

# FAITH <sup>AND</sup> VICTORY

## The EVENING LIGHT WATCHMAN



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### God's Care

What am I, that thou shouldst be,  
Mindful, O my God, of me;  
Watching o'er me day by day,  
Answering when I kneel to pray?

What am I, that thou needst care,  
What I eat or drink or wear?  
Matters it so much to thee,  
That I fed and clothed should be?

What am I, that thou shouldst keep  
Watch o'er me and never sleep,  
Guiding, guarding, all my years,  
Deep'ning joys and less'ning fears?

What am I, that thou must know  
Every path where I may go;  
That thy still voice should say,  
"Walk ye in the narrow way?"

What am I, that thou shouldst send,  
Thy Son to be my truest friend?  
He who walked in Galilee  
Has come to dwell and walk with me.

What am I, that I should have  
Endless life beyond the grave?  
Why dost thou so much for me,  
When I can do nought for thee?

—Selected

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### Possessing the Riches of Our Inheritance

We read in the Old Testament of the fruitful land of promise, the place God had prepared for his chosen people. Under the new covenant we read of its fulfillment in the holy rest of faith, the fruitfulness of a Spirit-filled life. As it was in the old time, so it is now, many cannot enter in because of unbelief (Heb. 3:18, 19). Have we crossed the River Jordan and entered into this good land? Have we wholly consecrated our all to Him by God's grace? Has his Spirit witnessed to our spirit that our sacrifice is accepted,

setting His holy seal upon us and dwelling in us in his holy presence? May God be praised in behalf of every one who has been made a partaker in this glorious experience; but saints, having made the crossing, there is no place to stop. He has given us the land; it is ours; but we still have something to do. To inherit the land he has given us, we must go on, actually enter in and possess it. The blessings and fruits of our inheritance are not ours by sitting still and claiming them, but they are obtained as we press in and possess the land.

How much of our inheritance are we enjoying to-day? It is not only our great privilege, but our solemn duty to move out into the good things God has prepared for those who love him. We are told to be not slothful, but to enter in and to possess the land with all its blessings. But how many are discouraged and begin to draw back, fearing the Lord may not be with them after all, when the enemy appears and begins to contest the ground? When we obtain God's grace and blessings, through Jesus' name, through faith and prayer, our souls are filled with victory, grace, and assurance; but this does not mean the end of our battles, but strength and power to overcome in the issues of life. And as we do this, we possess the land he has given us. "Every place whereon the soles of your feet shall tread shall be yours." Deut. 11:24.

The power to overcome is conditional upon our pressing steadily forward in faith and obedience to possess the land in its fullness regardless of how great the obstacles may be. To become slack and careless, to lose some of our desire and esteem for the riches God has prepared for us insomuch that we take the easier way of avoiding some battles by making peace with the enemy on some points and by compromising a little, is to lose our power to go forward and upward for God. When we are not on the forward move and gaining ground for God, we can be satisfied we are losing ground instead; we are not just standing still.

Christ is our leader and commander, and if we follow him, we will find he leads us forward through trials and battles that greater victories, power, and blessings may be ours. Perhaps the enemy has so hidden and disguised himself under an appearance of

harmlessness that we may not recognize nor locate him for a time, but if we obediently follow the leadings of God's Spirit, he will faithfully search out every hiding place where the enemy may lurk. "Moreover the Lord thy God will send the hornet among them, until they that are left and hide themselves from thee, be destroyed." Deut. 7:20.

But, oh, the danger, especially after we have gained much ground, and have become strong, of becoming careless and settling down in ease and false security, of becoming a little too friendly and peaceable with the enemy. We read of the Israelites making this very mistake: "And it came to pass when the children of Israel were waxen strong, that they put the Canaanites to tribute and did not utterly drive them out." Joshua 17:13. They were becoming too friendly right then, but that was only the beginning. They were losing their power. "The Canaanites would dwell in that land" Judges 1:27. God had used Joshua to warn them before hand of the penalty: "Know for a certainty that the Lord your God will no more drive out any of these nations from before you; but they shall be snares and traps unto you, and scourges in your sides, and thorns in your eyes, until you perish from off this good land which the Lord your God hath given you." Joshua 23:13. The Lord had not told them to keep the Canaanites under control; he had told them to make no peace with them, and to utterly destroy them, and to drive them out.

What is the application to us? God requires us to abhor every ungodly thing, to give no place to it in any wise. What is our attitude toward present-day ungodliness? Do we think some of it isn't so bad if we don't go too far? Can we have some place in our lives and in our homes for worldly literature and radio programs, which are put out under a fair appearance sometimes but their purpose and effect being to entertain the worldly-minded and to draw hearts away from God? Are we only careful to try to keep these things down, not to let them make too much headway, nor get too prominent? This is like trying to keep the Canaanites under control and under tribute, yet letting them dwell among us, and it won't work. What do we think about fairs, parades, and worldly celebrations where a little of what is generally considered to be harmless and educational is so thoroughly mixed with the ungodliness of the world until it is impossible to separate them? Do your children learn from you that these things are not so bad, that they are a rather mild and harmless form of the world if one is careful? There is no sign post of God's warning; there is no rebuke placed on these things. Saints, that is becoming too friendly with the enemy. These things will be according to God's Word—snares and traps left hidden and unguarded to catch your children's souls and perhaps your own with weak ones among us besides who may be watching you to see God's light shine out and his true, safe way made plain. "Have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them . . . All things that are reprov'd are made manifest by the light, for whatsoever doth make manifest is light." Eph. 5:11-13. Are we shining out enough light for the world to

feel any reproof? Can we be members of worldly organizations which may seem to serve some useful purpose? But look a little closer and some of their activities and projects will surprise you. Just stop to think what you are partaking in, in being a member along with the others. "Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers," is the only safe rule to follow. What about the worldly styles and fashions? Are we getting so friendly with the world that we carefully avoid being too different, even to please God? Sisters, when the ungodly styles call for short skirts, do we shrink from having ours too much longer? "The friendship of the world is enmity with God. Whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God." Jas. 4:4. Does the test even prove that the fashion has more power to change our appearance than the judgments of God sent forth through his servants? These are only a few things pointed out by way of illustration. It is the work of the Holy Spirit to teach us each one all things; to guide us into all truth; to lead us out into the things of God.

If the enemy has gained an advantage anywhere until he is crowding in in spite of all that can be done, if he has got the upper hand again and is repossessing and reclaiming the land until you can hardly keep a foot-hold any more, there is only one way of deliverance. God requires repentance for the disobedience that is the cause of this condition. A broken and a contrite spirit God will not despise. His hand will again be stretched out for you in mighty power until the forces of darkness are defeated and put to flight on every hand, and his people are again dwelling in victory, safety, prosperity, and peace.

The fruitful land of Canaan abounds in good things prepared for those who love God. "A good land, a land of brooks of water, of fountains and depths that spring out of valleys and hills"—a land well watered with the living waters of salvation, "A land of wheat and barley and vines and fig trees and pomegranites"—good fruit in abundance. "A land of oil olive and honey, a land wherein thou shalt eat bread without scarceness, thou shalt not lack anything in it" Deut. 8:7-10. "A land that floweth with milk and honey." A place for God's children to eat to the full and be satisfied. "He hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ." Eph. 1:3.

The blessings of healing were included in the inheritance of God's people of old, and were promised on just the same conditions: keeping free from all entanglements with the enemy, and strict obedience to God. He promised them power to overcome and possess the land, and right with this, healing to their bodies also. He promised them protection from the evil diseases of Egypt which they had seen and feared. Exodus 23:23-26; Deut. chapter 7. Just so today, these blessings are included in a life of power with God; power over the enemy to recognize, abhor, and defeat him on every hand; power to press steadily forward, entering into and possessing the riches of our inheritance through Jesus' name.

Oh, the victories of faith that God has for us, the untold blessings contained in his promises that

are ours to go in and possess! The riches of grace, the riches of faith; the riches of his word, the gold tried in the fire, the true riches that he has in store for his children! They are ours to possess, freely given to us of God. May the eyes of our understanding be enlightened that we may know "what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints, and what is the exceeding greatness of his power to usward who believe according to the working of his mighty power" Eph. 1:18, 19. "The righteous shall inherit the land and dwell therein forever" Psalms 37:29. "Be not slothful, but followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the promises" Heb. 6:12. "He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God and he shall be my son." Rev. 21:7.

—Faith Embly.

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## Thy Will Be Done

"Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven." Matt. 6:10; Luke 11:2.

"He [Jesus] was praying at a certain place, and when he stopped one of his disciples said to him, Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples." James Moffat Translation. Luke 11:1. So Jesus said to them "When you pray, say—Father, thy name be revered, thy REIGN begin." Luke 11:2. J. Moffatt.

Our King James scripture reads like this: "When you pray, say, Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, as in heaven, so in earth." Luke 11:2.

This part of the prayer, "Thy will be done," is the kernel of life, Jesus taught to His disciples. It is so easy for us to ask for food and raiment, etc; yes, and for healing of the body; but to be concerned about doing the Master's will, is a step beyond our natural wants or our desires. If one is half-hearted about his Christian life, then all his requests are for his own good or benefit; but when he really loves God as he should, he will be concerned about the kingdom of heaven, that God's name might be glorified in the hearts and lives of others, that others might be born into the kingdom of heaven. Each one who truly means all that he says, when he says, "Thy will be done," will be looking for opportunities to magnify and glorify God by doing the things that please God. It is not just quitting sinful acts or just doing the things that he wants to do, but he will be anxious to be doing what God wants him to be doing. One can busy one's self all the time, doing things that neither please God nor glorify Him, yet never is he led into doing the thing that God would have him do. For instance: at one time I was making artificial roses. I was poorly in body at the time and just wanted to busy myself doing something that I wanted to do. The Lord said to me, "LET ME MAKE THE ROSES." The Lord did not want me to busy myself in this way. He could do that much better than I could, and they would be real live roses.

When we give ourselves entirely to God, our time, our talents, our being, and all there is of us or ever

expect to be; we are not to say that we will or that we won't do this or that, but we are to say, If the Lord wills, I will do so and so. We are to live so close to the Lord that all we need to know is, Is it the will of God? I find that it has been very easy for me to become very busy in doing things that I like to do, to the extent that I forget other duties. But as I forsook the natural talents for the Lord, other more useful talents were bestowed upon me.

After becoming a Christian, too many of us just keep on going through this world pleasing ourselves. It may not be sin to be doing these things, but it is not being used of God. It is not living in touch with Him. He is the source of power. A sinner's time can be used up in doing the things of natural talent, but a Christian's time must be used in doing God's will. God wants to give to us the power to do the things that He wants us to be doing. Were the disciples, after sanctification, allowed to go back to being fishermen? By following Jesus, his life, his example, they became fishers of men, that God's kingdom might be established, a power in the earth, that souls might be saved and sanctified, and that the whole world might hear the GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM, the message of SALVATION, and bring a great harvest of souls into God's HOUSE.

Many a time we are tempted to do things just because we are able to do them; but it would not be doing God's will, and by doing it, we might have to give account to God for doing the very things that we wanted to do.

God looks upon our heart; He asks for our hearts, that he might keep us by his grace and power, and that he can lead us in the way of truth and righteousness. It is the ones that follow the Lamb of God that are rewarded at the judgment. It is the ones that know and obey Christ and follow his leading that he will claim as his. These are the "wise virgins" that are ready to enter the "marriage feast" when Jesus comes for "His BRIDE."

If we are to be a light in this world, we must get beyond ourselves. Without Christ, it is not in us to do the works of God. We get into God and God gets into us; then God can work; then His will can be done in and through us.

Natural talents do not answer for spiritual GIFTS. We must get out of ourselves and into God, then God can work in and through us, and his WILL will be done in our earthly life. This is the way of life. This life leads us home to heaven. WE MUST LIVE WHERE GOD CAN MAKE HIS WILL KNOWN UNTO US, AND EVER BE READY TO FOLLOW THE LEADING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, THE SPIRIT OF GRACE AND POWER.

You will not only save your own soul, but others. At least, what God does through you will redound to your credit, whether others repent or not. The truth is, YOU HAVE DONE GOD'S WILL. Just be an instrument in God's hand, just like a pen in your own hand. The pen does just what you say that it should do, without asking any questions. So in like manner, be ye subject to your King, Lord, and Master, Jesus Christ the Righteous One. —Ivalyn Edith Kriebel.

## "FAITH AND VICTORY"

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 his wife, Mary A. Pruitt, and other consecrated workers at FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE, 920 W. Mansur Ave., Guthrie, Okla.

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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.

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

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### THE BEAUTIFUL WAY

"The Beautiful Way" a four-page leaflet for children is published quarterly in thirteen leaflets, one for each week. Marie Miles Editor, assisted by others.

Subscription price: 60¢ per year for single copies. 40¢ per year in quantities of five or more to one address. (Pay by the quarter if you desire.)

### OBITUARY

Christopher Benjamin Detwiler, son of Jacob and Eri Detwiler, was born April 25, 1868 in Champaign Co., Ohio and passed away at his home in Anthony, Kans. April 3, 1950, Age 81 yrs., 11 mos., and 9 days.

He came to Anthony in 1909 and was united in marriage to Mary McCully April 20, 1910. To this union two daughters were born. He had embraced the church of God faith many years ago.

Besides his wife, he is survived by two daughters: Mildred of the home and Mrs. M. L. Rust of Okla. City; and one granddaughter, Joyce Rust.

Funeral conducted by O. C. Porter of Guthrie, Okla. Scripture texts used: 1 Cor. 15:19; John 11:25.

## Editorials

The evangelistic party returned from California on April 6th after being gone from the "Lord's Print Shop" since February the 27th. The Lord was exceedingly good to us and spared us of any serious trouble going and coming home.

The first meeting was held with the Glendale congregation where Sister Opal Wilson is pastor. For two weeks and one half the meeting went on waging war against sin and evil of all kinds, and the devil was defeated, some souls were saved, some sanctified, and many of the saints were strengthened, and testified that they received untold help in the meetings. Some healing was also done by power divine. The interest was good throughout the entire meeting, as the house was generally quite well filled up, and sometimes there was hardly room for all to be seated. We shall never know all the good that was done in this meeting until the judgment day.

The next meeting was held at San Bernardino, where Sister Poulos is pastor. They have recently built a meeting house at that place, and some necessary things were finished just before the meeting began. We were there a week in meeting, and the Lord made it a very precious revival, also, for the saints at that place. He gave much liberty in preaching the gospel and our souls were encouraged in the meeting. The next week we were in meeting in Los Angeles where the Lord's blessings were felt. Several were at the altar for help—salvation, sanctification, or healing of the body. The saints there manifested a good interest in the meeting and in the word that went forth. It is precious to be with the dear saints of God.

On our way home, we went by the way of Bakersfield, Calif. and stopped there one night with the saints and held services. There was a large attendance and the dear saints seemed to enjoy the service much. The pure gospel was preached that night in love and care for precious souls and one sister went to the altar and received the desire of her soul. On our way home, we also stopped at Albuquerque, N. M. and visited Sister Cox, who is an isolated saint at that place. We were all refreshed by being there with her and she was encouraged. We received mutual benefits.

While I was in California, my two daughters, Mary Lola Embly and Anna Marie Miles, who live near Pomona, took me to Fresno on Saturday to visit my son Andrew and family who live at that place. We were there over Sunday and attended services with the Fresno congregation where Bro. Trotter is pastor. The house was well filled that day and the Lord gave a good service on Saturday night, Sunday, and Sunday night. We enjoyed being there with our son and family and also in the meeting with the saints. Fresno is some over 200 miles north of Los Angeles. We were also in one service with the Pomona congregation where Bro. Stover is pastor, and enjoyed being there very much. We find precious saints are the same, and they love the Lord supremely, and one another with a fervent love. God will have a body of saved people when he comes again.

We met a number of young ministers while out there whom the Lord has recently laid his hand upon for the ministry of the Word. This is encouraging to our hearts.

We found plenty of work to do here at the office when we returned, and shall go into the work with renewed courage. I am fully persuaded that we are in the right way and have the Spirit of Christ and his unadulterated gospel to preach to mankind. We mean to be faithful to Him at any cost and not look to the right or to the left, but keep our eyes upon the Lord who bled and died on Calvary's cross to redeem us from all iniquity and purify unto himself a peculiar people zealous of good works. Men have many pens of a religious nature to catch unwary souls, but none of such things move us, for we know in whom we have believed and are persuaded that he is able to keep that which we have committed to him against that day. Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

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We have made mention of Bro. D. S. Warner in some of our editorials in recent issues of the "Faith and Victory" paper and it seems that some have misunderstood our writings. We wish to say that we have great respect for Bro. D. S. Warner whom God used to bring precious light and truth to the human race. I believe that he had a clearer and more perfect view and insight into what constituted the true church of God and the functioning of the body of Christ than most of those that followed him, and if he were here today he would not tolerate the worldliness and sectish ways that the movement has digressed into, but would cry aloud and spare not, and say, "Come out of her, my people." I am sure if he were living today and kept walking in the light of the Word, he would be in full fellowship with the true saints of God who have not made peace with the enemy and are not of this world. The things that we found in the paper while he was editor in 1895 which we feel was a lack of light was in an article which taught that Satan originated in the eternal heavens where God is and in another article which was teaching that it was all right for the saints to use what the author called "God-given remedies" for healing. The true saints do not believe such as that today and I am persuaded that Bro. Warner would not if he were living today and kept walking in the true light. On the other hand, those articles could have slipped through without his knowledge as he was out in evangelistic work much of the time. He may not have believed that himself even in that day. I hope this explanation clears up the minds of all who are concerned in the matter.

It is needful that the true ministers of God today have greater light on the Scriptures than in the past, for evil has increased a hundred fold or more, and false prophets and teachers have multiplied and we have (so I am told) at least fifty different organizations and groups calling themselves the church of God, which was not so in Bro. Warner's time. If there ever was a time when Satan has transformed himself into an angel of light and his ministers as preachers of righteousness, it surely is now. For this reason, God has given and is giving his true ministers discernment,

light, and knowledge upon his word so they can combat the enemy in his sheep-skin religious garb and pull the cover off so honest souls can see and escape if they will, his slimy clutches, and hide in the Lord with the true, tried, and faithful ones. A number of factions have split off from the apostatized reformation and have dropped back a little with the same old compromising spirit and also claim that they are the true church of God. Some of them will even go so far as to say that they are teaching all the truths that Bro. D. S. Warner taught. If they do, we fail to see them practice it. One cannot tie up with the world in any degree and keep his soul undefiled and his spiritual eyes with clear sight. It just will not work that way. The only safe way is to keep absolutely free from the world and its fleshly lusts and be conformed to the image of Christ, holding the word of truth in righteousness, having mercy and truth as he does, and keeping yourself unspotted from the world, letting the Holy Spirit so live and dwell in you that He will be a reproof to sin, to self-righteousness and judgment against the prince of this world. Keep "on the spot" for God. Make no peace with the devil. The Holy Spirit working in the true minister will cause them to pull the cover off Satan's false teachers and prophets, then, they will howl and accuse, lie, and slander the innocent lambs with a purpose of holding in bondage precious souls and keep them from the true way. When Satan's preachers and teachers hit at the true ministers of God, they fail to hit them because they are hid away with Christ in God and the blows fall without effect. He is our refuge, our High Tower, a shade, a shield, and a buckler, the Prince of Peace, and the government is upon his shoulder. Some false teachers were writing us about plans to attend the assembly meeting at Guthrie at one time. They were men of note with a reputation. We were burdened about it as we did not want the Lord's lambs to be disturbed. As we prayed about it, the Lord spoke to us, saying, "When He giveth quietness, who then can make trouble?" We had the victory and God precious-ly took care of the whole matter.

I have found if we truly fear God and keep his word, we need not fear the devil, for God will take care of him. My soul doth magnify the Lord, praise His dear name! He is worthy of all praise and honor.

My testimony is incorporated in the following Scriptures, "And the work of righteousness shall be peace; and the effect of righteousness quietness and assurance forever. And my people shall dwell in a peaceable habitation, in sure dwellings, and in quiet resting places." Isa. 32:17, 18.

May God bless all of our dear readers and help each one to dwell in this peaceable habitation and have that quietness and assurance in your souls forever.

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### *Prayer Requests*

Please, all of God's true people everywhere, pray earnestly for us. We are in need of a place to live right away. We have to leave this one as it is sold. It seems we move so much. We need help financially also if we are to stay together. I have nine children,

as all of you know, and am a widow. We trust the Lord for everything, and at this present time we need His help and all prayers of God's true saints. Lord bless you all.  
Sister Ruby C. Quave.

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Please earnestly remember Sister Nellie Hudson in prayer who needs help in her body.

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Miss Catherine Johnson, who lived with her sister-in-law, Sister J. Johnson, passed away at the age of 89 yrs. Sister J. Johnson was formerly known among the saints as Coral E. Myers. Sister Johnson had the care of her sister-in-law for many years and she had been confined to her bed for the past sixteen weeks. This was a great burden and strain on Sister Johnson, and we ask the saints everywhere to pray for her in this time of need.

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Will all the saints agree with me in prayer Sunday, May 7th at two o'clock for complete deliverance in my soul and mind. Evil words come into my mind and it seems like someone talking. Ben Phillips, Wichita, Kan.

### CAR STOLEN

The saints at Tulsa request other congregations and individuals to send offerings to help them make a down payment on a car for their pastor, Bro. Sam Barton, whose car was stolen Feb. 26th while he was in services. No trace has been found of it and he is badly in need of a car to fill his appointments and many calls for prayer for the sick and those needing spiritual help. Send offerings to Bro. Sam Barton, 2264 N. Columbia Place, Tulsa, Okla.

These gifts will be thankfully received by Bro. Barton, and God will reward you for helping to lift the burden of this consecrated minister in this time of need.

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### A WAY TO HELP SEND THE GOSPEL

A few consecrated saints, who have a burden for souls and a desire to help spread the gospel, have started a fund for a car for Sister Ruth Murphey of Jena, La. Sister Murphey has been a faithful minister for several years. Besides pastoring a small congregation and doing evangelistic work, mostly in poor unevangelized communities, she renders a much needed service by visiting, praying for, and ministering to sick and suffering humanity. She is greatly handicapped in this work without a car.

If you have some of the Lord's money, we believe He would be pleased for you to help with this fund. If not, please agree in prayer that the need will be supplied. Send offerings to Ruth Murphey, Box 824, Jena, Louisiana.

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### MEETING REPORT

The church of God, which meets at 800 N. E. Third St., Okla. City, held its annual revival meeting Feb. 26th through March 12, 1950. It was a great inspiration to the saints.

God sent Bro. Isaac Chandler here from Calif. to help in the meeting, and the Lord richly anointed. The saints were uplifted in the Spirit of God. The truth was preached just like I heard it preached thirty odd years ago when I first got saved. The Word did not get too tight for us. When it got close, we would find ourselves measuring up. Three souls were saved and many got help from God.

There were so many precious lessons preached to

us during the meeting until the Sunday succeeding the meeting someone wondered what the minister could preach about following so many good messages in which so much had been mentioned. But the great God of heaven who rules the universe knew just what we needed and sent us a message on: "Give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we let them slip."

Our gratitude and thanks goes to God and his humble servants for the wonderful meeting we had.

Your brother in Christ,

Manly Spears

### SPECIAL NOTICE

Construction workers and anyone able to do manual labor are needed on the National Campground at Neosho (Monark Springs), Mo. On most Saturdays some of the saints will be there working, and help at that time from anyone within driving distance will be appreciated. For further information write to Bro. Ralph Beisly, R. 5, Coffeyville, Kans.  
—L. D. Pruitt, Secy-treas.

### Campmeeting Notices

#### HENNESSEY, OKLA. CAMP MEETING

The camp meeting of Church of God in Hennessey, Okla. will be held, the Lord willing, June 2 to 11. We are praying God to give us old time camp meeting that souls will be saved, believers sanctified, the sick healed, and the words of God preached with the anointing of the Holy Spirit. Come with your heart burdened for lost souls. The meeting will be run on free-will offering. Bring your straw tick. Those that have tents bring them if you can. Location: Come 2 blocks south of Post Office to Water tower, turn east 3 blocks. For further information write to Bro. Thomas Davis, Sister Willa J. Williams, or Sister Annie Wiley at Hennessey.

#### OREGON CAMPMEETING

The Oregon Campmeeting, Lord willing, will be held on the saints' grounds in Jefferson June 9th to 18th, 1950. All lovers of truth are invited to come. We look to the Lord to send the Holy Ghost ministers of his choosing to be with us, men and women who love, practice, and preach all the truth. We desire the prayers of all saints that God will hold his hand of power against every false and divisional spirit that may try to creep in to hinder the meeting. We love and stand for the truth as it is revealed to the saints in light.

The Lord has given us 14 cabins, and we expect to build at least two more. With them and the home He has given us, we feel that sleeping quarters can be provided for all who come. Meals will be served in the dining hall. Straw will be on the ground for straw ticks. We have about 30 springs which belong to the Lord and his saints. We make no charge for cabins or springs. All who can bring covers and pillows.

Please all saints pray for the meeting, and all come who can. For further information write Sister Emma Busch, Scio, Ore., or Noah White or Sam Wilson, Jefferson, Ore.

#### HAMMOND, LA. CAMPMEETING NOTICE

The saints' campmeeting will be held at Hammond La. from June 30 to July 9 on the Southern camp ground of the Church of God. We invite the saints and lovers of the truth to attend. Meals will be served on the grounds and sleeping quarters provided for all who come. Bring your bed linens, towels, and straw ticks. Straw

will be furnished free. This will be the 43rd annual camp meeting held on these grounds by the saints who teach the old-time truth as taught in the beginning of this reformation, and will be conducted on the free-will offering plan.

Hammond is easily reached by the Greyhound bus, also the I. C. Railroad with good taxi service out of both stations. If you want to be met, write to Ray Key, Box 370, Hammond, La. or Max Williamson, care of Post Office, Hammond, La., or for further information.

### OKLAHOMA STATE CAMPMEETING

The Oklahoma State Campmeeting will convene at Guthrie, Okla. from Aug. 4th to Aug 13, 1950. More information will be given in next issue, Lord willing.

### CALIFORNIA CAMPMEETING

The California State Campmeeting will convene from August 18th to 27 on the new camp ground in Los Angeles. Particulars later.

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### MEETING NOTICE.

There will be all day services the third Sunday in May in the Mansfield, Mo. community. We welcome any one who can come and be with us. For further information write D. A. Gibson, Seymour, Mo. or Murphy Allen, Mansfield, Mo.

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## CORRESPONDENCE

Okla.—Dear Brothers and Sisters in the Lord,—Greetings. I felt led to write my testimony tonight to tell of the Lord's wonderful blessings. I am yet saved and living for the Lord. The Lord wonderfully blessed us in building our tabernacle on our church ground. He gave us two good carpenters to help us out. We thank the dear Lord for them. Our pastor said or spoke of a tabernacle for a camp meeting and I said to myself we couldn't do it, then I heard another voice say that it could be done. The Lord showed me that it would be easy. Then I spoke in services and told them we could have a camp meeting if there were just two.

It's good to live close enough to God to hear his voice. Praise his name, what a wonderful Savior and keeper. Pray for God to save someone in the camp meeting in Hennessey. Annie Wiley.

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La.—Greetings in Jesus' precious name to all. I have felt for some time that I needed to send in my testimony about how the Lord blessed my nephew's son who had polio. The Lord surely did bless him in answer to prayer. He was supposed to stay in the isolation ward two weeks. The Lord brought him out before the two weeks were up. The doctor told his mother he would have to stay in the hospital eight weeks and he only had to stay six weeks. That was another blessing. You can't tell he has ever had polio because he doesn't limp any at all.

His parents aren't either one saved but they give God the praise and not only them but every one who knows him. Please pray for my son he is unsaved and he seems so far out in sin. The Lord sure was good to him in sparing his life when a car hit him while stopped for a red light on his motorcycle, his cousin also. My son was under the doctor's care about four weeks. When he came home I told him the Lord spared his life which I am thankful he did. I give God the praise for it. Pray for me that I will keep true. Mrs. Velma Mancil.

Texas—Greetings of Christian love to all of God's children. The Lord has been talking to me about sending in my testimony as we who are isolated have no other means of letting the other saints know we are still saved.

About one year ago my daughter called the Barton home, Bro. Barton answering the phone. When asked how he was, his reply was "well I'm still saved." That has come to my mind many times in this past year. So I thought if it meant that much to me to know one of God's children was keeping saved, it might mean something to some one else to know I am still saved, sanctified and satisfied with the straight and narrow way.

Sometimes I get so happy I hardly know what to do. (Just me and the Lord.) It must be wonderful to be with the saints and in services all the time, but I realize I am reaping what I have sown by not obeying my saved mother years ago. Dear young saints, never consider marrying unsaved companions.

I truly thank the dear Lord I ever found God's true children. I think of how he led me when I was going to all the different denominations and showed me the one True way. I believe with the help of the Lord I can face any battle he allows to come my way. I well remember while going to the trumpet church, hearing the preacher say, "If you don't have faith to believe for healing when you get sick, you better send for a doctor or you might die." I find the Bible says, if ye lack faith, ask and it shall be given you. I'm glad the Saints are not like the sectarian preachers, but encourage and try to strengthen and build up those who are weak.

I have shed tears many times over ones who are departing from the way. How it must grieve our Lord and Master when one of his children disobey him after he, spilling his life's blood that you and I might live. I say to everyone who becomes discouraged to remember: He that putteth his hand to the plow and looketh back is not fit for the kingdom of God. (Luke 9:62) Remember his promises. Only a few more days and then the reward. Eternity is long, never ending. Make use of your time while it is called day, for the night soon cometh when no man can work. (John 9:4)

I beg of those who are professing and yet criticizing others to dig deep and search their hearts so they can be useful in the sight of the Lord. When we keep our vessels clean we have no time to find fault with our brother. Remember there is nothing hid from God, be sure your sins will find you out. So let us repent and forsake sin so we will be clean vessels ready for the Master's use. May the Lord bless and encourage all the saints is my prayer. Pray for us. Your sister, Edith Wall

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Texas—Dear Bro. and Sis. Pruitt and all the dear Saints everywhere.—The Lord has been urging me to send in my testimony and I am so glad to be able to do so. I praise and thank the Lord for his wonderful care of me. Without him I don't see how I could get along. Praise his Holy name.

About six weeks ago I fell, wrenched my knee and strained my back. I could not get around but kept on praying. I sent for prayer of the saints here, then last Sunday night I attended meeting and the precious Lord took me in hand and let the mighty power fall on it. It is healed, praise his holy name! I didn't have a doctor at all. I felt the Lord had let me fall, he also raised me up so I felt he would heal me, which he did. Oh, I am so thankful for his goodness to me. He is always close.

We are living in perilous times. People are too busy living for the world and Satan. They have no time for



God, neither will God have time for them. The time will come when they will seek Him in vain. They can not find him, they have waited too long for the Lord knows the wicked. He knows their wicked ways, but he does not know their voice. They are not of his sheep and the Lord knows everyone of his sheep and will hear their call. Praise his name! Oh if men would rise up every where and praise the Lord for his goodness and wonderful works to children of men. How precious they would be in the sight of the Lord. He has great joy in his righteous people and will never forsake them. Praise the Lord! There are so many, even older people who know the fruits of the Lord, letting Satan get hold of them. I pray all those whose heart is not right with God to lose no time in making your peace with him. Time is short. Remember, the wages is certainly death but the gift of God is eternal life. God offers that gift to everyone who will accept it. Won't you accept it now? He is waiting and longing to save you. He is so sweet, so tender and understanding. He is ready and willing to forgive. Put your faith and trust in Him. Prove Him. God's promise is true. You'll never regret turning to him.

May the precious Lord bless every dear Saint and may He richly bless the print shop and its dear workers. May the dear Lord ever keep me true and faithful until the end. I would be very glad to receive letters from all who care to write. Flora Gibson, Phillips, Texas, B. 1027.

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Mo.—Dear Bro Pruitt,—I thank God for a knowledge of Salvation that will keep us free from sin, rejoicing in the Saviour's love.

I feel this morning to tell of his miracle of love he hath bestowed upon me in the healing of my body, raising me up from death's door. I have suffered with a hernia for a long time. As long as I could keep it under a truss it did not bother me but the time came that I could not keep it under the truss, since then it has bothered me seriously. My trust has always been in God. It grew worse. I decided to fast until victory came. I fasted four and one half days when the victory came. It was almost death to me. I had such a high fever, I thought I was losing my mind. Thanks be to Jesus he came to our rescue in answer to prayer.

When I had gained presence of mind, I said to my wife, I will not be here long if I don't get help. The Spirit said, "Phone for Bro. and Sis. John Wilson." They came, anointed and prayed for me. I have been getting better ever since. Oh, praise the name of Jesus who is so graciously good to his trusting children that keep his commandments.

I had such a shortage of breath and a swelling in my limbs. My feet burned and twitched like fire. We felt like phoning for Brother Pruitt, but he was not at home. My wife then telephoned for Bro. Sam Barton. He came on Saturday night, had prayer. I felt the swelling in limbs and feet go down. Oh, what a mighty God we serve. The next morning he anointed and prayed for me. I have been on the mend ever since. When the weather is nice I walk out doors. Praise our dear heavenly Father. The swelling now is about all gone and I can rest at night much better. Thank God.

I still need the saints' earnest prayers.

James E. Morris.

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Va.—Dear Bro. and Sis. Pruitt,—Greetings in Jesus' precious name. I am deeply encouraged in the Lord. I find him precious in my soul. I had a large ulcer for more than thirty years and He healed my leg. I continue

daily living for the Lord not looking for earthly things, only looking forward to my heavenly home. I have strong faith that he will keep me in his care.

I get the "Faith and Victory" paper and it is food to my soul. I have been a shut-in for fifteen years and always love the things of God. I met a dear old Saint, Sis. Laura Powell about three and a half years ago and light began to flash on my pathway. I am free from all sects rejoicing in the one true way.

Your sister in Christ,

Sister Hattie Tucker.

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Ill.—Dear Bro. and Sis. Pruitt and all the saints:—Greetings to you in Jesus' precious name! We believe God would be pleased in our telling others of some of the wonderful things he has done for us. Most of all we are so thankful that he is ever present and that we have the privilege of serving such a mighty God, one who holds everything in his hands. Truly it is marvelous, one of the greatest things one can attain in life is to know him in his fullness and to walk close by his side day after day. How we have found him to be a friend that sticketh closer than a brother. We need to bring all the small affairs of our life to him and all the great ones too. He is eager to help us with everything and to make us more useful in his service.

How few there are who are willing to walk in the straight and narrow way. Sad it is to see those who were once walking we thought, in all of God's ways and ready to accept more light and truth as God gave it to them, who are now rebelling against the truth and God's faithful ministers. Oh, may God help people to see their mistake or sins before it is too late.

We had the privilege of being able to hear Bro. D. A. Gibson bring some messages of truth to us in Rosamond, Ill. What a great help it was to us, something we needed every time, precious food to our hungry souls. In Matt. 5:6 Jesus said, "Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled." When a Christian is not hungry for the pure holy word of God there is something wrong with their spiritual appetite, or something that they are not willing to let God take care of.

God has been so good to us. He said in Psalms 84:11, He would not withhold any good thing from them who walk uprightly with him. So many people who profess to be God's true ministers and saints do not trust God for the healing of their bodies. God's power is not limited and He is just the same yesterday, today and forever. John 15:7. Jesus said, If ye abide in me and my words abide in you, you can ask what ye will and it shall be done. We find nothing added to the Scriptures in James 5:13, 14, 15. The Lord has healed all of us many times. Last winter the children were all sick with colds and fever, some quite severe. God healed them all. Many times does he heal and strengthen me. Not long ago husband took suddenly ill, came home from work with a cold and sore throat. He was very sick for a few days, almost had pneumonia. We sent requests to you saints and others who really trust God and God healed him. We received some precious lessons besides the healing of this body through his sickness. Since then husband and the children have had stomach trouble but God undertook in every case. About a week ago our little girl, Patsy, age 6 had some kind of a spasm and her body and neck were drawn, and struggling as if trying to vomit. We prayed for her and God touched her. She was able to go to school the next day. Last night she had another attack like this but it did not last



so long and was not so severe. Again we had prayer for her and she was in school today. She had been telling me her left hand felt like it had rocks in it and would shake. This is the way these attacks start. Please be agreed with us that she will be healed completely to God's glory. Also pray for our oldest girl's eyes that cross once in a while. God has wonderfully helped them already.

Bro. and Sis. McClain and family of Rosamond and we have been having worship together on Sunday mornings and it is a great help to us. We desire to do God's will and walk in all his ways. We need the prayers of all the saints and we are praying God's richest blessings upon all of you and all of the dear saints everywhere.

Your sister in the Lord,

Ruth Childress.

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Ind.—Dear brothers and sisters in Christ:—Greetings in His name. "Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the Word of God." How true His Word is, a solid foundation we can build upon, rely upon.

I have felt that I should testify to the healing power of God, our Christ of Galilee, praise His dear name!

About two years ago I fell and injured my arm, badly bruised and slightly fractured. I wrote to brother Pruitt and his staff of workers and they were faithful to hold me up before the throne of grace. I had a letter from one of the girls at the print shop, saying they were praying fervently for my healing, and that they were to have a prayer meeting somewhere that night, and would have special prayer for me. I was so grateful to them and all that remembered me in prayer. I was told that I would have to go to a doctor. I told them I had the very best Physician, that was Jesus. And I want to tell all of you my arm is healed. It was about five months until I could use it, but God has all of the glory and praise, and I do thank every one of you that prayed for me.

I take the "Faith and Victory" paper. I pray for all the requests in the paper. I now have an ailment for which I would like to ask all to pray. My hearing is affected, especially in my right ear, with roaring, head noises, ringing in ears. I know He can heal that too. I think it was caused by the fall. I claim the promises of the Bible, such as John 11:22; Luke 7:22; Mark 7:32, 37; Mark 9:25. I read in the little paper where a sister was healed of deafness. I trust Him in all things.

A co-laborer in the gospel,

Della Patton

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Calif.—Dear Bro. and Sister Pruitt,—We trust this finds you all well and prospering in the service of the Lord.

He has been very gracious to us. Just this spring he healed one of our girls of a serious affliction. We at first thought that she had rheumatic fever. She had much swelling of joints, especially in her knees and ankles. We had prayed for her for several weeks, but the trouble kept recurring. One night during service Bro. Stubbs said, "There is one thing we have not done." Then he anointed her with oil, and all the saints here agreed in prayer, laying hands on her. She was healed from that moment. We give our dear Lord all the praise and glory. She has been like a different child since that time, has gained weight and feels like running and playing again.

The Lord has blessed our home with six children, and he cares for them all. There has been an epidemic of mumps here, since before Christmas. There are

about one hundred children in the school where ours go. They have all had the mumps except eight (including ours) children and the teachers. We feel this to be an answer to prayer. My husband said, "The Lord can protect them from the disease as well as heal them." And felt led to pray that way. So we praise the Lord for this, too. He keeps us saved and happy in his love, and our hearts' desire is that our children will grow up loving and serving the Lord, and be used of Him in His service to His glory.

We have been very thankful to read how the Lord has been blessing and revealing deep truths to his people.

Christian love,

Mr. and Mrs. L. Wittenborn

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W. Va.—This morning as I prayed and asked the Lord what he would have me do to bring glory to his name, He lay the impression upon my heart to write my testimony. Truly I thank God with all my heart for revealing himself to me, and for the realization that we serve a true and living God, One who doeth all things well.

Having been brought up under the terrible darkness and strict heading of Catholicism, I knew nothing of the precious truths of the Word of God and saving grace of our Lord until I married a protestant believer thirteen years ago. He was a blackslider at the time and as far from God as I was, yet he directed me toward the cross and the only rule of faith, "the Bible," and the Bible way found in the Word of God.

I sought the Lord earnestly the past few years and finally got saved, but I did not seem to get the real joys of salvation until I found the true saints of God this past summer at the So. Charleston campmeeting. In the past few years my companion and I had been constantly praying God to lead us to that people that contended for the "faith once delivered to the saints." Jude 1-3. Although we stood true to the Bible name, we were with different groups calling themselves "Church of God" (excluding the tongues people, we never did fellowship them), but their spirit and the Word did not agree. We suffered much sorrow throughout this time, seeing that these were those that the Word speaks of that were wanting to be called by His name to take away the reproach. Read Isa. 4:1. They are not willing to die out to self and opinions of men, etc. They add to the Word or take away from it. Some are an exalted people, calling themselves Rev., D. D, and LL. D. Others call themselves "IT" from the pulpit at their campmeetings and bind the tithing law on people and beg for their needs. Dear ones, God's people know their duties, and a meeting that is prayed down from heaven gives results for every need. God knows who has money and how to get it without putting folks on an auction block. These are truly perilous times when divers are waxing worse and worse. Read 2 Tim. 3:1-7.

Had we not met the true saints of God we would still be in our adulterous condition (Matt. 5:32). Others told us that God forgives the act of adultery. Yes, He forgives providing we don't continue to sin but get out of it. Oh, how we do thank God for His pure and unadulterated Word that makes us free in Christ. We thank Him for the prayers of His saints who sustain us in every way, helping in every time of need. Only those with the pure love of God will prove to be pure fellowship. Yes, we have chosen the crucified way to gain Heaven because it is the only Way; and there are only a few on this way because of self-denial and suffering connected with it. We have made up our minds that it is better to suffer here, no matter what, and gain that celestial city than to have all the world and lose our souls. The Word of God says, "If we suffer with Him we shall also reign with Him (2 Tim. 2:12). Now

that the Lord has made us free in Him, my companion is out in God's great harvest field working for Him, and I am undertaking to rear our three children in the fear and admonition of the Lord. Two of them are saved, son age 12 and daughter 11, but the youngest son, age 9, is now beginning to realize his need to be saved.

I thank God for His watchful care over us. I thank the Lord for His healing power. He has healed us many times from different afflictions since turning away from the arm of flesh and yielding completely to him. He needs no help of medicines to help us, praise His name forever!

I thank Him for the precious trials of faith each day which make us stronger in Him. I am wholly yielded to His will, visiting the fatherless and widows and keeping myself unspotted from the world (James 1:27).

At one time I was deep in sin, having been in the beauty parlor business for more than fifteen years, but God through his mercy saw fit to lift me out of the miry clay and settle my feet in the strait narrow way. Oh, I do praise the Lord for His goodness to me. How can we help but love Him when He has done so much for the human family?

We are going through some very severe trials of faith, but the Lord knows how to deliver and we are learning more and more each day how to yield to His perfect will that it may be for our good and His glory. Dear saints, we desire your earnest and sincere prayers that as we go about visiting the sick and afflicted that His purpose might be fulfilled and His name magnified. I am isolated and am waiting on the Lord to move on our behalf that we may locate near the saints at So. Charleston, or whatever be His will. Also that His will may be accomplished toward a home and school for all dear children far and wide so that God's truths may be established in their hearts. This has been a burden of my heart for quite some time and we are praying God will burden more of His faithful ones that we may see His will done. Truly, we need to redeem the time as the days are evil. My desire is to keep humble to be used of Him and please Him.

Many do not want to see the right way, but may God call out every honest heart, is my prayer. God led us directly to His truth after letting us see all these other sects or movements who get their strength from the earth and not from above. Through His true humble saints we can see the simplicity that is in Christ Jesus. The words of this song linger in my heart since we have suffered to find Him:

"I am drinking at the fountain where I ever would abide,  
For I've tasted life's pure river and my soul is satisfied;  
There's no thirsting for life's pleasures, nor adorning rich  
and gay,

For I've found a richer treasure, one that fadeth not away.  
Tell me not of heavy crosses, nor of burdens hard to bear,  
For I've found this great salvation makes each burden  
light appear.

And I love to follow Jesus, gladly counting all but dross,  
Worldly honors all forsaking for the glory of the cross."

I shall be glad to correspond with anyone who wishes to write.

Madelon Reynolds, Pt. Pleasant, W. Va.

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Calif.—Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,—Greetings to everyone in His dear name. How grand to know God so loved us! What manner of love He hath bestowed upon us that we should be called the "sons of God," children of God, saints of God—all one holy family in heaven and earth. Then we who know these things, knowing we are one in Christ—He in us and we in Him—how can anything separate us? Let us continue to love one another as we see the Day approaching. How thankful everyone ought

to be for the knowledge of this Truth, and to have sweet fellowship with the saints and the agreement of prayers, and the great mercy and love God bestows upon us. I do praise Him for his great power to save, sanctify, and heal. Just recently I had an accident. I fell and broke my left hip, and being at the age I am, as usual it is hard for bones to knit. But I am very thankful to report God's healing touch. The prayer of faith was offered the day of the accident and I began to mend from that time. I am expecting to be able to walk with perfect ease.

It has been forty years since I first met the saints. The way grows better and dearer to me every day. Pray for me that I keep true and obedient to keep on the wedding garment, always found ready for our Lord to come.

Your sister in the one faith, Jessie Holloman

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Osyka, Miss.—Dear saints:—Greetings of Christian love in Jesus' name. May the God of all peace bless you in every way in soul and body, and each one keep humble and submissive in every way and your hearts keep overflowing with that comforting love of God, is our prayer.

We are encouraged to live for the Lord. Praise the Lord forever. We are thankful to testify for the Lord today, that we have victory in our souls. Wife is better in body, for which we truly thank and praise God. We are expecting full and complete deliverance at any time. We have been thinking of late about these afflictions holding wife down so long. We know God can heal her and it does not matter how bad her condition is, in a moment of time. Why He hasn't, I do not know; but I know we need your earnest prayers that whatever the need is or the cause is for her staying bound down here in bed so long, or whatever help we need, that we will submit ourselves humbly to His will in every way, that He may glorify His holy name in bringing her out of the bed a well woman to live for Him in every way, and fulfill her calling. Truly, saints, we want to do all we do to the glory of our heavenly Father and be all He wants us to be. We do not want to be a stumbling block, but we want to be a stepping stone. We are willing to do anything the Lord wants us to do, and be anything for Him, for we love the Lord with all our heart. Pray for us. Your brother and sister in the way of the cross, Clyde and Wilma Lea

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La.—Dear workers,—I am encouraged today to press on. The way is brighter as I live on and on and consider that each trial and sickness is for our futherance in Christ, the one who suffered more than we will ever suffer; by whose stripes we are healed (not may be healed, but are)—a very definite promise from God. This is my testimony today even though I am not well in body. I have a rash almost all over my body, but I am trusting and expecting healing by God's mighty hand. Husband also is sick. He has heart trouble and it seems at times very bad, but God knows and he cares.

I cut the following prayer out of a paper several years ago and read it often. I always appreciate what God has done for me; in fact, I feel just as the prayer reads:

"Lord, it has been good to have lived this day. We are grateful for every breath and every heartbeat that have kept our minds stayed upon thee. You were evidenced everywhere. For every favor of hope and every touch of joy that has stirred our heart, we thank Thee. You put a light before our many sorrows, so that the shadows fell behind. You sanctioned our joys, and

you made us feel humble before the many wonders and enacted miracles before our very eyes. How could anyone question your goodness when your mercy is shown to the humblest? And now, Lord, give to us peace, as our eyes close on the events of another day. Rest our body, and recondition it anew to thy service, and at the break of dawn, if it is Thy will that we should know it, may it not be just another day, but another triumph earned through our faith in Thee."

He supplies our every need, and we both desire the prayers of God's saints. Sister Wiggins

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Mo.—Dear saints of God everywhere,—I feel like writing a few words for God and to the "Faith and Victory." I am glad that I am a child of God, and I am glad that my name is written in heaven and not on some church book down here. I am praising God that we do know which road we are on, the Bible is our guide. If we accept God and live the Bible way we will be counted in that number in heaven, but if we reject and live the ways of the world, we will live eternity in hell.

God's people are a separated people. Sanctified wholly is the state we have to be in before we can serve God the Bible way. We hear people say they are sanctified and have given their bodies a living sacrifice to God, but you see them out smoking, chewing, going to picture shows, carnivals, and other kinds of worldly places. Some one may say, "Brother, you have no right to judge." That is true, but according to Matt. 7:16 "Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns or figs of thistles?"

Brother and sister, we should live a separated life from the world and so close to God that we would not have to be asked if we were a Christian. Too many of our supposed brethren in Christ will dress just as worldly as the sinners. They will wear ankle-length socks and get right up in the amen corner with their legs crossed, thus showing their bare legs half way to their knees. Some wear those short sleeve shirts, others leave one or two of their top buttons unfastened on their regular dress shirts. Women will wear slacks, blue jeans, shorts, paint and curl their hair until when you meet one on the street she gives the appearance of belonging to a stage show. You may call me old fashioned or radical, but I am only in my middle thirties. So you see, according to years, I am not just serving the Lord in my last days. I am serving God because I love him, and I am writing to be of some help to some one along life's way. I hope you will read your Bible before you criticize this writing.

Listen, dear ones in Christ, if we love one another, we are going to tell one another of the things that we are doing or not doing that will keep us out of heaven. If you were passing by a neighbor's house and saw it on fire, would you say, "Well, if I tell him it will disturb or offend him," and just pass on by? No, indeed, you would not. The sooner you could contact him, the better you would feel. Why would you run in and disturb your neighbor? He might be sleeping, he might be eating or talking to someone on the phone. This is why: It is part of your duty in this life. You would not want to see him suffer the loss of his house, etc. But that is of the material things of this life. Listen, saints, there may be someone in your Sunday school class who has more at stake than a house in this world. Jesus told Peter, "When thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren." How about you? Have you been converted? Wake up, O sleeper! Let us work while it is yet day, for when the night cometh no man can work.

I do desire your prayers, for I want to go to heaven. Eternity is a long time, and I want to spend mine in heaven. Brother Jesse Stark.

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Okla.—Dear saints,—I am still saved and determined to go all the way with the Lord and mean to do more for him than ever before. There is no time to lose. Christ is getting his people ready for heaven and we need to wake up. The Lord began to bring things to my heart one evening, so I am writing them for a testimony.

Being free from sin you have your fruit unto holiness. He that is saved is free from sin. We don't have but a few days to suffer here, so let us see that we are truthful for the Lord. Let us do more spiritual work than temporal work this year, going from house to house talking about the goodness of Christ and having prayer. If we are faithful, Christ will look upon us and smile. Let us as saints stay close together and not side track but press on in the strait narrow way. Let us watch ourselves and be careful what we say and do. We need to die out to all of our ways and be filled with more of Christ each day. Let us seek for more of His love for our enemies as well as our friends, also for the saints of God. If we seek Christ and his ways His salvation will be a wall around us as we press toward heaven and we'll not slip. But we need to watch unto prayer.

I have been chased by Satan a long time. He had me afraid and when the word would go forth he would have me return again and again to the altar. This was because I did not have wisdom about the way he accuses. That seemed to be hard for me to understand; but I know that grieved the Lord and the saints, and I want to ask you to forgive me, and Him also. Pray that I may have wisdom from now on, and that when the Lord comes bursting through the clouds I will be found ready to go. I am trusting the Lord for both soul and body, and I mean to obey the Lord in all things. He has told us to speak not evil one of another. He said, "Come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest."

—Lizzie Jordan

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## The Seed Is the Word of God

"The good SEED is the Son of Man" Matt. 13:27.

"The SEED is the word of God" Luke 8:11; John 1:1, 14. Read Luke 8:4-16.

"And to thy SEED which is Christ" Gal. 3:16.

The SEED must be planted first before it will grow. John 12:24. "Ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart." Jer. 29:13. The heart is the place where God's word finds its resting place and brings forth fruit unto eternal life. John 17:3 and 6:63. God's word will grow in the heart like the grain that is sown. "First the blade, then the ear, after that the full corn in the ear" Mark 4:28. Bringing forth the fruit of the Spirit. Gal. 5:22, 23; 2 Peter 1:1-11; 1 Cor. 1:30.

Here are more scriptures that have to do with sowing and reaping: Psalms 126:5, 6; 2 Cor. 9:6-11; 1 Peter 1:23; 1 John 3:9; Gal. 6:7-10; Isa. 32:20.

Therefore to be crucified with Christ and to be dead indeed unto sin we should walk in newness of life and be alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord. Rom. 6th chapter; Gal. 6; Gal. 2:20.

The heavenly Father gave his Son; the Son gave his life; the Holy Spirit is working in us and through

us. A great cost has been paid for our redemption and all power in heaven and earth is at our call when we call upon God for things according to his will. It is his will that we pray that laborers be sent into the harvest field (Matt. 9:36-38). We are also told in Eccl. 11:6 to sow the SEED (tell of Jesus Christ who is the SEED), so let us be as obedient as Philip (Acts 8:29, 30) and sow the SEED and do as God directs us.

I am glad that someone was interested enough in me to shed tears in my behalf until the SEED was planted and even at the last is bearing precious fruit unto eternal life. May the above scriptures be a stimulation to you is my prayer. Charles H. Weir

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### Encouragement to the Aged

Cast me not off in the time of old age, forsake me not when my strength faileth. *Psa. 71:9.* It is a wonderful blessing from God to live to be numbered with the aged. "The hoary head is a crown of glory if it be found in the way of the righteous." *Prov. 16:31.* Time is filled with life's transition for everyone, beating hard upon their frail life gradually slowing the steps and consuming the strength of the youth. "Though the outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day." *2 Cor. 4:16.* Every servant of the Lord has a work to complete before the final end. There are conditions sometimes that cause the elderly ones to become discouraged because they cannot do as they did in former days. When their strength fails they bemoan their condition and sometimes become peevish and fretful. The enemy of all souls is ever present to take advantage of humanity's weakness spiritually or temporally. He is busy, therefore cast thy burden upon the Lord and he shall sustain thee. He shall never suffer the righteous to be moved. *Psa. 55:22.*

There is much for the aged to be engaged in to let their last days be their best days. The sick, the well, and shut-in can pray for lost souls. In Titus the second chapter Paul exhorts to be sober, patient, sound in faith, good behavior as becometh holiness, teachers of good things, etc.; that the young may follow such examples and the Lord be glorified. They shall still bring forth fruit in old age; they shall be fat and flourishing. *Psa. 92:14.* As you ripen in age the sweeter life will be. There is no life so beautiful and inspiring as an aged soldier of the cross of Christ who has faithfully followed his master through this short span of time to the end. "Be thou faithful unto death and I will give thee a crown of life." *Rev. 2:10.*

—Ella V. Phillips.

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### Does the Bible Contradict Itself?

Having been saved for more than thirty-five years and preaching the gospel of Christ practically all of that time, with much prayer and fasting, seeking God for enlightenment and understanding, I have found that God will so direct and enlighten by his Spirit that scriptures which at one time puzzled us will become clear and plain and there will be no contradictions.

Let us consider the statement that Jesus made when talking to Martha in John 11:26, "And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die." Then, Heb. 9:27 reads thus: "And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment." I have known men to take the first Scripture quoted in a literal sense and claim that they would never die, and hold to that regardless of the many Scriptures that teach us that man will die. We who are disciples of Christ should take the advice that Paul gave to the young minister Timothy, recorded in 2 Tim. 2:15: "Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." Any of us are likely to form opinions that would not harmonize with all the Word if it were properly understood; therefore we need to keep our minds and hearts open to the Spirit's teaching and be ready to accept the truth when he reveals it to us by his Spirit.

I met a man selling religious mottoes who took this first Scripture literally. He said that Jesus lied when he made that statement because "we see people dying all around us." The truth about the statement is that Jesus was speaking of the "heavenly life" in the soul of those that truly believe in the Lord, and that life will put on an immortal body at the resurrection day and live on with God in eternity. Read the latter part of 1 Cor. 15th chapter; also what Paul wrote in 1 Thess. and latter part of 4th chapter.

In Hebrews 9:27 the writer was speaking of physical death and the judgment that was coming. It is all clear and plain and no contradiction to those who are possessors of the true Spirit of God.

Another Scripture that is perplexing to some and not easy to be understood is found in John 9:31, which the man uttered whose eyes the Lord had healed and opened, saying, "Now we know that God heareth not sinners: but if any man be a worshipper of God, and doeth his will, him he heareth." Some seem to think that because this man who had just found Jesus uttered these words, that it applied to all classes of sinners. To believe his words in that light would make it contradict other plain Scriptures; for we read in the 18th chapter of Luke, beginning at the 10th verse of two men who went into the temple to pray, one a publican and the other a Pharisee. The Pharisee prayed with self-righteousness in his soul and regarded it as good to be that way. The publican would not so much as lift up his eyes, but smote on his breast and said, "God, be merciful to me a sinner." God heard the sinner's prayer, and said, "I tell you this man went down to his house justified, rather than the other." You can see by this that the blind man did not have a penitent sinner under consideration. His mind was on a different class of sinners, and knowing that his hearers understood him, it was needless for him to make any explanation. The Pharisee was in the class of sinners spoken of in Psalm 66:18: "If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me." The dictionary says that the word "regard" means to esteem, respect, or value. The Pharisee esteemed, respected, and valued his self righteousness, even boasted about it. God did not hear him. On

the other hand, the publican acknowledged he was a sinner and asked for mercy and God heard him, and he went down to his house justified.

In Romans 2:4 we are taught that the goodness of God leadeth men to repentance. God many times shows his goodness to sinners in giving them the desire of their hearts, which gets their attention and leads them on to repentance.

It is said that prayer is the sincere desire of the heart, uttered or unuttered.

I well remember when I was deep in sin and knew not how to pray or even whether there was a God or not. I was sick nigh unto death with severe pains in my body. I did not want to die. To me it was a leap in the dark. Down in my heart there came an unuttered prayer, as follows: "Lord, if you will get me out of here, I will try to do better." The Lord heard the prayer of my heart and definitely healed me. It was six or seven years after that before I got saved, but I did try to do better, and He revealed himself to me in different ways. I can truly say, "The goodness of God led me to repentance."

There is no doubt in my mind that many have a similar testimony, as I have heard them testify to these things.

Nicodemus said unto Jesus, "Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God: for no man can do these miracles that thou doest except God be with him." John 3:2. If we should take that Scripture and rigidly apply it to all miracles performed in the world today, we would have to believe contrary to the plain statements of Christ and also contrary to other parts of the holy Scriptures. Nicodemus was not in a spiritual condition to speak of those things in a universal sense. He did not understand how it was possible for one to be born again. No doubt, his seeing the miracles which Jesus did and the Spirit working with him caused him to believe in Christ and make that statement.

In Matt. 24:24 we read where Jesus says that false Christs and false prophets shall arise showing great signs and wonders. In Rev. 19:20, we read of the doom of the false prophet that wrought miracles. The statement is made that the beast and the false prophet were both cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone. In Rev. 16:13, 14 we read of three unclean spirits like frogs working, and they are designated, "spirits of devils working miracles," deceiving the people. These spirits are working in the world today and the multitude of religious people in the world are being deceived by them. Many people are being deceived today because they believe that all miracles performed are of God. God is doing miracles today for his despised few, but the false prophets are so numerous and appear in many deceivable ways that nearly all people are "regarding iniquity in their hearts" in one form or another and following after the multitude of false prophets and teachers. The sad part of it is that many that are following these false prophets claim to be holy as well as many of the false prophets themselves. They are having respect to the spirit of the world in their hearts. A great many of them who have become prey to the

fowl spirits have received a delusion because they had not a love for the truth and did not want to travel the crucified way with Christ. Their foolish hearts have become darkened and deluded as written in 2 Thess. 2:10-12. Brethren, let us resist the devil and all of his "lying vanities" (Jonah 2:8) and keep a love in our hearts for the crucified and self-denying way. If you receive a delusion you will go right on claiming to be the Lord's and Satan will play "god" to you. You will no doubt get healing and other wonders right along as though you were worshiping the true God. All such things go right along with a delusion.

Read what Paul says about Satan in 2 Cor. 11:13-15. You could easily become one of Satan's ministers if you should begin to love the world, want position and honor and to be esteemed highly by the religious world, desiring filthy lucre, not wanting to be different from or absolutely separate from the harlot daughters of Babylon that make up nearly all religions of today. Let us keep loving the self-denying and crucified way and even rejoice in it for Jesus' sake, and the light that is in us will not become darkness. Sanctified folks get into these delusions because they allow the enemy to put wrong thoughts into their minds, thoughts of how they can have more money, more honor and respect from other religious bodies and suffer less reproach. When these thoughts are allowed to linger and hang around in the mind, they will in time get down into the heart and defile and darken your vision of real truth and then you become a prey to some fowl religious spirit and the delusion is accomplished by Satan and you love to have it so.

You may claim to have new light and actually feel greatly favored of God. The devil deceives people by feelings. "The just shall walk by faith." Many a soul allows Satan to reason them astray when he gets them to go by feelings. One should stand firmly on the whole word of God and not be swayed this way or that way by feelings. Crucify your feelings of any worldly trend and bring or keep your soul in harmony with the plain written word. Bear the cross and wear a crown in eternity that fadeth not away.—Fred Pruitt

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## Grace Of God

The grace of God is the divine favor of God bestowed upon the world.

"For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, teaching us that denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world." Tit. 2. 11, 12. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." Jno. 3:16.

Paul said the grace of God bestowed upon him was not in vain, for he made use of it by doing the things God commanded him to do. 1 Cor. 15:10. And he confessed, "By the grace of God I am what I am." And again, "I am crucified with Christ, nevertheless I live, yet not I but Christ liveth in me." Gal. 2:20.

Some receive the grace of God in vain, or believe in vain. 1 Cor. 15:2.

Paul said, "Brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received and wherein ye stand; by which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain." 1 Cor. 15:2.

"By grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God." Eph. 2:8.

Paul and Barnabas persuaded their followers to continue in the grace of God (Acts 13:34), and in Acts 14:22, we find him confirming the souls of the disciples and exhorting them to continue in the faith: and that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God.

Jesus tells us in his parable (Matt. 13:21) that because of tribulation or when persecution ariseth because of the Word, by and by he (the believer) is offended. And again he tells us, referring to the last days that many shall be offended: and because iniquity shall abound the love of many shall wax cold. Matt. 24:10, 12.

Precious saints of God, gird up the loins of your mind; be sober and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ, 1 Peter 1:13, our reward and glorification.

Let us watch and pray and take heed lest we fall, and so shall have received the grace of God in vain.

—Mrs. Frank Brant

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## Was the Devil Ever in Heaven?

(Continued from April Issue)

We shall look this month into the 12th chapter of Revelation. We shall not be able to cover all of the important points in this chapter in the space allotted to us, but will go as far as we can here and present the remaining remarks on this chapter in the next issue, Lord willing.

This chapter deals with two wonders which appeared in heaven—one a woman clothed with the sun, the moon under her feet and upon her head a crown of twelve stars and ready to be delivered of a child; the other a great red dragon having seven heads and ten horns and a tail which drew the third part of the stars of heaven—and also with the war in heaven.

Now there are some things mentioned here which make it very clear that the heaven referred to here is not the heaven which is the eternal abode of God, and that it has no reference to the devil being cast out of this heaven.

In the first place, this dragon was in the same place where the woman was, for it is said that he stood before the woman to devour her child as soon as it was born—verse 4. This woman was in pain—verse 2. Do we suppose we shall be enduring hardships, trials, persecutions, and suffering pain in heaven? I do not.

Then it says in verse 5 that she brought forth a child and her child was caught up to God and to his throne. Could she be in heaven where God was, and still her child be caught UP to God and his throne? Is God still on above heaven somewhere so that the child would be caught UP above heaven to Him? I say, NO!

Verse 6 says the woman fled into the wilderness. Is there any wilderness in heaven where God is? The Bible does not describe it that way, but rather as a place of exquisite beauty, richness, grandeur, glory, etc.

Verse 11 says: "They overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto death."

This makes it perfectly clear what kind of a war it was (spiritual) and where it was by the weapons which were used. They overcame him by the blood of the Lamb. But the blood of the Lamb (Christ) was not shed in heaven. It was shed on the earth. Again it was the blood of the Lamb through which they overcame, therefore this could not possibly refer to the devil being cast out of God's heaven because the blood of the Lamb was not shed for thousands of years after the devil is known to have been working in this earth. Therefore if we were to concede that the devil was ever in heaven and was cast out, we would have to exclude this scripture as any proof of it because they could not have used the blood of the Lamb as a weapon against him away back there when it had not been shed.

It is also said that they overcame him by the word of their testimony. But it is here in this world that God's people testify to the saving grace of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Then it is said that they loved not their lives unto death. Heaven is a spirit world. God is a spirit—John 4:24. "And of the angels he saith, Who maketh his angels spirits." Heb. 1:7. We see then that God is a spirit and his angels who dwell with him in heaven are spirits and we know that spirits cannot die. But this is talking about people who could die, and, in fact, many of them did die.

Verse 13 says: "And when the dragon saw that he was cast out unto the earth, he persecuted the woman which brought forth the man child." Now there is nothing at all mentioned in the entire chapter about the woman being cast out of heaven to the earth. Then how could the dragon persecute her after he was cast out into the earth if she were still in heaven? Remember, the dragon was in the same heaven where the woman was. Then if he could be cast out of heaven to the earth and still have access to the woman to persecute her and her still in heaven, we would be making heaven a very uncomfortable place to be in yet.

The fact is, all of this took place right here in the earth and the term heaven refers to the ecclesiastical, spiritual, or religious heaven, which is among the people right here on earth.

Further, to substantiate any such argument that this chapter refers to the devil being cast out of heaven, one would have to prove that the devil had such a physical form as a great red dragon with seven heads and ten horns and a tail long enough to draw stars out of heaven. This cannot be done, because we have no knowledge of the devil having any kind of a physical form any more than we do of God having a physical form, but we do have knowledge that both of them are spirits.



Again in Rev. 13:2 we see that the dragon gave his power and seat and authority over to another, a beast which rose up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, etc. Now if this dragon is the devil himself, I would like to know when and where the devil ever gave his power and seat over to another, and to whom. The fact is that this dragon was not the devil himself, but both the dragon of Rev. 12 and the beast of Rev. 13 were agents, instruments, or systems (religious systems) through which the devil operated and carried on his work.

But some may object that the scripture says it was the devil—Rev. 12:9. This verse says: "And the great DRAGON was cast out, that old serpent CALLED the devil, and Satan . . ." It says here the dragon was CALLED the devil and Satan.

It could properly be called the devil because it was the principal system through which the devil was operating at that time. It was a devil-dominated system of religion. Paul says in 1 Cor. 10:20, "But I say, that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice, they sacrifice to devils . . ." We see then that the devil actually had a system of religion and at least some worshippers who sacrificed to him. Therefore he is spoken of here, or rather his religious system through which he was operating, is spoken of as being in heaven (ecclesiastical or religious heaven) because that in the hearts of the Gentile idol worshipers whom he had deceived he was exalted to the place of God and worshipped and sacrificed to instead of the true God.

Now we have brought forth several clear points here showing what this is not. But we would not be fair to the inquirer after truth to just tell him what it was not and leave him hanging out in mid-air, not knowing just what is meant by these things, so we shall now bring forth the truth that is taught in the 12th chapter of Revelation in connection with other scriptures.

Now if we just forget the first wonder that appeared in heaven in the first verse of this chapter (the woman clothed with the sun, etc.) and only consider the second wonder which is spoken of in verse 3 (the great red dragon) we shall, no doubt, be thrown off the proper course of thought and stray from the truth. But we find that this woman is mentioned throughout the entire chapter as the object of the dragon's wrath and persecution. Therefore we cannot leave her out of the picture at all, and to carry her along in connection with the activities of the dragon will help us to understand just what is being taught here and where and when it all took place.

The language here is highly symbolical as it is throughout the entire book of Revelation.

With these thoughts in mind, we will first establish the identity of the woman referred to in the first verse.

"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."

This woman was in a very exalted place, and the brightest luminaries of heaven were assembled around her. This is a picture of the New Testament church which was built by Christ himself (Matt. 16:18) in all

of her pristine glory and splendor.

But perhaps you may require other scriptures in connection with this to justify this interpretation of this scripture. We shall give them.

Rev. 19:7, 8, "Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready. And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints." Here we see that the Lamb (Christ) has a wife and that her splendid apparel is the righteousness of SAINTS, which compose his church on earth.

Rev. 21:9, 10 makes it even more clear. "And there came unto me one of the seven angels which had the seven vials full of the seven last plagues, and talked with me, saying, Come hither, I will shew thee the bride, the Lamb's wife. And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and shewed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God"—the following verses then proceed to give a detailed description of this city in highly symbolical language. This scripture does not only tell us that the Lamb has a wife, but also tells us who she is—"That great city, the holy Jerusalem."

Turning to Hebrews 12:22, 23 we find a further identification of this city: "But ye are come unto mount Sion, and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels, to the general assembly and CHURCH of the firstborn, . . ." This definitely identifies the city of God (Heavenly Jerusalem) as the CHURCH of the firstborn. Therefore it is definitely established from these scriptures that the wife of the Lamb (Christ) is his church and therefore she is symbolized by a woman in this exalted position.

This is further taught in the scriptures by plain comparison in Eph. 5:25-32. And again in 2 Cor. 11:2 Paul is speaking to the church at Corinth, and says, "I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ." This refers to the bond and spiritual relationship between saved people and Christ, the heavenly bridegroom of their souls.

Romans 7:4 is another scripture along this line. "Wherefore, my brethren, ye also are become dead to the law by the body of Christ; that ye should be married to another, even to him who is raised from the dead, that we should bring forth fruit unto God."

But so much for that. We could go on multiplying texts at considerable length along this line, but it is not necessary. Surely it must be clear to everyone that the New Testament church which Jesus built is his bride and is properly represented by a pure woman such as is pictured in Rev. 12.

The sun is the brightest luminary of heaven. Then it would properly symbolize the brightest luminary of the spiritual heaven, which is the SUN of Righteousness, Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. This woman is said to be clothed with the sun, and surely the graces and virtues of the Son of God is the apparel and adornment of the church of God in the earth.

She puts on the Lord Jesus Christ—Rom. 13:14,

She puts on the NEW MAN which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him—Col. 3:10.

She is arrayed in fine linen, the Righteousness of Saints—Rev. 19:8.

She is changed into the same image or likeness of Christ by the Spirit of the Lord—2 Cor. 3:18.

Oh, what is the glorious and high situation of those who are redeemed by the blood of the Lamb, which compose his church in the earth?

A crown of twelve stars was upon this woman's head. She was exalted and crowned a queen. Her husband was the King of kings and Lord of lords (Christ) and she is exalted to the position of queen reigning by his side through his power over all the powers of evil and Satan right here in the earth.

As has already been observed in these comments, stars symbolize ministers, and, perhaps, the twelve stars in the woman's crown refer to the twelve apostles of Christ who were her first ministers and were co-workers with Christ himself in establishing her in truth in the earth.

The moon was under her feet. The moon has no light of its own, but reflects the light of the sun. This is a proper symbolizing of the law and prophet age above which the church had just risen to receive the grace and truth which was brought by Christ himself. The law with its various rituals and sacrifices and mode of worship typified Christ and the prophets prophesied of Him. In reality, all the light that the law and prophet age had was that which was reflected upon it by the Christ, the Sun of Righteousness, who was to come.

This woman (the church) was travailing in birth and pained to be delivered of a child. This properly symbolizes the earnestness and zeal with which the early church labored and sacrificed all to win souls for Christ. And she brought forth a man child. This man child properly represents the multitude of souls who were brought to Christ, born again, in the early church—there were three thousand in one day on the day of Pentecost and soon afterward we read of 5,000, etc. Some may question how a man child could represent such a multitude, but this is no mystery when we understand what the saving grace of God does for people and that those who are saved are of "one heart and one soul"—Acts 4:32; and that the whole church is the "body of Christ"—Eph. 1:22, 23 and Col. 1:18; and there is ONE BODY—Eph. 4:4, 1 Cor. 12:13, and Rom. 12:5. Further in Eph. 2:13-15 we find that the entire multitude of saved people composed of both Jews and Gentiles who have been brought together in Christ are referred to as "ONE NEW MAN."

Now at this point when the woman was bringing forth this man child (multitude of believers) the dragon appears and goes into action—he stood before the woman to devour her child as soon as it was born.

If God permits us to continue this discussion in the next issue of this paper, we will bring out the identity of the dragon and comment on the various symbols pertaining to him. (To be continued)

—Ostis B. Wilson

## The Value of a Soul

### Do You Know the Value of Yours?

"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?" Mark 8:36, 37. "And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life and he became a living soul." Gen. 2:7.

Man is a two-fold being. The soul is the spiritual, rational, immortal part in man whether he be righteous or unrighteous. The soul will always exist in this time world and in eternity. "Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was, and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it." Eccl. 12:7. Since the fall of man, his natural state of mind is unable to value the soul. There is a great value being put upon this temple of clay. It is very evident that more time, means, and energy are consumed for the body, that part that will decay, than that part that will live on. Various scientific methods and inventions are in existence to preserve and care for the body that life might be prolonged. Many insure this mortal life.

What is the value of the soul?

The whole world would mean nothing in valuation for it. No earthly substance can buy the spiritual. All is perishable. Many today are going here and there trying to find rest. They conduct themselves in such a beastly spirit as though they had no feeling and no soul, and even as if they did not like to retain God in their knowledge. God gave them over to a reprobate mind to do those things which are not convenient, etc. Rom. 1:28-32. Some will even take their own lives thinking that will be the end. Sad! Real torment has just begun. "Behold, all souls are mine: as the soul of the father, so also the soul of the son is mine, the soul that sinneth, it shall die." Ezek. 18:4. Only those whose souls have been quickened by the Holy Spirit are able to comprehend the value of their souls. Take warning, lost souls, do not exchange your only soul for the fleeting pleasures of the world. They appear fascinating to the eye and appeal to flesh, but woe is the end.

Think of your soul. "Incline your ear and come unto me, hear and your soul shall live, and I will make an everlasting covenant with you, even the sure mercies of David." Isa. 55:3.

The devil is on every corner bidding for the souls of the young. Awake, awake, all mankind, ye who have been bought by the precious blood of Jesus Christ, keep your all on the altar for service. Think of those in the home and under observation as you go and come. Pray the Lord to burden the saints, yes, the Christian for lost souls, peradventure a few might be snatched as a brand from the burning.

—Ella V. Phillips.

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Remember the Dates—Plan to Attend the  
1950 NATIONAL CAMPMEETING  
Neosho (Monark Springs), Missouri  
July 21st to 30th incl.  
Ministers Meeting—July 31 and Aug. 1st

# Young People's Section

## He Tasted Death

"He tasted death." For what? for whom?  
He took on him the sinners' doom.  
How kind the purpose, wide the plan,  
"He tasted death for every man."  
God's love includes in its embrace  
All fallen sons of Adam's race.  
Repent; believe; without a doubt,  
You'll find you're in and not left out.

—Charles E. Dunn

## Looking Unto Jesus

"Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith." Heb. 12:2.

There lived in the state of California a little girl, whom we shall call Alice, who was practicing her piano lesson. She asked a lady to help her as she was having difficulty. As the lady watched Alice, she noticed her making the same mistake time after time. She would show Alice how the note should be played and Alice would try again, usually to make the same mistake again. Then the lady watched the little girl try to discover why the same mistake was repeated. Then she understood. Instead of looking at the music before her, Alice constantly watched her hands as she played.

The lady suggested to Alice that she look at the music. When she did, she was able to play correctly.

In this incident there is a very helpful lesson. To make a success in living a Christian life, we need to keep our eyes on the pattern, Jesus. Let us remember again the words in Hebrews, "Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him, endured the cross."

One time Jehoshaphat, king of Judah, was in trouble. A combined army of three nations was coming against Judah. The people of Judah fasted and gathered together to pray. Jehoshaphat prayed, and toward the end of his prayer, said, "Oh our God, wilt thou not judge them? for we have no might against this great company that cometh against us; neither know we what to do. But our eyes are upon thee." 2 Chron. 20:12. Then God sent a prophet to tell Jehoshaphat that he would give them the victory. They went forth the next day singing praises to God, and God wrought a great victory for them. Judah did not even have to fight. Surely it paid them to keep their eyes on God.

Isaiah said, "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on thee because he trusteth in thee." Isa. 26:3.

May the Lord truly help us to keep our eyes on him.  
Fern Stubblefield.

Calif.—Greetings to the Saints of God. Tonight finds me saved, satisfied and yet encouraged to go on for the dear Lord, having no other desire but to please him on all lines. My heart is much encouraged to press my way on for the Lord, although sometimes tests and trials get so hard it seems I can hardly bear them but the Lord always blesses me.

We are surely having good meetings here. Seems like better than ever before. We too are really having good young people's meetings. There are a great number of young people here that are striving to please the Lord. We have our young people's meeting every Friday night. The attendance most of the time is from 50 to 75, which is very encouraging. We desire the saints everywhere to pray for us young people here that the Lord will continue to bless, help, and save souls. If anyone is passing through or around Bakersfield we would be glad for them to stop and be with us at anytime.

Pray much for me that I keep saved and down at the feet of Jesus where he can use me at all times.

Hazel Blackwell.

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Okla.—Greetings to the young people—I am encouraged in the way of the Lord, and enjoy his blessings. Each day in His service is precious, and I desire to be found growing deeper in His love. I feel that the Lord would be glorified in my telling how he so wonderfully healed me of ptomaine poison. Often my soul is strengthened by reading the experiences of others and knowing the Lord is still blessing and keeping those who trust Him. I think often of the scripture in Psalm 103:2, "Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits."

On the morning of Feb. 22 I began to feel sick and started vomiting about 9:30. Within an hour I was suffering with much pain. The muscles in my body were cramping and the pains in my head were becoming more severe. I realized I would not last long in that condition without the Lord's help. The saints agreed in prayer, and while they were yet praying the Lord calmed my nerves and gave me the assurance that he would touch my body. I received some comfort, but suffered much from the poison yet in my system. I was so happy to know how to put my confidence in the Lord. My soul was rejoicing, and I wanted to be anointed. After I was anointed and prayed for again, I felt the Lord reach down with his soothing hand and give me a definite healing touch and I knew that he was with me. Had I depended on man in this time of need, I am confident that I would not be among the living today. I continued vomiting often until 3.00 o'clock in the afternoon. My strength was exhausted, and when I would try to relax a severe cramping would start in my feet and go through my entire body, causing my neck, limbs, and back to be drawn. At times it was seemingly more than I could bear, but I was standing on the promise the Lord gave me, and the saints were still praying. This soon left me and I rested for several hours. I was feeling much better and thought I could walk to my room alone, but found that I was very weak—within those few hours I had lost eight pounds of weight. We kept looking to the Lord for strength so I would be able to return to work the next morning. This verse of song came to my mind: "Trust in my grace and you shall be strong; come closer my child to me."

The following morning I had a severe headache and could be up only a few minutes. It was evident that the Lord had healed me and I just felt that he wanted me to walk by faith and not by feelings. After morning worship I felt strength being added and the headache was gone. I received strength to work from that day on; however, for seven days I was not able to eat solid foods of any kind. The inner lining of my stomach was eaten out by the poison and for 35 days I was not able to eat freely and say that I did not suffer some from the food. Some inward parts of my body seemed paralyzed. But I am happy in testifying that the Lord has completely healed me. I have gained strength in both soul and body.

I thank the Lord for this experience—it has increased my faith and made me to realize more how our life is in His hand. My desire is to freely yield my time to his service. My encouragement to the young people is to ever be true. The Lord's way is precious and will always prove to be the best way.

In Christian love, Dora Lela Sorrell

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### REPORT OF THE EASTER SUNDAY MEETING

The advertised Easter Sunday meeting on April 9th at Guthrie, Okla. was greatly blessed of God. Although the morning was not so promising for a nice clear day and it did cloud up and stormed some, yet the weather cleared up and the day was fairly good.

The saints came in from different places and some from other states. The meeting house proper was soon filled up and it was necessary to open the Sunday school rooms to accommodate the crowd that gathered. We greatly appreciated those who came to be with the Guthrie saints on this day. As the songs of Zion floated out upon the air and saints raised their voices in praise to God, making melody in their hearts to Him who is worthy of all praise, our souls were full of adoration to Him who rules the universe. The morning message, brought forth by his inspired servant Bro. Ulysses Phillips was encouraging to all the saints and the Spirit of God working and enlightening souls made it a feasting time. The saints were raised up together and made to sit together in a heavenly place as a habitation of God through the Spirit. Praise his dear name!

The sisters had prepared refreshments for the body and at the noon hour all retired to the dining hall where the dinner was spread out for all present.

The ordinances of the Bible, Feet Washing and the Lord's Supper, were observed in the afternoon. This was another precious service for the saints who love to obey all the word. Jesus said in John 13:17, "If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them." Verse 14: "If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another's feet." Ought means "duty bound."

Speaking of partaking of the bread and wine, Paul said in 1 Cor. 11:25, "This do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me." (of Christ). "For as oft as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come." It is certainly a sacred and blessed service and our minds are carried back to the sufferings of Christ and the precious blood that was poured out on the cross to redeem our souls back to God the Father and to make us one with Him. Let the saints everywhere remember what manner of folks they are and know that they have not been redeemed with corruptible things as silver and gold, but by the precious blood of Christ, a Lamb, an innocent One, who willingly gave his life a ransom for our souls. Glory be to God forever, who gave his only begotten Son that we might have eternal life.

If you desire to work for the Lord, send for a roll of papers to give out to friends and neighbors. The Lord has no idlers in His vineyard.

Roll of 5 "Faith and Victory" papers, one year .....	\$1.00
12 papers each month, one year .....	2.00
25 papers each month, one year .....	4.00
50 papers each month, one year .....	7.50
100 papers each month, one year .....	14.00

## BIBLE STUDY

Primary Picture Roll, \$1.15; Lesson Cards 6¢ per set. "The Beautiful Way," which contains comments for the International Sunday school lessons, suitable for different ages of children, 15¢ a quarter for single subscriptions, 10¢ per set in quantities of five or more to one address.

### HOSEA, THE MAN AND HIS MESSAGE

May 7, 1950

Printed Portion.....Hosea 4:1-9; 6:1-3; 10:12, 13.

Hosea 4:1. Hear the word of the Lord, ye children of Israel: for the Lord hath a controversy with the inhabitants of the land, because there is no truth, nor mercy, nor knowledge of God in the land.

2. By swearing, and lying, and killing, and stealing, and committing adultery, they break out, and blood toucheth blood.

3. Therefore shall the land mourn, and every one that dwelleth therein shall languish, with the beasts of the field, and with the fowls of heaven; yea, the fishes of the sea also shall be taken away.

4. Yet let no man strive, nor reprove another: for thy people are as they that strive with the priest.

5. Therefore shalt thou fall in the day, and the prophet also shall fall with thee in the night, and I will destroy thy mother.

6. My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge, because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children.

7. As they were increased, so they sinned against me: therefore will I change their glory into shame.

8. They eat up the sin of my people, and they set their heart on their iniquity.

9. And there shall be, like people, like priest: and I will punish them for their ways, and reward them their doings.

6:1. Come and let us return unto the Lord: for he hath torn, and he will heal us; he hath smitten, and he will bind us up.

2. After two days will he revive us: in the third day he will raise us up, and we shall live in his sight.

3. Then shall we know, if we follow on to know the Lord: his going forth is prepared as the morning; and he shall come unto us as the rain, as the latter and former rain unto the earth.

10:12. Sow to yourselves in righteousness, reap in mercy; break up your fallow ground: for it is time to seek the LORD, till he come and rain righteousness upon you.

13. Ye have plowed wickedness, ye have reaped iniquity; ye have eaten the fruit of lies: because thou didst trust in thy way, in the multitude of thy mighty men.

**Memory Verse:** And there shall be like people, like priest: and I will punish them for their ways, and reward them (according) their doings. Hosea 4:9.

**Practical Truth:** If we live to please God while we are here on this earth then we will live with him forever.

#### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

When God sends a message he must have a man to carry it. It takes much courage to deliver a message such as Hosea had in the written portion of today's lesson. The children of Israel were guilty of many sins and God sent his prophet to warn them as to what would happen to them unless they would repent and turn away from the terrible sins they were guilty of.

God is now and always has been long suffering toward those who sin against him and he is always ready to forgive if they will repent, turn away from and leave off their sinning. Their sins were very grievous to God and he told them it was for the lack of knowledge that they were committing these sins and were so wicked.

In the message God gave Hosea he said, my people are destroyed for lack of knowledge, you have forgotten the law of thy God, he also will forget thy children. As God prospered them and increased them, so much more they sinned against him. God has placed a big responsibility on his ministers, his message bearers. If God's ministers hold the high Bible standard up before the church then they will live according to his preaching. If the preacher lowers the standard, then his flock will fall into sin and God's great loving heart will be grieved.

#### HOSEA REVEALS GOD'S FORGIVING LOVE

May 14, 1950

Printed Portion ..... Hosea 11:1-4, 8-11; 14:4-9.

Hosea 11:1. When Israel was a child, then I loved him, and called my son out of Egypt.

2. As they called them, so they went from them: they sacrificed unto Baalim, and burned incense to graven images.

3. I taught Ephraim also to go, taking them by their arms; but they knew not that I healed them.

4. I drew them with cords of a man, with bands of love: and I was to them as they that take off the yoke on their jaws, and I laid meat unto them.

8. How shall I give thee up, Ephraim? how shall I deliver thee, Israel? how shall I make thee as Admah? how shall I set thee as Zebolim? mine heart is turned within me, my repentings are kindled together.

9. I will not execute the fierceness of mine anger, I will not return to destroy Ephraim: for I am God, and not man; the Holy One in the midst of thee: and I will not enter into the city.

10. They shall walk after the LORD: he shall roar like a lion: when he shall roar, then the children shall tremble from the west.

11. They shall tremble as a bird out of Egypt, and as a dove out of the land of Assyria: and I will place them in their houses, saith the LORD.

14:4. I will heal their backsliding, I will love them freely: for mine anger is turned away from him.

5. I will be as the dew unto Israel: he shall grow as the lily, and cast forth his roots as Lebanon.

6. His branches shall spread, and his beauty shall be as the olive tree, and his smell as Lebanon.

7. They that dwell under his shadow shall return; they shall revive as the corn, and grow as the vine: the scent thereof shall be as the wine of Lebanon.

8. Ephraim shall say, What have I to do anymore with idols? I have heard him, and observed him: I am like a green fir tree. From me is thy fruit found.

9. Who is wise, and he shall understand these things? prudent, and he shall know them? for the ways of the Lord are right, and the just shall walk in them: but the transgressors shall fall therein.

**Memory Verse:** Let the wicked forsake his way and the unrighteous man his thoughts, and let him return unto the Lord and he will have mercy upon him and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. Isa. 55:7.

**Practical Truth:** If we would make heaven our eternal home we must get rid of all malice and bitterness and have a forgiving heart.

#### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

The sweetest words that were ever spoken to a penitent sinner from our loving Lord are: thy sins which are many are forgiven thee. We think of the many times our loving Lord has forgiven poor sinners. Our debt was too heavy for us as we had nothing to pay with, then Jesus saw our helpless condition and took our sins upon himself and suffered for them and let us go free.

We may well be glad that our Lord has a loving, compassionate heart and he is always ready to forgive when we come to him with a broken heart and a contrite spirit. God has said, to this man will I look even to him that is poor and of a contrite spirit and trembleth at my word. God is always ready to forgive when we come to him in the right manner. It is not his will that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance and we too, if we would be forgiven must have a forgiving spirit. Our hearts are always light when we know that God's great loving heart is touched and he for Christ's sake hath forgiven us.

Our loving Lord Jesus set us an example that we should follow in his steps. Be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.

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#### MICAH'S PLEA FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

May 21, 1950

Printed Portion ..... Micah 1:1; 2:1, 2; 3:5-12; 6:6-8.

Micah 1:1. The word of the Lord that came to Micah the Morasthite in the days of Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah, which he saw concerning Samaria and Jerusalem.

2:1. Woe to them that devise iniquity, and work evil upon their beds! when the morning is light, they practise it, because it is in the power of their hand.

2. And they covet fields, and take them by violence; and houses, and take them away: so they oppress a man and his house, even a man and his heritage.

3:5. Thus saith the Lord concerning the prophets that make my people err, that bite with their teeth, and cry, Peace; and he that putteth not into their mouths, they even prepare war against him.

6. Therefore night shall be unto you, that ye shall not have a vision; and it shall be dark unto you, that ye shall not divine; and the sun shall go down over the prophets, and the day shall be dark over them.

7. Then shall the seers be ashamed, and the diviners confounded: yea, they shall all cover their lips; for there is no answer of God.

8. But truly I am full of power by the spirit of the Lord, and of judgment, and of might, to declare unto

Jacob his transgression, and to Israel his sin.

9. Hear this, I pray you, ye heads of the house of Jacob, and princes of the house of Israel, that abhor judgment, and pervert all equity.

10. They build up Zion with blood, and Jerusalem with iniquity.

11. The heads thereof judge for reward, and the priests thereof teach for hire, and the prophets thereof divine for money: yet will they lean upon the LORD and say, Is not the Lord among us? none evil can come upon us.

12. Therefore shall Zion for your sake be plowed as a field, and Jerusalem shall become heaps, and the mountain of the house as the high places of the forest.

6:6. Wherewith shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before the high God? shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves of a year old?

7. Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, or with ten thousands of rivers of oil? shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?

8. He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?

Memory Verse: Blessed are they that do his commandments that they may have right to the tree of life and may enter in through the gates into the city. Rev. 22:14.

Practical Truth: God gives his people richly all things to enjoy and we have a perfect right to the good things God has for his obedient children.

#### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Every human being has the right to know the truth. God has called ministers to preach the truth to the people and a few of them have been faithful and they preach the WORD as Paul commanded Timothy to do. But many who may have been called to preach have failed to declare all the counsel of God and in so doing they have left the people in the dark. These ministers who fail to declare all the counsel of God have led their hearers out of the right way and then make them believe they are right. The Bible says, there is a way which seemeth right to a man but the end thereof is the way of death. Be not deceived, God is not mocked for whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap.

God has warned us all through the Bible against false prophets which come to us in sheeps clothing but inwardly, he says they are ravening wolves. None of those who are lost in the end can blame God for he has faithfully warned them against that which would hinder them from entering in through the gates into the city. If we poor human beings will read and study God's holy word, live by it and claim our rights to a clean Christian life we will not be disappointed in the end.

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#### MICAH'S HOPE OF GOD'S SALVATION

May 28, 1950

Printed Portion.....Micah 4:1-5; 5:2-4; 7:18-20.

Micah 4:1. But in the last days it shall come to pass, that the mountain of the house of the Lord shall be established in the top of the mountains, and it shall be exalted above the hills; and people shall flow unto it.

2. And many nations shall come, and say, Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, and to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways;

and we will walk in his paths: for the law shall go forth of Zion, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

3. And he shall judge among many people, and rebuke strong nations afar off; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

4. But they shall sit every man under his vine and under his fig tree; and none shall make them afraid: for the mouth of the Lord of hosts hath spoken it.

5. For all people will walk every one in the name of his god, and we will walk in the name of the Lord our God for ever and ever.

5:2. But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from old, from everlasting.

3. Therefore will he give them up, until the time that she which travaileth hath brought forth: then the remnant of his brethren shall return unto the children of Israel.

4. And he shall stand and feed in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God; and they shall abide: for now shall he be great unto the ends of the earth.

7:18. Who is a God like unto thee, that pardoneth iniquity, and passeth by the transgression of the remnant of his heritage? he retaineth not his anger for ever, because he delighteth in mercy.

19. He will turn again, he will have compassion upon us; he will subdue our iniquities; and thou wilt cast all their sins into the depths of the sea.

20. Thou wilt perform the truth to Jacob, and the mercy to Abraham, which thou hast sworn unto our fathers from the days of old.

Memory Verse: And hope maketh not ashamed: because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us. Rom. 5:5.

Practical Truth: This good salvation which we enjoy so much is the fulfillment of Micah's prophecy.

#### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

In the written portion of the lesson today we see Micah the prophet with his keen vision looking down through seven hundred years that was between him and the coming of Christ and his church which he would build. He said, But in the last days it shall come to pass, then he portrays the church as the mountain of the Lord's house and this was his hope of salvation, for there is no salvation outside the true Church, or true tabernacle which the Lord built and not man.

Long before Christ came God's true people embraced the promises of God and believed his word and it was counted unto them for righteousness, so Micah had hope of God's salvation. Hope is the desire of good accompanied by expectation. To expect with confidence.

Micah also foresaw the coming of the messiah and foretold us where he would be born. It was to be in the little town of Bethlehem. That is where Christ was born. Isaiah also prophesied with perfect accuracy that Christ would be born of a virgin and we have all heard of Mary and the Christ child that was born in a stable with a manger for his bed. Of course we understand that only through Christ can we have salvation. Jesus built his church so we, his true people could have a home here on earth until he gets ready to take us to our eternal home. Every one in the true church of God has salvation which was Micah's hope.