

FAITH^{AND}VICTORY

The EVENING LIGHT WATCHMAN



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LIVING WATER

From the little town of Sychar
Out to father Jacob's well,
Came a woman to draw water;
But her name I can not tell.

There she saw a man named Jesus,
Though at first she knew him not.
In her mind no doubt were queries
As she held her water pot.

"Give me to drink," said the Master—
She discerned he was a Jew;
Why asketh thou me for water?
I have naught to do with you.

If thou knewest who is speaking,
(For I have no racial strife),
Thou wouldst ask for living water,
And receive eternal life.

Then you would never thirst again,
Neither would you need to draw;
But the water would be in you
With a supernatural flow.

Said she, "Sir, give me this water,"—
O, how quick she changed her thought,
When she had talked a while with Jesus—
Then she left her water pot.

She must go and tell to others
She had found the true Messiah,
If you drink the living water,
That will be your heart's desire.

It will change your entire nature,
Form, and make you all anew—
O, just drink from this pure fountain,
It will cleanse you through and through

Then your thirst for worldly pleasure
Will be gone, and you can say,
Praise the Lord for living water,
All my sins are washed away!

—Ulysses Phillips

The End of Life

The end of life is not to do good, although so many of us think so. It is not to win souls—although I once thought so. The end of life is—to do the will of God. That may be in the line of doing good or winning souls, or it may not. For the individual, the answer to the question, "What is the end of my life?" is "To do the will of God, whatever that may be." Spurgeon replied to an invitation to preach to an exceptionally large audience, "I have no ambition to preach to 10,000 people, but to do the will of God"—and he declined. If we could have no ambition past the will of God, our lives would be successful. If we could say, "I have no ambition to go to the heathen, I have no ambition to win souls; my ambition is to do the will of God, whatever that may be," that makes all lives equally great, or equally small, because the only great thing in life is what of God's will there is in it. The maximum achievement of any man's life, after it is all over, is to have done the will of God.

No man or woman can have done any more with life—no Luther, no Spurgeon, no Wesley, no Melancthon can have done any more with their lives; and a dairymaid can do as much. Therefore, the supreme principle upon which we have to run our lives is to adhere, through good report and ill, through temptation, and prosperity and adversity, to the will of God, wherever that may lead us. It may take you to China or you who are going to Africa may have to stay where you are; you who are going to be an evangelist may have to go into business, and you who are going into business may have to become an evangelist. But there is no happiness or success in any life till the principle is taken possession of. And the highest service is first, moment by moment, to be in the will of God. It may be to work or to wait, to stand fast or to lay still. 'Tis He, our blessed Lord, who will keep us in His will, if our eyes are fixed on Him.

How can you build up a life of principle? Let me give you an outline of a little Bible reading: 1. The definition of an ideal life: Acts 13:22—"A man after Mine own heart, which shall fulfill all My will." (Little David, son of Jesse, finally King of Israel.)

2. The object of life: Heb. 10:7—"I come to do Thy will, O God."

3. The first thing you need after life, is food: John 4:34—"My meat is to do the will of Him that sent Me."

4. The next thing you need after food is society: Mark 3:35—"Whosoever shall do the will of My Father in Heaven, the same is My brother, and sister, and mother."

5. You want education: Psa. 143:10—"Teach me to do Thy will, O my God."

9. You want pleasure: Psa. 40:8—"I delight to do Thy will, O my God."

A whole life can be built up on that vertebral column, and then when all is over, 1 John 2:17—"He that doeth the will of God abideth for ever." —Sel.

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Seeking the Risen Savior

Mary Magdalene and the other two women started for the tomb very early in the morning. No doubt there were other duties clamoring for attention, but they pushed them aside. The most important thing to them at the time was to get to their Lord. Likewise, today, if we would contact the Saviour we must make that the paramount object of our lives.

There was an obstacle in the way of these women—something that threatened to prevent their contacting the Lord. And even yet, when men seriously seek the Christ, there will be obstacles to face and overcome.

In the case of the women, the obstacle was a huge stone, too heavy for their combined strength to remove.

Our hindrances today may not be the same in every case. The hindrance with some may be relatives, with others it will be friends and associates, a confession or some restitution to one they have wronged, an unforgiving spirit, a questionable business, or a questionable way of doing business. These things loom up before men as great stones, determined to keep them away from the Saviour and His pardoning love.

But these women of old were a determined trio. They did not excuse themselves because of the stone, but laden with sweet spices for the Lord, they started out. It was not that they were unmindful of the stone, but they wanted to contact Jesus more than anything else in the world, and they intended to find a way past every hindrance. Every soul should thus make a start for heaven, and determine to press his way forward until every difficulty melts away, and the soul's supreme quest is satisfied in Jesus.

When the women arrived at the tomb, they discovered that divine power had removed the hindrance, for "the stone was rolled away." What had become of the stone? It had not been destroyed, nor was it even out of sight. It had been pushed to one side by angelic hands, and it no more hindered the women than if it had not been there.

So with us: divine power removes many hindrances as we press our way toward the Christ. Our hearts become so filled with joy and heavenly confi-

dence that the scorn and opposition of friends or relatives are pushed aside, so to speak, and thus lose their power to hinder.

But if the huge stone in our way is a confession to some one, or a restitution to make, then we must put our hand to the stone, as it were, and roll it out of the way. Even here divine assistance is given, and we are enabled to do with ease the thing that had seemed so difficult.

Thousands give up because of the huge stones of difficulty between them and Jesus. A few are so hungry and determined that they press their way past every hindrance.

The Christ that the women were seeking was a living Christ, but they were not aware of that at first, so they went to the wrong place to find him.

People often waste time today in misdirected seeking. Has your search for Christ been fruitless because of some incorrect idea as to where or how he may be found? Or have you gone to the wrong place to find Him? The women first sought Him among the dead; and many today seek for spiritual life among the dead formalism of this age. "Why seek ye the living among the dead?" Formalism is a cold, dark tomb, and Jesus will never be found there; "He is risen," and is alive forevermore. The living Christ, if found, will impart divine life to the soul, and deadness and formalism will flee away.

The world is full of seekers, but the only successful seekers are those who find. Are you seeking to contact Jesus in His pardoning love? Or, are you seeking for the indwelling of the Holy Spirit? Then never cease seeking until you receive a definite experience.

Peter and John sought until they found an empty tomb—then returned to their own homes. The other women who were with Mary Magdalene sought until they received a message of divine truth from angelic lips—then fled to Jerusalem.

But Mary tarried in the garden. The others may have said to her, "It is enough! We see the empty tomb! We have heard from the lips of angels that He is risen! Come, let us return and tell the good news to others!" But Mary was not satisfied to stop with an empty tomb, nor yet with angelic messages. She longed for her Lord—and she stayed right there until He appeared to her in all His resurrection glory. So changed was He that her tear-dimmed eyes failed, at first, to recognize Him. But when He called her by name, tears gave way to joy, Mary's world was changed in a moment, and from the depths of her being she cried out, "Master!" When we find Him today, He will own us by witnessing to our souls with a word of assurance, and a new kind of life will begin within. "And you hath he quickened [or made alive] who were dead in trespasses and sins." No man ever truly lives, in the highest sense, until he has definitely found the risen Lord.

We are told by Luke in Acts 1:3 that Jesus "shewed himself alive after His passion by many infallible proofs." But to the truly regenerated (saved person), one of the strongest proofs of Christ's resurrection is that He lives in their souls. They can exultingly sing:

"He lives, He lives, Christ Jesus lives today!
He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way.

He lives, He lives, salvation to impart.

You ask me how I know he lives? He lives within my heart."

—Sel. by Mary A. Pruitt

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Together

Amos 3:3; Isaiah 52:8, 9

We read much of the "getting together," and, oh, what that precious word means! Families of this world enjoy their home comings, and we read in God's Word how the prophets foretold of this in a spiritual way when Jesus would come, and how he began teaching the way for God's people to live. Many were so traditionalized in the old law, they were blinded—could not and would not see. But those who did had to go through many things. But after the Lord was crucified, after he arose, after he appeared to them all, after he ascended, then how they stayed together! Then on that great and notable time when they were all together—oh, how happy they were—they were endued with power and were able to face the foe.

That power was given them to have that holy boldness and follow the Lord, suffering as he suffered and died under the cruel hand of wicked men.

Now we are privileged to read their inspired writings, telling us to keep together in our Lord's dear name. At that time ALL that believed were together and had all things common and sold their possessions and goods. Paul tells us, "Brethren, be ye followers of me and mark them which walk as ye have us for an ensample." Phil. 3:17. Followers together! God's children are always to be "followers together" and their hearts "knit together in love." Oh, the sorrow and anguish of the pulling or drifting apart! Never was there such a time as this when families and homes are being broken up. Oh, how sad! And God meant for the earthly home to be the pattern for God's people, and to be sacred. But it takes the Christ life to keep all together, seeing eye to eye. The Psalmist wrote: "O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name TOGETHER."

When God called his people out of all creeds and denominations, we who saw the light of this eternal truth rejoiced and were glad to meet **together** and sing in the Spirit, pray in the Spirit, testify, preach, and teach. Again the call is being made: "Come out from among the world-loving people," be holy, be endued with power, be ready for any work.

May our voices go up as one man's prayer—pray for our rulers, our leaders, and for more laborers in the harvest field. There is much gleaning to be done, and the laborers are few. The same Lord has the same power. May there be a great coming together this year. May our leaders, our God-called ministers all get together from the east, from the west, the north, and the south, laying aside anything and everything that has been hindering or will hinder, in honor preferring one another. Let us as the members of God's family be in holy agreement. Let us pray God to move in His mighty way on every one of His precious

ones. May we hear from the isles of the seas and every nation and tongue. Oh, dear ones, I feel like shouting now as I picture this grand coming together! We know our Lord is preparing his bride and is soon coming for her. Oh, what a gathering together that will be!

Let us strive earnestly together for the faith that was once delivered to the saints. It will take just that to be ready to meet our Lord. —Jessie Holoman

Two Rich Men

I wish to bring your attention to two rich men. As I was reading and praying and asking the Lord for more light, it seemed the windows of heaven were opened, and a very beautiful light shown round about me. As I came to the Scripture where the rich young ruler asked Jesus what he must do to have eternal life, I saw a wonderful sight. It seemed like I could see the young man asking Jesus what he must do.

Read Luke 18:18-23. Jesus told him to keep the commandments. He replied that he had kept all these from his youth up. No doubt he thought he was all right and had done just what the Lord told him. No doubt, he was feeling pretty good. But a great change took place when Jesus told him one thing he lacked. Jesus told him to sell all he had and take up his cross and follow Him, and he went away sorrowful. He turned Jesus away for a few trifling things of this world, just as thousands are doing—not willing to give up all to follow Jesus.

It may not be riches; it may be our work or our loved ones, but we must be willing to take our cross and follow Jesus. Our time belongs to Him, so let us take time to meet together to worship the Lord. If we have no time for him, he will have no time for us.

Now let us consider the other rich man in Luke 19:1-10. As Jesus was going through Jericho, this rich man wanted to see Jesus. He ran ahead and climbed up into a tree, because he wanted to see him above everything else. He was rich, but I believe he wanted Jesus more than his riches. All he wanted was to see Jesus. When Jesus came to where he was, he told him to make haste and come down. Zacchaeus did make haste and came down and received him joyfully. Now here is the great difference between the two rich men. One turned the Lord away, the other gave up all to follow him and was happy. When the Lord saw he was willing to leave all he did not ask him to sell all he had. No, he saw that he was willing to give to the poor and to make his wrongs right.

Are we letting Jesus have supreme rule in our lives? Or are we like the rich ruler, trying to get by with our good works? I am so glad that I found this strait and narrow way. It just suits me. I have left all the world to follow Jesus, never to turn back.

Dear saints, study these Scriptures, and if you get as much good out of them as I have, you will be willing to leave all and follow Jesus. If I only could tell it as I see it! Oh, the beauty of God's word, if we obey it. The joy bells of heaven will ring in our souls. May God bless one and all of his saints.

Yours under the blood,

Mrs. C. Stroud

"FAITH AND VICTORY"

16-Page Holiness Monthly

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

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

Through the Free Literature Fund thousands of gospel tracts are published and sent out free of charge as the Lord supplies. Cooperation of our readers is solicited, and will be appreciated in any way the Bible and the Holy Spirit teaches you to do or stirs your heart. "Freely ye have received, freely give." Read Exodus 24:2; 1 Chron. 29:9; 2 Cor. 9:7; and Luke 6:38.

This publication teaches salvation from all sin, sanctification for believers, unity and oneness for which Jesus prayed as recorded in John 17:21 and manifested by the apostles and believers after Pentecost. By God's grace we teach, preach, and practice the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ, the same gospel which Peter, John, and Paul preached, taught, and practiced; including the divine healing of the body. James 5:14, 15.

Its motto: Have faith in God. Its object: The glory of God and the salvation of men; the promulgation and restoration of the whole truth to the people in this "evening time" as it was in the morning church of the first century: the unification of all true believers in one body by the love of God. Its standard: Separation from the world and entire devotion to the service and the will of God. Its characteristics: No discipline but the Bible, no bond of union but the love of God; no test of fellowship but the indwelling Spirit of Christ; and separation from all human organizations—such are not authorized in the Word.

Free-will offerings sent in to the work will be thankfully received as from the Lord. All personal checks and Post Office Money Orders should be made payable to Fred Pruitt, or to

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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.)

Editorials

The saints' camp meetings will soon be held at the different locations throughout the country during the summer, and all saints and other souls that may need spiritual help should attend these camp meetings with a prayerful heart to receive favors and comforts from the Lord according to their individual soul or body needs. The camp meetings last summer were well attended in a general sense and the Lord greatly blessed. Many souls were saved and believers sanctified and bodies healed by power divine. We are expecting that much and even more in the coming camp meetings and all should pray much for these meetings that they may prove a great benefit to the souls of men. These meetings should be supported by every lover of the truth, as they are God-given and God-ruled; for God's children are an "HABITATION OF GOD THROUGH THE SPIRIT," and in these meetings the true body of Christ will be functioning in giving out his unadulterated truth to the salvation of souls who are under godly sorrow and will repent and believe in the atoning blood of Christ for deliverance from sin.

All honest, sincere, God-loving souls will find a hearty welcome among the saints in the camp meetings, and will be cared for whether they have little or much of this world's goods. Those who think of coming for the purpose of finding fault, criticising, or sowing discord among God's children will not find a welcome on the grounds, as such will be considered as possessing a foreign spirit to the meek and lowly Lamb of God. Read 2 Cor. 11:13, 14, 15. Read also the first, third, and thirteenth chapters of First Corinthians, also the 4th chapter of Ephesians, and you will clearly understand what we mean. In Romans 16:17 we read, "Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them; For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly [bring you under bondage to them and their spirit] and by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple."

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Bro. Ostis Wilson of Los Angeles, Calif. was here in April and held a meeting for a week in the saints' chapel, and the Lord used him in a blessed way to the edification of the saints. It was very comforting to our souls to listen to the precious truths of the Bible expounded from night to night. All the saints enjoyed it very much. He also held a few services at Shawnee, then went to Webb City, Mo., where he was in meeting for ten days or more. The saints report that his preaching there was just what they all needed, and they were encouraged.

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Sister Ruth Murphey of Jena, La. has been here at Guthrie holding meeting for the past ten days, and the Lord has blessed in the meeting in a very precious way. Some souls were saved and the Lord has healed many bodies since the meeting began. When prayer requests were being made, there were nearly as many testifying to their healing as there were requests to

be prayed for, which was clear evidence that God was working in the meeting, showing compassion on the sick as he did while on earth in the fleshly body. Truly the Scripture is true, which reads: "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and forever." Heb. 13:8. Some religious teachers in the world today claim that all the miracles passed away with the apostles and that all the modern miracles are of Satan. To the spiritually enlightened, this kind of teaching reveals that such teachers are false and are walking in darkness. However, it is true that Satan is performing many signs and wonders in the evening time with the purpose of deceiving precious souls; but it is not true that the miracles of God passed away with the apostles. If that were true, then the Scripture quoted above, which says that Jesus is the same today, would be untrue, which we know is not so. God says in His Word through the apostle Paul who was writing about some not believing, "Let God be true, but every man a liar." Rom. 3:4. We should believe God's word and not unbelieving men.

The Lord Jesus Christ has lost none of his power to save and to heal, but many unbelieving men wrest the Scriptures to their own destruction and to the destruction of them that give heed to false teaching.

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Bro. and Sister Lemonds, who have lived in Calif. the past few years, are on their way to North Carolina. They stopped and spent two nights and one day here with us, and were privileged to be in the meeting the two nights. They are precious saints of God, and we rejoiced to have them in our home at this time. May God bless them and make them a blessing wherever they may be.

Bro. and Sister Egbert Allen have been in Colo. and Wyoming of late spreading the gospel in isolated places. They put in their full time for the Lord; and he is much used of the Lord in evangelistic work. His home address is Deepwater, Mo. It will please the Lord for saints to communicate with them and to encourage them with letters, prayers, and earthly substance. Bro. Murphey Allen, his brother who lives at Mansfield, Mo. is also a minister that deserves your support; also Bro. Darius Gibson of Seymour, Mo. I could name a large number of consecrated ministers who are honestly laboring for souls and preaching the clean gospel of the Lord. May God bless and uphold these dear men of God who have denied themselves of the comforts of home and go forth breaking the living bread to precious souls.

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In the revival meeting which has just closed, the Lord used Sister Murphey to bring messages that were good and instructive to saints throughout the meeting. Most of her preaching was to the saints. One message which was very precious to the souls of the saints was on the subject of "Faith," and the reading was from the 11th chapter of Hebrews. The first part of the 12th chapter speaks about them as being "A great cloud of witnesses." The fact is that God has a great cloud of witnesses for him in the world today, but because of unbelief the majority of

people do not see them. Unbelief will blind men spiritually so they can not see the things that God is really doing. The rich man who went to hell and was in torments wanted Lazarus to be raised from the dead to visit his brothers who were sinners that they might believe and not go to that place of torment; but hear the answer of Abraham: "They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them." The rich man insisted that if one went unto them from the dead his brothers would repent. But Abraham said, "If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither would they be persuaded though one rose from the dead."

The majority of professing people in the world today are in the class where the true gospel, the miracles, and the mighty hand of God is hid from them, for Paul has well said of this people, "In whom the god of this world has blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them." The words of Jesus are true of this evil and adulterous generation: "Men love darkness rather than light because their deeds are evil."

Another Scripture that she used is found in the 6th chapter of Hebrews: "For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labor of love, which ye have showed toward his name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister." Dear brethren and sisters, let us not become weary in well doing, for we shall reap if we faint not. We certainly appreciate the ministry of the saints toward this printing work which God has intrusted us to carry on for Him by faith, and we assure you that we mean to do his will at any cost. The highest ambition of a saint should be to find out the will of God for him or her individually, and then DO IT. There is nothing that brings more satisfaction or contentment than to know that one is walking in the will of God.

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MEETING REPORT

We desire to tell of the good meeting here at Neosho from April 16th until April 30th. Truly the presence of the dear Lord was manifested from the first to the last. Eight precious souls sought and found the Lord. A few others were at the altar and received help. Different ministers came to help.

On Sunday, April 30th seven followed the Lord in baptism. In the afternoon the ordinance of feet washing and the Lord's supper were observed by 36 happy saints. The dear Lord surely did fulfil the promise: if ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them. Praise his dear name! We do thank the good Lord for the precious meeting. The Lord is richly blessing and encouraging the dear saints here at Neosho. All seem really encouraged with the decision to go all the way with the Lord.

There is Sunday School and preaching here every Sunday morning. Preaching every Sunday night and prayer meeting every Wednesday night. If any of the saints are passing this way we would be glad to have them stop and be with us. Your Brother and Sister in the one body,

Bro. and Sis. John W. Wilson.

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PRAYER REQUEST

Oklahoma.—Dear Saints of God everywhere,—The Lord has been urging me to send in my prayer request for I

am truly living for the Lord in all the light I know. I do know the Lord has no respect of person. Col. 3:25. I'm glad I am truly saved and know it. Please pray for us to get a home as I want to be able to help the saints of God. God sees and knows that I am his truthful child. Praise his name. Your sister in Christ, Clara Cramer.

Obituaries

Sister Elva Pitts was born in Arkansas October 19, 1885 and departed this life at Selma, California, April 7, 1950 at the age of 64 years, 5 months and 19 days.

She is survived by five sons: Clyde, Pascal, Fred, Raymon and Verlin; four daughters: Mrs. Eulalie Godfrey, Mrs. Wanda Bybee, Mrs. Ruth Steele and Miss Beulah Pitts; her mother, Mrs. Mary A. Taylor; six brothers: L. L. Taylor, Thomas Taylor, Foy Taylor, Claude Taylor, Royal Taylor and Herbert Taylor; three sisters: Mrs. Lois Longley, Mrs. Beulah McKinney and Mrs. Edith Kuns and ten grandchildren.

Sister Pitts was a true child of God and lived a faithful, successful and victorious Christian life for many years. She was a member of the Fresno congregation of the Church of God where Bro. E. J. Trotter is pastor. She loved and trusted in God to the end and died in the triumphs of the living faith.

Funeral services were conducted in Selma, Calif., on April 10 by Bro. Ira D. Stover of Pomona, California. Scripture text used was Rev. 14:13.

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Campmeeting Notices

Following is a list of the church of God campmeetings which, Lord willing, will convene in the summer of 1950, their dates, locations, etc. Meals will be served at all the camp meetings as the Lord supplies through free-will offerings of money, vegetables, fruit (canned and fresh) and other needed supplies, which may be sent to the address given with each notice, or taken directly to the campmeeting when you go. Saints should cooperate with your presence, labor, and prayers. Pray that God will direct His true ministers so that the ministerial needs of each meeting will be supplied and the full gospel be preached under the anointing of the Holy Spirit, and that souls will be saved and sanctified, and bodies healed.

HENNESSEY, OKLAHOMA. Date: June 2-11. Location: Come two blocks south of Post Office to water tower, turn east three blocks. Bring straw tick and tent if you have one. Address: Bro. Thomas Davis, Sister Willa J. Williams, or Sister Annie Wiley, Hennessey, Okla.

JEFFERSON, OREGON. Date: June 9-18. Location: close to bus station (inquire for Sam Wilson's residence). Bring pillows and covers if you can. Address: Emma Busch, Scio, Ore., Noah White or Sam Wilson, Jefferson, Ore.

HAMMOND, LOUISIANA. Date: June 30 to July 9. Location: south of town. Good taxi service from Greyhound bus station and I. C. Railroad. Address: Ray Key, Box 370, or Max Williamson, c. o. Post Office, Hammond, La. Bring bed linens, towels, straw ticks.

GUTHRIE, OKLAHOMA State Campmeeting. Date: August 4-13. Location: In the block of 6th St. and W. Warner. Sleeping quarters for women above the new dining hall, and for men in old dining hall. Bring sheets and towels. Address: O. C. Porter, 511 E. Springer.

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA. Date: August 18-27. Location: New camp ground by Erle Forbes' residence, 12304 Osborne Pl. Pacomia, Calif. Address: O. B. Wilson, 4254½ Perlita Ave., Los Angeles, Calif.

BOLEY, OKLAHOMA. Date: August 18-27. Location: north of school house. Bring bedding and straw ticks. Straw furnished. Address: C. A. Wallace, Boley, or M. J. Phillips, Box 294, Boley, Okla.

MIDWAY, LOUISIANA. Date: August 18-27. Location: One mile west of Jena, La. (Midway is not a Post Office). Bus transportation to Jena. Cab service to camp ground or call 828F12. Address: Willard Esters, Box 757, Jena, La. or Ruth Murphey, Box 824, Jena, La.

JUMBO, WEST VIRGINIA. Date: Aug. 25 to Sept. 3rd. Location: 3 miles above Diana off Route 20, between Buckhannan and Webster Springs. This is a pioneer field so you should go prepared to care for yourself as much as possible, but Bro. Peek sends word that they expect to have room to "feed and bunk all who come." Bring pillows and covers if possible. Let all whom God can use, come; and all who needs help, come. Address: Sister Maud Clifton, Webster Springs, R. 2, or George Peek, Camden on Gauley, W. Va.

THE NATIONAL CAMPMEETING AND MINISTERS' MEETING

The national campmeeting of the church of God will be held, Lord willing, July 21st to 30th, inclusive, 1950, on the camp ground at Monark Springs, Mo., which is five miles east of Neosho, the county seat of Newton County. The national ministers' meeting will be held July 31st and Aug. 1st, two days following the camp meeting, and all the ministers should remember these dates and be present.

A cordial invitation is extended to every honest soul to attend this camp meeting where you may receive help for your soul and body and enjoy the rich fellowship with the true saints of God.

Monark Springs is not a Post Office nor a rail road station. Those traveling by bus or train should come to Neosho and take a taxi to the camp ground, or phone some of the saints through the Monark Springs grocery store to come after you. Highways 71 and 60 pass through Neosho, and all-weather roads lead to the camp ground.

Meals will be served at the dining hall, financed by free-will offerings and contributions of groceries, fruits, and vegetables.

The tents will rent for \$5.00 each, and steel cots \$1.00 each (including a mattress as long as they last). Individuals desiring quarters in the dormitories, the price is \$2.50 for cot and space. Let none stay away from the meeting who are unable to pay. Quarters will be provided. Please bring bedding and straw ticks and come prepared for very cool nights. Straw will be furnished.

If you want a tent and cot, please send your order, with money, direct to Sam Barton, 2264 N. Columbia Place, Tulsa 15, Okla. by July 10th. Bro. and Sister Barton are the business managers.

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

Each individual and congregation should make an offering to the national campmeeting. Please send it to Bro. Barton, or the undersigned by July 10th.

—L. D. Pruitt, Secy-treas.

1116 W. Washington, Guthrie, Okla.

WHY GANDHI REMAINED A HINDU

Why was Gandhi not a Christian? He called himself a Hindu unto the end. He worshiped Christ as one of the incarnations of God, not as the only one. He never took that final step. In an autobiography published in India he writes that in his student days he had been greatly touched by reading the Gospels, and seriously considered being baptized a Christian. He felt that in Christianity would lie the solution of the racial problems and caste differences which were dividing both India and South Africa. One day he went to a near-by church house to attend the service, planning to see the minister at the close of the service and ask for instruction. When he entered the building the ushers objected to giving him a seat and suggested that he go to the colored people's church. He went out and never went back. "If the Christians also have class differences," he thought to himself, "I might as well remain a Hindu and attack this evil from within."—Charlotte C. Wyckoff in "Christian World Facts," 1949 edition.

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CORRESPONDENCE

Miss.—Dear saints of God—Greetings in Jesus' name. I desire the prayers of all the saints who read "Faith and Victory" paper for my healing. I have asthma, gas and flue. I am praising the dear Lord for the many times he has healed my body and for different things too. I have an afflicted foot.

I praise the good Lord for saving my soul and sanctifying my nature and making me satisfied. My husband's daughter and sister needs your prayers.

Yours in the love of Jesus,

Hattie Legg.

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Calif.—Dear Bro. and Sis. Pruitt,—Greetings of love in Jesus' holy name to all who read my testimony in the "Faith and Victory" paper. God has impressed me to write my testimony of God's healing me at death's door. In March on Friday night bad pains started in my left shoulder and by Saturday noon pains were worse and across my shoulders into right shoulder up my neck to my head and across my chest so hard I had to fight for breath from Saturday 12 until Tuesday. My brother, Sam was here praying for me. Sunday morning I was so bad he called Bro. Stover, he came anointed and prayed earnestly for me twice but I received no help. I was so bad I could not raise my head up nor turn over and could not eat or drink a thing for five days.

Sam called for my children at Windsor, 500 miles away. They came quickly and them not being saved and trusting God for healing, they wanted a doctor right then. I told them I wanted no doctor so they wanted a doctor to come examine me to see if I had pneumonia. Sam and Bro. Stover thought that would not be wrong for all knew there has to be a doctor's permit to bury one and it looked like I might pass out any minute. The doctor came and examined me and said my body was full of gas poison, arthritis and now pneumonia but I had fever so he started to fill my body with shots right there. I

said, "no." He begged to stop the pains in a few hours. I told him no, for I had not had a doctor or medicine for over 40 years and I would not turn down God now. He left and in about an hour I felt a little help go all over my body. I began to mend and by the third day I could get out of bed and walk a little by some one holding my arm for I was very weak all over my body. In four more days I was able to be up and fix my meals. I was alone and did all that was necessary to do except the laundry. From that time on now the last six weeks my body has been clear of any pains.

I can't thank God enough for healing me although I was ready to go or stay. Just wanted God's will to be done. I felt ready to go home any time God was to take me. Thank God for all his blessings. When I would not have the doctor to put shots in me to stop the pains my daughter stood looking on me suffering so bad. She said to some of them, "I can see no glory in that suffering." Well I could not see glory in it then but now I can for God let me suffer to test me to see if I would have a doctor or stand true to His promises. Praise God now we are enjoying the glory of God's goodness to me, healing my bad affliction and blessing my soul. Amen.

Bonnie Wells.

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Tulsa, Okla.—Greetings to all the dear ones that sent in their gift of love on the loss of our car. Truly we thank every one and pray God's blessings on each one.

Truly we have learned many precious lessons in the loss of the car and the way God has in talking to his people. The word is true when it says we have care one for another.

I want to report that the car was found as the little paper was being printed and sent out but it was in such a bad condition until our loss is heavy besides \$65 Bro. Barton had in his working tools. The car had been in a wreck and the frame bent, windshield, broken, door glass broken, side swipe mark all one side, one fender ruined, front bumper broken, both seat covers gone, all tools gone, one wheel switched, tires worn out and some gone, all doors sprung. It had been driven 7,000 miles in the two months it was gone. It was found in Kansas City, Mo. The repair bill and replacing tires will cost over \$400. Thanks to the dear ones so concerned in our loss. We will be able to get it fixed. We have been able to see that God sees and knows all about the things we do at all times. We have never taken pay for the Lord's work for we felt it was only our line of duty, so when we work for the dear Lord it's like putting money in the bank. When the time comes we need, then we can even see where our labors have drawn interest, temporal and spiritual.

Please remember sister Parker in prayer. She has been bedfast the past year. She has to have a nurse to care for her. Sister Parker is in her eighties.

I will need prayer this year or I will not be able to help in the kitchen at Monark Springs. I'm crippled up so with arthritis. God is able to heal me I know.

Dorothy is not so well at this time so put her on the prayer list. Sister Reed is near death, also remember her in your prayers.

We are glad to report victory over all the imposing powers of the devil.

I would like for everyone that can to bring me a cup, tin or granite to Monark Springs camp meeting as I would like to quit using tin cans. The saints of Chicago last year sent me so much white goods for the use at the camp meetings, also they sent some more this year and we are so thankful for we can use it in mattress covers,

tea towels and pillow cases. Clean rags are always so nice to help us in many uses around the camp grounds. We are thankful for any kind of donations towards the camp meeting. We will find uses on the grounds or to some needy one. Truly we want all things common.

The Sam Barton's.

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Mo.—Dear Bro. Pruitt—Greetings to all in the name of our blessed Lord. It has been a long time since I have written to "Faith and Victory". I am still saved and trusting the Lord for health and strength. I truly praise the Lord for his marvelous goodness to me. I still continue to enjoy the blessings of God in all ways. I thank him for all things.

I'm glad to report victory in my soul for my healing in answer to many prayers that went up to God for me. What a mighty God we serve. I thank him for the privilege of calling on him in time of need and for the good sincere brothers and sisters who were concerned enough to take our needs to God in prayer. I'm glad God still has a remnant standing firm in these days. Pray that I may be found with the faithful few. What a blessing comes to my heart. He will hear us call. His presence and power is always available to all who put their faith in him to the end. Remember me in prayer.

Your sister in the Lord, Mrs. Hattie Munden.

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N. Mex.—Dear Bro. Pruitt—Greetings in the name of our dear Lord Jesus. How we love him and want to live for him at any cost.

The Lord surely did answer our prayers. The baby had ruptured ear drums. We prayed if it was the Lord's will that it wouldn't affect her hearing. As far as we can tell she can hear real well. We thank and praise God for this. The other night I had a very high fever. I asked the Lord if it was his will, to touch my body and I would write to you. Thank God my fever went down some. We have colds here but we are looking for the Lord to heal them.

Pray for me, I want to get closer to God. Pray that I will get to come to camp meeting and get my soul re-filled with the love of God. May God bless you.

Yours in Him, Sis. Sneed.

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Ark.—Dear Bro. and Sis. Pruitt—I thank God for Salvation that will keep us clean and unspotted from the world. I have suffered so many years with high blood pressure. One night I awoke and heard my dear husband praying for the Lord to heal his dear wife. I raised my hands and asked God to answer his prayer and now I am healed, praise God. It has been over 12 months since I went to a doctor and I am trusting the Lord for everything.

I am lonely since he passed on for he was always with me at the church. My neighbors take me now. Pray for me that I may grow stronger in the Lord. I will meet him at the pearly gates. How we both loved this little paper. He would set and read at night, but he knows I will meet him when Jesus calls me. I am so thankful we were both saved and baptized together. We did not join any church just God's church.

Your sister in Christ Jesus, Trissie M. Landelins.

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Ark.—Dear Bro. Pruitt—I thank the Lord for a knowledge of salvation that will keep us free from sin, rejoicing in the Savior's love. I thank God for his wonderful healing. He has healed me many times. I praise his name. Glory be to God.

I am asking all the saints to agree in prayer that the Lord will heal my body again. I have a swelling in my stomach, legs and feet. I know if we have faith and ask, he will heal me.

If anyone knows Cecil Clide Stublefield tell him to write to me, or any of John Thompson's people that moved from Guntown, Miss. He was my mother's brother. My mother's name was Mary Short, my father's name was Jerry Short. If any of them see this please write to me.

Your sister in Christ, Mrs. J. H. Misskelley, R. 2,
B. 128, Forrest City, Ark.

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Christian Dress

With the preaching of the full gospel of Christ by D. S. Warner and other ministers of the church of God in the Evening Light Reformation, which began about the year 1880, came the word of God on the subject of the Christian's dress.

At first thought one may think that the dress question is of very little moment, or rather of no moment at all, but by carefully reading the Scriptures addressed to Christians upon this subject, we find that holy inspiration has not left us to ourselves in regard to this matter, but has given us punctual directions as to what we shall or shall not wear.

Accordingly we read 1 Pet. 3:3-5, "Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting of the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel; but let it be the hidden man of the heart in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price. For after this manner in the old time the holy women also, who trusted in God, adorned themselves, being in subjection unto their own husbands."

Also, in 1 Tim. 2:8-10, we read, "I will therefore that men pray everywhere, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting. In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broidered hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array; but (which becometh women professing godliness) with good works."

And also, in Rom. 12:2, we read, "And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God."

Again, in Jas. 1:21, "Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls."

The first two passages quoted, emphatically forbid Christians wearing gold, pearls, or costly array, or to put on apparel, but commands them to dress as becomes their profession, namely, holiness, declaring that the spirit of the Christian must be "a meek and quiet spirit"; and also that their dress must be modest, for we all know that a Christian is a modest, humble, lowly man or woman of God. Since their very spirit and character are meek, quiet, holy, and humble like unto their Lord and Master, they are commanded to dress as is suitable and becoming their profession of Christ.

The last two Scriptures referred to forbid us as Christians to conform to the world, and exhort us to

lay apart all superfluity of naughtiness. The first of these last two may more directly refer to the spirit and wisdom of the world, yet they also refer to the foolish fashions and customs, which naturally emanate from its spirit and wisdom, and if we ever prove the good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God, thus pleasing him in all things, we must cease our conformity to the world.

The laying apart of all superfluity is very essential to our Christian life and walk. Superfluity is anything excessive, not needed, unnecessary, and that is worn or used for show or ornament, to please the eye, to satisfy the lust of the flesh or the pride of life; and the Word says, "They that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts" Gal. 5:24.

Therefore, seeing that the Scriptures are against such things, we can truly say that such as laces, embroideries, silks, satins, plush, and other fine goods should not be worn by saints of God; neither fancy vests, neckties, silk socks, fancy watch fobs, or any gay or flashy clothing, but that which becometh holiness; also, all jewelry, such as rings, earrings, beads around the neck, bracelets, gold watches, stick pins, or anything that is worn for show or adornment must be left off for Jesus' sake. However, lace and embroidery cannot be classed with other fabrics; for whole garments or parts of garments are made of cotton, wool, velvet, plush, silk, or fur, and such garments cover the body and keep it warm; but garments or parts of garments made of lace or embroidery are worn for show, and not that they have any value as clothing; but again, saints should not wear anything that has the appearance of being worn for show or costliness.

This is the way the truth has been preached from the beginning of the reformation until about the year 1910, as the following extracts from Gospel Trumpet literature will show:

Superfluities.—By this is meant unnecessary things, such as are worn for show and style, and cannot be worn to the glory of God, such as gold cuff and collar buttons, and other jewelry, neckties, an unnecessary amount of ribbon, feathers, and many other things which can be laid aside for the glory of God. By-words, slang phrases, "cracking jokes," silly actions, grumbling, murmuring, idleness, etc., are weights which should be laid aside.

If we as saints will leave off the feathers; the ruffles and mufflers; the necklaces, gold-rimmed glasses, silk dresses, hobble skirts, low-necked waists, embroideries, etc., we shall avoid transgressing the Bible, the Holy Spirit, our conscience, sinning against the brethren; then we shall stand without fault before the throne of the great Judge who now stands before the door with the record of our deeds. Take for example, the wearing of the necktie. We not only consider our own conscience, but that of others. Because it has been discarded as an unnecessary article of dress, and is so regarded by the church, almost, if not universally, it is therefore best to leave it off lest we offend our brethren, if for no other reason.

The Gospel Trumpet, June 27, 1912.

It has been fully agreed upon by the saints and representative ministers that it is an unnecessary article of dress, that the wearing of it is catering too much to the world, and, therefore, should be discouraged. Ministers who are full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom and miracle-working faith and power, will not need such things, neither pianos, nor stringed instruments to get an audience and to convert souls.—The Gospel Trumpet, Dec. 19, 1912.—Sel. by Egbert Allen

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A Subtle Sin

In Psalm 15 the question is asked: "Lord, who shall abide in thy tabernacle [or church], who shall dwell in thy holy hill?" And in the third verse is part of the answer: "He that backbiteth not with his tongue."

One of the most deceitful sins among professed Christians today is evil speaking. The Holy Spirit through Paul says, "Speak evil of no man. Backbiting means to speak about someone in their absence in a way that you would not speak in their presence. Stop now, and consider this matter. Would you have said what you said about Bro. — or Sister — if they had been present, or would you have been a little more careful what you said or the impression you left concerning them?"

In Lev. 19:14, it says, "Thou shalt not curse the deaf." If the person you are talking about is not present, he is deaf to you because he cannot answer for himself. I would to God that we as the saints could be known for our commending rather than fault finding. The sin of evil speaking usually begins with a little fault finding or criticism.

This sin is so subtle. Those who yield to it usually think they have spiritual discernment and are doing God's will. But God's Word rings out clearly and explicitly—gives no uncertain sound—on this subject. Evil speaking always brings bickering, strife, backbiting, slandering, discord, etc; and it is one of the most effective tools in destroying the identity of the church, for Christ prayed in John 17:21, "That they all may be one, as thou Father art in me. **That the world may believe that thou hast sent me.**" When one is snared by the sin of fault finding or criticism, it is very difficult to get that person to see his error and get deliverance from it. Many good honest-hearted souls who have had a real regenerated experience and have been sanctified wholly, have been ensnared by this error and lost favor with God. There was no other way in which the devil could have trapped them. Maybe they were completely delivered from the love of the world and their hearts were wrapped up in doing the will of God. But the devil came as an angel of light and they started first criticising the testimony of some. They thought they could tell whether such an one had the right ring. Then they imagined the preacher did not have the right message or got up out of order, or he talked too long. Then they noticed that Sister — didn't have the right kind of dress on and her little child was not dressed just proper, or

something else was wrong and the "saints just aren't like they used to be," etc. Saints, this is the most subtle and destructive spirit I know of, and, sad to say, many have it and cannot see it. If you start looking for faults, you will surely find them wherever you go. In the name of the Lord, I exhort you to watch this spirit and at the first sign of it go to God in earnest prayer and reject it, or it will sap your spirituality to nothing in a very short time. And the little band that was so mightily used of God in the saving of souls will soon be divided, and many lose confidence in each other, and many go back into the world.

Of all the people I have dealt with, the criticizer, the fault finder, the man or woman who was ready to display the faults and short comings of others were the hardest to convince that they were not led by the Holy Spirit. I believe it would be better to have confidence in four people and three of them be wrong, than to judge all four of them as being wrong when one is right. Again I want to warn the people of God of this subtle sin of evil speaking and back biting. Let us cultivate the spirit of commendation, commending our brother rather than finding fault. Let us cultivate a spirit of giving love and mercy, prayer and understanding. This will bring to the heart of the giver that which enriches his soul, lifts him above the sordid, mean little things of life. Let us not be too much afraid of causing people to be proud or puffed up by our commendation and words of appreciation. The majority of us suffer a lack along this line. Many are too afraid that their brethren will become exalted. The Lord will take care of that part. We would do well, as the people of God, if we would practise showing the love of God in our hearts. Our hearts may be filled with divine love, but it does our brother or sister no good unless we bring it out in deeds and kind words and actions, etc.

James 1:26, "If any man among you seem to be religious and bridled not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion is vain." Read James 1:10. Very carefully notice the 8th verse. It says, "But the tongue can no man tame. It is an unruled evil, full of deadly poison." In the world today there are many things that are poison to the natural body, and many people are suffering from different kinds of diseases that gradually sap their life until they die from the poison of the disease. I have known people to have a bad tooth which drained enough poison into their system to keep them sick all the time, and continually weak and unable to do much. Now notice James said that the tongue is full of deadly poison to the soul. He means the reason many people are weak spiritually today is their tongue is not bridled and they let it drain poison into their spiritual life, and it becomes sick. They do not keep the victory they need and are up and down in their experience, and perhaps they wonder why. Some have permitted their tongue to poison them to death. Regardless of how high one professes, if he doesn't bridle his (or her) tongue, James says his religion is vain, meaning of no profit. Saints, let us take warning from James. This poison is more dangerous than a

rattle snake or spider. Let us not forget that the unbridled tongue is dangerous and full of poison, and seek the Lord very carefully for a bridle for it. The Lord is the only one that has a bridle that will work effectually. James said no man can tame it. May the God of all grace help us in this matter.

Dear reader, if you see yourself needy on this line, don't be discouraged; the Lord will help, but it takes prayer, watchfulness, and practice to overcome this once it gets a hold on you. It may take time to get rid of it completely. Many times it will slip up on you and you will say something or find fault without realizing it. The devil will try to discourage you and tell you you can't quit it, but you can, by the grace of God. Determine in your heart to work at it, and when someone tempts you to talk about someone in their absence or find some fault, just close your mouth and look to the Lord. When you overcome a few times, you will find yourself gaining more victory over this subtlety of Satan. Read Prov. 30:32. May the Lord help us all, is my prayer. I want to close this by saying one more time that this is a subtle spirit and many people have it who do not realize it. I say unto all, watch.

Your brother and companion in tribulation and in the kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ,
Archie Souder, 230 S. McKinley, Shawnee, Okla.

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Was The Devil Ever in Heaven?

(Continued from last month)

Last month our discussion concerned the woman of Revelation 12 and her identity. Now we turn our attention to the dragon, the second wonder mentioned in Rev. 12, to identify him in the Scriptures.

First he is described as having seven heads and ten horns. Would we expect to see such a literal, physical monster as that? Certainly not. Then we know that he symbolizes something and the Scripture will help us in finding out what.

In the Bible, HORN stands as a symbol of power and authority. They stand for the same here in connection with the dragon. The head would more properly symbolize the ruler or system through which this power or authority was executed.

The Scripture makes this perfectly plain concerning this dragon of Rev. 12 and the beast of Rev. 13 which had the same identical marks as the dragon—seven heads and ten horns.

Now let us turn to Rev. 17:3, and we find here a scarlet colored beast having seven heads and ten horns—the same identical marks as the dragon of Rev. 12 and the beast of Rev. 13. This time there is a woman riding on the beast, but she is a very different woman than the woman of Rev. 12 who was clothed with the sun, etc. and a pure woman. But this woman of Rev. 17 is declared to be a vile harlot. If the pure woman of Rev. 12 represented the true, pure church of God in the earth, which the Scripture clearly proves that she does, then a woman who was an impure, vile harlot would properly represent a false church or religion. But this woman was riding on the beast, therefore we

are certain that in some way this beast which is identical with the beast of Rev. 13 together with the dragon which gave this beast its power and seat and authority and which is distinguished by the same marks—seven heads and ten horns—must be, or is closely connected with a false, impure system of religion.

Rev. 17:7 says: "I will tell thee the mystery of the woman, and of the beast that carrieth her, which hath the seven heads and ten horns."

Then in verse 9 it says: "The seven heads are seven mountains, on which the woman sitteth." The city of Rome, which was then the governmental and political head of all the then-known world, is said to be situated on seven mountains. This is a geographical note of history concerning the city. This verse, then, helps to locate the location or place of the seat of authority of the dragon and beast.

But the seven heads also had a further meaning besides just the seven mountains on which the woman sat. Verse 10 says: "And there are seven kings...." During the reign of the Roman Empire as a universal power there were seven different systems or forms of government through which her universal power was executed. They were: 1. The Regal Power, or Kings. 2. Consuls or Dictators. 3. Decemvirate, a government by ten men. 4. Military Tribunes or Consuls. 5. Triumvirate, a government by three men. 6. Imperial or Emperors (under the Caesars). 7. The Exarchate or Patriciate (Exarch was the title of the ruler of this western kingdom under Charlemagne).

Then in verse 12 attention is turned to the horns instead of the heads; and it says: "And the ten horns which thou sawest are ten kings, which have received no kingdom as yet." This refers to the ten minor kingdoms which grew out of the Roman Empire during its decline and fall. History records such to have been the case, and names these kingdoms as follows: Ostrogoths, Visigoths, Sueves, Vandals, Franks, Burgundians, Heruli, Saxons, Huns, and Lombards.

At the time the Revelation was given to the Apostle John about 96 A. D., the Roman Empire was in its unified form as a world power, and the ten horns had not yet come into existence. The Scripture says they are ten kings which have not yet received a kingdom. But at a later date the Roman Empire disintegrated and fell apart and was broken up into ten minor parts or kingdoms.

These are all merely identifying marks of the dragon and beast so that we might know where to locate them and not be deceived into thinking that this Scripture is teaching something which it is not, such as the devil being in heaven and there being war in heaven, etc.

Rome has been in her time the seat of two grossly false systems of religion. Hence it was necessary to symbolize her in two forms—a dragon in one instance and a beast in another—but the seven heads and ten horns of each definitely identifies both of them with Rome.

The two false systems of religion of which Rome has been the seat are Paganism (heathenism, idolatry) and Papalism. The dragon symbolizes Pagan Rome and the beast symbolizes Papal Rome.

Rome in its Pagan form with its heathenish and idolatrous worship was prevailing over all the world when Christ came to earth to bring salvation. This false system of religion with its worship and sacrifices to its idol gods stood in direct opposition to the worship to the true God as taught and practiced by Christ, his apostles, and the early church in general. He stood before the woman (true church) ready to devour her child as soon as it was born. History proves this to have been a literal reality. The opposition became so violent between them that it was finally declared to be a capital crime punishable by death to profess Christianity. When anyone would profess a faith in Christ he was subject to death as soon as he was apprehended. History gives an account of some sixty-millions who were put to death for the name of Christ and their testimony of faith in him as a Saviour during the combined reign of both of these false systems of religion of which Rome was the seat—Paganism and Papalism.

This is what is meant by the war in heaven—the ecclesiastical or religious heaven. It is said that Michael (Christ) and his angels (ministers) fought and the dragon (the false religious system of Paganism which was dominated, permeated, and engineered by the spirit of the devil himself) and his angels (the priest or ministers or proponets of this false system of religion) fought.

A clear example of this war in heaven (the violent opposition between the true religion and the false, idolatrous religion) is found in the 19th chapter of Acts, beginning with the 23rd verse through the remainder of the chapter. On this occasion Paul and some companions had gone into Asia preaching the gospel of Christ. They came to Ephesus, which was much given to the idolatrous worship of the goddess Diana. As they taught them that there were no gods which were made with hands, etc., a violent opposition developed against them and they were mistreated and man-handled, etc., and there was much confusion throughout the entire city, and the people of that city cried with one voice for about the space of two hours "Great is Diana of the Ephesians." Other examples can be found in the New Testament and many, many such cases can be found in church history.

This is what is meant by the woman's child being caught up to God and to his throne. When the converts were born or brought forth, then they were put to death and their souls ascended to God.

It also explains the statement in verse 11 that they loved not their lives unto the death. They were willing to die for Jesus' sake. Paul, who was a martyr for the cause of Christ, said, "Neither count I my life dear unto me, that I might finish my course with joy." Acts 20:24.

The fact that this dragon is called Satan in the 9th verse merely shows the nature of his activity. Satan was more or less a general term applying to any individual or power that stood as an opposer. Jesus called Peter "Satan" on one occasion when he stood before him and attempted to dissuade him from going up to Jerusalem because he knew he would suffer there. Matt. 16:23. Therefore, this false system of

religion was called "Satan" because it stood in opposition to the true religion. This does not at all disannul the fact that the term "Satan" is applied to the devil in many instances in the Scriptures, but sufficient evidence has already been produced to show this is not talking about the devil himself in this chapter, but the agent or system through which he operated.

Verse 9 says the dragon and his angels were cast out. As the truth of God with its enlightening and regenerating power continued to spread through the earth through the efforts and work of Christ, his apostles and then the great company of the early church, the deceptions of the devil in this false system of idolatrous worship was more and more uncovered and exposed until the people were able to see the truth and the condition they were in, and as they did, they threw down the false worship and that idolatrous worship through which the devil had been successful so long in deceiving their darkened souls and causing them to hold it in high esteem in their hearts was exposed by the light of truth, and was then cast out of the high esteem and allegiance of the people and cast down to a low place of ill-repute and was looked on with disdain and contempt by the people as they discovered its errors and turned unto the truth. Therefore it is said to have been cast out of heaven (the high and exalted place it had in the hearts of the people).

Bear in mind that it is talking about the dragon all the time, and we have already seen clearly by the Scriptures what the dragon symbolized.

—O. B. Wilson

(To be concluded next issue)

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Hannah, A Praying Mother

"She prayed unto the Lord." 1 Sam. 1:10.

As we study Hannah's life in the first few chapters of 1 Samuel, we are impressed that she was patient, gentle, faithful, devoted, ambitious, industrious, and a sacrificial mother. But perhaps the thing about her that impresses us most is that she was a praying mother. Hannah went to the right source—prayed unto the Lord. She recognized him as the source of all life, the creator of all things, the sustainer of life, and the giver of every good and perfect gift. Hannah prayed a definite prayer, "Wilt thou give unto thy handmaid a man child?" Hannah's husband Elkanah loved her dearly and was grieved to see her weeping and feeling so sorrowful in heart. She could not eat, she could only weep and pray. After they had eaten at Shiloh she arose up and was in bitterness of soul and prayed unto the Lord and wept sore.

It was then Hannah vowed a vow and said, "O Lord of host, if thou wilt indeed look on the afflictions of thine handmaid and remember me, and not forget thine handmaid, but wilt give unto thine handmaid a man child, then I will give him unto the Lord all the days of his life." She promised the Lord she would do all in her power to help her child grow to be a perfect man.

Hannah's prayer was definite and specific. Other prayers in the Bible teach the same lesson. I have

often wondered if Hannah's love for children was so great, or if she wanted a man child that she could dedicate him back to the Lord that he might be a powerful man for God. We notice Hannah's life was in accord with her prayers.

Prayer to God should be definite, intelligent, and in faith. It must be made to God through Christ who makes intercession for us. Many need to be more persistent before the Lord in earnest prayer.

Hannah prayed an earnest prayer: "O Lord, I have poured out my soul unto the Lord. She spoke in her heart; only her lips moved, but her voice was not heard. Hannah wept as she prayed; she was most earnest. Her soul was in agony. Any mother who can pray before God as Hannah did will reach the heart of God. Our land needs mothers who will spend much time in earnest prayer about the family and home. Be persistent as Hannah was. She continued praying before the Lord. She seemed to say, "Lord, I cannot leave thee or let thee go till thou hast blessed me." Elijah prayed on until rain came (1 Kings 18: 41-45). We notice that the woman of Canaan besought Christ until he healed her daughter (Matthew 15:22-28).

Hannah's prayer was answered. She bore a son and called his name Samuel, saying, "Because I have asked him of the Lord." A prayer is complete when God speaks. Hannah heard God speak. She was full of assurance and joy. The Lord gave her a son, and she kept her vow, and Samuel became one of the greatest men of God of all ages.

Hannah's grief was turned into joy. She prayed and said, "My heart rejoiceth in the Lord, my mouth is enlarged over mine enemies because I rejoice in thy salvation. There is none holy as the Lord for there is none beside thee. Neither is there any rock like our God." Hannah realized that the Lord meant much to her and that He had heard and answered her prayers. She knew that God was the one that maketh the rich and the poor. God is the one that maketh the wounded heart glad, the one that careth for us when we feel everybody has turned us down. If all mothers would pray like Hannah, our people would be better, homes sweeter, schools more successful, the church more influential, and our nations more godly.

Lord, teach us to pray. —Mrs. D. G. Dunn

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God Does Shake Things

We are truly living in perilous times, and our hearts go out with great compassion and pity for precious souls that have not been in the way long and have a desire to keep in the right way, also for those who have been born again and have opened their eyes in some of the pens of the many false prophets that are compassing land and sea to make proselites. Babies in Christ are not acquainted with the snares and pitfalls of Satan and fall a prey to his cunning, crafty religious ways, and many of them get bound in spiritual darkness and the tender life of Christ is crushed out in time. They go on professing with the crowd, hoping all will turn out well. Oh, what a sad state

Christendom is in at this present time! While this is true, yet we can see that the Lord is working mightily to rescue souls from the future burning, and he is shaking heaven and earth in order to loosen up things for the escape of honest God-seeking souls.

In the past few years he has brought about some great upheavels and different kinds of eruptions in compromising and apostatized movements where some of God's dear children were being held in bondage and darkness, and this for the purpose of giving his children a chance to escape for their lives. But Satan is not asleep in his wily ways of deceiving, and has hatched up (or out) minor movements claiming to be the true, in which to lodge them, thus keeping them from finding the true family of God that are a separated people from the world and are governed by the Spirit of God living in their hearts from heaven and leading them on from victory to victory.

The apostatized Trumpet movement has been visited in late years by a number of these eruptions in large and less forms. I am surprised that God has borne with that apostatized movement for so long a time. Those factions that have split off from it are claiming, or the leaders do, that they are back now to the old-time truth that formerly brought out the church so clearly, and that they are the people that God has chosen to bridge the breach and lead his people in the holy way of truth. Back in the year of 1916, when we were so burdened about some things taught in the Gospel Trumpet paper, I was fasting and praying for the leadings of his Spirit, and the Lord gave me a vision of this movement and showed me beyond a shadow of a doubt that they were being swallowed up with the world, and he called me out and away from the thing. These factions that have broken loose from it are now farther in the world than the Trumpet was at that time, and we still have the burden on our hearts for God's people to "come out of her," and also that they will come out of those factions that are forming themselves into the image of the mother and will be carried along with the religions of the world. If you should attend some of the gatherings of these faction movements, you would hear some well-worded preaching and see the world in much manifestation. The "WOODEN brethren" would be there making so much noise that it would be hard to hear any clear sounds of praise and melody from human beings. Many Reverends with their programs would be there, and the host of them would have the world's adornment under the chin flashing out in many gay colors; also women with bobbed hair dressed in worldly fashions, making a great show of religion, and wearing gold and adornments in different ways. The program for raising money would not be overlooked and law tithing would be impressed strongly upon receptive minds. The Bible school, which D. S. Warner classified as "preacher factory" would be endorsed and exalted. There would be fleshly demonstrations much in evidence and a pulpit committee to curtail the freedom of the Holy Spirit. The whole thing would be very grievous to a humble saint of God who has not drifted with the worldly crowd. Some dear souls who attended these meetings would no doubt be

like the man the Bible tells about in Isaiah 29:8: "It shall even be as when a hungry man dreameth, and, behold, he eateth: but he awaketh and his soul is empty: or as a thirsty man dreameth, and, behold, he drinketh; but he awaketh, and, behold he is faint, and his soul hath appetite: so shall the multitude of all the nations be that fight against mount Zion."

People that claim to be the true church and have a lot of good doctrine and yet cater to the world and make a big show of human religion, embracing human titles, craving honor of men, fellowshiping wooden brethren, putting on the world's adornments, are really fighting against the true Zion of God functioning in the world. These Zion fighters often speak about being broad-minded and put a premium on broad-minded professors, meaning by this that they should keep quiet and tolerate all that worldliness among them and go right on rejoicing with the crowd down the broad way. Jesus tells us about the two ways in the seventh chapter of Matthew: "Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it." Matt. 7:13, 14.

Brethren, the only safe way for any soul is to be entirely cut loose from this old world in spirit and in fashions and in other conforming ways. We should bear the reproach of the cross, keep our bodies on the Altar (Christ) and not conform to this world in any way nor join up with it in any manner, but let our minds be renewed from heaven that we may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God. There are entirely too many today that profess Christ who are living in the shadow of Egypt. A great many of these "would be" leaders in Christendom today are fulfilling the description Jesus gives in Matt. 6:23, which reads thus, "If therefore the light that is in thee be darkness, how great is that darkness." Those that have had true light and are now walking in darkness are in great darkness and seem to be dumb concerning their condition. May our God awaken precious souls that they will flee out of wrecks and creeds of men and abide in Christ the true Vine. These professors are kept quite busy trying to make folks believe that their sandy foundation is made of rock. The true ministers of God in the world today are not laboring to build up any human structure, but they are burdened for souls to get saved and follow Christ, join themselves unto the Lord in a perpetual covenant and keep free from the world, which is the enemy of God so all can have divine flowing fellowship with Him and one another.

The apostle John ends his first epistle with these words that seem to be so fitting in these evil and deceitful times: "Little children, keep yourselves from idols." Amen.

—Fred Pruitt

The idea of carrying an insurance policy and paying money to a worldly lodge or company, for the purpose of having your family supplied after you are gone, is an abomination in the sight of God.

—D. S. Warner

Sanctification

Untold millions of people in many lands have gloried in the sweet peace that poured into their souls, when, after due repentance they felt their sins washed away, cleansed by the precious blood of Jesus, as a lamb without blemish and without spot, being fully justified thereby. The days of heaviness and sin-burden gone and the fountain of sweet peace welled up in their happy souls. This experience is no make belief, no guesswork; there was no question in their mind about it. It was divinely real. They were justified, converted, regenerated—born again, and they knew it.

In like manner a very great number of these also experienced that inflow of the Holy Spirit into their souls which burned out all carnality—adamic nature, heart corruption, making their hearts pure and were then sanctified by faith wholly. The transaction had taken place and they no longer were slaves to inward sin, nor did they feel the motions of sin anymore. They no longer walked after the flesh nor warred after the flesh, but they did begin a walk after the Spirit, like the experience of justification, something took place in their inner consciousness which they could not doubt. It was done and they knew it. It was a very real experience; they felt it, realized it beyond any peradventure. It, too, was real.

Too many there are, whom we know have lived and enjoyed these experiences down through the years, for us ever to doubt their genuineness. The remembrance of their clear-cut, ringing testimonies still set the joy bells to ringing in our hearts, as well as what we have read of many others who have experienced similar manifestations. Furthermore, we have experienced far too much on our own account to doubt the fact of the existence of such an experience.

After sitting in an audience listening to a certain preacher belittle this precious experience, stating flatly that there was "no such state of heart," we heard a listener "speak right out in meeting" repudiating the statement in the words, "You should have said, As far as you know, sir."

Because my friend had never seen a fifty dollar bill is no proof that I did not have such a bill. Because certain ones do not believe in sanctification as a soul-cleansing operation wrought in the soul by the power of the Holy Spirit does not prove that I may not have had a definite experience in just such a cleansing. Not to believe a thing does not cause it to go out of existence.

Under God's plan of Redemption, sanctification cleanses—and cleanses clean; it cleanses the inside of the platter. In conversation with a minister once on this subject, he said, "If that is sanctification, then I do not know a single preacher that could qualify." I asked him what he taught for sanctification. "Why," said he, "the baptism of the Holy Ghost for power, of course." Yes, it is that—but infinitely more, sanctification cleanses as well.

In the Hebrew letter, chapter twelve, verses eighteen to twenty-two, the following is recorded: "For

we are not come unto the mount that might be touched, and that burned with fire, nor unto blackness and darkness, and tempest, and the sound of a trumpet, and the voice of words; which voice they that heard intreated that the word should not be spoken to them any more (for they could not endure that which was commanded, And if so much as a beast touch the mountain it shall be stoned or thrust through with a dart; And so terrible was the sight, that Moses said, I exceedingly fear and quake;) 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 [and verses 23, 24] to the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven, and to God the Judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect, and to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than that of Abel."

The first portion of this quotation tells to what the people of God under the new covenant, the dispensation of grace had NOT come, and describes whereunto the people under the old covenant had come, which was something material—everything mentioned was material, earthly. It was a covenant of words, commands corresponding to and referring to, the covenant from Sinai.

It was grievous to be borne, exceeding fearful, and those who heard it besought that the words might not again be spoken to them. So fearful was it that even Moses said he exceedingly quaked and feared. This is, (and refers to) the first covenant spoken of by the apostle Paul in the fourth chapter of Galatians, represented by Ishmael, the son of Hagar and was Sinai, which stood for the Jerusalem that then was—the material Jerusalem in bondage under the covenant from Sinai.

The next portion of the passage above referred to is in contrast to the old and wholly material covenant which did not, could not, "make the comers thereunto perfect as pertaining to the conscience. We read, "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, the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven, and to God the Judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect, and to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling that speaketh better things than that of Abel."

Everything mentioned here is spiritual, wholly spiritual in every respect. This refers to the second part of the allegory mentioned in the Galatian letter; the new covenant as represented by Isaac, the new Jerusalem which was from above, which covenant is the mother of us all—all the people of God in this dispensation. Let us now look at it:

"But ye are come," indicating what has taken place. They had already come, and not were going to come. They were living people, saints, living on the earth and who had already arrived at this particular stage mentioned. "But ye are come," in contrast to that unto which they had not come as mentioned in the above cited passage, "But ye are come unto

mount Zion . . . the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven." Please note specifically here that the writer of these words was telling his readers that they, living now on the earth, HAD COME to that which he had been describing. It was not something to which they might be expecting to come some time or somewhere in the future, but he tells them "Ye are come" already arrived—at the very thing he was portraying to them: the new mount Zion from above, spiritual Zion, the city of the living God of heaven, the promised city of the prophets of old representing the new covenant.

The city came down, a spiritual body, the body of Christ, the New Testament church; not some group of men organized into a human movement of some kind, as we shall now see, realizing as we do that "The general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven," are identical with the group spoken of by Paul in Romans 8:29 as being "conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren"—those who are wholly sanctified. Glorious truth revealed from heaven: The church of the firstborn, spiritual men gathered together in ONE, a holy priesthood to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God.

But this is not all; these are come also unto "THE SPIRITS OF JUST MEN MADE PERFECT." No men are "just" until they have been justified; all men are unjust till regenerated, born again—justified. These "just men" spoken of had been justified by the Lord God and had been made perfect by Him—therefore sanctified—made pure. These living men had come to mount Zion, the city of the living God, the church of the firstborn, also come to the spirits of just men made perfect, and to all of this they had come while living yet on this earth.

Beloved, is there not something here made clear and plain? These men on earth, having been justified, and because of which had been perfected and made eligible to the whole company of justified men made perfect and joined to the company from above—that they together comprise the great general assembly and church of the firstborn; separate from all earth-born aggregations, groups or movements; sanctified by God the Father and made ready to be translated to the home above at a moment's notice.

This is no earth-born vision, but is a heaven-born revelation, a living, lively house not made with hands but eternal because earthly men have become partakers with the saints in light of eternal life and have been perfected—sanctified—in Christ Jesus.

"Ye also as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Christ Jesus" 1 Pet. 2:5.

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"It Might Have Been"

We are born into this world, we breathe, we move, we live, we work, we play, we learn, we do much as others have done before us, except, we have more to-

day to do with. In fact, we enjoy all the things that God has created in this wonderful world of His. And for our souls' good, He has placed a Bible in the hands of every nation on this earth. If we prefer to sin, rather than desire to live holy, it puts us in the class of those who are contented with the life of the fallen nature. The more we read our Bible, the more we see that God is displeased with those who are contented to remain in this fallen condition. Christ Jesus, the Lord of glory, has become God's great Sacrifice for sin and for all uncleanness of our fallen nature.

In Matthew 1:21 we read these words, "And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name Jesus; for He shall save His people from their sins." What a wonderful Saviour is Jesus our Lord, what a wonderful SAVIOUR for man. Through His BLOOD our sins are washed away, and we are made whiter than the driven snow. What a wonderful REDEEMER is He.

Too many people are living in darkness, deception, and death, with the open Bible in their hand, professing as high as mortals can, "EVER LEARNING AND NEVER COMING TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE TRUTH." 2 Tim. 3:7. For those who prefer to remain in their sins, the gospel of repentance seems to be an idle tale. It seems so much easier for the flesh to take the easy way of going with the crowd than to take a stand against the throng. No wonder the word says that the way is strait and narrow which leads to heaven, and few there be that find it. Matt. 7:13, 14.

God has created a wonderful world, and a wonderful heaven for our pleasure, and given us many wonderful things to enjoy, while we live here upon God's earth—the sun to give us warmth and vegetation, and birds, animals, and fish for food, the sun for the day and the stars and moon for the night, rain and air and the clouds, all things for our pleasure and enjoyment, yet many can't see God the Creator in all these created things, or hear His reproof and his warnings. We live here upon this earth but once, then when God says it is enough, we take our last breath and we are gone forever.

In God's Bible we read the following: "Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price." 3rd verse. "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." Here David represents Christ.

The 6th verse, "Seek ye the Lord while He may be found, call ye upon Him while He is near." 7th 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." Isaiah 55:1, 3, 6, 7.

In this chapter alone, we read about God's willingness to save all who will come to God repenting and forsaking all sin. They can become children of the HIGHEST. God changes the heart; God changes the nature; God makes it possible for the REDEEMED

to live above sin. He also makes them able instruments in His HAND to do exploits to further the kingdom of God.

Then if we never go on to the second BIRTH, heed God's call to repentance, it were better for us if we had never been born into God's wonderful world.

Jesus told about a certain rich man, and a very poor man. He said that they both died. Lazarus, the poor man, was carried by the angels unto Abraham, but the rich man lifted up his eyes, being in torments; and he cried unto Abraham, "Have mercy on me, send Lazarus that he may dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame." Luke 16:19-24. We know by reading all of this chapter that there was no mercy, and his prayer was all in vain. And so it will be, with all who fail to heed the call of God while living.

Though rich or poor, high or low, honorable or dishonorable, it makes no difference to God—one must heed the call of God while living, and turn from his sins to serve the LIVING GOD, and serve Him in the beauty of holiness. Because of God's great sacrifice, it is possible to be restored to the IMAGE of God. God works in us and through us for our salvation. Unless we heed God's warnings and repent because of our sins, we can say as one of old, "Of all sad words of tongue or pen, the saddest are these: IT MIGHT HAVE BEEN."

—I. E. Kriebel

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Insurance or Faith in God, Which?

There seems to be a question in the minds of some concerning insurance. We feel it would be pleasing to the Lord to give some Scriptures along this line.

Nahum 1:3, "The Lord has his way in the whirlwind and in the storm, and the clouds are the dust of his feet." To insure our property and crops, etc. against hail storms would be insuring against something that God is controlling. If he has his way in the whirlwind and the storm, he can direct them where he wants them to go. If he permits them to hit us, it would be for our good. "All things work together for good to them that love God" Rom. 8:28.

The devil could not get to Job until God took down the hedge.

"Thou ruleth the raging of the sea: when the waves thereof arise, thou stillest them. The heaven's are thine, the earth also is thine: as for the world and the fulness thereof, thou has founded them." Psalm 89:9-11.

Dear saints of God, if we believe this is true, with all our hearts, we shall not need to insure our lives, property, etc. with worldly-minded people. "It is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in man." Psal. 118:8. "He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust: his truth shall be thy shield and buckler." Psal. 91:4.

There is room under his great wings to bring all our possessions. If every one would bring all their problems to the Lord and have more faith in God and less in man, we would see mighty things done.

"Then they cried unto the Lord in their trouble,

and he bringeth them out of their distresses" Psal. 107:28. The Lord is able to do exceedingly and abundantly above that which we are able to think or ask.

When the disciples were out on the ship and the tempest arose, they did not consult an insurance company, but they called on the Lord, "and he arose and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, 'Peace be still.' And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm, and he said unto them, 'Why are ye so fearful? How is it that ye have no faith?'" Mark 4:39-40.

I fear the reason so many are going to insurance companies is that they have lost faith in God. Paul said, "For I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day." 2 Tim. 1:12. What wonderful contentment it brings when we cast all on Jesus. David said, "I have been young, and now I am old: yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread." Psal. 37:25.

"For every beast of the forest is mine, and the cattle upon a thousand hills. I know all the fowls of the mountains, and the wild beasts of the field are mine. If I were hungry, I would not tell thee: for the world is mine, and the fulness thereof." Psal. 50:10-12.

"But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus." Phil. 4:19.

"Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he has said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee." Heb. 13:5. When men and women let covetousness come into their hearts, they lose faith in God. Some are so wrapped up in the things of earth that they don't have much time to pray or go to the services of God. The soul that is not fed daily upon the manna that comes from heaven will become weak and finally lose out with God and go to the world for help. Matt. 6:33, "Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." Each one needs to ask God to turn the search light of heaven upon our souls.

Some think they have to have life insurance. If we believe this Scripture, it will do away with all of that: "Leave thy fatherless children, I will preserve them alive; and let thy widows trust in me." Jer. 49:11. In the 12th chapter of Luke it says, "sell that ye have and give alms; provide yourselves bags which wax not old, a treasure in heaven that faileth not, where no thieves approacheth, neither moth corrupteth, for where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." If the money which you are continually paying on your insurance policies would be given to the poor or the gospel work, you would be continually laying up treasures in heaven. But when you are paying an insurance policy from month to month and year to year you are laying up treasures on earth. How inconsistent it is for anyone to tell others to have faith in God to trust him and not be afraid to step out on his promises and at the same time paying their money on life insurance and other insurances. "Thus saith the Lord, cursed be the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the Lord."

Yours in Christ,

Murphy Allen

Young People's Section

Prayer Brings Me Peace

God is so near each time I pray,
His presence fills my soul with peace;
And little cares and sorrows flee,
My heart is light and joys increase.

Oh, that my life was one long prayer
To God ascending constantly
That calm so blest may e'er remain
And such sweet bliss might always be!
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La.—Dear Saints—I feel that the Lord would be pleased for me to testify to my healing. I thank and praise the Lord for salvation full and free and his keeping power. He has certainly been so good to me, I could never repay him.

On January sixth I was standing in front of the heater when the skirt of my dress went into the blaze and caught fire. I mentioned my skirt being on fire, Mother was sitting by me and noticed it and tried to put it out with her hands and burned them badly. I moved away and got down on the floor to roll to smother the flames. Of course, I asked the Lord to help me and he did, thank the Lord, he really spared my life. Before I began to roll daddy came into the room and put out a blaze of fire which was by my side. I smothered the rest of it out as I was lying on it.

I went to bed and oh, how these burns burned. Mother phoned her sister who lives here, she came over and we had prayer. We called the saints at Midway and Shreveport and they had prayer for me. The Lord wonderfully undertook and in about two hours or less I was feeling well enough to talk and laugh. I went on to sleep and just noticed one little bother that night. I had several bad burns which were above my knees and some on my hips which were second and third degree, a visiting nurse told us. I also had some bad burns on my fore and middle finger and one of them was burned almost solidly all the way around, but now you can hardly tell they have been burned unless you just know it.

The dear Lord surely did help us through this with victory in our soul for which we thank him. This was a trying time and without the help of the Lord one would surely fall. During the first week after being burned, Sister Ruth Murphey helped and before she left on Jan. 14, we had an agreement in prayer for the Lord to heal the burns. After prayer that day the burns began to burn and continued into the night and prevented me from sleeping even as well as I had before. That night prayer was offered and I went to sleep. The next morning I rejoiced because the burning was all gone. Soon the burns began itching, which the Lord also gave us victory over. We believe that the burning was caused when the fire was coming out of them, then they began healing, continued healing and the places began toughening. On March 13 I started back to school. The Lord has truly given me favor with my teachers and they have been co-operative and helpful to me about my lessons. They knew how I stood about not taking any medicine. I truly

have a great deal to thank the Lord for and do thank him tonight.

The other day, which was about four or five weeks after I started back to school, my home room teacher, who visited me while I was out of school, asked me if my burns were all well. I told her they were and she said that that was wonderful. Thank the good Lord it IS wonderful to be a child of God and be healed by such a great physician, besides to share in all the other blessings we receive from him.

I desire the prayers of the saints that I will always be found pleasing the Savior in every way, and that my body will be healed completely of another affliction. I know that he is able. Yours in him, Aquila Green.

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Okla.—Dear saints of God,—Greetings in Jesus' name. It has been some time since I have had the privilege of writing a testimony to the Faith and Victory paper. I thank the Lord that he has saved me from all sin and for his wonderful love and healing power.

I want to thank each child of God who prayed for the salvation of my sister, Mrs. Gus Eberhardt. God truly answers prayer and I know she is willing to go all the way with Christ. Both, mother, (Mrs. Hiebert) and I have sent in prayer requests for her and your prayers were not in vain for Christ has heard and answered prayer.

I know Satan is trying his best in different ways to make God's children fall by the way side and we need to pray for one another that we will serve Jesus faithfully and be ready when he comes.

I have been getting the Faith and Victory paper for almost six years. I still love to read it and it encourages me so. I truly thank God for making it possible for me to receive this paper.

Please remember me in your prayers. I long to see my husband saved that our home will always be a Christian home. With Christian love, Mrs. Robert Fleshman.

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Ark.—Dear Bro. and Sis. Pruitt,—God has put it in my heart to send in my testimony. This is my first time to write in a testimony but God spoke to me and told me that glory would be mine some glad morning.

I don't go to church down here for church is too far to go but I read "Faith and Victory" paper and it helps me. The Lord saved my soul two years ago and I am still praising him for what he has done for me.

Please pray for me, also pray for mother who is sick.
Your sister in Christ, Miss Maxine Cheney.

O—O—O—O—O—

The Fountain of Life

"There is a fountain filled with blood
Drawn from Immanuel's veins;
And sinners, plunged beneath that flood,
Lose all their guilty stains."

We are living in a world of sin, sickness and death. We have time today in which to be "BORN AGAIN". God has willed it so. Yes, there is a fountain filled with BLOOD, which God has prepared for the cleansing, purifying of the sons of men. And unless we find that FOUNTAIN while living, and wash our

robes in that precious stream, we are dead and lost, in a sinful dead and dying world—sin on every hand and sin in almost everybody. Only a few can tell the way of escape. God has planned that His redeemed saints can warn the people of their awful danger, unless they find this **FOUNTAIN OF LIFE**.

Those who die in their sins without finding Christ as their Redeemer are lost forever, that is, they never see **LIFE**, the Life that is **SALVATION**. True **SALVATION IS DELIVERANCE FROM SIN**, both committed sins, and the fallen nature.

If one heeds God's warnings and reproofs, and turns to Him for pardon, with all the heart, he can find Christ the Redeemer. Christ is waiting at the right hand of God to intercede in behalf of the repenting soul, ready to save him from all of his sins, and cleanse him from all unrighteousness. Jesus says, "**COME UNTO ME, ALL YE THAT LABOR AND ARE HEAVY LADEN**, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your soul. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light." Matt. 11:28-30. This "**REST**" is deliverance from sin and evil, freedom from the power of the devil, and live for God. John 3:16, we quote, "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**." This is the life that prepares our soul for heaven.

Our natural life, though we live and breathe, play and work, and take part in the things of this world, though we may live a moral life here, yet, this is not the "**REST**" that Jesus gives unto us. It is so hard to get this truth to a strictly, religious, moral person, "that they are **DEAD IN THEIR TRESPASSES and sins**." Many will come before God with their Bibles under their arm, but not in their heart. It is the ones that have it written on the tables of their heart through the work of the Holy Spirit of God. They can live the life and be pleasing unto God. Without Christ in the heart, one is in Spiritual darkness, no matter how high the profession. Heaven will be filled with the redeemed of the earth, they that have the word of God written in the heart. This is the power of the Holy Spirit. God now is searching the hearts of men to find a "**RESTING PLACE**" in their hearts, that He may work in, and thru him, for the redemption of others. If you feel the Holy Spirit reproving you and know that God is working upon your soul, turn to him without delay. It is your chance to live forever with the redeemed. Down here, we are not among the living, but are among the dead. And as soon as life of the body is gone, the chance for heaven is gone also. Then let us fear God, and be **BORN** of the **HOLY SPIRIT**, and be redeemed, that is **BE BORN** into the family of God.

By the grace of God. Ivalyn Edith Kriebel

Church of God Doctrines, a 190-page book by C. C. Carver is still in stock and may be obtained from this publishing house or from the author whose address is Shreveport, La. in care of Post Office. Price 50 cents each or five books for \$2.00, post paid.

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

— NOTICE —

We carry in stock boxes of "Everyday Assortment" folders. There are 25 folders with envelopes to match in each box, consisting of folders for cheering a sick friend, sympathy, get-well, greetings to a shut-in, welcome to a new baby, and birthday all beautifully colored designs with suitable verses. You will like these folders. \$1.00

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The selfrighteous blame others for the evil the devil makes them do.

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.

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HABAKKUK TEACHES TRUST IN GOD

June 4, 1950

Printed Portion. . . Habakkuk 1:1-4, 12-13; 2:1-4; 3:17-19.

Hab. 1:1. The burden which Habakkuk the prophet did see.

2. O Lord, how long shall I cry, and thou wilt not hear; even cry out unto thee of violence, and thou wilt not save;

3. Why dost thou shew me iniquity, and cause me to behold grievance? for spoiling and violence are before me: and there are that raise up strife and contention.

4. Therefore the law is slacked, and judgment doth never go forth: for the wicked doth compass about the righteous; therefore wrong judgment proceedeth.

12. Art thou not from everlasting, O Lord my God, mine Holy One? we shall not die. O Lord, thou hast ordained them for judgment; and, O mighty God, thou hast established them for correction.

13. Thou art of purer eyes than to behold evil, and canst not look on iniquity: wherefore lookest thou upon them that deal treacherously, and holdest thy tongue when the wicked devoureth the man that is more righteous than he?

2:1. I will stand upon my watch, and set me upon the tower, and will watch to see what he will say unto me, and what I shall answer when I am reproved.

2. And the Lord answered me, and said, Write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it.

3. For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry;

wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry.

4. Behold, his soul which is lifted up is not upright in him: but the Just shall live by his faith.

3:17. Although the fig tree shall not blossom, neither shall fruit be in the vines; the labour of the olive shall fail, and the fields shall yield no meat; the flock shall be cut off from the fold and there shall be no herd in the stalls:

18. Yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will joy in the God of my salvation.

19. The Lord God is my strength, and he will make my feet like hinds' feet, and he will make me to walk upon mine high places.

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

Practical Truth: The greatest accomplishment any one ever attained to is to die trusting the Lord.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Just what does it mean to put our trust in God? To trust God means that we have confidence in him. To put our trust in the Lord means that we are not afraid to trust him under any and all circumstances, knowing that God is still on his throne hearing and answering prayer. Our prayers will be answered when we approach God in the right manner. 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. We learn to trust God because we find him a present help in time of trouble. Then he tells us to cast our burden on him and he will sustain us. To any who are afraid to trust God we say it is not his fault. We learn to trust God by making our request known to him and then hearing from heaven. We learn who to go to when we need help. Read Psalm 50:14, 15.

The secret of success in praying first of all is obedience and then as we have said approach God in the right manner. Read Philippians 4:6. When we pray we should not forget to thank the Lord for the many blessings he has already bestowed on us. Just think of the many times he has come to help us when we were in trouble, then thank him for the wonderful blessing of the past.

Just to trust in the Lord,
Just to lean on his word,
Just to know that I am his every day
Just to walk by his side,
With his Spirit to guide,
Just to follow where he leads the way.

ZEPHANIAH CALLS TO REPENTANCE

June 11, 1950

Printed Portion.....Zephaniah 1:12-18; 3:16-20.

Zeph. 1:12. And it shall come to pass at that time, that I will search Jerusalem with candles, and punish the men that are settled on their lees: that say in their heart, The Lord will not do good, neither will he do evil.

13. Therefore their goods shall become a booty, and their houses a desolation: they shall also build houses, but not inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, but not drink the wine thereof.

14. The great day of the Lord is near, it is near, and hasteth greatly, even the voice of the day of the Lord: the mighty man shall cry there bitterly.

15. That day is a day of wrath, a day of trouble and distress, a day of wasteness and desolation, a day of

darkness and gloominess, a day of clouds and thick darkness.

16. And a day of the trumpet and alarm against the fenced cities, and against the high towers.

17. And I will bring distress upon men, that they shall walk like blind men, because they have sinned against the Lord: and their blood shall be poured out as dust, and their flesh as the dung.

18. Neither their silver nor their gold shall be able to deliver them in the day of the Lord's wrath: but the whole land shall be devoured by the fire of his jealousy: for he shall make even a speedy riddance of all them that dwell in the land.

3:16. In that day it shall be said to Jerusalem, Fear thou not: and to Zion, Let not thine hands be slack.

17. The Lord thy God in the midst of thee is mighty; he will save, he will rejoice over thee with joy; he will rest in his love, he will joy over thee with singing.

18. I will gather them that are sorrowful for the solemn assembly, who are of thee, to whom the reproach of it was a burden.

19. Behold, at that time I will undo all that afflict thee: and I will save her that halteth, and gather her that was driven out; and I will get them praise and fame in every land where they have been put to shame.

20. At that time will I bring you again, even in the time that I gather you: for I will make you a name and a praise among all people of the earth, when I turn back your captivity before your eyes, saith the Lord.

Memory Verse: Cry aloud, spare not lift up thy voice like a trumpet and shew my people their transgressions and the house of Jacob their sins. Isaiah 58:1.

Practical Truth: If we cover or hide our sins we cannot prosper.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

God's prophets, as we listen to him in today's lesson, cries out against the sinful condition of the people. They had lost all the fear of God out of their hearts and there is only one way for them to come back to God and that is through repentance. All have to repent before they can be born again. All must be born again before they can see the kingdom of God. When John the Baptist came preaching, his first words were Repent. When Jesus began his ministry his first words were, Repent for the kingdom of heaven is at hand. In the thirteenth chapter of St. Luke we read where Jesus was told of some wicked people whose blood Pilate mingled with their sacrifice. Jesus said, "Suppose ye that these Galileans were sinners above all the Galileans, because they suffered such things? I tell you, Nay: but except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish." Only through true repentance can we come to God and have our sins pardoned. All of God's true prophets and ministers have showed sinners that they would have to repent before the Lord would accept them as his children. To repent means to be sorry for sin and quit it. In the first chapter of St. Mark Jesus said, Repent and believe the gospel. Just as Zephaniah the prophet showed the people of his day their sins so God's true ministers are crying out against sin in this, our day.

MALACHI PLEADS FOR WHOLEHEARTED RELIGION

June 18, 1950

Printed Portion.....Malachi 2:10; 3:7-10; 4:5-6.

Malachi 2:10. Have we not all one father? hath not one God created us? why do we deal treacherously every

man against his brother, by profaning the covenant of our fathers?

3:7. Even from the days of your fathers ye are gone away from mine ordinances, and have not kept them. Return unto me, and I will return unto you, saith the Lord of hosts. But ye said, Wherein shall we return?

8. Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings.

9. Ye are cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation.

10. Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.

4:5. Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord:

6. And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse.

Memory Verse: Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul and with all thy mind. Matthew 22:37.

Practical Truth: Any thing less than whole-hearted worship is condemned by God's word.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

We are sure that our worship must be whole-hearted if we would please God. God cannot and will not accept our worship unless it is whole-hearted worship. When our worship is less than whole-hearted we are giving part of it to some one besides God. In Isa. 42:8 we read: I am the Lord: that is my name and my glory will I not give to another. So now dear children of the Lord let us not offer unto the Lord any thing but whole-hearted worship. In the first chapter of Malachi we read: Who is there among you that would shut the door for nought neither do ye kindle a fire on mine altar for nought. I have no pleasure in you saith the Lord, neither will I accept an offering at your hand. It is a waste of time for us to offer anything but whole-hearted service to the Lord.

Deuteronomy 4:29 we read that we shall find the Lord when we seek him with all our heart and all our soul. We ought to be ashamed to offer unto the Lord anything less than the best of what we have. Let us remember that the Lord gave the very best he had for us, even to the giving of his life and the last drop of his precious blood was shed for us. How can we make a lesser sacrifice when Jesus gave his all? Now in conclusion this question. What shall I render unto the Lord for all his benefits toward me?

JONAH LEARNS GOD'S MISSIONARY PURPOSE

June 25, 1950

Printed Portion.....Jonah 3:3-6; 4:1-11.

Jonah 3:3. So Jonah arose, and went unto Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was an exceeding great city of three days' journey.

4. And Jonah began to enter into the city a day's journey, and he cried, and said, Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown.

5. So the people of Nineveh believed God, and proclaimed a fast, and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them even to the least of them.

6. For word came unto the king of Nineveh, and he arose from his throne, and he laid his robe from him, and covered him with sackcloth, and sat in ashes.

4:1. But it displeased Jonah exceedingly, and he was very angry.

2. And he prayed unto the Lord and said I pray thee, O Lord, was not this my saying, when I was yet in my country? Therefore I fled before unto Tarshish, for I knew that thou art a gracious God, and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repentest thee of the evil.

3. Therefore now, O Lord, take, I beseech thee, my life from me; for it is better for me to die than to live.

4. Then said the Lord, Doest thou well to be angry?

5. So Jonah went out of the city, and sat on the east side of the city, and there made him a booth, and sat under it in the shadow, till he might see what would become of the city.

6. And the Lord God prepared a gourd, and made it to come up over Jonah, that it might be a shadow over his head, to deliver him from his grief. So Jonah was exceeding glad of the gourd.

7. But God prepared a worm when the morning rose the next day, and it smote the gourd that it withered.

8. And it came to pass, when the sun did arise, that God prepared a vehement east wind; and the sun beat upon the head of Jonah, that he fainted, and wished in himself to die, and said, It is better for me to die than to live.

9. And God said to Jonah, Doest thou well to be angry for the gourd? And he said, I do well to be angry even unto death.

10. Then said the Lord, Thou hast had pity on the gourd, for the which thou hast not laboured, neither madest it grow; which came up in a night, and perished in a night:

11. And should not I spare Nineveh, that great city, wherein are more than sixscore thousand persons that cannot discern between their right hand and their left hand; and also much cattle?

Memory Verse: Also I heard the voice of the Lord saying, Whom shall I send and who will go for us. Then said I, Here am I: send me. Isaiah 6:8.

Question: When God calls for some one to carry his message, will you say, Here am I send me?

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Jonah learned God's missionary purpose but he learned it the hard way. God had laid his hand on Jonah to carry his message of warning to a big wicked city but he rebelled against God and tried to run away from him. God by his wisdom headed him off by sending a storm which seemed that it would wreck the ship in which Jonah was making his get away. Then we will remember how God prepared a big fish to swallow up this run-away missionary and he spent three days and three nights in the fishes' belly during which time Jonah repented of his disobedience. After this God commanded the big fish to carry him to Nineveh where he was to warn this big wicked city that in forty days God would overthrow their city.

No doubt we have some today who have lain down on the job and failed to carry the message God had designed for them. We don't know how long God will bear with them in his mercy but we know they will have to settle with him some day. God has always had need of missionaries to carry his messages to poor hungry souls. God still needs missionaries to carry his message to needy souls. Will you be a messenger for Jesus? G. S.