

# FAITH<sup>AND</sup>VICTORY

## Church of God Servant



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### 'Fifty Nine Will Take Its Toll

The year of nineteen fifty-eight  
Has laid its trophies down;  
Though many, running in the race,  
Have won the victor's crown.

We see that progress has been made  
In many fields of art,  
And things that seemed impossible  
Have now begun to start.

But many a one whose plans and hopes  
Reached into 'fifty nine,  
Has folded arms, and gone away  
In another world to shine.

Oh, what shall 'fifty nine give out,  
And what shall we receive?  
Shall Jesus Christ return again?  
Or what do you believe?

One thing I know without a doubt,  
In 'fifty nine we'll be,  
Nearer to the end of time,  
And nearer Eternity.

So let us do the best we can,  
To bring our loved ones in;  
Let's tell them of the Son of God,  
Who died to save from sin.

For 'fifty nine will take its toll  
Of poor, rich, low, and high;  
For the divine appointment is  
That man must surely die.

But if we live, or if we die,  
Or if we wake or sleep;  
Gird up your loins, be on the watch,  
And faithful vigil keep.

—Ulysses Phillips

### Childlikeness With God

A writing of Brother C. E. Orr's  
"Except ye be converted and become as little  
children, ye shalt not enter the kingdom of heaven."

Matt. 18:3. Blessed is the man who is childlike with God. God is a Father to His children and it pleases Him to have them regard Him as such. A father who is able will supply the needs of his child and desires the child to rely upon him fully to do so. All are ready to acknowledge that God is able, but not all have the childlike trust and reliance. It is not so difficult for God's children to trust in Him in the greater things and needs of life as it is in the little things, but this is the opposite of childlikeness. A child looks to the father for help in all the little things. If it has a tangle in the string and cannot get it out it soon goes to father or mother for help. God wants us to be just that childlike with Him.

God has promised to supply your every need. Read Matt. 6:33; Heb. 13:5-6; Phil. 4:19. Do not these promises include the little needs as well as the greater ones? If you had a cancer on your body you would trust God to heal you. If you had need of two cents to buy a postage stamp, do you in childlikeness, take this need to God in prayer? To be childlike with God is to take all the little needs of everyday life to Him in prayer. A brother was walking along the streets of Chicago carrying a bundle. The bundle came undone. He was in need of a string. He asked the Lord to get him a string, and on casting his eye along the sidewalk, there lay, only a few feet away, just the string he needed. A sister lost her scissors. She asked her heavenly Father to help her find them and found them immediately. At one time a brother owed a debt of 75 cents. He prayed earnestly that he might have that amount by the time he promised to pay it. While walking across a field soon after, he found a one dollar gold piece. Some one might ask how came the gold piece to be there, but this did not concern the brother any more than how came the coin in the mouth of the fish that Peter caught. Just a week ago a brother lost the key to his car and also the one to his mail box, as they were both on the same ring. He prayed the Lord to help him find them, but he did not find them at once. The night following the loss he prayed on awakening in the night that God would help him to find the keys. Then came to his mind the thought, "Does God concern Himself with so small a matter?" He then remembered such texts

as "the hairs of your head are all numbered;" "if we give a cup of cold water we shall be rewarded," and many other similar texts, and a sweet consciousness that God did concern Himself in such matters, came into his soul. The next morning he found the keys when not actually looking for them and in a place where he would not have looked for them. After finding them he remembered laying them there.

To have this childlike reliance and familiarity with God makes everyday life sweet and precious. It is needful, however, that we beware lest we get fanatical and presumptuous. Wise parents will let their children go to the limit of their ability to untangle their own thread. God will be careful not to encourage indolence or neglect in His children. He will help them to meet all their promises and obligations if made in His order. Those who are contracting debts here and there and making failure after failure to pay when due, have not learned the precious secret of childlikeness with God. They are leaving God out of life. "Consider what I say and the Lord give thee understanding."

### A Great Day Is Coming!

There is a great day coming. You will be going about your usual tasks when suddenly the heavens will light up. You will see the Son of God bursting through the heavens. You will know that this is the last great day. Your sins will loom up before you. You know you are not ready to meet Him. Your hair will begin to rise up on your head. Your face will become pale. Your flesh will begin to crawl. Your eyes will grow large. Your knees will begin to buckle underneath you. You will begin to cry out in fear, such a fear that you have never known before. You will want to hide from the great scene before you but as you start toward the house it will fade away. Things all around you will be melting away. You run toward the mountains and beg for the rocks to hide you but they are beyond your reach. You cry out, "Lord, have mercy upon me!" but your words do not go any higher than your head. The times that you had an opportunity to get saved and felt the Spirit of the Lord dealing with your soul will come up before you. You will cry out in despair, "Lord, give me another chance," but these words will echo with the returning words, "It's too late!"

Oh, dear soul, please, in the name of Jesus, pray now: call upon the Lord while he is your Saviour. When He leaves that throne in heaven and bursts through the clouds He then will be your judge. Your chance to be saved will be gone. "Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light." Eph. 5:14. Wake up! Why sleep on in your sins. Christ will give you salvation. Christ will cause you to be quickened from being dead in trespasses and sins by His Spirit and in that day you will be able to arise with the saved and blessed to meet the Lord in the air. Just like a magnet draws to itself the same properties that it has within itself, so all those who have Christ in them here will be

drawn up in the air to Christ to be with Him forever. But those who do not have Christ within them will be left. Oh, how sad! Let your better judgment prevail and be ready to meet your Lord and Saviour. Accept Jesus as your Saviour today. God loves you. Jesus loves you and is not willing that you be lost. The church loves you and that is the reason we are pleading with you to be saved. Remember the words of the Apostle Paul, "For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night. For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them." 1 Thess. 5:2, 3; 11 Pet. 3:1-12; 1 Thess. 4:13-18; Matt. 25:31, 32, 41.

—Sister Marie Miles.

### True Believing

Gipsy Smith was holding a meeting in Glasgow. He noticed a man who frequently attended the meetings. One night the man stayed until almost all the people had left. Gipsy Smith went to speak to him, and in his own words gives this story of what he learned that night:

"You are concerned about your soul?" I asked.

"I am," he replied, and promptly I said, "You know what you have to do."

"Yes, I do." This he said with conviction. I urged him to make the surrender. While talking with him I discovered a gentleman near us who was listening. He came forward and asked, "Will you let me speak to this brother?" I answered, "Yes," and he continued.

"I have heard part of the conversation, and I want to read you (turning to my friend in the pew) a text," and he read John 3:16. "Do you believe that?" he asked. "Yes, of course, a Scotchman believes that." The newcomer then read Romans 10:9: "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," and asked again, "Do you believe that?" "Of course, I believe it." Next he read from John's Epistle, "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness," and asked, "You believe that, too?" "Yes, I believe that."

"Then you are a Christian," said the man. My friend straightened himself up and looking at the man with the Bible said, "You are wrong, my friend."

"Well, but you believe Christ died for you?"

"Yes." "You believe He rose from the dead for your justification?" "Yes." "You believe He is able to save you?" "Yes, right on the spot." "Then you are saved."

"No, I am not."

"How do you make that out?"

"Well, you have read three passages: now read Isaiah 55:7." The man with the Bible turned to the passage and read, "Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; and let him return unto the Lord." "Now stop," said my friend. "I am the wicked man; I am the unrighteous man; and I have to forsake the sin and the wicked thought, and

I must come back from my own way to God's way. In my heart is a great sin. I am hugging it and am not willing to give it up. My own common sense tells me I cannot be saved until in godly sorrow, confession and repentance I surrender and give up all sin forever."

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### A Way To Escape

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish but have everlasting life." Jno. 3:16.

There was a time when mankind wandered in sin without hope, and with no power at all to stand against the devil. God gave a commandment and a law to live by. The people tried to obey it and failed. Ever since Adam and Eve disobeyed God in the garden of Eden, sin came upon all flesh, and the soul of man is in bondage to sin because of the seed that was planted there by the devil through the unbelief and disobedience of Adam and Eve. Sin was upon all from the time of Adam until Jesus Christ came. Man was conscious of sin; therefore, he offered the sacrifice of blood of animals to God for forgiveness, and this had to be repeated over and over again. But God's ultimate purpose and plan was to get rid of the very seed of sin. There was no way to do this except through a supreme sacrifice—not of blood of animals, because these sacrifices could "not take away sin." They only pushed them back for a time, and then they came again tormenting the mind and soul of man.

God, in all his goodness and love toward man, was willing to give his own Son as a sacrifice to destroy the seed of sin in the heart of every one who would believe on the sacrifice which He gave that he might "take away sin." When the appointed time came, God sent Jesus, His only begotten Son, in the likeness of sinful flesh to condemn sin in the flesh, yet He knew no sin. He was born of a virgin, without an earthly father. Jesus came and preached peace to every soul, Jew and Gentile alike. His message was and still is: "Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn of me, for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

Then came the day that Jesus was to suffer. He was taken by the Jews and Romans and condemned to die on the cross of Calvary. Jesus willingly went to the cross, for he knew he had come to suffer and die that he might destroy the power of Satan from the hearts of the believers. He was crucified and laid in the tomb. On the third day he arose a victor over death, hell and the grave—alive forevermore. Praise God! Now through faith in his blood he is destroying the seed of sin which had the human race in bondage. Through faith in his name they are set free from the power of sin.

Isn't it wonderful that we can come back to God to serve Him anew in spirit and in truth? God has, by the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, bought us that we

might become the children of God free from sin, sickness and sorrow, and to rejoice in the salvation of God forevermore.

My sinner friend, you, too, can come to God and receive pardon for your sins. Ask God for Christ's sake to forgive you and accept Jesus as your Savior today. Believe in him and take him as your sacrifice.

—Clarence Lankford

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### Young Women, Beware!

Young women, beware! Dr. Brown, who has been with the Kelly Institute, Los Angeles, California for 60 years is quoted as saying: "The cigarette is a GREATER menace to the young people of today than the open saloon ever was. Every young woman who ever came to us for treatment of the liquor habit was an inveterate user of cigarettes. She began her drinking after using cigarettes. If cigarettes could be prohibited in America, the liquor problem would be solved. In our institution we find that the history of every woman who comes to us for treatment could have this caption written above her name and record, (1st) cigarettes, these led to (2nd) drink, and alcohol to (3rd) dope!"—*The Church of God Evangel*.

These are the facts, so read the records. This is not a mere experiment. This is the result of true observation over a period of 60 years. In actual life it has become a proven fact: the testimony of victims of the curse that tobacco—the cigarette—leads to alcohol, then alcohol to dope, vice, crime, hopelessness, and the grave. Satan has succeeded in creating a habit or taste that can never be satisfied. He is a wily old fellow, more subtle than any beast of the field. He comes around wearing the finest of clothes, immaculate, neat, attractive—a fine youth. Oh, he is so cunning and talks so attractively with enticing words. Surely a harmless cigarette is all right. Look how nice and white it is. Just look, I bought it down at Bro. and Sister ———'s store. They are such fine, upstanding members of ——— denomination and a deacon or Sunday school teacher; maybe, even superintendent and even sings in the choir. Just look, they sell them and pay in good to the church; surely there is nothing wrong with a cigarette if they sell them. They are well respected church members. They won't even go into a place to buy anything (no matter how bad they need it) where they sell beer or alcoholic beverages. Thus reasons Satan to the heart and mind of a fair young convert. Alas, how many a young man and girl will finish their days here in this world a drunkard and dope fiend and in hell lift up a hand and point to you professing church members and say, "If you had not sold me my first cigarette, I'd not be suffering here in hell (eternal) tonight." Awake, thou that sleepest, tobacco-using is sin. Tobacco damns souls. To damn another soul and lead him into sin by selling him tobacco is as sinful or even worse than using it yourself. Take heed how thou judgeth another (that sells liquor) and dost the selfsame thing thyself. First cast the beam out of thine own eye.

—Ralph Halladay

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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.

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

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**EDITORIALS**

"We know that whosoever is born of God [or born from above] sinneth not; but he that is begotten of God keepeth himself, and that wicked one toucheth him not. And we know that we are of God, and the whole world lieth in wickedness." 1 John 5:18, 19. In these two verses we have the sacred and eternal Word of God delivered to us. The first thought in these two verses of holy writ make us know that if we are of God we do not sin. A person who is committing sin is not of God even though he might profess to be of God. He may even be a preacher but not one sent of God. He who is committing sin has no life of God in his soul. To profess to be the Lord's while in a sinning state will not only be deceiving your own soul but also all that hear you. Joining and being in good standing with any of the many humanly organized churches will save no man's soul. You will have to personally and individually know that your soul has been begotten of God and His life has become your life. There is no such thing as a sinning Christian in the family of God which constitutes His Body, the Church.

The second thought in these two verses is that we are to be begotten of God. To be begotten of God has a thousand times stronger meaning than just merely water baptism. Water baptism can save no soul only in a figurative sense, and that figure tells a lie unless you have been begotten of God. To be begotten of God means a spiritual birth. It means that you have been born of the Father of Spirits and are His child and thereby inherit His love and care in this world and eternal inheritance with Him in the glory world. This is why Paul in Eph. 5:30, says, "For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones." Spiritually speaking we are connected with him even as man and wife are bound together.

The next thought is that we are diligent to keep ourselves in His loving ways and receive His grace and attention so that the wicked one cannot and does not touch us or move us to sin or to do evil. In the 19th verse the thought is that we cast aside all doubt and fear and know that we are of God. Then from this blood sheltered protection of God we look out on the world of people and see the whole world lying in wickedness, and also a multitude of professed church members. Satan has thousands of preachers in the world by whom he is telling the people that they cannot live free from sin in this world; and thus they put the lie on God as though Satan had more power than God and we would have to sin, for God has no power to keep us from sinning. Shame on the devil's preachers. They surely do need to be begotten of God so they could come in contact with the greater power.

In 1 John 4:4 we read, "Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world." John does not give the devil credit for having more power than God, but plainly says that the Spirit of God in us is greater than Satan, who is in the world.

Paul, in Eph. 2:2, said that when we walked in sin we were the children of disobedience and went according to the course of this world in harmony with the prince of the power of the air. But since we got in touch with God who has quickened us with new life we are raised up together and made to sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus. Oh, what a blessed place to live and dwell: in Him who gave His life's blood as a sacrifice for sin and blotted out our sins as a thick cloud and has ascended up to heaven and is at the right hand of God! He is our great High Priest, and is touched by the feeling of our infirmities, and bids us to come boldly (with all confidence) unto the throne of grace and find help in time of need.

Read the last six verses of the 4th chapter of Hebrews and believe God's Word and live with the blessed of God. Please do not stay with the devil's crowd which only has a profession, but escape for your life and humble your soul down in godly sorrow, confessing and repenting until you can be begotten of God and have Christ for your great High Priest who was resurrected from the grave by the power of God, who thereby put Satan and his professed sinning crowd to an open shame. It is said that He ascended up to heaven, led captivity (Satan) captive and gave gifts unto men. He gives His Spirit as a gift unto us and makes us heirs of God and joint heirs with Himself. Hallelujah to His glorious name.

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We are now approaching the New Year of 1959, and we do not know what may take place before this New Year comes to a close. Great and mighty complexing problems are facing our nation, and rumors of war are on every hand.

It seems that most criminal deeds are committed by boys and girls of young age, which is, no doubt, the result of the devil's pipe line in the form of television being in the homes of so many. The robbery and murder scenes inflame the plastic minds of the children and the devil moves on them and causes them to practice what they have seen. Just recently my daughter's little two-year-old son was playing outside the house. He was heard screaming, and when his mother went to him, there was another little boy, probably four years old, who had a big butcher knife in his hand threatening to stab her son. What will this world be when the present young generation grows into their teens with all the evil that comes over the television impressed upon their tender minds! Some say that there is good which comes over the television, but listen, who would want to dig down into a garbage barrel to get anything good? I think I can hear God say, "Put away that evil thing from you and out of your home." We are taught by God's Word to abstain from the very appearance of evil and are exhorted to think on things that are true, things that are just, things that are pure, things that are lovely, things that are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things. Very few of these good things come over the television, but most of it is folly and foolishness. Liquor and tobacco advertising, shooting, robbery and

murder are very prominently displayed, so we are told by those who have made investigation. People who live in a house with the tail of the serpent protruding from its roof are being poisoned day by day. The children growing up under such environment will have their minds and hearts so filled with evil and wicked things that it will be almost impossible for God to get any sober, heavenly thoughts into their minds. Oh, the shame of this wicked generation of unbelievers! This year of 1958 will no doubt go down on record with more crimes committed by teenagers than any previous year. God is frowning on this old wicked world, and soon his anger will be kindled to such an extent that he will set fire to it and consume the wicked, while at the same time receiving the righteous and holy up to meet him in the air, and so shall they ever be with Him.

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The past year of 1958 has been a successful one for the Faith Publishing House in the way of getting an abundance of gospel literature out to the public. It has been going out in a steady stream week after week and month after month to all parts of the world. We have printed and sent over sixty thousand tracts to South Africa in their own language without cost to them. We buy New Testaments by the hundreds and send them without charge to foreign countries where the English is spoken. Sometimes we get as high as 25 letters in one day from foreign countries begging for gospel literature and Testaments. These are all supplied through our Free Literature Fund. The *Faith and Victory* paper is going into thousands of homes and is doing a good work for the Lord. There will be over ten thousand copies of each issue mailed out during the first two winter months of 1959. Another good year's work for the Lord in getting the gospel to men by the printed page is anticipated.

The small *Beautiful Way* children's paper is growing in circulation. Many are ordering rolls of these papers for their Sunday school classes. This paper is especially suitable for the ages of 6 to 12 years. Older people often read it, as the vital truths are written in simple language. A paper is printed for every Sunday in the year, and it is proving a great blessing. As the children read its contents, the Spirit of God has a chance to stamp the truth upon their tender minds to stay with them through life. This paper is sent out every quarter and the cost is only 60 cents a year, or five papers or more to one address is only 40 cents for each paper per year. Every child should have this paper to read each week. Some adults have been saved through reading it.

Pray for us as we labor on for the Lord. We expect to keep at it until the Lord says, "It is enough, come up higher."

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Sister Cassie Irvin of Missouri is now back with the Faith Publishing House family, helping in the work of getting the gospel to men by the printed page. We thank God for her consecrated services. She will be here, the Lord willing, until after the Guthrie Assembly meeting.

We solicit the prayers of the all the saints everywhere that the work of printing the gospel and getting it out to the people will move forward unhindered as God opens up the way. Your called and sanctified brother in the family of God—His Church.

### Entire Holiness Attainable

It breathes in the prophecy, thunders in the law, murmurs in the narrative, whispers in the promises, supplicates in the prayers, resounds in the songs, sparkles in the poetry, shines in the types, glows in the imagery, and burns in the spirit, of the whole scheme, from its alpha to its omega—its beginning to its end. Holiness! Holiness needed! Holiness required! Holiness offered! Holiness attainable! Holiness a present duty, a present privilege, a present employment, is the progress and completeness of its wondrous theme! It is the truth glowing all over and voicing all through revelation; singing and shouting in all its history, and biography, and poetry, and prophecy, and precept, and promise, and prayer; the great central truth of the system. If God has spoken at all it is to aid men to be holy. The wonder is, that all do not see, that any rise up to question, a truth so conspicuous, so glorious, so full of comfort. —Sel.

### In The Silence

Must you try to solve a problem,  
Are you puzzled, in despair?  
You will always find the answer,  
In the silence of a prayer.

Are you carrying a burden  
That seems more than you can bear?  
You will find the burden lifted  
If you turn to God in prayer.

He will be your guide and helper  
Anytime and anywhere;  
You need only seek to find Him  
In the silence of a prayer. —Sel.

### 1958 BOOKS HAVE BEEN BOUND

We now have the eleven issues of the "Faith and Victory" papers of 1958 in book form and ready to send out to all who want them. The price is sixty cents each copy post paid to any address in the U. S. We will send both the 1957 and 1958 copies to you post paid for \$1.00.

Also, the 52 issues of 1958 of "The Beautiful Way" papers are bound in book form. They are \$1.00 for one book, postpaid. Only a few are available, so order soon.

### Obituary

Roger William Shamberger was born Oct. 23, 1957 into the home of Bro. Gene and Sister Lois Shamberger, where two brothers also abode. He lived one year and ten days when God saw fit to select him as a beautiful bud for the Master's bouquet on Nov. 2, 1958. Yet, the memories of this short, eventful life linger on as the sweet scent from the rose garden permeates the evening air. Many other relatives and friends have been affected by this short life and mourn his passing.

Services were conducted by Bro. Albert Nielsen and Sister Opal Wilson. Texts: Matt. 18:1-6; Mark 10:13-16.

### PRAYER REQUESTS

Please pray for my baby who is 15 months old and doesn't even try to sit up. The doctors say she has Cerebral Palsy. Her mind doesn't work with her muscles. I also need spiritual help and will need much patience in helping my baby. She is so sweet. Please pray that she will be healed. —Mae Sparadeo.

Please pray earnestly for the healing of Sister Laura Knapp of Battle Creek, Mich., who has cancers, but is trusting the Lord completely for her healing. This sister's bowels and kidneys seem to be paralyzed and she is in a very serious condition. Anyone feeling led, please fast and pray.

Remember my sister in prayer. She has a very bad case of stomach trouble and at present has flu or possibly pneumonia. Pray that I will be healed of this cold and have strength to do what God wants me to do.

—Sister Coral Johnson.

### Meeting Report

We have been privileged to enjoy another bountiful feast at Father's table during the ten days of Assembly Meeting at Jefferson, Oregon in the month of November. The dear Lord laid His hand on several consecrated, Holy Ghost-filled ministers to bring the gospel messages needed so greatly for the present hour.

There was not a large gathering, and not very much altar work, yet we are greatly encouraged by the deepening down into God with a whole-hearted consecration and dedication on the part of some of God's little children. I am sure that God is completely satisfied with His saints only when self is absolutely abandoned, Christ is given the sole leadership and command, and all our efforts are bent toward serving and pleasing Him.

—Brother Albert Nielsen, Pastor.

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### Notice

#### A REVIVAL WANTED IN KALAMAZOO, MICH.

The saints at Kalamazoo, Michigan are wanting a revival meeting very much, and are looking for the Lord to send a minister or ministers full of the Holy Ghost, and on fire for God, and with Holy Ghost discernment. Any one feeling led to come may contact Bro. and Sister Leo Wilkins, 5919 Utah Ave.

We would also like to say that we are sticking to the "old paths" and don't believe in this "new-light" doctrine that the devil is leading so many poor souls away with. We believe in the Scripture that says in Acts 15:8, 9, "And God, which knoweth the hearts, bare them witness, giving them the Holy Ghost, even as he did unto us; and put no difference between us and them, purifying their hearts by faith." Now to purify means to cleanse, and so there must have been something there that had to be cleansed out of the heart in sanctification, or the Word of God would not have said so. Dear ones, there are other Scriptures that bear this out also. We believe that in justification all our actual sins that we have committed are all washed away with the precious blood of Jesus, and that in sanctification the Holy Ghost, through the blood of Jesus, comes in and cleanses away that old Adamic nature that we are not responsible for, and then gives us power to live a holy life. Heb. 10:14, "For by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified."

—Sister Eva Wilkins.

## THE CHURCH OF GOD

By D. S. Warner

### *Who Organizes The Church?*

The word "organize" is not in the scriptures. It is defined in the dictionary as follows: "To furnish with organs; to arrange in parts; to form in due order."

God's church is furnished with organs, arranged in parts, and in due order; hence, is an organic structure. But who is the organizer of the same? Who furnishes it with organs? Answer: "For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; to another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit; to another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues; but all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will."—1 Cor. 12:8-11.

"Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular. And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healing, helps, governments, diversities of tongues."—Verses 27, 28.

Other scriptures also show the harmonizing of the body of Christ, by the hand of God and through the Spirit. But those given above are sufficient. One thing, however, we mention, and that is, the laying on of hands by the elders in ordaining elders, etc. That this pertains to the organization of the church, we freely allow. But it is never called organizing the church. God ordains by way of qualifying and choosing, and his ministers ordain in the sense of recognizing the divine call, and dedicating thereunto. This order is clearly seen in Acts 13:1-4.

Succession of authority down through a course of ecclesiastical lords is all a superstitious delusion; a dragon power. Those whom God saves, baptizes with power, and commissions by the Holy Spirit have the only ecclesiastical authority instituted of God, and this comes direct from heaven, and not through any imaginary line of predecessors.

Voting for officers only belongs to Babylon formality, where God is not present to work "all in all," by the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he wills.

The church, then, is organized by the Lord, who sets all the members in the body as it pleases him, and distributes the gifts and callings by his own wisdom to all the members of the body. Men may organize a human compact, but never the divine body of Christ, which is the church. Thus said the Lord: "And who, as I, shall call, and shall declare it, and set it in order for me, since I appointed the ancient people? and the things that are coming, and shall come, let them show unto them."—Isa. 44:7.

This is to the point. God himself "appointed the ancient people" to their several places in the body, and who will now presume to take upon himself the prerogative of the Almighty? "Every man is brut-

ish by his knowledge; every founder is confounded by the graven image: for his molten image is falsehood, and there is no breath in them. They are vanity, the work of errors; in the time of their visitation they shall perish. The portion of Jacob is not like them; for he is the former of all things: and Israel is the rod of his inheritance; the Lord of hosts is his name."—Jer. 51:17-19.

The sect-founders are confounded, because their structures "have no breath"—no life. They call them churches, but it "is falsehood," the work of error. But God's true church is the former of all things, the primitive church that Jesus bought with his own blood, and built before the rise of the first sect of the apostasy.

He that builds a house organizes the same. But if other men were to come and saw the same house into four parts, and throw each off its foundation, such work would be disorganizing the building, and destroying the same. Just so, should God, by the pure Word and Spirit, fully save, say four hundred souls in one city, he would organize and temper all together in one body. But should four preachers, representing as many sects, each form his schismatic organism there of equal members, each would have the impudence to report to his conference that he had organized a church there of one hundred members, while the facts would be, they, like the parties cleaving the house asunder, would really disorganize and disintegrate the church. Thus, we see that the organizing sects, the work of men, is the disorganizing of the church, which is built of God. Since, then, the church is organized by the Lord, it follows that all so-called churches organized by men, lack the authentic seal of God, and are not his church, but unscriptural schisms.

From these and other scriptures, we see that the church is God's family, or household. And, since a man can have only one family, it follows that God has but one church. It would be an awful reflection on the holiness of God to have many wives and separate rival families, and they of the "nude and lude" character Bishop Foster ascribes to the modern sects. Therefore the multiplicity of sects, falsely called churches, are not God's church.

### *Does The Bible Teach The Unity of All Believers?*

Yes. "Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are. While I was with them in the world, I kept them in thy name."—Jno. 17:11, 12.

"Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word: that they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me. And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one: I in them, and thou in me: that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me."—John 17:20-23.



"Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no division among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment."—1 Cor. 1:10.

"For ye are all one in Christ Jesus."—Gal. 3:28.

"Only let your conversation be as it becometh the gospel of Christ: that whether I come and see you, or else be absent, I may hear of your affairs, that ye stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel." Phil. 1:27.

"Fulfill ye my joy, that ye be like-minded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind."—Phil. 2:2.

"Now the God of patience and consolation grant you to be like-minded one toward another according to Jesus Christ: that ye may with one mind and one mouth glorify God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ."—Rom. 15:5, 6.

"The multitude of them that believed were of one heart, and of one soul."—Acts 4:32.

Can anybody look upon this picture and not see an awful contrast between it and the dark picture of the present-day sect confusion? Do the members of the different sects have the same care one for another? Behold, they are not of one mind, nor of one judgment; they are not one in name, nor creed, nor body; they are not of one heart, nor of one soul, nor of one spirit, nor yet of one faith; they have not one mouth, nor do they speak the same things. They are never one, except it be in opposing Bible salvation. As God confounded the babel-builders, and they all became divided, and of different tongues, so he has sent his thunderbolts of wrath upon Rome, the mother of harlots, and has knocked off several hundred Protestant fragments, each one of which speaks the peculiar dialect of its creed. The church, compared with a human body, is required to have but one mouth, which means perfect harmony in all her teaching. If we were to allow that the multiplicity of sects are the church, then a human monstrosity, having several hundred mouths, and every mouth speaking contrary to every other mouth, would be necessary to symbolize it. As the body of Christ has but one mouth and speaks the same things, it is very evident that the jargon confusion of sect tongues does not represent his body, and is not his church.

*What Experience Perfects Us In Oneness?*

Ans. Entire sanctification, or perfection.

In connection with his prayer for oneness, the Savior prayed the Father to sanctify the disciples, and all that would believe on him through their word, which includes us. "And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one even as we are one: I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one."—John 17:22, 23. Sanctification, perfection, and the glory of Christ, all relate to the same experience, and this makes God's children one. "For both he that sanctifieth and they who are sanctified are all of one: for which cause he is not ashamed to call them brethren."—Heb. 2:11.

"And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ."—Eph. 4:11-13.

"Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot."—1 Pet. 1:18, 19.

The salvation of the Lord, which qualifies us for heaven, makes us one on earth. A religion of divisions will deceive the soul. The chief object of God's ministers is to "perfect the saints." And when perfected in love and holiness, they come into the "unity of the faith which was once delivered unto all the saints." The blood of Christ not only purifies from "all sin" and "all unrighteousness," but also sweeps away all erroneous doctrines. The Comforter guides into all truth, which involves the removal of all error. It is true that cleansing from error is not as instantaneous as from sin. But the pure in heart have perfect fellowship, even though all previously educated errors have not yet disappeared. There is therefore no real cause of division but sin. Therefore to cry against sects and divisions without first being wholly sanctified, and then leading people into this precious paradise of holy love, is nothing but confusion mocking confusion; or Satan buffeting Satan, as the devil flogged the sons of Sceva. All efforts of union but that of God's holiness is like pounding cold crooked pieces of iron against each other to make them fit together. The more blows the more crooks and differences. Put them into a furnace of white heat, and they will lose their cold, stiff, crooked individuality, and flow into one mass. That is God's way of uniting his people, in the fire of the Holy Spirit. All tinkering up platforms of union is wasted time. Each effort has only molded another sect calf for the people to worship and wrangle over. Freedom from sin knits together in love. But all merely strapped-up unions are bundles bound together to be burned. Bible salvation is all that is needed. This obtained, both union of heart and soul, and harmony in outward worship and life, will follow as a result or fruit of the Spirit. When "baptized by one Spirit into the one body," and made to drink in the one divine Spirit in his fullness, there will be no trouble to "worship God in Spirit and in truth." For all such "know the truth, and the truth makes them free." On the plane of Bible holiness, no outward observances are made a test, in fact nothing is made a test of fellowship. For holy men "judge not from appearance, but judge righteous judgment." "If we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin."—1 Jno. 1:7. Fellowship is of the Spirit (Phil. 2:1), and exists where heart-purity exists. It



is the conscious blending of hearts filled with the same holy Spirit. One may have been led into all truth, the other not. This does not interrupt fellowship. Nevertheless it is the duty of such as "know the truth," in meekness to instruct others who do not. Ignorance of some truth does not destroy fellowship, but resisting the truth does; because it forfeits salvation. We must not sanction people's errors, but if saved, show our love and fellowship to them, so long as they do not get the evidence that their wrong doctrines have become wilful, or they have in some way lost salvation. Then fellowship ends, but love and kindness still continue in faithful efforts for their salvation. To ignore fellowship simply because of some doctrinal error is bigotry. To agree to disagree, or to put on an equality truth and error, is babel confusion. To know the truth is our privilege; to teach the truth, our duty; but to have fellowship with the pure and upright of heart is an involuntary and spontaneous fact. Sects are the result of carnality; nothing but perfect holiness destroys carnality, and thus removes both sectism and its cause. The fire of God's love saves the soul, harmonizes all hearts that receive it, leads them into perfect and uniform obedience to all truth, and drives afar all who refuse to pass through its purging fire, and gain the plane of holy fellowship.

—By D. S. Warner

(For the writer's complete booklet of 29 pages on this subject, order from this office at 25¢ each, six for \$1.00, postpaid.)

## The Last Cool Drink

A True Story Recorded by Bona Fleming

A beautiful, intelligent young lady went to a tent meeting where the power of God was present. Sinners were being saved and saints being edified. The Spirit of God brought conviction to this young woman and tears began to flow down her cheeks. She wiped them away with her handkerchief.

Her father, a wealthy farmer, stood on the outside with others. He looked across the tent and saw his daughter weeping. He remarked to a friend: "If my daughter goes to the front I will wade blood to my neck to take her out of there." But a young man was standing by her side and she did not go that night. The father got into his auto and drove home, and the young man took the young lady home in the buggy. When she got inside she saw him—a big, 240 pound father—walking the floor, and she knew that something was wrong. She said, "Papa, what is the matter with you? Why are you not in bed?" He answered, "I have stayed up to give you your orders." She asked, "Papa, what in the world have I done?" He replied, "I looked across that tent tonight and I saw you weeping, saw you have your handkerchief up to your eyes. May, if you go to that front altar, I will wade through blood to my neck to take you out of there; and when I get you home, I will wear out a hickory over your back."

He put it down so strong that she knew he meant what he said. She began to weep and went to her

room, and there in the darkness she settled it that she would not go with God. She closed her fists and said: "Oh, God, I will never seek Thee! Take this feeling away from me! Oh, God, lighten my heart! I do not want to feel this way. I will never seek Thee! Take this burden away from my heart!" God heard her prayer. The Holy Spirit left her, and her conviction was gone. She went to bed and went to sleep. Because you can go to bed and go to sleep, do not think you are saved. Many people go to bed and go to sleep to whom God will never speak again.

The next morning this young lady got up and went to school, came back, and went to the service that night. Her father stood in the same place as the night before, and kept his eye upon her. He saw her standing with a young man, laughing. He took his neighbor by the arm and said, "Look at my daughter. I conquered her last night before I went to bed. She will never go." So this girl laughed and giggled while other folks wept and got saved.

But listen! The meeting closed on Sunday night, and settled the destiny of dying men and women. The tents were taken down, and the preachers left the grounds. On Monday morning this girl went to school as usual, and went all that week. The next Monday morning, as she started, she said, "Mamma, my head is hurting me." The mother said, "May, go on to school," and May went, but returned in two or three hours and said, "Mamma, my head is hurting me so that I couldn't stay." She went to her room and went to bed. She had been in bed three days, when, on Thursday afternoon, she sent for her mother to come up, and said, "Mamma, I am sure that you and papa do not know my condition, and I want you to send for a doctor. I am in an awful condition and I am going to die." The mother was excited, and said, "I will, I will!"

She had the family physician come, and he felt her pulse and took her temperature. He touched the big, strong father on the shoulder and asked him to come outside to the automobile. He loved the family. They had been kind to him. He said, "You have been true to me, and I must be true to you. You have called me too late. Your daughter will soon be in eternity, and if you have anything to tell her, tell her at once. It is no use for me to tell you that I can help her, or to call for more doctors. In a few hours she will be gone." Listen! The neighbors a mile away heard that father. What do you suppose was the first thing he thought of? I know—the night that he conquered his daughter and made her settle with God. He left the automobile and came in wringing his hands. He fell at her bedside and said, "Oh, May! Oh, May! Seek the Lord. May, pray! Give your heart to God! Pray, May, pray!" She put her hand on his face and said, "Papa, please do not taunt me with the Name of God—please do not mention His Name to me. My heart has been like a stone since the night you gave me my orders. I went to my room, and I asked God to leave me, and God took me at my word."

Then she told him that she was conscious that her doom was sealed, and that from the beginning of

her illness she knew she was going to die. She said, "Papa, what time is it?" He answered, "Four o'clock in the afternoon." She said, "How slowly these hours are passing away! But, just think! I am going to a place where there is no time."

They had built a new home out on the pike, and their old home stood back in the field, with the old moss-covered well and moss-covered bucket. She said, "Papa, go to the old moss-covered well and bring me a fresh drink of water, for I will soon be in a place where I can get no water." He went and brought the water and put it to her lips, and she drank it. Her mother was praying, her unsaved brother was praying, and her two unsaved sisters were down on the floor praying. Oh, I have heard the loudest prayers from sinners praying for their loved ones, that I ever heard from anybody's lips. I have heard louder prayers around corpses than I ever heard anywhere else; but I had to rebuke the prayers, and say, "Do not mock God by praying for your dead loved ones." This dying girl said, "Papa, put your hands under my arms, and pull me up in this bed. My feet are in fire. My feet are slipping." He put his hands beneath hers, and drew her up in the bed. Again she said, "Papa, my feet are slipping. Take my feet out of the fire." He said, "May, I have done all I can. Your head is against the head of the bed." She said, "Papa, go back to the old well again, and bring your daughter another drink of water." He went for the water, but before he got back, his beautiful daughter had gone into eternity.

Listen, friends! That father goes to town to buy hardware or groceries, and he stands over the counter like a maniac, and the merchant has to talk to him to find out what he wants. He goes to the field to plow, but he does not plow. He goes to salt the cattle, but he forgets to take the salt. When he goes to market, he stands there and does not know what he wants. Everyone who knows the story knows what is the matter with that father; they know what is on his brain.

May this be a warning to parents not to obstruct the way of their children, and keep them from this free and full salvation, that was purchased for us by Jesus Christ on the cruel Cross of Calvary, which fits and prepares us for Heaven and the Glory World.

(Send for a sample of 40 different tracts, the above included.—Ed.)

## TESTIMONIES

Fla.—Greetings in the name of our Lord and Saviour to the saints of God,—We started to the California State Campmeeting in Pacoima from Lakeland, Florida on Aug. 16, 1958 and arrived in Los Angeles, Calif. Aug. 19. We traveled by bus 2600 miles. Although my companion is 80 years young and I am 77, the Lord gave us traveling mercy. Praise His name! The campmeeting started Aug. 22nd and it was a soul stirring and Spirit-filled meeting. Several souls were saved and God was glorified, praise the Lord. Many were healed and sanctified. It proves there is no north or south or east or west. All are one in Christ Jesus our Lord. We went to 40 services and received a blessing in every one. The preaching was Holy

Ghost inspired. The fellowship of the saints made us feel the nearness of heaven.

The day after the meeting we all cleaned up the beautiful grounds and then we journeyed with Bro. and Sister Wilson and our daughter, Sister Huskey, and Bro. Huskey to Bro. Taylor's in Dinuba. We stayed over night there and then journeyed to Orland in Northern California. There we attended a two-week revival with Bro. Nielsen from Oregon. This, too, was a time of refreshing. The saints in Orland made us feel at home. We had all-day meeting on Sunday with dinner in a beautiful park. The saints from Stockton, 150 miles away, came to be with us. Glory to God for the saints of God.

We then came home. Thank God for His guidance and love. We hope to do it again, God willing. We give God all the glory and praise. What a mighty God we serve. Your loving Bro. and Sister in Christ,

—Fred and Alice Cook.

La.—To the saints scattered abroad, greetings:—I take this means to tell you that your prayers in my behalf have been answered. The growth on my face is completely gone—no scar—only a small spot a shade pinker than the rest, that, I feel in time will be gone also. About eight or more years ago a small rough spot came on my cheek. I watched it develop until it was a brown mole-like place that stood out and was very noticeable. Through the years I have been prayed for, but it gradually grew larger. My brother described it to his doctor, and he told him it was a skin horn and had potential danger in it. My brother urged me to have it removed. Three years ago at the Guthrie Assembly meeting I was prayed for. The Lord witnessed to my soul that He had heard prayer. I testified then to the witness that the Lord had given me. But it grew a little larger and changed color. This year at campmeetings it looked larger and uglier than ever. Many of you saints came to me and told me you were praying for me, and gave me words of encouragement. Bro. Eugene Harmon called my name from the pulpit at Guthrie, and the Lord warmed my heart, which I took for another witness. Bro. Darius Gibson at Myrtle Campmeeting gave our son an illustration. He said, "When God speaks we know the answer will come. When we want to kill a tree in the forest, we cut the bark all the way around. It may stand there for a while and look just like the other trees—the leaves green—but it has been 'ringed' and we know it will die." I quickly took that to myself. I said, "This growth has been 'ringed,' and it will have to die." It did. Shortly afterward, it began to shrink and pull loose from my face around the edges. Then for two and one half months it came off piece by piece. I can hardly take it when I look into the mirror, or wash my face, and it is not there. This is a miracle from the Lord, and He did it for me!

I am so thankful today for salvation. I am thankful I had godly parents to teach me the one True Way. My mother trusted the Lord for 43 years before her death 21 years ago. I have trusted the Lord all of my life. So in her life and mine there has been a continual trust of God for the last 64 years. I know it works. We've had many afflictions in our family and the Lord has healed them: typhoid fever, malaria, ruptured appendix, asthma, hemorrhagic purpera—a condition where the blood seeps out of the veins into the tissues of the flesh, itch, and many others. My parents both went through death trusting God, my father with pneumonia, and my mother with cancer. They have left a precious heritage, and I am sure I can trust Him all the way also.

Your saved sister,

—May Jackson Carver.

S. C.—Dear Bro. Pruitt and workers,—Greetings to all of you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. I have been planning to write for some time. I want to let you know how much I really enjoy the "Faith and Victory" paper. It is a real treasure to me. I also enjoyed reading the book on the New Testament Church, and the one, "God's Gracious Dealings." Truly I do believe you are a God-sent people.

The Lord has done so much for me, yet I am doing so little for Him. It seems that I am bound in several ways, and not free to worship Him in the Spirit as I so desire. I also want to be a true witness for Him. I am trying to rear three children, so you see I need the Lord so much.

I want you all to pray especially for me that I be delivered from the fear of what others say or what they might think. There are other things I would like to say, but God knows all about me. So just remember me by name before the Lord.

Yours in Christ, —Mrs. L. B. Trotter.

Texas,—Dear Bro. Pruitt and co-workers.—I want to thank all who offered prayers for my mother and me. I feel like I am healed and I am very thankful. Mother is better, but pray for her to have faith also.

May God bless the good work you are doing.

Thanking you, —Mrs. J. W. Speed.

Ohio.—To Bro. Pruitt and the workers in the gospel print shop,—This is greetings of love in the precious name of our Lord. Glad to testify this time that I am still saved and pressing my way on to glory. I praise God, for He is becoming more real and precious to me each day.

This has been a year of a jubilee in my soul. The Lord blessed me and granted me the privilege of visiting three campmeetings this year. I was at Monark Springs, Guthrie, and also at Boley. I was blessed in both soul and body in each meeting. I had not been able to drive my car but a short distance, but the Lord gave me this trip, and He gave me the strength to make it. I know it was the Lord. I had Bro. Golden with me and I asked him to pray as I drove, and he did that. That was the easiest trip I ever made to Oklahoma.

I am thankful for a God who has all power. Pray for me that I will be all in this life the Lord would have me be.

—G. A. Johnson.

Minn.—Dear Friends in the Lord,—I want to thank you folks for the good books you sent me. I finally got them read and they explain the gospel very plain. I am sure that many who are privileged to read these will be helped. But there are a few points I would like to know a little more about, so please send me your booklet, "The New Testament Church and Its Symbols" so I can get more light on this all-important matter. I have been a full gospel follower for some time, but we know their teachings are not all Scriptural. I would like to learn the gospel truths as you see it in your teachings. According to your literature, it sounds very reasonable, so I would like to have this other booklet. Then I will write you people a good letter.

Be sure to keep me on your mailing list, as I think the "Faith and Victory" paper is very good. (I wonder how many of its readers realize that faith really is victory?) I do not want to miss a single issue of it.

Now many thanks and God bless you all real good.

Yours, faithfully in Him, —Howard Nielsen.

Alta, Canada,—Dear saints at the Publishing House,—I thought I should write my testimony to you and thank

all there who earnestly prayed for me when my arthritis was so bad. The request was through my nephew, Edward Joe Cramer.

The Lord did not seem to answer prayer at first, but I knew there was no healing for me except through Him. I asked Him to show me if there was any thing wrong with me, and if there was, to forgive me and help me to live for Him.

I went to my sister's to stay for a while and while there Bro. and Sister Bend came over one night and prayed for me, anointing and laying their hands on me. From that time on I have been getting along better all the time. I stand on my feet and wash the dishes, and sometimes I sweep the floor. I also wash my own clothes in a pan by hand. All this I thank the Lord for. I say, "Not my will, but thine be done." I have been staying home with my three youngest sons for over two months but I will go back to my sister's as soon as it gets a little colder, as my sons cannot stay around the house to keep the fires going. My hands were so bad for quite a while that I could not even write my own name. Praise His name, I am able to write again!

Please keep on praying that the Lord will completely heal me so I can stay home and not have to stay away as much. Also, pray for my family that they will get saved. There are no saints right close here, so I really enjoy the "Faith and Victory" paper.

Yours in the faith, —Mrs. Louisa Land.

Okla.—Dear Bro. Pruitt and workers at the Lord's print shop,—This leaves me saved, sanctified, and satisfied in the way of the Lord. I promised the Lord last spring if He would help me with a bunch of White Rock chickens I had bought that I would write my testimony to the "Faith and Victory" paper. The chickens got too hot and choked so bad that I went to the dear Lord in prayer telling Him the condition of the chickens and in just a short time they all seemed to be better. Thank the Lord! From that day on I never had any trouble with them. They turned out to be the finest bunch of chickens I ever raised. Everybody that saw them admired them, and I would tell them I only gave the Lord the praise. I promised the Lord that if He would let me have success with them I would give some of them to the campmeeting, which I did. He just seemed to keep His hand upon them.

Now Bro. Pruitt I am sending in a request for prayer for the healing of my body. I am very afflicted with arthritis. I sent in a request several years ago but I only got temporary relief, so please pray earnestly for me, if it is the Lord's will that I be healed. I do know that the Lord does heal.

Yours in Christ, —Callie B. Owens.

Mo.—Dear Bro. and Sister Pruitt,—Greetings in Jesus' dear name. I felt like it would be to the glory of God for me to write my testimony in the "Faith and Victory" paper. One week ago today, I had six teeth pulled. Four of them on one side got along fine without hurting but very little afterward. But the two on the other side was different. My jaw swelled up real big, and I suffered day and night with it continually. Those two teeth had been draining for several months before I had them pulled, so they were in a very bad condition. To add more to my suffering, I took cold in my gums three days after the teeth were pulled, from being out while the weather was so cold. I had requested prayer of several of the saints, different times, but did not get any definite relief. I could not sleep but very little at night, and suffered until my nerves felt like they could not stand much more.

Last night while I was up at almost mid-night, suffering severely with pain, and was looking to the Lord for help, I picked up the Bible and turned to 1 Cor. 10:13 where it says, "But God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able," etc. Somehow, those words about "God is faithful," began to sink down in my heart and I began to lose myself in meditation. Other Scriptures such as 1 Cor. 1:9 came to me. I felt very secure in relying upon God's power and His love toward us. I just rejoiced to know we have the privilege of trusting in such a loving faithful God. When I came to myself again after those thoughts, I noticed that the pain was all gone in my jaw. Oh, how my heart was filled with praises and thankfulness to God for such relief! I lay down then, and relaxed and slept good until morning. I needed sleep and rest very badly.

Today my jaw has hurt scarcely at all, and the swelling is going down. So I can say that it surely pays to trust the Lord. He can do more for us than anyone else when we put ourselves completely into His hands. The dentist had offered me some tablets to take to ease the pain, but I told him I was trusting he Lord. I was really put to the test, but I found God faithful who said He would not allow us to be tempted above that which we are able. Some people might wonder why I had to suffer so long, but I feel that the Lord had a purpose in it. I learned some precious lessons, my faith was increased, and my consecration deepened. To God be the glory. I know His way is best.

Your saved brother, —Thomas V. McMillian.

o-o-o-o-o

Ark.—Dear saints and workers at the print shop,—Oh, how I do thank the good Lord this morning for His wonderful love and His healing power, and also the many blessings He has for His children. I do thank you dear saints there at the print shop and all the dear saints for your prayers and your encouraging letters. Oh, you will never know what a blessing you have been to me.

The good Lord has wonderfully blessed me both soul and body. Praise His dear name. I cannot ever get over how good the Lord has been in saving and sanctifying my soul, and healing my body. Oh, praise His dear name! I love the dear Lord this morning and I want to be a blessing to all I meet. I want you to continue to pray for me that I will do what my blessed Lord wants me to do in every way. I do want to work for my blessed Lord. Pray for my husband and son that they will give their hearts to the Lord.

Much Christian love, —Mrs. W. M. Thomas.

Okl.—Greetings in Jesus' dear name, to all the saints at the office,—I thank you all for the good letter and tracts. They were real good and I did enjoy hearing from the saints. We don't have any here in our town.

I am still saved and living for the Lord. I want you to pray for me that God will heal me when He sees fit, for I want it to be for His glory.

Pray for my unsaved family that one day they will get saved. There is so much sin all around us on every side that a person has to watch how he lives. It is pretty hard to live where there aren't any saints to encourage you. I get a lot of good out of the "Faith and Victory" paper. Also I enjoyed the tracts you sent me. There are so many people here that are sick, but don't know how to trust the Lord for their healing.

Please pray that one day I will hear from my girl. I haven't heard from her in over three years.

May God bless you all in His service and in the office work and keep you all true to His cause.

Your saved sister in the Lord, —Mrs. Ben Harrison.

Pa.—Dear saints,—Greetings in the dear name of Jesus. Praise His sweet name for ever and ever! I want to tell how God manifested His wonderful power. This coming Saturday two weeks ago I went out behind our garage to singe a chicken. The oil tank was there and a good quantity of oil had leaked out upon the ground right up against the garage. I lit my paper to singe the chicken and it caught the grass on fire, but in slapping it out I let some fire fall over on the oil spot so that it caught fire and also the oil tank pipes under the tank. The side of the garage began to burn, yet it didn't go up in flames. I called for my neighbor but she didn't hear me. I wanted her to call the fire department, as I was too excited. After I got the important papers out of the house I called again and this time she heard me. She also awakened her son, but by the time he got there the fire had died down and he finished putting it out. All this time I was praying. I want to say, the Lord kept that fire from catching the garage on fire and burning our house down, as they are combined. I am very thankful to God for saving everything. It was a miracle. I thank God for Mrs. Plecenile and her son, for they did all they could. Most of all I thank the Lord for what He did. He knows I am thankful from the bottom of my heart.

When this all took place my husband was at work and I was all by myself. Since I am not well in body it upset me some, but God blessed me in that way, too. After it all happened I was able to do the necessary things that afternoon.

May the Lord help us to live close to Him each day, and be what He would have us to be. Pray for us.

Christian love,

—Avis Tinsley.

o-o-o-o-o

Okl.—Dear saints,—Greetings in Jesus' dear name. This finds me encouraged to press on for my Saviour. I felt that I should write this incident to the saints in hopes that it might encourage someone.

About seven years ago when my little sister was six years old she had terrible headaches and complained with her arms and legs hurting her. Mom and Dad had taken her to the doctor time after time and he would doctor her for different things. One night she was feeling so badly that we took her to the doctor. My oldest brother, my baby sister, and I stayed in the car.

When Mom and Dad came back to the car and we started home they told us that Marie had a tumor on her brain and they were to take her to Oklahoma City the next morning. They put her in the Mercy Hospital and Daddy came back home to see his boss about borrowing \$700. Daddy came out to see us at his sister's house. I was already in bed and he came in and told me to pray for my little sister. I cried and cried that night.

The doctors drilled two holes in Marie's skull in order to float her brain around so they could see and tell more about it. They found the tumor in such a place that they couldn't operate on her, so they sewed her back up. The doctors had done all they could. Now it was time for the Lord to show His power.

We went up to see her one day and Daddy came out to the car and told us that as he walked out of her room he had looked back and had seen the Lord put His hand on her. She began to get better and after 20 days and nights in the hospital she came home for a while. Then she went to take treatments over at the Crippled Children's Hospital. After she came home from there she never had any trouble with this condition.

I was only 12 years old at that time and it didn't mean as much to me as it does now. I know now that it was the Lord that touched her and healed her and not the

doctors. I thank God today that we have Someone that we can go to in sickness or any other situation and know that He can fill our every need. I love the Lord today with all my heart and am determined to live for Him forever. Pray for me that I will go through this life and be what the Lord would have me to be. (I have only been with the saints since June. I certainly thank the Lord for bringing me out into God's true way.)

Your sister in the Lord, —Daisy Lilley.

o—o—o—o—o—o

Calif.—Greetings of love in Jesus' name, to the workers in the Lord's print shop and to all the readers of the "Faith and Victory" paper,—“Mercy unto you, and peace, and love, be multiplied.” Jude 2.

The song goes, “Count your many blessings, name them one by one.” Mine are too many to count, praise the Lord! He cares for me in many ways; He provides for me; He sends His guardian angel to watch over me while I sleep, even when I forget and leave the key in the lock outside. He is a great God.

I had bursitis in my right shoulder and arm. The Lord permitted me to suffer severely at times, for about three days, then He healed me. Praise His name! “’Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus, just to take Him at His Word; Just to rest upon His promise; just to know, ‘Thus saith the Lord.’” That song is more precious to me since I have learned to trust Him for soul and body.

I thank Him for saving my soul and sanctifying my nature. Salvation is more precious than silver or gold, diamonds, or houses or lands. I mean to make heaven my eternal home by His help. I want to live closer to Him, keep His commandments, and do the things that please Him. I am thankful for the truth and for the ministers who declare the whole truth. I am thankful for Bro. and Sister Wilson who watch over the flock here in Pacoima and bring us such heart searching messages. May we, the household of God, keep faithful to the end.

Your sister in Christ, —Dott Henry.

o—o—o—o—o—o

Calif.—Dear saints,—Greetings in the Lord. Our dear Lord gives us many blessings but He needs workers in His vineyard. Let us help all we can, for our Lord never fails us. He is by our side night and day. I can feel Him sometimes right at my side. One day I went in the back yard. I found some neighbors finding fault with one another. I walked away and the Lord told me that what my neighbors needed was salvation. I got up early the next morning to visit some of my neighbors. I started to call on a lady who has diabetes. On the way the Lord had me stop to see a lady who can't get out of the wheel chair. She has arthritis. I talked of the Lord and as I started to leave, she told me she could not sleep the night before because of pain. I then prayed for her. I found out she had one of the best night's rest that night. Praise God! As I left her home I went to the lady with diabetes. I talked to her about the Lord. She had tears in her eyes and said she had had a terrible night. Before I left, I prayed for her. I saw her a few days later. She said she had had one of the best night's rest that night.

I now go visit the sick here and there. I find I can help my dear Lord who is so good to help me at all times. I started out to give tracts to people on my way to meeting Sundays. As I handed out tracts I said to myself, “I wonder if any will read them.” A lady back of me said, “Have you any more tracts? I want to give them to my people.” I gave her one of the two I had left. Another day I took out tracts. Some turned me down. I said to myself, “If only one soul got help and saved by those tracts it would make me happy.” Then I sat down on

a bench to wait for my bus home. A man was sitting beside me. I talked of the Lord and gave him a tract. He talked until his bus came. He waved his hand and said he surely would read my tract.

I want to help all I can. Please pray for me. Also pray that my son will get saved. He is all I have left of my family.

Your sister in Christ, —Bertha Lindberg.

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Mich.—Dear Bro. Pruitt and ones in Christ,—I am now staying in South Haven, Michigan with my daughter. My place is still in Chicago, however. I am a widow and have been since about '47. Oh, how I thank the Lord for being saved and knowing the real truth. I have tried so hard to find some of the real saints. Oh, if I could only find one! I came out of sectism years ago, so I don't get anything going around them. Please remember me in all your prayers.

—Sister Delia Jenkins.

o—o—o—o—o—o

Mo.—Greetings of love to all the dear ones that read the little paper.—I am so thankful that today I am still saved, sanctified, and satisfied in Jesus. He means so much to me. The dear Lord has helped and blessed me many times by encouraging my heart and healing my body. By faith I am claiming victory over the affliction that came upon my body about the time of Myrtle campmeeting. I got much help while there, but it was two months before I felt able to go back to all-day meeting. When I did get to go, the Lord surely encouraged my heart. All the saints told me they had been praying for me and oh, how that did help! Surely I thank each one for his prayers and I thank the Lord for helping me so much. I've been able to go to Myrtle each first Sunday ever since, for which I do thank and praise the dear Lord. I still need the saints' prayers that my faith fail not for I still have battles to fight.

Just last night I awakened about one a.m. when a bad feeling came over my body. I began to pray and resist it in Jesus' name. Then the dear Lord gave me this part of a song, “Yes, yes, yes, it fills my heart with glory to tell the hungry, thirsting soul of the redemption story.” The dear Lord came and suffered and died on the cross to save poor lost souls, sanctify their natures, and heal bodies. Oh, if every one who claims to be saved would believe the Lord and live to please Him by faith these large hospitals wouldn't be so over crowded. Some think if we believe in healing we should go to these hospitals and heal all the sick and afflicted, but Jesus wants them to come to Him. I can't find where he went to any, only when He was asked to go. Most all came to Him or was brought by others. Real faith is lacking today more than it was back there. But we know the Bible says, “without faith it is impossible to please Him.” Heb. 11:6. I am so happy to know there are a few who are living to please the Lord. Now I pray that what I have said will be a help to someone. I have had to resist the devil to write these few lines.

I feel it would please the Lord for me to tell about how the Lord has healed our dear Sister Wilkins. She is one of our neighbors. She isn't able to go much so does not get to be in meeting. About three weeks ago her granddaughter, six years old, was on the bed with her and stepped on her leg just above the ankle and it made a bad bruise. Sister Wilkins asked her children to call us to come, but they told her I wasn't well; so they called the doctor. He said that it was a bad bruise and would probably have to rot out. Then my daughter, Sister Cassie Irvin, and I went to see her on Sunday after she was hurt on Wednesday, and she told us what the doctor

had said. Cassie and I said we would just pray and trust the Lord that it wouldn't rot out. So we had prayer for her and then came home. The next Sunday we went back to see her. She was so happy that she just clapped her hands together and began telling us that right after we left she felt so much better that she told her children they could laugh if they wanted to, but her leg was better. She said on Monday after we prayed for her on Sunday the doctor came back and said, "Why, that was a miracle." He said that he didn't think now that place would rot out. We can hardly tell now that the leg was ever hurt. We went back to see her last night and she was happy in the Lord. We do praise our God.

I desire your prayers.

In Christian love,

—Katie Marler.

o-o-o-o-o-o-o

Colo.—Dear ones,—I am praising God for salvation and a decision to go all the way with Him who is my companion constantly, and a present help in every time of need. I attended several days of the last Monark Springs campmeeting, going from there to Kansas City. There, while walking to the depot, stepping down a step which was farther than I thought, I almost fell and hurt my knee which was already crippled by arthritis, but God helped me and I reached Sheridan, Mo. where two of my old school mates met the train. We went ten miles by automobile to my friends' homes. At these places we had heavy rains and having to walk much on soaked ground and often through wet grass, it was only through God's help that I was able to continue going.

I received delayed word that my brother in Dallas was again very sick, but when I reached him he was back at the nursing home but still weak, and not well. He seemed nearer the Lord and asked me to pray. He says he reads his Bible and prays. He needs our prayers.

Arriving home I was very tired and haven't been too well. For some time before Thanksgiving I suffered with arthritis in my right shoulder and neck. A few years ago I went to have this shoulder adjusted because of dislocation and the chiropractor said unless I took a course of treatments I would lose the use of my right arm. I did not take the treatments, and in about three years I did almost lose the use of it, but I applied an anointed handkerchief, being alone, and instantly God healed it. Shortly before Thanksgiving I wrote to Faith Publishing House for prayer and God took all the pain away at once. Praise God! He still heals His trusting children.

My sister has been suffering with stomach trouble for several months and has lost much weight. She knows the true way and is a good woman, but she needs to accept Christ and confess Him as her Saviour. Please remember us in your prayers. —Eunice Coral Johnson.

o-o-o-o-o-o-o

Ohio—To all of God's dear children,—Greetings of love in Jesus' dear name, the sweetest name in heaven and earth. I thought it would be pleasing to the Lord and encouraging to the saints to testify about our son who broke his arm at the Monark Springs campground during the campmeeting of 1958. I guess some have wondered about him and how he got along. Well, I want to report that God healed Billy's arm and it seems to be as good as ever. We had a trial over it after leaving the campmeeting, as Billy started running fever and when we got home and looked at his arm, it looked bad and like it was out of place. We kept our trust and faith in God and He completely healed the arm. Surely we are serving a mighty God! After we got home we had Billy anointed and prayed for and God did just what He promised in James 5:14, 15, praise His dear name.

The Lord has surely been good to us since we gave our hearts and lives to Him, and by His grace and the strength He gives I mean to go all the way. The Lord just healed me of a throat condition and last year He healed me of two serious afflictions. Our baby daughter was healed when having a bad spasm and hasn't had any more. I could tell more but will save space for others. I love the Lord and desire to always work and stay in the center of His will. We covet your prayers.

Much Christian love, —Bro. Earl Sharp and family.

o-o-o-o-o-o-o

Calif.—Dear Bro. and Sister Pruitt,—I believe in the truth and I want to do everything for Jesus that I know and understand. I thank God for sending you a wonderful message to the people of America. It is truth. How wonderful and precious and lovely are the sermons and testimonies. I have enjoyed them all. I read every paper and "Beautiful Way" and pass them on to others so they can read them. I am doing what I can to help others to receive the truth. That way I can do some missionary work, for I am really missionary minded.

I ask that you pray for me, my husband, and family, that we will be lifted up and not be so pressed down and that God will give me the desire of my heart—that is to be just what Jesus wants me to be. I have surrendered my all long ago. I am saved and sanctified and my all is on the altar. Jesus anointed me and wanted me to tell others the simple story of Jesus. I started ten years ago. I was so burdened and pressed down that I was willing to die and go to be with Jesus. Then I had a vision of heaven and talked with my Father. I really saw heaven. It had a hallowed glow. I have prayed and fasted about these burdens. I am also burdened for souls and want to see them saved.

A sister that loves the church of God that Jesus died for,  
—Mrs. Opal A. Williams.

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January 4, 1959

### JESUS REQUIRES AND INSPIRES FAITH

Printed Portion ..... Mark 9:14-29

14 And when he came to his disciples, he saw a great multitude about them, and the scribes questioning with them.

15. And straightway all the people, when they beheld him, were greatly amazed, and running to him saluted him.

16. And he asked the scribes, What question ye with them?

17. And one of the multitude answered and said, Master, I have brought unto thee my son, which hath a dumb spirit;

18. And wheresoever he taketh him, he teareth him: and he foameth, and gnasheth with his teeth, and pineth away: and I spake to thy disciples that they should cast him out; and they could not.

19. He answereth him, and saith, O faithless generation, how long shall I be with you? how long shall I suffer you? bring him unto me.

20. And they brought him unto him: and when he saw him, straightway the spirit tare him; and he fell on the ground, and wallowed foaming.

21. And he asked his father, How long is it ago since this came unto him? And he said, Of a child.

22. And oftentimes it hath cast him into the fire, and into the waters, to destroy him: but if thou canst do any thing, have compassion on us, and help us.

23. Jesus said unto him, If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth.

24. And straightway the father of the child cried out, and said with tears, Lord, I believe; help thou mine unbelief.

25. When Jesus saw that the people came running together, he rebuked the foul spirit, saying unto him, Thou dumb and deaf spirit, I charge thee, come out of him, and enter no more into him.

26. And the spirit cried, and rent him sore, and came out of him: and he was as one dead; insomuch that many said, He is dead.

27. But Jesus took him by the hand, and lifted him up; and he arose.

28. And when he was come into the house, his disciples asked him privately, Why could not we cast him out?

29. And he said unto them, This kind can come forth by nothing, but by prayer and fasting.

Memory Verse: All things are possible to him that believeth. Mark 9:23.

Practical Truth: Unusual results may be expected when faith in God is strong.

### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

When Jesus and three of His disciples came down from the mountain where He was transfigured and had talked with Moses and Elias, they were faced with a situation which had baffled the other disciples. This indeed seemed to the nine to be a hopeless case. But no situation is too great for Jesus to take care of. Jesus is the one we must have on hand when any need arises. Paul affirmed this when he said, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." Phil. 4:13. The lack of Jesus' presence and power caused the disciples to stand helpless in the face of evil forces that had possession of this boy.

Jesus saw a lack of faith in the disciples and also the father. Notice the father said, "If thou canst." Jesus said, "If thou canst believe." Too often we expect others

to exercise all the faith for us, do all the fasting, and get under the burden, but Jesus let this father know that "All things are possible to him that believeth." How often through the ministry of Jesus we hear him say, "Thy faith hath made thee whole." "As they went they were made clean." "He went his way, . . . washed, and came seeing." "According to your faith be it unto you."

Notice that Jesus said that some cases need fasting and prayer before help is received.

January 11, 1959

### JESUS DEMANDS COMPLETE COMMITMENT

Printed Portion ..... Mark 10:17-27

17. And when he was gone forth into the way, there came one running, and kneeled to him, and asked him, Good Master, what shall I do that I may inherit eternal life?

18. And Jesus said unto him, Why callest thou me good? there is none good but one, that is, God.

19. Thou knowest the commandments, Do not commit adultery, Do not kill, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Defraud not, Honour thy father and mother.

20. And he answered and said unto him, Master, all these have I observed from my youth.

21. Then Jesus beholding him loved him, and said unto him, One thing thou lackest: go thy way, sell whatsoever thou hast and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come, take up the cross, and follow me.

22. And he was sad at that saying, and went away grieved: for he had great possessions.

23. And Jesus looked round about, and saith unto his disciples, How hardly shall they that have riches enter into the kingdom of God!

24. And the disciples were astonished at his words. But Jesus answereth again, and saith unto them, Children, how hard is it for them that trust in riches to enter into the kingdom of God!

25. It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God.

26. And they were astonished out of measure, saying among themselves, Who then can be saved?

27. And Jesus looking upon them saith, With men it is impossible, but not with God: for with God all things are possible.

Memory Verse: The things which are impossible with men are possible with God. Luke 18:27.

Practical Truth: Being a real Christian involves giving ourselves unreservedly to Christ and following Him.

### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

We do appreciate how this man showed his earnestness and great desire to inherit eternal life in hurrying to Jesus and kneeling before Him, thus recognizing Him to be the One who could help him. We love to see people come to Jesus, but it is sad when we read how this man was not willing to do all that Jesus asked of Him. How true it is today with people who start out for God with great zeal but then soon they begin to cool off. What is the matter? God has required of them something they are not willing to measure to. One brother, the other night, said he lost out with the Lord because he wasn't willing to pray in public. Oh, God is calling for all. He is wanting us to love Him with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength.

It seemed this man was a good, moral man. Jesus loved the good He saw in him. It pleases God for people to use the will power God has given them to refrain from doing evil, but that will not save. Jesus says, "Ye must be born



again." He told this young man to "sell, give, come, take up the cross, and follow me." This was the cost that was too great for him to pay. Great joy was just in reach of him but self got in the way. Eternal life was his, only for the doing. "If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land." Isa. 1:19. God has good things in store for all who will surrender all to Him. Notice how Jesus said not to trust in riches.

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January 18, 1959

### JESUS EMPHASIZES THE COST OF GREATNESS

Printed Portion .....Mark 10:35-45

35. And James and John, the sons of Zebedee, come unto him, saying, Master, we would that thou shouldest do for us whatsoever we shall desire.

36. And he said unto them, What would ye that I should do for you?

37. They said unto him, Grant unto us that we may sit, one on thy right hand, and the other on thy left hand, in thy glory.

38. But Jesus said unto them, Ye know not what ye ask: can ye drink of the cup that I drink of? and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?

39. And they said unto him, We can. And Jesus said unto them, Ye shall indeed drink of the cup that I drink of; and with the baptism that I am baptized withal shall ye be baptized:

40. But to sit on my right hand and on my left hand is not mine to give; but it shall be given to them for whom it is prepared.

41. And when the ten heard it, they began to be much displeased with James and John.

42. But Jesus called them to him, and saith unto them, Ye know that they which are accounted to rule over the Gentiles exercise lordship over them; and their great ones exercise authority upon them.

43. But so shall it not be among you: but whosoever will be great among you, shall be your minister:

44. And whosoever of you will be the chiefest, shall be servant of all.

45. For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.

Memory Verse: Whosoever of you will be the chiefest, shall be servant of all. Mark 10:44.

Practical Truth: The kind of greatness which is real in God's sight is within our reach.

### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

God does not measure greatness like the people of the world, or even as we might. Some may think the greatest person is the one who is always a leader in doing things or who is always up before the people. Jesus says, "the chiefest shall be the servant of all." Those who are busy doing the little things, speaking words of cheer and comfort here and there, working in the unseen places or doing what others will not do, are often blessed in a greater measure in their souls than those who seem to be on the surface doing a lot for God. In a building, the unseen parts are what support the seen. Many a prayer warrior, is the cause of great things being accomplished for God. It may be that no one knows how much they pray. How happy it makes me feel when someone tells me they are praying for me. Without prayer nothing can be accomplished for God. It is only when God works through us that any good will be done. If we do in our own wisdom or strength, nothing will be accomplished. We need to

care for others more than ourself. We must be dependable, follow the leadership of the Spirit, be loyal, and be humble.

The poet said, "He drank the whole cup while we took but one sup." Jesus suffered but we, too, must be willing to suffer with Him. We are "Joint-heirs with Christ, IF SO BE that we SUFFER with him." Rom. 8:17. James drank of the cup. He was killed with the sword. John was cast on the Isle of Patmos. Are we willing to "drink of the cup?"

January 25, 1959

### JESUS REVEALS HIS AUTHORITY

Printed Portion .....Matt. 21:12-13, 23-27

12. And Jesus went into the temple of God, and cast out all them that sold and bought in the temple, and overthrew the tables of the moneychangers, and the seats of them that sold doves,

13. And said unto them, It is written, My house shall be called the house of prayer; but ye have made it a den of thieves.

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

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

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

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

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

Memory Verse: He taught them as one having authority. Matt. 7:29.

Practical Truth: Christ's divine right to command us should result in careful obedience on our part.

### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

The people were astonished at the authority of Jesus. No doubt many of those in authority desired to see the traffickers driven out of the temple but lacked the influence and grace. Jerome, an early church father, said that of all the signs of Jesus' career, to him this was the most wonderful—that singlehanded and in spite of the opposition of the authorities, Jesus could have driven out so large a crowd of traffickers, which feat scarcely a whole troop of soldiers could have accomplished. This act displeased the chief priests because of jealousy and their pride being injured at someone else doing something they could not do themselves. Do we, today, rejoice when we see God using others? Then are we better than the chief priests and elders? God help us.

Jesus did not answer the question concerning His authority. But we know his authority over man and all things is well-founded. He is the Son of God, and as such, all things have been put under His feet (Eph. 1:22). He is the Creator. "Without him was not anything made that was made." John 1:3. Jesus is all-powerful. "All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth." Matt. 28:18. God has authority over us but we being created as free-moral agents, have the same choice as the men in our lesson. We can submit to it or reject it.

—Sister Marie Miles