

# FAITH<sup>AND</sup> VICTORY

## The EVENING LIGHT WATCHMAN



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### Prayer

P rayer is a fervent, keen desire  
R ight down in one's inmost soul,  
A looking up to God divine,  
Y earning for His sweet control.

W atching, waiting, listening too,  
I ntent to let His will be done;  
T rusting in his promise true,  
H olding faith in his dear Son.  
O nward pressing, and submitting  
U ntil there thy soul hath found  
T hat for which thy heart was longing;

C limbing still to higher ground.  
E nter in his courts with singing,  
A lways giving thanks and praise  
S howing gratitude and honor  
I n humble and in grateful ways.  
N ever faint, nor be discouraged,  
G od will answer if you pray.

—Ulysses Phillips

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### Yield Not To Discouragement

In 2 Chron. 16:9, we read, "For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him."

The voice of Scripture bears out the fact that any one who retains a perfect heart toward God will never yield to discouragement although they may be called upon by the Lord to go through many severe and fiery trials in life.

Notice what God says about Job: "There was a man in the land of Uz, whose name was Job; and that man was perfect and upright and one that feared God and eschewed [turned from] evil."

God literally turned the devil loose on Job, and he took from him all his property and killed all of his children. Then Job said, "Naked came I out of my mother's womb, and naked shall I return thither: The Lord gave, and the Lord taketh away; blessed be the name of the Lord." Job did not yield to discouragement, but held his unwavering faith in God.

He "did not sin nor charge God foolishly." He proved true to God through this severe test. Then God allowed Satan to touch his bone and flesh, and he smote Job with sore boils from the sole of his foot to the crown of his head. While in this extreme suffering, his wife said unto him, "Dost thou still retain thine integrity? curse God and die." Hear what the man said who had a perfect heart. He did not receive discouragement, but said, "Thou speakest as one of the foolish women speaketh. What? shall we receive good at the hand of God, and shall we not receive evil?" Job did not sin in giving way to discouragement. Further along in the 23rd chapter, after he had suffered long in the affliction and his three friends vehemently accused him of doing evil and became miserable comforters to him, he looked to God and for the Lord and could not find him, could get no notice nor word from Him, for he said in the 8th verse, "I go forward, but he is not there; and backward, but I cannot perceive him: On the left hand where he doeth work, but I cannot behold him; he hideth himself on the right hand, that I cannot see him: but he knoweth the way that I take; when he hath tried me I shall come forth as gold." He just would not give way to the sin of discouragement, but held his faith strong in God. He possessed a perfect heart toward God and would not be moved to discouragement which would have put him on the side with Satan against God had he given way to it.

The three Hebrew children would not yield to discouragement when they were faced with the certainty of being thrown into the burning fiery furnace, but they held their faith in God and said to the king, "We are not careful to answer you in this matter. Our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace; but if not, be it known unto thee, O king, that we will not serve thy gods nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up." They absolutely refused to be discouraged about the matter. Through their faithfulness, the king saw the form of the fourth, even Jesus walking with them in the burning fiery furnace. The king spake and blessed the God of the Hebrew children. He was made a believer, which never would have been if the Hebrew children had become discouraged and failed to be true and firm.

Daniel also shewed a perfect heart toward God when he was threatened to be put in the lions' den if he worshiped or asked a petition of any other but the king. It did not discourage him at all, but with his window open, he knelt down with his face toward Jerusalem and prayed three times a day as usual. When they threw him into the lions' den, the Lord sent his angel and shut the lions' mouth, and he was not hurt. Because Daniel would not yield to discouragement, but held his faith in God, King Darius was made a believer in the God of Daniel and proclaimed it so to all the people.

When Paul and Silas were beaten and with bleeding backs thrown into the Philippian jail and their feet fastened in the stocks, did they become discouraged? No; but their hearts were perfect toward God, and they prayed and sang songs in that awful condition. God honored their faith in Him and sent an earthquake. They were loosened and freed, and the jailer and all his house believed and got saved. If they had become discouraged and down-hearted, there would have been no earthquake, and the jailer and his family would not have been saved.

With all the persecutions, revilings, beatings, and being put to death on the cross, Jesus did not get discouraged, but when dying he still loved God and the souls of men, and said, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." Jesus is our example, and we should follow in his steps.

Jonah became discouraged at the thought of going to the great city of Nineveh and preaching to them the gospel that God had given to him. He tried to run away from the Lord, but God knew just where he was. God chastized him by letting a big fish swallow him. He was in much affliction in the fish's belly, the waters compassed him about and the weeds of discouragement were wrapped around his head, and when his soul fainted within him he remembered the Lord. He came to himself and prayed unto the Lord, saying, "They that observe lying vanities forsake their own mercy." When you listen to the lies of Satan and become discouraged, you put yourself on the side of Satan against God, and he cannot have mercy and help you out in that condition. God says, "All things work together for good to them that love God." Rom. 8:28. When you yield to discouragement, by that act you are saying that you do not believe God's Word and you have listened to Satan's lying vanities and put yourself out of the reach of God's mercy until you confess and repent from the heart. When Jonah confessed that he had yielded to lying vanities and repented, the fish got sick and God had it to throw Jonah out on to the dry land.

Many today are doing things that are grievous in God's sight, not only by becoming discouraged, but also in many other ways they will not yield to God as they should, and they bring upon themselves many afflictions. They are, so to speak, in the fish's belly until they are humbled down to the point of confession and repentance and in this way put themselves fully on the side with God so he can have mercy and deliver them as he did Jonah. When you really get

everything clear between you and God, you then can by faith leap right out of the fish's belly and begin to give unto him the sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving due his name.

A discouraged, downhearted man is no witness for God in this world, but is witnessing for Satan, and by his actions is saying that it is a hard way, who can travel with the Lord and be happy and contented? Since God has revealed to me the great **wrong of being discouraged, I resist it as from Satan; and as sin that would ruin my soul as other sins would.**

—Fred Pruitt.

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## Guard Your Sacrifice

We are instructed to present our bodies to God a living sacrifice which is our reasonable service. In olden times when the Jews offered sacrifices to God they were instructed to guard the sacrifice to keep the fowls away. I desire to tell of two especial fowls that you would need to guard against at present lest they steal your sacrifice. The first is a very greedy fowl and is swooping down on the people of God today and robbing them of their spirituality, of the grace of God, and devouring their sacrifice. It is feeding on the very vitals of their souls. It has been devised by the devil in a strong effort to destroy the saints. Its name is—**LETHARGY**. The devil once tried to destroy the Church of God with the fagot and the sword, but now he is trying to destroy it with a careless indifference. It is a fact that he is having more success in this attempt than in the first. Many a soul today is losing out from God through a cold unconcern. In the days of persecution God's people would go to meeting at the risk of their lives, but now they seem to enjoy going visiting somewhere even more than to meeting, and just a little indisposition of body keeps them at home. In those former days, a Bible was so expensive that the poor could not buy one. Then the saints were glad to get even one page of the blessed Book, and would conceal it somewhere about their clothing and hide away and read it over and over. Now most every one has a Bible, and those who have not can get one for a very small sum, but they have no time to read because they are so taken up with the cares of this life, and of visiting. In those earlier days men and women were put to death for their faith, and the testimony of Jesus Christ. They rejoiced to testify in the face of the flames, to the saving grace of God and of their love for Him. Now you have to wait and insist and beg to get folks to testify to Christ's saving power in a meeting when there is no one to molest them for such a testimony. This spiritual negligence and lethargy is the most deadly weapon the devil ever directed against the people of God.

People can not keep spiritual without great diligence. Read Heb. 6:11, 2 Pet. 3:14. O soul, be diligent. There is no other way to keep spiritual. You can not keep spots off of your soul without great earnestness.

The second fowl that is destroying sacrifices is that of dabbling with things that are questionable. If you are not sure that a certain action is right you had better not do the act until you are sure. If it is a question in your mind as to whether or not it is pleasing to God, go slow. These questionable things are dangerous to our spiritual life. I will relate an incident which occurred during the French and Indian war. An army was encamped on the border of a woods. The guards one night had been placed on duty. When it came time to relieve the first crew of sentinels, the captain took another set of men and started around to the different posts. When he came to one post in the woods the guard was not there. He knew that this man was a dependable one, and he could not believe that the man had deserted his post of duty. He left another guard in his stead. When he came the second time to relieve the guard, the man he had left in the place of the missing one was also missing. The captain was puzzled. He asked who would volunteer to stay on that beat. A man said he would stay and he would shoot the first thing that made its appearance or made a noise in the woods. Toward the end of his watch he heard a noise, and looking in the direction, he saw a hog eating acorns. He gave but little attention to the hog and continued to walk back and forth on his beat.

He noticed that the hog kept getting nearer, but being only a hog it was useless to shoot it. Finally it came quite near. Then he remembered that he had said that he would shoot the first thing that made its appearance. He raised his gun and fired and a big Indian rolled out of the hog skin. The thing looked harmless, but it would have been the death of this soldier as it had the two before if he had not put the thing itself to death. The devil will bring some things around to you in an innocent sort of way, and have them appear very harmless; but, my dear brother, they will get your spiritual life if you give them place. They will rob you of your consecration to God. They will steal away your sacrifice. They will get your soul.

—O. B. Wilson.

### Unanswered Prayer

Too many times we blame the church or congregation or the ministers for unanswered prayer, as we might term it, when the fault lies in us. We are told in one place in the Bible to confess our faults "that ye might be healed." Then many times we depend too much on the prayers of others instead of getting hold of the Lord for ourselves.

I had an experience some while ago in this line. The Lord showed me what a sad thing it would be for me if I were to be isolated from the saints where I would have no one to pray for me. I surely thank the dear Lord for waking me up to this. I surely thank the Lord for many answered prayers of my own since then. Praise the dear Lord!

It has been said by ministers that the Lord will answer YES or NO or WAIT. In the Bible are some examples, as the man who had the legion of devils

cast out. He wanted to go with Jesus but Jesus said NO. "Go home and tell what great things the Lord hath done for thee." You may say, But he answered the request of the devils two times in not sending them into the deep but sending them into the swine. And he granted the request of the people to depart out of their coast, then why not answer the request of this man? Jesus had something better for him, for he opened the way by his testimony, into the hearts of the people to receive Jesus when he returned. Then we have Martha's and Mary's experience, calling for Jesus when their brother was sick, when Jesus said WAIT to them (in his actions if not in words) for he tarried two days before starting to them. Then they thought he was too late. But this worked out for a greater benefit to all of them—the resurrection of Lazarus. The denial or delay meant more to them than if Jesus would have given or granted their request. God knows best, and we can trust Him to give us what He sees will be best for us.

Then we have Paul as another example. He sought the Lord thrice that he would remove the thorn from his flesh, but God said NO but that His grace was sufficient for Paul. We are told that it worked out for him a far greater weight of glory. Paul said, "When I am weak, then am I strong. My strength is made perfect in weakness." So we need to be submissive to God. When he says NO, just say amen; and when He says WAIT, just say amen, and call on Him for grace to bear anything that will bring more glory to His name. Then I am sure it will work out better for us as it did for Paul and the others. When Jesus says NO, we must trust Him to give us something better, as He did these.

In my own experience the Lord gave me YES for my answer for the healing of my eyes, but also WAIT. I did not realize why at the time, but it has worked out a great benefit spiritually, for which I thank Him. I am still waiting as patiently as I know how, and waiting expectantly. Please pray for me that my faith may not waver. According to the natural, my eyes are getting dimmer, but that does not daunt my faith.

I trust this will be a help to someone to see that our dependence is alone in God and the responsibility rests on us to pray the prayer of faith for ourselves, and not to depend too much on other saints. Whether He says YES, NO, or WAIT, let us trust Him fully and faithfully.

Sister F. Atha

### I Love Him

I love Him supremely,  
To serve Him my aim.  
He died upon Calvary,  
He took all my blame.  
Soon trials will be over,  
I'll rise like a dove  
To be with my Saviour  
In mansions above.  
I'll ever reign with Him  
Midst heavenly love.

—Mrs. Paul Carson.

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**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, 3:30 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**

Since there was no "Faith and Victory" paper published for August, it seems to us a long time since we have had the opportunity of writing to our readers through the editorial columns. I wish to testify that my heart is greatly encouraged in the work which he has called us to do in getting the gospel to men by the printed page. The gospel tracts, books, and booklets have been going out in a steady stream to all parts of the world and we had the opportunity of taking tracts and books to several campmeetings and setting them before the people and telling them to be free to take them as we make them as free to them as the air they breathe. We also sent boxes of tracts to be given out in other campmeetings. We do love to see the gospel go to the people, for this world is in an awfully wicked condition. Sin and iniquity are abounding in high and low places. Many preachers tell their people that you cannot expect to live free from sin in this life; and since we get from God what we believe for, such teaching favors the Devil's plan to damn souls in sin. Such teaching is a reflection on and disgraces the power and holiness of God. There are just two families of people in the world. One family that does not sin is the family of God, and the other family that does sin is the family of Satan. Joining church does not get you ready for heaven, but living free from sin with a born-again experience will be the evidence that you are in the Church of God, which is the gateway to heaven. It seems that the Devil has a thousand preachers to God's one in the world, and that accounts for the immense wickedness and iniquity everywhere in evidence. I am convinced that there will be more people who have joined church and make a profession of religion in hell than people outside of the humanly organized churches.

I was talking with a preacher a few weeks ago who taught a sin-you-must religion. He was very zealous on water baptism as if one's salvation depended alone on being baptized. The Lord helped us to get the truth to him that unless he lived free from sin in this life he would not be ready for heaven. This truth seemed to cause a soberness to come to him to some extent. I surely do not recommend joining church, but I do recommend repentance in godly sorrow for your sins; and you must be born from above and have a new life in your soul, and in that state you will be a member in the church of God—the only gateway to heaven. You should never join up with any earthly institution. Keep free in the Lord.

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The three campmeetings which we attended this year seemed to be unusually good and the Lord worked in a very precious way in saving souls, sanctifying believers, and healing bodies. We have also heard from other campmeetings, and the reports are good. A campmeeting is a good place for souls to come to get help for both soul and body. The State Campmeeting at Guthrie was quite well attended and the truth went forth under the anointing and power of

the Spirit. Quite a number of souls were at the altar for help for both soul and body at different times during the meeting, and two or three times there was a breaking up and breaking through.

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The workers are back in the printing plant now, and we are very busy with the printing work. The Lord has sent Bro. Melvin Sharp here from Dayton, Ohio. He is now one of the "Faith and Victory" family of workers and is adapting himself to the work. We are counting on him to be a real consecrated worker for the Lord.

We have a lot of printing ahead to be done. The Lord is also putting it upon us to print another book. The manuscript is almost all together at this writing, but we may not have time to get it printed until in the fall. Pray for us as the burdens are many, and the need is great. The Lord is giving us very good health and our soul is rejoicing in his love. It seems that the older we grow, the nearer and sweeter heaven seems to be. The divine love in our heart is reaching out to every soul, friend and foe alike. We love to live in the "more excellent way." Glory be to his name.

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In Hebrews 2:3 we read, "How shall we escape if we neglect so great salvation: which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him." Truly the salvation of God is a very great thing. It is more important for you to seek and receive this great salvation than any other matter in this life, and that is the very thing that Satan would want you to be the least concerned about. He would have you to neglect this great salvation by keeping your mind occupied with the temporal things of life. In Matt. 16:26 Jesus asks two questions. The first: "For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?" Second: "What shall a man give in exchange for his soul?" In Matt. 6:33 Jesus says, "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." Here is a promise direct from the Saviour himself, and every soul will do well to take heed unto it. God will never fail to keep his covenant with us if we will honor him and obey him. But, oh, how sad it is to see so many putting God off and occupying themselves with nearly everything else but the seeking of the kingdom of God and his righteousness. By so doing they are neglecting the greatest thing in life. O, that every one could know and understand that Jesus Christ is the big hand of God reaching forgiveness of sins to every one that will accept his loving hand. Amos says, "Can two walk together except they be agreed." The only way that you can walk with God is to agree with him and keep agreeing with him through life. His thoughts and ways are as far above our thoughts and ways as the heavens are far above the earth. You can read about this in the sixth and seventh verses of the 55th chapter of Isaiah. Oh, that men would humble their hearts to walk with God and obey his voice of the Scriptures. So many people trifle with God until the good things that he

has for them is hid from their view. Paul says in 2 Cor. 4:3, 4, "But if our gospel be hid, it is hid from them that are lost: In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them." Seeking after the things of this world will blind the mind of a man so that he cannot see the greatness and blessed-goodness of God. In the 12th chapter of Luke, beginning at the 16th verse is the record of a man whose fields brought forth plentifully and he thought within himself: "I will pull down my barns and build greater, and there will I bestow all my fruits and my goods [he left God out]. And I will say to my soul, Soul thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry." But God looked down upon this poor man and said, "Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall these things be which thou hast provided?" Then he said something else: "So is he that layeth up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God." "If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, set your affections on things above, not on things on the earth." Col. 3:1, 2.

## Obituaries

### MY FATHER'S PLEA

When my daddy passed away  
He smiled and said to me:  
"Take Mother, keep her from all harm,  
For I'll be safe in Jesus' arms."

"Then, my son, I ask of you  
To take my Savior, too,  
So you can come and dwell with me  
Throughout all eternity.

"The blessed peace that Christ can give  
Can no where else be found,  
But under Jesus' cleansing blood  
This lasting peace abounds.

"So come, my son, accept this Christ,  
His outstretched arms await.  
And when it comes your time to die,  
He'll take you through the heavenly gates."

—Written by Mr. and Mrs. Braden L. Beers, in memory of their fathers who passed away some years ago.

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Frances nee Smith (Dutton) Bell was born to Demas and Rachel Smith in Mornings Port, La. December 11, 1865 and departed this life at her home in Guthrie, Okla. August 1, 1955, age 89 years, 7 months, and 20 days.

Her young life was filled with hardships, sorrow, and disappointment, consisting of the death of her father, poverty, life with a step-father, disappointment in marriage, and the loss of her infant son; but the Lord seemed to use these things to draw her to Himself. He led her to repentance and salvation and gave her more light and understanding of His Word than her relatives and associates had. He taught her that she should trust Him for her body as well as her soul.

She desired to find a people who understood the Scriptures as she did, and the Lord granted the desires of her heart. She heard of a campmeeting in Okmulgee,

Okl.; so like Abraham of old, she left her home and kindred to go to a country where the Lord was leading her. When she met the saints, she accepted the truth wholeheartedly and claimed the saints as her people. She gave her heart and life in the service of the Lord. She was active in the ministry to which God called her until her health began to fail about three years ago.

Her Spirit-filled life will be a bright guiding star to heaven for others and her messages and testimonies will long linger in the memory of those who heard them.

Her last illness was characterized by patience and a firm hold on the promise which she said the Lord gave to her personally—"I will never leave thee nor forsake thee"—and she calmly waited for the Lord's time to take her to the glorious abode of the soul which she had long expressed a desire to enter where she could shout and sing the praises of the Lord with the angels in heaven.

Surviving relatives are three nieces, one nephew, and a number of other relatives.

Funeral service in the saints' chapel at Guthrie, conducted by Bro. I. Chandler, assisted by Bro. U. Phillips, and Bro. O. C. Porter.

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Mrs. Sarah Florence Coffey, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Cockrell, was born in St. Clair, Mo. Dec. 30, 1879 and departed this life July 1, 1955 at her home near Tecumseh, Okla.

Her first husband, Mr. Linley, passed away, leaving her with three children, and she later married W. H. Coffey, to which union six children were born. She helped to rear nine children and two step-children. Ralph Linley, Paul, Chat, William, and Philip Coffey are the sons. Ovid Nordman, Ollie Morris, Inola Eisenhower, Emma Hawkins, and Lure Way are the daughters (one daughter preceded her in death about three years ago). Besides her children, she leaves her husband, W. H. Coffey, and many other relatives and friends.

She was saved and took her stand with the saints about forty years ago. She enjoyed salvation and lived in such a manner as to hold the confidence of those who beheld her daily life.

The funeral service was conducted at Norman, Okla. by Brothers Sam Barton and Archie Souder. Text: Heb. 9:27, "And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment."

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Sister Berdie Weldon, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. King, was born Feb. 4, 1884 at McKinney, Texas, and departed this life June 23, 1955, age 71 years, 4 mos., and 9 days.

She, with her parents, moved to Oklahoma and settled near Boley where she met and married Webster Weldon. To this union seven children were born, two preceded her in death.

At Boley, during her early life she heard the gospel preached by the pioneer ministers of the church of God, which she accepted and was saved. She faithfully served the Lord for many years, then felt that the Lord had a special work for her to do, which was carrying the gospel. She was faithful in that work for more than twenty-five years. She passed away in Bakersfield, California, her home since 1937.

She leaves to mourn her passing a devoted husband; one daughter, Mattie Williams of Los Angeles; five sons: Robert, Isaiah, and Rosevelt of Bakersfield, Jake of Los Angeles, Horace of Fontana, Calif.; one sister, Mittie Jackson; three brothers, Manley, Boley, and Dudley Spears, 22 grandchildren, 5 great-grandchildren and a host of other relatives and friends.

Funeral Services were conducted at the saints' chapel at Bakersfield by Bro. I. C. Chandler assisted by Bro. Z.

E. Francisco and others. Text: "I have fought a good fight; I have finished my course; I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up a crown for me."

We have lost our dear sweet mother,  
She no more on earth shall roam,  
And there'll never be another  
Who can take her place at home.  
Mother's life was true and faithful,  
And her heart was filled with love,  
Trusting Jesus as her Savior  
Till she joined Him above.  
Some day I shall go to meet her  
Where there'll be no more good-bye;  
I can think of nothing sweeter  
Than our meeting in the skies.—Hazel Blackwell

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Sidney Francet Hinshaw was born near Mesquit, Tex. in 1879 and departed this life June 27, 1955 in California at the age of 76 years, 4 months and three days.

She was united in marriage to J. T. Hinshaw, to which union two children were born: one son, Paul, and one daughter, Ida May.

She was saved in 1910 and has lived a devoted Christian life from that time. She was always a faithful attendant at the church services of the saints until failing health forced her to discontinue this part of her Christian duties during the last two years of her life. She was a person who took great delight in serving others and in doing acts of kindness which would cheer their hearts.

She, with her family, lived in Shawnee, Okla. from 1923 to 1939 and worshiped with the saints in that city during those years. In 1939 they came to Los Angeles and worshiped in the Glendale congregation of saints until the time when failing health forced her out of active service. She will be much missed by all of us, and especially her family, but she has gone to live with Jesus—just left the family of God down here and was united with the family of God in heaven.

She is survived by her husband, J. T. Hinshaw of Pacoima, Calif.; one daughter, Ida May of Pacoima; and one son, Paul of Dallas, Texas; also three grandchildren and four great-grandchildren and a number of other relatives and friends.

Funeral services were conducted in the saints' chapel in Pacoima, Calif. on June 30, 1955 by Sister Opal Wilson assisted by Ostis B. Wilson with songs by Ila Stice and Sylvia Forbes. The remains was taken to Mesquit, Texas for burial.

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Sister Elizabeth Pampa was born February 4, 1874 in Wabash, Indiana, and departed this life July 18, 1955 in Los Angeles, California at the age of 81 years, 5 months and 14 days. She was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William and Adela Adams.

She was united in marriage in 1893 to Sylvester Pampa. To this union two children were born: one son and one daughter. Her husband and daughter preceded her in death. She leaves her son, Sidney; one granddaughter; and three great-grandchildren all of Los Angeles; four sisters and one brother of Michigan and Illinois, and many friends and the saints.

When very young she heard and accepted the truth of the evening light reformation as taught by Bro. D. S. Warner. She moved to Los Angeles in 1927 and worshiped in the Los Angeles congregation, being in the services when she could, and rejoiced in the Lord to know that she was saved. Being very weak in body the last few months, she attended services only a few times; but enjoyed the saints coming in her home, singing and

praying. When she was too weak to sing she would hum the songs as the saints sang. She said the Lord had healed her many times and she was trusting Him for soul and body and waiting on Him, for he knew what was best. Her desire was to have strength to attend the meetings.

Funeral service was conducted in the saints' chapel at Walnut and Naomi Streets in Los Angeles July 23, 1955 by O. B. Wilson, with songs by Ila Stice and Opal Wilson. Interment was in Rosedale Cemetery.

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In Bateful, Miss., Feb. 18, 1892, a daughter, Mollie, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Brown. She departed this life June 30, 1955 at her home in Tulsa, Okla.

She attended school in Springfield, Miss.

From a child, she loved the Lord and wanted to be a Christian. She professed a hope in Christ and joined a denomination, where she remained until she heard the gospel preached in its fulness by the saints of this evening light. She accepted the truth and was saved in the church of God in 1914. Several years ago she felt a call to the ministry, which she accepted. She was ordained and was faithful in this service unto death. She was always at her post of duty, ready to render service when called upon.

In March, 1922, Sister Mollie was united in matrimony to Mr. E. L. Lawrence. He preceded her in death six years ago. She was a faithful and loving wife and did her best to please her husband.

She leaves to mourn her passing, a father, two sisters, three brothers, and a host of relatives and friends.

Funeral service conducted by Bro. Sam Barton assisted by Bro. M. Spears and Bro. U. Phillips. Text: 2 Tim. 4:6; Gal. 6:7.

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Wm. Henry Cleland, son of Alexander S. and Elizabeth Salisbury Cleland, was born Feb. 28, 1878 and passed away July 7, 1955 at his home near Abita Springs, La. He is survived by his wife and five children—two sons, Carl and Cyril; and three daughters, Christine, Florence, and Annie; also two brothers besides other relatives.

We understand he accepted the truth years ago and lived a saved life for some years. He was instrumental in holding up the truth in his neighborhood, so he will be greatly missed by the few saints there.

Funeral service by the writer, some assistance. Texts: Num. 23:10, Job 5:26; and 1 Cor. 15:20-27, 51-56. His body was laid to rest in the family cemetery near his home.

Sister Katherine Key.

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Anna J. Hood, daughter of Bennett and Eleanor Hood was born April 3, 1874 near Forest City, Mo. and passed away August 6, 1955 at her home in Mound City, Mo. at the age of 81 years and four months. She was one of twelve children who have all preceded her in death except one sister Mary who survives her.

She was converted at an early age by holiness teachings and continued in the church of God unto death. She was much loved, and besides her sister, she leaves many nephews and nieces and other relatives and friends.

Funeral service was conducted by Fred Pruitt of Guthrie, Okla. assisted by Bro. Ed Whipple of Forest City, Mo. Text: Job 5:26, "Thou shalt come to thy grave in a full age, like a shock of corn cometh in his season."

Interment: cemetery near Mound City, Mo.

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Winfred Charles Tompkins was born in Centrall Point, Oregon May 14, 1905, and passed away in Springfield, Ore. May 25, 1955, age 50 years. He was born again when he was 15 years old in the church of God and lived faithful unto death.

He leaves a wife, Mattie Tompkins; two sons, Neil, Melvyn; a daughter, Joan; a mother and step-father, Mr. and Mrs. W. O. Weaver; three brothers; four sisters; one step brother and two step sisters and many other relatives and friends. He lived a devoted life to his wife, mother, and church. He fought a good fight, he finished his course and kept the faith.

Gone to my Father and home where many mansions be, I am nearer today to the great white throne, nearer to the crystal sea.

Gone home in everlasting life where these burdens are laid down,

Forever to leave the heavy cross, where I can gain a crown.

Written by his mother, Mrs. W. O. Weaver.

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Sister Ellen Clardy was born to Sandy and Nancy Boyd August 6, 1888 in Hempstead, Ark. and departed this life May 22, 1955; age 67 years, 9 months, and 16 days. She was united in marriage to James Clardy Jan. 26, 1909 at Carn Hill, Ark. To this union five children were born, four boys and one girl. One boy died in infancy.

Sister Clardy met the saints in 1921, accepted the truth, and was saved. In 1944 she and her husband moved to Los Angeles, where she lived for the Lord and trusted him for soul and body to the end. During the last five years she had been failing in health, but she rejoiced much in the Lord and testified many times to complete submission to His will and her readiness to go at any time the Lord called her. A few days before she passed, she told her daughter and husband that she felt the Lord would soon call her home. She was always ready to teach others about the Lord and was especially burdened to teach young parents to train their children. We shall miss her sweet smiles. She has entered the City "where the gates swing outward never."

Bereaved are: her husband, James Clardy; one daughter, Mrs. Essie Gibson of Los Angeles; three sons, Sandy Lewis, Wiley Clinton, of Los Angeles, and Henry Hugh of Detroit; one granddaughter; two great-grandchildren; three brothers and many other relatives and friends. To the family and friends we say:

We may not meet each other here,

But let us live in Heaven's fear,

So when our work on earth is done,

We'll meet around God's Holy Throne.

Funeral service conducted by Brother I. C. Chandler, pastor, assisted by Bro. Johnny Johnson. Text: 2 Cor. 5: 1-4. Interment: Lincoln Memorial Park Cemetery.

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## PRAYER REQUESTS

Please pray for God to save my husband and deliver him from two habits. Satan has him bound hand and foot. I am so burdened for him. I feel that he just must be saved and delivered NOW. Please pray for God to undertake for us financially and provide some very special needs. Thanking you in Jesus' name. Mrs. W. C. Towns.

Dear saints,—I have something I want to mention to you all. Sometime ago I gave some "Faith and Victory" papers out to help other souls. I was a God-called woman when I gave these papers out, but sometime after that I failed my prayer list and became weak before God and the spirit of the devil got into this and caused some trouble and heartaches. Now I am saved again and I am asking you to please pray over this burden and problem. Whatever God wants worked out. I know will be the good clean way. I asked God from the beginning to have his way and I want Him to have all the praise and glory. Please agree in prayer over this, I am trusting Him to hear and answer prayer.

Ora Futch.



Dear ones in Christ,—Will you please pray earnestly for my little 15-year-old girl who is very nervous. It seems to be affecting her mind. She is a Christian girl.  
—A sister in Christ in Arkansas

Mo.—Dear saints everywhere,—Greetings in Jesus' dear name. I am sending a request for my son who has joined the army. He isn't saved and he never has been away from home. Please pray for him that the Lord will hover over him and protect him from harm or danger. Also pray for the healing of my body of bladder and kidney trouble and stomach trouble. I know God is able to undertake for us. My spine bothers me also. And I have an unspoken request. The Lord has been so good to me. I do love to trust Him. Mrs. B. R.

Pray for Bro. J. B. Trinkle of Hardensburg, Ind. His body is badly afflicted and he suffers much pain and misery.

Ministers living in those parts should visit him, and others should write him an encouraging letter. He is a dear man of God and loves the truth of His Word. He is trusting God fully to heal him. Bro. Abbott and I visited him several weeks ago and the Lord wonderfully touched his body, but the enemy since then has brought it back on him.—Editor.

Ill.—Dear saints,—I send you greetings in the wonderful NAME OF JESUS, who was so rich, was willing to lay it all aside, become the poorest among men, that we might be made rich through his poverty. 2 Cor. 8:9. And though he was pure and holy, He was willing to become sin, our sin, that we might be made the righteousness of God through Him (2 Cor. 5:21). And though He was KING and could have commanded legions of servants to obey him, He humbled himself and became the servant of all men. Mark 10:42-45.

Oh, I do praise my God and my Saviour who was willing to love such a sinner as I and wash me from all my sins in his own blood (Rev. 1:5, 6); who brought me in godly sorrow and repentance (Rom. 2:4) to the place where I desired above all else in life to make my peace with God (Rom. 5:1). And when I did, then God gave to me the PEACE OF GOD which PASSETH ALL UNDERSTANDING! (Phil. 4:7). Praise His holy name forever!

I am a widow of 54. My husband, who was a backslidden Baptist minister since he was a young man, found God several weeks before he died, eight years ago. Yes, it pays to hold onto God in prayer. Though through the years it often seemed I must let go, give up—for the devil owned him so completely though he lived in a constant sorrow and grief and hunger for God—yet in the last weeks as I knelt in prayer, calling on God to show me literally the mercy His Word tells us about from cover to cover, He did. He performed a very great miracle to do it, brought from the dead as it were one who hung by a worn thread over the brinks of hell. And God revealed Himself again to this poor man.

Dear ones whose companions are unsaved, and many of you living in an environment of hell itself because of their persecutions and mean things the devil makes them do to torment you, let your heart be very greatly encouraged. Never let go of God for their salvation. He tells us that if we ask anything ACCORDING TO HIS WILL, HE HEARETH US. And if we know that he hears us, we know that we have the things that we have desired and asked of Him (1 John 5:18).

Now he tells us: It is not the will of God that any man perish in sin, but that all should "come to repentance" 2 Pet. 3:9; Ezek. 33:11. And if that loved one has not sinned the death of sin (the unpardonable sin against the Holy Ghost) God will forgive and save him to the utter-

most. 1 John 5:16; Heb. 7:25. I wish I might tell all the story of His miraculous works in the salvation of my husband, but I am afraid space will not permit it. God raised up a dear saint in the early morning hours to pray the prayer of faith in agreement with me, though she did not know the circumstances nor that he was dying then. Yes, God tells us, If two of you shall be agreed as touching ANYTHING that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven.

Beloved, we ought to take this promise of God and begin to practise it and watch God turn our lives into sanctified vessels that will bring glory to HIS NAME. For this IS THE WILL OF GOD, EVEN YOUR SANCTIFICATION—for both he that sanctifieth and THEY WHO ARE SANCTIFIED ARE ALL OF ONE: for which cause He is not ashamed to call them brethren (Heb. 2:11). It is by and through the WILL of GOD and Jesus that we are sanctified through the offering up of our Saviour's body and life for us. Heb. 10:10.

It is the blessed Holy Ghost who takes us out of sectism, division, and by the eternal truth of God and His one Spirit He baptizes us into the one body of God which is the church of the living God and of which Jesus Christ his Son is the head and all the truly saved are members of his body.

Pray for me, dear saints of God. Except for two months of my saved life, I have been isolated. There are numerous modernized churches of God in the surrounding towns which have become worse than the sects because they once had the light. My God and my Saviour and Holy Spirit have fed me with the heavenly manna and performed many miracles for me and done many wonderful works. Praise God. My life was not one of perfect obedience and then God used the rod on me. Sometimes through ignorance, sometimes through spiritual leanness of soul I failed, but never willingly did I ever sin or disobey God. My soul cried out to God in my weakness. Today my soul cries out, for my soul is so hungry for all the righteousness of God. I want to sell my home and move near the saints. For eight years I have tarried because of my aged father (soon 91), and now the word has come from God: "Sell your property." I failed God last year when the door was opened, the sale ready, and took my aged father into my home. Now that sale is gone. Please pray God will send me a buyer. I will try to take step by step and not look ahead to the "closed doors" for God will open them one at a time as he is ready.

I thank God for the friend who sent me the "Faith and Victory" publication. So far it truly measures with God's Word, so I can say yes and amen to it all. I have only had two or three papers so far. I am glad for the "Church and the kingdom are the same" message.

Mrs. Ada Scanlan.



La.—I requested prayer at the Hammond campmeeting in July for a sore thumb that had been giving me much trouble for four or five months. I want to thank all who prayed, as it started improving rapidly the following week and is now almost all right so that I can do anything with it except to write and sew comfortably. X-ray had shown there were bone changes, so I guess the Lord will have to move some bone before I can do everything with it—and I believe He will even do that for me soon. I will thank anyone who cares to pray with me for that blessing.

I have several other hard problems to be settled, and at least one of them is so distressing I feel it is affecting both my health and my spiritual life. I try hard to be calm, and while I sometimes overcome fears, worries, and other emotions, it just seems impossible to acquire any



"sustained" peace. I know positively the Lord knows a way out of everything no matter how complicated our situation is; so I am hoping some good soul or souls who know about the multitude of miseries life can heap on, will cry out with me. It so happens that I live in opposite side of town from the camp grounds and there are other conditions which keep me from getting over there with those sincere folks. I sought these people out when I first came to Hammond and have always been thankful I can contact them even if I can't go there often. Dear Brother and Sister Key are faithful and kind to all who call on them. I hope all of you who have people of this faith near you are properly thankful. I try to be thankful for a few blessings I do have even though I need so much.

Very truly,

Mrs. I. Warner.

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Okla.—Dear saints,—Greetings in the precious name of Jesus. I am still saved and mean to go all the way with the dear Lord. Truly God is good to me. I don't know of anything I would like to do more than to live to please God. I am praying hard and living to all I know and understand to please God. He has been wonderful to me and good in answering my prayer.

I would like to mention what the Lord did for me one night during last winter when Bro. and Sister Francisco were here from California. I was suffering with heart trouble very badly and could hardly do my house work. I could do only a little at a time. I went to the altar to be anointed and prayed for. The next day I was still suffering, and I was reading some tracts. The Lord showed me to rebuke the devil. I did and got up and went for a long walk. I can do my house work and everything now by God's help. I can't give Him enough thanks for what He has done for me; nor can I tell all he has done for me. But I can say he has wonderfully blessed me during my saved life and before. A few weeks ago I had a very bad cold and the weather was bad. I could not notify any of the saints except by writing and I was not able to write. That was the worst cold I ever had. I was so weak and would feel so bad until I would just pray for the dear Lord to heal me. The devil would try to tell me if I took a certain kind of medicine I would not have to suffer, but thank God I did suffer it out and the dear Lord truly healed me and gave me the victory over the enemy. Thank the Lord. I never did give heed to any of the devil's trials, nor did I want to. I just wanted the Lord closer to me. The harder the aches and pains were the more I prayed to God.

Last week the devil brought another very serious test upon me. I had what some call heart burns, which made me unable to lie down. The pains were running from my stomach up to my chest so badly until I felt like a large side knot inside me. So I prayed and got the victory from God and the dear Lord wonderfully healed my body of that, for which I thank Him very much.

I have some unspoken requests. I would like for the dear saints to remember me in their prayers because I know that without the saints prayers and God's goodness we cannot do anything. Pray for me that I will live humble at the feet of Jesus and please Him in everything I say or do. —A young saint who wants to live to please God more than anything else.

Clara Barnett.

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British West Indies—Greetings to all the dear saints,—I am glad to report victory in my soul since the Lord saved and sanctified me and this old world holds nothing for me. For three years the dear Lord has kept me under His wings. My soul is so happy in him, for He gives me peace and joy in my soul. I ask all of the dear saints to pray for me that I will keep

true to Him. No matter how hard the battle will be I mean to keep right on, praise the Lord.

Your sister in Christ,

Cassie Bodden

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Mo.—I want to testify for the Lord. Jesus never fails if we will only believe and trust. In July my feet were swelling badly and they became very red and feverish. I told Jesus that if He would put his hand on my feet and heal them I would send a testimony. I know Jesus heals, for he has healed me many times and I give Him all the praise and glory. I want to stay true and be faithful to make heaven my home. I know I will not have to cross the river of death alone because Jesus will go with me all the way. That way will be the sweetest way, and there will be no sorrow there. We'll always be happy there. —Eva O'Brien

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N. Y.—Dear saints everywhere,—Greetings in Jesus' dear name. For some time I have been telling the Lord if he would heal some of us I would write my testimony in the "Faith and Victory" paper. The Lord has been wonderful to us—husband, myself and three sons, Harry 16, Ralph 13, and Cameron 9. We are each one thankful for the way the Holy Spirit led us out of the world, confusion, and sin into the Truth, the only Bible way. How it brings light that shines forth from God's Holy Word! We are glad we know that we are serving a living God and have experienced His power, not only in saving our souls but also in healing our bodies in times of hurts or sickness.

It was a little over a year ago that my husband got lime in his eyes. They swelled nearly shut and half blinded him. We just trusted the Lord, and in three or four days the pain was gone and the pus cleared up, and we were thankful to God. At different times since that some of us were sick and Jesus, the Great Physician, healed without medicine of this world. Just about three weeks ago Ralph was sick from Sunday to Wednesday evening with aches and pains in his head and neck and under his ears it was swollen. He was up on Tuesday a little while and I told him to get up and eat supper with us. He fainted when we were gathered around the table. His Dad carried him back to bed. Then Wednesday evening I was reading to him from the "Faith and Victory" of Sister Robinson and the way God helped her and healed the children's mouths; and he sat up and said, "The Lord has healed me." He turned two somersaults on his head in bed and the ache was all gone. He went to the hay field with his Dad on Friday. He was weak from not eating, so I kept him at the house on Thursday.

One of the things that has given us much joy is that my 75-year-old Dad has received this truth. He came up with us ten days (from June 3rd to 13th) and took back tracts and booklets to pass out, and he is at peace and rest in receiving sanctification. He is blind and can only tell light from dark, but praise God he sees spiritual light. He would enjoy hearing from any of you if you have time to write to him. His address is Cameron Davis, Sr., 716 Water St., Indiana, Pa.

I want to write some encouragement to the children. It means much to me to see little ones 2, 3 and 4, 5 and on up through to the teens and older trust and witness for Jesus and live for Him in their little lives or young lives. Each of us older ones should be drawn closer to Jesus and his wonderful love when we see the smaller ones put perfect trust and confidence in God. We can understand when Matthew 18:3

says, "Except you become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven." We really see how we are nothing and that we are just beginning in this newness of life. Let us send many prayers up to Christ our Redeemer for the younger ones that He might strengthen and hold them in His everlasting arms. Phil. 4:13 was my help in time of need when I was first saved. Also Phil. 4:19 is sweet.

We trust souls are being saved in the campmeetings, and altho we can't be with you in body, we are in spirit and praying for each one.

Teddy, we are enjoying three songs that Brother Carver sent us on tape, three songs you sang at Hammond, La. campmeeting in '54. We would enjoy some tapes from '55, Bro. Carver, if you have time, please. Also we have heard Sister Simpson's message on "Tale Bearing," five or six times and it is better every time we play it.

May God bless and guide each saint closer to Him and draw many more into the fold before it is too late. Please pray for us here in N. Y. Let us each one live and be drawn closer to the Lord as we can not stand still nor turn to the left or right, and I can't see anything to turn backward to, can you? Isa. says in 35:8 that this is a highway of holiness, and Jesus says He is the Way, the Life, and the Truth, so may each one stay on the Highway to help someone else on Jesus way as He is the only Way. Praise His name forever. I trust this might encourage someone as many of the good testimonies have helped us. Love in Jesus, Bro. and Sister Halladay and boys

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Kansas—We greet the saints in Christian love,—Tonight finds us with a strong desire to follow the Lord all the way. When we say "all the way" it means a deep consecration and much self denial because we know not what the future holds. We have many promises in God's Word to claim as our own and need not fear tho the Lord may lead us through deep water. We are satisfied with the plan of salvation and thankful for grace to live accordingly.

We feel impressed to tell of some benefits we have received from the Lord. When our little girl, Marcia, was four weeks old a rash broke out on her face. Her face was badly broken out for several months. We looked earnestly to the Lord for healing. At times her face would clear up but would break out again. We did not feed her cereals and fruit for awhile, but still the rash would come and go. We wondered if it was the soap, oil or lotion we used on her body. We stopped using them but couldn't see any improvement in her face. Some felt that she was allergic to milk. Milk is an important food to a baby. We felt that the Lord would be pleased to heal her body of the condition existing that caused the rash. Others were watching to see what we were going to do for the baby. Our faith was tried, however we held to God's promises to us, and by His grace we kept courage. He taught us lessons of faith that have proved a blessing to our souls. Then we felt impressed to have Marcia anointed. The rash began to disappear leaving her face clear. We thank the Lord for freedom to trust Him. He blessed our souls, increased our faith, and renewed our courage to press on in the way of truth. We can testify that "the Lion of Judah has broken every chain and given us the victory again and again."

In Christian love, Gene and Dora Lela Beisly

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Ill.—Dear saints of "Faith and Victory,"—I write again in Jesus' dear name. Another skin cancer came on the other side of my face in June. I told Jesus if He

would please heal it for me I would testify to it. It is perfectly healed and my health is good at present. I surely give all the praise and honor to Jesus.

I desire to request prayer for a girl who is very sick. Also pray for all of my loved ones and my husband in his weakness. We need Jesus our Saviour for both soul and body. Best of all, when we yield unto Him we are no longer of the world. I am striving to make heaven my home. My name was Martha Williams before I was married. A sister in Christ, Martha Knox.

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Ireland—Dear Bro. in Christ Jesus the Lord,—I hope this finds you and all the Christians out there well. I am still going on. There is no other way in my view, only the way of the cross leads home. I see in the holy Scriptures that if any sin wilfully after they have received a knowledge of the truth there remaineth no more sacrifice for sin; but a fearful looking forward to judgment. I take it that it is better not to know the way of life than to know it and turn wilfully to a life of sin.

I was taught a lesson this morning. I looked over my wall here out to the sea. I saw a good thick piece of board (wood) coming in on the waves. I meant to get it and as I looked I thought I had a good chance of getting it in good time. When I first saw it I thought I would have to get a long stick to bring it in, then I looked again and it was coming in so close I thought I'd not need a stick but could reach it with my water boots on. I saw it was close in and I went out to get it. Instead of hurrying to get this good piece, I picked up a couple of pieces nearer me and walked on. I could not see the big piece at first. I scanned my eyes along the water front and went along. When I got to the far end I saw the good thick piece had gone out again and was going around a building out of reach. I looked at it sailing away beyond my reach. One minute within reach and the next beyond reach. I thought that is like our opportunities. If we make haste to sieze them, we get them. If we delay they never come again. It was a fast moving tide. I am thinking of that verse: "I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work."

I see a lot of sinning among professing Christians.

I was in a Brethren Scripture House yesterday, and as I looked at the women and girls that were serving, I noticed every one had their hair cut and curled. Oh, how grieved I felt. I was afraid to look up for fear of seeing any more of them. The three who were at my counter were all following the world and fashions. If my hair were cut I could not speak of Jesus, I'd be ashamed, for I think they'd say of me like I heard was said of someone else: "I can't hear what you say for thinking of what you are."

Margaret Dundas,

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Okla.—To the dear saints of God,—Some of you may remember and some may not—I am Sister Lueanna Patterson and was with the saints about twelve or thirteen years ago in Watonga, Okla. I was saved under Bro. Sanders. All of the saints moved off and I was left alone at that time. My husband was living then. I went back into the world doing things that were not pleasing to God. I had an unsaved husband, but I do not blame him for my going back in the world because I have learned that if God is for us he is more than all the world against us. I was weak and not able to stand. But since that time I have longed for the saints of God. My husband and I were separated for eight years and five years of that time I did not know where he was. I began to pray and seek God for my soul and God began to move. He sent my husband back. He was here with me and the children for

eleven months and then he died. Truly it left me lonely but I kept praying for the Lord to comfort me some way and the Lord wonderfully lifted my burden. Still I had a longing to just see some of the saints, and the Lord sent a niece of mine from California by and they took me to Okla. City one night. I felt like the son who left home and wasted his living and then came back to his father and wanted to be a servant in the house of his father.

My address is 811 N. Grand, El Reno, Okla. if some want to write to me, or if some ministers feel led to come and have meeting with me I will be glad. I have six little children. The Lord gave me a home and I have given my life and all to God. I want all the saints to pray that the Lord will make a way so I can meet with the saints again. Lueanna Patterson.

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**Little Things**

Dear young reader, have you ever thought: "How great a matter a little fire kindleth," and "the tongue is a fire" (James 3:5-6)? As fire when seen going astray causes alarm, so words unfitly spoken should. A little unkind thought may grow and cause a few little words spoken in anger to wound a loved one until he (or she) never recovers. Have you thought when you did not like the actions of someone that it may be the reaction of an unkind word you spoke? How many idle words and deeds will be given an account of in the day of judgment (Matt. 12:36)? The little lessons are the hardest to learn. 1 Thess. 12:36 tells us to study to be quiet. For "in the multitude of words there wanteth not sin" Prov. 10:19. "Be still and know that I am God." Ps. 46:10.

In Song of Solomon it is written that the little foxes spoil the vines. Satan does not tempt us to do great big sins until he captures and binds us by little things that annoy every day and sap our spiritual life. If we do unkind things, say unkind words, think unkind thoughts, they will grow and we shall reap the unkindness we have sown.

When we ask God for something, it may be a little thing that keeps the answer from coming as in the case of Naaman when the testimony of a little maid caused him to seek healing for leprosy. When he was told such a little thing to do, he became angry. But healing did not come until he obeyed. 2 Kings 5.

The same spirit that was in Ananias and Sapphira (Acts 5:1-11) is in the world today. This spirit says, "Keep back a little of the truth, a little part due the other party." One man refused to take a nickel back which he received in too much change as a boy. Victory did not come.

If we stay little in our eyes, God can use us. If we get puffed up we may be as Saul. When he was little in his own eyes the Lord anointed him king over Israel (1 Sam. 15:17). After he ruled awhile he fought God, wanted Jonathan to reign instead of David, as God appointed. Chap. 20:30-31. Later he filled a suicide grave (chap. 31:4).

When the widow made Elijah a little cake, there was no way to obtain meal to make more; but she believed God to the saving of her household and the raising of her son from death (1 Kings 17). We will never know the comfort and cheer a word, visit, tele-

phone call, letter, card, or smile has brought to some lonely heart. Jesus honored the widow's mite (Luke 21:1-4).

Prov. 30:24-28 speaks of four little things that are wise. God wants us to be as wise as they. First: As ants, we should prepare in blessings (summer) when things are going well for trials ahead. Second: As conies, we should build our house on the Rock, Christ Jesus. Third: As locusts, we have no earthly king, but the love of God binds us together in one band. Fourth: As spiders, we can carry the gospel to forbidden places through faith in God.

Love is a little word of four letters, but has more compelling power than any other word. God so loved the world that he gave his Son. When we get our hearts filled with God's love for mankind, He will help us to pray, to do, to go, or to send (maybe all) something to help humanity. Most professing Christians know VERY, VERY LITTLE about divine LOVE. Dear young reader, it is our privilege to seek more divine love. It will help us to think of the little things that will help others and do them.

Yours for lost souls, Laura H. Birden

— :: —  
**"It Is Hard for Thee"**

"And he said, Who art thou, Lord? And the Lord said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest: IT IS HARD FOR THEE to kick against the pricks." Acts 9:5.

My dear friend, look with me into these words that were spoken to Saul as he journeyed down the road to Damascus with authority to bring men or women who chose to love Jesus bound to Jerusalem. The enemy of Saul's soul had blinded his eyes to truth and he was very zealous to destroy anyone who decided to leave the teachings of his religious belief and follow the teachings of Jesus. He loved the praise that was acclaimed to him when he dared to go to homes and other places and bring accusation against those who loved Jesus and bring them into court. That praise was sweet to him. It caused him to put forth great effort to do those things that brought praise to himself among the multitudes. The word of God makes us to know that there is some pleasure, joy, and sweetness to sin (Job 20:5, 12; Prov. 20:17). But the Bible makes us to know that the "joy of the hypocrite is but for a moment." There is no lasting joy or pleasure. Saul did have that momentary joy and pleasure when he "profited in the Jews' religion above many my equals in mine own nation, being exceeding zealous of the traditions of my fathers." Gal. 1:14. But it was only for those moments when the praise was given. Then when Saul got alone and he felt the anger, murder, hatred working in his soul against others and the Spirit of the Lord would come to talk to him and he felt the convicting hand of the Lord upon him making him know he was doing wrong and maybe he would begin to feel he should not persecute the saints any more. Then when he would be in the group and again he felt the force of the enemy of his soul pushing him on and again he was out doing wrong. Surely he was mis-

erable and it was **HARD** for him to keep on doing the things he was doing. The Bible teaches us that "the way of the transgressor is hard." I am sure that Saul found it hard to kick against the pricking of his conscience and the Spirit of God. The restlessness that would take hold of his soul, the feeling of remorse, the cries of those whom he helped to destroy—at times all would sweep down upon him and make him feel the weight of sin upon his soul. But praise the Lord, he listened one day to the voice of the Lord and he turned completely away from those sinful things. He confessed his sins to God and God forgave him and put the joys of salvation into his soul. Oh, how happy he was to find that lasting joy to his soul! This joy, pleasure, and sweetness was far above any he had found in sin. It was lasting and not just for a moment. He could lay down his head on his pillow and rest at night with a clear conscience and a knowledge that if God would call for him he would be ready to go. How wonderful! I am sure he understood Moses as he told us that Moses chose "rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season; esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompense of the reward." Heb. 11: 25, 26.

Dear friend, I am sure **IT IS HARD FOR THEE** to go on in sin. The remorse, the weight of sins, the uneasiness, and restlessness that takes hold of you at times is terrible, **IT IS HARD**. O won't you do as Saul did? Turn to the Lord, ask forgiveness, and ask him to take away the load of sin from your soul and bring peace, joy, happiness that is lasting and precious? Nothing in sin is compared to that heavenly joy. The devil only has one purpose in mind and that is to weave his net tighter and tighter around your soul until he can take you to his eternal abode of damnation. Awaken to your condition before it is too late! Escape for your life! Let Jesus be your master and he will guide you through life and take you to that wonderful home above where all is peace and joy. I am sure you agree to the words spoken out of heaven to Saul: "It is hard for thee to kick against the pricks." Won't you be saved today?

—Mrs. Marie Miles

### THE UNDENIABLE TRUTH

John 5:25, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, the hour is coming, and **NOW** is [now as present time] when the dead [dead in sin] shall hear the voice of the Son of God: [this is the first resurrection] and they that hear shall live."

They live and reign with Christ on earth to fulfill John 4:23, 24, which reads as follows: "But the hour cometh, and **NOW** is [see\* it reads like the above saying, "and now is"] when the true worshippers [see! again He says, "true worshippers"] shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship Him."

"God is a spirit: and they that worship Him must [see! Jesus says, they must] worship him in spirit

and in truth." This is your reign with Christ on earth while keeping his commandments and walking in his light.

And following this is the second resurrection as related in John 5:28, 29, which reads: "Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming [in the future] in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, and shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life, and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation."

This is the total sum: "Hear his commandments, do them and live, or refuse and die. Here you have in your hand Life and Death, choose which you will.

Choose life and keep the commandments and victory is assured by Jesus Christ our Lord.

—H. C. Erdman

### The Lord's Coming

In answer to a question, a writer in a recent religious publication said that two things must take place before Jesus comes. One was the preaching of the gospel to all the world, and second, the unity of God's people for which Jesus prayed.

We will say very positively that both of these have been fulfilled. The gospel has been preached, and the unity of God's people has been experienced. God, himself, preached the gospel to Adam and Eve after they sinned. Adam and Eve taught it to their sons. This was somewhere in the far east. Noah preached it to all the living world in his day. Abraham and the prophets preached it. Christ and the apostles preached the gospel in Palestine. It spread over Europe and Africa. These eastern countries have had the gospel preached to them and have rejected it and gone into infidelity and heathendom. Now this western world and islands of the sea have had the gospel preached in them and they are fast rejecting the gospel and going into idolatry, infidelity and worldliness. There is no Scripture anywhere that teaches that the gospel must be returned to those countries and preached to them again. For the last fifty years idolatry and infidelity have spread faster than Christianity. More converts are being made to heathen religions today than there are to Christianity. The gospel has been preached to all the world and this is one of the proofs that we are near the end of the world.

Christ's prayer has been answered. It was answered at Pentecost. God's people were one heart and one soul. It has been answered in the lives of many at different times in this Christian era. I have seen an answer to this prayer. I have seen multitudes of God's people who were of one heart and one soul.

The writer referred to above says, "Should Christ come soon Christianity as a world religion has largely failed of its mission." This world will never see Christianity established as a world religion. There is no promise nor statement in the Bible that says it shall. The Bible does speak directly to the contrary. The nearer we get to the end of time, the less Christianity there will be in the world. In the very nature of things, God could not and would not destroy a Chris-

tian world. He would have saved Sodom if He could have found ten righteous people in it. There was not enough righteous to save Sodom. As it was in the days of Lot so shall it be in the coming of the Son of man. There will not be enough Christians to save the world, therefore it shall burn, and we are getting very near that time. This people, who this writer thinks are destined under God to bring the world into this unity of which he speaks are far from experiencing the unity they once enjoyed. Instead of bringing divided Christendom into a unity, they are fast taking their place as one of the sects in divided Christendom.

There is not one single prophecy which the Bible states is to come to pass before Christ comes but what has come to pass or is now passing. The next event we are to look for is the coming of the Christ Himself. It is now as it was in the days of Noah and Lot. It is now perilous times. It is now that men's hearts are failing them. Read Luke 21:26. Verse 27 tells us that when we see the world in the condition spoken of in verse 26 then we shall see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. Men's hearts are now failing them for fear, and for looking after those things that are coming on the earth. Some are committing suicide through this very fear. We are right in that very time now, and it will continue to grow worse until Christ breaks through the clouds and claims His own.

—C. E. Orr

### I Talk To Jesus

I talk to Jesus daily,  
I call on Him in prayer,  
Any time I need Him  
I find He's waiting there.

He takes my hand in sorrow  
And keeps my soul at rest  
And as I do His bidding  
He shows a way that's best.

You'll always find Him waiting  
If you desire to call,  
His throne of grace and mercy  
Is open to us all.

If your heart is weary  
Off on that lonely road,  
Give yourself to Jesus,  
He'll share your heavy load.  
—Lucille Griffen

### MEETING REPORTS

The first one came on at Hammond, La., as was announced in "Faith and Victory" and it surely was a real success. Many sought the Lord for spiritual help and found the Lord true to His promises. It was reported by those that live there as one of the best ever held there. There was a rich melting spirit of unity felt throughout this meeting fellowship flowed from heart to heart. As I had never been in the deep south, I surely was glad to

meet with the dear ones who live there. I had no trouble in flowing together in unity, as it is a product of God's love, and to have unity and fellowship consists only in each soul walking in love and light and not in particular localities or states.

Our next meeting was in Jena, La. where Sister Ruth Murphy is pastor. The meeting was a continuation of the Hammond, La. Campmeeting, as these two campmeetings work much in perfect harmony together. This campmeeting was in much evidence of being led of the Lord, and as a result, God did bless in all lines. A number came to the altar for spiritual, as well as physical, help. God met them, being true to His Word. They had been needing rain, which soon came down in refreshing showers. Five were buried in the watery grave and arose to walk in newness of life. The preaching was thorough and radical, yet in much love and anointing.

We left Jena for Monark Springs National Campmeeting which began July 22nd. It was said that about forty ministers were present to preach the pure truth, and it seemed that souls were converted to God whether it was a salvation sermon or just doctrinal. Conviction came heavy on the Wednesday night service. It was said over fifty came to the altar. All together there were about 125 at the altar during the campmeeting (as near as we could find out), and we had three separate baptizings. Forty-two were buried in the watery grave and arose to walk in newness of life. This meeting was what we expected, only was much better. The success of this meeting was summed up in one vital Bible truth: "They were all together," and not a spirit of opposition was felt on the campground. No doubt the enemy was there, but was afraid to come out in the open for fear of detection. So God worked. This meeting will go on record as a revival of power and old-time conviction.

I observed among the younger saints a missionary spirit. At different times many were led by others to the altar of prayer for salvation. A missionary spirit always follows souls who have a born-again experience.

Much improvement has been done on the camp ground during the past year. One of the latest improvements was an ice house patterned after a real refrigerated plant in which ice could be kept indefinitely. Other needed improvements were made also. Let us plan to have a better campmeeting next year than this one.

Yours for the salvation of lost souls and for the edifying of the saints,  
E. M. Zinn.

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### YOUNG PEOPLE'S REPORT

The Young People's services at Monark Springs, Mo. were very precious. Several of them told how the Lord helped them through their trials, temptations, and oppositions of the enemy of their souls.

The Young People have a missionary spirit. A person from Louisiana is learning the Spanish Language. It seems like the Lord will spread the Gospel in the lands to the south of the United States. The Lord seems to be calling out and seeking others to live in this wonderful way for Him. During the Wednesday night service the conviction was strong upon the sinners. The Lord wonderfully used the young people in getting unsaved ones to the altar.

There was a large attendance of young people at the campmeeting. There was an average of about 55 young people in the six services that I attended. The meeting generally started about 4:00 o'clock and lasted until the supper bell rang at 5:30 in the evening.

Exhortation was given to keep prayerful and watchful and to read the Bible every day. Brother Chandler

of California gave a wonderful exhortation to the young people during the last Sunday meeting. He told how the Lord had saved him at the age of six years. The Lord made his life light and happy. He told that during his childhood years he played as the other boys, but there were troubles, trials, and temptations for him to endure.

He told the young people to live a holy life, to read and pray and to look to the Lord for our strength. We should not look on the evil things of this world, but to the Lord. If we look on the evil things, the enemy has a chance to get us on his road away from the Lord. Where our heart is, there is our treasure also. He said that God has sufficient grace for each one of us.

He stressed the importance of starting early in life to serve the Lord. We remember Saul and David were men of God who started early in life to serve the Lord. If we want to be strong men and women for God, we should start while we are young. He did not fail to state that we should honor our parents in the Lord. It is the only commandment with promise. It is right in the eyes of God. He finished in stating that "Humility is the foundation of the Christian life."

The young people's services in Guthrie were led of the Lord. It seemed that during the Monark Campmeeting several of the young people were saved for the Guthrie Campmeeting. There were about fifty in both of the Sun. services. The Lord seemed to bless and to encourage hearts in the right way. Several of the Louisiana young people were at the services. May the Lord help our young people, who are the church of tomorrow, to live low down at the feet of Jesus and heed His biddings from time to time is my prayer. May the older ones get under the burden of prayer that the Lord will keep our young people from the evils of the world. —William Weir.

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## IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS ON NATIONAL CAMPGROUND

The 18th annual National Campmeeting of the Church of God which closed on July 31st at Neosho (Monark Springs), Mo. counted the largest attendance so far. On the first Sunday around 500 were in attendance, and between 200 and 300 resided on the grounds throughout the meeting. Facilities on the grounds to care for those attending were taxed almost to the limit, and it was clearly evident in every department that much larger additions and improvements must be made before the meeting next year.

In the business meeting several improvements were suggested and discussed. The three most urgent needs are as follows: (1) Construction of a wing on east side of tabernacle to provide for more seating capacity. (2) Construction of a mouse and squirrel proof storage room for the tents, mattresses, bedding and cots. (3) Construction of modern, sanitary restrooms, washrooms and showers. By almost a unanimous vote of those attending the business meeting, the last named project for sanitary facilities was expressed to be the most urgently needed. In fact, if the health department would inspect our present facilities, they might close the meeting completely. Therefore, this improvement will be completed first, provided the funds are supplied. This project is the most expensive and is estimated to cost around \$3,000.00. However, if ALL those who attended or are interested in the National Campmeeting will make an offering for these improvements by Nov. 15th this year, they will be ready for use at the next campmeeting. It will be necessary to start the work this autumn in order to complete the project by the proper time.

In 2 Cor. 9:7 the Apostle Paul sets forth a purpose plan in gospel giving. "Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver." Saints with a 100 per cent consecration will be listening for the Lord to tell them how much to purpose to give or pledge for these projects in His great cause.

Let us be prompt and send our offerings and pledges as soon as possible to Bro. Ralph Beisly, R. 5, Coffeyville, Kans. The trustees will get the work started on these projects as soon as the means are provided.

—L. D. Pruitt, Secy.-Treas.

## 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.

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

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## BIBLE STUDY

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

## WORSHIP REVIVED IN JERUSALEM

September 4, 1955

Printed Portion Ezra 3:1, 3, 10-11; Haggai 1:7-9, 14; Zechariah 4:6-9.

Ezra 3:1. And when the seventh month was come, and the children of Israel were in the cities, the people gathered themselves together as one man to Jerusalem.

3. And they set the altar upon his bases; for fear was upon them because of the people of those countries: and they offered burnt offerings thereon unto the Lord, even burnt offerings morning and evening.

10. And when the builders laid the foundation of the temple of the Lord, they set the priests in their apparel with trumpets, and the Levites the sons of Asaph with cymbals, to praise the Lord, after the ordinance of David king of Israel.

11. And they sang together by course in praising and giving thanks unto the Lord; because he is good, for his mercy endureth for ever toward Israel. And all the people shouted with a great shout, when they praised the Lord, because the foundation of the house of the Lord was laid.

Haggai 1:7. Thus saith the Lord of hosts; Consider your ways.

8. Go up to the mountain, and bring wood, and build the house; and I will take pleasure in it, and I will be glorified, saith the Lord.

9. Ye looked for much, and, lo, it came to little; and



when ye brought it home, I did blow upon it. Why? saith the Lord of hosts. Because of mine house that is waste, and ye run every man unto his own house.

14. And the Lord stirred up the spirit of Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and the spirit of Joshua the son of Josedech, the high priest, and the spirit of all the remnant of the people; and they came and did work in the house of the Lord of hosts, their God.

Zech. 4:6. Then he answered and spake unto me, saying, This is the word of the Lord unto Zerubbabel, saying, Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the Lord of hosts.

7. Who art thou, O great mountain? before Zerubbabel thou shalt become a plain: and he shall bring forth the headstone thereof with shoutings, crying, Grace, Grace unto it.

8. Moreover the word of the Lord came unto me, saying,

9. The hands of Zerubbabel have laid the foundation of this house; his hands shall also finish it; and thou shalt know that the Lord of hosts hath sent me unto you.

Memory Selection: Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the Lord of hosts. Zechariah 4:6.

Practical Truth: A real revival of worship in any person's life is attended with spiritual blessing and joy.

#### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

"Then Zerubbabel - - and Joshua - - the high priest, with all the remnant of the people, obeyed the voice of their God, and the words of Haggai the prophet, as the Lord their God had sent him, and the people did fear before the Lord" (Hag. 1:12). The Lord said, "Consider your ways" (Hag. 1:5, 7); and Haggai told them the Lord's message - - "I am with you, saith the Lord" (Hag. 1:13). The Lord also told Zechariah to say unto them, "Turn ye unto me, saith the Lord of hosts, and I will turn unto you, saith the Lord of hosts" (Zech. 1:3). "Thus saith the Lord; I am returned to Jerusalem with mercies" (Zech. 1:16), "and the Lord shall yet comfort Zion, and shall yet choose Jerusalem" (Zech. 1:17). These are wonderful promises to the returned who had been captives, but notice the part that they were to take in the matter. They were to turn unto the Lord, and then He could turn to them. We do well to turn as God says, then He can say to us, "I have caused thine iniquity to pass from thee" (Zech. 3:4). Truly it is "not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the Lord of hosts." What would a Christian do without the Spirit of God? Nothing. Paul says, "Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his" (Rom. 8:9). That is plain language.

#### STRUGGLE FOR SURVIVAL

September 11, 1955

Printed Portion .....Nehemiah 5:6-9, 21-23; 12:27, 43.

Neh. 4:6. So built we the wall; and all the wall was joined together unto the half thereof: for the people had a mind to work.

7. But it came to pass, that when Sanballat, and Tobiah, and the Arabians, and the Ammonites, and the Ashdodites, heard that the walls of Jerusalem were made up, and that the breaches began to be stopped, then they were very wroth,

8. And conspired all of them together to come and to fight against Jerusalem, and to hinder it.

9. Nevertheless we made our prayer unto our God, and set a watch against them day and night, because of them.

21. So we labored in the work: and half of them held the spears from the rising of the morning till the stars appeared.

22. Likewise at the same time said I unto the people, Let every one with his servant lodge within Jerusalem, that in the night they may be a guard to us, and labour on the day.

23. So neither I, nor my brethren, nor my servants, nor the men of the guard which followed me, none of us put off our clothes, saving that every one put them off for washing.

12:27. And at the dedication of the wall of Jerusalem they sought the Levites out of all their places, to bring them to Jerusalem, to keep the dedication with gladness, both with thanksgivings, and with singing, with cymbals, psalteries, and with harps.

43. Also that day they offered great sacrifices, and rejoiced: for God had made them rejoice with great joy: the wives also and the children rejoiced: so that the joy of Jerusalem was heard even afar off.

Memory Selection: And they said, Let us rise up and build. So they strengthened their hands for this good work. Nehemiah 2:18.

Practical Truth: Leaders with vision are needed who can inspire others to cooperate in work for the advancement of the kingdom of God.

#### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

"The people had a mind to work" (v. 6). Much of the battle of life is to have a decision to make an effort by the help of God. Notice the way Sanballat and Tobiah, the Arabians, Ammonites, and the Ashodites had of expressing their envy and jealousy toward God's work and wanted to hinder it (vs. 7, 8). So they did with our Savior. They delivered him to Pilate because of envy (Matt. 27:18). But Nehemiah was a man of prayer—"Nevertheless we made our prayer unto our God" (v. 9). God brought their council to naught, in answer to their prayer (v. 15). Notice how their enemies worked. To start with they ridiculed God (Neh. 2:19; 4:2-3), then they were going to use violence but Nehemiah prayed (4:8, 11), then they used slander (6:6-7). Intimidation is another way (6:10), but that too was refused by Nehemiah, for God was his helper and he did not need to hide.

The enemy of our souls has many, many ways of trying to get the true Christian to get into his net, but constant prayer to God will give victory in every case. "But thanks be to God, who giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ" (I Cor. 15:57). "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord" (I Cor. 15:58).

#### GOD'S CALL TO RIGHTEOUSNESS

September 18, 1955

Printed Portion: ..... Malachi 3:1-6, 13-18.

1. Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me: and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the Lord of hosts.

2. But who may abide the day of his coming? and who shall stand when he appeareth? for he is a refiner's fire, and like fullers' soap:

3. And he shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver:



and he shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the Lord an offering in righteousness.

4. Then shall the offering of Judah and Jerusalem be pleasant unto the Lord, as in the days of old, and as in former years.

5. And I will come near to you to judgment; and I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, and against the adulterers, and against false swearers, and against those that oppress the hireling in his wages, the widow, and the fatherless, and that turn aside the stranger from his right, and fear not me, saith the Lord of hosts.

6. For I am the Lord, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed.

13. Your words have been stout against me, saith the Lord. Yet ye say, What have we spoken so much against thee?

14. Ye have said, It is vain to serve God: and what profit is it that we have kept his ordinance, and that we have walked mournfully before the Lord of hosts?

15. And now we call the proud happy; yea, they that work wickedness are set up; yea, they that tempt God are even delivered.

16. Then they that feared the Lord spake often one to another: and the Lord hearkened, and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the Lord, and that thought upon his name.

17. And they shall be mine, saith the Lord of hosts, in that day when I make up my jewels; and I will spare them, as a man spareth his own son that serveth him.

18. Then shall ye return, and discern between the righteous and the wicked, between him that serveth God and him that serveth him not.

**Memory Selection:** Have we not all one father? hath not one God created us? why do we deal treacherously every man against his brother . . .? Mal. 2:10.

**Practical Truth:** . . . God has made possible righteous living on part of all, and that is what he expects of us.

#### COMMENTS AND APPLICATIONS

The dictionary definition of righteousness is "doing what is right". So when God calls for a righteous life he means for us to do right. An effort should be made.

The human is prone to a life of ease, (Amos 6:1)

God expects more—we are to seize,

Lay hold upon eternal life, (I Tim. 6:12)

The blessings then will be rife.

In order for a man to do right, the Lord must clean out the wrong first. "He shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire." (Matt. 3:11) Fire is needed to burn out the dross and take away everything that is offensive to a righteous and holy God. That is the only remedy for anyone, "For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God" (Rom. 3:23). The prophet asks the question, "But who may abide the day of his coming?" (v. 2) "He shall sit as a refiner and purifier" v. 3. So then as gold is tried in the fire to bring out the pure gold, the Christian is also put through trials and tests in this life for without holiness no man shall see the Lord (Heb. 12:14). As Judah tried to excuse themselves in the time of Malachi, so there are many today trying to excuse themselves; but God is still looking down and knows the thoughts and intents of the heart (Heb. 4:12). He sees those who actually serve him (Mal. 3:18).

#### NEW RESPECTS FOR GOD'S LAW

September 25, 1955

Printed Portion: . . . . . Ezekiel 20:19-20; Neh. 9:1-3; 10:32, 35, 39.

Ezekiel 20:19. I am the Lord your God; walk in my statutes, and keep my judgments, and do them;

20. And hallow my sabbaths; and they shall be a sign between me and you, that ye may know that I am the Lord your God.

Neh. 9:1. Now in the twenty and fourth day of this month the children of Israel were assembled with fasting, and with sackclothes, and earth upon them.

2. And the seed of Israel separated themselves from all strangers, and stood and confessed their sins, and the iniquities of their fathers.

3. And they stood up in their place, and read in the book of the law of the Lord their God one fourth part of the day; and another fourth part they confessed, and worshipped the Lord their God.

Neh. 10:32. Also we made ordinances for us, to change ourselves yearly with the third part of a shekel for the service of the house of our God;

35. And to bring the firstfruits of our ground, and the firstfruits of all fruit of all trees, year by year, unto the house of the Lord:

37. And that we should bring the firstfruits of our dough, and our offerings, and the fruit of all manner of trees, of wine and of oil, unto the priests, to the chambers of the house of our God; and the tithes of our ground unto the Levites, that the same Levites might have the tithes in all the cities of our tillage.

39. For the children of Israel and the children of Levi shall bring the offering of the corn, of the new wine, and the oil, unto the chambers, where are the vessels of the sanctuary, and the priests that minister, and the porters, and the singers: and we will not forsake the house of our God.

**Memory Selection:** I am the Lord your God; walk in my statutes, and keep my judgments, and do them. Ezekiel 20:19.

**Practical Truth:** Diligent attention to God's Word will result in spiritual quickening.

#### COMMENTS AND APPLICATIONS

We have another lesson on the "do" part of our obligation to Almighty God. This part of that lesson cannot be overemphasized for God has a right to tell us what to do, that we may be pleasing in His sight. Our memory selection is quite in keeping with the vows made by the people at that time when they heard the law and made preparations to obey. Truly, we as Christians need to obey God's law as well as have faith.

James in the 2nd chapter enlarges upon the works and faith of a Christian. Truly, we prove ourselves by what we do. It is a good thing to have daily Bible reading, with a determination to do daily the things we read. The Holy Spirit can teach us all things (John 14:26) and help us understand what we read, so that he can apply it to our soul as the living Word of God.

Evidently the Holy Spirit was at work here in Nehemiah the 9th chapter when they had fasting and sackcloth and earth upon them showing their true devotion and then making confession of their sins, and the iniquity of their fathers. Such work of humility before God is bound to produce results. God is looking for those that will do so. "To this man will I look, even to him that is poor and of a contrite spirit, and trembleth at my word. Isa. 66:2.

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