

FAITH^{AND}VICTORY

The EVENING LIGHT WATCHMAN



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Where Is Christmas?

Christmas in India, do you say?
India scarcely knows the day!
Grieving for sins that are unforgiven,
Toiling for peace and hope of heaven,
Christ they know not, nor His birthday fair,
Christmas? You never will find it there!

Christmas in Africa, dark and old?
Ne'er in their ears was the story told.
Buried so deep in their jungles wild,
Nothing they know of the Christmas Child:
Buried neath the burdens they daily bear,
Coming of Christmas they know not, there!

Christmas in China, grim and grey?
Star of the East, with its golden ray,
Gleams o'er their land, but they see it not,
Low is their vision, their heart untaught;
Filling their days with a weight of care,
Christ and His Christmas they know not, there!

Christmas is found at His cradle stall,
There we must lead those who find it at all.
Show them the Star beaming bright on the way.
Cheering them onward to walk in its ray
Up to His Cross and His love so rare,
Christmas? Yes, surely they'll find it there!

—Nell Ruth

— oOo —

Divine Healing

Who May Be Healed?

Who may be healed by divine power? This is a question that confronts a large number of people, also some who are afflicted in body and would like to receive the healing touch. They seem to think that the blessing is for others, but not for themselves. The only way that we can come to a satisfactory conclusion of the matter is to consult the Word of God. The Word of God is the source of information that has been given to us by the Lord himself, who has said by the voice of inspiration: "I am the Lord that heal-eth thee." We read in the book of Matthew, "And

Jesus went about all Galilee teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people. And his fame went throughout all Syria: and they brought unto him ALL sick people that were taken with divers diseases and torments, and those which were possessed with devils, and those which were lunatic, and those that had the palsy; and he healed them. Matt. 4:23, 24.

We also find the following statement in Luke 4:40, "Now when the sun was setting, all they that had any sick with divers diseases brought them unto him; and he laid his hands on every one of them, and healed them." It does not say in either of these passages that the Lord refused to heal any that came unto him or that were brought unto him; but he healed them all, regardless of what the disease or affliction was, he healed them. "And there came a leper to him, beseeching him, and kneeling down to him. And saying unto him, If thou wilt, thou canst make me clean. And Jesus moved with compassion, put forth his hand, and touched him, and saith unto him, I will; be thou clean. And as soon as he had spoken, immediately the leprosy departed from him, and he was cleansed." Mark 1:40-42. The leprosy was one of those dreaded diseases whose victims were shunned by the masses, and were many times quarantined and shut out of society, because of its loathsomeness and contagiousness, especially in certain stages. But Jesus touched the man and cleansed, or healed him.

Some times the question is asked, "Will the Lord heal anyone who does not have faith, or is not capable of exercising faith in the promises of God?" We know that when we come to God for help on any line, we must have faith if we are to receive the help we desire. But there are times when some one is in need, or distress, and is not able to exercise faith himself on account of tender age or some other condition, yet if there are those that are enough interested in his case to bring him by faith to Jesus, He will heal him, as in the case of Jairus in Mark 5:22, 23. "And behold, there cometh one of the rulers of the synagogue, Jairus by name; and when he saw him, he fell at his feet, and besought him greatly, saying, My little daughter lieth at the point of death: I pray thee, Come and lay thy hands on her, that she may be healed, and

she shall live." And Jesus went with him: and as they were on their way there was an interruption caused by a woman who had longed to be healed, and had suffered many things by the hand of physicians and grew no better, believing that if she could but touch the hem of Christ's garment she would be healed. So she pressed her way through the crowd, by faith reached forth her hand and touched the hem of His garment, and was made whole. In the meantime, some one from the home of Jairus came with the message, "Thy daughter is dead." Jesus heard what was said, and said to Jairus, "Be not afraid, only believe." When Jesus came to the house, he put out all curiosity seekers and funmakers, raised the child, and commanded that something be given her to eat.

We find in the case of the Syrophenician woman who came to Jesus in behalf of her daughter who was grievously tormented that she received the desired help on account of the wonderful faith she had in the Lord. The Lord never turned faith down. He said to one man who sought healing for his son, "If thou canst believe." The father answered, "Lord, I believe, help thou mine unbelief." God always honors faith, because faith honors God. There may be obstacles to overcome at times, or long delays, but to encourage men to hold faith, Jesus gave the parable of the widow and unjust judge, to the end that men ought always to pray and not to faint.

There are some who question as to whether the Lord will heal sinners. This is a question worthy of deep consideration. If we will search the scriptures closely, we will find that many were healed who were at the time of their healing yet in their sins, and to some he said, "Sin no more lest a worse thing come unto thee." By this we know that the Lord wants to be glorified in the life of every one that receives the healing touch. In the 28th chapter of the Acts we read of where Paul healed the father of Publius, who was the chief man of the island of some barbarians, after which others who had diseases came and were healed. Now the scriptures do not say that they were saved, but they do show that Publius and his house were very courteous, and also the others were appreciative, as they honored Paul and his company with many honors and things that were necessary.

No doubt there are some today likened unto the nine lepers that were cleansed. Ten were healed, but only one turned to give glory to God. Jesus asked, were there not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? They did not seem to show any appreciation for what had been done for them.

God healed Abimelech, king of Gera, and his subjects when Abraham had prayed for them. God also healed the Philistines of a sore and destructive plague after they had complied with divine order. A certain nobleman came to Jesus in behalf of his son who was at the point of death, and earnestly besought him that he would come and heal him. Jesus said, "Go thy way, thy son liveth." The nobleman believed Jesus' word, and his son was made whole. Jesus put Malchus' ear back in its place and healed it after it had been cut off the night of his betrayal. To some he said, "according to your faith so be it unto you."

So we conclude that any one may be healed who exercises the necessary faith and complies with divine instructions. God will not turn faith down. "Have faith in God."

—Ulysses Phillips.

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Giving and Receiving

We have religious bodies of people in the world today that at one time trusted the Lord and honored Him with faith, but now we see them grown cold and faithless and are fervent to get dollars from others to further their carnal worldly religious desires and fleshly ambitions. They have lost sight of the true riches and are filled with their own ways in carrying on that which should be God's work. They work in many unbiblical ways—beg, urge, and force money out of those under their influence to carry on what they call "God's work." I am persuaded that God does not accept any gift unless it is given freely from the heart as unto God. If one is urged, begged, trapped, or decoyed into giving, there will be no eternal reward in such giving for them. Those that lose faith in God often wrest the Scriptures from their proper meaning and force the law of tithing upon their followers. There is not a single Scripture in the New Testament, if properly interpreted, that teaches tithing as binding upon the righteous in Christ Jesus. Jesus says in Matt. 5:17, "Think not that I am come to destroy the law or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfill." When he died on the cross, the law was fulfilled, and the prophets. Under the law they gave tithes, but under grace the law is fulfilled inasmuch that we now give all into His hands. He moves on us by His Spirit to take and give of His as He directs, and in that way the soul is kept alive in Christ, for it is God that is working in us both to will and do of His good pleasure. Binding the law of tithing on a soul will kill the free-will giving and the continually looking to God for the Spirit to work in you, directing you in your giving as to when, where, and how much.

Where folks do not know that the tithing is abolished when in Christ and they sincerely and freely give a tenth, I believe that God will bless that soul and honor their giving. But when forced upon them as a New Testament doctrine by faithless, covetous, would-be religious priests, they would receive no eternal profit. The New Testament way is: "Freely ye have received, freely give."

Many of these blind leaders use the 23rd verse of the 23rd chapter of Matthew to prove that tithing is a New Testament doctrine. They make out that the Lord was teaching us to tithe when he was telling those scribes and Pharisees that they ought to tithe and not to leave the weightier matters undone. The scribes and Pharisees should have tithed because they were still under the law and would be until Christ died on the cross and fulfilled the law and prophets. The law was in force until Christ poured out his blood on the cross and thereby fulfilled the law and made us free from all law bondage, becoming our law in our souls individually, for all now is in his hands. Under

the law one would have to kill a man to be looked upon as a murderer; but under grace, if one has hate in his heart, he is counted a murderer. So Christ fulfills that law, for no one will murder unless he first has hate in his heart. Under the law, one had to commit the act of adultery to be stoned to death as an adulterer; but under grace, one is an adulterer if he looks on a woman to lust after her. In this Christ fulfills the law, for no man will commit adultery except he first have lust in his heart for the woman. Under the law they were commanded to keep the seventh day holy, but under grace we keep every day holy. The soul rest that we have continually in our souls spiritually is fulfilling the literal sabbath rest under the law. In this the Lord fulfills the literal sabbath. In Christ we are made perfectly free from all the law—tithing included. Some one may ask, How are you going to keep your work going and expenses paid in printing and sending forth the gospel if you do not teach tithing and urge or in other ways decoy people into giving? I answer that this is not my work. If it were my work, I would have to do as others do. The work is in God's hands and he knows all the needs, and we ask him for what is needed and he moves upon his free saints who have all in his hands, and they give freely and willingly as he directs them and thus the work is supplied with means enough to do all that he wants us to do whether it be much or little. I have found by many years of experience in fully trusting the Lord that the need of a thousand dollars is no more to him than one dollar. The amount is nothing to Him, for with Him it is just a matter of the need. He controls the finance of the whole world, the cattle on a thousand hills belong to him. Oh, brethren, let us have real living faith in God. I would not want any one to give to this work that the Lord has put upon us unless he gave freely as unto the Lord, for I am persuaded that he would receive no eternal reward unless he gives it freely from the heart as unto Him who has given it to him as a steward over His goods.

—Fred Pruitt.

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Stewardship

Steward I—and not possessor
Of the wealth entrusted me.
What, were God Himself the holder,
Would His disposition be?
This I ask myself each morning,
Every noon and night,
As I view His gentle goodness
With an ever new delight.

Steward only—never owner—
Of the time that He has lent.
How, were He my life's custodian,
Would my years on earth be spent?
Thus I ask myself each hour,
As I plod my pilgrim way,
Steeped in gratefulest amazement
At His mercy day by day.

Steward only—not possessor—
Of that part of Him that's I.
Clearer grows this truth and dearer,
As the years go slipping by.
May I softly go, and humbly,
Head and heart in reverence bent,
That I may not fear to show Him
How my stewardship was spent.—Sel.

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The Dark Places

Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life." John 14:6. Our life is as a vapor which is soon cut off. "He that hath the Son hath life. He that hath not the Son hath not life." 1 John 5:12.

The dark places of the earth are filled with the habitation of cruelty because there is no truth nor mercy nor knowledge of God in the land, therefore shall the land mourn. Let judgment run down as waters, and righteousness as a mighty stream. Woe unto them that draw iniquity with cords of vanity. Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness. Woe unto them that are wise in their own eyes and prudent in their own sight, which justify the wicked for reward and take away the righteousness of the righteous from him. Therefore as the fire devoureth the stubble, and the flame consumeth the chaff, so their root shall be as rottenness, because they have cast away the law of the Lord . . . and despised the word of the Holy One. Isa. 5:18-24.

In Rama was there a voice heard, lamentation, and weeping, and great mourning, Rachel (type of Christian mother) weeping for her children, and would not be comforted because they were not. Herod (an instrument of Satan) was exceedingly wroth, and sent and slew all the children, and Satan is the same today. It is written, I will put enmity between thee (Satan) and the woman and between thy seed and her seed. Gen. 3:15. Fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul; rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell. Matt. 10:28. The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all nations that forget God. Psalms. 9:17.

Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: because strait is the gate and narrow is the way which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it. Matt. 7:13. We will have to make some effort to get through a narrow door. We have also a more sure word of prophecy: whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place. 1 Pet. 1:19.

Robertta Reese.

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REVIVAL MEETING

There will be a revival meeting at the saints' chapel on the corner of 16th and Ash, Wichita, Kansas, from December 5th to 15th. The saints at Wichita desire the cooperation and prayers of saints and friends scattered abroad. Come if you can, but if you can't come, pray that the Lord will give a real harvest of souls.

—Bro. Lewis Williams, pastor, 1536 N. Piatt.

"FAITH AND VICTORY"

16-Page Holiness Monthly

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

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

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.

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

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

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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).

Editorials

On Wednesday, October 29th some of us started on an evangelistic trip, going to Springfield, Mo. for the first meeting. Bro. Foster of Bristow, Okla., and Bro. Kenneth Flynn, who works in the printing office, accompanied us on this trip, and we were much pleased to have them along. Bro. Foster has the gift of exhortation and the Lord used him effectively in the meetings. We spent three days at Springfield in the home of Bro. and sister John Wilson, having meeting in the saints' chapel there each evening. The Lord did bless in the services and gave anointing and freedom in giving out the word, which Paul says is the power of God unto salvation to all that believe. The attendance was very good and the interest was encouraging. Our souls were refreshed by having the privilege of meeting the saints at that place.

Brother and sister Wilson are pastors of the little flock there. They are standing firm on the true holiness doctrines of the Bible. They are not being moved by the winds of doctrine that are blowing about in this evil day. It was hard for us to leave, as they were talking about how the Lord has answered prayer and upheld them through the trials of life.

At ten o'clock Saturday morning we were on our way to Huntsville, Arkansas to have meeting in the upper Wharton school house. We received a burden from the Lord for this place while in meetings in California this summer, and when we returned to the printing work at Guthrie, we worked early and late to get our work in shape to leave for this meeting. We left some work undone at the shop and went on to have the meeting. Bro. H. E. Steele lives there, and several other saints, and they received us with a hearty welcome. The meeting was fairly well attended the first night, and the interest increased; but on Tuesday the election was held in the school house, and it was in use Tuesday night. This broke the interest to some extent. However Bro. Steele had made an appointment to have meeting in another neighboring school house that night and we met with a goodly number of people at that place. They seemed to greatly enjoy the truth, and some of them continued to attend the meetings. The Lord gave good liberty in preaching the word. One soul got saved and a number held up their hands for prayer. We left there on Sunday evening, Nov. 9th. A number said they had been helped in the meeting, and we truly enjoyed the association and fellowship of these good people. They very much desired that we return again. The meeting should have gone on another week, but duties in the Print Shop at home were pressing me. I had a desire to be in more than one place at a time, but that could not be, but keeping the gospel going forth by the printed page we can reach souls and in that way be in many places. The sending out of one month's printing here at the shop enables us to reach more souls with the gospel than an evangelist could reach in a life time. We mean to be faithful to God at any cost and firmly hold the true holiness doctrines of the Bible forth to the people. The winds of doctrine that are blowing all about do not move us one iota,

for we know in whom we have believed and do believe, and are assured in our hearts that He is able to keep that which we have committed unto Him against that day. Bless His holy name.

Brethren, pray for us and the work he has laid upon us to do for Him and precious souls. Our hearts are fully set to do His will, and at the same time endeavor to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

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The three-months offer will expire on the 15th of December. Please try to have the ten names and addresses in by or before that date. Earlier than that would suit us better as we will be swamped with work, having to get the January paper ready before the assembly meeting at this place, which comes during the Christmas holidays. May God richly bless every reader and cause his face to shine upon you and all your interests.

We are much pleased with the way the Lord is blessing in the printing work here at Guthrie and the sweet fellowship which flows from heart to heart among the blood-washed saints who are attached to the "True Vine" and draw their strength, grace, power, and wisdom through Christ down from God out of heaven, which causes them to bear the fruits of the Spirit which are, "love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance: against such there is no law. And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit. Let us not be desirous of vain glory, provoking one another, envying one another."

The above scriptures ought to have a whole-hearted welcome in every saint of God. The fruits of the Spirit in fulness can only be borne when one is attached as a branch in the "True Vine," which is Christ our Lord. Any soul that becomes dissatisfied with the humble, crucified, self-denying way with the Lord will be looking around for some easier way (the devil has plenty of imitations) and will be desiring vain glory, craving self importance. A scripture in Proverbs reads thus: "The backslider in heart shall be filled with his own ways: and a good man shall be satisfied from himself." Prov. 14:14.

One cannot live free from sin and bear the fruits of the Spirit unless he is a live branch in the "True Vine," for the Lord said in John 15:6, "If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them and cast them into the fire, and they are burned." Bearing the fruits of the Spirit when perverse circumstances are upon you and fiery trials are your lot is manifesting the marks of the Lord Jesus Christ, and Christ is being lifted up, who will draw all men unto Him. When Peter and John were called before the council of rulers after being put into jail, they were bold to witness for the Lord. And when the council was ending, the rulers were at a loss to know what to say or do, and perceiving that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marvelled and took notice and knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus. Brethren, let us keep attached to the "True Vine" and therefore bear about

in our mortal body the marks of the Lord Jesus Christ.

It brings heavenly joy to our hearts to see how the readers are responding to the "Three month's offer," and the three-month subscriptions are coming in from all directions. The children of God are delighted to have this opportunity, for their souls are receiving food and strength by reading the contents of the paper and they are anxious to pass the good things on to others, which is sowing to the Spirit. God's love in them prompts them to have an interest in others that they too share with them the good things from God's well-supplied store house. Self centered people are only as withered branches. The soul that receives good things from God and gives out the same will receive from Him again, and thus receiving in and giving out will keep the soul alive even as drawing breath in and out will keep the body alive. It is the devil's business to make us be careless and indifferent to the things we should do for God and souls and to keep busy about our self interests, which bring us no eternal profit. Laying up treasures in heaven is the greatest asset that humans can have. Jesus made the statement in Luke 16:8: "The children of this world are in their generation wiser than the children of light." Why are they counted wiser? Because they work, labor, and toil to lay up treasures on earth, but the children of light, who are possessors of the TRUE RICHES are often so careless and indifferent to opportunities which would mean treasures in heaven for them. Denying self and giving out to help get the gospel to men and in other ways helping needy souls is just as much of the gospel of Christ as any other doctrines he taught. Jesus said, "Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, running over, shall men give unto your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withall it shall be measured to you again." This is one way of reaping what we sow. God loves a cheerful, liberal giver and will cheerfully and liberally give back to any soul that manifests faith in Him in obedience. The poor widow who gave all her living was complimented of the Lord. He said the others gave of their abundance, but this poor widow had given more than they all.

Those who are afraid to give out what God puts in their hands for fear that they might be in need sometime and that God will not be faithful to give back, are dishonoring God, and prove by their acts that they do not believe what God says. They claim to have faith in God, but by their acts, they prove the contrary. How can such people look God in the face at the judgment and say, "I believed and practiced all thy word." I fear they will be speechless before him in that great day. "Be not deceived, God is not mocked; for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to the flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting." And He further exhorts: "And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap if we faint not."

I have known souls to get saved and they became liberal and cheerful givers, but as time went on, the fervency and love in giving began to abate, and now it

is easy for them to neglect giving. The first love is gone. They have become weary and have fainted, weakened away from their calling and the gospel suffers and the needy are neglected. Oh, brethren, let us awake to righteousness and sin not. Make our peace, calling, and election sure. We have record of churches (in Revelation) that became luke warm, and God said he would spue them out of his mouth. They had become weary in well doing and had fainted. Others had left their first love and he told them to repent. Others had become at ease in Zion, and his wrath was kindled against them. They had lost the true riches scrambling after earthly gain. All these things are warnings to us to not grow cold and luke warm in the service of the Lord; but to be fervent in Spirit, serving the Lord.

Obituaries

Nelia Raborn Hilbun, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Leander Raborn was born September 14, 1889, and passed to her reward October 18, 1952 at the age of 63 years, 1 month and 4 days. She was united in marriage to Wm. Steve Hilbun in 1913 who preceded her in death in 1940. To this union 9 children were born, 3 daughters, Mrs. F. N. and Mann Lea, Kentwood, La., and Mrs. Philip Lechelski, Houston, Tex.; 6 sons, Hollis, Dave and Wm. of Kentwood, La., Mose and Marion of Houston, Tex., and Louis of Los Angeles, Calif.; 2 sisters, 8 brothers, and many other relatives, friends and saints.

We indeed miss our dear sister but feel that our loss is her eternal gain, for to our knowledge she lived an humble, devoted life to God since she got saved several years ago. She spent most of her life living for others, and cared for many others in her home besides her own family. Her sweet consecrated life was known by many, and we trust will draw many to the Lord to meet her in heaven. Her daughters, Lorene and Lilly May with their husbands, so tenderly cared for her in their home and she died in the faith of the saints.

Funeral services were conducted at the Saints' chapel on Line Creek, near Kentwood, La. by sister Katherine Key, assisted by brothers Ray Key and L. L. Perry. Burial in the family cemetery. Texts: Heb. 9:27, 2 Tim. 4:6-8, 1 Thess. 4:18, John 5:28-29, 1 Cor. 15:51-58.

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Brother Shirley Webb, the eldest child of Mattie and Wilehie Webb, was born in Henry County Missouri October 10, 1884 and departed this life October 31, 1952.

He came with his parents to reside in Chetopa, Kans. where they located as farmers. Here he grew to manhood. He was united in the holy bonds of matrimony to Cora Adams. He was the father of eight children, all but one preceded him in death. Brother Webb was a man that had a smile for everyone and had a wonderful disposition. His memory will long be cherished. He was a man that believed in God, but hadn't given himself to God until in his lingering illness. He turned his thoughts to God and on October 12 he became saved and God was his refuge and helper. He realized his time was short here on earth. He told his wife two or three times to have the family to get together. Through his faith in God he was not afraid to die. God was his refuge.

He leaves to mourn his passing, a devoted wife, one daughter, 2 grandchildren, 6 great-grandchildren, 2 aunts, 1 sister, 2 sisters-in-law, 4 brothers-in-law, a host of neices, nephews, cousins, and a host of friends. To the

bereaved—death is only a dream. He will rise refreshing in the morning.

Just beyond the hilltop,
Where the sun sinks in the west,
Is a land of unknown beauty,
Where the weary soul shall rest.

Funeral services were conducted by brother Sam Barton at Chetopa, Kansas.

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IN MEMORY OF SISTER HUSKEY

To know her was to love her, and to love her was to know
A sweeter or a better never dwelt on earth below.
And every life she touched in turn was richly blest,
And they in turn passed on the glow that to the heart gave
rest.

And so the kindly seeds of love she strowed so far and free
Will still go right on bearing fruit until eternity.
And looking up to Paradise, we see an angel there
That makes it fairer, richer, because her soul is there.

—Composed by Grace (Myers) Jones to Ella Mae.

Assembly Meeting Notices

The California State Assembly meeting of the church of God will convene from December 26, 1952 to January 4, 1953 in the saints' chapel on the corner of Walnut and Naomi Streets in Los Angeles, California.

We extend a hearty welcome to all to attend these meetings, especially those needing help to soul or body. Come praying and looking to God for help, as there will be able ministers present to preach the full gospel and to pray the prayer of faith for those that are sick.

For further information, contact: O. B. Wilson, 12312 Osborne Place, Pacoima, Calif., Phone EMpire 1-0608; I. D. Stover, 611 E. 10th St., Pomona, Calif., phone 2-1811; I. C. Chandler, R. 6, Box 37, Bakersfield, Calif., phone 4-2950; Ted Summers, 207 E. 76th St., Los Angeles, Calif. phone THornwall 8319.

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Lord willing, the annual Oklahoma Assembly Meeting at Guthrie will begin December 26 and end Jan. 4th.

Those who have attended in past years know that the chapel has been too small to accommodate the crowds at times, but this year you may feel free to invite all of your friends and neighbors, for we trust the Lord will enable us to have the new chapel finished sufficiently to use this year. Time is short and much work yet remains to be done, so it is not likely to be completed, but we believe that those coming will be so interested in spiritual matters that they will be willing to endure the unfinished building. Though it is larger than the other building, we would like to see it filled to its capacity with people who are looking to God with earnest and sincere hearts for spiritual blessings.

Sleeping quarters will be provided. Those who can should bring their own bedding, etc.

Send free-will offerings of money, or food for the support of the meeting to Bro. O. C. Porter, R. 5, Guthrie, Oklahoma.

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PRAYER REQUEST

Sister Nellie Lovell of Clarksville, Texas requests prayer for her mother who is troubled by seeing things at night and cannot sleep. She sees people in her house and sees people that have been dead thirty years and talks to them. Sister Lovell also wants prayer for herself that she have clearly the mind of the Lord in all that the Lord would have her do.

1953 Calendars



Scripture Text Wall Calendars in full rich color with concise and accurate stories of the monthly pictures, a Bible reading for each day and other interesting features. Single copy \$.35; 3 copies \$1.00; 12 copies \$3.50; 25 copies \$7.00; 50 copies \$12.50, post paid to any address in the U. S. A. Order from Faith Publishing House, 920 W. Mansur Ave., Guthrie, Okla.

Articles for Sale

Egemeier's Bible Story Book, 608 pages, many beautifully colored pictures. All parents should get this book for their children. Price each \$2.95.

An assortment of Bibles and New Testaments. Prices range from \$1.50 up to 13.50. Good Bibles for ministers and teachers with reference and concordance for \$12.00.

Cross that glows in the dark, called a prayer reminder. Price 15 cents each or \$1.50 per dozen.

Christmas Greeting cards with envelopes to match. Assortment No. G8552—21 beautiful cards in a box. Price \$1.00 per box.

All-occasion cards with Bible verse, 21 cards and envelopes. No. G 3752, Price per box \$1.00.

Birthday cards, No. G1752, 21 cards with envelopes. \$1.00 per box.

Convalescent Assortment, 21 cards with envelopes, No. G2952, Scripture Text, price \$1.00 per box.

Christmas Assortment No. G8342. 12 folders with envelopes to match in box, price 60 cents per box.

Sanctification, a book that is much needed to establish you in the truth. There is much error taught at present on this subject. Written by J. W. Byers, 96 pages. Price 25 cents or five books for \$1.00.

Bible with references, family record, large print for weak eyes or aged persons. Size 9½ by 7 inches. King James Version. Price \$6.50.

Evening Light Songs, shaped notes, 480 pages, cloth bound. Just the song book for the saints of God. Price \$1.40 each in quantities of one to ten books; \$1.30 each for ten books or more.

All articles above are post paid to you by
FAITH PUB. HOUSE, 920 W. Mansur, Guthrie, Okla.

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

"I receive not honour from man" (Jesus speaking) John 5:44. We are living in a time when man seems to want to receive honor one from another among the clerical rank. We have the more popular titles of Reverend, Doctor, Father, and Rabbi. It is interesting to note that the word Reverend is used only one time in all the Holy Bible and is used in connection with God. "Holy and reverend is His name." Psalm 111:9. Man lived upon this earth some 5,300 years before he took this title unto himself. What right has mortal man to this divine attribute which belongs to God?

The Holy Spirit was given to guide the apostles into all truth. "Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth is come, he will guide you into all truth . . ." John 16:13. In the epistles they were guided to name the different offices of the ministry. They were not guided to use the titles of Reverend, Father, Doctor, or Rabbi. "And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus" Col. 3:17. They did not use these titles in the name of Jesus. He did not name them. "The disciple is not above his master." Luke 6:40.

These titles are a remnant of Roman Catholicism that clings to most Protestants today. "At the time of Reformation great objection was raised to the title (Reverend) and some still reject its use. Degree of Doctor of Divinity was given in the middle ages only to those who had passed the degree of bachelor, licentiate and master and was bestowed by the chancellor of the university in the name of the Pope."—Cyclopedia of Religious Knowledge. "The titles of Reverend and Doctor of Divinity were not inaugurated by the apostles, but were inaugurated through the successors (priests) of the apostles in later centuries"—Very Rev. Fr. Bede Friedrick, of the Society of the Divine Savior Salvatorian Seminary.

"The title Reverend given to clergymen is old in the Catholic church. The Doctor title was also given long before there were Protestants. But surely you cannot find these titles in Holy Scripture . . ."—Rev. Fr. John Dick of the Sacred Heart Mission Seminary.

Why are they used if not in the Holy Scripture? The Protestants instead of protesting are walking in the footsteps of the Pope who has taken the divine attributes of God, calling himself "His Holiness," the "Holy Reverend Father," and the priests who claim the title of Father, Reverend, Very, Most, and Right Reverend, making themselves higher than God by using very, most, and right Reverend, when the Scripture uses only Reverend in connection with God.

"For laying aside the commandments of God, ye hold the tradition of men" Mark 7:8. Christ nor his apostles gave any authority for the use of such titles. Therefore to use them is to go beyond the Holy Scripture. "Now these things brethren, I have in a figure transferred to myself and to Apollos for your sakes; that ye might learn in us not to think of men above

that which is written. . . " 1 Cor. 4:6. The Revised Version reads, "Now these things brethren, I have transferred to myself and Apollos for your sakes, that in us ye might learn not to go beyond the things which are written."

Matthew 23 is a picture of the pride of man using titles of excessive flattery and praise. Christ said, "And love the uppermost rooms at the feasts, and the chief seats in the synagogues, and greetings in the market and to be called of men Rabbi, Rabbi; Woe unto you scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites." With all the puff and blow of today, surely Christ would pronounce a woe.

The Jewish teachers of the law were known as Doctor or Rabbi, meaning a person who holds the highest degree, learned teacher, infallible teacher, etc. "But be ye not called Rabbi, for one is your master [teacher] even Christ, and all ye are brethren: for one is your Father, which is in heaven." Matt. 23: 8, 9. "Thou that preachest a man should not steal, Dost thou steal?" Rom. 2:21. Let us not be guilty of taking honor and glory that belongs to God. "Let me not I pray you accept any man's person neither let me give flattering titles unto men." Job 32:21.

Yes, God truly is all Reverend. He is the Doctor of the soul. He alone can operate the human heart. He is the learned infallible teacher. God is the Father! These titles in their trueness signify a higher degree than mortal man can fulfill. "He sent redemption unto his people: He hath commanded his covenant forever: Holy and Reverend is His name." If you know God as the one who sent redemption in the form of His Son Christ, we trust by His grace you will want to only be a servant of God. May we say with Paul, "For neither at any time use we flattering words . . . Nor of men sought we glory . . ." 1 Thess. 2:5, 6.

The promise is: "And whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased, and he that shall humble himself shall be exalted" Matt. 23:12. Blessed is the humble minister who will hide behind the cross of Calvary and proclaim the gospel to a dying world.

WHAT OTHERS SAY

G. L. Stauffer, bishop—"I think this title business (Rev. D. D.) is more a hangover from Roman Catholicism and from human pride than otherwise. It is contrary to the Spirit of humility and simplicity that should characterize the children of the Lord."

H. K. Kreider, bishop—"The brethren in Christ prefer and have adopted the scriptural terms of bishop, elder, minister, and deacon as directly and properly applied in the epistles."

Book, "Great Apostasy"—"The Theological Seminary have in many cases reached the high water mark of sweeping away all Bible truth, and lead their students to be worse than common ordinary infidels, for they are now educated and titled unbelievers. Jesus Christ would not be accepted by many conferences of today as moderator or presiding elder. For those positions it takes the \$5,000 a year kind, more or less. D. D.'s of the Dum Dog stripe, who lost their bark by running around with dogs who will be outside the gate according to Rev. 22."

C. M. Campbell, minister—"Reverend is usurped, as it belongs exclusively to God, and is as unscriptural as the Catholic "Father." The D. D. can be earned as the result of studying a certain theological course. A sensible man does not boast of degree. They are like the farmer's chimney which was propped up. It was proof that it needed support."

A. D. Williams, bishop,—A. D. Williams, a man of 86 years who occasionally used the title Reverend, when asked why in the light of the Scriptures, thought upon it and said, "I don't think I shall use the title Reverend to my name any more."

The Circuit Rider—"This day of popular religion we have demands that our holiness churches have pastors and evangelists who have a D. D., Ph. D., etc. before they are considered capable men. We need less theology and more kneology in our sermon making these days. Tell your pastor you can't pay him a salary, but that one of the members has a job where he can work and still preach and see how long he feels God's call. . . . As long as they are looked up to, just as long as they can go down the street and into the stores and folks will call them Reverend or Father or Doctor, they can strut . . . If you are not in that class this will not bother you at all. If you throw a stone at a lot of dogs, the one that gets hit is the one that does the howling."

Pathfinder, National News Magazine, (Articles from several issues). "There are many words given in Holy Scripture to servants of God, but not once is the title "Reverend" mentioned . . . among scriptural titles prophet, preacher and minister. Another acceptable one used by many is pastor. Actually, Reverend is an adjective and not grammatically correct when used alone with a surname." (I was glad to see this article in a national news magazine).

Waid Radford, minister, "Another reason, and the best one for not applying the word "Reverend" to ministers is that it is used in the Bible though only once and then it is applied to God. Psalm 111:9 says, "Holy and reverend is His name."

C. H. Spurgeon, minister, "There are a great many reverend, very reverend, and right reverend sinners in the world. For myself I desire to be known henceforth simply as a servant of God, and I want my walk and conversation to prove that I am His servant indeed. If I, the servant of God, am to be esteemed in any measure . . . it shall not be because in front of my name an attribute stolen from God has been placed . . ., but only for my work's sake."

The Lord is worthy of all praise. "O magnify the Lord with me and let us exalt his name together." Psalm 34:3. —E. W. Burford.

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Mo.—Dear saints,—Greetings in Jesus' dear name. I thank the dear Lord for saving my soul from this world of sin. We can go to our Lord in prayer for everything we need. The Lord is willing to answer our prayers when we go to him. Pray for us. We need your prayers. We are willing to go all the way with our Lord Jesus.

Your brother in Jesus,

Charles W. Mason.

Young People's Section

Resisting Satan

The blood of Christ
Shed on the tree,
Is what keeps Satan
Off of me.

My soul resists him
Every hour,
Through God's almighty
Wondrous power.

When he comes round
And gets too near,
I just say, "You
Get out of here,

And take that trash
You brought along;
I'll keep you down
With this new song

That God gave me
That wondrous night
He made my heart
So clean and white."

And not one thing
I'll have to do
With Satan or
His wicked crew.

For God gives me
All strength and power
To stand against him
Every hour. —Bro. Trimble

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Mo.—Dear young saints,—Greetings in Jesus' dear name. This finds me still saved and living for the Lord. This surely is a pressing way. The devil is at every hand. The Lord surely has encouraged me the last few days by sending brother Gibson and brother Allen by and preaching the good word of God.

I felt like sending my testimony in some time back, but it seems as if the devil had his way, but this time I have defeated him. I thank the Lord that he permitted us to attend the Myrtle camp meeting. I surely did enjoy the young people's meeting. Pray for me. I do need your prayers that I will keep true and be a shining light for the Lord. Christian love, Wanda Atnip.

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Mo.—Dear young saints,—Greetings in the precious name of Jesus. I am encouraged this morning to go all the way with the Lord. I am thankful to the Lord for his encouragement to me. He is a present help in every time of need.

I made a promise to the Lord that if he would give me the victory over a certain test that I would write my testimony in the "Faith and Victory." I just want to encourage each and everyone of the young saints to press on because every time I read or hear your testimony it encourages me. Pray much for me and if any of you saints feel led to write to me I would be thankful.

Your brother in Christ,

Ovie Campbell.
R. 1 Box 72, Myrtle, Mo.

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Calif.—Dear saints,—Greetings in Jesus' dear name. I feel that the Lord would be pleased for me to write my testimony this evening as I'm happy and blessed in the Lord. He means so much to me for saving me and setting me free from sin. Sometimes I wonder why other people don't want this joy and peace that I have and I wonder why it took me so long in getting settled down for the Lord but I thank the Lord he's helping me to do so now.

I was reading in Romans and read this, (Rom 6:18) "Being then made free from sin, ye become the servants of righteousness." I thank the Lord that I'm free from all sin and one of his servants. It means something to be a servant of God. For some years I have been up and down in my experience, but thank the Lord he has helped wonderfully of late and has settled me down and gave me a burden for other souls, especially young people and others that aren't saved.

Pray for us young people in Pomona when you think of us. By the Lord's help we have started a young people's meeting on Sunday evenings. There are only a few of us saved and we would like your prayers that we would be a help to those who are around us and aren't saved. We sincerely thank the Lord for how he has helped us. We would be glad for any of the young people who could come and be with us. Christian love, Carolyn Elwell.

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Dear saints,—Greetings to you all in Jesus' dear name,—I have desired to write you for some time, but I have been so busy I have hardly written any one but my companion.

I have much to go through here. I know that you all have been praying for me, for I feel that it is through your prayers that he blesses me so. I have made a decision against four things for which the Lord truly blesses me and keeps me safely from them. They are drinking, smoking, fornication, and swearing.

I pray daily and I desire the continuation of your prayers for me and for my wife, that she may be comforted during my absence.

I pray that the Lord will enable me to see you shortly. I would like to hear from all who care to write, and may God bless you all. Your brother in Christ,
Pvt.-1 Billy J. Gracey, U. S. 55259053 Co. G. M. P.
R. T. C. 8801-1 T. S. U., Camp Gordon Georgia.

CORRESPONDENCE

Wash.—Greetings to all of the saints.—I am writing to tell of God's goodness to me. I am yet on the winning side with Jesus. Praise his dear name! I am very happy this morning.

Sometime ago I sent in a request for prayer concerning my son's whereabouts. This morning I can say the Lord has heard our cry. I got a letter from him on November 3. Oh, how I praise the Lord. To him I give all the glory. I want to thank all of you dear saints for your prayers. Keep praying and toiling for the Master and I'll do the same. May the Lord bless you and keep you is my prayer.

Your sister in the one body, Mrs. Esther Humphrey.

Okla.—Dear saints scattered abroad,—Greetings of love in the precious name of Jesus. I'm so thankful I once again have the privilege to greet you through the little paper. Most of all I'm thankful unto the Lord for saving and keeping grace. My soul is continually enriched by God's great love toward me. His mercy has been bountifully bestowed upon a wretched sinner like I was, but now through his love and tender mercy I can say away down deep in my soul that he washed me whiter than snow, and filled my soul with his divine love and power enabling me to be more than a conqueror.

Since last I wrote through the paper the Lord has been blessing me with more understanding of his divine truths and helping me to so walk in them. So many of his precious promises have been proved to me. He is faithful unto us if we keep low at his feet. Surely the Lord walks only with the meek and lowly of heart. He despises the proud and haughty. Often times the Lord allows things to be said about us to humiliate us in order that we might see ourselves and can then die. Other times it is humiliating to acknowledge some things, then other times it is humiliating to talk. When accused or buffeted it is the humble part to keep silent. Whatever way would be the most cutting to ourselves in humbling us down would be the way chosen by our heavenly Father. Surely what ever the Lord chooses for us in life we feel secure in how the outcome will be for us, teaching us daily how to better walk in the crucified way. The Lord daily loads us with benefits, settling and qualifying us for greater fields of labor and bigger battles ahead.

My soul is made very sad when I hear of some one falling away. It seems we are only a few and then to see others falling just grieves me to tears and a great heaviness of heart that I can not express. Even now, weeping, there are so many things I would like to write but do not know how to best bring them out. I do know that God is my only hope. When others fail around about us I can run to him and tell him about it, and he encourages us to stand faithful to him. This life is more serious than we think. Let us be careful how we instruct and what we excuse. I well remember a time a sister came to me who wasn't doing so well in her experience. She asked me what I thought about her conduct at this particular time and me feeling sorry for her, justified her. I went home and that night the Lord began to talk to me as to how I had more or less patted her on the back and her soul wouldn't prosper under that kind of a condition. In a few days she was tried again and she was in a lot worse condition than ever. So again she asked me about it and I couldn't justify her, but she ran and found some one else who told her she was all right, but God dealt with her until she acknowledged her sad state and gained help to her soul. Let us be careful what we sympathize with whether it be individuals seeking pity or spiritual powers. God help me to keep the heart pure from any thing that would defile my life and so reflect on the church. I do know this, that if I do anything that would spot it, I no longer am a part of it, as it is pure and blameless, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing.

I feel I would like to relate another incident. It keeps coming to my mind. One time I went to a person who was doing something which the Bible plainly instructs against. It had been a source of stumbling to me and I felt I would like to know concerning it. But I wasn't received and even later others turned against me, and I was considered a fanatic along that line of truth. So then the enemy says, "why don't you go tell so and so of how they do and how you have been treated?" As I pondered over

the suggestion made, I was very heavy at heart. I sought earnestly the Lord to show me if I was wrong concerning it and a voice sweet and clear spoke to me and said, "No, you're not wrong, but don't go tell it as it would destroy confidence and gender strife. You leave it with me now and I will avenge or rather take care of it." Surely it wasn't long until one of those who had been persuaded otherwise came and took up everything they had said against the teaching of the word as the Lord had talked and enlightened them concerning it. Though I was right and feel satisfied now more than ever, yet the Lord taught me precious lessons through them that I could never have learned otherwise. I have suffered many things for the gospel's sake, but I'm thankful that they have been moulding me and fashioning me for the Master's use. We can be molded either to a vessel of honor or dishonor and my prayer daily is that God would help me to be a vessel of honor and glory to his dear name.

Today while busy at work, at the office, my heart was burdened for the work of the gospel. As I pondered and meditated upon some things which are held in a question my soul was blessed and encouraged to be faithful and hold to the profession of our faith in Christ Jesus. Lately, over and over the Lord has brought this to our minds and our prayer is "teach us to so number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom." Psa. 90:12. Then our thoughts run—what is wisdom? The scripture says "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom." Psa. 111:10. The Lord so vividly flashed this in my heart today. The scripture found in Romans 14:7 "For none of us liveth to himself, and no man dieth to himself" is just what I had been asking for as a clinch, to what my question was as to our care one to another and also to the world in general. Surely blood would be required at my hands if I do not regard my fellowman and if I lay a stumbling block or an occasion to fall in my brother's way.

I want to say, let us watch and pray much. These are perilous times and the enemy is after your soul and mine. Let us never in any way give place unto the enemy of our hearts. I must close with much prayers and supplications, I remain.

Your blood washed sister,

Inez Eck.

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Okla.—Dear saints and readers of "Faith and Victory,"—Greetings in the dear name of Jesus. We feel led to write this letter. The saints in and around Enid have been burdened for this place and the Lord surely has been working around here lately. We have found a nice little building (212 N. 5th) and rents for \$40.00 per month. We surely need your prayers that the Lord will supply us with a pastor and financial needs as well. If any one feels led by the Lord to send an offering you can send it to John Sisk, 133 E. Ohio St., Enid, Okla.

Last Wednesday night we had a prayer meeting at brother Eubank's house (who is partly paralyzed and surely needs our prayers. Pray for his healing). We were all blessed in the meeting. And brother Gipson with the cancer on his face needs our prayers. Pray for his healing. The Lord has surely blessed him, but he still needs our prayers so remember him. We surely are thankful for what the Lord means to us, so while we pray for you, you pray for us. Your brother,

John R. Sisk.

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Kans.—Dear saints,—Greetings in Jesus' dear name. I am still saved and feel like moving on for the Lord. I feel like he is very much pleased for me to tell what he has done for me. He has done so much for me until I

can't keep it to myself. I am encouraged to live for him. Praise his dear name. I thank God for his wonderful love he has shown unto me in still extending his wonderful power unto me. Praise God forever. The dear Lord has done so many things for me.

About three months ago my foot was swelling and it was very painful. It hurt so much I couldn't stand to lay it down on the bed. I had to get a pillow and prop it on it so I could lie down. Brothers Lewis Williams and Ostis Wilson anointed and prayed for me and the Lord wonderfully healed me. The next evening I went to church and I was running just like I hadn't been crippled. Praise God for his wonderful love and mercy extended to me.

In October I had a bad sick spell. I got up to answer the telephone and I could feel the spell coming on but I couldn't say anything. Everything got black. I tried to call my husband to come but I couldn't say anything. I fell out of the chair and sprained my ankle. He said he called me three times and I didn't answer. He came in where I was and picked me up and put me back in bed, and called brother and sister Lewis Williams. They prayed for me and the dear Lord healed me. I thank the dear Lord for his healing power. Praise his holy name.

Dear saints, I mean to follow my God all the way, not just part of the way and then stop. I am so happy in my soul tonight. Praise God forever more. I mean to keep traveling up this bright and shining way. Dear saints, pray for me that I may ever be found with the love of God in my heart. Your sister, Iola Payne.

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Mo.—Dear saints,—Greetings in Jesus' name. I told the dear Lord that if he would send us rain or in some way put out these forest fires around us, that I would write a testimony and tell others about His wonderful power over all things. He made fire and truly knows how to control it. Praise his dear name. He sent us a good rain last night which helped check the fire. I don't know if it is entirely out, but I know the dear Lord has answered prayer and is wonderfully able to do all things. We will just trust him and he will carry us through. Pray for us that we will ever be true to the dear Lord.

Yours in Him, Sister Dorothy Mason.

Ohio—Dear saints,—Greetings of love to all in Jesus' precious name. I have gone through much sorrow and trouble since I wrote you last. My husband passed away to be with Jesus. I could feel the presence of God with us to the end. The Lord was our doctor and is surely in all of his promises. The devil was mad but God delivered us out of the hands of our enemies. If we stand true to God to the end he will stand true to us and is faithful in all of his promises. The devil has more power than people think. He is a deceitful worker but God has all power and is a mighty shield to every one that trusts him. He is no respecter of persons.

I can't tell in words how much I appreciate the love and mercy of God. Through every trial, sorrow and troubles I have found him a present help in every time of need. I do thank and praise the Lord for what he has done and for what he is doing. I know what he has done for me, He will do for everyone that trusts him.

Remember me in prayer that I will be faithful in all the Lord gives me to do. We can bring forth fruit in old age if we keep humble and walk in the light as he shines it on our pathway. I mean by the help of the Lord to press on and go all the way with Jesus, at any cost and take the word for my guide, for the word is what we'll be judged by at the judgment day. Lucy Lizar.

Mo.—Dear saints,—I would like to send in my testimony and prayer request. The Lord has been so good to us. I am encouraged to go all the way with him.

I would be thankful if all the saints would pray for my healing. I have high blood pressure and the last few days my head has been hurting quite badly and at times when I get up to walk I am so dizzy I can hardly walk. My faith is in God. I mean to trust him, live or die. Pray for me that my faith fail not. Praise his dear name. My husband and four children are all saved. I am so thankful for what the Lord means to me. My desire is to live for him and stay true. A sister, Dollie Gentry.

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Calif.—Dear saints,—Greetings in Jesus' precious name. This leaves me saved, sanctified, and living for Jesus at all times. My decision is deeper than it has ever been before. My soul is stirred at all times to be up and doing to all I know, because I realize I only have a short while to be here in this life.

The dear Lord saved and sanctified me thirty-one years ago. I never have regretted being saved. I am real thankful to be saved from all sins. I love this way more and more. It gets sweeter and sweeter all the time.

I too thank the good Lord for his wonderful healing power. I have trusted him for many years for both soul and body. I trusted him for all eight of my children. He truly has been our healer many times of severe sickness, such as arthritis, pneumonia, asthma and many more. I was severely sick this summer during our camp meeting here in Bakersfield. Praise his dear name! He wonderfully healed me again. I mean to live for him and trust him all the days of my life.

I surely thank all of the dear saints everywhere that prayed for me, and their kindness showed to us. Continue to pray for me that I will be all God would have me to be. Your sister, Francis Blackwell.

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S. C.—Dear Christian friends,—I want to acknowledge that I believe I know almost the hour you received my letter. How I thank God for a people whose prayers are heard. The Lord had provided me \$3.75 to get groceries and fuel oil, but about three o'clock this morning the Lord awoke me from sleep and made it plain to me to take one dollar and send with the subscription blank to Faith Publishing House and has shown me whose names to send. So I believe the Lord will make me able to work and get my groceries and fuel and other things that I need. Please keep me and my request on your daily prayer list. In Christian love, Sister Jones.

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Colo.—Dear saints,—Greetings. I am praising God for his goodness to me. When I left Neosho last July, I got out of the car to hurry to board the train which was almost ready to leave and found that I was so crippled that I could scarcely walk a step. With the sisters taking my baggage, I was able to board the train, but it was still bothering me when I arrived at the Pacoima, Calif. campmeeting. There I was anointed and prayed for and received much help, but it still troubles me some. I enjoyed being in these two good meetings, where I feasted on the good word of God and heard the testimonies of God's wonderful power manifested in healing and answering prayer in many different ways, proving that He is a present help in every time of need.

The next night after the Pacoima meeting closed I was in Fresno at my nephews. I believe I almost had a stroke. I was so dizzy and felt like my body was whirling from my waist up. But after a few hours I was able to get up and walk. I had promised sister Milford to accompany her to San Francisco. We went, but I became so dizzy again that I had to hold to her to keep from falling. Returning I stopped at Fresno until I was able to walk alone, then came on to brother O. B. Wilson's and on home. I have been dizzy some since I came home, but God has heard prayers and although I am a little dizzy when I change positions quickly, yet I have been able, thank God, to go and visit my brother in the hospital and do quite a bit.

I thank the dear ones who have prayed for brother and me. He is in the State Hospital. God has been good to him in sparing his leg, which still has very little circulation and they still talk of amputating it like the other one, but he is cheerful and prays when I visit him, but his mind has not cleared, though it is better. I am alone and yet not alone, for the dear Lord is always present to encourage me. We still need your prayers.

E. Coral (Myers) Johnson.

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Minn.—Dear saints,—Greetings in Jesus' dear name. I thank the Lord for his saving grace and keeping power. I want to thank the brothers and sisters for their prayers. The Lord is helping me and I am better. I still trust my Saviour for soul and body.

Your brother in Christ Jesus.

E. J. Kirchner.

o-o-o-o-o

Okla.—Dear saints,—Greetings in Jesus' name. I am so thankful that Jesus saved me from sin. I love the Lord with all my heart and soul this morning and at all times.

I almost got my foot broken October 17, but I thank the Lord that it wasn't broken. It still bothers me a lot if I walk very far. Please pray that the Lord will heal it.

I'd like to tell about something else the Lord did for me. I told the Lord if he would let a certain person come out to see me that I would testify about it. The Lord sent that person out to see me. He does hear and answer prayer. I can say I am still on the fighting line for the Lord. Sometimes I want to give up but when I do the Lord speaks to me and says "Be of good cheer; I have overcome the world." John 16:33. "The Lord shall fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace." Exo. 14:14. I need your prayers very much.

A sister in Christ,

Carrie Lamirand.

o-o-o-o-o

Ark.—Dear saints,—I wish to tell an experience that I had April 22, 1930. I was passing through a trial and was fasting and praying and I had a dream. In this dream Jesus appeared to me. He was singing with uplifted hands and here are the words he was singing to me. "For I'll be with you to the end. Speak boldly, my truth defend." The singing awoke me. Jesus was to my left and to my right. On a stand table was a tract and the name of it was "The Unfruitful Blossom." The singing awoke me and I awoke my husband and told him the dream. I told him I had scattered thousands of tracts but I had never seen one by that name. He got up and wrote it down. While lying there meditating a voice started singing above me and I could hear it off and on for two weeks. Here are the words it sang to me, "White are the fields unto the harvest, Few are the laborers who are true. Millions of souls in sin are dying, Christians there is work for all to do." This chorus followed. "The spirit within says forward go, Be not afraid my child to sow.

For I'll be with you to the end, Speak boldly my Word, my Truth defend." You see, he said he would be with me to the end. He showed me one thing to sow and I have been sowing ever since.

Jesus told Peter to feed his lambs and also his sheep. He meant soul food. (St. John 21:15-16) Peter tells us to "Feed the flock of God which is among you." I call tracts soul food, because they are to me. Feed the flock of God among you, (1 Peter 5:2) because the devil as a roaring lion is walking about seeking whom he may devour. (1 Peter 5:8) Christians, there is work for all to do. We can send Christian papers to people. I have given a Bible to three different ones whose house had burned this year. I do this through the help of God's children who are interested in this work. I also make scripture quilts. I made four for my only son. Christians, there is work for all to do. Jesus says "Be not afraid my child to sow." Read Psalms 126:5-6; Isaiah 55:11; 1 Corinthians 15:58.

o-o-o-o-o

Okla.—Dear saints,—Greetings in Jesus' dear name. I am still saved and much encouraged to press on for the dear Lord. Truly I mean heaven at any cost. About a week ago my baby and I were very ill and I told the Lord if he would heal us that I would tell about it through this paper. He wonderfully healed both of us. I give him all the praise for it. My husband took ill Oct. 29 and he has been very ill. We had prayer meeting here that night and he felt some better but a day or two later he got worse. We prayed and he got some relief. After Sunday School the saints came over and prayed for him. The Lord touched his body and he is up now, but is still weak and dizzy. He needs your prayers that the Lord will completely heal him. We are both saved and trusting Him for both soul and body. Remember us in prayer.

Your sister in Christ,

Lorene Payne.

o-o-o-o-o

Okla.—Dear saints everywhere,—Greetings in Jesus' dear name. I promised the Lord I would send this message out if he would heal our little boy. A lot of the saints remember his case. Over two years ago he took sick with this flu called virus. After he had it he began to eat dirt and then those little sharp crushed gravel, like we use for our driveways. The first he swallowed was at Monark campmeeting. We didn't know he was doing this for a long time. Then he got worse and worse. He was passing blood through his bowels fast because they were acting from 3 to 7 times a day and sometimes 3 to 4 times a night. Finally he told us what he had been doing and he stopped but he got no better only when prayer was offered for him. He could scarcely eat anything. Sometimes it looked like he couldn't go any more and then the Lord would strengthen and encourage us. Praise his dear name for the comfort he would give when it seemed we couldn't stand it any longer. But thank the dear Lord, after more than two years he is healed.

One day he was all alone in the house when I came in and he said, "Mother, you know what?" and I said, "What son?" He said, "I am healed. The Lord told me so. I have been talking to him." And surely enough he is healed. He has gained about six pounds in two weeks and his bowel movements are normal and he eats almost anything he wants and has a good appetite. He has started to school and is going one-half day at the present. I will never be able to thank the Lord enough. He is so good. Our youngest married daughter was healed two weeks ago when she almost died at childbirth. We thank and praise his dear name. He is everything to us. We truly

thank the dear saints for their prayers.

Yours in Christ, Grace and Leonard Roberts.

o—o—o—o—o

Mo.—Dear saints,—Greetings in Jesus' name. I feel the Lord would have me to write my testimony and tell about Him healing me of the affliction I suffered while at the Monark Springs camp meeting. I think most of the saints knew about it and prayed for me. I truly thank the Lord for healing me and thank the saints for their prayers. I thank the Lord for permitting me to be in brother Egbert Allen's home the last part of the meeting, where I could rest as I wasn't able to be in meeting. I felt so at home there. The saints are so dear to each other. I have been slow about writing my testimony, but I wanted to be sure the Lord had completely healed me. We have been very busy since the Myrtle, Mo. camp meeting gathering the crop. We were so thankful for the privilege of attending most of the Myrtle camp meeting.

The dear Lord has blessed us in permitting several of the saints to be here with us during cotton picking. There are three of the Neosho saints here with us now. We would be so glad if the Lord would send some of the saints here to live. The saints keep leaving here, so our congregation is getting very small.

Dear ones, I have two unspoken prayer requests and also pray that the Lord will heal me of stomach trouble. (We have received word that she has been healed.) I am so glad that the Lord is my helper in all times of need. Pray for the saints here. We surely need your prayers.

Yours for the truth, Katie Marler.

—:—:—:—:—:—

The Cross

If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. Matt. 17:11.

After the preliminary hearing before Annas and the regular trial before Caiphas, Christ was taken before Pilate, the Roman Governor. He was taken from the Jews to the Gentiles, from the church to the civil courts. Pilate was determined to release Jesus, but the blood-thirsty mob demanded his crucifixion. The Jews had not the right to pronounce the death sentence. This must be done by the Roman authorities and this they insisted that Pilate do.

Let our thoughts go back for a few minutes—back to where Jesus lived. It seems to me that every need was met, both physical and spiritual. What a beautiful life He lived day by day. He healed the sick, cast out devils, healed the blind, the deaf, the cripple, the lame, the palsy, the prostitute and many many more that we have record of. He showed what love really meant—that it was to share with others that were in need. He was always looking for some one to help. As he walked the shores of Galilee, many times tired and needed physical rest and food, yet he took time to pray—even prayed all night. Think of our dear Saviour in the garden of Gethsemane, praying. He had trials and troubles. Some of his disciples forsook him, turned against him. He took it without complaint. He was always submissive. He prayed, "Father, if it be thy will, let this cup pass; nevertheless, not my will, but thine be done." He knew what he faced—that ignominious death on the cross.

After the Roman trial was over, Jesus was led away at dawn because of the approaching passover sabbath. The Romans lost no time. They disregarded the merciful law which allowed a period of from two to ten days between the sentence and death execution. Preparation was soon made for the crucifixion. A cross was hurriedly built and borne by the one to suffer on it. So Jesus began his death march to Calvary. The procession was led by a centurion named Longinus, who later became a Christian. He was a Roman captain of a hundred men. Jesus fell almost fainting under the weight of the cross. Simon of Cyrene came and carried the cross for him the rest of the way. Some of Jesus' friends were following, also women. We have no record of women being hostile to Jesus. They followed him, they served him, they remembered his teachings, they stood by him at the cross, they wept for him, they were the first at the grave after the resurrection. There were many who did believe. When darkness came on the earth, the sun refused to shine on the sad scene, the earth shook and quaked, some of the graves opened and the dead arose and appeared unto many in the city. One said, "Truly, this was the Son of God."

Think more seriously how he suffered humiliation of hanging between two criminals, stretched on the cross with great spikes driven through hands and feet, and they spit in his face. Words cannot express, tongues cannot utter the sufferings of the cross. I cannot handle the subject as I would like to, but I pray that God will help you to appreciate more what our dear Saviour suffered to bring salvation to the world—not to a certain clan, but to all the world, regardless of race or color. Be thankful that we live in an enlightened world where we have the privilege of reading and living by the Bible. Some countries do not have this privilege.

Thank God for the resurrection, without which our faith would be vain. We would be worshipping a dead Christ. But, thank God, he conquered death, hell, and the grave. He arose. Our faith is in a living Christ. He has brought redemption to the world, for without blood shed there is no remission of sins. That is God's plan. Our part is to repent of our sins, believe in our hearts, live according to his precious words, turn our backs on the old life of sin, take up our cross and follow him. Jesus is now on the right hand of God. He is ready and anxious to save to the uttermost all who have a penitent heart. Now is the day of salvation, now is the accepted time. He paid the price on the cross. John 3:16.

Thank God for his wonderful love. I have been a Christian since my girlhood days. I love Him with all my heart. In my declining years he has been so good to me, healed my body many times, also my children.

Dear ones, let me point you to a loving Saviour. With him all is well. Those who turned against Jesus came to no good end. Christ's resurrection meant that all the hellish plans to bring an end to him were overthrown. Judas, who betrayed Jesus, hanged himself. According to history, Caiphas committed suicide; Pilate, who wanted to do right but was afraid of

public opinion, lost his place as governor and took his own life.

—Mrs. H. R. Grauke

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Repent and Believe The Gospel

Mark 1:15

Examine yourselves to see whether you are in the faith (2 Cor. 13:5). Prove all things . . . (1 Thess. 5:21). Can you prove that you are in the faith?

The Law was until John (Luke 16:16), but **grace and truth** (get that) came by Jesus Christ (John 1:17). Do you believe that? Then look to Christ and the gospel for **GRACE and TRUTH**—not to the Law.

Christ is the **END** of the Law (Rom. 10:4) for **righteousness** to everyone that **believeth**. Do you believe? Then you are at the end of the Law.

The Law of the tithe was for the Jews only (Lev. 27:30-34; Heb. 7:5), and not for the Gentiles, for the **Gentiles are not under the Law**, but under grace (Rom. 2:14; 6:14; Gal. 2:13).

The law of commandments contained in ordinances was abolished (repealed) and set aside (Eph. 2:15; Heb. 7:12, 18, 19). When a legislative body repeals a law, that law is no longer in force.

The tithe ordinance (Mal. 3:7-10) was abolished, for it was a part of the Law of commandments (Heb. 7:5), and it was nailed to the cross (Col. 2:14-17). Do you believe that? If so, leave it there. Do not take it down.

Did Jesus teach tithing? No. Jesus approved the Law (Matt. 5:17, 18), and exacted implicit obedience of those who professed to obey it (Matt. 23:23; Luke 11:42). He preached the gospel of grace and truth (Mark 1:14; John 1:17) to the circumcision (Rom. 15:8), and became the mediator of a better covenant to supersede the old, which was decaying and ready to vanish away (Heb. 8:6-13).

Know ye not that you are servants to obey to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey? (Rom. 6:16).

Jesus issued the Emancipation Proclamation (Lk. 4:18), and the apostles proclaimed it. Will you accept it and go free? or will you reject it and remain in bondage? (Gal. 5:11).

What would you think had the Israelites said, "No, God, I love my Egyptian taskmasters so much I prefer to remain in bondage rather than to accept your offer of deliverance"? Or, had the southern slave said, "Thank you, Mr. Lincoln, I love slavery so well I prefer to remain a slave rather than to accept the liberty and freedom you have given us"? That is exactly what you are saying to Jesus.

The letter of the Law ministereth death; therefore, it was done away, but the Spirit giveth life (2 Cor. 3:6, 11).

The Gospel teaches the grace of purposed giving (2 Cor. 8:7; 9:7; 1 Cor. 16:2), but you who are justified by the Law are fallen from grace (Gal. 5:4).

No, you are not in the faith, and you do not believe the Gospel if you believe in the law of tithing, for the Law is not of faith (Gal. 3:12).

O foolish people, who hath bewitched (fascinated, charmed, captivated) you, that you should not obey the truth . . . ? (Gal 3:11).

—Selected.

The Unbridled Tongue

James 3

An unbridled tongue is the most deadly weapon ever used in combat by any one. It is an unruly evil full of deadly poison. The fire is a world of iniquity, so is the tongue among our members and it defiles the whole body and setteth on fire the course of nature, and it is set on fire of hell. James 1:26 reads, "If any man [or woman] among you seem to be religious and bridleth not his tongue but deceiveth his own heart, his [or her] religion is vain" (worthless). With all the deadly weapons of war they can only kill the body, but when the unbridled tongue is turned loose it has power to kill the soul as well as the body. Many poor souls have been murdered under the attack of an unbridled tongue. With their tongue they have used deceit and the poison of asps is under their lips. Get your Bible and look up all the references you can find concerning the unruly tongue, and no doubt you will be surprised to learn what a deadly weapon it is. A tongue that is set on fire of hell is the most dangerous weapon that can be found in all the world. The tongue can no man tame, but God can tame it. Only those who have learned to control their tongue will ever be able to meet the Lord in peace when they get to the end of the way. Let us be wise. Read the first three verses of the 15th Psalm. Then read Prov. 31:26: "She openeth her mouth with wisdom, and in her tongue is the law of kindness." Let us all pray that the Lord will help us to have the law of kindness in our tongues when we open our mouths to speak. Prov. 21:23, "Whoso keepeth his mouth and his tongue keepeth his soul from evil. —Bro. George Stephenson, who loves all the precious saints.

The boneless tongue, so small and weak,
Can crush and kill, declare the Greek.

The tongue destroys a greater horde,
The Turk declares, than does the sword.

A Persian proverb wisely saith,
A lengthy tongue, an early death.

Or sometimes takes this form instead:
Don't let your tongue cut off your head.

The tongue can speak a word whose speed,
The Chinese say, outstrips the steed.

While Arab sages this impart:
The tongue's great storehouse is the heart.

From Hebrew wit this maxim sprung:
Though feet should slip, ne'er let the tongue.

The sacred writer crown the whole:
Who keeps his tongue doth keep his soul.
—Copied.

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JESUS, THE GREAT TEACHER

December 7, 1952

Printed Portion.....Matthew 13:24-35, 53-54.

Matt. 13:24. Another parable put he forth unto them, saying, The kingdom of heaven is likened unto a man which sowed good seed in his field:

25. But while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat, and went his way.

26. But when the blade was sprung up, and brought forth fruit, then appeared the tares also.

27. So the servants of the householder came and said unto him, Sir, didst not thou sow good seed in thy field? from whence then hath it tares?

28. He said unto them, An enemy hath done this. The servants said unto him, Wilt thou then that we go and gather them up?

29. But he said, Nay; lest while ye gather up the tares, ye root up also the wheat with them.

30. Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn.

31. Another parable put he forth unto them, saying, The kingdom of heaven is like to a grain of mustard seed, which a man took, and sowed in his field:

32. Which indeed is the least of all seeds: but when it is grown, it is the greatest among herbs, and becometh a tree, so that the birds of the air come and lodge in the branches thereof.

33. Another parable spake he unto them; The kingdom of heaven is like unto leaven, which a woman took, and hid in three measures of meal, till the whole was leavened.

34. All these things spake Jesus unto the multitude in parables; and without a parable spake he not unto them:

35. That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying, I will open my mouth in parables; I will utter things which have been kept secret from the foundation of the world.

53. And it came to pass, that when Jesus had finished these parables, he departed thence.

54. And when he was come into his own country, he taught them in their synagogue, insomuch that they were astonished, and said, Whence hath this man this wisdom, and these mighty works?

Memory Verse: Whence hath this man this wisdom, and these mighty works? Matt. 13:54.

Practical Truth: Through the use of parables, Christ presented truth in an attractive and effective way.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Jesus never attended the rabbinic schools but Nicodemus already knew that he was a teacher come from God. (John 3) "For no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him." Therefore his teaching was with authority though he did not have the sanction of the haughty scribes, chief priests and elders. They asked him "Who gave thee this authority?" Matt. 21:23. All we need to do is to test out his teaching by putting it into practice and it will yield all the evidence we need that he was a teacher come from God. Our lives will be better and others will know beyond a doubt that we have had experience with our Teacher, for he "giveth to all

men liberally, and upbraideth not." James 1:5.

Jesus was not only our Teacher but he was our Redeemer. He teaches us first the way to get saved and then teaches us how to keep saved. A faithful Teacher. So after we come to him as he says to do in John 6:37, then we are in prime condition to listen to him in the matter of keeping ourselves in the love of God by going on unto perfection. To obey his words and do just what he says to do in all things is the principle thing. When we have done as far as we know of the will of God, then we are in condition to receive more of his instruction.

JESUS DISPELS FEAR

December 14, 1952

Printed Portion.....Matthew 14:22-33.

Matt. 14:22. And straightway Jesus constrained his disciples to get into a ship, and to go before him unto the other side, while he sent the multitudes away.

23. And when he had sent the multitudes away, he went up into a mountain apart to pray: and when the evening was come, he was there alone.

24. But the ship was now in the midst of the sea, tossed with waves: for the wind was contrary.

25. And in the fourth watch of the night Jesus went unto them, walking on the sea.

26. And when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, It is a spirit; and they cried out for fear.

27. But straightway Jesus spake unto them, saying, Be of good cheer: it is I, be not afraid.

28. And Peter answered him and said, Lord, if it be thou, bid me come unto thee on the water.

29. And he said, Come. And when Peter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water to go to Jesus.

30. But when he saw the wind boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink, he cried, saying, Lord, save me.

31. And immediately Jesus stretched forth his hand, and caught him, and said unto him, O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt?

32. And when they were come into the ship, the wind ceased.

33. Then they that were in the ship came and worshipped him, saying, Of a truth thou art the Son of God.

Memory Verse: Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid. Matt. 14:27.

Practical Truth: Jesus can take away fear.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

All down through the ages there have been things happening to cause fear. There are many ways by which people begin to fear. The fear of what may come in the future and then does not come is senseless. And then the fear of things as we pass through them which actually come to us is also needless. Listen to the Word of God in Isa. 41:10, "Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness."

In this lesson we have Jesus dispelling fear. When the disciples took him on board ship their fear had all gone. Their trust was perfectly in him when they knew that it was he that was with them. When he left them and went out into the mountain to pray he knew that the wind and waves were coming. He is interceding for

us now at the right hand of the throne of God. He knows the waves that go over us, he knows the gossip that comes our way that is not true. He says "I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee." Heb. 13:5. He is still saying to us, his trusting, believing children, no matter what comes, "It is I, be not afraid."

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EMMANUEL—GOD WITH US

December 21, 1952

Printed Portion.....Matthew 1:18-25.

Matt. 1:18. Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost.

19. Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not willing to make her a publick example, was minded to put her away privily.

20. But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost.

21. And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name Jesus: for he shall save his people from their sins.

22. Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying,

23. Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.

24. Then Joseph being raised from sleep did as the angel of the Lord had bidden him, and took unto him his wife:

25. And knew her not till she had brought forth her firstborn son: and he called his name JESUS.

Memory Verse: Thou shalt call his name Jesus: for he shall save his people from their sins. Matt. 1:21.

Practical Truth: The Son of God came to earth to be our Saviour from sin.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

The Jews were expecting a Messiah that would give them deliverance from political overlordship, but Jesus came to save people from their sins. It includes also such an inner transformation that he who trusts in Christ is given power to quit his sins and live a life acceptable to God. He still has compassion on the multitude today and is looking for those who have honest hearts that will yield to him. His care for those who trust him is still being done. Those who are proud of heart are still being left out for they do not realize their need of him. The children of God have the promise of another Comforter who will take up his abode with them by faith and guide into all truth.

"Not in the temples made with hands, tho' beautiful by art;

But God in mercy condescends, To dwell within my heart.

Oh, glory to Jesus! so sweet in me;

My body thy temple shall forever be."

Men who will not believe, are still with us in this world, who say they can not be entirely delivered from sin but when Christ comes into the heart he cleanses it from all sin and takes away the power of sin, out of the life. If you are not saved God's great Christmas gift is still available. Will you accept him?

WISE MEN SEEK JESUS

December 28, 1952

Printed Portion.....Matthew 2:1-12.

Matt. 2:1. Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem,

2. Saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him.

3. When Herod the king had heard these things, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him.

4. And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded of them where Christ should be born.

5. And they said unto him, In Bethlehem of Judaea: for thus it is written by the prophet,

6. And thou Bethlehem, in the land of Juda: art not the least among the princes of Juda: for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel.

7. Then Herod, when he had privily called the wise men, enquired of them diligently what time the star appeared.

8. And he sent them to Bethlehem, and said, Go and search diligently for the young child; and when ye have found him, bring me word again, that I may come and worship him also.

9. When they had heard the king, they departed; and, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was.

10. When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy.

11. And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh.

12. And being warned of God in a dream that they should not return unto Herod, they departed into their own country another way.

Memory Verse: Ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart. Jer. 29:13.

Practical Truth: To seek and find Jesus in a spiritual sense is important for us all.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Numbers 24:17 says, "I shall see him, but not now: I shall behold him, but not nigh: there shall come a Star out of Jacob, and a sceptre out of Israel." Gen. 49:10 goes with that, "The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor the lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him shall the gathering of the people be." Jesus was born in a manger but when the wise men were directed by the star they found Jesus in the house. (verse 11) These wise men were persevering to find Jesus as they let nothing hinder them. So in our search for Christ we will need to sell all we have to gain the eternal prize or Pearl of great price. They did not know of God leading them directly by his star after they left Jerusalem but did what they could in gathering information before they went on to Bethlehem. Neither do we know what God has in store for us when we start out to find him but if we do according to the memory selection we will be rewarded by finding him.

The wise men (1) they sought Jesus, (2) they found Jesus, (3) they rejoiced over Jesus, (4) they worshipped Jesus, (5) they gave gifts to Jesus.

"Hallelujah! hallelujah! my soul is now free!

For the precious blood of Jesus cleanseth even me."