

FAITH^{AND}VICTORY

The EVENING LIGHT WATCHMAN



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We Are Building

We are building on the apostles true,
Jesus being the chief corner stone;
The house all fitly framed together,
As we can never stand alone.

We have to be part of God's building,
United by the bond of love,
If we make it into heaven
To dwell with Jesus above.

The saints of God are humble people
And thus we must ever stay,
If Jesus is going to use us
Along this pilgrim way.

Saints do not exalt themselves,
We only magnify the dear Lord
By keeping low at Jesus' feet
And obeying all His precious Word.

The Holy Bible is God's Word,
Its promises are certainly sure;
Oh, help us, my dear Lord Jesus,
To be a hearer and a doer.

—Effie Miller.

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True Riches

We feel led of the Spirit to bring forth some precious truths from the Word of God which have been ringing in our souls for some time.

2 Cor. 8:9 reads thus: "For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich."

Think of the great sacrifice that heaven made for us! Jesus left that place of the riches of the glory world and came to this sinful world where he had no place to lay his head, to suffer shame, to be spit upon, mocked and beaten, and at last crucified.

It looked like, through the eyes of the world, that he lost all his fame, reputation, and honor. They hung him between two thieves as though he was the

worst of criminals. Thus he became poor that we might be rich. But, thank God, Jesus had a character that men or devils could not touch—and to be like Him is a rich state for us. Also through his death and resurrection we are heirs of the kingdom. He has willed us all his riches. All things are ours, and we have free access to the throne of grace, to the store house of all his abundant store for our needs. To be in possession of these things, or to have Christ in our souls, is to be in possession of the greatest riches anyone can obtain!

Eph. 1:18-20, "The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints, and what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe according to the working of his mighty power, which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places," etc. He said "the exceeding greatness of his power" is to us-ward who believe. We have all this through Christ and his resurrection; and we know what the RICHES of the glory of his inheritance in the saints are—praise the Lord! Now again I say that we who have Christ enthroned in our hearts and souls with this full and free salvation are truly rich in the Lord. We let Christ have possession of our hearts, so he gives us possession of his riches. Thank God! These riches which are true will never fade away as do the riches of the world.

Oh, to be a child of our heavenly Father and of Christ our King gives us a right to our inheritance. Talk about riches, they are real! Yes, how rich we are, to possess the kingdom in the soul, which is of righteousness, joy, and peace in the Holy Ghost. He has raised us up together and made us to sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus, "that in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus" Eph. 2:6, 7. Also we read Eph. 2:4, "But God who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us." How glad we are that God is rich in mercy to bestow it on us who are so unworthy—it was because He loved us.

Now let us again consider the thought of Christ becoming poor. He was willing to disown himself and

deny himself and sacrifice his power and be hung on the cross that we might be saved and be partakers of his riches. Yes, he became poor that we might be rich. Now through the abundance of his rich graces we are overcomers; we are priests and kings unto God, which gives us the authority to rule over the devil and the powers of sin; for we are risen with him to reign triumphant. It is our heaven-bought privilege through Christ to reach out and pull down all the strong holds of Satan and go free, shouting the victory. We have no excuse for being poor and destitute of any of these true riches. God supplies our souls from heaven with that heavenly food and drink and even clothes our souls with the garments of salvation. He also equips us with the whole armor of God. He really has equipped us as good soldiers for the fight. We enjoy all his benefits. He beautifies the meek with salvation to attract the people to see Christ. I would to God that people would get to hungering for Christ and his riches!

We often hear of someone dying and leaving a lot of wealth and riches, and some man, woman, boy, or girl falling heir to them. We have fallen heir to our inheritance, or true riches, through His death, to which the riches of the world has no comparison. We enjoy His wonderful blessings and His riches here and will more fully enjoy them in the world beyond.

For us to obtain these riches, we must be poor in spirit. Matt. 5:3, "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven"; and "Blessed are the meek for they shall inherit the earth." As Christ became poor that we might be rich, we must become poor to be rich. To be poor is to lose our Self, counting all things loss for Christ's sake, denying ourselves of things for the flesh, etc. Isa. 29:19 reads: "The meek also shall increase their joy in the Lord, and the poor among men shall rejoice in the holy one of Israel." Thank God for our Rich Estate which came through His poverty! —W. C. McMakin.

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Tried Once but Failed

"NO! I can't live a Christian life; I have tried!"

What you say is true; you, of yourself, cannot do it. Read Col. 1:27; Rom. 8:9. Paul was writing to those who were already saints (Phil. 1:1) when he said, "Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. For it is God that worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure" Phil. 2:12, 13. These saints at Philippi were already converted (Acts 16), "born of God" (John 1:11-13).

Now what is the next thing to do? Go God's way and you will not fail. "God is able to make all grace abound toward you" (2 Cor. 8:9). Seek God with the whole heart (Jer. 29:13, 14). Do not count on self, but on Christ (Rom. 4:5). Yield unreservedly to God (Rom. 6:13). Then you must continue to yield (Rom. 6-8 chapters). Keep at it to hide the Word of God away in the heart to keep out sin (Psa. 119:11). Pray daily to God (Heb. 4:16) who "is able to keep you from falling" (Jude 24; Tit. 3:5; 1 Pet.

1:5), "Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform [complete] it until the day of Jesus Christ" (Phil. 1:6). Do not look at others' mistakes and where they come short; but keep "Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith" (Heb. 12:1, 2, 4. And daily look to the Lord Jesus to keep you from sin (Matt. 1:21; Rom. 3:22-26). —Scriptures selected by C. W.

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Purity of God's Church

"And there came unto me one of the seven angels which had the seven vials full of the seven last plagues, and talked with me, saying, Come hither, I will shew thee the bride, the Lamb's wife. And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and shewed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God, having the glory of God: and her light was like unto a stone most precious, even like a jasper stone, clear as crystal." Rev. 21:9-11.

God's pure church is here (in this world) made like unto a jasper stone, clear as crystal, transparent, no darkness in her. Sin brings darkness, but in her is no darkness at all. John caught a vision of the pure church as it came down from God out of heaven.

The foundation principles are based on the Word of God: "And in him was life; and the life was the light of men." "And the light shineth in darkness and the darkness comprehended it not." (St. John 1:4 and 7). There was not any fellowship between light and darkness in the beginning, and there is no fellowship between them now.

"In the beginning was the Word and the Word was God"; hence, there could not be any impurities in his church, the Word of God being a basic foundation principle. Ever since the day of Pentecost when the Holy Spirit was poured out on men as a power, as a cleanser which perfected their oneness, the Spirit has been the enlightening power in the church. So then God's church is as pure as God's Word and Spirit. In other words, it is as pure as he (Christ) is, as free from sin as he was here in this world.

Go with me now to Eph. 5:25, "Husbands love your wives even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; that he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word. That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish." (vss. 25-28). There is not a spot in this church, nor wrinkle, but holy and without blemish; not a blemish in her, a pure clean church.

Each member in her has these marks of purity. I am sure all saved men and women are saved from sin. There is not a sinner in this pure church.

It seems in the past few years that some people have the idea that God's church can not keep from having blemishes and spots and worldliness. In order to represent the Bible church, God's church must now

be as pure as it was when it started. It must be as free as it was when it was fashioned by the hands of God on the Day of Pentecost—no more of this world than Jesus was (St. John 17:16).

The reason some worldly things have come in among us (not in the church) is because some are not willing to measure up. The fruits of worldliness are very clear to be seen among some. Folks who love the world do not have the love of God in them (1 John 2:15).

The church of God is God's habitation here on the earth (Eph. 2:20-22). In it the Lord lives, and by His Spirit He helps each one to do what the Spirit reveals to him. Each member in the body of Christ is a member of each other, members in particular. These members all speak the same thing and all have charity for each other. It is not our doctrine, but the doctrine of Jesus Christ and the apostles under the directions of God himself through the Spirit. May God help us to see the true light. Oh, glorious light of the morning, when Christ and his church shone in all humility, gentleness, spotlessness, and love, separated from and unspotted by the world; persecuted, rejected, and despised by men; enduring all without a murmur, contented in any and every circumstance of life; counting everything joy, glorying in tribulation, patient in imprisonments, in stripes, in tumults, and none of these things moved them only to a closer walk with God. When they were reviled, they reviled not again; when they suffered they threatened not, but showed all meekness and gentleness unto all men, loving and praying for their enemies, feeding them when they hungered and giving them drink when they thirsted, preaching the gospel without money and without price, led exclusively by the Holy Spirit, having power with God over devils to cast them out, to heal the sick and lame, to restore sight to the blind and hearing to the deaf, to give speech to the dumb, and to raise the dead. Wonderful light of the gospel morning!

Dear reader, we invite you to look upon the picture, see it in its beautiful transparent effulgent light, pure as heaven, holy as a band of angels, peaceful as the silent flowing river, harmless as the gentle dove, in a oneness equal with the holy trinity, and conquerors of sickness, sin, and Satan. Such was the pure virgin bride of Christ—the church—when she was the light of the world.

This is a true description of the morning church, and is a perfect example of the church in the evening time (See Zech. 14:6). Our light and purity must not be less than the light in Brother Warner's time. If all saints of God since then had walked in the light given them, they would have been much farther advanced in the light and power of God's eternal truth. There is no such thing as walking behind light and pleasing God. Here is a fundamental truth, and a cause for every decline. Walking behind light will invariably bring one to a leanness of soul and soon bring separation from God, or in a backslidden condition. Hence, a love for the world creeps in, beginning with a compromising doctrine, bringing us to

a heart that really wants the things of the world, because of a craving for such things that are worn for show to satisfy a proud heart. It is also true that folks walking behind light are never satisfied. They get nothing from God, hence they go to the world for pleasures that only God can give to satisfy. As a result they become a dead, dry, formal group of church members.

I have given you my views from God's Word, and light from some of our pioneer brethren (reading after them and hearing them preach it) who saw this kind of a church in perfect working order. I say with all honesty and humility of heart, that if this pattern is measured to, it will put us in God's pure church. I say we will have to walk in every ray of light that God has given us, same doctrine, same in practice. What we had to lay aside in the beginning must be still laid aside as long as we live. What God required of men forty years ago he yet requires of us today. We must have the same carefulness all through life that we had when we said "yes" to God at the altar. Then we said, "Anything, Lord." Pride went out, hatred also melted out and God's love came in. I want to say that God's Word never changes. God's light never changes but increases. Repentance of sins will bring the same results to one man as to another. If God gets enough truth into one man's heart to bring true repentance, whether educated or ignorant, God's salvation will save him from sin, because this is a heart experience with God. —E. M. Zinn.

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ONLY ONE WAY

Jesus is the WAY (St. John 14:6). There is only one way. He is the Door (John 10:9). There is only one door. Almost everybody says they are going to heaven. Yes, but they revel on in sin. The Bible plainly tells you that you can not enter in in your sins. We all must live holy and free from sin to get into God's holy heaven. I repeat: Jesus is the door (John 10:9) and there is only one way to heaven (Jno. 14:6). We all must go hand in hand together and go in at the same door.

They sing, shout and pray on Sunday and all the week they revel on in sin. Dear friends, that kind of religion will not do. You must live the true religion every day. How will it be with you on that great Judgment Day? You seek for pleasure and revel on in sin here, but in hell you will find no pleasure. And there is no water in hell. Gal. 6:7, 8 tells us, "Be not deceived; God is not mocked, for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap." We must give an account of how we live in this world. Our life's conduct or influence is going out either for good or bad as found in the fifth chapter of Galatians, beginning with verse 22. Jesus said, "If you die in your sins, where I am you cannot come." The rich man only lacked one thing, but he failed to get in. If you or I lack one thing we cannot enter heaven.

—J. T. Hinshaw.

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Editorials

I have been thinking of the ante-diluvian world and how evil and unrighteous they became. We read in Gen. 6:5, "And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually." God became sorry about this condition, and it grieved him that he had made man. He decided to send a flood of water that would cover the whole earth at a great depth so that all living unrighteous men and women would be drowned and cease to exist on the earth. Of all the millions of people living at that time, the Lord could only find eight souls who were righteous and lived in his favor. He preserved them alive and slew all of his other created human beings. Thus we behold the severity of God meted out unto sinners. Consider how few were righteous in his sight; then think of the whole world of sinners today that are doomed for the flames of God's wrath when he sets fire to this world. Just think of the multitude of Satan's preachers who teach the people that you cannot expect to live free from sin in this life. By this teaching they keep the multitudes in darkness and sin. They do not get into God's holiness themselves, and hinder those from going in that would go in. How great is their damnation! Jesus told the sect sinning Pharisees and scribes that they compassed land and sea to make one proselyte, and when they had made one they made him two-fold more the child of hell than themselves (Matt. 23:15). Much of that is being done today by Satan's ministers.

The people living in Sodom and Gomorrah, those large cities of the plain, became so lustful and wicked that God's wrath was kindled against them and he rained fire and brimstone down upon them and destroyed all but three. Just think of the multitude of people living in those cities, and only three escaped the destructive wrath and fire of God who judgeth righteously.

Jesus the Son of God, speaking to us by his eternal word, says in Matt. 7:13, "Enter ye in at the strait gate [Christ is the strait gate to heaven]: for wide is the gate and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it." Broad minded people that take in the world with their religion are enemies to the narrow and strait way with Jesus, and their bodies will be burned with the world and their souls will be judged by the Lord as unfit to live in heaven, so of course will be committed to the eternal burning where the worm dieth not and the fire is never quenched. My dear reader and friend, do you want to follow the religious crowds down to such a place? I feel sure you do not. Then listen to and hearken to what Jesus says; hear his voice and live with the few that are following Jesus in the strait way.

Jesus said to his followers: "Fear not little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the

kingdom." His flock is small compared to the multitudes that are traveling the broad way.

Let us go from here to Revelation and see what John beheld which was taking place here in the earth in religious matters. We read in the 17th chapter of Revelation that John was shown the judgment of the great whore, a corrupt woman, a representative of a humanly organized church which harbored and committed fornication with all manner of evil in the world and other corrupted spirits. The word of God says that "she sitteth upon many waters." In the 15th verse of this chapter we read that the waters represent people and multitudes, and nations, and tongues. In other words she draws her strength to be a fornicator and a corrupt church from the multitudes, and sits upon them. She has ruling authority over them, and they are servants to her. In the third verse it says that this woman sat upon a scarlet colored beast and was full of names of blasphemy. In the 4th verse we read that she had a golden cup in her hand. It looked good from an earthly view point, but this cup was full of abominations and filthiness of her fornication. A name was written on her forehead (verse 5), "MYSTERY BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH." In the sixth verse we read, "And I saw the woman drunken with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus." History tells us that the Roman Catholic Church literally tortured and slew thousands of souls during the dark ages, or rather had it done by the beast she was sitting upon, which represented the government of the Roman Empire under her control.

Who are the harlot daughters? They could be none else but the many sect churches which are in the land today. They often speak of the Catholic Church as being their mother, and the Catholics often speak of the sect churches as being their daughters. They have corrupted themselves as the mother church and endorse and fellowship the unsaved and go hand in hand with this corrupted sinful world which is doomed for perdition with eternal burnings.

Dear friend, if you are mixed up with any of the many humanly organized churches in our land, the holy Word of God will tell you just what to do to be freed from its power and influence. In Revelation 18:2 you can see the condition existing in these sects and the different spirits which have freedom to work in them. Let us read what God says about them and their fallen condition, "And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the Great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of Devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird." You may be amazed at such a statement, but let us read more of God's Word and it will clear up in your mind how this condition could exist. Begin reading at the 13th verse of the eleventh chapter of 2nd Corinthians: "For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be trans-

formed into ministers of righteousness: [they preach many right things] whose end shall be according to their works." As one brother said, the devil does not appear before you with horns and hoofs, but in a nice dress coat and has the outside white-washed. He appears very pious with a good supply of feigned humility. He appears to be an angel of light and knows the Scriptures well and uses them, twisting them from their real meaning and thereby keeping precious souls under his influence and power.

My dear beloved friend, if you are yoked up with unbelievers in a humanly organized church, heed what God's holy Word tells you to do in Rev. 18:4, "And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, 'COME OUT OF HER MY PEOPLE, THAT YE BE NOT PARTAKERS OF HER SINS, AND THAT YE RECEIVE NOT OF HER PLAGUES.'"

Another thing that causes so much evil and worldly conformity in Christendom with many miracles and lying wonders being performed is the fact that the three unclean spirits like frogs are in the world in these last days of time, deceiving the people. In Revelation 16:13 we read that they have come out of the mouth of the Dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet, "For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles."

The dragon is that pagan power that ruled the Roman Empire when Jesus began to preach the pure gospel of God. This dragon power and spirit persecuted him and his believers and slew many of them. This power was finally put down, but according to Scripture it is to show up in the latter days and be loose to teach its doctrines and deceive the people. This dragon power is loose now under the cloak of Communism, and is working miracles and doing wonders in deceiving the nations to their doctrines. Nation after nation is falling a victim to its atheistic and infidel teachings.

The second power is the beast, which is represented by the Roman Catholic Church, which is gaining many converts. I was just reading an article the other day which told about great healings and miracles which were being wrought by praying Catholics. It is recorded by them that some walls are covered with crutches left behind. This great stir and miracle working among the Catholics could be called the deceiving spirit which came out of the beast.

The third spirit came out of the mouth of the false prophet, which represents sectism, the harlot daughter of Babylon with their many false teachings. Today you know about and hear about great meetings being held where miracles of all kinds are being performed and lying wonders exist to deceive the people into false teaching. Many of them get under "Angel-of-light spirits." They are possessed with religious spirits of different kinds. I was in a meeting one time where the tongues' doctrine had sway. One woman was on her knees barking like a dog and other spirits would cause people to scream, twist, and jerk. Some would dance and hop about like they were compelled by a strange power. These different brands

came out of the mouth of sectism and each one carries along its respective false doctrines.

Listen to God's eternal Word, 2 Cor. 6:14, "Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? and what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said. I will dwell in them and walk in them; and I WILL BE THEIR GOD, AND THEY SHALL BE MY PEOPLE. WHEREFORE COME OUT FROM AMONG THEM, AND BE YE SEPARATE, SAITH THE LORD, and TOUCH NOT THE UNCLEAN THING: and I WILL RECEIVE YOU, and WILL BE A FATHER UNTO YOU, and YE SHALL BE MY SONS AND DAUGHTERS, SAITH THE LORD ALMIGHTY."

Dear friends and loved ones, if you find yourself caught in any of the many humanly organized churches of today, we beg of you to renounce the hidden thing of dishonesty of worldly religion and come out of her according to God's Word so you can be free to be led of His Spirit, being his sons and daughters.

While divine healing is a Bible doctrine and God has healed his people all down through the centuries, now the devil with his unclean spirits like frogs is deceiving the people with his working of miracles and doing lying wonders. God is allowing this for this reason: many of his children have turned away and do not love the truth in the crucified way any more, and He allows them to receive strong delusions that all who love not the truth may be damned. Read the second chapter of 2 Thess., beginning at verse 9.

Brethren, let us continue to love the self-denying, crucified way with Jesus that we receive no delusion. These are perilous times in which we live. Let us watch and pray and be sober minded, yielding to Him all the time, keeping the divine love of God in our hearts, as that prompts good words and deeds.

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The Corrupt Tree

In a young people's gathering here at the Faith Pub. House home once a week, we have been studying the works of the flesh and the fruit of the Spirit, found in Galatians 5:19-23. Each person was given a piece of paper to draw a diagram which would help him or her to remember the lesson. After drawing a tree with seventeen limbs and numbering each limb, our lesson began. First we read Matt. 7:17-20 about the "corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit," and "is hewn down and cast into the fire." We named our tree "The Corrupt Tree."

On the first limb of this corrupt tree we wrote adultery. On the space across from the tree we wrote number one, and wrote the definition of adultery, which is living with another's wife or husband. (You can look in your dictionary for plainer definitions, but I felt this was a proper way to put it when talking to a group of boys and girls). Then we read

Scriptures in the Bible that plainly tell us what adultery is. In Romans 7:2, 3 it says, "For the woman which hath a husband is bound by the law to her husband so long as he liveth; but if the husband be dead, she is loosed from the law of her husband. So then if, while her husband liveth, she be married to another man, she shall be called an adulteress; but if her husband be dead, she is free from that law; so that she is no adulteress, though she be married to another." You can plainly see from this above Scripture that a young person should think carefully before he marries because it means that he is married as long as they both live. One can never marry another person while his companion lives without committing adultery. In the marriage vows you promise yourself to each other "till death do us part." I have heard young people make the remark so carelessly: "If I can't get along with the first one I marry, I'll get rid of him and marry another." May the Lord put a rebuke upon any thought the devil might bring to your mind in that way. You cannot do that and be clear before God. Jesus tells us in Matt. 19:7, 8 that Moses permitted or suffered those under the law of Moses to put away their companions because of the **HARDNESS OF THEIR HEARTS**, but "from the beginning it was not so." God only made one woman for Adam. Jesus does say in the ninth verse that "Whosoever shall put away his wife, except it be for fornication [this clause explains or modifies the first clause, which gives a married person a right to separate from their companion] and marry another, committeth adultery: and whosoever marrieth her which is put away doth commit adultery." In 1 Cor. 7:10, 11 we read, "And unto the married I command, yet not I, but the Lord, Let not the wife depart from her husband: But if she depart, let her **REMAIN UNMARRIED, OR BE RECONCILED TO HER HUSBAND**: and let not the husband put away his wife."

Dear precious young people, may I beg you in Jesus' name, let these truths sink down deeply into your hearts, and beware of the traps the enemy of your soul has set for your down fall as you choose a companion. Be sure and know the back life of the one you marry. Remember it is a life-time proposition. Christian young people should not marry those who are not Christians.

If the Lord wills, I shall write to you again on the works of the flesh as we put each one on the limb of the "Corrupt Tree," which shall be cast into the fire that can never be quenched. God bless you dear young people.

—Mrs. Marie Miles

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The man who swears does ten things at once: (1) He breaks the Command of God; (2) He violates the law of the land; (3) He transgresses the rules of good manners; (4) He outrages decency; (5) He insults good people; (6) He profanes sacred things; (7) He shows bad bringing up; (8) He dishonors his parents; (9) He does what he is ashamed of; (10) He does what he will regret.

"DON'T SWEAR"

"The very God of Peace Sanctify You Wholly"—1 Thess. 5:23.

These words spake Jesus: "Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth" (John 17:17). "For their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth." John 17:19. Oh, how I love the truth! He has done so much for me.

I am so glad today for a simple saving and justifying gospel that forgives all our committed sins and makes peace between us and God. This is a wonderful experience. God has something far better than this for us all! His will for us is that we do not stop short of the best he has for us. Why should we not receive the best when He has paid the full price?

1 Thess. 4:3, "This is the will of God, even your sanctification."

If someone should offer you a good complete meal with milk, steak, bread, and fine cake with honey would you be satisfied with just milk? Would you leave the table after just tasting the milk? No, I say, if you taste the milk and find it satisfying, cool, sweet, and refreshing, you will hunger to taste the goodness of the other food. Yes, you will demand the steak (strong meat), the bread, and the honey—especially so if you know it has all been purchased at a goodly price.

John tells us (1 John 1:4), "These things write we unto you that your JOY may be FULL." Notice God wants your joy to be FULL. He wants you to have it ALL, to be complete, full grown, made whole, perfected. 1 Cor. 2:30, "But of Him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and SANCTIFICATION and redemption." Just look at these wonderful words: and your FULL REDEMPTION provides for it all. Why not receive it ALL? Be not content with just the one work of grace. Go on and demand, receive by faith, the second work which will make us more than conquerors and give us full victory. Praise God! Present your body a HOLY living sacrifice unto God that he may purge you and cleanse you of that inbred sin. You cannot repent of it because you did not commit it; but you did inherit it. God can and will cleanse you from this sin. 1 John 1:7 "... the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth [a continuing work] us from ALL SIN"—the one sin you did not commit. Verse 9, "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us OUR SINS, and to cleanse us from ALL unrighteousness" (Adamic sin). This shows the two works of grace. First, confess and be forgiven, live free from sin, bear fruit. Second, be cleansed from ALL sin, all unrighteousness, thus enter into the inner court of the temple, the Holy of Holies.

Rom. 12:1, "I beseech you therefore, brethren, [saved, justified] by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service." It is only reasonable that considering the tender mercies of God to us we present our life (body, mind, and heart) holy and wholly unto Him—the only acceptable sacrifice that we may bring to Him; thus we can

enter into the Holy of Holies, being completely cleansed from our sinful nature.

How do we now have this privilege? Christ died for this very purpose. How do we know this to be true? A clear witness or sign was given, for the veil of the temple was rent in two at the death of Jesus, thus opening a hitherto closed door into the Holy of holies. This we know was of God and not of man because the Word tells us it was rent from top to bottom, thus showing forth the hand of God from above.

Oh, how we need to crucify the flesh (die daily) that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit (Gal. 5:16-26). Now with our holy bodies presented unto Him as a living sacrifice, he will purge us that we may bring forth MORE fruit (John 15:3); not a different fruit, but more of the same kind of fruit. Now there will be no hindering force (sin nature) in our lives to cause us to fail or feel defeated when under pressure or trials of life.

What is the value or purpose of sanctification? Why should all justified persons be determined to seek and receive this second work? To give a clear answer, we will need to get a picture from the Old Testament system. Let us make a mental picture of the old tabernacle. Now we are saved, so we pass through the first room and look into the second room. (place of sanctification). In this second room, the Holy of Holies, was the Ark of the Covenant, a chest (vessel) overlaid with gold (purity of life). In this chest was the manna from the God of heaven, which God said must be put in the chest. This manna represents the spiritual food, the bread (that comes from heaven into the soul) the soul-keeping, life-giving food. This can only be received by a close contact with God at all times, a complete surrender of a holy life to God—close communion in the inner sanctuary, the second room, the second work of grace, which is standing grace. Also in this Ark (vessel) the tables of stone (Word of God) were kept. This ark therefore represents the sanctified life, for we abide in Him (the Word) and He (His word) abides in us. Let all who read determine with the help of God by faith to go on to perfection that we may stand.

Brethren, Jesus says in John 15:11, "These things have I spoken unto you, that MY joy might REMAIN in you, and that your joy might be FULL." Do you have that joy and peace of Jesus remaining always in you? Is your joy FULL? Why be satisfied with less than the best God has for you? Jesus paid for it all. Accept it by faith. Seek and ye shall find; ask and it (sanctification) shall be given unto you, for this is the will of God, even your sanctification. These are the blessed and precious promises of God our Father unto all his dear children that love and obey his words. So let us all receive the blessings and joys of a sanctified life today. Receive it that your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it. (1 Thess. 5:23). Do not doubt it!! 'Tis true; it's all for you.

My prayer is that this may be printed to the

glory of God that souls may seek and find complete victory in sanctification. Brethren, pray for me.

—Bro. R. R. Halladay.

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Where Will Your Soul Spend Eternity?

Jesus said unto the Pharisees (John 8:44), "Ye are of your father the devil, and the lust of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own, for he is a liar, and the father of it." (We see by this that only knowing the Truth will not keep us free, but we must also abide in IT.)

Which one now is your father, the devil or the God of Israel? You can only have one, either Jehovah God or Satan the devil. Whether of these two you obey, that one is your father, and with him you shall live forever—with Christ and His Father in eternal bliss, or with Satan and his followers in eternal hell.

CONSIDER THE LORD'S MERCY! The Lord God was about to withdraw His mercy from Israel, but Moses pleaded with God for Israel. God hearkened unto Moses and forgave Israel their sins. Had it not been for Moses, they would have been destroyed before they reached the promised land. This shows the mercy of God. (Exodus 32:7).

As the dresser of the Lord's vineyard pleaded with the Lord of the vineyard for the life of a certain fig tree which bore no fruit for three years, he said to his Lord, "LORD, let it alone this year also, till I shall dig about it and dung it: and if it bear fruit, well: and if not, then after that thou shalt cut it down." This Lord also hearkened unto his servant, but, and if, the tree bore no fruit after that, it was to be cut down. Luke 13:6-10. Spurn not God's mercy, but consider it. This proves that after so long a time, God's mercy shall be withdrawn and the fruitless man will be cut off. Prov. 28:13, "He that covereth his sins shall not prosper [in the way of holiness]: But whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy." After so long a time the Lord will withdraw His mercy.

GOD'S MERCY WITHDRAWN. Let it not happen to you. (14) "And I will dash them, one against another, even the fathers and the sons together, saith the Lord: I will not pity, nor spare, nor have mercy, but destroy them." (Jeremiah 13:12-14). To trifle with God is to cast away your own soul.

Man never dies; the last meaning of death as written in Scripture is to live in the regions below, being tormented forever. Luke 16:25, "But Abraham said, Son, remember that thou in thy lifetime receivest thy good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things: But now he is comforted and thou art tormented."

If your soul is cast away in that place of torment it stays there in eternity with never an end in sight. Choose whom you will serve; but choose carefully, for you will live with your chosen through throughout a never-ending eternity. A-men. —H. C. Erdman.

Obituary

Sister Salissa Magolean Griffin, the daughter of Sopha and John Walker was born August 9, 1880 at Conway, Arkansas, and passed January 8, 1957, at the age of 76 years, 4 months, and 29 days.

In 1904 she married James R. Griffin. To this union five children were born, four sons, and one daughter; two sons passed in infancy.

In the year of 1914 she heard the truth preached in its fullness and accepted it, and from then on, she lived true and faithful to her Saviour and to her church. We'll miss her greatly, but we have a beautiful example left for us to follow. Our loss is heaven's gain.

She is survived by her daughter Dora Lee Griffin of the home; two sons, John Griffin of Wewoka, Okla., Winifred Griffin of Dallas, Texas; one brother, Dr. Allen Walker of Kansas City, Mo; four neices, seven nephews, and a host of other relatives, friends and saints.

Funeral services by Manley Spears assisted by others. Text: Heb. 6:17, 18.

In Appreciation

The Griffin family wishes to thank the saints and friends for all expressions of love and sympathy in our bereavement. We send special thanks to the ones who have helped us to carry out our mother's request, which lightens the burden of our loss.

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Meeting Notices

GREEN PASTURES MEETING

The saints of Green Pastures would like to announce their regular spring meeting. The meeting will start (the Lord willing) in Green Pastures on March 15, 1957 and end on March 22nd.

Yours in Christ, T. M. Hinton; E. V. Sanders, (Pas.)

BOLEY MEETING

The annual April meeting of the Church of God held at Boley will begin April 12th (Lord willing) and end April 21st unless the Lord leads otherwise.

For further information write Sis. Ora Spears, Rt. 1, Box 109, Boley Okla. or Bro. C. A. Wallace, Boley, Okla.

FASTING AND PRAYER DAY

The Lord laid a burden upon some of the saints at Guthrie to meet at the chapel every Tuesday from 10 o'clock till three, for a day of fasting and prayer. If you have a burden or need you would like for them to be agreed with you for, just send it in to this office and we will make it known to them. If any one would like to enter into this agreement I'm sure God will bless you in your home as you pray for the requests that are sent in or those of your own.

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PRAYER REQUESTS

Please remember me earnestly in your prayers that the Lord will heal me of this heart trouble. He has helped me before, and I know that the Lord can help me again. Please pray earnestly that I can have the victory.

Your sister in Jesus,

—Mrs. H. A. DeCocq.

I have been having heart attacks quite bad, affecting my left side and my nerves. I want the saints everywhere to pray for me. Jessella Ausbie.

I'm thankful that I'm saved and living for the Lord. I praise the dear Lord for all He has done for me, healing my body when I ask for help, but I need Him now, again. Please pray that the Lord will heal me of all my aches and sicknesses. I also desire the Lord to touch my in-growing toe nails, and make them well. I will give the Lord all the praise and thanks.

Sis. Emma Mathers.

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S. C.—Dear saints, Greetings in Jesus' precious name.—Will all the saints bear with me once again. I'm still burdened, deeply burdened for a lost soul and I wish to beg each one of you to pray for that lost one, and ask God to convict them so strongly that they will have to yield their lives to the Lord, that God can bless them. Please pray with me until you feel God will answer this important cry. May I have the good news in the next copy that I can at least see a change; for things are awful as it stands. Please plead with our Maker for help. I know God does answer the prayers of the just and the righteous, thank God. We can go to him in secret prayer and he will answer. Your sister in Christ.

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Monark Campground Well Report

Word has been received that the re-drilling of the water well on the National Campground at Monark Springs, Mo. began on Saturday, Feb. 2. The hole was reamed out to ten inch diameter down to a depth of 43 feet into solid limestone. Then new casing was set and sealed in down to this depth. This operation sealed out the upper stream of water which had been supplying the well for the past ten years, and left the well with little or no water. Therefore, it was necessary to begin drilling on down to another stream. By last Sat., Feb. 9th, they were down to 265 feet, and the driller thought they might get sufficient water at 375 or 400 feet. If they do not get it there, they may have to drill to 900 feet and strike the Mississippi sand.

The drilling costs \$1.90 per foot down to 500 feet and \$2.40 per foot from there on down. It can readily be seen that the cost will be very great, but the water is essential for the coming campmeeting to be held, the Lord willing, on July 19 to 28th, inclusive. The amount of \$700 which has been received for this purpose will not cover the cost of drilling, so we are asking the saints to pray that this need be supplied and that the whole problem will be worked out to the glory of God. The trustees are keeping in close touch with the drilling operations.

Since this is a national meeting, all of us should realize our responsibility. Offerings may be sent to Bro. Ralph Beisly, Rt. 5, Coffeyville, Kansas, or to the undersigned, and the Lord will bless you. Plan now to attend the campmeeting. L. D. Pruitt, Sec.-Treas., 1116 W. Wash., Guthrie, Okla.

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ARTICLES FOR SALE

Crudens Complete Concordance: More than 200,000 references to the Old and New Testament; Large clear type. Bound in durable cloth. Price \$3.50 post paid.

Easter Post Cards: One doz. cards for 15 cents.

Easter Folders with Bible verse: 14 folders to the box. Price \$1.00 per box, post paid to you.

The Two Families

Men have organized themselves into many families and class distinctions; such as the many lodge families, union families, church families, and a multitude of other humanly organized families, and often in nationality families. But God, looking upon the scene and beholding all the arrangements that man has made, spiritually recognizes but two families; one is the family of God and the other is the family of Satan. The one is the holy clean family of God, and the other is the prostitute family of Satan.

The dictionary gives the definition of a prostitute as being a woman given to indiscriminate lewdness for hire; a harlot. If you can picture in your mind what a literal prostitute woman is like, then you can see what Satan's spiritual prostitute family would be like in the sight of God. Satan got his prostitute family started back in the garden of Eden when he deceived Adam and Eve, our first parents, and it has been growing and increasing ever since through other evil minded men.

God has always had a few of his family in the world—sometimes more and sometimes less—but, the sad truth is that most of the people of this old world belong to the family of Satan. That is why Jesus said in John 16:11, "Of judgment, because the prince of this world is judged. He also told the religious Pharisees in John 8:44, "Ye are of your father, the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar and the father of it." Paul taught the same thing in Eph. 2:2, "Wherein in times past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience." In the 6th chapter of Genesis we can read of how the ante-diluvian world was controlled by Satan inasmuch that God repented that he had made man on the earth. It grieved him at his heart. God destroyed them by a flood of water. Out of the millions that lived then, Satan had all in his family except the eight souls that God preserved in the Ark. When God destroyed those great cities of the plains, Sodom and Gomorrah, Satan had all of them but three in his family.

When Jesus Christ came on the scene and began to preach the "positive gospel," just think how few there were that believed on him to the saving of their souls. His worst enemies were the religious people whom Satan had deceived into his family. Satan today has nearly all men and women in his family, religious and otherwise. The world is in great need of a "positive gospel" being preached to them.

Satan has an adulterated gospel in all the world. Multitudes become his converts and join up with his family, his churches. Satan's preachers are numerous in the world, and because of this, multitudes never have a chance to hear the clean "positive gospel"

of the Lord Jesus Christ. Any preacher who preaches anything less than a holy life for believers is the devil's preacher. God never calls such a man or woman to preach for him. Jesus teaches this truth in his gospel. Please read John 8:34, "Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin." Anyone who is committing sin is in Satan's family, no matter what he may profess. The apostle John teaches this same truth in his first epistle 3:8, "He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning [The devil and his family always did sin]. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil." In the next two verses you will find a picture of the two families. God's family does not commit sin; Satan's family does commit sin. My friend, to which family do you belong?

It has been truthfully said that there are no sinners in the church of God or true family of God. Jesus said in John 11:26, "And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die." As long as a "born again" soul believes in Christ from the heart and is led of His Spirit, he will continue to be a member of His Church or Family, and will not sin and die. One will have to get out of Christ to commit sin and die. In 1 John 3:9 we read, "Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed [or Spirit] remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God." When Jesus hung on the cross and died for our sins, he abolished death and "hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel" 2 Tim. 1:10. Since He abolished death and has given us life from heaven in our souls, we know that some day we will put on immortality. One minister, when preaching on this subject, said in part, "We are in this house and it has a good roof on it. When it is pouring down rain one will never get wet as long as he stays in the house; but if he goes outside he would get wet. Just so, as long as one stays in Christ, he will not sin and die." This is not teaching eternal security, for many seem to do like we read in James 1:14, 15: "But every man is tempted when he is drawn away with his own lust, and enticed. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin; and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death." You see by this that a saved person will have to go somewhere before death takes place. When we consider the condition of the churches in Asia recorded in the first few chapters of Revelation, we find that many were going along as though in the church but in reality they were not spiritually alive and in Christ, for they had sinned and needed to repent. Such conditions could exist today. Not every one that goes to the meeting house with the saints and professes to be in the church is in the family of God. No person that sins is in the true spiritual church or family of God, no matter how high he may profess. It is possible for one to be in the church of God or family of God and do things that grieve His Spirit. Such a one would receive chastisement and correction from God. One could make mistakes in judgment, but when it became known to him that he had wronged someone by his mistake in words or

deeds he would be held by the Lord to make his wrongs right to keep in favor with the Lord. God will not forsake us unless we forsake Him. (2 Chron. 15:2). It is when folks lose the grace of God out of the heart that they will commit sin that brings death to the soul. Therefore it is a personal matter with each individual to see to it that the life and spirit of Christ is dwelling in the soul. There is no sin and death in Christ, and if you are abiding in Christ and yielding to Him and His will, you will not be committing sin. Paul tells us in his Galatian Epistle about some who fell from grace because they ceased to walk by faith. The Bible says, "The just shall walk by faith." A just person is not committing sin. The grace of God will have leaked out of your heart before you commit a sin that brings spiritual death.

Peter preached a positive gospel to the men of Israel on the day of Pentecost. No doubt he was pointing his finger at them as he said, "Him [Christ] being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye have taken and by wicked hands have crucified and slain," etc. The result was good, for in the 37th verse we read, "Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do?" The worst enemies that Jesus had when he was here were among the self righteous Pharisees who did not live holy. Jesus called them "whited sepulchres" and said, "Woe unto you scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye compass sea and land to make one proselyte, and when he is made, ye make him twofold more the child of hell than yourselves." Matt. 23:15. In the 13th verse of this chapter he says, "But woe unto you scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye shut up the kingdom of heaven against men: for ye neither go in yourselves, neither suffer ye them that are entering to go in." Ministers who are living unholy lives and teaching others they have to live that way are shutting up the kingdom of God against precious souls. God is pointing his big finger at such ministers and saying, "Woe unto you; ye are the enemies of my Word, the enemies of my holiness and my true flock, ye are the servants of sin and are keeping precious souls from entering into the kingdom of God." It is written in Hebrews 12:14, "Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord."

Brethren, let us preach a positive gospel out of a heart full of love for souls; and if needs be, name out those man-made churches and ministers that compromise with the world, are worldly minded, and thereby shut up the kingdom of God against precious souls that otherwise would enter in. A minister with a heart filled with the divine love of God will dare to be true to God and man. It is not divine love working in the heart that will cause a minister to withhold truth from needy souls and thereby leave them in the hands of Satan's ministers and family.

May God help us all to be true to our high and holy calling.

In Titus 2:11 we read, "For the grace of God [or Christ of God] that bringeth salvation hath ap-

peared to all men, teaching us that denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in this present world." Any man or woman who will live soberly, righteously, and godly in this present world will be in God's family; for no one can live this way only as he yields to God and allows Him to work in and through him both to will and to do of His good pleasure. We work out our own salvation with fear and trembling only as we are willing and obedient to let him work in and through us. (Phil. 2:12, 13). —Fred Pruitt

Testimonies

Oklahoma.—Dear saints, Greetings of love to all in the precious name of our Redeemer.—Today I am much encouraged and determined to go all the way with the Lord. How sweet it is to have our life hid away in Jesus. The more we die out to self, the greater is His abiding within, just to be fully enveloped in His love and mercy, knowing that He careth for us. I am not grudgingly serving the Lord but am happy and well pleased with God's way of living and dealing with me.

I want to tell to the glory of God, how He wonderfully healed my body recently. Three years ago a large creosote post fell on my right foot causing my large toenail to turn black and come off. When it grew back on, it grew into the corners of my toe and caused proud flesh to develop. It bled continually and was so painful and swollen that I could hardly wear a shoe on it. Two times I had the nail removed, but each time it grew back, it would be worse than it had been before. It seemed by this the Lord was making it clear to me that He wanted me to trust Him for the healing of my foot. At the Monark campmeeting last summer, the Lord impressed me to be anointed and prayed for. How wonderfully the Lord did bless, not only my foot but also my soul. I felt right then that the prayer of faith was prayed and I was healed. That night the proud flesh came out and in just a few days the nail at the sides and corners came out and it was soon completely well. What a wonderful operation the Lord did perform without a bit of pain! Today it is just as well as it was before it was injured. I give Him all the praise for touching and healing my toe. How thankful I am that there is nothing too small or great to bring unto the God we serve. The Lord's great heart of love is touched with the sufferings of His children. If we yield our will to trust Him, He will do the rest.

I trust that this will be a blessing and encouragement to each and everyone to fully trust the Lord. His power is not limited and He careth for you. I desire to ever be humble and yielded into His hands that He may make of me, that which would be most pleasing unto Him. I desire your prayers that I may clearly see the dealings of the Lord with me.

Yours in Him,

—Bertha Eck.

Mo.—Dear young saints, Greetings to you in the name of our dear Saviour who died on the cross that you and I might be saved.—This finds me saved, sanctified, and with victory over the powers of the devil. The devil is surely working hard these last days trying to discourage and deceive the children of God. But I am so thankful the Lord has enough grace for those that are humble and will ask for it. It seems sometimes the enemy comes in like a flood but I have always found that the Spirit

of the Lord will lift up a standard against him. Praise the Lord!

I am so thankful for all the Lord has done for me; so thankful he reached down and saved me from my sins and also keeps me free from sin. I am thankful too, for the many times he has healed my body. Truly we are serving a mighty God who doeth all things well.

Today I have a greater determination and desire to grow deeper in the things of God. I want to do more for him as each day goes by. I desire the saints' prayers that I'll always be found faithful in the service of the Lord. I really do appreciate each saint of God from the depth of my heart.

Christian love,

—Leon Sorrell

Ky.—Dear saints, Greetings in Jesus' name.—I love the Lord and as I don't get to go to meeting very much I find myself searching for all the good I can find at home. I love to read the "Faith and Victory" paper. I get joy out of reading it and my Bible and all the good religious books.

Please pray for me and my unsaved loved ones that they will be saved and that I will go on with the Lord. I have a burden I want you to help me pray for. God understands. I want Him to have His way in my life for I know life is short and we need to be led of God in doing the things He wants us to do.

Yours in Christ,

Sister Mae Sizemore.

Ohio.—Dear saints of God,—These few lines find me saved and still encouraged to fight the good fight of faith and lay hold on eternal life. I want to thank the saints for their kindness extended to us in the loss of our dear father, Bro. William Jackson, Sr. May God reward you for your kindness in our dark hours of suffering. We also thank Bro. Manley Spears for coming so far to be with us. Our hearts have been broken up, but we know that God only does what is best and our great loss is heaven's gain. Some day I'll meet my dear father again where we'll never more part. He was so kind and good to me, and I loved him so dearly.

This verse of song has been an encouragement to me: "Forward, forward, There's a crown before, See it shining on that heavenly shore, We shall wear it when the conflict's o'er—The prize is waiting, press the battle on." Cho.—"Strengthened by the mighty pow'r of heaven, We shall conquer, we shall conquer; Till the raging foe afar is driven, press the battle on."

After the night my father died, which was Christmas night, I was unable to sleep as I should. My body was very worn and tired. This past Sunday I asked the saints for prayer, and one of the saints suggested they fast, that I, along with my other sisters, would be able to sleep. I also fasted along with the saints yesterday. God in his tender mercy enabled me to sleep last night. Oh, how I thank him for it. I felt so much better at work today. My skin even had a better appearance after being able to rest last night. My heart has been bothering me also. My feet began swelling yesterday. I went in prayer for that too. This morning they were down to normal again. My complete faith is in God for soul and body. Pray for my unsaved loved ones in the family that while the memory of this death is fresh in their minds, they will make preparations now to meet God in peace.

Yours in Christ,

—Annie Stills.

Calif.—To the saints scattered abroad: Greetings in the precious name of Jesus.—Today I am ever rejoicing in the Lord for his goodness unto me. I thank him for being saved, sanctified and satisfied in the Bible way. The dear Lord is doing many wonderful things for his children. My daughter's little boy (6 years old at the time) was struck by a car and knocked forty feet. His leg was broken in two places, his jawbone was broken, he had a brain concussion, and internal injuries. He lay unconscious nearly four weeks. The doctors thought he wouldn't live but we looked thru to the dear Lord. Bro. Trotter, my pastor, went to Wichita, Kansas (that is where my daughter lives) to a meeting. I told my daughter to have him pray for her and the children. She, and her baby were also sick at the same time. The dear Lord healed them. The people said it was a miracle. The boy walked on crutches for a while but is walking about normal now. Praise the dear Lord for his healing power!

Bro. Louis Williams, the pastor of the Wichita congregation, was with Bro. Trotter and the Lord surely did bless. I sent in a prayer request to the Faith Pub. House but they worded the request wrong. The prayer of faith went up just the same, for which I give God all the praise. I thank the saints for their prayers and I just wanted to let them know how God did answer prayer. I mean to proclaim His doing among the people. Others may need Him too. Praise His holy name! I appreciate the "Faith and Victory" paper. It is surely food to the soul. Pray much for me.

Your sister in Christ, —Laura Nichols.

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Kansas—Dear saints and readers of the "Faith and Victory" paper.—Today I am thankful for salvation. The Lord has been so good to me. I have been reading so many wonderful testimonies of the children of God. I enjoy reading them all. Although there are many of us who haven't seen each other, we, as children of God are no strangers to each other. We all make up the one body.

I desire your prayers that the Lord will use me as it pleases him. I'm desiring and seeking a closer walk with the Lord. Pray for me. I want to learn to love the Lord more and more. I want to so love Him that I will obey all that he commands me to do. My desire is to love the Lord as a dear child not having to be punished to bring about obedience, but having that sincere love for the Master. I don't know what I would do without the Lord. There are many people who think they just couldn't live for the Lord. They think it is a miserable life to live, but dear ones there is joy in the Lord! Truly we are a band of happy pilgrims. I desire your prayers that the Lord will be my guide.

Your sister in the Lord, —Lucille Johnson.

o—o—o—o—o

Mo.—Dear saints and readers of the "Faith and Victory" paper. The Lord has been talking to me about writing my testimony. The Lord saved my soul and healed my body. When the dear Lord found me I was deep in sin. He brought me to the bed of affliction, almost to death's door to get to talk to my soul. I was sick in soul and body. I had stomach and heart trouble and many afflictions on my body. One day while in bed my heart got so bad I thought I was going to leave this world. Then I began to pray and I promised the Lord if He would spare my life I would live for Him. He spared my life and made me able to be up and out of my bed part of the time.

As I had not known the saints or the truth, I did not know what they taught, believed, or preached. In my weak way I began praying and the Lord talked to my heart and showed me how to call on Him. I prayed for three months the best I knew how, day and night until it seemed everything was out of the way. The devil was there keeping me from fully surrendering to the Lord. I lived on a farm and would go to the woods to pray. One day I went out and prayed, then came back to the garden. I was walking when the Lord lifted the burden and saved my soul. I went into the barn and prayed, but this time the prayer was not like it had been. It was thanking the dear Lord. I went to the house and as I went in I picked up a song book. It opened to the song "My sins are all taken away." I sang it as I had never sung it before. My sister looked at me and said, "You are saved." She said she could tell by the happy expression on my face.

Dear ones, the devil was stirred and came at me with fiery darts. I had many trials and persecutions. At the time I was saved I had been taking a doctor's medicine. I did not understand about the Lord healing our bodies but the Lord was leading me out so he could show me the promises that were in His Word. My father wanted me to go back to get more medicine. I thought it would do no good, but to please my father I went back. I took two doses and by the time I took the third dose I was feeling so sick. It seemed to make me a lot worse. I got the medicine and burned it. I said, "Lord, I will trust you, live or die." Even to this day after thirty-six years I have never taken or used medicine or have I ever gone to a doctor. For my body's healing I go to the Lord. He healed my heart and stomach. He did not fail me.

The devil worked hard to keep me from getting victory over my stomach trouble. One day I went out and prayed earnestly to be healed. The Lord showed me if I would go to the house and tell the folks I was healed I would have the victory. Before I got to the house the enemy told me if I did go and tell I was healed and then could not sit down and eat, I would be telling a story. I got to the house but did not tell any one I was healed. I could not eat any heavy food and no meat or greasy foods of any kind. I lived mostly on milk, bread and butter. For my morning meal I drank a glass of butter milk and raw egg—sometimes not that much. I was weak and thin and weighed less than one hundred pounds. I did not give up praying for the healing of my stomach. I went out the second time and prayed and again the Lord told me to go tell I was healed, but again the devil did not want me to get the victory. I failed to obey the Lord and failed to be healed, but the third time I prayed, I went to the house and obeyed the Lord. Praise His holy name the work was done. He did a complete job. Today I can enjoy eating and I give the great Physician all the praise. Now I weigh 160 pounds. (The enemy is never asleep so he came along with other sicknesses.) Once I had a very bad cough and cold on my lungs. Prayer was offered many times and the Lord heard, answered, and touched my body. Praise His name. Six years ago I was afflicted with rheumatism in my lower limbs. I suffered so with them that I had to use a cane to get around. Again the Lord came to my rescue.

Dear ones, the Lord is a healer. Don't be afraid to put full trust in Him for He will not fail us. He saves our souls and heals our bodies. Just have child like faith and when you pray believe and He will do the work. His promises are true when we lay aside all earthly helps.

We may be persecuted and have tests and trials and all manner of things said about us, and many things untrue told on us, but Jesus knows all about us and never leaves nor forsakes us. Jesus suffered many things and died upon the cross to save poor lost souls. Sinner, come to the Lord and be saved from your sins. I pray this testimony will help some one to fully trust the Lord. Remember me in your prayers, —Mrs. Fannie Williams.

O—O—O—O—O—O—O—O—
Okla.—Dear friends,—I am thanking you for my "Faith and Victory" paper and calendar. It was nice. I thank you very much and may God bless you all. I surely like to read it because I know it is the truth. I have read more truth in this little paper than I have ever read except in the Bible. I read the "Faith and Victory" paper over many times and then I pass them to my friends and loved ones. May God richly bless each one and supply every need, great or small.

I am glad I am saved and I want to go all the way. He has healed me so many times in body. He is so good to me, I can't find words to praise Him enough. Please pray for me that I will be in the center of His will. Pray for my husband, who isn't saved; also my loved ones. I am weak in body. Please, dear saints, pray for me. I love all of you even if I haven't seen you.

Yours in Christ,

—Mrs. John Hyle.

O—O—O—O—O—O—O—O—
Okla.—Dear saints,—I wish to say that I am still saved and really enjoying the goodness of God. It is so good to have one to turn to for every need. The Lord has been my Saviour, my healer, and also provides my every need. I am so glad the Lord saw fit to save me once more and my one and only desire is to continue to serve him and grow in the truth from day to day. I am so glad I was permitted to know the saints and to have a true Christian mother.

The Lord has truly been answering my prayers and keeping me encouraged. I am working far from home and the saints but the Lord is very near me among the worldly men I am working with and he keeps my heart full of his love and praise.

When I was young and at home I had a Christian mother who taught me the truth and lived it before me in such a way that I will never turn to any other. The last time I saw my mother alive she told me good-bye, and said, "Roy, if I never see you again here on earth I expect some day to see you in heaven." Pray for me that I can live such a life that when I get ready to go I can say the same thing to my sons.

Your brother,

—Roy Jennings.

O—O—O—O—O—O—O—O—
Calif.—To the readers of the "Faith and Victory," Greetings in Jesus' name.—Yesterday about 10:00 a. m. I noticed what black streaks I had from the corners of my eyes and on down. With other symptoms, it seemed like food poisoning. I didn't get sick at my stomach as one does with that, but about 2 p. m. as I went to clean the chapel with my grandson, I began to chill and feel awfully bad. I turned on the fire and stood in front of it until I got warm, and then by looking to the Lord we got the work done, although it seemed like I just couldn't do it. I was determined to get some flowers for the house and chapel before I succumbed to the rocking chair, and I did; but by that time I was really chilling and every bone and muscle ached. I sat in front of the fire. Of course I ran a fever. I still had so much to do—supper, and preparations for Sunday dinner, some house cleaning,—but with my

husband's and grandson's help we were having bed time worship by 10:00. Of course we really prayed and God so wonderfully healed me that I feel better than I've felt for a long time. Praise the dear Lord! Oh, I couldn't live without Him! He is my wonderful healer.

Christian love,

—Mrs. Vera Forbes.

O—O—O—O—O—O—O—O—
La.—Dear Bro. Pruitt and readers of "Faith and Victory,"—Back in Nov. a doctor told me my son Charles might have a tumor on his knee and would have to be operated on. Charles was very upset, as they said he would have to be in the hospital a long time. Charles would cry and say he did not want to have his leg cut on. I told him to pray and ask God to help him have faith that He would heal him. I prayed too and asked everyone I saw to pray for him.

We sent for an anointed handkerchief and put it on him and prayed for God to heal him. I told God if he would heal him and not let anything be wrong when I took him to the bone specialist, I would write my testimony. God completely healed Charles' leg. The doctor did not find anything wrong and said he was all right. I thank God for his healing.

Pray for me and my family that God will ever keep us close to him. I have gall bladder trouble. It is painful at times. Please pray that I will be completely healed. God can do all things if one has faith. We need to be closer to God. So please pray for us and pray to God that Charles, and my older son, will stay well and always trust God for everything.

Sincerely,

—Mrs. Allen Zachary.

O—O—O—O—O—O—O—O—
Calif.—To the saints scattered abroad,—I thank the Lord for his love, mercy, and blessings that he has extended to me through life up until the present time. I truly thank him for what he is doing day by day. I thank him for sunshine in my soul that drives the clouds away. I thank him for love and mercy and for a helping hand to lead me along the way that I may be able to help some poor soul I chance to meet. This is my prayer and thanks to you, dear Lord. I thank you for protection and guidance as I travel on life's way. I thank the Lord for forgiveness of all my sins and for salvation. I thank you Lord for courage and patience to live for you. Help me to be kind to my fellowmen. Dear Jesus, when my times comes to leave this world grant me a home in heaven. May I be ready for that home prepared for me. John 14:23. I ask with humble thanksgiving. I love you Lord. I want to be faithful until Jesus comes.

—J. T. Hinshaw.

O—O—O—O—O—O—O—O—
W. Va.—Dear Sister Marie, Greetings to you in the dear name of Jesus.—I do thank the dear Lord for this wonderful salvation and for the desire He puts in my heart to walk closer to Him. Truly we are living in perilous times, and, oh, so much false doctrine is deceiving the people today. My heart is greatly stirred to cry out against all such as never before. God wants his true saints to uncover all sin which will include all false doctrines: Millennial Reign, Sabbath Keepers, Jehovah Witness, and all such spirits. I don't know if it is in your city, but here where we live these people stand on the street corners and pass out their literature, so we feel the Lord would have us to do this too. We are putting in an order for some tracts and would like to have any extra Faith and Victory's you can send. My idea is to stamp on each tract and paper the name and address of the chapel. It comes to me

that surely we can reach some honest souls that would like to know the true way to get to heaven. I think sometimes we, as the saints of God, don't really get out and cry out like we should. I think Jesus said, "The children of this world are in their generation wiser than the children of light." (Luke 16:8) These people are compassing land and sea to make proselites. (Matt. 23:15). Why should not we too get out on the street corners and pass out the true gospel that will save people from these false doctrines? My heart is just thrilled about it.

We have worked so hard here doing all we know to build up God's work. We have visited in the homes all around the chapel. We are thankful for the children that do come, but it grieves our hearts to see how parents are so careless about the spiritual welfare of their children. As Bro. Paul said, when some would not hear him he turned to others that would hear. We are not discouraged. The work of the Lord is dear to us. We just want to do more, so we need your prayers that God will give us wisdom in all we do.

I would also like for you and the dear saints there to remember me in my body. I have been bothered with a lot of pain mostly in my arm and sometimes around my heart and in my lower limbs—pains jumping here and there, but seeming to want to nest around my heart and I have a soreness there. My trust is in God. He has done so much for us. We have no fear to trust him.

A small pimple came in the corner of my eye. At first it seemed to be hard, but about two or three months ago, it got sore, itched, and burned. I felt sure it was a cancer, and more so as I remembered my grandfather who had one on his eye causing his death. My trust was in God. It bled one morning and seemed to move out a little from the corner of my eye. I kept looking to the Lord, but it was a battle with the devil as he would bring some dark pictures before me. I would feel so in despair. I suffered mentally, but when I was able to really resist the devil and take a stand against him with all symptoms, God so wonderfully came to my rescue. While going through the trial, my faith seemed so weak. When the burning would come, I could hardly look up; my faith would go to feeling. But one day my faith took hold of God and I quit looking at feelings and symptoms. It was so wonderful, not only the healing but also the sweet peace and precious Spirit drawing me closer to our dear Lord. I can never thank him enough and now I desire to do all I can while I live in this old world.

Some of the older saints are not so well in body. Remember them too. We do pray for you and all the dear ones there and that the dear Lord will bless you and yours and give you the strength to do the work the Lord has given you to do.

Your sister in the one way, —Beatrice Spaur.

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Okla.—Dear saints, Greetings to all of you in Jesus' precious name.—Today I am still saved, sanctified and satisfied in the way of the Lord. Surely my heart is encouraged to sink to a deeper depth and rise to a higher height in Christ Jesus. I surely feel a grave responsibility to seek more earnestly for a closer walk with God.

The Lord gave me a dream of heaven a few nights ago. Before I went to heaven, I saw some people doomed to hell because of their nail polish, lipstick and jewelry.

In this particular part of my dream I was questioned concerning the glasses I was wearing. Now in the world many people wear glasses for pride. They buy them decked with rare and beautiful designs. I had seen some several months ago, that I had considered buying when I had my lens changed, but in my dream the voice that spoke to me admonished me to be sure that I wore my glasses because I needed them for reading. I was stirred in the dream and remembered my plans. That changed my mind. These plain frames are good enough for me. I thank the Lord for that.

Then we left this scene and I went to heaven. That was an indescribable scene. Oh! the rejoicing of the saints. I saw many, many saints, some I knew, some I have seen and don't know, and some I have never seen. I saw my loving mother and also I remember so well Mother Ada Davis and many others. It seemed that my mother and I embraced each other and rejoiced that I had made it to heaven to see her. I'm reminded of a great rain when it rains very hard for awhile and then slacks up and all at once there is another great downpour. So the shouting was there. There was no mourning and no praying; only shouting.

I woke up rejoicing and couldn't keep from telling it. I started with my husband and then I told my sister and some of the other saints. Truly this encouraged me to keep pressing on for God. One other thing that was so vividly pressed on my mind was how plainly the saints were dressed in this dream. It surely stirred my heart to dress like God would have me.

Dear saints when you think of me pray that I will just sink to a deeper depth in God, letting nothing hinder me. That is my sincere desire for I'm determined to go back to that place called heaven. I know it takes much pressing regardless of the trials and tests. The Lord says in his Word, "Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the Lord delivereth him out of them ALL." Psa. 34:19. Pray for me.

Yours in Christ, Frances Adams Chandler.

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N. C.—Dear saints, Greetings in Jesus' name.—I have had a very bad case of double pneumonia, but the dear Lord has raised me up so I can testify through the mail to his marvelous healing power. It's good to have a friend that sticketh closer than a brother. We are very poor as for the goods of this world. Many times if it were not for faith in the dear Lord the way would be very dark. But thanks be to God, if we have salvation we have everything in time of need. Remember wife and me when you pray. May the dear Lord bless the work. If we never meet the dear saints out there, some day I will have all eternity in the City of God to be in company with you all.

Yours in Christ —John B. Smith.

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Mo.—Dear saints, Greetings in Jesus' precious name.—This morning finds me enjoying full salvation. The Lord is so good to us. He has been my physician for fifty-three years and has never failed me. He is a perfect physician. The Word says He can do more than we can think or ask of Him. Just last fall the Lord healed both my eyes. My eyes got so bad I couldn't read the large print in my Bible. The Lord took the affliction away in answer to prayer for which I give Him all the praise. Please pray for me that I may live true to the Lord.

Your sister in Christ, —Mary E. Hood.

Ohio—Dear saints, Greetings of love to you in the precious name of Jesus.—I am glad I can still report victory in my soul over all the powers of darkness. The Lord has been so good to me, I feel like I should write my testimony of some of the things the Lord has done for me and my family. He has healed us so many times and has helped us through many trials and tests that were hard to endure. The Lord will fight our battles for us. When the Lord took my loved ones, I stood true to the Lord and he stood true to me. I have seen some wonderful miracles done right in my own home. We were persecuted and all manner of evil said about us, but the Lord was with us and gave us grace and strength to go through it all with victory in our souls. There is nothing impossible with the Lord. I am standing just as true to the Lord today as I did in the beginning. I have never taken one drop of medicine or rubbed anything on since I learned to trust the Lord 37 years ago. I give God all the praise for all good gifts, which come from above. I do appreciate the love and mercy of God.

It encourages me to read the good testimonies—what the Lord is doing for others. God is no respecter of persons. If we take our troubles and afflictions to the Lord and believe he will do what we ask and look to Jesus and not to man, the Lord will work all things out for our good and to His glory. We may have to suffer for trusting the Lord, but God is faithful in all His promises. He can save and heal the vilest sinner if he will turn from his evil ways and serve the Lord.

In Ephesians 6:13 it says, "Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand." We may have to stand alone sometime. Jesus stood alone, many times for our sakes. We know God has true followers and he has only one plan of salvation. Ephesians 5:6-12, "Let no man deceive you with vain words: for because of these things cometh the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience. Be not ye therefore partakers with them. For ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light: (For the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness and righteousness and truth;) proving what is acceptable unto the Lord. And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them. For it is a shame even to speak of those things which are done of them in secret." The Word tells us, "Take heed therefore how ye hear: for whosoever hath, to him shall be given; and whosoever hath not, from him shall be taken even that which he seemeth to have." (Luke 8:18). I just commit this in the hands of the Lord. May His will be done, not my will.

Yours in Christ, —Lucy Lizar.

Miss.—Dear saints of God, Greetings.—I promised God that if he healed me I would write my testimony in the "Faith and Victory" paper. First I had a condition on my face that acted like erysipilis. It spread around my face very fast. I had our daughter-in-law call Bro. Pruitt at the Faith Pub. House. They said they would kneel right then and pray for me. We were reverent to God in prayer here in our home. I started to mend and to recover from that moment. Praise God! To Him be all the glory.

About ten days later my skin broke out. That was another real test but at this writing my skin is all clear again and the other ailments I had are healed.

I am pressing on to deeper depths and higher heights. I do not believe in pain killers, aspirins, etc. I do not use them. I am sixty-four years old and have never taken one that I know of. God is my refuge and help. Praise his dear name! Jesus is the same yesterday, today and forever. In Matt. 9:35, 38 it is told how he went out in the villages and cities; then in Matt. 10:1-8 he told them to heal the sick as they had seen him do. He has not withdrawn his soothing balm nor his healing favor even if so many are relying on other remedies and shots. Every time they take a shot or any other remedies it just weakens their faith in God.

I am still praying the prayer of faith for the sick. I hear people tell of my ministry in their behalf of years ago and they started to mend and recover as soon as I prayed for them. Praise God, I am not neglecting the gift God has intrusted in my hands for His glory. I am in Him and He in me, for without Him I can do nothing. "They shall lay hands on the sick and they shall recover," Mark 16:18. In the 15th verse he told them and us to go into all the world. Oh, that missionaries would add this healing favor as well as the saving power to their ministry. It would surely help spread the gospel faster. "These signs shall follow them that believe." It is not for the unbelieving. I am writing this for God's glory and for Jesus, our Redeemer's sake. I love everybody with a godly love 2 Cor. 2:2.

Yours in Him,

—Sis. J. Strickler.

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La.—Dear saints everywhere, Greetings in Jesus' name.—We want to praise Him for His many blessings to us. We have seen His mercy toward us so many times in different ways. As many of you know, when our little daughter, Jo Beth, was ill in July, the authorities had her taken from our home and placed in a hospital. We had trusted God fully for her healing and many prayers had been offered all across the country in her behalf. We know God had been mindful of those prayers because even though our child was critically ill, she didn't suffer severely very much. If she did, we didn't know it. When they took her away, we continued to trust God. We knew if she was healed it would have to be God that did it, but we had also given her up for Him to take if He saw best to do so. This was a big consecration for us to make. It was only through much prayer on our part and the continuous prayers of the saints that we were able to come to this place. God saw fit to take her on August 3, 1956, just three days after they moved her to the hospital.

Because we had not used medical aid for her, Douglas was placed under bond and we understood that he would be charged with criminal neglect or possibly manslaughter. This was no small matter to us, but we had confidence in God all along that He would work out that which would glorify His name. On making inquiry about our case in September, we were told that it would be brought before the next grand jury, but no definite time was set. The grand jury did meet late in January and found "no true bill" against Douglas, so now we are free. Oh, how we thank the dear Lord for working in our behalf. We know it was God that brought this about and we don't want to fail to praise his name for what He has done.

We also want to thank the saints and others who were so dear to us during all this. The many letters and cards during Jo Beth's illness and at the time of her death were such an encouragement to us to hold

steady and let the Lord have his way. We have not been able to personally acknowledge all of the cards or even answer all the letters. We do want everyone to know that we deeply appreciate the interest and the many prayers that have gone up in our behalf. We shall not soon forget the kindness and love shown to us at this time. May the Lord bless each one. Pray for us that we continue in His will.

In Christian love, —Douglas and Nyda Hall.

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Mich.—Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ, Greetings to you in Jesus' name.—I am sending you some of the Lord's money to use as He directs. I am always glad when the paper comes; I get real inspiration from it.

Perhaps I should tell you that I too was sick after the meeting at Monark, Mo. I had the same symptoms as the other people—sickness of stomach, cramping and etc., but God was merciful to me, and caused it to not be too severe. I missed only one or two days work.

When I first came to Michigan in 1945 I was often afflicted with bad colds. I kept a jar of stuff to use against colds. But I prayed a lot, and one day God spoke to me and told me that if He could heal people, then too, He could keep His people from afflictions.

So I told the Lord I would throw away the remedy I was using, and trust my colds to him. I never bought any more dope to use for a cold. God cleared up my my cold. This was about eight or nine years ago, and I have not had one severe cold since. They have started, and there has been symptoms; but I called the Lord's attention to the covenant, and I myself am amazed at how God can really take care of us. However, I have not always trusted Him as I should, but He has blessed me in numerous other ways in answers to prayer.

I need prayer right now for soul and body. God has been helping me in body in a wonderful manner, or else I should not be able to work every day. The enemy did not want this letter written, but what I have written I have written. I desire the prayers of all the saints everywhere.

Yours sincerely, —Homer W. Fee.

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Mo.—Dear saints everywhere, Greetings in that sweetest name that angels sing.—We are still saved and kept by the mighty power of God, determined to help every soul we can make heaven his home and so much the more as we see the END approaching. The 2nd Sunday all-day-meeting in Dayton, Ohio has come and gone; likewise the 10-day meeting that followed. By the help of the Lord we were privileged to attend this meeting. The weather was cold and much of the time there was ice and snow which made driving hazardous but God blessed the meeting in a special way. Two souls were saved and others sought and received spiritual help. Sis. Alberta Cook and her two small children came from Utah for the last part of the meeting. Her personal work among the young people was deeply appreciated. To God be the glory for all He has done. The days of miracles are by no means over, God is still on the throne. The enemy worked hard and several took sick but GOD healed and over-ruled to his glory and honor. Praise his precious name. We deeply appreciate what the saints at Dayton and Springfield have done for us, especially in supplying us with a better and more comfortable car in which to carry the Gospel. May the dear Lord encourage every heart, for we are workers together with God.

The 1st Sunday all-day-meeting at Myrtle, Mo. was

well attended. Saints came from many places, some came over a hundred miles. Conviction rested upon the lost, several hands were lifted for prayer and one soul wept thru to victory. Since we are out in the work most of the time, we thought it best to take a letter box in the Post Office. Write us next time: Bro. and Sister Abbott, Box 223, Thayer, Mo.

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Calif.—Greetings to the saints scattered abroad.—I feel impressed to write my testimony how God has so wonderfully healed my body many different times of very serious cases. Nearly two years ago I was pretty sick one night. I felt peculiar all over my body. I went to sleep and later in the night I got in a condition where I could hardly move at all. I could only move my fingers, the end of my tongue and could move my feet just a little but the rest of my body I couldn't move at all. I couldn't talk for my jaws were cold and stiff like a person nearly dead. I could grunt a little when my husband found me in that condition and tried to arouse me by calling me and raising me up. After he saw what condition I was in he told the saints to come at once that I was just about gone. In a little while Sis. Frances Blackwell came in, took my hand and began praying—my husband too. While they were praying the Lord began to touch my body and I could open my eyes a little. (They had been partly closed.) I could hardly see anything.

Soon the house was almost full of the dear saints; all in prayer. I was able to help them set me up in bed. They tried to get me to drink some water in a spoon but could hardly get my mouth open enough. But the Lord continued to bless me, and in a few moments I could drink a little out of a spoon, then next out of a glass. Soon I was able to shout the praises of God for healing me after being in such an awful condition. What a mighty God we serve.

A few days later I began to get in a very nervous condition and could hardly eat anything. I got down to 86 pounds. I was in that condition for several weeks. Nearly every one that saw me had an idea that I would pass any time. God began to touch my body so that I soon was able to get up and walk around. God healed me in a few days through all the dear saints holding on to God. I truly thank God for his people. They really stood by me in those trying times. We thank the dear saints everywhere for their prayers and kindness to us. I need your prayers very much now.

Your sister in the one body, Jessella Ausbie

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Ala.—Dear saints, Greetings in the precious name of Jesus.—I thank and praise the dear Lord for what he means to me. I thank Him for being saved and encouraged to go with Him all the way.

On Friday night one week ago one of my sons woke up with great pains in his body. Oh, he was suffering something awful! So I began telling how the Lord wanted him to live. As I prayed, I told the Lord if he would move the misery that I would give Him all the praise. Then the Spirit led me to sing one song after another. In just a little while the misery was gone. Praise the dear Lord the boy went to sleep and hasn't had any pains since. So saints pray for me that I will ever stay true. Also I have an unspoken request. Please pray that the Lord will undertake, I know He is able.

Your sister in Christ,

Alma Latham.

I Know Something Good About You

Wouldn't this old world be better
If the folks we meet would say—
"I know something good about you!"
And treat us just that way?

Wouldn't it be fine and dandy
If each handclasp, fond and true,
Carried with it this assurance—
"I know something good about you!"

Wouldn't life be lots more happy
If the good that's in us all
Were the only thing about us
That folks bothered to recall?

Wouldn't life be lots more happy
If we praised the good we see?
For there's such a lot of goodness
In the worst of you and me.

Wouldn't it be nice to practice
That fine way of thinking, too?
You know something good about me;
I know something good about you?

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God Wants Humble Hearts

God cannot use proud hearts. The dear Lord died to save us from this world of sin and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. He wants us to become humble before him and die out to all. Old Self must be slain.

It is written in Mark 10:15 that no one can enter into the kingdom of God unless he receives it as a little child. God wants and must have humble hearts to work through.

If one stays humble before God, he must suffer for Him. God's children have to endure false reports, accusations, persecutions, and everything the enemy brings their way. Saints have no rights, but have to give them all up to keep humble and pure before God. They must not talk too much. If they take their fellow man to law they will be giving place to the devil even if they do feel they are in the right. God's people must be so humble that they will be willing to give up everything to God, even their very lives, then God will take them safely through.

I am seeking God every day for a more humble heart. I went through a severe trial last year. It was so trying that sometimes I did not see how I could live another day, but God always gave a helping hand. I was very humble at the beginning of the test, but after several months I began to speak for some of my rights. That is where I lost some of my humility. Then the enemy worked much harder. At last I said I did not believe God wanted anyone to stand as much suffering and persecutions as I had, so I contended for my rights. Oh, I can see now how I took things in my own hands. God does not want us to do that.

I kept saved, but lost more of my humility. I prayed day and night and had the saints praying constantly. I told the Lord I would not give up if the trial killed me. I made up my mind that I had suffered enough and that I would just cut loose from everything that was bothering me. I did, and got relief for awhile; but as I kept praying the dear Lord showed me where I had let pride slide into my heart. Oh, dear ones, God cannot use proud hearts. I told the Lord I would do anything to please Him. He showed me just what I had to do. So I asked Him to strip me of everything that was not pleasing to Him. I had to first humble down before God and die out to Self. Then God fixed the other person's heart, and everything was all right again. I had to die out and even take the blame for everything that had happened, but God gave grace for every need. I do not want my rights any more. I want what God has for me, little or big, suffering or joy. The song says, "In the heated furnace, Father, let me stay; Precious gold refining purge the dross away." Thank God, he has purged away the things He wanted to, and I want my heavenly Father to have His way in my life. Truly I want an humble heart so God can use me. I want to stay in the heated furnace as long as God sees fit.

Victory came and I was so happy I shouted, but three weeks later the Lord permitted the devil to come back with the same test. I thought about Joseph and how true he stayed to God through all of his sufferings. The Lord told me I had the same trial to go through, but I had not gone through it at first—just went up against it, then around it. The Lord said I must go through it. I humbled myself and said, "Not my will but thine be done." The test is on me as hard as ever, but I am still shouting the victory, not grumbling either.

A sister told me that she wished she could bear some of my burdens for me. I asked her how she knew I was carrying a heavy burden. She said the Lord had helped her to know it. I thank God for telling her, for I had only told God. God will deliver when He sees it is enough.

I thank God for humble ministers who will give us the true Word of God that helps us to go through trials in the right way. —Naomi Jennings.

BUY THE TRUTH

The Bible says to buy the truth and sell it not (Proverbs 23:23). With the Lord's help ALL are able to buy the truth, if they desire it enough. If people are like the young ruler, they are not willing to pay the price. They love self and what they possess more than truth.

Once I was in a store and thought of buying a certain item, but when I asked the price it was more than I wanted to pay so I didn't buy it. Why? Because I didn't desire it enough to pay the price. That is the way many people are about the truth; they want it, but not enough to pay the price. After I left the store I wished I had bought this item even if I did think the price was too much to pay.

People will be that way when they have put off buying the truth until it is too late; only it will be worse, for they will have to suffer forever over making that mistake. It seems so easy to be deceived into getting a counterfeit truth—climb up some other way.

People surely should see that they are in the truth and stay in it, for it is the only safe way.

—Katie Marler.

BIBLE STUDY

THE GREAT CONFESSION

March 3, 1957

Printed Portion:Matt. 16:13-27.

Matt. 16:13. When Jesus came into the coasts of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, saying, Whom do men say that I the Son of man am?

14. And they said, Some say that thou art John the Baptist: some, Elias; and others, Jeremias, or one of the prophets.

15. He saith unto them. But whom say ye that I am?

16. And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.

17. And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven.

18. And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

19. And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: for whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt lose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

20. Then charged he his disciples that they should tell no man that he was Jesus the Christ.

21. From that time forth began Jesus to shew unto his disciples, how that he must go unto Jerusalem, and suffer many things of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised again the third day.

22. Then Peter took him, and began to rebuke him, saying, Be it far from thee, Lord: this shall not be unto thee.

23. But he turned, and said unto Peter, Get thee behind me, Satan: thou art an offence unto me: for thou savourest not the things that be of God, but those that be of men.

24. Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.

25. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it.

26. For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?

27. For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and then he shall reward every man according to his works.

Memory Verse: Whom say ye that I am? . . . Thou art the Christ, the son of the living God. Matt. 16:15, 16.

Practical Truth: It is our duty and privilege to confess by word and deed that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATIONS

We notice that before Jesus told the disciples that he would suffer, he questioned them closely as to their feelings about Him. He had been with them for a number of months and taught them the things he wanted them to teach others after He was gone. But the fundamental and basic truth that they must know and feel deep within them was that He truly was the Messiah, the Saviour of the World. Jesus told Peter that man had not revealed to him this great truth but that God by His Spirit had made him know it. We may hear many things but unless God works with us by His Holy Spirit we cannot understand the deep truths of God. "The entrance of thy words giveth light." Psalms 119:130.

So many misunderstand the words spoken here by Jesus, "thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church." "In the Aramaic language Peter and Rock are exactly the same word." Arnold Com. So we do know that the church is Christ's and he has built it, though in doing so he used Peter, and also the other disciples. See Eph. 1:20-23.

The keys mentioned in our lesson, and given by Jesus to the apostles to bind and loose, are the gospels that we now have written in our New Testament which was given through the inspiration of God. If we obey the Word of God, it means life and freedom from the chains of sin and bondage.

UNLIMITED FORGIVENESS

March 10, 1957

Printed Portion:Matt. 18:21-35.

Matt. 18:21. Then came Peter to him, and said, Lord, how oft shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? till seven times?

22. Jesus saith unto him, I say not unto thee, Until seven times: but, Until seventy times seven.

23. Therefore is the kingdom of heaven likened unto a certain king, which would take account of his servants.

24. And when he had begun to reckon, one was brought unto him, which owed him ten thousand talents.

25. But forasmuch as he had not to pay, his lord commanded him to be sold, and his wife, and children, and all that he had, and payment to be made.

26. The servant therefore fell down, and worshipped him, saying, Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay thee all.

27. Then the lord of that servant was moved with compassion, and loosed him, and forgave him the debt.

28. But the same servant went out, and found one of his fellow servants, which owed him an hundred pence: and he laid hands on him, and took him by the throat, saying, Pay me that thou owest.

29. And his fellowservant fell down at his feet, and besought him, saying, Have patience with me, and I will pay thee all.

30. And he would not: but went and cast him into prison, till he should pay the debt.

31. So when his fellowservants saw what was done, they were very sorry, and came and told unto their lord all that was done.

32. Then his lord, after that he had called him, said unto him, O thou wicked servant, I forgave thee all that debt, because thou desiredst me:

33. Shouldest not thou also have had compassion on thy fellowservant, even as I had pity on thee?

34. And his lord was wroth, and delivered him to the tormentors, till he should pay all that was due unto him.

35. So likewise shall my heavenly Father do also unto you, if ye from your hearts forgive not every one his brother their trespasses.

Memory Verse: Lord, how oft shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? till seven times? Jesus saith unto him, I say not unto thee, Until seven times: but, Until seventy times seven. Matt. 18:21, 22.

Practical Truth: There should be forgiveness without limit toward those who truly repent.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATIONS

Forgiveness is essential to our salvation. We must forgive others or we will not be forgiven nor enter heaven. We need not think we can get around this great responsibility. We cannot go on for years and hold things against people and expect to enter those pearly gates. We must forgive or we will not be forgiven. Jesus tells us this very plainly in our lesson. One sister asked another to forgive her for something she said and the sister said, "You are always asking forgiveness." She seemed to be tired of her asking forgiveness. But dear ones, that attitude will not get into heaven. We must freely forgive seventy times seven. When we are asked, we want to go to great length and make the person feel we have freely forgiven them. When we repented of our sins and came to Jesus weeping and filled with sorrow, he forgave us and flooded our souls with love. We did not have a doubt did we?

The ten thousand talents amounts to \$7,500,000.00 according to the margin in my Bible. The 100 pence would amount to \$18.00. What a contrast in amount. Some people let the devil make them think small injuries are large and huge. They let the devil slip his glasses on them called imagination.

Jesus forgave us of a debt we could never pay and therefore we should forgive others.

THE AUTHORITY OF JESUS

March 17, 1957

Printed Portion: Matt. 21:23-32.

Matt. 21:23. And when he was come into the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came unto him as he was teaching, and said, By what authority doest thou these things? and who gave thee this authority?

24. And Jesus answered and said unto them, I also will ask you one thing, which if ye tell me, I in like wise will tell you by what authority I do these things.

25. The baptism of John, whence was it? from heaven, or of men? And they reasoned with themselves, saying, If we shall say, From heaven; he will say unto us, Why did ye not then believe him?

26. But if we shall say, Of men; we fear the people; for all hold John as a prophet.

27. And they answered Jesus, and said, We cannot tell. And he said unto them, Neither tell I you by what authority I do these things.

28. But what think ye? A certain man had two sons; and he came to the first, and said, Son, go work to day in my vineyard.

29. He answered and said, I will not: but afterward he repented, and went.

30. And he came to the second, and said likewise. And he answered and said, I go, sir: and went not.

31. Whether of them twain did the will of his father? They say unto him, The first. Jesus saith unto them, Verily I say unto you, That the publicans and the harlots go into the kingdom of God before you.

32. For John came unto you in the way of righteousness, and ye believed him not: but the publicans and the harlots believed him: and ye, when ye had seen it, repented not afterward, that ye might believe him.

Memory Verse: The people were astonished at his doctrine: For he taught them as one having authority. Matt. 7:28, 29.

Practical Truth: The authority of Jesus is on a par with that of God himself.

When we hear the gospel preached we like to hear it preached with authority. The ministers need not make an excuse for the gospel as it is the "power of God unto salvation." Rom. 1:16. If it is given out in the spirit of Christ with love and not with a fault finding, picking spirit every honest child of God or unsaved soul will know that it is truth whether they receive it or not. (The letter killeth but the spirit giveth life. 2 Cor. 3:6) Jesus preached with authority and even those who opposed him wondered at His authority. From the beginning people wondered at him saying, "he taught as one having authority, and not as the scribes." Jesus cleaned up the temple the day before and healed the lame and blind. The chief priests and scribes marvelled at this action for they knew they could not have done it. Our body is the temple of God and it takes Jesus' power and authority to cleanse our hearts from sin and bless us.

The parable in our lesson brings out the thought of how God wants more than lip service. The world is full of people who say they belong to a certain church and go on in their sins and by their actions we know they do not obey God's Word. They are full of self righteousness as the son who said he would obey his father and did not. But we find that the first son who refused and was even rude, repented and went. He was not a hypocrite but was open and therefore more hope was held for him than the other. God wants heart service and not lip service.

WOES TO HYPOCRITES

March 24, 1957

Printed Portion: Matt. 23:13-15, 23-28, 37-39.

Matt. 23:13. But woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye shut up the kingdom of heaven against men: for ye neither go in yourselves, neither suffer ye them that are entering to go in.

14. Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye devour widows' houses, and for a pretence make long prayers: therefore ye shall receive the greater damnation.

15. Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye compass sea and land to make one proselyte, and when he is made ye make him twofold more the child of hell than yourselves.

Matt. 23:23. Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the weightier matters of the law, judgment, mercy, and faith: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone.

24. Ye blind guides, which strain at a gnat, and swallow a camel.

25. Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites!

for ye make clean the outside of the cup and of the platter, but within they are full of extortion and excess.

26. Thou blind Pharisee, cleanse first that which is within the cup and platter, that the outside of them may be clean also.

27. Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye are like unto whited sepulchres, which indeed appear beautiful outward, but are within full of dead men's bones, and of all uncleanness.

28. Even so ye also outwardly appear righteous unto men, but within ye are full of hypocrisy and iniquity.

Matt. 23:37. O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not!

38. Behold, your house is left unto you desolate.

39. For I say unto you, Ye shall not see me henceforth, till ye shall say, Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Memory Verse: Take heed that ye do not your alms before men, to be seen of them: otherwise ye have no reward of your Father which is in heaven. Matt. 6:1

Practical Truth: To make outward pretensions of piety which are not in harmony with one's character and deeds is repulsive to God.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATIONS

Jesus says, "Ye must be born again." When we are born again we have the life of Christ in our hearts. That life is very tender and if we are not careful we will grieve the Spirit of God out of our hearts and life. When we make mistakes or blunders we are checked and corrected by the Spirit of God. We must repent or we will grieve the Spirit out of our hearts. We find some people ride over these checkings and go right on and after a while the Spirit of God leaves them, yet they go on professing to have Jesus in their hearts and lives when He is not there. These people are hypocrites. Jesus had to deal with that kind of people in his day. They claimed to be keepers of the law and yet they did many evil things. Jesus renounced them and told them what they were. They made the outside of the platter clean but the inside was full of extortion and excess. How sad for people to be in that state. Jesus wept when he looked on Jerusalem who had rejected God's warning and killed the prophets. He said, "Your house is left unto you desolate." There wasn't any eternal life in them but they were lost and beyond help. They were full of self righteousness. Let us look into the looking glass, God's Word, and see our self as God sees us. Remember we individually will have to stand before God in that day.

THE LAST JUDGMENT

March 31, 1957

Printed Portion:Matt. 25:31-46.

Matt. 25:31. When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory:

32. And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats:

33. And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left.

34. Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:

35. For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in:

36. Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me.

37. Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink?

38. When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee?

39. Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee?

40. And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.

41. Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels:

42. For I was an hungred, and ye gave me no meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me no drink:

43. I was a stranger, and ye took me not in: naked, and ye clothed me not: sick, and in prison, and ye visited me not.

44. Then shall they also answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto thee?

45. Then shall he answer them, saying, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me.

46. And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.

Memory Verse: And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me. Matt 25:40.

Practical Truth: We must all stand before the judgment seat of Christ.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATIONS

Our lesson clearly brings out the responsibility we have toward God and our fellowman. At one glance we may think that works is all that counts but faith must be that that prompts the works or they will not be accepted by God. Paul says, "We have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand." Rom. 5:2. James says, "Faith without works is dead." So works and faith go hand in hand. Some people do a lot of good things but they receive honor here in this world for it. They have their reward and that is what prompts them to do their good deeds. But the child of God does good because the love of God in his heart prompts him. That is the only kind of works that will count for God. We should not do because we feel it is our duty alone but do it because we love to do it. God loves a cheerful giver.

We all will stand before the highest court in the universe some day. The judge will be Jesus and he will sit in his glory with the holy angels. How precious it will be to hear those words spoken, "Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world." How terrible are the words to the wicked. We must make our "calling and election" sure.

—Mrs. Marie Miles.