

FAITH ^{AND} VICTORY

The EVENING LIGHT WATCHMAN



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Living In Jerusalem

As I travel on this highway,
I am fully saved today;
Gone from my heart is sin and folly,
Jesus washed them all away.

Living in the New Jerusalem,
Blessed city of our God;
I am walking in the pathway
That the saints of God have trod.

I mean to keep my Father's name
Until the day I die,
Though my friends should all forsake me,
And the whole world pass me by.

I'll ever humbly watch and pray,
Never slothful shall I be,
Telling others of His love,
Till Jesus' face I see.

—By Bro. Melvin Sharp.

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Sanctification, A Change of Nature

When Adam and Eve were created and placed in the Garden of Eden, they were pure as heaven. But when they disobeyed God's commandment, they became sinners. When they sinned, they were partakers of the evil, and God's wrath was upon them. In the creation, when God made man, it is written in Gen. 1:26, "And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth." 27 and 28, "So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. And God blessed them and God said unto them, be fruitful and multiply and replenish the earth, and subdue it."

Gen. 2:15, "And the Lord God took the man and put him in to the Garden of Eden, to dress it and to keep it. And the Lord commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the Garden thou mayest freely eat.

But of the tree of knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die."

Gen. 2:18, "And the Lord God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him." And the serpent beguiled Eve, and she did eat of the fruit that God had commanded them not to eat. She also gave to Adam and he ate. And they fell from their godly nature and took upon them the nature of that serpent the devil. After the fall of Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden, the whole human race possessed their father's nature as Adam and Eve did.

God has a plan whereby we can get rid of that sinful nature. It is not to be repented of because we are not responsible for having it. Now let us see in Eph. 2:3, "Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh, and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others."

Now hear from Jesus, Peter, Paul also John the commandment to "Repent for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." It is plain to see that all men and women are sinners until they repent. I ask you, Why are all in sin? Because their hearts are evil, they are born in sin. Psa. 51:1-5, "Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy loving kindness; according to the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity and cleanse me from my sin. For I acknowledge my transgressions: and my sin is ever before me. . . . Behold, I was shapen in iniquity: and in sin did my mother conceive me." Verse 10, "Create in me a clean heart, O God: and renew a right spirit within me."

Sanctification is a grace that affects the inner man in such a way that his affections are alienated from the love of the world and exalted to a supreme love of God. The sanctified person loves God with his whole heart, soul, mind, and strength.

When we repent of our sins, we are asking forgiveness for all our past sins. We humbly confess all our sins and ask God for Christ's sake to forgive us; and the Bible says he is faithful and just to do it.

Acts 1:4, "And being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father."

er, which, saith he, Ye have heard of me. For John truly baptized with water: but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence."

Sanctification is also the perfecting of holiness in us. "Having therefore these promises dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit perfecting holiness in the fear of God." 2 Cor. 7:1. Jesus said, "But ye shall receive power after the Holy Ghost is come upon you, and ye shall be witnesses of me." In John 10:10 Jesus said, "I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly." It requires all the three agents of God, the "Blood," the "Word," the "Holy Spirit" all acting together to accomplish the work of sanctification. In the 17th chapter of John, Jesus said, "Sanctify them through thy truth; thy word is truth." Rom. 15:16, "That I should be the minister of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles, ministering the gospel of God that the offering up of the Gentiles might be acceptable being sanctified by the Holy Ghost." Heb. 13:12, "Wherefore Jesus also that he might sanctify the people with his own blood suffered without the gate." We see then that it is accomplished through the truth with the blood and by the Holy Ghost. The blood of Jesus Christ is the cleansing element involved. "The blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin"; and "unto him who washed us from our sins in his own blood." The Holy Ghost is the agent that applies this element to the heart. Then he fills the soul that is thus made pure and clean and abides there forever. The Word is the means by which we are instructed in the way of truth and righteousness. By it we are taught and made to understand that such a state of grace as we understand sanctification to be is our privilege, but that it is also our duty to attain to such a condition and acquire such a grace we are made to understand by the Word that it is the will of God even our sanctification that we have this experience. We are instructed in the Word just how to make a complete surrender of ourselves and all to the Lord and to present our bodies a living sacrifice to God and that this is only a reasonable service for us to render. Then we are taught how that when this is done, we may exercise faith and believe that God accepts such a complete sacrifice and sends the Holy Ghost into our souls when we ask Him for Him. Thus the Word and Blood, the Holy Ghost accomplish their work. Acts 19:2, "He said unto them, Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed? And they said unto him, We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost. And he said unto them, unto what then were ye baptized? and they said unto John's baptism. Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is on Christ Jesus. When they heard this they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them: and they spake with tongues and prophesied. And all the men were about twelve." Amen.

J. T. Roberts.

"Look Unto Me"

"Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else." Isa. 45:22.

There are four parts to this text. First, it says: "Look." How simple it is to look—just turn your eyes upward and look. There is full salvation for you in that simple look. Just as the Israelites obeyed God and looked at the brazen serpent in the wilderness and lived when bitten by the poisonous serpents, even so we will have eternal life and live when we have been bitten by the serpent of sin. We need not know so much about God and the plan of salvation. All we need to do is to look and ask God from the heart to have mercy on us.

Second, our text says to whom we should look. Look unto GOD. He sent his only begotten Son down here to this cruel world and he died on the cross for our salvation. Just look at Him. See Him hanging there on the cross, the blood trickling down from his hands and feet. See the soldier taking the spear and piercing his side and the blood and water gushing out. Look at that face, that innocent face filled with pain and suffering, those lips trembling as he calls for water. Look at the vinegar sponge being lifted up to him instead of water. Oh, why did he suffer so much? He suffered it for you and for me; suffered that we might be saved. Look at that great love, that compassion and great sacrifice. Does it not touch our hearts as we look? Why couldn't we love Him? Why wouldn't we want to give him our whole life, our love, our all?

There is no other name under heaven whereby we must be saved. Jesus says, "I am the door." Only through Him can we get into heaven.

Thirdly, it takes in ALL. "All the ends of the earth." Whosoever will may come. The high, the lowly, the wickedest one, the moral one, the rich, the poor, the red, the black, the yellow, and the white—all may come. Praise the Lord, it takes in all.

Fourthly, "be ye saved." Saved! such a precious word, and much more to have it become a reality in our hearts. Saved from sin, saved from eternal death, saved to forever be with our Lord when he calls us to leave this world. Then we shall be saved from the very presence of sin. This is the result of our LOOK-ING unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith. "Look unto me, and be ye saved." —Mrs. Marie Miles

CHRIST REIGNS

Centuries ago Christ was born in Bethlehem of Judae. Prophecy was fulfilled: "But thou Bethlehem, Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel: whose going forth have been from of old, from everlasting." Micah 5:2.

The day spring from on high has visited us, to give light to them that sit in darkness, and in the shadow of death; to guide our feet into the way of peace. People that really do possess the very elements of his kingdom, righteousness, peace, and joy,

are in a pleasant place or condition of this life. They are in the good land.

All truly saved people are in God's family, or church, the spiritual Israel. "They that be of faith are blessed with faithful Abraham." After Jacob prevailed with God, his name was changed to Israel. So Jacob is a type of a Christian. He (Christ) shall reign over the house of Israel (Jacob) forever, and of his kingdom there shall be no end. The kingdom of God cometh not by observation: "Behold, the kingdom of God is within you." Christ in you is the hope of glory. Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has visited and redeemed his people. Luke 1:68.

—Roberta Reese.

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The Lord's Print Shop

"The Lord gave the word: and great was the company of those that published it."

I feel like expressing myself through the "Faith and Victory" paper concerning the Lord's Print Shop here in Guthrie. I am sure that it is rightly named **The Lord's Print Shop**. It is owned and blessed of God. It may be that some of the saints do not understand just how this all-important work is carried on. I have been closely associated with this print shop for almost a year, and I want to say that Brother Pruitt has no selfish purpose in it. He has it arranged to run on a non-profit basis. It operates on a revolving fund, and the property is exempt from all taxation so that all money received by Bro. Pruitt for the literature and all donations are turned in to this revolving fund to carry on the printing of the "Faith and Victory" paper and the thousands of good clean wholesome tracts and books that are flowing out from the Lord's Print Shop.

I am sure the Lord would be much pleased if every one of the saints would have a part in the distribution of this good wholesome literature, which is running over with such good messages for the saints and soul-saving messages for those who need salvation; also such splendid articles on divine healing, which have proved a wonderful blessing to those who have suffered with bodily afflictions. There is a constant stream of testimonies coming in to the Faith Publishing House of the wonderful healings through prayer and faith in God. We should thank God for the Lord's Print Shop, and how it is blessed of God.

Now in conclusion, I want to urge all the saints to earnestly pray and ask the Lord: "What wilt thou have me to do?" Let us all make the Lord's Print Shop our missionary. For a long time I have been distributing a hundred "Faith and Victory" papers every month, and also a number of tracts; and I am sure that my time is well-spent in so doing.

If a hundred saints would have Bro. Pruitt send them a hundred "Faith and Victory" papers each month, that would mean ten thousand papers, and the print shop would have to more than double the out-put. Or if two hundred of the saints would send for a roll of fifty, or four hundred would send for twenty-five, it would be the same. Dear saints, let

us make the Lord's Print shop our own personal missionary, and it will get the truth to so many places where we cannot go. Amen.

Excepting for the personal work that we do, this literature from the Lord's print shop is the only outlet we have for the precious truths we are trying to get to the ones who are not connected with the work of the true church of God. So let us all send in our good wholesome articles of truth to be published in the "Faith and Victory" paper, and then do all we can to get this truth to every honest heart, and God will bless it.

—Geo. W. Stephenson.

Editor's Note:—Brother Geo. W. Stephenson has written the above article because of a burden upon his heart for souls. There is a great need of more workers in the Vineyard of the Lord, and almost anyone can be a home missionary and scatter the tracts and papers and thereby get precious souls in touch with the truth of the Word of God. We would be glad to send you a roll of one hundred papers each month for the eleven months at the small sum of \$14.00. If you do not feel able to pay the whole amount at once, you can pay it at the rate of five or two dollars per month. We are anxious to get this truth to the people by the printed page. The tracts are only fifty cents per pound, and we pay the postage on them to you. We desire your co-operation in this work of getting the gospel to men by the printed page. Those who are not able to pay for the tracts and papers may write about your circumstances and we will send them free to you in small quantities—especially to those who will carefully and prayerfully distribute them.

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Gossipy Ears

A gossipy tongue is a dangerous thing,

If its owner is evil at heart.

He can give whom he chooses full many a sting

That will woefully linger and smart,

But the gossipy tongue would be balked in its plan

For causing heartburning and tears,

If it were not helped out by the misguided man

Who possesses two gossipy ears.

Oh, the gossipy ears are the ones that believe

The evil reports they are told.

The sly, subtle tales which they gladly receive

Would tarnish the purest of gold.

The cruel "They say" which goes floating about

Like a hidden foe, fostering fears,

Would lose all its force were it firmly shut out

By the man with the gossipy ears.

When the man with the gossipy tongue happens by

With his stories of evil and strife,

We ought just to look him right square in the eye

And ask him his mission in life;

We ought to refuse him a chance to retail

The false, idle rumors he hears.

He ought to be locked up somewhere in jail

With the man with the gossipy ears.

—Sel.

"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.

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. Mrs. 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).

NOTICE

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

Editorials

It does not seem long since we closed down the printing work last June for the summer camp meetings. How fast time does fly! especially when one is busy for the Lord all the time. Many things have taken place since a year ago—some have brought sorrow and burdens, but other things have brought gladness and great joy. It seems that this life is filled up with many changes and sometimes strange things, but there is one thing sure, there is no disappointment in God. His ways and dealings with us are always right and good for us if we will exercise ourselves aright through them all.

The past year has been a busy and prosperous year for the Lord's Print work here at Guthrie. It seems that the Lord has worked so preciously and has caused the truth to sink down into hearts as never before. We have received so many letters telling us of how God has worked in getting a tract or a paper to some hungry soul and their heart leaped for joy as they read the glad tidings of the pure gospel by the printed page.

There will be no "Faith and Victory" paper put out in August, for the printing work will be closed until after the middle of August. The Sunday School lessons will be printed and sent to all who receive regular rolls for this purpose and to the others who ask for them. There will be someone in the office to fill all orders for tracts, books, papers, and other material that you may want and to answer the letters that may come in. The office part of the work where the orders are filled and letters answered will not be closed.

This work is incorporated under the laws and regulations of the State of Oklahoma as a Church of God religious work and is non-taxable. No one connected with the work receives any salary. This is a work of faith. The helpers in the work have given themselves to God as living sacrifices and only receive a small allowance for their needs. They do this freely as unto the Lord and are happy in doing so. All offerings that the Lord causes to be sent in go right into the revolving fund and are used in keeping the work going on, and the tracts, papers, and books being printed and circulated. If the Lord did not supply this work with free-will offerings, the printing work would soon be compelled to cease and the work come to naught. But He has supplied it now and kept it going for over thirty years, and our faith is stronger now than ever before for its continuance. Satan has made many plans against the work and brought pressure to bear against it to block or stop it, but God has always flusterated his plans and has not allowed any of his devices to prosper. We just give ourselves wholly over to the Lord and let him work in and through us both to will and to do of his good pleasure. He easily takes care of the devil and all of his rage. We are so thankful to be the Lord's free man and hid away with Christ so that wicked one toucheth us not. We have found that the glory lingers near the cross.

At this writing we are having some meeting at the saints' chapel. Bro. Darius Gibson of Missouri and his wife are here, also Bro. Ostis Wilson of California. The meeting is starting off in good condition. Bro. Gibson gave us a message one night, the force of which was: "Going on with the Lord." The message went forth with much anointing of the Spirit and was very encouraging to our hearts. Bro. Wilson delivered a message last night which fed our souls. His theme was on the line of being diligent and humble before the Lord when all was going well, keeping filled with the Spirit and ready for any sudden attack of the enemy and gaining ground by putting our feet on the promises of God. His text was taken from Prov. 10:4, 5. He also used Jeremiah 4:7 and Nahum 2:1 together with other scriptures. Our souls are receiving refreshings from the presence of the Lord.

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Jesus said in John 8:12, "I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life." This is one of the promises of God that every one of us has the privilege of putting our foot upon. To put your foot upon this promise, you will have to become exceedingly meek and lowly in heart and continue that way. Another Scripture reads thus, "As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in Him." Col. 2:6. When we are dealing with our fellowmen, whether they be friend or foe, we should look to the Lord to keep lowly enough in mind to do and speak as Christ would regardless of what the effect would be upon us or others. It is possible for one to become conceited and not be willing to walk in light which the Lord gives, but rather cling to preconceived ideas and thereby hold up their life in place of the life of Christ. Many souls automatically work themselves into darkness by refusing to walk in true light. The Bible says, "If the light that is in thee be darkness, how great is that darkness." To continue in dim light when God is revealing to you clear Biblical light, would cause your dim light to become darkness. If you continued to do that way your soul would become as a stagnant pond in place of a clear flowing stream from heaven's throne. When you continue in fresh revealing Biblical light, your soul will flourish like a watered garden, for you would be following Jesus and have the "Light of Life" in your soul.

We, as the saints of God, are taught by the Word to have fervent love one to another. Paul devotes the whole 13th chapter of 1 Corinthians in teaching what divine love or charity will do for one who possesses it and how they will act and be.

In many other places we are taught to bear and forbear and to be long suffering, to forgive our brother seventy times seven, to have compassion, and to bear one another's burdens. In the third chapter of Colossians, verse 13, we read, "Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye." Oh, that all that profess Christ would obey these Scriptures! What a clearing would take place, and Satan would be put down and Christ lifted

up. Christ says, "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth will draw all men unto me." John 12:32. Oh, dear ones, let Christ be lifted up in your life and Barabbas crucified. Seek the Lord until you can have power to put down your life and lift up the life of Christ at all times and with every soul.

In the forty years of serving the Lord I have often observed souls who have allowed a little malice or envy or a little ill-feeling to get into their hearts against another and then took note how they would watch that one to find some fault to criticize and to cast them down. Many times the enemy would succeed in making them see some evil in the other that did not exist at all. In reality the thing they thought they saw in the other was in their own soul. How cunning the devil is. He will play God to people through their lack of knowledge of his sly ways.

I have also observed that preachers in a congregation generally make division where it exists. If preachers would keep dead and crucified with Christ they would be able to keep down division in place of making division. How sly and cunning the devil is in getting preachers to envy one another and to love a following rather than bear the cross and be long-suffering and keep down division. For instance, we shall say there are from two to six preachers in a congregation, above average in size. Every one of those preachers will have some influence, even though he may be a poor preacher. One of the members of the congregation comes to one of the preachers and speaks evil or finds fault in another preacher of the congregation. This minister sympathizes with that one about it and makes him (or her) feel that he is in the right. In that way he is making division. If he were dead to his selfish interests and was not wanting a following, but desired unity and oneness, he would show compassion toward his fellow minister and make excuses for his weakness and perhaps say, "Let us go and talk things over with him, as it may not be so bad as it seems." If those ministers in a congregation do not keep their souls full of divine love for one another and for all souls, they will each one listen to and are likely to agree with anyone that comes to them with a story about another minister, and there will be division in the congregation even though it may not be an open break. It will hinder the work of God and the freedom of the spirit in the meetings. There will not be much soul-saving under such conditions and those in the congregation will feel the bondage because of the absence of the free working of the Spirit.

My dear brethren, let me speak a word to you out of many years of experiences. I wish to say that you do a great wrong to your own soul and to your brother and the congregation where you attend services when you hold things and receive offenses against a brother or sister and never let them know what it is. I have found that if you will go to the brother in the spirit of the meekness of Christ and talk to him about it, you will find that many times it is a misunderstanding or the offense was not intentional, or was altogether unknown to the other party. It

can be easily cleared up, when otherwise it might disturb for years and hinder the work of God or cause souls to be lost. Having seen many of these things, I have personally purposed in my heart that if someone offends me to look to the Lord for grace and wisdom to go to him or her and have a brotherly talk with him over the matter, or else forgive him at once and dismiss it from my mind and resist it as from the enemy of my soul, praying for the brother or sister and keeping my heart filled with divine love for him and all precious souls. You can defeat the plans of the devil in this way and he will have no chance to enlarge his lies upon you and cause you distress and unnecessary trouble. It is high time that we all know the devices of Satan and give no place to him.

Oh, brother and fellow-ministers, let us humble down and seek God until we can truly have the experiences that Paul testified to in Galatians 2:20: "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me." If we receive and hold this kind of an experience, we will have a love, concern, and care for every soul, even at the expense of all selfish desires or ambitions. Such an one will be meek and lowly in heart even as Christ was. He will be a peace-maker wherever he goes to the extent "as much as lieth in you."

The foregoing editorial is written out of a burdened heart for ministers and saints in general everywhere. Please use the instructions freely.

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Meeting Notices

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 Spirit anointing to preach the word straight and clean with power from heaven, and not shun to declare all the counsel of God.

Jena, Louisiana

The Jena, La. Camp Meeting will be held, Lord willing, on the camp ground one mile west of Jena on highway 84 and three blocks south of the highway in the Midway Community. The meeting will run from July 8 to July 17.

For further information contact Willard Esters, Box 757, Phone No. 2-1165, or Ruth Murphey, Route 1, Jena, La., Phone No. 2-2198.

South Charleston, W. Va.

The Church of God Camp Meeting will be held at the chapel in South Charleston, located at 1006 F St., west of 10th Ave., from July 8-16.

There will be plenty of parking space near the chapel for cars and trailers. We invite all to come who are interested in their own souls welfare and the welfare of others. We desire all the saints to be agreed with us that God will burden the hearts of His ministers to come

to preach the Word of Truth as the Holy Spirit leads.

This meeting will be run on the free-will offering plan as usual, and our God has never failed us yet, and we are looking to Him for victory. We send a special invitation to the saints that failed to come last year. We missed you! Saints, please pray much that sinners will be saved in this meeting.

For further information write Brother and Sister T. L. Spaur, 151½ 10th Ave., So. Charleston. Phone RI 4-5339.

THE NATIONAL CAMPMEETING

The National Campmeeting of the Church of God will be held, the Lord willing, on the saints' camp grounds at Monark Springs (Neosho, Mo.) July 22 to July 31, inclusive. Monark Springs is located five miles east of Neosho on highway 86, so those coming to the meeting by bus or train will come to Neosho, then call the Monark Springs store for some one to come to get them. Watch for highway markers leading to the camp grounds.

Meals will be served in the dining hall, and the meeting will be run on the free will offering plan, except as in years past the tents will rent for \$5.00 each. The cots, including mattress, will be \$1.00. Space in the dormitory including bed will be \$2.50. Please send tent orders to the undersigned if possible.

For further information concerning the meeting write the bros. as follows: Albert Eck, Rt. 1, Bartlett, Kans., Sam Barton, 2240 N. Columbia Place, Tulsa, Okla., L. D. Pruitt, 1116 W. Washington St., Guthrie, Okla., Ralph M. Beisley, R. R. 5, Coffeyville, Kans. Hoping to see you all at the camp meeting, we remain your brothers in Him, Ralph M. Beisley.

Green Pastures, Oklahoma

The campmeeting of the Church of God at Green Pastures, Okla. begins July 8th 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.

Guthrie, Oklahoma

The Oklahoma State Campmeeting of the Church of God will be held on the camp grounds at Guthrie, Okla. August 5th through the 14th at the corner of 6th and West Warner.

The Lord has provided comfortable sleeping quarters on the grounds for the sisters, also for the brethren, and the saints open their homes for families. There are no charges since all expenses are met on the free-will offering plan. Meals will be served in the dining hall. There is good bus and train service to Guthrie.

For further information and in sending offerings contact Brother O. C. Porter, R. 5, Guthrie, Oklahoma.

Boley, Oklahoma

The Boley Campmeeting will be held this year, Lord willing, August 19-28. Pray much for the meeting that souls will be saved. All are welcome.

For more information write: Bro. C. A. Wallace, Boley, Okla., or Sister Ora Spears, R. 1, Box 109, Boley, Oklahoma.

Bakersfield Camp Meeting

The camp meeting of the Church of God of Bakersfield, California will be held at 501 S. Brown Street in the city of Bakersfield, August 12-21.

The meeting will be conducted on the free will offering plan. The Lord has provided for the meeting in the

past, and the Lord will provide in this meeting. All saints and lovers of the truth are invited to attend. Come prepared for a spiritual feast of heavenly manna.

To those coming by car turn east off Highway 99 on 4th St., which leads to the tent. To those who are coming by bus or train, contact Bro. Chandler, and someone will meet you at the train or bus depot.

Address all correspondence to I. C. Chandler, Rt. 6, Box 37, Bakersfield, California. I. C. Chandler, pastor.

Myrtle, Missouri

The Fifth Annual Campmeeting of the Church of God will be held, Lord willing, on the camp ground at Myrtle, Mo. from August 19th to the 28th. We are expecting God to send ministers here to preach the truth. Anything else would not be pleasing to God and His people.

This meeting as usual will be run on the free will offering plan. So you that know the value of prayer, pray much for this meeting. Souls need to be saved. Come prepared to care for yourselves as much as you can in the way of pillows, sheets and covers, bed-ticks and straw. Steads will be furnished as long as they last.

Send offerings to Bro. A. J. or Earl Sorrell, Myrtle, Mo. For other information write to the above names, or Bro. Murphy Allen, pastor, Box 255, Mansfield, Mo.

California State Camp Meeting

The California State Campmeeting of the Church of God will be held August 26 to September 4, 1955 on the saints' camp ground located at 12312 Osborne Place, Pacoima, California (a suburb of Los Angeles). Pacoima is located between Burbank and San Fernando. Those coming by car from the east or south come out of Los Angeles on San Fernando Road (U. S. Highway 99) and go on through Burbank and Sun Valley. Then at Osborne St. (There is a traffic signal at this intersection) turn right and go little more than half of a mile to the camp ground. Those coming by car from the north drive on though San Fernando on U. S. 99 to Osborne St. (the 4th traffic signal after you leave the town of San Fernando) and turn left to the camp ground. It is between San Fernando Road and Glenoaks Blvd. on Osborne Place which goes straight on where Osborne St. curves.

Those coming by bus or train from the north get off at San Fernando except if you ride the streamline train. It does not stop at San Fernando. In that case get off at Glendale. Those coming from the east or south get off in Los Angeles. Those arriving by bus or train phone EMpire 9-3608 from the station and someone will pick you up. It will be some better if you can let us know a day or two in advance by mail when you expect to arrive and someone can be there.

Tents and beds can be rented on the same schedule as of former years—\$10.00 for a tent and \$2.00 for a cot and mattress. The tents are large and can be shared by as many as four real comfortably and one or two more if you don't mind crowding a little. It will be some advantage for as many as can to let us know in advance what you will want in the way of camping equipment as we have to rent these things and a truck to haul them out and it is better to haul it all at one trip if possible.

However, if things turn out for you to be able to come at the last minute come right on and you will be taken care of as good as possible. Also when ordering state whether you want an entire tent or just want to share space in a tent with others.

The meeting is run on the free-will offering plan throughout except the equipment that has to be rented.

We do not want anyone who wants to be there to stay away because you feel you cannot pay because God's people share one another's burdens and God has always bountifully supplied the needs of the meeting. This meeting is held in the interest of souls and God's kingdom and God has always blessed and supplied able ministers of the New Testament who are able to expound the Word, pray the prayer of faith, and give good sound advice to those who have spiritual problems. We are expecting this meeting to be no exception to this rule and anticipate the same visitation from the Lord as in former years and urge all who love the truth and work of God and especially those who need help in soul or body to make your plans to attend this meeting. And let us all fast and earnestly pray for good success in the Lord.

Will be seeing you at the camp meeting, Lord willing.
Ostis B. Wilson, 12312 Osborne Place, Pacoima, Calif.

Dover, Oklahoma

The Lord willing, the Dover Campmeeting of the Church of God will be held Sept. 2nd to the 11th inclusive. The location is one mile north and two and one half miles east of Dover, Okla. Dover is on Highway 81. Those coming by bus will be met if we are notified in time. If possible let us know what hour your bus will arrive at Dover. We may have cool nights, so bring your blankets or sheets.

Send or bring offerings and contributions to Ulysses Phillips or Henry Caldwell, Dover, Okla.. Pray for the meeting.

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Obituaries

William Carver Warren was born to Bro. and Sis. Woodrow Warren August 19, 1954 and departed this life May 26, 1955 at the age of 9 months, 7 days. He leaves to mourn besides his parents his five brothers McKinney, Woodrow, Jr., Raymond Jo, Robert Lee, and James Weldon; three sisters: Marcella, Ruth Ella, and Margie Ann (one sister Thromapple preceded him in death); two grandmothers and one grandfather: Mrs. Mille Warren, Mr. and Mrs. Jo Gallaway; one great-grandmother, Mrs. Roddie Jeffries; and a host of relatives, friends, and saints.

We feel that our darling was given us for a short span of life to bring cheer and comfort to our hearts, but surely the Lord who doeth all things well, chose to pluck him from us to beautify the portals of heaven. While he was with us only a few months, yet his life will always be a bright spot in our hearts.

Burial was close to Mounds, Okla. Services conducted by Bro. Richard Madden assisted by Bro. McMillan and Bro. Sam Barton. The scriptures were Job 1:21; Matt. 5:4.

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Howard Swayne Miller was born January 26, 1927 to Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Miller near Hornersville, Missouri. He departed this life April 28, 1955 at the age of 28 years, 3 months, and 2 days.

He was united in marriage to Miss Eula Gentry Jan. 9, 1955. He gave his heart to God in August of 1954 and lived faithful to the end.

He leaves to mourn his departure his wife Eula, his father and mother, four sisters Mary Hope Flynn of Loranger, La., Sybilla, Aquilla, and Cynthia of the home; five brothers J. H. and Maxye of Senath, R. 2, Gerald of R. 1, Bobby and Darius of the home; one grandmother Mrs. Noah Hampton of Malden, Missouri, several aunts, uncles, neices, nephews, cousins, and many friends.

Funeral services were conducted by Bro. Murphy Allen.

Hans P. Nielson passed away while working in the field at his home at Hot Springs, Montana May 12, 1955.

He was born in Denmark November 3, 1886 and came to the U. S. with his parents at the age of two years. He lived in Wisconsin, North Dakota, and Alberta, Canada before homesteading at Big Sandy, Montana. He was married to Hilda Goecks in 1923, and to this union were born five children. He is survived by his wife Hilda at home, two daughters Grace Brown and Eleanor Bias, both of Oakland, California; three sons Charles of Tehachapi, George of Oakland, and Albert of Eureka, Montana; three sisters in California and one in Alberta, Canada, and one brother in North Dakota. There are ten grandchildren.

Bro. Nielson saw and preached the Church of God truths as the Bible teaches them three years before he knew anyone else taught it and in 1919 met the first one he knew who taught it. About five years ago he first heard of and met the saints at Jefferson, Oregon and rejoiced to find he and they were in perfect agreement. He has enjoyed working with the saints and spent four months in assembly meetings and revival meetings last winter before returning to his home in Montana.

Funeral services were conducted by B. H. Applegate at Plains, Montana and buried in the Plains Cemetery.

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Amos Benjamin Welch, son of Marshel and Mary Jane Welch, was born March 8, 1888. He departed this life May 13, 1955 at the age of 67 years, two months and five days.

He was married to Minnie Reeves April 12, 1914. To this union were born three daughters: Mrs. Lois Cantrell of Witchita, Kansas, Mrs. Elva Hubble of Seymour, Missouri, Mrs. Maxine Young of Marshfield, Mo.; two step children, Hobert Reeves of Narcatur, Kansas, Mrs. Ada Plaster of Mansfield, Mo.; eight grandchildren and three step-grandchildren. He has two brothers: Elec Welch of Carnegie, Okla. and Andy Welsh of Owasso, Okla.; three nephews and one neice.

He professed a hope in Christ a little over sixteen years ago. He was baptized shortly after. He bore his suffering patiently. Just a few hours before his death he told Bro. Allen he was ready to go. The funeral was conducted by Bro. Gibson. The scriptures used were 2 Cor. 5:1; 15:19; Prov. 11:7.

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In Poke County, Arkansas on Dec. 2, 1878, a daughter, Sarah, was born to Mr. and Mrs. L. D. Pierce. She became ill at 7:00 a. m. May 29, and passed away at 5:30 p. m. at the age of 76 years, 5 months, and 27 days.

She was united in holy matrimony to Robert Johnson August 3, 1902. To this union were born 6 children.

At an early age she became a church member, but realizing her lack of salvation she was not satisfied in her soul. In 1912 the Lord brought the blessed truth to her in McAlester, Oklahoma and revealed her need to her. She and her husband were saved in a cottage prayer meeting. Not long after they were saved she was holy sanctified. They were called to the ministry. Their labors were mainly with the isolated saints in new fields. Many souls received the truth through their labors. She was faithful in teaching the way of salvation to her children, and many mornings her children were awakened by hearing Mother talking to her God and asking a special blessing on each child.

Her husband and one child preceded her in death. She leaves to mourn their loss three daughters and two sons: Mrs. Etta Davis, and Mrs. Hattie Dean of Guthrie, Oklahoma, Mrs. Margaret Eck of Bartlett, Kansas, Dee

Johnson of Witchita, Kansas, and Robert Johnson of Springfield, Missouri. 21 grandchildren, 3 sisters, and a host of relatives and friends. Our loss is heaven's gain.

The funeral was conducted by Bro. O. C. Porter and assisted by Bro. Fred Pruitt. Text: Prov. 31:10-31. Interment: Summit View Cemetery, north of Guthrie, Oklahoma.

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Mo.—To the dear saints,—We wish to take this means of thanking each one for their interest and prayers in our behalf, also for the get-well cards and letters, as David enjoyed them so much. We wish to tell about the accident only to glorify the Lord and prove that He is just the same today!

Monday, May 2nd, we went about as usual, having worship, then Cassie, David, and I went out into the field to help Louie fill up as he finished planting. We came to the house about 9:00 a. m. Louie was unhooking from the planter, and I decided to back the car out of the drive way into the yard out of his way. I looked all around and called, but David did not answer. I began backing very slowly, thinking he would not stay close to the car if he was around, as he has always been afraid of cars. Usually, he is right at the tractor or with Louie when either is close. We didn't know how it all happened, could not imagine where he came from so quickly, but he has told us since that he was on the back bumper, and showed us just how he was holding (He is 2½ years old).

As I backed into the yard, which is very hard, and was ready to stop, Louie hollered and said, "Back up! You're on David!" He saw the right front tire on David's side, and I pulled up, which must have made the second time the tire ran over his head. (I didn't know what I was doing.) Louie picked him up. He was lifeless. He thought he was gone, but knew God could spare him if it was His will, so he began shaking him and praying, and finally he began gasping for breath and cried. I ran to them and told him to bring him on and we would go to Louie's mother's and sister's for prayer (which is about a block away). There was a little blood running out of his mouth and nose and ear. He seemed to look all right otherwise. We had prayer and went on to Sister Miller's, where he was anointed and prayed for again. He didn't seem to be suffering except when we would move him quite a lot. His left ear was cut a little and there were a few scratches and skinned places over his body. The prints of the tire could be seen plainly on the right side of his face. Louie has since weighed the right front of the car ('49 Mercury), and it weighed 1,020 pounds.

As we took him for prayer, we both remembered how during the morning some time I had prayed for the Lord to send persecutions or whatever it took, and Louie had been singing the song, "God's Way is Best." Most all the words came to his mind. He had been so burdened for a week, about the time of Howard's death. The Lord surely prepared us for all of this and gave us a desire to trust Him that He might get ALL the GLORY and that this community might see the truth (by teaching and example). We can now see many ways it has worked for our good and helped spread the truth. We trust more good will yet be accomplished.

We stopped at a neighbor friend's home to call my mother in Dallas. Her phone was out of order, so we

had to drive to Senath (four miles). This friend begged us to take him to the hospital, as he might be hurt worse than it seemed or internally. We told her that we knew the Lord could heal whatever the trouble was. We desired her to see what God could do, although we knew it would mean persecutions—which it did, very shortly. We called Dallas and had Mother to call to Guthrie and to Carvers for prayer, then came home and rocked David. The soreness seemed to mostly be in his right shoulder and arm.

Three neighborhood men (one was the husband of this friend) came in the afternoon and begged us to take David to the hospital to be examined, as there was a possibility of internal injuries. They thought his jaw might be broken as it and his ear were swollen; but we knew it was not because of the way he used his mouth. They said it was a wonder he was alive, and seemed surprised that he was not in a worse condition.

We knew it could be very serious, but felt God had all power. We saw no bones that needed to be set. David drank liquids that day. We laid him down and he became so sore he wouldn't turn his head nor move his right arm.

Bro. Murphy Allen came by that afternoon on his way home. We were so glad for some more help. We would have an agreement of prayer when David suffered any and the dear Lord would so wonderfully undertake. Some of us sat up all night. He could not sleep because of his nerves. He would go to sleep, then jump and it would wake him up crying. He wanted Louie and me right there all the time. He asked that we sing his favorite song, "Come Closer My Child to Me." He lay there and patted his feet.

Tuesday, May 3rd, he played in his bed, asked his aunts to bring him a dog that made a noise and books from town. He had the best time playing all day, except when he would get tired and sleepy, then he couldn't rest for his nerves. He was so tired of lying the same way, but when we moved his head the least bit it caused so much pain, but in answer to prayer it would stop.

In the afternoon the Prosecuting Attorney came. He told us the neighbors complained that we were not giving David medical care although they spoke well of us and said we were good neighbors. He said he hated to do this, but it was his job. He almost was in tears several times. He told us we must have the child examined. We were to let him know our decision by 8:00 a. m. Wed. Here we were faced with the problem of going to the doctor, knowing that God had undertaken, and we knew if we did go for an examination they would have to give him shots as he was too sore to be moved. Then God would get none of the praise, or we would see him taken from us or have to go to court, possibly losing custody of David and being forced to take him to the hospital.

As we were in the valley of decision, that night he became so restless from being in the same position that we picked him up to rock him, then laid him down in a different way. He went into light convulsions, and as I held him he put his arms around my neck and gripped so tightly and stiffened out. His teeth chattered and he cried so pitifully for me not to lay him down nor move him. The saints were here and began praying. We laid him down and he still cried, his teeth chattering and he was stiff. Louie began talking to him and calmed him down finally while all the rest were on their knees praying. He

talked out of his head some. It was so hard to see him suffer. I didn't know but what God might take him on. We were consecrated to that but just couldn't stand to see him suffer. As we gave up to God, David began resting. Virgie and I thought we just couldn't stand for them to come and take him without us, yet we didn't want to take him of our own accord. We knew God had ALL power in heaven and earth. It came to Virgie that God loved David more than we did and He surely wouldn't permit anything to happen but what He would help us to bear it. As we agreed to keep our trust in God so He could get the praise for sparing David, we felt comforted. Later after prayer David said, "It's well." I said, "What is well?" And he pulled his little right arm out from the cover and waved it. It was so precious to see God answer prayer. We had them call my Aunt and Uncle McClain in Ill., also Sister Joiner, Gibsons, Carvers (no one answered there). His nerves still kept him from getting any rest all night.

Wednesday, May 4th, early, my folks from Ill. came, and David enjoyed their baby so much.

The sheriff came with papers for us to appear in court Friday, 6th, with David. David showed him his toys, and he said, "It looks like the boy is getting along all right."

Wed. night David was so tired from being awake most of the day. He would try to sleep, but his nerves seemed worse. We prayed but still he would jump and cry. Finally a few of us gathered around his bed and prayed. My Aunt said it was just a trick of the devil. We began to lay on hands and rebuke the devil and the spells became lighter and further apart until he rested so sweetly. It was wonderful to see the touch of God. As I sat there by him I could feel God's presence and see Him looking down at us and I thought of Stephen being stoned and Jesus standing. I could see Jesus standing interceding for us. Praise the Lord! Surely God could be praised for his great power. Cassie sat up with him and said she enjoyed it because it was so sweet to see him sleep good for the first time in three days.

Thurs., May 5th, Bro. Allen and my folks left when they learned that Bro. Gibson was coming. Bro. Carver came early unexpectedly. We were so thankful for the saints' help. We enjoyed hearing Bro. Barton's message on the recorder brought during the Guthrie Assembly on divine healing day. It seemed even more precious than when we heard it at Guthrie. We wanted the neighbors and everybody to hear it. Some did come by and got to hear this wonderful truth. It was about "Peeping In," people getting sick and scared until they go to the doctor and just peep in—which usually causes faith to decrease and doubts to arise. The recorder was going very loudly; I do not see how anyone could have slept, but David lay in the same room and slept like a baby all the way through and during the day and that night. Thank the Lord for doing a complete work!

David would ask us to pray when he suffered any. His head had been on the same side for quite awhile and we would try to get him to move it, but he wouldn't. So we asked God to help him move more. Later he said, "Look here, Mamma, look here." He was moving his head. He would thank the Lord and once said, "Praise the Lord!"

We didn't know if we could move him Friday or not to go to Kennett (20 miles). We had a battle that night, but the saints abroad were praying and the ministers were

much help and encouragement. We knew God was surely moved on His throne. The Lord encouraged me while sitting by David's bed, and I felt the presence of angels around. I just had to search the Scriptures to keep encouraged and rebuke the enemy.

Fri., 6th, the Lord enabled us to change David's shirt for the first time. We cleaned him up and fixed a bed on a board and took him to court at 8:30 a. m. We had to wait till 1:00 for the trial so we came back home and he slept all the way and until we went back to Kennett at 1:00. We had no lawyer nor witnesses. We told the ministers to speak only if they felt led. Some of our neighbors, who must have turned us in, had been subpoenaed to witness, and they told Louie they didn't want to and one almost cried. They really apologized. Somehow they got out of it and weren't even there. So no one witnessed against us except the doctor who examined David before court and another doctor who cared for him later. They both advised a complete check-up. The last doctor seemed more favorable.

The Judge asked if we didn't think David was in a serious condition. Louie said he knew he was, but he had more confidence in God than doctors. The Judge asked him if he didn't know he could be taken away from us. He answered that the Bible tells us to fear God rather than man and he knew they couldn't do any more than God permitted. He said they would have to answer for what they did in the day of Judgment.

Bro. Carver testified to having been reared in the truth, never taking any medicine, not even a laxative or asparin. He was asked if he thought God could heal ruptured appendix. He replied, "I never knew of God losing a case." Bro. Gibson also testified. The Judge ordered David to be given medical care and he was put in the custody of the welfare. We didn't know if David would be ours or not, or what the outcome would be, but God comforted us with the Scripture, "Count it all joy when you fall into divers temptations." Some stranger asked if we wouldn't be granted privileges to stay with him, and we were. We went to the hospital and they left David and me there. They X-rayed him and told us his right collar bone was badly fractured, the left wasn't serious. The doctor comforted us as best he could and said we were "lucky" he was here and he was a fine boy. I said we didn't believe in luck; it was just the Lord; but we knew what he meant.

I had happy news then to tell Louie and the ones that came back. The ministers were along and we all rejoiced. The Lord blessed David and healed him till they didn't do anything for him in that ten days only tried to give him three doses of Milk of Magnesia. Praise God! They did not tape nor set his shoulder. People from all around came in to see him and we got to tell them of God's power. It was over the radio and in the paper, and being talked everywhere around, but we were not ashamed one minute. We do not regret at all that we trusted God. We were there from Friday 6th to Monday 16th. He began to sit up on Friday and Saturday sat up all day. Sunday morning he started walking. We were earnestly praying to get to go home. God worked it out for us to go Monday afternoon after the X-ray showed he was all right—just in answer to the saints' prayers, for a week later the welfare worker came saying the Judge hadn't intended for him

to be released so soon. We had to go to him and get custody of David. Well, we went, not realizing what was involved. Doctor's and hospital receipts had to be shown before we could discuss it. Then he told us in order to have David we'd have to promise to give him medical attention when necessary, and if we failed to do so, he would be taken away permanently. When we hesitated about answering, he said, "If you don't know you'd give him medical attention now, you're not fit to have him." I asked if the laws of the U. S. didn't protect our religious belief. He said we had freedom to believe like we wanted to but not to infringe it on someone else, especially a minor. So we told him if that was the only way we could keep our child, all right; but we knew God could keep him well the same as He could heal. So we are looking to the Lord to bless and deliver us in His own way and to His glory.

I believe we had the worst battle that night, but the Lord made us to know He wouldn't want David in the hands of unsaved people and brought up in the world.

Then it came to us to just pray for the Lord to make the Judge and all concerned so miserable that they'd want to wash their hands of the whole case. So please keep us on your prayer list as we are very needy before the Lord.

We are encouraged and still consecrated to let the Lord have his way. Louie, Evodna, and David Marler

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CORRESPONDENCE

"This is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith" (1 John 5:4). "And nothing shall by any means hurt you" (Luke 10:19).

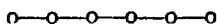
When I left Oregon on our way to Minneapolis, we were coming north into Rapid City, S. Dakota as we turned east on Highway 16. A terrible south wind struck us. It was reported some places as an eighty mile gale. I never witnessed anything like it. I never thought of the trailer house turning over taking the car with it when it broke loose from the car. The trailer turned on its side. The car turned over, I don't know how many times. The top was badly caved in, and the car landed on the other side of the road headed back the way we came. Thank God for faith. I was no more nervous than if nothing happened.

My mind was stayed on Him who does all things well. My thought was to turn off the ignition as soon as it would stop rolling. Thank God I didn't get scratched enough to draw blood no more than if I were rolling in a feather bed. Both car and trailer were badly wrecked. The Lord spoke to me and said that all things work for good to them that love the Lord. I said, "Amen, Lord." I thought of Job. There was all I possessed and it looked like scrap. While I was thinking what I would do, the Lord spoke again and said, "The battle is not yours but mine." Again I said, "Amen, Lord." It was a great blessing to me for I knew it came from one who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think according to the power that worketh in us. I had a sign on my trailer "Jesus Saves." A lady stopped and said that sign surely is true. They expected to see us dead. When the car stopped I crawled out through the broken window rejoicing and said, "Praise the Lord." I almost bumped noses with a colored man. He wanted to look down in to see if we were hurt. He was the first on the scene and acted as if I was beside myself praising

God in such a mess. I had a reason for praising God.

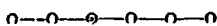
They soon had the trailer and car on their wheels again. I got in the car, hooked on to the trailer house, and pulled it upon the highway. Thank God I drove it about 500 miles to Dustin, Minn. I had to tie the door shut with a rope. Thank God He has never failed me. He said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." He is a present help in time of need. I am sorry to say that Brother Johnson got his shoulder hurt. When the car stopped rolling he was in the back seat. This experience has been a blessing to me. I realize more than ever God's care for me. I can see it is faith; for without faith we don't have anything. Faith is what saved Daniel from the lion's den and the Hebrew children from the fiery furnace. I have often said from the pulpit if I knew I was going over a precipice that looked like the end, I believe I could have that abiding peace in my soul. Now I know we had some dangerous places. Let us have faith, then we can live right and be ready to die. God takes care of his own, and I am glad I am one of his.

My boast in writing this manuscript is like Paul's. My boast is in the Holy Ghost. May this experience be an encouragement to some one. God is still on the throne. He is a present help in time of need. I have the best assurance on Record - - - Father, Son, and the Holy Ghost. One who loves the Lord, M. G. Olson.



La.—I can't say how I came in touch with this copy of the "Evening Light Watchman." It must have been the work of the Lord. I found it in my house, thank God. I have been reading it ever since I found it, and it's a wonderful blessing so sweet to read. It makes my very soul happy to read it.

I am not so well. I suffer with several complaints. I am asking the saints to pray for me. I desire earnest prayer. I am a Christian, and I know prayer changes things, and prayer can heal. God bless you. Mrs. A. Cooper.



Calif.—Dear saints, and readers of the "Faith and Victory" paper—Greetings in Jesus' dear name. I feel it would please my dear Savior to tell of some of His gracious dealings with me in the past two years. It was the month of October, 1952, while working on my job as a saleslady in the Ladies' and Children's Ready to Wear department of a large department store. I suddenly became ill, seriously ill, with severe pains in my back and abdomen. I began to pray for relief secretly, but the pain grew more severe until I could hardly walk. There was a feeling as if some organs were misplaced in my body which gave me reason to think that I was injured while lifting some heavy merchandise, as I was arranging ladies' slacks which were piled on the counter. When I reported it to the manager, he agreed it must be an injury, and insisted I go immediately to the company doctor for an examination, which I did. But to my surprise the doctor's diagnosis was not an injury. Instead, it was a large tumor, an operation, and to stop work at once. In an instant my mind flashed over my obligations, with an invalid husband of about twenty years, a large home to keep up, besides keeping my payments up with still other numerous obligations. I began to cry to God, feeling within my soul that He could heal that condition just as easy as He could replace an injury.

The next morning I gave the manager the doctor's report; also told him I didn't believe the report was true until I was told the same thing by another physician. He insisted I go to any doctor in the city I might choose, to

satisfy my mind. I was sent to a specialist for women. His examinations were very thoroughly done. He said quietly, "I'm sorry, lady, to have to tell you that instead of an injury, you have a large tumor that must be removed at once by an operation, or you are in danger of hemorrhaging which has proven fatal in most cases." I thanked the doctor, then admitted to him I had been told the same thing but wanted to be sure. He said, "I am willing to give up my license if I'm wrong about your case," then added, "you can not stand eight hours a day on your feet, which I know is your job, in your condition." I soon let him know I would not submit to be operated on as I believed in divine healing. With that, I put my case in the Lord's hand.

The next morning, by faith, I returned to work trusting God for every minute of the day. I began to walk normal, and my body began to gain strength. Praise the Lord, I was healed! I worked the remaining three months of 1952, the full year of 1953, eight hours a day, six days a week, and didn't miss a day of work for illness, praise His Name! All my co-workers took note of the wonderful healing, including the manager.

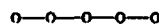
Another wonderful healing my Lord so graciously bestowed upon me was again in October, but the year of 1954. I came home from work with a very sore throat and high fever. Unfortunately I am the only one saved in the family, so while I am trusting the Lord for my healing, I am also praying to God to glorify His Name in my illness for the benefit of my unsaved ones. He has never failed, praise the Lord!

The next day my fever seemed to be raising. Some of the dear brothers and sisters came in and prayed for me, but the Lord wanted to get glory out of my case by raising me from death's door to prove His power. Three days had passed, and my fever was still higher. I was in a semi-conscious state, and the children called in a doctor. He said I should be in a hospital with penicillin given at once, as instead of a sore throat I had abscessed tonsils. The poison was being carried to all parts of my body, and my fever was as high as a human could stand and still be alive. My body dehydrated to the extent that I had lost all coloring from the high fever. I knew I was very near death. I asked the dear Lord to spare my life to prove to my unsaved loved ones that He had more power than penicillin. My pastor, Brother and Sister Chandler, and others came from Bakersfield, Calif. Bro. Chandler anointed and prayed for me. I was healed instantly. Oh, what a mighty God we serve. Praise His Name forever! Then by just being ill for five days, the peeling of my body was a testimony as to how sick and the extent of fever I had suffered. The whole palms of my hands came off at once.

I feel the Lord is calling me to give more of my time to Him. Please pray that I will know His will and to free myself of obligations that are hindering me now.

Your sister in Christ,

Hazel A. Clark.



Conn.—Dear Teddy, my beloved and faithful brother in Christ—We greet you in affectionate arms of love, our brother, and with a kiss of love from God who sent Jesus His Son into our lives. May our sincerest heart blessings fill you as you learn more of God's love and tenderness toward you. You are on our hearts and minds continually, and even while prayer is uttered for all saints. We desire to know that you are prospering in the graces of God, and you are continuing in prayer night and day for the lost of this world. While we feel the weight heavy upon us in this burden for souls, we are casting our cares upon

one who knows and cares for us. Although many miles of earth separate us from enjoying the fellowship we experienced together in prayer and in communing with God still we can feel a closeness through the Spirit that all is well, and blessings are still flowing from heart to heart. I am sure you feel that closeness and would express your heartfelt thoughts in these things. Oh, how we long for you, for your sweet presence, and beholding your chaste conversation and undimmed face that shines forth the glory of suffering.

We would be glad to be with you again, if it be but a few moments, to convey our appreciation for all you have meant to us, and especially through many times of trials. Though we have suffered and were companions together in tribulation (for thou art one color, and we of another), yet through prevailing grace we pressed our way in victory and won decisive battles in our humiliations. The God of all grace and mercy, who will not suffer us to be tempted beyond measure, made us an escape in finding shelter under His wings where we took refuge many times when hardships came against us. Now we are absent from bodily presence and cannot feel you with the touch of the hand. But faith is strong and will not be robbed, for we feel your hand in our hand, yet as even in these ten years we pressed your invalid fingers and could feel the affectionate touch.

Now what word of consolation in Christ can we bring you, for I pain inwardly with a longing to see you, that I may speak with you and satisfy my yearning for you. We yield to the Divine will. The distance between us is great and suffers me. I find relief only in His Word which promises rich blessings and a reward for faithfulness. Meanwhile, occupy your soul in prayer—keep us in memory, the loved ones of my family, and Carmelina who loves you and whom you love so dearly. We are but vessels of mercy: the graces within are God's. Through faint speech and feeble hands you can persuade mighty men and wrest heavy chains that bind souls in sin.

Be strong, my brother, even my son whom I have begotten in the Gospel, my fellow-laborer in Christ. While you exercise yourself in prayer, let your heart be filled with tenderness. Be pitiful of others and consider Christ as our example. Though He is not now crucified, He is risen and is a reliever to all who are tempted.

We are here in Connecticut engaged in Christ. Make mention of us in your prayers and worship. God hears you, His meek and humble child. Salute our friends of the congregation. Our wife in the gospel greets you.

Dear Bro. Pruitt,—We send you this epistle to be used in the little paper. We desire to let it be read to encourage Teddy. We trust it will be an inspiration to all those who know him and feel for his condition.

Salvatore and Wanita.

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Kansas—Greetings in the name of our blessed Lord Jesus. I have just been reading the blessed paper "Faith and Victory," thank God. I have kept the faith, and now I have the victory. I have found what I have been looking for for years—the church that Jesus built and not man. Praise the Lord He is still building it! It is so large it covers the world, yet so small it fits into your heart, and there is no room for the world. I am enjoying the blessed truths of God's holy Word and His full salvation. Oh, I love this true holy way which is truly God's people. I have been in and out, joined in and sworn in, but thank God I found the born-in way I believe. The sect, which is division, is the most heart breaking thing I know. Even the Lord is broken (Jer. 23:1).

Division is sin because it separates husbands and wives, and mothers from their little children. But thank God He can heal the broken hearts (Luke 4:18). He saves and heals the soul.

I am so glad I am saved, sanctified, healed and kept by His mighty power. Please send me a few of June "Faith and Victory." Pray for me that I will do His will. Yours for Christ and souls, Lucy Patterson.

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Ga.—Dear "Faith and Victory" readers—I feel that I should write a little testimony this morning as the Lord is so good to me and to our family. I can't ever praise Him enough. I have an arm that's giving me trouble, and I have requested prayer at our little cottage prayer meetings for it to be healed. I am still trusting in the Lord that it will be done. I know that He is able. I just hunger and thirst after more of His righteousness every day as I go through this life.

You all pray for us that we would be and do the little things that He would have us do, and pray for our children and boys in service, and they all need God's guidance. There is so much to lead them away from the right way. Yours in Christ, Mrs. Clarence Hayes

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Ore.—Dearest beloved saints everywhere. Greetings in Jesus' precious Name forever—I feel so happy this morning. I'm so thankful for God's holy Word, thanks be to God forever.

I promised the Lord if he would heal my oldest son from an awful bad cough, I would write this testimony. With heartfelt pleasure I thank Him forever that He answered my prayer. Isn't it wonderful how good the Lord is and how he loves His children? This encourages me more and more to trust Him more and live closer to Him and be guided only by Him. He has blessed us in so many, many ways, praise His blessed Name forever. Dear friends, let's pick up our cross and follow Him, that we will have a bright crown in glory. As I write this little message this morning, it encourages me more, and I hope it will help others. It is wonderful to live for the Lord. Please pray for me that I will be even stronger in God's truth. Pray for my family. My husband is unsaved and many of my loved ones and friends. Please pray that they will see the precious light of Jesus while there is time. Many thanks for everything.

A sister in Christ,

Loretta Miles.

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Kan.—Dear saints,—I'm thankful tonight that the Lord loved me enough to call after me and save me from a life of sin, and for grace to keep us after we are saved. I was very sick and troubled. My health was so bad I didn't believe I would have lived if it had not been for the tender mercies of the Lord, but He restored my health and spoke peace to my soul. The Lord has been with me through many trials and tests and has never left me nor forsaken me. More and more I appreciate the truth and am thankful that there is a people that is willing to serve God the Bible way, and not just to profess to live for Him. We young people had in our Sunday school lesson this morning to let no man despise our youth, but to be an example in word, in conversation, in charity, in faith, in purity. It is only in and through the Lord that we have grace to be such an example as this. I'm very thankful He is able to keep us pure and free from the sin and corruption that is in the world. It is the greatest privilege and blessing on earth to be able to serve the Lord. I desire your prayers that I will be an example on every line. Christian love to all, Wildenna Hoffman.

La.—Dear saints scattered abroad, Greeting—It has been a long time since I sent in a testimony, so I feel it will be pleasing to the dear Lord for me to do so. For a length of time I had trouble with my stomach with food. I promised the dear Lord if he would heal me, I would send in my testimony. The dear Lord has heard and answered prayer, and I surely thank Him for it. I am encouraged and determined by the help and grace of God to press the battle on until the end. I am thankful the dear Lord put a desire in our heart to serve Him in our youth. The dear Lord is so good to his trusting children. The last two years we have gone through some dark and lonesome hours since the passing of our dear mother and other loved ones, but the dear Lord has been our comfort and has sustained us through it all. We feel our loss is heaven's gain. Praise his dear Name! We thank the Lord for his many blessings to us each day. We are carrying a burden on our heart now and desire your prayers.

With Christian love, Elva Joiner.

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Ohio—Dear saints of God,—Greetings to each and every one in the lovely name of Jesus. Tonight I am more determined than ever to press the battle on. I am going on eighteen years of age and will soon be facing the draft. I desire the prayers of all the true saints of God that I may take my stand for the Lord and right. I am really in earnest about serving my Jesus. He is all in all to me. I have a lot to be thankful for. I am thankful for a praying mother who prayed night and day for her lost children. On Sunday, April 24 of this year, the Lord wonderfully saved my brother, Donald, at the home of Sister Amanda (Jones) Bayse at Rosewood, Ohio. Now three of my mother's sons are serving the Lord. They are Earl, Donald and myself. I have three other brothers who are precious in God's sight. I desire the prayers of the saints that they may also be garnered into the fold before it is too late, as I believe the coming of the Lord is near at hand. I can truthfully say with the song:

"Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine,
Oh what a foretaste of glory divine;
Heir of salvation purchased of God,
Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood."

Pray for me that I may stay true to the Lord.
Your blood washed brother, Melvin Sharp.

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La.—Dear Bro. Pruitt,—Greetings in love to you. I trust you are well in soul and body. I am reasonably well. The Lord is very precious to me, and I appreciate it so much. I love Him and love to obey Him. My meditation has been on what it takes to be a living sacrifice for God, and the conclusion of the matter is that when one is dead to the world and his or her life is hid with Christ in God and living by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God. I believe that any thing less than this would be short of a living sacrifice.

I love the Christ, the Son of God,
Who died that I might live.
I would my gratitude express,
A gift unto Him give.

I fail to find a sacrifice,
Or fitting gift to bring—
Earth's treasures have too little worth
To offer to my King.

A gift, however grand or great
Could not pay the debt I owe:
I bring my self, my life, my all,
A living gift bestow.

All my members I gladly yield
For service, Lord, to thee,
To bear the blessed gospel light,
That others Christ may see.

Let self be slain, let Jesus reign
Within my heart alway.
My gift is small, it is my all;
Accept it, Lord, I pray. Amen.

I have selected this poem. It expresses my sentiments in regard to being a living sacrifice for God. Yours for Jesus and all the Word of God. J. S. Green.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Texas—Dear saints: I have such a heavy burden upon my heart. I know and believe God rules the world. Pray earnestly for us. We do desire so much your prayers. We know prayer changes things. I am expecting complete deliverance. Pray that my faith fail not. Much Christian love, E. M.

Sis. Lena O'Malley of California desires prayer for the restoration of her daughter's mind. Also she desires prayer for the salvation of her sons and brothers.

I desire to request the prayers of the saints scattered abroad for the healing of my throat. An affliction has caused a hoarseness and loss of voice to the extent that I have hardly been able to sing for more than two years.

—Mrs. Geneva Ray.

HELP NEEDED

Bro. and Sister Holdcraft who live at 1105 W. College, Guthrie, Okla. would like for a Christian woman to come and live with them and do light housework. They are neither one helpless, but are old. If you are interested, contact them.

FOLLOWING CHRIST

In the words, "following Christ," is summed up the whole matter of the Christian character and life. They tell us plainly what a Christian is. The true follower of Christ is one spirit with Christ; makes Christ's work his work; imitates Christ; separate from all sinful pursuits and from all sinful partnerships as Jesus was; and bears the cross as Jesus bore it. Bearing the cross through life is to have it between us and the world and everything of which Christ does not approve. It is not to die, but it is to remain dead. To remain dead is to stay on the cross. You must live dyingly that you may die livingly.

HELPING OTHERS

Do what you can to help those in need;
Be a blessing by word and by deed;
Let, "Living for Others" be ever your creed:
Heaven will smile on thee.

This is the keynote of the Christian life. To be right with God is to be right with men, and to be right with men is to live for men. You are not right with the man whom you failed to help as you had opportunity. You can not have companionship with God and be neglectful of your duty to men. Christ lived, not to save Himself, but to save others. To live for self is the

way of death. The only right investment of life is to give it in serving others. You multiply yourself by giving yourself. To give ourselves for others is to live on in the lives of others after we are gone. De-throne self and enthrone others. Life eternal is gained only by the losing of life here. Except you live to serve others you can not be saved. —C. E. Orr

"Others, Lord, yes others; let this my motto be;
Help me to live for others that I might live like Thee."
—Mother Harmon's Motto.

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BIBLE STUDY

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

THE PROPHET OF JUDAH'S DECLINE

July 3, 1955

Printed Portion Jeremiah 22:1-9, 24-25.

Jer. 22:1. Thus saith the Lord; Go down to the house of the king of Judah, and speak there this word,

2. And say, Hear the word of the Lord, O king of Judah, that sittest upon the throne of David, thou, and thy servants, and thy people that enter in by these gates:

3. Thus saith the Lord; Execute ye judgment and righteousness, and deliver the spoiled out of the hand of the oppressor: and do no wrong, do no violence to the stranger, the fatherless, nor the widow, neither shed innocent blood in this place.

4. For if ye do this thing indeed, then shall there enter in by the gates of this house kings sitting upon the throne of David, riding in chariots and on horses, he, and his servants, and his people.

5. But if ye will not hear these words, I swear by myself, saith the Lord, that this house shall become a desolation.

6. For thus saith the Lord unto the king's house of Judah; Thou art Gilead unto me, and the head of Lebanon: yet surely I will make thee a wilderness, and cities which are not inhabited.

7. And I will prepare destroyers against thee, every one with his weapons: and they shall cut down thy choice cedars, and cast them into the fire.

8. And many nations shall pass by this city, and they shall say every man to his neighbor, Wherefore hath the Lord done thus unto this great city?

9. Then they shall answer, Because they have forsaken the covenant of the Lord their God, and worshipped other gods, and served them.

24. As I live, saith the Lord, though Coniah the son of Jehoiakim king of Judah were the signet upon thy right hand, yet would I pluck thee thence;

25. And I will give thee into the hand of them that seek thy life, and into the hand of them whose face thou fearest, even into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, and into the hand of the Chaldeans.

Memory Selection: Woe unto him that buildeth his house by unrighteousness, and his chambers by wrong; that useth his neighbor's service without wages, and giveth him not for his work. Jeremiah 22:13.

Practical Truth: Widespread injustice and violence is ruinous to any group of people.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Recently there was an old house being torn apart, and underneath the first board termites had been working which ruined the board for further use. National decay is a similar process that will finally ruin the nation. Jeremiah was directed by the Lord to tell the king of Judah what would take place if he obeyed or disobeyed God. He told them to "execute ye judgment and righteousness" (v. 3). "But if ye will not hear these words, I swear by myself, saith the Lord, that this house shall become a desolation" (v. 5). But the king gave no heed to the message Jeremiah had for him, so God used other methods to produce a fear in him and the people of Judah. "I will give thee unto the hand of them that seek thy life" (v. 25). Still the king ignored the message.

In chapter 36, the last one in our lesson today, God used other means to get the attention of the king and his people. He told Jeremiah to write all the words of warning in a book and have it read before the people. Since Jeremiah was shut up in prison he dictated it to Baruch, and then Baruch read the "words of Jeremiah in the house of the Lord - - in the ears of all the people" (v. 10). The princes trembled when they heard but Jehoiakim burned it.

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HABAKKUK'S FAITH TESTED

July 10, 1955

Printed Portion Habakkuk 1:1-6, 12-13; 2:1-4.

Hab. 1:1. The burden which Habakkuk the prophet did see.

2. O Lord, how long shall I cry, and thou wilt not hear! even cry out unto thee of violence, and thou wilt not save!

3. Why dost thou shew me iniquity, and cause me to behold grievance? for spoiling and violence are before me: and there are that raise up strife and contention.

4. Therefore the law is slacked, and judgment doth never go forth: for the wicked doth compass about the righteous; therefore wrong judgment proceedeth.

5. Behold ye among the heathen, and regard, and wonder marvelously: for I will work a work in your days, which ye will not believe, though it be told you.

6. For, lo, I raise up the Chaldeans, that bitter and hasty nation, which shall march through the breadth of the land, to possess the dwelling-places that are not theirs.

12. Art thou not from everlasting, O Lord my God, mine Holy one? we shall not die. O Lord, thou hast ordained them for judgment; and, O mighty God, thou hast established them for correction.

13. Thou art of purer eyes than to behold evil, and canst not look on iniquity: wherefore lookest thou upon them that deal treacherously, and holdest thy tongue when the wicked devoureth the man that is more righteous than he?

2:1. I will stand upon my watch, and set me upon the tower, and will watch to see what he will say unto me, and what I shall answer when I am reproved.

2. And the Lord answered me, and said, Write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it.

3. For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry.

4. Behold, his soul which is lifted up is not upright in him: but the just shall live by his faith.

Memory Selection: The just shall live by his faith. Habakkuk 2:4.

Practical Truth: We must maintain our faith in God even in times of darkness.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Sometimes God's ways may be confusing as is the case of Habakkuk here, but God did not leave him without any help at all, for his cry was unto the Lord (v. 2). The Lord knows our petitions before we ask him, and while we are yet speaking he hears, but his answer may come later than what we expect (Isa. 65:24). Habakkuk complains, "the law is slackened, and judgment doth never go forth: for the wicked doth compass about the righteous: therefore wrong judgment proceedeth" (v. 4). Now God comes on the scene and tells Habakkuk that he will raise up the Chaldeans and they will possess the land that is not theirs (v. 6). They are in God's hand to correct the Israelites (v. 12). God does not look upon evil or iniquity with pleasure though he sees all things and knows what is going on all the time.

Habakkuk says, "I will stand upon my watch" (v. 1). Then it was that God spoke to him and told him to "write the vision" (v. 2), and he was to write it plain so it could be easily read even while one was running. While others were so that their soul was lifted up, yet the "just shall live by his faith" (v. 4). In the last three verses of the book, there are six things that may fall but God still lives, and the prophet says, "I will joy in the God of my salvation" (v. 18).

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EZEKIEL AND THE EARLIER CAPTIVITY

July 17, 1955

Printed Portion....2 Kings 24:8-15a; Ezek. 1:2-3; 18:30-32.

2 Kings 24:8. Jehoiachin was eighteen years old when he began to reign, and he reigned in Jerusalem three months. And his mother's name was Nehushta, the daughter of Elnathan of Jerusalem.

9. And he did that which was evil in the sight of the Lord, according to all that his father had done.

10. At that time the servants of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came up against Jerusalem, and the city was besieged.

11. And Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came against the city, and his servants did besiege it.

12. And Jehoiachin the king of Judah went out to the king of Babylon, he, and his mother, and his servants, and his princes, and his officers: and the king of Babylon took him in the eighth year of his reign.

13. And he carried out thence all the treasures of the house of the Lord, and the treasures of the king's house, and cut in pieces all the vessels of gold which Solomon king of Israel had made in the temple of the Lord, as the Lord had said.

14. And he carried away all Jerusalem, and all the princes, and all the mighty men of valour, even ten thousand and captives, and all the craftsmen and smiths: none remained, save the poorest sort of the people of the land.

15. And he carried away Jehoiachin to Babylon.

Ezek. 1:2. In the fifth day of the month, which was the fifth year of king Jehoiachin's captivity,

3. The word of the Lord came expressly unto Ezekiel the priest, the son of Buzi, in the land of the Chaldeans by the river Chebar; and the hand of the Lord was there upon him.

18:30. Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel,

every one according to his ways, saith the Lord God, Repent, and turn yourselves from all your transgressions; so iniquity shall not be your ruin.

31. Cast away from you all your transgressions, whereby ye have transgressed; and make you a new heart and a new spirit: for why will ye die, O house of Israel?

32. For I have no pleasure in the death of him that dieth, saith the Lord God: wherefore turn yourselves, and live ye.

Memory Selection: Repent, and turn yourselves from all your transgressions; so iniquity shall not be your ruin. Ezekiel 18:30.

Practical Truth: In his mercy God will forgive all who transgress if they will call upon him.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Truly disobedience always leads to disaster for no other thing need be expected. God's statements are always true, and the one who disobeys will receive punishment for his disobedience for there is no alternative as long as he wilfully disobeys. We reap what we sow (Gal. 6:7). So God told them plainly what their trouble was, "but they rebelled against me, and would not hearken unto me" (Ezek. 20:8). After the Israelites turned away from God, there was nothing that God could do for them: but to ask them to return to him (Jer. 15:19). The earlier captivity took most of those who were princes or craftsmen or chief of the people, but God was merciful yet toward them and left some in the land. Those that were left continued to be rebellious.

In the last portion of the lesson God continues to call, asking them to repent and turn yourselves from all your transgressions so iniquity will not be your ruin (v. 30). "And make you a new heart and a new spirit: for why will ye die, O house of Israel?" (v. 31). "Wherefore turn yourselves, and live ye" (v. 32). Turn ourselves is our part, and God will do his part when we yield to him.

THE SOUTHERN KINGDOM OVERTHROWN

July 24, 1955

Printed Portion 2 Kings 24:20b to 25:12.

2 Kings 24:20b. Zedekiah rebelled against the king of Babylon.

25:1. And it came to pass in the ninth year of his reign, in the tenth month, in the tenth day of the month, that Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came, he, and all his host, against Jerusalem, and pitched against it; and they built forts against it round about.

2. And the city was besieged unto the eleventh year of king Zedekiah.

3. And on the ninth day of the fourth month the famine prevailed in the city, and there was no bread for the people of the land.

4. And the city was broken up, and all the men of war fled by night by the way of the gate between two walls, which is by the king's garden; (now the Chaldees were against the city round about:) and the king went the way toward the plain.

5. And the army of the Chaldees pursued after the king, and overtook him in the plains of Jericho: and all his army were scattered from him.

6. So they took the king, and brought him up to the king of Babylon to Riblah; and they gave judgment upon him.

7. And they slew the sons of Zedekiah before his eyes, and put out the eyes of Zedekiah, and bound him with fetters of brass, and carried him to Babylon.

8. And in the fifth month, on the seventh day of the month, which is the nineteenth year of king Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, came Nebuzaradan, captain of the guard, a servant of the king of Babylon, unto Jerusalem:

9. And he burnt the house of the Lord, and the king's house, and all the houses of Jerusalem, and every great man's house burnt he with fire.

10. And all the army of the Chaldees, that were with the captain of the guard, brake down the walls of Jerusalem round about.

11. Now the rest of the people that were left in the city, and the fugitives that fell away to the king of Babylon, with the remnant of the multitude, did Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard carry away.

12. But the captain of the guard left of the poor of the land to be vinedressers and husbandmen.

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

Practical Truth: Sin brings judgment upon the transgressors.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

After a number of years of leniency on God's part, Judah was finally overthrown. How God had pleaded with them. He had extended his mercy to them many, many times. His love for Israel was great for he remembered his covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and then on account of David his servant. God is rich in mercy and is longsuffering, but there comes a time when he has to call a halt and let the nation or individual reap what they sow, as our memory verse so plainly states. Man's wilful rejection of God brings just that.

Here we find a wavering king who did not keep his word which affected, not only himself, but all of his realm. He was wicked and weak and was afraid to cross his princes. He said that they could take Jeremiah, and he as a king could say nothing against them, but afterward he released him (Jer. 38). Then again in chapter 51 he swears allegiance to king Nebuchadnezzar, but later he revolts against him and is rebuked by Ezekiel (Ez. 17: 11-20). No wonder then that the city was broken up. They had failed God. God could have protected them as in times past if only they had humbled down as other kings had done, but they would not.

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THE PEOPLE LEFT IN JUDAH

July 31, 1955

Printed Portion Jeremiah 42:1b, 5-7, 10, 19; 43:2, 4, 7; 44:15-18, 23.

Jer. 42:1b. All the people from the least even unto the greatest, came near.

5. Then they said to Jeremiah, The Lord be a true and faithful witness between us, if we do not even according to all things for the which the Lord thy God shall send thee to us.

6. Whether it be good, or whether it be evil, we will obey the voice of the Lord our God, to whom we send thee; that it may be well with us, when we obey the voice of the Lord our God.

7. And it came to pass after ten days, that the word of the Lord came unto Jeremiah.

10. If ye will still abide in this land, then will I build you, and not pull you down, and I will plant you, and not

pluck you up: for I repent me of the evil that I have done unto you.

19. The Lord hath said concerning you, O ye remnant of Judah; Go ye not into Egypt: know certainly that I have admonished you this day.

43:2. Then spake Azariah the son of Hoshai, and Johanan the son of Kareah, and all the proud men, saying unto Jeremiah, Thou speakest falsely: the Lord our God hath not sent thee to say, Go not into Egypt to sojourn there:

4. So Johanan the son of Kareah, and all the captains of the forces, and all the people, obeyed not the voice of the Lord, to dwell in the land of Judah.

7. So they came into the land of Egypt: for they obeyed not the voice of the Lord: thus came they even to Tahpanhes.

44:15. Then all the men which knew that their wives had burned incense unto other gods, and all the women that stood by, a great multitude, even all the people that dwelt in the land of Egypt, in Pathros, answered Jeremiah, saying,

16. As for the word that thou hast spoken unto us in the name of the Lord, we will not hearken unto thee.

17. But we will certainly do whatsoever thing goeth forth out of our own mouth, to burn incense unto the queen of heaven, and to pour out drink offerings unto her, as we have done, we, and our fathers, our kings, and our princes, in the cities of Judah, and in the streets of Jerusalem: for then had we plenty of victuals, and were well, and saw no evil.

18. But since we left off to burn incense to the queen of heaven, and to pour out drink offerings unto her, we have wanted all things, and have been consumed by the sword and by the famine.

23. Because ye have burned incense, and because ye have sinned against the Lord, and have not obeyed the voice of the Lord, nor walked in his law, nor in his statutes, nor in his testimonies; therefore this evil is happened unto you, as at this day.

Memory Selection: When thou vowest a vow unto God, defer not to pay it. Ecclesiastes 5:4.

Practical Truth: We should always keep our word.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

There was a woman one time who had a daughter that loved her very much, but the mother was beating her all the time or was cruel to her by breaking her arms or in other ways of cruelty. The wonder was that after the mother had been so cruel to her, the daughter still loved her anyway. Here we have Jeremiah who had been imprisoned and put in a dungeon to die, and his word that he had received from the Lord had been ignored; yet he still stays with the people of Judah and still does his best with them to get them to truly obey the voice of the Lord. They told him that they would obey the voice of the Lord (v. 6). They make it very definite in their vow with Jeremiah that they would be sure to obey God's voice no matter what would take place. So God was listening and after ten days he tells Jeremiah what he had told them many times before of how he would plant them and no one would pluck them up. But they were not to go down into Egypt (vs. 10, 19). They showed their inclination right away for they disobeyed God and went into Egypt. When they came to Egypt and had forsaken God in doing so, they began to serve other gods right away; therefore "evil is happened unto you" (v. 23). Jesus said, "Your house is left unto you desolate" (Matt. 23:38).