

FAITH^{AND}VICTORY

The EVENING LIGHT WATCHMAN



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SING

Sing when you are merry,
With heart so free and light;
Sing a song of gladness
When all around is bright.

It pleases the Creator
To hear his creatures sing;
Sing with joy before Him,
The great and mighty King.

O sing a song of mercy
And judgment unto Him,
Sing when the darkness gathers,
Sing when the lights grow dim.

Remember Paul and Silas
When into the prison thrown,
They did not shrink nor falter,
Nor fail their God to own.

But at the midnight hour
Unto God they prayed and sang;
The old jail house was shaken
As their voices loudly rang.

So sing right in the prison,
Sing when the day seems long;
The Father up in heaven
Will surely hear your song.

He will fill your mouth with laughter,
He will drive away the pain;
He will not let your singing
And prayers be all in vain.

But will surely send the answer
As the pealing echoes ring;
Lift your voice in prayer to heaven,
In the name of Jesus sing.

—Ulysses Phillips.

God's Love To Us OUR LOVE TO THE LOST

"God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved." John 3:16, 17.

We see that the coming of Jesus was prompted by the God of heaven or by his love for man. His purpose was not to condemn man, but to rescue and redeem man back to God. He knew how deep man was in sin and what gross darkness was upon the people, or world. Man was already condemned by sin and he needed a Saviour indeed, and needed one badly. So it is by His grace and mercy He saved us. In other words, by His redeeming love we are saved. He did not love us because we were good, but because we were lost, and even were his enemies. It was our sins that nailed him to the cross and his love that forgave us and saved us. Thank God forever.

Aagin, God did not condemn man, but did and does yet condemn sin. God hates sin, so do his people. Sin has caused the Lord a lot of grief and has brought much trouble and sorrow to mankind. Sin is a monster, and as black as hell itself. So as God is holy and His Spirit and Word are pure and holy, it is impossible for God to justify sin in any way or form, because He is light and in him is no darkness at all.

Now since we can see how God by his infinite love and mercy reached so low to save unworthy us, it makes us realize our need of being filled with his love mercy, and power, which qualifies us to rescue mankind today.

I see a picture in my mind of a man that is drowning and calling for help, for someone to rescue him, someone who cares for him, that he perish not. He is calling, "If I could get someone to pass my way, someone that is not too busy, and someone who loves and cares for me that I perish not!" A careless man walking by sees him and finds fault with him for be-

Attend the National Campmeeting, July 19-28, at Neosho (Monark Springs), Mo.

ing in that place, and why this and why that, or, "You should not have slipped and fallen into such a place," condemning the man. Surely the man already knew he made a mistake, but he needs help now, and needs it badly and quickly.

Then another man comes along. He sees the one in distress, hears him calling for help. With a little envy or malice in his heart he pretends to help the man by throwing him a rope, but it has a spear on the end of it. Another man passes by and sees him, but with hatred in his heart throws him a rope which has a sinker on the end of it. Another man comes by and sees him, throws him a rope with a club on the end of it.

But finally one brother with a heart full of love and pity and mercy throws him a life line with a life-saver on it.

I am afraid we see this condition existing many times among the so-called Christian world. How sad! We thank God for sending us a Saviour with the mighty love, which is stronger than death, to rescue us from that horrible pit. We must have that love to save others. Many times we meet people that are in much trouble, and need someone to instruct and show them the way. They need someone that is filled with the love of God to lift them out. The love of God does not look nor seek for faults in a man to condemn him, but does seek for every means of grace to save or rescue him.

Gal. 6:1 reads thus, "Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted." It says to "restore," not "destroy." 2nd verse, "Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ."

I want to relate a story that I have had in my possession for several years:

A man and his son were sorting their sweet potatoes, putting the bad ones in one pile and the good ones in another. The man said, "I noticed my son rarely threw one on the bad pile. I wondered if he were mixing them and putting some bad ones on the good pile. I watched him and found he was putting nothing but good ones there. Then I discovered why he was putting none on the other heap. He was looking for good ones and was finding them, too. I thot then that there was a good lesson in the way he was doing it."

There is much good in the lives of those around us. The usual trouble is that we look for the bad instead of the good. We would live more happily and bring more happiness into the lives of others if we would form the habit of looking for the good in the lives of those with whom we walk each day. There are folks around us who seem to be bad, when most of the time that is not really what is wrong. Some of them have been bruised and tossed about. Things have not gone well in their lives. If we would carefully throw the right kind of influence around them today, their lives might be saved. We are too quick to toss them on the bad heap and turn our backs on

them instead of giving them a hand of love and care.

At last the man said, "My potatoes were all sorted. We stood up, brushed the dust from our clothes. Then I stood, looking down on the bad pile. 'There certainly are a lot of bad ones,' I remarked. 'But look what a nice pile of good ones, Dad,' my son replied quickly." Amen.

Now we should watch ourselves that we be qualified to help and rescue souls. We read in Matthew's and Luke's gospels: "Why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but perceivest not the beam that is in thine own eye" etc. We oft times meet people who are mote hunters and are not considerate of other people's troubles—trying to pull the mote (very small object, splinter) out of his brother's eye with a beam (a large plank or log) in his own eye. When one is not able to see his own fault or condition, he injures his brother in many ways. This kind of people, Jesus said are hypocrites. They can see only the bad in folks because of the beam in their eyes. They cannot see man's heavily burdened heart that has been falsely accused more than he has been instructed or admonished. Maybe he has been crushed with many sorrows or wounded in some very hot battles. Instead of being a help to a man, they stand back and find fault. Poor mote hunter!

We read also Luke 6:36, 37, "Be ye also merciful. Judge not, and ye shall not be judged: condemn not, and ye shall not be condemned: forgive, and ye shall be forgiven."

Now love does not justify sin, but does cover a multitude of sins or faults. We mean by this, just as God for Christ's sake forgives us of our sins and covers them with his own precious blood, we forgive our brother and do not hold grudges against him, but cover it with our love and mercy.

Many times we are too quick to pass our own judgment on people and not give enough time for love and mercy to work. Thus evil imaginations run away with us, which will get us into serious trouble, bringing the downfall of our souls.

Oh! we need that love rekindled in our hearts for God and his creation. Let love be our theme, is our prayer. It is the theme of the Bible. Without it we would be lost, and without it in our souls we can not save others.

Rom. 13:8, "Owe no man any thing, but to love one another: for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law." Verse 10, "Love worketh no ill to his neighbor: therefore love is the fulfilling of the law." James 2:8, "If ye fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself, ye do well." When that love is shed abroad in our hearts, it will keep bitterness, envy, and strife out of our lives.

James 3:14, "But if ye have bitter envyings and strife in your heart glory not and lie not against the truth." 16th verse, "For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work."

Rom. 13:13, 14, "Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering

and wantonness, not in strife and envying. But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh." We hope and pray these few words will help someone in his work and labor for God.

—W. C. McMakin.

Corrupt Tree

On the fifth limb of the corrupt tree which will be cut down and cast into the fire (Matt. 7:17-20) let us write idolatry, Gal. 5:19-21. The dictionary tells us that idolatry is "divine honors paid to idols, images, or any created object." Then it tells us that idolatry means "excessive admiration, or love for any person or thing."

There are peoples today who are worshiping idols instead of the true and living God. They are steeped in ignorance and superstition. Many are afflicting their bodies, suffering pain and distress because they want to win the favor of some image of stone or wood. How sad this is, and we need to help in every way we can that these poor souls be freed from such superstition.

Let us now bring our thoughts and minds back from across the seas and the heathen. Let us check to see if we are worshiping any idols. Jesus said, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind." Matt. 22:37. If anything is coming between us and the Lord, and we are not obeying this command, that thing is an idol. Let me suggest some forms of idolatry that we face today.

Money is one thing that many worship. People will go to great lengths and means to secure money. They will steal, cheat, lie and even ruin their health to secure it. What could be more of an idol than money? When we read what Paul said, "For the love of money is the root of all evil" (1 Tim. 6:10), we immediately think of the wealthy people and say that is the truth. But did you notice what the root of all evil is? It is the LOVE of money. A poor person could love and desire money so much that he could lose his soul. Many women have gone to work and are neglecting their homes and children because they are making an idol out of money and what it buys. I am not just putting this all on the mothers; but it is sad when we know that many husbands expect their wives to work out, which is not God's plan. We read in Titus 2:4, 5 that the older women are to teach the young women "to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children, to be discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed." When I think of the many trips that I took to the window, listening to the conversation of the children as they all played in the yard to see if it was the right kind of talk, and if it was not I would go out and change the play or the conversation in such a way that they never knew I had been listening (I did this to keep everything going in the right direction) I wonder how mothers could feel clear in leaving their children to someone else to watch for their souls or just to run the neighbor-

hood. But that idol "money" will cause many to leave their children and seek for it. Now I do know there are exceptions, for some mothers are the only support for their children. God understands these things. But I am thinking of those who are working just to have more of this world's goods.

Money will also keep some from working for the Lord. Anything that comes between a person and God is an idol. Love for the world and worldly things will become an idol when people let that keep them from surrendering to God. Wanting security will keep people from trusting God, and that will become an idol to them. Some are letting their children, wives, or husbands come between them and God, and that is an idol to them. Let us remember the advice of John: "Little children, keep yourselves from idols" 1 John 5:21.

—Mrs. Marie Miles

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Danger

The most dangerous things that confront the church today are: deadness, lethargy, sleepiness, love waxing cold, carelessness, indifference, unconcerned about our soul's welfare, and allowing ourselves to get into a self-satisfied condition. When these things are allowed to come into our lives, then the way is left open for the devil to get in his deadly work (while we are asleep).

Following is a quotation which I copied from an article published in a paper some years ago: "The most dangerous condition for believers (saints) to be in is when they become indolent and drowsy, for then the way is open for the devil to sow tares while men sleep (spiritually). Then the tares grow before men are aware of it, and instead of useful plants, appear thorns and thistles; and men know not how this happened. For they have slept and still believe themselves to be living in the nature of Christ. Thus from a drowsy state all evil grows forth, deceitfulness of sin, seduction, and false teaching, and all this under the appearance of Christianity. While we sleep (spiritually) there is one who stands at the door waiting and watching for our destruction, against whom we can never be sufficiently watchful."—Apostolic Christian Pub. Co. Syracuse, N. Y.

Dear saints, let us carefully guard against all these things that are so deadly to our spiritual life. Jesus said, "What I say unto you I say unto all WATCH!"

—Bro. G. W. Stephenson.

- W is for WORDS so heedlessly spoken,
Which often result in fellowship broken.
- A is for ACTIONS which speak louder than words,
Also ATTITUDES toward brother and Lord.
- T is for THOUGHTS though never spoken in word;
Be careful, brother, they are known to the Lord!
- C is for CONDUCT including word, deed, and thot,
See to it that these correspond as they ought.
- H is for HEART from which issues the life,
Guard it diligently from confusion, envy, malice,
and strife.

—Selected by D. H.

"FAITH AND VICTORY"

16-Page Holiness Monthly

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

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

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

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

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FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE

P. O. Box 713, 920 W. Mansur Ave., Guthrie, Oklahoma
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Editorials

The campmeeting season is here again and there is a stir in the hearts of the ministers and gospel workers—and I trust in the hearts of all saints—to be at their best for God to reap the grain which is ripe to harvest. Those who are not sent out into the fields of labor can supply those that are called away into the work. It is good to have a living faith in Christ and make him real in your soul so he will be on exhibition and so lifted up that men and women will be drawn unto Him.

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As is the usual custom, there will be no "Faith and Victory" paper put out in August. The office workers will be free from the steady work here in the print shop from the first of July until the middle of August. This will give them a chance to be free to visit loved ones and also attend the camp meetings as the Lord may direct them.

We expect to print and send out the "Bible Study" lessons for August to those who use them in their Sunday Schools. Those who want the lessons and do not receive them before the middle of July should write to us, telling us how many you can use, and they will be mailed to you.

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In Revelation 1:18, we read, "I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore." These words Jesus spoke to John when he met him on the Isle of Patmos. Brethren, we are not serving a dead Christ, as the actions, words, and deeds of many professed Christians prove; for their god, they say does not do any miracles; does not heal their bodies, and the Holy Spirit does not come from heaven into their souls. All such denials of power prove that their god is dead and that Christ has never risen from the tomb. They worship the unknown god like some did whom Paul found at Athens.

Many professed Christians wish that Christ would live here on the earth in a fleshly body as he did with the disciples. According to the words of Jesus found in John the 16th chapter, it was better for the disciples for him to go away. Hear what he said, "Nevertheless I tell you the truth; it is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you: but if I depart, I will send him unto you." Then he told them why.

When the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, comes into our hearts, filling our very beings, He makes Christ more real to us than if he were by us in a fleshly body, for the Spirit gives us power to witness even as he witnessed in the world.

After the day of Pentecost the disciples proved this, as great miracles were in manifestation. Thousands of souls were saved, added to the church, and many of them became possessors of the Holy Spirit, the risen Christ. The hope of glory was abiding in them and working in and through them both to will and to do of his good pleasure. It should be that way today among the Holy-Ghost-filled men and women. We see many of the same things taking place today

among the Spirit-filled children of God. There should be more manifestations of this kind. The power and working of God should be so great among his ministers that souls would fear and tremble and fall down before God and seek mercy and forgiveness of sins. Christ is not dead, but is alive and is with us today in the form of the Holy Ghost to do the same work that Christ did when here in the fleshly body. Yea, Jesus says in John 14:12, "Verily, verily I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also: and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto the Father." Brethren, let us take courage and look to him with a living faith for him to work in and through us to accomplish great things for God and that many precious souls may be added to the Church of God by the new birth, and that they may know the power of His resurrected life in their souls.

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In Galatians 5:6 we read, "For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision; but faith which worketh by love." If we love the Lord we should show our faith by obeying Him. In John 14:15 Jesus says, "If ye love me, keep my commandments"; and in the 23rd verse, "If a man love me he will keep my words." Faith which worketh by love is the basic principle in retaining a good experience with the Lord. To let faith work by love in your heart will cause you to be active in the service of the Lord, and you will be one of the beloved in the Lord. Many religious people will not understand you and may criticize and ridicule, because there is a vast difference between head religion and heart religion. In Gal. 1:10, Paul says, ". . . For if I yet pleased men I should not be the servant of Christ." We, as the servants of God, should always yield to the pleasure of God rather than man, for men have no heaven for us. The love of Christ in our souls will naturally constrain us to please Him.

"Philippians 2:12, 13, "Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, 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." He says to work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. Each one of us (saints) in this life has Christ in us, who wants to work in and through us to bring glory to God, and we should learn to willingly yield to his will so he can do this. Many times his leadings are very much contrary to what we might think would be best and we get "put on the spot" because we obey the Lord; but we should keep in mind that all things that he permits will work out for our good and his glory as we keep loving and obeying Him.

One time I was led of the Lord to do a certain thing, but a fellow minister disapproved of it and objected quite strongly. This made me feel sad and grieved, for I loved the brother and had confidence in his salvation; but I continued to look to the Lord. It was hard for me to do since he objected to it, but with fear and trembling I obeyed the Lord, and later this

same brother rejoiced that I obeyed the Lord. God works in and through each of us according to the work he calls us to do, and we may have to do many things contrary to the thoughts of others. Paul was called to be a minister to the Gentiles and he suffered many things in carrying out the working of God in him. One time his brethren and sisters in the Lord wept and begged him not to go up to Jerusalem where they knew he would be persecuted; but Paul said, "What mean ye to weep and to break mine heart? For I am ready not to be bound only, but also to die at Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus." Paul was determined to let God work in him regardless of what others thought—and so it should be with God's children today.

John the Baptist, who said he was the voice of one crying in the wilderness, yielded to God to work in him both to will and to do of His good pleasure. No doubt he feared and trembled when the Lord put it on his heart to tell Herod that it was not lawful for him to have his brother Philip's wife (for Herod had married her). Herod's taking his brother Philip's wife was not only wrong according to the law of Moses, but it was also wrong according to the law of God in the beginning; for Herod had a living wife, as recorded in the History of the Jews. Herod's father had ten wives and Philip was only a half brother to Herod. John was teaching New Covenant doctrines. The Scripture says, "The law and the prophets were until John: since that time the kingdom of God is preached, and every man presseth into it." Luke 16:16. John lost his head by letting God work in and through him both to will and to do of God's pleasure. Herod's adulterous woman whom he had married was enraged and took vengeance on John. Even though she meant it for evil out of a lustful, murderous heart, God allowed it, for it was His will to take John unto himself.

Another case we find recorded in Acts 7th chapter where Stephen allowed God to work in and through him in preaching to the sect people of his day. He said some hard things to these religious people who were rejecting the words of life. Murder rose up in their hearts, and it is written, "They gnashed on him with their teeth." They cast him out of the city and stoned him to death. He had finished his course and fell asleep. Paul was a young man at that time, and he held the raiment of those who stoned Stephen to death, and he was consenting to his death. That one thing no doubt was used of God to convict Saul (Paul) for the Lord said to him, "It is hard for thee to kick against the pricks." No doubt his conscience had been pricked many times when he thought of how he consented to the death of this holy man of God.

Jesus, our pattern, suffered greatly for what he said and did. He said, "I do always those things that please the Father." Let us, as the children of God, in this day, the last of the last days, keep willing for God to work in us both to will and to do of his good pleasure. Let faith which worketh by love continue in you, for the willing and obedient shall eat the good of the land.

Obituaries

George W. Seneker, son of Jacob and Sarah Seneker, was born April 1, 1868 at Blountville, Tennessee and departed this life May 16, 1957 at his home near Okeene, having reached the age of 89 years, 1 month, and 15 days.

Edith Lodge Seneker, daughter of Edward and Eva Lodge, was born June 19, 1873 at Leetonia, Ohio and departed this life at her home near Okeene May 16, 1957, having reached the age of 83 years, 10 months and 27 days.

On July 6, 1890, Mr. George Seneker and Miss Edith Lodge were united in marriage at Derby, Kansas. Mr. Seneker made the run to the Cheyenne and Arapaho territory in 1892, homesteading in what is now known as Kingfisher County. They have made their home in this community the past sixty-five years. They were the oldest living married couple of the early day pioneers in this community. Father and Mother Seneker had been constant companions almost sixty-seven years, working together and caring for each other until the very last. Father Seneker gave up his life trying to save Mother.

They were born again in 1950 and were members of the Church of God.

Survivors include three daughters: Mrs. Vida Urban, Augusta, Kansas, Mrs. Alta Wilson, Isabella, Okla., Mrs. Della Wilson, Okeene, Okla.; their daughter-in-law, Mrs. Blanche Seneker of Okeene; two brothers: Wilbur Lodge of Cherokee, Oklahoma and John Lodge of Collins, Mo.; many other relatives and a host of friends. Two sons and one daughter preceded their parents in death.

Funeral service conducted by Bro. Fred Pruitt and Bro. Charles Smith. Text: Psalm 71:16 and Psalm 19. The bodies were laid to rest in the cemetery a few miles south of their farm home.

The voice of the congregation near Okeene, Okla. where Brother and Sister George Seneker worshiped:

IN THE NUMBER

In our memory garden they linger still,

A precious brother and sister dear.

Their sainted faces we e'er can see,

And oft they seem so very near.

How greatly we shall miss them

When we meet at the chapel again—

But, remembering 'twas Jesus that called them

And our loss is but their gain,

We'll bow our heads in holy awe

And think: They're in that number that John saw!

—Ethel K. Miles.

Katie Sadie Flynn was born at Loranger, Louisiana Dec. 11, 1906 and departed this life May 19, 1957 at Glendale, California at the age of 50 years, 5 months, 8 days.

September 5, 1926 she was united in marriage with David S. Joiner. To this union three children were born, one daughter and two sons. They moved to California in 1927.

She is survived by her husband, David; her daughter, Mrs. Donald Miller of Davis, California; two sons: Willard of Glendale and Dwain of Sun Valley, California; six brothers: Dallas, Angus and O. D. Flynn all of Loranger, La., James and Cully Flynn both of Burbank, Calif., and Melvin Flynn of Dinuba, California; seven grandchildren and other relatives; also her foster parents, Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Forbes of Pacoima, California, who took her at the age of nine years, when her mother died, and reared her as their own. Mrs. M. J. Forbes was Sister Joiner's aunt.

Katie was converted to Christ in 1924 and lived for Him who died for her the remaining years of her life. She

was faithful unto death and we claim for her the promise of Christ: "Be thou faithful unto death and I will give thee a crown of life." She was a member of the Church of God congregation which now worships at 12312 Osborne Place, Pacoima, California for many years and will be greatly missed from our midst. Her favorite song was, "Jesus took my burden and left me with a song."

The funeral service was conducted by Ostis B. and Opal Wilson in the Church of the Hills in Forest Lawn Memorial Park, Hollywood Hills on May 22, 1957 with interment in that Memorial Park. Scripture lesson used was Rev. 7:9-17, and text was Psalm 116:16.

A personal remark regarding Sister Joiner:

I feel that I can say truthfully that Sister Joiner was one of the most courageous souls I have ever known. Over the four or five years that she was afflicted in a very aggravating way we have been to her home many times and never one time found her discouraged or with the "blues." She was always cheerful, and we always went away lifted up and encouraged ourselves after visiting her.

One time when she was feeling worse than usual Opal and I went to see her and asked her how she was when we went in. She answered, "Oh, pretty good. I don't have anything to complain about." And I said, "Lord, help me and the rest of us."

God in his wisdom never saw fit to heal Sister Joiner though he could have done it easily; but he had better things for her. All who were with her during those years of severe affliction can testify that the courage, faith, and cheerfulness she manifested at all times was a living miracle of divine grace. Surely God's grace is sufficient for anything he permits us to go through if we will just bow in humble submission to the will of God that we may receive it.

—Ostis B. and Opal Wilson

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MEETING NOTICES

All day services are being held each third Sunday at the Tabernacle at Cornelia, nine miles south of Warrensburg on Highway 13. Bro. Harmon and family from Kansas come each time, and we are blessed by their help and encouragement. All are welcome to come and be with us that can, anytime. Anyone wishing to know more about how to get here, or to ask any questions, may write Bro. Loyd Dollins, La Monte, Mo. Rt. 2.

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Campmeeting Dates

Hammond, La., June 28 — July 7

Akron, Ohio, June 27 — July 7

Green Pastures, Okla., July 5 — 14

National C. M. (Monark Springs) Neosho, Mo.,
July 19 — 28

Okla. State, Guthrie, Okla., Aug. 2 — 11

Bakersfield, Calif., Aug. 2 — 11

South Charleston, W. Virginia, Aug. 9 — 18.

Myrtle, Mo., Aug. 16 — 24

Calif. State, Pacoima, Calif., Aug. 23 — Sept. 1.

Dover, Okla., Aug. 30 — Sept. 8

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National Campmeeting Notice

The 20th annual National Campmeeting of the Church of God will be held, Lord willing, on the campground at Neosho (Monark Springs), Mo. on July 19 to 28th, inclusive, 1957. Monark Springs is an abandoned railroad stop located five miles east of Neosho just off Highway 86, so those coming by bus or train will come to Neosho, then

phone the Monark Springs store for some of the saints to come after them.

All saints and lovers of the truth are invited to attend this meeting and will receive a hearty welcome. Meals will be served in the dining hall on the free-will offering plan. The tents (10 x 12) will rent for \$5.00 each. The cot, including mattress, will be \$1.00. Space in the dormitories, including cot and mattress, will be \$2.50 per person. Bring your own bedding if possible. Let none stay away who are unable to pay—all will be cared for to the full extent of the facilities. Please send your tent and cot orders NOW, or as soon as possible, and mail direct to Bro. Ralph M. Beisly, R. 5, Coffeyville, Kans.

Come praying and prepared to receive a blessing to your soul and be a blessing to someone else. Pray that God will send His ministers to preach the Word with the power of the Holy Ghost, bringing deliverance for soul and body.

The nation-wide news coverage of the typhoid epidemic which followed the campmeeting last year resulted in many persons learning that there is still a people who trust the Lord for physical healing without the aid of drugs. Indications are that new faces will be at the meeting, so this is a good effect from an apparent hindrance in God's work. It was a test of faith and trust in God, but the Apostle Peter says that the trial of our faith is much more precious than gold that perisheth. God commanded Gideon of ancient Israel to cull out the fearful in his army. Even so in Israel today God is permitting the tests and tribulations to come to separate the wheat from the chaff. Those who stand before the throne have been made white and tried, and come up through great tribulation. Let us look up and move forward in His name.

Extra sanitary precautions will be instituted this year at the campmeeting, especially in the handling of food and dishes. The sewerage system has been greatly improved, and the water situation completely corrected at substantial expense. Late word is that two water tests have been approved by laboratory test. Let none stay away for fear of recurrence of the sickness during the last meeting.

This is a national gathering of God's people, so let all the saints everywhere support this meeting with your prayers and means. If you have an offering for the improvement of the grounds or the coming campmeeting, or desire further information, contact the undersigned or any of the following: Albert Eck, R. 1, Bartlett, Kans.; Sam Barton, 2238 N. Columbia Place, Tulsa, Okla.; Ralph Beisly, R. 5, Coffeyville, Kans.; Amos Porter, R. 2, Granby, Mo. —L. D. Pruitt, 1116 W. Wash., Guthrie, Okla.

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So. Charleston, W. Va. Campmeeting

The West Virginia Campmeeting, Lord willing, will be held at the Church of God Chapel and grounds at 1006 "F" Street, South Charleston, W. V., August 9-18.

We are trusting the Lord to send the Holy Ghost ministers of his choosing to be with us. The need is great here in this part of the Lord's vineyard. We believe this campmeeting will do much good. The devil would like to discourage and hinder God's cause. We are only few in number here and are calling on the Lord for the saints to "Come over and help us" work and pray, Acts 16:9. Come with a burden for lost souls. Meals will be

served in the dining hall. Sleeping quarters will be provided for all. Those that do have cots should bring them if possible. This meeting, as usual, will be run on the free-will offerings. God has never failed us in the past and we are trusting for victory this time.

All are invited to come. For further information write Sister Elizabeth Flowers, 149½ 10th Ave., So. Charleston, W. Va.; Sister Edna Underwood, 208 Tennessee Ave., Charleston, W. Va.; Bro. L. F. Thornton, Rt. 1, Box 73, Paca, W. Va. When you get in Charleston and need help to find us call RI 4-5339. —Bro. T.L. and Beatrice Spaur

GUTHRIE, OKLAHOMA

The Oklahoma State Campmeeting, Lord willing, will convene at Guthrie, Oklahoma, August 2-11. Location: corner of Sixth St. and W. Warner Ave. For information write to O. C. Porter, R. 5, Guthrie, Okla.

BAKERSFIELD, CALIFORNIA

The Bakersfield, California Campmeeting will convene on South Brown St., August 2-11. For information write the pastor, I. C. Chandler, R. 6, Box 37.

BOLEY, OKLAHOMA

The Boley, Okla. Campmeeting will begin August 16th and continue through August 25th, Lord willing. All feel free to attend. For more information write Sister Ora Spears, Rte. 1, Box 109; or Bro. C. A. Wallace, Boley, Okla.

CALIFORNIA STATE CAMPMEETING

The California State Campmeeting of the Church of God will be held on the saints' camp ground located at 12312 Osborne Place, Pacoima, California (a suburb of Los Angeles) from August 23 to Sept. 1, 1957, D. V.

The second group of cabins will not be built by then, so those expecting to come and wanting camping accommodations should have your tent and bed orders in by not later than August 15th, and earlier if possible. We have to rent the tents, and the law requires that they be flame-proofed and inspected, so it is some advantage for us to be able to give them a pretty close estimate of how many we will want so they can have them ready. However, if you cannot know definitely until later than that and find you can come at the last, do not hesitate to come right on, because they usually have a few tents in reserve that will pass inspection—if not, we will take care of you in other ways. Those who have cabins on the grounds will find them as you left them and will not need to observe these instructions.

The 14 x 14 tents will accommodate four with room to spare. Six can stay in them without much crowding. The price is \$10.00 as before, and beds are available on the grounds for \$2.50 each. These beds can also be bought by individuals for use in the cabins for \$5.00. Some have bought their beds, and those who have need not send in any order for beds.

Pacoima is in the northwest part of Los Angeles, and the street on which the campground is located is about three miles south of the town of San Fernando. Those driving from the north come on through San Fernando on Highway U. S. 99. Follow it to the 4th automatic signal after leaving San Fernando. This is Osborne St. There is a Piggly-Wiggly Market just a block from this intersection and Johnny's Service Station featuring Harbor gasoline is right on the corner. Turn left and go straight (Do not follow the curve of the street) about six-tenths of a mile to the camp ground entrance on your right. If you drive from the east or south, then follow Highway

U. S. 99 through Los Angeles, through Glendale, Burbank, and Sun Valley to the intersection of Osborne St. and turn right and then straight to the entrance. This is approximately 20 miles from down-town L. A. If you come by bus or train from the east or south, call us when you arrive in L. A. for instructions or for someone to come and pick you up. The phone number is EMpire 9-3608. If you come by bus or train from the north, get off in San Fernando and call. However, the streamline trains and some express buses do not stop in San Fernando. If you come on those, leave the train at Glendale and the bus at Burbank and call the above number.

We are expecting the same precious visitations from God we have had in times past and the power of the Lord to be present to save, sanctify, heal, disentangle problems and to be manifest in every phase of the work of God and God's ministers to be present to preach the Word of God under anointing and unction from God, and we urge you to make your plans now to attend this meeting.

Will be seeing you at the campmeeting, Lord willing, and until then, Goodbye and let us pray for one another and for the work of God and His glory in the earth.

Ostis B. Wilson, 12312 Osborne Place, Pacoima, California

MYRTLE, MISSOURI

Lord willing, the annual campmeeting at Myrtle, Mo. will begin August 16th-24th. We are looking forward for a good campmeeting, praying for God to send ministers of his choosing that are filled with the Spirit of God. Those who come to camp on the ground, bring a pillow, sheet and quilt if possible.

For any information write A. J. or Earl Sorrell, Myrtle, Mo. or Bro. and Sister Abbott, Thayer, Mo.

DOVER, OKLAHOMA

The Dover, Okla. Campmeeting will begin August 30 and continue through Sept. 8th, 1957, if the Lord wills. Location: 1 mile north and two and one half miles east of Dover. Dover is on Highway 81. We will meet buses if notified in time. We are expecting cool nights, so bring your blankets or sheets. Pray for the salvation of lost souls. For further information write Bro. Henry Caldwell or Ulysses Phillips, Dover, Okla.

EVANGELISTIC REPORT

At this writing the evangelistic group with the tent is in meeting at Winona, Mo. We are praying the Lord to bless there in a special way. Those who are helping by their prayers and offerings to keep this group on the field are also sharing in the commission that Jesus gave to "go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel." Mark 16:17.

Bro. Charles Smith and the group just closed a meeting in Oklahoma City. The Lord did bless and souls were benefited. One sister, who got saved, said she felt the tent was put there for her salvation.

You may contact Bro. Charles Smith and the group through this office as we will be in touch with them. Pray much for them as they give of their time and talent in the work of the Lord.

—Mrs. Marie Miles

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Miracles and Wonderful Things The Lord Has Done

The most wonderful miracle of all was when He saved our souls and gave us determination in our hearts to be faithful and stand firm for Him. We

realize it would be easy to fall if we do not keep our eyes on Jesus, and keep our faith, confidence, and hope in Him. Praise the Lord for the faith He has given us in Him. Oh, for more simple faith in Jesus, just to take Him at his word and believe when we ask! He will withhold no good thing from His trusting children. The eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and His ears are open to their prayers. If we abide in Him and his words abide in us, we can ask what we will and it shall be done. Wonderful promise! It is our privilege to abide in the Lord, humble our hearts and walk in all the light we have, and have God's precious words abiding in our hearts; then we can come boldly to the throne of God with our needs and have faith and confidence that He will hear our prayers and give us the desires of our hearts.

When we try to write about the goodness of God and what He means to us, words sound so void. If we could express what we feel in our hearts! None can understand except those who have the Holy Spirit in their hearts. Such love, peace, joy, and contentment can only come from God, our heavenly Father.

I wish to tell some of the wonderful things the Lord has done for us. In 1942, just after my husband was saved, we had quite a battle and test of faith. He became very sick with inflammatory rheumatism and suffered agony as the swelling and pain would move over his body from one joint to another. He continued to get worse and could hardly turn himself on the bed. Our trust was in the Lord, and we prayed day and night, just looking to the Lord for divine healing. One night about midnight we had a season of prayer, and it seemed that the presence of God came down into the room with an instant healing touch. Husband jumped out of bed praising God, and was able to walk all over the room. Oh, how we did praise God! We felt like we were in heaven. The Lord took away all suffering, and he was completely healed. How can we ever praise God enough? Shortly after that our baby boy Tommy, about a year and a half old, was playing around and got hold of a can with kerosene and paint and swallowed some. My husband and brother came in with him, and when I took him he just went limp in my arms and was dying, breath being cut off. We got on our knees and began to call on the Lord, and He just instantly healed him. The baby went to sleep, and awoke as well as ever. Praise the Lord!

I feel sure that our two boys were taking polio. A girl in the school room with our children was taken to the hospital with polio. Soon after that both boys became very sick with fever. The smaller boy, M. X., 3 years old, had a stiff and swollen neck. They say that kind of polio is usually fatal, and it seemed like it would be with him. One morning after he had been sick about a week, he began to choke. It seemed like his breath was being cut off by the awful swelling. The children and I were alone, as my husband had gone to work. We all knelt around M. X. and began to cry and pray and ask God to heal him. Praise the Lord, He did heal him. He began to breathe easy and got better from that hour on. The older boy Tommy,

seven years old, was very sick, too. It seemed like his legs were paralyzing, as he could hardly stand up. He said his legs felt funny. He asked me if I would come in and pray for him. I said, "Yes; do you believe the Lord will heal you?" He said, "Yes; I believe He will heal me right now." God did heal him instantly. After we prayed he got up and dressed and went out to play. His legs never bothered him any more. Oh, how can we ever praise the dear Lord enough? I want to say we never had a doctor or even talked to one about this case, but there is not a doubt in my mind but that it was polio. When we see other children left crippled from polio it brings to mind how our boys could be crippled, invalid, or even dead, if the precious Lord had not been so good to us.

I do not believe any of our children had ever seen a doctor until the law forced us to take Tommy to a clinic for treatment for a blind eye. He had completely lost the vision in one eye. The school nurse discovered it and they threatened to take him away from us. We told them that our trust was in the Lord, so felt clear before God as they forced treatment by law. The doctor said he could not do anything for the blind eye, but wanted to try to save the other eye. He felt quite provoked at us for the stand we took in divine healing, but before we left he told us we had better pray hard. Tommy missed half a term of school. Five months after we took him home from the clinic the Lord healed his blind eye. Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, today, and forever. Amen. My husband and I had fasted and prayed for the healing, then Brother and Sister Souder and Sister Ruth Murphey came and prayed with us. We were all in an agreement of prayer and got such a glorious victory and witness he would be healed. Saints in different places were praying for us, too. Oh, how dear the saints are to us, when they help us carry our burdens! For awhile I could not understand why we were forced to go to the clinic, but later the Lord showed me why. To God be all the glory forever. We stood on that victory we gained, in faith believing that God was going to give sight back to that blind eye. The Lord saw fit to wait five months after the doctors did all they could to restore his sight. Tommy was ready to go back to school when it started that fall. When the nurse came again to check their eyes, his eyes were good and he did not even need glasses. What a mighty God we serve! Nothing is impossible with Him.

The Lord also healed Tommy of lockjaw and awful bleeding. He was climbing on the side of a chicken house and fell into a glass window, knocking or cutting a hole in his head just above his eye. One of the children carried him in and the blood was just spurt-ing. Sister Myrtle Souder was with me and we began to pray. The Lord stopped the severe bleeding, and we discovered he had lockjaw. He could not close his mouth, speak, nor swallow. But a few minutes later the Lord healed that, too. Life is too short to praise God enough for all He has done for us, and all He is still doing day by day.

There are two moles on my face. One gets sore

every once in awhile. The last time it was so sore and hurt, and there was a hard lump under it, I wondered if it might be cancerous, so I asked the children to pray for me when we had family prayer. Praise the Lord, He heard and answered prayer another time for us! Now the soreness and lump is all gone. What a mighty God we serve! He is able to heal all manner of sickness and disease.

One winter our children had the mumps. They all got along fine except our baby Reba. The mumps seemed to settle in her ear and neck. She had fever and a stiff neck, and was sick a month. It looked like we were going to lose her. The saints had been praying for her, too, as we held on to the Lord for her healing. One day she could not take her bottle, seemed that she could not swallow, as her neck was swollen so. I called for the elders in obedience to the Scripture in James 5th chapter and had her anointed and prayed for in the name of the Lord. That night in prayer meeting the saints prayed earnestly for her. She slept good that night, and the next morning when I went in to see about her, her ear had run much and the swelling and stiffness were gone, too. She was soon feeling well again and able to play and eat. Oh, how we do glorify the name of the Lord! 'Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus, just to take him at his word.

Our children do not know what it is to take medicine or go to doctors. We have a family of nine children, and the Lord has been so good to us to heal and bless with healthy children—a present help in every time of need. I truly praise the Lord for the way he has blessed us with healthy, strong children, and for the way He protects them day by day from accidents. Many times when on my knees in prayer I ask the Lord to protect our family from broken bones or accidents. When I see other children get hurt, it reminds me of the rich blessings of God to our family and how he has answered prayer in our behalf. Truly He supplies our every need spiritually, physically, and every way. We cannot go through this life on flowery beds of ease, but if we will be faithful and true to the Lord, He will never leave nor forsake us. We know he has all power in heaven and earth.

I tell all these things only to glorify the name of the Lord and trust it might be a help and encouragement to someone who might read of all his blessings to one family. God is no respecter of persons. What He will do for one He will do for all who trust Him. There are many, many more things the Lord has done for us. It seems I could go on and on telling of his blessings, healings, and how he has raised from death's door; but just now time does not permit me to write more. My greatest desire in life is to be faithful to the Lord until He sees fit to take me home. We have such a great responsibility in this life. I so desire to see all my family saved. Many times I ask the dear Lord to give us an unbroken family circle in heaven. The Lord is not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance and everlasting life. We feel a burden for all lost souls. Time is short and eternity is near. We shall all stand before the judgment bar of God and give an account of our deeds done

here on earth. Won't it be wonderful for those who are prepared to meet God, and hear, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant"? But just think of those on the left hand who are not ready to die. They will hear the awful words, "Depart from me, I never knew you." As we live, so shall we die. —Mabel Melot

SOME HIGH LIGHTS OF JESUS' TEACHING RECORDED IN MATTHEW

Jesus began to preach and say, "Repent for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." Matt. 4:17.

Jesus said: "Follow me" (Matt. 4:17); "Beware of false prophets" (7:15); "Come unto me" (11:28); "Take my yoke upon you" (11:29); "Be of good cheer, it is I; be not afraid" (14:27); "Take heed and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees" (16:6); "Woe unto you hypocrites, ye are like whited sepulchres" (23:27); "Take eat, this is my body" (26:26); "Drink ye all of it, for this is my blood."

"All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you. And, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world" Amen. (Matt. 28:18-20). —Mrs. Dott Henry

Testimonies

Mo.—Greetings in the sweet name of Jesus,—We love Him with all of our hearts and our decision is to follow Him wherever He may lead. We are so thankful for salvation and that sweet peace that ever flows like a river in our souls. We often wonder what people out in the world do in times of troubles and distress without knowing how to go to God to find comfort. Truly we find Him a very present help in every time of need.

We want to thank you, Sister Marie, and all the other saints that prayed for our baby recently when she was so sick. She had a very high temperature and had not eaten anything for a couple of days, and only a very little for several days previously. On Friday she was very sick and I was alone with her here at home. My heart was very burdened. I prayed and asked God to cause her to desire whatever food would be best for her and to make her feel much better when my husband got home.

It was around ten o'clock when I prayed. I did not know that Bro. Rhoades had called you folks for prayer, but that must have been close to the time you were praying. He told us later that as near as he could remember it was near 9:30 when he talked to you. The Lord lifted my burden and the baby went to sleep. She slept about two hours and when she awakened she called to me and said, "Mama, I want you to make me some soup and crackers." That was so unusual, for she had never before asked me to cook anything. How I did praise God for doing exactly as I had asked Him to do. She ate one-half cup of soup and drank a glass of milk. Her fever was gone and she was feeling so much better that she wanted to get up and dress. I dressed her and she was down playing when her father came home. She was very weak for several days and had lost some weight, but the Lord so blessed that she is back to normal now. We surely do thank God for his blessings to us. He is so good to us. We have some neighbors (elderly people) who are very good-

hearted. They came nearly every day while the baby was sick and everything they could think of that might entice her to eat they would buy and bring to her. They felt very sorry to see her so sick. It seemed they could hardly believe it when they saw how quickly she recovered. They are still talking of how well she looks and how they never saw anyone "come out of it" so fast. I suppose she had flu, as that was what it acted like. We appreciated this family being so thoughtful. They are poor people and we knew it was a sacrifice for them to buy fruit and other things that they brought to her. We prayed the Lord to bless them.

The Lord has opened up a way for us to get some help to some dear old ladies in a Rest Home here. The young folks from our congregation go each Tuesday evening and sing and have services with these folks. Husband preaches to them and they seem to just drink it in. The caretaker said last Tuesday evening that these old sisters started getting ready for us at four o'clock in the afternoon and we don't go until seven. She said they just live from one Tuesday evening to the next. We trust some of them will accept the truth. We have set aside each Tuesday also to fast and pray with you folks there, and will appreciate you helping us pray for those for whom we are burdened. Much love, Sister Sybil Goldsberry

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Oklahoma.—We are thanking the dear Lord this morning for the love and mercy He has shown us. This is twelve months since my husband took down with dropsy. The dear Lord has truly been a Friend in need, and a Friend in deed. We want to thank all the dear saints for helping to carry our burdens. Husband is able to walk around in the house. The swelling is gone except a little in one limb. We are much encouraged in the way of the Lord. May the dear Lord bless each one is our prayer.

Bro. John and Sister M. Agnes Williams

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Calif.—Dear saints, Greetings in Jesus' precious name,— Tonight finds me saved, sanctified, and kept by the mighty power of God, and much encouraged to ever press my way on for the Lord regardless of the many tests and trials. They only draw me closer to Him.

I just thank the Lord for this wonderful salvation and His wonderful healing power. Truly it is wonderful what the Lord has done for me. I would not give Him up for anything, but I mean to serve Him the balance of my days whether they be few or many.

A few days ago I was wondering if I wanted anything more than to be saved. I thought about different things which I wanted very badly; but after summing it all up I found nothing that I wanted more than to be saved and to have the love of God in my soul.

Too, I was thinking about the responsibility we as young people have, how we should live lives that are acceptable to the Lord as well as the old. The Lord does not have one salvation for the old and another for the young. We all have the same example to go by. The question has been asked: If all the older saints would die and we as young people would have to step in the lead, would people be able to see the real church of God without spot or blemish, or would they see a little letting down here or a little there? My prayer is: Lord, help me to live a life that represents the true church of God in every thing I do—my dress, my actions, conversation, associates, and in my life in general. I realize this is the only way that leads from earth to heaven and I am one that is striving each and every day to make it there, no matter what the cost.

We, the young people at Bakersfield, are yet encour-

aged. We are having good spiritual young people's meetings every Friday night and have a goodly attendance. Approximately fifty meet each Friday night. But there are yet many out of the ark of safety—some our own sisters and brothers, husbands and wives. We desire the prayers of the saints that the Lord will talk to their hearts and save them before it is everlastingly too late.

Much Christian love, Hazel Blackwell

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Kansas—Dear Saints,—I wrote in April for special prayer for the healing of my body of anemia. I thank the dear Lord that I have been feeling fine every day since I wrote you. The saints here in Wichita agreed in prayer with you there. I thank God for what He has done for me and thank you for your interest in me. Praise the dear Lord.

Sister G. Graham.

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S. C.—Greetings of much love to all the dear saints of God,—I thank each and every one of you dear people who have read and prayed for my prayer request from time to time. I am thankful to report that things look much brighter at this time, but there is more praying to be done. Thank the dear saints for all their interesting letters that are printed in the "Faith and Victory." I read them again and again and enjoy the blessed paper more than I have words to express. May God be with each and every one of you. In Christian love, Sister Barber.

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Mo.—Dear brothers and sisters,—I am encouraged this morning to press on for my dear Lord. Heaven is cheap at any cost. This is my first time to write my testimony. I just got through reading the "Faith and Victory" paper, and I certainly agree with the brother on adultery. I am thankful that salvation saves from all sin. I know the Lord has separated me from my sins as far as the east is from the west. Pray for me.

Your brother in Christ, W. J. Marler

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Calif.—To the dear saints scattered abroad,—I feel that I owe the saints an apology, or rather that I should beg their pardon for going back into double marriage after coming out. Thank God, He spared my life to come out again. I believe He has forgiven me again. I have come out and made my decision to stay out by His grace. As the song says, "I mean to go right on." Praise his name for victory. I mean to go right on until the crown is won.

Pray much for me. Your saved sister, Lucinda Jones

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Ariz.—To the saints scattered abroad, I send greetings,—I am yet saved and encouraged as never before to go all the way with Jesus. I know beyond all shadow of a doubt that my Jesus is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother and one that will never leave nor forsake me. I have been passing through some deep trials of sickness, first with the influenza and then I was struck on my foot with a rock, but the Lord has wonderfully healed me, for which I give Him all the glory and praise. Will the saints please pray for my unsaved home and for me that I may stay low at His feet? Sis. Bertha Slaughter.

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La.—Dear saints,—I enjoy reading the little paper very much. God has truly been good to us. I could never thank Him enough for what he has done for our family. Our family has had three car wrecks in less than a year. My second son Nathan was almost killed March 2, 1956, but God reached down in mercy and lifted him up. He is doing well today. My mother (Mrs. Emma Cater) will be eighty years old June 6th. My mother, myself, and two of my children were in a bad wreck Feb. 21st, this

year. A school bus was crossing the highway and ran into us. My son was driving the car. Both doors on the driver's side were torn off, the seat pulled from under him. His shoe and both car doors were left in the middle of the highway. The children were not hurt very much. Some received cuts and bruises. Mama was pulled out of the car and drug across the highway and down into the ditch. She got a bad cut on the head, some ribs broken, internal injuries, a crushed leg, both arms broken, and a crushed right hand. We were rushed to the hospital in a short time. She was not expected to live. The doctor said she has come a lot farther than he expected, and that it may be possible for her to walk. She had not been to a doctor in over fifty years and had never taken a shot in her life. She stayed in the hospital over five weeks. She was living with me before the wreck, and is here now. She is doing well except she has a cold and some other trouble. Please pray. We give God all of the praise. I will never stop praising Him as long as I live, for He has done so much for us. Yours in Christ Jesus,

Beulah Johnson.

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Ill.—Greetings in Jesus' name.—I am saved and glad that I have a mind to testify. Jesus has healed those skin cancers on my cheek. They are gone. I asked Him for the healing and prayed through. I am glad you all prayed and I especially thank the Lord for healing.

Our family has been made sad because of the death of my husband. I was in a very weak and sick condition, but our God has been good to us and blessed. We are thankful that He is our Helper. He is a God of love. From my heart I give heed to Him and live as the Bible teaches. There are Scriptures to guide us always. Let His Word be true; His ways are best. Sister Knox.

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Okla.—Greetings in Jesus' name to the dear saints of God everywhere,—This morning finds me still saved and more encouraged to press on for Jesus. How good Jesus is to us! Last night I took something like indigestion. It was giving me much trouble. This morning I could hardly cook breakfast for my husband and fix his lunch for work. It seemed as if I was getting sicker by the minute. I had asked the Lord to bless me, but still I got no better. Then I said, "Lord, if you will heal me I'll write a testimony for the "Faith and Victory." The Lord asked me what I would say and I began to tell Him. Then He asked me when I would mail it and I told Him as soon as time would permit. He began immediately to bless me. Praise the Lord forever, no wonder we love Him so! He is all the doctor I'll ever need.

I would like to tell of another experience which was nothing but a miracle the way the Lord blessed. I was getting ready one morning to cook my husband's breakfast and fix his lunch. I opened the ice box door and learned that I had forgotten to take the meat out of the freezing tray the night before. The first package of meat I picked up was frozen hard. I said, "O Lord, now what will I fix for his lunch?" I got the other package out, and it was as soft as if it had never been in the freezer. Oh, praise God! He is so good to me. Yesterday morning I told my husband to look at the meat in the tray, how hard it was, and it had only been in there over night. Truly, dear saints, if we live like the Lord wants us to, he will help us out in the smallest matter. He is our God at all times. Never doubt Him in anything. "Oh, yes, I'll trust him while I live, I'll trust Him when I die; And then when all my work is done I'll reign with Him on high."

Pray much for me and my family that we'll be able to go to some of the camp meetings and take others along

to hear the good Word. Also pray that the Lord will save my mother before it is too late. Earnestine Jordon

o-o-o-o-o-o

Okla.—Dear saints and all who read this paper,—Greetings in the name of the One who died to save us from our sins, our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

For some time I have felt impressed to write another testimony for the Lord, and today I feel I must not wait any longer. We know God's pleasure rests upon those that will do what He wants them to, not just feel like doing, never putting forth any effort.

My Lord has brought me thru some fierce battles, many tests and trials since I placed my hand in his and began to follow in His footsteps. Today I thank God I still have the same deep determination to live for Him, come what may, as I did when the "peace that passeth all understanding" flooded my soul, and I felt a nearness to God I had never known.

Some might ask, Why do you still serve the Lord after so many hard things come against you and unkind words are spoken unto you? One little word LOVE is all the explanation needed. This love is different from earthly love. It is divine love from God; the love that Paul speaks of in 1 Cor. 13:4, "Charity [the love of God] suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil, rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth. Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things."

God has put such divine burning love in my soul for Him and all eternity-bound souls, that I desire to do all I know and understand to please him and be a true example of Christ to the world. We can expect this kind of a decision to bring persecution from the world, because Jesus said to his disciples in St. John 15:20, "If they have persecuted me they will also persecute you." And Paul tells us in 2 Tim. 3:12, "All that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution." Dear reader claiming to be saved, if you are not suffering persecution from the world, you had better examine yourself and see whether "ye be in the faith" 2 Cor. 13:5.

The Lord has not permitted anything to happen to me that was not needful for my soul—either to teach me some lesson to profit unto godliness or strengthen or help along some line. I cannot thank and praise Him enough for his goodness, mercy, and grace imparted to me. Praise His wonderful name forever!

Today my heart is burdened heavily for souls professing to be Christians who are still in bondage to sin, serving sin. Jesus said in Luke 16:13, "No servant can serve two masters." And in St. John 8:34, "Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin." The Apostle Paul further states in Rom. 6:16, "To whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness." Yet these people—many honest-hearted but deceived by false teaching—claim to be serving God, and at the same time are committing sin. Jesus makes it clear that if they are committing sin they are serving sin, therefore cannot be serving God.

God's children do not commit sin. 1 John 3:6, "Whosoever abideth in him [Christ] sinneth not: whosoever sinneth hath not seen him, neither known him." 1 John 3:9, "Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin." 1 John 5:18, "We know whosoever is born of God sinneth not, but he that is begotten of God keepeth himself, and that wicked one toucheth him not." It could not be plainer stated that a Christian is required to live a sinless life.

One of the Ten Commandments is: "Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain" Deut. 5:11. It is possible to take the Lord's name in vain not only in speech, but also if one does not stop serving sin after he has truly repented and taken the name of Christ. When we take the name of Christ and call ourselves a Christian, we are to separate ourselves from sin in every known manner and degree. Paul exhorts in 2 Tim. 2:19, "Let everyone that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity."

To sin is to knowingly transgress God's law in either of two ways: Commission—to knowingly do what God forbids; or omission—to knowingly refuse or neglect to do what God requires and demands. God is not unfair in dealing with us. He does not impute a mistake as sin if we do not know better. James 4:17, "Therefore to him that knoweth to do good and doeth it not, to him it is sin." He holds us accountable for what we know. He doesn't have many unknown laws that we can break without knowing we are breaking them, and then expect us to ask his forgiveness for transgressing his laws that we know nothing about.

He has given us His Word in which He has laid out a pattern for us to live by, which instructs us in righteousness through reading and studying it. The Holy Bible is the Christian's guide throughout his life. The more he reads and understands it, the more he knows, and God expects him to live a more advanced life in holiness as he gains knowledge and wisdom.

God has provided a way to live holy and above sin (and has promised "that sin shall not have dominion over you" Rom. 6:14), by His power to sanctify (purify) a heart and cleanse it from the sin nature. Religious people of the world will deny and disbelieve that God has the power to purify a heart consecrated unto him, but that does not make it so. Naturally they have never experienced a pure heart, because they do not believe, therefore have never asked God to cleanse and purify their hearts. They cannot testify or tell of something they do not possess. God promised heart purity in Jer. 33:8, Ezek. 36:26, and Jesus says in Matt. 5:8, "Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God"—pointing out that only the pure in heart are going to see God. Other Scriptures in line with this teaching of a pure heart are: 2 Tim. 2:22, "To follow righteousness, faith, charity, and peace with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart"; 1 Pet. 1:22, "Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently"; 1 Tim. 1:5, "Now the end of the commandment is charity out of a pure heart."

Dear ones, when God has purified our hearts by His Holy Spirit (put his laws into our hearts and minds, Heb. 9:10; 10:16), we should be bold to tell what the Lord has done for us, just as Peter was in convincing the brethren in Acts 15:9 that God had "put no difference between us (the Jews) and them (the Gentiles) purifying their hearts by faith." It requires a believing faith to receive this heart experience. A truly born-again soul had to believe God would forgive him of his sins to be saved. Just so, a truly saved person must have believing faith that God will cleanse and purify his heart to be sanctified. He must want this nature like God's more than anything in the world, and be willing to forsake all to receive it. Then he must have believing faith that God will perform it. Finally after all of God's conditions are met, He will send the promise. Praise the Lord! "I too can rejoice, for He's sanctified me and I know in my heart what it means."

(No. 224 in "Evening Light Songs").

The Scriptures say God is faithful to sanctify us wholly. 2 Thess. 5:23, 24, "And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly, and I pray God your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it."

Remember my unsaved companion that he soon will make a complete surrender unto the Lord; also other dear loved ones, that God open their eyes to see this wonderful truth and give understanding to their hearts before it is too late. I, too, need your prayers that I will be humble and obedient to all of God's will. Mona Lee Barton

PRAYER REQUESTS

To the saints of God,—I am truly saved and consecrated to the Lord, and I want some matters cleared up which Satan brought about to hinder God's true work. Also I have a personal need for which I desire prayer.

—An humble saint of God

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Colo.—Will you please pray for my brother who has had a stroke? He cannot talk and is in a pitiful condition. Pray for his soul that all will be clear.

Pray for Sister Schlegel who has no control of her organs of speech and other organs. She is paralyzed in her side. She has been healed before and is looking to the Lord to heal her again. She loves the Lord.

I thank the Lord for healing me of the flu, which was almost pneumonia. I truly love the Lord and am seeking each day to live to please Him.

Your sister in the Lord, Coral Johnson

o—o—o—o—o—o

Va.—Dear Christian friends,—I am no Christian, but since I have been going to Miss Carr's house once in a while I feel better toward God. I feel she has helped me a lot to be a Christian. She is one of the nicest persons I have ever met. I am fourteen years of age, and I desire your prayers that I may become a Christian. Also remember my Mother and Dad. May God bless you all.

Pete Britton.

For The Ministers and Workers

First, I want to say, Praise God I am saved, sanctified, and kept by the mighty power of God. And second, I want all of you to forgive me if I offend any one, but I have a burden on my heart, and it can not stay in me much longer. I suppose it is for the ministers. The world is starving for this life-giving bread. I know this salvation is the best thing under heaven, and that this salvation that the Church of God preaches is the strait narrow way to heaven, and I wish the whole world could hear it; but it almost seems that they have it under a bushel.

I had a vision, or at least I visualized it in the night. I live alone. The first Scripture that came to me was: "Except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven." The next was, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." I did not know just why these Scriptures were coming to me. Another Scripture was, "Go out into the high ways and hedges and compel them to come." I said, "Lord, I am not a

preacher," and those He was talking to were preachers. I did not think the Lord was calling me to preach, so I asked Him to show me what it meant. The Spirit of God told me to tell the preachers to go out and preach the gospel where it had not been preached. I did not know how to tell them any other way than to write it and let them read it in the paper.

I did tell some. One said, "If the Lord leads me I will go." Jesus has already told them to go, and if they are called to preach they are called to go. The Bible says, "Thou shalt not bear false witness." Does anyone need a leading to not bear false witness? That is a command; so also is "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel." I do not think that all the ministers should go because some are needed to feed the flock. Some are called to pastor, but not all. Some are called to be evangelists, and some to teach. Each should know his place or calling. We do not need them all at home. We could get along without so many in one place if they are out trying to win souls. The Word says, "He that winneth souls is wise," but I see no wisdom in staying all in one place. In the days of the early church they went everywhere preaching the gospel, so the Word says. Elders were ordained for the purpose of looking after the churches that were raised up by the evangelists. Paul left Titus at Crete that he might set in order the things that were wanting there, and to ordain elders. But Paul went on about the business of preaching the gospel in other places.

God knows my heart, and that I do not mean to criticize nor to usurp authority; but it seems that any one could see that some things are out of order, and I want to do all I can, and must, to keep saved and in God's order myself. I want to always be found doing what is required of me, and what is right in the sight of God.

The Lord has showed me that when we go where the saints are there is much "just visiting," but when we go out where there are no saints we are keeping that commandment, "Go ye into the world and preach the gospel to every creature." Paul said, "I strive to preach the gospel, not where Christ is named, lest I build upon another man's foundation." We all say we are willing to suffer for the gospel, but we know we will not have to suffer if we just go where the saints are. We will have a place to sleep, plenty to eat, and a little money; but if we go into the highways and hedges we might have to sleep under a tree and become a little hungry. But we have nothing to fear if we go in the name of the Lord, for Jesus says, "I will never leave thee nor forsake thee." We know He will make a way if there be no way, and He will feed us if He has to send it by a bird or a raven as he did Elijah, if we obey His call to "go ye."

If Jonah had obeyed God's call to go to Ninevah he would have saved himself a lot of trouble, and would not have had to go through the belly of that fish. When he got out he went, and God did not have to tell him another time.

Now saints, please do not think hard of me for this writing, for I had to do it. Had I not done it,

I may have gotten into trouble as Jonah did. The Spirit of God has been talking to me about new fields. Some one or ones will surely pay for these precious souls that are dying without a Saviour. They could have been saved, had they heard the gospel. So let us redeem the time, for the days are evil.

Let us remember that every place where there is a little settlement there is some kind of a church, so why do we not see to it that we give them the true gospel—something that will take them to heaven.

Saints, this was, and is on my heart, and I made a vow to God that I would obey the call of the Spirit. Now I have done what I could. I know it was God's Spirit that so impressed me to do this. I ask an interest in all of your prayers that I will always be found doing His bidding. I feel awfully little to be writing this to the ministers and workers; but the Word says "a little child shall lead them." He was speaking here of the saints of God. I must obey His voice, for His service means more to me than my daily bread.

May God bless all who read this is my prayer.
Your sister in Christ Jesus, Mattie Daniels.

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God Is Faithful

Faithful means "full of faith" and "worthy of confidence and belief."—Webster.

We read in Deut. 7:9, "Know therefore that the Lord thy God, he is God, the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love him and keep his commandments to a thousand generations." It means much to serve a God who is faithful.

We sometimes wonder about the faithfulness of man to God; is it worthy of confidence? Surely we ought to trust God for all of our needs. He is faithful to establish and keep us from evil. 1 Cor. 10:13, "There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it." We sometimes sing a song, "Yield not to temptation, for yielding is sin." Perhaps we feel that at times the temptation is too hard to bear, but if we trust in God, He will safely carry us through.

"If we believe not, yet he abideth faithful: he cannot deny himself" 2 Tim. 2:13. We read in Num. 23:19, "God is not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do it? or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?" "Blessed be the Lord, that hath given rest unto his people Israel, according to all that he promised: there hath not failed one word of all his good promise which he promised by the hand of Moses his servant" 1 Kings 8:56. Our God is faithful to bestow on us life and breath and all things. We are living on the mercies of God.

Dear reader, is your trust in God, or do you put your trust in man? God's way is best. Forsake your doubts, but trusting, submit thyself into his hand.

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all un-

righteousness." 1 John 1:9. We must give up all our sins and turn unto God. He will have compassion and create in us a clean heart, for "the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanseth us from all sin." Salvation is for all believers. "If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation" Rom. 10:9, 10. Truly it means much to have salvation. It will take laying aside some things, but there is joy in serving the Lord. We ask you to consider these truths. May they be an encouragement to your hearts. —I. Andrews.

—:::—
"Now no one lives right"
We can hear people say,
It will not excuse us
In that great judgment day.

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MIRIAM, A LEADER IN ISRAEL

July 7, 1957

Printed Portion:Ex. 15:20-21; Num. 12:1-10, 13-15.

Exodus 15:20. And Miriam the prophetess, the sister of Aaron, took a timbrel in her hand; and all the women went out after her with timbrels and with dances.

21. And Miriam answered them, Sing ye to the Lord, for he hath triumphed gloriously; the horse and his rider hath he thrown into the sea.

Num. 12:1. And Miriam and Aaron spake against Moses because of the Ethiopian woman whom he had married: for he had married an Ethiopian woman.

2. And they said, Hath the Lord indeed spoken only by Moses? hath he not spoken also by us? And the Lord heard it.

3. (Now the man Moses was very meek, above all the men which were upon the face of the earth.)

4. And the Lord spake suddenly unto Moses, and unto Aaron, and unto Miriam, Come out ye three unto the tabernacle of the congregation. And they three came out.

5. And the Lord came down in the pillar of the cloud, and stood in the door of the tabernacle, and called Aaron and Miriam: and they both came forth.

6. And he said, Hear now my words: If there be a prophet among you, I the Lord will make myself known unto him in a vision, and will speak unto him in a dream.

7. My servant Moses is not so, who is faithful in all mine house.

8. With him will I speak mouth to mouth, even apparently, and not in dark speeches; and the similitude

of the Lord shall he behold: wherefore then were ye not afraid to speak against my servant Moses?

9. And the anger of the Lord was kindled against them; and he departed.

10. And the cloud departed from off the tabernacle; and, behold, Miriam became leprous, white as snow: and Aaron looked upon Miriam, and, behold, she was leprous.

Num. 12:13. And Moses cried unto the Lord, saying, Heal her now, O God, I beseech thee.

14. And the Lord said unto Moses, If her father had but spit in her face, should she not be ashamed seven days? let her be shut out from the camp seven days, and after that let her be received in again.

15. And Miriam was shut out from the camp seven days: and the people journeyed not till Miriam was brought in again.

Memory Verse: A woman that feareth the Lord, she shall be praised. Prov. 31:30.

Practical Truth: Places of leadership are now open to women as never before.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Miriam is the first woman in the Bible to be called a prophetess. She led the women in singing praises to the Lord for the glorious deliverance God had given them in crossing the Red Sea and the release from their former taskmasters.

Miriam showed great wisdom when she as a girl watched the ark that her Mother had placed in the river holding the baby Moses, (Exodus 2:1-10)—and the king's daughter found it. Her presence of mind resulted in her mother, Jochebed, being paid to take care of her own baby. The first verse of our lesson, which tells about her, happened more than eighty years later.

Jealousy is like a cruel monster that takes hold of people and causes them to do unseemly deeds which later bring great trouble. Jealousy will not let you rejoice when others are being blessed or greatly used of the Lord, as we find the example in our lesson. It is very evident that Miriam and Aaron were jealous of Moses' superior rank as a spokesman for God, and this jealousy prompted them to look for something to criticize. But we do thank God for men and women like Moses, who will love those who speak evil of them and forgive them. Moses prayed for Miriam earnestly and God blessed her. If the devil tempts you to be jealous pray for God to bless that person more than ever before and the temptation will melt away.

JETHRO'S WISE COUNSEL

July 14, 1957

Printed Portion:Exodus 18:13-24.

Ex. 18:13. And it came to pass on the morrow, that Moses sat to judge the people: and the people stood by Moses from the morning unto the evening.

14. And when Moses' father in law saw all that he did to the people, he said, What is this thing that thou doest to the people? why sittest thou thyself alone, and all the people stand by thee from morning unto even?

15. And Moses said unto his father in law, Because the people come unto me to enquire of God:

16. When they have a matter, they come unto me; and I judge between one and another, and I do make them know the statutes of God, and his laws.

17. And Moses' father in law said unto him, The thing that thou doest is not good.

18. Thou wilt surely wear away, both thou, and this

people that is with thee: for this thing is too heavy for thee; thou art not able to perform it thyself alone.

19. Hearken now unto my voice, I will give thee counsel, and God shall be with thee: Be thou for the people to God-ward, that thou mayest bring the causes unto God:

20. And thou shalt teach them ordinances and laws, and shalt shew them the way wherein they must walk, and the work that they must do.

21. Moreover thou shalt provide out of all the people able men, such as fear God, men of truth, hating covetousness; and place such over them, to be rulers of thousands, and rulers of hundreds, rulers of fifties, and rulers of tens.

22. And let them judge the people at all seasons: and and it shall be, that every great matter they shall bring unto thee, but every small matter they shall judge; so shall it be easier for thyself, and they shall bear the burden with thee.

23. If thou shalt do this thing, God command thee so, then thou shalt be able to endure, and all this people shall also go to their place in peace.

24. So Moses hearkened to the voice of his father in law, and did all that he had said.

Memory Verse: Jethro rejoiced for all the goodness which the Lord had done. Exodus 18:9.

Practical Truth: Giving heed to wise counsel may save one much time and trouble.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

After reading the lesson we find that Jethro gave some wise counsel. We also notice how he gave it. He showed his love and concern for the one to whom he gave advice. He pointed out to Moses that he would wear out and it was not expedient. Then we notice how he gave advice and left it subject to the will of the Lord (verse 23). He did not insist on his doing as he said.

Moses proved himself to be a real leader by his attitude toward Jethro's advice. It seems it is hard for those whom God wants to use as leaders to consider others' ideas. We find according to history that is the reason the early church went down because the deacons, pastors, and bishops became dictators instead of servants, as God had planned. Peter gives advice along this line in 1 Pet. 5:2, 3. He tells the elders to "feed the flock...taking the oversight, not by constraint, . . . neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being ensamples to the flock." A real leader leads others and does not drive or force them to do as they think. He is willing to take advice, or try new ideas. All of us can profit from wise advice: the father to the child, the child to the parent, fellow-members to one another, the minister to the laity and laity to the minister.

CALEB, MAN OF FAITH AND COURAGE

July 21, 1957

Printed Portion:Num. 14:6-9a; Jos. 14:6-14.

Num. 14:6. And Joshua the son of Nun, and Caleb the son of Jephunneh, which were of them that searched the land, rent their clothes:

7. And they spake unto all the company of the children of Israel, saying, The land, which we passed through to search it, is an exceeding good land.

8. If the Lord delight in us, then he will bring us into this land, and give it us; and a land which floweth with milk and honey.

9. Only rebel not ye against the Lord, neither fear ye

the people of the land.

Joshua 14:6. Then the children of Judah came unto Joshua in Gilgal: and Caleb the son of Jephunneh the Kenezite said unto him, Thou knowest the thing that the Lord said unto Moses the man of God concerning me and thee in Kadesh-barnea.

7. Forty years old was I when Moses the servant of the Lord sent me from Kadesh-barnea to espy out the land; and I brought him word again as it was in mine heart.

8. Nevertheless my brethren that went up with me made the heart of the people melt: but I wholly followed the Lord my God.

9. And Moses sware on that day, saying, Surely the land whereon thy feet have trodden shall be thine inheritance, and thy children's for ever, because thou hast wholly followed the Lord my God.

10. And now, behold, the Lord hath kept me alive, as he said, these forty and five years, even since the Lord spake this word unto Moses, while the children of Israel wandered in the wilderness: and now, lo, I am this day fourscore and five years old.

11. As yet I am as strong this day as I was in the day that Moses sent me: as my strength was then, even so is my strength now, for war, both to go out, and to come in.

12. Now therefore give me this mountain, whereof the Lord spake in that day; for thou heardest in that day how the Anakims were there, and that the cities were great and fenced: if so be the Lord will be with me, then I shall be able to drive them out, as the Lord said.

13. And Joshua blessed him, and gave unto Caleb the son of Jephunneh Hebron for an inheritance.

14. Hebron therefore became the inheritance of Caleb the son of Jephunneh the Kenezite unto this day, because that he wholly followed the Lord God of Israel.

Memory Verse: Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall: but they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength. Isaiah 40:30, 31.

Practical Truth: A knowledge that we are doing God's will should give us faith and courage in facing difficult situations.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Faith in God has brought us through the problems of the past and will take us through the future. We can boldly come to the "throne of grace" in every time of need if "our heart condemn us not, then have we confidence toward God. And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight" 1 John 3:21-22.

Caleb did not fear the people, the opposition of the other ten, nor death. He knew the God who had brought them through the Red Sea and performed many other miracles before their eyes could give them the land of Canaan. Caleb did not see all the miracles God had performed, but he believed what had been told him.

Today we have not seen with our natural eyes the miracles which God did (recorded in the Bible), but we believe what has been told us because the Word of God was written by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit—1 Tim. 3:16.

Forty-five years later Caleb still had faith in God at the age of 85. He wanted to conquer the land of the giants and walled cities—not in his strength, but through the power of God. Men and women of faith are needed today. Job was able to say at the darkest hour, "I know that my Redeemer liveth."

GIDEON, FOE OF PAGANISM

July 28, 1957.

Printed Portion:Judges 6:25-32.

Judges 6:25. And it came to pass the same night, that the Lord said unto him, Take thy father's young bullock, even the second bullock of seven years old, and throw down the altar of Baal that thy father hath, and cut down the grove that is by it:

26. And build an altar unto the Lord thy God upon the top of this rock, in the ordered place, and take the second bullock, and offer a burnt sacrifice with the wood of the grove which thou shalt cut down.

27. Then Gideon took ten men of his servants and did as the Lord had said unto him: and so it was because he feared his father's household, and the men of the city, that he could not do it by day, that he did it by night.

28. And when the men of the city arose early in the morning, behold, the altar of Baal was cast down, and the grove was cut down that was by it, and the second bullock was offered upon the altar that was built.

29. And they said one to another, who hath done this thing? And when they enquired and asked, they said, Gideon the son of Joash hath done this thing.

30. Then the men of the city said unto Joash, Bring out thy son, that he may die: because he hath cast down the altar of Baal, and because he hath cut down the grove that stood by it.

31. And Joash said unto all that stood against him, Will ye plead for Baal? will ye save him? he that will plead for him, let him be put to death whilst it is yet morning: if he be a god, let him plead for himself, because one hath cast down his altar.

32. Therefore on that day he called him Jerubbaal, saying, Let Baal plead against him, because he hath thrown down his altar.

Memory Verse: Thou shalt have no other gods before me. Exodus 20:3.

Practical Truth: Through the power of God paganism can be overcome and great victories won.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

According to the dictionary, a pagan is a heathen, or more specifically anyone who is not a Christian, Jew, or a Mohammedan. As we think of it in modern times, it is an irreligious person. Today we have plenty of pagans all around us. We feel the power of that pagan spirit coming against us as we live and preach Christ to them. Are we willing to do as Gideon did, tear down their false teachings and trust the results to God? We have the same promise given to us that was given to Gideon. "The Lord said unto him, Surely I will be with thee." (Judges 6:16). The enemy of our souls would want us to try to be as much like the world in our conduct and dress as possible so we would not feel that pressure so strong against us. If we yield to this, little by little we would drift away from God and soon would be counted as one of them. May the Lord awaken souls to seek God for courage to stand firm in the face of all opposition. God will make a way for us as he did for faithful Gideon.

There are those in foreign countries today who still worship gods with all the vileness connected with it. In India the god Krishna is worshiped more than any other. It is truly sad to think of the millions who are rejecting Jesus, the Saviour of the world. —Mrs. Marie Miles