

# FAITH <sup>AND</sup> VICTORY

## The EVENING LIGHT WATCHMAN



Volume 23, No. 8

Published at

Guthrie, Oklahoma

25c Per Year

September, 1953

### Second Coming of Christ

In first chapter, eleventh verse of Acts,  
It tells us of the plain truths and facts.  
While the people around Him did crowd,  
Jesus was taken up in a cloud.

The people stood looking up into space,  
Wishing once more a glimpse of His face.  
Two men in white raiment did appear,  
Wishing very much their hearts to cheer.

Saying, This Jesus that just went away,  
In like manner will he be back some day.  
As he said in St. John fourteen, two,  
I go to prepare a place for you.

Ever since that notable day to this  
The world has seen trouble and crisis  
The time is, oh, drawing so very near,  
When again in a cloud he will appear.

And they which are dead will arise,  
Then we'll all meet the Lord in the skies.  
Then shall he sit on his glorious throne  
To welcome his saints to share his home.

But to them who served the devil so true,  
He'll say, "Go away, I don't know you."  
With bowed heads away they will be sent  
Into everlasting punishment.

Dear reader, if you are born again,  
At this time there'll be no pain.  
You'll be so happy and shout with glee,  
That with the Savior you'll always be.

—Dolly Locker

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### His Body, The Church

Our text is found in Col. 2:24, where Paul speaks of Christ's body, which he says is the church. Following this verse he speaks of it as a mystery that has been hid for ages, but is now made manifest to His saints. In the 27th verse he makes it plain that the

mystery is "Christ in you the hope of glory."

In the 28th verse he said he was warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that he may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus.

This same exhortation is certainly good for all believers in Christ today that they may be found without sin before God. We find in Eph. 5:30 that we who are saved from sin are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones. When one who is justified and holy, presents his body to God as a living sacrifice, which is his reasonable service (Rom. 12:1) this takes in his fleshly body and bones as well as his soul. This harmonizes with what Paul wrote in 1 Thess. 5:23, 24: "And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it." Brethren and sisters, let us believe God's Word and measure to it in its fullness that we can truly be a member in His body, which is the church, a clean vessel, sanctified and meet for the Master's use, and be a real possessor of the joys of full salvation, having a clear hope of glory in the soul.

The church, which is His body, is high above this world and its human religions, and is a clean institution without spot of wrinkle or any such thing, functioning in the world by the power of God, and is not subject to human regulations, but is divinely organized and spiritually governed by Christ who is the head of the Church of, and in, God; and all we who are saved and living clean before God are only members in that body, yielding ourselves unto God for Him to work in us both to will and to do of his good pleasure (Phil. 2:13).

In Col. 1:12, Paul writes thus: "Giving thanks unto the Father, which has made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light: who hath delivered us from the power of darkness [Satan's kingdom] and has translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son." One definition for translate is to transfer. In the large cities travelers on the electric cars are often given a ticket with a transfer so they can get off the car that they are on and get on a car that will take them to their desired destination. So it is with sinners in this world. They are all traveling to the judgment bar of God with sin and transgression upon them, which carries the penalty of death and

destruction upon it, and in that day will hear words similar to those recorded in 2 Thess. 1:8, 9: "In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power." A sinner who desires to get on the right road that leads home to heaven and to God, needs to be transferred or translated to a heavenly car on the Highway of Holiness which Christ has purchased for you and offers to you freely if you will only allow yourself to be convicted and accept his proffered mercy.

In the 35th chapter of Isaiah the prophet wrote of this highway, and it is called the Way of Holiness in the eighth verse. The statement is made that the unclean (or unsaved) shall not pass upon this highway, but the Redeemed shall walk there. God will keep them clean and in the holy way as they yield unto Him. He says no lion shall be there (No man or woman with a lion-like nature is on this highway of holiness. That nature will have to be destroyed by the blood before they can be translated onto this highway.) No ravenous beast shall go up thereon. Such shall not be found there. All ugly natures of every sort will have to be destroyed out of man by the blood before they can get up on this highway. Then he says, "But the redeemed shall walk there." Those redeemed by the blood of the Lamb of God shall walk on this highway of holiness. Verse ten: "And the ransomed [blood-washed souls] of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion [the church, His body] with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads: they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away."

There is not a sinner nor an unclean soul on the Highway of Holiness, which leads to heaven and to God. The church, which is His body is a clean body of saved and cleansed people that function in the world but are not of the world and its religions. It is governed by the Lord himself. He sets the members in the body as it pleases Him. 1 Cor. 12:18; and we are many members, but one body. This being a spiritual body of people, it cannot become defiled and destroyed, but is strong and will stand forever. Jesus told Peter that the gates of hell shall not prevail against IT (Matt. 16:18). If any member or members defile themselves, they will automatically be thrown off even as the natural body throws off unneeded substance.

We have seen the Body do this many times in the past forty years of travel on this Highway of Holiness. Those that become compromisers with the world and defile themselves are thrown off spiritually, and those who become fanatic and extreme and contentious have been thrown off many times and having received delusions they go on professing, but traveling with the crowd of lost professors. God takes care of his church and does not leave it to others. The ministers can do nothing about the matter only as God may be pleased to work in and through them to his glory and good pleasure. The Lord usually does it in very simple ways.

My brothers and sisters, the church is not going

down, neither is it being defiled and corrupted. All such as that belongs to humanly-organized churches of men. The one true holiness church, which is his body, is a clean institution and is just as clean as Christ is himself, for it is His body of cleansed and clean souls in this world but not of the world, and they have been translated out of the power of darkness into the kingdom of His dear Son. They hear His voice and obey Him. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world.

Do not worry nor be troubled about the confusing things that seem to exist, for the devil would make some believe that they are in the church, but it is just God at work throwing off those that go wrong and become fault-finders and contentious about many things, accusing perhaps God's established ministers and trying to cause loss of confidence to drag as many others down as possible. Just have patience and let God work and He will throw off all those that become obnoxious to Him. He will cause the church to shine as never before. If you allow yourself to be over-much troubled, it will work darkness in your own soul and you will not be able to see the true holiness church of God shining in her splendor in this dark and sinful world of human religions. The enemy often uses clever tactics to ruin your soul while he makes you think you are some special vessel in the Lord's hands to straighten out things as you think. Do you know of one person who will say that the devil gives them their dreams and visions? As a rule, when people have dreams and visions, they say the Lord gave them, when it may be Satan deceiving them to bring ruin to their souls and those whom they may influence. Let us live so clean of fault-finding and surmising that when we have a vision or a dream it will be of God and will lead to edification of believers and the unity of God's people.

All lovers of the truth will endeavor to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace and will have fellowship with all others who love peace and make peace. Those who are fault-finders and sow discord, make division and confusion among the children of God and are manifesting carnality. Christ makes division between the sinner and the saved, but he is not the author of discord and confusion among the children of God.

The church of the living God, the body of Christ, is shining brightly in this dark world but the darkness is comprehending it not; and so religious professors grope on in darkness, confusion, and superstition, and they try to get others to think that the church is gone to pieces and all is chaos and confusion. Jesus said, "If therefore the light that is in thee be darkness, how great is that darkness!" Matt. 6:23. Putting darkness for light confuses and darkens the soul inasmuch that the spiritual eye and ear cannot see and hear good.

We feel like ending this article with the words written by the apostle Paul found in Col. 3:12-15: "Put on therefore as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies [tender mercy], kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering; forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any

man have a quarrel against any; even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye. And above all things, put on charity [divine love] which is the bond of perfectness. And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful."

The above scriptures denote the character of the graces of God which are at work in his body the church which edifies itself in love and reproduces the life of Christ among men and worldly religious institutions who make up the darkness in the kingdom of Satan, which is the enemy of true holiness and Christ, who was crucified.

—Fred Pruitt.

## LOVE

"Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love." 1 John 4:7, 8. We have to be born of God to have this love; and to be able to follow the Lord, we must have this love. Eph. 5:1, 2, "Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children; and walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet smelling savour."

The love of God's people is manifested toward God first, which is the first commandment. Matt. 22:37, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind." And the second: "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself." Matt. 22:39.

If we have this love, we will love God's children. 1 John 4:20, 21; 5:1, 2. "If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen? And this commandment have we from him, That he who loveth God love his brother also. Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born of God; and every one that loveth him that begat loveth him also that is begotten of him. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God, and keep his commandments."

We will love our brethren instead of sowing discord. 1 Pet. 2:17, "Honor all men. Love the brotherhood." One that doesn't have this love is "a false witness that speaketh lies, and he that soweth discord among brethren." Prov. 6:19. "Let brotherly love continue" Heb. 13:1.

It is an evidence that we are God's children if we have this love. 1 John 2:10, 11; 1 John 3:14; St. John 13:35.

We must show some outward fruits of love by serving each other. Gal. 5:13. It will cause us to help each other. 1 John 3:17.

It will cause us to prefer each other, and there will be no envy. Rom. 12:10. It will cause us to rejoice with each other, when the Lord bestows a blessing upon one of our dear brothers or sisters, even though we haven't received such great blessing. Rom. 12:15.

We will bear one another's burdens. Gal. 6:2.

We will not speak evil of each other. 1 Peter 4:8, 9; Prov. 10:12; Titus 3:2.

It will make us dwell in unity and not apart. Col. 2:2; 3:14, 15; Rom. 8:35, 39.

Truly, I thank the Lord for this love he has put in my heart. Titus 3:3-6. "For we ourselves also were sometimes foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving divers lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful, and hating one another. But after that the kindness and love of God our Saviour toward man appeared, not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost; which he shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour." Amen

—Murphy Allen

## NEGLECTED DUTY

Eccl. 12:13, "Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: fear God and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man."

Prov. 22:6, "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it."

My burden concerns the many children who do not seem to have a chance these days. Their parents are unsaved and the parents just do not seem to realize their responsibility toward their children and to God. Almost all children are tender-hearted and have a desire to want to live for the Lord. They would be very happy if their parents would get saved and live right. It seems that most parents these days think as long as they teach their children to be good moral citizens that they have done their best. But I find according to Scriptures that they are shirking their responsibility. Their duty is to serve the Lord and be the example that is safe for the children to follow. Their words or good instructions to their children will not mean nearly so much as the way they live before them. I believe that God will hold parents responsible for the way they have lived before them. A good moral life is good, but it will take more than that to be able to stand clear before God at the Judgment.

I feel so sorry for children who are now at the age of accountability and seem to want to get saved and live right, but the parents are not interested in going to meeting, but are always going to some worldly place of entertainment. I pray the Lord will awaken parents and let them see what they are doing before too late.

I remember when I was small how I desired my folks, that were not saved, to get saved. One night at meeting my sister got saved and I was so happy about it. Then a few days later she told me she was not saved any more as she had got mad and said a word she shouldn't have said. She never did know how badly that hurt me. I went off and cried and cried. I thought it would be worth living a Christian life if we had to crawl on our hands and knees through this life, and I still believe it. We have all to gain and nothing to lose.

If people could only see how God loves them so much that he gave his only Son to suffer and die for their sins, and he is so merciful that he extends their lives each day and gives them the breath they breathe.

—V. M., a saint.

## "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.

(Entered as second-class matter June 30, 1930 at the Post Office at Guthrie, Oklahoma, under the act of March, 3, 1879.)

#### —SUBSCRIPTION PRICES—

Single copy, one year .....	\$ .25
Single copy, five years .....	1.00
Five copies to any address, one year .....	1.00
Twelve copies to any address, one year .....	2.00

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.

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

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

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### Editorials

The campmeeting season will soon be over. The good that has been done in these meetings will never be fully known until the Judgment Day. Many souls have been saved, and their future lives of devotion to God and labor in the Gospel work will go on and on and other souls will hear through them and be converted. Thus the conversion of one soul may mean

dozens more before their life is ended here on earth. Jesus said to his disciples, "Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields: for they are white already to harvest." John 4:35. In the 38th verse he said, "I sent you to reap that whereon ye bestowed no labor: other men labored, and ye have entered into their labors." The Apostle Paul said, "I have planted, Apollos watered: but God gave the increase." So, also it is today: one minister plants the truth in the hearts of men; another waters it, and God gives the increase. Truly the Lord God Almighty is to be honored above all, as all created beings are dependent creatures upon Him. Oh, the need for meekness, humility, and lowliness of mind in all men that exist by Him!

We had the pleasure of being in a number of the campmeetings this summer. The first meeting we attended was the Oregon State Campmeeting at Jefferson. It pleased the Lord for my wife and me with our son L. D. Pruitt and his wife to make the trip to Oregon. Enroute, we went through the Yellowstone National Park in the northwest corner of Wyoming and viewed there the wonders of God's creation, both of animals and also of the earth and its eruptions of boiling water spouting into the air, and the geysers that throw hot water many feet upward.

The first night on our trip we spent with Brother and Sister Koehler, who live at McDonald, Kans. We were thankful to be able to visit these isolated saints.

The campmeeting in Oregon was quite well attended. While there, we met brothers and sisters whom we had not seen before; and it was refreshing to our souls to be in this meeting and enjoy the heavenly fellowship of the saints in light. The Word of God was preached in the power and demonstration of the Spirit and souls were converted and believers were sanctified wholly. We enjoyed this meeting from beginning to the end.

After the meeting was over, we went south thru California, where we visited our three children and their families. Andrew, our oldest son, is living at Fresno. Anna Marie and Mary Lola, our two oldest daughters, live near Pomona. While at Pomona, we had two services with the saints, which we believe was mutually beneficial in spiritual things.

We left Guthrie on the 9th of June and arrived back home on Sunday, June 28th. The Lord manifested himself in a very precious way by shielding and protecting and causing our car to work well. We traveled 5259 miles without even having a flat casing. We truly have much to thank God for. We thank Him for his goodness toward all of his trusting, believing children.

We also attended the National Campmeeting at Monark Springs, near Neosho, Mo. The saints and others came in there from far and near, and the camp ground was crowded insomuch that the board of trustees are expected to purchase more ground to add needed space. The location there is a fine place for a campmeeting. There is an abundance of good cool water and plenty of trees for shade and places for secret prayer. The meeting this year was unusually good and greatly blessed of God. There was great conviction during the Thursday night service upon the

unsaved, and there was a real breaking through when the altar call was given. The altar was soon full of seekers and seats were placed the full width of the pavilion, and still they continued coming. Night after night souls would get saved and believers wholly sanctified. Many were healed by power divine. It was truly a glorious meeting and God's children were made happy and all heaven no doubt rejoiced when the lost were found and the dead were made alive by the power of God.

The Oklahoma State Campmeeting here at Guthrie closed last Sunday night, Aug. 16th. The weather was very nice for the meeting. The Lord sent some rains which kept the air more or less cool and made the services more enjoyable. The preaching was good and souls got saved and bodies were healed. The saints surely did enjoy the rich soul food which the Lord provided and much rejoicing was in the camp.

The office force is again at work here in the "Lord's Print Shop," and it seems good to hear the Linotype machines making their click, click, click sounds as the metal is moulded into lines of words and the mats make their rounds, falling into their proper channels to be used again and again, forming lines of words to fill the chase for the Cylinder Press, which prints the "Faith and Victory" paper, which is sent out to get the gospel to men and women by the printed page. The world is in great need of the unadulterated gospel of Christ, and we are preparing to print more this year than ever before. We are looking for more workers to join us here in the print shop soon. There are quite a number of books which were written by some of the early reformers, which we desire to put in print, also gospel tracts and booklets too numerous to mention to keep printed and sent forth. The Lord is certainly using the printed page to the saving and edifying of souls. We trust God to supply all our needs in the work, and we ask an interest in your prayers that our faith will hold strong in the Lord and that we so live and do that his pleasure will be upon all the work.

#### OBITUARIES

Graveside services were held at Union Cemetery July 21st for Titus Willard Chandler, infant son of Brother and Sister I. C. Chandler of Bakersfield, California.

Titus was born July 16, 1953 and died July 18, 1953 at his home. Survivors include his parents; five sisters, Juanita Florene, Rebekah Queen Ella, Edith Ann, Mildred Helen, and Alice Penelope; and five brothers, James Phillip, Aaron Ulysses, Paul Theodore, Arnold Lewis, and Timothy Anthony, all of Bakersfield.

Brother Z. E. Francisco officiated. The text was 2 Samuel 12:18-23.

Edward Rick was born August 23, 1861 in Ontario Canada and passed to his eternal reward June 23, 1953, at Fresno, California, being almost 92 years old.

He came to the United States and became a citizen as a young man. He was in business as a rubber stamp manufacturer for 60 years.

Through the ministry of Brother E. J. Trotter, pastor of the Church of God in Fresno, Calif., he was led to the Lord when over 85 years of age and had a testimony at

the time of his death. He was healed many times in answer to prayer.

He leaves to mourn his departure, one daughter, Ruth of Fresno and three brothers.

Funeral services were conducted by Brother E. J. Trotter.

Editorial Note:—Mrs. Harvey Sorensen writes us as follows, concerning her mother's passing.

We will miss her greatly but it is a comfort to know that she followed Jesus and lived for him and also showed us the way to find eternal life. The 23rd Psalm and the poem which was written by her daughter on the day of the funeral were used in the funeral services. The songs used were "My Mother's Bible" and "Sitting at the Feet of Jesus." A very nice comforting service was rendered before the remains were laid to rest.

#### IN MEMORY OF MOTHER

Today, dear precious mother,  
You will be laid to rest.  
Already, we've missed you greatly,  
But our Father knoweth best.

You often talked of heaven,  
Even homesick to go there;  
So we think of you in Glory,  
Free from every earthly care.

In the morning, and the evening,  
Any time throughout the day;  
Never was a task so pressing,  
That you couldn't read and pray.

We are glad you knew the Savior,  
And exhorted us to find,  
The way, the truth, the life eternal,  
Leaving things of earth behind.

Sister Elizabeth Spears, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Willie Littles, was born August 27, 1884 at Sequin, Texas; departed this life June 20, 1953 at Los Angeles, California, being 68 years, 9 months and 23 days old. She was married to Jacob T. Spears in the year of 1915. Her husband preceded her in death August 8, 1945. Also 3 brothers and 5 sisters preceded her in death.

She met the "Saints of the Evening Light" about the year of 1910, choosing Christ as her Saviour, and endeavoring to live a consistent Christian life. She put forth an effort to attend services whenever she was permitted; though at times suffering affliction in her body, she tried faithfully to be at her post of duty. On Sunday, June 14th in her testimony, with weeping eyes she said, "I want the Lord to take me home." She had made the same statement a week or two previous to that time; helped sing the song, "God's Way is Best."

She leaves to mourn her departure: one son, one daughter, nine grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren, three sisters residing in the state of Texas, nephews and nieces, other relatives and many friends.

Funeral sermon by Brother I. C. Chandler, assisted by Brother O. B. Wilson and sister Emma Holden. Scripture text, Luke 16:19 and others.

Sister Alwortha Tompkins, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Hall was born January 20, 1910 at Allensworth, California and departed this life June 1, 1953 at Tulare, California, at the age of 43 years, and 4 months.

On November 12, 1943 she was united in marriage to Leo Tompkins. In February, 1953, she heard and fully accepted the truth taught by the saints. Though Sister Tompkins was recently saved, we fully believe that she believed and accepted the truth with all her heart and understanding. Although sorely afflicted in her body, she trusted God to the end.

She always enjoyed the saints coming into her home to sing and pray. Every Thursday night some of the saints from Bakersfield would go there to encourage her. Our short acquaintance of Sister Tompkins will be missed by all. Her favorite songs during her illness were, "My Surrender" and "Oh Thou In Whose Presence." It was said that she requested these to be sung at her funeral, which were.

She leaves to mourn her passing, a husband, Brother Leo Tompkins; a mother, Mrs. Hall; seven sisters, two brothers, several neices and nephews, and a host of relatives, saints, and friends.

"Rest on loving sister, from all your toil, suffering, and care, with the mighty host of heaven, forever rejoicing up there."

Funeral services were conducted by Brother I. C. Chandler, assisted by Brother Z. E. Francisco. Text: Rev-14:13, "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord." She was laid to rest in the family plot in Union Cemetery in Bakersfield, California.

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Edward Junior Atnip, son of Joseph Edward and Stella Opal Atnip, was born September 21, 1933 near Shook, Mo. and passed to his reward sixty miles south of Rockford, Illinois on July 11, 1953, at the age of 19 years, 9 months and 20 days.

On August 30, 1952 he was united in marriage to Miss Viola Irwin of Senath, Missouri.

He professed faith in Christ and was prepared to die, we are assured as some of his last words he told his wife were, "It's really good to be clear in my soul."

He was sickly for about six months as on December 15, 1952, he was poisoned on gas fumes from the car. He took it all patiently and trusted God to the end. He desired no doctor's help or remedies of any kind, because he wanted to trust the Lord and he said, "Lord, your will be done."

He leaves to mourn his passing; his wife, Mrs. Viola Atnip; his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Atnip of Greenville, Mo.; four brothers, Alva of the U. S. Army, Ivan of St. Louis, Mo., Truman and Lonnie at home; two sisters, Mrs. Inez Walker of Poplar Bluff, Mo., and Wanda Atnip at home; his grandparents and a host of other relatives and friends.

Funeral services were conducted by Brothers Egbert and Murphy Allen. Burial at Shook, Mo.

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Robert Johnson was born near Newport, Arkansas, August 2, 1878 and departed this life July 11, 1953 at the age of 74 years 11 months and 9 days.

He was married to Sarah Pierce August 3, 1902 at Bowen, Oklahoma.

He embraced the truth in 1912 and has continued in the same until his passing, having served in the ministry many years.

He leaves to mourn his passing, his wife; five children, Mrs. Etta Davis of Guthrie, Mr. Dee Johnson of Wichita, Kansas, Mrs. Margaret Eck of Bartlett, Kansas, Mr. Robert Johnson, Jr. of Springfield, Illinois, and Mrs. Hattie Dean of Guthrie; 18 grandchildren, 5 great-grandchildren, many other relatives and friends.

Funeral services were conducted by O. C. Porter and Fred Pruitt. The subject was principally on "Seeking a City, whose builder and maker is God."

James Howard Wells, son of Mr. and Mrs. James H. Wells, was born in Clinton, Missouri, March 27, 1886 and departed this life July 6, 1953, at his home in Guthrie, Oklahoma, at the age of 67 years, 3 months, and 9 days.

When Howard was 14 years of age, he with his parents moved to Kansas City, Missouri.

In the year 1930, he was united in marriage to Alice Thackeray of Geuda Springs, Kansas. They lived in Kansas City until 1935 when they moved to Guthrie.

His father, mother, and one sister preceded him in death. He is survived by his wife of the home, two sons by a former marriage, Claude Wells of Kansas City and Ralph Wells of California; one sister, Mrs. Daisy Spanier of Kansas City, Mo.; one brother, Harry of Arkansas, eight nephews, other relatives and many friends.

Funeral services were conducted by Fred Pruitt and O. C. Porter. Text: Job 14:1-2. Interment was in Summit View Cemetery at Guthrie.

#### o-o-o-o-o PRAYER REQUEST

Sister Katie Joiner of Sun Valley, California desires the saint's earnest prayers for the healing of a serious affliction upon her body.

#### o-o-o-o-o CAMP MEETING REPORTS

Jefferson, Ore.—Our hearts are still rejoicing and praising His holy name for his hearing and answering prayers in our 1953 camp meeting, held June 12th to 21st. As is our custom we went in earnest prayer to God that he would direct whom he chose of his faithful ministers and send here under the anointing from on high to proclaim the pure gospel, which we love and wherein we find the fullness of God's salvation. God heard our prayers, and sent Brother and Sister Fred Pruitt, L. D. Pruitt and wife from Guthrie, Okla.; Brother and Sister Stover, Brother Trotter, and Brother Hattley from California; Brother Nealson and his son Albert from Montana, to be with us.

The happy, truth loving saints gathered from different places until our home and woodshed and the 16 cabins on the grounds were filled, and some came in trailer houses. It was heavenly as the holy remnant of God gathered in his name to worship at his glorified feet. The blazing truth of God came fourth from the pulpit and the praises went up at each service. Prayers could be heard most any time, day and night. God's power was manifested in saving souls, healing the sick, and helping all who would call on him.

I think 78 took part in the ordinance meeting, and his promise did not fail. "If ye know these things, happy are ye if you do them."

This meeting is now in God's book of remembrance, and we are looking forward, if God spares our lives, to an assembly meeting this fall. We desire the prayers of all saints that God will hold his hand of power over his work here, and encourage each one to press on deeper into God and his holy way of light and truth. Eternity is looming in sight, the fight will soon be finished and all of the blood washed will be gathered where there is unbounded freedom to sing his praise in eternal bliss. Pray for us. Your servant in Christ's body, Sam Wilson.

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Ohio—Greetings to the saints everywhere,—July 5th, ended the camp meeting here in Akron, Ohio.. Truly my

heart was encouraged for a closer walk with God.

Brother Spears from Oklahoma and Brother Abbott from Missouri were the two out of town ministers here to carry on the meeting. There were a few saints here from Dayton, Ohio, Columbus, Ohio, and Irwin, Pennsylvania.

We enjoyed the rich word of God from ministers whom I believe love God with all their heart. The Spirit of the Lord was in every meeting. There seemed to be more unity among the saints also.

Quite a few young people attended some of the night services. Although the Lord was talking to the hearts of many, none were saved in the meeting. I mean to pray more for the lost souls, adorn the doctrine, and make more attractive the way of holiness, that they will want to come to Christ and live for him. I desire the saint's prayers always.

One in Christ.

## Justification, Sanctification

Here are two words that are much used in the teachings found in the New Testament, and every child of God should know the meaning of each word and what it stands for as an experience in his soul and in his walk with God in this time world.

The types and shadows in the Old Testament point to the justified and the sanctified state of our experiences under grace since Christ has come and ushered in the Holy Spirit or Holy Ghost dispensation.

In Exodus 26:13, 24, we can read about the building of the literal temple, which is a type or shadow of the spiritual house, which house we are when in Christ Jesus. Heb. 3:6. It says they hung up the veil, and "the veil shall divide unto you between the Holy and the most Holy place." Thus we find that the literal temple had a holy place and a most holy place, prefiguring our justified state and our sanctified state when in Christ Jesus as a spiritual house. The priests who represented the Israelite people that foreshadowed the spiritual house built by Christ, were allowed to go into the holy place, but were not allowed to go into the most holy place. The high priest was allowed to go into the most holy place once a year, but not until he had offered up a blood sacrifice for his sins and for the sins of the people. When Jesus was dying on the cross and yielded up the spirit, it is written (Matt. 27:51), "And behold the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom." In this we see that Christ being crucified tore the veil apart and those that are holy in a justified state can enter into the most holy place and be cleansed from all the impurity of the fall and be infilled by the Spirit of truth, the Comforter, which Jesus says is the Holy Ghost. (John 14:17, 26).

Some are quite confused as to what constitutes the experience of a justified person and a sanctified, Holy-Spirit-baptized person under grace. Therefore we deem it good by the directing of His Spirit to set before you some Biblical truths on this subject.

As literal Israel in their literal acts foreshadowed or typified the spiritual acts of us who are in Christ Jesus, therefore, considering their literal acts, we can come to a knowledge of our experiences in justification and also in sanctification.

The Israelite people getting freed from literal Egyptian bondage is typical of people now in sin

getting redeemed or freed from known transgressions in a spiritual sense. Pharaoh, who is a representative of Satan, held them in bondage literally just as Satan holds sinners today in bondage to sin and the world spiritually. The Egyptians were the only enemies that the Israelites knew at that time and when God was bringing them out with His strong arm of power Pharaoh's hosts followed them to capture them and bring them back under bondage; but God was stronger than Satan, and when they came to the Red Sea, God by the hand of Moses parted the waters and they crossed over on dry land. Pharaoh's hosts went down between the walls of water after them and God let the waters come together and drown Pharaoh's host.

The Israelites were exceedingly happy and rejoiced greatly because of the deliverance God had given them from their enemies. This deliverance typifies our justified state in Christ. They were happy because they were freed from the Egyptians, the only enemies they knew at this time. They died to them and were never in bondage to the Egyptians any more, neither did they ever see them again. Just so, when we humble ourselves before God in confession and repentance and look to him for forgiveness, he points us to the blood of Christ and by faith we are made free from all our sins and iniquities and we are made to rejoice and become happy and satisfied. We die to all that we know is wrong and God freely forgives us and justifies us and we have peace with God, as also reads the Scripture in Romans 5:1, "Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God thru our Lord Jesus Christ."

As the Israelites went on with God, being led by Moses, they found other enemies which came against them to work discouragement upon them, and it was needful for them to look to God for strength to gain victory over them and die to them, and thereby keep in favor with God (Exodus 17:13, 14). When God had brought them up to, or near, the Jordan River where they were to cross over and possess the Canaan land which he had promised them, the majority of them had become so weakened by the various enemies they met that they had not the faith needed to cross over Jordan, which is typical of our sanctification. When the twelve men were sent out to spy and to take note of the Canaan land, there were only two that had faith in God sufficiently to cross over and possess the promised land. The ten said the land was good, well watered, and the fruit was immense, but they looked at the walled cities and the men that were giants and their faith was so weak that they failed to see God greater than all their eyes beheld. They feared and shrank back from going over. God's wrath was kindled against these unbelievers and he sent them back into the wilderness for forty years and showed and proved his mighty power to them in numerous ways until those over twenty years old were dead (all but two), and then he brought them back to, or near, the Jordan River at a time when it was a mighty body of rushing water overflowing all its banks.

At that time Joshua was their leader, for God had placed him there in Moses' stead. Joshua said to the



people, "Sanctify yourselves: for tomorrow the Lord will do wonders among you." Joshua 3:5. The word sanctification has two meanings. One is to "set apart," and the other is to "cleanse or make holy." Literal Israel sanctified themselves by setting themselves apart or surrendering themselves to God to follow him in all they knew and did not know; so when God rolled back the waters of the mighty rushing Jordan River, they went right down in front of that great wall of water and crossed over into the Canaan land, and this crossing over the Jordan River into the Canaan land typifies our sanctification and infilling of the Spirit wherein we, too, can possess the spiritual Canaan land, and by the power of God and our continually yielding to his will we fight battles with the enemy and win victories and possess more and more of the sweets of spiritual Canaan today.

We find by reading the book of Joshua that he set up twelve stones in the midst of Jordan in the place where the feet of the Priests which bare the ark of the covenant stood. It says that they are there unto this day. Also Joshua commanded that one man out of each of the twelve tribes should take up a stone out of the midst of the Jordan and carry it on his shoulder and leave them there where "ye shall lodge this night." In Joshua 4:20, we read, "And those twelve stones, which they took out of Jordan, did Joshua pitch in Gilgal." The people were so happy and amazed at the mighty working power of God in making them able to cross over the overflowing Jordan River that they were setting up memorials that their children in years to come might know why those twelve stones were built together. They represented the mighty wonders that God performed in bringing them into the Canaan land that flowed with milk and honey. In a lesser sense they also served as Ebenezers to encourage their continued faith in God as doing mighty things for them in giving them victories in battles and enabling them to possess the land. No doubt, all who have spiritually entered into the most holy place into the Canaan land today have Ebenezers set up along as they have traveled toward that celestial city which they can look back to and take courage in the battles of life and press on, knowing that God cannot and will not fail, but that He possesses both the power and willingness to give us the victory and land us in heaven with God himself.

We read in 1 Sam. 7:12 where Samuel set up an Ebenezer after God had given him a wonderful, marvelous victory in battle with the Philistines. It is good for us to not forget what great and mighty acts the Lord has performed for us in the past that our courage may be strong in Him.

As the crossing of literal Israel over Jordan is typical of our sanctification and infilling of the Spirit, it will be good for us to take note of what they did literally as we have the same experiences spiritually and have to make the same consecration and manifest a great faith in God to come into this wonderful experience or inheritance and to continue therein.

We notice that the first thing they did was to sanctify themselves, and that is just what we have to do. In getting justified we die to all the enemies and

wrongs that we know. We give them up and God's presence and peace is with us and the impurity received through the fall is held dormant more or less by the presence and power of God; and as we yield to God and look to him for grace and strength, we live free from sin and condemnation, have peace from God through Christ, and as we grow in grace and knowledge of God and faith increases, the Lord will soon bring us to the Jordan River, or to the knowledge of our need of being sanctified, cleansed from the impurity and made holy; in other words, the need of entering into the most holy place. Knowing that we have many enemies and many battles ahead to fight and to win, we feel our need, and as the Israelites sanctified themselves, we also sanctify ourselves unto God, consecrating to follow him through all that we know and through all that we do not know. When God sees that this consecration is complete, he brings us across Jordan spiritually speaking, by cleansing us and making us most holy and infilling us with the Holy Spirit, giving us power to continually keep yielded to his will so he can work in us both to will and to do of his good pleasure. This brings a joy from heaven in our souls greater than ever, and we are sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of this body, which is his purchased possession. Eph. 1:13, 14. We also have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in the hope of the glory of God. And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience; and patience experience; and experience hope; and hope maketh not ashamed because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us." Glory be to his name.

There are some confusing teachings going on in Christendom concerning justification and also the experience of sanctification, or the baptism of the Holy Ghost. Some are extreme in one way and some are extreme in other ways. Some are teaching that you get all the cleansing the soul needs or has in justification. This teaching is not Biblical, for we have proved by the Bible that the literal house, which typifies the spiritual house, which we are, was built with a holy and a most holy place. The most holy place was not opened until Christ shed his blood upon Calvary's cross. In the 15th chapter of Acts, Peter definitely states, speaking of the household of Cornelius, the Gentiles receiving the Holy Ghost, that "God, which knoweth the hearts, bare them witness, giving them the Holy Ghost, even as he did unto us; and put no difference between us and them, purifying their hearts by faith." This is a definite truth that the hearts were purified as they received the Holy Ghost. The fact that it is stated in Acts 2:3 that there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them, conveys to our minds the cleansing by the blood that took place as they were receiving the Holy Ghost, for fire typifies cleansing or purifying. The tongues of fire was on them first and the Holy Ghost followed right into their souls, giving them power to win victories and live in spiritual Canaan land.

—Fred Pruitt



## "Seeing Is Believing"

"Seeing is believing," they said of one accord,  
 "So how are we to know there is a blessed Lord?"

A gentle breeze came and whispered among the trees;  
 And a breeze is not a thing a person ever sees.  
 The breeze blew harder; the trees began to bend;  
 The grasses swayed, for they were at the mercy of  
 the wind.

"A gentle breeze or a strong wind cannot be seen,"  
 they jeered.  
 "You know them by the things they do, and they are  
 to be feared."

So ye shall know the gentle Lord or the mighty wrath  
 of God.  
 And ye should fear Him till the day you lay beneath  
 the sod.  
 And as a windmill needs the wind, so do we need the  
 Lord;  
 For He can help us through this world and to a great  
 reward.  
 —Alta Mae Harmon

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## Which?

1 Cor. 1:12; St. John 5:43-44; 12:32.

Now I am of Paul;  
 And I of Apollos;  
 And I of Cephas; quite so—  
 But if Paul, or Apollos,  
 Or Cephas should die—  
 Pray tell, to whom would I go?  
 —Erle E. Forbes

—oOo—

## Encouraging Experiences

To the Dear Saints:—

I feel led to write this experience, trusting it will  
 be as much food to your souls as it has been to mine.  
 My sister and I, both widows, have been living to-  
 gether over five years. She has been in bad health  
 a good part of that time. This past April she took  
 real sick and her daughter, who lives about fifty-six  
 miles from here came and got her and took her home.  
 That left me alone. May 4th she became very ill  
 and her daughter took her to a hospital. The doctor  
 did not have much hope. They told her daughter she  
 would die if they did not operate and that she may  
 die on the operating table. My niece phoned for my  
 other sister and me to pray. A woman brought the  
 message from town to us out in the country. She told  
 me to go to my sister's to stay that night and if any-  
 thing happened she would come and tell me. I live  
 four miles out on a dirt road. It had rained hard that  
 day. A man and his wife started to take me to my  
 sister's in a truck. It got stuck in the mud. I was  
 praying in my heart, and these words were spoken to  
 me in a still voice, "Offer the sacrifice of righteous-

ness, put your trust in the Lord." Psa. 4:5. Oh, praise  
 our God, she is back home with me and has gained  
 seven pounds. To God be all the praise.

I had been in failing health for some time and  
 was very nervous with symptoms of cancer. My son  
 from Flint, Mich. came and took me to a doctor to be  
 examined. He wanted me to go to a hospital and take  
 radium treatment, but I told my son I was going to  
 put my case into God's hands. My daughter-in-law  
 said I must go to a hospital, but my son said he had  
 more confidence in the Lord than a doctor for me at  
 my age if I had inward cancer. They wanted me to  
 go live with them. I prayed about it and asked the  
 Lord to show me what to do by the Bible when I op-  
 ened it. I opened to 1 Thess., 3rd chapter and read:  
 "When we could no longer forbear, we thought it good  
 to be left at Athens alone." And it also said not to be  
 moved by these afflictions. Oh, it was so plain to  
 me! Praise our God. He even sent my brother from  
 Hart, Mich. to stay with me a month. He stayed un-  
 til my sister got back home. I am now hoeing my  
 garden and even set a post where my cow got out in  
 my pasture. Oh, how I do thank God, for He was the  
 one who gave me the strength to do it.

My son could hardly stand to go off and leave me  
 alone and it was hard for me to see them go. The  
 day they were to go I woke up about 4 o'clock and  
 began to pray in secret, and these words were whis-  
 pered to me again for me to put my trust in Him, also,  
 "Behold, I and the children which God has given me"  
 Heb. 2:13. Tongue cannot tell nor pen write what that  
 precious Scripture meant to me. I saw them go, but  
 did not cry like I generally do. When I heard of the  
 Flint tornado, Heb. 2:13 came back to me. I said, My  
 children are all right. I went to see how my sister  
 Dolly was taking it, for her son also worked in Flint.  
 She had tried to phone but the wires were down. I  
 told her they were all right. I had heard from heav-  
 en. After dinner we still could not phone so after  
 twenty-four hours the Red Cross got a message there  
 and back to us concerning them. But I had not worried  
 during that time for I had got my message from  
 heaven first. Read the following Scriptures: Acts  
 10:3-7, 19, 22, 30, 31; 23:9; 27:23; 12: 7-11; Psalm  
 34:7; Heb. 1:13, 14; Acts 9:10, 11. If this is a help  
 to you, write me. Neva Buchanan, R. 3, Cherry Valley,  
 Ark.

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## Television

As you go down the streets you can notice a new  
 feature on top of houses which tells you immediately  
 that home is equipped with television. This great in-  
 vention will be the cause of many souls going to per-  
 dition. Many professors of salvation are purchasing  
 them to the detriment of their own souls.

You can't have telev. sign in your home and use  
 it and keep spiritual. Let us reason a little. Can  
 you have a burden for lost souls and watch a couple  
 of men beat each other half to death over television  
 at the same time? Can you watch the wrestling  
 match and have the glory of God in your soul? Do  
 you feel blessed watching Hopalong Cassidy or the

Lone Ranger or some other blood and thunder program? Can these things ever be spiritually uplifting to a soul in any way? Hollywood is crying the blues because the actors on television are permitted to take off more clothes than they are in the movies. What in that will build morals for your children?

It has been said that only about five percent of the television programs are fit to look at. Yet the so-called Christians want to keep up with the Jones' and get television. If you can have and use television in your home without being brought under condemnation, you can attend the theatre, and if you can attend the theatre, you have lost God out of your heart. You may say I am judging. No, I am inspecting your fruit. The scripture says, "By their fruits ye shall know them." Does not the Bible say plainly, "Whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus" and do ALL "to the glory of God"? Can you sit down with your family and watch an evening of television shows to God's glory? Please do not become so spiritually blinded that you can say you are doing such in "Jesus' name." Parents, if you get one of these soul-damning sets because your children are clamoring for it, don't cry over them when you look down on their form in a casket because they are walking the pavements of hell. You are guilty of making it convenient for them to go there. You have placed the temptation before them. It is you who brought the theatre into your home for them with the money God entrusted into your hands to use for your needs and the needs of others and the upbuilding of His cause in the earth. It is you who gave them television instead of prayer. It is you who created the desire for the show that caused them to stay home from meeting for worship with God's people to watch television. It is you who invited the spirit of the world into your home to capture their young hearts and minds and lead them afar from the path which leads to heaven and immortal glory.

It is a curse to the church. It will be a curse to you if you have a set. Millions of dollars are being spent by so-called professors of Christianity for television while the world is dying and going to hell without God. Where are YOU drifting?? —Selected

## CORRESPONDENCE

La.- Dear saints everywhere,—Greetings in Jesus' name. I feel like writing my testimony, beginning with the time I met the saints back in 1932 at the dear old camp ground in Hammond, La. and I accepted the whole truth of God's Word and the Bible standard.

I had been living in this part of the country for several years, but I did not know anything about the Church of God camp ground or the holiness people of God until one morning I heard a bell ringing about one mile from where I lived. I asked a man who had lived here a good while what that bell was ringing for on Monday morning. He said, "They are having a big holiness meeting." And how I do thank God till yet that my mind was led that way. So I made my way over there to see what was going on. I went to the camp ground and met the saints, and they were so friendly and nice to me and it seemed to be the most precious place to me that I had ever been, and

it still is precious to me, praise the Lord! Well, I arranged to get my family in the services and we all got saved the Bible way, born again. Oh! how I do thank the Lord for a born-again experience.

My children all went back, did not hold out. My dear wife and I are still in the strait and narrow way that leads to heaven, praise the good Lord for this holy way! Amen. We are still praying that our dear, precious children whom we love and appreciate will be saved before it is too late. We are leaning on God's promises. He said, "If you ask anything in my name I will do it," and He said, "I will give you the desire of your heart," and we do desire to see them saved. It is a sad thing to be lost and be tormented for ever, never to have any peace or happiness. So why not get saved and live for God, live a holy clean life like Jesus did? Jesus said for us to follow in his steps. Praise the Lord! I want to follow in His steps to the end of this life and do his will in every way I know how.

God's Word says that if one knows to do good and does it not, to him it is sin. I am also thankful that I am teachable and take advice from real saints of God. I want to learn more about this good way and get deeper in his love and services and be a real example in every way I can.

If we live a holy clean life, which is free from sin and do what God's Word says, we will have joy, peace, happiness, and everlasting life. Praise the Lord! When we get to heaven we won't have any heartaches, no sorrows, no sickness, no troubles of any kind. Isn't that wonderful to think about? You who do not have this peace can have it. God's Word says, "Seek and ye shall find." So you that do not know God, please seek him while he may be found. Don't be lost when Jesus is ready and willing to save you. He is very merciful.

I want to also thank the Lord for the many times he has healed our bodies in the past years. He healed our children when they would get sick, and some cases were very bad. But it doesn't make any difference how bad you get sick, or what your trouble is, our God is able to heal all manner of sickness and diseases, and will, if you will put all your trust in him, if he is not ready to take you home.

Last summer during our camp meeting my dear wife took bad sick one morning. She was getting ready to go to services when this trouble struck her. She got worse and worse. We called in a doctor in case if she died we could get a burial permit. He said her appendix had bursted and poison had set up and she would live two hours. We all knew she was very low and my heart was very sad and broken. I could not see how I could live without her, so I began to beg the Lord to spare her life to still be with me. The precious saints of God were here with us day and night praying and calling upon God for mercy and to spare her life. It looked like one day she was going. Her finger nails turned purple and her lips and her eyes sank in her head, but the saints held on to God to spare her life and heal her body and raise her up if it could be his will and to his glory; and, praise the good Lord! He spared her life and healed her body in answer to prayer, and according to His Word. We thank the Lord for all of this. And we thank the saints of God for their prayers for her and being here with us and helping wait on her. She is doing all right except her mind is not good and she desires that God will heal her mind so she can enjoy life better. I am thankful that I know all things are possible with God and he has great power and mercy. I am glad too that I know that the most im-

portant thing is to be ready and stay ready to meet God in peace.

I thank God too for leading me out of sectism and I can see the true church of God. And I thank Him for letting me know that joining a man-made church would not get me to heaven. I also thank Him for the determination he has given me to keep saved and be faithful in these evil days. Pray that my wife and I will keep saved and be real examples and know the will of God in all that we do and say and we will be willing to let his will be done, is my prayer.

Your brother in Christ, W. S. Miller.

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Tex.—Dear saints everywhere,—Greetings of love in Jesus' name. This morning I am happy to report that I am still saved from all sin and encouraged to press on until the last battle is fought and won with victory.

The dear Lord has been so good to us, I could not begin to tell it but I am so thankful for every thing that he has done for us. Many times he has healed me of serious afflictions and sicknesses for which I thank him. My trust is still in God and I am happy that I found such a friend to trust. What would we do without him? We would be miserable indeed.

I thank all of you who have prayed for me and sent me greetings over the tape recorder. I did appreciate it and may God bless every one.

We are not among a congregation of saints but an elderly saint, Sister Leeper, lives about twenty miles from us. I am always glad for the privilege to visit with her, she is so pleasant and cheerful, although in a wheel chair. She is an encouragement to me and how I do enjoy reading and praying with her. All of you remember her in prayer. She has many hard things to bear.

We still covet your prayers as we feel our great need from God. Christian love, Minnie L. Duncan.

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Grand Cayman Is.—Dear saints,—Greetings in Jesus' precious name. I want to praise our Lord for the "Faith and Victory" paper, also for a real Bible, Holy Ghost salvation. I received the Holy Ghost April 17, 1905.

I was led of the Lord to believe for healing, which he has done for me ever since. Praise his holy name! I have never gone to a doctor. I was 84 years old my last birthday. I'm growing stronger in the Lord by obedience to his Holy Word and walking in his blessed footsteps. Your sister in the everlasting love of Jesus. Matilda Eden.

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Va.—Dear saints everywhere,—Truly I do thank the Lord for the "Faith and Victory" paper. I thank him most of all for saving and sanctifying my soul three years ago. I was also healed of an ulcer of the stomach and I give God all the glory. If it weren't for Jesus I'd be most miserable.

I have many requests for prayer and dear saints, earnestly pray.

Dear sinners, if you happen to read this good paper, take heed to its warnings and turn from sin. I remain yours for the lost and suffering, Mrs. E. W. Melvin.

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Pa.—Dear saints in Christ,—Greetings once more in the dear name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

I promised the Lord a few weeks ago if he would put me to sleep one night when I hadn't slept much or any, that I would tell it through the "Faith and Victory" paper. The Lord put me to sleep and gave me about four hours sleep and I was really thankful for it. I have such

a hard time getting my sleep, but the dear Lord is good to us, and comes to our rescue. Bless his name!

I'm asking the saints everywhere to please pray for the healing of this body to the glory of God. Remember my mother in prayer for her healing, who isn't real well in body.

A sister,

Avis Tinsley.

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Mo.—Dear saints,—Greetings to all in Jesus' dear name. I want to tell how the Lord is helping me. If it wasn't for Him I don't know what I would do. He blesses me in many ways and is willing to help in all the trials, tests, troubles, and bad feelings, when I call on him and come in the right way believing.

I thank his name for ever saving my soul and helping me to be willing to depend on him for both, soul and body. I thank him for the blessings he bestows upon me every day and for helping me to be willing to try to do His will. Please remember me in your prayers as I need them.

A sister in Christ,

Nancy Sweezee.

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Ind.—Dear saints,—Greetings to all in the precious name of our Savior. I've thought for some time that I would write my testimony. I praise the dear Lord this morning for salvation.

I was reading in Revelation 21 when I noticed verses 24 through 27. My heart was touched and my prayer is, "O my God, help me to live saved, and help me not to be guilty of any of those things mentioned in verse 27." I am thankful that we can live in touch with heaven and have the blessed Holy Spirit to lead us and teach us.

When sometimes it would seem that all we can do amounts to so little, we know that our Lord understands. I love the dear Lord this morning with all my heart. The song, "I Am From Sin Set Free" is my testimony. "Let worldly minds the world pursue, It has no charms for me; Once I admired its trifles, too, But grace hath set me free."

I will close asking an interest in your prayers and my prayer is that the dear Lord will bless each one to his glory.

Stella Lee.

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Calif.—Dear saints,—I have been impressed to send my testimony to the "Faith and Victory" paper. I can report victory this afternoon. I'm saved, sanctified, and satisfied with the Lord's dealings with me. Oh, the Lord is so good to his trusting children. If we will only put everything in his hands, he will help us through.

There is one thing that hinders the Lord from working sometimes, and that is when we keep our hands in the way. If we could only make up our minds that the Lord doesn't need us to help him work. All he needs is for us to turn every thing over to him and be willing for him to have his way.

I surely have a lot to thank the Lord for. He is so good to me. He has just recently healed me of a very bad neck. It started like a crick and I had had it several times. But this time it became much worse. I would pray and it would get better and then worse. I would ask for prayer and it would get better. One morning I was washing and some one came in whom I hadn't seen for many years. It was Brother and Sister Fred Pruitt, their son and his wife, and Brother Huskey and daughter. We talked awhile and Brother Pruitt said, "Well, we had better have prayer and be on our way, as we want to get to Fresno tonight." We had prayer and when we got up from our knees I said that I would like to be anointed for the trouble in my neck. Bro. Pruitt said, "Yes, we will anoint you and have prayer." I thank the Lord for his

healing power. It is not only for me but for all that will put their trust in the blessed Lord. He is no respecter of persons. He says in his word that whosoever will, may come.

Oh saints, let us be careful what we say and do. We may be able to hide our life from people part of the time, but there is One that we can't hide things from, and that is our blessed Saviour. I often tell my folks that I want to be clear at all times. I want to live a life each day that the Lord will be pleased with. We will have to stand at the last day and face our life, good or bad, so I want a good life to go on before me.

Sunday at Sunday School I had to take the little folks and one of them said, "Is it wrong to go to shows?" I said, "Do you think the Lord will be there?" and she said "No." I told them that I wouldn't want to go where the Lord wouldn't be. Oh, my heart is made so sad to see how some of the saint's children are today. It makes us wonder who will carry on when the older ones are gone. We must keep praying on and living the life even if some are drifting back. I always want to live where I can hear the Lord when he speaks to me. When you pray, remember me. Your sister in Christ, Alpha Daniels.

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Fla.—Dear saints and readers of "Faith and Victory" paper.—I feel led of God to write and express my thoughts and appreciation for the little paper, "Faith and Victory" that is so well edited by Brother Pruitt and the staff of workers, though I'm not personally acquainted with any of them. I read pieces by some of the dear old pioneer saints who write occasionally, that I knew while living in Oklahoma, more than forty years ago.

There were a number of Wilsons that I knew at that time. Old Father Wilson, O. B. and Mattie Wilson have gone to their reward. I don't believe Sister Mattie nor her husband ever had time to draw a selfish breath. They served the church and God with all their heart, mind, soul, and body. In all our sickness while in that state, they were present day or night as needed. I also remember Brother Sam Wilson and wife, Emma Bush, Bonnie Wells, and others. So many have passed away and as I'm now in my 81st year I feel that my time will soon come when the good Lord will say, "Enough, come home."

I thank the Lord for health and strength to get about yet. I would be glad if any of the old time saints would visit me here in my little bungalow.

My husband went to be with Jesus about 18 years ago and I hope to meet him and all the redeemed of the Lord when I leave this world. I ask an interest in the prayers of all saints who might read this. May God bless you all is my prayer.

A sister in the Lord,

Sarah F. Carnes

P. O. Box 43, Florahome, Fla.

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## Some Erroneous Teachings Exposed

There is a doctrine being taught that the disciples were not born again while they were with Christ before His crucifixion. This teaching is not sound nor Biblical; for the Lord said of himself that God had given him power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as God had given him (John 17:2); also that He had power to forgive sins (Matt. 9:6). In the resurrection of Lazarus from the dead, which is typical of our salvation, He proved that he had now power to give life to men. In John 11:25 Jesus told Martha, "I am the resurrection and the

life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live." The disciples certainly did believe in Him and expressed it many times. Peter believed it so strongly that he said openly unto Him, "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God." Matt. 16:16.

In the first chapter of John it is made plain that the disciples were born again, because they had believed in him and had received him as the Christ. Listen to what the holy scriptures say in John 1:12, "But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name." The disciples had received him and had believed on his name; and to be sons of God, it was needful that they be born again. The next verse makes it exceedingly plain that they were born of a spiritual birth, for it reads thus, "Which were born not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, But of God." He makes it plain that it was not a fleshly birth, but a spiritual birth.

In Matt. 19:28 we read, "And Jesus said unto them [His disciples], Verily I say unto you, that ye which have followed me [past tense] in the regeneration, when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, Judging the twelve tribes of Israel." Webster's Dictionary, which gives us the meaning of words, says that **regenerate** means to cause to be reborn spiritually or spiritually born. This makes it Biblically certain that they were already born spiritually. Jesus was God incarnate and he had power to give the disciples spiritual life, and His presence was with them when he sent them out to preach the kingdom of God, heal the sick, and even cast out devils.

In justification His presence is with us, which is the Spirit of truth (Read St. John 14:17), and we have peace with God; but in sanctification He dwells in us in fulness and possesses us and rules supreme. He told the disciples that they were not of the world even as he was not of the world. They had left all and followed him and believed his word, received reproof, and sometimes rebukes from him, but did not turn away. We must remember that there had been no prophet among the people before John and Jesus came for the space of four hundred years and awful darkness enveloped the people and the disciples had much to learn although in heart they were no longer of the world even as Christ was not of the world. They were not perfect in knowledge as Christ, but their hearts were with Him and just as fast as they received light and knowledge, they walked in it, and so were not of the world.

Again in the 15th chapter of John we find that the Lord makes it plain that the disciples were attached to the Vine and he was the true Vine. Let us read, beginning at the third verse, "Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you." The disciples were living up to all the knowledge that the Lord had thus far imparted unto them, so he said, "Ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you." This also denotes that there is some cleansing in a justified state, preparatory for the purging or purifying in sanctification, as Jesus makes plain in the second verse.

The 4th verse reads thus, "Abide in me, and I in you, as the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye except ye abide in me. I am the vine, ye are the branches." This proves that the disciples were clean as far as they had gone in a justified state and that they were already branches in the true Vine, which is Christ. Beyond a shadow of a doubt, they were born again, as Jesus had power to cause such to take place.

Another theory that some hold to is that the disciples were sanctified some time between the time of the Lord's crucifixion and the day of Pentecost, but we have no Bible to sustain such a theory. The disciples had far more than a law experience when with Jesus, even though they did make some blunders and mistakes, but when we consider the awful darkness that was upon the people, we can understand that they were learning quite fast and would not turn away from Him. I am persuaded that the disciples had a better experience in their justified state after the Lord was crucified and was resurrected to life again and they could be with Him and talk to Him about the things concerning the kingdom of God. They had so increased in peace and love and devotion to the Lord that they were fully ready for the Day of Pentecost when the impurity was cleansed away completely and they were filled with the Holy Ghost and had entered into the most holy place, equipped to fight the battles in the Canaan land and win victories, possessing more and more of the land spiritually speaking.

To apply Scriptures to the justified state which belongs to those who have entered into the most holy place, would be confusing to many of the Lord's lambs, and perhaps to some of his sheep. One can get into an extreme attitude in that way; and on the other hand, to use the seventh chapter of Romans as though Paul were giving his experience under grace as a justified man would be extreme in the other way. The fact is, in the seventh chapter of Romans Paul is giving his experience while in sin under the law. Paul was well versed in the law of God, and he delighted in it, but that indwelling sin, which he makes so plain, would cause him to sin and to do and do the things that he did not want to do. This state is not true in justification under grace, as one must live holy in a justified state in order to be ready for the purifying and cleansing in sanctification. What we might call little sins are big sins in the sight of God; therefore sin had become exceedingly sinful to Paul while living in sin under the law. God forbid that any of God's ministers should hold such a low standard for justification under grace. When Paul had found Christ, he says, "There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the spirit. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the LAW of sin and death." Brethren, and sisters, let us keep balanced up in the Lord and not go to extreme one way or the other, but stand on the solid teaching of the Holy Bible and be satisfied.

Some of the present day "newly-come-up" shoots make me think of the summer dried weed piles that I used to burn when a boy. They make a big blaze

for a short time, but that which is not founded on the Word of God will not last long. The Word of God will stand when the world and earth is on fire. Let us build on the sure foundation. A justified person is living before God without any condemnation, else they are not ready for the purifying in sanctification. When in a justified state under grace, one is not a wretched man, but he has peace with God through Christ, and the gentle Spirit of Christ will convince them that they need to go on to perfection and be cleansed and purified from all the effects of the fall and be filled with the Holy Spirit of promise. All glory, praise, and honor be unto the Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world.

—Fred Pruitt.

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### Endure Hardness

In 2 Tim. 2:3, 4, the Apostle Paul exhorts Timothy to endure hardness as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. No man that wareth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life. Thus to endure hardness is a command. The word **hardness** is defined by Webster's dictionary as a state or quality of being hard in all its senses; firmness; obduracy; rigor. And we are commanded to have not only one good quality but to strive for masteries so that we can pass our spiritual examination and be one hundred per cent qualified for service. The race is not to the swift or mighty, but to him that endures to the end. In these last days it takes more than ordinary strength to stem the tide, as it has been said: "Any dead duck can go with the tide, but it takes a live duck to swim against it." It takes the power of the God head and the unction of the Holy Spirit to enable us to endure such hardness as we are commanded. Nothing short of a full and complete surrender will qualify us for this great battle. Sometimes the way becomes so rough and steep and slippery that a tenderfoot will be seeking for something easier, but we are commanded to endure hardness as a good soldier.

A good soldier forsakes home and loved ones and all that is dear to him until the battle is ended. Sometimes he is wounded and is in the hospital for months, and after his recruit he returns to the battle front to face the foe again and may get those tender wounds bruised. Sometimes he has to wade and ford rivers and climb mountains and hills, and yet like the little brook, he presses onward.

So my fellow traveler to eternity, let us take fresh courage. God's promises are all true, and his grace is all sufficient. He will never leave us; and he has promised to keep us in the hour of temptation, which will come upon all the world to try them that dwell upon the earth. Rev. 2:10.

God's true people are the fewest of all people. We will meet with false brethren and professors, but very few to encourage us or that are willing to cut clean. They want to hold the world in one hand and the church in the other. Jesus said, "Ye cannot serve God and mammon." It means a clean cut—cut every shore line. Today the professing religious bodies are going hand in hand with the world, dancing, excess, drinking, smoking, cursing, backbiting, and it is ut-

terly impossible to mark them out from the world by their walk and conversation, yet they are claiming to be Christians. May God help us to awaken to our responsibility, and, like Jeremiah, cry out: "Oh, that my head were water and mine eyes a fountain of tears that I might weep" for the lost and ruined world! (See Jer. 9:1).

Going back to Brother Paul's exhortation: If a man strive for masteries, yet is he not crowned except he strive lawfully. The husbandman must first be partaker of the fruit.

The Bible is a wonderful Book, a lamp to our feet and a light to our pathway. I am glad to be able to say like the Psalmist of old (Psa. 66:16), "Come and hear all ye that fear God and I will declare what he has done for my soul." On Jan. 28, 1942 my burden was so great that it weighed me down and I cried to the Lord in my distress and he heard my cry and spoke peace to my soul. I had been a backslider for over twenty years. A voice sweetly spoke to me and told me to look in 2 Chron. 15:12, and they entered into a covenant to seek the Lord God of their fathers with all their soul; and there and then I obeyed that voice; and thus I can say like the Psalmist, He has done great things for me. And I am in a school learning day by day to endure hardness as a good soldier. I want to obtain that crown of righteousness which Paul said was laid up for him and for all who love God with the whole heart, and are willing to lay aside every weight.

Reader, our reward is sure if we strive lawfully. Do not look for your reward in this life, for in this world ye shall have tribulation and be hated of all men for his name's sake. But listen to his comforting words to the disciples: "Be of good cheer, I have overcome the world." Praise be to His name! He is the great conqueror. He conquered death, our last enemy and we hear the Revelator proclaiming the glad tidings: "I am he that was dead, and, behold, I am alive for ever more. Amen! And have the keys of Death and Hell." Again my heart is made glad and I am compelled to say, Glory to His name! His name shall be called Wonderful Counsellor, the Mighty God the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace. Isa. 9. Hear the prophet portray his majestic power—a Counsellor. He needs no prime minister or vice president to instruct Him. He took upon himself the whole war against Beelzebub and fought him to a conqueror's throne and sits in majestic power there at the Father's right hand as our Mediator and Advocate. He will be returning for his true and faithful soldiers who have endured hardness to reward them with a crown of righteousness. My humble prayer is that these words may be of encouragement to some poor discouraged soldier, that he may take courage and be determined to endure hardness as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. —H. Glenn, Grand Cayman.

#### NATIONAL CAMPGROUND NOTICE

The attendance at the National campmeeting at Monark Springs (Neosho), Mo. increased again this year, and the facilities for caring for the folk were barely adequate, even though eleven new cabin units had been erected since

last campmeeting. Present plans are to purchase more ground adjoining the campground, for more parking, building and camping space. The saints desire also to enlarge the tabernacle for more seating capacity and provide adequate modern rest rooms. With the Lord's blessing, this can be done by next campmeeting if the saints will sacrifice and put forth the effort.

Space on the present ground is sufficient to build five more cabin units under one roof like those built last year. The building would be 12 feet wide and about 50 feet long. One of the saints, a carpenter near the grounds, has agreed to furnish the labor and material for these units at \$1.35 per square foot floor space, **provided** orders for all five units are received. The first order for a 12 x 12 unit has been received, and as soon as four more are received, then the orders will be turned to the carpenter. The units will be of native rough oak frame, not sealed except partitions, concrete floor, composition shingle roof and siding, two windows and screens, door and screen door, with two coats of paint on windows and doors. The price for 8 x 12 is \$129.60; 10 x 12 is \$162.00; and 12 x 12 is \$194.40. If you want a unit, send your order promptly with cash, stating size wanted, to Bro. Ralph Beisly, R. 5, Coffeyville, Kansas. Offerings for the much-needed improvements on the campground may be sent to Bro. Beisly or to the undersigned, and your reward will be waiting at the end of a faithful Christian race.

—L. D. Pruitt, Secretary-Treasurer  
1116 W. Washington, Guthrie, Okla.

Sister Alice Scruggs of Ferriday, La., desires the saint's prayers for the healing of her body.

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

#### 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.

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Bible with reference, family record, large print for dim eye sight. Size 9½ by 7 inches. King James Version. A fine present for an aged person. Price \$6.50 each.

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The wisest thing a mortal ever did is to prepare to die so he will be ready to live. —E. E. F.

#### BIBLE STUDY

Price Change—Primary Picture Roll \$1.35, Lesson cards 3c

#### THE CHRISTIAN'S USE OF POSSESSIONS

September 6, 1953

Printed Portion.....1 Timothy 6:6-19.

1 Tim. 6:6. But godliness with contentment is great gain.

7. For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out.

8. And having food and raiment let us be therewith content.

9. But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition.

10. For the love of money is the root of all evil; which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

11. But thou, O man of God, flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness.

12. Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses.

13. I give thee charge in the sight of God, who quickeneth all things, and before Christ Jesus, who before Pontius Pilate witnessed a good confession;

14. That thou keep this commandment without spot, unrebukable, until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ:

15. Which in his times he shall shew, who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords;

16. Who only hath immortality, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto; whom no man hath seen, nor can see; to whom be honour and power everlasting. Amen.

17. Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not highminded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy;

18. That they do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate;

19. Laying up in store for themselves a good foundation against the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life.

**Memory Verse:** The love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows. 1 Timothy 6:10.

**Practical Truth:** A Christian, through using his possessions to the glory of God, can accomplish much good and help to lay up in store for the time to come.

#### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

"The love of money is the root of all evil," i.e., all kinds of evil that have to do with money. There are sins that originate in other things. The word *AJL* has to do primarily with money in this lesson. Contentment is not gained by having money; neither is it gained when one is poor and desires to be rich, but coupled together with godliness "is great gain." The chief result of covetousness is to make one have discontent.

The primary requisite to contentment is to do as the Macedonian brethren did as expressed in 2 Cor. 8:5 "first gave their own selves to the Lord." The life that is surrendered to God and holds nothing back that God requires of him is indeed the happiest person by far in this world where money has a very large place in the ordinary thinking of mankind.

After one is born again and has the life of Christ in the soul (Col. 1:27), it is necessary to "Fight the good fight of faith," that we retain Christ in the soul for there are many things that can and will take him from the heart when yielded to. Riches do not bring happiness as many suppose, but on the contrary, their possession brings anxiety, worry, and cares innumerable.

#### COURAGE FOR CHRISTIAN LIVING

September 13, 1953

Printed Portion.....2 Timothy 1:3-14.

2 Tim. 1:3. I thank God, whom I serve from my forefathers with pure conscience, that without ceasing I have remembrance of thee in my prayers night and day;

4. Greatly desiring to see thee, being mindful of thy tears, that I may be filled with joy;

5. When I call to remembrance the unfeigned faith that is in thee, which dwelt first in thy grandmother Lois, and thy mother Eunice; and I am persuaded that in thee also.

6. Wherefore I put thee in remembrance that thou stir up the gift of God, which is in thee by the putting on of my hands.

7. For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.

8. Be not thou therefore ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me his prisoner: but be thou partaker of the afflictions of the gospel according to the power of God;

9. Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began,

10. But is now made manifest by the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who hath abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel:

11. Whereunto I am appointed a preacher, and an apostle, and a teacher of the Gentiles.

12. For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day.

13. Hold fast the form of sound words, which thou hast heard of me, in faith and love which is in Christ Jesus.

14. That good thing which was committed unto thee keep by the Holy Ghost which dwelleth in us.

**Memory Verse:** God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind. 2 Timothy 1:7.

**Practical Truth:** We should witness courageously for God and Christ, irrespective of what the cost may be.

#### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Coupled together with the Holy Spirit, the Bible is of great use in our Christian living. John 20:31 says "But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name." Again in 2 Cor. 3:6 we have, "the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life," and in John 14:26, "The Holy Ghost—shall teach you all things." So then in order for the Bible to help us as stated in Ps. 119:105, "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path," we certainly need the help of the Spirit to illuminate it so we have clear light for our pathway.

Since "All scripture is given by inspiration of God," then we can see four very important purposes for us; teaching is foremost for we need to be taught before we can perform, then we need reproof to show us the right way, correction when we make mistakes, and fourth we need instruction in righteousness. In order for our soul to grow we must have a portion of this help from day to day. And as God builds this house and gives us life every day we can grow into him and he in us. James 1:22 gives us very plain language, "But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only."



## COUNSEL FOR CHRISTIANS

September 20, 1953

Printed Portion.....Titus 2:7-8; 3:1-11.

Titus 2:7. In all things shewing thyself a pattern of good works, in doctrine shewing uncorruptness, gravity, sincerity.

8. Sound speech, that cannot be condemned; that he that is of the contrary part may be ashamed, having no evil thing to say of you.

3:1. Put them in mind to be subject to principalities and powers, to obey magistrates, to be ready to every good work,

2. To speak evil of no man, to be no brawlers, but gentle showing all meekness unto all men.

3. For we ourselves also were sometimes foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving divers lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful, and hating one another.

4. But after that the kindness and love of God our Saviour toward man appeared.

5. Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;

6. Which he shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour;

7. That being justified by his grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

8. This is a faithful saying, and these things I will that thou affirm constantly, that they which have believed in God might be careful to maintain good works. These things are good and profitable unto men.

9. But avoid foolish questions, and genealogies, and contentions, and strivings about the law; for they are unprofitable and vain.

10. A man that is an heretic, after the first and second admonition reject;

11. Knowing that he that is such is subverted, and sinneth, being condemned of himself.

Memory Verse: And let ours also learn to maintain good works for necessary uses, that they be not unfruitful. Titus 3:14.

Practical Truth: A renewed life through Christ is accompanied with good works.

## COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

As portrayed in these verses, what a contrast there is between the unregenerated person and the regenerated. In verse 3 we have a frightful picture of the person who is in bondage to sin and his evil passions; hating, hated, and hateful. Certainly the Christian needs much counsel after having his nature changed from hate to love to live consistently a Christian life after the pattern given in the scripture before us. In the place of rioting, righteousness: instead of malice, mercy. Violence gives place to gentleness, hatred to love. These changes in the outward life are manifestations of the new nature which we have received "but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost." The old, corrupt element in our nature is washed away, the regenerated soul brought into new purity of life. The one who has been regenerated and his heart made pure by the blood of Christ will, sooner or later show by his actions that he is changed even though he have some things yet in his life that need purging out according to John 15:2. So we have here in verse 8 "that they which

have believed in God might be careful to maintain good works." It requires a life kept clean to do that.

## A SLAVE BECOMES A BROTHER

September 27, 1953

Printed Portion.....Philemon 8-21.

Philemon 8. Wherefore, though I might be much bold in Christ to enjoin thee that which is convenient,

9. Yet for love's sake I rather beseech thee, being such an one as Paul the aged, and now also a prisoner of Jesus Christ.

10. I beseech thee for my son Onesimus, whom I have begotten in my bonds:

11. Which in time past was to thee unprofitable, but now profitable to thee and to me:

12. Whom I have sent again: thou therefore receive him, that is, mine own bowels:

13. Whom I would have retained with me, that in thy stead he might have ministered unto me in the bonds of the gospel:

14. But without thy mind would I do nothing; that thy benefit should not be as it were of necessity, but willingly.

15. For perhaps he therefore departed for a season, that thou shouldest receive him for ever;

16. Not now as a servant, but above a servant, a brother: beloved, specially to me, but how much more unto thee, both in the flesh, and in the Lord?

17. If thou count me therefore a partner, receive him as myself.

18. If he hath wronged thee, or owest thee ought, put that on mine account;

19. I Paul have written it with mine own hand, I will repay it: albeit I do not say to thee how thou owest unto me even thine own self besides.

20. Yea, brother, let me have joy of thee in the Lord: refresh my bowels in the Lord.

21. Having confidence in thy obedience I wrote unto thee knowing that thou wilt also do more than I say.

Memory Verse: There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female; for ye are all one in Christ Jesus. Gal. 3:28.

Practical Truth: Christianity is the world's greatest agency in promoting true brotherhood.

## COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

We have before us the tender regard Paul had for Philemon. Paul had been where Philemon lived and preached there and Philemon had been converted. Now while Paul was in Rome and in bonds, the slave of Philemon got converted under Paul's ministry. This letter to Philemon is to adjust the difference between what he was before he left him and what he is now since he has been saved. Paul wants Philemon to accept him back as a brother in the Lord now and that whatever he had done that was wrong for him to forgive his runaway slave and receive him back as a brother. Note the tender regard that Paul manifests for both parties; how delicately he handles this situation and tries to bring a peaceable reconciliation between them.

Our Lord Jesus has done much for us in bringing us back to a righteous God who has been offended and his wrath is on the children of disobedience but when Christ hung on the cross in our stead and brought pardon to us, which we could not do for ourselves, we now have no fear to meet our God in peace. "Christ hath redeemed us from the curse," Gal. 3:13. We are now free. C. W.