

# FAITH <sup>AND</sup> VICTORY

## The EVENING LIGHT WATCHMAN



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### The Angels Bring The Message

In the land of Palestine,  
In the years so far gone by,  
Angels sang from realms of glory,  
Winged their way across the sky.

Till at last they came where shepherds  
Watching o'er their flocks by night,  
By the vision were affrighted  
When they saw the heavenly sight.

There they stood in great amazement  
As the angel came so nigh—  
Who could be this happy stranger  
Coming to them from on high?

Then a light shone round about them  
As the message to them came;  
Unto you is, born a Savior  
In the town of Bethlehem.

"Fear ye not, I bring good tidings  
Of great joy and peace today;  
Which shall be to every nation—  
List' ye well to what I say.

"For unto you is born a Savior,  
And to you I give this sign:  
"Wrapped in swaddling clothes you'll find him  
In a lowly manger lying."

Suddenly there with the angel  
A mighty host began to sing,  
"Glory to God in the highest,  
On earth peace, good will to men."

Let us bear the message onward,  
Across the land and rolling sea,  
Till in heaven all the ransomed  
Their dear Savior they shall see.

Then we'll sing and shout the chorus  
Of salvation on that shore,  
And in those bright and glorious mansions  
Dwell with Christ forever more.

—Ulysses Phillips.

### A Letter To Young Converts

Beloved, we have undertaken to put together this letter that you may be reliably admonished about those things which are to help you along the pathway of life. This is the way of HOLINESS:—Enter not into houses of unholy repute where the weak congregate daily; neither drink of their bitter dregs. Remember, that dancing in any form, as a sister to drink, can lead you astray, and so does not change essentials any.

Extravagancy is a sign of loose morals, and little will power. Those who make it a habit to spend their money for banquetings shall have no part in God's kingdom. Be not of ill appetite, yet do not over-eat. Satan has found this to be a good seat of affection, where men's appetites are so perverted, no room is left to taste the goodness of the Lord.

Be observative—especially watch "self." Self is a dangerous character that needs to be controlled and put under guard day by day. Many have been robbed and cheated of a "more abundant life" because self-praise and ego tried to enter in. God, our God, has a way out of all this if we earnestly seek for the sanctifying Spirit. Sanctification not only gives power for self-destruction, but also edifies the spirit body of Christ.

Again: be observative. Do not act upon your own accord, but only do what the Holy Spirit tells you. Let not jealousy, nor pride, nor complacency ruin your beautiful character. Lead a clean, holy life, void of all foolish chatter, and passing remarks. Love soberly and spiritually. Let your love be pure and separate from all base passions. Watch your natural emotions, and let your kindly affections be motivated by godliness in the soul. Then adding to your comfort, be very careful that you do not become filled with an exalted spirit through the idle praises of men.

Refer to the Holy Word and learn that Satan tries every possible way and means by which to trip you and divert your mind from God. With the aid of the Holy Spirit, you can resist Satan, and he will take flight from you. This will be a constant warfare which you will have to contend with, so be wide awake and do not slumber as do the unawares.

Seek not after earthly amusements such as you notice people of no faith indulging their lives in—

where the eye of lust must greet the flesh. Neither crave for popularity in the high places for the sake of being noticed. These yearnings are deceiving, and can shake even the foundation of a Spirit-filled life, and cause one to go into perdition.

Seeing so much evil loose in this world, be aware round-about, the displays of the frivolous pleasures of youth. To God, this lusting after worldly allurements is unspeakably ugly. It is as an immediate step toward detention from spiritual progress. Avoid familiarity. Keep both hands clean. Be meek and gentle, and always remember humility, one of the sweetest graces of God in the soul.

Give no place for world knowledge, but live a humble life before God, saints, and men. Those who will not humble themselves can have no part in this heavenly marriage. Do not allow money nor materiality to rule or occupy your God-given time. Life is too short to build on mammon. Yet be honest in your business deals as unto the Lord. Remember that God never sent us into the world just to make money.

Cherish the truth and respect light. Do not live under your privileges, but enjoy every word that proceeds from God. It might be suggested that some people have an aptitude of twisting the truth to suit themselves. They are usually the quick to offend, and slow to pardon type. Such, you must treat cautiously according to the instructions as given by Jesus: "Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves. Be ye therefore wise as serpents and HARMLESS as DOVES."

May something be said this time regarding our vision? We discern through the natural eye the things of the flesh; but we must needs judge only through spiritual insight. God looks at the inward part, while man is carelessly apt to judge by outward show. Learn to define character by the fruitful works of the Spirit; the natural from the spiritual, and the spiritual from the artificial.

Finally, know your opponent, the foul spirit. He is your deadliest enemy. So be vigilant to keep a sweet, calm spirit when difficulties come in opposition to the instructions which you have received. If in these things you prove faithful, God can be called upon, who will not try you beyond your strength; but when strong temptations come, he will provide an escape so that you will be able to bear all things. "Fare ye well." Your brother in Christ, Salvatore DiDio

### On Giving

God gave his Son; Jesus gave his life, and by giving his life, brought redemption to man, the greatest and the most important gift that man could receive. It is said of Jesus that "he went about doing good and healing all that were oppressed of the devil." Acts 10:38. The Lord teaches us to give, hoping for nothing in return.

In Luke 6:38, we read, "Give and it shall be given unto you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over, shall men give unto your bosom: For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again." God loves a cheerful giver, and not one that gives grudgingly or of necessity, which would be giving because some one required it of you or urged you to give; but Paul

says, "Let every one give according as he purposeth in his heart." 2 Cor. 9:7. The whole tenor of the scriptures is against God receiving any gift unless it is given freely as unto the Lord. The tithing system is a law system and should never be taught to the saints as a New Testament doctrine; for along with the other law doctrines, it was fulfilled in Christ; and as he gave all to purchase salvation for us, so we follow him and give up all unto him and let him lead us in our giving. Jesus said, "If the Son shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed." The saints of God are free in Christ, and they give freely of their substance to whom he directs, and in the manner as he directs. It would be binding law on the free saints to make a rule for them to give in a certain manner, to whom to give, and how much to give.

Some advocate putting a box up beside the door where the people come in and go out. They have a perfect right to do so, as there is no New Testament teachings against their using this method for free-will offerings. Some say they get this from the temple giving under the law, but I do not find where they had any box in the temple up beside the door. In 2 Kings 12:9, it says that the chest where the money was placed was set beside the altar. This altar where the sacrifices were offered was some little distance from the door of the temple. In Mark 12:41, it is said that Jesus sat over against the treasury and beheld how the people cast money into the treasury. To sit over against would mean to be facing the treasury. The seats of the temple would not likely be facing the door. The scripture also said they were casting their money in, and it states that the widow threw her two mites in, so the treasury no doubt consisted of an open box.

We do not find any steadfast rule laid down in the New Testament for the giving of free-will offerings; however, we do find it recorded in the first of the 16th chapter of 1 Corinthians where Paul was asking for a collection to be made for the poor saints at Jerusalem, and he had given the same order to the churches in Galatia. He said for every one to lay by in store the first day of the week as God had prospered him that there be no gatherings when he came. Likely he did not want them running around to gather up money after he was there. He wanted to give them the messages which were upon his heart. Paul used this method on this special occasion, but he did not bind it on the saints as a law. In many of the sect meetings they pass a collection plate around to collect from the people; but I do not know of any true holiness people doing that as it seems to embarrass some to have a plate shoved under their nose, yet it may not be any worse than to hear the preacher call out, "Don't forget the box at the door."

One way of giving offerings which has been practiced by some of the true holiness people for many years is to place a box on the altar bench or some convenient place in the meeting house and let the saints put their free-will offerings in it. In this manner of giving, one could cast in a dollar bill and another could cast in a twenty dollar bill according as God has or is prospering them, and no one would

know who gave the twenty dollar bill. It would be out of the Spirit of Christ to urge folks to give or to insist upon it. Let every one give freely. When it falls my lot in the larger camp meetings to mention a free-will offering, I often tell them that it is a free-will offering and if they cannot give freely as unto the Lord we would rather that they would not give, for I am persuaded that God does not accept anything but an offering given freely as unto the Lord. This method of giving has been practiced from the beginning at some of the oldest camp meetings in the south, and has been taught and practiced in the reformation from a very early date. I have before me a book entitled, "The Sabbath and the Lord's Day" written by H. M. Riggle, dated 1904, which teaches this and shows a picture of a box on a bench close to the pulpit and the saints passing by and casting their free-will offerings into the box. I do not look upon this as a fixed way for the saints to give their free-will offerings; but do find that it is a very convenient way for the saints to practice, but not as a compulsory rule; for the Spirit of Christ may move individuals differently under different and varied circumstances; and to have any certain rule would hinder the Spirit from having freedom to work in and through individuals as he pleases, and would bring bondage where freedom should exist.

Dear old brother Winn, known as father Winn, told me that they have used this method of giving here at Guthrie ever since the meeting house was built, which was forty-six years ago. Yet this is not a law of giving, as we sometimes tell the saints to just hand their offerings to the ministers among us as the Lord directs.

Some of the saints take up no offerings in their meetings, but expect the saints to give to the ministers and in other ways bear the expense of the meeting as the Lord may direct; and that seems to work quite well, especially in the smaller meetings; but it does not give visitors, who do not understand, much of a chance to contribute as they would like and it is sometimes embarrassing to those with meagre means to give their little amount in this manner to those receiving it. I do not suppose that it is possible to eliminate every difficulty in any one method of giving; and as I look at it, I feel that the saints should have their freedom in Christ to give their free-will offerings in any of the following ways: making up the offering before hand; a box at the side of the door; a box on the altar bench; or give to the ministers for expense of a meeting privately just as the Lord may direct them by his Spirit. Begging for means in any of these ways would not be Christ-like, neither would it be faith in God. I have traveled in evangelistic work for years and held meetings in almost all the states, and I have never taken up an offering for our meetings nor for myself, nor even hinted for any support, and God has always provided so we got along and did all he led us to do. You will notice that there is no begging done through the "Faith and Victory" paper, nor continued write-ups trying to work money out of our readers. The 25-cent subscription price on the paper is only about one-fourth

what a commercial price would be. The larger part of our tracts are sent out free. The price on our books are less than half of commercial prices. This is the Faith Publishing House or the "Lord's Print Shop," and we practice what the name implies. If God did not supply us with means, we would have to close up shop in a short time.

God says in his word, "The just shall live by faith: but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him."

Pray for us, dear readers, that we will never draw back, but that our faith will grow and increase in the living God. Your servant, Fred Pruitt.

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Jesus endured the cross (Heb. 12:2) that I may wear the crown (1 Peter 5:4).

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## An Appeal To Ministers

We appeal to the pastors or preachers: are you feeding yourselves or the flock (God's little ones)? The Bible says, "Woe be to the shepherds of Israel that do feed themselves! should not the shepherds feed the flocks?" Ezek. 34:2b. Today we see some who claim to be ministers who are begging for money, thinking only of their own needs, not considering the perishing souls all around for whom Christ died that souls might be delivered from the bondage of sin.

Consider: How do we live, do we trust in the Lord or the world? Are you looking to Jesus or to the people for help? Jesus says, "Freely ye have received, freely give" Matt. 10:8. "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; they shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover." Mark 16:15-18. "And as ye go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand. Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give." Matt. 10:7, 8.

Dear ones, are we giving diligent heed to this command? May God help each one to carefully search their own heart and obey God's Word.

—George Galloway.

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Jesus was troubled (John 12:27) that I might have peace that passeth understanding (Phil. 4:7).

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## A Song Book For Children

Different saints who deal with children have been sending in their requests for a song book for children. At the present time, we are not in a position to print one with the notes, so we have printed a small word edition, which contains twenty-seven songs which children love to sing. It is called "Beautiful Way Songs." Price, 10 cents each or twelve for \$1.00.

Post Paid.

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

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

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**—SUBSCRIPTION PRICES—**

Single copy, one year .....	\$ .25
Single copy, five years .....	1.00
Five copies to any address, one year .....	1.00
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An exclusive, full gospel paper printed and sent out in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ in the interest of all Christians, which body of believers constitute the one and only true Church of God.

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

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

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

FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE  
920 W. Mansur Ave., Guthrie, Oklahoma  
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**THE BEAUTIFUL WAY**

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

Subscription price: 60¢ per year for single copies. 40¢ each subscription in quantities of five or more to one address for a yr. (Pay quarterly if you desire).

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Okla.—Dear saints,—I greet you all in the name of Jesus Christ. When I wrote to you for prayer I was having a shortness of breath, but now it is gone. Praise the Lord. I'm so glad I can trust the Lord for both, soul and body. I mean to go all the way with the Lord. I thank you for your prayers. Your sister, Lizzie Randles.

**Editorials**

Since sending out the November issue of the "Faith and Victory," in which we inserted the "Three Month's Offer" subscription blanks, we have been made to rejoice because the readers are taking much interest in filling out the blanks and returning them to us. The blanks have been pouring in from all directions, and the office girls are kept extra busy listing the names, mailing the premiums, and answering the letters.

The gospel tracts, books, and papers are going out in a steady stream to all parts of the world, and much good is being done. The saints are edified and built up in God, sinners are enlightened, and some are saved; and our hearts rejoice to know that we can have a part in the salvation and edification of souls. Those who are sending free-will offerings to the work will not lose their reward; for they become workers together with God in getting the true holiness doctrines to the people so they can see and be saved. Free-will giving as unto the Lord is to the soul what breathing is to the body, for it keeps life in the soul from heaven; and "thou shalt be like a watered garden that flourisheth and bringeth forth much fruit."

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The four-room house, which is being built for Bro. and sister Hyrum Ray to live in, is well advanced at this writing. The roof and sides are finished, the electric wiring and plumbing is mostly done; and we hope to have it all done so they can move by Thanksgiving or sooner, if possible. We appreciate the free-will offerings which we have received for the building of the house; and do know that God will reward each giver and cause all grace to abound that you have all-sufficiency in the Lord. In a work of faith like this, we meet up with many problems; but we carry them to the Lord in prayer and he is a present help. I am rejoicing in spirit because of the fact that he has been so precious in the past few weeks in answering prayer and lifting burdens and moving the work along over all opposition and the opposers of the true holiness doctrines.

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We have just received a letter from sister Key, who states that brother Key is in Michigan in gospel work. They are both busy for the Lord, and their reward will be great. Sister Key asked for prayer. She is not well in body. The continual strain of physical labor and spiritual work for the Lord has caused afflictions to set up and cause her much pain and sufferings. She is worthy of our prayers and encouragement, for she has been a faithful gospel minister for many years, and has given her soul, body, and spirit to God for the furtherance of the gospel, holding the truth in righteousness and true holiness, against sin and evil in every form. She will lead souls in the right way if they will listen, take heed, and receive the truth. She meets up with the same treatment that other faithful ministers have met: being slandered, misrepresented, and evil-spoken of; but she takes it patiently and leaves all with God to care for and

moves right on, holding up the truth in the face of all opposition. She has been a succor of many, and quite a number of congregations have been raised up through her continued labors. We ask all the saints everywhere to pray for her, as she is greatly needed in the vineyard of the Lord. She has many problems to meet in her work for the Lord. Her counsel in spiritual matters is valuable to the saints of God, as she has given her very life for them; and her body is weak and afflicted. Will you agree in prayer for her?

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It will soon be Christmas time again. How fast time does fly. It does not seem long since the world was in a flutter and commotion about this day last year. I speak of it in this way, because most of the giving and other doings at this time of year is grievous to the Lord and disgraceful in his sight; as it is accompanied with so much revelry, drunkenness, and over-stuffed stomachs with a big show of giving, and many expect as much in return. It is perfectly in keeping with the Spirit of the Lord for saints to give simple gifts or useful gifts on the day they call Christmas in honor of the birth of Christ, as this has been practiced for ages. The Jews did this (recorded in Esther the 9th chapter) when they were saved from being slaughtered and slain. It is said that they established the fifteenth day of Adar, for that was the day they were turned from sorrow to joy. It is said that they sent portions to one another and gifts to the poor. Jesus is our Saviour, and he abolished death and has brought life and immortality to light thru the gospel. Why should we not be glad and rejoice on his birthday and send gifts to one another? Some say that the 25th of December is not his birthday. It does not appear that any one knows the exact day, so what is the difference about the day, just so our hearts are right about the matter? No one is able to prove that the 25th is not the day although many try to do so. I say, let the saints be glad and rejoice because of the fact that Christ was born, regardless of the day; and manifest it in giving as the Lord blesses and you purpose in your heart, but keep clear from the revelry and debauchery that professed Christians are guilty of. Be careful not to over-eat on that day (as well as any other day) and sin against the Lord by grieving His Spirit within you. Saints are to live soberly, righteously, and godly in this present world. Be sure to keep in the Spirit of Christ and walk in his steps on this day and all other days. May God bless and encourage every reader in his lowly and humble ways.

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If you desire a good gift to give to children and young folks, order an Egermeier's Bible Story Book. We have a number in stock at present. This book, style "A", has 608 pages with many beautifully colored pictures and is cloth bound. The print is large enough to make it easy to read. The price is \$2.95, post paid to any point in the United States.

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When Adam and Eve transgressed against God in breaking the one and only commandment that God had given them, they fell from their Eden state of

love and purity. Satan had succeeded in planting sin in their hearts, and they became corrupted and defiled according to Paul in Romans 5:12, which reads, "Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned." 17th verse: "For if by one man's offense death reigned by one: much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness [the Holy Spirit] shall reign in life by one Jesus Christ."

This sin nature is the very thing that Christ came to destroy and cleanse from our souls, and then to enthrone the Spirit of God in our hearts, making us able to live free from sin. When John saw Jesus, he said, "Behold the Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world." In Romans 6:6, Paul calls it, "the body of sin." In Romans 7:24 he was wretched because of the sin nature that caused him to transgress God's laws, and he called it, "the body of this death."

That the disciples were only in a justified state before they were sanctified and filled with the Spirit and needed to be cleansed from that sin nature, is very evident, for they manifested carnality in different ways and on different occasions.

When Jesus, James, and John were refused shelter over night in a city, the two disciples became angry and wanted to call fire down from heaven and consume those people; but Jesus rebuked them, and said, "Ye know not what manner of spirit ye are of." The carnal nature, planting of Satan, was still there. At one time Peter withstood Jesus about going up to Jerusalem. Jesus rebuked him and said, "Get behind me, Satan." At the trial of Jesus, Peter denied the Lord and even cursed and swore that he did not know the man. When the two disciples asked the Lord to sit one on the right and the other on the left in his kingdom, the other ten heard it and were moved with indignation against the two (Matt. 20:24). In this they manifested a defiled nature. The Pharisees who opposed Jesus manifested the carnal nature when they were offended at the Lord's words and wanted to injure him; but Jesus said, "Every plant which my heavenly Father has not planted shall be rooted up." In this he referred to Satan's planting of sin in the soul, which he came to destroy and root out. 1 Jno. 3:8.

Man only took two steps down. First, he listened to Satan's lies and broke the commandment of God, receiving the carnal nature from Satan, or sin nature, and became corrupted and lost his Eden purity; and then he was so weakened that he began to commit many sins and transgressions. In order to get back to his Eden state of purity in heart he will have to take two steps up. First, repent and ask God to have mercy and forgive him of his actual transgressions. God says in his word that he is faithful to do this for souls, and when a soul is forgiven he will have peace with God through faith in the Lord's blood sacrifice. Then when he becomes aware that the carnal nature is still in the soul and learns that God has promised to cleanse and destroy that sin out of his soul, he looks to the Lord for this and it is done by power divine; he will be sanctified and infilled by the

Holy Spirit, which will give him power to live free from sin in this time world and to witness for the Lord by his daily conduct in words and deeds.

The Wesleys taught this second definite work of grace, the cleansing of the soul by sanctification and infilling of the Holy Spirit; and they were mightily used of God. Bro. D. S. Warner and his early associates taught this truth in an exceedingly strong manner, and they also were mightily used of God.

I have often thought of the exhortation which Paul gave the brethren in Ephesians 4:3, which reads: "Endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace." Satan and his crowd are endeavoring to do anything else but this; and he has his agents whom he can use, who pass themselves off to be saint preachers, whether ignorantly or otherwise, who go about sowing discord, wresting the Scriptures from their proper setting and meaning, causing confusion and division. Dear saints, if anyone comes around teaching any other doctrine, trying to persuade you that there is no cleansing in the second work of grace and that the carnal nature is cleansed when you are first justified, believe it not, for such teaching is not sound doctrine, no matter how like an angel of light they may appear. Such folks as that are discord sowers and division makers; and if you listen to them and believe their false teaching, you will in time find yourself off with some little bunch of carnal professors who aid Satan in his endeavor to sow discord, causing confusion and division, bringing you into bondage to many of their pet ideas, which cannot be truly established by the sacred word of God; and thereby causing you to speak evil of the righteous ones who hold to the sound doctrines of the Bible.

Over and over, again and again we find the exhortation in the Bible to beware of false teachers; also, "Let no man deceive you." Paul says that Satan's preachers are preachers of righteousness. They preach many right things to deceive and allure souls into false ways. Read 2 Cor. 11:13, 14, 15, and be not deceived nor line up with discord sowers and thereby get into confusion and division, speaking evil of the humble saints of God who hold the truth in righteousness and true holiness.

One tactic these discord sowers use is to find fault with God's sanctified ministers, and thereby try to get you to lose confidence in them. When they have succeeded in doing this, then they can tell you or teach you almost any kind of false doctrine, and if you are not careful and prayerful, will get you to believe it. They will try to make out that if all would see it as they do, there would be more power and great miracles done. Satan has caused many a soul to be lost eternally by this art and clever juggling of the Scriptures. I feel like using the words that Jesus spoke when he was telling that many would arise, saying, here is Christ and, lo, there is Christ. His words were, "Believe it not." Matt. 24:23, 24.

Dear brethren, live humbly before God, keep in the true holiness way, be content with the effect of God's righteousness in your soul, which is "quietness and assurance forever." Isa. 32:17. Be not moved by loud talking or lying miracles, for these are the days

when the three unclean spirits like frogs are loose. John the Revelator said, "For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles." Rev. 16:14. "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord." 1 Cor. 15:58. Laboring in a false way is vain and will bring you no eternal profits.

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La.—To all the dear saints abroad,—Greetings! I am located here at Lake Charles, La. and I have a big field for mission work. I will have time to write letters, so any one who cares to write or correspond with me, address it to me at Lake Charles, La., R. 1 Box 406. Please pray that God will help us (brother Green and me) to contact honest souls and pray that God will give us wisdom.

With love to all,

George Stephenson.

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## Obituary

Charles James Smith was born to James L. and Nettie Smith at Tyro, Kansas, June 21, 1891, and departed this life November 6, 1951 at the age of sixty years, four months, and 16 days. At an early age he moved to the northern part of Oklahoma.

He was united in marriage to Edith Daisy Elliott, August 26, 1924 at Bartlesville, Oklahoma. To this union three children were born. They made their home in Bartlesville and Dewey until about six years ago when they moved to Tulsa. His wife preceded him in death June 26, 1948. At the time he became ill he was living in Colorado. He was brought from Colorado to the home of his son where he resided until the time of his death.

In 1933, he and his wife heard the truth preached and embraced the faith of the Church of God. They were instrumental in leading many to the truth through their labors in mission work in Bartlesville and the surrounding area. Bro. Smith received a great love for the truth and was very eager to see it prosper, and made many sacrifices to see others benefitted.

He leaves to mourn his departure: one son, Charles R. Smith; twin daughters, Mrs. Edwin Weir and Miss Iva Fay Smith, all of Tulsa; four brothers, Lewis of Delaware, Okla., W. W. of Oklahoma City, Bob of Capan, Okla., and Clarence of Pitcher, Okla.; three sisters, Mrs. Ed Notlez of Bartlesville; Mrs. D. J. LaFaver of Oklahoma City, and Mrs. Raymond Riley of Independence, Kansas; Three grandsons, and four granddaughters; also a host of other relatives and friends.

Funeral service conducted at Tulsa Funeral Home by Bro. O. C. Porter assisted by others. Text: John 11:25, 26; Psa. 121. Interment: Shawnee, Okla.

## REQUESTS FOR PRAYER

W. Va.—Dear saints,—Greetings in Jesus' dear name. I want to request your prayers as it seems I can't have victory. My health is not very good and my nerves are bad. I don't have any patience at all. Pray that God will help me. I need help bad. No one but the Lord and me knows how bad.

Mrs. Betty Robbins.

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Okla.—Dear saints,—I have a goiter on my neck. You have prayed for me and it is better but not gone. I am asking all the saints of God to pray for me on the first Sunday in December, 1951, as I know the Lord will do what he said. I was advised to ask all of the saints in the United States, where ever this request is read to pray for

me that I will be healed. I would like for some saint to send me an anointed handkerchief to place on this goiter. I am a saint living for Christ, praying every day and night, getting ready for his coming.

Celia B. Perry, R. 1, Watonga, Okla.

### Assembly Meeting Notice

The state Assembly Meeting of the Church of God at Guthrie, Oklahoma, will begin December 21, 1951 and last ten days.

As we think of the good assembly meetings which the Lord has given here in previous years, our hearts are filled with praise to Him, and we desire this one to be the best yet. It can be if the saints will come fasting and praying and working to that end. Spirit-controlled meetings are prayed down. Pray that God will keep a rebuke upon all fault-finding, division-making, and spiritual lethargy. Precious souls are at stake and the saints should especially guard against a spirit of ease-loving, social visiting at the meeting, and give no vent to fleshly lusts. Pray also that God will send Holy Spirit filled ministers of His choosing who will hold forth the Word of Life, expounding the Bible doctrines of justification, sanctification, divine healing, etc., without compromise or fanaticism.

For further information write to O. C. Porter, 511 E. Springer, Guthrie, Okla. Also send offerings of money or food to him, or bring it when you come.

The saints at Guthrie extend a welcome to all honest souls, and will do their best to make you comfortable while here. Bring pillows, bedding and your own towels, if possible. We have a little cover but not nearly enough.

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The California annual winter assembly meeting will be held at the saints' chapel at Walnut and Naomi, Los Angeles, Dec. 21-30. All are welcome. Come praying and expecting the presence of God to overshadow and pour out His Spirit in our midst as He did in our camp meeting and last assembly.

All desiring help for soul or body, try to get to this meeting, and God will surely meet you there. Any one coming by train or bus take a Central Ave. bus to Washington and Central, walk one block east and one block south to the chapel. Write to Erle Forbes 12304 Osborne Pl., Pacoima, Calif.; Phone Empire 15836.

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### CAMP MEETING REPORT

Greetings to all the dear saints. Truly we are praising the dear Lord for what he is doing for us here in So. Charleston. We had a wonderful camp meeting again this year. Probably not as many were here as in 1949, not so many from different states as before. We think it was because some other meetings were going on at the same time as ours. But oh, how the dear Lord did pour his blessings down from time to time as the word went forth, preached by the power of the Holy Spirit.

God sent ministers from Ohio, Virginia, and Louisiana. The saints came in from other states, some that we had never seen but how we did all flow together having the same spirit. Such a sweet spirit was manifested all through the meeting. Two were saved and one sanctified. A mother and son came from another state to be baptised. The last Saturday of the meeting some of the saints came from Dayton, Ohio with their pastor, brother Fraley. Some of the Dayton saints had been here for all of the meeting. On Sunday a car load came from Akron, Ohio which caused much rejoicing in the camp. Some that came

at the first of the meeting could not stay so they would have to leave but the Lord would send in others. All that came said it was a precious meeting.

The saints here had worked hard to get a dining hall and a kitchen built which was built to the rear of the chapel, built from cinder blocks. It was a wonder to many how the work of the building went along so well. It was so nice to have a good clean place to cook and eat in as some that were here in 1949 will recall how we had so much rain and only a very leaky tent to cook and eat in, but I know they will also remember how the dear Lord blessed in that meeting. We do thank God for true ministers that he can use to preach his pure gospel and we feel that much good was done. Some who came were unsaved and they wondered about it and thought too how good it was to see how people could meet together and show such love and unity regardless of the color or nationality. So we praise the Lord for the beautiful Church of God.

We can say God is blessing the work here. The sick are being healed and the grace of God is upon the saints, although as Paul said in 1 Cor. 16:9, "There are many adversaries." Also in Acts 14:2 we read how the unbelieving Jews stirred up the Gentiles and made their minds evil affected against the brethren, so it is today. We have some that will try to turn people from the humble way of truth if they can at all, but still the church is marching on to victory. We love to testify to what the Lord is to his dear ones that will stand true in the time of testing.

Our camp meeting is now only a memory, but, oh, what a sweet memory of victory and blessings to his dear ones as they all filled their places as God sets them in the body, some to preach, some to minister to the saints, others to work in the kitchen and the ones that had means to give liberally so that the ones who could not give were welcome and taken care of too. The meeting closed September 2 but the fruits are still being manifested. Truly we are all workers together with Him. We are praying the Lord to bless you one and all and ask you to remember us here. Your sister in Christ, Mrs. T. L. Spaur.



Scripture-text wall calendars, beautifully illustrated, Scripture verse for every day, beautifully colored picture for each month, 1952 design, size 9½ by 16 inches. Prices: each 35 cents; three for \$1.00; 12 for \$3.50; 25 for \$7.00; 50 for \$12.50. Post paid to you.



## Articles for Sale

### MIRROR MOTTOES

Glass plaques make attractive wedding gifts and gifts for other occasions. We have a nice assortment of them in different colors, sizes, and shapes, a Scripture text on each one. They are as follows:

Extra Large, oval shape, size  $15\frac{1}{2} \times 9\frac{1}{2}$ . Price \$3.75 each. Numbers, colors, and Scriptures as follows:

No. 380, Brown background, Numbers 6:24-26.

No. 382, red jewel-tone, Scripture Psa. 19:14.

No. 680, graytone, Scripture Psa. 84:11-12.

No. 681, graytone, Scripture 1 Cor. 15:58.

No. 840, graytone, Scripture, Phil. 4:6-7.

Oval, size  $9\frac{3}{4} \times 7\frac{3}{4}$ , price each \$2.00, as follows:

No. 609, graytone, Isaiah 26:3; No. 610, Josh. 24:15.

Oval, size  $5 \times 7\frac{1}{4}$ , price each \$1.25, No. 620 2 Thess. 3:5.

Oval, size  $5\frac{1}{4} \times 3\frac{3}{4}$ , price each \$1.00, No. 640, Psal. 17:1.

6 in. circle, \$1.25, No. 626, Eph. 2:8; No. 627, Psal. 13:5.

Oval jewel-tone  $9\frac{3}{4} \times 7\frac{3}{4}$ , each \$2.00. No. 308, blue background, James 5:8; 309, green, 1 Thess. 5:18.

Oval, jewel-tone  $5 \times 7\frac{1}{4}$ , each \$1.25; No. 319, green, Prov. 3:5; No. 320, blue, Prov 3:65

No. G8551 De Luxe Christmas Folders with envelopes to match in beautifully colored box. 21 in box for \$1.00; six boxes for \$5.00. Sunshine Line.

No. G8550 De Luxe Christmas Folders, 21 in box with envelopes to match, beautifully illustrated, very similar to No. G8551, also with Scripture texts. Price \$.90 each box or seven boxes for \$5.00.

No. G8340 De Luxe Scripture-Text Christmas Folders, 12 in box with envelopes, assorted designs. Price \$.60 per box or six boxes for \$3.00.

Luminous Cross, shines in the dark, on red or blue. Price 15 cents each or seven for \$1.00.

Bible with large print, center references, Price \$6.50.

No. 801C, Bible, good for teachers and ministers with concordance and references. India paper, overlapping black morocco, leather lined cover. Size  $5\frac{1}{2} \times 7\frac{1}{2}$ . Price \$12.00.

No. 803C, Bible, same as above but has leather cover. Price \$8.00.

New Testament with large print and Psalms \$2.00.

Vest Pocket New Testament, size  $2 \times 4\frac{1}{2}$  inches. Overlapping leather cover. Price \$1.50.

Oxford Bibles, teachers and ministers specialty, India paper, good clear print, concordance and references. Prices range from \$12.00 up to \$19.50.

Egermeier's Bible Story Book, style "A", has 608 pages, and many beautifully colored pictures, good print, cloth bound. Price \$2.95.

### CHILDREN LOVE THESE COLORFUL

#### TABLE-GRACE MUGS—A FINE GIFT

No. 2361 (set of two mugs), verses on each mug; different colors.

No. 2363 (set of two mugs) same as above, but different readings on the mugs. Per set—Sixty-five cents.  
Above Articles All Post Paid

Jesus was murdered (Acts 7:52) that I might live forever (John 3:16).

## ARE YOU BUSY LOSING A BOY?

Not kidnapped by bandits and hidden in a cave to weep and starve and raise a nation to frenzied searching. Were that the case, one hundred thousand men would rise to the rescue if need be. Unfortunately, the losing of the lad is without any dramatic excitement, though very sad and very real.

The fact is, his father lost him. Being too busy to sit with him at the fireside and answer his trivial questions during the years when fathers are the only great heroes of the boys, he let go his hold upon him.

Yes, his mother lost him. Being much engrossed in her teas, dinners, and club programs, she left the maid to hear the boy say his prayers, and thus her grip slipped and the boy was lost to his home.

Aye, the church lost him. Being so much occupied with sermons for the wise and elderly, and having good care for dignity, the minister and elders were unmindful of the feelings of the boy in the pew and made no provision in sermon or song for him, and so the church and many sad-hearted parents are now looking for the lost boy. —Selected

"The word "Selah" is found 71 times in the Psalms and three times in Habakkuk. It is a music mark denoting a pause. It is a call to calm reflection on the preceding words. The selah reminds us that the Psalm requires a peaceful and meditative soul which can apprehend what the Holy Spirit propounds." The soul is in a condition to be strengthened and uplifted by a pause and give time for the truth of God's Word to settle down into the heart. —C. W.

## A Prayer In Rhyme

Lord, help me be thankful  
And praise your dear name,  
E'er keep my heart guiltless,  
And my soul aflame.

Oh, keep my light shining,  
That others may see  
And follow the Savior,  
Be happy and free.

And as I am treading  
The strait narrow way,  
Help me to be careful  
What I do and say.

My words and my actions  
Some others will sway;  
Help me to be watchful,  
Be careful and pray.

I want to help others,  
Not stand in their way,  
To help lead them upward  
To heaven's bright day.

When life's work is ended,  
My labors all o'er,  
Speak, Lord, let me hear this:  
"Welcome home evermore."  
—George W. Stephenson



# Young People's Section

## The Stranger of Bethlehem

They say in a lonely stable  
In Bethlehem, far away,  
Was born a little stranger,  
And laid upon the hay.

Perhaps he was a stranger  
The world had never known,  
The Son of God so mighty  
Came down from heaven's throne.

But since he brought salvation  
Unto the souls of men,  
He is no more a stranger  
To those now born again.

To the world he is a stranger,  
But let him never be  
Within this world of danger  
Stranger to you and me.

—Mrs. Harvey Johnson

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Ore.—Dear young saints,—As I looked through the November issue of the paper, I was a little ashamed to see only one testimony from the young people. Surely the Lord has been blessing and helping us more than we are giving him praise for. I've heard it expressed like this, "You wouldn't know by your testimony that you are saved." It is a great privilege and only by the love of God that we are saved; therefore, shouldn't we want people to know about it?

By the help of the Lord I mean to be more diligent and live up to this testimony. Remember we overcome by the blood of the Lamb and the word of our testimony.  
Yours in Christ, A young saint.

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La.—Dear saints,—It is with love and fear that I write to you. I am thankful for the freedom which I have through Christ and for all his great love and blessings shown to me.

When we trust God he does not fail us, I have tried him and I know. You will remember how we prayed for my baby sister and nephew who had polio this summer. God has completely protected and saved Cita (my sister) from any effects in so far as we and the doctors can determine. She feels so well that mother has a hard time getting her to rest during the day. She has been home for about a month. When I see her or think upon the wonderful work of God in her behalf, it puts a loving fear in my heart lest I should fail or displease God. The little boy is still in the hospital (the parents are not with the saints) and is wearing a brace on his right leg and shoulder. But we surely can see how God has worked in this situation also.

I enjoy the blessings of the dear Lord and am striving to please him in all I do. I have, through his grace, cut all known lines that would bind me to this world and I want to keep the way uncluttered. I am teaching in one of the elementary schools in this city and I ask God daily before meeting the children to help me to meet their needs

insomuch as possible in the fear of God. It is a great challenge and I need your prayers. I am the only one of the saints here that we know of except one sister who was saved in her home this summer. She is not well in her body and she needs your prayers. I have seen her only once since being here.

I enjoyed being in the services with the saints last summer and visiting in your homes. I am looking forward to meeting some of you at the Guthrie assembly meeting this winter if it is the dear Lord's will. If any of you feel led to write, I would be very happy to hear from you. A letter from one of the saints at the end of a hard day means much to me. May the dear Lord bless you and keep you all.

Nava Jo Short, P. O. Box 183, Bogalusa, Louisiana.

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Okla.—Dear young people,—This afternoon finds me encouraged to stay in the army of the Lord. He has been my constant friend and guide. There is no one who can come to our rescue in time of trouble like the Lord. As I look back over my life I can see how patiently God has dealt with me. He has been so precious to me these past few weeks. I can never repay him for all of his goodness and mercy upon me. By his grace and help I intend to give Him the rest of my life.

Last week I hurt my finger, which seems like a small thing, but was very painful. We just took it to the Lord in prayer and he has wonderfully blessed. When the Lord does anything, there is nothing left undone. Truly we serve a mighty God.

It seems like the devil is taking every advantage of the young people who are striving for that heavenly prize. Our life is an influence to some one whether it is good or bad. If we live just like we expect others to, surely there would be no time for slothfulness. Life is uncertain and death is sure, truly we should be a living example before this dark, sinful world. I desire your prayers that I may sink deeper in God's will.  
Wilma Melot.

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Ore.—Dear young saints,—I am thanking the Lord for his redeeming love tonight. I feel a need of being drawn nearer to the Lord. For some time now I have felt a need of digging deeper and getting our roots down deep. When you look at a plant or tree you only see what is above the ground. But if you could see what is below the ground you would see about as much as there is above. That plant or tree is rooted down so when the storms come it will be able to stand. Last winter when traveling through the mountains I saw tree after tree that the wind had up-rooted. No doubt those trees had been protected by older trees and had not put their roots down very deep.

So many people don't dig down and build a good foundation. They lean on the older ones. Then when the older ones are gone or they are permitted to be off to themselves and the trials and tests come, they have no roots to be anchored to. When we start digging deeper, we start growing up too. Praise God. The devil is always present to do his part too. In the past he has set so many snares for my feet, but the Lord so many times has taken us by the hand and lifted us over them. I truly thank the Lord for all he has done for me and the many things he has

brought me through. I think of the verse in Psa. 40:5, "Many, O Lord my God are thy wonderful works which thou hast done, and thy thoughts which are to usward: they cannot be reckoned up in order unto thee: if I would declare and speak of them, they are more than can be numbered." Your sister in Christ, Marie Busch.

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Okla.—Dear saints everywhere,—A brother just came into my store and said, "I'll give you something better to read." I was looking through a book so I immediately started reading the "Faith and Victory" he handed me. It surely is something good to read. My heart rejoices to read the testimonies of those who have their trust in God. Also the good instructions from burdened hearts are like good messages to my soul. I am thankful for salvation and all its benefits. I love the Lord more each day and my trust is in him for everything. We hear much about religion but it seems that few people know what salvation means. I feel I have so much to be thankful for in knowing the truth and to realize were it not for God's mercy, I could be mixed up with something else and never know the love, peace, and joys of real soul salvation.

Almost two weeks ago I took sick and suffered for over a week with what I believe to be low blood pressure. Something kept telling me I was going to have to suffer for awhile. Then one morning I was very sick and had opportunity to talk to a man about it and he asked me why I didn't go to a doctor. I told him why and read scriptures to back it up. He just wouldn't accept any portion of it though he claims church membership and told me how foolish he thought I was. I said, "All right, let's wait and see if the Lord needs any help to heal me." He left shaking his head. I then closed the store and went over to brother and sister Pruitt's. They anointed me in the name of Jesus and in obedience to his word laid on hands and prayed for my healing. I felt better immediately and haven't suffered since, no dizziness, no weakness of any kind. I have a testimony for that man when he returns.

About a week ago the Lord healed an ingrown toenail I had had for almost a year and a half. We heard a message recently on faith and while it was going forth, it came to me quite clearly that as our faith is, so it is unto us. I feel my faith has been increased and I'm encouraged to trust the Lord more each day for everything in my daily life and desire to draw closer and as Stephen did, "look stedfastly into heaven" that heaven will be reflected in my life and shine out to precious souls around me. I want to grow deeper and have greater victories over all that the devil would impose upon us. I see places in my life to move up and I desire your prayers that I'll be what He wants me to be. I have many trials of patience but I know they are for my good and my heart says amen to God's will. Pray for my husband who needs to be saved. With Christian love, Jessie Taylor.

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Okla.—Dear beloved ones,—I feel impressed to say a few words for Jesus this morning. We read in St. John 6:51, "I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread he shall live forever: and the bread that I will give is my flesh which I will give for the life of the world."

Say, dying sinners, there is a grave for you somewhere, and you are going to it sooner or later. So sad you don't have one sweet promise from Jesus that he will raise you up to live with him. Pray to God to open your eyes! Amen!

R. Walters.

Tenn.—Dear friends in Christ,—I have been reading your paper, "Faith and Victory" for a number of years and do enjoy reading the good testimonies. May the Lord's richest blessings rest upon you for I know you must be doing a great work. I ask the prayers of each one that I may live very close to the Lord and do his will every day. One who loves the Lord, Mrs. J. W. Kerr.

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La.—Dear readers of "Faith and Victory,"—I feel it would be good to give a testimony through the little paper. I enjoy so much reading the testimonies of others telling of the goodness of the Lord and his miraculous healing power. One day after reading several of those good reports I thought, "I'd like to be able to give a testimony for complete healing of a thing I've been asking the Lord to heal the past three years." Then the Lord said, "You could write a testimony of other healings in the family." I said "Yes, Lord, I do have much to thank you for."

In August husband was gathering corn. A blister raised on his hand between the thumb and finger. He used gloves and continued breaking corn, but the glove did not protect his hand and it grew worse. One night he couldn't sleep for pains going up his arm and there was a swelling in his hand with a dark redness around the blister. He opened the blister often to let pus and bloody water run out, but it filled so quickly. The devil tried to scare me because I have heard of others dying from an infected blister. But thank the Lord, he healed before it got too serious. After this husband suffered severe pain in his hip, back, and leg several days and nights. It came on very suddenly, but we supposed it was some kind of rheumatism. The devil tried to make us think he would be left crippled, but thank the Lord for complete healing. So if we look around we can see much for which to be thankful even though some things we desire have not yet been granted to us.

Some time ago some one made known through the "Faith and Victory" paper that they felt impressed to pray for the sick and afflicted and for those desiring prayer to write them. I don't remember the name but I'd appreciate the prayers of these and all others for the healing of a place on my face that has been gradually increasing more than three years. I am very, very thankful that it is no worse than it is. But it is of a nature that it will not heal except to definite answer to prayer. I will be 44 the 3rd of December and I have never had medicine or remedies of any kind. The Lord has always been my healer. I intend by His help and grace to trust him all the way. Your sister in Christ, Mrs. A. E. Flynn.

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Mo.—Dear saints,—Greetings in Jesus' dear name. Today finds me with my faith in the blessed Savior, the one that suffered and died that we may have this wonderful salvation. I am so glad I ever found this precious way and also found that Jesus can heal our bodies. Praise his holy name. I have been healed of many afflictions. Last July something bit me on the arm while I was at the camp meeting. Some thought it was a poison spider. It made me real sick. I had a hard chill that night. Some of the saints came in and prayed for me and the chill stopped at once. My arm was badly swollen, a blister came on it and it turned dark around the blister. The Lord healed it. The swelling went out of my arm. A short time after the swelling went out of my arm my body began to look spotted and swollen and I suffered with my head and limbs. My body broke out. I know it was from the poison that spread from the insect bite. My trust was

still in the Lord and he healed me of it all. Praise his holy name.

I want to thank all the dear saints for their prayers, encouraging letters, and help. The Lord has so wonderfully supplied my needs in answer to prayer. I got the shoes I so badly needed and a winter coat was supplied. Dear saints, every one that wrote to me when I was going through a hard trial, you will never know what your sweet, encouraging letters meant to me. I knew that you were praying for me. I'm still alone and need your prayers.

Fannie Williams.

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Ala.—Dear brother Pruitt,—Greetings once again in Jesus' dear name. I want to say that I have been made to see the church as I have never seen it before. I never before in my life really realized that the church was flesh of the Son of God and bone of his bone although it is plain in Eph. 5:30-31. In times past I have been more zealous than godly, but thank the dear Lord for showing me the precious truth clear and I trust that I shall be used to the glory of God for his body's sake which is the church. I want you to know that wherever I am I mean to hold up the church of God as I see that it is the precious body of Christ. Pray for us. H. A. McMillian.

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Calif.—Dear saints of God,—Once more we send heavenly greetings to you in the sweet and precious name of Jesus Christ our Lord and redeemer. As it has been quite awhile since we have testified to you through the paper, we feel impressed at this time to write a few words of acknowledgment of the goodness and kindness of the Lord and how he is dealing and working with and for us here in San Diego, also for his great salvation, peace and joy that he gives to us as we follow on to learn and know more about him, his word, and his way. And as we pass through the various tests of life with his love in our hearts, we are learning more each day of the real value of salvation in our hearts, and what it means to follow Him. We find that if his love is in our hearts it will manifest itself in our life. Praise the Lord for his sweet presence with us each day. As Paul states that we are not ashamed of the gospel of Christ for it is the power of God unto salvation to all that believe in the Lord. And it rejoices our hearts that we believe in the Lord, his Spirit, and his Holy word.

For some time we here in San Diego have not had the privilege of having regular services on account of a false deceptive element that crept in among us and made a shameful rent, dividing the flock, which has been very sad and grievous to us, but we now thank the good Lord that there were a faithful few left among us, who remained to stand true unto the word of God. Something like six months ago we began to have cottage meetings each Sunday afternoon in our homes and the interest began to revive again. Later the Lord directed us to begin Sunday School and regular services on Sunday morning instead of afternoon, which we did. Thanks be unto God he has favored us with his approval as we obey his leadings. We are meeting each Sunday morning at 10 a. m. for Sunday School and 11 for regular services with a real good attendance. Some times we have from 12 to 18 children in one class and from 10 to 12 grown ups in another class. Some time ago we were favored with a goodly number of the saints from Glendale, Calif. where sister Opal Wilson is pastoring. Then at another time we were favored with a number from Bakersfield, where brother I. C. Chandler is pastoring. Upon both occasions we must say that it was a source of great joy unto us,

and we magnified the Lord for his presence with us. Oh, how we do thank the Lord for the saints of God and for their love and care for each other, and for the sweet fellowship of the Holy Spirit. We are more decided than ever to live for and be true unto the leading of His Spirit.

We wish to say that at any time any of the saints that may be living near or in San Diego, or passing through, will come and be with us in our service, we shall certainly be glad to have them. At the present time we are having our services in our home at 132 South 29th St. We certainly desire your prayers that we ever be found in the center of the will of God ever lifting Him as a loving Saviour, for every one that will come unto Him. If we lift him up then he can do the drawing of men and women unto him. Pray much for us, we need your prayers.

Your brother and sister, T. T. and Annie Holden.

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Calif.—Dear saints,—Greetings in the dear name of Jesus our Lord. I am so happy in my dear Lord today that I am full clear up into my throat. I'm just rejoicing with all my soul over the good and perfect things God is doing for me and mine and for all his dear children here. He has blessed us beyond measure, even since our dear pastor and sister Stover went away. He has answered our prayers in a marvelous way many times.

I am rejoicing especially over the redemption of my dear old uncle's soul who lived in Maywood, Calif. He was 83 years old and didn't believe in God and it seemed almost impossible to get help to his soul. Several months ago (maybe a year) I put a request for prayer for him in our little congregation and just kept right on praying the prayer of faith until Sunday, October 7th we received word that he was going fast. So we went to see him and I thank God, who is faithfulness itself, I found him a different soul. I asked him if he believed in God and he nodded his head, yes. I asked him if he believed in Christ and he nodded yes, then I asked him if he loved God and thank God he nodded "yes" again. My aunt told me what had taken place a few days previous. He had gone into a coma for awhile and when he came out of it he called her and said, "Jennie, I have just been down into hell and now I know there is a God." Praise God forever! He had taken him right down into the pit itself and made a believer of him. The next day (Monday) at 1:30 he was gone and oh! how my heart did rejoice and praise our God for his infinite love and mercy. I love and worship Him with all my heart, soul, mind, and strength and my sweetest delight is in doing His perfect will.

We are still rejoicing over the wonderful camp meeting He gave us and pray daily for all the precious souls who pressed into His glorious Kingdom. Continue to pray for us all here as we do for you. We all need one another's prayers. Yours in Christ, Wesley Trimble.

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Wash.—Dear saints,—Greetings. I feel the Lord would have me to write my testimony. I praise God for salvation. He is my Savior and keeper, praise his dear name. A short time ago I was walking a board across a ditch and I stepped off and fell into the ditch. My left arm and my foot were hurt very badly. I refused to go to a doctor. I trusted the Lord and he healed me. I can use my arm again. I praise God for his love and mercy to me. I mean to trust him to the end. Pray for me.

Your blood washed sister, Mrs. N. G. Wilson.

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Okla.—Dear saints scattered abroad,—This leaves us still decided to go all the way for the Lord. We find so much slackness these days but we know God expects us

to keep pure and holy. I have intended to write ever since the Monark camp meeting, as brother and sister Beisly have taken most of the responsibility of the coming year. We want the saints to be just as diligent as they have always been. I want to commend all the saints in their faithful co-operation with us while we struggled to put the camp meeting over each year, for we had it during the time of rationing during the war and had to go on our knees in the kitchen and pray for sugar, meat and lard, but our God never failed us. We have no assurance that we will not have the same to go through again if these war clouds don't clear away. We want to thank every saint for every effort you made in our behalf while we served at Monark. We will say, we will still be there as brother Beisly's helpers. I will serve in the kitchen as long as I can so pray for God to heal me so I can be able to help.

As I was taking inventory of the camp meeting supplies, I felt like asking the dear saints to lay aside for next year and to help us lay in new supplies. Our tea towel supply is needing so I felt like if every sister would make one tea towel and each congregation would send two cot straw ticks it would solve our supply problem. I had many yards of material sent the past two years from Chicago but I made mattress covers out of it. We are still short of mattress covers. We don't have enough mattresses to supply every one that is why we need straw ticks.

There is a piece of ground we need for the camp ground. Pray that the man will sell it to us. We know prayer changes things. Each congregation should count the Monark meeting as theirs as it is nicely located for a general assembly of the saints and each one should come to the camp meetings and assembly meetings with holy intentions, praying and fasting for that meeting to be held to God's good pleasure. If you don't have pure thoughts for the meeting you had better stay home and pray, for every meeting is pitched in the defense of the gospel. Amen.

The Sam Bartons.

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Mo.—Dear brother and sister in Christ,—Greetings in Jesus' name. I will write a few lines. I am still on the Lord's side with victory in my soul. I am getting old and not able to get out much. I am past 80 and know the outer man is going down but the inner man can be renewed day by day. I can say with David I have been young and now am old but have never seen the righteous forsaken or his seed begging bread. I have preached the gospel over 50 years and never took up a collection in my life and don't get the old age pension and I'm doing fine. Praise the Lord. I have seen a number saved and sanctified but we are living in a day when it is hard to reach people. The Bible says as it was in the days of Noah so would it be in the days of the coming of the Son of man. The days of Noah are past, the coming of the Son of man is yet in the future. I believe the coming of the Son of man is drawing nigh because from the time of creation to the flood it was about 2,000 years, from the flood to the birth of Christ it was about 2,000 years, and we are bordering on the next 2,000 years. The Bible speaks of the days being shortened. It is a sad thought. When Jesus comes back the most of the people won't be ready so may the Lord bless one and all is my prayer. C. J. Vilhauer.

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

Ga.—Dear saints everywhere,—Greetings in Jesus' dear name. I feel led to write my testimony how the Lord has wonderfully saved me. I have been a reader of the "Faith and Victory" paper for a number of years and it surely has been a blessing to me. I felt that God was

talking to my soul through this paper and I knew I had to give up all worldly connections to please God. Thank God I am free and don't want any part of the world. I am trusting the Bible way and my whole desire is to live to please our heavenly Father. I ask an interest in the prayers of the saints.

Leile Chiles.

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Jesus suffered the wrath of God (Mark 15:34) that I might know the love of God (1 John 4:10).

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## A Gift

"The GIFT of God is eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord" Rom. 6:23.

Suppose God charged a thousand dollars, or a hundred, or even one, for eternal life, would it be a GIFT? Nay, suppose He charged only one cent, would it be a GIFT?—No. Suppose He charged so many prayers, or so many good works, or so much love, to the man who needs eternal life, would it remain what He calls it—"the gift of God?"—No.

And is He not true to His Word? Will He deceive as men do? Will He, can He, mock man's need? Ah, not He! The One who loved man enough to give His only Son for us is not the One to mock man.

Whatever else man may have to work and pay for, there is no service and no price to bring to obtain eternal life. It is His prerogative to GIVE it, and He freely gives it to every man who comes to Him acknowledging his need. When one truly from the heart acknowledges his need, he humbles his heart to a state of true repentance toward God for sins he has committed, and a willingness to forsake them.

Do you know what eternal life is? It is the very life of God Himself. Christ is the eternal life; and having settled, through His atoning death on the cross, the whole question of our sins, He can give, and does most gladly give eternal life to every one that believes on Him. Yes, all who receive Him, receive eternal life, by which they become as really the children of God as children are their parents' children by natural birth—possessing their very life and nature.

Think of it; the man, woman, or child, who has the faith of the Lord Jesus Christ is a child of God! Read 1 John 3:1, 2, and again, chapter 5:1, and see for yourself. Such an one has in him now a life which cannot see death, which cannot sin, [I say, this LIFE cannot sin, and neither does the one who possesses it sin so long as he retains that LIFE.] which is like God from whom it springs, and which thrives and grows only in the things which God loves and enjoys.

It is not at all an improvement of the old nature. No, that was born of the flesh, and remains the same; but this new life is born of the Spirit, and it is spirit. It makes man "a new creature in Christ Jesus."

It is not gradually cultivating him till he gets up to a high standard of goodness. No; it is an immediate absolute passing from one thing to another, "from death unto life"—from the wild tree to the grafted tree. A new life is implanted in the soul who receives Christ, like the graft implanted into the old tree, and is to bear new fruit. Glory be to God for

such grace, which can thus stoop to us in our ruin, degradation, and helplessness, and operate such mighty things!

We repeat: "The GIFT of God is eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord."

If you perish, it will be because you were too good in your own eyes to need eternal life; or too blind to perceive the grace of God; or too proud to confess your need. And what will you do in the day when such grace has ceased to call, and you must face the eternal realities of sin and judgment? —P. J. L.

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## Are You With the Crowd that Crucified Jesus?

"Often times there are many who lead out in a reform movement and fail in that their message is not given heed to and this would-be reformer is gravely mistreated, many have been martyred, killed, put out of the way. Their message disturbed people, they did not like to hear it. Few people do like to hear their settled ways and customs attacked. Their anger is often aroused into a flame and there is no telling what they may do.

"Many a man from Jesus unto today, yea, even before his time, many were the really great men with heavenly wisdom; the prophets of the Lord and other who were compelled to travel their way alone. Jesus did this. Paul did the same and millions of others. It is yet as true today.

"He who would dare to reprove the people of God today and attempt to set before them a better way, a way more in keeping with the teachings of the Lord Christ Jesus will meet the same defaming treatment. He is looked upon as one who thinks he knows better than others, feels he is better, whereas his heart may be breaking, weeping inside because of the inroads Satan is making or has made into the people of the Lord. They are reproached, set aside, ignored, persecuted at times, looked down upon, tantalized, and almost anything done to hurt their efforts to help, not stopping at even the ruin of their reputation, thus killing their influence. It would be too belittling in the minds of some to acknowledge these as being reformers, prophets of God. To accept them would be belittling themselves too much, therefore they must be put into prison, or stopped some way or other."

—Copied

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## Called, Chosen, and Faithful

God's Word says that many are called. The sinner is called to repentance; the justified, to sanctification or holiness; and many are called to the gospel work. Oh, the sad thought, that many refuse to hear, or heed, their calls! Many refuse to hear (heed) the voice of God calling them to repent and turn away from sin. To such, He says He will laugh at their calamity, and mock when fear cometh. "When distresses and anguish cometh upon them, then shall

they call, but I will not answer: they shall seek me early, but shall not find me." See Prov. 1:24-30; Isa. 66:4; Matt. 22:3; Heb. 12:25.

The gospel call goes out to every one, and is a savor of life unto life, or of death unto death (2 Cor. 2:16; Mark 16:16; 1 Cor. 1:21).

The gospel includes all of God's Word, revealed to us through His Son. Heb. 1:1, 2: "God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, . . ."

The gospel is the power of God unto salvation unto every one that believeth. Rom. 1:16.

"But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed." Gal. 1:8.

Paul shunned not to declare the whole counsel of God. Acts 20:20, 21, 27.

Jesus said, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God." Matt. 4:4.

They who hear the gospel and believe and take up their cross to follow in the steps of Jesus are the ones he chooses, or are the chosen. Some only follow part of the way. When tribulation or persecution ariseth because of the Word, by and by he is offended. And some let the cares of this world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the Word, and they become unfruitful. Matt. 13:21, 22.

In John 6:60, 66, we read where many of Christ's disciples said, "This is a hard saying, who can hear it?" And many of his disciples went back and walked no more with him. But the faithful ones are they who count the cost and pay the price, give up all, take up their cross daily and follow on to the end, enduring temptation, persecution, and many hard trials. They count not their lives dear unto themselves; live not for themselves, but for others. As Paul says, "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me." Gal. 2:20.

"For though we live in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh." 2 Cor. 10:3.

He that loveth his life shall lose it, and he that hateth his life in this world shall keep it unto life eternal." John 12:25.

These are the called, and chosen, and faithful. (Revelation 17:14).

—Cora Brant

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Many of those who call themselves Christians seem to have a very low estimate of eternal values, judging by the way they act the other six days of the week after going to meeting on Sunday. They can get "mad" and use language they would not want good people to hear, and do many things not becoming to a CHRISTIAN. 2 Tim. 2:19, "Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity." If you are willing to forsake your sin, you will be given power to remain "Sons of God."

Jesus was falsely accused and misrepresented (Luke 23:13, 14) that I might have in him a friend who understands (Heb. 4:15).

Jesus became a servant to man (Phil. 2:7) to make me a son of God (1 John 3:1).

Jesus was separated from God (Matt. 27:46) that I might have eternal fellowship with God (1 Jno. 1:3)

## oOo BIBLE STUDY

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### A DOUBTING AND DISOBEDIENT PEOPLE

December 2, 1951

Printed Portion.....Numbers 14:1-11.

Num. 14:1. And all the congregation lifted up their voice, and cried; and the people wept that night.

2. And all the children of Israel murmured against Moses and against Aaron: and the whole congregation said unto them, Would God that we had died in the land of Egypt! or would God we had died in this wilderness!

3. And wherefore hath the Lord brought us unto this land, to fall by the sword, that our wives and our children should be a prey? were it not better for us to return into Egypt?

4. And they said one to another, Let us make a captain, and let us return into Egypt.

5. Then Moses and Aaron fell on their faces before all the assembly of the congregation of the children of Israel.

6. And Joshua the son of Nun, and Caleb the son of Jephunneh, which were of them that searched the land, rent their clothes:

7. And they spake unto all the company of the children of Israel, saying, The land, which we passed through to search it, is an exceeding good land.

8. If the Lord delight in us, then he will bring us into this land, and give it us; a land which floweth with milk and honey.

9. Only rebel not ye against the Lord, neither fear ye the people of the land; for they are bread for us: their defence is departed from them, and the Lord is with us: fear them not.

10. But all the congregation bade stone them with stones. And the glory of the Lord appeared in the tabernacle of the congregation before all the children of Israel.

11. And the Lord said unto Moses, How long will this people provoke me? and how long will it be ere they believe me, for all the signs which I have shewed among them?

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

**Practical Truth:** A spirit of fear and a lack of faith may lead to disastrous results.

### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

The Israelites were much discouraged because of the way. Num. 2:4. Jesus said, "I am the way." John 14:6. The Israelites were woefully lacking in faith in God. This is the tenth time and when they wanted to make a captain and return to Egypt they crossed the dead line with God. He decreed that all who had been numbered for war from 20 years old and upward should perish in

the wilderness. They were numbered for war and God himself was on their side to fight for them, but they did not accept the responsibility with Moses, a chosen man of God, for a leader. In their heart of unbelief they perished in the very place where they had done all their complaining. Note, even after they had done all their murmuring and complaining, the longsuffering of God when he says in verse 11 "How long." He still wanted to show them mercy. For us who are Christians the application is plainly stated in 1 Cor. 10:1-13. When Christians want to follow the world after they get saved, here is a plain warning to them found in Psa. 106:15, "And he gave them their request; but sent leanness into their soul." "For God hath not given us a spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind." 2 Tim. 1:7.

### ---::--- MOSES' CHARGE TO THE PEOPLE

December 9, 1951

Printed Portion.....Deuteronomy 30:15-20; 31:1-3;  
33:27-29a.

Deut. 30:15. See, I have set before thee this day life and good, and death and evil;

16. In that I command thee this day to love the Lord thy God, to walk in his ways, and to keep his commandments and his statutes and his judgments, that thou mayest live and multiply: and the Lord thy God shall bless thee in the land whither thou goest to possess it.

17. But if thine heart turn away, so that thou wilt not hear, but shalt be drawn away, and worship other gods, and serve them;

18. I denounce unto you this day, that ye shall surely perish and that ye shall not prolong your days upon the land, whither thou passest over Jordan to go to possess it.

19. I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live:

20. That thou mayest love the Lord thy God, and that thou mayest obey his voice, and that thou mayest cleave unto him: for he is thy life, and the length of thy days: that thou mayest dwell in the land which the Lord sware unto thy fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them.

31:1. And Moses went and spake these words unto all Israel.

2. And he said unto them, I am an hundred and twenty years old this day; I can no more go out and come in: also the Lord hath said unto me, Thou shalt not go over this Jordan.

3. The Lord thy God, he will go over before thee, and he will destroy these nations from before thee, and thou shalt possess them: and Joshua, he shall go over before thee, as the Lord hath said.

33:27. The eternal God is thy refuge and underneath are the everlasting arms: and he shall thrust out the enemy from before thee; and shall say, Destroy them.

28. Israel then shall dwell in safety alone: the fountain of Jacob shall be upon a land of corn and wine; also his heavens shall drop down dew.

29. Happy art thou, O Israel: who is like unto thee, O people saved by the Lord, the shield of thy help, and who is the sword of thy excellency!

**Memory Verse:** The eternal God is thy refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms. Deut. 33:27.

**Practical Truth:** Before every man there is set a way of life and a way of death.

## COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

In this lesson Moses makes final appeal to the people and sets before them "Life and good, and death and evil." He commands them to love the Lord their God, to walk in his ways and keep his commandments so the Lord could bless them. He warned them of what would take place if they turned away from God. He says, "Therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live." verse 19. Love, obey and cleave to the Lord. Verse 20. These are good words for all of us.

Barnabas in Acts 11:23, "Exhorted them all, with purpose of heart they would cleave to the Lord." Why, O why should any one turn away from the Lord after they have once known him? He has made the way so simple and given power to overcome all difficulties. Then to add to that, he says in 1 John 2:1 "And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous." 1 John 1:9 says, "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." So if we do sin he has made a way for us to come back. Surrender fully to God. "If God be for us, who can be against us?" Rom. 8:31. God is our refuge.

## THE CONQUEST OF CANAAN

December 16, 1951

Printed Portion.....Joshua 1:1-7; 6:1-5, 20.

Josh. 1:1. Now after the death of Moses the servant of the Lord it came to pass, that the Lord spake unto Joshua the son of Nun, Moses' minister saying,

2. Moses my servant is dead; now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, thou, and all this people, unto the land which I do give to them, even to the children of Israel.

3. Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you, as I said unto Moses.

4. From the wilderness and this Lebanon even unto the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and unto the great sea toward the going down of the sun, shall be your coast.

5. There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life: as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee.

6. Be strong and of a good courage: for unto this people shalt thou divide for an inheritance the land, which I swear unto their fathers to give them.

7. Only be thou strong and very courageous, that thou mayest observe to do according to all the law, which Moses my servant commanded thee: turn not from it to the right hand or to the left, that thou mayest prosper whithersoever thou goest.

6:1. Now Jericho was straitly shut up because of the children of Israel: none went out, and none came in.

2. And the Lord said unto Joshua, See, I have given into thine hand Jericho, and the king thereof, and the mighty men of valour.

3. And ye shall compass the city, all ye men of war, and go round about the city once. Thus shalt thou do six days.

4. And seven priests shall bear before the ark seven trumpets of rams' horns: and the seventh day ye shall compass the city seven times, and the priests shall blow with the trumpets.

5. And it shall come to pass, that when they make a long last with the ram's horn, and when ye hear the sound of the trumpet, all the people shall shout with a great shout; and the wall of the city shall fall down flat, and the people shall ascend up every man straight before him.

20. So the people shouted when the priests blew with the trumpets: and it came to pass, when the people heard the sound of the trumpet, and the people shouted with a great shout, that the wall fell down flat, so that the people went up into the city, every man straight before him, and they took the city.

**Memory Verse:** As I was with Moses, so I will be with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee. Josh. 1:5.

**Practical Truth:** The help of God is vitally important in new ventures for the advancement of his kingdom.

## COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

One of the main points in this lesson, and is repeated, to observe is that the Lord kept telling Joshua to "be strong and of a good courage." He told him, "I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee." He commanded him to do all according to the law, all the law, not just a part of it. (Worldly professors say there are nonessentials, don't believe them.) When we do all the law out of love to God we can have the assurance then that God is with us and that will give us the courage needed to carry us to the desired haven. God has promised to be with those who obey him and we have many records in the Bible where he did that very thing. There is no place for compromise; that is where we get our feet started off the narrow way. We need, greatly need the "whole armour of God." Read prayerfully Eph. 6:10-18. In Rom. chapters 9-11 we read of the justice of God's rejection of Israel. They claimed to be the seed of Abraham but Jesus told them that they were not the seed of Abraham or they would have done the works of Abraham, they would not hear God's words because they were not of God, even though they claimed to be. There were many who did not cross over Jordan but died in the wilderness because of unbelief, and there are many who do not enter sanctification today and go on unto perfection because of unbelief. They do not love God above every thing else in this world. Oh, surrender to God. Read Rom. 12:1-2. "Little children, keep yourselves from idols." 1 John 5:21.

## THE PROMISE FULFILLED IN CHRIST

December 23, 1951

Printed Portion.....Luke 1:46-55; 2:1-7.

Luke 1:46. And Mary said, My soul doth magnify the Lord,

47. And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.

48. For he hath regarded the low estate of his handmaiden: for, behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed.

49. For he that is mighty hath done to me great things; and holy is his name.

50. And his mercy is on them that fear him from generation to generation.

51. He hath shewed strength with his arm; he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.

52. He hath put down the mighty from their seats, and exalted them of low degree.

53. He hath filled the hungry with good things; and the rich he hath sent empty away.

54. He hath holpen his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy;

55. As he spake to our fathers, to Abraham, and to his seed for ever.

2:1. And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed.



2. (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.)

3. And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city.

4. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:)

5. To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.

6. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered.

7. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

**Memory Verse:** His name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end. Isaiah 9:6-7.

**Practical Truth:** The Old Testament predictions of a Messiah were fulfilled through the coming of Jesus into the world.

#### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

The promises of God are sure and secure. Beginning with Gen. 3:15 and all down through the Old Testament history God made many promises concerning the coming of Christ and not one of them failed. There have been many Jews converted because when they investigated the actual facts of what Christ did while here on earth they compared them with the prophecies they were convinced and gladly accepted Christ, the only way by which man can be redeemed. Jews included. Jesus himself said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father but by me." John 14:6.

The song of Mary in our lesson reveals to us that she believed all that the prophets had spoken concerning the Christ, and when the angel told her that she was to be the mother, she said "Be it unto me according to thy word." Luke 1:38. Jesus came to give spiritual life to all those who seek him with all the heart. Jer. 29:13. "That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith." Eph. 3:17. "There is joy and peace in believing." Rom. 15:13. If you are not a Christian, why will you not make this Christmas a joyous one by receiving him into your life? God has power to keep you saved and help you live a holy life. May God help you to decide for him.

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#### THE PEOPLE MAKE THEIR CHOICE

December 30, 1951

Printed Portion.....Joshua 24:1-8, 14-18.

Josh. 24:1. And Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and called the elders of Israel and for their heads, and for their judges, and for their officers; and they presented themselves before God.

2. And Joshua said unto all the people, Thus saith the Lord God of Israel, Your fathers dwelt on the other side of the flood in old time, even Terah, the father of Abraham, and the father of Nachor: and they served other gods.

3. And I took your father Abraham from the other side of the flood, and led him throughout all the land of Canaan, and multiplied his seed, and gave him Isaac.

4. And I gave unto Isaac, Jacob and Esau: and I gave unto Esau mount Seir, to possess it; but Jacob and his children went down into Egypt.

5. I sent Moses also and Aaron, and I plagued Egypt, according to that which I did among them: and afterward I brought you out.

6. And I brought your fathers out of Egypt: and ye came unto the sea; and the Egyptians pursued after your fathers with chariots and horsemen unto the Red sea.

7. And when they cried unto the Lord, he put darkness between you and the Egyptians, and brought the sea upon them, and covered them; and your eyes have seen what I have done in Egypt: and ye dwelt in the wilderness a long season.

8. And I brought you into the land of the Amorites, which dwelt on the other side Jordan; and they fought with you: and I gave them into your hand, that ye might possess their land; and I destroyed them from before you.

14. Now therefore fear the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and in truth: and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the flood, and in Egypt; and serve ye the Lord.

15. And if it seem evil unto you to serve the Lord, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.

16. And the people answered and said, God forbid that we should forsake the Lord, to serve other gods;

17. For the Lord our God, he it is that brought us up and our fathers out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage, and which did those great signs in our sight, and preserved us in all the way wherein we went, and among all the people through whom we passed:

18. And the Lord drave out from before us all the people, even the Amorites which dwelt in the land: therefore will we also serve the Lord; for he is our God.

**Memory Verse:** Choose you this day whom ye will serve. Joshua 24:15.

**Practical Truth:** There is nothing more important in life than to choose the Lord and to help others to do so.

#### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Our closing lesson of the quarter sums up a number of the lessons we have studied as Joshua relates what took place from Abraham on down to Moses, of Moses bringing the Israelites out of Egypt and on down through the wilderness. By the time of this lesson it seems rather strange that Joshua needed to ask the Israelites to "Put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the flood and in Egypt." (24:14.) They needed a sermon on the text "Buy the truth and sell it not." Prov. 23:23. They did not seem to be making much progress spiritually. Yes, it seems strange when God had done so much for them by delivering them out of Egypt, guiding them with a pillar of cloud by day and fire by night, and giving them every thing they needed. At the time when they were murmuring and complaining, their love for God should have grown stronger; but instead of that Joshua had to use pressure to get them to the place where they would say "Therefore will we also serve the Lord; for he is our God." (24:18.)

For us in this day we have a scripture that we should embrace, "Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord." Rom. 12:11. "Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren." 1 John 3:16. Perseverance in loving and doing for God will keep us from going back to any of the idols of this sinful, dark world.

C. W.