

# FAITH<sup>AND</sup>VICTORY

## Church of God Servant



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### *My Very Best Friend*

I have a Friend whose faithful love  
Is more than all the world to me.  
'Tis higher than the heights above  
And deeper than the boundless sea—  
So old, so new, so strong, so true;  
Before the earth received its frame,  
He loved me! Blessed be His name!

He held the highest place above,  
Adored by all the sons of fame;  
Yet with such self-denying love  
He laid aside his crown and came  
To seek the lost at any cost  
Of heavenly rank or earthly fame—  
He loved me! Blessed be His name!

It was a lonely path He trod  
From every human soul apart;  
Known only to Himself and God  
Was all the grief that filled His heart.  
Yet from the track He turned not back,  
'Till where I lay in want and shame—  
He loved me! Blessed be His name!

Then came at last the day of dread  
When desolate, yet undismayed,  
With wearied frame and thorn-crowned  
head,  
He now forsaken and betrayed,  
Went up for me to Calvary,  
And dying there in grief and shame—  
He saved me! Blessed be His name!

Long as I live my song shall tell  
The wonders of His matchless love,  
And when at last I rise to dwell  
In that bright home prepared above,  
My joy shall be His face to see,  
And bowing there with loud acclaim—  
I'll praise Him! Blessed be His name!

—Selected by George Stephenson

### *Christ Is Now on David's Throne*

The term *throne* is a symbol of sovereign power and authority. Therefore, as David was exalted to this place of authority in literal Israel, so the Lord Jesus Christ, who is the seed of David, was to be raised up and exalted to a position of sovereign power in spiritual Israel—a King to rule in righteousness. Let the scriptures show the *nature* and *time* of the reign of Christ on David's throne as foretold by the prophets.

It was always God's highest will that God himself should be king over Israel (1 Sam. 8:5-9), and when at last the earthly kings of Israel failed from their thrones in Jerusalem, God himself restored the kingdom in its spiritual sense by placing it in the hands of the Lord Jesus Christ, David's greatest son. Therefore, throughout the whole Bible the throne of David is not a symbol of Jewish, carnal rule, but the symbol of the rule of Christ in his saving and sanctifying power. On the day of Pentecost, in the very highest tide of the Holy Spirit's power, Peter then preached: "Men and brethren, let me freely speak unto you of the patriarch David. . . . Being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him, that of the fruit of his loins, according to the flesh, he would raise up Christ to sit on his [David's] throne; he seeing this before *spake of the resurrection of Christ*. . . . This Jesus hath God raised up, whereof we all are witnesses. Therefore being by the right hand of God exalted, and having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost, he hath shed forth this. . . . Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both *Lord and Christ*." (Acts 2:29-36).

The meaning is clear that the promise of a son of David *to sit on David's throne* referred to the *resurrection of Christ*; his exaltation to heaven to sit on the right hand of God was the final, complete fulfillment of the prophecy. The shedding forth of the Holy Spirit upon believers is a manifest proof that Christ *was reigning on David's throne* in Pentecostal times and will so continue to the end of all time. The Apostle concludes that all the Jews should now

understand that the crucified Christ has been made both Lord and Christ, that is, Messiah and King. The first act of Christ as King on the throne of David, which means the throne of God in heaven, was to send forth the baptism of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost.

In Isa. 9:5-7 we read: "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder. . . . Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, *upon the throne of David*, and upon his kingdom, to order it and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even forever." This is a prophecy of the incarnation of Christ, the characteristics and infinite majesty of His kingdom. But when should this be fulfilled? It was when a "child" was "born" unto us, when a "son" was "given." It is obvious that the reign of Christ on the throne of David began in the days of his incarnation, and this is confirmed by the angel's announcement to Mary, as recorded in Luke 1:31-33, "Fear not, Mary, for thou hast found favor with God, and, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name Jesus. He shall be great and shall be called the Son of the Highest: for the Lord God shall give unto him the *throne of his father David*; and he shall reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there shall be no end." The birth of Christ, his name, his throne and extent of his reign are all connected and must be in the same dispensation, that is, the present gospel day. His government and kingdom shall be eternal. Revolutions and aggressions destroy the kingdoms of the earth, but the powers of hell and death shall never be able to destroy the kingdom of Christ—the only dominion that shall never have an end.

Christ was "born King of the Jews." (Matt. 2:2) Notice Nathaniel's greeting to Christ: "Thou art the Son of God; *thou art the King of Israel*." (Jno 1:49) At the time of Christ's triumphant entry into Jerusalem, the whole multitude of disciples cried out, "Hosanna! Blessed be the *King of Israel* that cometh in the name of the Lord." "Pilate asked Jesus, art thou the King of the Jews?" (Matt. 27:11). In reply, Jesus said, "Thou sayest that I am a King. To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world." (John 18:37). He delivered the laws of his spiritual kingdom, and his authority was supreme. The people were compelled to say, "Never man spake like this man." But in a more comprehensive sense are these prophecies fulfilled since Christ ascended into heaven and sent forth the Holy Spirit as his personal representative on earth to execute his law and point out the way of full salvation.

David said that Christ would be put to death, and he foresaw that if Christ were not resurrected, he could not sit upon his throne forever. Since he was sitting upon the throne of David during his incarnation, he must be resurrected in order to continue upon the throne. The prophet "seeing this before, spake of the resurrection of Christ, that his soul was not left in hell [world of departed spirits], neither did his flesh see corruption." Had his flesh seen

corruption, then the prophecy that Christ was to sit upon David's throne henceforth, even forever, would have been nullified; but as his body did not see corruption, he continued to reign upon the throne of David.

"But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, *sat down on the right hand of God*; from henceforth expecting till his enemies be made his footstool." (Heb. 10:12-13). Here the writer of the book of Hebrews clearly teaches that Christ is *now on the throne of God* beside the eternal Father, where he will reign till all his work of saving men is finished. "Then cometh the end, when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when he shall have put down all rule and all authority and power. *For he must reign till he hath put all enemies under his feet*. The last enemy that *shall be destroyed is death*." (1 Cor. 15:24-26). This positively indicates that Christ's reign is now in force and will continue till death itself is destroyed. At the second coming of Christ the saints will be resurrected victorious over death, the last enemy which Christ will conquer. Time and all things material will end, and that phase of the kingdom relative to human history will be completed. Then another phase of the kingdom will begin in which Christ and his subjects will reign with the Father in the eternal kingdom of God forever. —Lawrence Pruitt

## LOOK TO YOURSELVES!

"Look to yourselves, that we lose not those things which we have wrought, but that we receive a full reward." 2 John 8.

Dear ones, our heart is heavily burdened with some truths we feel the Lord would have us write, trusting this may prove a blessing and a help to some precious soul. As we find some here and there who are departing from the truth, our heart is burdened and made sad. The Lord brought the above scripture so forcibly to my heart and mind last night. As it continued to stay with me, I felt the Lord leading me to write as the Spirit leads. May God help us each one to feel the seriousness of this scripture.

First, we want to get the definition of some of the words to help us to realize the depths of this scripture. LOOK—behold, beware, regard, take heed. LOSE—to cease to have, fail to win, suffer loss. WROUGHT—produced. RECEIVE—take something offered, or accept. FULL—filled to utmost capacity, abundant. REWARD—something given or received in recompense for service, or merit. Now let us write the scripture this way: "Take heed to yourselves, that we lose not those things which we have produced, but that we accept an abundant reward."

Now we all know that we as saints, who have come to the fullness of salvation and sanctification, have gone through many tests and given up things dear to have been able to wrought (or produce) the victorious spiritual life we now have. So now the thought is that we must take heed or look to ourselves that we lose not those things.

In Matt. 26:41 we read: "Watch and pray that ye enter not into temptation; the spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak." Jesus told the disciples there to watch and pray, and He meant it for us today. I am made to believe too many are watching for others more than themselves. Dear ones, if we are alert and looking to ourselves, we will not be finding fault with others—we will have no time for it. The enemy uses these tools often in getting souls to depart from the truth. If he can get one to lose out on humility, then he can work in pride (not always in dress, etc.) But he has succeeded in getting some to become proud when they have advanced and learned some things about God's Word, thinking they know a lot, and then become unwilling to listen or be taught. When they get into this condition, they begin to find fault with others. This is a very dangerous state to be in. In 1 Cor. 10:12 we read, "Wherefore, let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall." Also in Isa. 29:20 it says, "That the scorner is consumed and all that *watch for iniquity are cut off*." This doesn't say will be, but *are cut off*. This should awaken us to *look to ourselves*.

In 1 Tim. 5:22 we read: "Lay hands suddenly on no man, neither be partakers of other men's sins. Keep thyself pure." When one looks for iniquity and lays his hand on people with fault finding, he cannot have the peace of God within. Heb. 12:14-15, "Follow peace with all men and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord: looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God, lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled."

We want to say here that we do know that those who have failed of the grace of God have to be dealt with, but it should be done in the spirit of meekness by spiritual members. Gal. 6:1. So let us take heed.

In Deut. 4:9 we read: "Only take heed to thyself and keep thy soul diligently, lest thou forget the things which thine eyes have seen, and lest they depart from thy heart *all the days of thy life*." It would be a terrible tragedy to awaken to the fact that we had lost all that we had wrought or produced. Prov. 4:23, "Keep thy heart with all diligence, for out of it are the issues of life." Jude 21, "Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life." If we keep ourselves in the love of God, then at the end we can have a crown of eternal life, which is the reward, and surely we want a full reward! So let us look to ourselves (watch what we say and do), that we lose not those things which we have wrought, but that we receive a full reward.

In 2 Peter 3:12-14 the apostle exhorts us: "Looking for and hastening unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat. Nevertheless we according to his promise, look for new heavens and new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness. Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in *peace, without spot and blameless*."

—Sister Natalie Allen

#### Ministers' Sentence Sense at Guthrie Assembly Meeting

Bro. Stover—"The greatest need of the Church today is that of consecrated and qualified workers."

Bro. Herbert Probst—"Young people, prayer and faith in God is the key to victory."

Bro. U. Phillips—"God wants to be seated and enthroned right in our hearts."

Sister Ruth Murphey—"I can say with the Apostle, 'I have fought a good fight'; it hasn't been easy but it is surely worthwhile."

Bro. Fred Pruitt—"The Babel religious structures built by men are not high enough to reach to heaven."

Bro. John Wilson—"I want to live so that when I leave this world you will know where I went."

Bro. Ray Key—"Prayer is the long range weapon of the saints, and is more powerful than the atomic bomb."

Bro. Crawley—"If you cannot keep from sinning you cannot keep from going to the bad place."

Sister Lottie Joiner—"There are many false spirits in the world—spirit of hate, spirit of hardness, spirit of unfor-giveness, spirit of unbelief and spirit of pride."

Bro. Dollins—"It's the little things that cause one's pray-ers to be hindered."

Bro. C. Carver—"Keep thyself pure—I have had to ask forgiveness to keep a clear conscience."

Bro. Darius Gibson—"I enjoy living in this city of New Jerusalem. Let's be natural—let our bodies be like God made them; not fixing them up and following the styles and fashions of the world."

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### THE REFINER'S FIRE

He sat by a fire of seven fold heat,  
As he watched by the precious ore,  
And closer He bent with a searching gaze,  
As he heated it more and more.

He knew He had ore that could stand the test,  
And He wanted the finest gold  
To mold as a crown for the King to wear,  
Set with gems with a price untold.

So he laid our gold on the burning fire,  
Though we fain would have said him, "Nay."  
And he watched the dross that we had not seen,  
And it melted and passed away.

And the gold grew bright and yet more bright,  
But our eyes were so dim with tears,  
We saw but the fire, not the Master's hand,  
And questioned with anxious fears.

Yet our gold shone out with a brighter glow,  
As it mirrored a form above,  
That bent over the fire, though unseen by us,  
With a look of ineffable love.

Can we think that it pleased his loving heart  
To cause us a moment's pain?  
Ah, no! But he saw through the present cross  
The bliss of eternal gain.

So he waited there with a watchful eye,  
With a love that is strong and sure,  
And his gold did not suffer a whit more heat,  
Than was needed to make it pure.

—Selected by Lillian Meek

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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.

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**EDITORIALS**

We are now traveling along in the new year of 1959, and the Lord is continuing his favors and blessings upon us and the work he has called us to do. We do not know what all He has in store for us during the rest of this year, but we do know that His eyes are guiding us and His angels encamp around about us to protect and deliver. It is enough for me to know that I and all that I am belongs to the Creator of the world, and we know that He will deal righteously and will safely keep that which we have committed to Him against that day. Bless His holy name!

In the beginning of this new year the Lord is enriching our souls with spiritual favors and anointing quite freely for the preaching of His word. Last Sunday, Jan. 11th, the second Sunday in the month was our all-day meeting at Bristow, Okla. Quite a number attended the meetings, and five or six came to the altar for healing of their bodies. Some testified to instant healing. All the saints got happy and sounded out the high praises of our God while others testified of God healing them. One man, who was the head of a family, came to the altar to get saved, but seemed to be tied and bound insomuch that he could not pray, confess and ask forgiveness. After much prayer was offered for him, the devil and his binding influence was rebuked, and he was able to confess his sins and ask forgiveness. Another time of shouting and rejoicing took place. It seemed that the Assembly meeting was still in progress over there.

Our first and greatest burden is for the printing work. Sending out the gospel by the printed page is such an effective way to reach souls with the truth, and many souls are getting saved by the reading of the books, papers and tracts. We surely mean by His grace and help to keep the little 'silent preachers' going out to all the world.

We are told in the Bible that the way of the transgressor is hard, and his final ending will be in hell where the worm dieth not and the fire is never quenched. Oh, the wailing and gnashing of teeth which will come upon the professors who know not God! The Christ rejecters will also have their part in the lake of fire and brimstone. Just think of the multitudes who are traveling down the broad way to destruction. The horror of it all is heart-sickening.

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The good Assembly meeting at Guthrie during the Christmas holidays has come and gone. The Lord certainly did cause his face to shine upon the services throughout the entire meeting which began on Friday, Dec. 26, with a good attendance and several out-of-town ministers present. Soon the attendance increased until the building was filled to its seating capacity. There was no human pulpit committee, but the Holy Ghost had charge and freely placed in the pulpit the minister who had a message from heaven on his heart. In this way, the absence of stale, cut-and-dried sermons was noted. The Holy Spirit-given messages had a good effect upon souls, insomuch that in the first Sunday morning service conviction was deep and

heavy upon souls. When the altar call was given, a breaking up and breaking through took place. The altar bench was soon filled with seekers, and more altar space was supplied and filled up. The burden of the message was for a deeper concern and a greater consecration of the saints to the great work of God. The presence of the Lord was there to save, sanctify and satisfy the longing of every heart. The glory of heaven filled the room and praises and thanksgiving were heard on every hand. The meeting continued good with a few getting saved each day. On Tuesday night there was another wave of deep conviction over the congregation, and many came weeping and falling down at the altar until extra space was needed and provided. Still they kept coming. The saints were truly raised up and made to sit together in a heavenly place.

The snow fell on the ground to the depth of five inches and the temperature went down below zero, yet the meeting went right on aglow with the burning Spirit of God with more souls getting saved. On the last Sunday night service of the meeting ten were at the altar seeking help from the Lord. This wonderful Assembly meeting will long be remembered by those who attended, while others will date their heavenly birth from the time of this meeting. We bow our heads in reverence and thanks to Him who gave it. All glory and honor be to His name!

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The book entitled, "How I Got Faith," written by Willis M. Brown, has had a wide circulation and calls for this book have come in until our supply is exhausted. We are now setting the type to reprint this book. The printing of the book will be delayed because we had to get out this February issue of the paper. It will perhaps be the middle of February before the book will be ready to mail out. The price is 50 cents each, or three for \$1.00.

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The fact that God is willing and ready to save every soul is true beyond all question, for He states plainly in His Word, "Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else." Isa. 45:22. In 2 Pet. 3:9 we are taught that God is "not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." In Hebrews 7:25 we read: "Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him [Christ], seeing that he ever liveth to make intercession for them." These scriptures and many others should leave no one in doubt about God's willingness to save his soul, and that He is abundantly able to save him. A man cannot save his own soul, but he can humble down in godly sorrow for doing wrong in the sight of God, and with confession and repentance get his soul in a condition where God can and will save him. God has made every provision for the salvation of every soul that wills to be saved. Jesus did no sin, and was not stained with sin in any degree whatsoever. When he shed his precious blood on Calvary's cross, it was innocent and blameless. When a sinner man or woman becomes sorry in his heart that he has

been doing wrong in the sight of God, and he confesses his sins and repents of all wrong doing and ceases to do evil and accepts the blood of Christ as an atonement for all his sins committed, God will blot them all out and His peace will fill his soul and God's spirit will witness to his spirit that he is His child, being born from above. This is a glorious experience offered to every soul.

That men in sin must repent and quit the sin business is also taught plainly in God's word. Just saying from the head, "I believe on Christ," will not do the work that is needed in your heart. You must confess and repent of your sins, for all have sinned and come short of the glory of God. John the Baptist taught repentance, and told the Jews to bring forth fruits worthy of repentance. He saw the need of their repentance getting deeper than just from the head. He wanted to see the fruits of repentance—which is godly sorrow and the ceasing to do evil. In Isaiah 1:16 we read: "Wash you, make you clean; put away the evil of your doings from before mine eyes; cease to do evil." When Jesus began to preach the gospel he said, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel." In Acts 17:30 we read what Paul says, "The times of this ignorance [before Christ came] God winked at; but now commandeth all men everywhere to repent." Why should they repent since Christ has come? Because He set us an example of living a sinless life and tells us to follow him. Man could not live free from sin in their own strength, but since Christ has come and brought grace and truth to us, he gives us power to live as He did—free from all condemnation. Peter tells us in Acts 4:12, "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men whereby we must be saved."

Jesus says in John 10:9, "I am the door: by me if any man enter in he shall be saved, and shall go in and out and find pasture." In the first verse of this chapter he says, "He that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber." Satan has many religious ways in the world that are not of God, and has a multitude climbing up, so they think, to heaven, but the Lord looks upon them as thieves and robbers. Those who teach a "sin-you-must" religion, or a "can't-help-but-sin" religion, are Satan's preachers and are thieves and robbers in the sight of God. They are spiritual thieves causing millions of souls to be lost with a profession. Satan would rather you would make a profession of religion than otherwise, because when in this state he enables you to ward off conviction of the Spirit of God and console yourself with the thought that you have joined the church, that your preachers are educated, and they know about matters in religion. Listen, my dear friend, to what the scriptures say. Turn to the first chapter of First Cor. and begin reading at the 17th verse. We learn by reading on in this chapter that Paul did not preach the gospel with the wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of none effect. He said the preaching of the cross is

to them that perish, foolishness; but unto us who are saved, it is the power of God. He says further that God has made foolish the wisdom of this world, and the world by wisdom knew not God, but it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe. In the 26th verse he says, "For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called. But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty; and base things of the world, and things that are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to naught things that are." Why does He do this? The next verse answers it completely and it reads thus: "That no flesh should glory in his presence." Dear friend, we beg you not to get your heart, mind and eyes too high and thereby fail to find Christ as a Spirit to live in your soul.

In Psalms 93:5 we read: "Thy testimonies are very sure: [are true] holiness becometh thine house [God's family], O Lord, forever." In Luke 1:73 we read, "The oath which he sware to our father Abraham, That he would grant unto us, that we being delivered out of the hand of our enemies might serve him without fear, in holiness and righteousness before him all the days of our life." In Hebrews 12:14 we read, "Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord." According to the scriptures only those who become holy through Christ and keep holy by power divine will ever see the Lord in peace. In harmony with the scriptures we can truly say it is either holiness in this life or hell in the end. Let us be like Mary—make the wise choice and sit at HIS feet, learn His ways and walk in His steps who did no sin, neither was guile found in His mouth. Then and only then can we share the glory world with Him. May God bless your heart and increase your faith in God to receive power and wisdom to obey His holy and sacred Word.

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Announcement of dates for ALL the campmeetings should be sent in early—if possible, by Feb. 15th, for publication in the March paper, so all those interested may be able to arrange their vacations, time, business, etc. to correspond with those dates.

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## WHERE ART THOU?

" . . . and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God. . . . And the Lord God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou?" Gen. 3: 8, 9.

Dear reader, are you at home in the presence of the Lord and his saints? Or do you feel ill at ease, or out of place? Do you have a feeling in your heart that you do not fit into the atmosphere of the saints? If this is your condition, there is just one reason for it. Like Adam, you have failed. Your precious soul is tainted with sin.

If in your little span of life, you were one time truly born from above, but now you are somewhat

unconcerned, slack, careless about the cause of God, you do not have that zeal you one time had, and you are not willing to sacrifice for His cause of your God-given talents, health, strength, and the money he has entrusted you with, if this is your sad state, it is time that you listened to the call, "Where art thou?"

There are many things that could have entered into your heart to bring about this sad condition. We are told to keep our hearts. "Keep thine heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life." Prov. 4:23. The enemy of your soul is continually trying to get you to receive thoughts into your heart which are contrary to the will and holiness of God.

Some are trying to stretch up instead of measuring up. Some of these, in times past, have been led off the narrow way by false shepherds—shepherds that at one time were considered one of us, but "they went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would no doubt have continued with us; but they went out, that they might be made manifest that they were not all of us." 1st Jno. 2:19.

Division is a deadly sin. Those who cause division among God's people are being used of the devil. Rom. 16: 17, 18. " . . . Mark them which cause divisions and offenses contrary to the doctrine which you have learned, and avoid them. For they that are such serve not the Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly; and by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple." These do not have the Spirit of Christ; they are deceived, and all who follow them are confused and deceived also. These blind leaders of the blind fill the hearts and minds of their followers with evil thoughts of and about the true saints of God. One who has imbibed these evil thoughts will never be clear of them until he exposes the devil and his works, repents of his weakness in being led astray, and asks forgiveness for every evil thought that he has entertained against God's little ones.

Some try to be one with the true saints of God while still harboring evil thoughts (received long ago) against God's true ministers and His dear saints. These prove to be misfits and trouble-makers every where they go.

We must walk in all the light that God permits to shine upon our pathway. If we do not, we will be out of harmony with the saints and automatically out of harmony with God also. We are told to present our bodies a "living sacrifice." Are you sacrificing anything? We are instructed to be diligent, to be filled with the Spirit, to examine ourselves, to prove ourselves, to sanctify the Lord God in our hearts, to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard of the truth, to be an example, to put on the Lord Jesus Christ, to build up ourselves on our most holy faith, and to be filled with all the fulness of God. Are you doing this, my dear reader? If you are, then you do not have time for idle thoughts and surely your mind will be stayed on God.

Yours in Him, —H. P. Huskey

## NOTES ON GUTHRIE ASSEMBLY MEETING

We are very thankful for the wonderful Guthrie assembly meeting the Lord gave us. God's presence was present to convict sinners and to save them; to show some the need of having the Holy Spirit, and others the need of moving up on some lines; and to heal bodies. A large number received help and we do thank the Lord.

Some were heard to say it was the best meeting they were ever in. One brother said it was worth hundreds of dollars for him to be there because of the blessing he received. Others expressed themselves in different ways about the good meeting.

We thank the Lord for the soul burden manifested in the meeting. Earnest prayer for souls is the success of every meeting. Often we hear those who tell of their conviction say, "I didn't hear anything the minister said that night, but went to the altar as soon as opportunity was given."

I was with the young people in several of their meetings. Their testimonies were precious and the Lord surely blessed them. We do thank God for the large group of young people among us. We do pray the Lord to help them to stand for the simple, plain teaching of the gospel so the Spirit of the Lord will be with them to use them. They are the church to carry on after we older ones are gone. We are glad for the simple truths taught the children in their daily meetings. It is important that they be taught while young.

We thank the Lord for those who helped in the kitchen, and for those who helped before and after the meeting in the manual labor. They have their part in the salvation of souls and the success of the meeting.

We thank the Lord for the ministers (about 20 from out of town) and workers that the Lord sent to help in the meeting. We pray the Lord to bless them richly. We were glad for everyone who came and trust you will come again and be with us.

Mrs. Marie Miles.

## ARTICLES FOR SALE

Special Gift White Bible, approx. 3 x 5, No. 1WX....	\$ 5.50
World Bible, approx. 5 x 7, gift boxed, No. 1121C....	11.50
National Bible, approx. 6 x 9, large print, No. 451....	7.00
National New Testament with Psalms, large print, approx. 5 x 8, No. 70 .....	3.25
Larger Print New Testament with Psalms, stiff cover, No. 94 .....	2.50
New Testament with Psalms, zipper, approx. 2 x 4, No. 64PZ .....	3.00
New Testament with Psalms, red letter, size as above, No. 64PRL .....	2.25
Cruden's Complete Concordance, 200,000 references .....	3.50
Egermeier's Bible Story Book, 640 pages .....	3.95
Egermeier's Bible Picture ABC Book, clothbound, 30 colored pictures, 64 pages .....	1.95
Smith's Bible Dictionary, 818 pages .....	3.00
Fox's Book of Martyrs .....	2.50
The Pilgrim's Progress .....	2.50
Birthday, Get-well, All Occasion, and Sympathy Cards, each box .....	1.00
The Corrupt Tree, by Mrs. Anna Marie Miles. A 40-page book, paper bound which is just off the press. Price is 25 cents, postpaid to you.	

Faith and Victory papers for 1958 are now bound in book form. Price is 60 cents, post paid.

Both books of 1958 and 1957 will be post paid for \$1.00.

## 1959 SCRIPTURE TEXT CALENDARS

Single copy, 40c; 3, \$1.10; 12, \$4.00; 25, \$7.50; 50, \$13.75.

## CHURCH OF GOD NATIONAL MISSIONARY FUND

Last October, 1958, the trustees of the Church of God National Campmeeting set up the "Church of God National Missionary Fund," with Bros. Amos Porter, Granby, Mo., Albert Eck, Bartlett, Kansas, and Ralph Beisly, Treas., as a special committee on the board of trustees to receive and disburse the missionary funds, and have charge of the evangelistic tent project.

The house trailer, which had been purchased in Feb. 1956, from Bro. and Sister Key by the personal funds of the undersigned and his father, Fred Pruitt, and used in the evangelistic tent work, was donated and assigned to the National Missionary Fund last October. Negotiations are now in progress to sell the old 1939 model bus which has been used to haul the tent and equipment because it is badly worn and unsatisfactory for long hauls. Proceeds from the sale will go to the National Missionary Fund to apply on a new or late model bus to replace the old one. The special fund for another bus now stands at \$1,370.00. This fund will need to be increased substantially in order to have all the equipment in readiness by the month of May to begin the season's work. All contributions to this evangelistic project should be sent direct to the treasurer, Bro. Ralph Beisly, 407 Eldridge St, Coffeyville, Kansas. Your prayers are requested that a suitable bus will be located and secured for this purpose and that the tent work will be very successful in the spread of the gospel during the coming season. Qualified and consecrated workers are needed. The command of the Lord: "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature."

—L. D. Pruitt, Secy.-Treas. Nat'l. Camp.

## Meeting Notices

The GREEN PASTURE, OKLA., Spring Meeting will begin March 20, and convene through the 29th, 1959, if the Lord wills.

—Bro. E. W. Saunders, Pastor.

## REVIVAL—PHOENIX, ARIZONA

Lord willing we are planning on starting a revival meeting March 6. As this is a new place, we don't have a permanent meeting place, which we need badly. We are asking the saints everywhere who feel led to help us financially in this new work. Also, any of the ministers of God, we welcome to come, because truly the harvest is ripe and the laborers are so few. For further information contact Bro. Willie Peete, 1016 S. 15th Ave, Phoenix, or Sister J. L. Pearce, 1245 S. 14th Ave., Phoenix, Ariz. We desire the saints to pray for us in this new work here.

—Bro. Johnny Johnson.

## Meeting Reports

## WICHITA, KANSAS MEETING REPORT

We do praise the Lord for another meeting in this place. The Lord blessed in sending in Holy Ghost ministers to help us in the meeting. The Lord blessed with His rich Word. Souls were saved and the church was encouraged for the effort that they put forth for the meeting. Some have expressed it was the best meeting we ever had and I believe it was. The spirit of the meeting was wonderful. No one was running for the pulpit, but all tarried one for the other, and when one got in that sacred place the Lord truly fed our souls. We enjoyed the fellowship of the ministers. They were: Sister Ada Davis, Bro. U. Phillips, Sister Marie Miles, Sister Jones, Bro. Barton, Bro. Richard Madden, and Bro. Warren of Okla.; Bro. Stover and Sister Eck of Kansas; and Bro. O.



B. Wilson and Sister Velma Smith of Calif. All were not here all the meeting, but the Lord sent every one just in time and no one got in anyone's way. We had prayed for the Lord to send whom He wanted, and He did just that. All these were a great encouragement to us. We do thank the saints for their wonderful co-operation.

We do want our life to tell the gospel story as never before and mean, by the grace of God, to do more in the future than we have done in the past.

We desire your prayers. —Bro. Lewis Williams.

#### OKMULGEE, OKLA. MEETING REPORT

The saints here at Okmulgee, Okla are still praising God for the wonderful revival meeting He privileged us to have from Dec. 10 through the 19th. The Lord burdened Bro. Lewis Williams from Wichita, Kans. to come. The Word went forth with great power. Souls sought help tearfully at the altar and arose with victory. We are still feeling the results of the meeting and feel like we can triumph over the devil with greater victory than before.

We acknowledge that the revival meeting was an additional blessing to numerous blessings God bestowed upon us during the year of '58. Other ministers and saints have made great sacrifices in laboring here at Okmulgee spiritually and temporally. A number of souls were saved in '58; some became discouraged and others are making rapid progress, just pressing their way on to glory.

We are thankful to God for those who have had us at heart and have labored untiring in the work of God at this place. We are also thankful to those who have sent up many prayers for us.

Additional building and other needed work has been done on the chapel and God showed great power in supplying our financial needs likewise.

We (the people of God) here at Okmulgee desire to prove faithful and worthy of God's many blessings.

Pray for us.

Annie Bell Allen.

#### Obituaries

Cordelia Jane Stroud, the daughter of John and Ann Whipple, was born May 12, 1875 near Forest City, Mo. and passed away at her home near Mound City, Mo. on Dec. 24, 1958 at the age of 83 years, seven months, and twelve days. She was the oldest of thirteen children of which one brother and one sister preceded her in death.

On August 16, 1893 she was united in marriage to James Richard Stroud. To this union were born ten children. Her husband and two sons preceded her in death.

She leaves five sons: Clyde of the home, Clarence, Downey, Calif., Everett, Mountain View, Ark., Owen and Vigil, Forbes, Mo.; three daughters: Mrs. Goldia Knapp, Forest City, Mo., Mrs. Ray Butcher, Bigelow, Mo., Mrs. Earl Owens, Union Star, Mo.; six brothers: Edward, Amos, Lloyd, and John of Forest City, Mo., Lee of Oregon, and Benjamin, Kansas City; four sisters: Mrs. Emma Hood, Mound City, Mo., Mrs. Sam Bothauer, Anderson, Ind., Mrs. Lawrence Culp, Tarkio, Mo., and Mrs. Earl Laughlin, Grover City, Calif.; 29 grandchildren, and 21 great grandchildren; several nieces and nephews and a host of other relatives and friends.

She was converted into the church of God in her early teens and was faithful these many years.

Bro. Roy Harmon preached the funeral sermon. Interment was in Benton Cemetery, southeast of Mound City, Mo.

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Graveside funeral services were held Nov. 5 for Rebecca La Faver, infant daughter of Dan and Thelma La Faver, Sapulpa, Okla. The baby was still-born in a

Tulsa hospital Nov. 2, 1958.

Children of the home include three brothers, Dennis, Thomas, and Randall and one sister, Deborah.

Services were conducted by Bro. Richard Madden, at Beggs, Okla.

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Bro. Rosevelt Weldon, the son of Bro. and Sister Webster Weldon was born October 25, 1904 at Boley, Okla., and departed this life November 26, 1958 Bakersfield, Calif. at the age of 54 years, one month, and one day.

March 1, 1924 he was united in holy matrimony to Sister Beatrice Jennings. To this union 13 children were born, seven preceding him in death.

He spent his early childhood days in Boley, where he heard the truth taught by the pioneer ministers of the church of God. In 1926 he accepted it and was saved and lived a Christian life for many years. The latter part of his life he felt the Lord had a special work for him to do, which was carrying the gospel. He worked faithfully until death.

He leaves a faithful and devoted wife; four daughters: Anna Lois Weldon, New York, N. Y., Nila Jewell Railsback, Berkely, Calif., Doris Maxine, and May Francis Weldon, Bakersfield; two sons: Willie Roy and Charles, of Bakersfield; a faithful father, Bro. W. W. Weldon, Bakersfield; one sister, Mattie Williams, Los Angeles; four brothers: Isaiah and Robert, Bakersfield, Jake, Los Angeles, and Horace, Fontana, Calif.; three grandchildren, and many other relatives, saints, and friends.

Funeral services were conducted by Bro. I. C. Chandler assisted by Bros. L. E. Gaines and Z. E. Francisco, and others.

#### REQUEST FOR PRAYER

First, I want to thank every one who has shown me a deal of kindness—for cards, postage stamps, envelopes and every bit of money up to now. Those whom I have not answered, please don't judge me as unthankful. But I have had a bad spell of head and eye trouble, so bad that I couldn't read a chapter in my Bible. This is much better now; thank the Lord. I'm just as thankful as can be.

Now dear saints, I have no saints here to help me pray, and I feel the dreadful attacks of Satan. Please fast and pray for me that God will solve a deep spiritual desire and problem with victory. Pray for my complete and permanent healing so I will be able to walk safely and do all my work myself and cut out these expenses. Pray for some business matters of mine. Mary J. Jones,

Box 229B, Rt. 4, Hartsville, S. C.

#### Heaven Or Hell

#### For Eternity--Which?

Have you ever thought where you will exist in ETERNITY, when once the narrow thread of life is snapped? There is but one step between you and death; you know not what moment you may be hurried from time into eternity. Oh! think, then, if you should be LOST, LOST for ever, damned in Hell—Hell prepared for devils, not for men! "Hell hath enlarged herself," says the Lord, "and their glory, and their multitude, and their pomp, and he that rejoiceth shall descend into it" (Isa. 5:14); then you who have lived in pleasure, and with a laugh upon your lips, shall be found "where their worm dieth not, and their fire is not quenched"—not quenched by the rivers of tears



that shall flow unceasingly from the eyes of men gnawed as they shall be by the relentless fangs of an accusing conscience—and this for ever! no hope! no light! no rest! Oh, sinner! can you bear the thought of being **FOR EVER DAMNED?** Is it a little thing to be tossed upon the billows of the lake of fire **FOR EVER?** Is it nothing to be mocked and insulted by Devils and men **FOR EVER?** some of the latter brought there, perhaps, through your example? Is it a trifle to be **OBLIGATED TO LIVE** when you long for annihilation? Will no pang of deep remorse be shot into your heart as Satan taunts you saying, "Was there no Redeemer to be found on earth?" There, in the **ETERNAL HELL**, methinks, I hear you cry, "Oh, for a moment's peace!" But, **THERE IS NO REST IN HELL**; for all who are there "drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of His indignation, and are tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb; and the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day or night" (Rev. 14:10, 11). Then you will cry for mercy as you have never cried before, but the vaulted arches of darkness will only, as in hollow mockery, throw back in your teeth your fruitless cry; **FOR THERE IS NO MERCY IN HELL!** Your tongue, uncooled by one drop of water, will vainly seek to be silent; but speak it must; you must cry, you must weep, and wail and gnash your teeth, for you will be in **ETERNAL BANISHMENT FROM THE ONLY SOURCE OF LIGHT AND JOY**, in a place where **LOVE IS UNKNOWN**, except as conscience now brings to mind the sad remembrance of God's once despised love to you, that very thought of which shall lash you into the madness of **DESPAIR**. You will be shut out from God's blessed presence **FOR EVER**. A sinner, with his sins unpardoned, can never stand before a Holy God; and as it is true that with Him is fulness of joy, so out of His presence is **PERFECTION OF MISERY, ETERNAL DAMNATION!** Then, oh, sinner, thou shalt be bound hand and foot and cast into outer darkness, there, always, **SINKING, SINKING**, in the bottomless pit; clutching at one thing after another to give you a moment's rest, but all in vain, each endeavor adding to your misery, by ending in woeful disappointment. You will have the horror of learning that the devil is not the lord of hell even, but rather that your knees must bow in forced subjection to the once despised and **REJECTED LORD JESUS**, whom God, in His love and mercy, offered you from time to time as **YOUR SAVIOUR**, but whom you cast from you, thinking and caring little for Him. But, at the name of Jesus every knee **SHALL** bow, whether in heaven or on earth or under the earth, and every tongue **SHALL** confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. (Phil. 2:10, 11).

Oh, what would souls in hell give for one more offer of pardon! How eagerly would they accept it! Not a moment would be lost. But, no; they are in **ETERNAL DESTRUCTION!** and this is what each day you are hastening to, as you live on in your sins.

But, oh, sinner! **YOU NEED NOT THUS PER-**

**ISH!** Why should you be lost? God loves you just as **YOU ARE**, in your sins. He wants to have you with Himself in Heaven, happy for ever. With this object He sent His Son into the world to die instead of the guilty. You have **NOTHING** to do to get salvation—Christ has done it all. Accept, then, **Jesus** on the spot as **Your Saviour**. Look to, or believe on Him; and on the authority of God's Word you may at once know that you **HAVE ETERNAL LIFE**. Oh! then there will be no such place of torment for you, but, on the contrary, **ETERNAL JOY** and gladness. "The blood of Jesus Christ, God's Son, cleanseth from all sin." (1 John 1:7). "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." (John 3:16). "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life; and he that believeth not the Son, shall not see life, but the wrath of God abideth on him." (John 3:36). —Selected.

#### ON A TOMBSTONE

Behold and see as you pass by—  
As you are now, so once was I,  
As I am now you too will be;  
Prepare for death and follow me.

#### CORRESPONDENCE

Florida—Dear Bro. Pruitt,—I have recently received and read your publication, "Faith and Victory." This paper interests me. Though its articles teach the truth that I preach and practice, I do not seem to recognize any of the names I see mentioned except those of Bro. D. S. Warner and C. E. Orr.

I was brought up from childhood in the Church of God and at an early age was born again and later sanctified. I heard God's call to the ministry and have been preaching this gospel of holiness and unity for many years. It is also a joy to know the peace of God in my heart, to live free from sin and know that I was added to His church through the new birth and that every born-again, blood-washed child of God is my brother and sister in Christ and in His church. This fellowship and oneness of God's people is very dear to me and I consider anything that destroys it as a great sin. It is therefore my desire and practice to extend fellowship to all true Christians wherever I find them.

I do not know you and I am curious to know how you obtained my name and address. It seems likely to me that we must have some mutual friend or brother. I would like to personally thank whoever is responsible for sending me this copy of "Faith and Victory."

Yours to exalt Christ, Byron F. Chew, Box 243, Rt. 1, Zephyrhills, Florida.

(Whoever sent this brother the "Faith and Victory"; please let him know about it.—Editor)

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Oklahoma.—To the dear ones everywhere who may read this,—I am saved and sanctified with a deep desire to please the dear Lord. Truly God has been good to us as I look back over the things that could have happened to us. Yet, God undertook for us and kept us safe in His hand. The first thing I would like to tell you about is how wonderfully God kept our house from burning down on the night of December 21, 1958. I had ironed until about seven o'clock. When I got ready for bed my husband

said he smelled something burning, but I went on to bed, not thinking that I had been ironing and had left the iron on. We all went to sleep. I remember having a burden, so I prayed for the Lord to work things His way and, surely, He did take care of us. Had it not been for God we may have all been burned up because I left that iron on until around six or after the next morning. It was lying on a piece of newspaper on top of a book case. The iron was so hot that it had burned a large round hole in the top of that book case, yet the dear Lord didn't let the paper on which the iron was lying even catch ablaze. If it had, the curtains close by could easily have caught afire. I surely thank the dear Lord that he watches over us at all times. I thank Him for His goodness to us even though we are asleep. He is awake and watches over his trusting children. I mean to please Him in every walk of life and I mean to be obedient in every way. Oh, I can't praise Him enough!

We were promised a pecan gathering job back in the early fall, but my husband kept putting off seeing about it. When he did make up his mind to see the lady, he found she had turned the job over to another man. At first I was somewhat bothered about it, but something came to my mind that we may get that very job. I just went to God in prayer for another job, thinking we had lost that one. Then something went wrong over there and just one week later the lady came after us and we worked there until Friday, Dec. 19th. Truly, God has been good to us. His words and songs are so precious to me. They help me so much when I am going through tests and trials. I thank the Lord that I live close enough to Him that he shows me things and gives me good encouraging scriptures to read and songs to sing that just fit the right place.

We were on our way to town one morning when snow was on the ground. We had to walk a little way to the car, and when we reached it, it wouldn't start. I looked to God by faith to start the car. We tried to push it, but weren't strong enough to push it fast enough to start, so my husband went to get a man to pull him but the man's car wouldn't start. I was still looking to the Lord, so as my husband worked on the car I prayed for help from the Lord as my feet were getting cold from sitting there so long. I was standing on God's promise in John 14:14, "If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it." I hardly finished my prayer when the Lord let my husband get the car started. The verse of this song came to my mind: "It is no secret, what God can do; What He's done for others, He'll do for you." Oh, how I thank God for what He is to me!

If there be any who read this who isn't saved, won't you give your heart to God? You can then receive the many blessings He has for you.

Your sister in Christ,

Clara Barnett.

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Oregon—Dearly beloved saints everywhere,—Greetings in Jesus' precious name. This finds me saved and sanctified and pressing on for God. Our assembly meeting has come and gone, but far from forgotten. We truly had a wonderful meeting. God is sending messages for His people to move up and get the spots out of their lives, that they can have a pure white robe. He wants us to shine forth as lights in this dark and dismal world. He said, "Because as he is, so are we in this world." 1 John 4:17. As we are His body which God works through, may the Lord help us to be that body so dead to the world and alive in Christ that he can use this fleshly body as His own with every member yielded to His use. This is my desire and should be all of God's little ones. He is going to

have a people called by His name. One of my burdens is for the church, and that it will shine in this world.

I keep thinking of the apostles and prophets whose examples are before us; how the Lord used them. They were only flesh and blood as we are. This should encourage everyone to dig deeper, and hold fast to the solid rock, Christ Jesus.

I have another burden for the workers in the field. There is much work to be done and souls to reach. There are so few in the work. My heart longs to be out in the field of labor, but as yet I don't know just how the Lord will lead. So pray for me that I will be in the center of His will at all times. I do love my Lord and Saviour and want to be ready to do anything He calls on me to do. Oh, I don't want to be found wanting in that last day. This is the dressing room, dear ones.

I promised the Lord I would testify to the healing of my oldest son if He would heal him of asthma. I wrote the saints at the Faith Publishing House for an agreement in prayer and I am happy to say the work is done. His asthma usually bothered him during the spring and summer months, especially if it got hot. He was bothered a little this spring but after prayer was offered for him he wasn't bothered any more. The summer was awfully hot, but it didn't bother him. Isn't it wonderful what the Lord can do! Praise the Lord.

I am thankful we have God and His people to call on in every time of need. He has blessed in many many ways. I had a place which came on my index finger. As far as I could tell it started on the bone, and as I ironed or gripped things it was made sore and grew to a good size and was very painful. But I just took it to my great Physician who is just as interested in the least of our ailments as He is in the greatest, and left it with Him. Now I can testify there is not a trace of it. Bless His name! Oh, I feel so unworthy of these rich blessings He so abundantly sends down to me and my family. I praise His precious name for ever!

Oh, I think back before I was saved. What did I do without the Lord? If there is any one who reads this not saved, remember the Lord wants to save you. He came that we all might live and have eternal life with Him. It isn't His will that any perish. He said, "And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart." Jer. 29:13.

It is so precious to live for the Lord. The way grows sweeter all the way. My prayer is: Lead me from day to day in the straight, narrow way. Praise God for His Son who came down from all His glory in heaven and died for me that I might have eternal life.

Your sister in the Lord,

Loretta Miles.

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Ill.—Dearly beloved ones in Jesus who hath washed us from our sins in His own blood and called us to be saints and given us an inheritance in this life so great, something beyond anything the world could comprehend,—Truly He satisfies my soul, and on this 30th day of Dec., His presence and blessings are exceeding great. God has said "Yes" and "Amen" to every one of the promises He gave unto us through Jesus. 2 Cor. 1:19-22.

It makes my soul to rejoice to know God is willing to accept our poor offering, and that He will seal us unto Himself by the blessed Holy Ghost. That has been the great desire of my soul for so long and I do believe that God has, this morning, sealed me unto Himself by the blessed Holy Ghost. I believe I can say God has brought me to that place where I have been "subdued in every part of my nature to his will, and the disposition of his mind." I seek God's glory and honor. I seek his will; I seek His love and burden and compassion for the lost;

I seek the place where He can be most glorified in my life. If God calls my father home first. I am asking God to lead me to His place; and qualify me to fill that place. Remember me, dear ones, in your prayers for this request.

I want to praise God in testimony for the deliverance He gave my father who was stricken on Nov 24 early in the a.m. with a grave attack of strangulation of the hernia. The pain was so great he shook. I had to call on God three times before victory came. He then could lie down, rest, and go to sleep. About 11:00 a.m. I called the doctor in case of his death, but the doctor was gone and did not come until 1:00 p.m. He only examined him and said there was no strangulation, he was all right, and to remain quiet. He did not leave medicine, give shots, or mention the hospital, as my father did not want them. By afternoon he was in his chair and able to walk alone in three days. Praise God.

We are glad God showed His power to us, our neighbors, and relatives. We are glad He made the plans for our deliverance from every work and trick and plan of the devil.

I also have daily praised God for the perfect healing of my right limb from the toes to the hip and a very serious knee-cap injury in the fall I had July 12. In four days I walked some on my foot with a crutch, and the 23rd of July I walked without the crutch. The 24th I was able to kneel and pray. It was truly a wonderful work of God and I will always tell of His power. The doctor and X-rays said it would be a very long and slow recovery and very painful. Yes, the pain was only borne by God's help. Oh, it pays to serve Jesus. I meditated much on the long hours He hung on the cross and the awful pain He endured for me. Yes, God has a purpose for every pain He allows us. I can truly recommend my Saviour and God and Holy Spirit to every living soul on earth.

Every penny I need is prayed for and bills are met and God has been careful to help us through each time. We praise God for sending us things so good: fruit, fresh meat, and vegetables. It would take a book to relate God's wonderful works. Above all we rejoice as God, through the Holy Spirit, comes down with such blessings we are hardly able to contain them. We thank God for your letters, prayers, and tears for us. Daily we pray for every one around the world.

Your sister, Ada Scanlan, 517 Lincoln, Chenoa, Ill.

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Okla.—Dear saints every where,—Greetings in the name of our dear blessed Lord. Today I am saved and encouraged to follow the Lord all the way. He has done so much for me. Just a few days before Christmas I became very sick with something like the Asian flu. At times I did not know I was in the world. But I thank God for how He came to my rescue. In obedience to the Word of God we called for the elders of the church. After I was anointed and the prayer of faith was prayed, I began to feel the wondrous healing power of God and today I am healed. I truly give God all the praise and glory. We appreciate the dear saints from Okmulgee coming in to pray with us and to encourage us in this time of need. Pray much for your saved brethren pressing forward in the name of our dear Lord.

Pearl Allen.

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Ohio—Dear saints,—Greetings of love in Jesus' dear name. "Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord. Praise ye the Lord." Psalms 150:6.

A few months back I visited and prayed with a young boy in the hospital. He was almost five at the time. The child had a convulsion that evidently left his brain im-

paired. They had him in bed with a net over his bed, and didn't allow him to play with certain toys. He could only speak a few words when I first visited with him.

I told the saints about praying too. I began to go back and forth to see him and fasted and prayed for God to heal him. He, at first, had a laugh and grin that seemed to me just like the spirit of the devil. I would pray and rebuke that spirit of the devil in the name of Jesus. God answered, praise His name! After a while they allowed me to take him out of bed and let him look out the window. After praying earnestly for him I would say different words and he began to repeat after me. While looking out the window he began to call the names of different objects.

The people were amazed at his progress. I surely told them it was God. The doctor, at first, didn't believe he was progressing so well. I told him one day to say "Jesus heals me", or something about Jesus. He began to say sentences and they gave him toys to play with. After a number of visits and prayer and fasting, I went up to see him and they had released him and sent him home. All honor and glory unto the most high God!

Pray for me. Yours in Christ,

Annie Stills.

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

Okla.—Dear saints,—Greetings in Jesus' precious name. This evening I am truly encouraged to live for the Lord all the days of my life, for he is my all in all and I know life wouldn't be worth living without Him.

I would like to thank God for healing me of an affliction I had on my body for the last three years. It was a very serious affliction, which I believe could only be cured by God. All of my praises and thanks go to Him.

I need everyone's prayers that I will always know the will of God and that I will be a shining light for Him wherever I go.

With Christian love,

Sharon Melot.

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

Calif.—Dear young sister,—Greetings in the dear Lord's name. Today finds me still saved, sanctified, and much encouraged to go all the way with the Lord. I was very glad to receive your letter. It surely did encourage my heart very much. After I read it, the peace and joy of the Lord came in my heart. I usually read my Bible and pray when I come home from school, but today the praying and reading was just joyous. I didn't have to read because I knew I had to, but because I wanted to. The Lord gave me understanding and showed me something that was very important to me. I was just so happy in the Lord, that I just praised the Lord over and over.

I surely would like to have been in your young people's meetings, but pray for me that the Lord will help me to be content, and be a shining light where I am. Yes, I was privileged to attend the last Sunday of the Pacoima meeting. Truly it was a blessing.

I desire for you to pray earnestly for me while I am in school. I wear a skirt and a blouse that Mama has added some material to to lengthen the sleeves, for gym. The Lord gave me the grace and boldness to make a path for others, as the school was new and I was the first one to wear a skirt for gym. I went through many hardships and trials, but the Lord blessed me to come out victoriously. I will be going to Sr. High School in September, and I desire your prayers because it seems that it will be harder to wear a skirt there. Well, it just seems that I don't have the boldness as I would desire, but the Lord is faithful, in that he will not let me be tempted above that I am able, but will give me grace and strength. I mean to go through.

Christian love,

Bonnie Matthews.

Okla.—Dear saints,—Greetings of love in Jesus' sweet holy name. It has been some time now since I sent in my testimony of how wonderfully the Lord has blessed me and kept me in His love and grace. Praise His holy name! I am very thankful for all the Father does for me. I could never do enough for Him. Any thing we ask of Him, if we just believe, He will give it to us if it is to His glory. Oh, how I want to be in perfection: to be patient, kind, and my heart full of love and tenderness toward all people.

I want to tell of an incident that happened. There was a man who did a very hard thing to his step-child, as was told. Before I was saved, every time I saw him I became very cold and bitter toward him. About a week ago my sister-in-law and I were going after the mail and I saw that very man. I still did not feel just right toward him so as we were going on I said to my Lord, "I should not feel cold toward that man like that." So I went off to pray and talk to my Lord. Then a few days ago I saw this same man again going down the road. He stopped and said very nicely, "Hello, how are you?" and then went on. Dear ones, I spoke back and there was nothing there in my heart, only tenderness and pity for his lost soul. Oh, how wonderful it is to feel our Lord in our hearts. I could pray for that soul then. Dear ones, let us be careful for there is not to be any thing in our hearts but love toward all men. I have much to thank the Lord for.

My husband and I are back together again. He needs much prayer for soul and body. Please pray for him that our Father will save him soon for Christ's sake. Pray for me that I will be always found in the center of His will. May God richly bless each one and keep you is my prayer until we meet again.

Your sister in Christ,

Joy Mannon.

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

Oregon—Greetings in Jesus' dear name,—For some time I have felt the Lord would have me to send in a testimony of His goodness to me. The Lord has healed my body from time to time and I truly give Him all the praise. I am thinking mostly at this time of how the dear Lord healed me of pneumonia this past summer. I didn't take any medicine of any kind but trusted the Lord and he completely healed me. We were thankful I was able to eat something each meal time as there were many who went to hospitals with pneumonia and were unable to eat. They suffered much more than I had to. We know of one husband and wife who went to the hospital together (both with pneumonia) and had to leave their three small children to be cared for.

Saints, I have not had a drop of medicine of any kind since the Lord saved me, and I don't intend to ever take any. God wants His children to lift up the standard and fully trust Him for every thing, even for the healing of our bodies.

I am so thankful I know the dear Saviour and that God had mercy on my soul. I desire the saints' prayers that I will ever live true to the dear Lord. He is so precious to me.

A sister in Christ,

Mrs. Beverly Wattenbarger.

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

Ohio—Dear Bro. Pruitt and saints,—Greetings in Jesus' dear name. Tonight finds me saved and ever encouraged to wholly follow the Lord. As we are nearing the end of this year I can just look back and see the many blessings God has provided for me; and oh! how I can praise Him. Just a few weeks ago while on my way to work I came very close to three serious accidents. One could have been a head-on collision which would have probably been my death, but God in His love and mercy somehow prevented it. Our cars were so close until I knew it was only the power of God that prevented me from

getting a scratch or even touching the other car. I do thank the Lord for this and for all His blessings and am praying He will help me to spend my life all in His service, for surely He has spared it for a cause.

I thank Him, too, for the book you have written on "God's Gracious Dealings." I am really enjoying reading it, for I have had a few similar incidents. Also I was thankful for Bro. Orr's writing on "Childlikeness With God." He is my all and as Phil. 4:6 says, "Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God."

Surely the Lord has been good to me and I thank Him and desire your prayers that I be found doing the little things that are pleasing in His sight.

Yours in Christ,

Dorothy Jackson.

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

Okla.—Dear saints of God,—I am saved and truly thank God for the wonderful way of holiness. I feel encouraged to go on trusting Him regardless of the tests and afflictions I have in this life, for I know He is coming and my aim is to be ready to meet Him. I have a very bad leg with sores on it, but I am looking to God for my healing. My trust is in Him.

I have twin babies. They are two years old. Last week they were sick and one night one of them was in great pain in his head and right ear. I was also suffering with a pain in my side. I lay on my bed and prayed that God heal my side and told this child I was going to pray for him. He turned over and I laid my hand on his head and asked the Lord to heal him and he was healed. In just a few minutes he was asleep and my pain was all gone from my side, too. Praise the Lord for His goodness!

These two babies kneel and try to pray as they see us do in family prayer. Pray for the rest of my unsaved children.

Your sister who loves the truth,

Ora Lee Johnson.

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

Miss.—To the workers and servants of the most high God scattered abroad,—Greetings in Jesus' dear name. Today I am still saved and thank God for sanctifying my nature. Oh, it is wonderful to trust the Lord for both soul and body. I promised the Lord I would write a testimony in the "Faith and Victory" paper if He would touch my body and heal me. Last winter of '57 I had the Asiatic flu and just did not give up, but did my work and washing when a little better, and it left me with a cough. I had it all summer, and in Oct. I got a cold, causing me severe coughing until I began to spit up almost pure blood. I wrote for prayer and called for prayer to those that came in that I thought could get a prayer through in my behalf. In about two weeks the spitting of blood stopped, but I still had to cough and am still coughing hard at times. I also have a wheezing in my right side, but am still holding onto the Lord for complete victory over the flesh and the devil. The devil does not encourage anyone. He says, "Why don't you get healed?" Some healings do not come instantaneously. Some do. I have had experience with both. To God be all the praise and Glory for it all.

I could write a lengthy testimony, but this is the last and freshest on my mind. Our grandson, eleven years old, came out to spend Thanksgiving holidays with us. The day after he came he got sick and I did not know what was the matter with him. He went to bed and he suffered with his back and left side. I anointed him and prayed the prayer of faith for him. His kidneys had not acted for some time, but after prayer the Lord relieved him and his back got easy, but his side continued to hurt. This was Saturday and his daddy came out to see him, but did not take him home until Sunday evening. We

still did not know he had pneumonia. His step-mother and daddy do not trust the Lord like I do, so they took him to the hospital where he was treated nine days with shots to clear up that left lung which was full of phlegm. But his fever broke out here when I prayed for him. He is up and in school again and feels fine. He was run down in body.

His little brother, Terry, cut his hand on a piece of glass while out here for Christmas holidays. I hardly knew what to do for his daddy and wife were gone. So we taped it with band-aids the best we could and I prayed for him and he hardly mentioned it any more. It had been so swollen that we could not put it together good, because it had happened at a neighbor's, and we didn't know about it for three hours. But today, one week later, it is doing well. These are the boys whose mother was killed in a car wreck almost four years ago. Pray for them that the Lord will help the parents to bring these boys up in the nurture and will of the Lord.

Please pray for me that I will be healed of this cough. If God doesn't do, it can't be done. Also I can't hear out of my right ear and have noises as locusts in my head, and a pressure that makes my head buzz. Most of the time I can hear talking, but can't understand lots of the words unless the speaker speaks loudly.

Yours in His name, Sister J. Strickler.

o-o-o-o-o-o

Mich.—For the glory of God I want to give my testimony. God has done very much for me. He saved my soul many years ago. I am now 75 years old and have tried to do my best to live for the Lord from childhood. I never had a vision of the church of God until I was past 20, and it gave me great relief to learn that God's church was His people and that it wasn't an organization, organized by man, but divinely organized by God Himself; and that God sets the members in the body, the church, as it pleases Him.

Today I am happy in the Lord, and rejoicing in His great salvation. He has healed my body so many times I could never relate them all. I have thought I was near death a few times, but I didn't fear to die though the Lord saw fit to spare me yet. I do want to serve Him and love Him more and more. I love this beautiful, holy way. I feel good in my soul and body. Praise the Lord!

Cora Brant.

(Sister Cora Brant evidently passed to her reward shortly after this testimony was written, for we received the word, Jan 12, before we began typesetting this paper. The editor and workers extend heart-felt sympathy to Bro. Brant, and the Brant and McMillian families.)

o-o-o-o-o-o

Calif.—Dear saints and readers of the "Faith and Victory,—In Malachi 3:16 it says, "They that feared the Lord spake often one to another," so I take this means of speaking to you. I fear the Lord and love Him for He keeps me saved and sanctified and richly blessed by power divine. The Lord helped me to read the entire Bible through last year, besides my other studies and lessons. It was such an inspiration! I found some good things that I had forgotten or overlooked. Truly as David said, "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path." The more I read it the more I love it, and I constantly desire to obey it, for Jesus said, "If ye love me, keep my commandments." I do love Him so much, for he has done so much for me the past 45 years that I have fully trusted Him. Also I find "His commandments are not grievous" or hard to keep. And, best of all, as the song says, "I'm acquainted with the Author, and I know the Book is true."

Since about the first of Sept. I have had one sickness

or affliction after another. Some were quite serious. We read in the Word, "Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the Lord delivereth him out of them all." Praise His dear name, He did that for me. At the beginning of our assembly meeting here at Pacoima, I had two different afflictions, and was looking to the Lord to heal them, as He had done the others. I had just read in Joel 3:21, "I will cleanse their blood that I have not cleansed: for the Lord dwelleth in Zion." Oh, praise His precious name, we have a wonderful healer—Jesus Christ the Lord, dwelling in Zion. I remembered that dear old Bro. G. E. Harmon often used that expression of Joel 3:21 when praying for the sick. So one morning the Lord gave me that promise and I got up in meeting and told the saints about it and requested prayer that I be cleansed from all my afflictions. And again I praise the Lord, for He healed me that day and I have had perfect health since then. "'Tis true, oh, yes, 'tis true, God's wonderful promise is true, For I've trusted, tested, and tried it, and I know God's promise is true."

So dear reader, if you are dwelling in Zion (one of God's born-again children) don't be afraid to take all your problems, troubles, trials, or afflictions to Jesus, for He is "all in all," and "is the same yesterday, and today, and forever." Bless His holy name!

Your sister in Christ, Vera M. Forbes.

o-o-o-o-o-o

Okla.—Dear saints,—Greetings in Jesus' dear name. We are still saved and very encouraged to live for God. God surely has been good to us. I had a sore on my hand. I told the Lord if He would heal it I would tell the goodness of God. The sore got bad, but I kept on praying and the Lord healed it. I thank the saints for their prayers.

Please pray for my father who isn't saved. Also, I have another affliction on my body. I desire the saints to pray with me for my healing. Pray, too, for my children who aren't saved. Pray for my husband in his good work. One of my boys had a bad earache and it left him deaf, so I would like for him to be remembered; also my baby. She did have a bad cold, but thank the good Lord, she is better. We are living for God. Pray for us.

Sister Pastena B. Warren.

o-o-o-o-o-o

Ark.—Dear Bro. and Sister Pruitt and all the saints in Jesus' dear sweet name,—I feel led to write my testimony. I can't begin to tell how much Jesus has blessed me. It is beyond words. I am saved, sanctified, and satisfied, and intend to make heaven my home by God's grace and help. I thank all the saints for their prayers, sent up in my behalf. May God's richest blessings be yours the remainder of your lives is my daily prayer. All of you continue to pray for me.

Yours in Christ Jesus, Sister Richards.

o-o-o-o-o-o

Calif.—Dear saints,—We are very thankful for the blessings of the Lord and to be able to say that we are saved, which means more to us than anything. We cannot tell of all the goodness of the Lord, but he has certainly been our helper in all things.

For several years a very small polyp had been growing in my nose. Since it caused no serious trouble, (only slight pain if rubbed too hard), I failed to seek the Lord to remove it. One day, upon noticing its continued growth, I asked the Lord to remove it, thinking that I would testify to it. Not long afterward it loosened up so I could pull it off. This was just a small thing, but it is so wonderful to know our God is interested in small things as well as the large.

Pray for us. O. A. Davenport.

## One Work, Or Two?

In our enlightened days, many good people treat with scorn the doctrine of two works of grace. They usually ask the question, "Why doesn't God save us by one work of grace?" You could ask the question, "Why didn't God create the universe in one day?" Instead, we know he used six days, and rested the seventh. We should never question God, or His plan. What he has done, or what he does, is perfect and complete, without doubt.

When God made man, he made him holy, in his own image, upright, etc., but man disobeyed God's law, and sinned and fell from grace, or His holiness. "By one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin." This was Adam. When man fell, he was a step downward from God. He was in sin and condemned. But God instituted a temporary, symbolical plan under the Mosaic law to forgive man's sin through the sacrificial blood of animals. Now, under the new covenant, we are saved by the blood of Jesus.

After Adam fell, he lived an hundred and thirty years, and begat Seth in his own fallen image—not in the image of God. Thus, this brought mankind one more step down from God, and two steps away from purity. David said, "In sin did my mother conceive me." Psalms 51:5. "They go forth speaking lies as soon as they are born." Psalm 58:3. So if you are two steps down, you must take the two steps back in order to get back on the moral plane on which God had created him in the beginning. This is accomplished by the two works of grace.

The first work is that of being "born again" or saved by grace through faith and getting forgiveness of the committed sins. This is a "step." To be sure, it is in the right direction, but we are commanded to "go on unto perfection." (Hebrews 6:1.)

But there is an "inherited sin" to deal with. Some call it the "Adamic sin"—but whatever, it is in the heart of even babies and all regenerated persons. Paul referred to such as being "babes in Christ," (1 Cor. 3:1) for they still possessed the carnal nature inherited from Adam and his transgression, so "death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned." Romans 5:12. This carnality in believers was the thing John referred to when he said, "If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves." (1 John 1:8). When you compare verse 7, you will find that the man has been cleansed from ALL sin, both the Adamic, or carnal, and also the committed sin. It is both done by the power of the blood of Christ. He died on Calvary's cross to save from committed sins in justification, and also to sanctify and cleanse from the sin principle in the second work of grace. John, in the above scripture in verse 7, is referring to a man who has been sanctified holy by the baptism of the Holy Ghost, and the "old man" of sin has been crucified with his deeds. Self has been denied and put away, the Holy Ghost has come in and now abides in the body, which is the temple of the Holy Ghost. That old fleshly man and carnal nature must die. And he will die when the Holy Ghost comes in His sanctify-

ing power. "To be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace." (See Romans 8:6-10). So, if you want to see God in peace (Hebrews 12:14), you must get rid of that "old man."

Some one may argue, "I don't believe in holiness." That doesn't change it one iota. God is holy, and he has a holy Bible, his church is holy, and heaven is a holy place, and to get there, we must be holy and without blemish, or any such thing. (Eph. 5:27).

How do we get the second work of grace? First, get the first work. Become converted, confess your sins, believe in Christ, be baptized in water by immersion, walk in the light. Read Luke 1:74-75 and 1 Thess. 5:14-23. You could not say that these brethren were not Christians, but they needed to be filled with the Holy Ghost, which is the second work of grace. "Being justified by faith, we have peace with God, by whom ALSO we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand." (Rom. 5:1). The disciples were first converted and then on the day of Pentecost they were filled with the Holy Ghost.

Have you received the Holy Ghost since you have believed?

—S. S. Lilly

## Western Evangelistic Effort

We have been impressed by the Spirit of God to write concerning evangelistic work in the western states. We and others have borne the same burden, and now the Lord is opening avenues by which the gospel may be spread. Souls on every hand about us need to know more about this wonderful redemption plan. Have we lifted up our eyes and seen the fields white, already to harvest, the grain falling, ungathered for want of reapers? Are we asking God, "What wilt thou have me to do?"

I know, according to the Word of God, that God has all the material substance and equipment in His hands for every work that He plans and blesses, but that the church may be enlightened to know how the Lord is leading, blessing and supplying, I will give the details of the work the Lord has impressed us with.

Bro. Hensel Olsen is especially burdened for the evangelistic field of labor and is working toward that end. He is planning on getting things lined up and ready to use this spring as the Lord moves and supplies through His servants. The Lord has impressed us with the thought of tent meetings, possibly along the line of those conducted by Bro. Charles Smith and the company of workers in the southern and eastern states. There is a fund already started for this. There is one tent, 34 x 44 feet available at present, slightly used, but in almost new condition. We are waiting on the Lord for His leadings on this or something else. Then, a Chevrolet 1½ ton truck has been offered which needs engine repairs and a new van. We expect to purchase a small electric plant (gas-powered) for a private lighting system, take-apart, portable seating, which would have to be made up, and other materials necessary.

Then I feel the most important portion of this work is that of Spirit-filled, consecrated saints, willing to spend and be spent in the work of God; deny self, take up their cross, and follow whithersoever He leadeth.

Any one especially interested and burdened, or that has some of the Lord's goods, money, or materials, or helpful information may contact me and I will contact with Bro. Olsen and others burdened about this work.

—Albert W. Nielsen, pastor. Box 34, Jefferson, Oreg.



## BIBLE STUDY

Primary Picture Roll, \$1.50: Lesson cards, 10¢

February 1, 1959

### JESUS QUESTIONED ABOUT THE TRIBUTE

Printed Portion ..... Luke 20:19-26

19. And the chief priests and the scribes the same hour sought to lay hands on him; and they feared the people: for they perceived that he had spoken this parable against them.

20. And they watched him, and sent forth spies, which should feign themselves just men, that they might take hold of his words, that so they might deliver him unto the power and authority of the governor.

21. And they asked him, saying, Master, we know that thou sayest and teachest rightly, neither acceptest thou the person of any, but teachest the way of God truly:

22. Is it lawful for us to give tribute unto Caesar, or no?

23. But he perceived their craftiness, and said unto them, Why tempt ye me?

24. Shew me a penny. Whose image and superscription hath it? They answered and said, Caesar's.

25. And he said unto them, Render therefore unto Caesar the things which be Caesar's, and unto God the things which be God's.

26. And they could not take hold of his words before the people: and they marvelled at his answer, and held their peace.

**Memory Verse:** Render therefore unto Caesar the things which be Caesar's, and unto God the things which be God's. Luke 20:25.

**Practical Truth:** We can answer hard questions when the Spirit of God give us wisdom.

### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

History tells us that in 63 B. C., which was 92 years before our lesson was written, some quarreling Jewish leaders had appealed to Pompey as arbiter and the Roman government had taken possession of Palestine and had given them their protection. The Roman coinage, travel, trade, and the peace brought by Caesar to the then-known world was greatly enjoyed by the Jewish people, yet they did not like to pay the taxes. The tax they had to pay was only one day's work at common labor for one year. Compare that with the taxes we have to pay now.

The Pharisees and others tried to do a bit of scheming to catch Jesus so they could deliver him to be punished. They wanted to get rid of Him and His teachings or influence over the people. His teachings showed up their sins and evil doings. But we can clearly see how they gave themselves away by their approach. Of course they did not know that Jesus was a mind reader and knew their thoughts. He was ready for them. We may be asked hard questions today, but if we are living under the anointing of the Holy Spirit, we can, by His help, answer them. How important it is that we, at all times, live in the Spirit. This can be done by much prayer and being in a prayerful attitude at all times.

We should render to God those things which be His. God gives us breath, life, and a soul. We should return to Him these things. Submit to God continually and your joy will be complete.

February 8, 1959

### JESUS QUESTIONED ABOUT THE RESURRECTION

Printed Portion ..... Luke 20:27-38

27. Then came to him certain of the Sadducees, which deny that there is any resurrection: and they asked him,

28. Saying, Master, Moses wrote unto us, If any man's brother die, having a wife, and he die without children, that his brother should take his wife, and raise up seed unto his brother.

29. There were therefore seven brethren: and the first took a wife, and died without children.

30. And the second took her to wife, and he died childless.

31. And the third took her; and in like manner the seven also: and they left no children, and died.

32. Last of all the woman died also.

33. Therefore in the resurrection whose wife of them is she? for seven had her to wife.

34. And Jesus answering said unto them, The children of this world marry, and are given in marriage:

35. But they which shall be accounted worthy to obtain that world, and the resurrection from the dead, neither marry, nor are given in marriage:

36. Neither can they die any more: for they are equal unto the angels; and are the children of God, being the children of the resurrection.

37. Now that the dead are raised, even Moses shewed at the bush, when he calleth the Lord the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.

38. For he is not a God of the dead, but of the living: for all live unto him.

**Memory Verse:** He is not a God of the dead, but of the living: for all live unto him. Luke 20:38.

**Practical Truth:** As a result of Christ's own teachings and resurrection, Christians have a confident belief in a glorious future life.

### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Our lesson makes it very plain that after the resurrection we will not live as we live in this world. Marriage and family ties are not in heaven. There will not be male nor female but we will be as the angels, which are spirits.

How precious it is to the child of God—the hope he has within him of a life beyond the grave. The world today is becoming full of unbelief. One young college professor said, "I do not believe in heaven, nor do I believe in life after death. I really doubt whether any intelligent person does nowadays, or has for a hundred years or more." This proves how fast our nation is headed for destruction as many other nations that have forgotten God, and disbelieve the Bible.

Jesus told us in plain words, "I am the resurrection and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live." John 11:25. All through the New Testament the resurrection is taught. "For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive." 1 Cor. 15:22. Paul had a desire in his first Roman imprisonment "to depart, and to be with Christ: which is far better." Phil. 1:23. Peter, who saw Moses and Elijah in heavenly glory on the mount conversing with Jesus said, "God ... hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you." 1 Pet. 1:3-4.

The finite or smallness of our minds cannot take in the greatness of heaven, or the plan of God which makes us know that these bodies will become immortal. Christ is the firstfruits of them that slept. As he arose, so will we.



February 15, 1959

### JESUS QUESTIONED ABOUT THE GREAT COMMANDMENT

Printed Portion ..... Mark 12:28-34

28. And one of the scribes came, and having heard them reasoning together, and perceiving that he had answered them well, asked him, Which is the first commandment of all?

29. And Jesus answered him, The first of all the commandments is, Hear, O Israel; the Lord our God is one Lord:

30. And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment.

31. And the second is like, namely this, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these.

32. And the scribe said unto him, Well, Master, thou hast said the truth: for there is one God; and there is none other but he:

33. And to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the soul, and with all the strength, and to love his neighbor as himself, is more than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices.

34. And when Jesus saw that he answered discreetly, he said unto him, Thou art not far from the kingdom of God. And no man after that durst ask him any question.

**Memory Verse:** To love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the soul, and with all the strength, and to love his neighbor as himself, is more than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices. Mark 12:33.

**Practical Truth:** The devil is trying to destroy the law of love in the world, but we must not let him.

### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

The scribes and Pharisees thought the greatest thing in their lives and relationship with God was the sacrifices and offerings they offered. Today people feel they have done their duty if they go to church service and sit through it or observe some ritual. Jesus says the greatest thing to do is to love the one and only God with all thy heart, soul, mind, and strength. This will take all your time every minute of the day. The second commandment is to love thy neighbor as thyself. In studying the life of Jesus we see how he manifested love toward all men. He was quick to tell them the truth about themselves so they would not be eternally lost. We must, of course, remember He could read their thoughts and could see into their hearts.

We can test our love for God by the love we have in our hearts for others. Do we draw away from the person who has fallen through sin and is an outcast of society? How do we feel about the man who is drunk in the gutter? True love will cause us to pray for him and help him to find God. We do not love their ways, but we love that soul that will live on somewhere.

Through complete consecration and a surrender of one's self into God's hands and the purging of the Holy Spirit, we can love God with all our heart, mind, and strength. Through this cleansing we can have perfected love which will cause us to love our neighbor as ourself.

February 22, 1959

### JESUS TEACHES ABOUT THE END OF THE WORLD

Printed Portion ..... Mark 13:1-7, 32-37

1. And as he went out of the temple, one of his disciples saith unto him, Master, see what manner of stones and what buildings are here!

2. And Jesus answering said unto him, Seest thou these great buildings? there shall not be left one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down.

3. And as he sat upon the mount of Olives over against the temple, Peter and James and John and Andrew asked him privately,

4. Tell us, when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign when all these things shall be fulfilled?

5. And Jesus answering them began to say, Take heed lest any man deceive you:

6. For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many.

7. And when ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars, be ye not troubled: for such things must needs be; but the end shall not be yet.

32. But of that day and that hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels which are in heaven, neither the Son, but the Father.

33. Take ye heed, watch and pray: for ye know not when the time is.

34. For the Son of man is as a man taking a far journey, who left his house, and gave authority to his servants, and to every man his work, and commanded the porter to watch.

35. Watch ye therefore: for ye know not when the master of the house cometh, at even, or at midnight, or at the cockcrowing, or in the morning:

36. Lest coming suddenly he find you sleeping.

37. And what I say unto you I say unto all, Watch.

**Memory Verse:** Take ye heed, watch and pray: for ye know not when the time is. Mark 13:33.

**Practical Truth:** We should be in a constant state of readiness to meet our Lord.

### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

The temple was a beautiful structure. It was destroyed as Jesus predicted by Titus according to history. Some of the disciples wanted to know more about this for Matthew adds: "What shall be the sign of thy coming and the end of the world?" Matt. 24:3.

Many false Christs arose at that time and since. Jesus wished His followers to stand firm against them.

The intermingling of the sayings recorded which pertain to the destruction of Jerusalem, and the sign of Jesus' coming and the end of the world, makes it difficult to understand clearly all that is meant and to separate the verses in this chapter.

Today and in times past many have predicted the exact time of Christ's coming in the clouds. Our lesson tells us plainly that the day, hour and the time knoweth no man, not even Jesus or the angels. Since no one knows we should take the warning of Jesus who tells us to watch. It does not mean to watch the sky, but to watch our hearts, our motives, our attitudes, our lives, our deeds, and be sure we are measured to the Word of God. When we stand before God in the judgment we will be judged by God's Word. "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away." Matt. 24:35.

Sister Marie Miles.