

FAITH^{AND}VICTORY

The EVENING LIGHT WATCHMAN



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Every One Can Say, "For Me."

Christ shed His precious blood for me
Upon the cross of Calvary,
To take away my load of sin
And make me pure and clean within.

The blood of Christ is all my plea,
And of His goodness I can see—
'Twas all so loving and so kind
Of Him, my poor lost soul to find
And take away from me all guilt—
That's why His precious blood was spilt.

I never can forget the day
He took my sin and guilt away
And made me happy and so free—
Oh, bless his name! 'twas all for me.
Oh glory, glory be to God,

I praise Him for his staff and rod
That comforts me along the way
And helps me know just what to say.
Now He's gone to prepare a place
For me when I have run my race;
I'll lay my trophies at His feet

And praise His name—'Tis all so sweet
Of Him who gave his life for me
Upon the cross of Calvary.

—George W. Stephenson.

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"An House Not Made With Hands"

Things that are made with hands are those things that human-beings fashion and fix together out of God's created things. A thing or things not made with hands is something created and fixed without the wisdom and aid of men although men may become a part of the thing formed or created by the power and wisdom of God.

When Moses was about to make the Tabernacle, he was admonished of God in this manner: "For see, saith he, that thou make all things according to the pattern showed to thee in the mount." Heb. 8:2. Read

also Heb. 3:5, 6. When David had it in his heart to build a house for the Lord, he became very humble and lowly before the Lord. Thus it is written: "Then went King David in and sat before the Lord, and he said, Who am I, O Lord God? and what is my house, that thou hast brought me hitherto? and this was yet a small thing in thy sight, O Lord God; but thou hast spoken also of thy servant's house for a great while to come. And is this the manner of man, O Lord God?" 2 Sam. 7:18. David knew that a literal house would decay in time and cease to be.

Who is he who has the Spirit of the Lord but can see that David was discerning or perceiving that God was speaking of something beyond the manner of man's building? In Isa. 9:7, the prophet, in speaking of Christ and his government, says, "Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even forever."

The Prophet Ezekiel was asked of God to "Shew the house to the house of Israel." Thus we read in Ezekiel 43:10, "Thou son of Man, shew the house to the house of Israel, that they may be ashamed of their iniquities: and let them measure the pattern." The house of Israel was the old order of things which pertained to the literal house and the law and the house they were to be shown was the new house, the spiritual house of David which Christ was to set up, whose increase and government would have no end. This is also verified in the first chapter of Luke where the angel spoke unto Mary in the 32nd and 33rd verses saying, "And he shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God will give unto him the throne of his Father David: and he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end." We who are saved from sin and retain that experience are now the spiritual house of Jacob, house of David, and house of God, the sanctuary of God, the temple of God, the Tabernacle of God.

We read in Acts the 15th chapter where the Jews and Gentiles were being made one in Christ and were shown the spiritual house of David. James stood up, and among other things, he said, quoting from the Prophet Amos: "After this I will return and will

build again the tabernacle of David which is fallen down: and I will build again the ruins thereof, and I will set it up." 16th verse.

When Jesus climbed the mount of Olives, he looked over literal Jerusalem and wept over its inhabitants because they had rejected him and all hope. He said, "Behold, your house is left unto you desolate." God did not meet with them in the literal house after Jesus was crucified and resurrected; the old house or order of things passed away and the new house not made with hands came into existence.

It took Solomon seven years to build and complete the literal house, which was a type of and prefigured the spiritual house which Jesus built. Heb. 3:6 and 8:2. But it only took Jesus three years and one half to build his spiritual house and get it ready to occupy. He started first by calling some fishermen. They left all and followed Him. Others whom he called left all occupations and followed Him. They received him as Christ the Messiah. In John 1:12 we read, "But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believed on his name." Those who saw and heard him and rejected him and the truth he taught were left in their sins, as we read in John 9:41, also in John 15:22-25. Those who believed on him and received him were being fitted by him for his temple or his spiritual house. As the literal temple was put up without the sound of a hammer, even so Jesus went quietly about gathering material, preparing it for his house. Read Matt. 12:19 and 20. When he hung on the cross and life was leaving his body, he said, "It is finished." The old order of things, the old literal house was passing and the new spiritual house was being furnished and would soon be occupied.

Notice what Malachi (the last prophet of the old order of things, the old tabernacle, the old literal house) says in his third chapter, first verse: "Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me: and the Lord whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple [or house] even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the Lord of hosts."

This prophecy was truly fulfilled on the day of Pentecost. Notice how it reads, "And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. This body of 120 souls was the temple of God, for they were giving themselves to God, and the Lord himself testified of the disciples in the 15th chapter of John that they were clean through the Word that he had spoken unto them. In other words, they were living to all they understood of what he had taught them; therefore he counted them clean. They were justified before God, they had not rejected him, but did believe in Him and received him. John 1:12, 13. They were all with one accord in one place—now notice: "And suddenly [Malachi used the same word "suddenly" in describing His coming into His temple] there came a sound from heaven as a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues of fire [denoting cleansing] and it sat upon each of them. And they were all

filled with the Holy Ghost [Jesus referred to Him as the Spirit of Truth, or Comforter in John, 14th chapt. When teaching the Gentiles, Paul referred to the Spirit in this way: "Which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. In other words Christ came into them in the form of the Holy Ghost] and began to speak with other tongues [languages], as the Spirit gave them utterance.

The 120 souls on the day of Pentecost were consecrating themselves unto the Lord; they were presenting their bodies unto the Lord as living sacrifices to receive the "Promise of the Father," which was the Spirit of Truth, the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost (John 14:17, 26.) They were the House of God (Heb. 3:6); they were the beginning of the Sanctuary of God, the true Tabernacle, which the Lord pitched and not man (Heb. 8:2). When John the Revelator was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, he saw the Lord suddenly come to His temple. He describes it in Rev. 21, in this manner. Speaking of this in symbolic language, he said, "And I saw a new heaven and new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away: and there was no more sea." Sea means people. Read Rev. 17:15. The first heaven and the first earth that passed away has reference to the old order of things, for their house was left unto them desolate. God did not dwell in the old literal house any more, which represented their heaven, nor in their earthly literal works. They had passed away when they rejected and crucified Christ, and there was no more sea or people whom God would recognize there.

Notice the next verse: "And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband." The Holy City, the new Jerusalem, which John saw coming down from God out of heaven was none other than the Holy Ghost, the power, strength, wisdom, and laws of God that came from heaven into the hearts of the 120 on the day of Pentecost. They became the Holy City, the new Jerusalem; for the old city and old Jerusalem, which represents the literal temple and the law with all its rules and ordinances, had passed away. He put his laws into their minds and wrote them on the fleshly tables of their hearts, and they began to function in the world as the kingdom of God, the body of Christ, the house of God, the family of God, the house of David, the house of Jacob, the Sanctuary of God, the Temple of God, the Tabernacle of God. In the next verse we read, "And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God." The last verses in the 6th chapter of 2 Cor. gives the same meaning. The Prophet Jeremiah tells us what he would do for us in the 31st chapter and the 33rd verse. We read again of this in Hebrews 8th chapter, beginning at the 9th verse.

When a soul is truly sanctified and infilled by the Spirit of Truth, the Comforter which is the Holy Ghost, he automatically becomes a member in the true holiness church of God, a member of the body

of Christ, a member in the new Jerusalem, a part of the bride, the Lamb's wife. He is in the kingdom of God, the temple of God, the tabernacle of God which the Lord pitched and not man. He is in God's house on earth not made with hands. If he remains faithful to the end, he will have a change from a mortal to an immortal body, a glorified body, and will dwell with God in heaven in the eternal kingdom, or house not made with hands (2 Cor. 5:1). He will have an house not made with hands eternal in the heavens with God. It is essential that we first become a subject of his kingdom here, a member of his spiritual house not made with hands in order to enter into the eternal kingdom, the eternal house in heaven not made with hands. Paul was certain about his eternal house, and he said: "For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens." 2 Cor. 5:1. Read Rom. 8:16, 17.

A servant of the Lord, Fred Pruitt.

Long, Long Eternity

Just one step, and we are in long eternity. Life is so short and eternity is so long, it should make us deeply consider what it is going to mean for us to step in the great tomorrow, long eternity. Job 14:1-2 gives us an idea how brief our days are. Our life on earth is but a span. Webster says a span on the hand is the space from the thumb to the little finger when stretched out. A very short space, is it not? In comparison, that is how our life measures with long eternity. The space of time is nothing compared to eternity. Think, eternity has no end. Either we will be forever happy or tormented with flames of fire and forever and forever doomed, never again privileged to pray for repentance. I'll agree, the world has charms, beauties, attractions, and enticements, but it only lasts for a very short time.

Young people, wake up; especially you that have been reared by wonderfully saved parents, and begin to recall the times that you were in family worship or around the family altar. Perhaps Mother and Dad were pleading for your heart's conviction and soul's salvation to God. Then you were no doubt in tears, but now you can sit under an anointed message through an humble servant of God, pleading for you to "flee from the wrath to come," and you don't heed. Eccl. 11:9 tells the young man or woman what happens if they walk in the ways of their youth. Oh, how sad it is when we think of how our youth is being drowned and swallowed up by this fast moving world. Old and young people hardly have time for a solemn thought without being interfered with a joke.

A year ago I was privileged to view the body of a twenty-seven-year-old woman. She was the mother of three children, and was shot to death by a common-law husband. I understand she was a gambler, and had lived a very immoral life, but was very beautiful. As I looked on the body, I thought: Where is that soul?

I am especially burdened to warn the saints' children to wake up. So many of them are walking over the saints' prayers and pleas and are not willing

to pay the price. You will not be exempted because you know the truth and know how to get saved. Read James 14:17. You, too, will drift into eternity without hope and without God, except you repent. You that are going along with the saints and do not have an experience for yourselves: Beware! How would you feel if God would suddenly come to receive his own? Can or do you feel like you are all his? Can we behold the dear Savior's death, and yet withhold a part?

It is just as vivid in my mind that time will end and eternity take its place as it was seventeen years ago when I felt accountable for the first sins committed. Surely it behooves us to be careful how we conduct ourselves and make sure we do the little things God places on our hearts to do. This can only be done before we step from time to long ETERNITY.

—Vivian (Trotter) Hattley

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SPENDING MONEY

I am thinking today on what the Scripture has said, "Why spend your money for that which is not bread?" People who spend their money for that which is not bread surely are not altogether spiritually led. Because Jesus said that man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God. So let our hearts go up to God in obedience, and not spend our money for that which is not bread.—J. S. Green.

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The Land of Inheritance

There is a land to be inherited,
Enter ye in at the narrow gate;
There are valleys to be exalted,
Make His paths straight.
The rough places shall be made smooth,
The mountains shall be brought low;
Cast up the highway, gather out stones,
Lift up a standard as ye go.
The righteous shall enter in
And inherit the land (Psalm 37:29)
They shall repair the waste cities
Whereon their feet shall stand (Deut. 11).
A land of brooks of water (salvation)
That springs out of the dales;
He that putteth his trust in me
Shall inherit my holy hills (Isa. 57).
Let judgment run down as waters
And righteousness as a mighty sea;
He has blessed us with spiritual blessings
For the Lord delighteth in thee. (Isa. 62).

—Roberta Reese

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Ga.—Dear saints,—Greetings in the precious name of Jesus who is able to heal us. I received your kind letter, and will say in reply that the Lord wonderfully healed me. I thank the Lord, and thank the saints for their prayers. I was relieved of my severe pains about the time the letter reached there. I said, "Thank God for his dear saints." I just can't thank him enough. He is with me in all my trials. My whole desire is to please him. I am praying for the saints and that souls will be saved in the meetings.

Sister Leila Chiles.

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

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

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

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

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

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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

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THE BEAUTIFUL WAY

"The Beautiful Way" a four-page leaflet for children is published quarterly in thirteen leaflets, one for each week. Marie Miles Editor, assisted by others. Subscription price: 60¢ per year for single copies.

Editorials

Recently my attention has been called to part of an editorial written in November "Faith and Victory" paper, issued in 1951, wherein I made the statement that "One who is not cleansed from that sin nature and is not a possessor of the Holy Spirit positively cannot live free from sin." I wish to take up this statement, as I can see that I made the assertion too strong. However, I did not mean by this statement that one in a justified state would sin more or less every day; for such one could not even be justified or in favor with God at all. The apostle John, in writing to young converts, said, "My little children, these things I write unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous." He first commanded them not to sin, and then pointed them to the Advocate if they should sin.

This editorial in question was also cleared up in my explanations in the editorials inserted in the Jan. issue of "Faith and Victory" in 1952. In this, we stated, "No man is ready to be baptized with the Spirit, or sanctified wholly, unless he is living free from committing sins in a justified state." Jesus makes this plain in John 14:15, 16, 17. In Romans 12:1 where Paul is instructing them to consecrate, he calls them brethren, and exhorts them to present their bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is their reasonable service. From this Scripture we learn they must be holy in a justified state, even as the 120 were on the day of Pentecost, to receive the cleansing and baptism of the Spirit.

Those who are living free from sin in a justified state are ready to present their bodies to the Lord and receive the cleansing and infilling of the Holy Spirit, in which the "Body of sin" is destroyed (Rom. 6:6)—the depravity, which brings death, which passed upon all men through the fall of the first Adam. Romans 5:12.

It seems that some get a deeper and better experience at the beginning of their justified state than others. This is no doubt so because of the different degrees of light and knowledge that each one possesses, and also to the extent of how much they are yielding themselves to the Lord. The more one values salvation, the more they will naturally yield unto His will and pleasure.

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It was the 14th of June when we mailed out the last paper, the July issue. Since that time material has been collecting for the next paper, the September issue; consequently we have many more articles and testimonies than there will be room for in this paper; so if your article or testimony does not appear in the September paper, you will know that space would not permit its being printed.

We look to the Lord daily for knowledge and wisdom to know his will as to what should be printed and what should not; also for Him to guide us in putting out the clear, plain truth; and it seems with the very best we can do, mistakes will be made and sometimes readers will misunderstand our meaning and get wrong

ideas; perhaps because we have not used words sufficient to make the meaning clear. There are also a few who seem to be natural fault-finders and wrest words from their proper meaning to make gain and flare the faults of others around as though they were mighty spiritual and without any fault themselves. Still others are not clear themselves on certain Bible subjects and they think that false teaching is being put forth when the fact is they need to look to the Lord for clearer light.

We ask the prayers of all of our dear honest-hearted, spiritual readers who love the truth in its sincerity and simplicity.

We have attended three campmeetings this summer: one at Hammond, La.; at Monark Springs, Mo.; and the State Campmeeting here at Guthrie. I can truthfully say that the Lord has worked and blessed very much in each meeting. Souls were saved, believers sanctified and filled with His Spirit, bodies were healed by power divine, and the saints in general were built up and built together in the unity of the Spirit and bond of peace. The messages were given out by the ministers with much power and authority and the solid truths of the Bible were put forth in a clear and definite manner and became the power of God unto salvation to all that believed. Satan and his crowd were rebuked and ignored in the meetings, and the love of God flowed freely from heart to heart as God, the Holy Spirit, had the preeminence and placed the minister in the pulpit of his own choosing with the proper message at the proper time. It truly brought heart-edification and rejoicing to be in these campmeetings.

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.

Obituaries

Brother Clayborn Payne, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Payne was born January 25, 1865 in Lyons County Miss., departed this life August 4, 1954. He was united in marriage to Fannie Lee January 22, 1891. To this union three children were born. This companion passed away in 1895. In 1901 he united in matrimony to Miss Daisy Cox, to which union eleven children were born, six girls and five boys.

He accepted the full truth of the gospel in 1908, which is taught by the church of God. In 1909 he moved to Oklahoma where he continued his faithfulness and charity in spiritual matters and temporal.

Bereaved are: two sons, Clinton and Melvin Payne of Akron, Ohio; 6 daughters, Mrs. Lillie Bell Crisp and Alberta Brunner of Akron, Mrs. Sallie Steele of Cleveland Ohio, Mrs. May Ella Woodruff of Elk City, Okla., Mrs. Ophelia Cornelius of Okmulgee, Okla., Mrs. Fannie Taylor of Morris, Okla., forty grandchildren, fifty-five great

grandchildren, and a host of other relatives and friends. He will be greatly missed by the saints here, but we feel our loss is heaven's gain. Funeral by W. W. Crawley. Text. 2 Cor. 5: 1.

May Ola (Casto) Johnson was born to Ora and James Casto on April 28, 1923; departed this life July 29, 1954, at the age of 31 years, three months, and one day. She was married to Harvey Johnson some over three years ago, and they lived happily together, as both were serving the Lord. The Lord saw fit to take Sister Johnson suddenly while preaching service was in progress at the Monark Springs, Mo. National Campmeeting on Thursday evening, July 29th; and a heavenly anointed message was being delivered to a large audience on the subject of the shortness and swiftness of our time here, and how suddenly souls can be taken into eternity.

Sister May Ola was born into the Church of God in her youth and was gifted in teaching the children in Sunday School. Her labors will not be in vain, as truth impressed upon the children's minds when young will be retained through life. Many return to the Lord because of early teaching.

She is survived by her husband, Harvey Johnson, her mother, Ora Casto; two brothers, Fred and Glen Casto, and seven nieces and nephews.

Funeral service at Hedge-Lewis Funeral Home in Webb City, Mo., her home town, conducted by Fred Pruitt assisted by Bro. Merrill Williamson their pastor. Text: Psalm 116:15, "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints." Interment: Carterville Cemetery at Carterville, Mo.

Sister Edith (Carter) McMahon was born August 12, 1888; passed away August 8, 1954 in the home of Sister Mary Whitmore in Forbes, Mo. Our dear sister passed away suddenly without any lingering illness. The Lord in his love just took her home quietly to himself.

She was born in Iowa and spent her early life in Iowa with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Carter.

She was married to Mr. John McMahon, and to this union six children were born; namely, Mrs. Lawrence Harner and Mrs. Albert (Baker) Pedersen both of Lincoln, Nebr.; one son, John of Lincoln, Nebr. and three other children who preceded her in death; also a step son, Warren D. McMahon, Denver, Colo. There are seven grandchildren, cousins, nieces, nephews, friends, and many dear saints who are left to mourn the loss of this dear departed friend, mother, and precious child of God. She will be sadly missed by all who knew her. Her life was a living example of love, kindness and helpfulness to saints and friends. To know her was to love her, and her love and life will be long cherished by her family and loved ones. Her life was truly in close relationship with God. Her home for the past twenty-five years was in Peru and Lincoln, Nebr. Her husband, Mr. John McMahon preceded her in death while the children were quite young.

Funeral service by Bro. Edd Whipple of Forest City, Mo. in the Umberger Funeral Home. Texts: 2 Cor. 5:1; Rev. 14:13; Job 14:12. She was laid to rest in the Lincoln Memorial Cemetery.

Tenderly lay her to rest neath the sod,
Angels look lovingly down;
But the fair spirit hath flown to her God,
Gone to receive a bright crown.
In the fair fields of the blessed to roam,
Singing with angels so fair,
Dwelling with Christ in His beautiful home,
All its bright glories to share.

Why should we linger to weep round the tomb?

Sorrow shall vex her no more,
Never a shadow of trouble or gloom
Reaches yon heavenly home.
There with glorified spirits to reign
Through the bright ages above,
Free from all sorrow, sickness or pain,
Resting in heavenly love.

Safe in the arms of her Savior she lies,
Wonderful peace to her given;
In that blest mansion the soul never dies,
Still we may love her in heaven.
Feelingly near us her spirit shall be
Tenderly whispering, "Come,"
Then at the portals our dear one we'll see,
Lovingly guiding us home.

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Cora (Dulap) Jackson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Washington Dulap was born in Green County Entaw, Ala.

She married in early life Samuel Peteet who preceded her in death. Later she married Prof. L. L. Jackson of Attiesburg, Miss. where she lived a short while.

She came with her husband to Boley, Okla. in 1914. She had heard and accepted the truth before coming to Oklahoma. She lived a saved and sanctified life and was loved by the church and others who knew her. They moved from Boley to Okmulgee, where her husband preceded her in death in 1945.

After a short illness she departed this life July 10, 1954, age 96 years, 8 months, and 4 days. Bereaved are: one son and two daughters, two grandchildren, six great-grandchildren, four great-great grandchildren, and a host of other relatives and friends.

Funeral conducted by W. W. Crawley. Text: 2 Cor. 5:1, "For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands eternal in the heavens."

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George Robert Allen was born in Marino County, Dixie Mill, Alabama, June 15, 1871. He was one of eleven children born to Tempie and George Allen. His father preceded him in death before he was born. His early childhood was spent in the state of Alabama, where he later met and married Charlett Marshall December 16, 1903 in Buena Vista, Alabama. To this union twin daughters were born. The Allen family later moved to Oklahoma and settled around Boley for a number of years.

In the year of 1919 he met the saints of God, heard the gospel in its purity and power, accepted the truth and was saved, then was baptized by the late Bro. Robinson. He later moved to Oklahoma City in 1943, and worshiped with the saints here.

"Father Allen," as he was affectionately called by all those who knew him, was a devoted father and husband. He had been critically ill at various times in the past several years, but God's mercy always over-shadowed him. He depended and trusted in the Lord.

January 2, 1954 he became ill and continued to become weaker. His family thought the crisis had passed. He slipped away quietly while his devoted wife was administering to him, with a sigh as if so tired, he eased away into the great beyond without a struggle, peacefully going to a blessed rest. "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them."

Bereaved are two daughters, four grandchildren, two great-grandchildren, a niece, and many saints and friends.

Martha Towns was born to Mr. and Mrs. Ned Towns July 27, 1876 at Greenville, Miss.; departed this life May 25, 1954 at 8:25 a. m.

October 23, 1897 Martha was united in marriage to Anthony Brown, to which union eleven children were born, 8 of whom preceded her in death. She was also a loving mother to six more children, three of them also preceding her in death.

At an early age she professed a hope in Christ and was united with a denomination. In 1909, three years after moving to Wewoka, Okla., she met and was saved with the Evening Light saints. She was a diligent and faithful worker for God, always at her post of duty, caring for the sick, administering to the needy, striving in every way to do those things which pleased the Master. She was loved for her quiet and meek spirit—thus leaving us an example to follow. Often in her testimony Sister Brown would say: "God has only one church, and we must be pure to be in it." Today she is sweetly resting in the arms of the Saviour above. But she will always be remembered for her faithfulness and deeds of love.

She leaves to mourn her passing, a loving husband, three sons, three daughters, one sister, one brother, 18 grandchildren, 7 great-grandchildren, and a host of relatives and friends.

Funeral service by M. Spears. Text: Rev. 14:13, held at Norfolk and Pine Place, Tulsa, Okla.

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IN MEMORY OF MY FATHER

We have lost our dear sweet father,
He no more on earth shall roam;
And there'll never be another
Who can take his place at home.

Father's life was true and faithful,
And he taught us of God's love;
Trusting Jesus as his Savior
Till he joined him up above.

Oh, dear father, how we miss you;
But no more on earth you roam.
Some sweet day we shall meet you
In that bright eternal home.

One year ago today (July 11) Papa left his body of pain and suffering. He had been in poor health for so long. He had had four strokes. They made him very feeble, not only in body, but they also hurt him in his speech and thinking. But he always desired prayer, and when any of the saints visited him, he would call for prayer before they left.

As I look back over my childhood I can call many precious memories. Papa and Mama were faithful in teaching us children, believing their duty started at home in the Gospel work. They never failed to teach the Word of God, causing us to fear God and love Him. We as a family have labored together in the Gospel. I thank God for it all as I think of the past. I enjoyed going with Papa in meetings and reading for him when he preached. We labored together. He was blessed greatly in remembrance of the Scriptures and also a good deliverance of the Word, rightly dividing the Word.

I have two unsaved brothers that I desire the saints to pray for. Oh, that we could be an unbroken family in heaven. They have both been saved, but are now far away from God. Pray for me, that I be faithful in the service of God. A daughter of Bro. Robert Johnson,
Margaret Eck.

Some of the Causes Why There Are Not More Laborers in the Field

As I was meditating and wondering why there weren't more laborers in the field, the Lord brought to my mind some of the causes why there are not more. Jesus said to the seventy whom he sent out, "The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few: Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest; that he would send forth more laborers into his harvest." Souls are just as precious now as when Jesus spoke those words to the seventy; but why are the laborers so few? There is a cause, and I feel like relating some of the causes:

One of the biggest reasons why there are not more laborers, is the love of money. The Word says that the love of money is the root of all evil (1 Tim. 6:10). Many have left the field of labor and taken up with the affairs of life. Good jobs and comfortable homes have crowded out the burden for poor lost souls. "No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who has chosen him to be a soldier." 2 Tim. 2:4. If a soldier in the army would leave his duty and become engaged in other affairs, he would be punished by the commander. Just so with every God-called minister—if we leave our duty and become entangled with the affairs of this life, we will be punished by the Great Commander.

Jesus said, "He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and he that taketh not his cross and followeth not after me is not worthy of me." Matt. 10:37, 38. When he says to take up our cross and follow him, it means to leave all for Jesus' sake. There are many excuses being made today. Some have the excuse, "I have too much of a family and people will not give like they used to," etc. But He would not be a just God if He would not fulfil His promises in His Word. He said that it is ordained that they which preach the gospel, should live of the gospel (1 Cor. 8:14). Before He would fail His trusting children, He would let the heavens fall.

The real reason why there are so many vacant places is too many comforts in home life—not willing to endure hardness as a good soldier, not willing to sleep on benches if necessary, and leave the good innerspring mattress; but Jesus didn't even have a place to lay his head. Oh, how will it be with our soul in that great day? If we are not careful, we will be like the man who buried his talent and was cast into outer darkness, where there was weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Jonah tried to run away from the service of God and the fish swallowed him; but still after all his sufferings he had to do his duty. The prophet in 1 Kings 13th chapter disobeyed God and was slain by the lion.

One brother told me that in a certain place the saint ministers did not have time to pray with him when he needed prayer—had to get to his job. One

brother preacher gave me the address of an isolated person to visit and said, "You are free to go." But he had to stay with his job. You can be free to go in the service of the Lord, too, if you are willing to take up the cross and follow Jesus, and willing to make out on less. Truly it is wonderful to be free in the service of the Lord and not have any straps or bands. Be free to obey the call of the Lord at any time.

It is much easier on the flesh to have a pay day every Saturday night, but how about those precious souls who are starving for the Word of God? When men and women consecrate and give themselves to God, then there will not be such a need in the field. Let us just come to the fact of the whole matter and say, "I have failed to do my duty." How would you like for the blood of souls to be required at your hands in the Judgment Day?

The Judgment Day is drawing nigh and souls are dying by the multitudes, and what are we doing to rescue them from the pit? Oh, let us be sure that we have cleared ourselves from the blood of all men by preaching the Word of God in its fulness. The Word pronounces a woe unto them that are at ease in Zion. Have we just settled down in a real comfortable home life and do not pray like we used to, and carry the burden of souls?

I remember the times at the National Campmeeting when you would go out to pray, you would find them here and there praying and looking to God for the meeting, but this isn't seen so much any more. Oh, brethren, how are we standing before God, and how will it be with our souls in that great day? As the song says: "Oh souls, be up and doing, There is no time to lose." We shall soon be standing before the Eternal God without excuse.

In Acts 6:1-4, "In those days when the number of the disciples were multiplied, there arose a murmuring of the Grecians against the Hebrews, because their widows were neglected in the daily ministration. Then the twelve called the multitude of the disciples unto them, and said, It is not reason that we should leave the Word of God, and serve tables. Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, whom ye may appoint over this business. But we will give ourselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the Word."

Another great reason is that there are too many ministers bunched up in congregations. Ezek. 34:2, 3, "Son of man, prophesy against the shepherds of Israel, prophesy, and say unto them, Thus saith the Lord God unto the shepherds; Woe be to the shepherds of Israel that do feed themselves! should not the shepherds feed the flock? Ye eat the fat and ye clothe you with the fat, ye kill them that are fed: but ye feed not the flock." In 2 Tim. 1:6, 7, Paul said to Timothy, "Wherefore I put thee in remembrance that thou stir up the gift of God, which is in thee by the putting on of my hands. For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind." Oh, how we do need the gift of God stirred up within us. It is so easy to neglect that God-

given gift. God wants us to put his work first above everything else. Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness. "Neglect not the gift that is in thee, which was given thee by prophecy, with the laying on of the hands of the presbytery. Meditate upon these things; give thyself wholly to them; that thy profiting may appear to all. 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." 1 Tim. 4:14-16.

How can we give ourselves wholly to the service of God and yet have a lot of strings of this world attached to us? When Jesus called Matthew, he left all to follow Jesus. "And after these things he went forth, and saw a publican, named Levi, sitting at the receipt of custom: and he said unto him. Follow me. And he left all, rose up, and followed him." Luke 5:27, 28. Also Simon Peter and Andrew left their fishing boats, that Jesus might make them fishers of men.

Oh, dear brethren, the work of God is not a sideline; but a full time job. Let us re-consecrate our gift to God. Exodus 32:29, "For Moses has said, Consecrate yourselves today to the Lord, that he may bestow a blessing upon you today."

So let us meditate upon these things and give ourselves wholly to the Lord. May God make this a blessing to each soul, is our prayer.

Yours in the true way, Murphy Allen

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Do You Really Want a Pastor?

As I see in the paper a request for a pastor at different times and as the need is truly great in many places (in fact, it is a very great need confronting the little remnant of today), I have been feeling burdened for some time to write some things which I believe God has revealed to me. It is with all love for all souls and for the prosperity of the church that I write, for no personal reasons and not impersonating any one or any congregation, but to all the saints.

First I want to say, you have a right to want a pastor because it is God's will and plan that you have one as in Eph. 4:11, 12, "And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ." And as in Acts 20:28 to feed the church of God. In Titus 1:5 Paul gives Titus instructions to ordain elders or pastors or leaders in every place. In all his labors he left elders in charge or leadership to protect and feed and teach and care for the new converts. He gave charge how to carefully select them and leaves us full instructions on how they, the pastors, are to live in 1 Tim. 3:1-15; Titus first chapter; and in 1 Peter 5:1-4 he gives the elder or pastor full instructions how to care for the flock. I desire you to look up all the texts and read them carefully.

We wouldn't want a pastor who did not fulfill all this plan, would we? We have a Bible right to expect this of any pastor, and cannot blame any one for wanting a good, clean, consecrated brother or sister

for a pastor. A pastor has the greatest responsibility of all the callings of God and it demands a real dying out to self and walking humbly before God, and a full portion of charity. The facts are, there are not many real Bible pastors in the church at the present time. God give us more pastors, is our cry.

Now this leads us to the important question: Why do we not have more Bible pastors? And why aren't more people willing to be pastors? Why do we not have a pastor now at our little work? Important questions, aren't they? When we go to campmeetings, there are plenty of preachers ready to fill the pulpit and preach to us; and when it comes to taking pictures there are always plenty who are ready to pose as preachers; or when we announce a ministers' meeting to settle a little trouble, it seems there are plenty of preachers. But when we want a revival or a pastor, where are the preachers? Dear ones, I do not mean to be critical; I am just stating facts. Is it not so?

Now, by this time the question is quite weighty to you, Why don't we have a pastor? And you have probably decided against the preachers, putting the blame all on them. In the light of all the Scriptures which I have given you and the facts which I have presented it may seem the preachers' fault. But now let us be really honest with ourselves about this question: Why do we not have a pastor? Could it be that the congregation really does want a pastor as badly as they think they do?

We have cited Scriptures to set forth the preacher's duty and responsibility, and have considered his lack of consecration. Now let us look at the duty of the congregation in the light of God's Word and rightly divide this. It may be you can see both sides a little better.

Please read carefully Matt. 10:10; Luke 10:7; and 1 Tim. 5:17, 18. Jesus made the statement and Paul confirmed it, so it is positively truth that God's Word says the laborer is worthy of his or her hire, meaning that the preacher or pastor is worthy of his labor to be honored with money and a livelihood in return for his labor for the congregation. Now, dear saints everywhere, right here I want to say may be the answer to the question more than you realize of why we do not have a pastor, or why can't our preacher preach better? or why can't he pray better prayers for our sickness, etc.

Dear ones, let us go to 1 Cor. 9th chapter and read carefully, starting at the first verse. Here he is trying to explain this very subject. Notice verses 9, 10, 11, 13, and 14. Dear ones, this is Bible. Paul said the Lord has ordained that they that preach the gospel should live of the gospel. Now I know that some of you will say that Paul did not do this. Yes, you are right that far, but Paul was an apostle, or building works in new fields as in 2 Cor. 8th chapter. Read also 2 Cor. 11:7, 8, 9. "Yes," you may say, "He robbed other churches to supply the lack." Yes, he said that, but now read in 2 Cor. 12, 13. He asked them to forgive him this wrong. He said he had done wrong in taking wages of others to supply their lack.

Dear saints, this very thing is happening today. The preachers are having to rob other churches or

saints to supply the lack of some, and God is not pleased with the matter.

The Bible teaches that if you have a brother or sister preacher and acknowledge them as pastor, you are duty bound to support them with your means and share your earthly goods with them. Now, do you want a pastor bad enough to share all you have with them and take the responsibility of supplying their temporal needs; or do you want to rob others to make up your lack? Some may say, "We want a pastor who can work and make his own living; we are not able to support one." That is not God's plan, and people will not prosper under such. Now here is a great fault or mistake that may be the real answer to your question of why you do not have a pastor. When this is corrected, I fully believe God will give us more pastors and more souls and more congregations. No preacher that works all week at hard labor or on public work is able to pastor a congregation. He ought to be visiting the people and fasting and praying and studying God's Word all week, and on Sunday he will be able to feed the church of God and be able to see and discern the devil's work and watch over his flock. And they will grow and make saints and souls will be saved.

Dear ones, this is Bible. Read 2 Tim. 2:4. Now do you still want a pastor? or do you want the excuse that you are not able to support one? Any place where there are ten saints, they can support a pastor on the terms of 2 Cor. 8:14, 15. Any ten people who are willing to share ten per cent of their goods can place a preacher on equal terms; and any twenty who are willing to share 5 per cent of their living can place a pastor on an equal livelihood with them, etc. God teaches this plan, and if you are not willing to come to it, you are not worthy of a pastor. You may go on and make a lot of money and buy nice things and the poor preacher may have to work hard and do what little he can in spare time; but, friend, at the great Judgment God is going to judge righteous judgment and the poor preacher will say, "The people would not support me." The people may say, "We were not able." Both may stand condemned because the preacher wouldn't tell the people their duty out of God's Word and the people would not practice it when he did. Many preachers will not preach this subject and many people do not like it; but God knows where the blame is and He will judge us all. Saints, we had better take heed.

Now read Heb. 13:7, 10, 12.

I know there are exceptions where the people are very poor and not many saints in a place, and I believe God blesses those who back preachers to take the gospel to them; but God even blesses the little that they are able to give. God expects people to share what they have, and that is all He requires. God has some preachers today who are willing to labor with such, but those who have more are required to give more. Some think preachers do not deserve any of the best, but should be willing to go out and take the leftovers, and if he isn't completely out of food or if they cannot see his need, they won't give; but the Bible teaches that he is worthy of his hire.

Now let me ask you a question. If you are working on your job all week and on pay day the boss would say, "Since you have a little left from last week and aren't completely broke, I won't pay you this week, but will wait until you are broke and will pay you some," would you be pleased? What a foolish question, you say. Or if when you take your crop to market the buyer says, "You aren't out of food so I won't pay you until you are out," that wouldn't be consistent, would it? Well, the text said, "The laborer is worthy of his hire," talking about the preacher. Now Saints, this very attitude is taken by some. I have seen it many times. People will say to the preacher: "Now if you get in need, you tell me and I will do so and so." No honest preacher wants to do this; but the Bible says the laborer is worthy of his hire. If the preacher labors for you, he is to be rewarded by you. This is God's plan. Dear ones, let us search this out and God bless us all and help us to make the plan of God work by working together and sharing together all of our spiritual and temporal blessings of life and we will be the church of God.

—Archie Souder

PRAYER REQUESTS

I would be pleased if all the saints would unite with me in prayer for my wife's niece, Lotta Brown. She needs God's blessings upon her soul and body. She is suffering so much with her ear that she is almost losing her mind.

Also pray for Earl Chilcote's son, Paul, who has bad lungs.

Bro. Chilcote's daughter-in-law is left with two children (her husband was killed in an accident about a year ago) and she is unsaved, and needs prayer.—G. W. Herron

CAMPMEETING REPORTS

The annual National Campmeeting of the church of God at Monark Springs, Mo. began its meeting on July 23rd and continued to August 1st. It was said by many that this was thought to be the best ever held on these grounds. The unity among the saints as they gathered together from various states was heavenly as our hearts flowed together. Nothing can equal divine unity, which is the product of God's love in the hearts of God's children.

About forty ministers were present to break the bread of life to hungry souls. Pulpit committees were not needed, as the Holy Spirit was the one who directed the services from time to time. 140 saints partook of the ordinances of feet washing, and the Lord's Supper. 16 souls were buried in the watery grave to walk in the newness of life.

All expenses were met by free-will offerings.

It was felt that some improvements were absolutely necessary as the auditorium was filled even after an addition had been built on the present auditorium. A number of different improvements was discussed by the Board of trustees and others. These improvements are needed very much, so let us pray much for them, and especially that the necessary means may be provided for them. This campmeeting being a National affair, saints should lend a helping hand, as many from the different states are vitally interested.

E. M. Zinn.

The annual campmeeting held in Guthrie, Oklahoma from Aug. 6-14, 1954 began its services as usual with a good attendance. The weather was hot and dry at first, but the Lord sent a good rain Saturday evening, bringing down the temperature several degrees, making the weather nice and comfortable. This was done by prayer,

as the saints had been asking the Lord for cooler weather.

From all reports, this camp meeting was as good or better than previous meetings at Guthrie. Ministers were present from several different states as far west as Calif., Louisiana on the south, Indiana and Michigan on the east and Oregon on the northwest. This group of ministers all saw eye to eye, and were anointed of God to proclaim the pure truth, and no place was found for false prophets to unload their deceptions. God's saints do not feed on anything only pure truth, that which makes us all one, preached under the anointing of God under the leadings of the Spirit of God. The unity of the Spirit was felt throughout the entire campmeeting, drawing each close to each other, and our hearts were really melted together with heavenly love. There was no room for any one under a divisional spirit to sow discord among us. The Word of God was preached exposing all phases of the enemies' tactics. The Word of God was preached on all lines, doctrinal and deep truths, which filled our souls. We felt like we could take home with us much real soul food to study and meditate upon when away from the saints in our labors for God, especially so in the isolated places. One morning as we listened to the Word of God on following our Leader (Christ) the truth was made so plain to each one that we felt so near to our Leader. We could say we will follow on to the end.

On Saturday morning five were buried in a lake west of Guthrie. 110 took part in the ordinances.—E. M. Zinn

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Richmond, Va.—Greetings to all the saints everywhere in the name of Jesus. I want to praise God for the offering each one sent me, and the Lord wonderfully blessed in every way. May the Lord richly bless each one of his own and have mercy on the poor lost sinner. Pray for my unsaved loved ones and my grandson fourteen years old who is sick. Pray for me; I desire your prayers.

Your sister in the one body, Laura Powell.

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N. C.—Dear sisters and brothers,—I write to thank each and every one who sent letters and money. There were nine in all who wrote. I answered each letter and thanked them for the gifts. May God restore it to you four-fold. To those who did not get a letter of thanks, I wrote you and the letter came back. The letter I sent to Fern Stubblefield of Shawnee, Okla. was returned. Others said they were going to send clothing and shoes. I did not receive any clothing except from a sister in Ohio. I live on the highway and the mail passes my house every day. Thank you once again. May God bless you all in my prayer.

—Minnie McSwain.

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Calif.—Dear saints everywhere,—I am thankful to be still saved and sanctified and more encouraged than ever before to live for the Lord. I will never go back on the Lord any more. I thank the Lord for healing my backsliding. The last time I got saved was in the State Campmeeting in Pacoima, Calif in 1951. I haven't given up since. Many things have come my way, but I held onto the Lord until I got the victory, and the Lord blessed me with victory every time. About three months ago the Lord carried me through some trials I had never experienced before. Through them I was sanctified, straightened my life from top to bottom to all I knew, and did it gladly. I am willing to do more as he shows it to me. Thank the Lord for our pastor, I. C. Chandler and the Bakersfield saints. They have been so much encouragement to me in going through these tests and trials. The Lord gave me victory and blessed my soul. The 16th day of July I became very sick with such suffering tongue cannot tell. Bro. Chandler and the saints came in and prayed for me several times and the Lord would heal in

everything they asked, then I would start hurting with something else. This continued until Saturday the 24th. The Lord then took all the misery out of my body. Bro. Chandler was praying for me and I told him he could go home. The Lord spoke, telling me I was healed and to claim it. I could not talk, but repeated in my mind the song, "I'm healed, I know I am." I felt so good and so happy in my soul I continued repeating that song. Just before day I started choking, and called Bro. Chandler again for prayer. I gave up to die. I just said, I will die healed; but the Lord knew best. What was choking me bursted on Sunday. Bro. Chandler and a house full of saints were present. There was much rejoicing and thanking the Lord for a complete victory.

Today I am writing my testimony (27th of July), as I had promised the Lord. I promised the Lord I would write it if He would heal me. I am saved, sanctified, healed, and encouraged to hold onto the Lord. I hope this will encourage some one else to hold onto the Lord.

Your sister in Christ, Anna Lee Sherman

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Va.—Dear saints,—Greetings in the precious name of Jesus. I promised the dear Lord if he would heal my body I would write my testimony to the paper. I had much trouble with my back three years ago. I sprained it very severely and I suffered untold agony. Words just can't express it. I was impressed to write to the saints in Guthrie, Okla. for an anointed handkerchief. Every time I would think of writing the devil would say, "Wait until some other time." I was praying about this quite often. The dear Lord spoke and told me to obey God, so I did. Sister Laura Powell applied the anointed handkerchief and the saints here in Richmond were agreed in prayer for me. I want to praise the dear Lord for complete healing. Your sister in the Lord, Alice M. Carr

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Ind.—Dear saints—Greetings in Jesus' dear name. I feel it would be to the glory of God for me to write my testimony. The dear Lord so wonderfully healed me at the Monark Springs, Mo. campmeeting. A year ago in April I took down sick with female trouble, gall bladder flare up and a stroke. I was anointed and prayed for and gradually got better. I was soon able to walk with a walker, later with a cane. I had another stroke. My spine and limbs were very much affected. I felt very much the need of going to the campmeeting. There I was anointed and the Lord wonderfully healed me. I could have left my cane at the altar, but since it belonged to my husband I brought it home. I had the habit, so used it some in coming when I crossed streets, etc. I am so thankful I can get around without it. When we arrived home my neighbor told me she noticed how I came out of the car. I went to our front door, and finding the screen fastened, I started to the back door. She called to me, "Let someone else go." I just went on, knowing I could. She said too that she noticed I didn't use my cane much. Praise the dear Lord, I didn't need to. The Lord has been so good to me. He has healed me many times. My only desire is to please him. I ask an interest in your prayers.

Ada Barkley

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La.—I am sorry I have neglected writing my testimony. For some time I have been led of the Lord to write my experience with God.

When we are sick and go to doctors for help and only get worse and worse we become discouraged. I gave up to die, didn't believe I was going to live. Something said to me, "Trust God and live." Then I felt happy. I had three little children and a husband to live for, whom I loved very dearly. I was reared a Catholic and didn't know

anything about the church of God. Dear Bro. Brown and others came to see me. He talked to me and told me of our blessed Saviour Jesus and told of blessings he had received from God. I desired prayer for my healing. He prayed for me. I believed God could heal me. I took off my ring with joy. I could never wear it again. I read my testament, measured my life up to the Word of God. As I would read more I would learn more about what God wanted me to do. I would read and pray and God would bless me with healing. I came to a place where I little doubted my complete healing. Our blessed Lord sent a vision: two sweet ladies to talk to me in a deep sleep one night. I saw them as plainly as any one. I was afraid. One talked to me, telling me not to be afraid, I was going to get well and not to worry, that I was living well pleasing to God. She told me other things which came true. I believed her and quit worrying. Thanks be unto God, the Lord healed me of T. B. I was in a sad condition when I was 23 years old. I have gone through my trials and temptations and always found God's help and grace sufficient to enable me to serve him. We have to live close to God to please him. I am thanking him for many blessings through life and giving me the desires of my heart. Praise his name.—A sister, Josephine Simpson

Calif.—Dear saints,—Greetings. I desire to tell how the Lord so wonderfully healed me. I first had an attack of ptomaine poisoning on Sunday night at services. I couldn't lie down nor sit up. Prayer was offered for me twice and I got some relief and came home about 10 o'clock. I vomited all night until six the next morning. Saints came and prayed for me again and the Lord healed me that time. The next day I took the hiccups which lasted day and night for nearly three weeks. I couldn't keep anything on my stomach, not even water. Then I had a choking spells and it seemed I would almost choke to death. I would have to fight for breath. Again they prayed for me and the Lord healed me instantly of every thing. I haven't been sick any more. I can eat anything I want to and it does not hurt me. Thank the Lord, I feel fine both soul and body, for which I am thankful. I am striving to get closer to Jesus and desire to have more power in my prayer life and every-day living. Surely we need Holy Ghost fire in the pulpit and in the pew, also power to pray for the sick according to James 5:14, 15. This power was given to the ministers and to the church as a whole. The Lord has been stirring me up on this line. I desire the saints to pray for me that I will be all that God wants me to be. I also desire prayer for my dear companion. Do pray for her and believe for her mind to be restored and her body strengthened. She fell and broke her hip, but the Lord has helped her. She can use it any way she wants to. She says she still loves the Lord and tries to sing with us every Sunday I go to see her. She cannot talk much to tell what she wants to. She will start and it will leave her. She still knows me and my daughter and granddaughter. I so desire earnest prayer for her. I believe it is God's will for us to be together what few days we have to stay here. Pray that God will work everything to our good and to His glory.

A brother saved and living for the Lord with victory in my soul all the time, and determined to go higher,

—J. T. Hinshaw.

Louisiana,—Dear saints everywhere,—I am thankful to our good Lord tonight that I am still saved, sanctified, satisfied, and determined by the help of God to go all the way with Him. He is nearer and dearer to me each day. I realize heaven is worth gaining at any cost, and intend to keep pressing my way to gain that eternal reward.

I feel led of the Lord to tell how the Lord wonderfully touched and healed my body at Sunday school Sunday. I have had such weakness of body I could hardly be up at times. I went to work Saturday and had to call my husband to come get me in a short time. I had been in bed most of the week anyway and was too weak to be up.

Sunday morning I got up, cooked a little and went on to Sunday school. During service I felt weak and bad, but enjoyed the Sunday school very much. When the last song was selected I was in such pain, misery, and weakness I failed to lead the song. Bro. Clyde Lea said, "We had better have prayer." Before the prayers were finished I was much better; and was completely easy by the time they had finished praying. He then anointed me and prayed again and the Lord healed my body. By the time I got to my home (about one-half mile) I was much stronger in body (and soul) and felt the touch all over my body; other afflictions were healed and gone, too. Praise His dear name! Wonderful feeling I had! I felt like I had the body that was so strong before I had even been sick. Praise God! A new life, thank God! I felt like I could have even run, and I had been so weak I could hardly walk at times.

I have a desire in my heart to press hard. Even tho we are tried and tested, by the help of the Lord we haven't lost a battle yet and we feel closer to God and stronger in Him each time we are an overcomer for Him. He has promised to never leave nor forsake us (1 Chr. 28:20; Joshua 1:5) and will not suffer us to be tempted above that we are able (1 Cor. 10:13).

There is nothing in this sinful, wicked world to go back to. We didn't please everybody while we were serving the devil and we aren't pleasing everybody while we are serving the Lord, but our desire is to just please God and God alone, letting Him have his way with us whether anyone else is pleased or not.

Salvation is the best thing anyone can possess. It is far above all the riches in this world. I want to be an example for Jesus in this sinful, wicked world in actions, modesty of dress, conversation and all that I do or say. I intend by the help and grace of God to live a Christ-like life in this present world so I can hear these words at the end of the way, "Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world." A blood-washed sister, Mrs. Hollis Hilbun

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Calif.—To the dear saints scattered abroad,—Greetings to all in Jesus' dear name. This writing leaves me still saved and sanctified, living for the dear Lord to all that I know and understand. I am very much encouraged to press on for him at all times. I am so glad that I love the dear Lord. I know I love Him because I keep his commandments and do those things that are pleasing in His sight. I am very thankful I found the Lord before it was too late. He is surely precious to me. He is a present help in every time of need. It is surely wonderful to be saved in these evil times.

He is also my healer. He has healed me many times of serious sicknesses. He healed me this year when my body was in a critical condition. I surely do give Him all the praise for it. I have trusted Him for over twenty-five years. I mean to trust Him all the days of my life.

Pray for me. Christian love, Francis Blackwell.

Ark.—Dear saints,—Greetings in Jesus' name. Some time ago I promised the Lord if He would help me through some afflictions I would write in to the "Faith and Victory"

I am trying to live each day so it will be pleasing to the Lord. I have found him a present help in every time of need. Pray for me that I will be true and faithful.

A sister in Christ, Pearl Steele

Okla.—Dear saints,—Greetings in the holy name of Jesus. I truly thank the Lord that I can report victory over the opposing power of the enemy. In May I was attacked with mumps. One week later I suffered a relapse in which I became severely ill. Some of the saints were notified of my condition and they all had prayer for me. After nearly three days in that condition, I promised the Lord that if He would completely heal me that I would write my testimony. I truly thank the Lord that He heard and answered prayer in my behalf and really healed me. Thank the Lord for His healing power, and for his people. I truly know that the Lord has power to heal all manner of sickness, no matter how severe may be the case. The Lord is always ready to do his part when we meet the conditions.

I desire the prayers of all the saints that I will continue to grow in the Lord and that through my testimony I can impress others to believe on the Lord.

A brother in the Lord, Herman Douglas

o—o—o—o—o

Mo.—Dear Sister and Bro. Pruitt,—Greetings in Jesus precious name! Tonight finds us very much encouraged in our souls to live for the Lord, and we want to testify to his mindfulness of us and his mercy to us. How true the Scripture is in Psalm 34:15, 17, 19: "The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous, and his ears are open unto their cry." "The righteous cry, and the Lord heareth, and delivereth them out of all their troubles." "Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the Lord delivereth him out of them all." Many times the Lord has proven himself to be true in this, all during these years we have trusted and served him. And he is up to date with his promises, too. It is not what He did years ago, but He is still doing for us. Praise His dear and precious name!

We truly do thank and praise the dear Lord for how he brought us through safely, even though suffering the past year and having many accusing things, the enemy would put before us, even trying to get us to be fearful of things that were facing us. But we stood on the Word of God, by the Lord's help and grace, taking a resistance against the enemy. And we can truly thank God for how he brought us through it all and gave us a safe deliverance of our baby boy. We do want to say here how we deeply appreciated the saints and their earnest prayers in our behalf at this time of test. I am feeling much better, excepting my back is very weak, also my nerves bother at times. But I am looking earnestly to our dear Lord for this to be completely healed. The Lord is blessing the baby, and he is doing fine, for which we give the Lord all praise.

It seems that we have really gone through the furnace of afflictions. It would be one then another of us—sometimes two or three at a time; but the Lord brought us through it all, praise His precious name!

There have been some very special blessings of late, which we desire to tell. We count them blessings from the Lord, seeing how his loving hand cared and protected.

One evening about dusk, Wilbur went to the garage to get some tools out of the trunk of the car. As he was trying to get the door down, he had one foot in the trunk of the car and the other on the bumper, and before he could get his foot out of the trunk, the door got loose from him, coming down on his head, knocking him down and catching his foot in the trunk, just at the ankle bone. He was hanging there on his back by his foot, and his head not touching the ground, yelling, "Help!" Murphy ran to see about him and helped him out, and brought him to the house. We had prayer, and the dear Lord wonderfully helped and healed his foot. It didn't give him scarcely any trouble.

Yesterday (June 26), he was playing with an empty 22 shell with the bullet and powder out of it, but the cap had not been shot. He, not realizing the danger of it, took the hammer and hit it, causing it to explode, throwing a piece of the metal about one-half inch square into his small finger at the root of the finger nail. It was buried in the finger, leaving just a small portion sticking out. A brother and sister in the Lord were here. The brother took the pliers and got the metal out. We agreed in prayer, and the dear Lord stopped the pain. Today his finger looks fine. Bless the dear Lord!

A few hours after this happened, little Janice was outside playing. She jabbed a stick back in her mouth some way, cutting the roof of her mouth just above the tonsils, causing much bleeding through her mouth and nose. The dear Lord wonderfully touched that and she has felt fine all day. We can never thank the Lord for all he does for us, all through the past up to this present hour. We desire to serve and trust Him to the end. All praise be to Him! We desire the saints' prayers that we always follow the Lord in true holiness and humbleness of heart. God bless each dear saint and keep you in his love.

One who loves the Lord, His truth, and His people, Mrs. Murphy Allen

o—o—o—o—o—o

Dear Bro. Pruitt and all the saints,—Greetings in Jesus' saving, healing, and keeping name.

We continue to enjoy reading "Faith and Victory" and do not want to be without its spiritual help in this isolated part of the country.

We want to testify to the mighty healing power that God used to rebuke and cast out a very serious affliction that I have had many years. Last summer when I was so bad I asked for and received an anointed cloth from you and another good brother, and applied them to my body. God wonderfully healed me and today I am feeling fine, and do not have any of this affliction on my body. We thank and praise God for it all; also thank you dear ones for being interested enough to take my request to the throne of grace.

Continue to remember us in prayer, also our children, and a friend of ours who asked us to pray for the healing of his body. We rejoiced to get this request, as there are so few who believe God will heal in these days. Praise His Holy name forever! Amen!

Your in the one body, Bro. and Sis. Earl Yantis.

o—o—o—o—o—o

Ill.—Dear Saints scattered abroad,—I wish to relate to you dear children of God, how thru faith one can be rich, not only in this life, but in the life hereafter, thru Jesus Christ our Lord.

During the month of May I, with two others, went to God in prayer in behalf of their healing. While meditating and praying, God thru His infinite love and mercy healed me of a long standing thyroid gland ailment. Notice, I went for the healing of these other two, and the Lord thru his mercy stretched forth his hand and made me whole. Glory to God, Amen. Although these other two saints were greatly blessed, one said later she made the greatest decision in all her life by walking out in naked faith, going with me to be prayed for, and also for this other child of God in behalf of their healing.

Oh, it is wonderful to walk in the light as God shines it upon our pathway. I would be afraid to not be obedient unto the small voice. I promised God I would go with Him all the way. It isn't at the beginning nor at the middle of the race that wins, but he that holdeth out faithful to the end shall receive a crown of life. The Lord is nigh unto all them that call upon Him, to all that call upon Him in truth. Psal. 145:18.

How we need to be up and doing for our blessed Master who has done so much for us. He shed his life's blood on Calvary, and gave His life a ransom for many. I do love the Bible. Psalmist David said, "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path." Psa. 119: 105. How true this is for us today who are traveling in the footsteps of Jesus. Let us not forget in Heb. 13:16 we read where Paul says, "But to do good and to communicate, forget not; for with such sacrifices God is well-pleased." I am very thankful to all you good children of God who prayed for my healing the different times I have requested prayer through "Faith and Victory." And I do thank God for this little paper. I have subscribed for it for others. I do love to share my joy with others in behalf of Christ's kingdom.

Please pray God will lead me where he wants me to go and work for him. I want to be in the center of the divine will of God at all times and where I go. Many are called, but few chosen. We read this in God's Word. This is a warning to you and to me; "For if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the sinner and the ungodly appear?" I do want to be among that number when the saints go marching in because of Calvary.

Your sister in Him, Sister Lola V. Chase.

Kansas—Dear Saints everywhere:—Greetings in Jesus' precious name.

I want to write a testimony about the healing of my little boy's (Gary Moore, age 8 yrs.) leg, for the benefit of others, that it may by God's grace, help some one who is unsaved, and strengthen those that are saved.

I have left my boy alone the past two weeks (at the time of this writing) while I work. Something bit or stung the back of his leg not far above his shoe top. The same night it began to swell and get sore. Everyone was saying, "You'd better take him to a doctor;" but I said, "No, I won't do it. God will heal it." The next evening after I returned from work, he could hardly walk on it, and it was red, hard, and terribly swollen, worse than the night before. I went to the telephone and called Sister Jettie Davidson and asked her if she would pray for him, explaining what was wrong. While I talked to her she said she would and then suggested that I call Bro. Roy Harmon and ask him to pray, too. They said they would, and the moment I hung up the receiver I felt so good inside, just sure his leg would get well. The next night it was still swollen, but he could walk on his foot. The swelling seemed to be leaving and the soreness also. I just knew he would get well. Sister Davidson called several times to ask how he was without getting to talk to me, but finally got me Saturday or Sunday evening (I forget which). A lady at work said, "You ought to take him right away to a doctor; this hot weather he could take blood poisoning so easily." I did as she suggested—I took him to a doctor, the great Physician Himself, Jesus Christ. I thank God with all my heart that the boy is all right now and I also thank the ones who prayed for him. At the same time I was praying for my mother, who had something wrong with her foot. She could hardly walk on it. I thank God that He healed it. God also healed me of female trouble a few months ago and my side used to hurt bad at times. I thank God it doesn't bother me any more at all.

From now on God is my doctor, and He can heal anything. A neighbor asked me when I gave her my medicine cabinet and medicine: "What was medicine put here for?" I believe it was put here for people who have faith in doctors and their medicine and no faith in God. Please pray that I will be sanctified and follow Jesus all the way, being faithful till He returns for His own.

Lovingly, your sister in Christ, Frances McBaine.

Mo.—Dear ones in Christ,—Greetings in Jesus' name! I feel led to write my testimony to the glory of God. He surely means much to me this evening. In fact, I don't know how people get along without Him. The Lord is surely mindful of his children and knows every need, whether it be spiritual, physical, or financial. I have taken special notice lately how the Lord answers our prayers. Sometimes we ask the Lord to do a very small thing, and when we ask him, we don't give it much heed, which I guess we should, but the Lord comes to our rescue and grants that little desire of our hearts.

I wish to tell how the Lord healed me awhile back. I had something wrong with my throat. We do not know whether it was gland trouble or tonsillitis. It kept getting worse. I could hardly swallow, talk, or eat without much pain. I was working that day and it got to feeling so bad I had to come home and lie down. That night my parents anointed me and had prayer for me. I went to bed and when I got up the next morning it was much better. It kept improving, and before very long was completely well. I surely do thank the Lord for it.

Last Tuesday morning after breakfast, I noticed my neck was sore on the right side. I went on to work, and as I worked it got worse all at once. It hurt so bad I couldn't hold my head straight, but had to lean it over to the left. As I had to do over-head work, it was very painful on my neck. During noon hour I called Mother and told her how my neck was hurting. I kept at my job till quitting time. The devil really tried to discourage me by painting dark pictures. We know a man who has to hold his head sideways all the time. The devil tried to tell me that my neck would keep getting worse and that I would be like that man, having to hold my head like that the rest of my life. But we kept praying for my neck and I just wouldn't listen to the enemy, and the Lord healed it.

I feel so unworthy of the Lord's many blessings to me. I just want to live closer to Him each day of my life. I realize there are many people watching our lives and I surely do not want to be a hinderance in any way.

I find the Lord can be real near and dear to us when we let him be. I get great consolation in reading God's Word and secret prayer. Our prayer life is what counts in our Christian life.

The old enemy is doing all he can to discourage the saints. He tries so hard to accuse them in any way possible. I was going through a trial a while back and I found that all I needed to do was rebuke the devil and his accusations.

I desire the saints' prayers that I will grow stronger in the Lord.

A young saint, Shirley Allen

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Calif.—

I—and who am I? Is it my natural self or is it Jesus Christ reigning in me? When we ask ourselves this question, let us look at our ways and our doings and find the answer. I am praising the good Lord for a saved and sanctified experience that gives me power over all ungodly and selfish ways that I had before I found Him; and now I can obey the Word, 1 Peter 1:15, 16, "But as he which has called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; because it is written, be ye holy: for I am holy."

I praise the Lord for power to keep holy in all of my ways and doings with the saints and with sinners. The love of God in my heart makes me want to obey His Word on all lines. Psa. 23:4. "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me."

Matt. 5:44 tells us to love our enemies, and in the

same verse he tells us to do good to them that hate us, pray for them which despitefully use us. Matt. 5:45 tells us to do this so that we can be the children of our Father which is in heaven. To do these things we must love the Lord with all of our heart, and then we will have power over self and be able to obey his Word on all lines.

We know it is not always peace and happiness with us, but whatever the Lord permits to come our way, let us say with all our heart, "I know thy way is best for me."

We are still rejoicing over the good meeting which the Lord blessed us with here in Bakersfield in February. Some got saved and some got their spiritual strength renewed. And it brings much joy to us now for the saints who were not meeting with us to be back—most of them have come back to the fold.

Dear saints, pray for me that the Holy Spirit will continue to guide me in all my ways and doings, for I know a holy life will lift up Christ more than all I can say.

Bro. E. W. Hartgray.

o—o—o—o—o

Yosemite National Park—Dear Bro. Pruitt and workers at the print shop—I had promised the Lord to send in my testimony. And this morning I feel so blessed in my soul, that I feel this is the time to write it.

I do thank the Lord how he has blessed and helped me so much lately. I feel he has given me great victory over the devil. Although I am quite a ways from any of the saints, I am so glad I have the Lord near to go to, and can feel he is so close to me some times.

The past three or four years my two boys and I suffer so from hay fever about this time of the year. We have so many pine trees and other trees that have lots of pollen on them here where we live, sometimes it lasts for weeks. When the pollen started falling I started begging the Lord to keep us protected from it. The porch and side walk were yellow with it for a couple of weeks. A few times the devil tried to get us started with it so I couldn't write the testimony, but I kept going to the Lord; and, praise his holy name, he has kept us from getting sick with it. The children next door are sick from it. I am so glad we can take everything to the Lord, small or large, and he will hear us.

I enjoy reading the little paper so much. My two children love to have me read the testimonies so much. Pray for me that I will always be true to the Lord.

Christian love to all the saints,

Hazel (Williamson) Savage

o—o—o—o—o

Tulsa, Okla.—To those who have been redeemed from sin, or to anyone that reads this, I now greet you in the name of Jesus who died for us, died that we might live. I am so thankful I know I have been washed in His blood, and now I am whiter than the snow and so glad he gave me the power to be his child, and now I am kept by his mighty power, and his peace and love is multiplied in my heart. I didn't know anything at all of this wonderful way till I was married and the mother of a child. When a young man came in our home who had been born again his life was the living Word of God. Oh, it attracted me so much until I just desired it. Oh, how I did hunger and thirst for that kind of life, but still I didn't ask anyone and did not know what to do that I might obtain it. So for days and weeks I went on till one day I was carried away in spirit and saw every creature upon the earth praising God. Even the tiny little worms seemed to be bowing to our blessed Lord. Oh, I tell you that was a wonderful place to be in. Praise Him forever, He saved my soul. From that time until the present I have been telling the wonderful story. Then a few weeks later I met a number of the saints in prayer meeting. They

were lifting up holy hands and telling what the Lord had done for them. I could report victory, too. Later I was baptized. I saw that I had to be baptized twice, so I went to the altar and was baptized with the Holy Ghost. Now He leads me each day in the heavenly way as onward and upward I climb. When I read Psa. 15:1, 2, 3, "Lord, who shall abide in thy tabernacle?" it makes my heart rejoice to know that I am one of those. I know I have found that blessed shelter. Truly it is a faithful saying: for if we be dead with Christ we shall also live with Him: if we suffer, we shall also reign with him: if we deny him, he also will deny us. That is the sad part, so many are denying Him, just will not let patience have her perfect work that we may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing (James 1:4). I have learned that we must go on from victory to victory if we get the crown, for we must have faith not wavering. We must draw closer to God. We must endure hardness as dear soldiers, if we expect to see God's face in peace. For those are the only ones who have come unto Mount Zion, and unto the City of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels, to the general assembly and church of the first born, which are written in heaven, and to God the judge of all, and to the spirit of just men made perfect. Rev. 12:22, 23. For the Word says, "Be ye perfect." So now, where art thou, oh precious souls? Where art thou? I am praying that God will let his Spirit trouble every heart that will examine themselves and know how it is with them and God. This is my prayer. For everyone will have to stand before God to give an account to him for our conduct here in the earth.

From a child of the King, desiring the prayers of the righteous. Sister Hattie Hines.

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Three men were walking on a wall—

Feeling, Faith, Fact.

Feeling had an awful fall

And Faith was taken back.

Faith was so close to feeling

He fell, too;

But fact remained and pulled Faith up,

And that brought Feeling up, too.

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"There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit" Romans 8:1.

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— NOTICE —

If any of the saints desire to purchase an 8 x 12 cabin room on the Monark Springs, Mo. camp ground, you should write Sister E. Coral Johnson, Box 86, La Junta, Colo. at once. The price is \$100.00.

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BIBLE STUDY

Price Change—Primary Picture Roll \$1.35, Lesson cards 9c

GROWTH THROUGH WORK

September 5, 1954

Printed PortionColossians 3:23-24; 1 Thessalonians 4:10b-11; 2 Thess. 3:6-13.

Col. 3:23. And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men;

24. Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ.

1 Thess. 4:10b. We beseech you, brethren, that ye increase more and more;

11. And that ye study to be quiet, and to do your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you.

2 Thess. 3:6. Now we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye withdraw yourselves from every brother that walketh disorderly, and not after the traditions which he received of us.

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

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

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

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

11. For we hear that there are some which walk among you disorderly, working not at all, but are busybodies.

12. Now them that are such we command and exhort by our Lord Jesus Christ, that with quietness they work, and eat their own bread.

13. But ye, brethren, be not weary in well doing.

Memory Verse: Whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men.

Practical Truth: Performing useful work is pleasing to God and an aid in the development of character.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

God expects everyone to work. Even "Cripple Tom" found that he could copy Scriptures and throw them out the window to passers by as long as he lived. Our Lord started out under the direction of a carpenter. Peter and John were fishermen. Matthew was a tax collector, and Paul was a tent maker. Just look over the list of those who were called to the spiritual line of work particularly and you will find that God called those who were already at some kind of work. God does not call lazy people for his kind of work.

Each Jew was taught to do some kind of work, so Paul gives it out that even those who were slaves and became Christians that their work should be done as unto the Lord. Surely that would put joy into the disagreeable work from then on. "For the love of Christ constraineth us," is Paul's urge forward.

It is a real blessing to work. One can eat or sleep as a result and then when the work is accomplished, there is a satisfaction that it is finished. Jesus' last words were: "IT is finished." His work of redemption was finished.

There is another satisfaction that comes from work: it keeps one at his job, his own business, so he does not have time to be a busy body in other's business.

CHRISTIAN CITIZENSHIP AND COOPERATION

September 12, 1954

Printed PortionRomans 13:1-10; 1 Cor. 3:4-9.

Rom. 13:1. Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God.

2. Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation.

3. For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil. Wilt thou then not be afraid of the power? do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same:

4. For he is the minister of God to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not

the sword in vain: for he is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil.

5. Wherefore ye must needs be subject, not only for wrath, but also for conscience sake.

6. For for this cause pay ye tribute also: for they are God's ministers, attending continually upon this very thing.

7. Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honour to whom honour.

8. Owe no man any thing, but to love one another: for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law.

9. For this, thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not kill, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, Thou shalt not covet; and if there be any other commandment, it is briefly comprehended in this saying, namely, Thou shalt love thy neighbor: therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

1 Cor. 3:4. For while one saith, I am of Paul; and another, I am of Apollos; are ye not carnal?

5. Who then is Paul, and who is Apollos, but ministers by whom ye believed, even as the Lord gave to every man?

6. I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase.

7. So then neither is he that planteth any thing, neither he that watereth; but God that giveth the increase.

8. Now he that planteth and he that watereth are one: and every man shall receive his own reward according to his own labour.

9. For we are labourers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building.

Memory Verse: Love worketh no ill to his neighbor: Therefore love is the fulfilling of the law. Rom. 13:10.

Practical Truth: Christians should cooperate in all feasible ways for the promotion of the welfare of both the state and the church.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

The Christian here is admonished to be subject to the higher powers, for they are ordained of God. During the time when these words were written, there were those in authority who were as wicked as any that we have today, and yet Paul said to obey them. Peter and John made an exception to that when they said, "We ought to obey God rather than men," but the authorities were wrong then. So in order for the Christian to be true to God in such cases, he must obey God. It is the lawless who need the law and not the Christian. For those who want to do evil are the ones who watch the officers, but the Christian is rather protected by the law instead of being an offender.

In the last part of the lesson we have each one doing his part, but all working together under the direction of God. Paul had his part and Apollos had his part, but it was God that gave the increase. By each one doing his duty under God's direction, the work was one work, for they and God co-operated and it became one building (the beautiful church of God).

Any one can give out tracts to the end that souls might be saved, and anyone can pray.

GROWING IN LOVE

September 19, 1954

Printed Portion:.....Matthew 5:43-48; 1 John 4:11-19

Matt. 5:43. Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbour, and hate thine enemy.

44. But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray

for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;

45. That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust.

46. For if ye love them which love you, what reward have ye? do not even the publicans the same?

47. And if ye salute your brethren only, what do ye more than others? do not even the publicans so?

48. Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect.

1 John. 4:11. Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another.

12. No man hath seen God at any time. If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and his love is perfected in us.

13. Hereby know we that we dwell in Him, and He in us, because he hath given us of His Spirit.

14. And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the Savior of the world.

15. Whosoever shall confess that Jesus is the Son of God, God dwelleth in him, and he in God.

16. And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him.

17. Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world.

18. There is no fear in love: but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.

19. We love him, because he first loved us.

Memory Verse: Above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness. Col. 3:14.

Practical Truth: To every true Christian God imparts love such as he himself has.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

The standard of love as shown to us when God gave his Son (John 3:16) and the Son gave us his life (John 10:18) is the highest type given. Those who want, from the deep of their souls to gain God's kind of love may have that love shed abroad in their hearts by the Holy Ghost (Rom 5:5). There is a worth-while prayer each day that we may attain to the kind of love God has for us so that our work done for him may be done with the love he gives us. It is God's gift to us and one of the fruits of the Spirit which is given to us when we get saved. The hate that we had is all gone and now we love everybody, and it shows out as we do for others even to the extent of love to our enemies.

Those who say they are Christians and at the same time say that they sin more or less every day and cannot help it, need a good helping at Father's table of the dish of love. To love God supremely would take out completely the desire to sin (take the "want-to" out of the heart). Since sin is a deliberate and premeditated choice to do wrong, it follows that God is second choice with such a person. The fact that we show our love to all and do kind and loving deeds as the Holy Spirit directs us, is proof of our love.

—::— LIVING WITNESSES

September 26, 1954

Printed Portion Matthew 5:13-16; Acts 4:13-16; 8:4-8, 26-40; 2 Corinthians 5:11-20; 1 Peter 3:13-16.

Matt. 5:13. Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it

is henceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men.

14. Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid.

15. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house.

16. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

Acts 8:4. Therefore they that were scattered abroad went every where preaching the word.

5. Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria, and preached Christ unto them.

6. And the people with one accord gave heed unto those things which Philip spake, hearing and seeing the miracles which he did.

2 Cor. 5:14. For the love of Christ constraineth us; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead:

15. And that he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again.

16. Wherefore henceforth know we no man after the flesh: yea, though we have known Christ after the flesh, yet now henceforth know we him no more.

17. Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

18. And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation;

19. To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.

20. Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God.

Memory Verse: Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven. Matthew 5:16.

Practical Truth: Every child of God should be a witness before others of Christ's saving power.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

In last lesson we had about growing in love and ways to express that love. In this lesson we find one of the means to show our love by being living witnesses. Did Jesus save us from sin? Did we have an experience of joy come into our soul and peace which passeth understanding? Were we there when that actually took place in our lives? Then we have something to tell that the world knows nothing about and we are called (every one) to be witnesses.

Of course, there are those who have lost out like the Saviour spoke of the salt losing its savour (die spiritually). Such ones need to do as Jesus said in Rev. 3:18, "I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment [garment of salvation; robe of righteousness, Isa. 61:10] that thou mayest be clothed" and 19, "be zealous therefore, and repent."

In the 4th verse we have those who were scattered abroad preaching the word. They had an experience with God and knew it, and in the 14th verse Paul says "the love of Christ constraineth us." That was indeed an urge to move him to be a witness of the grace of God in his soul. And he says (verse 17) "If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature." Of course, he had a real living testimony.