

FAITH^{AND}VICTORY

The EVENING LIGHT WATCHMAN



Volume 24, No. 6

Published at

Guthrie, Oklahoma

25c Per Year

July, 1954

The Road of Salvation

I traveled a road of beauty today,
A road I had ne'er before trod.
The beauties I found no mortal could tell,
But on this road I found God.

All my past life I had wasted in sin,
Seeking to ease my soul's cry—
'This road had been offered to me before,
But before I had passed it by.

They told me it was a strait narrow way
And I would find traveling hard;
But how I wish I had tried it before
My life with sin was so scarred.

The name of this road is salvation, my friend,
Please take introduction from me:
It isn't too narrow, nor is it too strait,
It only bars sin and sets free.

Yes, free I say, from sin and from shame,
Free from confusion and strife,
Changing doubts and fears to joy and peace
Oh! this is a beautiful life.

Will you travel with me on this heavenly road?
Will you not turn the Savior away?
Oh, yield to Him now, do not pass him by,
You can have salvation today.

—Gladys Cashio

—:~::~~::~—

God Requires Righteousness

"But he that doeth wrong shall receive for the wrong which he hath done: and there is no respect of persons." Col. 3:25.

"There's a God who is standing at heaven's door,
He's looking this universe o'er,
And He sees each mortal with a searching eye;
You can't do wrong and get by."

"Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap." Gal. 6:7.

Dear reader, it truly is a wonderful thought to know that we have the Word of God given to us as a counselor and guide; because it is of divine origin, and

reveals to us the mind of Him with whom we have to do. The Word of God is the light of the world. It is the true light that lighteth every man that cometh into the world. It reveals to man his responsibility toward God, and also to his fellow man. God made man for his glory, and placed him under a law, a divine law, a righteous law, and every man must live in humble obedience to that law or suffer the consequences. And there is no respect of persons with God. Whosoever doeth wrong shall receive for the wrong which he hath done. When Adam violated God's commandment in the garden of Eden, he fell under the curse of sin and death. He lost fellowship with God, he lost Paradise, he lost life, he died spiritually, and has returned back to dust from which he was taken. If God had been going to let any one by without punishment for a willful violation of His law, surely he would have let Adam and Eve go by; but not so. The wages of sin is death.

In the days before the flood, God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of his heart was only evil continually . . . And the Lord said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth; both man, and beast, and the creeping thing, and the fowls of the air; for it repenteth me that I have made them. . . . And every living substance was destroyed which was upon the face of the ground, both man, and cattle, and the creeping things, and the fowl of the heaven; and they were destroyed from the earth: and Noah only remained alive, and they that were with him in the ark." Gen. 6:5, 7 and 7:23.

Wickedness is an abomination in the sight of God. Sodom and Gomorrah were destroyed on the account of it. Pharaoh and his host went down rebelling against God. King Saul lost his throne, lost favor with God, and died from his own sword because he disobeyed God's commands. Absalom, David's son, a fine young man without a blemish so far as physical structure and beauty was concerned, died hanging in an oak tree by the hair of his head, having been slain while hanging there in his helpless condition. He had failed to honor his father, and died an awful death. And he was a king's son, but God did not spare him, for he had done wrong; and he that doeth wrong must answer for his wrong doings.

David the king, and sweet singer of Israel, did wrong, and fell into shame and disgrace. And although he earnestly repented, acknowledged his transgression and sin, was forgiven, and the joys of salvation were restored to him again, he suffered much anguish, grief, trouble, and sorrow on account of his wrong doings. He lost his family, so to speak, and almost lost his throne.

Just think, dear reader, it is no light affair to do wrong. God's eye is going forth throughout the whole earth, beholding the evil and the good. He knows every step you have taken today. He sees and understands the thoughts and intents of your heart. Your purposes are all known to him. God has given you a conscience; he has given you his Word as a guide. You are individually responsible to him for your conduct; for the deeds that you do; whether anyone else knows about them is of meager importance. God knows them all, and he is the one to whom you must answer. Every one of us must give account of himself to God" Rom. 14:12.

It may be that you have not considered this matter as seriously as you should, but just think for a moment: Jesus has said that for "every idle word that man shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment." Matt. 12:36. It is wrong to spend our God-given voice and breath uttering statements, and cracking jokes, and talking foolishness, and such, out of which God can get no glory nor anyone receive edification. The Word of God teaches that such is wrong. Although many who profess to be followers of the meek and lowly Lamb engage in such practices, it is still wrong, and he that doeth wrong must answer for the wrong he has done. Thousands of the Israelites were slain because they murmured and complained, sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play, and so on. "At the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent."

There is only one way to escape the eternal judgment of the wrath of Almighty God, and that is to repent, confess, and forsake all wrong doings and sin, and get them all under the blood of Jesus Christ, the Lamb that was slain as a sacrifice for sin. There is no other name, and no other way. "Put away the evil of your doings from before mine eyes." God will forgive if you will repent.

The Word of God condemns sin in every form, and no sin is right in his sight. When he does, for Christ's sake, blot out one's sins, it is his will and plan that such ones go and sin no more. Do not be deceived with the idea that because one has been forgiven of past sins, that that will give him license to go ahead and do wrong and escape the consequences. Simply because one professes to be a Christian does not change the mind of God. He that doeth wrong shall receive for the wrong which he hath done and there is no respect of persons. "When the righteous man turneth away from his righteousness, and committeth iniquity, he shall even die thereby." Ezek. 33:18. Jesus said, "Remember Lot's wife." Why did he want us to remember Lot's wife? What about Lot's wife? We find that after the Lord had been

merciful unto her, after the angel had taken her by the hand and led her out of the city of Sodom, she disobeyed by looking back toward the city, and became a pillar of salt.

Remember also the things that happened to the Israelites after God had so graciously delivered them from Egyptian bondage. When they met with trials and tests on the way to the promised land, in their hearts they went back down in Egypt, lusting after the flesh pots, onions, garlic, cucumbers, and other things on which they had dined while there in bondage. When one begins to lust again after the things of the world from which he has, by the grace of God, been delivered, he comes into bondage again to sin. "Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin" John 8:34. WHOSOEVER—note the word **whosoever**. It matters not who he or she may be—king, governor, president, prince, school teacher, deacon, preacher, hod carrier, priest, student, or whosoever doeth wrong, it is just plain wrong; and the "wages of sin is death," except ye repent. There never was a man so smart that he could out-general God. You can't do wrong and get by, and the more one tries to cover up his wrong doing, the worse his case will be. "He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy." Prov. 28:13. There is no use to try to hide. God is looking right down into your heart, and when he comes, he is going to bring his reward with him, and he is going to reward every man according as his work shall be.

What a wonderful change this old world would experience if all men would continually seek after and execute the righteousness of God. We know all men will not do that; so we say what a wonderful change there would be if all who profess to be followers of Jesus Christ would seek to do the will of God at ALL TIMES and daily walk in his holy fear.

"Though a sinner do evil an hundred times, and his days be prolonged, yet surely I know that it shall be well with them that fear God, that fear before him: but it shall not be well with the wicked." Eccl. 8:12, 13a. "If the righteous scarcely be saved" with no oil to spare, lest there be not enough for his own need, where shall the careless and luke-warm, and ease lovers appear? The faithful are the ones that shall be blessed, "But he that doeth wrong shall receive for the wrong which he hath done, and there is no respect of persons."

—Ulysses Phillips.

True Repentance

"I repent," say so many; but the question that comes up before me is: Do they repent in such a manner so as to say it is true repentance? Did they ever seek into the Scripture to find out just what true repentance is?

True repentance is to cast away all feeling of guilt, clearing our conscience so as to have nothing of error against us. Hence the commandment that Jesus gave the rich man, after he had confessed that he had kept all the commandments from his youth up: "Yet lackest thou one thing, go sell all that thou hast, and

distribute unto the poor, then shalt thou have treasure in heaven, and come follow me." Luke 18:22.

It is likely that Zacchaeus had heard about Jesus' preaching, and perhaps also what he told this rich man as recorded in Luke 18:18-22; also of Nicodemus as recorded in John 3:1. Now what I wish to impress upon your mind is that Zacchaeus probably did hear of Jesus and how that He (Jesus) spoke to all men fearlessly, and rebuked them sharply, convincing all of his oneness with God. So Zacchaeus wanted to see such an one, and was willing to hear him, whereby he also understood just what was his duty, and what he was to carry out as a repented child of God. He also made it known to all present, as it is written in Luke 19:8: "And Zacchaeus stood, and said unto the Lord; Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I [will] give to the poor; and if I have taken any thing from any man by false accusation, I [will] restore him fourfold." You may say that this word "will" does not belong anywhere in this verse; but wait: let us read the ninth verse, also the tenth.

"And Jesus said unto him, **This day** is salvation come to this house, forasmuch as he also is [not was] a son of Abraham."

Now in any case, had he done this before, then salvation had already come to this house before this day, and Jesus would not have said, **This day** is salvation come to this house.

Now let us read the tenth verse: "For the Son of man is come to seek and save that which was lost. By which saying we also know that Zacchaeus was lost. And we know by the Scripture that there is more rejoicing in heaven over Zacchaeus who repented in a manner befitting the true gospel than over ninety and nine just persons.

I have heard that it has been said by one man who claimed to be converted, that he had no need to square himself with his fellowman with whom he had dealt unjustly; for he said, "My past sins are erased and forgotten. God has turned his back upon my past sins, and all I need to do is forget them and start my new life from here." But this man was very much mistaken; for after all, was he sorry that he beat someone out of perhaps hundreds of dollars inasmuch that this someone was suffering because of his ill deeds? If he was sorry, he would make amends, for that which he did unto his fellowman he did unto Jesus (Matt. 25:40).

He who repenteth without sorrow, repenteth only with his lips. Amen. 2 Cor. 7:9, 10, read from Scripture. Now will you repent only with your lips as this man did, or will you repent as befitting the true gospel, as Zacchaeus repented?

COMING! COMING! He is coming speedily. Who is coming? Jesus of Nazareth, the Mighty Potentate, King of kings, the Lord of the whole earth shall he be called. He is coming; riding swiftly. Will you be ready when He arrives? Will you be found doing when He comes? Better begin **DOING** now, brother, for tomorrow may bring with it the unexpected death, when it may be said, **TOO LATE**. Then what will your reward be? I leave you to be the judge.

Remember, friends; brothers and sisters: We

speak not this Word in vain; so if you believe, then give proof of your belief by doing good, for the devils believe also and tremble.

I consider this fair warning, therefore accept and live or reject and die. —H. C. Erdman

— o o o —

Life's Tempestuous Sea

It is stated in Matt. 14:24-27, "But the ship was now in the midst of the sea, tossed with waves: for the wind was contrary. And in the fourth watch of the night Jesus went unto them, walking on the sea. And when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, It is a spirit; and they cried out for fear. But straightway Jesus spake unto them, saying, Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid."

Jesus is just the same today. It is our privilege to trust him to pilot us over life's tempestuous sea. We sing sometimes: "As a mother stills her child, Thou canst hush the ocean wild; Boist'rous waves obey thy will, when thou sayst to them, 'Be still.' Wondrous sovereign of the sea, Jesus Savior, pilot me." When unknown waves before us roll or the hand of death is near, then he comes unto us and in the stillness and quietness we hear him say: "It is I; be not afraid." Let us not look at our troubles when they are as the waves of the sea or when they are boisterous as the wind. If so, we shall be afraid. If we can see Jesus, all will be well with us.

In Ps. 107:29 we read, "He maketh the storm a calm, so that the waves thereof are still." We read again in John 6:18-21 and Ps. 65:7 how he stilleth the storm. We are thankful for all his gracious dealings (which were many) when our life was almost gone. Jesus came unto us with the same comforting words: "It is I; Be not afraid." And He healed us. When my husband closed his eyes in death, He came unto us again and raised him from death. Truly it is wonderful to trust in Jesus; trust and not be afraid, for it is his will to be glorified in us. 2 Cor. 5:7, "For we walk by faith, not by sight." We walk the sea of troubles and trials by faith. Whatever your troubles are, Jesus is always near to comfort and to cheer. "The gift of faith no limit knows, save God's unbounded word; It triumphs o'er its giant foes, and glorifies the blessed Lord."

Psa. 46:1 reads: "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

"Souls in danger look above, Jesus completely saves; He will lift you by his love, out of the angry waves."

David said, "This poor man cried, and the Lord heard him, and saved him out of all his troubles." Psa. 34:6.

If you are one who has once known the Lord, and walk no more with him, pray as Jonah, "When my soul fainted within me I remembered the Lord; and my prayer came in unto thee, into thine holy temple." Jonah 2:7. It is far better to come straight with God than to be writhing in flames of despair.

"When nothing else could help, love lifted me."

—Sister Lewis Williams.

"FAITH AND VICTORY"

16-Page Holiness Monthly

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

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

—SUBSCRIPTION PRICES—

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

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

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

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

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 Pub. House. All offerings and gifts given or sent in to Fred Pruitt or his wife will be used in the general up-keep of the printing work unless you state that it is for personal needs. We make His work first.

FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE

920 W. Mansur Ave., Guthrie, Oklahoma
Phone Number 1479

—::—

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY

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

Subscription price: 60¢ per year for single copies.

Editorials

In this issue of the "Faith and Victory" we are advertising the time and location of many of the different campmeetings to be held this summer. Every child of God, and all others who are interested in the way to heaven, should attend one or more of these campmeetings. It is very encouraging and edifying to the soul to mix and mingle with the blood-washed saints of God who attend these meetings. All the saints everywhere ought to be praying for the campmeetings that God will make them soul-saving meetings; that the cries of new-born babes will be heard in the kingdom of God, which is the church of God, the family of God, which makes up the pillar and ground of all the truth. All who attend these meetings should obey the Scriptures by endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. Mote hunters should first remove the beam out of their own eye so their vision will be clear; thereby keep from exposing the blindness of their hearts. All lovers of the righteousness of God will have a hearty welcome in these campmeetings. Those whom God has prospered with means should not forget to support the financial needs of the meetings as God lays it upon their hearts. Let every one cooperate with God in the welfare and salvation of souls in all the campmeetings.

o—o—o—o—o—o—o

The Sunday School lessons for the month of August will be sent to subscribers who receive Sunday-school rolls. If anyone who has only a single subscription desires one of these leaflets for August, please notify us, and we'll be glad to send it to you. There will be no "Faith and Victory" published for the month of August, as usual; so we may be free for campmeetings.

o—o—o—o—o—o—o

Parents, there is no greater heritage you could leave your children than a sober, righteous, and godly life lived before them. Words and deeds done before the children will so imbed upon their plastic minds that it will be hard for Satan or any other power to erase. The Bible teaches us if we will train up our children as they should go, when they are old they will not depart from it. Parents should take time to train their children, as God has trusted them to the care and keeping and the responsibility is upon them to obey God. See that they have reading material that will teach them of the Lord that a reverent love for God and his ways will be instilled into their souls. When I was a young boy my father bought a book of Bible stories for children. There were also colored pictures which attracted my attention, and made the reading all the more attractive and true to my heart. Later in life, when the Lord saved my soul, those truths impressed upon me in my childhood days were brought vividly to my mind, showing how that the tender heart and mind had been stenciled with truth which caused us to fear the Lord and seek His mercy.

Just the past Sunday, we were in the all-day meeting at Sapulpa, Okla., and a young minister got up to testify. With much anointing and inspiration

he told of how his mother had taught him and instructed him in the truth of the Bible from a child up and how he, too, after getting saved, had the pleasure of enjoying the truths his mother had taught him. He said that those truths stood out in his memory in a great manner and way.

To neglect children in their spiritual needs while growing up, would be one of the greatest mistakes a parent could make in life.

There are plenty of papers and books for children that parents could get for them, and then take time to read to them. As they get older, they can read for themselves. We carry in stock the "Egermeier's Bible Story Book," which is a wonderful book for children. When our children were young, we would read a story out of this book to them when we had our morning and evening worship, and they greatly enjoyed it. This book contains 608 pages, and has a number of colored pictures to impress the truth upon the child's mind. We also put out a paper for children, called the "Beautiful Way." Every parent should subscribe for this paper for their children. By so doing, they would furnish the children a paper to read every Sunday in the year—fifty-two papers in all, for 60 cents per year. Or if you subscribe for five or more sets the price is only 40 cents for each subscription. This is a very little outlay compared to the good that the children will receive. The child's mind is going to work and think about things, and the parents should see that the child has good things to occupy their tender minds that will grow for their good in future years and be the means of bringing them to God, should they drift into sin, which many do. When God gives you children, they are like little lambs for you to tenderly care for; and every parent should feel their responsibility along this line.

o—o—o—o—o

The other day I was reading the third chapter of 2 Peter, and I was greatly impressed with his exhortation. After he had told about the earth and all things therein being burned up at the coming of the Lord, he kindly reminds us of what manner of persons we ought to be in all holy conversation and godliness. In the 14th verse he warns again, "Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace without spot and blameless." In the 16th verse he refers to Paul's writings and says, "that we need to be warned on how to receive and understand things, for he has written some things that are hard to understand correctly. Peter says the unlearned wrest Paul's and other Scriptures to their own destruction. A sadness came over my heart when I was thinking of the many false teachers in the world today who are doing that very thing. Even though they have college diplomas and have graduated from different Bible schools, yet they are unlearned of the Lord and wrest the Scriptures from their proper meaning and make people believe that a Christian will sin more or less in life. By being unlearned of God, they so wrest the meaning of the Scriptures and try to prove their assertions by the Bible. Thereby they cause other unlearned ones to believe a lie, which will bring destruction of their souls in the end. Those

who teach and believe that God is not able to save and keep one free from sin in this life needs to humble down before God until they will become meek and lowly in heart so they can learn of God and get their souls in harmony with heaven and the Bible truth; and then the Word of God will read true holiness unto them. When they read in the Word as recorded in Luke 1:74, 75, "That he would grant unto us, that we being delivered out of the hand of our enemies might serve him without fear, in holiness and righteousness before him all the days of our life," they would read this with rejoicing and would not try to find some way to wrest it from its clear meaning and make it harmonize with the condition of their own souls.

In Hebrews 12:14 it reads, "Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord." This Scripture is very plain and simple, and means just what it says. It should not be wrested from its meaning to make it harmonize with sinful souls. Let sinful souls humble down and get their souls in harmony with the plain teaching of the Word and they will not want to wrest the Scriptures, but will rejoice in them just as they are.

The seventh chapter of Romans contains more of Paul's writings that seem hard for the unlearned (in God's wisdom) to understand, and they wrest it from its proper meaning and teach people that Paul was telling of his condition when a Christian because they have not learned of God, and to interpret it that way harmonizes with their experience in their souls. If they were in soul condition to learn of God, he would enable them to see that Paul was telling of his experience when he lived in sin under the law and never as a Christian in Christ. He said in one place (verse 14), "For we know that the law is spiritual, but I am carnal, sold under sin." Being carnal and sold under sin is just exactly what a sinner is before he is saved in Christ. In the 24th verse he says, "O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death?" No man or woman who is saved in the Lord is wretched. They are already delivered from that body or power of death which made Paul wretched. Men that make a profession of Christ without being saved and are still in sin, having not been taught of God, say that Paul was telling of his experience as a Christian. Nothing could be farther from the truth. Professors of religion who teach such are wresting the Scriptures from their proper meaning to the destruction of their own souls and to the destruction of those that hear them.

There is also another Scripture in the first chapter of First John which theologians wrest to their own destruction wherein if they were learned of God they could easily see the error of their teaching and would not be responsible for so much destruction of souls. This Scripture reads as follows (verse 7), "But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another [or with God] and the blood of Jesus Christ, his Son cleanseth us from all sin." These professors put the stress on the next two verses and thereby ruin the meaning of the apostle John's writings and drag him down as one who is teaching a sin-

you-must religion. I say, Shame on such teachers. If they had been taught of God, they could easily see that they should harmonize the 8th verse with the seventh and then it would read thus, "If we say that we have no sin (to be cleansed from) we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us." You will notice in the 7th and the 8th verses the word sin is in the singular number, denoting or relating to the sin that passed upon all men through the fall of the first Adam. He was writing to young converts and telling them if they would walk in the light as he (God) is in the light, they would have fellowship with Him and would get to the place where he would cleanse them from that sin in the second definite work of grace. To accept their wrested interpretation of this Scripture would have John flatly contradicting himself in the third chapter where he says (verse 7), "Little children, let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness is righteous even as he [Christ] is righteous." And in the next verse he says, "He that committeth sin is of the Devil." When Christ comes in and sanctifies the soul, he destroys the work of the Devil right out of the heart and preserves the soul blameless unto the day of his coming. Read First Thess. 5:23, 24.

Dear reader, whomsoever you may be, let us believe the gospel as it is taught to us by his Spirit and look to the Lord to so cleanse our hearts that we can rejoice in the plain simple teaching of the Word and not allow ourselves to be deceived by those who are unlearned of God. Destruction will surely be the end of all those who are not cleansed in this life and live free from sin.

Obituaries

Dilla May Howery, born August 18, 1884 in Springhill, Iowa, passed away at her home in Portland, Ore., May 11, 1954; age 69 years, 8 months, and 23 days.

The early portion of her life was spent in Iowa where in January 5, 1903 she was united in marriage to Martin G. Olson. In 1905 they left Iowa and moved to Minnesota. In 1925 they moved to Oregon; first to Roseburg, then in 1940 came to Portland where they have made their home since. Bro. Olson is a minister of the Church of God there. Sister Olson had been in failing health for the past eight months. At times her suffering was severe, but her trust was in the Lord and she was faithful to the end. Many times during her sickness the Lord was near to bless and answer prayer and give rest. He never failed.

She was well loved by her loved ones, friends, and the dear saints; and will be greatly missed by all; but our loss is heaven's gain.

Surviving members of her family include her husband, Bro. Martin G. Olson; and six living children: Raymond G. of Roseburg, Ore.; Merrel D. of Portland, Ore.; Charles H. of Madras, Ore.; Russel E. of Portland, Ore.; Elmer H. of Sutherland, Ore.; and Mrs. Merle Marcom, Nyssa, Ore.; 20 grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; one sister.

Funeral by writer; text Rev. 14:12-14; Eccl. 4:1-3; 2 Tim. 4:6. Interment, Forrest Lawn Cemetery.

—I. D. Stover.

Sister Lula (Woods) Benbo, born August 26, 1882 in Lum, Alabama, departed this life March 24, 1954, age 71 years, 6 months, and 26 days. In 1900 she married

Richard Benbo, to which union five children were born.

When she was a young woman she met the Evening Light saints and chose Christ as her personal Savior. She endeavored to live a consistent Christian life. She was always more considerate of the welfare and comfort of others than her own. She was a mother to many children other than her own. She was always busy ministering spiritual help to the sick and needy.

A short time before she was weakened in body, she said the Lord awakened her in the night and made her know there were two duties he wanted her to perform. She arose early in the morning to go do them, and when she had done the last one, she realized her work was finished. She said, "That is all." Shortly afterwards she was confined to her home and only went to services a few times. During her illness, she was cheerful and patient and trusted the Lord for soul and body to the end. She would not be persuaded to resort to medical aid; rather she said as Job did, "Though He slay me, yet will I trust him." And as Paul said, "I have fought a good fight, I have kept the faith." She said she had packed for heaven long ago and heaven's gates would open wide for her.

She has entered a new existence

Far beyond the shining stars,
Where she will know no pain or sorrow

Nor feel the sting of earthly scars.
Her life she spent in service to others

So good, so pure, so true.
We who loved her pause to wonder

So much accomplished in years so few.
Never a woman had loftier purpose,

Nobler thought for family or friend,
Always the constructive builder

Her footsteps on the upward trend.
A constant companion and inspiration

For many glorious, happy years,
Till God called her home to heaven

Beyond the misty vale of tears.

Sister Benbo leaves to mourn their loss, her husband, Richard Benbo; one daughter, Mrs. Rosa Waters; four sons, Edward, Sam Amos, Fred, and William Benbo; four grandchildren; three great-grandchildren, all of Los Angeles and a host of other relatives and friends.

Services conducted by Brother I. C. Chandler, pastor, assisted by Brother I. D. Stover and Sister Gertrude Lee. Scripture Text: Ecclesiastes 3:1, 2.

o—o—o—o—o—o

Jeff Syas, the second child of Brother and Sister John Syas, was born in Wallace, Oklahoma May 5, 1914 and departed this life May 5, 1954 in Stockton, Calif., age 40. His early boyhood was spent in Phoenix, Arizona. In 1934 he moved to California and lived most of his time in Los Angeles. The last year or more he lived in Northern California until his passing after a short illness of two days. He was married at an early age, but had no children. His pleasant disposition won him many friends. His many good deeds to his family and friends will be long remembered. He leaves to mourn their loss a wife, Mrs. Vanessa Syas, a faithful mother, Mrs. Dora Syas of Los Angeles, three sisters: Mrs. Caroline Russel, Mrs. Essie Rabb, both of Los Angeles, and Mrs. Ovita Spears of Richmond, California; three brothers, John Syas of Los Angeles, Alvin Syas and Carl Syas of Oakland, Calif.; three nieces, three nephews, four aunts, two uncles, and a host of relatives and friends.

Services held in Los Angeles at saints' chapel, conducted by brother I. C. Chandler, pastor. Text: We all have an appointment to meet. Luke 16:20-26; Heb. 9:27.

Mrs. Mary Lee Allen, born December 13, 1884 in Cook County Texas, departed this life April 3, 1954 in Shawnee, Oklahoma, age 69 years, 3 months, and 21 days.

Nov. 11, 1901 she was united in marriage to Ira L. Allen, to which union four children were born, three survive: namely, Mrs. W. C. McMakin, Mrs. Edna Murry, and Mrs. S. L. West. Other surviving relatives are: her husband, I. L. Allen; sister, Mrs. W. L. Redwine; and uncle; 13 grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren.

She has been a member of the Shawnee, Okla. congregation of saints for many years, and had their love and admiration. The Lord prepared her for her passing a short time before her last illness by a special blessing to her soul when she went to the altar in a revival meeting to reconsecrate her life. She had a bright testimony.

Funeral services conducted by Bro. Sam Barton, assisted by Bro. Archie Souder. Scriptures: 1 Cor. 15:50-51, 55; Heb. 9:27; 2 Cor. 5:1; John 14:2; Gal. 6:7; Psal. 23:4; 2 Tim. 4:6; and Bro. Souder read Heb. 1:2.

Interment: Resthaven Memorial Park, Shawnee, Okla.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Sister Matilda Lee, now living at Atoka, Okla. desires prayer for her body. She is almost blind and deaf. She is trusting God and is willing to go to be with Him, or stay to labor for souls, but needs help from the Lord.

Bro. Trinkle of Hardinsburg, Ind. is bothered with smothering spells until he cannot rest nor sleep at night. Pray for his healing and that the Lord will make a way for him to attend some campmeetings.

Campmeeting Notices

Midway (Jena), Louisiana

Date: July 8-18.

Location: One mile west of Jena, four blocks south off Highway No. 84.

For information write to Ernest Mitchell R. 1, Trout, La. or Ruth Murphey Box 824, Jena, La.

Green Pastures, Oklahoma

The Green Pastures Campmeeting of the church of God begins July 9th and continues through July 18th. All are invited to come and be with us. We are looking for God to send ministers who will preach the full gospel. This meeting will be run on the free will offering plan. Those driving through from the west, follow Highway 62 east from Okla. City to Hill Top, turn north and go one mile. Those coming from the east follow Highway 62 to one-half mile west of Nacoma Park to Hill Top, turn north one-half mile. Those who come by train or bus to Oklahoma City, notify Sister Irma Allen 1018 S. W. 5th, Oklahoma City, phone RE-64847. For particulars about the meeting, write to Bro. J. T. Johnson, Spencer, Okla., R. 1, Box 174; or Bro. E. W. Sanders, R. 2, Box 39, Spencer Okla. Bring bed linens and covers. Cots and mattresses will be furnished. Bro. E. W. Sanders, Pastor.

NATIONAL CAMPMEETING

The Lord willing, the National Campmeeting of the church of God will be held on the saints' camp grounds at Monark Springs (Neosho, Mo.) July 23 to August 1st, inclusive. Monark Springs, which is located five miles east of Neosho, on highway No. 86, is not a railroad station nor bus stop, so those coming by train or bus will find it necessary to come to Neosho, then call the Monark

Springs store for someone to come get them. Watch for highway markers leading to camp grounds.

To all the saints and lovers of the truth, a hearty welcome is extended to attend this gathering together of God's people. If you have a desire to attend the meeting and can possibly get there COME and the Lord will take care of other needs whether they be spiritual, financial, or physical. Plan now to attend. Meals will be served in the dining hall and the meeting will be run on the free-will offering plan, except as in years past the tents will rent for \$5.00 each, the cots and pads \$1.00 each, space and cot in dormitory will be \$2.50 each. It will be greatly appreciated if tent orders be sent in early, so if we have to engage additional tents from the tent and awning company, we can place our order in time to be assured of getting them.

Come prepared for cool nights, for if it rains during the meeting, you will find it real cool. Additional wraps will be needed. Those of us living near should bring our bedding if possible. At the present time the tabernacle is being enlarged to take care of the increasing attendance, so plan to come.

The Lord will send His Spirit-filled ministers to preach His Word, and we will look earnestly to Him to guide and direct in all that is said and done. Pray for the meeting.

For further information concerning the meeting, write to Bros. Albert Eck, Bartlett, Kans. R. 1; Sam Barton, 2240 N. Columbia Place, Tulsa, Okla.; L. D. Pruitt, 1116 W. Washington, Guthrie, Okla., or the undersigned.

Ralph M. Beisly, Rte. 5, Coffeyville, Kans.

Guthrie, Oklahoma

Date: August 6th to 15th.

Location: 600 block West Warner Ave.

For information write O. C. Porter, R. 5, Guthrie.

Temporal provisions are free as the Lord provides through free-will offerings and donations of fruit, vegetables, etc. Sleeping quarters for women above the dining hall, and for men in the men's dormitory. Bring sheets, pillows, towels, etc. There are modern rest rooms on the grounds; and the saints will try to make all as comfortable as possible. We trust those coming will be so interested in spiritual things that they will be willing to endure some inconveniences and discomfort caused by hot weather, etc.

We, the saints at Guthrie, extend a hearty welcome to saints and lovers of the truth everywhere. We hope you will pray and ask the Lord if He wants you to come.

Myrtle, Missouri

The campmeeting of the church of God begins August 20th and will continue through August 29th. All are invited to come.

The meeting will be run on the free-will offering plan. Bring pillows, sheets, and covers. Beds, cots, ticks, and straw will be furnished as long as they last.

We are looking to the Lord for ministers of His choosing. If you need help in soul or body, come to this meeting.

For further information write to Bro. S. E. Abbott, Thayer, Mo., or A. J. Sorrell and wife, Myrtle, Mo.

Boley, Oklahoma

The saints at Boley, Okla. expect to have a campmeeting this year, Lord willing, beginning August 20 through August 29, or as long as the Lord directs.

For further information write to Bro. C. A. Wallace, P. O. Box 224, or Sister Ora Spears, R. 1, Box 109.

Come one; Come all!!

Bakersfield, California

The campmeeting of the church of God at Bakersfield, Calif. begins August 13, 1954 and continues through Aug. 22nd. All are invited to come. The meeting will be run on the free-will offering plan. The meeting house is located on the corner of Brown and Virginia St. Virginia St. is the same as 4th St. Those coming from the north traveling on Highway No. 99, turn left on 4th St. which is one-half mile south of California St. Continue east to So. Brown St., which is about one mile to the church house. Those coming from the south on Highway No. 99, turn right on 4th St. which is one-half mile north of Brundage Lane—continue east to So. Brown. We want all to come who can. We will be prepared to care for everyone.

We will advise all coming from out of the state to come prepared to attend the State Campmeeting, which begins eight days after the Bakersfield meeting ends.

For further information, write Francis Blackwell, 501 Monticello Ave., phone 3-2731; J. A. Harris, 615 Haley St., phone 3-3805; E. V. Gaines, 326 Augusta, phone 3-1181; Manuel Francisco, 109 Milham Dr., ph. 3-5782.

—I C. Chandler, pastor.

California State Campmeeting

Date: August 27 to September 5th, 1954.

Location: 12312 Osborne Place, Pacoima, Calif., a suburb of Los Angeles.

O. B. Wilson, 12312 Osborne Place, Pacoima, Calif.

So. Charleston, W. Va.

The Church of God campmeeting will be held at the chapel in So. Charleston, located at 1006 F St., two blocks north from Maine Highway 60, running east and west through city, July 9th-18th. Plenty of parking space for cars and trailers near the chapel, kitchen and dining hall in rear of chapel. We are looking to our God to give us another wonderful meeting, as He has in the past. We invite all to come—the sinner to be saved, sick to be healed, and the saved to be sanctified. Truly we are serving a mighty God. There will be sleeping quarters for all who can come. We are praying the Lord to burden the hearts of his true ministers to come to preach the whole truth of God's Word without fear or favor. This meeting will be run on the free-will offering plan, as usual. We urge all to come. Come praying and looking to our Lord for a precious Spirit-filled meeting again this year. For further information write Bro. and Sis. T. L. Spaur, 151½ 10th Ave., So. Charleston, W. Va., phone 4-5539; or Elizabeth Flowers, 105½ 10th Ave. phone 4-8130.

Dover, Oklahoma

The Lord willing, the Dover Campmeeting will be held Sept. 3rd to Sept. 12th, 1954. The campground is one mile north and two and one-half miles east of Dover. Anyone desiring to be met at the bus station, notify us in plenty of time, tell us the hour your bus will arrive at Dover. Dover is on Highway 81. Bring your blankets. Cool nights are expected. Pray for the meeting.

Ulysses Phillips and Henry Caldwell, R. 1, Dover.

TENT MEETING NOTICE

A tent meeting of the Church of God at Kalamazoo, Michigan, will begin, Lord willing, Sunday July 25th, and end Sunday, August 8th, or will continue as long as the Lord leads.

We plan to have meetings every night at 7:00 o'clock

through the week, and three times on each Sunday.

Sunday meetings at 10:00 a. m.; 2:30 p. m. and 7:30 p. m.

We also plan to have a basket lunch each Sunday. Everyone is welcome.

Are you discouraged? sick in body? or sick of sin? Jesus will save your soul and heal your body. Come expecting to leave with victory in both soul and body.

We are looking for God to send us Spirit-filled ministers and Christian workers to help in this meeting. We invite all lovers of the truth to come and be encouraged.

People coming from afar will be provided lodging and meals (by faith) by the saints.

The meeting will take place at 314 DeHaan Drive (West off So. Westnedge, 5200 Block), U. S. Highway 131 South—the same location as last year.

For further information write Bro. and Sister Leo Wilkins, 5925 Nevada Ave., Kalamazoo, Michigan, Phone 4-8258 or 5-0407.

—:::—

A Woman Clothed With the Sun

(This is a continuation of the article started in last month's paper. Please read it again and read Revelation 12th chapter.)

Who was Michael? "Yet Michael the archangel, when contending with the devil, he disputed about the body of Moses, durst not bring against him a railing accusation, but said, The Lord rebuke thee" (Jude 9). What is meant by archangel? Head or chief of the angelic host. Only Jesus Christ holds that position. "Who has gone into heaven, and is on the right hand of God; angels and authorities and powers being made subject unto him" (1 Peter 3:22). What does Daniel say of Michael? And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and at that time thy people shall be delivered" (Dan. 12:1). Who is the great prince called Michael? "The God of our fathers raised up Jesus, whom ye slew and hanged on a tree. Him hath God exalted with his right hand to be a Prince and a Saviour, for to give repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins" (Acts 5:30, 31). We learn from the above Scriptures that Michael is the Lord Jesus Christ, and his angels are the host of Christians and especially his ministers, who are willing to lay down their lives in defense of the gospel of the kingdom.

What did the dragon represent in the vision? Pagan Rome, the dragon power or heathen worship. Who were the dragon's angels? The adherents of Paganism. The principal thought in the lesson is the great conflict between Christianity and Paganism, which took place in the beginning of the gospel dispensation. How did this conflict end? And the dragon fought and his angels, and prevailed not, and the great dragon was cast out that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him." (Rev. 12:7-9). Casting out the dragon and his angels would signify the victory Christianity gained over heathenism. The triumphs of the gospel over Pagan darkness. At the ushering in of the gospel dispensation, Paganism was the universal religion. Rome held universal sway. Paganism held the highest position on earth when Christ appeared

to save the world. But he who is called Michael, he and his angels, ministers and adherents, waged war against this dragon in his high places. Being victorious, he proved to the world that Paganism had no right to such a high seat, therefore Christ cast him down, and set up his kingdom instead. Why was this dragon power called Satan, the devil, that old serpent? Because its religion was purely of devilish origin. The early Christians termed heathen Rome, the devil; in fact it was the main instrument through which Satan worked in opposition to Christianity and through which he had deceived almost the whole world. Paul says, the things which the Gentiles (heathen) sacrifice, they sacrifice to devils; and I would not that ye should have fellowship with devils. Ye cannot drink the cup of the Lord, and the cup of devils (1 Cor. 10:20, 21).

—A. R. Hightower

A Deeper Consecration

I feel impressed to write to the saints abroad along the line of consecration. I feel a great need for this that God's work may prosper.

When Moses finished the work (Exodus 40:34) then a cloud covered the tent of the congregation and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle. It was necessary for this consecration to be made that the glory of the Lord could be manifested.

God plans for everyone in the congregation to be consecrated, fully given up to him, so that he will be glorified. When we consecrate like this, God can get our time and money in his service, there won't be any draw back on any line. There must be a complete giving up on every line.

It is now campmeeting season and it will take help both temporally and spiritually, and all support will have to come through consecrated hearts.

Josiah said unto the people, "Sanctify yourselves, for tomorrow the Lord will do wonders among you." In other words, set yourselves apart or prepare yourselves, for tomorrow the Lord will do wonders among you.

I often hear the saints talk about how the Lord blessed forty years ago. If we make the consecration as they did, it will be the same today. We need to be consecrated, to fast and pray.

Your brother in Christ,

Otis Hill

The People Of God

"And it shall come to pass, in the place where it was said unto them, Ye are not my people; there shall they be called the children of the living God." And Isaiah exclaimed, with regard to Israel: "Though the number of the children of Israel be as the sand of the sea, a remnant shall be saved." Rom. 9:26, 27.

When we think of the import of these Scriptures, it makes our hearts rejoice to know that God has a people, and especially do we rejoice to be counted worthy through full salvation, to be numbered with his people.

To be the children of God, means more than language can express. First, it means peace. "There-

fore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ" Rom. 5:1. Job said, "Acquaint now thyself with him, and be at peace." Job 22:21. David said, "I will hear what the Lord will speak: for he will speak peace unto his people, and to his saints: but let them not turn again to folly" Psalms 85:8. God said through the prophet Isaiah, that if we would hearken unto his commandments, then would our peace be as a river and our righteousness be as the waves of the sea." Isa. 48:18. Jesus says, "My peace give I unto you," and "in me ye shall have peace." We praise God for this wonderful peace we have in God; and not only do we have peace with God, but we also have peace one with another. Mark 9:50. Men whose hearts have been set against each other for years, desiring to take each other's life, can find peace with God and then be reconciled and have peace with each other.

We find in the beginning when God made man, that he made him in his own image and likeness, pure and holy. Then he took a rib from Adam's side and made Adam a wife, and called her name Eve. Those were the people of God then, and it shows by their pattern what he wants us to be now. Paul tells us that God has chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame (Eph. 1:4). Amen.

This Scripture brings us to the consideration of the fact that God's people are holy. "And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation. These are the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel." Ex. 19:6. This corroborates with Paul whose writings we quoted from Ephesians; but we shall again look into the Scriptures. In Isa. 62:12 we read, "And they shall call them, The holy people, the redeemed of the Lord." Praise the Lord! The holy Father sent his Holy Son into this dark and sinful world to redeem lost and ruined man and bring them back to God in purity of heart and holiness to that Edenic experience before the fall. This redemption could only be accomplished by and through the blood of Jesus. The sacrificial offerings of animals, prefigured this all-atoning sacrifice for two thousand years; but it was unsatisfactory. Because it was not possible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sin. Read Heb. 10:4. "But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building; Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered once into the holy place having obtained eternal redemption for us. For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh; How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God." Heb. 9:11, 14. What was wrong with the blood of bulls and goats? It reaches no further than purifying the flesh, and never reached the heart. But the blood of Christ is more efficacious in that it reaches the heart.

Accordingly we read, "Let us draw near with a

true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water" Heb. 10:22. "Now the end of the commandment is charity out of a pure heart, and of a good conscience, and faith unfeigned." 1 Tim. 1:5. "Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart." 2 Tim. 2:22. The heart is the seat of affections. Jesus said, "Where your treasures are, there will your heart be also." Matt. 6:21. "A good man out of the good treasure of the heart, bringeth forth good things: and an evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things." Praise the Lord! When the heart is made holy, the whole man will be holy, both in body and spirit. "Having these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God." 2 Cor. 7:1.

Some folks start externally, on the outside, by quitting a few bad deeds, and refraining from the larger and most heinous crimes of sin—maybe quit using tobacco; ask the blessing at the table; feed the neighbor's horse or put gasoline in the preacher's car; shake hands with the preacher in joining their church; probably attend church services quite regularly; and think by their good deeds they are going to heaven when the heart has never been regenerated. Such folks will end up badly at the Judgment. Jesus says in Matt. 23:25, 26, "Woe unto you, scribes, Pharisees, hypocrites, for you make clean the outside of the cup and of the platter, but within they are full of extortion and excess. Thou blind Pharisee, cleanse first that which is within the cup and platter, that the outside of them may be clean also."

This brings us to the consideration of the fact that God's people are clean.

In Ezek. 36: 25, we read, "Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean: from all your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you. A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh [soft and pliable in the hands of God]. And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments and do them." ". . . Be ye clean that bear the vessels of the Lord." God wants his people to not only be clean themselves, and within themselves; but he also wants us to be clean among ourselves. He warned ancient Israel so often about getting mixed up with the different nations, and of worshiping their idols. They would get involved, and God would have to take measures to clean them up and get them straightened out. In Numbers 25:1 we read where they began to commit whoredom with the daughters of Moab. And they called the people unto the sacrifices of their gods: and the people did eat, and bowed down to their gods. And Israel joined himself unto Ba-al-pe-or: and the anger of the Lord was kindled against Israel. In the seventh verse we see where God had someone to take care of this matter and straighten things out. This man Phin-e-has slew both the man and woman, and thus the plague was stayed from

the children of Israel. In Psa. 106:29, 31, God speaks of this again, and he says, this was counted to Phinehas for righteousness for evermore. Now if God required strictness among the Old Testament church, is he any less strict and exacting in the New Testament church, or, we may say, The Church of God? It seems to me he might draw the line a little tighter, because we are living under Grace and power which can be exercised over all the power of the devil (Luke 10:19). This exceeds what the former people had. Yet we see that such adulterous, fornicative spirits have appeared at different times, right in and among the saints of God; and their dirty work carried on; though somewhat covered and smuggled, and at other times out very open and bold till their influence reached out and caught many in their trap. God warns us through the apostle Paul and other of the New Testament writers—and we shall do well to sound out the warning—preach the Word in all its fullness without respect of person, or fear or favor. We read in the book of Jude where certain men crept in unawares (maybe caught the watchmen sleeping) turned the grace of our God into lasciviousness, which is lewdness, base, and lustful conduct.

"But fornication, and all uncleanness, let it not be once named among you, as becometh saints. For this you know, that no whoremonger, nor unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, hath any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God." Let us as the people of God, live clean, pure, and devoted lives for the Master, so that when he comes we will be ready. Yours in Him, —L. L. Perry

— ooo —

Now Is the Day of Salvation

"Behold, now is the accepted time; Behold, now is the day of salvation." You may say, "I am young and have plenty of time, and I want to have some fun first." The question is, do you have plenty of time? The answer is NO. For no one knows when death will reach out its grasping arms, nor who will be next on the list.

In a moment of time death reaches out, claiming babes, laughing youngsters, and adults. There is only one breath between you and death. Who knows but what your next breath may be your last?

How many young people along highways are struck down instantly? Or what about other forms of death? Suppose you are one of these victims: where will you spend eternity? There is life after death, you know, although you may laugh and scoff. Some day your laughing will turn into wails of anguish as you spend eternity in Hell.

My friend, you can escape hell if you accept Christ as your Saviour. If you will confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus, and shall believe in your heart that God hath raised him from the dead, you shall be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. (Romans 10:9-10). —G. E. Errington

"And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment." Heb. 9:27.

The Cross of Calvary

If time has been kept correctly, more than nineteen hundred years ago, God, in order that we might live throughout all eternity, put into action the new covenant by giving his only begotten Son on the cross of Calvary. John 3:16: "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

God loved us because we are his creation. We belong to God by creation, and He created man for good, not for evil. He put good and evil before man, and man chose evil rather than good. This choice was displeasing to God, but in his goodness and love and mercy, he fixed a way of escape from that awful place of punishment called hell that was prepared for the devil and his angels. The way of escape is by the cross of Jesus. Luke 9:23, "And he said to them all, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily, and follow me." Matt. 16:25, "For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it."

Paul tells us in 1 Cor. 1:5, "That in everything ye are enriched by him in all utterance, and in all knowledge." 1 Cor. 1:17, "For Christ sent me not to baptize, but to preach the gospel: not with wisdom of words lest the cross of Christ should be made of none effect. For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God." (V. 18).

Col. 1:20, "And having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him I say, whether they be things in earth or things in heaven."

Heb. 12:2, "Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God."

Phil. 2:8, "And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death even the death of the cross."

That little company that the Father, God, gave to Jesus is that little company that has come to him by the way of the cross where Jesus died. It is the cross that fits man for the bosom of the Father, for the companionship of the Son. On the cross where Jesus died we behold the manifestation of the love of God. We can receive the impulses of that love only by the way of the cross. It is the cross that brings us in tune with heaven.

The Christian glories in the cross. It is by the cross that he is separated from the world with all its attending wretchedness, fretfulness, anxieties, discontentments and disappointments. It is by the cross he is brought into communication with heaven, with all its joys and blessedness. He feels the impulses of the great southland and some day the prison doors of the body will open and he will fly away. Heaven has come to his soul now. Some day he will go to heaven.

You can have your Christian instincts deepened at the cross. You do not need to seek a monastery, or make long pilgrimages to the Holy Land, or take a course in college to get inborn within your soul intuitions of heaven. Make your pilgrimage to the cross of Christ. If you desire a greater knowledge of the glory world, to get a clearer vision of the face of Jesus, to hear more distinctly messages from heaven, to feel more of heaven, hold earnest conversations with the Son of God at the cross. Kneel there and talk to him. It is there that your life will become impregnated with the sweet joyous fragrances of the heavenly graces and your soul so transfigured by the beauty of holiness that saintliness will beam out thru every feature. And as you go out among men attending the duties of life, heavenliness will be stamped on every act. The price paid for your heavenly living was at the cross. It is only at the cross that the price—the life blood of Jesus—can be appropriated by the soul and man become possessor of Christ, and thereby be enabled to glorify God in his body and spirit, which are God's.

I am thinking of heaven tonight,
Of a mansion prepared there for me;
Where Jesus my Savior now dwells
And where I some glad day shall be.

I am thinking of Christ on the cross,
Of the blood that now makes me whole:
The death of the crucified one
Was the wonderful price for my soul.

I'll love him all the days of my life,
His praise I will ever proclaim;
I will serve him through calm and strife
And live to honor his name.

Your brother in Christ, J. T. Roberts

Our Heavenly Father's Family

A wonderful Father have we up in heaven
Who are washed in the Blood of the Lamb,
A relationship sweet extends through the earth,
Enjoyed through the Lamb that was slain.

This great family on earth, who once walked in sin,
Whose robes are now washed in the Blood,
Have their names all enrolled on the record above
Awaiting to meet those we love.

How we cherish the thought, if we walk in the light
Obeying our Father's commands,
There's a fellowship sweet with God's children we meet
And a blessing from heavenly lands.

These children on earth encounter with storms,
Severe many times they may be;
To the closet of prayer they are called to repair,
To a refuge so rich they can flee.

The summons some day, delivered shall be:
Come home, faithful pilgrims, come home unto Me,
Accepted Christ's pardon, redemption so free,
Inherit those mansions, My presence to see.

—Laura Bowman

Correspondence

Ohio—Dear saints—We have known this blessed truth all our lives. My husband and I are ministers, well known to all the saints in this part of Ohio.

I have a testimony of healing which we feel the Lord would have us relate, which I trust will be encouragement to others who are suffering affliction.

For more than a year I had been suffering severe pain, had lost weight, my blood pressure had gone down to 90. I had complications; first, a severe attack of gallstone. I was anointed and prayed for and God instantly healed me of gallstone. Then the dreaded disease of cancer made its appearance. We went to several doctors, who stated they could do me no good. One doctor sent me for X-rays. The X-rays revealed that I had cancer, for which the doctors stated nothing could be done, only some medicine to ease the pain till death.

We knew God's healing power and had experienced many healings in our own family and had seen many others healed by his divine virtue. We felt that He would not forsake us in this hour of great trial. Husband and children decided to fast until God gave us victory through his dear Son Jesus. At midnight I got up and destroyed the medicine; and thanks be to God, some forty-eight hours later relief came. We felt God had undertaken. The pains left and I started rapidly recovering. Not once has the pain come back. We feel we must give this testimony to the glory of God.

Well, the same day the Lord touched me, our first "Faith and Victory" paper came. We had never heard of this paper, but it brought great joy to our lives to read how God is healing, and to know He is no respecter of persons.

Please let us know if you have a campmeeting near Ohio, as we would like to attend.

A sister in Christ, Mrs. D. T. Green

o—o—o—o—o—o

Ill.—Dear saints—Greetings in Jesus Christ. I have wanted to send my testimony to the "Faith and Victory." I am healed. To Him I lifted my voice and prayed and my hearing has come back. And the skin cancer on my cheek received healing just like the first cancer on the side of my face years ago. I truly do praise my Savior, and thank everyone who prayed for my healing. There is nothing impossible with God. He is a present help in time of need. Pray for my husband's weaknesses.

Jesus is the same yesterday and today and forever. There is great peace in reading the Bible. Our family is well. May the Lord bless each one in holiness and righteousness in the true way. God is love; Jesus saves; Jesus heals. A sister in Christian love, Martha Knox.

o—o—o—o—o—o

Kans.—Dear saints,—Greetings in the precious name of Jesus. This leaves me saved and sanctified and happy in the Lord. I am glad I am not following him for the fishes and loaves, but I love Him with all my heart.

I felt led of the Lord tonight to write my testimony, praying that it will be an encouragement, or perhaps a warning.

It's about Television and how it can keep you from feeling the nearness of God. Saints, I know without a doubt that I'm sanctified. God has dealt with me in many wonderful ways, making himself plain and real to me. As I lay on my bed meditating on his Word, He would show me different things, and sometimes the next morning they would come to pass, sometimes longer. But I

know Television can break that fellowship between you and God. There is something about Television that is magnetic. I'll explain what I mean:

The lady I work for is out of town as I write this, and I am keeping her children. They have a T. V. set. I started off watching the news, and eventually after the news was over there was something about the set that I could hardly keep my eyes off; and it got so I had to fast and pray before I could feel God's nearness again. But thanks be to God who gives us the victory through Jesus Christ, now I can sit in the same room and it does not bother me; but I know they can be detrimental. I have heard young saints say that they wanted one. The T. V. salesmen could not give me a set; I don't want one in my house. Saints, I believe we are in the last of the last days, and the devil is making a last attempt at our souls. Let us lay aside every weight which doth so easily beset us and run with patience the race that is set before us. I don't want to hurt anyone. I'm not saying a T. V. is a sin, but it certainly is not edifying. The Word says, "Pray one for the other," so I need your earnest prayers.

With Christian Love,

Gladys Williams.

Editor's note: Nearly all that is displayed over T. V. is sinful, or will lead to sin, without a doubt.

o—o—o—o—o—o

Ohio—For some time I have thought I would like to write a bit of testimony in "Faith and Victory" to glorify our heavenly Father, expose the old serpent, the devil, and encourage God's dear saints to be faithful and trustful and obedient. Nearing sixty years of knowing his blessed love and care would make a book of interesting reading; but here I desire to just relate one instance of the devil's meanness, and while God may have permitted it, it was for my good.

I cannot now recall how I really got into the soul trouble of fear and accusation which brought an awful lack of sleep and I trembled seemingly all over. My suffering could never be told in words. I here want to advise dear souls to unsheath your sword and face the old devil. Never run; stand on God's precious promises. One thing, I looked too much to man. I met two women at a campmeeting who seemed to be servants of God and said their home was to help such afflicted ones as I; but I went and found their claims were untrue. After some sad experiences in which I learned that vain was the help of man, I said, "Now I will trust the Lord." One night my pains were so great (caused by an injury. I had blamed that suffering on the devil, then learned after having an examination that I had been hurt.) I thought if I would take another breath my side would be torn from my body. I was alone (Husband was gone). I just looked up and said, "Oh, Jesus." And, praise his name, that was the last such awful pain. I kept trusting, and praise his holy name, he healed me soul and body. Now I am nearing 84 and can care for myself and room and do some light work and walk a few blocks. I had not taken medicine nor given any to six of our children for fifty years. I want to trust Him only when death stares me in the face. I want to say, "Welcome, death, it is well with my soul."

I am grieved at the awful condition of our nation, but God's Word says it will be so. Truly evil powers are closing against God's saints. Let us pray for each other and be true. Trust for a faith to be true and able to be tried. Oh! how I love God.

—Mrs. E. F. O.

o—o—o—o—o—o

Mo.—Dear brothers and sisters and readers of the little paper—It has been some time since I have written through the paper. I feel tonight like testifying for my

dear Savior. I am saved tonight and I just want to live close to Him and always do what I can to help souls. I am weak, I know, but I know God can strengthen me to do what He wants me to do. Pray for me, dear ones, that I be bold to speak more about the Lord to those whom I meet and to always use every opportunity to witness for Him. When we go to town or any place among the people we can hear much talk about other things, but not very much about the dear Lord and His great salvation and what He can do. Dear ones, all of us need to be busy. Time is passing by and many dear souls in sin are sad and weary and heavy-hearted. Let us tell them of our great loving Savior who can save and bless them. There is no friend like Jesus. I am trusting Him tonight for soul and body. He is my Savior, my keeper, my healer, my comfort, my strength, my refuge. He is the one who took away the heavy burden of sin and gave me rest, peace, joy, and satisfied my longing heart. There is no thirsting nor longing for any of the vain or worldly pleasures. The love of Jesus and the joy of salvation is far, far above anything this world can offer.

Pray for my unsaved loved ones; and pray for the Lord to make the way for us to go to campmeeting this summer. Pray for my dear nephew who is in Korea, that he return home safely. All the soldiers need our prayers.

Your sister, Mrs. Becky Barnes.

o-o-o-o-o-o

Oklahoma.—Greetings to you in Jesus' dear name. I am saved and encouraged to follow the Lord all the way.

I would like to send in my testimony to tell what the Lord did for me. I am not very good in health. My teacher said that I would make an "F." I took this problem to the Lord in prayer. When we got our report cards today, I saw my card in Health, and the Lord has answered prayer.

Pray for me that I will be all in this world that the Lord wants me to be. Christian love, Lilly Mae Adams

o-o-o-o-o-o

Calif.—Dear saints and friends,—I am impressed by the Lord to write in my testimony. I am saved, living to all the light I now have of the Bible.

On Thanksgiving Day, 1930 I became sick with the flu and later took pneumonia in both lungs. They abscessed, bursted, and ran blood and pus. The first day I sat up was January 14th, and only five minutes then. I had the appearance of only skin and bones and had to learn to walk the second time. I had bed sores on my back three inches long and it took me three years to get back normal sense. It seemed I was bleeding to death four times with bleeding lungs, but the Lord healed me every time. I thank him for it and give him all the praise for it. I have a cough and spit up pus yet. I am requesting prayer for this condition. I trust the Lord for everything. We take the "Faith and Victory" paper and like its truths. If anyone wants to know more about my healing, write me, I will be glad to answer. —W. N. Graves.

My address is 1594 W. 7th St., Ontario, Calif.

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

Calif.—Dear saints everywhere,—I am thankful to be still saved and encouraged to live for God. I am thankful that in spite of all the imposition I've had, I still have the victory. The Lord surely blesses and supplies our needs. The Lord has blessed us abundantly and exceedingly more than we even asked or thought of. There is a joy in living for the Lord that the world cannot understand. I'd rather have him rule and reign in my heart than any or everything the world has to offer. Truly I love him with all my heart and I mean to live for him all the days of my life.

I am of the Stockton congregation, and we need your prayers. We have but few young people here, and they need prayer. We are thankful to report that we had a wonderful meeting here in January. The saints surely seem to have been stirred to measure according to the Word. Our ministers are exhorting us to walk carefully before God. Pray for us. We would like to hear from the saints at any time, or come here to see us.

—Bro. and Sister Clarence Hattley, 1544 E. 12th St., Stockton, Calif.

o-o-o-o-o-o

Ohio—To the saints, greetings in the precious name of Jesus. I am still saved and sanctified. I felt led to testify to what the Lord did for me in my past afflictions.

Several years ago while being employed at the Firestone Rubber plant I became sick. They sent me to the Company Doctor, who, after an examination, told me I had arthritis in the third stage, was done and would never be any more good. He said I could go to a warmer climate but that would not do much good. I was absent eight weeks from the job, and their rule is that after one is gone twelve days, he must submit to another examination. I obeyed them, and the doctor said, "You don't have it any more. What did you do for it?" I told him that the church fasted and prayed and afterward my pastor anointed and prayed for me and I was healed. He released me then for work.

Late last year I had a stroke. I was sick several days and the suffering was severe; neither food nor water tasted right, and I was really in great pain. I asked Sister Hudson, my pastor, to anoint me and pray for me. She said she wanted to read some Scriptures to me. This is the Scripture she read: Psalm 103:3, "Who forgiveth all thine iniquities: who healeth all thy diseases." She explained that this Scripture was a promise for salvation and also for my healing. We must exercise faith for salvation, also faith for healing. How it did increase my faith when she read this Scripture. She asked me afterward if I believed the Lord would heal me. I told her I believed when she said Amen, the work would be done. When she did say amen, immediately the healing came. I went downstairs afterwards, ate a good dinner, drank water, and they both tasted good. The next day I went to work.

I did not know such wonderful blessings could come to my soul through sickness. How my soul did magnify the Lord! Some of the things I remember as I look back to the sickness are: I let patience have her perfect work and no one was too slow nor too fast in waiting on me. I read in the Word about others receiving instant healing, and I thank the Lord for blessing me to see it in my sickness. I have been healed several times before, but not instant healing like this was; and how my soul does thank the Lord.

Early this year I was called to California to the sickness and passing of my mother. My manner in traveling was always to take a change of shoes that I might rest my feet, for they had a habit of swelling when I kept the same pair on very long at a time. When I left home my feet and legs were swollen in an unusual manner, and I thought I would surely have to use my sandals, for I had very large veins in my legs that were in such a bad condition it seemed they would break through; also I could not fasten my shoes all the way. When I arrived in Los Angeles, there were only three large knots on my leg, and by the time I reached El Centro where my mother lived the knots and swelling were both gone, so I never changed my shoes at all although I kept them on more than forty-eight hours, and there was no trouble at all

when I came home. The saints were praying for me for the whole trip that I would be healed, and I was. To me these were wonderful blessings, and I give the Lord all the praise for them.

After I came home and returned to work, I made a mistake in closing the electric switch box. The insulation was worn from the switch and a charge went through my body, but the Lord took care of me! One man said the charge was strong enough to kill a man. I ached from my hand up to the shoulders. As I looked down upon the back of my hand, I saw the blood was flowing from it. Sister Hudson was told by my wife of my trouble, and they went into prayer with other saints, and the Lord wonderfully brought me out. Really I have something to be thankful for.

I hope my testimony will encourage someone else to exercise faith in the Lord for their healing. What wonderful blessings the soul receives through suffering. I mean to keep true unto the end. Remember me in your prayers. Your brother in Christ, W. T. Tomlin

o-o-o-o-o

Mo.—Greetings in Jesus' dear name. This leaves me saved, sanctified, and satisfied in the Lord. This is the way and the truth and I am not looking for anything different. The church of God is complete in the Lord.

I feel led of the Lord to write of the things that have taken place here in the past six months. We can surely see the hand of God working.

The dear Lord has given us a place of worship in Senath these last six months in answer to prayer, and we have had different ones of God's ministers to come by and preach for us. Bro. Ostis Wilson came by and held several nights revival meeting. Three were at the altar getting help and one got saved. Several were healed of different ailments. I believe all the saints were very much encouraged to keep in this even path and press on for Jesus. We are so thankful how the dear Lord has blessed. Many things have taken place recently.

By the help of the Lord, I had the "Faith and Victory" paper sent to ten different ones for the three months' subscriptions. I know this little paper is filled with the truth, and believe when we reject it, it would be the same as rejecting the preached Word in the meeting house; as two whom I had the paper sent to are dead now. One died the 18th of Jan., suddenly; and I got news recently that the other is dead. Neither one accepted this truth that we know of. And three more are seriously afflicted in their bodies. They will not accept this truth.

Another sad case was of a young boy. I talked to him and begged him to get saved before too late. He just laughed and walked off. In just a short while the devil led this boy off deeper into sin until he broke the law of our land and is now being punished. Oh, it will surely pay for everyone to take heed how they accept this truth when they hear it or read it; as this truth is bringing life or death to every one. As it is written, "To one the savor of death unto death: and to the other the savor of life unto life." 2 Cor. 2:16.

I desire the prayers of every child of God, as it is the desire of my heart to live and obey every Word of the precious Bible. The dear Lord has been sending us some good food, and by His help, we mean to grow and prosper in our soul. Please pray for those who have not accepted this truth that the dear Lord will have mercy, that they might see the truth and accept it before too late.

May God bless every one of His children and help them to walk in the light, is my prayer.

Yours for the truth,

Effie Miller.

Mo.—Greetings to all in Jesus' dear name. A few weeks ago I sent in a request for prayer for my foot and leg and a cough. I am thankful I can say the Lord has wonderfully blessed me. I had been in bed six weeks and couldn't bear my foot to the floor without pains. I suffered much, but held on to the dear Lord and told him if He would let me walk again I would send in a testimony to the paper. I was praying and all at once I got the victory over it. I got up and walked across the room and back to the bed. It hurt my foot, so I got a chair and held to it and walked. The next day I walked without holding to anything and have been walking ever since and doing my house work. When I stand up and walk too long my foot swells, but I surely give God all the praise for blessing and helping me. By his help and grace I mean to go all the way with him and make heaven my home, where there will be no pains and no troubles.

Dear ones, keep on praying for me, as I need your prayers. And I pray for God to bless and take care of you all.

My son's little boy is losing the use of his legs and his right arm and has some kind of fever they claim can not be cured, also bad kidneys. I am asking all of you to please help me pray for him. I know God can do all things. He has helped me too many times for me to doubt him. God knows I trust him for all things and depend on him for both soul and body. I thank his dear name for helping me.

Nancy Sweeza

Roll of 5 "Faith and Victory" papers, one year	\$1.00
12 papers each month, one year	2.00
25 papers each month, one year	4.00
50 papers each month, one year	7.50
100 papers each month, one year	14.00

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

BIBLE STUDY

JESUS, OUR EXAMPLE AND LORD

July 4, 1954

Printed Portion: Luke 2:40-52

Luke 2:40 And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom: and the grace of God was upon him.

41. Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the feast of the passover.

42. And when he was twelve years old, they went up to Jerusalem after the custom of the feast.

43. And when they had fulfilled the days, as they returned, the child Jesus tarried behind in Jerusalem; and Joseph and his mother knew not of it.

44. But they, supposing him to have been in the company, went a day's journey; and they sought him among their kinsfolk and acquaintance.

45. And when they found him not, they turned back again to Jerusalem, seeking him.

46. And it came to pass, that after three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the doctors, both hearing them, and asking them questions.

47. And all that heard him were astonished at his understanding and answers.

48. And when they saw him, they were amazed: and his mother said unto him, Son, why hast thou thus dealt with us? Behold, thy father and I have sought thee sorrowing.

49. And he said unto them, How is it that ye sought me? wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?

50. And they understood not the saying which he spake unto them.

51. And he went down with them, and came to Nazareth, and was subject unto them: but his mother kept all these sayings in her heart.

52. And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man.

Memory Verse: Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man. Luke 2:52.

Practical Truth: From childhood to the hour of his death Jesus was a perfect example to us all.

Comments And Application

Christians are expected to grow. Christian living depends upon our growth. More and more as the Holy Spirit becomes our guide into all truth, we will grow and advance in spiritual things.

The first thirty years of Jesus' life were spent in a godly home where he was subject to the discipline of ordinary home life and the synagogue and the temple. His work was ahead of him yet, but he showed that he knew of it at the age of twelve. Since he was subject to his parents, he must have learned to do the work at the home as other children and memorize the holy Scriptures. Evidently from the question: "Can there any good come out of Nazareth?" Jesus must have been in one of the worst places for a child to be reared. But in spite of all that, His life was an example to all the world, so much so that we may safely do as we are told in 1 Peter 2:21: "Follow his steps."

The first part of our title speaks of Jesus as our Lord. In order for it to be thus, we must first have salvation, submit to God, and have a personal faith in our Lord Jesus Christ; for when he becomes our Saviour, then (and not until then) he can and will become our Lord and Master. Then He can direct our steps aright.

—::—

ARE WE GROWING AS CHRISTIANS?

July 11, 1954

Printed Portion:1 Corinthians 3:1-3; Ephesians 4:11-16; 2 Peter 1:5-7; 3:18.

1 Cor. 3:1. And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal, even as unto babes in Christ.

2. I have fed you with milk, and not with meat: for hitherto ye were not able to bear it, neither yet now are ye able.

3. For ye are yet carnal: for whereas there is among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal, and walk as men?

Ephesians 4:11. And he gave some, apostles; and some prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;

12. For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:

13. Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:

14. That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;

15. But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:

16. From whom the whole body fitly joined together

and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.

2 Pet. 1:5. And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge;

6. And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness;

7. And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity.

2 Pet. 3:18. But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen.

Memory Verse: Grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. 2 Peter 3:18.

Practical Truth: Whether we are grownig as Christians should be a matter of vital concern to us all.

Comments And Application

The healthy child will grow. There usually is something wrong when they are not growing; and so it is with a Christian. If we do not see that we are growing as we should, then we need to look and pray to find out the reason. God, who searcheth the heart, can tell us. Psalms 139:23, 24, "Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me and know my thoughts: and see if there be any wicked way in me." The Word of God tells us of "Babes in Christ," but tells us to go on unto perfection. After we are saved we must give diligence to make our calling and election sure (2 Pet. 1:10). The 14th verse says plainly, "That we henceforth be no more children." "Unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ." Eph. 4:13. What a great end is to be aimed at here. Grow up in Christ.

We certainly need God's help to add up the different things mentioned here: Faith comes first, then virtue (chastity); then knowledge ("Then shall we know, if we follow on to know the Lord"); then temperance (self control); then patience (endurance of all things, 1 Cor. 13:7); then godliness (piety, devotion); and then brotherly kindness (affection toward the brethren); and last, charity (love toward all). All of this is good for the Christian to grow in grace and gives one a peace in his soul that the world knows nothing about.

—::—

GROWING THROUGH BIBLE STUDY

July 18, 1954

Printed Portion:Acts 17:10, 11; 1 Timothy 4:13-16; 2 Tim. 1:5; 2:15; 3:14-17; Hebrews 4:12.

Acts 17:10. And the brethren immediately sent away Paul and Silas by night unto Berea: who coming thither went into the synagogue of the Jews.

11. These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the Word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so.

1 Tim. 4:13. Till I come, give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine.

14. Neglect not the gift that is in thee, which was given thee by prophecy, with the laying on of the hands of the presbytery.

15. Meditate upon these things; give thyself wholly to them; that thy profiting may appear to all.

16. Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee.

2 Tim. 1:5. . . I call to remembrance the unfeigned faith that is in thee, which dwelt first in thy grandmother Lois, and thy mother Eunice; and I am persuaded that in thee also.

2 Tim. 2:15. Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

2 Tim. 3:14. But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them;

15. And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

16. All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

17. That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

Heb. 4:12. For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

Memory Verse: All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

Practical Truth: Every Christian should make use of the Bible continually as a means of spiritual nurture and growth.

Comments And Application

The Christian life is developed by contact with the Word of God. As food is necessary to physical life, so feeding upon the Word of God is vital to the spiritual life. The Holy Spirit is the one who can help us to understand the holy Scriptures, and John 14:26 says in part, "He shall teach you all things." The Bible gives us a foundation for a stronger faith and a more complete trust in God. The Bible needs the best of our time to master what God has for us in it, and we do well to meditate in it all the time. (Psa. 1:2, "Day and night"). The repeated reading of the Bible under the direction of the Holy Spirit brings enlargement to the soul as he supplies our needs and our daily life. Since the holy scriptures are given by the Holy Spirit, then it follows that he is the one to interpret them to us just as he gave them in the first place.

The Bible should be used, for the home that has a Bible on the front room desk that is not used is as much in darkness as one with no Bible, for the message from God is sealed up with no benefits from its sacred pages. On the other hand, there are those who have started to read the Bible who have been convicted and converted as it pierced their hearts and showed up their sinful ways in the sight of an Almighty God. Heb. 4:12; John 6:63.

GROWING THROUGH PRAYER

July 25, 1954

Printed Portion: Luke 11:1-13; Philippians 4:6-7.

Luke 11:1. And it came to pass, that, as he was praying in a certain place, when he ceased, one of his disciples said unto him, Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples.

2. And he said unto them, When ye pray, say, Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, as in heaven, so in earth.

3. Give us day by day our daily bread.

4. And forgive us our sins; for we also forgive every one that is indebted to us. And lead us not into temptation: but deliver us from evil.

5. And he said unto them, Which of you shall have a friend, and shall go unto him at midnight, and say unto him, Friend, lend me three loaves;

6. For a friend of mine in his journey is come to me, and I have nothing to set before him?

7. And he from within shall answer and say, Trouble me not: the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot rise and give thee.

8. I say unto you, Though he will not rise and give him, because he is his friend, yet because of his importunity he will rise and give him as many as he needeth.

9. And I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.

10. For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.

11. If a son shall ask bread of any of you that is a father, will he give him a stone? or if he ask a fish, will he for a fish give him a serpent?

12. Or if he shall ask an egg, will he offer him a scorpion?

13. If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?

Phil. 4:6. Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.

7. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Memory Verse: Rejoice evermore. Pray without ceasing. In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you. 1 Thess. 5:16-18.

Practical Truth: Prayer is as essential to the life and growth of a true Christian as breathing is to the body.

Comments And Application

"Prayer is the key on the bending knee, To open the morn's first hours; See the incense rise to the starry skies, Like perfume from the flowers. Take the golden key in your hand and see, As the night tide drifts away, How its blessed hold is a crown of gold, Through the weary hours of day" (No. 168, "Evening Light Songs").

John Bunyan portrays Christian and Hopeful as intruding on the grounds of giant Despair (become hopeless), whose wife's name was Diffidence (lacking of self-reliance, shy, modest); and as they remained in the dungeon it came to Christian that he had a key of promise that would unlock all the gates, and so they did. The prayer of a Christian is as natural to the soul as breath is to the body. All of our growth as a Christian, each step is gained by prayer. "They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength." The things of this world have a pull downward, but the Christian is lifted out of it all by prayer. No matter what comes of sickness, sorrow, grief, or any other calamity they cannot stop our contact with God through prayer. And the blessed part of it is that he himself tells us that "In everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God." verse 6. Therefore "Let us come boldly to the throne of grace that we may obtain mercy and grace to help in time of need." —C. W.