# AITHANDVIC

The EVENING LIGHT WATCHMA Unto Him shall GOD IS YE SHINE AS LIGHTS At evening time the gathering of it shall be light. IN THE WORLD

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the people be

## Another Blessing

Another blessing rich and rare To us the Lord has given: The blessing of another year Has come to us from heaven.

-ZECHARIAH 14:7

The years now past have issued out Their toll of joy and sorrow: They taught us that we never know Just what shall be tomorrow.

We know not what the future holds, Nor what this year is bringing, But God has given us a hope That sets our heart to singing.

If days are bright, the Lord is near, His presence there doth cheer us: If clouds of darkness fill the sky. He promised not to leave us.

All things to Him are fully known, We leave to Him the planning; Our barque will reach the harbor safe, If He but has the manning.

With thankful hearts we now receive This New Year God has given; And trust His omnipotent hand To guide us to the haven. --- Ulysses Phillips.

## A More Excellent Way

"But covet earnestly the best gifts; and yet shew I unto you a more excellent way" 1 Cor. 12:31. How many people, like the disciples, covet the best gifts to be considered by men greatest in God's work, instead of seeking a more excellent way. Some say, "Tell us about God's love," but are not willing to accept God's love. They do not realize that none can keep His commandments without His love in their hearts.

John 13:34, "A new commandment I give unto you, that ye love one another; as I have loved you, that

ye also love one another." This does not exclude our neighbors (as some do and receive praise of men) who annoy us each day, and permit us to only love those who love us (Matt. 5:46). As Christ loved the church and gave himself for it (Eph. 5:25) we are to love others.

Micah 6:8 requires us to love mercy, which comes by walking humbly with God.

Prov. 18:24, "There is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother." And Prov. 17:17 says, "A friend loveth at all times"—loves when one is stained in sin, sickness, and poverty the same as in health. riches, and the blessings of God. When disagreements and misunderstandings come, patiently pray for God to help in working out an agreement. James 2:1-4, 9, "My brethren, have not the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory, with respect of persons. For if there come unto your assembly a man with a gold ring in goodly apparel, and there come in also a poor man in vile raiment; and ye have respect to him that weareth the gay clothing and say unto him, Sit thou here in a good place; and say to the poor man, Stand thou there, or sit here under my footstool: Are ye not then partial in yourselves and are become judges of evil thoughts? But if ye have respect of persons, ye commit sin, and are convinced of the law as a transgressor of the law." Can we do less than the law reauires?

Prov. 10:12 says, "Love covereth all sins." When we love sinners as God does, we will not be slighting some because they are greater sinners than others. but will look at them through the blood of Christ (call those things which be not as though they were, Rom. 4:17), and see them redeemed and love them as brothers.

Rom. 13:8 says, "Owe no man anything, but to love one another." We owe a debt to ALL MEN-LOVE. Jesus, our pattern, fulfilled the law (Matt. 5:17). Shouldn't we, when love worketh no ill to his neighbour, therefore love is the fulfilling of the law? Rom. 13:10.

Heb. 13:1 says, "Let brotherly love continue," not only to Christians, but also to the unloveable, the unkind, and the unfriendly. God sends sun and rain on the just and the unjust. The world puts up with the ungodly, while we with God's help love to lift them up. "Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone that loveth is born of God and knoweth God. He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love" 1 John 4:7, 8. "Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another" verse 11. "If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen? And this commandment have we from him, that he who loveth God love his brother also." verses 20 and 21.

We want people to know Jesus. "By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another" John 13:35. God wants our love to be unfeigned (2 Cor. 6:6) or unpretended, without dissimulation (Rom. 12:9, not disguised), not put on when some people are present or it is convenient, more than greeting one another with an holy kiss (1 Cor. 16:20).

1 Peter 1:22 says, "See that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently." Put love into action. Not an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth; "But I say unto you that ye resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also. And if any man will sue thee at the law, and take away thy coat, let him have thy cloak also, and whosoever shall compel thee to go a mile, go with him twain. Give to him that asketh thee, and from him that would borrow of thee turn not thou away. Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbor and hate thine enemy. But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you and persecute you" Matt. 6:39-44.

1 Cor. 13:1-8, "Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels and have not charity [love] I AM become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal. And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity I AM NOTHING. And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, IT PROFITETH ME NOTHING. Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not, charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil, rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth; beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things. Charity never faileth." And some wonder if God meant what He said. If every Christian would seek and live this more excellent way, we would win the world for Jesus. 1 John 3:18, "My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth."

-Laura H. Birden.

## A Warning To Young People

I feel very much impressed to write a warning to our young people. It breaks my heart to see how young children, boys and girls, are disobeying their parents these days. Oh, you do not know how the devil is after your souls. The devil will show you all of the good and pleasures of this world and get you mixed up in a lot of things, then leave you. The devil is a liar. Some of our young people know the truth. Your parents reared you in the truth, taught you, and prayed with you; but many of you have gone astray and grieved your dear parents.

May I beg you young people to seek God for the saving of your souls and live for Him the rest of your lives? You will never be sorry. But if you do not seek God while you are still in your youth, you are heading for danger.

Here are some of the things that will happen if you do not find the dear Lord as your Saviour. The boys will start the smoking habit, then the drinking habit. You tell yourself that you will not do anything really bad, but the devil will keep you going deeper and deeper into sin. Then the devil will tell you that there is no forgiveness for you. Finally death comes and takes you into that awful darkness. Oh, what a pity to fall into the hands of the destroying power of the devil!

Our girls become a certain age, then start looking for a companion before seeking God for their souls. Oh, that is a sad mistake! You may find a young man to go through the ceremony with you; but one year later he has forgotten the things he promised to do, and in three or four years you probably would have children who need consecrated parents to rear them right. But you take them to shows and other places. Then some day you will think of how you were reared. You may get saved, but your companion may not. Then the devil takes over. He will cause your companion to go places where you cannot go any more and do things that you cannot do. You may really go through with God, but your friends will walk away. Your husband will often. in many cases, forsake you, leave you alone. And if he doesn't walk off, he can cause you to have a miserable life. He might stay with you, but live his life and you live yours. You become a lonely woman.

Oh, young people, please cancel all of your ideas for a good time (so-called) in this world! To be in Christ is the only way to have real joy in this world and the world to come.

The condition of our young people is a burden on my heart, and probably on the hearts of all the saints. I am a young saint, determined to live for the dear Lord. He is One who will help in every time of need. The devil has brought trials and tests daily for five or six months. I was tried to the limit, it seems to me. I know some of what Job was talking about when he said that he looked to the right and left but could not find Him there. But God saw the way that I took and came to my rescue and flooded my soul with His grace. I am writing you young people

<sup>&</sup>quot;If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God." Col. 3:1.

what is on my heart because I have experienced these things. May God bless every one of you to seek God for your souls' salvation, and remember the saints are praying for you.

Saints, please pray for my unsaved family.
—Sister Naomi Jennings.

## **Outside the Camp**

From one end of this country to the other we hear the expression among God's people, "Oh, I do want more love!" People may differ on many things but they agree that they could all do with more Calvary love. Some feel that they need a definite work of the Spirit, they are so loveless; others that they have lost their first love of early conversion.

But if we do want this Calvary love, we must look for it in the right place and under the right circumstance; we must go where it will be found. Is it not possible that many of us are seeking more Calvary love without being willing to go all the way to Calvary where that love was first shown and where we will find it today?

My text is in Hebrews 13:12, 13, "Wherefore Jesus also, that he might sanctify the people with his own blood, suffered without the gate. Let us go forth therefore unto him without the camp, bearing his reproach." That is where we meet the Christ of power. That is where we will meet the Christ of Calvary and have that love flooding our own souls—out where He showed it—without the camp! without the gate!

What was going on inside the camp of Jerusalem while Christ was outside the gate? The respectable religion of the day, the authorized worship, that which had support and recognition, was all carried on within the city walls. I suppose, that memorable day of the crucifixion, the Jewish nation worshiped as usual in the temple and gathered in the synagogues, since it was a high day. Little did those people within the camp realize what was being transacted without that city wall.

It would do all of us good to open up our hearts and our minds again to think of what it meant for Jesus to go outside the camp. The gate of that wall is open, and thrust out by rough soldiers, staggers the Son of God, bearing His cross and bearing something heavier—your sins and mine, the sins of the world around us, the sins of those whose condition is on our hearts—carrying it in the face of the powers of darkness. Oh, friends, we need our hearts broken afresh. Term it emotion if you like, but I want my heart broken afresh by the thought of what Jesus bore to Calvary on that cross.

There Jesus is without the camp, almost friendless, bearing the reproach for sin, bearing the scoffing from His own to whom He had come, they who had received Him not. Where would you and I be had He never gone outside the gate?

"Have I joy, 'twas sorrow brought it; Have I power, or grace, or love; Have I wealth, 'twas Jesus brought it Down to me from heav'n above!" Oh, bless God for Calvary, for the sacrifice outside the gate! Praise God for a Saviour who went all the way!

Paul saw Jesus one day. On the road to Damascus he got a glimpse of His sufferings for him. Paul, through a vision of what he too must suffer, saw that if a Christian was going to have any power to stop the sin in the lives of human beings of his own generation, there was only one place he could get it. That is why he said, "Let us go forth therefore unto That is where we will meet the Christ of him." power-not in the temple, not in the synagogue, not in the school of theology, not in the place where they are talking a lot about the Messiah and reading the prophets; but outside the gate. Although He dwells now in glory, He still meets every Christian who goes outside the camp. And when we meet the Christ of Calvary, we become filled and flooded with Calvary love. That is where every soul-winner has become equipped; that is where every revival has been started.

Outside the camp Paul's heart was broken. Oh, our hearts are too small if they don't break. —Sel.

## CONSIDER THE BEE

There is a little bee that organizes a city, that builds 10,000 cells for honey, 12,000 for larvae, a holy of holies for the mother queen; a little bee that observes the increasing heat, and when the wax may melt and the honey be lost, organizes the swarm into squads, puts sentinels at the entrance, glues the feet down, and then, with flying wings, creates a system of ventilation to cool the honey that makes an electric fan seem tawdy—a little honey bee that will include 20 square miles in the field over its flowers, it has oversight.

But if a tiny brain in a bee performs such wonders, who are you that you should question the guidance of God? Lift up your eyes and behold the hand that supports these stars, without pillars, the God who guides the planets without collisions.

—Selected

## Pressing Onward

Dead to this world! Let us leave all behind And ever march onward to that home sublime. Never look backward—defeat then would come—With eyes fixed on Jesus, He'll take us home.

If we look to Jesus in times of need, He'll surely bless us and give help, indeed. He'll never leave us if we trust in Him; If we turn from Him, our path will grow dim.

So let us be watchful and prayerful, too, Ever obey Him, and He'll take us through. Oh, never doubt Him, for He's always near; There is no reason for distrust nor fear.

With life's sun fast sinking, great joys I behold, Beauties are unfolding in that City of gold! When I cross over, He'll stay by my side, And take me to glory, where I'll e'er abide.

-Cordelia Stroud.

## "FAITH AND VICTORY"

## 16-Page Holiness Monthly

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

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

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

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

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

#### THE BEAUTIFUL WAY

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

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

#### NOTICE

To the saints abroad:—We now inform you that we are on the air broadcasting a thirty-minute service over station KBYE, Oklahoma City, 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**

By the time our readers receive this January issue of the paper for 1956, the new year will be upon us and the things that have taken place in 1955 will be history. When I look back over the old year, it brings comfort to our heart to know that we have spent the entire year in consecrated service to God, always saying, "Not my will, but thine be done." The Lord has made the contents of the "Faith and Victory" paper a great blessing to thousands of souls every month. Souls have been saved and bodies have been healed, and those who have been blessed by its contents have sent in other names as subscribers to the paper and the subscription list has increased in a precious way. The people like the plain clear truth being printed and sent to them-Biblical truth that cannot be scripturally nor successfully contradicted. When the Lord was here it is written that the "Common people heard him gladly," and they said of him that he did not speak like the Scribes and Pharisees, but as one having authority. When ministers today get truth direct from the Lord, they also can speak with authority, for by looking into the written Word they can find that it agrees and they are able to stand against opposition with heavenly boldness, which brings Bible unity and oneness among the meek and lowly who are willing to walk in the light of His Word. It is precious to be the Lord's free man or woman and have his peace and sweet presence abiding in the soul. It is an individual matter for each one of us who is saved to have this experience regardless of what others think or do. Others may slander or lie on you and foster false reports to kill or hinder your influence; but such as that does not influence the Lord against you in the least; but His Spirit will move upon you to pray for them that God will so deal with them that they will be converted and not lose their souls.

I have found and know that trials and tribulations which come to us in life are stepping stones for us if we are exercised by them in a godly manner. As Paul says, "They work out for us a far greater weight of glory." They also prepare us for greater trials and troubles ahead of us. James says, "My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into divers temptations; knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing." It is easy to see by this that trials and temptations are good for our souls if we are properly exercised in them.

In Matt. 11:28 we read, "Come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn of me, for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls."

In Psalms 85:10 we read, "Mercy and truth are met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other." These words were uttered concerning the work of Christ when he was to come. The soul that repents in godly sorrow and receives the blood of

Christ as an atonement for his sins will have accepted His offered mercy unto him and that will bring right-eousness and peace into his soul. Righteousness and peace are lovers and stay together. Where one goes the other goes. You cannot have righteousness in your soul without having peace; neither can you have heavenly peace in your soul without having righteousness.

In Isaiah 32:17 we read, "And the work of righteousness shall be peace; and the effect of righteousness quietness and assurance forever. And my people shall dwell in a peaceable habitation, and in sure dwellings, and in quiet resting places." This Scripture is a direct prophecy of the children of God who are gathered together unto Christ in this day and time. This truth is gloriously manifested at Faith Publishing House by the family of workers in the print shop, and heaven is made real in the earth to his humble saints. It makes me think of the Scripture found in Psalm 133:1, which reads thus, "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity." Where all obey the Scripture found in Ephesians 4:3, which says, "Endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace," it will be that way among any body of believers; but a fault-finding person will disturb that sweet peace and cause bondage to exist and evil surmisings that should not be. Satan is always ready to take advantage of any one who has fleshly ambitions and thereby cause disturbance in the soul and among others who are affected thereby. I think of some souls that give way to discouragement or fret and worry, and in doing so they give place to the devil; for such things are not of God. God deals with us according to what He sees in our individual hearts and in harmony with his law of free moral agency; for out of the heart are the issues of life, and God has made us responsible for what we let into our hearts. A little unbelief and lack of true trust in God will give Satan a chance There is no Scripture in the Bible that teaches any one to become discouraged or to fret and worry; but all Scripture teaches us just the contrary, and that we should rest in him completely no matter what conditions are existing. Some folks make me think of the woman who testified how greatly she had suffered in life by the things that never came to pass.

An elderly woman one time, who claimed to be a Christian, was full of discouragement, fret, and worry. She made life miserable for those about her. This went on for years, but one night she had a dream. In her dream she saw a crowd of people walking along the highway. They seemed to be so tired, weary and burdened. Each one was carrying a black bundle. She also noticed that there were numerous repulsive beings which seemed to her to be demons dropping these black bundles and the people were picking them up. She had a bundle like the rest and was weighted down with it. Presently she saw a man with a bright loving face. She saw that it was the Saviour. She told him how tired she was; and he smiled sadly and said, "My child, I did not give you these loads; you have no need of them. They are the devil's burdens, and they

are wearing out your life. Just drop them; refuse to touch them with one of your fingers, and you will find the path easy, and you will be as if borne on eagles' wings." She threw the bundle down, and looking to Him, she was thrilled with joy. She became cheerful and happy from that day on.

Paul tells us to give no place to the devil. Whatever a man or woman receives into his heart will affect him. If it is from God, the effect will be good; if from Satan, the effect will be bad for the soul. The Scripture says, "Keep thine heart with all diligence, for out of it are the issues of life." Whatever you let into your heart will issue out.

Bro. O. B. Wilson, Sr. had a rule in life that brought him much joy and comfort. The title of it was: THE NEW GOLDEN RULE.

"I will think of you as I wish you to think of me, I will speak of you as I wish you to speak of me, I will do to you as I wish you to do to me.

Before telling a tale about any one, I will ask myself these questions:

Is it true? Is it kind?

Is it necessary?

Because the law of God says, 'As a man soweth, so shall he also reap.' "

Every deed we do, every word we speak is recorded exactly that way in God's Book in Heaven. If we tell things in a way so as to misrepresent others to their supposed injury, it will read just that way when God's book is opened at the Judgment. To go on professing over things will never change the fact on His book. Confessing and asking forgiveness of the injured party is the only way to get it blotted out of His book. Brethren, let us make our calling and election sure.

A number of times in life I have had to ask brethren to forgive me. Some have frankly and openheartedly forgiven, but others have never said that they would. Jesus told Peter to forgive seven times seventy, and in Psalm 86:5 we read, "For thou Lord art good, and ready to forgive: and plenteous in mercy to all them that call upon thee." Just being friendly and even doing good to those whom you have injured will not remove it from God's book. It seems to be an awful hard thing for some to say, "I have done you wrong," and humbly ask forgiveness. James says, "To him that knoweth to do good and doeth it not, to him it is sin." In this we see that knowledge rates responsibility.

Our prayer is that some precious souls may be helped by the foregoing words of Scriptural truth.

There seems to be a lot of people who have religion, but not so many have real Bible salvation in the true sense of the word. I have said it many times before, and I wish to write it down again that men and women who are truly sanctified and retain that experience can get along together. One may have more light on Scriptures than the other, but being sanctified, they will bear and forebear and suffer long and will not try to force light on the other, which would

bring about friction and burdens, or perhaps division. A sanctified person will be living close enough to God, or rather be in touch with God to the extent that he will realize that he has much to learn and clearer light to receive on different Bible subjects, and will not try to force others to refrain from walking in more light than they have. He will be humble enough to look to God for clearer light for himself and will bear with others, endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. I can say for myself that the Lord has given me much more light and knowledge on some Scriptures than I had ten years ago; and if I live ten years more, I am expecting Him to give me more light and knowledge on different Scriptures, and when I get to heaven I will no doubt be surprised to find out how little I did know. No one can receive light and knowledge on Scriptures unless it be revealed to them by the Spirit and the Word. If it were not this way, we common people would be crowded out and the educated and wise in worldly wisdom would capture the rich truths given from heaven; and we would remain in darkness and despair. But God in His wisdom reveals the rich truths to the surrendered heart and life who will use it to the glory of God and not to gratify selfish interests.

In Matt. 27:18 we read that Pilate discerned that the Scribes and Pharisees had delivered Jesus to be crucified because of envy. Jesus did mighty works and showed forth greater light and knowledge than they possessed, and his teachings often put them to silence. That created envy in their souls. If they had been willing to walk in the light he had, they could have rejoiced together with him and his humble disciples. Envy is a very cunning tool in the hand of Satan today, and he seems to be able to work it onto some who would otherwise be very precious saints in this evening time. Brethren, let us beware of the tricks of Satan and make our calling and election sure. keeping in His meek and lowly ways, which are higher than our ways, as the heavens are higher than the earth. Jesus said, "I am meek and lowly in heart." Let us have grace and divine love in our hearts and be like Him.

#### 0-0-0-0-0

"Any body of Christian people that arises and fails to qualify on all principals that mark the Church of God as a whole, that proceeds to human organization and rule instead of recognizing only Holy Spirit organization and government, at once limits itself and becomes thereby a sect, a false representation of the Church. As a false Church it is soon a corrupt institution in which human pride and every element contrary to God may exist and become active. The human will, intended for the rule of our bodies and things terrestrial, things which belong to man's Province, become sadly out of place when exercised in any sphere or capacity which belongs to God. such sphere it becomes a rival to God, a monster evil of great proportions, a distinct satanic spirit, always opposing the true work of God."

"Any tendency to establish traditions, or to regard a past course as giving directions in all respects

for the future, or to become self-centered and manifest a "we are it" spirit and bar the door of progress against the entrance of further light and truth, or in any way to refuse fellowship with any others who may be Christians, would itself be sectarian, altogether unlike the true reformation, which, if it be final, must necessarily be a restoration and possess Universal Characteristics."

The above quotations are from one of the old Gospel Trumpet books written by A. L. Byers. I feel it is good for us ministers today, as a warning to be careful not to legislate against the freedom of the Holy Spirit in giving us a better understanding of Scripture to the edifying of the body and as a safeguard against digressing or progressing into a sectish state but stand stable and firm in sound Bible truth which will identify us as the true Church of God. There is a danger of any body of Christians becoming luke-warm, cold, and sectish if they reject more light and understanding of Scriptures which the Holy Spirit is revealing. Also by receiving false understanding of the Scriptures which tends toward the world and a show of religion, people would become sectish and selfrighteous. Both of these tendencies are to be guarded against if we hold our identity as the true Church of God, the pillar and ground of the truth.

## Going On With Jesus

This year has swiftly flown, and nineteen fifty-six Has come to dwell with us, to bring sorrow or bliss. If we are saved, it will crown our life with peace and happiness.

Since the first day of last year it seems but yesterday, It has flown so very fast and now it's passed away Nevermore to return, but has gone away to stay.

As I look back o'er my life I wonder if I have done Or said just what I should some soul to have won, This great love of our Lord and accepted Christ His Son.

I think of the coming new year and long with all my heart To do and say just what I should before this year depart, And learn more to do as He would and keep God's love in my heart.

I do not know what this year holds, but Jesus knows and cares,

He'll let me know as it unfolds how He my sorrow bears, My hand He'll hold, and bless my soul and all my trouble shares.

—E. M.

# "MEN OUGHT ALWAYS TO PRAY AND NOT TO FAINT"—Luke 18:1.

God in His infinte wisdom has not only given mankind a will of choice to either yield his will to God or remain in his own sinful ways, but thanks be to our great and matchless God, he has also given to mankind a conscience with which He may trouble and convict man of his sinful condition, time and again if needful, no matter how far out in sin they

may drift. So pray on, dear trusting children of God, for as long as the natural life remains in the body, that God-given conscience remains, and there is a blessed hope left for us all who pray the sweet and simple prayer of faith to the Almighty and merciful God, that He will somhow turn that precious soul homeward through His great and matchless love and enduring mercies.

"I will go and return to my first husband, for then was it better with me than now." Hos. 2:7.

Also, we that pray that sweet and simple prayer of faith for these precious lost souls may surely take heart and pray yet more earnestly for loved ones who once have known the sweetness and the glorious power of a great and loving God, for we know they will never be satisfied with the beggarly so-called pleasures of this beastly world, but will always be planning deep in their troubled, dissatisfied hearts to some day return to their first husband (first love), and real lasting peace and joy.

So pray on and on, dear faithful saints of God, with blessed assurance and full confidence in our glorious miracle-working, Almighty God, who will surely bring all things to pass in a perfect manner, for as for God, His way is perfect. Psa. 18:30.

-Bro. Trimble

## IF

If we would take the tape-line
That we use for other folk,
To measure their short comings
And their actions that provoke;
And for a few short hours
Check our acts the self-same way
I feel quite sure that in the end
We'd throw the line away.
—Selected by Alberta Cook

#### PEACE AND REST! WHERE AND WHEN?

Sinners, church-members, and nominal Christians are singing and rejoicing with the writer of the popular song, "Peace in the Valley." When are they expecting to enjoy the peace they sing about? The song says, "... Some Day, Some Day." That is too indefinite for a resting place. Saints everywhere are singing: "Joy to the world the Lord IS come."

Angels on that "Holy Night" sang, "Peace on earth, good will toward men." Peace should begin in the "Valley" of decision, when the right choice is made. Jesus says, "Come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest." Matt. 11:28; and Eph. 2:14 informs us that "He is our peace."

So by coming to Jesus we find both peace and rest. Hear again the refrain, not men but angels sang, "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace, good will toward men." Let's not under-estimate our privileges. This New Year holds out both Peace and Rest through Jesus Christ our Lord. Now! January, 1956.

—E. K. M.

#### A NEED

Dear saints,—I wish to speak of the work at Bristow, which is worthy of your consideration. There are such a few saints there to pay for their chapel, and it would encourage them spiritually if others would help pay the \$300.00 indebtedness on the chapel. If all of you knew Bro. Wheeler personally and knew of his meek, quiet, humble life, you would agree that he is worthy of our support. He is nearly blind and is greatly handicapped and depends on someone else to get him to meeting and back. He is giving every effort within his power to keep the little flock together and feed them on holy food.

In quite a number of Paul's writings he spoke of helping in different ways concerning the necessities of the church in different parts of the world in his day.

Money may be sent to Dorothy Barton, 2240 N. Columbia Pl., Tulsa, or D. H. Wheeler, R. R. Bristow, Okla.
—Richard Madden, 1411 N. Quannah St., Tulsa, Ok.

## **Obituaries**

John Elzy Joiner, was born May 26, 1905, died Nov. 20, 1955, at the age of 50 years, 5 months and 24 days.

He was the son of Julius E. and Annie (Lester) Joiner who are deceased now for several years. He was married to Miss Lottie James 29 years ago in October to which union was born one son. He leaves behind a faithful and devoted wife and one son, Howell Bunyon Joiner, a grandson, Johnny Ray, daughter-in-law, 3 brothers: Andrew and Eugene of this state, and David of Calif., besides many other relatives, friends and saints to mourn our loss which we feel is heaven's gain. In death he testified he was ready to meet the Lord. He told his folks goodby for he was leaving them, which was a victorious passing from here to glory for there was no sting in his death.

He got saved over 30 years ago in a tent meeting near his community. In which his brother David and their sister Virena also were saved and the three attended services together until the Lord took her home to heaven not long afterwards. To our knowledge Brother Joiner seemed to live a consistent saintly life through those years until he left us. So, while we weep we feel he is rejoicing in his eternal home. Funeral by the writer, assisted by others. Texts: 1 Thess. 4:13 and Rev. 14:13. His body was laid to rest in the saints' cemetery by the Oak Grove Saints Chapel near Loranger. La.

Sister Katherine Key.

Bro. George Ora Hague was born November 11, 1878 in Dade County, Missouri to Clara and Carl Hague and departed this life Nov. 23, 1955 in Neosho, Mo.

On March 12, 1899, he was united in marriage to Vina Green. To this union eight children were born, one daughter preceded him in death.

Bro. Hague heard the truth preached a number of years ago and embraced it as his standard of life. He was very earnest and sincere with his convictions toward God. He filled his place in much humility and quietness.

His survivors include the wife, Sis. Vina Hague of the home; 1 son, Joe, of Drumright, Okla.; 6 daughters; Retha Holeman, Tulsa, Okla., Pauline Wells, Stockton, Calif., Zoe Gorham, Goodman, Mo., Hattie Staib, Neosho, Mo., Wanda Hague, Joplin Mo., Mildred Wyatt, Kansas City, Mo., 25 grandchildren, 14 great grandchildren, 1 sister, several nieces and nephews. A host of relatives and friends.

Funeral services were conducted in Neosho by Bro. Charles R. Smith,

In memory of John Guinn: born July 24, 1875, died October 21, 1955.

Bro. Barton visited him in his last hours, and he said he was praying. He leaves one brother and two sisters to mourn his passing—one sister, Jeanie Hamilton, is one of our devoted saints. Her husband, Bro. Hamilton, was a church of God minister in Bro. Robinson's time.

The funeral was conducted by Bro. Sam Barton and Bro. Murphy Allen. Scriptures: John 14:1-4, Matt. 25:31-32, Acts 10:42. He was buried in Tallahassee, Okla.

# o-o-o-o MEETING REPORT

The Wichita, Kansas meeting started October 28 and ended November 5, 1955. Their were many souls that received help. We really had a glorious meeting. The Lord really blessed us in every way. We surely thank the saints for their prayers and co-operation. At the latter part of the meeting many souls were saved.

We had many visiting ministers from out of state: Bro. Ostis B. Wilson from California, Sis. Velma Smith from California, Bro Ulysess Phillips from Dover, Okla., Bro. Crawley from Okemah, Okla., Sis. Davis from Hennessey, Oklahoma.

I desire the prayers of all the saints in my behalf. I desire a closer walk with the Lord, and more understanding of his word. My husband and I desire much prayer for a request we have before the Lord.

Sis. Betty Jesrosey.

#### PRAYER REQUEST

Mo.-Dear Saints:-You will remember I requested prayer for my left foot last summer which I got hurt so badly. I can truly say the good Lord healed it instantly and completely for which I give him all the praise.

I have a special unspoken request. Please pray very earnestly. I thank you all very much for your prayers. May the Lord bless you all and supply your needs. Lottie Hilton.

## NATIONAL CAMPGROUND IMPROVEMENT

The new ground, which was purchased in September, adjoining the National Campground at Monark Springs. Mo., was measured and staked off in lots on October 29th, with space reserved for the modern restrooms, and work has been started on this project.

According to recent word from Bro. Beisly, the excavations for the septic tank and rock-and-gravel pit are about completed. However, he added that volunteer workers have been very scarce, and sent a request for prayer that this need be supplied.

In order to complete these buildings by next campmeeting, it will require greater co-operation and would urge each one to be diligent in this matter, which is the Lord's work and you are His servants.

Since last campmeeting about half of the amount needed for completion of the modern restrooms has been received. These contributions are appreciated, and we know the Lord will richly reward each giver. Let us renew our consecration and continue our efforts until the balance is supplied. If the Lord impresses you to help with the work or to send an offering for this project, write direct to Bro. Ralph Beisly, R. 5, Coffeyville, Kansas, and remember that the King's business demands haste.

-L. D. Pruitt, Secy.-Treas.

## Correspondence

Ark,-Dear saints,-I am enclosing 25 cents to renew my paper "Faith and Victory." I love this paper and its teachings. It is food to my soul. I think it is one of the best papers for a child of God to read that there is.

Mrs. W. E. Eakles Yours for Jesus,

Ohio—Dear saints of God,—Greetings in Jesus' dear name. This afternoon finds me yet saved and encouraged as never before to go all the way with the Lord.

I am still thanking God for his goodness and kindness to me. About three weeks ago I began having trouble with my eyes. They burned and were awfully red. I could feel something floating around in them and sometimes the vision was almost blurred out. It caused great pain in them at times. Since I work in a hospital, I received all kinds of advice as to what I should do. But I just kept praying because I knew God was able if it was his will.

They didn't seem to be getting any better and naturally the devil was always on hand to try to discourage. But, thank God, I had it settled to trust God. So last Sunday night the saints anointed and prayed for me. Monday morning when I woke up all the redness and pain was gone from my eyes. Praise the dear Lord!

Truly that was great encouragement to me. The

Lord is a present help in the time of need.

Friday night one of the young saints was at my house. My little girl fell in the living room. My sister picked her up and said, "Oh, Dorothy, her eye is bleeding." I just closed my eyes and said, "Oh, Lord." When my sister handed her to me, God had instantly healed it. I couldn't even find the place where it had been bleeding. Praise God, what a mighty God we serve.

Oh, I wouldn't exchange this wonderful salvation for anything in the world. I just got saved in June. The only regret that I have is that I did not get saved sooner.

All of you pray that each day will find me getting closer to the Lord. Also pray for our other young saints in Akron. We have wonderful young people's meetings. Also pray that God will save our other lost loved ones.

Your sister in the Lord, Dorothy Jackson.

Mo .- Dear ones, -- Greetings to all in Jesus' dear name. I am still serving the dear Lord. About a week ago a pain and cramping started in my stomach. I began to call on the Lord and it would get better then worse. I continued praying and got the victory, and the pain ceased. I do give His name all the praise, and thank Him for what he does for me. When one puts his whole trust in the Lord for both soul and body and comes to Him with his heart believing, He is willing and ready to help that one. But sometimes we have to wait awhile. The Bible says it is good for us to wait on the Lord.

My husband's head is giving him trouble. Please help me pray for him; also remember me in your prayers; Nancy Sweezea and I pray God to bless you all.

Okla.—Dear saints,-Greetings in Jesus' dear name. I am still saved and encouraged to press on for the dear Lord. Truly I mean to go all the way because there is nothing back in the sinful life for me.

About three or four weeks ago I asked prayer for my husband. He got better, but it seems that the same thing is coming back on him. We do not know what it is, but we realize that the Lord knows and can heal him.

I had a very bad hand about two weeks ago. It just started hurting and swelling. It was so bad I could hardly stand to move it. I could not even do my house work. I went to a store and a lady working there asked me what was wrong with it. I told her that I did not know. She told me that she had something that I could use to draw the swelling out. I did not want any. She tried to show it to me, but I just went on doing my shopping and left. The next day I could work with my hand and fingers. I even cooked breakfast. I know the Lord can heal, and will if you will just trust Him. He has healed me many times, also my children.

I need your prayers for my baby who is ill with a bad cold and a stiff neck. Also remember my husband in prayer. Your sister in Christ, Lorene Payne.

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Calif.—Dear saints everywhere,—This leaves me saved and kept by His precious power. He leads me every day of my life. I mean to go all the way with the Lord because He has been so good to me. He always heals me when I am sick. Oh, the Lord has done so many great things for me! When I pray unto Him He always answers my prayer.

I was in such great pain that I could not get in and out of bed. I am living with my oldest daughter. She is saved. She said, "Mother, should I call the pastor?" I answered no, but she called him without my knowing it. When I knew anything, he and his wife were in the house. They prayed for me and the Lord heard prayer. I slept all night. I said, "Lord, if you will just heal me I will write my testimony in the "Faith and Victory."

Pray for me. I mean to go all the way with the Lord. I have one among the best pastors in the world. I have been with the Lord ever since 1911, and He is still sweet to my soul. Your sister in the Lord, Ella W. Tyson.

Okla.—Dear saints of God,—Tonight still finds me saved with victory in my soul. I have a greater determination than ever to go all the way with him. I truly love the Lord. He means much to me in this life, and my desire is to be faithful and true unto the end.

For quite some time I have felt impressed to write my testimony to the "Faith and Victory" and tell how the Lord has blessed me.

I work at the telephone office in Guthrie. I truly thank the Lord for my job and how He blesses me with the girls with whom I work. I had asked the Lord to help me to talk to some soul I worked with about the Lord each day or every week. I can say that He has, praise His holy name. I don't believe that a week goes by without the Lord permitting me to talk to someone, sometimes every day. They seem to enjoy hearing about the Lord and wish they had a desire to live for Him like I do. They never do persecute me. I surely do thank the Lord for the way He helps me.

I wanted a small Testament to take to work with me, so I would have it when I needed it. I have a Testament that is too large to carry in my purse. I didn't ask the Lord for another one; I thought I should be contented with the ones I had (I have three Bibles), but, thank the Lord, He gave me one for my birthday that is small enough to carry with me all the time.

Oh, I am so glad that I ever found the Lord and learned to put my trust in Him! He is so good to supply us with our every day needs. A week ago Sunday as we were taking up the Sunday School offering, I didn't have any small change nor bills so I put in five dollars, which I didn't think I could. I thought, well it's all the Lord's anyway, so I did. The same week on Wednesday I received \$8.20 from a source that was very unexpected. The Lord

brought this Scripture to me: "Give and it shall be given unto you: good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give unto your bosom" (Luke 6:38). Then I thought of how I gave the five dollars and didn't think I could because it was the first of the month; but, thank the Lord, He knew best. I know He still cares for His children.

I truly want to be a witness for Him and just put all my trust in the Lord.

Oh! I thank Him for the joy and peace I have each day in serving Him. I truly want to be found doing his will at all times. Remember me in your prayers. I have some burdens on my heart.

A sister in Christ, Malinda Penner.

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Mo.—Dear saints,—Today finds me happy in the Lord and satisfied with all his dealings with me. I'm still encouraged to go all the way with him.

The week of Thanksgiving I had a wisdom tooth that bothered me very much. I tried for two or three days to get an appointment at the dentists', and they were out. Thanksgiving night I was up and down all night long. suffering with it. The whole side of my face hurt, and I was very nervous.

Friday I had a severe headache and was unable to work. I would call the saints for prayer and the Lord would give me relief. Finally Sat. afternoon I got a dentist to pull it, and when I got home I was very sick. Prudie called the saints to pray for me and the Lord touched my body, and I was able to eat supper and visit with some of my relation that were here from Kentucky. We are serving a wonderful God!

I promised the Lord that if he would help me pass my drivers' test I would testify to it, and I passed it last Wednesday. Surely he is a present help at all times, and he cares for each and every one of us.

Pray for me that I will be faithful to Him continually. We have a nice S. School here at Webb City now with about twenty-five or thirty children, and also a young people's class, as well as the Bible class. The Lord encourages us to go all the way with him and to try and help others to serve Him.

Love, Betty Cash

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Okla.—I greet you all with Romans 12:1. "I beseech you therefore, brethren by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service." That is my daily prayer to God, that all saints be a holy vessel which is kept clean for God, knowing always how to divide rightly God's Word in truth. I am always blessed when I receive the "Faith and Victory" paper, by reading God's Word therein. May God help us to stand on holy ground from day to day, a light that shineth brightly in all dark places.

I pray daily for you all. Peace be unto you all.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Nusz and family.

Mo.—Greetings through our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ,—This finds us saved and pressing on in His service.

I have two very special unspoken requests that I desire the saints to be agreed with me for. I know that the Lord is able to work out all things for his glory and our good.

I praise the Lord this morning for hearing and answering prayer in behalf of our two young children

just recently. We do not know just what was wrong, but they had violent headaches and would cry so pitifully with it. They also had high fever. But the Lord undertook, and, thank His precious name, they are well.

May God richly bless each one, Mrs. Pat Cole.

Dear "Faith and Victory" readers. I had a little sore on my shoulder which would rise. Clara, my daughter, would open it and it would seem to get well, but it would come back. It did this for a long time. One day she said that it looked well, so as I prayed that night I told the Lord that if he would heal it I would testify through the "Faith and Victory" paper. That was several weeks ago and it is still well. Thank the dear Lord for his healing power. I love the dear Lord with all my heart. I will be 84 December 19th. I can still work some. Pray for me. With love, Annie Tooley

Ohio-Greetings to you all in the precious name of Jesus,-Please renew my subscription for the "Faith and Victory." I trust this little offering will be a blessing. The Lord can increase it like he did the fishes and loaves. There is nothing impossible with the Lord. He is faithful in all his promises, and he loves every soul that believes on him. There is no friend like Jesus. He looks down upon us with love and mercy. The Lord is good, for his mercy endureth forever. I do thank the Lord for his love and mercy to me, and for every blessing. When I begin to count the many blessings, it increases my faith and makes me more determined to go all the way with Jesus at any cost and take Him at his word; for he promises that he will never leave us nor forsake us and is no respecter of persons. I find it is better to put our trust in the Lord than to put our confidence in man.

I desire the saints' prayers that I be true and faithful to the end.

Love in Jesus,

Lucy Lizar

Ohio—Dear Saints of God:—I wish to testify that the Lord has healed me of a sinus trouble that has bothered me for quite a few years. The dear Lord healed me almost instantly. I want to give all the honor and praise to my Lord. I am glad to report I have saved parents and my wife and I have both accepted the Lord over a year ago. We have two small children: ages one and two. We are doing our best to bring them up in the way of the Lord. We desire the prayers of the Saints that we might do and be what the Lord wants us to. I enjoy this paper very much and my prayer is that God will bless each one of you that are striving for a crown in Glory.

Okla.—I feel like giving my testimony of the goodness and mercy of God to me whom my Saviour saved so late in life (65 yrs. old). We had a flood here October 3-5. I was warned before the whistle blew of a flood coming. So I prayed to the Lord and asked him if I should get out of the cabin here where I stay. He said "yes." So I was almost moved before the whistle blew to warn us.

Then later I was handling a roof that was heavy for me and I fell with it, but it did not come quite to my body, and I was free so that I could get out from under it and I was not hurt. Another time my tooth hurt me at 1:00 a. m. and I prayed (James 5:13); it quit (I could not get a dentist at that time of night). I went to sleep. Before daylight it was hurting again.

Jesus told us, "If two of you shall agree." (Matt. 18:19) So I went up to the Lord's Print Shop and was prayed for and the Lord healed it, so that it chews my food the same as ever. There is one tooth that is in my mouth yet that was prayed for 20 years ago and has never hurt me since.

Is any afflicted let him pray (James 5:13-15)
Then God will take the pain away

If two of you shall be agreed (Matt. 18:19)

If two of you shall be agreed (Matt. 18:19)
Then God will supply your need.

It is my part to pray and do my bit And God will answer as he sees fit.

God has been good to me in my soul also. Recently I sent a letter to Portland, Oregon to make right a matter where I did wrong in 1908. They evidently were not there any more, but I did what I could and God knows my heart and so far as I know I am clear before Him. There were many times I told things that were untrue. After I got saved, I went right back and told it straight, for God says, "Be sure your sin will find you out" (Num. 32:23); and, "He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whose confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy" (Prov. 28:13). By so doing I will avoid "The lake that burneth with fire" (Rev. 21:8). Thank God.

"But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who is made unto us wisdom and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption" (I Cor. 1:30). "That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith" (Eph. 3:17). "Christ in you the hope of glory" (Col. 1:27). My soul goes out to God who has made such complete provision for me and by faith I have taken him at his word and I do have "joy and peace in believing" (Rom. 15:13). C. H. Weir.

Mo.—Dear Bro. Pruitt:—Greetings in Jesus' dear name. I want to ask you and all saints to have special prayer for the healing of my body. I have sugar diabetes and also have been suffering terribly from arthritis but I am determined to completely trust the Lord for my healing and I know he is every bit able to deliver. So will you and the dear ones there please pray for me. Also keep remembering my boy in prayer. God has helped him and I know he can bring complete victory.

May the Lord bless each and every one of you in your untiring labors is our prayer.

I just want to add this as a testimony. My wife was so low on blood this past summer and was so weak. The doctor told her she would have to have blood transfusions when the baby came. He gave her prescriptions for medicine but we were determined to trust the Lord and she never took one drop of medicine of any kind and after having been prayed for her blood count came up and there was no need for transfusions. God gave us a darling baby girl, for which we give him all the praise for the wonderful way they both got along.

Again may God bless you. Bro. Loyd Dollins.

W. Va.—Dear Saints at the Print Shop and abroad, Greetings to one and all in the dear name of Jesus:—We are thanking and praising the Lord for His goodness and love to us, and for the love He puts in our hearts for all the dear people of God. Also for the lost sinners. We have a desire to do all we can to get them saved: not only our loved ones that are in sin, but also all that are in need of this salvation. As we look out on this world that is reeling in sin, and false religions deceiving people, it surely grieves our hearts

and makes us want to walk more closely and listen for the leadings of the Holy Spirit. How thankful we are for the one pure Church, His precious people which make the body of Christ His church. These members all have the same care one for another, no man rule, but all being led by the Holy Spirit. How many times the dear Lord has sent His ministers here when our hearts were with burdens and problems and we longed for God to send some of His ministers to counsel with us. It would not be long till God would send some one. Many times this has happened. Therefore how needful it is for God's ministers to stay so close to God that they can hear the Macedonian cry and keep the vision of the need in God's vineyard, and not be like Martha who was cumbered with much serving.

We would like to say that the work of the Lord here in So. Charleston is moving along with victory. Some have been sick. The Lord has undertaken in most of the cases, but we still have a sister not so well, so we ask the saints to remember her. There are some that are isolated and old, not able to get into services. Husband and I, as a rule, visit these two and three times a month. God blesses us in this personal work. We go to comfort and encourage them and we leave them feeling that they have comforted us. One family we would like to tell you about. The mother and daughter standing true to the Lord-in sickness they trusted the Lord. One time the daughter was so sorely afflicted, she was down bedfast. She prayed for the Lord to send us out to her. Her folks that were not saved were begging her to get a doctor or take some remedies. We had only been out a few days before this and she was well. When she prayed, God spoke to my husband. He said to me, "I feel that we should go out to see the Laynes." We drove out. It was wonderful how the Lord did give relief and soon she was up and as well as ever. About a month ago she had severe sore throat swelling and choking. She tried to get word to us but we were out of town. She told us about it when we were out to see her. She told how she suffered and wondered why she could not get in touch with us. Her neighbors came in. One begged her to take medicine: told her to take it then, and ask the Lord to forgive Gertrude told them she could not do that. She stood true and the Lord healed her. As she told me about this she said, "Sis. Spaur if I had given down and taken medicine I could never have testified to divine healing." We praised the Lord together. I tell all this to show how these precious isolated ones are standing true to God. They can rejoice, too, with us in this wonderful salvation.

I wanted to say something about our campmeeting we had in July, as some of the saints may wonder if we had any. The Lord blessed as always, sending ministers filled with the Holy Spirit and that brought messages down from heaven, spiritual food that fed the soul. We thank God for the ministers that are standing true in these perilous times when some are departing from the truth. Not as many came as in the former meetings. We pray that the Lord will stir the hearts of his children to assemble as the Word teaches, "Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much more as ye see the day approaching." Heb. 10:25.

May the dear Lord bless you one and all and we do need your prayers that the Lord will give us wisdom to always do His will. Christian Love, Beatrice Spaur.

Dear young People,—Greetings in the name of our blessed Savior. I'm thankful for the privilege of again witnessing to you that I am saved, sanctified and satisfied with the ways of the Lord. My heart is encouraged in His service and my greatest desire is to please the One who gave his life that I might be free from sin.

I count it a great privilege to be serving such a mighty God and surely feel thankful for the love and blessings he has bestowed upon me. I could not begin to number the blessings nor tell of the great love he has shown to me. I feel that I'll never be able to repay Him but realize He only requires the talents and time he permits us to have. Let us work on for the Lord until he calls us to our reward.

The Lord surely has been near and precious to me since I last wrote a testimony for the "Faith and Victory." Again and again he has come to my rescue in time of trial or test. He surely is faithful to those who put their trust in Him. When it seemed I was at the point of falling, the Lord would make a way for my escape. Young people, don't let the trials of life discourage you, because if we will only look for it we can see good in the trials. Count each trial a stepping stone to heaven. When it may seem the Lord is far away, still is His presence near. Just keep your faith steadfast in Him and He will bring you through each trial with victory.

I have experienced a closeness with the Lord that has meant much to my soul. I had heard others tell of the Lord waking them through the night and talking with them but only of late have I had such an experience. This chorus often comes to me "In my heart a song is ringing, earth like heaven seems to be. Life, new joy to me is bringing, when my Saviour talks with me." As I think of how sweet and precious Jesus has been to me, I never want to be found without Him.

May the dear Lord bless and encourage every one to continue faithful to Him. Pray for me that I ever be found in the center of His will.

Your Sister in Christ.

Lois Whipple.

Ind.—Dear Saints everywhere,—Greetings in Jesus' dear name: O what a wonderful privilege it is that we can testify to a lost and dying world that Jesus saves, sanctifies, and heals, and has promised to never leave nor forsake us (Heb. 13:5). I am so thankful I ever heard the truth, believed it, and accepted it. My whole heart's desire is to live for him and I just want to live to please him in all things. I want to be as the Scripture says in Col. 3:1-2. The Lord is so good to us we can't live without him. Young people everywhere, and old as well, look all around and see what sin has done and is doing. Seek the Lord while he may be found, before it is too late.

May the good Lord bless each one is my prayer. Saints, remember us in prayer. The word says, "pray one for another" James 5:16.

In Christian Love,

Stella Lee.

Okla.—Dear Saints:—I thank the Lord for being saved and sanctified today and I'm trusting in him. As I am now in my last year of school, I meet many trials, but by God's help, I mean to stand true to his word.

He certainly has been good to me, both in school and at home. Just last night I woke up with the asthma and I couldn't go back to sleep so I got up and asked the Lord to touch my body. I read in the "Faith and Victory" paper for about an hour then went back to

bed. The next morning my asthma was completely gone. I thank the Lord for it.

Pray for me that I will live a life to please God. A sister in Christ, Erona Classen.

. Mo.--Dear Saints of God:--Greetings in Jesus' precious name. How I do thank and praise him, for all his great blessings to us.

I just finished reading Bro. Pruitt's editorials on "saints ascribing things to Satan when we ought to honor God." How the dear Lord began to show me some things. I'm not ashamed to confess them, for I feel confession is good and will keep us mellow. I realize now that all the brake trouble I had on my way to Monark C. Mtg. was God working to help me. Truly I did ask God to forgive me for ever giving Satan any honor. That is the very thing I had been trying never to do. Oh! Praise God for helping his trusting children. I could tell in length the reasons for the brake failures but I feel it best not to take up the space. God knows us better than we know ourselves and I know now that he sent it to bring me down and help me to keep the victory over self. Oh! may I ever keep humble is the desire of my heart.

I would like to tell to the glory of God how he helped me to pray for and receive more pure faith. My baby (our only girl) ate same rat poison. On the label it of course advised to call a doctor immediately and they should start giving blood transfusions. I took her to my husband and told him, and he just simply said, "She will be all right," and left to go to his work. I got down on my knees and asked God to increase my faith and if I in any way was using my husband as a tool to take her to a doctor to cleanse it out. Our faith has to be pure to receive. God did bless my soul and I called upon him and reminded him of his promise in Mark, 16:18. Having the victory, I too, went about my tasks. Praise the Lord, she never even got sick. How much she ate I don't know, but God knows and I do thank him for it, for it helped me. "Blessed be the Lord who daily loadeth us with benefits even the God of our Salvation."

I pray that this may be a help and encouragement to someone. I desire your prayers that I may ever be true and faithful. Yours in Christ, Lavern Moles.

Minn .- Dear Saints of God-I feel I should write my testimony of my healing and tell what the Lord has done for me. First I want to thank the Lord for what he is to me. "The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer: my God, my strength in whom I will trust; my buckler and the horn of my salvation and my high tower." Psalms 18:2. I took down sick with a gall attack Monday night, Oct. 31st about 5 o'clock. Every breath I took was in pain, so my husband called Darius Gibson my brother, asking him to remember me in prayer and to come if he could. Evelyn called my brother Noah in Springfield and he called the church there to all call on God for my healing. I only slept 2 hours the first night. My heart was bothering so bad. Then Darius came in the second day, anointed me and prayed. I was touched that very hour and now I am able to do my house work again. The last attack I had was about three years ago. I trusted in doctors and lingered along for months. But now, thank the Lord, I'm trusting in the one who made this body: so he healed it. Praise His name!

I often think of how much the Lord has done for

me—and what have I done for him? He was crucified on the Cross that I might be saved. I often think of the crucifixion that Christ went through with while here on earth. I Peter 4:1 "Forasmuch then as Christ hath suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves likewise with the same mind. For he that hath suffered in the flesh hath ceased from sin; That he no longer should live the rest of his time in the flesh to the lusts of men, but to the will cf God." So it is with us today, we have to crucify this flesh daily. As Paul says, we die daily; that is, keep ourselves unspotted form the world, for it is cnly vanity and vexation of the Spirit.

Pray for us, as we are isolated from the saints and in a dark land. Pray that the Lord will help us to be of help to some one while up here. We have scattered tracts for miles in every direction, but it seems like people just don't want the truth. But I don't want to be found like the man with the one talent that hid it in the earth (Matt.25:25) and was lost because he didn't make use of his talent. I must make use of this wonderful light and let it shine out in the dark places where some fainting one might see the way to the cross. I also thank each one that prayed for me. Edith E. Solid.

Okla—Dear Saints:—Tonight I'm still saved and much encouraged to press on to the end. Praise the Lord. I mean to go all the way with Jesus. I mean Heaven at any cost. Christ says if any man come after me let him deny himself and take up the cross and daily follow me. There is so many trying to hold on to the world and God too. That's why they are falling to get down in the Lord. We have got to cut loose from all sin to go this way. If we should live to see 1956, let us be more like Christ, more like him than ever before. Let us be more loving, more gentle and with meekness.

We should see to it that we seek for a purer heart so if death should come for us we will be more like Jesus. Let us all stay together so there'll be no division among us. Preach the word just as it is in the Bible. Those that are not straight need our prayers that they will break loose and get straight. The Lord is calling for a pure and sanctified church.

#### SEEKING FOR MORE OF THE LOVE OF GOD

To me, love is a wonderful thing. The love of God is more than we are able to grasp. "God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son" on Calvary's cross to die for the ungodly. Jesus said that by love all men would know that we are His disciples. Oh, for more of the love of God in our hearts! May our hearts be so full of God's love that there will be no room for gossip, nor backbiting, nor unforgiving spirits. Christians must forgive. Some say, "I cannot forget." Yes, you can; I know by personal experience. If you pray over it and ask God to help you, you can bear the fruits of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, longsuffering, etc.

It means more to be a Christian than some think today. Oh, so many just belong to some denomination, attend services when it suits them, shake hands with the preacher and even put an offering in the plate. It takes more than that to be a Christian. It takes the love of God shed abroad in our hearts. Then we are new creatures, old things are passed away, our

lives are completely turned around. Consider how Paul's life was changed after he really got saved.

The love of God makes one humble. What is a greater Christian grace than humility? "God resisteth the proud but giveth grace to the humble." When one is humble he does not desire glory for himself, but is willing to work any place where He leads.

Remember how God blessed and honored the little shepherd boy David, and how his life was a blessing. God looketh on the heart. He understands us when others may not. I would to God that America had more people whose hearts were full of the love of God-love, not hatred for one another, willing to help those in need. Friends, let us seek more after the love of God, pray, and read God's Word, and try in every way to be a helper to those who are cast down, the helpless, the sinner. Souls all about us are needing help, needing understanding, needing comfort. The Bible tells us to bear one another's burdens Jesus Christ is a burden-bearer, one who never sleeps, whom we can talk to in the darkness of the nights and he will hear us. Thank God for such -Mrs. H. R. Grauke a loving Saviour.

## I BELIEVE IN LIFE INSURANCE

I believe in Life insurance, but not the so-called life insurance of the world today, which does not insure life at all. Their policy holders do not get any benefit from their policy at all, just the ones they name in the policy as beneficiary, and that only after the death of the policy holder. They have certain requirements to be met before any one can get their policy. First, there must be a clean bill of health. And there is a premium of a stipulated amount to be paid before the policy is possessed. Then an installment has to be made ever so often, or the policy will be dropped. Remember, the policy holder gets no benefits (unless they cash in on it, which ends the policy).

I hold a real life insurance policy in a real reliable firm. The name: FATHER, SON, AND HOLY GHOST-HEADQUARTERS IN HEAVEN.

Lord God the Father, owner. Jesus Christ His Son, manager. Holy Ghost His Spirit, adjuster.

This policy requires a premium also. It was paid by the second party of the firm, Jesus Christ the Son. It had to be paid in full, it was impossible for me to pay it; so He died on Calvary, shed his blood that I might hold this policy. I also am required to have a clean bill of health. This same blood that Jesus shed on the cross to pay the premium for me, also gives me a clean bill of health. 1 John 1:7, "The BLOOD of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin." There is no one any cleaner nor healthier than one who has been washed in the blood of Jesus.

I hold policy No. Psalm 91.

Here are some of the benefits which I receive right now in this life: Because I really and truly trust this firm, I am fully protected. I am safe from all the noisesome pestilences, frivolous things of this world, and from the snares and pitfalls and isms of the Devil. I am not afraid of the fiery darts that fly by day and by night, for I am protected. Eph. 6:16, "Above all, take the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked." I see hundreds, yea, thousands falling into sin and its folly, on my right hand and on on my left. but I am not afraid, for it shall not come near me. 1 Cor. 10:13, "There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: But God is faithful who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ve are able: but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it." He is the owner of this insurance firm from which I obtained the policy. Here is where the adjuster, the Holy Ghost comes in and does His office work.

Because I know this firm and love all three parties, I am not afraid to call on them in time of need, and they answer me by coming to my rescue. Isaiah 65:24, "And it shall come to pass, that before they call. I will answer, and while they are yet speaking, I will hear."

I am satisfied with my insurance policy, His Salvation. I get all these benefits in this life, and when this mortal must put on immortality, this policy still holds good. Remember, this policy is paid in full. 1 Cor. 15:51-53, "Behold, I show you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality." 1 Thess. 4:16. "For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trump of God, and the dead in Christ shall rise first, and then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air; and so shall we ever be with the Lord." Amen.

Let us comfort one another with these words. —Sister Dolly Locker

## The Sacrifice

Cain's offering (Gen. 4:5) was not accepted by the Lord because it was not a sin offering and he did not realize his need of mercy as a sinner, and did not humble down before God, but he became "very wroth." God still extended mercy to Him and pleaded with him (verses 6, 7). He needed Psalm 51:17, "The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise."

What then is the sacrifice that IS acceptable with God? "A living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God" (Rom. 12:1). So then God accepts a holy sacrifice, and he says, "which is your REASONABLE service." God is always reasonable (Isa. 1:18), offering pardon for sins for those who will obey Him (verse 19). "Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams" (1 Sam. 15:22).

Jesus said, "The Father hath not left me alone; for I do always those things that please him" (John 8:29). "For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us" (1 Cor. 5:7). "Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savor" (Eph. 5:2). "But now once in the end of the world hath he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself" (Heb. 9:26).

"By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name" (Heb. 13:15). "Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ." (1 Pet. 2:5).—Sel.

Help me, Lord, to choose my words
And think before I speak.

That I'll not wound a tender heart
Nor cause a tear of grief. —Effie Miller.

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THE PERIL OF INSINCERITY

Printed Portion: ..... Luke 11:29-44.

## January 1, 1955.

Luke 11:29. And when the people were gathered thick together, he began to say, This is an evil generation: they seek a sign; and there shall no sign be given it, but the sign of Jonas the prophet.

30. For as Jonas was a sign unto the Ninevites, so shall also the Son of man be to this generation.

- 31. The queen of the south shall rise up in the judgment with the men of this generation, and condemn them: for she came from the utmost parts of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and, behold, a greater than Solomon is here.
- 32. The men of Nineveh shall rise in the judgment with this generation, and shall condemn it: for they repented at the preaching of Jonas; and, behold, a greater than Jonas is here.
- 33. No man, when he hath lighted a candle, putteth it in a secret place, neither under a bushel, but on a candlestick, that they which come in may see the light.
- 34. The light of the body is the eye: therefore when thine eye is single, thy whole body also is full of light; but when thine eye is evil, thy body also is full of darkness.
- 35. Take heed therefore that the light which is in thee be not darkness.
  - 36. If thy whole body therefore be full of light, having

no part dark, the whole shall be full of light, as when the bright shining of a candle doth give thee light.

- 37. And as he spake, a certain Pharisee besought him to dine with him: and he went in, and sat down to meat.
- 38. And when the Pharisee saw it, he marvelled that he had not first washed before dinner.
- 39. And the Lord said unto him, Now do ye Pharisees make clean the outside of the cup and the platter; but your inward part is full of ravening and wickedness.
- 40. Ye fools, did not he that made that which is without make that which is within also?
- 41. But rather give alms of such things as ye have; and, behold, all things are clean unto you.
- 42. But woe unto you, Pharisees; for ye tithe mint and rue and all manner of herbs, and pass over judgment and the love of God: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone.
- 43. Woe unto you Pharisees! for ye love the uppermost seats in the synagogues, and greetings in the markets.
- 44. We unto you, scribes and I harisees, hypocrites! for ye are as graves which appear not, and the men that walk over them are not aware of them.

Memory Verse: He that is not with me is against me: and he that gathereth not with me scattereth. Lk. 11:23.

Practical Truth: God requires sincerity and inward as well as outward righteousness.

#### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Sincerity and honesty are virtues of a person whose heart is right with God. A person should be honest with himself before God. We should never forget that "all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do." Heb. 4:13. We cannot hide anything from God. He can see right down into the heart. When people come to God, asking Him to forgive their sins, He knows if they are sorry or not. If they are sorry that they have transgressed the laws of God, He will forgive.

Our lesson shows of the sincerity of the people of Nineveh. They believed the preaching of Jonah and repented from the heart and God did not destroy them. They recognized the Word of God by their actions. But the Pharisees of that day did not recognize Jesus nor His words. Even if he told them that "a greater than Solomon was here." Jesus was very bold to tell them that they were careful to make the outside of the cup and platter clean but their heart was full of wickedness and void of the love of God. We should never do anything only with a pure motive from the heart. Works without faith is dead. James 2:14-26.

## CONFIDENCE IN GOD

#### January 8, 1956

Printed Portion: .....Luke 12:22-34.

Lk. 12:22. And he said unto his disciples, Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat; neither for the body, what ye shall put on.

- 23. The life is more than meat, and the body is more than raiment.
- 24. Consider the ravens: for they neither sow nor reap; which neither have storehouse nor barn; and God feedeth them: how much more are ye better than the fowls?
- 25. And which of you with taking thought can add to his statue one cubit?
- 26. If ye then be not able to do that thing which is least, why take ye thought for the rest?
- 27. Consider the lilies how they grow: they toil not; they spin not; and yet I say unto you, that Solomon

in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.

28. If then God so clothe the grass, which is to day in the field, and to morrow is cast into the oven; how much more will he clothe you, O ye of little faith?

29. And seek not ye what ye shall eat, or what ye

shall drink, neither be ye of doubtful mind.

- 30. For all these things do the nations of the world seek after: and your Father knoweth that ye have need of these things.
- 31. But rather seek ye the kingdom of God; and all these things shall be added unto you.
- 32. Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.
- 33. Sell that ye have, and give alms; provide yourselves bags which wax not old, a treasure in the heavens that faileth not, where no thief approacheth, neither moth corrupteth.
- 34. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

Memory Verse: But rather seek ye the kingdom of God: and all these things shall be added unto you. L. 12:31.

Practical Truth: One with true confidence in God will trust Him for necessary things without worry.

#### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

How often the enemy of our souls comes rushing in and brings with him that giant, WORRY. We try in our own strength to push him away but that giant just persists in staying. Then we cry to the Lord and ask the Lord to help us and give us the victory. The Holy Spirit brings to our minds, which is His office work, the scriptures. One comes which says, "Take no thought for your life (v. 22). Be not over anxious. "... Seek ye first the kingdom of God; and all these things shall be added unto you." (v. 31.) "God shall supply all your needs according to his riches in glory. . ." (Phil. 4:19). "... In quietness and in confidence shall be your strength. . ." (Isa. 30:15). "And the work of righteousness shall be peace; and the effect of righteousness, quietness and assurance forever" (Isa. 32:17). ". . . For I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content" (Phil. 4:11). "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me" (Phil. 4:13). "Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into cantivity every thought to the obedience of Christ" (2 Cor. 10:5). As we meditate on these Scriptures, victory comes. With a God so great and mighty, why worry? By faith we see giant WORRY fleeing away, and great confidence and quietness fills our souls.

# NEED FOR REPENTANCE TODAY

## January 15, 1955

Printed Portion: .....Luke 13:1-9, 31-35.

Luke 13:1. There were present at that season some that told him of the Galilaeans, whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices.

- 2. And Jesus answering said unto them, Suppose ye that these Galilaeans were sinners above all the Galilaeans, because they suffered such things?

  3. I tell you, Nay: but except ye repent, ye shall all
- likewise perish.
- 4. Or those eighteen, upon whom the tower in Siloam fell, and slew them, think ye that they were sinners above all men that dwelt in Jerusalem?
- 5. I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.
  - 6. He spake also this parable; A certain man had

- a fig tree planted in his vineyard: and he came and sought fruit thereon, and found none.
- 7. Then said he unto the dresser of his vineyard, Behold, these three years I come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and find none: cut it down; why cumbereth it the ground?
- 8. And he answering said unto him, Lord, let it alone this year also, till I shall dig about it, and dung it:
- 9. And if it bear fruit, well: and if not, then after that thou shalt cut it down.

Luke 13:31. The same day there came certain of the Pharisees, saying unto him, Get thee out, and depart hence: for Herod will kill thee.

- 32. And he said unto them, Go ye, and tell that fox, Behold, I cast out devils, and I do cures to day and to morrow, and the third day I shall be perfected.
- 33. Nevertheless I must walk to day and to morrow, and the day following: for it cannot be that a prophet perish out of Jerusalem.
- 34. O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, which killest the prophets, and stonest them that are sent unto thee; how often would I have gathered thy children together, as a hen doth gather her brood under her wings, and ye would not!
- 35. Behold, your house is left unto you desolate: and verily I say unto you, Ye shall not see me, until the time come when ye shall say, Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Memory Verse: Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish. Luke 13:5.

Practical Truth Genuine repentance includes godly sorrow and a turning away from sin.

### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

We are living in the time of opportunity. Great light is shining all around us. The gospel has been preached. We stand today without excuse. The words of Jesus are in full force today. ". . . Except ye repent. ve shall all likewise perish."

Today all around us people are taken out of this world suddenly. Are they greater sinners than others? No, for God will take his vengence on everyone that does not repent. Judgment is facing all. Jesus wept over Jerusalem and longed for them to repent. Just so today he is longing and waiting for sinners to repent. He wants to gather all unto himself but as then, so it is today: "they would not."

The Israelites were God's chosen people and he expected fruit from these people. He had given them the Law of God and sent messages to them through the prophets. Today we have the Gospel and the Holy Spirit to lead us and God is expecting fruit.

A vineyard was planted and given special care but did not bear fruit. After a while the owner (God) came looking for fruit. For three years he waited, looked and expected fruit. Finally he told the dresser (Jesus) to "cut it down." Jesus pleaded for that soul. "Let me dig (bring suffering) about it for one more year and then if this soul does not bear fruit then you can cut it down." What great love! Are you in your fourth year of mercy?

## REQUIREMENTS FOR DISCIPLESHIP

### January 22, 1956

Luke 14:7. And he put forth a parable to those which were bidden, when he marked how they chose out the chief rooms; saying unto them,

- 8. When thou art bidden of any man to a wedding. sit not down in the highest room; lest a more honourable man than thou be bidden of him;
- 9. And he that bade thee and him come and say to thee. Give this man place: and thou begin with shame to take the lowest room.
- 10. But when thou art bidden, go and sit down in the lowest room; that when he that bade thee cometh, he may say unto thee, Friend, go up higher: then shalt thou have worship in the presence of them that sit at meat with thee.
- 11. For whosoever exalteth himself shall be abased: and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.

Luke 14:16. Then said he unto him. A certain man made a great supper, and bade many:

- 17. And sent his servant at supper time to say to them that were bidden. Come, for all things are now ready.
- 18. And they all with one consent began to make excuse. The first said unto him, I have bought a pièce of ground, and I must needs go and see it: I pray thee have me excused.
- 19. And another said, I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to prove them: I pray thee have me excused.
- 20. And another said, I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.
- 21. So that servant came, and shewed his lord these things. Then the master of the house being angry said to his servant, Go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in hither the poor, and the maimed, and the halt, and the blind.
- 22. And the servant said, Lord, it is done as thou hast commanded, and yet there is room.
- 23. And the lord said unto the servant, Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled.
- 24. For I say unto you, That none of those men which were bidden shall taste of my supper.

Memory Verse: For whosoever exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted. Luke 14:11.

Practical Truth: Christ's requirements for discipleship are exacting and his summons are urgent.

#### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

In the first parable of our lesson Jesus is giving a lesson on humility shown in taking the lowest seat and being invited to the higher seat at a feast. A person should for manners sake take the lowest seat. That would be the most expedient thing to do. A person could do that and not have any true humility of heart, such as is required in the true followers of Christ. God looks upon the heart and he wants us from the heart to "prefer our brother." True humility will cause us to do that. In that sense we will be exalted in the eyes of the Lord because we have shown true humility. A true child of God will manifest humility and selfforgetfulness and a deep interest in the welfare of others, especially those who are needy. God loves to see humility and all true saints do also. We do not like to see those who want to try to impress others with their supposed greatness.

The last parable is very plain to us of the great plan of salvation and how it is perfect in every sense

of the word. The scul who partakes of the Lamb of God shall be perfectly satisfied. "... Hearken diligently unto me, and eat ye that which is good, and let your soul delight itself in fatness" (Isa. 55:2). "Many are called, but few are chosen." Many are giving foolish excuses today and will be lost.

#### -:::-GOD'S CONCERN FOR SINUERS

## January 29, 1956

Printed Portion: .....Luke 15:1-10. Luke 15:1. Then drew near unto him all the publicans and sinners for to hear him.

- 2. And the Pharisees and scribes murmured, saving, This man receiveth sinners, and eateth with them.
- And he spake this parable unto them, saying,
   What man of you, having an hundred sheep, if he lose one of them, doth, not leave the ninet; and nine in the wilderness, and go after that which is lost, until he find it?
- 5. And when he hath found it, he layeth it on his shoulders, rejoicing.

6. And when he cometh home, he calleth together his friends and neighbors, saying unto them, Rejoice with me; for I have found my sheep which was lost.

- 7. I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance.
- 8. Either what woman having ten pieces of silver. if she lose one piece, doth not light a candle, and sweep the house, and seek diligently till she find it?
- 9. And when she hath found it, she calleth her friends and her neighbors together, saying Re'oice with me; for I have found the piece which I had lost.
- 10. Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that re-

Memory Verse: For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost. Luke 19:10.

Practical Truth: Christ's concern for the lost should be shared by his followers.

#### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Jesus did not do things to please the people. He had a mission in this world and that was to save the lost. Because he disregarded people's opinions he was criticized. In our lesson this time it was the Pharisees and scribes. They felt they were very righteous. They complained about Jesus eating with and talking to the sinners and publicans or tax collectors. He asked them a question in a parable which caused them to think and come to a conclusion and then pointed out how that all heaven is interested in one lost soul. Even the angels rejoice over one sinner that repenteth.

If a shepherd is so concerned over one lost sheep, how much more should he, the Son of God be concerned over a lost man who was God's creation. The teaching of the parable of the lost coin is similar.

May the Lord lay a burden upon each saved soul today for the lost. The Bible says one soul is worth more than the whole world. How do we look upon the murderer, the drunkard, the vilest sinner? Is it with a puch off and disgust? Or do we look past the sins and see a soul that will live or die? If we have the spirit of Christ we will seek after that soul and feel as God feels, "Not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance." II Pet. 3:9.-M. M.