

FAITH^{AND}VICTORY

The EVENING LIGHT WATCHMAN



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My Shepherd

By Wilma Lea

(Written during her severe afflictions)

The Lord is my Shepherd
Whom I love to obey;
His Spirit doth lead me
Each night and each day.

My soul He restoreth
From a dead state of sin,
And holy fire sendeth
To cleanse me within.

I'll keep his commandments,
Lay down every weight
To keep in the way that
Is narrow and strait.

Yea, though I'm afflicted
And suffer great pain,
I'll ever press harder,
Fair heaven to gain.

I will fear no evil—
I know He is near,
Even unto the end
To comfort and cheer.

oOo

An Appointment

(Selections from a message preached Jan. 9, 1951 at Guthrie, Oklahoma by Egbert Allen).

The song we were singing asks the question, "Where are you building, on the solid rock or on the sand?" The way we build will determine whether we will stand or not.

The portion of the Lord's word which is impressed upon our hearts at present is found in Heb. 9:27: "And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment." This Scripture will apply to all who have come to the age of accountability. There is something in this that each and every one ought to take heed to, to look forward to that day. All know that some day they are going to die. Dear ones, if that were ALL there is to it, it wouldn't be

so bad; but after death there is the judgment, and we need to be prepared to leave this world, for as we leave this world, so shall we meet the judgment. We shall meet the Lord as we are. Do you realize that appointment is coming to you one of these days? Today it has come to many over this world—perhaps thousands of people have met this appointment. We are all traveling on and must meet this appointment. There have been times in our lives when we thought we would go some place and then changed our minds and turned back; but we are ALL travelers to the judgment and there is no turning back. We ought to live each day as if it were our last day upon the earth. Live to be free from condemnation.

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

Many of those over the earth today have met their destiny and we wonder how it was with them. We know but what we see and hear, but observe that most people are unprepared to meet the Lord. The question is: Are we ready? We are one day closer to this time than we were yesterday and one year closer than we were last year. It seems like the years pass by so rapidly, if they slip by with you as they do with me. It seems the last eighteen years of my life have gone by so fast that I don't know where they have gone. Every day and every hour we live draws us that much closer to this appointment with death and then the judgment.

John 5:22, "For the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the Son." Jesus is the judge. God has committed all judgment to the Son. Verse 27: "And hath given him authority to execute judgment also because he is the Son of man." Every one is going to stand before Him. I believe we realize that—if not, it is time to be waking up. We are going to stand before the Judge, and when we do there is nothing hid, nothing covered up that shall not be revealed. Do you realize that Jesus hears the faintest whisper, that he is present in every conversation? It is as if a recording machine were recording our lives. We are making our own record whether we are conscious of the fact or not. Not one little sparrow falls upon the earth that the Father does not know about. Surely, if He cares for the little birds that fly around, He is watching over us.

Matt. 12:36, "But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment." To whom is He talking? He is talking to you and to me. Let us take it as if Jesus were speaking in person. Every idle word will have to be accounted for in the day of judgment. That leads us to realize that we ought to gird up the loins of our minds and watch and be sober. As Peter said, the "end of all things is at hand" 1 Pet. 4:7. I used to think that this Scripture carried the thought of God's disapproval upon foolish jesting and joking as recorded in Eph. 5:4, "Neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor jesting, which are not convenient: but rather giving of thanks." It takes in more than that. Many times parts of our conversation which are not joking and jesting will condemn us and would be better left unsaid. I wonder how we would like for a record of things we have said today to be played in public—things that have been said behind closed doors? What has been said in the last few weeks? in the last few months? If the record should start playing now, would you like to face it?

I sat one time in a room with three others, unaware that there was a recording machine in the room. I was sad and did not feel like talking, but I noticed a brother was trying to lead me out in conversation. We talked about thirty minutes, and pretty soon, all at once a machine started to play off and there was our conversation. I thought: "Who is this?" It was our conversation just as we had talked. Some day our record is going to play off before Jesus. I don't know just how it is going to be, but I am sure there is a record being made of our lives daily, and we are going to meet our record. Conversations can be erased from man's recording machines and something else be recorded. I am satisfied that if some folks could just realize what a record they have been making in the past month or year they would want it changed. Furthermore, I don't believe they would want it played out in public. If we knew we were going to face Jesus tonight and face the record of our lives, would we want to meet it? As a record of a conversation can be erased from a recording tape or wire, even so we can come to Jesus and have him erase our past life. It may take some restitution. Some folks think they can just come and confess to Jesus and that is all there is to it. But to have our record completely cleared before God, it means if we have wronged our fellowman we must make restitution. It means we must be willing to own up and say, "I was wrong." Oh, I say, it is going to mean a lot.

I was in the presence of one a few years ago and heard some awful words spoken. I asked the man how he would like to hear that as a part of his record. That stirred him up and he said, "If you had known what I was thinking, you would have been surprised too!" Jesus knows the intents of the hearts and all these things that proceed out of the heart: "For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts . . ." Also, "All these evil things come from within and defile the man." (Mark 7:21, 23). Many people have thoughts concealed down in their minds. The

enemy brings some things to us but if we will not let them lodge in our hearts we can get rid of them. We shall face thoughts as well as deeds committed.

Matt. 12:37, "By thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned." We will either be justified by the right words we have spoken and the right deeds we have done, or the wrong ones will condemn us. We will have no alibis—our own words will justify us or condemn us. In the parable where the king found the man at the wedding feast without a wedding garment on, what did the man say? He was speechless. He knew he was in the wrong place. Our lives here will condemn or our lives will justify. You may be able to help me and I may be able to help you, but we must each stand before the Lord. We may pass our judgment here or condemn each other, but we are going to meet a Righteous Judge!

In Acts 17:30, 31 we read, "And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men everywhere to repent." Paul was standing before Pagan worshipers. God had overlooked some things in them up to this time, but now He commanded all men everywhere to repent, "Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained." That man is Jesus. He was ordained to be the Judge and he will judge the world in righteousness. All are going to stand before him; there are no exemptions. 1 Cor. 4:5 says, "Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord come, who both will bring to light the hidden things of darkness, and will make manifest the counsels of the hearts: and then shall every man have praise of God." Now, listen, my friends, Jesus is going to make manifest the counsels of the hearts. It does not mean that we cannot pass a preliminary judgment. There are times when a preliminary judgment takes place. There are times when the Word of God is judging us, so to speak—that is a preliminary judgment. But we cannot pass the penalty of judgment upon the man and sentence him to death as Jesus will when we stand before him. "For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad" (2 Cor. 5:10). Paul knew what the judgment was going to bring forth. He is persuading men to fix everything up before that Great Day, persuading them to get right with God and to get holy before the Lord. Do you know it is going to be a terrible thing to fall in the hands of a living God?

In Heb. 4:13, we read: "Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do." Now listen, "For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart." This Word of God will show us up in our lives, not a thing covered here. People think they

have things covered up, but every idle word, every bad word, every evil thought is known to Him.

We read in Eccl. 11:9, "Rejoice, O young man, in the days of thy youth, and walk in the ways of thine heart, and in the sight of thine eyes: but know thou, that for all these things God will bring thee into judgment." Folks fight the truth and go the ways of the world, but we are going to have to face the truth at the judgment. Now, in Eccl 12:13, "Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. For God shall bring every work into judgment with every secret thing whether it be good, or whether it be evil." Every secret thing is going to come forth before God. We shall have to face those covered up sins, so it behooves us to straighten up on every line.

There is a picture which shows a merchant weighing a fowl for a woman. He has a finger on the scales to make it weigh more and she is pushing up from underneath the scales on the other side to make it weigh less. They were hiding their actions from each other, but God's eye was looking on. You can't do wrong and get by. We ought to be conscious of this eye that is looking down from the watchtower over the earth, and also know that an ear is listening to what you say.

1 John 4:15, 16, "Whosoever shall confess that Jesus is the Son of God, God dwelleth in him, and he in God. And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him." Now this will bring us confidence, therefore we will have boldness in the day of judgment. It is going to be a wonderful thing to meet the Lord with boldness, to be confident that God dwells in us and we in him. Sin with torment and the fear of meeting Jesus is the most tormenting thing I know. As Christ is, so are we, "that we may have boldness in the day of judgment." It will be wonderful to meet the Lord and hear him say: "Well done, thou good and faithful servant." Are we ready to meet him? Have we been doing what we could do? It is going to mean a lot to be ready to meet Jesus in boldness in the day of judgment. I often think of my experience prior to my conversion. I remember two different times I dreamed of the end of the world, and I was on my face just as close as I could get to the earth. I was bowed down as closely to the earth as possible because this was the last day and Jesus had come. I was frightened, I was terrified. That was an awful day. I have never had any dream like that since I have been saved. Before that every little sign in the sky or anything out of the ordinary would make me fear the end of time had come. "There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear" (1 John 4:18). I know of no greater consolation and comfort than to know that our sins have been blotted out—Christ in us and we in Him. "For if our heart condemn us, God is greater than our heart and knoweth all things. Beloved, if our heart condemn us not, then have confidence toward God." Does your heart condemn you?

If so, God is greater. "There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit." (Rom. 8:1). This world is troubled on every side, but Jesus said: "Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me." (John 14:1).

It is a wonderful thing as Paul put it in 1 Tim. 5:24: "Some men's sins are open beforehand, going before to judgment; and some men they follow after." It is a wonderful thing to have our sins sent on before to the judgment. THAT is comfort and consolation to know that we can send them on before, straighten up our back lives and all our idleness and foolish talking. We confess it all out to God, straighten it all up, and now, as Paul said: "Our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ: who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself." (Phil. 3:20, 21). There is only one thing that will bring us comfort and consolation and that is to know our sins have been blotted out. We must make restitution for every dollar we have beaten anyone out of in our life. I have had to back-track my life and pay back every dollar that I knew the Lord would require of me. If I had one billion years to live upon this earth, I would want to live every day as if it were my last. Why? If I would miss heaven after a billion years had passed on, then Eternity would just be beginning. I have said if I had to go to heaven just crawling on my hands and knees, it would be worth it!

Matt. 25:31: "When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory." This is the last day. There are no more days, no more place. Some folks say, "If I miss it here I will make it over in the thousand year reign." Listen, folks, if you miss it here, you have missed it for eternity. "And before him shall be gathered all nations." We are all in that number—all the people ever born in this world are in this great number. He said all nations were gathered before him. He sits upon the throne of his glory "and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats." We are in the world together now, but a dividing will take place! "And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left. Then"—notice, right at the same time—"shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world." Come, ye blessed—you know, that is going to be a great summons! The righteous will inherit a glorified body and will be caught up "to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we EVER BE WITH THE LORD!" (1 Thess. 4:17)

Then to those on the left hand: "Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels" (Matt. 25:41). Thus we shall meet our appointment—right there at the judgment. "And these shall go away into everlasting punishment; but the righteous into life eternal." (Matt. 25:46).

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1950 "FAITH AND VICTORY" BOOKS

The eleven issues of the "Faith and Victory" papers for 1950 are now in book form. These books will be postpaid to you for 40 cents each or three books for \$1.00. Send your order now while they are in stock.

NOTICE CONCERNING DRAFT MEASURES

New draft measures which our law makers are acting upon indicate that the boys (and, perhaps, girls) who are opposed to military training and service may be facing some severe trials. When one member of Christ's body suffers, all suffer with it; so we should take this as a special burden for prayer, and back them up all we can to the glory of God. It is suggested that the saints in different congregations, and especially pastors, write to their senator or congressman and ask for provisions to be made for the conscientious objectors.

Editorials

We pray that God's rich blessings may rest upon every reader of this paper, and may His Spirit carry truth to your hearts, causing the articles printed to become living words to your soul. Every one of us is hastening on to the judgment day, and then long, long eternity. We should each one see to it that we are living now to live again. All vain desires and foolish talking and thinking should be resisted as from the enemy. We are taught in the Word to gird up the loins of our minds—hold our minds in subjection to the will and Word of God; keep our minds stayed on things above and he will keep us in perfect peace.

When Jonah got into such great trouble by disobeying God and became very humble in the whale's belly, he then cried unto God in his lamentable condition and said, "They that observe lying vanities forsake their own mercy." Jonah had listened to Satan's lies and followed after vain desires in his heart, but God caught up with him and brought him down into a miserable state and held him there until he was willing to do God's bidding. Anything that we do or desire that is not of eternal worth is a vain thing, and if continued to be indulged in, will rob us of God in the soul. I have known of parents who indulged their children in the vanity of worldly dress and other vain desires until they lost out in their own souls and now can flirt with and take up with worldly religions and think it is all right. They loved their children more than they did God's Word and His will. They wronged their children and their own souls. Evil will continue on, and the result of such indulgence is that it can never be stopped. They justify themselves in their doings, and others follow their bad examples.

James says, "Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double-minded." If we would obey the Scriptures, we would not become grievous in the sight of God. The devil is after that Christ-life that has been formed in your soul by the power of God. He has many devices by which he will deceive souls and cause them to err from the right way, getting them to sow to the flesh instead of to the Spirit, and the child Jesus will be destroyed in the soul. The carnal Jews cried unto Pilate, "Loose Barabbas and crucify Jesus." Barabbas represents our carnal life, and if you are not watchful and prayerful and choose the suffering way with Christ, you will allow Satan to slay Christ in your soul and Barabbas will be loose to lead you on to eternal destruction. He will play god to you, will become an angel of light to your poor deluded soul, and land you in the regions of eternal damnation and torment. Oh, awake, thou that sleepest and arise from the dead and Christ shall give thee light. Take warning while you have an opportunity to change your course, lest iniquity be your ruin.

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The Oklahoma State Assembly meeting was quite well attended, and the Lord showed himself in a very

precious way in saving souls, healing bodies, and sanctifying believers. The saints sat at Father's table feasting on good wholesome soul food and the enemy had to look on with much dissatisfaction and was at his wit's end to try to find some way to start any variance or sow some discord. Where the divine love of God is filling the saints' hearts and they manifest the fruits of the Spirit in bearing and fore-bearing and being longsuffering with one another, with gentleness, tenderness, being fervent in Spirit, loving God and his truth, it will cover or prevent a multitude of sins which the enemy would have going on were conditions otherwise. It seems hard for some to learn the secret of keeping everything in the hands of God so He can work freely in a meeting and overcome the enemy and keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

We are truly thankful to God for this assembly meeting, as the truth went forth in the power and demonstration of the Spirit, as fellowship in the Spirit flowed from heart to heart. Some will remember this assembly meeting as one of the best meetings that they ever attended. The meeting closed on New Year's Eve, and the altar was full of seekers several times that night, and the meeting lasted almost to the incoming of the New Year 1951.

The present building would not hold the people on the last Sunday of the meeting. In the business meeting plans were formulated for the building of a new meeting house and use the old one for the brethren's sleeping quarters during campmeetings and assembly meetings. God's work will go on in the apostolic manner until Jesus comes; for, according to the Scriptures, there will be saints here when He comes. You can be one among that number if you will hold steadfast your confidence with rejoicing unto the end. Keep your heart filled with His divine love and see to it that you are bearing the fruits of the Spirit in all your words and deeds, regardless of how much you may have to suffer or bear reproach. Remember, if you are truly sanctified you will be the just suffering for the unjust in this world, even as Christ our Lord. You could not possibly live godly in this sinful world without suffering persecution, for that would be contrary to the written Word of God (2 Tim. 3:12). Just let patience have her perfect work, so you will be perfect and entire, wanting nothing (James 1:4).

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When we read about the three years and a half of the ministry of Christ in the Bible and take note of how the religious Jews persecuted him, it makes us wonder how men who claimed to love God and to worship him could treat the Son of God in this way; but when we consider the words that Jesus spoke to them, we perceive that it was Satan or his spirit covered with a high profession of religion, playing god to them. Jesus spoke of them as "whited sepulchres which indeed appear beautiful outward, but are within full of dead men's bones, and of all uncleanness" Matt. 23:27.

In the third verse of this chapter, he said to his disciples, "But do not ye after their works: for they say, and do not." In Luke 11:44, we read, "Woe unto ye scribes and pharisees, hypocrites! for ye are as graves which appear not, and men that walk over them are not aware of them." Graves that appear not would mean that they appeared by their talk and many actions to be really alive in God, but the fact was that they were dead so far as the true Spirit of God was concerned.

In John 8:44 we read again, "Ye are of your father, the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do, he was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar and the father of it." Satan would like to have folks believe that there is no such people in the world today, but the fact is, the world is full of just such people. Satan is covering himself up with a religious cloak and deceiving the multitudes of people today, getting souls tied up with human religion in one form or another and playing God to them. Those three unclean spirits like frogs which are spirits of devils working miracles (Rev. 16) are deceiving the multitudes today and the people are flocking after these false teachers and think their miracle performing is of the true God of heaven. In Matt. 24:28, we read, "For wheresoever the carcass is, there will the eagles [fowl spirits] be gathered together." Many of these latter day movements that appear so religious and do great signs and wonders are nothing more or less than unclean spirits. They are graves that appear not, and those who do not love the truth, the crucified way, fall a prey to their clever workings and become influenced by devil spirits. Any person that has been saved and then begins to cease to love the self-denying route to heaven opens up his soul for deception. The true Spirit of Christ leaves him and he becomes a carcass for the vulture spirits to feast upon and devour. We are living in perilous times, and each one of us should see to it that we keep loving the crucified way with Christ that heaven may be our eternal abode.

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BLESSED BE MY ENEMIES

Blessed are my enemies, for they prevent all men from speaking well of me. (Luke 6:26).

Blessed are my enemies for they cause me to bare my heart before the searching eyes of God, and this intensifies my love for Him who died for me.

Blessed be my enemies, for they give me opportunity to walk in the foot-steps of Jesus (while pressure is on) "Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth: who when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not; but committed himself to him who judgeth righteously." 1 Pet. 2:22, 23.

Blessed are my enemies, for they are allowed of God to prove me and to try me and thereby show me that His grace is sufficient, giving us power to "Not render evil for evil, or railing for railing; but contrariwise blessing; knowing that ye are thereunto

called, that ye should inherit a blessing." 1 Pet. 3:9.

Blessed are my enemies, for they rub off my artificial varnish and act as a scrub brush or a diamond polisher to fit my soul for the glory world.

Blessed be my enemies, when they revile me and say all manner of evil against me for their own gratification. Let me rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for such will make a strong soldier out of me, taking for granted that I am wise in understanding the truth of the righteous One who said, "Love your enemies." Matt. 5:44.

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SONG BOOKS FOR SALE

The saints at Orland, Calif. have fifty "Hymns and Spiritual Songs" books in good condition, practically new, which they desire to sell. Price, 50 cents each. Anyone who is interested contact Madelon Reynolds, Gen. Del., Orland, Calif.

Obituaries

Clarence Herbert (Bert) Steele was born in Madison County, Arkansas, Oct. 20, 1884; and departed this life December 17, 1950. Survivors are two sons, Paul and Boyd of the home; five daughters, Mrs. Alpha Williams, Springdale, Ark., Mrs. Jewell Russell, Loy, Ark., Stella, Almadean, and Ruth of the home; four brothers, Henry, Harrison, and Sam of Huntsville, Ark. and John T. of Bakersfield, Calif.; one sister, Mrs. Sara Garton of Kingstons, Ark.; two grandchildren; and a host of other friends and relatives.

Bro. Bert Steele was a called and ordained minister of the gospel, having given his heart to God in his twenties. He carried the gospel to the people over the hills and through the valleys of Arkansas for nearly forty years. Much of the time he walked to his appointments from twelve to fifteen miles. He was faithful to the last and died in the faith, practicing what he preached. Although he suffered much and often severely many days before he passed to his reward, he did not waver. He told us a few days before going, "I want to go, I am ready to go." After the funeral service the undertaker made the statement that he had known Bro. Steele for many years, and said, "He was a good man. One thing I honor him for was that he practiced what he preached and professed up to the last." The community where he lived east of Huntsville, Ark. has lost a good citizen and a godly and valuable man, but their loss is heaven's gain. They can all meet him again if they will get right with God and stay in that condition without wavering, and be steadfast in the truth until the Lord summons them from this world.

The funeral service was conducted by Fred Pruitt. Text: Eccl. 12:13, 14, with other Scriptures.

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Homer Crisp was born in Caney, Hopkins County, Texas, Oct. 31, 1898, the son of Willie and Ruthie Crisp. He departed this life Dec. 1, 1950 in his home in Akron, Ohio. He was united in marriage to Lillie Bell Payne June 26, 1928, to which union four children were born, three boys and one girl: Alfred C. Crisp (Cpl. in A. F.) of Frankfort, Ger.; Adolph, Gilbert, and Clara Bell of Akron.

Bereaved are: his wife, three sons, one daughter, three sisters, one brother, and a host of relatives and friends.

He sought the Lord for salvation and the Lord saved him. He lived a victorious life unto the end. His pastor was Sister E. Hudson. Funeral service was held at Grayson, Okla., Dec. 11, 1950 by Bro. L. Williams of Wichita.

Mrs. Nellie Hudson of Sandusky, Ohio was born Nov. 7, 1904 at Dyersburg, Tenn. and departed this life Nov. 9, 1950 at the age of 46 years and 2 days. She was united in marriage to Arthur Hudson, and to this union three children were born. Survivors are her three children, six grandchildren, four sisters, two brothers, three aunts, and a host of other relatives and friends.

Sister Hudson was a firm believer in God and trusted him faithfully unto the end. She will be greatly missed, as she was a faithful worker among the saints and sinners. She was not strong in body, but she was faithful in visiting from house to house, praying for the sick and telling the good news of God's ability to save from sin in this world.

Funeral service was conducted by Henry Chaney. Text: Heb. 9:27; 2 Cor. 5:10.

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The Three Crosses

Upon the hill of Calvary

Three crosses planted side by side—

A victim hanging on each cross

That day was being crucified.

A thief hung on the right and left,

In the center hung God's only Son;

He seemed of friends to be bereft,

He was crowned with thorns—

What had He done?

A crowd of lawyers, scribes, and priests

Stood jeering at God's dying Son—

Back in the temple hear them say,

"Oh, when will our Messiah come?"

I knelt there at the center cross

And let His blood drops fall on me;

And, lo, my condemnations gone,

I am from all my sins set free.

I shouted, "Glory to my God,

Jesus has won the victory!"

I'll love and serve Him evermore,

For He was crucified for me.

And there I made a solemn vow

To ever serve Him faithfully.

The thorns He wore upon His brow

Shall crown my life with victory.

—Rebecca Basicker

At nearly 92 years of age, there comes to me, like a television from heaven, scenes of the suffering Lamb of God that we might be cleansed from our sins and kept from the vain things of earth which shut out the heavenly visions. No wonder we are in such distress. Oh, if our nation would make a bonfire of their law books and go back to the dear old law of God! How He did prosper us in the long ago when we kept His holy Word locked closely in our hearts and minds! I love that dear old hymn, "Back to the Blessed Old Bible," for it is a light to my old feet.

What a price Jesus paid for us on that center cross. My mind dwells on that scene as it was revealed to me. Pray for your old Aunt Becca Basicker. I need to keep close watch, for I know not when He will call for me. This is to all the dear saints of God, for they are dear to me.

—Rebecca Basicker.

Unity of God's People

To the dear saints scattered abroad in Jesus' name. Psalm 133:1; Eph. 4:3-13.

When we meet with the dear saints walking in the light as Jesus is the light, and when I find division among them, it makes me sad. If the leaders will stay in the will of God, the most of the trouble in the congregations will be avoided. When the leaders get their eyes put out with division and cannot see any difference in the saints and the people in division there is the trouble. We are just like the early church. When we live like they did, we have one heart and one soul (Acts 4:32; Acts 2:42-44). We notice they were together and had all things common, also had fellowship one with the other. I praise God for the love of God in our hearts that makes us one. The Word tells us to mark them that cause division and avoid them (Rom. 16:17).

The Lord led me to go to the mountains of Albalmarle County to plant the truth. I climbed those hills day and night. The Lord led forty people out of sin through my poor efforts. There came a preacher with division, posing as a true saint, and he destroyed them all but one—she is still standing for God's way. Oh! I hate division. I would love to lead the people out of it into the glorious light of the gospel of Jesus!

Remember, dear leaders, and watch over the flocks over which the dear Lord has made you overseers; for as the leader, so are the people.

Yours in the one body of the dear Lord,

Sister Laura Powell

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Correspondence

Mo.—Dear saints, greetings in the name of our dear Lord:—I am so happy to still be pressing forward in the straight way. The Lord has done so much for me, I feel unworthy of his great love for me. I truly do thank him for his love, also for his dear saints and the love they have for one another. It is about 35 or 40 miles from my home to the nearest congregation of saints; but that does not matter, they come when I call them, night or day.

Last spring I washed in the morning and then went to town in the evening. I did not feel well when I left home, felt it was because I had washed and was chilled. After I arrived in town I continued to feel worse, then a pain struck in my left lung. I was unable to wait for the bus, so got a car out home. I could hardly get my breath. I was sure I had pneumonia. I have a neighbor (Mrs. Collins, several of the saints have met her) who had had several bad cases of pneumonia, so I sent for her. The way she described it was the exact way I felt. She stayed with me and we called for the saints at Myrtle. It was near midnight when Bro. Shirrell and Bro. and Sister A. J. Sorrell arrived. My fever was rapidly coming up and I had much pain in my lung. They anointed me and prayed. They stayed about an hour, and by the time they left my fever was gone. The next day I was up, but weak. The Lord did not have to wait nine days to see what the change would be. Thank God.

In June, 1949, one night a bug crawled into my ear while I was asleep and was fastened before I awakened enough to remove it. I went to Mrs. Collins again to see if she could get it out. It was very painful. There was

a place behind my ear I could press and the bug couldn't move. Mrs. Collins tried to float it out with warm water, but couldn't. The pain was so severe at times I hardly knew what I was doing. The water must have killed the bug. At first I was frightened, and the enemy brought to my mind the testimony of a saint who suffered years because of a bug in her ear. As soon as I realized the enemy's trick I began to call on the Lord. He stopped the pain. I went back home and went to sleep. I did not know at that time if He removed the bug or not. I had been told a very small bug would feel so large in the ear. So I wondered if it had come out without my seeing it. Anyway, I knew the Lord had taken things in His hands, and I was resting in His care.

In August I was visiting the saints at Senath and was at Sister Marler's home when I removed a large piece of the bug. Other pieces were removed at different times, and I knew it was a very large bug.

While at campmeeting at Monark Springs this summer, during an afternoon meeting the Lord removed almost the whole body of a large roach bug from my ear. I thought surely that was all. Soon after I was home small pieces still came out of my ear until on the 8th of October, 1950, the head was removed. The bug was about an inch long and was in my head about sixteen months until the last piece was removed. I never had any more pain with it after that first night. There was no inflammation at any time. One neighbor said she just couldn't see how it happened that I didn't have a risen in my head. I do thank the Lord that I can see how it happened.

The dear Lord is still the same now as he was while here on the earth in body. He is the only Physician I ever expect to have. His treatments are sure, no guess work at all. It grieves my heart to see folks turn to the Lord only when man has failed and can do no more for them. The Lord has done many things for me since I have started trusting him for both soul and body. He supplies my temporal needs, heals my sick body, saved my soul, and gives me joy in this life to know he is soon coming again to receive me unto himself to spend eternity in his presence. What more could I wish for?

Pray for me that I may always be found faithful to Him who does so much for me.

Your sister in the straight and narrow way,

Alice Campbell

—o—o—o—o—o—o—

Texas—Dear Saints,—I am thankful to greet you in Jesus' name. The Lord is precious to me. On April 11, 1949 I had a terrible stroke but the Lord blessed me and now I am able to do my house work. I have nervous spells quite often but I know he can heal me. My trust is in Him. I am asking you dear saints to pray much for me, also pray for my unsaved husband and son. The Lord means much to me and I mean to live for him. Please pray that the Lord will heal me and that I will grow strong. Yours in the Faith,

Ever Batts.

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Calif.—Dear Saints,—Greetings in Jesus' name. I thank the Lord I am here tonight. On December 26 the enemy tried to defeat me. My folks here took me to the hospital but I want to tell you how Jesus worked there. The doctors and nurses didn't do one thing for me all night neither the next day so I started thinking of the Lord and some one called some of the saints and they went to the throne for me. On the night of Dec. 28 I saw some one come open the door and look in and that same minute he touched my body and tonight I am home. Bless his sweet name. Pray for me that the Lord will completely heal my body.

Sis. Mary Sherrell.

Mo.—To the saints scattered abroad,—Greetings. I am still praising the dear Lord for salvation and for his wonderful healing power. He has performed miracles for us. At one time I had a bloodclot floating through my body and the Lord removed it in answer to prayer. It hasn't bothered me since. A man in Oregon, Mo. had a blood clot around his brain. I told him we would have prayer for him so when we would have prayer we would remember him. I saw his son later and he said the blood clots were all gone and it didn't bother him anymore. When the Lord impresses us to do anything we need not to be afraid to obey him for obedience is better than sacrifice so we better obey the Lord. He is still on the throne and has the power to perform miracles and heal all manner of diseases. This fall I was very poorly but the Lord healed me and I'm just in good health. I give God all the praise.

Your sister in Christ,

Mary E. Hood.

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

Okla.—While attending a two weeks meeting at Okeene, Okla. after the afternoon service I had an awful pain in my chest. The ministers anointed me and prayed for me but the stroke was still in my left hand. I couldn't hold anything in my left hand. The last night I was there I was anointed again and after I got home the enemy tried to affect my left eye. Bro. Fred Pruitt anointed me and prayed for me and the good Lord took it all away.

While writing this I feel good in both soul and body. I am glad to know that we are serving a living God. On December 11 I was 85 years old and some of the young people and saints came with much encouragement and love to me. Oh, how I did appreciate it. May God bless every one that got a prayer through for me.

Your saved sister,

Frances Bell.

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

La.—To the dear saints—Greetings. I have felt led for some time to write my testimony for the paper. This morning finds me saved and happy in my Lord. I don't know of anything on earth that would mean more to me than to know this. I surely feel the burden on my soul for those who don't know the Lord as their Savior. I am so happy to see those who have come to the Lord lately. I had such a heavy burden for some that were in meeting and one of them got saved and was out to prayer meeting with a bright testimony which was very encouraging to all present. I desire the saints to help me pray for two more dear ones here that they'll be saved. I also want you to pray for my dear brother who loves the Lord and every time he goes to meeting he gets so deeply under conviction that he can't hold up his head. He has made a start time after time and failed because of not being able to get the victory over smoking. Please pray the Lord will give him power to resist it.

Our assembly meeting which just closed was precious. Many were encouraged, some saved and some healed. We surely enjoyed the unity of the saints and felt the power of God with us. The enemy worked too. During the first of the meeting the devil was so real we had to fight for victory. My load was so heavy it made me sick but I requested prayer and had to do much praying myself. I went to meeting one night with such a load it seemed I was almost crushed beneath it and while sitting there I felt it lift and my body relaxed. It was such a relief I even became alarmed at first and wondered what had happened to me. Praise the good Lord, I went to bed that night relieved and happy. The Lord is still giving us victory but dear saints, the devil is working. The children of God are being tried I feel more than in all our life time. Let us endeavor to stand the test.

"Wherefore, seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us." Heb. 12:1. I see a lot of laying aside to be done. Something was brought out in our meeting about the watch bands some of us wear. I have a stainless steel stretch band and I see where I have to lay it aside. My heart says Amen to the will of my Lord. I do mean to walk in the light. My heart has also been very burdened about saints and their children reading the funny papers. Maybe they aren't so bad but neither do they edify and I feel that that is a poor way to redeem the time in these evil days. I believe I have the mind of the Lord on this.

I need your prayers that I will be all I should be in his service. Truly I feel little and helpless in my own strength. Yours in Christ, Sister Gladys Cashio.

Mo.—Greetings to the dear saints scattered abroad.—I'm sending my testimony by the help of God. I thank God for his healing power. How helpless we are without him. Live or die my trust is in God. What difference does it make to live or die for it is better to be with Jesus. He won't let us suffer more than we can bear while here. Not long ago I was awful sick, I told my brother unless the dear Lord helps me I won't be here long. The dear Lord didn't let me suffer too long. Praise his holy name! There was no one here to pray only myself. It pays to live close to our dear Lord. Whatever comes he will take care of it. Cast our cares on him for he cares for his children. I didn't know what my sickness was but the Lord knew. We serve a mighty God. He has set my bones when I broke them with no man help or bandages, just God alone. My husband's aunt (about 84 years old) fell and broke her arm. Both of her girls said it was broke. Their mother, Susie Cotton, sent one of the girls for me to come. The Lord had set my bones and healed so he helped me to pray the prayer of faith for her healing. Without faith it is impossible to please God. Heb. 11:6. "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God." Matt. 4:4. The Lord is so good to us all. Oh, how thankful I am the Lord healed me of cancer. It is wonderful to be a child of God.

Mary Whitmore.

Tenn.—Dear Bro. Pruitt,—Greetings in the precious name of Jesus. I am glad that I can say today that by the grace, mercy and goodness of God I am well in body, happy in Spirit, and filled with the love of Jesus. I am enjoying the sweet fellowship of God's sanctified souls. I can truly say I love Jesus more than all the world has to give.

This time of the year is always dear to me for in December 1926 I was going through great persecutions. I felt weak and was about ready to give up trying to live right. As a last resort I went to a holiness (so-called) preacher and asked him to pray for me. To my great surprise and disappointment he said, "I have company and don't have time." It hurt me and I must have felt like David, "No man cares for my soul" but I was not to be out alone. I went to the old power house to a man named Green and asked him to pray for me. He said, "Yes, praise the Lord." In the engine room we fell on our faces and poured out our hearts in real prayer of faith and there God restored me and I shouted and praised him. This was in December 1926 and today that praise is still in my inmost being. I want to thank God for his goodness in caring for me in the many dangers I have gone through. Pray for me. Your brother in Christ, Colonel Pendleton.

Young People's Section

My Lord's Portion

In a dream, I gave my brother
His daily portion of food;
It wasn't a very large portion,
And I acted rather rude.

My Lord said, "This is my portion,
And it's rather small, I see;
For as you did to your brother,
You did it unto me."

I awoke surprised and astonished,
And began to examine my heart
To see, of the daily routine,
How much had been His part.

I found that my dear Lord's portion
Was rather small, indeed;
So I at once took warning,
And unto my life gave heed.

Each word I spoke to my loved-ones,
Each deed to my fellow-men,
I stopped to think while doing,
"I'm doing it unto Him."

I found room for much improvement,
And so from that time forth
I determined to think of His portion
All through each day's course.
May Ola Casto.

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Calif.—Dear young saints,—I want to thank the Lord again for the privilege of being saved and encouraged and consecrated to do all the Lord would ask me to do.

The Lord has been talking to me lately on the line of prayer, and some of the thoughts that He gave me I'll pass on and maybe it will encourage someone else.

I believe that prayer is a life line from our souls to God. With it we can move Him on His throne. Without it we could neither get saved nor keep saved. So we realize that it is a mighty tool in our hands if we will only use it in the right way. The Bible says, "The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." So when we pray let us really get in earnest. The Lord will surely answer. Another thing about being in earnest is to not give up after praying once or twice, but just keep praying until we get a definite answer that the Lord has heard us. Sometimes it may seem that the Lord is slow about answering. I know that has been my case. I have prayed and prayed for some things and it just seemed like I would not get an answer and I would be tempted to just go ahead and do things like I felt they should be done; but finally the Lord did answer and it was at the best time and when He could get the most glory to himself.

Take, for instance, some of the people in Bible times. It looked like Jesus was too late in the case of Lazarus, but look at the glory that was received by raising him

from the dead. And it looked like God was just going to let the lions eat Daniel, but he was delivered even in the lions' den. And the three Hebrew children, Abraham, and many others were delivered in like manner. Sometimes God may want to prove our endurance, trust and patience before answering our prayers. Let us remember our time is not always God's time, nor our way his way. We have plenty to pray for, the shape the world is in and everything. Young saints, let us all consecrate ourselves more to the Lord and ask Him to use us as he wills. Because if we aren't really consecrated to the Lord and determined to stand up for him, we surely will not last long with so much sin and temptations surrounding us.

And too, let us watch that we don't get into something that will tie us down where we can't go when the Lord tells us to or give of our means as the Lord directs. After all, we just live this life once and it seems to pass away so fast, so why not enjoy life? And the best way I have found is to live a real Christian life. You will find the closer to the Lord you get, the less desire you have for the world. I know that many of us now are at the age that we really see the problems of life and choosing a vocation, etc. But right now is the time for us to talk to the Lord about all this and ask Him to direct us and really get in earnest and consecrate our lives to the Lord. Let us wait until He shows us what to do and then we shall not get into something we will be sorry of later. I know it seems like the hardest thing for us to do at times is just to trust the Lord in problems like these that concern us so much. But the Bible says, "Delight thyself also in the Lord; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart. Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass."

I am surely encouraged in the Lord and determined to go all the way with Him. I know I have made mistakes but I am glad to say I am profiting by them so I won't make the same one twice. Please pray for me that I'll do all the Lord would have me to do. I haven't noticed very many young folks' testimonies in the paper lately. I believe it would be an encouragement to all of us to write our testimonies. If the Lord has done something for you lately or given you some new thoughts that have been a help to you, that would be a good way to thank the Lord for it, and it would help others, too. I know, for I am isolated to a certain extent from the young people and I surely get a blessing by reading the testimonies. So let us all move up on this line.
Dale Doolittle

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Kansas—Dear ones in the Lord,—Greetings in the precious name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ! How my soul thrills with joy to know that we have salvation. Truly salvation is the sweetest thing I know. We must not set our minds that this way is a way strewn with roses, but we must remember that each day we must press on. Only real pressing will move us farther on on the pathway.

I have felt impressed for some time to write in my testimony so that all the saints will know the goodness of the Lord to me. Surely the Lord is good to his trusting children. Last August we were visiting in Bro. A. J. Sorrel's home in south central Missouri. While there I broke a bone in my foot near the ankle. Many times before that happened I had pondered in my mind, "What would I do should I break a bone? Would I trust the

Lord, or what?" Thank the Lord, I'll trust Him. The Lord made it very easy to trust Him for that broken bone. I did not go to the doctor to find out what happened, but I feel certain that I am correct in believing that it was a broken bone. I was on crutches from Wednesday evening until Saturday about noon. Some young people who were with us went from our place in Kansas to Guthrie for the campmeeting. We knew that if the Lord did not help us soon that we could not even go to the campmeeting. Before the ones left for Guthrie, I asked them to request prayer for me at the campmeeting. Then that same day the Lord healed me. Oh, surely I thank Him for his blessings to me. I know I am not worthy of love, but how my heart cries out for a closer walk with God.

"O, for a closer walk with God,
A life that bears no stain
Of earthly pride or vanities,
A life that's not in vain!

"O for a deeper, richer life
With treasures stored above,
A life that soars o'er carnal strife
And nestles in God's love!

"O for a faith that's rooted deep
In God's eternal word;
A faith unmoved in time of trial,
That's anchored in my Lord!"—K. Y. Plank

Truly that is the "Prayer of My Heart." May each of us as young saints endeavor to hold the banner high, and may we be so grounded in the truth that we can stand firm in the real shaking time to come. In that time, only the ones who are settled in the Lord will stand. My desire is to stand through all the tests of life. Please pray for me, saints. Yours for His service, Marilyn Beisly

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La.—I felt impressed to write a piece to the "Faith and Victory" paper and thank the Lord for his many blessings unto me. We often do not stop and think of all the blessings that God has bestowed upon the human race. If it were not for God, how would we live? The answer is, we would not live. Our heavenly Father gives life to the sinner as well as the man that is living free from sin. He gives every human a fair chance to come into his kingdom, but the large majority of the people today pass this lightly by and pay no attention to it.

The reason God gives so much mercy to the people is because he loves mankind. John 3:16 says, "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." Think of that, dear ones. God gave his only Son that you can, I can, everyone who believeth on him can be saved. In the following verse he said, "For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved." Jesus came to save the world; the whole world. It makes me sad to think how few people in this world are truly serving God after all his love was extended to us. Oh, dear brother, dear sister, let us not walk on over God's love. It is high time that we get down to business serving God. This world is in a terrible condition. The world needs many real true saved men in it. Just joining a church will not help. So many people today are taking parts of God's Word and making a so-called religion of their own. This will not do. We need someone who can get under a burden and pray help down from heaven.

I know, as well as all other young people who are living for God, that there is a fight to put up to be all

God wants us to be. There aren't many people coming out of the man-made organizations of today; therefore, we as the young people of today will make the church of tomorrow. As the older people pass on, someone must take their place to keep God's work going on in this sinful and dark world. When the time comes that there is no one to keep the Christian lights burning, God will destroy the world. Dear young people, let us get to business serving God that we may bring others to him. There is a judgment day coming. Let us all be ready for it.

I know that I am no one to do real nice writing, but I hope these few lines will be encouraging to some one.

Rev. 2:10 says, "Fear none of these things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days." And now it says, "Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life."

Your brother in Christ, Howell B. Joiner.

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Miss.—Dear saints of God,—For some time I have felt impressed to send my testimony to the "Faith and Victory" paper, but neglected to do so; but, by the grace of God, I am determined to do what He wants me to.

I am thankful for salvation and sanctification. At one time I could not claim sanctification, but now I can, praise the Lord! I am completely cut loose from self and the world and wholly given over to God. I want Him to lead me in the path that he wants me to go.

I also thank the Lord that He can heal. He healed me of appendicitis, for which I shall never cease to praise him. About two years ago I became very sick at school. My right side was hurting very badly. I did not realize at the time what the trouble was, but the teachers did. They asked me if I wanted to go to the hospital, and I said, "No, I trust the Lord with my body." I sent my sister Nora to call Mama. It was about 20 or 30 minutes before she came. Finally the teacher came in and said, "Come on." I thought she meant Mama had come, so I started out of the school. Just as I got to the door Mama drove up in the car. The teacher was very angry because I wasn't going to the hospital and told Mama she had arrived there just in time because she intended to take me to the hospital anyway. I came home and Mama and my sister prayed for me. The pain stopped. That night it began again and they again offered prayer and it stopped hurting again. About a week later I was visiting in one of the saint's homes and had another attack. Some ministers were called in and I was anointed and prayed for. The Lord wonderfully touched my body. I had been testifying to my healing since then. But about a month ago I was attending the Hammond, La. assembly meeting when it came on me again. About noon I became very cold and it seemed that I was having a chill. After noon I went to young people's meeting. I was feeling worse and worse. I said I wasn't feeling well and requested prayer and it seemed when we knelt for prayer I felt so badly I could not stand it. After awhile I told Nora I was going to Sister Joiner's (where we stayed) and lie down awhile. I insisted that she stay for the meeting, telling her I would be all right. But I wasn't all right, because after I lay down my side began hurting very badly. No one was there and I was getting worse all the time. I went to the phone and called a sister and asked her to tell Nora to come at once. In a few minutes she came with some of the ministers. They prayed for me, but I seemed to get no better. Someone went back to the campgrounds and told the saints and special prayer was offered. It seemed relief would only come for a few minutes. After the afternoon service more ministers and

saints came. The pain was becoming more severe and there seemed to be no relief. I became sick about 12:30 and suffered until about 11 p. m.

Nora phoned Mama (She was not at the meeting at the time.) at home, and when she arrived I was resting, and had been for about fifteen minutes. I suffered until about 11 p. m. then all the pain left and I didn't hurt any more for several days, thank the Lord. In the morning service before I became sick at noon we were singing, "In the heated furnace, Father, let me stay; Precious gold refining, purge the dross away." Little did I realize when I lifted my hand as a testimony to that, that I would be in that furnace in a matter of a few hours. But, thank the Lord, he was with me and in due time he brought me out. He did not heal me completely then, but I felt that God was going to in the time he saw fit to.

Then God made a way for us to go to the Guthrie meeting. I did not feel so well and my side stayed sore. The night before fasting and prayer day I awoke and a voice seemed to speak to me and say, "You are going to be healed today." I could hardly wait until daylight came. The next morning some of the sisters came to my room and said they felt the time had come when the Lord wanted to heal me. Thank the Lord!

In the morning service my side began to hurt again and I was anointed and prayed for. The hurting stopped but it was still sore and I was prayed for again. I believe every child of God in the house was praying for me, and then the victory came! Praise the Lord, I knew I was healed. Since then I haven't had another symptom of the appendicitis, and don't believe I ever shall. I am thankful that we have such a wonderful God whom we can trust. I love the Lord today and I am determined to live for him at any cost. Pray for me.

Your sister in Christ,

Dora Freeman

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Calif.—Dear Young Saints,—Greetings in Jesus' dear name, the name which means more to me than anything else in this world. I can still report victory in my soul against the enemy. The Lord has done too much for me for me to even think of going back to the world and its pleasures. Like the apostle Peter said, "Lord, to whom shall we go? Thou hast the words of eternal life." John 6:68. When we have experienced the real life of a Christian, it spoils us for all the fancies of the world.

I truly thank the Lord for the lessons he has been teaching me. I have been spending more time in studying, praying, and being alone with God. Just last Sunday I was reading an experience of E. E. Byrum. I became so engrossed in my reading that I forgot everything around me. Dear young people, when we become so interested in spending some time with Jesus until we lose sight of our daily duties, time, and everything, then the Lord becomes real unto us.

I am yearning for more of the Lord, losing sight of the world and its pleasures, which soon crumble to decay and ruin. I have a greater determination than ever before to fight until the finish and win that victorious prize, the Crown of Life. We do not know what we are facing, but, dear young people, let us keep our faces upward and our feet upon the solid rock Christ Jesus. I am praying the Lord to settle me down more and to show me what his will is. I am striving to the best of my ability to please him in all things.

The only way we can be a power in the hands of God is to die out to self and keep our all—our bodies, our talents, all that we are or ever hope to be—committed and submitted unto the Lord.

I covet the prayers of all the saints that I might continue to be a vessel fit for the Master's use.

T. Gus Poulos

Correspondence

Okla.—Dear Saints,—I feel like giving my testimony how God has been dealing with me of late in showing his compassion and faithfulness to me. Before I do, I want to tell that my Bible is becoming more dear to me as I obey the teachings as the Holy Spirit interprets it to me that I so much need from day to day. I am glad that God gives me power to live just as the Bible says for me to live. He never fails me nor forsakes me but is true to his Word as I keep humbling down and yielding to him.

"How wonderful that he would take this poor abode of sin,
And wash me in his precious blood and now abide within;
Oh, glory to Jesus, so sweet in me; My body, thy temple shall forever be."

Before Christmas I went to a town 19 miles from here to give out tracts and papers. A short distance out of town was a farmhouse where I started to go to give them a paper. The street that I was on came to an end so I went across the field to get to the road that went past the house. I came to a barbed wire gate next to the road so I started to go over the top. The gate went down and me with it falling downgrade toward the road. I had my boots on that I wore in the sawmill so the barbs did not hurt me but my right foot was caught so I couldn't get loose. I did all I knew to untangle myself but could not, then I rested and as I did I called upon God to help me. I tried again with my hand and it came loose immediately. I got up and thanked the Lord for my deliverance, dusted my clothes and went on. I didn't think to call on anyone else. I was not very far from the house where I was going where I left a paper. The lesson I learned was that God can untangle anything we trust him for. That same afternoon the Lord healed me of a very severe pain in a half hour.

This last week I had a very sick spell of flu and the first prayer I made was for God to show me the lesson he had for me in letting me be sick which he did. He revealed to me that I had been clinging to foolishness that I was not aware of. I had walked up to a man's room in a way to excite laughter. God was faithful to me as he can't take me to heaven with any kind or manner of sin in me for the people of God must be holy in this life. Luke 1:73-75 and "In this present world." Titus 2:11-14. Prov. 24:9 very plainly says "The thought of foolishness is sin." But the world says there is no harm in an innocent joke or jesting and yet God showed to me that was foolishness. Now I want to ask you which is right, God or the professed Christians? Undoubtedly we recognize "God is true and every man a liar." I turned away from it as sin and the Lord healed me very soon of a disease that usually lasts three or four weeks and then leaves me weak. Now the world and worldly so-called Christians just laugh about it but I have the approval of God upon me and his love and joy in my soul so I mean to have my Lord's approval rather than man who has no heaven for me. So "I am crucified unto the world and the world unto me." Gal. 6:14. Let them say what they will I believe God's holy book. I count it a warning to me when I hear anyone say, "Well what harm is there in that?" The Bible very plainly says for us to be sober. Tit. 2:4-6.

Pray for me that God will give me the desires of my heart as I want to obey God. My teachers in the seminaries said I could not live above sin but God gives me power and for 25 months I have lived above sin. They said the best we could do was all God requires. "Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ he is none of his." Rom. 8:9. Here is something to ponder: Anything that causes a laugh by the wit of man, turn from it. Anything that the Lord gives to rejoice over and we laugh for joy that comes into our souls receive that joyfully. 1 Cor. 10:31.

"If thy all is on the altar laid,
Guard it from each vain desire; (Ponder this line)
When thy soul the perfect price hath paid,
God will send the holy fire.

"Yes, 'tis love, 'tis burning love divine,
Filling all my soul's desire;
Oh, how sweet its glories ever shine!
Now I feel the glowing fire." C. H. Weir.

o-o-o-o-o-o

Iowa—Dear Saints,—I feel the Lord wants me to send in my testimony to the "Faith and Victory." He has been so wonderful and done so much for me and my family. It seems I can never praise his dear name enough.

About three weeks ago my little girl was very sick and had a very high fever. As I knelt to pray for her the Lord told me to pray for more faith, that if I had the faith she would be healed. When I arose I knew she would get well. I also had the most wonderful experience that I had never had before. I was so happy I felt like shouting. When my husband got home from work I told him about it and that I knew she would get well. Before going to bed I touched her and she was still very hot with fever. It seemed my faith weakened and then I thought of what the Lord said so I prayed again for more faith. The next morning she got up and started playing as usual. I believe so many times we pray for things but lack faith.

When reading the Bible we read of the many miracles the Lord performed while here on earth and he is just the same today if we only trust and do as he commands.

I need the prayers of all the saints that I'll have more faith and that my life will please the Lord. I enjoy reading the "Faith and Victory" so much as there is no one else living near that we know of that believe the Truth. Pray for us. Mrs. Ferne Laub.

o-o-o-o-o-o

Tenn.—Dear friends in Christ,—I have been receiving your "Faith and Victory" paper for a number of years and I do enjoy reading it more than any other paper I get. It has so many good testimonies and articles that it is a joy to read it. May the Lord bless and encourage you to keep pressing on in these trying times which we are living in today.

There are few living close to me that are preaching the Bible way so pray for me that the Lord will show me the way and give me grace to press on in the Bible way that I might be ready to meet him when he calls for me.

Mrs. J. W. Kerr.

o-o-o-o-o-o

Ala.—Dear Bro. Pruitt,—Greetings to you all in Jesus' dear name. We hope that these few lines find you all well and encouraged in the Lord. We feel that God is upholding you and will uphold you by his precious love and grace. We fully realize that God does set the members in the body as it pleases him. We are thankful to report victory in our soul at this time. The enemy has been constantly battling with us but we have overcome by the blood of the Lamb. We feel that the prayers of

the saints have followed us and will follow us and all others as long as we endeavor to hold on to God.

Our brother Vada visited us a few days ago. We are sure the Lord sent him this way as an encouragement to us and others. Truly God is good to us and knows all of our needs and can and will supply them if we keep all on the altar for him. Pray for us.

Yours in the Faith, H. A. McMillian and family.

La.—Dear Saints,—I want to send in my testimony. I am still saved and looking to God for everything. I'm very grateful for all he has done and is still doing for me in so many ways. I love his word, I love all of his people, and love to talk of his great power. Blessed be his holy name. Your Bro. in Jesus, J. N. Cordozo.

Ohio—Dear Saints,—Greetings in Jesus' name. I am glad today for salvation in my soul. The Lord means so much to me. I thank him for his goodness and many times he has answered prayer for me. He is so precious to me and by his help I expect to keep faithful to him.

Ethel Mohr.

Ohio—Dear saints,—Greetings to you all in the name of Jesus. I heartily thank everyone of you for the anointed handkerchief and the prayers in behalf of the healing for my eyes. I can now see well enough to read but I still do not see people or objects very clearly. My eyes are in better condition during the summer than they are in winter as I take cold in them in the winter but again I thank the Lord for his wonderful healing power. I have faith enough in God to believe that my vision will become clearer. Your sister in Christ, Elnora Ayers.

Shining For Jesus

Can your Saviour use you,
Use you every day?
Do you shine for Jesus
All along the way?
Do you bear his image
In your heart and life?
Are you daily walking
Free from sin and strife?

Jesus cannot use you
Till you yield your all.
You must listen closely
For your Saviour's call.
God-directed service
Brings forth fruit divine.
Then your life will truly
For your Master shine.

—Mrs. N. P. Futch

WAR

I feel led to write about the spiritual war which is being waged in these last days. The Bible says we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places (Eph. 6:12). This is the most terrible war that can be fought. We are fighting the enemies of our souls. This war is between God and the devil and their subjects. Everyone is enlisted on one side or the other. The devil is much enraged in

these last days for he knows his time is short. I believe all wars of the land and this awful Korean war is an invention of the devil for the purpose of rushing souls into eternity by the millions. The devil uses different methods of capturing souls.

In this spiritual warfare God's true children need never lose a battle, for we have a Captain that never lost a battle and never will. Be encouraged, dear saints of God. Be true at any cost. Some may even have to give their lives, but the Bible tells us it will be terrible and it will wax worse and worse until the end (2 Tim. 3:13). But Jesus says, "I will never leave thee nor forsake thee." Heb. 13:5, 6. Remember, if there is any forsaking, it is on our part. We need not expect to live for the Lord without having battles, but we can have victory in every battle, praise God! I am proving His Word. It seems I am in one hard battle after another, but I find His grace sufficient. I quote Scripture to the devil and he has to flee. Remember, Jesus trod the way before us. He was tempted in all points like we are, so he understands just how to help us out. (Heb. 2:18).

We need not expect peace from these wars that are being fought by man; but, praise God, every child of God can have peace in his soul, and finally when this spiritual war is ended we will obtain peace thru all eternity in a glorified body. Praise God! what will it be to be there! We cannot comprehend how grand and how glorious heaven is. By the grace and help of God I expect to go there. I know everybody wants to go there, but we must fight the fight of faith and obey God's Word. At the end of Paul's life here on this earth he left the testimony that he had fought a good fight, finished his course, and kept the faith (2 Tim. 4:7). I want to do the same. I may have some hard battles ahead, but I do not fear, for I know the Lord is on my side. O. K. Myers.

Deception

"Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting." Gal. 6:7, 8.

The first man Adam was made a living soul (1 Cor. 15:45), created in the image of God. He was tempted to sin (Gen 3), thus all are in sin by the fall of man. In order to get back to God and become pure and holy again, God commandeth all men everywhere to Repent. Do not be deceived by the cunning craftiness of Satan, for God has said, "Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap." If we sow hatred or malice, adultery, fornication, witchcraft, sedition, heresies, envyings, murders, drunkenness, revelings, lasciviousness, or idolatry, the Word says that they who do such things shall not inherit eternal life (Gal. 5:19-21).

In Ezekiel the people deceived themselves and went awhoring after idols and made images to worship instead of the true God. Ezek. 14:4-6, "Therefore speak unto them, and say unto them, Thus saith the

Lord God; Every man of the house of Israel that setteth up his idols in his heart, and putteth the stumbling block of his iniquity before his face, and cometh to the prophet; I the Lord will answer him that cometh according to the multitude of his idols; that I may take the house of Israel in their own heart, because they are all estranged from me through their idols. Therefore say unto the house of Israel, Thus saith the Lord God; Repent, and turn yourselves from your idols; and turn away your faces from all your abominations." The Lord gave a warning to any who would not obey: "I will set my face against that man, and will make him a sign and a proverb, and I will cut him off from the midst of my people; and ye shall know that I am the Lord." By this we are made to understand that almost all people have idols to forsake to obtain salvation.

In Matt. 11:28 Jesus says, "Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest . . . for my yoke is easy and my burden is light." How true this is! When the Lord forgave me, I was very happy to know my sins were all gone and my soul was white, washed in the blood of the Lamb. Now I am praising Him for His mercy and loving kindness to me. He has raised me up from my sick bed and healed me of several ailments. My wife has also been healed many times. Praise His dear name. Mr. Geo. Galloway.

Bitterness Vs. Divine Love

Salvation greetings to you, dear saints and fellow laborers in God's fruitful vineyard: Will you please read these few lines, written while the oil of God's anointing is still fresh upon our minds? The inspired thought is based on love: not just mere love, but a love that is Divine. Kindly bring to remembrance the effect of such love in the heart of a child of God. Now let us see what happens when this love only pretends to be:

Let us look into the album and take from it a picture of someone you are familiar with. Yes, you recognize the face because it is the face of one whose picture Satan has been holding up before your eyes. It is that same "undesirable one" who has been attending services with you on and off. Of course, you do not care to mention the real reason for disliking that person; but it seems that every time you see this party you are discomfited—and perhaps even in prayer meeting you cannot fully enjoy the evening worship because of the presence of that one. Your eyes seem at times to follow every move and action he (or she) makes, and your ears tingle sore at the sound of his voice in prayer or testimony. You cannot altogether enjoy spiritual blessings because of this. Days go by, then months, and yet you have no victory.

Then the enemy of souls suggests: "Here is a text of Scripture that ought to tell what manner of spirit they are!"

Satan makes you think there is no better time

than now, in prayer meeting, to get victory over this foul spirit. You feel a strong inclination to be the next one to pray, so you can call mightily upon God to remove this spirit. You pray thus: "O Lord, the devil is trying to break up our little congregation. I pray you will rebuke this hateful spirit that has hold of people . . ." etc.

Then you are led to believe you must testify the very same way. In all this you are watching the other fellow's face to see if there is a guilty look. Soon it is their time to testify. This is what you might hear, "We thank the Lord for His saving and keeping power. The Lord continues to heal, and I am glad to say yet that I am kept by His sanctifying grace and expect to live for Him through all the opposition of the enemy." etc.

Of course, this testimony is a comeback to you. What are you going to do about it? He may as well have said you were that enemy of opposition.

The next prayermeeting night, while others are trying to testify, your eyes happen to fall on some verses that just fit this person. You think: "I believe I will read this out tonight so my enemy will know how I stand with God." This goes on and on for many days and the air around you is getting foul more and more.

O, dear soul adrift in the salt sea of bitterness! Open your eyes and see how the enemy has been trying to injure your soul with his hatred and evil surmisings. This is a term of "carnal warfare" against the children of God. It is Satan's method of disrupting and tearing apart the body members of Christ.

Then one day, by heaven-sent grace, you are permitted to hear a sermon from God on Divine Love, and how we must all share in this in order to have that hope of eternal life. The precious heavenly Spirit comes to awaken you out of a deep sleep of death, and to enlighten your spiritual eyes to know and understand Truth. You begin to come to revelations—there you see a vision—a hole in the wall of your own temple, and your eyes pierce deep into the chamber of your vain imagery.

It is all a terrible sight to behold, but it is God allowing you to see this abominable scene—all a cunning work of Satan, begotten to lure away the Divine and instill his insipid, ugly spirit.

Now, Israel's God is beginning to work. Will you please notice God's ways in dealing with souls of men? His ways are not our ways; but in such a simple way through love does He talk to us. He says, "It is not such a one that should trouble you with his doubts and fears, to cause you to lose my love. I have come to set at liberty the captured mind." "Who is a wise man and endued with knowledge among you? Let him shew out of a good conversation his works with meekness of wisdom. But if ye have bitter envyings and strife in your hearts, glory not, and lie not against the truth. This wisdom descendeth not from above, but is earthly, sensual, devilish. For where envyings and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work." James. Salvatore.

The Force Within

There is an active force that rules
The life of every man,
Regardless of the place he holds
In socialistic bands.

He may be rich, he may be blest
With wealth and bounteous store,
His coffers may be filled with gold,
With hardly room for more.

He may be poor with scanty fare,
And no place to call home;
Friends may be few, or may be none
As through this world he roams.

Material things may have their weight,
But these are not the test;
The power that rules the lives of men
Is hidden in their breast.

While outward signs may indicate
A good and worthy man
With mastered geniuses and skills
He holds at his command.

God seeth not as man doth see,
He looks upon the heart:
For so the force that rules the man
Is hidden there in part.

To some he may not seem to worth
The ground on which he stands:
But the power that rules deep within
Foretells where he shall land.

"The prince and power of the air"
Has carried many down
To dismal night, and dark despair,
With no eternal crown.

But in whose heart the Christ has come,
His image God can see;
Born from above, heart filled with love,
With joy and liberty.

Greater is He that dwells within
The heart to God resigned,
Than any scientific force
And powers of sin combined.

—Ulysses Phillips

—oOo—

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THE MIGHTY WORKER

February 4, 1951

Printed Portion.....Mark 5:21-24, 38-43.

Mark 5:21. And when Jesus was passed over again by ship unto the other side, much people gathered unto him: and he was nigh unto the sea.

22. And, behold, there cometh one of the rulers of the synagogue Jairus by name; and when he saw him, he fell at his feet,

23. And besought him greatly, saying, My little daughter lieth at the point of death: I pray thee, come and lay thy hands on her, that she may be healed; and she shall live.

24. And Jesus went with him; and much people followed him, and thronged him.

38. And he cometh to the house of the ruler of the synagogue, and seeth the tumult, and them that wept and wailed greatly.

39. And when he was come in he saith unto them, Why make ye this ado, and weep? the damsel is not dead, but sleepeth.

40. And they laughed him to scorn. But when he had put them all out, he taketh the father and the mother of the damsel, and them that were with him, and entered in where the damsel was lying.

41. And he took the damsel by the hand, and said unto her, Talitha cumi; which is, being interpreted, Damsel, I say unto thee, arise.

42. And straightway the damsel arose, and walked; for she was of the age of twelve years. And they were astonished with a great astonishment.

43. And he charged them straitly that no man should know it; and commanded that something should be given her to eat.

Memory Verse: I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work. St. John 9:4.

Practical Truth: It is foolish for us to offer a half-hearted service to the Lord for he will accept nothing but the best. Let us not deceive ourselves.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Jesus was an outstanding worker above all others around him while here on the earth. He set us an example that we should follow in his steps. God has no place in his kingdom for a lazy person. All of his true followers are workers all working together with him for him for the one purpose of heart and that is for the advancement of God's kingdom on earth. We must be real workers just as Jesus was or the Lord cannot and will not use us. Jesus said, "The harvest truly is plenteous but the labourers are few." There are just a few who will go out into his vineyard and labor and suffer for the Lord.

It was said of Jesus, "He saved others, himself he cannot save." How true this statement is. If we would save others we cannot save ourselves. If we will be a true worker for the Lord we will be willing to spend and be spent for the cause we love. Yes, we will be giving our time, talent, strength and means to the service the Lord has called us into. A slacker just gives a part time serv-

ice. Don't be slackers but let us give the Lord the best we have of everything for we know that God gave the very best he had for us. I repeat that Jesus was a great worker and he set us an example that we should follow in his steps.

— oOo —

JESUS MEETS HUMAN NEED

February 11, 1951

Printed Portion.....Mark 6:34-44.

Mark 6:34. And Jesus, when he came out, saw much people, and was moved with compassion toward them, because they were as sheep not having a shepherd: and he began to teach them many things.

35. And when the day was now far spent, his disciples came unto him, and said, This is a desert place, and now the time is far passed:

36. Send them away, that they may go into the country round about and into the villages, and buy themselves bread: for they have nothing to eat.

37. He answered and said unto them, Give ye them to eat. And they say unto him, Shall we go and buy two hundred pennyworth of bread, and give them to eat?

38. He saith unto them, How many loaves have ye? go and see. And when they knew, they say, Five, and two fishes.

39. And he commanded them to make all sit down by companies upon the green grass.

40. And they sat down in ranks, by hundreds and by fifties.

41. And when he had taken the five loaves and the two fishes, he looked up to heaven, and blessed, and brake the loaves, and gave them to his disciples to set before them; and the two fishes divided he among them all.

42. And they did all eat, and were filled.

43. And they took up twelve baskets full of the fragments, and of the fishes.

44. And they that did eat of the loaves were about five thousand men.

Memory Verse: But seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness and all these things shall be added unto you. (Food, clothing, shelter, and healing for the body.) Matthew 6:33.

Practical Truth: It pays big to be a friend of Jesus. He never fails.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

While we understand that Jesus came to this earth to seek and save that which was lost, he also met the human needs. As we read in today's lesson how he fed the hungry he also healed the sick, raised the dead, and went about doing good. He was ever mindful of the poor. He seemed to always be where the people needed what he had to give and he always had just what the people needed. He was so unselfish and pleased not himself but he was always mindful of others. Blessed be the Lord who daily loads us with benefits. He heals us when we need healing, forgives our iniquities and fills our mouths with good things so that our strength is renewed like the eagles. Jesus never turned anyone away who approached him in the right manner. There was something about Jesus that drew needy people to him. Jesus seemed especially to love the poor people and they seemed free to come to him. They seemed to understand that Jesus had what they needed. Yes, he went about doing good and I am sure that every one who reads this can truthfully say, "The Lord has been good to me." Just to know Jesus is to love him because he is so good.

JESUS THE CHRIST

February 18, 1951

Printed Portion.....Mark 8:27-38.

Mark 8:27. And Jesus went out, and his disciples, into the towns of Caesarea Philippi: and by the way he asked his disciples, saying unto them, Whom do men say that I am?

28. And they answered, John the Baptist: but some say, Elias; and others, One of the prophets.

29. And he saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am? And Peter answereth and saith unto him, Thou art the Christ.

30. And he charged them that they should tell no man of him.

31. And he began to teach them, that the Son of man must suffer many things, and be rejected of the elders, and of the chief priests, and scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again.

32. And he spake that saying openly. And Peter took him, and began to rebuke him.

33. But when he had turned about and looked on his disciples, he rebuked Peter, saying, Get thee behind me, Satan: for thou savourest not the things that be of God, but the things that be of men.

34. And when he had called the people unto him with his disciples also, he said unto them, Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.

35. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; but whosoever shall lose his life for my sake and the gospel's, the same shall save it.

36. For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?

37. Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?

38. Whosoever therefore shall be ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation; of him also shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he cometh in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.

Memory Verse: Thou art the Christ the son of the living God. Matthew 16:16.

Practical Truth: There is no life outside of Christ. In him we live and move and have our being.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Christ, the Messiah, the Lord's anointed. Jesus the Savior, perfect humanity as typified by Jesus. No honest person would doubt that Jesus is the Christ, God's anointed Son. The works that Jesus did here on earth before the eyes of the people testify of him that he is the Christ. The officers that were sent to arrest Jesus went back without him and testified, "Never man spake like this man." All that anyone would have to do to know that he is the Christ is just to get acquainted with him. No one beside Jesus ever spake words that gave life to dead souls. Jesus testified of himself saying, "The words I speak unto you, they are spirit, they are life." He also said of himself, "I am the resurrection and the life," and "Whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die."

Before Christ came God spoke to us through the prophets but in these last days he speaks to us through his Son. Jesus is the express image of God his Father and Paul told Timothy that there is one God and one mediator between God and man and that is the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself a ransom for all to be testified in due time. Just to know my precious Savior is to love him.

I have found him always loving constant true.

There's no other friend so great but he's above him.
What my savior is to me he'll be to you. Amen.

GLORY AND SERVICE

February 25, 1951

Printed Portion.....Mark 9:2-4, 14-17, 25-29.

Mark 9:2. And after six days Jesus taketh with him Peter, and James, and John, and leadeth them up into an high mountain apart by themselves: and he was transfigured before them.

3. And his raiment became shining, exceeding white as snow; so as no fuller on earth can white them.

4. And there appeared unto them Elias with Moses: and they were talking with Jesus.

14. And when he came to his disciples, he saw a great multitude about them, and the scribes questioning with them.

15. And straightway all the people, when they beheld him, were greatly amazed, and running to him saluted him.

16. And he asked the scribes, What question ye with them?

17. And one of the multitude answered and said, Master, I have brought unto thee my son, which hath a dumb spirit;

25. When Jesus saw that the people came running together, he rebuked the foul spirit, saying unto him, Thou dumb and deaf spirit, I charge thee, come out of him, and enter no more into him.

26. And the spirit cried, and rent him sore, and came out of him: and he was as one dead; insomuch that many said, He is dead.

27. But Jesus took him by the hand, and lifted him up; and he arose.

28. And when he was come into the house, his disciples asked him privately, Why could not we cast him out?

29. And he said unto them, This kind can come forth by nothing, but by prayer and fasting.

Memory Verse: Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many. Matthew 20:28.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

It is beyond the reach of the vocabulary of the average person to explain the Glory of God. It is much easier to understand what service means. God's glory is something we can't see with our natural eyes. Now we read in the devotional part of the lesson for today. The whole earth is full of his glory but how many people really see the glory of God as it fills the whole earth. In the true sense of the word glory, only spiritual people can see it. In the written portion of the lesson for today we read about Christ being transfigured and the glory of God surrounded him. But we will notice that it was only Peter and James and John the ones who lived in the inner circle with Jesus who witnessed this glorious sight and the brightness of it put them to sleep.

Now we will consider what service means. Service means for us to deny ourselves and do things that are worth while for the Master by helping others. We help ourselves by helping others. In Luke 9:23 Jesus said unto them all, "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me." This means a life of service and sacrifice for our loving Lord. How much are we willing to suffer in service and sacrifice for him who suffered and died for us.

G. S.