

# FAITH <sup>AND</sup> VICTORY

## The EVENING LIGHT WATCHMAN



Volume 25, No. 3

Published at

Guthrie, Oklahoma

25c Per Year

May, 1955

### A Prayer

Oh, how good to trust in thee, Lord;  
How comforting to know you care!  
Sweet it is to know you're watching  
Over us—yes, everywhere.

More we learn—dear Lord of Heaven—  
To trust not in the sweetest frame,  
But put our trust and confidence, Lord,  
Only in thy precious name.

Oh, dear Lord, how much I need thee—  
Thou dost take the place of all.  
Keep us from the snares of Satan,  
Lest that sometime we should fall.

Oh, dear Lord, up there in Heaven,  
Please look down upon small me.  
Thou dost know how much I love you—  
How much I'd like to be like thee!

Thou dost know my trials and burdens,  
Thou dost know my every care.  
Oh, how sweet to know that with thee  
All my troubles I can share!

Oh, help me to know thy will, Lord,  
Work things out all to my good.  
Help me to keep always humble,  
And to do that which I should.  
—Alta Mae Harmon.

—::—

### Are You A Christian?

First, we would ask: What is a Christian? There are several definitions that could be given. We shall give two or three here that are universally accepted.

Christian: 1. A disciple of Christ. 2. One who believes in Christ. 3. One whose life follows the teachings of Christ. "The disciples were first called Christians at Antioch" because they adhered to, and followed after the teachings of Christ.

Now our reason for writing this article is to cause those who may read it to think seriously upon the

question and analyze it more thoroughly than most people seem to. We meet with many who take upon themselves the name of Christian, who seemingly by their ways and actions do not really understand what a Christian is. A Christian is one whose life has been changed by the power of God; he has been turned from the kingdom of darkness to the kingdom of light; he has been made a new creature, old things have passed away, and a new life has begun.

Now we shall ask a few questions. Think seriously as you read them. If these can be answered in the affirmative, well and good; if not, you should really be concerned about your state and appeal to God that he would grant unto you a revelation of your condition. Are you walking in the footsteps of Christ, who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth? Do you manifest the Spirit of Christ when you are reviled? Can you keep sweet and not revile, or strike back in a retaliating way? Do you submit the case to Him who judgeth righteously? to Him who has said, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay"? Are you a light? Do people get a better understanding of God and his way by beholding your conduct of life? Is your light shining in the midst of a perverse and crooked generation?

Are you saved from worldly pleasures; such as dancing, card playing, theatre going, beer drinking, foolish talking, intoxicants, revellings, and such like? The Word of the Lord says, "If any man love the world the love of the Father is not in him." Are you delivered from pride, and a love for the praise of men? A tree is known by its fruit. Whatever the nature of the tree is, that is the kind of fruit it will produce. Whatever the nature of the heart is, the same will come out in the life. A good tree can not bring forth evil fruit. A Christian is one who has been made a partaker of the divine nature and will produce the fruit of the Spirit as given in Gal. 5:22, 23: "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance: against such there is no law."

A Christian has the spirit of love in his heart, a spirit of compassion, and is willing and ready to forgive an offender. One can not be a Christian who will not forgive those who have wronged him, nor can one be a Christian and carry an old grudge around.

Such is not the fruit of the Spirit. The Spirit will always lead in the path of righteousness and peace. "As many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God." Rom. 8:14. "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven." Matt. 7:21. It is not the one that says, "I am a Christian," but he who lives the life and obeys the Word of God, that will stand the test. If you, dear reader, are living for God each day, and if you are kept by his power, Amen. But if you are committing one known sin, you are not a Christian. No, you are not a Christian if you are committing sin. Jesus came to save his people from their sins. —Ulysses Phillips.

### —:::— LONELINESS

I have been thinking lately of the Scripture which says that as Jesus was alone praying, his disciples were with him (Luke 9:18). How many of us, like Jesus has found himself alone in the midst of a multitude? How many have said, If I do this or that, I will be the only one who does it? Dear young reader, God wants some who have perfect hearts (2 Chron. 16:9), who will stand alone for Him.

Loneliness is the cause of many sins today. The first I remember loneliness, I was in the first grade standing at the corner of the school house. A group of girls a few feet away stood pointing at my clothes and laughing. (My mother was a widow and my clothes were not as nice as theirs). That left an impression on my mind that never left me. Even yet it is hard to make friends if they seem cold or indifferent.

Some children, when tempted to feel lonely and left out of the pleasures the others enjoy, take to boasting. The devil makes them think if they tell others of the great things they can do, they will have companionship. (He is a liar). Some men and women love to boast. True happiness comes by letting another praise us (Pro. 27:2). David wrote in Psa. 37: 35 of the wicked spreading (boasting) himself like a green bay tree, yet he passed away.

Some children go off to themselves and create an imaginary companion and day dream of going places and doing things to suit their fancies, not knowing it is wrong, so do not go to God who will help them to cast down their imaginations (2 Cor. 10:5). They do not think of things God wants them to do for others.

I was talking to a divorced woman some time back. She had married for companionship. There was not love between them, so they disagreed, and the loneliness remained. She did not love any man, but went with them only as company to forget the loneliness in her heart. To remarry, commit adultery, can not rid us of loneliness. It only brings trouble and sorrow.

When some people experience the terrible loneliness of a loved one forsaking them, they seek pleasure, go to dances, drink, and do the works of the flesh (Gal. 5:19-21) to drown their feelings of lone-

liness. They find no comfort because they seek not first the kingdom of God and his righteousness (Matt. 6:33), so they fill a suicide grave.

Loneliness is common to us, but God wants to make us able to bear it (1 Cor. 10:13). It is our attitude toward loneliness that determines whether we stand or fall.

The Bible tells of others whom God made more than conquerors (Rom. 8:37). Think how lonely Joseph was down in Egypt. He didn't sit down, pout, and say: "I wish I were at home enjoying father and mother." He went to work and became the best slave Potiphar had (Gen. 39:34). When he lost his second coat, in prison he could have said, "Mrs. Potiphar should be here." Here again the keeper put the prisoners in his hands (Gen. 39:23). He did as he (or God) pleased. He was past thirty and his first son came before he forgot his father's house (Gen. 41:46-51). He told his brothers that God sent him to Egypt; not they. (Gen. 45:8).

If Elijah was lonely while by the brook waiting for the ravens, he did not say, "God, send rain so I can show myself to the people." He remained true to God—and who has been known to have fire burn water as he did on Mt. Carmel? (1 Kings 18).

John the Baptist could have day dreamed in the wilderness, but who would have preached and straightened the way for Christ?

Christ felt lonely on the cross and cried: "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?" (Matt. 27:46). He arose from the grave, forever to be on the right hand of God; and promised to be with every one who will do God's will unto the end (Matt. 28:19, 20). What better companion than Jesus can we want? No one can or will protect like Jesus.

God may call you, dear reader, to go somewhere for Him. It will make no difference if we are in the multitude or on a lonely isle, God will be there to comfort, bless, and protect. As long as we stand by God, he will stand by us. —A saint.

### —:::— THINK

To think is our great privilege and duty. Our time and our minds belong to God. We are to love God with all of the mind. He said, "Come now and let us reason together." Please read Acts 24:25. When Jesus said, "Beware of men," he meant for you to think. The fact that he said, if it were possible the elect would be deceived, he meant for you to think. The choice is before you and me. The Bible said some through ignorance wrest or twist the Scriptures to their own destruction.

The word of God is so important that Jesus said, (John 12:48), "He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day." And the most important words he ever said, it seems to me, was that we were to be ONE so the world might believe (St. John 17:21).

We are not our own, we are bought with a price. We are to glorify God in our bodies. How can we

without thinking? When Saul began to think, he then began to ask God what to do. God's Word says that if we love not the truth, he will give us over to a reprobate mind and hardness of heart that we might be damned. We are to study the Word that we might rightly divide it.

The Word says, "he that seeketh findeth." To me that means that we will not go wrong when we seek to know. So long as we have so many would-be churches when Jesus spoke of His in the singular (Matt. 16:18), it is time to see which one he is talking about. If you begin to look, some of your brethren and sisters will have nothing to do with you—sectarians will not.

Jesus said, "My words are spirit and they are life." (John 6:63). The Word and the Spirit agree, and the Spirit leads into all truth. —Manly L. Jones

### :::—

## The Bride of Christ

"I will betroth thee unto me forever; yea, I will betroth thee unto me in righteousness, and in judgment and in loving-kindness and in mercies. I will even betroth thee unto me in faithfulness: and thou shalt know the Lord." Hosea 2:19, 20. The word "betroth" means to be engaged. He said He would betroth or engage us unto Him in righteousness and faithfulness. The Lord takes us unto himself to live in us and have His way in our lives. Romans 7:4: "Wherefore, my brethren, ye also are become dead to the law by the body of Christ; that ye should be married to another, even to Him who is raised from the dead, that ye should bring forth fruit unto God." We can not bear fruit unto God except we have been married to Christ, which means to be born again.

In Deut. 26:16-19, quote, "This day the Lord thy God hath commanded thee to do these statutes and judgments: thou shalt therefore keep and do them with all thy heart, and with all thy soul. Thou hast avouched the Lord this day to be thy God and to walk in His ways and to keep His statutes and His commandments and His judgments and to hearken unto His voice. And the Lord hath avouched thee this day to be His peculiar people as He hath promised thee and that thou shouldst keep all His commandments; and to make thee high above all nations which He hath made, in praise, and in name, and in honor; and that thou mayest be an holy people unto the Lord thy God."

Now we have before us the outline of our marriage to Christ, or being born again. He said He would betroth or engage us unto Him in faithfulness. Then we have avouched or affirmed (or promised) to keep His judgments and statutes and commandments and to hearken unto His voice. Then the Lord has avouched or affirmed to take us to be His peculiar people, and He said He would make us high above all nations in praise and name and honor. Truly, there is not a more noble or higher calling than to be the bride of Christ, to live, practice and preach His Word.

When we came to the Lord, we promised to trust Him for our bodies, and promised Him to forsake all

other ways to follow His way. We promised Him that we would dress in modest apparel and walk in the light as it shines upon our pathway. We promised to take Him as our insurance company and look to Him to be our guide in life. Are we still keeping this agreement?

If anyone has failed in trusting God for their bodies and has turned over to man, or if we once dressed in modest apparel and have now gone back to dressing like the world, or if we have let down and have gone back to trusting in insurance companies, or if we have gone back into sectism—if we are guilty of any of these things, there is a need of repenting to God and confessing to the saints. We have done the saints wrong and have grieved the Lord. We cannot do these things and then just go on with a profession, not repenting and fixing them up. If anyone has been guilty of any of these things, we should get down on our knees and repent before God and confess to the saints, because we have betrayed their confidence.

When we take the oath of holy matrimony, we promise our companion to be true to him or her and forsake all others and keep ourselves unto them alone so long as we shall live. When we became married to Christ, we also made these promises to Him. If we have broken our promises to the Lord, we need to find an altar of prayer and fix things up before God and man. And if we have betrayed the saints and grieved God, we need to come back and prove ourselves.

In Col. 1:18, quote, "And He is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things He might have the preeminence." The Lord is going to have the first place in our hearts or He will have no place at all. He has engaged us unto Him in faithfulness. And if we have not been faithful, we have broken our agreement with the Lord, and He is no more obligated to bless our souls.

Rev. 19:7-9, quote, "Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honor to Him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come and His wife hath made herself ready. And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints. And He said unto me, Write, blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb, And he saith unto me, These are the true sayings of God." S. of Sol. 6:9, "My dove, my undefiled is but one; she is the only one of her mother. She is the choicest one of her that bare her." The Lord has only one church; she has been washed and made clean by the blood of Jesus. We must stay clean and pure from all the contamination of the world, as God will not dwell in an unclean temple.

Yours in the one true way, Murphy Allen

---

To the Saints Abroad:—We now inform you that we are on the air broadcasting a thirty-minute service over station KBYE, Oklahoma City, at 5:30 p. m. each Sunday. We desire your prayerful support. Should any wish to contribute financially to this end, mail all correspondence to the Church of God, P. O. Box 6515, Okla. City 17, Okla. Bro. Otis Hill, Treasurer

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

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

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

### —SUBSCRIPTION PRICES—

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

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

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

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

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

Free-will offerings sent in to the work will be thankfully received as from the Lord. All personal checks and Post Office Money Orders should be made payable to Fred Pruitt, or to Faith Pub. House. All offerings and gifts given or sent 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 year. (Pay quarterly if you desire).

## Editorials

Of late I have been thinking and meditating on the later part of the 8th chapter of Proverbs, verse 36, the last verse of the chapter reads thus, "But he that sinneth against me wrongeth his own soul: all they that hate me love death." Just think of the multitudes that are sinning against the Lord and thereby injuring their own souls and prove by their sinning that they love eternal death rather than eternal life with God. Then again just think of the host of preachers that teach their hearers that it is not possible for a Christian to live free from sin in this life. I believe such preachers will be ten fold more the children of hell than the innocent ones whom they deceive. Many of these deceived preachers seem to think and also act as though one that makes a profession of being Christ's or is baptized in water is ready for heaven even though they do sin along in life. I am bold to say that Satan is the author of such teaching as that, for Christ came to save us from our sins and not in them (Matt. 1:21). In 1 John 3:8 we read plainly: "He that committeth sin is of the devil: for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested [sacrificed his innocent blood] that he might destroy the works of the devil." Souls that are taught the truth of the Scriptures will realize that they are sinners and lost, will have godly sorrow, which will work repentance in the heart. As they believe that Jesus gave his innocent blood as an atonement for their sins, the Scripture will be fulfilled in them as it is written in the first verse of the fifth chapter of Romans. They will be justified by their faith and will have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Then as they go on loving and serving the Lord, keeping peace in their soul by not sinning, the next verse says that they can have access by faith into this grace (sanctifying grace) wherein we stand and rejoice in hope of the glory of God." Oh, the great peace, love, and assurance that dwells within a truly sanctified and Spirit-filled soul. The worldly-minded professor who sins more or less knows nothing about this great peace and joy which reigns within a sanctified and Spirit-filled man or woman.

King Saul became disobedient and sinned against God and fell in battle and lost his soul. Outlandish women caused Solomon to sin and he became an idol worshiper. We have no record that he ever got back to God. Jonah listened to lying vanities and tried to run away from the Lord and got into great trouble. He finally wanted God to take his life away, saying, "It is better for me to die than to live."

King Herod sinned against God by taking the life of one of God's ministers. He also captured Peter and meant to kill him, but God undertook, frustrated the plans of Herod and preserved Peter alive. Herod made an oration to a certain part of his subjects and the people praised him as a god. God sent his angel and smote him with worms which ate him and he died a horrible death.

Judas sinned against Christ and died a horrible death and went to torment.

Oh, professing friend, do not believe the devil's preachers and keep on sinning more or less in life; for you will be sure to hear the words in that great day, "Depart from me, ye workers of iniquity," and will be turned into hell where the worm dieth not and the fire is never quenched. The preacher that deceived you into believing a lie will be there also. What an awful day that will be when you will find your soul in that burning lake with no hope of ever getting out. The soul will always be suffering the torments of dying and can never die. Oh, how sad the thought.

o—o—o—o—o

When we consider the plans and purposes of God from the beginning of creation and see how his big hand has been working to bring about and to fulfill all prophecy, it becomes a marvelous thing in our sight. As He opens up the Scriptures to our understanding, we begin to know how little we do really know and how great and mighty God is, even beyond our comprehension. It has been said that, "The old Testament is God's will concealed and the New Testament is God's will revealed." The more we understand the Scriptures the greater knowledge we have of this statement being true.

When we consider Solomon's Temple as typifying the church of God or the kingdom of God, which we saved people live in today, it teaches us many things as to what the church or kingdom is and its workings and how God planned this centuries and centuries before even we came into existence. Then we think how clearly the building of the literal temple typifies the building of the spiritual house, church or kingdom which we saved people make up today. You can read in the third chapter of Hebrews what is stated concerning the holy brethren; for it is plainly stated in the sixth verse that holy brethren are Christ's house. He could have used the words church, temple, or kingdom and not have changed the meaning at all.

It took Solomon seven years to build the literal temple which prefigured the real temple or house of God; but it only took Jesus three and one-half years to build his house or temple and get it ready to occupy.

Solomon gathered material from different places to build the temple that foreshadowed the real. Just so, Jesus gathered material from different places and called men from different occupations to follow him and become stones, or timbers, in his building.

He began the building of his house or kingdom immediately after he began to preach the gospel of the kingdom, and was calling men to leave all and follow him. When John began to preach, being the forerunner of Christ, he said, "Repent ye, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." When Jesus began to preach, he said, "The time is fulfilled [not some future time, but now] and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye and believe the gospel." Mark 1:15. In Luke 16:16 we read, "The law and the prophets were until John: since that time the kingdom of God is preached, and every man presseth into it." Here the Lord positively says the kingdom of God is preached since John. When he chose the twelve apostles, who were stones in the building, material that he had gathered for his house, and was fitting them into his

building, he gave them power against unclean spirits to cast them out, and to heal all manner of sickness and all manner of disease. He commissioned them and said unto them, "And as ye go, preach saying, the kingdom of heaven is at hand" (or kingdom of God). When he sent out the seventy, he said, "And heal the sick that are therein, and say unto them, the kingdom of God is come nigh unto you. These disciples had been born again. John 1:13. For Jesus had power to forgive sins and give eternal life to as many as believed on him. They were a part of the house or kingdom which he was building. In the 13th chapter of Matthew we read how he was teaching them as to what the kingdom of God was like. Among other things he said that the kingdom of heaven was like a grain of mustard seed which a man took and sowed in his field. He also said it was like unto leaven which a woman used in her meal and the whole was leavened. Daniel, prophesying of the kingdom, said, "And in the days of these kings [of which the Roman Empire was one, which was in power when Jesus began to build and set up his kingdom] shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people; but it shall brake in pieces and consume all the kingdoms, and it shall stand forever." In the next verse he speaks of the stone that was cut out of the mountain without hands that did the smiting and breaking into pieces. This stone represented Christ. The stone is spoken of again in the 34th verse.

The mustard seed and the leaven spoken of in the parables represented Christ. The disciples and the seventy were born again, and they were being fitted into his building or kingdom and were a part of it. Jesus was their king and the teacher and builder. He told the people: "Behold, the kingdom of God is within you." When Christ is with you or in you, you are a part of the kingdom and will manifest Christ and his teachings to others.

Almost all the people who heard and saw Jesus did not understand about his kingdom, but he told the disciples, "But blessed are your eyes, for they see: and your ears for they hear." Matt. 13:16. And he went on to say: "For verily I say unto you, that many prophets and righteous men have desired to see those things which ye see, and have not seen them; and to hear those things which ye hear, and have not heard them." The disciples, being born again, were seeing the kingdom of God, which righteous men under the law could not see nor hear. When the Lord got his house or kingdom built and ready to occupy, just as he came into Solomon's temple or house so he did in this. It is said the glory of the Lord filled the temple; so also when the Lord Jesus had his temple, house, or kingdom built, the prophecy of Malachi was fulfilled where it says: "And the Lord whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant whom ye delight in: behold he shall come saith the Lord of hosts." Malachi 3:1. On the day of Pentecost the Lord came into his temple, or his kingdom, with power. The tongues of fire sitting upon each of them typified the cleansing as the Holy

Ghost came in. The kingdom, temple, house, or church, was set up and began to function, having the laws of God put into their minds and written upon the fleshly tables of their circumcised hearts. This kingdom or church or temple shall never be destroyed. We saved people live in it here and when we put on a glorified body we shall continue to live in it in heaven. Glory be to God!

When Solomon's temple was in the building and one would ask: "What building is that?" the answer would be, "That is the temple that Solomon is building, but it is not finished." When Jesus was gathering his disciples from different places and sending them out to preach the gospel of the kingdom, they could truly be looked upon as the kingdom, but it was not finished yet to be occupied as it was on the day of Pentecost when it was set in motion. Then the Lord entered in the form of the Holy Ghost, which gave great power to the disciples, for he was living in and possessing each one. Blessed be the name of the Lord!

—:::—

### Obituaries

John Quarantine Carter was born September 29, 1879 in McMinn County near Athens, Tennessee.

He came west to Oregon in 1911 and settled at Jefferson, Oregon. For some time since he has lived around Independence and Salem, Oregon.

He passed away February 21, 1955. Close surviving relatives are a brother Charles W. Carter and a sister Mrs. Myrtle McCall, both of Salem, Oregon; and a sister, Mrs. Marie Claire of LaGrande, Oregon.

Bro. Carter respected the truth before he was saved, and a few years back was saved at a meeting held at Jefferson, Oregon. He was not privileged to attend meeting very often, but enjoyed it when he could find a way to come. He also went to Sunday school at Salem conducted by his brother, who has stood for and taught the truth a good many years. He told his brother he was ready to go.

The funeral was held at Salem, Oregon, and was conducted by Bro. Vearl Kliever. The text was John 11:18-27.

—o—o—o—o—o—

My daughter Nellie Cahill of Indianapolis, Ind. passed away March 24, 1955. Cancer caused her death. Nellie left a wonderful testimony—she said she once was afraid to die, but was not afraid any more. She said she was ready—said she saw an open window, saw beautiful sunshine, and heard sweet music.

Nellie's body was brought to Newark for burial. Today Nellie is in Paradise with Jesus. It is hard to give up our loved ones, but we can rejoice that some day we shall meet again never to part again.

Praise our blessed Savior!

Yours in Jesus precious name,

Enoch Diehl

—o—o—o—o—o—

Bro. Lea Lemuel Perry was born at Vale, Miss. Sept. 4, 1891 and died March 26, 1955 in his home near Loran-ger, La.

He leaves his wife, two sons, Nourban and Alfred, and one daughter, Mrs. Oralee Bowyer; four grand children, besides other relatives and friends to mourn their loss which is heaven's eternal gain.

Bro. Perry accepted the Lord as his Saviour forty years or more ago and has been a minister of the gospel more than thirty five years. He has been a firm believer in trusting the Lord for both soul and body, and died trusting the Lord whom he had served. We are looking forward to meeting him in glory.

Funeral services were held by the writer and Bro. and Sister Ray Key.

—Lottie Joiner

Far away beyond the skies  
His happy soul is blest,  
Free from sorrow, sickness, pain,  
He has gained eternal rest.

We heard him pray for men  
Who were in sin and crime,  
He prayed for God to change their hearts  
Before they came to the end of time.

He prayed for the sick and weak,  
Faithfully going to see them all,  
Those he could reach from day to day  
Before the Lord for him did call.

Now his work on earth is done,  
His place is vacant in the home,  
He has gone where no sorrow comes  
And where no suffering is known.

—o—o—o—o—o—

Georgiana Flowers, born Oct. 13, 1874 at Angronia, W. Va. passed to her reward March 10, 1955 at her home near Charleston, W. Va.—age 80 years, 5 months, and 7 days.

She was united in marriage to Charles A. Sayer, Jan. 6, 1892. To this union six children were born. One preceded her in death. Bereaved are: her husband, Charles Sayer; three sons, Virgil of Parkersburg, W. Va., Dewey of Elkview, W. Va., Clarence, and C. F. both of Columbus, Ohio; one daughter, Mrs. Lillian McClure of Hurricane, W. Va.; seventeen grandchildren; and four great grandchildren; and a host of friends and saints who will miss her presence and deeds of kindness and encouraging testimonies in the meetings.

Sister Sayer was converted to Christ and embraced the truth as taught by the church of God in this evening light reformation about forty five years ago, and had been instrumental in the Lord's work here in South Charleston and in surrounding communities where she had lived the past forty years preaching this truth she loved so well. She was quick to detect false doctrine and to warn and cry out against such. Her greatest desire was to see her husband and children saved.

She was patient in her short illness of about a month. The Sunday before the Lord had taken her home, a few of the saints gathered in to have prayer, and she helped to sing the songs of Zion, and she prayed and testified to the victory of the Lord. Sister Sayer's life was an example to all. She had strong faith in God and trusted Him for the healing of her body all the years. She will be greatly missed, but our loss is heaven's gain.

The funeral was at the Church of God chapel at 1006 F St., conducted by Bro. and Sister S. E. Abbott of Thayer, Mo. The text was 2 Tim. 4:7; 1 Thess. 4:13-18. Sister Abbott read Psalm 91 for scripture reading.

Asleep in Jesus, oh how sweet  
The scene of closing day,  
Where holy angels came to greet  
And bear the soul away.

Thy prayers and tears have gone before  
Thy works shall follow on.  
And gather gems forever more  
To glitter in thy crown.

—Sister Spaur

In Remembrance of Gertrude Young

While on this weary road I trod,  
I think of one who trusted God.  
She trusted Him in life and death,  
And now He's called her home to rest.  
Her smiling face I'll see no more,  
Until I reach that shining shore,  
And then we two as we have before  
Can sing God's praise forever more,  
And as we gaze upon the scenes  
We can sing the song, "I've been redeemed."

In remembrance of my darling wife who departed  
this life on May 16, 1954.

—R. E. Young

## Camp-meeting Notices

### THE NATIONAL CAMPMEETING

The 17th annual National Campmeeting of the Church of God will be held, Lord willing, on the saints' camp ground at Monark Springs (Neosho, Mo.) July 22nd to 31st, inclusive. Monark Springs is located five miles east of Neosho, Mo.

A cordial invitation is extended to all nationalities and lovers of the truth to attend this national gathering of God's people. Here you will find Christian encouragement, and all the spiritual and physical benefits provided for mankind in the great atonement. Further information regarding the meeting will be published later, but plan now to attend.

At the business meeting of the last campmeeting several needed improvements on the campground were discussed, among which was the need for an ice storage house, a water line laid from the well to the north end of ground, painting of dining hall and tabernacle, and construction of modern sanitary facilities. This last item is urgently needed and should be started as soon as additional ground adjoining the campground is available for purchase. All the other improvements can be made before campmeeting PROVIDED the material and labor are supplied. Let us all be "workers together" with the Lord in His great cause and give of our time and means to provide a suitable place of worship.

You may send your offerings to Bro. Ralph M. Beisly, R. 5, Coffeyville, Kansas, or to the undersigned. If you are within driving distance of the grounds and can help with the work on Saturdays, please advise Bro. Beisly.

—Lawrence D. Pruitt, 1116 W. Wash., Guthrie, Okla.

### Hennessey, Oklahoma

We, the saints of the Church of God in Hennessey, plan in the name of the Lord to have a campmeeting here, starting May 27th and lasting through June 5th. Pray much for the success of the meeting; that God will bless on every line. All are welcome.

For more information write: Bro. Thomas Davis, Box 441, Hennessey, Okla.; or Sister Willa J. Williams, R. 1, Box 113.

—Ada B. Davis, pastor.

### Akron, Ohio

The Church of God of Akron, Ohio, 1327 9th Ave. have planned a campmeeting June 17-26, or as long as the Lord leads. We are praying and looking for the Lord to send ministers of the Church of God to help us in the meeting as the Lord leads. For information write Sister

Elizabeth Hudson, 724 Euclid St., Akron, Ohio, or Sister Cordelia R. Jones, 74040 Roscoe Ave., Akron 6, Ohio.

### Jefferson, Oregon

The Oregon State Campmeeting will be held at Jefferson, Oregon, the Lord willing, July 1-10 on the saints' camp ground as usual, which is one block east of old Highway 99 through Jefferson on Hazel St. All saints and lovers of the truth are invited to attend. All are welcome. The saints here are encouraged and looking forward to having a good meeting. We are looking to the Lord to send the ministers of His choosing who are filled with the Holy Ghost anointing to preach the word straight and clean with power from heaven, and not shun to declare all the council of God.

Sleeping quarters will be provided for all who come and the meeting will be run on free will offerings as usual. The dear Lord has never failed to supply all the needs for the meetings in the past and we do not believe He will fail us now. Plan now to attend. For further information write to Bro. Noah White, R. 1, Jefferson, Ore. or Bro. Harry Davis, P. O. Box 547, Stayton, Ore., or Sister Emma Busch, R. 2, Box 206, Scio, Ore.

### Hammond, Louisiana

The general southern campmeeting of the Church of God will be held on the old camp ground at Hammond, La. June 24 to July 3, inclusive. Every saint and lover of the truth are invited to attend and hear the whole gospel preached by spirit-filled ministers of His choosing. No charges made for meals as the meeting is run on the free-will offering plan. Sleeping quarters provided. Those living near by, bring your own bed linens and pillows. Anyone feeling led to help care for expense of the meeting may do so by giving money, vegetables, and fruits (canned or fresh), meats, etc. Anything you eat at home can be used here too.

Send offerings to or for further information write to Ray Key, 705 White St., or Max Williamson, c. o. Post Office, Hammond, La.

### Green Pastures, Oklahoma

The campmeeting of the Church of God at Green Pastures, Okla. begins July 8 and ends July 17th. All saints and lovers of the truth are invited to come and will receive a hearty welcome. For further information write Bro. E. W. Sanders, R. 2, Box 39, Spencer, Okla.

### DATES OF OTHER CAMPMEETINGS

Guthrie, Okla.—Aug. 5th-14th, corner of 6th and W. Warner — O. C. Porter, R. 5, Guthrie, Okla.

Myrtle, Mo.—August 19th-28, one mile east of Myrtle —S E. Abbott, Thayer, R. 2, Missouri.

Bakersfield, Calif.— Aug. 12th-21st, South Brown St. —I. C. Chandler, R. 6, Box 37, Bakersfield, Calif.

California State Campmeeting, Aug. 26 to Sept 4, 12312 Osborne Place, Pacoima, Calif. (suburb of Los Angeles). O. B. Wilson, 12312 Osborne Place, Pacoima.

### PRAYER REQUESTS

Please pray for my wife, Addie E. Herron. Pray for her health. She is 78 years old and very frail in body. She is a real child of God. I also need your prayers. I never fail to pray for all of God's children. There are many of you whom I have never met here, but if we do not have the privilege of meeting here on earth, let us meet in heaven. I am glad that the dove of peace is singing in my soul.

George W. Herron.



Sister Jettie Davidson of Kansas City, Kansas desires the saints to pray for her. She has been sorely afflicted for some time and her trust is in the Lord.

o-o-o-o-o

W. Va.—Dear saints—I feel it very important to write this request to be published in the "Faith and Victory" paper, for I want all the saints who read the paper to pray earnestly for the healing of my body. I have some kind of ailment. At times I am so dizzy that I am afraid to get up lest I fall. I do not know what causes it, for I have never been to any doctor and I haven't taken any medicine for several years now. I am not trusting doctors or medicine anyway. I am trusting the Lord to heal me, for I know he is able if it would be his will to heal me.

Also pray that the Lord will sanctify me and my companion. Your sister in Christ, Essie Carter.

o-o-o-o-o

S. C.—Dear "Faith and Victory" friends,—I've been enjoying reading your full issue of "Faith and Victory" book form 1954, also many tracts, and they have indeed drawn me closer to my Lord. I'm a great believer in prayer and have had many prayers answered. Right now I am terribly burdened about a friend's soul. I have been praying for her several months but she is doing worse instead of better. I cannot talk to her at all. She flies off the handle at the least advice or rebuking. I have prayed hard, now I feel that I must call on you good people there to take up my burden and help me in prayer. Each one of you please pour out your heart and beg the dear Lord to please soften her heart and show her that she is on the road to hell. I refuse to give her up and shall pray as long as I live for her soul. She is wicked, but she doesn't seem to realize it. She is really serving the devil. Also pray for me that I may grow stronger in the Lord and do the work he wants me to do. I do so much want to live for him. Please pray also for her husband and her six children who need a good mother so much. May God's blessings rest and abide on each and every one of you. —A sister in Christ.

o-o-o-o-o

Pray for the unsaved companions of some gospel workers that they be saved. Also pray for some companions who claim to be saved yet are not consecrated to help to the fullest in the work of the Lord, thus hindering.

o-o-o-o-o

I have a skin disease on me and I would like all the saints to pray that God will heal me soon. Thank you! Paul Galloway, Oregon.

### CHILDREN'S BOOK NOW READY

We are glad now to tell you that the book for the children, entitled, "Touching Incidents" is ready to be mailed to you as soon as you order. We also are glad to say that we are able to make the price of the book less than we first stated because the saints have been so interested in helping pay for the printing of the book. We feel we can let them sell for fifty cents each for the paper back ones and a dollar for the cloth bound books. Order your book now.

We also wish to say to those who have already ordered books at the other price, please write us for a refund if you want it. If we do not hear from you, we will feel that you want the balance to be used in our free tract fund or for the missionary fund.

If you have any true stories that you desire to be used in a children's book, please send them to be printed in the "Beautiful Way" paper. If the Lord wills, we hope to be able in the future to print another children's book.

### A QUESTION ANSWERED

Please explain the appearance of Samuel in the cave of Endor (1 Sam. 28). Is this a literal appearance of Samuel or is it a manifestation of Satan?

It was not Samuel, for a number of reasons:

God had refused to speak to Saul through any of the regular channels—1 Sam. 28:6.

God would not reverse Himself and speak or allow His prophet to speak through any channel which He Himself had banned (1 Sam. 28:9).

Samuel, a man of God, would certainly not come at the beck and call of a witch whose activities he had opposed and resisted during his entire earthly ministry. The witch did not see Samuel, but only an impersonation of him.

If it was not Samuel, who was it? It was a demon. Proof that demons can appear in the garb of righteousness is given us in 2 Cor. 11:14, 15.

Demons are fond of inhabiting human bodies and impersonating human beings. "And he said, My name is Legion, for we are many" (Mark 5:9).

The demon impersonating Samuel gave, it is true, an accurate prophecy, but he merely told the truth in this instance in order to make the deception perfect.

It must be remembered that Satan and his demons can do only what God permits them to do. See Job 1:12 and 2:6. Hence the demon in this instance was not permitted to tell anything but the truth.—Sel.

### What About Tithing?

We know Abraham tithed of old (Genesis 14:20), but that was under the old dispensation. We, the church are not under the old dispensation, but under the new. We are Abraham's seed of promise. For the promises were not to Abraham nor to his seed through the law, but through the righteousness of faith. For if they which are of the law be heirs, faith is void and the promise made of none effect. Abram was a God-fearing man. God called him, telling him to "get thee out of thy country." (Gen. 12:1). You see the fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; but fools despise wisdom and instruction (Prov. 1:7). Abraham gave a tenth part of all to Melchisedec, being by interpretation King of righteousness and after that also King of Salem, which is, King of peace. "Abraham by faith when he was called to go out to a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went. By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise: For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God." Which is the church, the new heaven and the new earth, which John saw in Revelation 21:1, the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, the bride, the Lamb's wife (V. 9). This is the new dispensation of the New Testament church.

When God asked Abraham to offer up Isaac (his only son of promise) Abraham proved his willingness to obey God even in this. God told Abraham, "I know



that thou fearest me, seeing thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son from me." (Gen. 22:16, 17) "In blessings I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heavens . . . and in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice."

If we, today, will only seek God with all our heart we will be found of him, and then we are counted Abraham's seed. In the old dispensation the chosen people of God, being carnally minded, chose to be like the people of the world. They did not want to be of the lowly and poor in spirit. They refused to choose the man of God to guide and direct them, so they wanted Samuel to make them a king to judge them like other nations. That displeased Samuel (Sam. 7:5, 6), so he prayed to the Lord and the Lord said unto Samuel: "Harken unto them in all that they say unto thee: for they have not rejected thee, but they have rejected me, that I should not reign over them." The Lord told Samuel to tell them what would be forced upon them. The king would take a tenth of their seed and of their vineyards, a tenth of their sheep, and so on (Sam. 8:15-17). But they wanted their way and turned from God to choose a king. We find it just the same at present, also in the time of the scribes and Pharisees. People will not have Christ; they choose to follow blind guides. It doesn't make any difference how hard they are tasked, they will take their way and want to be called the seed of Abraham. Some are like the scribes and Pharisees, pay tithes and omit the weightier matters of the law, judgment, mercy, and faith. Those people said they were Abraham's seed; but Christ, the author and the finisher of our faith, said they were not. Even so today, people are saying, "We are free born, we are Abraham's seed, or the church," but they are following the traditions of their fathers and not the traditions of the apostles and of the Bible.

We that worship the Lord must worship him in Spirit and in truth, for God seeketh such to worship him. "Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God." (Rom. 5:1, 2). "For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in this present world" (Titus 2:11, 12). So let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: "Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil" (Eccl. 12:13, 14).

We are God's people in this dispensation, Abraham's seed, heirs of the promise. All we are and all we have is surrendered to God—not tithes only. We who surrender all have the promise of inheriting "all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son." Rev. 21:7. These are the ones who have their names written in the Book of life. "Whosoever was not found written in the Book of life was cast into the lake of fire." Rev. 21:15. —Sister Hattie Hines

## Correspondence

Texas.—Saints everywhere, greetings,—I feel that I should write you some this morning. We bought a home in Bogata, which took about all we had gotten out of our cows. We thought husband would get work so we went ahead fixing up the place, which was badly in need, and used up the rest. We were about out of everything. I began to pray and told the Lord that He promised we could eat the good of the land if we did not rebel against Him, and I was still living for Him to all my knowledge.

I said, "Lord, I'll testify in the "Faith and Victory" paper if you will give him a job." He bought groceries on credit from a stranger. The man said, "I am not afraid of you." I was really thankful for that. The man he wanted to work for came and said, "Do you want to work this evening?" He made two dollars. Then another morning he made three dollars. He worked yesterday evening and has gone to work again this morning. I surely do thank the Lord that He cares for His children.

Last fall when we were going to the bus station, my brother-in-law was driving quite fast and had a blow-out right at a little cement culvert. We went into the ditch and the car nearly turned over. My sister was praying. I thank the Lord for saving us from a very serious accident. We didn't get a scratch. Nellie Lovell.

o—o—o—o—o

Calif.—Dear young saints,—I felt led of the Lord to write and tell other young people what the Lord has done for me. First of all, I'm thankful to be saved and sanctified. For quite some time after I was saved, I had heard messages and discussions about the gifts that the Lord had placed in the church. I began seeking the Lord to know what he would have me to do. The Lord has placed a definite responsibility on me to help my father in his ministry and then maybe later I will be able to help other ministers. Right now my little help doesn't reach much farther than home, but since my father is a minister, I see many places where he needs help.

Just the other night my father got home late (10:00 p. m.) from Berkeley where he was attending a business meeting about the chapel there, and as soon as he got home, there was someone sick who wanted to be prayed for. I am sure that Dad loves to go and do these things, but a minister can't possibly do all these things and care for a family too without some outside help. I'm sure he has other burdens, but is held down to an extent because of other needs. I am using my father as an example because I live with him and know the problems that he has. I am sure there are many other ministers the same way.

There are many other gifts in the body besides preaching and teaching. I think of the text where we are commanded to lift up our eyes and see that the fields are white and ready to harvest. But we are told to pray the Lord of the harvest to send laborers into His vineyard. We can't all preach, but we can send our prayers up for those that do.

I need much prayer that I'll be careful to do all that the Lord lays upon my heart to do. The little that I do may not seem much, but I know God can do more with a little and a willing heart than he can with a lot with no willingness. Sincerely, Clara Trotter.

o—o—o—o—o

Oklahoma.—Dear saints, I feel like putting my testimony in the paper. The Lord has saved me again from sin. I was saved once before but I let the devil come between me and the Lord, and he made me do things that I never did before in my life. One night in December I felt like I was going to die and I thought of how I was living and what I was doing that was not right. I have two little boys whom I would have with me sometimes where I

was working. They would hear and see everything that was said and done. Their father did not want me to work at this place and I would get angry and say things to him. Sometimes he would keep the children and let me do as I wanted to. The Lord started talking to my heart and I began to think how wrong it was to have my children at a place like that. I stopped and began to pray to God to save me from my sins. I prayed for three weeks, then I asked the saints to lay hands on me and pray for me. They came to my house and prayed for me, and the Lord has saved me from my sins again.

I thank Him for saving me again in this wonderful way and I have made up my mind to live like the Bible reads every day of my life. I have put all on the altar for the Lord, myself and everything, and I tell Him to have His way with it. I mean by the grace of God to stand true in every test. I am asking the saints to remember me in your prayers that I may stand against the devil at all times.

Your sister, J. M. Jordon.

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

La.—Greetings to the dear saints everywhere.—This is Monday, March 21st, and I notice on the Scripture Text calendar that it says, "Whatsoever is commanded by the God of heaven, Let it be diligently done." Ezra 7:23. I feel like writing my testimony and conviction. I am glad above all things for salvation; and I truly love the truth, and love all the saints. I love to trust Him for soul and body. I love to trust Him with and for everything he gives me. All the pleasure I have is obeying God. I enjoy reading the testimonies of the saints.

I notice Brother Geo. Stephenson's article in the "Faith and Victory" on coming boldly to the throne of grace. Yes, I love this, and the only way we can come boldly is when we have diligently obeyed God.

Now there are some things that I see and have been meditating on for a good while, which is my conviction in regard to obeying God. I feel that saintly parents who have little boy children should not dress them up in cowboy suits with gun scabbards and pistols. These things will not plant anything good in the heart of the child. But they will rather teach them to be bullies and murderers. Another thing that is the honest conviction of my heart is that the lady saints should not wear rats in their hair. I think it is more godly to fix the hair without the rats. In other words, there is a nice way to fix up the hair without using the rats. By rolling the hair up on a rat, makes a woman look more like she has bobbed hair. I am sure the Lord wants us to obey Him in not conforming to the world. If I were a woman I could not and would not use rats to fix up my hair. I say these words with love and all due respect to all, and in the fear of God. Let God talk to your heart and see if there isn't a more godly way to fix your hair rather than rolling it on a rat. Oh, I am sure the Lord wants us to look different from the world, as well as doing different from the world.

I have written these few lines in love for the saints, and in love and the fear of God. My heart's desire is to be governed by the Word and keep my life clean and clear from all the things that would hinder me from having a sweet death to die when I pass from time to eternity.

Yours for the Lord, John S. Green.

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

Dear young saints,

Tonight finds me very much encouraged in my soul and more determined than ever before to press on for the Lord. I truly thank the Lord for salvation and His many blessings to me each day. He has done so much for me, and I feel the need of being more dutiful in witnessing for Him, telling others of a better way of life.

I want to especially express my thanks to Him for

His healing touch. I had a small cyst appear just below my left eye about six or seven months ago. I paid little attention to it, but lately when I saw how much it had grown, I became very much concerned and began asking the Lord to remove it. For several weeks I continued to ask the Lord to heal it without really getting down in earnest. I kept thinking perhaps I should have it lanced before it grew any worse. In our Bible study we discussed why more healings were not taking place. We found it was due solely to the lack of faith as God is able as always before to answer prayer and heal every affliction. While meditating upon some of the things which had been discussed, the Lord showed me I really didn't have faith enough in Him. Seeing my need, I began earnestly to seek the Lord to increase my faith as well as healing my body. I am so thankful tonight to be able to say he has done both. This evening quite unexpectedly, the cyst opened and is completely gone now. What a mighty God we serve! The following verse in Psalms 28:7 has proved very precious: "The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusted in him, and I am helped: therefore my heart greatly rejoiceth; and with my song will I praise him."

Many times the Lord lets an affliction come upon us for a definite purpose. If we complain about our many burdens rather than seeking His purpose in the affliction, we will surely miss the blessing.

I desire and need your prayers that I may always prove faithful in the things of the Lord.

Christian love to all,

Nelda Doolittle

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

Calif.—Dear saints—I just passed my 94th birthday a few days ago. A number of saints and friends came in to visit me in the evening, and we had a real precious time in the Lord singing and praying. During the day the members of the Harmon family came to see me, and I much enjoyed that. I was also very pleasantly surprised when Gerald and Catherine Harmon and their young son from Louisiana came in to visit me in the evening. I had not known of their coming. I also received a large number of greeting cards and letters and also some gifts and offerings from different ones of the saints from over the country, and I want to take this means of thanking you all and expressing my appreciation for the kind remembrances of all of you toward me.

As I look back over my life I can truthfully say that I cannot remember one time that I ever did anything that I knew would be displeasing to my parents, and I feel that God has very graciously fulfilled His promise to me in Ephesians 6:23, "Honor thy father and mother; . . . That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live LONG on the earth." I would so much like to impress this important thought upon all of our children and young people that you always be diligent to obey and honor your parents, and do only those things that would please them, that you, too, might receive the blessings of God on your lives.

I was saved when I was about twelve years of age, and by the grace and help of God have lived for Him and served Him from that time until now. I have had many precious experiences with the Lord, and his goodness and mercy has followed me all the days of my life. He has graciously made his will known unto me and led me by his Spirit all along the way of life.

I have been spared many of the pains and sorrows and heartaches and troubles that many have to endure in life because I gave my heart to God at that early age and lived for him. I had him to help me and guide me through those formative years of life. I desire to impress on you

young people now the great importance of remembering your creator in the days of thy youth. It will surely make your lives happier and more blessed both now and through future years.

Some time back I was very desirous to know why I was being left here so long and to such an age. One morning very early the Lord awoke me and told me that he was letting me linger here that I might tell everyone the message: "You must be born again." Born twice, die once; born once, die twice; and the second death—lost forever. So that has been my message, and shall be the remainder of my life to tell everyone I see, "Ye must be born again."

On Nov. 7th, 1954, after I had gotten home from church service, that night I completely collapsed and thought I was dying, and believe I was. I told the folks with me that I was dying and it was very sweet. But God saw fit to stay the hand of death at that time and lengthen out my days a little more. I do not know how much more.

I have been confined to my bed since that time, but I am still living and living for God, by His grace, and am happy and contented in his will.

I am now in the home of Bro. and Sister Erle E. Forbes, and Sister Vera Forbes and Sister Borden are nursing me and looking after my comforts. God bless them and all the others who help for their work and labors of love.

My motto of life has long been expressed in the following verse:

Others, Lord, yes others,  
Let this my motto be;  
Help me to live for others  
That I may live like thee.

Sadie E. Harmon.

o-o-o-o-o

Mo.—Greetings to all the dear saints,—I feel like it would be pleasing to the Lord to write my testimony. I promised Him if he would spare my life again I would tell of it.

I had felt my need of helping my husband, as he isn't able to work much (he has stomach ulcers), so I got a job at the shoe factory. I worked all morning Sat. March 5th and at noon went up town. While walking around the square my side began to hurt severely and continued to get worse. We came home and I went to bed. I got so sore through my stomach and hurt worse than I ever had in my life. I did not know what was about to happen. I asked my husband to go call Murphy Allen to come for prayer. They were gone, so he had his sister call Bro. Gibson. They came and each time prayer was offered the pain would quit, but would come back soon. They prayed several times, bringing relief until I felt something break loose. I began to hemorrhage and soon had a miscarriage. They had prayer again and all pain stopped; praise God! But I began to have the same trouble that I had had in previous times, so again I was taken to the hospital. I could not move myself, but had no pain until afternoon of the following Tuesday when my right side began to hurt terribly and I began to chill. I felt like the devil was trying to tempt me and make me stay in the hospital longer. The doctor told me that morning that if all went all right that day I could go home Wednesday morning. I asked the nurse for a blanket, but did not tell her my trouble only that I was cold. I knew she would call the doctor if she knew. I kept praying that the Lord would help me. Sister Mildred McIntosh came to see me and I asked her to call Bro. Murphy Allens for prayer. It was meeting night, so they had prayer for me. I think it was while they had prayer that the Lord touched me. Praise God.

In Feb. of 54, when I went through this same thing,

the doctor told us I would never live through another one. This makes four in less than two years. Praise God, he is able to raise us up even at death's door.

I am very much encouraged to live for my Saviour, and I need the earnest prayers of the saints that the Lord will strengthen me in both soul and body. I am very weak and low on blood and my right side hurts most of the time. Several will remember me as I was at Monark campmeeting last summer. I am praying that the Lord will help me be able to attend again this year.

I enjoy the letters of encouragement that I receive from the saints. If any others care to write my new address is R. R. 4, Mtn. Grove, Mo. —Mrs Nels Allen

o-o-o-o-o

Kans.—Dear Saints:—I feel I should write my testimony for my dear Father. He does so much for me.

On Mar. 28th I was very sick with a bad cold and headache. I just felt sick all over like I was taking the flu. About 9:30 a. m. Sister Beisly called me, telling me of Sister Baker in Coffeyville passing away, and told me that the family wanted me to conduct the funeral. I told her we would if we felt better, and, if not, we would call a minister to come. She got word to the saints in Coffeyville to pray for me, and the Lord healed me of the flu, but I coughed very much. On Wednesday night I coughed so much in prayer meeting, so I told them I just could not go ahead with the funeral Thursday. We called Brother Richard Madden at Sapulpa to come. But Thursday morning when I awoke the Lord reminded me of the message He gave me the Sunday before: "The Lord is my strength." And He began talking to my heart about how Bro. Madden did not know the sister nor the family, and He wanted me to go ahead and He would be my strength. So we put our confidence in His strength. I called Bro. Madden, telling him he would not have to come. Truly the Lord blessed me. I only coughed three times during the service. It is so good to trust in Jesus.

The Lord surely blessed us also on Easter Sunday. Saints from Neosho, Webb City, Mo. and some from Okla. and Bro. and Sister Harmon and family from Overland Park, Kansas met with us saints here, and we had morning worship, which was very precious. After partaking of our food, which the Lord so bountifully supplied, we observed the ordinance in the afternoon. Our souls rejoiced in the feet-washing to see the humbleness of the saints. Oh, surely the people of God are an humble people. Then as we partook of the bread and fruit of the vine, it surely caused us to remember the sufferings of Christ, how his body was broken for us and his blood was shed for our sins. We closed by singing: "What can wash away my sins? Nothing but the blood of Jesus."

There were thirty-eight who took part in the ordinance service, but there were fifty-nine here for the morning service. We praise Him for everything.

Yours in His service, Albert and Margaret Eck.

o-o-o-o-o

La.—Greetings to all the saints everywhere in Jesus' sweet name. I can say I am still saved, sanctified, and on my way to glory, thanks be unto 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. Praise His holy name for healing my hand. It was sore for four months. Thank God it is well now. My husband told me to trust God and he would heal it. A church of God preacher and his wife came to see us and prayed for me. The doctor said he could not cure my hand; but, praise the Lord, He healed it. I am sixty-seven years old and my husband is near seventy-eight. Pray for us. He is too old to get a job, but God helps us. Thank God, we have salvation.

Viola Pasquet.

Texas,—Dear saints,—Greetings in Jesus' dear name. I feel led of the dear Lord this morning to send in my testimony. This finds me much encouraged to keep pressing on with Jesus. He is so good to me I cannot tell all he has done for me. He has healed me many times. But I will tell of what He did for me a few weeks ago. I was very sick on Saturday evening and all night. I live alone. When my daughter came Sunday morning to go to Sunday school I was too sick to get up. I told her I needed help from the saints. I was anointed and prayed for and I stood firmly on God's promise that the prayer of faith will save the sick and the Lord will raise him up, etc. Praise the Lord, He did raise me up. Glory be to God for His mighty healing power. He supplies all my needs.

I desire to tell an experience I had in January. I had been blessed of the Lord and was very happy when I retired, but could not sleep for praising God. After awhile I became quiet then suddenly a large snap like the snap of a stick brought me wide awake. I found myself in the midst of a great multitude of people—people everywhere. They began to march and soon came to two highways. Between the highways was a large sign with large letters, reading: "Choose you this day which road you will take." On one side was a great broad highway; on the other was a very straight and narrow way on which was a beam of light which seemed to come from a great distance. On the other way it shone like glass and it was becoming packed. They were laughing and jostling along. No one could turn around. They kept moving as though they were headed for a holiday. They were going to the great lake. It looked beautiful from a great distance. They could not tell what it really was until they were close at hand. They had been warned of the lake many times, but they did not believe it was true. They did not believe in God.

On the narrow road was a great mass of people, but it was not packed. They were sober-faced. Both sides were represented of all nations. The sober-faced people marched for a great distance when they came to a gate across the narrow way guarded by an angel telling them to cast their shoes aside and continue. They went a great distance then came to water—water everywhere. Yet that beam of light was stretched before them like a rope. In the water stood tall green corn. After a great distance dry land was in sight. As they continued, there was a great high mountain blocking the way. As they stopped at the foot they heard a soft voice say, "Come higher." Looking up, they beheld Jesus with wide open arms upon the top. As they moved to obey, the beam of light burst round about and the glory of the Lord enfolded them. Oh, how wonderful is the precious Lord. They began to shout and sing and praise the Lord. He gathered them in.

On the other road those that were in the lead began to scream with horror and disappeared as others took their places. They, too, screamed in horror and tried to turn back, but too late. There was no escape. They, too, were cast into the great lake of fire and brimstone prepared for the devil and his angels.

Dear friend, will this be your fate? It need not be. Jesus is waiting and longing to save you. Do not delay. Tomorrow may be too late. Do you want to pay that awful price?  
—Flora E. Gibson.

o—o—o—o—o

Calif.—This morning finds me rejoicing in my Savior's love. I can never thank Him enough for all he has done for me and what he really is to me. Truly every day with Jesus is sweeter than the day before. I learn sweet lessons every day by reading his precious word. I always find new hope and strength afresh when I read his word. Oh, it truly is our daily food and nothing else

can satisfy our souls as the reading of God's Word. I pray for men and women to spend more time in reading and meditation. We really must study the Word and let it sink deep down into our souls and always have a hearty amen for all it says. His Holy Spirit truly will teach us the way of all truth and bring to our remembrance the things he would have us do. Truly God is love and if his love is perfected in us, people will take notice that we love the Lord and them too.

I want to be more like Jesus every day. I do not have hate in my heart for any soul. Thank God for a clean heart. It is wonderful how Jesus will cleanse our hearts from all selfish desires and fill them anew for him and his glory. My only desire is to be a help to others and do all I can to lift fallen humanity out of their sinful ways and get them on the road to heaven. I enjoy reading the little paper so much. I desire your prayers. With love to all the readers, Rebecca Robertson

o—o—o—o—o

Ill.—Dear saints,—Greetings in Jesus' dear name. I am still saved in Jesus' grace wherein we stand. I am 86 years old. During the winter I was sick. By faith, I lifted my voice to Him and prayed for my healing. I said that I would testify to it. Now I am healed and my health is good. Thank everyone who prayed for my healing. Please pray for my husband's weakness. I read my Bible. Dear Lord, bless all in holiness and righteousness.

Martha A. Knox.

o—o—o—o—o

Ohio—Dear saints of God,—I greet you in Jesus' dear name and wish to testify as I promised the Lord I would do. I recently took a bad sick spell which I think was a bad case of flu, and it started on Thursday. Saturday morning around four a. m. I thought sure I was taking pneumonia. I had it back in 1951, and I've heard you can get it awfully easy if you have had it before. I was hurting from my chest clear through to my back, and it hurt terribly when I would try to cough. My wife called the saints who lived about fifteen miles away for special prayer, and we also got down and had prayer. God answered prayer as I went to sleep, and when I awoke, God had surely touched my body as I know all things are possible with God. He competely healed me, and as my trust was in God (no remedies were taken) I give Him the praise and glory. I was able to go back to work on Tuesday, and I stayed home on Monday which was for the best as I found out later. The machine shop was awfully cold that day, and I guess the heating system wasn't working right.

My mother who lives with us (Sister Maudie Sharp who has her limbs off) had six hemorrhages in two days and lost an awful lot of blood. This happened about the middle of the week, God answered prayer and raised her up so she could be in meeting on Sunday, praise the dear Lord.

God is surely answering prayer today wherever and whenever people will put their whole trust in Him. It takes obedience to God's word and the prayer of faith to get our prayers through. There is not many people today trusting God for both soul and body. Shame on people who profess to have faith in God, but in time of sickness or affliction they lose their faith in God and turn to sinner doctors. There is only one recipe for the true people of God when sickness comes. It is found in James 5 verse 13 through 15.

We have three children ages 12 years, 5 years, and 10 months; and when sickness comes we call on God who has always answered prayer. We thank God that we got

saved among people who put all of their trust in God. God's true ministers are preaching and practicing divine healing as the Bible teaches it. We worship with the Dayton and Springfield saints, and God has surely been blessing in our meetings. Bro. Wm. A. McCoy of Dayton leads most of our meetings, and the saints surely thank God for him, as he has been a real example to the flock, and God has wonderfully used him. It pays to stay humble and to stay with the word on all things. Pray for us as we mean to stay true and lift up Jesus whenever we can.

Standing for the truth,

—Earl L. Sharp.

### LOOK UP

And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars: and upon the earth distress of nations with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring: Men's hearts failing them for fear and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken. And when these things begin to come to pass, then LOOK UP and lift up your heads: for your redemption draweth nigh (St. Luke 21:26-28).

To those of you who are isolated, wherever you are, God is there waiting to help you—just look up. It is sad to see people with no desire to even look up and behold the Saviour full of love and mercy. My desire is to look up, keep prayerful, looking to Jesus who is the author and finisher of our faith.

—Callie B. Owens.

### WHEN THERE IS A LACK OF HUMILITY

Take a look at the elder brother; moral, hard working, patient, dutiful, let him get all the credit for his virtues—but look at this man, this baby, sulking outside his own father's door. "He was angry," we read, "and would not go in." Look at the effect upon the father, upon the servants, upon the happiness of the guests. Judge the effect upon the prodigal—and how many prodigals are kept out of the kingdom of God by the unlovely character of those who profess to be inside? Analyze as a study in temper, the undercloud as it gathers upon the elder brother's brow. What is it made of? Jealousy, anger, pride, uncharity, cruelty, self righteousness, touchiness, doggedness, sullenness,—these are the ingredients of this dark and loveless soul. Jesus said, "I say unto you, that the publicans and the harlots go into the the kingdom of heaven before you." The contrast is between those who will humble themselves and those who will not of both Jews and Gentiles.

### CHARACTER OF THE HUMBLE

Patience- "Love suffereth long."

Kindness- "And is kind."

Generosity- "Love envieth not."

Humility- "Love vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up;"

Courtesy- "Doth not behave itself unseemly;"

Unselfishness- "Seeketh not her own;"

Good temper- "Is not easily provoked;"

Guilelessness- "Thinketh no evil;"

Sincerity- "Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth."

—Henry Drummond

On May 15th, there will be all-day services, including ordinance meeting, fourteen miles north of Mansfield, Mo. We extend a hearty welcome to all. For further information contact Murphy Allen, Box 255, Mansfield, Mo., phone 764W1; or D. A. Gibson, Seymour, Mo. Ph. 123F32.

### An Appeal to the Saints

I feel led to appeal for you to get a supply of tracts and books to keep at the chapel for the saints and others interested to choose from to read. It is a privilege to hand a tract to an unsaved person. But isn't it just as great a privilege to have tracts to give to the saints for their encouragement.

I wish every saint could read the following tracts: How to Grow More Heavenly, Victory, Others May You Cannot, Self, Talkativeness, Wits End Corner, Little Foxes, All Things, based on the text Rom. 8:28, "For we know that all things work together for good to them that love God." "A Hidden Life" is a very encouraging book for every saint to read.

Those who are seeking light on the scriptures, those who are seeking a closer walk with God, and those who need healing will find books and tracts that are very encouraging and helpful. There are many tracts that are interesting for the children to read. I've been sending quite a few tracts in letters, and many times I read tracts with interesting stories for children to read or to be read to them if they can't read. I've noticed that quite a few children like to read tracts.

Get a supply of books and tracts and encourage your young people and children to do more reading. There are twenty-six different books ranging in price from 10¢ to 50¢ (excluding the new book for children). You can obtain all twenty six for \$5.15, and the tracts are \$.50 per pound. Isn't that cheap for the worth those instructions are to our souls? Each congregation could obtain a few of the tracts and one each of the twenty six books. Then if others desire to obtain more, they could order them individually. It's well worth it, saints. I'm sure those who are laboring so faithfully at the print shop would appreciate your cooperation.

Mail all orders of tracts and books to the Faith Publishing House, 920 W. Mansur Ave., Guthrie, Oklahoma.

Annie Bell Allen

### The Church

I once was in confusion and doubt,  
Wondering which church I should join;  
Till the Holy Spirit led me out,  
And said, "God has only one."

Only one church the Lord has,  
And it you cannot join;  
There's only one way to enter it:  
Into it you must be born.

At this I was much amazed,  
Wondering, how can this be?  
There are many sects in the world today;  
But God's church is the one for me.

My Bible teaches there's only one way,  
So all the sects must be wrong.  
I chose to go with God and the faithful few,  
Rather than follow the throng.

Now I'm contented, my search is o'er,  
Since He brought me out into the light;  
I'm dwelling in the church of God—  
Oh! what a beautiful sight!

—Mrs. Viva LaCroix.

## God Is Our Refuge

O Lord, through all the ages Thou hast been our help,  
In times of grief and sorrow, in times of deep distress;  
Thou hast never failed us, when we prayed and  
trusted Thee,

Thou art our life, our love, our eternal destiny.

When problems came our way, and death knocked at  
the door,

When we were faced with hunger, of hope there  
seemed no more;

'Twas then the Spirit of the Lord came in, with  
comfort and with cheer,

He gave us strength and courage, and banished all  
our fear.

To those who know the Lord and trust Him every  
day,

They know the joy of happiness, found in the narrow  
way;

The Word of God lights up the trail, on the way to the  
promised land,

And the Saviour Himself is always there, to give a  
helping hand.

We'll serve the Lord with gladness, with songs of joy  
and praise,

On mountain top or valley low, our voices there we'll  
raise;

In gratitude and thankfulness, for the wonderful gift  
of grace,

That God bestows upon us, as we run the Christian  
race.

So all of you who do God's will, who love and serve  
the Lord,

Who follow in the Master's steps, and depend on His  
written word;

Keep looking up to Jesus, the finisher of our faith,  
For all His loved ones here on earth, He's waiting at  
the gates. —From a subscriber.

## BIBLE STUDY

Roll of 5 "Faith and Victory" papers, one year .....	\$1.00
12 papers each month, one year .....	2.00
25 papers each month, one year .....	4.00
50 papers each month, one year .....	7.50
100 papers each month, one year .....	14.00
Primary picture roll is \$1.35, Lesson cards 9c	

## JEHOSHAPHAT'S RIGHTEOUS LEADERSHIP

May 1, 1955

Printed Portion ..... 2 Chronicles 17:1-7; 9; 19:4-7.  
2 Chron. 17:1. And Jehoshaphat his son reigned in his  
stead, and strengthened himself against Israel.

2. And he placed forces in all the fenced cities of Judah,  
and set garrisons in the land of Judah, and in the cities  
of Ephraim, which Asa his father had taken.

3. And the Lord was with Jehoshaphat, because he  
walked in the first ways of his father David, and sought  
not unto Baalam;

4. But sought to the Lord God of his father, and walked  
in his commandments, and not after the doings of Israel.

5. Therefore the Lord stablished the kingdom in his

hand; and all Judah brought to Jehoshaphat presents;  
and he had riches and honour in abundance.

6. And his heart was lifted up in the ways of the Lord:  
moreover he took away the high places and groves out of  
Judah.

7. Also in the third year of his reign he sent to his  
princes, even to Benhail, and to Obadiah, and to Zech-  
ariah, and to Nethaneel, and to Michaiah, to teach in the  
cities of Judah.

2 Chron. 17:9. And they taught in Judah, and had  
the book of the law of the Lord with them, and went  
about throughout all the cities of Judah, and taught the  
people.

2 Chron. 19:4. And Jehoshaphat dwelt at Jerusalem: and  
he went out again through the people from Beersheba to  
mount Ephraim, and brought them back unto the Lord  
God of their fathers.

5. And he set judges in the land throughout all the  
fenced cities of Judah, city by city,

6. And said to the judges, Take heed what ye do: for ye  
judge not for man, but for the Lord, who is with you in  
the judgment.

7. Wherefore now let the fear of the Lord be upon you;  
take heed to do it: for there is no iniquity with the Lord  
our God, nor respect of persons, nor taking of gifts.

Memory Selection: . . . Deal courageously, and the  
Lord shall be with the good. 2 Chronicles 19:11.

Practical Truth: Holy Spirit leadership is a necessity  
to God's kingdom.

## COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Like an oasis in a desert comes Jehoshaphat as king  
in Judah. He was indeed a man of faith and action. The  
Lord was with him because he walked in the ways of the  
Lord and not Baalim (vs. 3, 4). The words "lifted up"  
(v. 6) has the thought of encouragement rather than pride  
or arrogance as found in other parts of the Bible. (2 Chron.  
26:16), so that he encouraged himself in the ways of the  
Lord. He sent his princes and priests and levites through-  
out his realm to teach the "book of the law" (vs. 7, 9),  
"and taught the people."

Many times among ministers and others has the  
twentieth chapter of 2 Chronicles been referred to as to  
this king in a predicament, and how he managed himself  
when everything was strong against him. Three nations  
were making warfare against him; the Amonites and  
Moabites and those from Mount Seir (v. 10), or Edom-  
ites. First, he "set himself to seek the Lord, and proclaim  
a fast" (v. 3). Read Matt. 17:17-21; second, his prayer  
of absolute dependence upon God, "Neither know we what  
to do: but our eyes are upon thee" (v. 12). Note how "all  
Judah stood before the Lord" (v. 13); then third, how God  
sent one of their own number "in the midst of the congre-  
gation - "Ye shall not need to fight in this battle." Note  
how that "none escaped" (v. 24). Read 2 Chron.  
20:1-30.

— o o o —

## JOASH REPAIRS THE TEMPLE

May 8, 1955

Printed Portion ..... 2 Chronicles 24:4, 8-14.

2 Chron. 24:4. And it came to pass after this, that  
Joash was minded to repair the house of the Lord.

2 Chron. 24:8. And at the king's commandment they  
made a chest, and set it without at the gate of the house  
of the Lord.

9. And they made a proclamation through Judah and



Jerusalem, to bring in to the Lord the collection that Moses the servant of God laid upon Israel in the wilderness.

10. And all the princes and all the people rejoiced, and brought in, and cast into the chest, until they had made an end.

11. Now it came to pass, that at what time the chest was brought unto the king's office by the hand of the Levites, and when they saw that there was much money, the king's scribe and the high priest's officer came and emptied the chest, and took it, and carried it to the place again. Thus they did day by day, and gathered money in abundance.

12. And the king and Jehoiada gave it to such as did the work of the service of the house of the Lord, and hired masons and carpenters to repair the house of the Lord, and also such as wrought iron and brass to mend the house of the Lord.

13. So the workmen wrought, and the work was perfected by them, and they set the house of God in his state, and strengthened it.

14. And when they had finished it, they brought the rest of the money before the king and Jehoiada, whereof were made vessels for the house of the Lord, even vessels to minister, and to offer withal, and spoons, and vessels of gold and silver. And they offered burnt offerings in the house of the Lord continually all the days of Jehoiada.

**Memory Selection:** Come near and bring sacrifices and thank offerings unto the house of the Lord. 2 Chronicles 29:31.

**Practical Truth:** Offerings help in the growth of the work of the Lord.

#### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Before the time of Joash, the rulers of the kingdom were wicked; especially Athaliah, who usurped the throne and destroyed all the "seed royal of the house of Judah" (2 Chron. 22:10). Her son, who reigned before her was as wicked as she was, and the result was that spiritual life declined in Judah.

So we see a great need for repairing the house of God, which takes place in this lesson for today. Note how Joash was "minded" to repair. This reminds us of Ruth who was "steadfastly minded" (Ruth 1:18). What goes on in the mind has much influence upon what we do, and will have full sway unless it is rejected as not worth considering. The best place to have our mind is on the Lord. (Isa. 26:3; Rom. 8:6). The people of Judah rejoiced (v. 10) to help in the repairing of the temple, and workmen were hired to see to it that the place was strengthened (v. 13), and other things that were needed were furnished.

There is a good lesson here for those who are letting down in their spiritual life. It needs repairing. Don't put it off until later, as the old devil would have you do, but get "steadfastly minded" in the work of restoring favor with God and your labor will not be in vain. (1 Cor. 15:58).

— oOo —

#### UZZIAH'S STRENGTH AND FAILURE

May 15, 1955

Printed Portion ..... 2 Chronicles 26:3-5; 16-21.

2 Chron. 26:3. Sixteen years old was Uzziah when he began to reign, and he reigned fifty and two years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Jecoliah of Jerusalem.

4. And he did that which was right in the sight of the Lord, according to all that his father Amaziah did.

5. And he sought God in the days of Zechariah, who

had understanding in the visions of God: and as long as he sought the Lord, God made him to prosper.

2 Chron. 26:16. But when he was strong, his heart was lifted up to his destruction: for he transgressed against the Lord his God, and went into the temple of the Lord to burn incense upon the altar of incense.

17. And Azariah the priest went in after him, and with him four score priests of the Lord, that were valiant men:

18. And they withstood Uzziah the king, and said unto him, it appertaineth not unto thee, Uzziah, to burn incense unto the Lord, but to the priests the sons of Aaron, that are consecrated to burn incense: go out of the sanctuary; for thou hast trespassed; neither shall it be for thine honour from the Lord God.

19. Then Uzziah was wroth, and had a censer in his hand to burn incense: and while he was wroth with the priests, the leprosy even rose up in his forehead before the priests in the house of the Lord, from beside the incense altar.

20. And Azariah the chief priest, and all the priests, looked upon him, and, behold, he was leprous in his forehead, and they thrust him out from thence; yea, himself hasted also to go out, because the Lord had smitten him.

21. And Uzziah the king was a leper unto the day of his death, and dwelt in a several house, being a leper; for he was cut off from the house of the Lord: and Jotham his son was over the king's house, judging the people of the land.

**Memory Selection:** But the Lord is in his holy temple: let all the earth keep silence before him. Habakkuk 2:20.

**Practical Truth:** A Christian must be diligent in the service of the Lord and not falter by the way.

#### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Uzziah is one of many that have failed after they have won their way through difficulties and plenty of hard work. He "did that which was right in the sight of the Lord" (v. 4). Also it says, "He sought God" (v. 5). That is what he should have kept doing. We, in our day can hear it said, "O, have a little pride about you." This was the trouble in the case of Uzziah, but the trouble is that once pride gets a start, there is no end to it but destruction. (Prov. 16:18). It is as easy to let down in seeking after God in humility and be deceived by the devil until pride in some manner will enter in and undo all that is accomplished. No wonder the Bible is so full of warnings along this very line.

Notice how very persistent he was in his wanting to burn incense in that eighty priests withstood him, and it was not until God struck him that he was willing to stop, which shows how quick the devil is when he has charge to make one to go wrong. After that, he dwelt in a several house—God's judgment against him.

Jesus said, "Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation" (Matt. 26:41). This is a good antidote. While the devil would have us to do things quickly, God tells us, "Wait on the Lord - - - wait I say on the Lord" (Psalms 27:14).

— oOo —

#### HEZEKIAH ATTEMPTS RECONCILIATION

May 22, 1955

Printed Portion ..... 2 Chronicles 30:1, 6-13.

2 Chron. 30:1. And Hezekiah sent to all Israel and Judah, and wrote letters also to Ephraim and Manasseh,



that they should come to the house of the Lord at Jerusalem to keep the passover unto the Lord God of Israel.

2 Chron. 30:6. So the posts went with the letters from the king and the princes throughout all Israel and Judah, and according to the commandment of the king, saying, Ye children of Israel, turn again unto the Lord God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, and he will return to the remnant of you, that are escaped out of the hand of the kings of Assyria.

7. And be not ye like your fathers, and like your brethren, which trespassed against the Lord God of their fathers, who therefore gave them up to desolation, as ye see.

8. Now be ye not stiffnecked, as your fathers were, but yield yourselves unto the Lord, and enter into his sanctuary, which he has sanctified forever: and serve the Lord your God, that the fierceness of his wrath may turn away from you.

9. For if ye turn again unto the Lord, your brethren and your children shall find compassion before them that lead them captive, so that they shall come again into this land: for the Lord your God is gracious and merciful, and will not turn away his face from you, if ye return unto him.

10. So the posts passed from city to city through the country of Ephraim and Manasseh even unto Zebulun: but they laughed them to scorn, and mocked them.

11. Nevertheless divers of Asher and Manasseh and of Zebulun humbled themselves, and came to Jerusalem.

12. Also in Judah the hand of God was to give them one heart to do the commandment of the king and of the princes, by the word of the Lord.

13. And there assembled at Jerusalem much people to keep the feast of unleavened bread in the second month, a very great congregation.

**Memory Selection:** - - - For the Lord your God is gracious, and merciful, and will not turn away his face from you, if ye return unto him. 2 Chronicles 30:9.

**Practical Truth:** People who are spiritually alive find joy in worship in God's house and are eager to bring others there also.

#### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Hezekiah was a good king. His work of reconciliation was commendable for he went about it in the right manner to produce harmony between the north and south of Israel. He called all of them together to turn again to the Lord God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel (v. 6). This was wisdom to do this for it would stir up their minds as to how God had dealt so graciously with their forefathers, and would quicken them to do as he asked them to "yield yourselves unto the Lord, and enter into his sanctuary, which he hath sanctified forever: and serve the Lord your God, that the fierceness of his wrath may turn away from you" (v. 8). He also used other reasons that God was gracious and merciful and will not turn his face from you, if ye turn unto him (v. 9).

While there were a number of them that "laughed them to scorn, and mocked them" (v. 10), yet there were many that "humbled themselves" (v. 11) to do the commandments of the king by the word of the Lord (v. 12).

The same thing is being done in this day, for there are some that believe and some that believe not. We are to do as God told Ezekiel, "To speak unto them, and tell them" (3:11) "whether they will hear, or whether they will forbear."

#### HEZEKIAH MEETS A CRISIS

May 29, 1955

Printed Portion ..... 2 Chronicles 32:1-8; 32-33.

2 Chron. 32:1. After these things, and the establishment thereof, Sennacherib king of Syria came, and entered into Judah, and encamped against the fenced cities, and thought to win them for himself.

2. And when Hezekiah saw that Sennacherib was come, and that he was purposed to fight against Jerusalem,

3. He took council with his princes and his mighty men to stop the waters of the fountains which were without the city: and they did help him.

4. So there were gathered much people together, who stopped all the fountains, and the brook that ran through the midst of the land, saying, Why should the kings of Assyria come, and find much water?

5. Also he strengthened himself, and built up all the wall that was broken, and raised it up to the towers, and another wall without, and repaired Millo in the city of David, and made darts and shields in abundance.

6. And he set captains of war over the people, and gathered them together to him in the street of the gate of the city, and spake comfortably to them, saying,

7. Be strong and courageous, be not afraid nor dismayed for the king of Assyria, nor for all the multitude that is with him: for there be more with us than with him:

8. With him is an arm of flesh; but with us is the Lord our God to help us, and to fight our battles. And the people rested themselves upon the words of Hezekiah king of Judah.

2 Chron. 32:32. Now the rest of the acts of Hezekiah, and his goodness, behold, they are written in the vision of Isaiah the prophet, the son of Amoz, and in the book of the kings of Judah and Israel.

33. And Hezekiah slept with his fathers, and they buried him in the chiefest of the sepulchres of the sons of David: and all Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem did him honour at his death, and Manasseh his son reigned in his stead.

**Memory Selection:** Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth. Psalm 124:8.

**Practical Truth:** One must depend upon God at all times, especially in time of need.

#### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble" (Ps. 46:1). Hezekiah was put to it to know what to do in this crisis, but he still had God to help him. Of course he did what he could in stopping the waters without the city, but as to the protection of himself and his realm, he was looking to God. "And for this cause Hezekiah the king, and the prophet Isaiah the son of Amoz, prayed and cried to heaven" (2 Chron. 32:20). God always hears prayer. He may not answer in the way we might expect, but earnest prayer is what God is looking for, and in this case the angel that the Lord sent cut off all the mighty men of valor so that the king of Assyria returned with shame of face to his own land (2 Chron. 32:21). After this, Hezekiah was sick and he prayed to the Lord. He also had pride in his heart" (2 Chron. 32:26). "God left him, to try him, that he might know all that was in his heart" (2 Chron. 32:31).

As God sent the prophet Isaiah in the time of disaster among the people of Judah, so he sends the Lord Jesus to us when we are in distress or in need of special help. So it pays big to put God first in every thing.