

# FAITH <sup>AND</sup> VICTORY

## The EVENING LIGHT WATCHMAN



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### My Christ and The Cross

The shadows grew dark all around me,  
All I felt was fear and despair,  
In weakness I cried, "Oh, Lord, help me,  
My load is too heavy to bear."

But, lo, the Lord remained silent;  
Alone in the darkness I grieved.  
But God was working His purpose,  
Though not in the way I had hoped.

Then one day as I was complaining  
Of the course things had taken for me,  
In my mind's eye I saw the picture  
Of my Christ in Gethsemane.

I saw Him alone in the garden,  
Sweating in great drops was He,  
As He prayed all night till the morning;  
He was tired and in agony.

He lifted His face toward heaven  
As He said with a look divine,  
"Let this cup pass from Me, dear Father,  
However, not my will but Thine."

Then again I saw my blest Saviour,  
This time climbing Calvary's road,  
And I cringed when I saw Him falter,  
As He almost fell 'neath His load.

On up He trudged toward Calvary,  
Past a crowd filled with sin and dross;  
Then I cried, "Dear Lord, let me help you  
To carry the old rugged cross."

One last time—on the cross I saw Him  
Writhing in anguish and pain;  
"It is finished," He whispered softly,  
But His death was not in vain.

"Now child, do you still want to help me  
To bear the old cross here below?  
Then take up your cross and follow,  
Through this life together we'll go."

"Dear Father, forgive me for fretting  
And counting each trial great loss,  
Just help me to bear my load gladly  
And to cherish the old rugged cross."

—Selected by Mrs. E. Oesch

### After Death—What?

"Doctor, what do you know about the future life?  
What is there after death, beyond the grave? Such  
a thought did not use to trouble me, but recently I  
have begun to wonder."

The learned professor of Hebrew replied, "That  
is something of which we can know nothing. The  
only thing to do is to lead the best life you can in this  
world, and let that take care of itself."

How true is the Scripture statement—"The world  
by its wisdom knew not God" (1 Cor. 1:21)—nor does  
it therefore know about the future. Only God, who  
alone knows the future can tell us what it is.

Indeed God has spoken and revealed to us the  
future: "It is appointed unto men once to die, but  
after this the judgment" (Heb. 9:27). Death does  
not end all. Death does not mean annihilation, nor  
extinction, nor soul-slumber. All that are in the  
graves shall hear the voice of God's Son, and shall  
come forth, either to the resurrection of life or to the  
resurrection of judgment (John 5:28, 29).

The resurrection of judgment is pictured in Rev.  
20:11-15 in solemn words. There the dead, small and  
great, come forth from their graves and stand before  
the great white throne and are judged according to  
the things that are written in that book where God  
keeps the record of their sins—not one sin being for-  
gotten. Whosoever is not found written in the book  
of life is cast into the lake of fire. This is the second  
death. "And these shall go away into everlasting  
punishment" (Matt. 25:46).

Thus God, from the time of man's fall, looked for-  
ward to Calvary's cross as the only way by which  
guilty sinners could approach Him. All who come  
to God, believing in the Lord Jesus as their Saviour  
from all sin, pass out of death into life. "Verily, ver-  
ily, I say unto you, He that heareth my Word, and be-  
lieveth on Him that sent Me, hath everlasting life, and  
shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from  
death unto life" (John 5:24).

He who says that we can know nothing of the future, is wrong; for God has clearly revealed it in His Word. Again he is wrong who says, the only thing we can do is to lead the best life we can in this world, and let the next take care of itself. We, in our own strength cannot live a life pleasing to God, even though it may be quite exemplary in the sight of men. The Lord Jesus Christ said, "I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish" (Luke 13:3). "I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: for if ye believe not that I am He, ye shall die in your sins" (John 8:24). "Ye . . . shall die in your sins: whither I go, ye cannot come."

It is your attitude toward Christ now and here that will decide what your future will be.

If you repent and take Him by faith to be your personal Saviour from all sin, you will have eternal life; but if you do not repent, you will be cast into the lake of fire. Who said so? God said so, and it simply cannot come out all right if you turn your back on Him or through neglect leave Him out of your life.

—Sel.

### The Way Out

Dear reader, how do you stand before God just now? My heart is burdened for you. Do you not know that the Bible says, ". . . it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment" (Heb. 9:27)? The first part of this verse is being fulfilled before our eyes day after day. And surely the last part is sure. Do you not know that you shall stand before the judgment bar of God to give an account of how you have lived in this world? No one shall be spared. "Every knee shall bow" (Phil. 2:10, 11) "every tongue shall confess." If you do not bow here nor confess here, you will do it some time—but will it be too late? Dear reader, there is a way out of your sins. There is a way that your sins may be blotted out and you can in the judgment stand before God clean and spotless. "Some men's sins are open before hand, going before to judgment; and some men they follow after." 1 Tim. 5:24. We want our sins open before the judgment. We do not want them to follow us after to the judgment and condemn us in that day to eternal darkness, where there is weeping and gnashing of teeth. (Matt. 25:30, 41).

Jesus came that our sins could be opened before judgment. He said, "I am the way." He is the way out for us. He was willing to come down from that beautiful home in heaven and live here in this sinful world taking on the flesh and then dying on the cross that we may be delivered from our sins. When he arose from the grave and ascended up on high, the plan of salvation was made complete for us. He is our mediator between us and God. As we come to God, confessing our sins and asking God for Christ's sake to forgive us of our sins, he will do that. But there is a way that we must come to God. We must come with godly sorrow, and with a "broken and a contrite heart." We must be sorry that we have transgressed the commands of a loving and just God, and beg with tears his forgiveness. And then believe

that he does forgive us. "For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness: and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation." For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved" Rom. 10:9-13.

Can you not see the great loving heart of our great God as he sent Jesus, his only Son, here? How He loved us! See the love of Jesus? He told them that he could have called and more than twelve legions of angels would have come to his rescue; but then how could the plan of salvation be complete? (Matt. 26: 53, 54). How could we then be saved if we did not have someone to die for us? How we should thank the Lord and fall in humble contrition before him for dying in our stead. May the Lord help all to come to him is my prayer.

—Marie Miles.

### Let Us Come Boldly

"Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need." Heb. 4:16.

We see the assurance the Lord gives us in the 14th and 15th verses, which precede the verse above. Therefore, because of this assurance, let us come boldly to the throne of grace where we will find in abundance all that God has promised. **But we must come boldly**, because we have a perfect right to come and expect to receive what we come for. Jesus purchased all these good things for us when He gave His life for us. He said that He would divide the spoil with the strong, and in Heb. 10:35-38 we read, "Cast not away therefore your confidence which hath great recompense of reward. For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise." We are always glad to receive the good things which God has promised us. Then we must come boldly to the throne of grace and act like we expect to receive what we came for. When we go to market to get the things we need, we take a basket with us in which to carry the things home. So let us go boldly to the throne of grace, and take a basket with us so we can bring back with us what we went after. **But we must come boldly.** We have heard the saying: "Faint heart never won fair lady." Yes, we must come boldly if we expect to receive.

Sister Margaret Dundas, a sister who lives in Ireland, with whom I correspond, wrote of an experience she had with some sea gulls. Her home is on the sea coast. There is a sea wall between her house and the sea. They have had lots of winter and the snow is about a foot deep. The gulls were hungry because the snow had covered the ground where they found their food, so she put some bread out on the sea wall. A flock of gulls came to get the food, but all of them except one big gull were very shy. When she would move they would become frightened and fly. But this big gull flew down and lit right by her. It looked right at her and ate out of her hand. She had some choice bits of food and he got all of them because he came boldly, and he got a good dinner because he was not afraid.

Yes, if we would receive good things from the hand of the Lord we must come boldly. Cast not away therefore your confidence which hath great recompense of reward. Sometimes the Lord uses little birds and animals to get the lessons to us which He wants us to have. Yes, come boldly. —G. W. Stephenson.

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## A Word of Encouragement

When the Lord appeared unto Cain, after he had slain Abel, He asked him, "Where is Abel, thy brother?" Cain in return asked, "Am I my brother's keeper?" Some of us may ask ourselves the same question. In my opinion, we are to an extent. Follow me closely, and I think you will agree.

What is a life of a Christian? According to our convictions and Titus 2:11-14, it is a life of soberness, righteousness, and godliness. Christians are peculiar people, zealous of good works. It is also a life of self-denial, clothed with humility, to walk carefully and prayerfully each day. We are not to live our lives to ourselves and not be a help to others. Someone helped us or encouraged us along the way before we came to the place where we are now in the Lord.

In 1 Thess. 5:14 we read, "We exhort you, brethren, to warn them that are unruly, comfort the feeble-minded [or encourage the faint-hearted], support [uphold] the weak, be patient toward all men."

Young people, we have older ones among us, some of whom are well stricken in years. Let us take more time in doing for them, or perhaps encourage them by letting them know how much we appreciate them. When one testifies or has a few remarks, even if the time is growing late, let us give that one our careful attention. Remember the last clause in the 14th verse says, "be patient toward all men." It is our duty to comfort, help, encourage, and uplift those with whom God may let us come into contact.

We have some among us that stand in need of encouragement on various lines—fruitful mothers, mothers who sometimes have need of those who are able to help them out. Just for one to say, "The saints are praying for you," releases a load they may be carrying. I recall a time in my life when I was badly disturbed with accusations in different forms. I received help from a minister who was well acquainted with that trouble.

We know that there are some problems that arise for which many of us could not give the proper advice. In such cases, advise or encourage one to consult his pastor. Prov. 25:11 says, "A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver." Quite valuable, isn't it? Let us take more time and speak that word that will inspire the soul in the "valley of despondency."

—Vivian (Trotter) Hattley

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## The Harvest Call

I am thankful today for salvation. He is everything to me. I have been encouraged of late because one soul has been brought to Christ this year so far,

and the dear Lord has been blessing us in our labors. There is so much to do, and the laborers are so few. The Lord wants workers in His vineyard.

We read in Luke 10:1, "After these things the Lord appointed other seventy also, and sent them two and two before his face into every city and place, whither he himself would come."

There are no lazy Christians in the Lord's service. Praise the Lord for His faithful few. We read in the second verse where Jesus said unto them, "The harvest truly is great but the laborers are few, pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth laborers into his harvest." The Lord has work for every blood-washed saint to do. Some can hand out papers, tracts, etc. It is sad to see so many on the downward way who have never heard of this truth. May God help us to be lights set on a hill that all may see and come to this gospel.

Just yesterday (Feb. 2nd) we went into a home where we talked awhile then brought up the subject of the Bible and the one true church of God. We gave them Bible for it, but they were through with us and asked us to leave. Please read Jeremiah 13:10. "This evil people which refuse to hear my words which walk in the imagination of their hearts and walk after other gods to serve them, shall even be as this girdle, which is good for nothing." When we have taken the gospel to them, we have done what we could, even though they refused. Their blood will be on their own hands.

We read in Isa. 17:6, "Yet gleaning grapes shall be left in it as the shaking of an olive tree. Two or three berries in the top of the uppermost bough, four or five in the outmost fruitful branches thereof saith the Lord God of Israel." The ones that are in the top of the uppermost bough are the ones whom the Lord wants us to work for—ones in the out-of-the-way places who have not heard the gospel. I know that we cannot all leave home and go in the byways and highways, but each one can pray for those who do go. May God help us to be more burdened for lost souls and help in the way the Lord leads. We read in Eph. 6:18, 19, "Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the spirit and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints and for me that utterance may be given unto me that I may open my mouth boldly to make known the mystery of the gospel." And we read in John 4:35, 36, "Say not ye, There are yet four months and then cometh harvest. Behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest. And he that reapeth receiveth wages, and gathereth fruit unto life eternal that both he that soweth and he that reapeth may rejoice together." Let us be workers together and then we can rejoice together and be found faithful when he comes to take his bride home.

May God bless each and every one of the true saints of God is my prayer. Let every child of God pray for the work and that I will keep in the center of his will. Amen. Your blood-washed brother,  
Harvey Johnson.

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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 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.

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

Free-will offerings sent in to the work will be thankfully received as from the Lord. All personal checks and Post Office Money Orders should be made payable to Fred Pruitt, or to Faith Pub. House. All offerings and gifts given or sent to Fred Pruitt will be used in the general up-keep of the printing work unless you state that it is for personal needs. We make His work first.

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

**THE BEAUTIFUL WAY**

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

Subscription price: 60¢ per year for single copies. 40¢ each subscription in quantities of five or more to one address for a yr. (Pay quarterly if you desire).

**Editorials**

The work of the Lord is moving along nicely at the Faith Pub. House in Guthrie, Okla. The workers are quite interested in getting the Gospel of Christ out to men by the printed page. They also take interest in keeping the building in repair. The office rooms are so much nicer and warmer since the inside has been finished.

One of the workers had a vision or a dream in which she saw Jesus in the stencil room where she works. He appeared so nice and pleasant, being pleased in such a precious way, and it filled her heart with joy. After telling about it, she exclaimed: "No one can make me believe that this is not the 'Lord's Print Shop.'" After hearing this, my attention was drawn by the Spirit to the sign we had put up on the front of the print shop many years ago. The letters had become badly faded and did not look very inviting. I told the brethren about their faded condition, so the sign boards were taken down, repainted, and re-lettered; and now they are back in their places with a new coat of paint above them. I feel that the Lord is much better pleased with them now. The Lord has a way of letting us know what He wants done. By obeying Him, we let the Lord be pleased with us and "eat the good of the land."

Quite a number of the saints have written to us concerning the February issue of the "Faith and Victory" paper, expressing their pleasure and edification received when reading the articles and testimonies. It makes us feel good in our souls to know that we, the least of His saints, can be workers together with the Lord to be a comfort and a blessing to precious souls. Some mentioned the article entitled, "Biblical Truths on Adultery," and agreed with the teachings. Others have cleared themselves from an adulterous life and want to be in some of the camp meetings this summer. I am sure that the Lord wants the truth to go forth clearly and definitely on all lines so precious souls will know the truth and be set free by the power of God.

The Lord has not only supplied us with more workers, but he is also sending in much manuscript to be printed. It looks like this year of 1955 will be an exceedingly busy year and we shall be able to reach a great many more people with the gospel by the printed page than in any previous year. We all love to do work for the Lord and in behalf of His. Our bodies often become weary, but we do not come weary in well-doing, for we do know that there is a great reward awaiting the faithful.

Not long ago the Lord gave us a message on "Having good thoughts toward others." We are exhorted in the Word of God to love one another and to forgive as Christ has forgiven us. James says (4: 11), "Speak not evil one of another, brethren. He that speaketh evil of his brother, and judgeth his brother, speaketh evil of the law and judgeth the law: but if thou judge the law, thou art not a doer of the law, but a judge. Peter exhorts us to lay aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speakings." 1 Peter 2:1.

Paul says in Eph. 4:31, "Let all bitterness and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you with all malice." Again in 1 Cor. 13th chapter, Paul, writing of the divine love in the heart, said among other things, "thinketh no evil."

Satan is very crafty, and wherever he thinks it is to his interest, he will get brethren to think evil of one another. He seems to be clever in impressing evil thoughts upon us about others, and many times he will succeed in making one believe that it is God impressing—especially will he do this if there is given room for a little ill-feeling or envy to exist. By working unwary souls in this way, he has succeeded in making many divisions among brethren. Oh, how we need to watch and pray that we never fall into any of the traps and snares of Satan and thereby save ourselves from many burdens and heartaches which accumulate upon one in this condition. Having been in the front of the battle for nearly forty years, I have not only experienced his working, but have also met up with many cases of this sort, and we love to pass this truth on to our readers that they may be on their guard and be not ignorant of Satan's devices.

We feel a great responsibility upon our hearts to tell the truth plainly to all men, lifting up Christ to you as the Strong Man who can give you grace to obey Him in this life and at the last hear these words, "Well done, thou faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

The salvation of your soul is the most important thing in this life. To get to God in repentance and have all your sins taken away and your heart washed in the atoning blood of the Lamb of God will bring a peace and joy into your soul which cannot be compared with any mortal thing existing. Man has power to sin against God, but he has no power to atone for his sins, as Christ alone has that power of deliverance and atonement.

Jesus suffered, bled, and died upon the cross and thereby furnished us a way of escape from the torments of hell where Jesus says the worm dieth not and the fire is never quenched. If man will repent and turn from all his sins, looking to Jesus and his blood sacrifice for sin, he can be set free from the power of sin and live a holy and clean life by the grace and help of God all the days of his mortal life. In Luke 1:74, we read, "That he would grant unto us, that we being delivered out of the hands of our enemies, might serve him without fear, in holiness and righteousness before him all the days of our life." Paul says in Heb. 12:14, "Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord." Unless your soul is washed in the blood of the Lamb and made holy, you will never see the Lord in peace. Jesus stretched out his hands to all people and said, "Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest." (soul rest). "Take my yoke upon you and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls." Dear friends, if you want to find Jesus, get down in meekness and lowliness of heart-repentance; lay all your sins at His feet, accept His blood as an atonement for your sins and the penalty of sin

and eternal death will be lifted from your soul. You then can have peace with God through the Lord Jesus Christ. When Zacchaeus came down from the tree, he opened his heart wide and received the Lord joyfully. Jesus said to him, "This day is salvation come to this house." Christ has paid our debt to God, which we could not pay, and has given all men a free salvation if they will accept it. Why not give your heart to God today and enjoy salvation and have that assurance and hope of glory in your soul. David, in speaking of His Word or law, said, "More to be desired than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb." Psalm 19:10.

### Obituaries

Sister Jane Parker was born February 5, 1869 in York, Alabama and departed this life January 20, 1955 at the age of 85 years, 11 months, and 16 days. She was the daughter of Jerry and Mahalia Mays. She was united in marriage December 18, 1890 to Milton Parker, who preceded her in death December 22, 1924.

Early in life, Sister Parker professed a hope in Christ and was united with the Baptist Church. There she remained until hearing the gospel preached in its fulness by the Evening Light saints in 1909. She accepted the truth and was saved in the church of God. Sister Parker was faithful and always at her post of duty as long as she was able. In her testimony she would often say "There's room at the top." She took a delight in visiting the sick and lending a helping hand to the needy.

In the year 1945, Sister Parker's health began to fail. In 1947 she was confined to bed. Nevertheless, through her affliction, she held fast to her Saviour's hand. Her decision was as Job's: All of my appointed time will I wait until my change comes. Though he slay me, yet will I trust him. She is survived by one brother, Mr. Tully Mays; one daughter, Mrs. Mamie Williams; one grandson, Wesley Williams; one niece, Mrs. Helen Mays; one grand-niece, Mrs. Inna Hopkins; two grand nephews, Herman Lynch and Edgar R. Dansley.

Funeral was preached by Bro. Barton and assisted by Bro. Crawley, Bro. Spears, and others.

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Bro. Clarence Caughron was born March 17, 1890 at Belleville, a small community near Joplin, Mo. He departed this life January 25, 1955 at 3:20 p. m. at his home at 607 S. Hall St., Webb City, Mo. at the age of 64 years, 10 months, and 8 days. He lived most of his life at Webb City.

He was married to Miss Lula Day on June 24, 1923. To this union two children were born; Alice Etna who died in infancy and Robert of the home.

He was a faithful and devoted husband and a loving father.

He was born into the church of God by the new birth, and we believe he is now resting in Jesus in Glory after many years of suffering.

His suffering was great, especially the last few weeks and months. Even in his suffering he appreciated his friends. It seemed to relieve him when anyone came, and usually he would talk; and seemed to forget his suffering for a little while.

He leaves his wife, Lula of the home, and son Robert also at home; three sisters, Mrs. Ethel Kezeler of Colorado Springs, Mrs. Grace Wilson of San Pedro, Calif., Mrs. Hazel Rose of Monett, Mo.; one brother, Ralph Caughron

of Denver, Colo.; an aunt, Mrs. James E. Aul of Joplin, Mo.; one nephew and three neices. He leaves many friends, also brothers and sisters in Christ. We do not have sorrow as those who have no hope, but rejoice in the hope and glory of God.

He prayed for God to take him, though he hated to leave his loved ones.

The funeral was held at Hedge-Lewis Funeral Home by Sister Erska Carrick assisted by Bro. H. P. Huskey. The text used was the "Hope of the Righteous," Job 14:1; I Thess. 4:13; Heb. 6:19; Matt. 11:28.

Bro. Merrill Williamson, the pastor, was hindered from assisting because of bad health at the time.

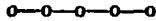
In memory of Bro. Clarence Caughron:

We miss our brother's pleasant face,  
There will always be a vacant place  
Tho' Jesus gives us comfort and cheer,  
His going makes Heaven seem more dear.

Many times he was racked in pain;  
Jesus gave him a touch, again and again  
As saints labored in fervent prayer,  
We could feel the presence of Jesus there.

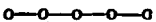
As time passed by, he longed for rest,  
He pillowed his head on Jesus' breast,  
We must press the battle to the gate,  
Where many loved ones in glory wait.

Sister Minnie Noakes



Little Deborah Anne Corteway, daughter of Hubert and Aneita Corteway, was born Dec. 5, 1953 and passed away Dec. 23, 1954 at her home in Kalamazoo, Mich., age one year and eighteen days. Left behind to miss her sweet smiles and sunny disposition are her parents; three brothers, Marvin, David, and Jerry Hubert; one sister, Sharon; also her grandparents, Bro. and Sis. Leo Wilkins and Sis. Mabel Corteway, all of Kalamazoo. Funeral services were held in Langland Funeral Chapel Dec. 27th, conducted by Bro. D. A. Gibson. Text 1 Sam. 12:15-23; Matt. 18:2; and Mark 10:13.

Deborah Anne's parents trusted God for her from the beginning to the very end, but God saw fit to take her home to be with Him in heaven. In answer to fasting and prayer God did break the fever one night and we felt there was a change for the better; but soon afterward she took worse and died. We felt afterwards that the Lord was showing us that He had heard our prayers, but that it was her time to go. Soon after she died we were feeling so sad and were calling on God for help. He caused us to look up above our head to a motto that hung on the wall: "HE CARETH FOR YOU, BE NOT AFRAID, ONLY BELIEVE." It was surely the Lord talking to us. After this the dear Lord just lifted us up and sent encouragement to our souls. As Sister Key said in her letter: "But yet we can say with Job, 'the Lord gave and the Lord hath taken away, blessed be the name of the Lord.' He often keeps our hearts tender through sorrow; hence, draws us nearer to Him and Heaven; and so it will not seem so hard to leave this world, for our treasures are above and not in this world." We have found this to be very true.



#### PRAYER REQUESTS

Oklahoma.—Greetings to the saints everywhere in Jesus' name.—Tonight I can say I am still saved, sanctified, and on my way to glory, thanks be to God.

I am so glad that he is an understanding God. I promised the Lord if He would heal my hand I would write my testimony to let people know what he has done for me.

I stuck a stick in the palm of my hand. It became so sore until I could not stand to pick at it. It was swollen very badly. My sister told me that I had better go to a doctor. Some said one thing and some said another. But I told the Lord that he knew that I had my trust in him and that I was going to trust Him whatever the cost may be. Thanks be to His sweet name, the next day or so I was sitting down rubbing my hand and the stick came out. I mean by his help and grace to go all the way with him. I don't get to go to meeting often.

I am suffering very much with high blood pressure. Some times I am so dizzy until I am afraid to get up lest I fall. I know the Lord is able to heal me if it is his will to do so.

Yours in Him, Carrie Murdock.

Please pray for a sister in Michigan who is in a very critical condition with a nervous break down.

#### JUST A WORD TO THE SAINTS OF GOD

There is a burden on our hearts to get the truth planted upon the tender hearts of the children and impressed upon their plastic minds so they will grow up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord and be strong soldiers for Him. So we are contemplating printing a book for children entitled, "Touching Incidents and Remarkable Answers to Prayer," which was published and circulated by some of the early saints (S. B. Shaw and wife and others) but has been out of print a number of years.

This book, containing perhaps a hundred and thirty pages of true stories with forty-two pictures to illustrate the contents for children, will impress the truth upon them by the sense of hearing and seeing.

The expense of publishing this book with the pictures will be great, running between four and five hundred dollars. Those who feel impressed of the Lord to help get this book in print can send your offerings in at any time. We shall go ahead with the printing, having faith that God will see that it is finished. We hope to have these books ready by Easter.

FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE, Guthrie, Okla.

EASTER FOLDERS—10 in box with envelopes. 60¢

#### — NOTICE —

Just a little notice in order to stir up our pure minds by way of remembrance concerning the Ministers' fund for the National Campmeeting at Monark Springs, Mo. You will find the statement about this matter in the Dec. 1954 paper. The offerings for the ministers are supposed to be sent to Faith Pub. House and held as a fund to be given to the many ministers who attend the National Camp meeting. Those who wish should feel free to give their offerings direct to the ministers in person at the campmeeting. No one is obligated to give only as the Lord directs you. Free-will offerings is the only kind that the Lord accepts. It is only a little more than five months until the National Campmeeting will begin. The date is July 22nd to 30th, inclusive.

Your brother,  
—M. L. Reed, Tulsa, Okla.

#### MEETING NOTICE

We, the saints of the church of God in Green Pasture, feel it is in the name of the Lord to have a meeting here from March 11th to 20th. Pray that God will have His way. We are looking for God to send ministers to help preach His Word, also saints to help carry on the meeting. Pray much for the success of the meeting. All are invited to come. Bro. E. W. Sanders, Pastor, R. 2, Box 39, Spencer, Okla.



The Los Angeles assembly plan to begin their spring meeting April 1st through 10th in the chapel at 1381 Walnut St., Los Angeles, Calif. Phone Ri 7-5793. All are welcome. For more information write or phone Bro. T. R. Summers, 207 E. 76 Pl., Los Angeles, Calif., ph. Pl 8-8319; Bro. I. C. Chandler (pastor) R. 6, Box 37, Bakersfield, Calif. ph. Fairview 42950.

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On Easter Sunday, April 10th there will be all day services and basket dinner at the chapel four and one-half miles north of Neelys Landing, Mo. on Neelys and Hines Landing road, known as High Hill church of God.

E. B. Pinkerton.

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## The New Heaven and New Earth

Seeing that the end is fast approaching and deception is fast increasing, I feel impressed to write upon this subject; for we read in 2 Peter 3:16 that the apostle Peter said, "They which are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction." Then he warns the brethren to beware "lest ye also be led away with the error of the wicked and fall from their own steadfastness."

Let us notice Revelation 21:1-5, "And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea." (v. 1). Now I believe for us to understand what the new heaven and earth are, we must first understand what the first heaven and earth were. We know the book of Revelation is a book of symbols. The word heaven would naturally make us think of a place where God reigns. He not only reigns on his throne in heaven but also in his people. His people are the church. The first heaven and earth were his first chosen people, which was literal Israel. Literal Israel was made up of one nationality—the Jews. Only upon this people did God bestow his blessings. His law was given to them on earthly tables of stone. The sacrifices were not men's hearts, but were animals and doves. Their thanksgiving unto God for blessing their crops also had to be offered with an offering of the first fruits of their vineyard—wheat or whatsoever it was that God had blessed them with. The temple that Solomon built unto God was all built from earthly things of silver and gold and timbers of precious trees of the forest and stones hewn out with men's hands. But God recognized it as a place where he would accept their sacrifices and hear their prayers. This temple was built at Jerusalem. This was the place where God said he would place his name. This was the temple which was filled with the glory (or divine presence) of God when it was dedicated to Him. Here Solomon prayed that when any of God's people needed help and would look toward this place and pray, that God would hear from heaven and help them.

We also find that even before this temple was built God gave Moses the command to build a tabernacle where the people were to offer their sacrifices. In it was the candlestick, the shew bread, the golden pot that had manna, Aaron's rod that budded, and the table of the covenant.

Surely this was the first heaven, or the church of the old covenant, and the first earth was the earthly worship. But we read that this was all a shadow of good things to come and not the very image of the things, and never could those sacrifices which were offered year by year continually make the comers thereunto perfect. For if the first covenant had been faultless, then should no place have been sought for the second. But because He found fault with the first heaven and earth (or His people and their worship) He said, "I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel." "In that he saith, A new covenant, he hath made the first old, now that which decayeth and waxeth old is ready to vanish away." So He took away the first that he might establish the second.

Now let us look into the second or the new. Heb. 10:5, "Wherefore when he cometh into the world, he saith, Sacrifice and offering thou wouldst not, but a body hast thou prepared me. In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin thou hast had no pleasure. Then said I, Lo, I come to do thy will, O God." Yes, verily, Jesus came and dwelt in a fleshly body to do the will of God. He was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. He conquered every foe in the body. He always did those things that were pleasing unto the Father. He shed his blood once and for all. He gave himself for his church (or his people). And He raised us up together to sit together in heavenly places. He is the head of the body, the church. I believe John rejoiced to see the first heaven and the first earth pass away. Oh, the worship is so different, the house is so different!

We find in Heb. 3:6, "But Christ as a son over his own house, whose house are we if we hold fast our confidence." So we see, we as saved men and women make up this second house. He said he would make a new covenant with his people. "For this is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel after those days saith the Lord, I will put my laws into their minds, and write them in their hearts, and I will be to them a God and they shall be to me a people."

Yes, we have sacrifices to make in this new heaven. First, Christ is our sacrifice for sins. "What can take away my sin? Nothing but the blood of Jesus."

Then there were the consecrating sacrifice of the priests. Now this new heaven also has kings and priests. Rev. 1:5, 6 ". . . Unto him that loved us and washed us from our sins in his own blood, and hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father." So when we are washed, we become kings (reigning over sin) and we become priests (rendering service unto our God). So just as there was a sacrifice to be offered for the consecrating of the priests under the first heaven, or church, so there is also a sacrifice for us to make in this new heaven. In Rom. 12:1 we read, "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy acceptable unto God which is your reasonable service." So it is not a ram of consecration, but our bodies that we offer to Him for service. Again in Rom. 6 we are told to yield our members unto

righteousness. Also in 1 Cor. 6:19 we are told that our bodies are the temples of the Holy Ghost. Truly if any man be in Christ he is a new creature. He said he would give us a new heart, also he would put a new song in our mouth. He said we would speak with new tongues. Surely it is as he said in Revelation 21:5, "Behold, I make all things new." Praise the Lord!

Let us continue to look at the difference in the worship. We remember how they had to offer sacrifices of thanksgiving. What is our sacrifice of praise in the new? We read from Heb. 13:15, "By him therefore, let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to his name. Other scriptures also tell us to offer thanksgiving unto God.

As we have before mentioned, the law was on tables of stone and was to be read to the people. Now it is in our hearts. In Col. 3:16, we read, "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord." Yes, under the old they had to bring in the musical instruments to worship, but now He sweetly tunes the spirit of our hearts to that sweet music of heaven; and, oh, how the sweet harmony flows when God's children sing these good spiritual songs with grace in their hearts unto the Lord. Praise the Lord! I love this new Heaven and I am so glad He made all things new.

Under the old they had a certain time to worship. But we read from a prophecy in Isa. 66:22, 23: "For as the new heavens and the new earth, which I make, shall remain before me, saith the Lord . . . And it shall come to pass, that from one new moon to another, and from one sabbath to another, shall all flesh come to worship before me, saith the Lord." Yes, thank God, we do not have to wait till new moons nor sabbaths, but we can worship Him all the time. As Jesus said to the woman at the well (John 4:23), "But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth; for the Father seeketh such to worship him."

You notice also the prophet said, "All flesh shall come." The first church included only the Jews; but John said, "And there was no more sea." What does the sea represent? We read in Rev. 17:15 that the waters are people. So as we have said before, the Jews were the chosen people of God in the first heaven; but in this new heaven there is no more a chosen nationality, but all flesh. Rev. 7 says, "All nations and kindreds and people and tongues." Thank the Lord, He included me too! I am so glad He made all things new.

Now we must notice more of what John saw: Rev. 21:2, "And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband." Yes, the false preachers tell us that new Jerusalem will come down at Christ's second coming; that this is the time the first heaven and first earth will pass away; that He will then set up his kingdom in literal Jerusalem and then the meek will inherit the earth; and that

at that time the wolf and the lamb will lie down together and the lion will be tame—and all such things. No wonder Peter warned us of their wresting of the Scriptures. Many souls are deceived and waiting for this to come. But this new Jerusalem which John saw come down from God is none other than the church. All of its teachings, laws, governments, and ordinances came from God out of heaven; and all the people that inhabit Jerusalem are born from above.

The third verse says, "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." Yes, while others dream of an age to come, He is reigning in our hearts today. Read Hebrews 12:22 to 24.

Now the 4th verse: "And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes." Now let us take notice of what caused crying and weeping with the first Israel, or the people of God. So long as they dwelt at Jerusalem they were under bondage to no nation; but the king of Babylon carried them away captive, and there they became bondmen. They were scattered among the people. In Psa. 137 it is written concerning them: "By the rivers of Babylon, there we sat down, yea, we wept, when we remembered Zion." Just as there was a literal Jerusalem and a literal Babylon, so there is a spiritual Jerusalem and a spiritual Babylon. The word Babylon is taken from the word Babel, which means confusion; and, surely, every soul that gets in spiritual Babylon becomes confused. For about 270 years this new Jerusalem shined with all its glory, but there came a time that the sun and moon were darkened and it was dark. God's Word was then taken away. Then when the light began to break forth, it was neither light nor dark, but a cloudy day. That was when light began to spring forth a little, but denominations were formed. People did get saved in the different movements, but they sighed for perfect deliverance. They were not in their own land, but were scattered in spiritual Babylon. Ezek. 34 tells us that the shepherds scattered the flock of His pasture. Truly, there is weeping in the heart of an honest soul that is down in Babylon. But the Lord promised deliverance to his people. He said that He would search and seek them out, and bring them out from the people and gather them from the countries, and bring them to their own land. Praise the Lord! He said there would be one fold and one shepherd. And in Isa. 30:19 He said we would weep no more. Why? because we are not sitting by the rivers of Babylon, but we have been delivered and have come to our own land. Then in Isa. 65:17-19, speaking of the new heaven and earth which he would create, He said for us to be glad and rejoice in Jerusalem, "and the voice of weeping shall be no more heard in her, nor the voice of crying." Yes, our tears for our sins or bondage of Babylon are all wiped away, for we have peace and freedom. "Ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free."

Now back to the 4th verse of Rev. 21: "There shall be no more death, neither sorrow nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away." Now down in Babylon,



those that do really get saved are not fed the good spiritual Word of God so they can grow. No, but there is so much poison put in what little Word they do get until they soon die a spiritual death. In Ezek. 34 we are told how the shepherds will not strengthen the diseased nor heal those that are sick, neither bind up that which is broken, but they rule over them with cruelty and with force. Yes, there is truly a famine in Babylon, not a famine of bread nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the Lord. Jesus said, "My flesh is meat indeed, and my blood is drink indeed." Yes, it is the Word and Spirit that feeds the soul. Even if souls become convicted of their sins and call upon the name of the Lord—and He will truly save every one that calls upon Him out of a broken and contrite heart—if they stay long in these man-made places, they soon die from pains of hunger. The Lord said he has other sheep which are not of this fold, then he must bring. And He said, "My sheep hear my voice," and "there shall be one fold and one shepherd." So when the good Shepherd makes the call to sheep that are down in those places of bondage, every one that is honest and loves the Lord more than anything else comes out and follows the Shepherd into the fold of the Lord. Then He said, "There shall they lie in a good fold, and in a fat pasture shall they feed upon the mountains of Israel." Oh! thank the Lord for the fat pastures in this new Jerusalem. There is no more paining for hunger nor dying for thirst. "Blessed are they that do hunger and thirst after righteousness for they shall be filled." Yes, the Lord has shepherds in new Jerusalem who will feed the souls of his people upon the pure Word of life. No wonder He said, "Ye shall go forth, and grow up as calves of the stall." Yes, it is here in this life that we enjoy the good blessings of the new heaven and new earth, not after Jesus comes. His prayer to the Father for us in John 17:24 is, "Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am; that they may behold my glory, which thou hast given me: for thou lovedst me before the foundation of the world." Yes, there is where he wants to take his church; that is where we long to go so we can behold his glory. But we believe that only those who have been made new (become new in our hearts and lives), have this experience of the new heaven and earth, have offered up both soul and body for Christ's dwelling place, are the only ones that will be able to stand before the throne.

May the Lord help every soul that is truly saved and longing for more of God to hear the voice: "Come out of her my people." For surely he is searching out his sheep and bringing together in one all the blood-washed souls. But if one hears His call to come out of a place of bondage and will not come out, that one will die a spiritual death and be lost in the end.

—Margaret Eck.

## The Way

Mark 1:1-3, "The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God; As it is written in the prophets, Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee. The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight."

Matt. 3:1, 2, "In those days came John the Baptist preaching in the wilderness of Judea, and saying, Repent ye; for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

Our Lord says in Matt. 11:28, "Come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." We know that there is only one way, and Jesus is that way. He preached repentance. He is the way, the truth and the life. No man can come unto the Father but by Him.

Jesus is the only way. There are about one thousand man-made sects, and all of them are different in their ways. We are commanded to walk in His way, not our way. The Word says that "there is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death." I like to walk in that holy way. We are commanded to walk in his way, and his way is a holy way. The Word says, "Follow peace with all men and holiness without which no man shall see God." These modern denominations do not preach holiness, and there are a lot that are not modern that do not preach holiness or sanctification. Acts 7:51, "Ye stiffnecked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, ye do always resist the Holy Ghost as your fathers did so do ye." We are commanded to live a holy life free from sin.

Here is what He commands us to do after we have been saved. We must consecrate all and give Him complete rule in our lives, giving up all to His blessed will, and let Jesus come in and take up his abode in our lives, because he has bought us with his own blood and we are not our own. Then and then only we are sanctified and meet for the Master's use. We have given up the world, we are no more of the world, we have turned from the worldly things and seek those things from above. He is our leader, and he will guide us into all truth. Bless His holy name.

I speak that I know for I let him in one day and he blessed my soul. He is my guide and my all. I am so happy to know that He cares for even me, as insignificant as I am. Praise His holy name! I love Him because He saved and sanctified me, and I am on the straight and narrow way, the way to heaven. Isa. 30: "And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, This is the Way walk ye in it when ye turn to the right hand and when ye turn to the left."

Isa. 35:8, "And a highway shall be there, and a way and it shall be called the way of holiness. The unclean shall not pass over it; but it shall be for those: the wayfaring men, though fools shall not err therein." Luke 1:74. "That he would grant unto us that we being delivered out of the hands of our enemies might serve him without fear in holiness and righteousness before him all the days of our life."

Oh, there are so many people claiming to be Christians who know nothing of holiness. They have

Whosoever will may have salvation,  
Use your will and have regeneration.  
The Spirit of God can point out the way;  
Determine then—you will—and earnestly pray.

not given up the world. 1 John 5:4, "For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world, and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith." John 17:16, "They are not of the world even as I am not of the world."

Holiness opposers will tell you that you become a saint after you get to heaven, that there are no saints here, that we all sin more or less all the time—and they surely live according to their belief. But we cannot serve two masters, for we will love one and despise the other. We cannot serve God and mammon.

—J. T. Roberts.

## CORRESPONDENCE

Calif.—Dear saints abroad, greetings,—I feel led to write my testimony of how the Lord has led me by His Spirit and discernment through the past forty years since I have met the saints. Truly I can say with the Psalmist in Psalm 136, "I will sing unto the Lord because he hath dealt bountifully with me."

The Lord had convicted me many times before the age of twenty-two, but at this age the Lord began dealing with me. My first baby was very low with infantile paralysis, and I realized what it meant to say amen to the will of God, but the Lord gave me grace and also spared my baby. Then after my second baby was born I took a fever. The doctor (I was trusting in them at this time) did not know what was wrong. I lay between life and death for three days and four nights. While I was so low the Lord gave me a vision of a cross and a crown hanging on it. I thought I was dying, but the Lord was merciful and raised me to health again. Soon after this I attended a revival meeting and fell under conviction. I went to the altar, but received nothing. They wanted me to join the church. I said I did not believe we had to join a church to get to heaven. You can see the Lord was leading and teaching me. Next I purchased a little book, which I judged from the title would be interesting. It was a religious controversy between husband and wife. Through this I saw the church and began to feel my need of going to meeting. I had not yet met the saints, so went to the brethren church with a dear sister who proved to be a saint. I took quite an interest in the Sunday school and preaching services and singing, so when they opened the doors to receive new members, they were surprised that I did not join and asked me the reason. I just said that I was not ready. The Lord was dealing with me to keep me from getting into something he did not want me in, which would have deceived me, until He could show me the true church.

I will tell you how the Lord led me to the saints and His church. I was sick and the Lord sent two men to my door. They were visiting people and inviting them out to meetings that were being held. When they learned I was sick, they asked if I would like to have them pray for me. I said in an unconcerned way, "I guess it would not hurt anything." But as they prayed for me, the Lord touched me and I was able to sit up in bed. They were to have meeting that afternoon, and the sister who was staying with me was going. Since I had received a touch already from the Lord I wanted more. She asked for prayer and the Lord gave me another touch. I got up out of bed, combed my hair, and swept my bedroom floor.

When this sister saw the church that Jesus built, she left the denomination she was in and we both went to the saints' meetings. She had been baptized three times face forward and I had been sprinkled. Seeing these were not Biblical, we were baptized again. She died in the faith and I expect to stand true to the end, God being my helper. Praise the dear Lord.

The Lord had shown me how He had built his own church and founded it upon the Rock Christ Jesus, a sure foundation and had established in it His laws, commandments, and ordinances. As I would come to one I had not understood about, I would examine it by God's Word and if it did not correspond and agree with it, I would drop that thing. The Lord has kept me from falling under many deceptions. I will mention some.

About this time there came a sweep of compromise and divided God's saints, but through this the Lord kept his hand over me and showed me the wrong in it; as they were leaving out the Holy Spirit's ruling in the meetings and began to dress like the world. Seeing this did not correspond with the church and the doctrine which the Lord led me into, I had nothing to do with them.

Then next came the fanatical spirit or deception; but the Lord showed me the error of that, as it was so binding and harsh and we are to be free in the Lord.

Then came the Zinsendorf doctrine, or one work of grace, saying we were saved from our sins and cleansed from the carnal nature all in justification. I knew that did not correspond with the doctrine of the church, for we are forgiven of the sins we have committed through the shed blood of Jesus in justification; and then purged and cleansed from the carnal nature by the blood of Jesus in sanctification, being filled with the Holy Ghost, the two definite works of grace. So by knowing the doctrine as was instituted when the church was established, I was kept from getting into that deception. A deception is an opinion or doctrine contrary to the orthodox teaching or established doctrine of the church. Then I was brought into contact with a deception and wondered why they did not worship with the saints as I understood they believed in divine healing, not knowing much about what they taught otherwise. So the Lord let me have an experience with them. One of my neighbors had a cancer. I tried to get her to have the saints pray for her, but instead she called the practitioner to pray for her. I went to the Lord in prayer, asking Him to hinder her from being healed if this was not of the Lord. The Lord answered my prayer. The practitioner said to the woman, "I can do nothing for you, as there is a spirit working against me." I was satisfied it was the Spirit of the Lord, so the Lord kept me from that deception. Praise His dear name.

Just so it is with the deception that is in among us today deceiving God's children and leading many souls astray. By knowing the doctrine of the church as was instituted by Christ I was spared being led astray with it. The very starting of it was wrong, as it was contrary to the prayer of Jesus in the 17th chapter of John. Jesus prayed that his disciples should be one even as he and the Father are one. He also said that He spoke the words His Father gave him to speak. The son that started this last deception said he did not see it like his father taught it, and he was a true saint of God and a minister of the church and a wonderful writer of the old time truth. Suppose Jesus would have said, "I do not see it like my Father does. Would they have been one? Neither can anyone today start teaching a doctrine contrary to that which Jesus taught and not cause division. The Word says, 'If an angel from heaven come teaching any other doctrine than that which ye have heard, let him be accursed.' That is very strong and positive, but it is true; for the Word, or Bible, says so—I did not say it. I am so thankful to the Lord that He shows me these things so I will not be led astray and believe something the Lord has pronounced a curse upon. God have mercy on the poor deceived souls and open their eyes before it is too late, is my earnest prayer. Truly it is a terrible thing to be deceived, feeling we are on the road to heaven, and find out when it is too late that we have been deceived.

I trust my experience will help you to see the great necessity of knowing the doctrine of the Lord Jesus Christ as he has given it to us in the Word of God, the Bible.

—Flossie Atha.

Oklahoma.—Greetings to all the saints in the name of the Lord,—I can truly say this morning that I am saved to all I know and pressing on. I am sanctified and living a holy life with no condemnation in my heart. My eyes are dim and I have a cold, but my soul feels free.

Bro. Crawley made the Word so plain that I saw my lost condition in 1952. I was saved and baptized, and I can truly say that I have not been guilty of any sin since. I thank Bro. and Sister Crawley for teaching me how to live through tests and trials; and I thank other saints who prayed for me, encouraged me and assisted me when my mother was so ill. Truly they stuck closer than a brother. May the Lord bless all the children of God. If you are born again and your heart is pure, you are saved in God's family.

I thank the ministers who anointed and prayed for me and I thank the Lord for healing my body of diabetes. I don't have any sign of it now, but it was four plus. The Lord healed me when I was in the Hennessey meeting. When I would take my shoes off at night my toes would be stuck to my stockings with pus, and the odor was bad. I felt led to go to Hennessey to get healed but I had no way to go, but the Lord provided a way.

Let us be thankful and work as the Lord says. Let us lay aside every weight of sin, jealousy, malice, backbiting, pride, being puffed up—and let us run this race with patience, love, kindness, having no respect of persons. Let us see brother as brother and sister as sister. Let us have no divisions among us. To the older saints who have been saved for years, I say be more encouraged. To the younger saints, although you may be up in age but young in the way of the Lord, do not sow any discord, and accept no discouragement. Read what Paul wrote in 1 Cor. 3:1-3. If we feel that we are stronger than others, let us bear with the weak. 2 Cor. 5:19-21; Gal. 3:26; 5:25-26; 6:1-3. We must watch ourselves closely. If we do not watch ourselves we will be guilty of what we accuse others of doing. The Lord has no respect of persons. We have nothing to claim of our own only through Jesus.

Pray for me and my mother, my unsaved children, my aunt and uncle and my other relatives. —Sarah Adams

Mo.—Dear saints of God,—This beautiful cold morning finds me encouraged to press on to glory through all trials. I get so lonely, but there is no friend like Jesus. I live alone, only the dear Lord is with me. He is a present help in time of trouble and need. I was reading the editorials in the "Faith and Victory" and thought how wonderful it is to have someone to be agreed with us. Yes, and when I write to the saints to agree with me and help me to pray, it is wonderful for me, for I know the dear Lord hears His humble children, praise His holy name. Then He tells us if we abide in him and his word abides in us we shall ask what we will and it shall be done unto us. Thank God for his promises to his trusting children.

I have some requests. Please help me to pray. There are two places I believe the dear Lord would have me go, but it seems hard to go. He can make it easy for me, for He has many times. One place is out quite a distance in the country. An old man lives with them. Please help me to pray for his soul and mind. And please help me to pray for Mrs. Haller Ecker, Elmo, Mo. She has been an invalid for fifteen years and suffers from arthritis. I have three unspoken requests and one request for our neighbor. He is gone and she does not know where he is. They have four boys. They need salvation. So many need our prayers.

—Sister Mary Whitmore.

Mo.—Dear readers of "Faith and Victory,"—I send greetings in Jesus' dear name. It is so wonderful to live and serve God. As I think of that song, "Wonderful freedom, glorious freedom," it surely lifts me up. Some people say, "Oh, I wouldn't believe like you people at all. That would take all our freedom away." Oh, if they only knew about this glorious freedom! They only have the freedom the world can give. Sin has them bound with different habits that makes them believe they have freedom. When we get this freedom that comes down from God out of heaven, we wouldn't exchange it for all the world and its pleasures, praise God. I am so thankful for salvation, for the truth, for the beautiful church of the living God. All the saints are so wonderful. We are thankful for the way the dear Lord cared for us on our trip to Guthrie and back. We enjoyed two days of the assembly meeting. The Lord has surely done a lot for me. He has healed me many times. Surely I do want to please Him in all I do or say. I need your prayers.

One who loves the truth,

Cassie Irvin.

Mo.—Dear ones in Christ,—I am so thankful this morning for all the dear Lord means to me. I have ever found Him to be a present help in time of need. We haven't taken nor given our children medicine in almost fifteen years. The dear Lord has been our Physician. We thank Him for this.

I really did enjoy the good assembly meeting at Guthrie. I remember what was said about some flowers. A man had two bouquets, one was artificial flowers and the other was real flowers, but they looked just alike. He asked another man if he could tell them apart. About that time a bee lighted on the real flowers. It was easy for the bee to tell which were the real ones. This made me think of real Christians and those who pretend. When people are real Christians and are filled with the Holy Spirit, we will see some "be's" about. Such as: Be just (Rom. 3:26), Be kindly affectioned one to another (Rom. 12:10), Be gentle (Titus 3:2), Be ye holy (Lev. 20:7), Be ye holy in all manner (1 Pet. 1:15), Be ye holy for I am holy (1 Pet. 1:16), Be quiet and fear not (Isa. 7:4), Be no division among you (1 Cor. 1:10), Be perfectly joined together (1 Cor. 1:10), Be thou faithful unto death (Rev. 2:10). These are a few "Be's" that will be manifested in the life of a Christian. This will help sinners who are honest at heart to see the one true way from so many false ways of today. May the dear Lord bless every child of God to live faithful and be a bright and shining light in this dark world, is my prayer. Pray for me and my children who are saved that we keep saved unto the end. Pray for my unsaved loved ones. Yours in Him

—Effie Miller

Ark.—Dear Saints,—These words were given to me about two hours ago. I awoke about 4:30 a. m. and was so sleepy I did want to go back to sleep very much; then these words began to ring in my soul, "GIVE EVERY FLYING MOMENT something to keep in store; work for the night is coming WHEN MAN WORKS NO MORE." In 1951 the same thing happened. I was so sleepy and the thought came to me that I was old and God did not expect so much from me. I was in the act of going back to sleep when these words began to ring in my ears: "What would you do today, my brother, if today were the end of the world?" I answered, "I would not lie here." You see, in this tract work I have to get up at night and work at it—sometimes 2:00 a. m. and from that to four or five o'clock. At that time I had a lot of it to do; and it was the same way this morning.

These are words of warning to God's children to do all we can while we can and to the unsaved to "Seek ye the Lord while He may be found, call upon him while he is near." Isa. 55:6.

—Neva Buchanan.

Kans.—Greetings to the saints with love in Christ Jesus—I feel led to send in my testimony, believing that it will please the Lord. Truly my desire is to please Him. I'm seeking and desiring a closer walk with the Lord. Hebrews 10:24 says, "And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works." If we are to provoke others unto love and good works we must follow in the footsteps of Jesus, who did no sin neither was there guile found in his mouth.

Some time in December our baby took sick and was very ill. He took sick on Saturday and the following Sunday Brother Charles Smith, Brother Lewis Williams, and other saints of Wichita came and agreed in prayer for the baby and looked to God for his healing. He didn't seem to get any better for awhile. Brother Lewis Williams came back and prayed for him. He seemed to be some better for awhile, then was worse again. One night he was so fretful he couldn't rest at all. My husband got out of bed and prayed for him and before he was through praying the baby was asleep. We do thank the Lord for answering prayer. During the meeting there at Guthrie, I heard that Brother Lewis Williams requested special prayer for the baby. The Lord wonderfully blessed this child and healed him. Truly we give the Lord all the praise. We do want to thank all the saints for their prayers and for joining in with helping to bear our burdens. The baby doesn't look nor act as if he has ever been sick. Surely the Lord is good to us. Glory to his name! I'm beginning to see and appreciate more of the goodness of God than ever before.

Your Sister in the Lord,

Lucille Johnson.

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Ore.—Dear saints, Greetings in Jesus' dear name. I feel like writing my testimony this evening. I am thankful that I am serving a mighty God, the one who has all power in heaven and earth and is able to keep us in this narrow way. I am praising my Saviour for victory in my soul and for a deeper determination to stand true to God and go all the way with Jesus. I am thanking my Saviour for healing me whenever I am sick or don't feel good. I have found Jesus a present help in time of need or when we have burdens that are hard to bear. I just look to Jesus with all faith, trusting him with all my heart, believing that he will help me and the work is done.

When I had a headache a week ago, I called Sister Marie Bush and asked her if they would pray for me. When I turned from the telephone my headache was all gone and I haven't had it since. That is just like our Saviour, for he loves us so much, and we ought to love him more.

I can't praise Jesus enough for all he has done for me. He means everything to me. I find Jesus so precious to my soul and want to stay in the center of God's will at all times. I want to have a closer walk with God, and to have the mind of Jesus as I journey on through life. I am praying for all the saints everywhere, that they will put all their trust in God and keep looking to God for all their help.

Pray for me that I will always stand true looking to Jesus for help and strength and faith.

Christian love from one who loves all the truth,

C. I. J.

o-o-o-o-o-o

Calif.—To all the saints,—I am writing this testimony to let all of you know that I thank you for your prayers. I have intended to write for quite some time, but didn't get it done. This is February 9th. How the Lord blessed me! Sister Blackwell and some more of the saints know how

sick I was, so I want you to know that it was God and your prayers. I want you all to continue to pray for me and I also have an unspoken request, and that I get close to the Lord and never turn back. Mrs. Anna Mae Tales.

o-o-o-o-o

Tenn.—My dear brother in Christ,—Greetings in the precious name of Jesus. I am well as common, in body, happy in spirit, and enjoying the sweet fellowship of the blood-bought, blood-washed, Spirit-filled children of God, who love the Lord better than everything in the whole world, and each other right next to Him.

I have not written you for some time, but I still have lots of confidence in you, and love you for the good advice, and encouraging, inspiring editorials in the good little paper which I have been getting since the first issue. I have never met you dear brother, but you have meant so very much to me. You have always sent me papers and tracts whether I had any money to send you or not. By so doing you have helped me to help hundreds of others. I surely was sorry to hear of the death of your sainted wife. She used to write my wife such kind motherly letters, encouraging her. But I am sure that all of us saints (that is, the old time ones) do not need to sorrow as those who have no hope. For I fully expect (that is, if I never meet you here) to meet Sister Pruitt and you with thousands of others, in that beautiful city where the Lamb is the light, take you by the hand, look you straight in the eyes and tell you how much help you have been to me.

We have a little congregation in Hohenwald, Tenn. They are lovely old time saints. I will close by saying, God bless you all at "The Lord's Print Shop." Please pray for me and the people at Hohenwald. I sure do and will continue to pray for all of you dear saints. I beg to be your humble brother in Christ.

In the one body, the church of God; Colonel Pendleton.

o-o-o-o-o-o

La.—Greetings in Jesus' dear name. I want to write my testimony. I am encouraged to live for the Lord.

Surely he has blessed us in many ways. I don't know what we would do if we didn't have the Lord to go to in prayer. He is our all in all.

He has given us a sweet baby boy. He had one slight cold, and we feel the Lord has blessed us by keeping him well in his body. Surely we are thankful for this. The Lord has blessed us here in New Orleans.

All good things come from God. We are encouraged to live for the Lord and desire the prayers of the saints. We are isolated. If anyone comes through here, we would be glad for you to come see us. We live at 4319 Willow.

With Christian Love, Max and Virginia Mitchell.

o-o-o-o-o-o

Okla.—Dear saints,—I am still saved and much encouraged to press on for the dear Lord. I've been ill and I promised the Lord if he would heal me I would testify to it. I was awfully sick and he wonderfully healed me of that illness. I have a hurting over my heart. I would like for the saints to pray that the Lord will undertake for that, and I have a special unspoken request I would like for all the saints to pray for. Pray that I stay true and do all the things the Lord has for me to do.

A Sister in Christ,

Lorene Payne.

o-o-o-o-o-o

Okla.—While reading the testimony of others, which are so encouraging to me, I felt inspired to send in mine which might help some other soul. I am glad to say I am yet saved. When I started this way, I settled it to go all the way with the Lord. However, while on the road I have found some cruel thorns, but Jesus bore them on his brow and he knows. And I thank the Lord that I

can report victory in my soul. Here recently it seemed as if I couldn't taste and smell some foods. I told the Lord if he would restore my taste and smell I would testify to it. So I went to church services Sunday Jan. 30th, and had Bro. Crawley pray for me. The Lord did as I asked him, praise his name. I ask all the saints prayers that I will be in the center of God's will.

A Sister in Christ,

Ora Spears.

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Mo.—Dear saints everywhere,—Greetings in Jesus' dear name! Today finds me pressing on. I do not want to give up, but I want to stay on the straight and narrow way that leads to heaven.

I promised the dear Lord if He would deliver our baby that I would write a testimony in the paper for his glory. Truly it was glorious how the Lord did bless. I took my stand firmly to trust in God alone. I never did go to a doctor at any time. I never had any desire to go to a doctor. My trust was fixed in God alone. Oh, how thankful I am that He gives grace in times of need. He blessed us far above that which we were able to think or ask. He gave me back my strength faster than ever before, and He blessed us with a healthy baby girl. We can never praise his name enough for his goodness to us.

I would like to tell everyone not to be afraid to trust in God. If you're living for Him, surely you can trust in Him. He is worthy of all trust.

Pray for me and my family that we fail not of the grace of God.

Christian love, Mildred McIntosh.

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

Mich.—Dear saints everywhere,—I recently had a dream which encouraged me to tell of some of the Lord's wonderful healings which he has done in our family.

We were once with the Gospel Trumpet people and the Lord was so merciful to show us that we needed to stick to the doctrine that was once delivered to the saints. A man in the congregation had been handing us the "Faith and Victory" papers, and through the papers my eyes were opened to the fact that there were still people living up to the old time truth. I began to investigate, and a little later Bro. Pruitt visited us and taught us many old truths that were really new to us. I took my stand with the saints then and several others around here did the same.

I began to trust the Lord completely for healing, and I was surely tested severely at first, but my faith gradually became stronger until my first thought was to trust in the Lord. And as years went by we never thought of a doctor.

My little son about two and one-half years old (right after we started to trust the Lord) drank kerosene and was very bad and hiccoughed continually. My first cry was for the Lord to help. The Lord let me be tested a few hours and then completely healed him.

My children have had many afflictions that the Lord has healed. My daughter's heart was bad and she was subject to heart attacks whenever she would play hard, get excited, run, etc. The Lord healed her of that. He healed her of appendicitis attacks many times. One time I was at Monark Springs campmeeting, and on the way home I had a vision on the bus of a paper covered with blood. I knew something had happened serious and I began to pray. When I arrived home my little girl had fallen on a broken milk bottle and gashed her leg something awful. I was home soon after it happened and trusted in the Lord. It got so bad she was terribly sick. Her leg was stiff and red streaks formed. We called the saints from Kalamazoo to pray, and she was soon up and healed. It was never touched by a doctor. She had impetigo so bad it seemed her face would decay off. It was just about to the bone and a complete sore all over the

bottom of her face and several other sores. It was terrible. I was determined to trust the Lord and suffered much persecutions. My mother respected my belief, but could hardly stand to see her face that way. My little girl had a beautiful complexion. Some relatives came from Chicago and persecuted us about it. I decided to fast and pray. I fasted one day and the Lord healed her, and in about four days the scabs came off and she went back to school with no scars left at all. It was truly marvelous. My daughter is grown now and not saved, but sometimes I overhear her telling these things to others. She surely knows the power of God. Not so long ago she had disobeyed me and became very sick and had a very serious attack of appendicitis—the worst she had ever had. She was moaning and crying terribly. I could hardly make her hear me when I asked her if she wanted a doctor or wanted Mother to pray. She said finally that I could pray if I wanted to. The Lord gave immediate relief and she was soon up. Her side was sore awhile, but it was a marvelous touch. I trust she'll never have another attack. Oh, that people would appreciate the wonderful mercy of God, even to the unsaved.

I could tell of many other healings, but they are too numerous to mention.

My husband did not start to trust the Lord when I did and was real sick for three years. He kept working but under severe physical conditions. Many times he felt he would die. He went to doctors, but they couldn't find the true trouble—made several guesses, but gave no help. He finally threw his medicine away and the Lord healed him.

Last year I had what I call sciatic rheumatism, very bad—and oh, so very painful. I trusted God, live or die. In July I was healed, praise the Lord. I had it seven months, off and on—mostly on. Recently the devil has tried to put it back on me, but I am resisting the devil in Jesus' name. The Lord is giving me wonderful relief and I'm trusting again for complete victory.

I was healed a few days ago of the flu and I was really sick, but was in bed only one day. He healed my baby of the flu two weeks ago. She was very sick. I had to consecrate her to God to do as He saw fit, but he was merciful again.

Praise God for all His blessings. I never could count my many blessings. I could write a book containing the many answers to prayer in our behalf.

I desire your prayers because I feel a deep need of a deeper walk with God. I want a greater burden for souls, also want to be a better example. I feel I have been slack and failed the Lord over a certain period of time; but God is helping me wonderfully—makes His love known to me, answers prayer, and "Jesus is so good to me."

Love in Christ,

Sister Margaret Brant.

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

La.—Dear young people,—This finds me still encouraged to live for the Lord. He has blessed and helped me very much these past few weeks. Always remember me in your prayers. If any of you care to write, my address is: 900 W. Thomas, Hammond, La. Doye Jackson

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

Okla.—Greetings in the precious name of the Lord. This is to let you know that I am the lady who wrote you last February 21st and told you how I read your tracts and was gloriously saved. This is to inform you that I am still living for the Lord with a stronger determination to live for Him than ever before, because I have been sanctified, filled with the Holy Ghost. I read your tracts and realized my lost condition and surrendered myself to the Lord. Life is getting sweeter for me every day. I use to be a miserable wretch. I have a burden for lost souls and I too want to be able to help save some one.

—Vera Crawford.

Mo.—Dear young saints,—I'm certainly thankful to-day that I am saved and sanctified and living for the Lord. I truly want to do his will at all times.

I would like to tell what the Lord has done for me.

Wednesday night after I went to bed my stomach started hurting and I began to get real sick. About 11.00 p. m. I woke up and had Mama to pray for me. The next morning when I got up I was well, but I was still too weak from vomiting that night to go to school. But the next day I was able to go to school, and I felt as well as usual. I certainly do thank the Lord for his many blessings to me. I pray for me that I will always do His will at all times.

A sister in Christ,

Cynthia Miller.

—o—o—o—o—

Minn.—Dear saints,—I received my "Faith and Victory" paper today, and I want to tell you how much I enjoy reading everything in it. It surely gives me a lift when I feel blue and downcast.

I am sending you a dollar for the ministry, and I hope it will help in some small way.

I promised my Saviour I would write this for the many prayers he has answered for me. He has been so good to me and my family. My brother is doing nicely. But will you and the other saints pray for him that the Lord will heal his left leg? He is able to walk fairly well now. And I am so thankful to my Jesus for helping him. It looked very discouraging (two years ago the first of April) when he had the stroke. But I prayed and had faith that Jesus would help him, and He has helped him wonderfully. He is able to be up and walk again. His left leg is a little weak, but I know and I have faith that Jesus will heal it. So please pray for him and for me, too.

We thank you so much, and may the Lord bless you all and the wonderful work you saints are doing.

Helga M. Spohn

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### Come Unto Me

With all my heart, I love you sincerely,  
I am the One who cares for your soul;  
I gave my life on far away Calvary,  
I suffered death to make your heart whole.

No one can help you like the Redeemer,  
He shares your cup of anguish and grief;  
He offers peace and rest to the weary,  
He's the only One who can give you relief.

God's all around you, He's anxious to help,  
His love is Eternal, o'er all the land;  
Out of His heart flows a well spring of mercy,  
Thou art engraven on the palm of His hand.

Come to the cross and confide in the Saviour,  
Grace, comfort, and strength is waiting for you  
The Lord will supply the milk and the honey,  
And your soul shall be watered with heavenly dew.  
—A Subscriber.

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### Trusting In Jesus

I am trusting in Jesus, my wonderful guide;  
And in His keeping I safely abide.  
The joys of my soul He daily imparts—  
Whatever betide me, I've God in my heart.

My sins are forgiven, they're under the blood;  
In Him confiding I trust in His Word.

He watches o'er me, cares for His own—  
I'm so happy with Jesus alone.

Storms may sweep o'er me—I'm safe on the Rock.  
Trials may come and demons may mock;  
They cannot harm me—I'm safe on the Rock.  
—Mabel Frederick.

Come unto Me, all ye that are weary,  
Weary with life, its toil and its cares;  
Come to my arms, they're everlasting,  
Bring me your burdens, your sorrows and fears.

### The Beautiful Garden of Grace

There is a garden that is rich and rare,  
They call it the beautiful garden of prayer  
Where those in great trouble seek refuge and rest,  
And when they go there they come away blessed.  
There's a path through that garden  
That is narrow and straight;  
At the end of the path is a little white gate,  
And there by the gate is a cross you must take.

I picked up the cross and the gate opened wide.  
I entered and, lo, there was One by my side.  
He spake and His voice like the song of a bird  
Was the softest and sweetest I ever had heard.  
I asked, Why are you here?—in a voice low and sweet

He answered, I am here God's children to meet.  
I asked Him His name as I gazed on His face,  
He answered, I am keeper of the Garden of Grace.

So many have never this garden explored  
Because of the cross they have simply ignored.  
One of God's greatest blessings from His hand  
ever given

In this garden you have a foretaste of heaven.  
Oh, it is sweet to have such a dear loving friend  
Your life to control and your soul to defend,  
And we walk and we talk in this wonderful place—  
My Jesus and I in the Garden of Grace!

—Rebecca Basicker (96 and nearly blind)

Easter Folders—10 in box with envelopes. 60 cents.

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

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### BIBLE STUDY

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

#### THE FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIAN LOVE

March 6, 1955

Printed Portion: ..... Acts 2: 42-47; Col. 3: 12-16; I John 4:7-8.

Acts 2:42. And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.



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

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

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

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

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

Col. 3:12. Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering;

13. Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye.

14. And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness.

15. And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.

16. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

I John 4:7. Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God.

8. He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love.

**Memory Selection:** Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another. I John 4:11.

**Practical Truth:** Members of God's family have all things in common.

#### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

"By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another" (John 13:35). Jesus said, (verse 34), "That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another." So then, the test is the love of God filling the heart and life to show itself in actions as well as words. There is an old saying, "What you do speaks so loud I can't hear what you say," But such a saying cannot be applied to true Christians for they don't talk so much but live the life that is genuine before their fellow men.

Every one seeks fellowship. Adam had God's fellowship before God made Eve for him, and yet it was God himself that said, "It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him" (Gen. 2:18). God was Adam's Father before he made a woman for him, but evidently God knew man's needs.

The early Christians "were of one heart and of one soul" --- "They had all things in common" (Acts 4:32). The vain treasures of this earth become nothing, only just what we need when the love of God fills the soul. They not only had material things in common, but their testimonies of God's grace and how God was dealing with them in giving them peace and joy and victory in their souls and praises were common among them.

#### PRAYER IN A CHRISTIAN'S LIFE

March 13, 1955

Printed Portion: ..... Matt. 6:5-8; 7:7-11; James 5:13-16.

Matt. 6:5. And when thou prayest, thou shalt not be as

the hypocrites are: for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward.

6. But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly.

7. But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking.

8. Be not ye therefore like unto them: for your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him.

Matt. 7:7. Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you:

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

9. Or what man is there of you, whom if his son ask bread, will he give him a stone?

10. Or if he ask a fish, will he give him a serpent?

11. If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him?

James 5:13. Is any among you afflicted? let him pray. Is any merry? let him sing psalms.

14. Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord:

15. And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him.

16. Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

**Memory Selection:** And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask anything according to his will, he heareth us. I John 5:14.

**Practical Truth:** Prayer is essential both in the development of one's spiritual life and in the extension of God's kingdom.

#### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

The secret of true prayer is that we pray according to the will of God (I John 5:14). The Spirit of God will help us to pray as we should as we yield to him in our prayer life (Rom. 8:26, 27). Prayer is vital to the upkeep of the Christian life; without it the life will soon decay but with it the life (spiritual life) will be maintained. "Prayer is a solemn address to the Supreme Being" (dictionary). So then the hypocrites do not really pray (the hypocrites hope shall perish--Job 8:13). Just words.

The Father knows just what we need before we ask him (v. 8) but still we are told "That men ought always to pray" (Luke 18:1). So then God wants us to do our part in asking him for what is vital to our Christian life and for others. We are also told "Continuing instant in prayer" (Rom. 12:12).

Since we are responsible to Almighty God who rules the universe; prayer is the main thing that keeps us in touch with him as to what is his good pleasure in all that he expects of us. By it we can grow as Christians (2 Pet. 3:18) and are able to fight the good fight of faith (I Tim. 6:12). Prayer and the Word of God go together, so that as we read the Word of God it gives us the very words we need at the right time to express our needs; "Take with you words, and turn to the Lord" (Hosea 14:2).

## CHRISTIAN LIVING

March 20, 1955

Printed Portion: ..... Col. 3:5-10; 1 Tim. 4:12; 1 John 2:1-6.

Col. 3:5. Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry:

6. For which things' sake the wrath of God cometh on the children of disobedience:

7. In the which ye also walked some time, when ye lived in them.

8. But now ye also put off all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth.

9. Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds;

10. And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him:

1 Tim. 4:12. Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity.

1 John 2:1. My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the Righteous:

2. And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for our's only, but also for the sins of the whole world.

3. And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments.

4. He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.

5. But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected; hereby know we that we are in him.

6. He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk even as he walked.

**Memory Selection:** But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; because it is written, be ye holy; for I am holy. 1 Pet. 1:15-16.

**Practical Truth:** John tells us to sin not (1 John 2:1). We must lead a holy life in this present world in order to gain eternal life.

## COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

To be temperate in all things would mean that there are some things in this world to be left entirely alone. Many people cannot partake of some things at all or they will go to extreme with it. Strong drink is one of them. Very few can take a little and then not take any more at all. There are other things that affect mankind the same way. Can you name some?

Our memory selection is a good antidote for any and all things that would be harmful to the soul. There are those who call themselves Christians that need this verse, to ponder on, and give God a chance to make it real to their soul. To live a holy life as God says for us to is possible for every one or God would never have set it down as one of the things for us to do. Since God has made it possible to keep us by his mighty power (1 Pet. 1:5) then we are not expected to do it in our own strength, but to call upon him for power to live the life he expects of us—namely, a holy life. So then, be particular in reading God's holy Bible, and be very particular to do what it says, that we may be a holy people, or nation, and be ready for a holy heaven, where dwells a holy God with all his holy angels. Live holy in this present world (Luke 1:73-75; Tit. 2:11-14).

## THE CHRISTIAN AND THE SOCIAL ORDER

March 27, 1955

Printed Portion: ..... Matt. 5:13-16; Rom. 13:8-10; 1 Peter 4:12-16.

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 thenceforth 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.

Rom. 13:8. Owe no man anything, 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 as thyself.

10. Love worketh no ill to his neighbor: therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

1 Pet. 4:12. Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you:

13. But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy.

14. If ye be reproached for the name of Christ, happy are ye; for the spirit of glory and of God resteth upon you: on their part he is evil spoken of, but on your part he is glorified.

15. But let none of you suffer as a murderer, or as a thief, or as an evildoer, or as a busybody in other men's matters.

16. Yet if any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf.

**Memory Selection:** Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good. Rom. 12:21.

**Practical Truth:** Wherever true Christianity prevails it elevates the standard of society, and every Christian must do his part in bringing this about.

## COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Jesus has already laid down principles to govern the Christian in the "social order" of today. As salt preserves, so the Christian is expected to preserve a high standard as he mingles with the world. As a light he is expected to shine for Jesus every opportunity he has and give to the world a testimony of the hidden life he has with communing with Christ every day. He is to show love to all who are around him in such a way as to let them know he has been with Jesus. "Love worketh no ill to his neighbor" (v. 10) so then we are to "do good unto all men especially unto them who are of the household of faith" (Gal. 6:10). Our love will be shown to every soul we come in contact with as we present Jesus Christ to them. Other business may demand our attention but usually there will be at least a word from us that can fit the occasion for our Master. We will have reproach as the last of our printed lesson brings out, but Jesus will help us at the time and give us just the words to say (Luke 21:14, 15) and the spirit in which to give them. There are many things being tried today to overcome the conditions in the world but only Jesus can satisfy the longing of the soul.