophet, Isaiah's pen picture of women's vanity of his time is anything but flattering. Read it today in Isa. 3:16-26. The over-

throw of character and the decline of the soul is a tragedy. Decay—individual and national—sets in when the people indulge in luxurious, effeminate living. Read the history of great nations of the past, and learn a lesson for the present. Pride and fullness of bread dragged ancient Sodom into the mire of grossest sin. "She that liveth in pleasure is dead while she liveth" (1 Tim. 5:6).

### Ashes or Truth?

A wonderful prophecy is recorded in Isa. 61:3, of the coming Christ's power to give beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness. Earthly charms fade away—often even in this life. Oh, what a sad and eternal loss when there is no beauty of soul and spirit left! The apostle Paul advises women to adorn themselves in modest apparel, and with good works. The apostle Peter counsels us to adorn the "hidden man of the heart," and to possess a meek and quiet spirit. While it is only too true that convention numbers her votaries by scores of thousands, it is also true that wise men and women and youths realize that we must give an account of time, money, and influence; and that we stand upon the very brink of this time world's ending. God's people are not dressed in the latest, but all have the uniform of purity and holiness. They court the approval of God and His dear Son, and not the worldly-minded. Rom. 12:2.

### How To Use Your Influence

Be cleansed of all that is wrong and defiling, and then go to work in the Master's great and needy vineyard. Religious forms and externals of modern worship have well nigh crushed out the "inner work" of the Holy Spirit upon the human heart. Sad, indeed, that the marvelous, God-given power of influence is not being more extensively used for teaching others how to be beautiful through the divine, transforming power of Jesus Christ. When at last sounds the din of the final crashing of ages when time and eternity meet, amid the piercing, heart-rending cries of the lost followers of earthly fashions and false religions, there shall also be fulfilled this glorious prophecy of Daniel 12:3, "And they that BE WISE shall shine as the brightness of the firmament, and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever." See to it, dear reader, now that finally you take your place among the great throng of "shining ones." —Sel.

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Guthrie, Okla.—The young people at the office greet you with thankful hearts for salvation, which means everything to us. The way of the Lord grows sweeter as we sink into his love. We have received precious blessings since saying goodbye to the world and its ways.

We often sing, "In the harvest fields so needy, any where my lot may be, he can count on me, he can count on me; all my talents I have given precious souls from sin to free, he can count, he can count on me." The Lord

has need of consecrated young people whom he can count on to let their light shine and not be ashamed of the gospel. No doubt you have considered deeply just what it means for the Lord to be able to count on us to teach, live, and practice salvation, with the powers of Satan pressing against us. We have found it needful to spend much time in prayer, seeking God for grace each hour of the day, for wisdom, and a better knowledge of how to please him and be of greater use in his service. Realizing the great price the Lord paid for souls makes us happy to willingly yield our time and talents to glorify him. We said "Amen" to his will and gave up all, not knowing where he would lead. The Lord doesn't require more of us than we can do, but he does require the best that we have.

We omit printing the August issue of "Faith and Victory" to give us time to attend meetings and be in other fields where we feel the Lord has need of our labors. Young People, don't forget that manuscript will be needed for future publishing. Perhaps during the summer months you will have time to seek the Lord concerning writing poems, articles, and testimonies which may be the means of encouraging hearts to be faithful in the work whereunto the Lord has called them.

By the time many of you receive this issue of the paper, we shall, no doubt, be upon the road traveling, or attending a campmeeting somewhere. We are looking forward to meeting again with the saints at various places. As we assemble ourselves together, let us come with a heart burdened for souls. Someone's salvation may depend upon your prayers or testimonies. Let us be much in prayer. The enemy would delight in causing us to be slack, unconcerned, and backward in the places where the Lord wants to use us; but by looking to Jesus for constant victory, we can defeat the enemy and be assured the Lord will do a great work here on earth among his people.

We desire that our minds be stayed on the Lord, leaving no time for foolishness and unnecessary subjects—because our time belongs to the Lord also.

D. L. S.

## CORRESPONDENCE

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Kans. —Dear Bro. Pruitt,—Greetings in the name of Jesus. The enemy does not want me to write this testimony, but I feel I must if I keep the victory.

I want to thank the Lord for healing my body. For nearly three years I had been in poor health. There was nothing I could name as being wrong with me, but I was not well. I couldn't stay awake in meeting. I was not able to do my work, and I always felt tired and worn out. I was prayed for many times to no avail. In September, 1948, I was anointed and prayed for with still no results. I had come to the place where it seemed my blood never circulated at all and it was impossible to find my pulse. About six weeks ago I determined to take my stand and serve the Lord if I was never healed. Praise the Lord, I was healed in less than a week. I truly hope that my healing may be an encouragement to someone else to trust the Lord for the healing of their body.

Please pray for me that I may be able to keep this victory, as the devil is trying hard to discourage me. He tries to tell me that I have not been healed. This morning my hand that holds this pencil has become numb, but I KNOW the Lord healed me, and I shall not look at the symptoms, but keep my faith in God, and stand on the promises that He has made.

I would like to report that the work here is prospering even though no souls have been saved to date. At first we didn't understand why so few seemed interested, but the good Lord has shown us that we were trying to reap a harvest without breaking ground and sowing seed. Since then the Lord has been preparing us to do his work, and there has been a great amount of growing in ourselves. I believe I can say that everyone has grown almost by leaps and bounds. We feel that we are coming to the place where we can win souls in this community. Pray for the work here, that we may stay hid behind the cross and let the Lord work.

My wife and I are still encouraged and desire more than ever before to live for the Lord.

Your brother and sister in Christ, The Goldsberry's

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West Va.—Dear saints in the Lord's Print Shop,—Greetings in the precious name of Jesus. I trust you are all well and rejoicing in the love of our blessed Redeemer.

Thank you very much for the sample copy of the children's paper, "The Beautiful Way." May God bless you in this wonderful effort to get the truth instilled in the hearts of our children. If people could only realize what an important work this really is—that our children know the only true way before they are fed a lot of false teachings which only lead them out in sin and cause them to do things they would never do if they knew the love of Jesus.

I received my religious education in one of the oldest churches in the United States. I attended Sunday School and church services almost every Sunday, three times a Sunday. I was brought up in the tradition of this beautiful old church and never saw anyone go to the altar and repent of his sins. The beautiful marble altar was only used for Holy Communion. I didn't even know what salvation meant until last June. I had no idea that there was any reality in serving Jesus Christ. I had never heard of praying through, rejoicing, and shouting. I had no idea that I needed to do anything to serve God except shake the preacher's hand. I did not know there was anything like a second birth. What a shame that so many people are in darkness! Many think they are saved and on their way to heaven, yet are deceived and blinded to the true way by the devil.

I thank God that, as I cried in utter despair several years ago after my husband gave his young life for his country, I cried, "O Lord, what shall I do? Show me the way." Although I was far from God, lost out in the wilderness of sin, God heard and answered my cry.

I came to visit my husband's folks, and while I was here a revival meeting opened. I had never been in a revival meeting in my life, so we went. At first I just watched the meeting with amazement. I had never seen anything like this before in my life. As the saints began to pray such sincere prayers and sing the beautiful old songs, I began to take interest. I thought they were only letting their emotions get the best of them.

After attending several nights, Jesus spoke to me and said, "Come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." I arose from my seat and went to the altar. Two days before then no one could have made me believe that I would have ever gone there. When I first went there I couldn't even pray. I tried some of the prayers I had learned out of the prayer book but they didn't work at all. The devil tried hard to make me get up. He said, "You are just making a fool out of yourself. There is nothing to all this. This is just something these mountain folks do. They are just letting their emotions get the best of them." Thank God, Jesus

was there and I was determined to stay and find out if there was a reality to it. I didn't get through that night. The next night I came back again, and what a battle I had! The devil said, "You can't even pray," but I heard someone say, "Ask and you shall receive." so I said, "Lord, I can't even pray. Teach me how to pray."

Thank God, he is able to supply our every need. I had a hard fight, but when the victory came, the joy that filled my soul can never be expressed. I shall never forget when Jesus washed my sins away. As I came up from the altar praising God, I reached out for Jesus and I heard him say, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No man cometh unto the Father but by me." All the confusion of denominationalism rolled away—I had found the only true way. Praise his holy name. As Jesus rolled the burden away and peace and joy came into my heart, the saints were singing, "Once I wandered far from God, but now I'm coming home." That was the sweetest music that I had ever heard; I know that even the angels in heaven took up the strain, for one that was lost had been found. Not long after that, God sanctified me. How I praise his holy name for his unspeakable gift of love.

I desire all of your prayers that I may always be humble and obedient to his will and that he will completely heal my body, for I believe he will. May God bless you all as you labor for him.

Christian love,  
Mary Nicholas

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Ohio—Dear saints of God,—Greetings to you in Jesus' precious name. I am so glad for salvation and the love of God in my heart, which teaches me the truths of God's word.

This morning a woman came to see me, teaching false doctrines, saying there was no such place as hell. I just lifted my eyes and heart up to God, asking him to tell me what to say. God recalled the scriptures to my mind, giving me the words that he would have me say. Thank God, the devil was defeated. I praise God for being a very present help in time of need. God is always ready to help his saints who have surrendered their lives to him, and his words are true. Old Satan cannot stand against them. I am glad God has all power in heaven and on earth. This is a strait and narrow way, but God's true children enjoy walking in the true way.

How happy I am this morning that God ever sent some of his saints to our home. If it had not been for God sending his people to teach me the truth, I would yet have been in darkness and would not know good from evil.

I want to be a help to others, and want to live so that others may know I have been cleansed from all sin and fully surrendered my life to God. I want to do all I do to his glory. Remember me in your prayers.

Your blood-washed sister,

Iva Evans

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Calif.—To all the saints,—I feel I should send in my testimony this morning. It has been quite a while since I have greeted the saints in the Faith and Victory paper. I enjoy reading the testimonies of my brothers and sisters in Christ.

I still have the victory in my soul over sin and worldliness. I never get discouraged serving my Savior. We have no excuse to get discouraged if we count all God's promises and love the Lord enough to cause us to live true and humble, and trust God completely for all things. He has been my Savior, Keeper, Friend, and Healer in every time of need for 45 years. I know God will verify every promise he has given, if we do our part.

My decision is set to press on my few remaining days here on earth to live, so that I may have an abundant entrance into my home in heaven.

May God's blessings rest upon all who read this is my prayer. Amen.

Bonnie Wells

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### "Agreement With Hell!"

"Wherefore hear the word of the Lord, ye scornful men, that rule this people which are in Jerusalem. Because ye have said, we have made a covenant with death, and with hell are we at agreement; when the overflowing scourge shall pass through, it shall not come unto us: for we have made lies our refuge and under falsehood have we hid ourselves" (Isa. 28: 14, 15). An agreement with hell! Isn't that a shocking expression? Does your spiritual ear catch the heart-sickening sound? Is it shocking enough to prompt us to ask what kind of beings would make such an agreement? Well, you notice the above Scripture says it was men!

As we meditated and prayed, this thought was definitely impressed upon us in connection with the fall of some false religious systems of the past which emerged into others of a like spirit.

The pure and holy teachings of Jesus Christ in his gospel uncovered the diabolical character of Paganism, laying bare before the eyes of the world its satanic nature. So the devil, unable to deceive the nations any longer under that cloak sought another hiding place in which to work in the form of Catholicism. He took on the name of Christian, but his work was even more deadly than before. Paganism is spoken of in Revelation as "the Dragon," and Catholicism as "the Beast." It is written, concerning this beast, "The dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority." His reign is properly called "the dark ages." But at last the devil was exposed and Catholicism's extremely corrupt and ungodly practices (2 Thess. 2:4) were brought to light. Again the devil had to seek another covering to fool the world. So, being a very astute kind of fellow, he quickly found a satisfactory and lasting substitute in sectarianism. He again began to gnaw at the vitals of the church that Jesus built—the one body, the church of God, the only one God recognizes, because it is the only one he purchased with his blood (Acts 20:28)—to try to tear it to factions and scatter it, calling each faction a church. Thus he set up a "false Christianity" by which he could, and has deceived millions. Rev. 13:3 speaks of the beast as having one of his heads wounded unto death and his deadly wound was healed. The rise of sectarianism is what we understand to be the healing of this beast's head. And "all the world wondered after the beast."

Dear reader, honestly, can you not see this Scripture in Isa. 28, given above, plainly fulfilled in the religious divisions Satan has caused? The 17th and 18th verses of this chapter says, "Judgment also will I lay to the line, and righteousness to the plummet: and the hail shall sweep away the refuge of lies, and the waters shall overflow the hiding place.

And your covenant with death shall be disannulled, and your agreement with hell shall not stand; when the overflowing scourge shall pass through, then ye shall be trodden down by it."

To say that sectarianism—a false Christianity—is anything less than an "ageement with hell," is to misinterpret the Scriptures. And we see by the verses just cited above, what is to become of her when judgment is laid to the gospel line and plummet (v. 17). It shall sweep away the "refuge of lies" and overflow the hiding place, and this "covenant with death" and "agreement with hell" shall not stand (v. 18). Every movement that arises to pervert and obscure the plain, pure, simple, and saving gospel of Jesus Christ, can be nothing else but an "agreement with hell," and it cannot stand the judgment of Christ's gospel nor the judgment to come.

O, thank God for the gospel of Christ that can measure a man ten thousand years in advance, and make him fit for heaven. Why will men make a "covenant with death" and an "agreement with hell?" For when the gospel, as an overflowing scourge shall meet it, if not then, it shall condemn it at the last, and such will be "trodden down." —J. H. Pierson

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**Foreword:** The other day I visited the silent city of the dead, and while I was walking about, noticing in particular the grave markers and the epitaphs inscribed on them, I noticed that almost every one seemed to have hope that their departed loved ones were at peace with the Lord; and I asked, "Oh, Lord, how many are at rest with you?" And there I got the inspiration for this little poem.

### Just A Few

O God, as we think of the many  
Who have left us and gone on before,  
We wonder how many have come to you  
And have entered the open door?

The answer echoes back from heaven—  
Oh, how sad, how sad, but 'tis true—  
As we think of the countless millions,  
How many are yours?—Just a few.

In Matthew seven we read these words,  
As they're given to us from you,  
Strait is the gate, narrow the way,  
How many enter?—Just a few.

What does it mean to us, dear saints,  
As we ponder these words so true?  
Shall we be found among that number?  
Shall we be a part of the few?

We'll soon be weighed in God's balance—  
All nations, both Gentile and Jew—  
How many will pass inside the gate?  
God's answer is: Just a few.

We are told to examine ourselves  
And see if to God we are true,  
So when the Master calls for us,  
We'll be numbered with the blessed few. Amen.  
—G. W. Stephenson, Gerty, Okla.

### My Prayer

O God, I want to be a light,  
A light, dear Lord, to help the lost.  
I want to guide some soul aright,  
Some precious one who is tempest tossed.

Help me, dear God, to live for thee,  
And let the blood cleanse me within,  
Take thou my life and let it be  
Refined and free from inbred sin.

That I might in the Master's name  
Go speak to some dear wandering one,  
And lead him from his sin and shame  
Until his soul from death be won.

Some day a crown I want to wear,  
With stars for souls I helped to win,  
And as I work here year by year,  
O keep me holy, Lord, within.

—Harvey Johnson

—o0o—

### I Saw Their Destiny

Matt. 7:13

In the year of 1917, shortly after I had been gloriously saved and filled with God's Spirit, I had a wonderful vision, while attending the services of a dear brother who had asked me to lead the morning song service. As soon as I had started to sing I was carried away in the Spirit. I found myself out of the building and attracted to a lovely lake shining with a dazzling blue out in the distance. As I looked around I saw a great multitude of people representing every nation on earth, and they all seemed to be going to the beautiful lake in the distance. I could not help but marvel at the crowd of people as there seemed to be every class represented, and they all seemed so happy and gay and carelessly happy. The sun was shining down brightly upon them, and, as they enjoyed the sunshine, each group seemed to be lost in their own activities. I saw groups representing various lodges, business and religious associations, church organizations, Sunday schools, farm groups, and individual home groups. I wondered about all these different branches and classes of people being drawn toward this shining lake and all seeming so recklessly gay and unconcerned with others than themselves.

Then I turned, and in the distance I saw soldiers coming, representing every nation in the world. They too were going toward this beautiful lake, and I noticed that they had the same gay and careless manner of the people ahead of them. They made an attractive sight with their apparent uniforms, flags, and guns sparkling in the sunshine, and I wondered if I could see Old Glory; and, as I looked, I could see her proudly waving with the other flags. I marveled at this great sight and wondered what all these things meant.

Suddenly I was caught up higher and carried to this beautiful lake. As I neared it, the sun seemed to be shaded and nearly everything darkened. To my

amazement I saw that the lake was not water, as I had thought, but a huge and terrible mass of fire burning of either sulphur or brimstone. I noticed that there were walls around this lake of fire and that they were perpendicular, and there seemed to be no bottom, but just an endless mass of burning. As the crowds neared this blue inferno and saw what it really was, they tried to turn back, but they could not because the great masses of the people behind them pressed them on, and screaming, they fell into this terrible blazing mass of burning. I can not describe the awfulness of this scene. The mirthful careless look on their faces suddenly turned to horror and hopelessness as they saw their terrible end, and their piercing cries rent the air as they descended into the torments of the damned. As I saw the crowds of people screaming and falling into this lake of fire and disappearing out of sight, I cried out, "My God, what does this mean?" There came a voice from somewhere above me that said, "The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God."

My next realization was that I was in the chapel with a song book in my hand. The pastor asked me what was wrong. He said my face looked like marble. I then told him what I had seen, and he said, "That is scriptural and found in Psalms 9:17." As I was just a babe in the Lord at this time and did not know the Scriptures, I realized that the vision was direct from God and was a warning to all people to flee from the wrath and judgment to come.

Dear reader, as you read this, which group are you in? Remember, there is only one way into heaven, and that is through the door, which is Jesus Christ, the Son of God. (John 10:9). Today is the day of salvation, for God's Spirit will not always strive with man. 2 Cor. 6:2; Heb. 3:7, 8; Gen. 6:3.

Will you turn from your sins now according to Isaiah 55:7, and look to the Lamb of God according to John 3:16, 17, 18, and come out of the world according to John 17:14, 15? If you do this, you need not fear. —E. F. Bliss

—o—

## Is The Devil A Fallen Angel?

"And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, and prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven." Rev. 12:7, 8. If we should take this Scripture literally, we may come to some conclusion that the devil was once in heaven, but the book of Revelation is written in symbolical language, and cannot be properly understood by those who are not acquainted with its symbols; neither can we take a few verses and isolate them from their proper setting. To interpret the book literally would plunge us into confusion and many statements would conflict with other plain statements of the Bible. We know that all Scripture, is given by inspiration of God, and one Scripture, when properly interpreted, does not conflict with another Scripture.

When we study the Word, we cannot find a time for the devil to be up in high heaven where God dwells. In the beginning God created the world and all that are therein, and the devil was there to enter into the serpent and tempt Eve, the first woman God made. So the devil was here then (John 8:44 and 1 John 3:8). We ask the question: When was the devil up in heaven?

Rev. 12:9 reads, "And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him." Notice carefully the reading of this verse. It identifies the dragon called the devil and Satan, as one who deceiveth the whole world at the time he was overcome and cast out of heaven. If the devil were here when God made the earth, how could he afterwards fall from a holy state in heaven and be cast out to the earth? He was here and began his dirty work with the first two people whom God made.

Let us now notice more closely the symbolical language used in the Scripture text. The first verse of this chapter reads: "And there appeared a great wonder in heaven; a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars." Was this up in high heaven where God dwells? No, we believe you will readily admit that this has reference to the church or assembly of God's people which is called the ecclesiastical heaven. In Eph. 2:6 we read that God's people are raised up and caused to sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus. The Spirit of God is there to own and crown the saints with victory. The woman (church) was clothed with the sun, which is the salvation of Jesus. "But unto you that fear my name, shall the Sun of Righteousness arise with healing in his wings (Mal. 4:2). This was a prophecy of the righteousness which Jesus would give his people. The moon under her feet is the law. We are no more under the law but the law is under us. And upon her head a crown of twelve stars, which is the light of the twelve apostles.

Verse 2, "And she being with child cried, travailling in birth, and pained to be delivered." This woman was the church, the bride of Christ.

Verse 3 and 4, "And there appeared another wonder in heaven; and behold great red dragon, having seven heads and ten horns, and seven crowns upon his heads. And his tail drew a third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth: and the dragon stood before the woman which was ready to be delivered, for to devour her child as soon as it was born. And she brought forth a man child."

Some people believe this man child was Christ. How could Christ be born of the church when he is the founder and builder of it and it is his bride?

This man child is none more or less than the church or kingdom of God that was divinely organized on the day of Pentecost when the 120 tarried at Jerusalem in prayer and the Holy Spirit fell upon them. "Man child" denotes the strength to conquer in the mighty name of Jesus. The rod of iron is the Word of God.

This red dragon was that Pagan power which was against the children of God. The seven heads were the seven forms of government that proceeded out of Pagan Rome. The ten horns were ten kings or rulers. This dragon never was in high heaven, but before the Church was set in order he had almost full sway in the ecclesiastical heavens. The preaching of the gospel dethroned him. It is said that the saints overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and the word of their testimony. This Pagan spirit caused its subjects to use carnal weapons, but the weapons of the saints in fighting against him were not carnal, but mighty through God. The battle was severe and some of the saints did not stand. Thus it is written that the dragon drew a third part of the stars to the earth.

One man with whom I was conversing on this subject mentioned Isaiah 14th chapter beginning with verse 12 where it speaks of Lucifer falling from heaven. I referred him back to the fourth verse, showing that the proverb was taken up against the king of Babylon. He fell from being a universal king down to eating grass as an ox. Read Daniel 4:10-16. This shows he was lifted up with pride and ruled with cruelty, and God permitted him to fall. His heart was changed to a beast's heart for seven years. His dwelling was out with the cattle. So there is no Scripture that teaches the doctrine of the devil ever being an angel up in high heaven where God dwells.

—W. I. Miles

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## THE SONGBOOK OF THE BIBLE

Sunday, July 3, 1949

Printed Portion.....Psalms 1 and 67.

Psalm 1:1. Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.

2. But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.

3. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.

4. The ungodly are not so: but are like the chaff which the wind driveth away.

5. Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.

6. For the Lord knoweth the way of the righteous: but the way of the ungodly shall perish.

67:1. God be merciful unto us, and bless us; and cause his face to shine upon us. Selah.

2. That thy way may be known upon earth, thy saving health among all nations.

3. Let the people praise thee, O God; let all the people praise thee.

4. O let the nations be glad and sing for joy: for thou shalt judge the people righteously, and govern the nations upon earth. Selah.

5. Let the people praise thee, O God; let all the people praise thee.

6. Then shall the earth yield her increase; and God, even our own God, shall bless us.

7. God shall bless us; and all the ends of the earth shall fear him.

Memory Verses: Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands; serve the Lord with gladness. Come before his presence with singing.

Practical Truth: The happy soul gives vent to itself by singing and praising God.

## COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

For this lesson today, we get our starting point in the 5th chapter of Ephesians: "Be not drunk with wine wherein is excess, but be filled with the spirit; speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord." The very best way to offer unto the Lord that which is pleasing to him, is first to be filled with the spirit, which will naturally tune the heart for singing, then we will not find ourselves sitting in the seat with the scornful, nor standing in the way of sinners, for we will be meditating day and night in the law of the Lord. We will be singing and making melody in our hearts because we are as a tree that is planted on the bank of a river where there is plenty of water (life-giving substance) to keep us alive and healthy, so that we will be real fruit-bearing trees—trees of the Lord's planting.

In Psalm 67, we find the Psalmist asking for mercy, and also for God's blessing, and to know the Lord's ways.

It is good to have health for both body and soul. It helps us to feel better in our bodies when we feel good in our soul; and the healthy soul will naturally sing and



praise God. The call comes, "O let the nations be glad and sing for joy." When the nations praise God as they should, then the earth will yield her increase. Oh, let us sing and make melody in our hearts unto the Lord, for he is good.

### PILGRIM MARCHING SONGS

Sunday, July 10, 1949

Printed Portion.....Psalms 122 and 134.

Psalm 122:1. I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord.

2. Our feet shall stand within thy gates, O Jerusalem.

3. Jerusalem is builded as a city that is compact together;

4. Whither the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, unto the testimony of Israel, to give thanks unto the name of the Lord.

5. For there are set thrones of judgment, the thrones of the house of David.

6. Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: they shall prosper that love thee.

7. Peace be within thy walls, and prosperity within thy palaces.

8. For my brethren and companions' sakes, I will now say, Peace be within thee.

9. Because of the house of the Lord our God I will seek thy good.

134:1. Behold, bless ye the Lord, all ye servants of the Lord, which by night stand in the house of the Lord.

2. Lift up your hands in the sanctuary, and bless the Lord.

3. The Lord that made heaven and earth bless thee out of Zion.

Memory Verse: The Lord is with you while ye be with him; and if ye seek him, he will be found of you: but if ye forsake him, he will forsake you. 2 Chron. 15:2.

Practical Truth: The battle is not ours, but the Lord's.

### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

What should bring more gladness to our hearts than the fact that we are going into the house of the Lord to worship our great King? To become a pilgrim who has left the city of destruction, and turned toward the Celestial City is the wisest course of action that anyone can ever choose.

When we acknowledge the Lord in all our ways, he will guide our footsteps. Sing praises unto the Lord, for he is our victorious Captain, who has never lost a battle. When we are following Jesus, we are marching on to certain victory, and may sing with assurance, "Victory shall be the chorus, victory the watchword and song; Jesus is marching before us, leading his army along." Jesus goes before us, and we follow him for we know we are always on the winning side when we are following Jesus.

It would be good to study the 20th chapter of 2nd Chronicles in connection with this lesson, and see how God gave his people complete victory over the enemy. The king appointed singers to sing the songs of Zion while the battle was being fought, and the Lord gave them complete victory over their enemies while the singers sang and praised the beauty of holiness. If we want the victory, let us be sure that we are on the Lord's side; and let us go through the battle with a song and praise on our lips.

### SONGS OF THE TEMPLE

Sunday, July 17, 1949

Printed Portion.....Psalms 84:1-4; 95:1-7b.

Psalm 84:1. How amiable are thy tabernacles, O Lord of hosts!

2. My soul longeth, yea, even fainteth for the courts of the Lord: my heart and my flesh crieth out for the living God.

3. Yea, the sparrow hath found an house, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, even thine altars, O Lord of hosts, my King, and my God.

4. Blessed are they that dwell in thy house: they will be still praising thee. Selah.

95:1. O come, let us sing unto the Lord: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation.

2. Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms.

3. For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods.

4. In his hand are the deep places of the earth: the strength of the hills is his also.

5. The sea is his, and he made it: and his hands formed the dry land.

6. O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the Lord our maker.

7. For he is our God; and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.

Memory Verse: One thing have I desired of the Lord, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord and to enquire in his temple. Psalm 27:4.

Practical Truth: Worship in the house of God would be incomplete without good gospel singing.

### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

When we come together to worship God, it is so inspiring to sing good gospel songs that are appropriate for the occasion. When the congregation is of one accord, in spirit as well as voice, the singing goes up to God in unity and harmony, and we know that he is well pleased. In Psalm 133, we hear his voice saying, "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity."

Our highest aim should always be to please our loving Lord in all that we do. Good gospel singing in our worship inspires us to give the best we have to God in worship and adoration of him. We read in the 17th chapter of Acts that God is not worshipped with men's hands, as though he needed anything; and the 4th chapter of St. John tells us that we who worship God must worship him in spirit and in truth, for the Father seeketh such to worship him. Worship that God is pleased with is the adoration of a clean heart coming forth unto him in such a manner that he knows that it is for him alone.

No doubt our worship in the house of God, without spiritual singing, would fail to come up to his expectation. The desire of a true saint is expressed in the 2nd verse of the 84th Psalm. "My soul longeth, yea, even fainteth for the courts of the Lord: my heart and my flesh crieth out for the living God."

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Sunday, July 24, 1949

Printed Portion.....Psalms 32:1-5; 51:1, 2, 7-13.

Psalm 32:1. Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

2. Blessed is the man unto whom the Lord imputeth

not iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no guile.

3. When I kept silence, my bones waxed old through my roaring all the day long.

4. For the day and night thy hand was heavy upon me: my moisture is turned into the drought of summer. Selah.

5. I have acknowledged my sin unto thee, and mine iniquity have I not hid. I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord; and thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin. Selah.

51:1. Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy lovingkindness: according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions.

2. Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.

7. Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

8. Make me to hear joy and gladness; that the bones which thou hast broken may rejoice.

9. Hide thy face from my sins, and blot out all mine iniquities.

10. Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.

11. Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy holy spirit from me.

12. Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with thy free spirit.

13. Then will I teach transgressors thy ways; and sinners shall be converted unto thee.

**Memory Verse:** If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 1 John 1:9.

**Practical Truth:** If we will follow these instructions thru our life here on earth, we will be ready for heaven when we die.

#### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

We need to have a good understanding as to the meaning of prayers of confession. No doubt many persons have made shipwreck of their souls because they failed to clean up all the rubbish in their back life. God has declared that he will bring every work into judgment with every secret thing, whether it be good or whether it be evil. "For he that covereth his sins shall not prosper, but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy." Blessed is he whose transgressions are forgiven; whose sin is covered according to God's plan. Sin cannot be covered until it is confessed. The Lord will impute our sins and iniquities to us until they are covered. Jesus shed his precious blood upon the cross to make a covering for our sins; but they cannot be covered by the blood until we go to God in prayer and confess them. Our sins will follow us to the judgment if we fail to go to God in prayer and confess them.

In the 32nd Psalm, we find these words which David said unto the Lord, "I acknowledge my sin unto thee, and mine iniquity have I not hid." Again in the 51st Psalm we hear David pleading with the Lord, "Have mercy upon me, O God; according to thy lovingkindness.....blot out my transgressions.....wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow." When we have confessed our sins and God, for Christ's sake has forgiven us and covered our sins with the blood that was shed on the cross, then we are new born babes in Christ. Jesus said, "Ye must be born again;.....except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." The kingdom of God as it is mentioned here refers to the church that Jesus built on the rock. Read Hebrews 8:2; Matthew 16:18; and Acts 20:28.

#### PSALMS OF TRUST

Sunday, July 31, 1949

Printed Portion.....Psalms 34:3-8; 37:3-6; 46:1-3.

Psalm 34:3. O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together.

4. I sought the Lord, and he heard me, and delivered me from all my fears.

5. They looked unto him, and were lightened; and their faces were not ashamed.

6. This poor man cried, and the Lord heard him, and saved me out of all his troubles.

7. The angel of the Lord encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them.

8. O taste and see that the Lord is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in him.

37:3. Trust in the Lord, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed.

4. Delight thyself also in the Lord; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.

5. Commit thy ways unto the Lord; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass.

6. And he shall bring forth thy righteousness as the light, and thy judgment as the noonday.

46:1. God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

2. Therefore will we not fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea;

3. Though the waters thereof roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof. Selah.

**Memory Verse:** Thus saith the Lord, Cursed be the man that trusteth in man and maketh flesh his arm; whose heart departeth from the Lord. Jer. 17:5.

**Practical Truth:** A genuine trust in the Lord will bring rest of soul in spite of upheavals round about us.

#### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

In this lesson, we shall discuss trusting God. To trust God as we should, we must know what it means, and understand how to trust him. We who know the Lord as our personal Savior put our trust in him, although we cannot see him with our natural eyes, we find that he is always with us in every time of trouble. We meet the conditions laid down in his word, and the promises of the Lord's are ours. Jesus tells us to seek first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness, and ALL these things (food, clothing, shelter, and healing for our bodies) shall be added. As the Lord fulfills his promises, we learn to trust him more. "O taste and see that the Lord is good:" "Blessed is the man that trusteth in him." Job said in all of his afflictions, "Though he slay me, yet will I trust him." "He knoweth the way that I take; and when he hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold." Read the 42nd chapter of Job, beginning with the 10th verse.

After Job trusted the Lord, he gave him twice as much as the devil destroyed for him. We will find that putting our trust in God is a good paying business.

We find here in the 37th Psalm one of the outstanding promises of God. Read the third verse. As we read in the 46th Psalm, we see that we can still safely put our trust in God, even though everything seems to be going wrong—the thing for us to do is to commit our way unto the Lord: trust also in him and he shall bring it to pass.

Now in conclusion, let us ask ourselves this question—Can we put too much trust and confidence in God? Will he fail us?

G. S.

# BIBLE LESSONS

FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE

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Guthrie, Oklahoma

## SONGS OF THANKFULNESS

Sunday, August 7, 1949

Printed Portion.....Psalms 92:1-5; 103:1-11.

Psa. 92:1. It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord, and to sing praises unto thy holy name, O most High:

2. To shew forth thy lovingkindness in the morning, and thy faithfulness every night.

3. Upon an instrument of ten strings, and upon the psaltery; upon the harp with a solemn sound.

4. For thou, Lord, hast made me through thy work: I will triumph in the works of thy hands.

5. O Lord, how great are thy works! and thy thoughts are very high.

103:1. Bless the Lord, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name.

2. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits;

3. Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases;

4. Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies;

5. Who satisfieth thy mouth with good things; so that thy youth is renewed like the eagle's.

6. The Lord executeth righteousness and judgment for all that are oppressed.

7. He made known his ways to Moses, his acts unto the children of Israel.

8. The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and plentious in mercy.

9. He will not always chide; neither will he keep his anger forever.

10. He hath not dealt with us after our sins; nor rewarded us according to our iniquities.

11. For as the heaven is high above the earth, so great is his mercy toward them that fear him.

Memory Verse: Sing unto the Lord, for he hath done excellent things: this is known in all the earth. Isa. 12:5.

Practical Truth: Sing and praise God more; we will find it will be a great help when we pray.

## COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

There never was a more truthful statement made than the one in the first verse of our lesson today. It has been truthfully said that thanksgiving and praise are the wings that carry our petitions to the throne of grace. If we want our prayers to go through to God, just mix a lot of thanksgiving and praise with them, and it will surprise you how quickly we will hear from heaven. We can find no better way of getting our thanksgiving and praise to God than by singing.

To sing Psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, to make melody in our hearts to the Lord, we may be assured that God is well pleased when he looks down from heaven and finds us happy, contented, and giving expression to our feelings in songs of praise and thanksgiving. "Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord," for he is surely worthy of our praise, and he, alone.

Now let us look at the 103rd Psalm. Here we find the Psalmist exhorting us to use all the strength and power

we have in blessing the Lord and giving praise to his High and Holy name for he pours out his benefits on us every day. Our God is good, who redeemeth our souls from destruction, and crowns us with lovingkindness and tender mercies. We are exhorted to "make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands, for he hath done excellent things. This is known in all the earth." Let us lift our voices in songs of praise, and let the world know what a mighty God we serve.

## FESTIVAL SONGS

Sunday, August 14, 1949

Printed Portion.....Psalms 105:1-6; 117; 118:19-24.

Psa. 105:1. O give thanks unto the Lord: call upon his name: make known his deeds among the people.

2. Sing unto him, sing psalms unto him: talk ye of all his wondrous works.

3. Glory ye in his holy name: let the heart of them rejoice that seek the Lord.

4. Seek the Lord, and his strength: seek his face evermore.

5. Remember his marvellous works that he hath done; his wonders, and the judgments of his mouth;

6. O ye seed of Abraham his servant, ye children of Jacob his chosen.

Psa. 117:1. O praise the Lord, all ye nations: praise him all ye people.

2. For his merciful kindness is great toward us: and the truth endureth forever. Praise ye the Lord.

118:19. Open to me the gates of righteousness: I will go into them, and I will praise the Lord:

20. This gate of the Lord, into which the righteous shall enter.

21. I will praise thee: for thou hast heard me, and art become my salvation.

22. The stone which the builders refused is become the head stone of the corner.

23. This is the Lord's doing; it is marvellous in our eyes.

24. This is the day which the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it.

Memory Verses: Make a joyful noise unto God, all ye lands: sing forth the honour of his name; make his praise glorious. Psalms 66:1-2.

Practical Truth: It is good to offer praise unto God.

## COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

There is no place to quit praising the Lord, so thru the ceaseless ages of eternity we will still be praising Him.

A festival song is a song in commemoration of the wonderful things God has done for us. If people of God would recognize this fact, they would spend lots of time singing praise and thanksgiving unto him that daily bestows upon us his blessings and benefits, for his mercy and goodness endures forever.

In the first written portion of this lesson, we are exhorted to tell others of the good things the Lord has done and is doing for us. Besides his special blessings, he permits us to live on his earth, drink his water, eat his food, breath his air, and enjoy his sunshine and his rain.

There is no end to the blessings he pours out upon us; so therefore we should offer unto the Lord sacrifice and praise continually. That is the fruit of our lips—giving thanks to our God. "Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name."

The happiest people on the earth are the ones who give God the praise that is due him. It doesn't seem reasonable that people would accept and use all the good things God gives them and then never thank him for them.

"Long as I live my song shall tell  
The wonders of His matchless love  
And when at last I rise to dwell  
In that bright home prepared above,  
My joy shall be  
His face to see.  
And bowing then with loud acclaim,  
I'll praise Him—blessed be His name."

### PRAISE FOR THE WORKS OF GOD

Sunday, August 21, 1949

Printed Portion.....Psalms 19:1-6; 65:9-13; 104:24.

Psa. 19:1. The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork.

2. Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge.

3. There is no speech nor language, where their voice is not heard.

4. Their line is gone out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them hath he set a tabernacle for the sun,

5. Which is as a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, and rejoiceth as a strong man to run a race.

6. His going forth is from the end of the heaven, and his circuit unto the ends of it: and there is nothing hid from the heat thereof.

65:9. Thou visitest the earth, and waterest it: thou greatly enrichest it with the river of God, which is full of water: thou preparest them corn, when thou hast so provided for it.

10. Thou waterest the ridges thereof abundantly: thou settlest the furrows thereof: thou makest it soft with showers: thou blessest the springing thereof.

11. Thou crownest the year with thy goodness; and thy paths drop fatness.

12. They drop upon the pastures of the wilderness: and the little hills rejoice on every side.

13. The pastures are clothed with flocks; the valleys also are covered over with corn; they shout for joy, they also sing.

104:24. O Lord, how manifold are thy works! in wisdom hast thou made them all: the earth is full of thy riches.

Memory Verse: The heavens declare the glory of God and the firmament sheweth his handywork. Psa. 19:1.

Practical Truth: No one can understand the language of nature until he knows how to appreciate the One who created them.

### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Let us remember that it was a fool who said in his heart, there is no God. The precious old Bible begins with these words, "In the beginning God—" If we take God out of that statement, then there is no way to explain anything. Going to the first chapter of Colossians, we read, "For by him were all things created that are in heaven and that are in earth, visible and invisible,.....all

things were created by him and for him. And he is before all things, and by him all things consist." All of these things which God has created that we see about us—the beauty of nature on the earth, and the beauty of the starry canopy over the earth all declare the glory of God, and give praise to his name.

In the 21st chapter of Matthew, we hear Jesus saying, "Yea; have ye never read, out of the mouths of babes and sucklings thou hast perfected praise?" All nature sends out its voice in a language that all those who really love God understand. When we live close to God, we can hear all of his creation giving praise to his name. What does the rain say as it comes from the heavens to water the parched earth?—plenty of food, and sweet, fresh air to breathe. Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory.

When people are grouchy, they complain about the rose bushes having thorns on them; but when their hearts are in tune with heaven, they thank and praise God for the beautiful roses that grow on the thorn bushes.

I am so glad that my thorn bushes have beautiful roses all over them.

### EXALTING THE WORD OF GOD

Sunday, August 28, 1949

Printed Portion .....Psalms 19:7-14; 119:1-8.

Psa. 19:7. The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple.

8. The statutes of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes.

9. The fear of the Lord is clean, enduring forever: the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.

10. More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter than honey and the honeycomb.

11. Moreover by them is thy servant warned: and in keeping of them there is great reward.

12. Who can understand his errors? cleanse thou me from secret faults.

13. Keep back thy servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion over me: then shall I be upright, and I shall be innocent from the great transgression.

14. Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength, and my redeemer.

119:1. Blessed are the undefiled in the way, who walk in the law of the Lord.

2. Blessed are they that keep his testimonies, and that seek him with the whole heart.

3. They also do no iniquity: they walk in his way.

4. Thou hast commanded us to keep thy precepts diligently.

5. O that my ways were directed to keep thy statutes!

6. Then shall I not be ashamed, when I have respect unto all thy commandments.

7. I will praise thee with uprightness of heart, when I shall have learned thy righteous judgments.

8. I will keep thy statutes: O forsake me not utterly.

Memory Verse: The words of the Lord are pure words, as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times. Psalm 12:6.

Practical Truth: If we live as the Bible teaches, then we will not be afraid to die.

## COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Psalm 19: 7-14 is written in such plain language, so positive, so definite, that it needs no explanation. The very best way to exalt the word of God is to study it, get it rightly divided, and then live it before the world. People can understand the Bible much better when they see it lived by the ones who profess to love the Lord. We should be very careful how we live, for we may be the only Bible that some people are reading. Living like the Bible teaches us to live is the very best way to exalt God's word. If we have enough of the fear of God in our heart, it will cause us to be careful how we live before those about us.

People who claim to love the Lord and then fail to live as his word teaches will be stumbling blocks to the ones whom they should be helping. Yes, to live the Bible in our daily life is the way to exalt God's word. It is often said—actions speak louder than words.

The golden rule put into practice is the very best way to exalt God's word, so that it will be a help to those about us. Two verses in Proverbs 30, will help us to understand God's word better. "Every word of God is pure. He is a shield unto them that put their trust in him. Add thou not to his words, lest he reprove thee, and thou be found a liar. Blessed are the undefiled in the way who walk in the law of the Lord." Now let us read in Revelation 3:4, where Jesus said, "Thou hast a few names even in Sardis which have not defiled their garments; and they shall walk with me in white: for they are worthy." To exalt God's word is to exalt him. Oh, magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together. Amen.

G. S.

## Come, Take a Walk With Me

Who will come take a walk with me,  
And hear the things I hear  
And gaze upon the things I see  
As we stroll thru Gethsemane  
From the clamor of the city  
For a time we'll be free.  
Oh, look my friends, and tell me true,

Oh what is this I see?  
The man they call Jesus  
Is in distressing agony.  
Has he no friends, does no one care?  
Listen, I hear him say  
Just a few short words that sound like  
"Is there no other way?"

Now he lifts himself erect,  
Stands trembling on his feet.  
And there sadly looks around,  
As if someone to meet.  
And now he slowly walks away,  
Let's follow where he goes.  
Ah, there he now has found his friends,  
Will he his grief disclose?

Listen, he speaks, I hear him say,  
"Could you not watch one hour,  
Oh, friends of mine, do watch and pray  
Lest satan show his pow'r."  
He turns and slowly walks away  
Into the shadows deep.  
Again he is prone upon the ground;  
The watchers drift to sleep.

Again I hear his gentle voice  
In trembling accents pray,  
"Oh Father let this cup pass by,  
If there's some other way.  
But Father, if this be the task  
You have given to your son,  
The task, though hard, I will fulfill  
And say 'Thy will be done.'"

But, listen friends, another sound  
Is falling on my ear:  
An angry mob by Judas led,  
Is drawing very near.  
He sold his Lord for greed and gain,  
How sad a state is his!  
Now see the traitor drawing near,  
Betrays his Lord a kiss.

Alas, his friends forsake him now—  
There's no hope for release.  
They mock him, and crown him with thorns,  
They spit in his face.  
He with patience did bear it all.  
They cried when Pilot said,  
"I'll scourge him and set your king free,"  
"Free Barabas instead."

They took him to be crucified,  
They nailed him to the cross.  
He suffered this for you and me,  
To save a world that's lost.

Friends, did you hear the things I hear,  
And see the things I see?  
Behold God's son nailed to the cross,  
Dying for you and me.  
And in his agony he cried,  
Pleading for me and you,  
"Oh, Father forgive them, I pray,  
They know not what they do."

I have found that even down to old age, he will lead us if we will love and obey him. Let us follow where he leads us, and say, "Thy kingdom come, thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven." I love him because he first loved me. Ah, the depths of his love! Yours in him,  
Mother Rebecca Basicker, 90 years old.

—oO—

## Sanctification

Peace like a river entered my soul,  
The night the Lord made me perfectly whole.  
I shall never cease praising His holy name,  
And this great salvation to others proclaim.

This Sabbath of rest in my soul has begun,  
Since all of my heart by the Lord hath been won.  
My will and His are no longer two,  
Since He has filled and made my heart new.

This second blessing has made me to know  
What a marvelous gift the Lord doth bestow,  
On all who will come and yield themselves up,  
He will surely fill to o'erflowing their cup.

So if you haven't come this far up the road,  
And life and its trials make heavy your load.  
Just confess your need now and yielding, obey,  
And by faith see how Christ will illumine your way.

—Irvin McMurrin

## SAVED

My lost soul was wand'ring in sin's dark night,  
Till Jesus brought me out into the light.  
As I follow now in His holy way,  
I can see the light of eternal day.

So faithful was He to talk to my heart,  
Trying His mercy and love to impart;  
But my proud heart would answer, "No, not yet,"  
And I'd try His pleading words to forget.

The things I went through I never can tell;  
At last I saw it was heaven or hell.  
To my Saviour then I began to cry—  
Satan said, "Too late now; no use to try."

I knew the Lord had said, "I am the door,"  
So I prayed and wept till my head was sore.  
But since I had caused His great heart to grieve,  
Then how, oh how could I ever believe?

I knew in my heart that His Word was true,  
And I had done all that I knew to do;  
So laying aside every fear and doubt,  
With trust in my soul I began to shout.

Never again can I doubt His great power:  
He comforts and keeps thru each trying hour;  
And when the burden seems too great to bear,  
A friend is the Lord, always waiting there.

Yes, He's waiting there with a helping hand,  
And enables me by His strength to stand.  
I am learning to love and trust Him more,  
And I'll trust till this fleeting life is o'er.

When storm clouds arise to obstruct my view,  
I know His great eye is then piercing thru;  
And as my soul trusts in His love divine,  
I can feel the touch of His hand on mine.

A great write-up there'll ne'er be about me,  
For I'm not high up in the world, you see;  
I am only one whom the Lord called out,  
That the busy world knows nothing about.

To Him I can't render sufficient praise  
For saving my soul from all sinful ways;  
But I'll love and trust Him and do my best,  
And I know He will take me Home to rest.  
—Sister Minnie Noakes.

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## Accomplish

We all like to accomplish things, but many times we fail to pursue the right course to accomplish that which is the most important; thus we are behind of what we might have been. In Ps. 64:6 we read, "They search out iniquity; they accomplish a diligent search: both the inward thought of every one of them, and the heart, is deep." This is speaking of the wicked, but can we not turn this around and the Christian benefit by it? Can we not search our own shortcomings and by diligent search accomplish an

increase of spirituality in our own hearts? Many of us do not have the privilege of assembling with other victorious Christians, and it is so easy to gradually lose religious fervor just a little at a time. I believe this can be avoided if we will accomplish a diligent search of the Bible, thus bringing the commandments as well as the promises of God fresh to our minds. Is this not what Peter meant when he said? "I will not be negligent to put you always in remembrance of these things, though ye know them, and be established in the present truth." 2 Pet. 1:12. Then according to this, though we be established in the present truth, we need to be reminded, or stirred up, in order to be assured of continual victory, and perfect obedience to God. So then if we will accomplish a real search of Bible truth and thus revive our souls, it will save us many heart-aches and tears and also the loss of other's confidence in us. In order to keep anything in our minds, we must meditate on it, lest it go from us. And we cannot afford to let the Word of life slip away. If we did, then other things would take the place of it and we become unfruitful.

Prov. 13:19 says, "The desire accomplished is sweet to the soul." So then we can bring sweetness to our souls by continually accomplishing our desire to keep true by a diligent search of God's Word.

—Julia Tilton.

## Seeing Light

"In thy light shall we see light." Ps. 36:9. Do you understand these words? They mean that if you want to see things as they really are, you must stand in the light with God. When you get in the light as God is in the light, then you can see things in His light, and you will see them as they are. If you get out of God's light, then you can not see as God sees. If you want to know if a certain thing be right or wrong, just step over into God's light, and look at it in His light and you will surely know the facts about the thing. You will see it in its true light. Self blinds the eyes so we can not see things as they are.

—C. E. Orr.

## Alone With God

Come, Soul of mine, from all the world apart;  
Come thou into the stillness of my heart;

'Tis there the Lord will make His trysting place  
With thee, and hold thee in His fond embrace.

Come in, O Soul, and closely shut the door,  
And hear what thou hast never heard before:

Thou wilt not find thy rest in things abroad,  
But in the quiet heart alone with God.

If thou, my Soul, of heaven's joys would share,  
Come down into my heart, you'll find them there.

—C. E. Orr