

FAITH^{AND}VICTORY

The EVENING LIGHT WATCHMAN



Volume 23, No. 10

Published at

Guthrie, Oklahoma

25c Per Year

November, 1953

A Prayer

We thank thee, Father, most holy one,
Who sent to earth thine only Son
To save the lost from sin and strife
And grant to them eternal life.

No greater love is known by men,
No greater power to save from sin,
Than that, O Lord, which thou hast given:
The gift of thy dear Son from heaven.

May sinners lost in sin awake
And turn to thee for Jesus' sake,
And in thy bosom find sweet peace,
A flowing stream that shall not cease.

On thee, O Lord, we now depend,
To save and keep us to the end;
Till our waiting spirits fly away
To that blest land of endless day.

There we shall see thee face to face,
And folded in thy sweet embrace,
Shall praise thy name in rapturous song
While endless ages shall roll on.

—Ulysses Phillips.

—:::—

Economic Measures Will Not Stop Communism Because It Is A Faith

It has been considered puzzling that a book which does not once mention the name of God could be included in the sacred canon. Even though that Name does not appear in the book of Esther, its inclusion in holy writ is fully justified. For it is the story of one of Satan's age-long efforts to defeat the Messianic program of God by the destruction of the Messianic nation.

God's interest in the Hebrew nation and Satan's inveterate hostility to it is based wholly upon the fact that it was the Messianic nation, the human medium through whom was to come the "seed of the woman" who was to bruise the serpent's head.

Since Satan knew that the coming Messiah was to supplant him as the governing factor in the universe, Satan sought to checkmate God by destroying in advance the Messianic people. The book of Esther tells the story of Satan's complete defeat in this purpose and is a prophecy of his final overthrow.

In a very special sense this crisis is peculiarly typical of the crisis which confronts us today. Today the world is in a state of emergency surpassing any in its history. Such a claim is no extravagant creation of an overheated imagination or of a lunatic brain. Statesmen, publicists, military men, scientists, world leaders in every realm all agree, not that civilization is going to sink, but that civilization is sinking now.

They base their diagnosis upon symptoms only and fail utterly to discern the hidden cause. And failing to discern the cause, they cannot prescribe the remedy. They talk about Russia and her satellites, they have conferences about Korea, they discuss the armament and disarmament, they discuss the atomic bomb, they talk about disrupted economics, they devise Marshall plans and N.A.T.O.'s and U.N. organizations and plans to rehabilitate the backward areas of the world. But all of them fail. As fast as they build a dike in one place to shore up the flood, it breaks out somewhere else.

The Hidden Cause

All of this is because they are dealing with symptoms and not the real cause. Back of all of the ferment of nations is not primarily economic and social conflicts. They are only symptoms. The real cause is Satan and his vast hierarchy of unseen evil spirits who are now engaged in their supreme and final effort to overthrow God's Kingdom and set up Satan's One-World rule in its stead. That is the real reason for this present emergency.

Every believer holds the same relationship to this present emergency as Queen Esther held to the crisis in that day. Today the Messiah has come. Nothing that Satan can do can alter that fact. But he is determined as ever to prevent Messiah's triumph now as he was His birth then.

Today the key factor in this conflict is not the Jewish nation, but the Christian Church, the body of Christ. Satan is as determined today to destroy the

Body of Christ as he was to destroy the Hebrew nation in Esther's day. And his supreme bid for the worship of the world, his supreme instrument for the destruction of the Church, and his supreme challenge to God and Christ is the anti-christ religion known as Communism, which is now preparing the way for the final blow.

Christian believer, you live at the climax of the ages! You stand at the confluence or meeting point of all the currents of human history. Whether you live to witness the end or not, it is unmistakably now in its terminal convulsions, its death agonies, its throes of dissolution. And you are as inextricably bound up in the purposes of God in this present crisis as Esther was in hers.

God Works Through Human Instrumentality

I do not profess to know exactly what effect you can have in this emergency. I do not know to what degree you can alter and change the course of events. But of this one thing I am sure, that you and other Christians like you hold, as Esther did, a vitally strategic position. How you and other Christians like you react to Satan's challenge to Christ's rulership will determine, notwithstanding the sovereignty of God, some of the most important issues of this conflict.

For God never does anything apart from a human agency, apart from His church. I cannot believe, and I think I am supported by Scripture, that the prophetic Dispensations are so fixed as to ignore the human factor.

If Thou Holdest Thy Peace At Such a Time

When Mordecai appealed to Esther to intercede for her people, he pointed out that the only way she could save herself was to save her people. "Think not with thyself that thou shalt escape in the King's house, more than all the Jews. For if thou altogether holdest thy peace at this time, then shall there enlargement and deliverance arise to the Jews from another place: but thou and thy father's house shall be destroyed: and who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?"

An Identical Dilemma

Christian Believer, you are in exactly the same dilemma today. The very same challenge comes to you. The very same opportunity for heroic service is offered to you. The very same temptations to evasion and self-saving confront you!

Today, the announced goal of Communism is the destruction of God and God's people. Today, the threat is fully as sinister as any that ever confronted the people of God. While in 2,000 years, the religion of the Lord Jesus Christ has brought under its sway only about five hundred million, in one generation the antichrist religion of Communism has brought under its absolute control, 800,000,000 behind the iron curtain, and has won the allegiance of hundreds of millions more in every continent.

How has this terrifying phenomenon been achieved? The answer is by a superior type of discipleship to that we are giving to Christ. It has succeeded in

prostituting to itself a type of discipleship which belongs alone to the Lord of the universe.

Communism has captured the devotion, the dedication, the spirit of self denial and self sacrifice, the missionary passion, fervor and techniques of Christian discipleship and has turned them to the destruction of Christ and the Church.

Communism Engulfing the World

By means of principles, methods, techniques and a discipline—rightfully belonging to Christ alone,—Communism has multiplied itself 20,000 times in one generation. It needs now to multiply itself only three times more in order to engulf the entire world. At its present rate of conquest, how much longer will it be?

And here is where you come in. This Satanic anti-christ religion can be overcome only by another religion more vital and dynamic than it is. Economic measures will not stop it because it is a faith. Military defeat will not overcome it. It is a religion. Unless our faith in Christ produces in us a discipleship more vital, more dynamic and more utter than that which Communism inspires, Communism must surely soon engulf the whole world.

And when it does, remember it will proceed to liquidate you and others like you. You can refuse now to do the things that will save this nation. You can hold your peace if you wish. You can refuse to run the risk and pay the price of Christian heroism to save America, even as Esther was tempted to spare herself.

You can go on in the path of least resistance, refusing to fast, to pray, and to fight these legions of hell. You can refuse to drink the cup that Christ offers you and to answer His call to a rugged discipleship. You can seek out the soft places of Gospel service, and do the Christian work that will bring you carnal ease and selfish gain.

But remember the words of Mordecai, "Think not with thyself that thou shalt escape in the king's house, more than all the Jews."

When the revolution comes, as the Communists are utterly confident it will come, you will be liquidated along with the other 50,000,000 Americans who are marked for liquidation. If you are willing to lose your life by matching the discipleship of the Communists, you can release a power as much greater than that of Communism as God is greater than Satan, and, releasing that power, you can have a share in bringing the Messiah not to birth but that his kingdom be preserved in the earth.

But if you, Christian believer, continue to follow the ordinary stereotyped pattern of Christian discipleship, it means for our nation and the whole world, what it has meant for China and Russia—the triumph of the forces of unrighteousness and the defeat of the cause of Christ. "Who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?"

Lord, Make Me an Intercessor!

S. D. Gordon has said, "The greatest thing anyone can do for God or man is to pray." It is more important for you to know how to pray than to preach.

Many Bible schools consider that their greatest achievement is to turn out great preachers, eloquent speakers, accomplished musicians, etc. We consider that our greatest possible achievement is to turn out intercessors and prayer warriors. We consider that it is far more important for you to know how to pray than to speak eloquently or sing beautifully.

This conflict cannot be won by preaching eloquent sermons, singing beautiful songs, mastering the new psychology or learning how to influence people and be a popular preacher. This is grim business which demands the submersion of all personal interests, the very taking of your life into your own hands.

Esther's preparation for intercession before the King of the realm required one year, and during six months of that time her prescribed preparation was with bitter aloes. This suggests the agony of the Cross and the giving up of our own life unto the death of the Cross. It means now the dedication of ourselves to the task with such a passion and fervor that, before our holy might, Communism will falter and fail.

That the nation may be saved and the Gospel preached with freedom, I challenge you, Christian, to throw yourself with all your soul and strength into the breach in this life-and-death struggle with Communism and to say with Esther, "I will go . . . If I perish, I perish."—Esther 4:16.

It was through her heroism, through prayer, through fasting, through risking all—traditions, customs, life itself—that she saved the Messianic nation and thus promoted the eternal triumph of the Messiah. And she is an example for us today who are laying down our very lives as a defense for the church of the living God—that the gates of hell shall not prevail against her!—Paul E. Billheimer, from "Herald of His Coming."

—:::—

We Need Each Other

In Romans 1:11, 12 the Apostle Paul reveals his deep desire to see the saints at Rome in order that he might be comforted together with them. He says, "by the mutual faith both of you and me."

Dear saints, I realize more than ever that we have a great need of each other. Just think how much spiritual benefit we receive when we commune together, walking together, as we journey on.

In the 12th chapter of 1 Cor., our beloved Paul is teaching us the great need of each other and how to work together in the body of Christ. Verse 21: "The eye cannot say unto the hand, I have no need of thee: nor again, the head to the feet, I have no need of you." Then in the next verse he shows how necessary the feeble members are.

He, Christ Jesus is the vine, we are the branches, and life flows through each one out to others. We all receive spiritual benefits one from the other. When one member rejoices, we all rejoice with it; when one member suffers, we all suffer with it. Oh, praise the Lord for the one body.

These members are all living members. The love

and graces of God are flowing through each one, out to others.

In the natural body sometimes we see an artificial eye, a wooden limb, etc. Brother, are you a real saint, or are you artificial? The artificial members do not suffer and rejoice with the live, real members of the body. They have no feeling, just dead, and many times they get in the way and hinder.

Sometimes we hear of an independent one, one who has an independent spirit. Dear ones, this independent spirit is of the devil and causes division among God's people. We are taught to be subject one to the other. Dear brother, there is no other way. We cannot go alone.

Sometimes the enemy plants some false doctrine in the head of some of the little ones. Something that is contrary to sound doctrine, and they become independent, self-willed, and head-strong, and cannot be taught by God's ministers and teachers, whom God has placed in the one body. Brother, if you have a doctrine, a thought that differs with what we have been taught, submit it, lay it aside, humble yourself. The Holy Spirit can teach only the humble. You may answer by saying that God is trying to teach a new thing. If so, it will not conflict with the truth that has been taught. If God is sending more light, and you receive it first, and others cannot immediately see it as you do, just submit all to God. Soon others will be taught of God, too, if they stay humble before him.

Brother, these things are "not done in a corner." Just look into the Word and see how more light is sent and has been sent. On the day of pentecost they all received the light. And when the truth was to go to the Gentiles, God showed Peter, then the others. If Peter alone had received the light, what would have been the result?

If Brother Warner had been the only one to whom God revealed his truth, his efforts would have failed. But this truth was revealed to several.

Oh, dear brothers and sisters, we need each other. We can not go alone. May God help all to see this. And you who have gone astray, pray God to open your eyes to the truth and help you just to submit the thing that you have received that has brought division between you and God's little ones. May God's wisdom be sought by all. Yours in Him, H. P. Huskey.

o—o—o—o—o

Calif.—Dear saints,—I have been wanting to send my testimony to the "Faith and Victory" paper, for I have not sent a testimony for a long time, now.

I'm saved, sanctified, satisfied, and happy in the Lord. I have been saved for forty-five years, and he has been so good to me and healed me many times when I was dying. The saints would pray for me and God would heal me every time. I have had many bad sicknesses in my life time. I have six children. I had a doctor to deliver the last two babies and I didn't take a dose of medicine.

God has taken care of me all of my life. I am now eighty years and four months old, and I have lived alone thirteen years and have been very poorly most of the time.

I have awful bad sick times, and now I know it won't be long until God will call me home. I feel, in every way, that I will be ready to go to my heavenly home at any time. Bless our God.

Bonnie Wells.

Editorials

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.

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

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

FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE
920 W. Mansur Ave., Guthrie, Oklahoma
Phone Number 1479

Mo.—Greetings in the Lord. I feel that the Lord wants me to give my testimony to Him. I am saved and encouraged to live for the Lord. He has answered my prayers and healed my body many times.

Pray for me that I will always do what the Lord would have me to do. Love and prayers, Joe Earl Sorrell.

Okla.—Greeting saints everywhere, — I feel led to write my testimony tonight.

I am praising him for his precious Word, for it is dear to my heart.

In the year of 1951, before my baby girl was born, I was told that I would probably have to have an operation for her birth.

I was anointed and prayed for, and the baby was born naturally without much suffering.

Pray much for us, Pearlina Nichols.

Mo.—Dear saints,—I would to include my testimony with the many others.

I am still saved this morning, and sanctified holy by two works of grace.

I praise God for healing and giving me a portion of good health. I feel that this might help someone that is suffering.

I enjoy, so much, reading the "Faith and Victory" paper. It is an encouragement.

God bless you all, is my prayer. Hattie Legg.

When we think of the many readers of the "Faith and Victory" paper that are blessed of God with salvation, having peace in their souls through Christ, it makes our hearts rejoice, and we have a deep desire to be a comfort and a blessing to them as they travel on toward the celestial City, the eternal abode of the righteous.

That soul rest we have in Christ is typified by the old law sabbath. They had a literal sabbath day rest, which was a shadow of the precious soul rest which we have in the risen Messiah, the living Christ. Under the law, if one broke the regulations of the literal sabbath day, they were stoned to death; that was the penalty of breaking the rules of the literal sabbath day. We who are now saved and have the rest and peace of God in our souls are under the law of Christ by his Spirit, and if we commit sin by transgressing his laws, we break that rest and peace in our souls and bring spiritual death to the soul; so we should be diligent to do and observe his words and be led of his Spirit that the pleasures of God be upon us and that soul rest continue in us, which gives us the assurance that we are ready for heaven and immortal glory.

Allow me to exhort you to be watchful and prayerful and keep in that meek and lowly place where you can hear His voice and be led of his Spirit; for we read in the Word (Rom. eighth chapter), "For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons [spiritual] of God." Let us not break that sabbath of rest in our souls by indifference and neglect and become filled with our own ways, which the Word of God says is a backslider in heart. Prov. 14:14. We find the world today filled up with men and women who are backslidden in heart, but they go right on professing to be followers of Christ and fooling a great many others. This is a sad state, indeed, to get into; but, remember, we live in a human body and are subject to temptations and could easily drift into such a state unless we watch and pray and live in that meek and lowly place where Jesus lives. The Lord dwells with him that is of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble (Isa. 57:15). Jesus says, "Take my yoke upon you and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. Matt. 11:29.

0-0-0-0-0-0

On Page Nine of this "Faith and Victory" paper, you will find a list of premiums given away with ten three months subscriptions. A self addressed envelope will be inserted there for your convenience in writing down the names and address, enclosing a dollar bill, check, or postal order for the ten subscriptions. Also give name of premium you desire. This is a great opportunity to do some home missionary work for the Lord at a very low cost. To get the gospel by the printed page into a home each month, will be sowing the seeds of truth, and may mean a rich harvest in that great day of reckoning.

It seems that many do not see the church of the living God very clearly; but are deceived into believ-

ing that these human substitutes, that are everywhere in evidence, will lead them to heaven and that it is all right to join them. But the fact is, they will lead a soul into darkness and deception, as so many of them teach a "sin-you-must" religion, and sinners are lost, even if they do join a church. Anyone who belongs to some earthly church and yet commits sin will be lost, separated from God in this life and also in eternity. The snares and pitfalls of the enemy are many in the land; but the true church of God is also shining in this world. But it is not something you can just stumble into or fall into. You get into it by being born again, born from above. When you are born again, you are in the only church that Jesus ever built, and there is no place in the Bible where you are told or taught to join anything else, but just abide in Him. When you are born of his Spirit and the Spirit is dwelling in you, then you are a branch in the true Vine, which is Christ. You draw your strength and wisdom from God to live a holy life and retain his life in your soul that you may be ready to meet God in peace. The true church is divinely organized, and it takes in every soul that has the real life of Christ dwelling in his heart. Such ones are not of the world even as Christ was not of the world. They do not conform to the world and are a peculiar people zealous of good works. They are the New Jerusalem that John the Revelator saw coming down from God out of heaven. They are the true tabernacle of God which God has pitched and not man (Heb. 8:2). The affections of God's people are on things above where Christ sitteth at the right hand of God, and their life is hid with Christ in God, so that when He appears they shall also appear with him in glory. Read Col. 3:1 to the 4th verse.

Some call themselves by the name "Church of God," and yet conform to the fashion styles and customs of the world, which is contrary to the New Testament teachings found in Timothy and Peter's writings and in other portions of the New Testament. Also in many other ways do they leave room for the fleshly lusts to be gratified, when Peter says, "Abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul." 1 Peter 2:11.

Getting saved is an individual matter between you and Jesus Christ and God the Father. Godly sorrow worketh repentance. When an individual becomes sorry because he is sinning against God and asks God to forgive him, promising the Lord that he will quit, and accepts the Blood of Christ his dear Son as an atonement for his sins, the Lord will blot out all of his transgressions. Then he will have peace with God through Christ, which is being born again. As he goes down into the watery grave as Christ went into the earthly grave and was resurrected, so he arises from water baptism to walk in that new life, even the life of Christ which is in the soul. When one has the Spirit and life of Christ in the soul, he is in the kingdom of God and in the true church of God, born into it by a spiritual birth. When in this state, one should live to please Him every day and not join up with earthly religious institutions that hinder one from being led of his Spirit. If one keeps free from these institutions and free from sin of any kind, he will have sweet fellowship with all others that are living like-

wise. This body of people is the true church which is functioning in the world at this present time, and they have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, which is a curse in other movements or churches, so-called.

o—o—o—o—o

We are exceedingly busy here in the "Lord's Print Shop," as we are anxious to get the gospel to every soul possible, and this ten-cent offer for three months will make a lot more work to be done; but we are trusting God to supply the needed help and means to keep the work up and going for God. We see the people of the world growing more corrupt and wicked, and we desire to glean out every soul we can before the Lord sets fire to this old wicked world. Will you do all you can, as a member of his body, to help us in this great work of gleaning out honest souls before the burning takes place? There are folks who say, "Let the good work go on," but do nothing about it themselves. How can one expect his soul to prosper without pleasing Him who has suffered and given His life's blood for the souls of men? Let us not become luke warm and thereby place our souls in a condition to be spued out as we read of some in Revelation 3:16, 17, 18. Let us be rich in the true riches, which will indeed make us independently rich. Hear what the Scriptures say, "Though he [Christ] was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich." 2 Cor. 8:9. Let us be willing and obedient and give liberally that our souls may be enriched with heavenly food. The liberal soul shall be made fat (Prov. 11:25). Giving is to the soul what breath is to the body. It preserves the life of Christ in the soul. You give out and He gives in and so makes the liberal soul fat. He that soweth sparingly shall reap sparingly. It is not only easy to give, but it is also a delight to give when one's affections are on things above. The Word says, "If ye then be risen with Christ, set your affections on things above and not on the things on the earth." Col. 3:2.

We ask an interest in your prayers. We mean to do his will at any cost, for the world in sin is lost. We are praying God's blessings upon every reader of "Faith and Victory" paper that you will let your light so shine among men that they, seeing your good works, will glorify God in the day of visitation.

—:::—

Obituaries

William Harden Parrill was born February 29, 1904 at Dodson, Missouri; departed this life September 21, 1953 at the age of 49 years, 6 months, and 21 days.

He was married to Miss Edith Gibson October 8, 1935. To this union one child was born, Eleanor Louise. He leaves to mourn their loss, his wife and daughter both of the home; his mother and father, Mr. and Mrs. C. V. Parrill of Gooding, Idaho; one brother Vernon of Carthage, Mo.; five sisters: Mrs. Blanche Voorhees of Buhl, Idaho, Mrs. Mary Olander of Parma, Idaho, Mrs. Maudie Hill of Lamar, Mo., Mrs. Effie Knight of Myrtle Point, Oregon, Mrs. Goldie Ward, Caldwell, Idaho; and a host of other relatives and friends.

He renewed his covenant with God in July of this year and was baptized during the National Camp meeting

at Monark Springs, Mo. Funeral service was held in the Thieme & Son Funeral Home in Springfield, Mo., conducted by Fred Pruitt of Guthrie, Oklahoma, assisted by Murphy Allen of Mansfield, Mo. The text used was: 1 Cor. 15:55, "O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?" The remains was laid to rest in Maple Park Cemetery at Springfield, Mo.

Editor's Note:—Bro. Parrill caught fire by an explosion in the factory where he worked and only lived a short time. His sudden death was a great shock to his wife, daughter, relatives, and friends; but they felt assured that he was ready to meet God and should not weep as others who have no hope. The body was so badly burned that they thought it not best to open the casket after the funeral service.

o—o—o—o—o

Minnie Jane Narretto Joiner was born in Tangipahoa Parish in the state of Louisiana in the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Narretto, Jan. 9, 1866; passed from this life Sept. 14, 1953, age 87 years, 8 months, and 8 days. She was married to Alfred B. Joiner, March 29, 1888, to which union nine children were born, seven of whom are still living, two preceding her in death; also her husband passed away Jan. 11, 1918. The remaining children are: two sons, Finley and Joe Joiner; 5 daughters, Mrs. O. E. Williamson, Mrs. L. L. Perry, Mrs. Dallas Flynn, Geneva and Elva Joiner yet remaining at home. She also leaves 31 grandchildren, 49 great-grand children and one great-great-grandchild. She was converted a number of years ago; and as light came, she walked in it and accepted the full light of this Evening Light Reformation truth. Her life was an inspiration to many. One of her outstanding virtues was giving, which she did in simplicity, Rom. 12:8, and heartily as unto the Lord. I lived in her home a number of years and I never heard her praise herself and never knew her to hold malice toward any one, but always had a heart full of good will toward all men. She was really a Mother in Israel. Funeral service by the writer, held in the saints' chapel at Oak Grove. Texts: 2 Tim. 4:6-8; Psa. 116:16, 1 Cor. 15:50-58. Burial in the Joiner cemetery beside her husband, which is not far from the Oak Grove chapel. We weep not as those who have no hope. 1 Thess. 4:13.

—Katherine Key

o—o—o—o—o

Bro. Joe Malceruicz Bell, son of Mr. and Mrs. Dick Bell, was born July 13, 1928 in Tulsa, Oklahoma, and departed this life September 26, 1953 at 3:45 p. m. in Wichita, Kansas at the age of 25 years, 2 mos. and 13 days.

He was united in holy matrimony to Dorothy Miles of Hoffman, Okla. June 10, 1950. They resided at Tulsa, Oklahoma one year then moved to Wichita, where they remained until his death. He was a devoted husband, given to hospitality, and charitable, and always willing to help others. He left his testimony with his wife: he was happy because he was saved and sanctified.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Dorothy Bell, a mother, Mrs. Ida Bell; three brothers, Bruce Richard and Samuel, all of Tulsa and James D. Bell in the U. S. Army; Two sisters, Mrs. Mary Arvington and Katherine Snoddy of Washington, D. C.; 8 nephews; 11 neices; and other relatives and friends.

Funeral Service by Bro. Lewis Williams assisted by Sam Barton at Tulsa. Text: Jer. 21:8; Ezek. 18:20-29.

o—o—o—o—o

Richard W. Simpson, son of Samuel and Mary Simpson, was born near Loranger, La. April 25, 1887, and passed away September 15, 1953, having been in failing health for some time, age 66 years, 4 mos., and 20 days.

He was married Nov. 16, 1916 to Katherine Shuman,

who survives him. Other survivors are one son, Thomas T. Simpson of Loranger, two grandsons, Gilbert and Paul Simpson, two sisters, beside other relatives and friends.

Funeral services were conducted at the saints' chapel near Loranger by Ruth Murphey, assisted by C. C. Carver, with burial in the cemetery near the church.

He was well known among the saints, being the husband of Sister Catherine Simpson.

CARD OF THANKS

Dear Saints:—I am praising God today for his love and goodness. I want to thank God and each of you dear saints for prayers and beautiful cards and words of sympathy. It means much to me at this time. I miss my husband so much, and his death was a shock, even if I had expected it for a few years. He passed very suddenly.

I am weak in body, and in need of much prayer for my body and that God will work out things for me. At present I am in the cottage at Sister Key's. Sister Key needs prayer. She is not at all well.

Thanks again, and God bless each of you.

Love, Sister Catherine Simpson.

Assembly Meeting Notice

The annual assembly meeting at Hammond, La. will be held this year from November 20th to 29th, inclusive. The chapel is located on the general southern campgrounds just south of White St. We desire this to be a real Holy-Spirit-controlled meeting in every way, and desire the prayers of all saints for it. All who are interested in the truth are welcome. Provision will be made to care for the physical needs of those who come.

If you need more information, you may write to Max Williamson in care of Post Office, or Ray Key, 705 White St. Hammond, La.

o—o—o—o—o

The Lord willing, the Oregon Assembly will be held this year on the saints' ground in Jefferson from November 20th to 29th.

For information, write to Sam Wilson, Box 41, Jefferson, Oregon.

MEETING NOTICE

We plan to start a revival meeting here in Wichita, Kansas, 1701 N. Ash St., Nov. 27 through the 6th of Dec. We are desiring souls to be saved and are doing our best to extend the great cause of the Lord in this place. Those who feel a burden of lost souls and can be in this meeting, we will be more than glad to have you. We are praying for the Lord to send Spirit-filled ministers here for this meeting. The meeting will be run on the free-will offering plan. We are longing to see souls saved in this meeting, bodies healed, and believers sanctified. We are living in times of peril and have no time to lose.

For further information, you may write Bro. Lewis Williams, 1536 N. Piatt, or phone 48-48-1, Wichita, Kansas. Pray much for this meeting.

o—o—o—o—o

Prayer Requests

Chandler, Okla.—Dear ones abiding in the Lord:—I have a request for prayer. Will you fast and pray with me for my daughter June's complete healing on the 30th of October? She is much better these days, but still has spasms. If she should fall on the stove or in deep water, she could not help herself. It came to me that I should call on the church for its strength. June has been in this

condition forty years. I am your sister, looking to God and the church for help. Rena Armstrong.

Our little adopted daughter, Jeannine, (near two years old) is in need of prayer for her eyes. They do not focus normally and she is farsighted. We are expecting God to straighten them out and give her normal vision. We know He is able to do abundantly more than we can think or ask and nothing is impossible with Him.

Pray for us that we will do God's will at all times and draw closer to Him daily. —Steve and Audrey Henry

—::—

What the Bible Teaches About REPENTANCE

Truly the world's greatest need today is Bible repentance. There has never been a time in the history of the world when repentance was needed more, or preached less. Repentance is one of the most disliked, and consequently, most neglected subjects among people in general. Yet for those who would find life and peace through the regenerating work of Calvary, there is no other substitute for repentance.

WHAT IS REPENTANCE

Job gave something of the meaning of Bible repentance when he said: "I abhor myself and repent."

Repentance is not only godly sorrow for sin and a determination to forsake it, but includes such loathing of self because of sin, as will result in confession and renunciation of all known sin. Godly repentance will lead to a complete change of conduct, and to newness of life (2 Cor. 5:17).

WHO IS TO REPENT

All men! "God commandeth all men everywhere to repent" (Acts 17:30). The Lord said, "Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish." (Luke 13:3).

God's message for the world today is definitely repentance and turning away from sin. It has always been His message. The message of repentance was heralded forth with fiery zeal by all the Holy prophets of old. The Old Testament Scriptures are intermittent throughout with exhortations to repentance as a means of avoiding God's judgments in the land. (And God has not changed His mind about sin).

The grace dispensation was ushered in with the same message. Christ's fore-runner preached repentance and faith for the remission of sins, saying, "The time is fulfilled, the Kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the Gospel" (Mark 1:4 to 15). He demanded that their lives prove a changed attitude toward God and sin, (Luke 3:8).

The importance of repentance is seen in the fact that the Lord began His first sermon with an exhortation to repent, (Matt. 4:17) and that he did not even one time throughout his ministry insinuate that salvation by grace could be obtained in any other way than by turning the back upon sin and the old life, and following him.

The Lord commanded that repentance and remission of sins be preached in His name among all nations (Luke 24:47). He sent the twelve apostles to preach repentance and commissioned the church to do the same. "The apostles went out and preached

that men should repent," (Mark 6:12). Peter preached repentance to the religious leaders of his day (Acts 2nd and 3rd chapters).

Repentance is to precede baptism. "Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized, every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost."

WHY IS REPENTANCE NECESSARY?

"That sins may be blotted out" (Acts 3:19).

Paul preached repentance to both Jew and Greek alike. (Acts 20:21). The early disciples all preached repentance, nor have God's chosen vessels ceased to preach it down through the ages. Wherever Christ has been preached, repentance and faith for the remission of sins has been preached, except by the modernist, who have, as they think, found a better way—"Blind leaders of the blind," of whom the Lord would say today as He did of old, "Ye shut up the kingdom of heaven against men; for ye neither go in yourselves, neither suffer them that are entering to go in" (Matt. 23:13).

This modern theory of "accepting Christ," joining a church and being baptized, over unconfessed and unforsaken sins is nothing short of deception. For the heart and life remain unchanged; the canker of sin continues to eat out the vitals, and to lead to certain doom.

Jesus said, "Ye must be born again," (John 3:7). At which time a new name is written in the Book of Life, and without which, joining every church under heaven will avail nothing, "For whosoever is not found written in the book of life, is cast into the lake of fire" (Revelation 20:12 and 15).

It is impossible to accept Christ without accepting His Word, and without a resolute purpose to renounce sin and to walk in His ways. If old things have not passed away, and all things become new, we have not accepted Christ in reality. (2 Cor. 5:17).

Another modern invention much used by Satan, is the "only believe" theory. There is a time and place for this, and to accept Christ, but not until every sin has been repented of, and God's conditions have been met.

Today, people, not willing to endure sound doctrine, have heaped to themselves teachers having itching ears. It is the teachers who have itching ears, straining to know what will please the people, and thereby gain for themselves popularity, praise, and worldly gain. And the people would have it so, because they love their sin, many prefer fables to truth. Yet for all this, there is to be a reckoning. "The day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, and the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up" (2 Peter 3:10).

"Repent ye, and be converted that your sins may be blotted out" (Acts 3:19) "Let the wicked forsake his way and the unrighteous man his thoughts; and let him return unto the Lord, and He will have mercy upon him, and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon (Isaiah 55:7).

—Ethel Meadows

Correspondence

Calif.—Dear saints of God,—Greetings to ALL in His dear name! Praise the Lord, dear ones, for this precious name of Jesus, the blessed Son of God, our Saviour, our Sanctifier, our Healer. Through Him and His dear name and His precious blood, we have the inheritance to that Eternal Home. How glad I am I had the precious opportunity of being in another State Campmeeting at Pacoima, Calif. I was made to hesitate in going, not knowing why; but God in His great mercy and love led me to go. Now eternity alone will tell of the good that was received there. I can truly say I am glad I went. I am glad I heard every sermon in every service. I want to witness for my Lord, how after the campmeeting closed I remained over another Sunday and was at Sister Dott Henry's home. I went to bed feeling about as usual, only a light headache, but in the night I made a strange noise which awakened Sister Henry. She tried to arouse me, but could not. She then phoned to the saints and to Bro. and Sister Ostis Wilson. They came, also Bro. and Sister Forbes. They prayed and it seemed I got better. They believed I was. But soon after they left I relapsed again into an unconscious state. They were called back. I certainly was in a serious state, but began to rally. They all looked strange, like I was still in a dream, trying to see clearly. Then they told me the condition I had been in. I had felt confident that I was healed of these spells two years ago, but the heat had been terrific there and I may have overdone my strength. Dear saints, I thank God for all of you. I am more determined to do God's will. He has been showing me things since coming home. I can see the need of all of God's dear children to be wholly and completely surrendered to Him. I know we are living in the time of the end, and it is going to mean much for us all to do all we can to witness for Him.

An impressive thought comes to me by an article of "That Place of Yours." The writer ends by saying, "Promotion to a higher position will come when in the strength of your Lord, you have demonstrated that you are dependable where you are." Saints in light, we need a greater vision of God's work for each one. There is a work for me, a work for you; let us lay aside the cares of life and enter into God's great vineyard with whole-hearted service. Let us pray for each other and for all who are in such need for both soul and body and temporal needs.

—Jessie Holloman

o—o—o—o—o—o

Calif.—Dear Saints,—I am glad to be safe from past dangers, for it truly is unsafe to live without God. We know not the hour in which He will call us. I believe more souls would find God quicker if they realized he will come as a thief in the night. "Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh."

In the month of March, the first Sunday (I had become disgusted with the world), I told the Lord if He wanted me to be a Christian to give me a sign. "He wills that none should perish, but that all come unto repentance. Then when I yielded my will to His, the heaven opened and snow fell upon Fresno that day which continued between Sunday school and eleven o'clock preaching service. It prevented me from going home. I knew God had heard what I said, and took me at my word. God is faithful.

The next Sunday I was under deep conviction of finding the Lord and being at peace with Him. That Sunday night when the altar call was given I wanted to go to the altar; yet there was a fear. The devil surely wanted to keep me. Bro. Trotter told me to come on. His words broke every chain of Satan's. Praise the Lord. I

get much joy in hearing that song, "The Lion of Judah." The Lion of Judah has broken every chain. Christ broke our chains from Satan's bonds. He wins the victories for us again and again. Praise the Lord, for He is our every need. I am thankful that God still has true ministers. There wasn't any other meeting house I wanted to be converted in but the one where the church of God meets. I found no others in this town living as faithful to God as they.

Thank God, I had been taught not to join church without God first saving my soul. I had also been taught that I must live in harmony with God. By the grace of God, I intend to live for Him so He may live in me till He sees fit for me to leave this world. The Lord has been wonderful to us by saving souls right in the truth. The Lord has blessed us with three young people. He has also been stirring saints here mightily. We are thankful to God for it. Remember me, the recent converts, our ministers, and saints, when you think of us, in prayer.

—A Brother in Christ.

—:::—

A SAINT IN PRISON

Our young Bro. William Weir of Raton, N. Mex. was arraigned before Federal Judge Carl Hatch at Albuquerque, N. Mex. on Sept. 28th. For conscience' sake and Word of God, he pleaded guilty at that time to the charge of refusing induction into the armed forces, having previously been denied the conscientious objector classification by his local draft board, to which he was rightfully and lawfully entitled. My father and I drove to Albuquerque and were there with William and his father at the arraignment and plea, after which we conferred with the U. S. Probation Officer and he requested a brief history of the church and its teachings and operations, and also any "mitigating circumstances" in William's case which he could communicate to the judge for his consideration in making the sentence. On Thursday morning, Oct. 1st, William again appeared before the Judge and was sentenced to two years in the federal penitentiary. The same afternoon while William was confined in the local jail, Bro. O. C. Porter arrived there from Guthrie, and found him encouraged in the Lord. He did not know where he would be sent, but the probation officer told us previously that he would likely be sent to Tucson, Ariz. where other objectors are located. It seems that this Judge had never given any other objector less than five years, so this reduction in William's case was an answer to prayer. We must say God's way is best, and surely William has a clear conscience before the Lord, which is worth more than any physical freedom he might hope to have. The Apostle Peter exhorts: "Wherefore let them that suffer according to the will of God commit the keeping of their souls to him in well doing, as unto a faithful Creator."

At this writing (Oct. 16) no other word has been received from William. No doubt, his letter-writing is quite restricted. Whenever his permanent address is received, it will be given to our readers so they can write him letters of encouragement. Above all, pray that his faith fail not.

—J. D. Pruitt.

We may claim to be Christians

With some religious faction,

But when we prove we are Christ's,

We'll put good intentions into action.

—E. E. F.

1954 Calendar



Scripture Text Calendar for 1954 is now ready to ship to you before the holiday congested mails are upon us. This calendar is printed in full rich colors, wall type, size 9½ by 15½ inches. Price per single copy 35 cents, 3 copies for \$1.00, 12 copies for \$3.50, 25 copies for \$7.00, 50 for \$12.50 post paid to you.

Gifts for Christmas

Christmas folders, No. G8552, the Sunshine Line, 21 Scripture Text folders with envelopes in box \$1.00.

Assortment No. G8342 contains 12 folders with envelopes, Scripture Text. They are very nice for a Christmas gift. Price 60 cents per box.

Christmas Folders, No. G8553, 21 Deluxe folders in box with envelopes, Scripture text. Beautiful folders in a well-designed gift box. Price \$1.00

Convalescent Assortment Folders, No. G2952. Beautiful designs with Bible verses. 21 folders with envelopes, \$1.00 per box.

All-Occasion Assortment Folders, No. G3751. Very beautiful with suitable Scripture verses, rich in colors. Envelopes to match. 21 folders in box, \$1.00.

Correspondence Notes or religious greeting cards, America's favorite. Scripture text on each card. 12 cards with envelopes in box. A nice present for any one. Price per box 50 cents.

All of the above folders are of the Sunshine Line and are beautifully made in rich appropriate colors. They will be post paid to you at prices quoted to any Post Office in the U. S. Order them now so they will reach you before the mails become jammed up with holiday goods.

Egermeier's Bible Story Book. Type "A" Standard edition, 608 pages. Price \$3.50.

We have in stock a variety of Testaments and Bibles. Pocket New Testament with Psalms, \$1.50; Large Print New Testament, \$2.50; Large print Bible with references, \$6.50; Ministers' and Teachers' Bibles with references and concordance, price of one kind is \$8.50 and the other is \$13.00. These Bibles are all of the King James Version.

Special Three Months Offer

Unfold the enclosed self-addressed envelope and you will find spaces marked off for ten names and addresses of friends and neighbors whom you want to receive the "Faith and Victory" paper for three months beginning with the January issue. Write the names and addresses on lines prepared, enclose a dollar bill, check, or postal money order, write name of premium desired in blank, then fold the envelope back as it was, stamp and seal. This offer will expire on December 12, 1953. Send in the names as soon as you can. This liberal offer is made possible by free-will offerings of the saints.

PREMIUMS OFFERED:—Take your choice of one of the seven premiums offered below for sending in the ten three-months subscriptions. Please send postage stamps to cover cost of mailing premium, if convenient. Write name of premium you select inside of enclosed envelope.

God's Gracious Dealings by Fred Pruitt. New edition. 191 pages with a number of pictures, paper bound. You will enjoy reading this book.

How to Live a Holy Life by C. E. Orr, 109 pages. Good soul food; also A Great Sacrifice by Fred Pruitt, 29 pages.

The New Testament Church and Its Symbols by Fred Pruitt. 145 pages of real food and encouragement to the soul. You should have this book. Another book, The Great Abomination, 32 pages, goes with this one.

A Religious Controversy by C. E. Orr. 79 pages full of truth and very interesting, contains five pictures to illustrate the truth.

Sanctification by J. W. Byers, 96 pages full of needed truth on this subject.

Bed Time Prayer Reminder, a luminous cross that glows in the dark; also a booklet Church of God, 32 pages.

Scripture Text Wall Calendar, size 9½ by 15½ inches. Beautiful colors and Bible scenes, for 1954.

—::—

"Thou shalt not muzzle the mouth of the ox that treadeth out the corn."

This commandment was given in the Old Testament and repeated in the New Testament (1 Cor. 9) to teach the laity that God expects them to care for the temporal needs of the ministers while they labor in the gospel and minister spiritual things.

The ministers are looking to God to supply transportation to Guthrie, Okla. Nov. 9th to attend the national ministers' meeting, which, because of present problems, is very necessary to promote the unity and oneness of God's people. Their temporal needs will need to be cared for during the week's meeting, and at present there is no fund for this purpose. If anyone feels led to help supply this need, please send offerings to O. C. Porter, R. 5, Guthrie, Okla.

This date and location was chosen for this one meeting only, dates for later meetings will be decided at this meeting.

PRAYER REQUEST

Hoffman, Okla.—Dear saints,—Would you all fast and pray for me as soon as you can, for my complete healing of a very severe illness which I have had since Oct. 8th. And I have a very needy unspoken request.

A sister in Christ,

Lorene Payne.

Is Double Marriage In The Church?

I have been burdened for some time to sound a warning. We read in Ezekiel 33rd chapter, if we see the sword coming and fail to blow the trumpet, the blood will be required at our hands. So while I endeavor, to the best of the ability which God gives, to give warning and deliver my soul, I earnestly entreat your prayers and encouragement, because we are facing a cruel world that does not love sound doctrine and will hate us because of it. If anywhere I do not stay within the bounds of sound doctrine and the holy Scripture, I would be grateful to be admonished.

The Apostle Paul instructs us in Titus 2:1: Speak thou the things which become sound doctrine. He goes on to lay the standard the same for all ages, teaches how women ought to be so that the word of God be not blasphemed, men to be sober minded, pattern of good works, sound speech that cannot be condemned, "for the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, teaching us that denying ungodliness and worldly lust, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in this present world."

The enemy is sweeping the land with deception. Men's spiritual eyes are becoming blind because of their own fleshly lusts and desires. Their hearts are again beholding the forbidden fruit and reaching out after it. Many preachers are afraid to sound a warning against it, because some of their good members are defiled.

May the Lord help us at all time to keep the love of God in our hearts for the soul in trouble. Sympathizing with the flesh and justifying uncleanness will not prove godly care nor love for the soul at stake, neither will it stand the judgment shock. I remember when the rich young ruler came running to Jesus and asked him what he must do to inherit eternal life; Jesus, beholding him, loved him and said unto him: "One thing thou lackest: go thy way, sell whatsoever thou hast and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven, and come take up the cross and follow me." Mark 10:21, 22. Jesus knew what he loved. Surely so: where your treasure is, there will your heart be also. Matt. 6:21.

"O the cross! the precious cross!
To me this world is naught but dross.
Far richer treasures now I own,
While up the shining way I run;
When in that heavenly land I'll see
The One who bore the cross for me."

Yes, there is a cross for everyone. We all have a place to fill as an example in the church. God has chosen us out of the rubbish of this world to be gems in his kingdom. Read Mark 10:29, 30 for God's promise to his children, those who will bear the cross.

Isa. 28:17. Judgment also will I lay to the line and righteousness to the plummet. With all my heart, I believe God will keep his church pure that he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that it should be holy and without blemish. Ephesians 5:27. It is up to us to keep ourselves in it, or be cast off.

Of all the questions we face today, this double marriage is the most heart-rending. Yet if we could convey to the minds and hearts of those the blessings in store for the sacrifice, I'm sure many would gladly turn from their evil way. Luke 14:26 says, If any man (no partiality) come to me and hate not his father and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple. Remember, it says, yea, and his own life also. That means something, does it not? Many folks say, "but my case is different," it is thus and so; and so it goes on and on—folks seeking justification for their case and causing havoc to the souls of those involved and their own souls also, for the Scripture says, "If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me." Psalms 66:18. There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death. Proverbs 14:12.

Matt. 5:32, Whosoever shall put away his wife, saving for the cause of fornication, causeth her to commit adultery. Pause here. Many say, "My wife or husband was untrue so therefore I am justified." They try to use this text and wrest it to their own destruction as a loop-hole to marry again. This phrase "saving for the cause of fornication" is on that condition he would not cause her to commit adultery as she was already an adulteress woman. If this phrase were left out, it would read thus: Whosoever shall put away his wife, causeth her to commit adultery. Now that would take in every case, and that isn't true all the time, as sometimes she is a fornicator and he would not be to blame or the cause of her committing adultery if he put her away. If she has been faithful and true, then he put her away, he is to blame for the cause to commit adultery if she marries again.

Many young people are too careless, reaching out into the world after companions, and the devil is having traps set for your souls. And should you get involved in double marriage, whom would you blame for that? Be careful. As I have often said, I would rather see folks go to heaven single than to go to hell married. Watch your influence. If you live in such a manner that folks can point their finger back, then would you be blameless? Watch, I say, watch your heart, the seat of affection, lest it be reaching out after the forbidden fruit. Love not the world, neither the things in the world. I face this so often. Young girls in their teens getting married, then divorced, and seeking to marry again, and usually I've noticed it is someone single. And so it goes on and on, marrying and given in marriage; but, remember, there is coming a Judgment Day. I have seen just recently people with great big tears rolling down their cheeks, having a great desire to be right with God and not able to pay the price. Someone said to me one day that if we would lower the standard, maybe more would be saved. No, just more professing, but not possessing real Bible Salvation.

The Lord has no idlers in his vineyard. We must all be void of offense before God and man. Acts 26:16. Paul says, "Herein do I exercise myself to have always a conscience void of offense toward God and toward men." 2 Cor. 6:1. We then as workers togeth-

er with him, beseech you also that ye receive not the grace of God in vain. The 3rd verse reads: Giving no offense in anything, that the ministry be not blamed.

Now if any in the congregation do not live clean, pure, unadulterated lives from the world, the minister will get the blame for it, as folks always point that one out. If the minister justifies it, he is to blame.

Matt. 13:41. The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend and them which do iniquity and shall cast them into a furnace of fire, there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth. I feel it well to give a definition of offense: "Anything that a man finds in his way that may occasion him to stumble or fall, a stumbling block." Surely there isn't anyone who would want to be to blame for some one falling into a snare of the devil.

Again we warn, God has no respect of persons. We, too, are warned by James 2:1, My brethren, have not the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ the Lord of glory with respect of persons. 9th verse, But if ye have respect to persons, ye commit sin and are convinced of the law as transgressors. For whosoever shall keep the whole law and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all.

—Inez Eck.

-----:::-----

15 Reasons Why Television Is Wrong

Eccl. 7:29, "Lo this have I found, that God hath made man upright; but they have sought out many inventions."

1. Because Spirit-filled ministers have voiced their opinion against it. Read Ezekiel 33:4.

2. It is detrimental to spirituality. Statistics show that theater business has fallen off since T. V. became popular. This has caused some theatre owners to quit business and go into the T. V. business. Obviously these facts indicate that T. V. has to a large extent taken the place of the theatre by moving into the front parlor of many homes. Too many have used the feeble excuse that it is less expensive and a means of keeping our children at home. I believe the family altar is the answer. Read Col. 3:1, 2.

3. It is a proven fact that some persons who purchased a T. V. set while they were in an unregenerated state, after conversion were convicted of its evil influence and disposed of same. A minister's unsaved son, who was in possession of a T. V. set, told his father that he was convinced that in order to become a genuine Christian he would have to dispose of T. V. from his life. Read 2 Cor. 5:17.

4. The fact remains that 80 per cent of that which comes through the eye gate is remembered, while only 20 per cent of what is heard. T. V. presents a much greater opportunity for the beer, wine, whiskey, and tobacco business and the display of improperly dressed women. This is all sanctioned in many homes, and not only sanctioned, but has also become a commodity in many homes. Read 2 Sam. 11:2, 3, 4.

5. The best of God's people are opposed to T. V. One who wishes to do right cannot afford to become a stumbling block nor lose the confidence of their brothers and sisters in Christ. Read Prov. 22:28.

6. The beer, whiskey, wine, and tobacco advertisements, improperly dressed dancers, Hollywood divorce evil, murder pictures and lustful love scenes are a long way from gracing a Christian home. Read Phil. 4:8.

7. There was a day when a growing boy was not permitted to see a burlesque performance, but now Junior gets it served with breakfast, dinner and supper on T. V. Read Prov. 22:6.

8. Television will warp and twist the mind of our youth. When there are so many crime and murder programs shown on T. V., I am inclined to believe the story of the little boy, when informed that Grandpa passed away in the night, asked, "Who shot him?"

9. Crime programs such as pictured on television screens won't make better boys and girls, but thieves, murderers, gangsters, prostitutes, and bowery bums. Read Luke 17:1, 2.

10. Television caters to the evil mind. One old person in Pennsylvania said he had been hanging around stage shows for over fifty years without seeing as much female anatomy as he had observed on T. V. shows. Read Romans 6:21.

11. I have three children whom I want to see make it through to heaven. I refuse to throw dangers in their way. They believe as I do that T. V. is wrong. I feel sure they have confidence in my life. I will never betray the confidence they have in me. I would rather lift up the Bible standard, keep their confidence, and pray for them now with a clear conscience than to let down the Bible standards and weep later because I failed them. Read 2 Tim. 3:15; 2 Tim. 4.

12. I am told that a T. V. set costs from \$300.00 to \$500.00. This is a lot of money to spend foolishly while souls are dying and going to hell, all because they have never heard the gospel of Jesus Christ. They could be saved if this money were used to send missionaries to them. Read Isaiah 55:2.

13. 1 Cor. 10:31—"Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God." God does not get glory out of lust pictures, prize fights, nude dancers, wrestling bouts, liquor or tobacco advertisements, crime promotion, Hollywood divorce evil, etc.

14. Time is valuable; we have none to waste. Statistics prove that children who have access to television spend an average of 30 hours a week before a television screen. Parents, read Eph. 5:15, 16.

15. It robs any individual of his spiritual strength. I am convinced no one (without exception) can look upon T. V. for long and be deeply spiritual or carry a burden for lost souls. Anyone who believes the Bible from cover to cover cannot approve of T. V. Read 1 Cor. 9:27; 1 Cor. 10:12.

CRIME'S SCHOOL MASTER

A recent study of television programs revealed that southern Californians have plenty of blood-and-thunder drifting into their living rooms from Los Angeles stations. In just one week, they could have viewed on the television 91 murders; seven stage hold ups; three kidnappings; 10 thieves; four burglaries; two cases of arson; two jail breaks; one explosion which killed a score of people; two suicides and one case of blackmail.

If you will follow these instructions, you will lose the desire for T. V.: Come by faith to the cross of Calvary; get down upon your knees and look up in faith to the crucified Son of God; ask Him to forgive your sins, and drops of blood from His bleeding wounds shall fall upon your heart and cleanse you from ALL sin. Receive Jesus into your heart by faith, and you shall be born again (John 1:12, 13), and you will become a new creature with new desires. Buy a Bible and read it prayerfully daily. Pay your debts, and forgive your enemies. Confess Christ to others, and if you "endure unto the end" (Matt. 24:13) you shall be saved for time and for eternity, by the power of "Him that is able to keep you from falling" (Jude 24). Jesus is calling you to be saved NOW. —Sel.

CORRESPONDENCE

Tex.—Dear Saints,—Greetings. I thank Jesus for a saved life today. I am so glad to have a mind to live holy and to have faith and power to wait on Jesus. I can say He saves and also heals all kinds of sickness. I am willing to suffer to make heaven my home. Jesus has helped me in every way. I am willing to bear my cross and trials. I find they are for every true born-again child of God. He is a good Father. I love his ways. I am seventy-seven years old and I don't feel like I am grown in Jesus. Pray for me that I will be more and more like Jesus—a light for the sinners. Mrs. E. A. Lambert

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

N. Mex.—Dear Saints,—Greetings in the name of our Lord who has done so much for us. I am thanking and praising the Lord tonight for what he means to me. The Lord let something get hold of my body this summer. It started about the last of June and went on until the Guthrie camp meeting. I started losing my strength and had a spell of feeling alone. Maybe my wife and children would be with me, but I felt all alone. I kept getting weaker and having more of these spells. After each spell I would be much weaker.

I went to the Guthrie camp meeting and had the saints to pray for me. I had called in twice before this for prayer. The Lord had answered prayer and I started getting some better; but the devil was there to try me after I claimed the victory. I had some bad spells and restless nights after the healing, but I didn't weaken.

I went to a doctor in July to find out what was wrong with me and he said I had high blood pressure and an enlarged heart. I haven't taken any medicine before that nor since. The Lord, through the prayers of the saints has given me back all of my strength. I am still having some kind of spells but they are getting weaker and farther apart.

I want to thank all the saints for their prayers for me this summer.

Pray that I will do all the Lord wants me to do.
Your brother in the one body, Laurence S. Sneed

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

Miss.—Dear Brother Pruitt and all saints,—I am still encouraged to press on for Jesus. The way seems brighter each day. Praise his dear name! I am learning more each day, by God's help, to cast my every burden or whatever may be the trials, on Jesus. He has promised to help in every time of need, and I have found it so. He hasn't let me down one time, for which I am so thankful to Him. I wish I had words to express what He means to me today. He is indeed a wonderful Savior to me, a burden bearer, a comforter, a healer; above all, He fixed it so we can es-

cape damnation and live free, above sin in this world. 1 John 3:9 says, "Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him; and he cannot sin, because he is born of God." I am thankful that even the desire to sin is taken completely away. I pray that the Lord will help me to keep my heart and mind so filled up with heavenly things that there will be no room for the earthly things to slip in.

My great desire is to live such a Christ-like life in this old sinful world that when the world looks upon me, nothing but Christ will be in view. I want to be an example for Jesus proving the Bible is true.

I love this life of Christian living, letting God have his way with me. This is a wonderful and happy life to live. I pray God to show more honest-hearted souls this true Bible way before it is too late.

My prayer each day for all the saints is as in Romans 12:1 and 2.

Much Christian love to all the saints everywhere.

Please pray that I will be able, by God's help, to endure to the end. Mrs. Hollis Hilbun.

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

Miss.—Dear saints in the Lord,—Greetings. I promised the Lord God that if he would heal my mouth of a bad pimple or growth on my lower gum, which pained me much under my plate when I chewed, I would testify to it. I also had a bad inflamed sore on my ankle, and he has wonderfully blessed me. So I am glad to report victory over the flesh and Satan, with his darts of ridicule again. My ankle is not well yet, but I am just holding on and looking up, lest I sink like Peter did when he got his eyes off the dear Lord Jesus. My only hope is to trust and obey the Lord.

Pray for our daughter's one-month-old baby, which has colic or some severe ailment every evening from four until seven or eight o'clock. It grieves our hearts to see him cry and fret so. think it as well named.

I still love to read the "Faith and Victory" paper. I

I need your prayers, to overcome temptations and be strong and courageous for my Lord and Master. Pray for my husband, who doesn't seem to have light. Mrs. J. S.

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

Okla.—Greetings to all the saints everywhere, in Jesus' name.—Today I can say that I am saved and pressing my way on to glory. Blessed be the name of the Lord.

I promised the Lord that if he would open the way for me to go to the Boley camp meeting, I would write my testimony.

I would have hated to miss it. I never before had been in such a glorious meeting, in my life. As the words went forth, I learned many wonderful lessons. It was food to my soul.

I don't get to attend meeting very often, but it is my desire to be with the saints. There are no evening-light saints here. It is just a wicked place, but I mean to hold on to God's unchanging hand. I mean to trust the Lord whatever the cost may be.

I ask the saints everywhere to pray for my son and sister that the Lord will save their souls. Pray that I will be true to the Lord and be all that he will have me to be.

Your sister in Christ, Carrie Murdock

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

Ore.—To the saints of God,—Greetings in the precious name of Jesus, for he is able to bless and keep us and do all things well, if we will only be obedient to his holy Word.

I have had heart trouble for some time and it got so bad I could not do much work. I was having attacks pretty often and they would last quite a while sometimes with much pain.

I attended the Jefferson, Oregon camp meeting and asked the brethren to pray for me. They anointed and prayed for me and I have had only a few attacks since, and then they do not last nearly so long, nor are they so severe. I can do quite a little work and it doesn't bother me so badly. I give the dear Lord the glory and the praise for it all.

I have other afflictions I am bothered quite a bit with: gland trouble; and my hearing is bad. I ask all the saints everywhere to please pray that He will touch my body and make me whole.

A brother in Christ,

Judson Smith.

o—o—o—o—o

Nebr.—Brother Pruitt,—The "Faith and Victory" is a great help to my soul and body and I love to read it. It tells how to live and many more things to go by.

I pray that God will give Brother Pruitt and all the workers blessings and keep up the good work.

I have great faith in the Lord; I cannot do without him. I praise His holy name. Mrs. Mary E. Meester

o—o—o—o—o

Wis.—Dear saints everywhere,—Greetings to you all, in the precious name of Jesus.

I promised our dear heavenly Father that I would send in a testimony if our darling son would be brought back from Korea safely and he is now at home with us. Oh, we cannot thank God enough for all he has done for our boy during the two years he was in the service.

I must tell you how close he was to being killed there, but the hand of our mighty God saved him. It really was a miracle.

They had repair shops in big trucks in order to take them behind the lines to repair radios. Our son was a radio repairman, and he and another boy were driving one of these trucks when it was fired on one day. Two boys who were in the back of the truck were injured; also the other boy in the cab was blown to pieces. God saved our son's life by throwing him completely away from the truck.

It surely pays to trust in the dear Lord with all our heart for He is forever ready to help us in all our troubles. Oh, how we thank and praise Him for all he has done for us.

I was healed twice from ulcers on my leg, which put me in bed both times.

I cannot tell all, in writing, that God has done for us. My husband and I are both saved and we do love our Heavenly Father with all our hearts. We love God's children and we are doing all we can to win other souls for God's kingdom.

May God bless all the dear saints.

Brother and Sister Arthur Klatt.

o—o—o—o—o

Mo.—Dear saints,—Greetings in the precious name of Jesus, the one that suffered and died on the cruel cross that people may have sweet peace in their souls; all sins forgiven; and by his stripes we can have the healing of our bodies.

I am so glad I ever learned that the Lord heals all manner of afflictions. I have trusted the Lord for thirty-three years and he has healed me many times. When we have our faith and trust in the Lord, we don't need to worry; he will do for us everything that we need.

When I threw all medicine away and said in my heart, "here goes the medicine forever Lord, I will trust you live or die," I meant it. At that time I had heart and stomach trouble, and the Lord healed me. Praise His holy name.

About five weeks ago, I suddenly took a severe hurting in my back. I could not sit in a chair or walk straight. I could not move without great pain. I would pray and seem to get a little ease. I then wrote for prayer, and the Lord heard and healed me.

I promised the Lord that if he would heal me, I would write my testimony to the paper. I believe when the Lord hears our cries and heals us, he wants us to testify to what he does for us. It may encourage some one that is weak.

Dear ones, if we expect to get healing from the Lord, we must fully trust Him, and not to think that if the Lord doesn't heal us, we will go to a doctor or use remedies. He knows the intention of the heart; he knows whether we fully intend to trust him or not.

I have heard people say, "I trust the Lord as much as anyone, but I take medicine. I think the Lord meant for us to take medicine and try to help ourselves." Dear ones, that is a sad mistake. The Lord does not need any help to heal us. If we have our trust in the Lord; when he heals us, we can rejoice in our hearts and give Him all the praise and glory.

I thank the Lord for his goodness to me in sparing my life when I was in sin, and for saving my soul.

I desire the prayers of all the Lord's people that I may live for the Lord and always keep my trust in him.

A sister in the Lord, Mrs. Fannie Williams.

o—o—o—o—o

Ohio—Dear Ones,—Greetings to all in Jesus' precious name. I am only fifteen years old, but I am determined in my heart to go all the way with the Lord. He died on the cross, that we might have eternal life; so shouldn't we be willing to suffer for him. I love my Savior, today, more than anything in this world.

I have five brothers, and only Earl and I are saved. I believe that in time, if we keep praying, my other brothers will get saved, also.

Today as I sat here, I was inspired by the Lord to write a poem:

"Do You Think To Pray?"

When everything is going well,
And fortune comes your way;
When the tests and trials are few,
Then, do you think to pray?

Just ask yourself this question,
As you live from day to day,
When everything is going well,
Then, do I think to pray?

Please pray for me that I, as a young person, may stay true to the Lord. Brother Melvin Sharp.

o—o—o—o—o

Help Needed

Oakland, Calif.—Dear saints abroad and everywhere, greetings in Jesus' dear name,—Thanks be unto God, we are yet saved and encouraged to live for the Lord and follow Him all the way. And praise the Lord! He is blessing us in a wonderful way, and keeping us encouraged. Though few in number, we are pressing on and upward.

We are thanking and praising the Lord for giving us a meeting house; however, it needs much repair work done on it to meet the requirements of the city.

To meet the city requirement, we are asked to veneer it; that is, put cement blocks all around the building, from

the ground up to the top of the building, and it is a large two-story building. To do this, it will cost a great sum of money, and, as stated, we are small in number; in fact, there are only eleven adults and a few children.

Therefore we are making an urgent plea to the saints everywhere for help. Should there be congregations or any one that feel led to help us in this great need, please mail your donation in a money order to: Katherine Williams 3220 Ettie St., Oakland, Calif.

We are earnestly praying and sincerely looking to God to supply our needs, and we request the prayers of the saints everywhere. The Oakland and Berkeley saints are in the one congregation. If the Lord wills, we hope to get started on the building in a few days. There is nothing too hard for God. Pray for us. Your brothers and sisters in the one body—The Oakland and Berkeley saints, Bro. E. J. Trotter, pastor.

"The will of God is not to be discerned by inward impressions only or mainly, but by reason, providence, sense of duty, and by the Scriptures." (Page 25 "Youth Inst.")

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.

BIBLE STUDY

Primary picture roll is \$1.35, Lesson cards 9c

GOD'S PLAN FOR THE HOME

November 1, 1953

Printed Portion: Deuteronomy 6:4-9; Ephesians 5:25-33

Deut. 6:4. Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God is one Lord:

5. And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.

6. And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart:

7. And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.

8. And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes.

9. And thou shalt write them upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates.

Eph. 5:25. Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it:

26. That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word,

27. That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.

28. So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself.

29. For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church:

30. For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones.

31. For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh.

32. This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church.

33. Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife see that she reverence her husband.

Memory Verse: God setteth the solitary in families. Psalm 68:6.

Practical Truth: Home should be a place where God is honored and where true love exists.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

The plan that God has for the home is above all else worthy of our observation as to what he expects it to be. What is it then that constitutes a Christian home? Here are a few things that are given by a judge on the bench who handles divorce cases: bear and forbear; work together and grow up together; avoid little quarrels and the big ones will take care of themselves; compromise (give and take) —this is an antidote for divorce; practice sympathy, good humor, and mutual understanding; don't grouch before breakfast nor after it; respect your in-laws and don't criticize them or take criticism from them; establish your own home, even in a one-room flat; fight for each other and not with each other; build your home on religious faith, with love and forgiveness as the watchwords". (From Arnolds)

There is good advice in the above, from a man that gets to see the results of broken homes, and has for twenty years been hearing such cases. How important then is the Bible-portion from Deuteronomy and Ephesians, here given, to help make an ideal home. There are two things that should be added to list that he did not mention: reading the Bible and prayer. The passage from Deuteronomy brings out about God's word and that in Ephesians shows what love will do.

STRONGER CHURCHES—BETTER COMMUNITIES

November 8, 1953

Printed Portion: Acts 2:41-47; Philippians 1:27-30; 1 Peter 2:4-5, 9-10.

Acts 2:41. Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.

42. And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.

43. And fear came upon every soul: and many wonders and signs were done by the apostles.

44. And all that believed were together, and had all things common;

45. And sold their possessions and goods, and parted them to all men, as every man had need.

46. And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart,

47. Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.

Phil. 1:27. Only let your conversation be as it becometh the gospel of Christ: that whether I come and see you, or else be absent, I may hear of your affairs, that ye stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel;

28. And in nothing terrified by your adversaries: which is to them an evident token of perdition, but to you of salvation, and that of God.

29. For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for his sake;

30. Having the same conflict which ye saw in me, and now hear to be in me.

1 Per. 2:4. To whom coming, as unto a living stone,

disallowed indeed of men, but chosen of God, and precious,
5. Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.

I Peter 2:9. But ye are a chosen generation a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:

10. Which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy.

Memory Verse: Only let your conversation be as it becometh the gospel of Christ. Philippians 1:27.

Practical Truth: Every Christian should have a part in making his church strong and his community better.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

In Ephesians 6:10 we have these words "Be strong in the Lord, and the power of his might". This is a good scripture for each individual in the church, and altogether will make a stronger church in our community. To be born into the kingdom of God puts one in the Church of God. They gladly received the word and were baptized, then they were glad to sell their possessions and goods to help those who were in need. "And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and prayers", verse 42. After one is saved, there yet needs to be a steadfastness in our purpose to stay with it, as found in Acts 11:23 "And exhorted them all, that with purpose of heart they would cleave unto the Lord".

The word of God has a large place in making a Christian home but not merely in the book, no matter how well bound; and not merely in our minds and memories, but upon our hearts. God's word laid up in the heart will keep us from sin in our lives. Read Psalm 119:11. Put God first in everything: affections, purposes, activities, study of God's word, in business, personal life, and home life. "For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for his sake", verse 29.

—:::—

GOOD STEWARDS OF GOD'S GIFTS

November 15, 1953

Printed Portion:..Psalm 24:1; Leviticus 25:13-22; Malachi 3:7-10; I Corinthians 16:2.

Psa. 24:1. The earth is the Lord's, and the fulness thereof; the world and they that dwell therein.

Lev. 25:13. In the year of this jubile ye shall return every man unto his possession.

14. And if thou sell ought unto thy neighbour, or buyest ought of thy neighbour, or buyest ought of thy neighbour's hand, ye shall not oppress one another:

15. According to the number of years after the jubile thou shalt buy of thy neighbour, and according unto the number of years of the fruits he shall sell unto thee:

16. According to the multitude of years thou shalt increase the price thereof, and according to the fewness of years thou shalt diminish the price of it: for according to the number of the years of the fruits doth he sell unto thee:

17. Ye shall not therefore oppress one another; but thou shalt fear thy God: for I am the Lord your God.

18. Wherefore ye shall do my statutes, and keep my judgments, and do them; and ye shall dwell in the land in safety.

19. And the land shall yield her fruit, and ye shall eat your fill, and dwell therein in safety.

20. And if ye shall say, What shall we eat the seventh year? behold, we shall not sow, nor gather in our increase:

21. Then I will command my blessing upon you in the sixth year, and it shall bring forth fruit for three years.

22. And ye shall sow the eighth year, and eat yet of old fruit until the ninth year; until her fruits come in ye shall eat of the old store.

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

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

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

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

I Cor. 16:2. Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come.

Memory Verse: The earth is the Lord's, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein. Psalm 24:1.

Practical Truth: As God's stewards, a portion of our income should be set aside for his work.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

The main charge that God has against man is, that man does not obey him. There are those along during the ages who have been obedient to God; but many, many have used the words of our lesson to side track the very things that God intended for the welfare of man.

In the first place God has shown us that "The earth is the Lord's, and the fulness thereof; the world and they that dwell therein". (verse 1). We are his by creation, whether we obey him or not. Man's duty is to glorify God, live for, and worship him. "Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power: for thy pleasure they are and were created". Rev. 4:11. Now God has declared that as long as man obeys him, he will prosper him. (That includes spiritual life). God in dealing with Israel's backslidings kept a constant cry to them, "Return unto me, and I will return unto you". (verse 7). Oh, the tender mercies of our God, who is "Not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance". 2 Pet. 3:9. Let any one who doubts about this try God's recipe, "O taste and see that the Lord is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in him". Psa. 34:8. If you have tried everything else, and failed, why not try God's way.

—:::—

CHRISTIAN COMPASSION FOR A NEEDY WORLD

November 22, 1953

Printed Portion: Matthew 9:35-36; Mark 1:32-34a; 8:1-9;

Matt. 9:35. And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people.

36. But when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were

scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd.

Mark 1:32. And at even, when the sun did set, they brought unto him all that were diseased, and them that were possessed with devils.

33. And all the city was gathered together at the door.

34. And he healed many that were sick of divers diseases, and cast out many devils.

Mark 8:1. In those days the multitude being very great, and having nothing to eat, Jesus called his disciples unto him, and saith unto them,

2. I have compassion on the multitude, because they have now been with me three days, and have nothing to eat;

3. And if I send them away fasting to their own houses, they will faint by the way: for divers of them came from far.

4. And his disciples answered him, From whence can a man satisfy these men with bread here in the wilderness?

5. And he asked them, How many loaves have ye? And they said, seven.

6. And he commanded the people to sit down on the ground: and he took the seven loaves, and gave thanks, and brake, and gave to his disciples to set before them; and they did set them before the people.

7. And they had a few small fishes: and he blessed, and commanded to set them also before them.

8. So they did eat, and were filled: and they took up of the broken meat that was left seven baskets.

9. And they that had eaten were about four thousand: and he sent them away.

Memory Verse: Whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him? My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth. [John 3:17-18.]

Practical Truth: Christian compassion will cause us to assist in relieving those who are in distress.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Three forms of activity are ascribed to Jesus: teaching, preaching, and healing. The subject of his preaching was "the gospel of the kingdom". (verse 35). The things that the prophets had told about had come to pass, "at hand", Matt. 4:17. In the time of the prophets God had said that he would send one that would feed his sheep and be a shepherd to his flock (read Ezek. 34) and here in this lesson we have Jesus as the one he meant that would have "compassion on them" because they "were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd". (verse 36). They had teachers and rulers in superabundance but no shepherds, and so it is today as we hear of many places where there is a vital need for a true minister of God to pastor the flock of God; but not enough ministers to go around.

The healing ministry of Jesus is here told of as they came to the house of Simon and Andrew, (Mark 1:29), "Simon's wife's mother lay sick of a fever, and anon they tell him of her". (verse 30). They did not send for a doctor, they told Jesus; "immediately the fever left her". Jesus is just the same today. Heb. 13:8. And according to verse 24 "he healed many that were sick of divers diseases, and cast out many devils".

He is able to supply all our needs.

A WORLD OF OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL

Sunday, November 29, 1953

Printed Portion: Deuteronomy 24:14-15, 19; Amos 5:10-15; 2 Thessalonians 3:7-10.

Deut. 24:14. Thou shalt not oppress an hired servant that is poor and needy, whether he be of thy brethren, or of thy strangers that are in thy land within thy gates:

15. At his day thou shalt give him his hire, neither shall the sun go down upon it; for he is poor, and setteth his heart upon it: lest he cry against thee unto the Lord, and it be sin unto thee.

Deut. 24:19. When thou cuttest down thine harvest in thy field, and hast forgot a sheaf in the field, thou shalt not go again to fetch it: it shall be for the stranger, for the fatherless, and for the widow: that the Lord thy God may bless thee in all the work of thine hands.

Amos 5:10. They hate him that rebuketh in the gate, and they abhor him that speaketh uprightly.

11. Forasmuch therefore as your treading is upon the poor, and ye take from him burdens of wheat: ye have built houses of hewn stone, but ye shall not dwell in them; ye have planted pleasant vineyards, but ye shall not drink wine of them.

12. For I know your manifold transgressions, and your mighty sins; they afflict the just, they take a bribe, and they turn aside the poor in the gate from their right.

13. Therefore the prudent shall keep silence in that time; for it is an evil time.

14. Seek good, and not evil, that ye may live: and so the Lord, the God of hosts, shall be with you, as ye have spoken.

15. Hate the evil, and love the good, and establish judgment in the gate: it may be that the Lord God of hosts will be gracious unto the remnant of Joseph.

II Thess. 3:7. For yourselves know how ye ought to follow us: for we behaved not ourselves disorderly among you;

3. Neither did we eat any man's bread for nought; but wrought with labour and travail night and day, that we might not be chargeable to any of you:

9. Not because we have not power, but to make ourselves an ensample unto you to follow us.

10. For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that if any would not work neither should he eat.

Memory Verse. Let judgment run down as waters, and righteousness as a mighty stream. Amos 5:24.

Practical Truth: We should assist in the realization of the Christian ideal of a world in which there are adequate opportunities for all people.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

"He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?" Micah 6:8. This is God's plan for all men to follow. There will then be no oppression and treading down of the land as found in verse 11.

A sinner usually hates the man who rebukes his sin. (Amos 7th chapter). Nor are the true ministers wanted today in many places. They do not want the truth. "They hate him that rebuketh in the gate, and they abhor him that speaketh uprightly." verse 10. He says in verse 12, "For I know your manifold transgressions, and your mighty sins; they afflict the just, they take a bribe, and they turn aside the poor in the gate from their right." So the one who lives uprightly will be abhorred of the one who lives crookedly. And then do they think that because God delays judgment, they are going to escape.

Amos tells them in the 15th verse what to do: "Hate the evil, and love the good and establish judgment in the gate." We should seek God's will.