

# FAITH<sup>AND</sup> VICTORY

## Church of God Servant



Volume 29, No. 1

Printed at

Guthrie, Oklahoma

35c Per Year

June, 1959

### *Speak Out For Jesus*

You talk about your business,  
Your bonds and stocks and gold;  
And in all worldly matters  
You are so brave and bold.  
But why are you so silent  
About salvation's plan?  
Why don't you speak for Jesus,  
And speak out like a man?

You talk about the weather,  
And the crops of corn and wheat;  
You speak of friends and neighbors  
That pass along the street;  
You call yourself a Christian,  
And like the Gospel plan—  
Then why not speak for Jesus,  
And speak out like a man?

Are you ashamed of Jesus  
And the story of the cross,  
That you lower His pure banner  
And let it suffer loss?  
Have you forgot His suffering?  
Did He die for you in vain?  
If not, then live and speak for Jesus,  
And speak out like a man!

I'd like to tell the story sweet  
Of Jesus. Wouldn't you?  
To help some other folks to meet  
Their Saviour. Wouldn't you?  
I'd like to travel all the way  
To where I'd hear my Jesus say:  
"You've helped my work along today."  
I'd like that. Wouldn't you?

### *Can Any Good Come Out of Nazareth?*

I was passing through some trials that seemed most unbearable. Every way I would look I could see nothing but an ugly picture with shame and suffering; and the nature of some of these trials was

such that they were exposed out where everyone could behold them, which made the pricking all the sharper and more cutting. While suffering from day to day the Scripture kept coming to me, "Can there any good thing come out of Nazareth?" After several days of this ringing in my ears I began to meditate thereon and I gathered this little message, so I feel like passing it on. It helped me; maybe it will you.

We find that Nazareth was a very small town within the limits of the province of Galilee near Cana. There was nothing much that was desirable to behold. Above the town there were some rocky ledges over which a person could not be thrown without almost certain destruction. All the inhabitants of Galilee were looked upon with contempt by the people of Judea because they spoke a ruder dialect, were less cultivated and were more exposed by their position to contact with the heathen. But Nazareth labored under a special opprobrium, for it was a Galilean and not a southern Jew who asked the reproachful question whether any good thing could come out of Nazareth. (St. John 1:46.) The word opprobrium means the disgrace that follows from, or is attached to, conduct considered evil or wrong; reproach with disdain or contempt; scurrilous or abusive language.

Although Nazareth suffered under these shameful reproaches the best Jewel that earth beneath or heaven above could afford came out of Nazareth—Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the one who conquered death, hell, and the grave—came forth to resurrect our dead souls, and bring us to the place where we can daily walk and talk with God, and give us power over all the power of the wicked one.

God had a purpose in his Son: He was a Lamb slain from the foundation of the world, the one to fulfill the prophecy concerning the great plan of redemption. Although he came through the way of suffering, through shame and disgrace, was rejected by his own, persecuted, forsaken, nailed to the cross, shamefully treated right in the hours of death, yet death could not hold him. He came forth to give us life, life! Oh, eternal life! He was the only source for our salvation.

Look at Him there, dear friends, when He suffered the rebukes from a cold, cruel world. Look at

Him suffering shame by being spit upon, by being scourged. Look at Him in the garden, weeping in agony for you and me. Look at Him bearing His cross to Calvary. Look at Him as He hung there when His disciples had fled and seemingly God had forsaken Him. Look at Him dying for you. Can we not say, all good came out of Nazareth? a power that causes men to tremble, a power that caused the rocks to rent, the graves to open, and I say a power that brought some of the dead saints out of their graves and they walked about in the city. And, yea, can we not see good flowing from His precious life to comfort the hearts of troubled souls, see His power to forgive men of their sins, see them walking in newness of life, see the dead raised to life again, mother's hearts comforted? See the lame walking, the blind seeing! Look at the many hearts that were made glad when their troubled souls were touched by divine power and their desires were granted. Yea, can we not say all good came out of the little city that was looked upon with shame and reproach?

Now let us turn the question around to our lives. Have we not many times when in severe trials, asked the question: "Can there any good come out of this?" knowing that the Scripture says, "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose." Jesus was the called according to God's purpose, His suffering brought Him to the place where He is the one central character of human history, the pivot around which the events of ages revolve and the only regenerator of the human race. In Christ lay the whole plan of God.

Joseph was the called of God in his day. He was a life-saver to the people in his time. Can we take a look at Joseph for awhile? See him a lad with his father and his brethren. Look at him there telling his dream to the brothers, then look and see down in their hearts that envious spirit, a spirit of jealousy that was as cruel as the grave coming against the innocent lad.

See him there with the coat of many colors and the rage from his brothers that no doubt crushed his very soul. See the young lad walking over rocks and hills taking his brothers something to eat and as he came near them, see and hear one say the reproachful words: "Look, there comes that dreamer." See them put him down into the pit then afterward sell him. See the tender youth going farther and farther away from his home, among strangers where he would be without any parental love around him. See him in Potiphar's house and then after he won the confidence of Potiphar, see him fleeing from a sinful woman. See him suffering while she told her falsehood to her husband. See him in all humility of heart suffer the wrong rather than speak against the wife of one that was once his friend, but because of the lie that was told the friendship was broken. See him on his way to the prison and there suffering for years yet for no wrong he had done. Friends, he was the called according to God's purpose.

In his suffering there was no good in sight, yet one day there sprang forth a ray of light when he was called from the dark walls of the prison and in a short while he stood before the king telling the king the meaning of his dreams. See him suffering patiently all these years while under the weighty hand of trial, but finally he came out to a place of honor; yet he was just as humble in the king's court as he was behind the prison walls.

He fulfilled his calling and God blessed him and all his house. All things were working for God's glory and Joseph's good. He was a "Nazarethite" for God, suffering shame, reproach, and disgrace and good came out of his precious life. That good not only blessed him and the people in his time but also the good has reached thousands of precious hearts down through ages as they have gone through the dark hours of life, and even to us.

Through the many years in which he suffered he had plenty of time to think of his troubles and could have mourned over them and a gloom could have settled down over him had he not trusted in the God of heaven that is able to make the impossible things possible. There could no good be seen while he labored under shame, disgrace, and cruelty. But in God's own time, in his own way He brought good out of all the dark places Joseph went through; and I say that good is reaching us today and his faithful life feeds our souls and strengthens us in the dark hours we pursue.

Are we a "Nazarethite" for God? Have we been placed in a city of trial, exposed to the gaze of everyone that looks? Are we laboring under a special opprobrium, suffering shame, disgrace, and contemptuous reproach? and as we look does the question arise in our minds, "Can there any good come out of this strange place in which I am?" While we suffer from the one outstanding trial, do we feel many sharp, cutting and pricking blows coming from every side thus causing the way to become more dark and the load heavier? And as you look, you see many dangerous places in which you could be killed spiritually if you would venture out to the rocky cliffs. As you think of the danger, do you feel the need of being very cautious? Are you walking very humble before the Lord and had you rather suffer any wrong than to suffer from a sin on your soul?

Oh, my friends, we meet with many rocky cliffs in the city of trial. We could be overthrown if we would loose our hold on the cord of love from the power house. But as we hold to this cord it lifts us away from every rocky cliff and causes us to come out without any hurt to our souls. One of the big rocky cliffs is an unforgiving spirit, and many others such as envy, jealousy, strife, and hatred. Any of these rocky cliffs, if we come near them, is almost sure destruction. How careful we must be not to be overthrown and tumble down, down, down.

Can we say we know things are working together for our good? Do we love God? Are we the called according to God's purpose? Are you, my brother

and sister, willing for God to work out His purpose in your life? God desires to see His image in us and for His image to be seen there is a process of suffering we all must go through. God wants us tender and mellow. As He permits us to go into the town of Nazareth suffering and laboring under heavy weights of different kinds, He will also cause us to come out (if we yield to Him) filled with a good that will feed many dear hearts even after our bodies are mouldering in the dust.

Remember, God wants His purpose worked out in our lives. We are not our own, we are bought with a price; and it will cost us something to be true to God to still be His friend no matter what He permits to come our way. To be a friend is to have solemn and tender education of soul from day to day. It takes a great soul to be a true friend. A friend will forgive much, forget much, and forbear much. It costs to be a friend; and if we are a true friend to souls we are the friend of God. God works with the souls for whom Christ died to bring us to the place where He is fully glorified in our lives. This oftentimes comes as He brings us through the weighty trials that come to us. God will test us.

He wants us to bear fruit for Him in the darkest hours of our lives. There are many little flowers that bloom all through the wintery days and are just as beautiful when spring comes as though they never went through the cold. One writer says God's providence is like nature: the sun never rises too late, the stars never too early. In providence everything comes in its set time. All wrongs done unto us, when touched by God's divine touch, are translated into blessing. In this we can say with Paul, "For we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose." But not until afterward will we see our disappointments, hardships, trials, misfortunes, and the wrongs done unto us by others are all made part of God's providence. But the afterward is sure if we keep our hand off. God works slowly, from a human standpoint, and we cannot hurry Him.

Dear child of God, if your life has been filled with burdens, look away to the One who can solve every problem. He can help you through. His strength is made perfect in weakness. He can bring you to a haven of bliss with a good that you will be able to be a saver of life to many hungry souls, and you will be made to rejoice that your Saviour did pilot you over and brought you to that shore. The One that has trod the way before us understands while we in our weakness only see the outside surface. Some day God will let us see His glory and beauties that He has in store for those that are faithful. He may call us to suffer with Him for awhile but the "God of all grace who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered awhile, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you." 1 Peter 5:10. "For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory." 2 Cor. 4:17. Then we hear Paul say in Rom. 8:18, "For I reckon that the sufferings of this pre-

sent time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that shall be revealed in us."

Keep looking up, dear child of God, fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life. Forget the past that needs to be forgotten, and cling to the old rugged cross. Some day the cross will be exchanged for a crown. Keep this one thing in mind, that you are bearing a cross to wear a crown, and it won't be long till the exchange will come. My very soul leaps with joy to think of the eternal weight of glory at the end of life's journey. Be faithful!

—Sister Lottie Joiner.

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## Results of A Disobedient Prophet

God spoke to Jonah and gave him a message to take to Nineveh to warn them that their wickedness had come before him. Jonah refused to go, but fled to Tarshish. He had already taken one step downward away from the Lord. This is very dangerous. It is so easy then, to take the second one, which Jonah did. He continued to go DOWN. He went DOWN to Joppa, then DOWN into the ship, then DOWN into the sides of the ship and fell asleep. When the devil gets us started downward, he puts us to sleep so we will not see our danger until awakened by those that see the danger. In other words he blinds us to the wrong we are doing.

There was a great wind sent by God on the sea and those on the ship were in very great danger of their lives. They awoke Jonah and immediately he realized he was the cause of the trouble. But Jonah was willing to confess his wrongs, otherwise the ship and the crew would have been lost. How sad to think of many being lost or having much trouble, heartaches, sorrows, and pain because of one man or person refusing to confess his wrong. This is the burden of my heart. When Jonah confessed and repented they asked him what they should do. He told them to cast him into the sea and their lives would be saved. How many would be willing to do as Jonah did to save others? God be merciful and help us each one to sacrifice to save others.

We see here there is a consequence as a result of our turning away from God. We may lead others down, down, DOWN with us or get them into trouble too. We do not live our lives alone. We have an influence on all we come in contact with. In Jonah's case if he had refused to confess his wrong, the shipmen and himself would have been lost and also that great city of Nineveh would have been destroyed. How responsible we are before God and man.

—Flossie Atha.

Teach us, O God, to fix our eyes  
On Christ, the spotless Lamb;  
So shall we love Thy gracious will  
And glorify Thy Name.

In heaven His blood for ever speaks  
In God the Father's ear;  
His Saints as jewels on His Heart,  
Jesus doth ever bear.

## "FAITH AND VICTORY"

### 16-Page Holiness Monthly

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

(Second class postage paid at Guthrie, Okla.)

#### SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Single copy, three months .....	\$ .10
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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

The campmeetings of the Church of God will begin in May and there will be one in progress somewhere all through the summer months. These campmeetings are scattered over many places in the United States. Sometimes, where they are far apart, two meetings will be going on at the same time. It takes a lot of labor and sacrificing of means and time to carry on a campmeeting, but the effort is worth all, for one soul is worth more than if one had gained the whole world. We are expecting a multitude of souls to be saved this summer in the campmeetings and many of the saints encouraged and built up in God and settled down in the truth as never before. In James 1:22 we read, "But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves." All the saints everywhere should do all they can to further the true holiness gospel among men. It seems to me that the time is short and the angel of the Lord may soon be standing with one foot on the land and the other on sea and declaring that time shall be no more. Let us do what we can while it is yet day. The Bible tells us that the night cometh when no man can work.

The office force here is kept busy with the writing of letters, and the printing of tracts, papers, and books and the truth is going forth by the printed page in a steady stream to all parts of the world. The Lord is helping us to belt the globe with the "Evening Light" truth and we are thankful at heart that we can be a worker together with Him in getting the true holiness doctrine to so many precious souls. We have been sending the gospel to dark Africa in their own language and now we have Spanish type or matrices to print and send the gospel to old Mexico where the need is great. We also have ordered a good quantity of the gospels of St. John in the Spanish language to be sent wherever needed and when the call comes in from time to time. Those who have been praying for the work and giving of their substance to get the gospel to these thousands of people will have a part in the reaping and in that day hear the Saviour say, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant: . . enter thou into the joy of the Lord." God only accepts willing service so each one should give as the Lord puts the burden on his heart, not to be known of men, for we are taught in the Word not to let thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth. It is enough for the Lord to know what you are doing. The true saints are not laboring for rewards here in this world, but are running for the prize at the end of the race. The silent, secret giving of a true saint of God is precious in the sight of God. Our giving should always be as unto the Lord and that in a free manner

and not because someone has levied it upon us or because of the urging of another, for God only receives willing and obedient service. Giving to the Lord is to the soul as breathing is to the body. It keeps the soul alive and in a healthy growing condition.

In this age of apostatizing, carelessness, and indifference, the need of the gospel going forth by the printed page and otherwise, is great, for God wants the few gathered into the fold who will dare to stand for the truth at any cost. The Communists are gripping the world today with their slimy blood-spattered hands and we do not know how soon the saints will be compassed about and great persecution will be upon us. Then who will be able to stand? Let each one of us have our lamps trimmed and burning, with plenty of oil on hand so when the evil day comes our light from heaven will keep shining until He says, "It is enough, come up higher."

We are receiving threatening letters from Communistic sources, and we do not know how soon this printing work will be blown up by dynamite, but with all the threatenings, we mean, by His grace, to be steadfast, unmoveable, and continually abounding in the good work of the Lord, sending forth the gospel or His Word, which is powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

I do not know of any way that would be more precious in the sight of God than to die as a martyr for Him. When Stephen was being stoned to death for Christ's sake, he looked up to heaven and the heavens were opened and he saw Jesus standing at the right hand of God. Jesus was so interested in the death of His child, Stephen, that He stood up to look upon the scene. Let each one of us draw strength from above and so live in humility of heart and mind that we will be ready to suffer for His name's sake and bear the cross and taste a little of the sufferings that is left for the innocent. Read in the Bible of the sufferings of the Apostle Paul and take note of his firmness, even before the rulers and governors of the land. He said in Col. 1:24, "Who now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up that which is behind of the afflictions of Christ in my flesh for his body's sake, which is the church." Those who have the welfare of the Church at heart are willing to suffer and bear the reproach of the world that souls might be saved and be ready for heaven and immortal glory.

Jesus says in Luke 13:24, "Strive to enter in at the strait gate: for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able." He goes on to say that the Master will rise up and shut the door and will say unto those who are knocking for an entrance, I know you not whence ye are and there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Oh, that sad time is coming for many that profess and yet do not His Word. Dear friends, you cannot serve God and mammon and at the same time be a doer of His Word. To

follow in the footsteps of Christ will cause you to be persecuted and even despised by seemingly pious people. Paul makes the statement after going through much afflictions that, "All that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution." It is said of Paul that when he went into the city to preach he either had a revival or a riot. If your preaching and work for God does not stir the devil and his crowd against you, it is a pretty good sign that you are one of his number. The fact is that Satan has thousands of preachers in the world today to one of the Lord's ministers. According to Paul's testimony in 2 Cor. 11:13 we know that they are here in an abundant manner, for he says, "For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works." The ministers of Satan preach many right things for the purpose of deceiving souls into error and bringing them to ruin and shame.

Brothers and sisters in the Lord, let us be as Paul exhorted us to be in Phil. 2:1-6, which reads, "If there be therefore any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the spirit, if any bowels and mercies, fulfill ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind. Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than themselves. Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others. [See that your brother has things also.] Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God." Brethren, it is not robbery to be like Christ, for the more you are like him the more glory and honor He will receive and He will be lifted up in a greater measure. He says in His Word, "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me." John 12:32.

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I feel it will be good for our readers and pleasing to the Lord if I would name some of the deceiving and poisonous doctrines that exist in the world which bring confusion and discouragement on many precious souls. The sin-you-must doctrine, the doctrine of "once saved, always saved, or eternal security," spiritualism, Christian Science, Jehovah Witness; the soul-sleeping "no hell" doctrine, water salvation in place of the blood of Christ, infant sprinkling or pouring for baptism, the anti-cleansing doctrine or "One work of grace"; millennialism, or the doctrine of a "thousand-year reign"; modern religion or liberal conscience, anti-ordiance doctrines, religions that conform to the world in adorning the body—women bobbing the hair and wearing abbreviated clothing; binding Old Testament doctrines on New Testament converts, endorsing adultery either physically or spiritually, the endorsing of pool-playing, going to theaters, shows, or favoring the T. V. sets in the homes, and the using of the new version of the Bible. These

creeds and doctrines have been formed as a way to get into the Church rather than being born from above. The new birth in Christ Jesus puts one in the true Church of God. Jesus says, "I am the door." As children are born into a family by a physical birth, so also are we born into the Church, God's family by a spiritual birth. These and many other things are among the evils that Satan is using to deceive, decoy, or to blind souls so that they will meet the Lord in Judgment with only a profession and be disappointed and be turned into that place of torment prepared for the devil and his angels where the worm dieth not and the fire is never quenched.

Brethren, let us take heed unto ourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to feed the Church of God, which He hath purchased with His own blood. The minister of God is duty-bound to warn the wicked and also to warn the righteous that they sin not. Read Ezekiel 2:17 to the 22nd verse.

### Obituaries

Rosa Belle Day, the daughter of Taylor and Ellen Loy, was born at or near Joplin, Mo., June 10, 1876. She left this world April 1, 1959 at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Clarence Caughron of Webb City, Mo., at the age of 82 years, nine months, and 22 days. She was married June 12, 1892 to Stephen H. Day who preceded her in death in 1902.

Sister Day first heard the gospel of the Church of God in 1920 when a younger brother, Lewis Loy, embraced the truth on his dying bed and was gloriously saved ten months before going on to Glory. She had been confused in her mind for sometime, but we could hear her praying for God to make her what she ought to be.

She suffered a hip fracture Aug. 29, 1957 but recovered to the extent that she could walk a little. Later, though, she weakened and took her bed. Different ones of the saints helped to care for her. Sister Ruth Murphey was here from about March 16 to 29. Sister Margaret Eck visited her and sang some songs and read some Scriptures. When Sister Day was asked about her soul, she replied that she was all right. She got so happy and later that evening was heard quoting the same Scriptures. After Sister Carrick's return from a trip she said to her, "Ersa, Ersa, Ersa, we shall be there, we shall be there."

She leaves another daughter, Mrs. S. E. Carroll of Chicago, Ill., three grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren. A son died in infancy.

Services were at the Hedge-Lewis Funeral Chapel, with Sister Ersa Carrick officiating, assisted by Bro. Merrill Williamson. James 4:14; Isa. 25:8; 1 Cor. 15:55.

Nora Zilpha Lightner was born in Crawford County, Indiana, May 23, 1881, and passed away at Los Angeles, Calif., May 11, 1959, age 77. Her maiden name was West. In early life she was married to Reuben L. Barker. To this union was born one child, Mrs. Ruth B. Morgan who still survives. Mr. Barker died in 1937. Later Mrs. Barker was married to Wilber W. Lightner of Willows, Calif., at which place she made her home until Mr. Lightner passed away in 1955. Then she moved to Pomona, Calif. to be near her daughter and to be among the saints.

Mrs. Lightner was an earnest Christian having been converted to God in the Methodist denomination when she was a young girl. When she met the Church of God, she

readily accepted the Truth and identified herself with it. She was always active in church and Sunday school work. She remained true to God till the end and died in full triumphs of a living faith.

Besides her daughter, she leaves a brother, Mr. Oscar West of Bryan, Ohio.

Funeral services were conducted at Todd Memorial Chapel, Pomona, Calif. with Sister Lavern Manuel and Elder Russell Robinson officiating. Interment followed in the Tulare Cemetery beside the graves of her husband and mother to await the resurrection morn.

John G. Williams was born to Edward and Alice Williams Dec. 22, 1882 in Mashulaville, Miss., and departed this life April 26, 1959 at 7:45 a. m. He was united in holy matrimony to Mary Agnes Lee in Okeene, Okla. Aug. 9, 1909.

He had been identified with the saints for a number of years, but according to his own testimony never received a heart felt experience until April 6, 1958 at his home near Okeene. He bore his long illness with great patience, feeling that it was only right that he suffer since he had failed God so completely in former years.

He leaves to mourn his passing a wife, Mary Agnes; a sister, Mrs. Margaret Hamlet of Anthony, Kansas; and four brothers: Oscar of Los Angeles, Calif., James of Hennessey, Okla., and Thomas and Less, both of Vicksburg, Ariz.; and a host of other relatives and friends.

Brother John will be greatly missed by the saints and friends.

Services conducted by Bro. Lewis Williams assisted by others. Interment was near the Okeene chapel.

George Washington McMillian, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Ben McMillian was born May 5, 1877 at Roberson County, N. C. and departed this life Monday morning, May 4, 1959 at the age of 81 years, 11 months, and 29 days. In 1917 he was united in marriage to Mary Mustin. In June, 1944 she was called to her reward. Later he married Susie Lewis Whan. The Lord called her to her reward in Nov., 1954.

In 1926 Bro. McMillian was born into the Church of God. He was pastor at the Church of God at Okmulgee, Okla. a number of years.

His survivors are his brother, L. M. McMillian of Florida; a step-son, Walter Mustin of Okemah, Okla.; a cousin, Henry McCormick of Boley, Okla. and a number of other relatives and friends.

The funeral message was by Bro. Ulysses Phillips. Assisting in the services were Bros. Roberts, Crawley, and E. Sanders. Burial in the West Cemetery near Boley, Okla. Our loss is heaven's gain.

The funeral oration was by Bro. Ulysses Phillips.

### CARD OF THANKS

The family of G. W. McMillian wishes to take this opportunity to express our gratitude to the saints and friends for their kindness and sacrifices of love shown to our loved one during his illness and passing. We appreciate all flowers, cards, and labors of love.

—Mrs. Walter Mustin.

### Campmeeting Notices

The HAMMOND, LA. 52nd Annual Southern Campmeeting will be held the Lord willing, June 26 to July 6 inclusive. The campground is located in the southwest part of Hammond, off White St. and several blocks west to the dead end from the Red Top Filling Station off the New Orleans Highway, No. 51.

We are looking to the Lord to send Holy Ghost ministers to preach the Word. Let us make this meeting a spiritual success.

Write or send provisions to Max Williamson (Pastor) 203 White St., Hammond, La, Phone 3007, or call R. J. Forbes, 414, or Salvatore Didio, 1681J.

The Lord willing the Church of God will have a campmeeting at HOFFMAN, OKLA. from June 26 to July 5 or as long as the Lord leads. We are expecting God to send some Holy Ghost workers and ministers to preach the truth of His precious Word. The meeting will be run on free will offering. We send a cordial welcome to all.

For further details write Bro. W. W. Crawley, Okemah, Okla., or Bro. Felix Taylor, Rt. 2 Box 239A, Morris, Okla., or Sister Earnestine Miles, P. O. Box 63, Hoffman, Okla. Pray for us.

The AKRON, OHIO Campmeeting date is from June 26 to July 5 at 1325 Ninth Ave.. The saints are praying for God to send Spirit-filled ministers and extend a hearty invitation to all to attend.

For further information write to Bro. Robert L. Jones, 676 Ardella Ave., or Sister Dorothy Jackson, 474 Ardella Ave., Akron 6, Ohio.

#### CAMPMEETING DATES FOR 1959

(Watch for particulars of these meetings in each issue)

Jefferson, Oregon	June 19 — June 28
Hoffman, Oklahoma	June 26 — July 5
Hammond, Louisiana	June 26 — July 5
Green Pasture, Oklahoma	July 10 — July 19
Monark Springs (Neosho), Missouri (National Campmeeting)	July 24 — Aug. 2
Guthrie, Oklahoma (State)	Aug. 7 — Aug. 16
Bakersfield, California	Aug. 7 — Aug. 16
Myrtle, Missouri	Aug. 21 — Aug. 30
Pacoima, California (State)	Aug. 28 — Sept. 6
Dover, Oklahoma	Sept. 4 — Sept. 13

#### PRAYER REQUEST

W. Va.—Dear Sister Marie,—God bless all. I'm under such a burden tonight. I am sick in body. April 5th my husband was stricken very ill with a blood clot on his brain. He is paralyzed in his right side and he cries so much. I'm so hurt over this. Pray that God will help us both. I need encouragement. —Sister Betty Robbins.

#### NOTICES

There will be all-day meeting (the Lord willing) at the SAPULPA ROAD CHURCH OF GOD on the fifth Sunday, May 31, 1959. —Bro. Richard Madden, Pastor.

Brother George Abbott who lives at Bristow, Okla., Route 2 Box 46, has been suffering in reverse circumstances because of an accident with his car. The brakes of his car were loosened and the car rolled down grade in the street and hit Sister Anderson breaking her leg and crushing her knee. Her daughter put her in the hospital and the bill of \$800.00 was levied against Bro. Abbott. Bro. Abbott has a large family to care for and the babies are twins. He only gets part-time work to do, so the family is very needy and worthy of help. Those who feel moved of the Lord to help them can send it direct to his address (above) or send it to us and we will give it to them as we have an all-day meeting appointment there every second Sunday in each month. (—Ed.)

#### 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 .....	3.50
Fox's Book of Martyrs .....	3.00
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 paper-bound book especially good for young people. Valued at 25 cents, post paid.	
Touching Incidents, a paper-bound book for children, 75 cents or three for \$2.00 post paid. Write for quantity prices.	
Mottos of several kinds: values at 60, 75, and 85 cents, and \$1.00 or \$1.75.	
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.	

#### Knowing The Will of God

Everyone in life must make decisions. Frequently situations arise in which we must decide what we are going to do. Some decisions are more important than others and a mistake made may be far reaching and may effect our lives for many years. My heart is especially burdened for our dear young people that they may learn to seek God for instructions and guidance in making decisions. Solomon said, "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. Be not wise in thine own eyes." Prov. 3:5-7. When we trust God with all our hearts and acknowledge to him that he knows best, then wait until he makes his will clear, we can please him and may save ourselves much grief and sorrow.

One young sister had yielded herself wholly to the Lord. A short time later she was asked to go with a family on a trip. She was young in the Lord and had never asked the Lord about matters before. The Lord impressed her with the thought that she needed to know God's will. She had a desire to do something else rather than go on this trip, but she began seeking God for instruction.

One morning God, by his Spirit, burdened her that he wanted her to go. Her mother thought she



was mistaken and for a time the girl was greatly perplexed, for the mother had been saved for a number of years. She went again and again to the Lord but he only laid the conviction deeper that she was to go. Finally God cleared the way and the daughter was given the opportunity of making her decision. Later the mother realized that she had let some circumstances persuade her rather than the Lord. Before God made his will clear, the young sister became fully willing to give up her desire to carry out another plan. Our desires, not fully submitted to God, can hinder us from getting the mind of God in a matter.

Later the young sister made a mistake and moved out of the order of God in a matter. She soon realized her mistake and asked God to forgive her and to help her out. She humbly prayed day after day for God to somehow work and cause her to be released so she could go where God had first directed her. God did work in a wonderful way and she was only out of the will of God a week or two.

There are some steps in life where a mistake made can be far more serious than this one was. This mistake could be corrected in a short time but a mistake made in the matter of marriage cannot be undone so easily. I am especially burdened for our young people, and older saints, too, that they seek God until they know what he would have them do before taking this step in life. I fear that some of God's children ask God about this but never wait until he answers or perhaps never die out to their own desires enough so he can reveal his will, and go ahead supposing that it is God's will. Dear ones, before taking such an important step we need to know God's will. Many of God's children, I am sure, have been hindered in their usefulness in God's service by making a mistake in marriage. They may realize their mistake later but they cannot step out. They are bound by the marriage covenant. (Not speaking here of adulterous marriages.)

Dear young people, if you are considering such a step in life, seek God earnestly until you know beyond a doubt what his will is. You may reap a mistake made here for a life time. If older saints are advising you against it you had better be careful. Your love for that one may be hindering you from hearing God's voice—if you are seeking him about it. You may wish later that you hadn't been so hasty in going on in spite of warnings.

We would urge you that are looking forward to having a companion some day to lay the matter before the Lord, asking him if it is his will for you to have one, to choose one for you. Also, we would encourage you to settle down into God. Make a full consecration to God and serve him wholeheartedly. Put him first in your life. Let God have his way fully with you that he may make you what he wants you to be and worthy of a good companion. If you desire a good companion, then seek God earnestly to make yourself worthy of one. Remember, the most important thing to be adorned is the heart—both men and women. 1 Peter 3:4. There should not be striving one with another to gain the affections of a certain one. This

kind of striving (carnal) sometimes causes hard feelings and harms the soul. You seek to please God and trust God to take care of the matter of selecting a companion. Behind the attractive face may be an unattractive spirit.

In the world there is much stress given to love-making (kissing, petting, etc.) in courtship. Young people are encouraged in this by movies, television, shows, and some magazines. Should saved young people engage in such? We believe not. Better leave that until after the marriage vow.

Should saved young people go with the unsaved? Here is a snare that Satan catches souls with. Satan will reason that you can win them to the Lord but often it happens the other way. God's children should not yoke up with unbelievers. Read Deut. 7:3, 4; Josh. 23:12, 13; 2 Cor. 6:14. Do not keep company with anyone having a living companion nor should you be seeking another if you have a living companion. If you have any reason to believe that the one you are keeping company with may have (although they deny it), investigate the matter. It is wrong to marry anyone who has a living companion (Luke 16:18) and is unwise to keep company with them.

Dear ones, our purpose has been to help and guide you into right paths and to help you avoid some of Satan's snares. May God bless and guide you according to his divine will. Then you can have the joy and satisfaction in looking back and saying, "I know I took that step in the order of God." We would spare you if possible from the sorrow of looking back and thinking, "I wonder if I made a mistake?" or "I surely made a mistake in that step."

Now we desire to encourage any who are bound by the marriage covenant but realize they have made a mistake. God will forgive you if you repent of it. Then live a faithful, obedient life to God. He may not be able to make the same vessel out of you that he would have made, but yield again to him and he will make another vessel as it seems good to him to make. (Jer. 18:4.) —Sister Fern Stubblefield.

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### Holy Spirit-Filled Life

"... after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise." Eph. 1:13.

Dear ones, God needs Holy Spirit-filled lives to-day to work in and through. If God cannot fill our whole life with His love and power He will not use us for His glory. Those who will not make an absolute surrender of their all cannot be His disciple. All who are not sanctified wholly—body, soul, mind and spirit, are in great danger of being overcome by the power of Satan. Many today are claiming to be saved while living careless lives for self. They seem to think that they will make it in to the glory world without consecrating their all to God. Dear ones, this will never do; especially in these last days, when the love of many is waxing cold because iniquity is abounding on every hand.

There is a great lesson in the ninth chapter of Revelation that proves the weakness and inability of



those who are not filled with the Holy Spirit to stand against the powers of sin in these last days. The first verse of the chapter tells us of a star that fell from heaven. This star is the symbol of a ministry that one time were wonderfully used of God. But sad to say, they fell from their heavenly place with Him. "And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus." Eph. 2:6. All who fall, fall a prey to Satan. In verse two we have "smoke" ascending from the pit of hell. "Smoke" is a symbol of delusive faith, or a delusive, confusing doctrine. In verse three the "smoke" (delusive doctrine) was accompanied by false spirits, symbolized by "locusts" that ascended from the pit with the "smoke" (false doctrines). Every false doctrine is accompanied by false spirits. The world is full of deception as these false doctrines are taught far and wide by men who have imbibed false spirits.

Verse three: these locusts (false spirits) have power as scorpions. The sting of a scorpion is poisonous and goes very deep, causing severe pain. Verse four: God's power kept these locusts from doing what it is natural for locusts to do: eat green grass, vegetables, and green trees. But they were permitted to "hurt those men which have not the seal of God in their foreheads." Reason teaches us: that if they were to "hurt" those who did not have God's seal in their foreheads, that the ones that they were not to "hurt" (described as the "green things") were the ones that did have the seal of God in their foreheads, and that the only reason that they were not "hurting" them was because God was protecting them.

The true worshipers and the false are distinguished in the book of Revelation by a mark in the forehead, the true having the seal of God, and the false, the mark of the beast.

The sealing of God in the foreheads as described in chapter seven, is a symbol of being sealed "with the Holy Spirit of promise" (Eph. 1:13; 4:30; and 2 Cor. 1:21, 22). Dear ones, the only escape from deception is to have the seal of God in your forehead. Oh, are you filled with the Holy Spirit of promise, now?

The fallen ones of Chapter nine are those who fell in the awful compromise after continuing in this glorious truth of the Evening Light for several years. All compromisers have lost their God-given seal, and are being stung by the locusts, receiving delusive spirits that land them in a Devil's Hell.

The compromise has not been confined to one movement, but all who will not go on to sanctification, and all who fall, will be stung by these locusts, (false spirits.)

The locusts were forbidden to kill these deceived ones, but it was given them to torment them, for a "season." The reason they could not be killed was that they were already dead, spiritually. This sting was a torment of their inmost souls. Torment by false spirits is the worse torment anyone can undergo. These tormented ones were one time happy; being filled with all the fullness of God, walking in this beautiful Evening Light. Now deceived by Satan, and tormented by false spirit, they are most miserable.

Oh, what an awful torment. Dear ones, do remain faithful, and go all the way with God. If not, you, too, will be tormented by these evil spirits.

While these fallen ones are being tormented, spiritually, their flesh is reveling in the things of this world. I am acquainted with some of these miserable, tormented ones.

Three great woes were to hit the earth at the sounding of the fifth, sixth, and seventh trumpet angels. Of course this was to take place near the end of time, and surely there is but one more trumpet to sound its woe, and bring in the end of time and the great judgment. What has been the greatest woe that has hit the earth in the last century? The greatest woe, the one that has caused the most grief to God's people, was the fall of the majority of the Evening Light saints that rejoiced in the truth for a short season. Surely if this had not have happened, the pure gospel would have gone to all of the world by this late date.

Dear ones, be sure that you have "on the whole armor of God, that you might be able to stand against the wiles of the devil." —Bro. H. P. Huskey.

## CORRESPONDENCE

S. C.—Dear Bro. Pruitt and co-workers,—Truly I'm giving God the praise for what he is to me. The Lord truly is good to me and is blessing me both physically and spiritually. I want to thank you for praying for me. I am much better in my body and mind. I have a sick father and he needs to be saved, but he doesn't seem to have the mind to accept the Lord. So pray that the Lord will give him the mind to want to know and live for Him. Also pray for my husband who is in a mental condition in the hospital.

May God bless each of you.

Yours in the Lord,

Mrs. L. Trotter.

o-o-o-o-o

Va.—Greetings to all the household of faith,—I am much encouraged in the Lord, and determined to go through at any cost. I have many trials and am tested on every hand, but they are only stepping stones to heaven. Praise his name!

I thank all the saints everywhere for their prayers. They keep us sometimes when things are going all wrong. We can just know the Lord knows and he cares. Sister Powell has a wind on her head right behind her ear on the left side. To me it seems to be growing fast, but the Lord is able. She is His servant and He has been very good to her and good to all of us here. There are very few in our crowd who are willing to really pay the price, but Deut. 7:7 says, "For ye were the fewest of all people."

Just remember us all here, especially Sister Powell. Thanking you and Christian love,

—Sister Nannie Connell.

o-o-o-o-o

Pa.—Dear saints,—Greetings of love in the precious name of Jesus. I want to tell how the Lord wonderfully healed me. I was in bed about ten weeks and I surely did suffer. I obeyed the Word in James 5:14 and called for some of the elders in Akron, Ohio and they came out and anointed and prayed for me. I also called other places for prayer and the Lord wonderfully healed me. Before I was completely well of this affliction, another trial came upon me, but thank the Lord, He brought me through.

I am up now, and able to do some of my work.

I can't thank the Lord enough for what He has done for me, and I do want to thank the dear saints who labored in fasting and prayer for me. It is wonderful to have people of God like that. I have other afflictions upon my body I desire to be healed of, and ask the prayers of the saints that God will heal me of them.

I thank God for saving me and pray for me that I be all He wants me to be, and be true to Him at any cost. Christian love, Avis Tinsley.

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

Tenn.—Dear ones in the Lord,—I enjoy the paper, "Faith and Victory." It is an inspiration to my soul. I love the true way and desire to walk therein and to please the Lord, though I feel very unworthy of his love and mercy.

I want to tell a few things of what the Lord has done for us. I was boiling some bedclothing for my sick mother (about two or three years ago). I started to lift them from the pot with a stick when they slipped and fell back, splashing boiling water on my foot. I had on a pair of ragged cloth shoes so the front part of the foot received the full burn of the water. I hurriedly slipped off stocking and shoe and found a clean white piece of cloth and wrapped it up well and put my shoe back on and told my youngest son I would let the Lord do the rest. My husband said that night I ought to go to a doctor and have it dressed or it might make a big sore. I said I thought it would be all right. My foot hurt all that afternoon until I could hardly bear to put it down, but after that it never hurt scarcely any. I pulled the bandage off after several days and there was a big blister. The devil said, "If that blister bursts, you will have a big sore," but I wrapped it back up and did not bother it any more for perhaps a week. When I finally unwrapped it I found it healed up under the blister and the blister apparently had never broken. The dead skin peeled off and I was never bothered with it one minute. I never had a scald or burn heal like that. Oh, the Lord is good and he knows how to heal the body. Why, he says even the very hairs of our head are all numbered. He knows every tiny cell in the body. I like to trust Him.

I was also suffering in my body about three weeks ago. I sent in for prayers and asked some more saints to pray. They did and the Lord has really helped me. I do not suffer as I did and I am trusting Him to give me the strength I need.

I enjoy the good testimonies every month in the paper. Pray for me and my family that we may serve the Lord acceptably.

One of the least in the kingdom, —Ella Runion.

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

Ariz.—To the saints scattered abroad,—I send greetings of much holy love. I am yet saved and encouraged to go all the way with Jesus. I am so thankful to be His child in these evil days. I am so thankful that His dying and rising wasn't in vain in my case. Truly I find Him a present help in every time of need and One who will never leave nor forsake me.

He is my Saviour, healer, and keeper. I mean, by His help and grace, to make heaven my home. For just one glimpse of Him will more than repay me for my suffering here. I desire the prayers of the saints for my unsaved family and for me.

Yours in Him, —Sister Bertha Slaughter.

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Okla.—Greetings to the saints everywhere, in the sweet name of Jesus,—I am so glad today that I can say I am still saved and trusting in the dear Lord. I am

much encouraged to press on to a higher mark. I promised the dear Lord a few days ago that if He would heal me I would testify to His healing power.

There was something in my stomach. I could feel it moving around. It seemed like it was swelling in me just like some one was blowing up a balloon. Then I felt it with my hand. So I asked the Lord to move it and in fifteen minutes it was gone. How I do thank Him! He has healed me many times.

There are no saints here but I mean to live for God until He says, "Come home." It has been some time since I have been in meeting but I try in every way I know to lift the Lord up and to let my life tell the gospel story. I realize that this is a pressing way. I mean to press my way on by Jesus' help. Please pray for me that I will live for the dear Lord at all times, and pray for my unsaved loved ones that they will give their hearts to God before it is too late.

Your sister in Christ,

—Carrie Murdock.

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

Okla.—Dear "Faith and Victory" folks,—I am sending love in Jesus' name. Trust all of you are well. This finds me much encouraged in the Lord and pressing on.

I feel I must send in this testimony of how the Lord healed my baby when he drank cigarette lighter fluid a year ago last March. I was visiting with my mother in her home and heard my baby strangling and rushed to find him clinging to a chair. For some time he seemingly was trying to breath, swallow, and cough at the same time, and hardly could do either. I rushed outside in the fresh air with him, and when he quit strangling he fell over my shoulder with all his weight and I couldn't feel him breathing. I then quickly became alarmed and my first thoughts were, right down there in the doctor's office. I was looking to the thing I could see, then suddenly my thoughts were, "No, my trust is in God," and at the same time the will was fixed in my heart. As I lifted him from my shoulder into the air his eyes became open, as my thoughts were, "Lord, he won't die unless it is your will." The Lord healed him instantly. For hours later I could smell this fluid on his breath so strong.

I truly am thankful for the goodness of God and for many other things and ways He has protected us. Pray for me to ever endure until the end and also for my loved ones who are all unsaved.

Christian love,

—Sister Duvall.

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

Ohio.—Dear saints on the highway cast up by the Lord.—As I picked up my "Faith and Victory" this evening to read, my eyes fell on Sister Brant's testimony and seeing some semblance which made me think, I believe I will write some of my testimony. I said, "Shall I, Lord?" and the answer was whatever we do, do all to the glory of God. Well, I bowed humbly at His feet in tears as I thought back over some sixty years of God's goodness like Sister Brant.

I was about twenty years of age when the Lord in His mercy sent His Holy Spirit to convict me of sin. I did not know just what this sorrow was on my soul. I had joined a man's creed and had studied catechism but I did not know God. So after a time of wearing off conviction, I was again visited by the Holy Spirit by His mercy. I was sitting in my kitchen, an awful miserable soul, still not knowing what it was, when over in a corner a voice as audible as any voice I ever heard said, "It's the Holy Spirit." Well, I just got up and went and got my Testament for I had no Bible. That proved to me that the Word is God. Praise His name, I started in Matthew and read on to Luke and I thought, "Is it all going to read alike,"

when I came to Luke the 14th chapter. There the Holy Spirit came to my rescue. I lodged there. Was I able to pay the price? The Holy Spirit was my teacher and guide. It never dawned on me to go to my preacher and I never returned to the church services where I had formerly gone. The Holy Spirit knew. Well, He showed me I must repent. He made me see resitution which I was willing and did. I was willing to be baptized. "Oh, yes, Lord, if only you will save me." "Are you willing to wash feet" (these were things we never heard of in the sect I joined). "Oh, yes, Lord, anything, if you will save me."

I was to go to a little country store for something when before me came my hair style, which was in pompadour. Well, I put that up and down a few times till my hair went straight back. Well, praise His name, my ear rings, rings, jewelry and pride and the dance from my feet the Lord stripped for the race as plain as a saint. I prayed and wept for two weeks. Oh, praise His name for peace! He showed me His church so plainly that I never lost sight of it. I have no difficulty in knowing God has but one church. Babylon is playing church on the road to hell. Social religions are sweeping our youth into the very jaws of hell. I was about four years in finding the church (saints). God showed me that I had some measuring up to do which I did, gladly.

From that time till now I have never heard the Word too strong. If it hits me I seek to measure up. I have never taken my hands from that gospel plough or looked back for a desire for anything the Lord saved me from. My ploughing, many times, was not firmly straight because I looked too much at the rocks and chuckholes that would have swamped me had not my blessed Lord been watching near. Oh, what a loving Saviour!

In those days we were taught to trust the Lord for healing. He delivered me of seven dear children without an earthly physician. Six of those children never had any medical remedies. One eight-year-old girl had her skull cracked by a horse and I was censored for not taking her to the hospital, but the Lord healed her. I was afraid for man to experiment on her head. One time an automobile knocked me down, both wheels running over both of my limbs. The doctor said he could not understand why my legs were not broken as I was 70 years of age. I said, "Doctor, the Lord just raised that auto a little bit." I was in bed at home near five weeks.

One time my horse was running off and she kicked through the dash of the buggy and broke the shaft and single tree. So with the shaft only fastened on one side the buggy was swinging from one side of the road to the other. I thought if I jumped I might be killed and to stay in it might be the same. I crossed my hands on my breast and said, "Lord, help me!" and the horse could not have stopped more suddenly had she been shot. I always felt the angel that stopped Balaam's donkey stopped my horse. God also saved our large cattle barn from burning. Many people had gathered and they said there was no use, it could not be saved. I went twice to the house to pray and the Lord spared it. We had a neighbor minister. One of his members told me that he mentioned in his pulpit of a woman that had faith to stop fire. Oh, what a mighty God, merciful and kind. Once more I will tell of an incident to the glory of God. It was raining hard and thundering and lightning and all at once I thought the roof had come on my head and the lids flew off the stove and skillets, and the pipe came out over my head. A wall of fire broke out of the stove around me and out the window so quickly. Covering my face with my hands I went out saying, "Praise the Lord."

Praise the Lord, no wonder tears fill my eyes and I cry, "Oh, Lord, in these godless, unbelieving Sodom-churchanity days, hold me fast, increase my faith, hope, and love." I feel everybody should be crying, "Do you know God?" Let us pray for one another. I love my Saviour and His people who make up His church. The enemy of our God is not sleeping, so that calls for great diligence.

If I live two months more I will reach my 89th milestone. I will appreciate your prayers that I hold faithful and I pray God to keep you all true.

Sincerely,

Sister Oesch.

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

Ky.—Dear Bro. Pruitt and saints,—We greet you all in the name of our loving Saviour, for we do love him with all of our hearts. He means so much to us, life wouldn't be worth much without our loving Jesus in our hearts. My heart is set on serving the Lord as long as we have to stay on this earth and we want to live closer each day to the Lord and gain that crown and home in heaven to be forever with the Lord. We desire your prayers that the Lord will keep us in the center of his will and touch our bodies and make us stronger.

We really get a great blessing out of the little paper and food for our souls. The devil tries so hard to deceive loved ones in this life but we trust the Lord to give us strength to overcome all temptations and to ever keep our minds and thoughts on Jesus and on things above and not on the things of this world. We always remember you all in our prayers and we ask you to agree in prayer with us for the Lord to save our children before it is too late, for I do feel that we are living in perilous times as the Bible speaks of.

Your sister in Christ,

—Mrs. J. T. Roberts.

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

Ky.—Dear Bro. Pruitt and staff of helpers in the Lord's work,—Greetings in the precious name of Jesus our Lord and Saviour. I am glad to tell I am saved and sanctified and walking in the light of His Holy Word. I know I haven't many days to live in this world but I am glad I can say I am looking for a better home in heaven. I will soon be 70 years old. We will be married 50 years the 11th day of July. We reared nine children. All are living and scattered but they are being led astray with false doctrine. We hope and pray that God will open their eyes before it is too late.

The Lord has been mighty good to us and still is. We have weaknesses in our bodies, yet He lifts us up from our sick bed, praise His Holy name. I know we could not do anything without Him. Well, may God wonderfully bless you all in your good work. I do hope some of the saints can visit us some time.

Your brother in the one true church, —J. T. Roberts.

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

Oregon—Dear saints scattered abroad,—I want to testify to God's wonderful healing power. I had flu and it left my heart and lungs in a bad shape. The doctor said I would have to take heart medicine the remainder of my life. I had fluid around my lungs and had become quite nervous from being sick for several weeks. I had my daughter phone Bro. Pruitt for prayer. God from heaven heard and healed me completely. Praise our God!

—Sister O. K. Myers.

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

Okla.—Dear Bro. Pruitt,—I am so glad to report that I am saved tonight and happy in the Lord, determined, by his help and grace to press the battle on.

I have never written to the saints at Guthrie. I want to thank you dear saints there for your help to us in

every way, especially for your effectual prayers that has brought me back to God. If you feel led to put this in the "Faith and Victory," I would be happy, for I want the world to know I am highly encouraged again.

I am writing especially for prayer concerning some real need we have at this time. God knows.

Heart love,

—G. O. Brewer.

o-o-o-o-o

N. J.—Dear Brother in Christ,—I have enjoyed your Faith and Victory paper for many years but never sent in a testimony, although the Lord has healed both me and my dear husband when he was here. But our time is in the Lord's hand and we go when He calls. I have known the Lord Jesus as the Great Physician for over twenty years, and He never fails when we trust in Him. I have been called all kinds of stubborn names when the enemy attacked my body, but I always held on to the Lord for healing. I wished that some of my Christian friends would pray with me, instead of saying, "Get a doctor." I wonder how much faith they have, and pray for them.

I have to tell some one what the Lord has done for me in the past few weeks. All glory goes to our Lord Jesus for interceding to the Father for me. I do praise and thank Him. A few weeks ago I started cleaning our back yard and we have empty lots back of that. A lot of wild honeysuckle has swept over my place, and in cleaning that out I contacted poison ivy which must have been mixed in with the honeysuckle, but too small to see. Three days later I felt the itch on my arms, and the next day my eye would not open, and watery fluid came from it and the nostril on that side of my face which by this time was greatly swollen. The eye also was very discolored. I looked terrible, and felt worse, but I did not want a doctor. I called on the Lord for help, asking Him for wisdom and guidance as to what I should do. I did believe He could heal me instantly, if it was His will. I kept praying, for I felt very uncomfortable. Being alone and with a face that looked as if I had been beaten up, and not able to care for my arms, which were pretty bad by this time, I yielded and called a doctor, but he wasn't home. So I went to a drug store, but he said I had bad infection and to get a doctor quick. He gave me nothing, I went home praying, the Lord knowing I was trusting Him and not wanting to doctor. I kept praying.

Finally I went to the piano and tried to play some hymns. I played for half an hour, very badly, I admit, but I forgot my eye. Then to my joy I found the Lord was there and my eye was half opened. Oh, how I praised Him! I was so full of joy I had to call a neighbor and tell her what the Lord had done for me. But some just did not understand that it was the Lord who had touched me. I was alone, but the Lord was with me. Praise His name. From then on He helped me and healed me. My face has come back to normal and my arms have healed up very nicely, but the enemy hates to let go, so he has left an itchy rash on my arms. But I know the Lord will take care of that.

In James it says to call the elders and let them pray over thee, but when you have none, then you just keep on praying, knowing that the Lord is with thee and never leaves you alone. I cannot praise Him enough for all He has done for me! All glory to Him for His great love to us. Please pray for me.

Sincerely in Christ's name, —Mrs. Geo. Francis.

o-o-o-o-o

Okla.—Dear Brethren and Brother and Sister Pruitt, It has been some time since I requested prayer by you good people for my illness—a heart and circulatory condition. I feel that I should write you a few words of thanks, so

that you may use this publicly, if you wish to. This is the second time within ten years time that I have called upon you, as certain brethren, to pray for me. I ask of you, because you will do as the Holy Spirit directs in James 5:14-16. Not all do this.

I want to say that I am improving as I did back in 1952, and almost as miraculously now, as then. The thing that I most rejoice in is that each time after my recovery physically, God has always "planted my feet on higher ground." I can always find a door and effectual opened unto me. Satan often appears with his treacherous temptations and deceitfulness, but Jesus is near, and "a very present help in time of trouble." Perhaps I do not interpret the reading of the gospel the same as you do; but that should not, and must not divide our thoughts concerning the healing power of Christ. I believe that this has been proven very convincingly to me: that you are my brethren, and that I am yours in Christ.

I do not have the space here to write Paul's epistle to the Philippians but I will say: "Always in every prayer of mine for you all making request with joy, for your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now; being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ." And so I might continue, I hope to be able to make it among my many brethren to visit in your congregation sometime in the near future.

I will be happy to offer any prayer of mine at any time in behalf of you and yours. "For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for his sake."

Yours in Jesus' name,

—Mrs. W. W. Wilson.

### OUR DEAR YOUNG PEOPLE

La.—Dearest Sister Anna Marie,—Thank the Lord that I am still encouraged to go all the way with Him. He is such a help in time of need. I wonder how those that don't know Him get along, because even in my small problems I need Him.

A few days ago I had a test in school that was rather important and I needed to make a pretty good grade on it. I had studied for it, but I still wasn't sure of myself. I prayed that the Lord would help me on it so that I would make the grade I needed. I don't know what grade I got on the test, but I got my report card and I had a good grade in the subject. I surely do thank God for it. He helps me so often in just the little things, and I guess that counts most.

Pray for me.

—Maxine Faye Williamson.

o-o-o-o-o

Okla.—Please do pray for me, I surely do need it. It is a daily fight to keep ahead of the enemy of our souls. I know he is the author of misery and will lead us to ruin if we but let him. By the help of the Lord I shan't yield to him.

Sincerely yours,

—Sylvia Jane Abbott.

o-o-o-o-o

La.—Dear Bro. Pruitt and readers of the Faith and Victory,—I want to send in my testimony of the Lord's goodness to me. I am very thankful for all of the Lord's blessings to me. I am thankful I am saved and very much encouraged to keep pressing on for the Lord.

As most of you know, the Lord wonderfully healed me a little over a year ago of a severe case of pneumonia. Ever since the Lord healed me, my chest would have pain if I exercised very much. I never thought very much about it. I figured that in time I wouldn't be bothered with it any more. In the last part of March, Bro. Charles

Smith held a revival in Hammond. One night I felt especially impressed to request prayer that the Lord would heal my chest. That night after meeting while in prayer, I promised the Lord that if he would heal me I would send my testimony to be published in the paper. Praise the Lord, the next morning I was healed! The Lord has been a constant companion of mine. He also healed me this year of a bad case of flu.

This is my last year of school, and the Lord has been very precious to me. He has helped me out of many hard battles and has enabled me to live a Christian life before my classmates.

Continue to pray for me that while in this world I will be able to help some soul to heaven.

With Christian love, —Randall Flynn.

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## CHRIST JESUS

There can be no way to speak more deserving or more highly of Christ Jesus than as Paul speaks of Him. "Concerning his [God's] Son Jesus Christ our Lord, which was made of the seed of David, according to the flesh; and declared to be the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead." Rom. 1:3, 4. "And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him: and lo, a voice from heaven saying, this is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." Matt. 3:16, 17. So we can see very clearly how the scriptures declare Jesus to be the Son of God. It grants a great inheritance to all who will put their trust and faith in such a Saviour as he is. "But unto the Son he [God] saith, Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever: a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of thy kingdom. Thou hast loved righteousness, and hated iniquity; therefore God, even thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows. And thou, Lord, in the beginning hast laid the foundation of the earth; and the heavens are the works of thine hands." Heb. 1:8-10. This is spoken of Christ. He is a mighty deliverer and translator to those who will seek after Him, and gives redemption through His blood, also forgiveness of sins. He is also in the image of the Father. He had part with the Father in the creation of all things. "Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of His dear Son: in whom we have redemption through His blood, even the forgiveness of SINS: who is the image of the INVISIBLE GOD, the firstborn of every creature: for by Him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by Him, and for Him: and He is before all things, and by Him all things consist." Col. 1:13-17. We see by the next verse that He is the HEAD of the church, not churches or organizations, or sects with men at the head of them, and in authority. What man would be qualified to fill the place where Christ is the prominent ONE, one in whom all fullness dwells. "And he is the head of the

body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might HAVE the preeminence [be over all others]. For it pleased the Father that in him [Christ] should all fullness dwell." Yes, He made reconciliation, which makes peace: makes holy, unblamable and unreprouvable in His sight. This makes you a friend of God where once you were an enemy. "If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and be NOT moved away from the hope of the gospel, which ye have heard, and which was preached to every creature which is under heaven: whereof I Paul am made a minister." Col. 1:18-23. Let us now see what John has to say concerning Christ's power over sin. I John 1-7: "But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the BLOOD of Jesus Christ his son cleanseth us from all sin." And he said again, "Ye know that he was manifested to take away our SINS; and in him is no SIN." I John 3:5. And more verification: "... Let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as he is righteous. He that commiteth SIN is of the devil; ... for this purpose the SON OF GOD was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil [SIN]." I John 3:7-8.

Our faith should not stand in the wisdom of man. The Holy Spirit and God's Word should be our guide. This is all that is needed to make us successful in the service of the Lord Jesus Christ. Paul says, "And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the spirit and of power; that your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God." 1 Cor 2:4, 5. Also verse 2 reads like this: "For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified." Man is very insignificant compared to God's power and wisdom. These can be attained from Christ: "Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God. Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men; and the weakness of God is stronger than men." 1 Cor. 1:24, 25. John knew that it was the anointing of the Spirit that gives men understanding in Christ and that they need not that any man teach them.

The necessary thing is to abide in Christ, for without Christ one can do nothing. He said, "I am the vine, and ye are the branches: he that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing. ... If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you. Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples." John 15:5-8.

What can impart knowledge of God more than the Word and Spirit of God? It is most essential to man to know his God and His will. "But the anointing [Spirit] which ye have received of him abideth in you; and ye need NOT that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teaches you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him [Christ]." 1 John 2:27.

—Thomas J. Bowers

## Divine Healing For Both Soul And Body

I am praising God today for His wonderful love to me, and His healing power. Divine healing of soul and body is for us today. God willed the happiness and health of all mankind. The devil, as the enemy of God and man, desires our destruction and would put upon us all kinds of afflictions of soul and body. When Job proved true to God in the face of the accusations of the devil, the affliction was removed. Then Job prayed for his friends and they were healed. The last state of Job was better than the first. (Job 42:5-13).

The saints of God should pray with faith for healing, and be in a position to pray "the prayer of faith" when all hindering causes are removed. Settle it once and forever, my afflicted brother and sister, that it is not God's will for you to remain under affliction, but it is God's will to heal you. As long as you doubt the will of God to heal you, it is impossible for you to offer "the prayer of faith." It is the "prayer of faith that shall save the sick and the Lord shall raise him up." James 5:15. If divine healing is not taught in the Word of God, those who preach it are standing on slippery ground. But we know this doctrine is firmly founded in the Scriptures. Those who refuse to believe it and openly denounce and deny it, will have an account to settle with the inspired Word of God. Here are a few of numerous texts on this subject. Read each one, and pray for me that I will be a faithful and true saint of God. I want to be ready for my Savior when He comes.

- 1—"I am the Lord that healeth thee." Ex. 15:23-26.
- 2—"I will take sickness away from the midst of thee." Ex. 23:20-25.
- 3—"The Lord will take away from thee all sickness." Deut. 7:12-15.
- 4—Christ healed all; hence, it is God's will to heal all. Matt. 8:16, 17. "Healed all that were sick." "I will; be thou clean." Mark 1:41. "As many as touched him were made whole." Mark 6:56.
- 5—"Healed every sickness and every disease among the people." Matt. 9:33.
- 6—"Great multitudes followed him and he healed them all." Matt. 12:15.
- 7—Christ came to heal all that were oppressed of the devil (Acts 10:38), and to destroy the works of the devil. 1 John 3:8.
- 8—Jesus loosed the woman whom Satan had bound eighteen years. Luke 13:16. He said she ought to be loosed—it was God's will.
- 9—Healing is the children's bread and they are entitled to it. Mark 7:27. If we ask for bread He will not give us a stone. Luke 11:11.
- 10—Christ has promised to raise up the sick as well as to forgive his sins. James 5:15.
- 11—Believers are commanded to pray for one another for healing. James 5:16.
- 12—The fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much. James 5:16-18.
- 13—Forgiveness and healing are placed side by side

in the Word of God. "Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases." (Psa. 103:3).

May God bless each and every one of you according to His abundant mercy.

Yours for divine healing of soul and body,  
Sister Rubye (Quave) Signorelli

## Somebody Failed

God told somebody to stop and pray  
For a soul that was slipping away that day;  
But that soul slipped out from God's love and care,  
For that somebody failed to offer that prayer.

God told somebody to sing a song;  
It would have kept a soul from shame and wrong.  
But that soul went on its downward way,  
For that somebody failed to sing that day.

God told somebody to speak of his Son,  
Of His love and His grace for a weary one;  
But that one went on with his grief and loss,  
For that somebody failed to speak of Christ's cross.

God told somebody to go and try  
To win men and women as they passed by;  
But the men and women were never reached—  
For that somebody failed to speak, left that sermon  
unpreached.

My friend, are you grieving the Father, too?  
Is His great heart grieving just now or you?  
Or can God always count on you  
To hasten His tasks of love to do?

—Selected.

## BIBLE STUDY

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

June 7, 1959

### A Prophet Denounces Corruption

Printed Portion ..... 1 Kings 21:1-7, 17-20

1. And it came to pass after these things, that Naboth the Jezreelite had a vineyard, which was in Jezreel, hard by the palace of Ahab king of Samaria.

2. And Ahab spake unto Naboth, saying, Give me thy vineyard, that I may have it for a garden of herbs, because it is near unto my house: and I will give thee for it a better vineyard than it; or, if it seem good to thee, I will give thee the worth of it in money.

3. And Naboth said to Ahab, The Lord forbid it me, that I should give the inheritance of my fathers unto thee.

4. And Ahab came into his house heavy and displeased because of the word which Naboth the Jezreelite had spoken to him: for he had said, I will not give thee the inheritance of my fathers. And he laid him down upon his bed, and turned away his face, and would eat no bread.

5. But Jezebel his wife came to him and said unto him, Why is thy spirit so sad, that thou eatest no bread?

6. And he said unto her, Because I spake unto Naboth the Jezreelite, and said unto him, Give me thy vineyard for money; or else, if it please thee, I will give thee another

vineyard for it: and he answered, I will not give thee my vineyard.

7. And Jezebel his wife said unto him, Dost thou now govern the kingdom of Israel? arise, and eat bread, and let thine heart be merry: I will give thee the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite.

17. And the word of the Lord came to Elijah the Tishbite, saying,

18. Arise, go down to meet Ahab king of Israel, which is in Samaria: behold, he is in the vineyard of Naboth, whither he is gone down to possess it.

19. And thou shalt speak unto him saying, Thus saith the Lord, Hast thou killed, and also taken possession? And thou shalt speak unto him, saying, Thus saith the Lord, In the place where dogs licked the blood of Naboth shall dogs lick thy blood, even thine.

20. And Ahab said to Elijah, Hast thou found me, O mine enemy? And he answered, I have found thee: because thou hast sold thyself to work evil in the sight of the Lord.

**Memory Verse:** Woe unto him that buildeth his house by unrighteousness. Jeremiah 22:13.

**Practical Truth:** Early gains, acquired unjustly, will in the end be liabilities instead.

#### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Greed is a close relative of covetousness. Sometimes we watch children playing on the floor. One little fellow has all the blocks but two and then cries because he can't take the other two from his playmate. We do not look upon the scene with pleasure but now the child needs teaching or trouble lies ahead. But how awful to see the same principle working in adults. Here is an example of an uncleansed heart and uncontrolled greed carried out to the end. Ahab had most of the blocks and wanted the two that Naboth had. He was not hardened enough to take the vineyard himself but he stood by and consented for his wife, who was vicious, to commit an awful crime and get it for him. Surely the city of Jezreel was shocked but fear caused them to carry out her wicked plans.

"Hast thou found me, O mine enemy?" King Ahab was well enough acquainted with Elijah through the famine and what followed that he had some respect for him. When he saw him his own conscience smote him and for what Elijah stood for. Because God's approval (1 Cor. 6:10) is never upon greed nor covetousness he called it his enemy. Ahab's wickedness stood uncovered before God. After the verdict was given Ahab humbled down and went into fasting instead of sulking. Because of this, the punishment was delayed; but it came at last. "We can't do wrong and get by."

June 14, 1959

#### A Life of Helpfulness

**Printed Portion:** ..... 2 Kings 5:1-3, 9-15b

1. Now Naaman, captain of the host of the king of Syria was a great man with his master, and honourable, because by him the Lord had given deliverance unto Syria: he was also a mighty man in valour, but he was a leper.

2. And the Syrians had gone out by companies, and had brought away captive out of the land of Israel a little maid; and she waited on Naaman's wife.

3. And she said unto her mistress, Would God my Lord were with the prophet that is in Samaria! for he would recover him of his leprosy.

9. So Naaman came with his horses and with his

chariot, and stood at the door of the house of Elisha.

10. And Elisha sent a messenger unto him saying, Go and wash in Jordan seven times, and thy flesh shall come again to thee, and thou shalt be clean.

11. But Naaman was wroth, and went away, and said, Behold, I thought, He will surely come out to me, and stand, and call on the name of the Lord his God, and strike his hand over the place, and recover the leper.

12. Are not Abana and Pharpar, rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? may I not wash in them, and be clean? So he turned and went away in a rage.

13. And his servants came near, and spake unto him, and said, My father, if the prophet had bid thee do some great thing, wouldest thou not have done it? how much rather then, when he saith to thee, Wash, and be clean?

14. Then went he down, and dipped himself seven times in Jordan, according to the saying of the man of God: and his flesh came again like unto the flesh of a little child, and he was clean.

15. And he returned to the man of God, he and all his company, and came, and stood before him: and he said, Behold, now I know that there is no God in all the earth, but in Israel.

**Memory Verse:** The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord. Psalm 33:5.

**Practical Truth:** Every Christian life should be a life of helpfulness.

#### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Our lesson today is a beautiful lesson. It is so touching to know how the faith of this little maid had not been shaken even though she had been taken a captive to another country where they did not worship God. Some mother had done her duty in training her to love God.

This little maid is an example for us. She did not fail to testify for God. She did not feel inferior to others or ashamed of God. She was not afraid to boldly declare that God heals. Oh, the same, simple, child-like faith must be ours today to receive from God. "Except ye be converted, and become as little children. . ." Not many in the world today want to become as little children. They know too much. They have acquired too much; they feel, through their own strength. Oh, may we see more adults becoming children and looking to their heavenly parent with simple faith! Just thirty-five words tell us all we know about the little maid. What can be said about your faith in thirty-five words?

Twelve different people had a part in the healing of Naaman. The maid told the mistress, another told the king, the king sent a letter to the king of Israel and so on. God works through human instrumentality. Are we willing to be just a link in the chain through which He can work? All links are important to make the chain complete and strong.

June 21, 1959

#### Serve By Sharing

**Printed Portion** ..... 2 Chronicles 19:4-11

4. And Jehosaphat dwelt at Jerusalem: and he went out again through the people from Beer-sheba to mount Ephraim, and brought them back unto the Lord God of their fathers.

5. And he set judges in the land throughout all the fenced cities of Judah, city by city,



6. And said to the judges, Take heed what ye do: for ye judge not for man, but for the Lord, who is with you in the judgment.

7. Wherefore now let the fear of the Lord be upon you; take heed and do it: for there is no iniquity with the Lord our God, nor respect of persons, nor taking of gifts.

8. Moreover in Jerusalem did Jehoshaphat set of the Levites, and of the priests, and of the chief of the fathers of Israel, for the judgment of the Lord, and for controversies, when they returned to Jerusalem.

9. And he charged them, saying, Thus shall ye do in the fear of the Lord, faithfully, and with a perfect heart.

10. And what cause soever shall come to you of your brethren that dwell in their cities between blood and blood, between law and commandment, statutes and judgments, we shall even warn them that they trespass not against the Lord, and so wrath come upon you, and upon your brethren: this do, and ye shall not trespass.

11. And, behold, Amariah the chief priest is over you in all matters of the Lord; and Zebadiah the son of Ishmael, the ruler of the house of Judah, for all the king's matters: also the Levites shall be officers before you. Deal courageously, and the Lord shall be with the good.

**Memory Verse:** Take heed and do it: for there is no iniquity with the Lord our God, nor respect of persons, nor taking of gifts. 2 Chronicles 19:7.

**Practical Truth:** When rulers and judges are able and God-fearing men, righteousness on the part of citizens will be promoted.

#### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Jehoshaphat was the son of Asa. They both loved peace. Jehoshaphat "went out again through the people" and brought them back unto the Lord God. Today we have rulers who go out among the people for different motives but this king wanted a revival, a turning away from wickedness to God. Our country needs to be brought back to God. Wickedness is abounding more than in all the history of our nation. Every nation that has turned away from God has been punished. United States is fast turning away. We need to pray for our rulers as the Bible teaches us to.

Jehoshaphat appointed judges and gave them strict orders to give righteous judgment. They were not to take bribes nor to show respect of persons. They must feel the responsibility of judging for the Lord. They must be perfect in heart. He pointed out to them that God was unchangeable. Gifts cannot change God. Persons cannot change God. Neither can fair speeches nor flattery change him. Oh, how glad we are he is unchangeable. Others cannot turn God against us. He cannot be bought off. That is the kind of God we are serving and God wants us to be fair as he is fair. A righteous person who gives righteous judgment is one who has love in his heart for all and is able to separate the good from the bad regardless upon whom it might fall, even if it be your enemy.

June 28, 1959

#### NATIONS NEED RELIGIOUS LEADERS

Printed Portion ..... 2 Kings 11:4, 9-12, 17-19, 21; 12:2

4. And the seventh year Jehoiada sent and fetched the rulers over hundreds, with the captains and the guard, and brought them to him into the house of the Lord, and made a covenant with them, and took an oath of them in the house of the Lord, and shewed them the king's son.

9. And the captains over the hundreds did according to all things that Jehoiada the priest commanded: and they took every man his men that were to come in on the sabbath, with them that should go out on the sabbath, and came to Jehoiada the priest.

10. And to the captains over hundreds did the priest give king David's spears and shields, that were in the temple of the Lord.

11. And the guard stood, every man with his weapons in his hand, round about the king, from the right corner of the temple to the left corner of the temple, along by the altar and the temple.

12. And he brought forth the king's son, and put the crown upon him, and gave him the testimony; and they made him king, and anointed him; and they clapped their hands, and said, God save the king.

17. And Jehoiada made a covenant between the Lord and the king and the people, that they should be the Lord's people; between the king also and the people.

18. And all the people of the land went into the house of Baal, and brake it down; his altars and his images brake they in pieces thoroughly, and slew Mattan the priest of Baal before the altars. And the priest appointed officers over the house of the Lord.

19. And he took the rulers over hundreds, and the captains, and the guard, and all the people of the land; and they brought down the king from the house of the Lord, and came by the way of the gate of the guard to the king's house. And he sat on the throne of the kings.

21. Seven years old was Jehoash when he began to reign.

12:2. And Jehoash did that which was right in the sight of the Lord all his days wherein Jehoiada the priest instructed him.

**Memory Verse:** The priest's lips should seek the law at his mouth: for he is the messenger of the Lord of hosts. Malachi 2:7.

**Practical Truth:** Religious national leaders promote world welfare and peace.

#### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Athaliah, who was the daughter of the pagan Jezebel and Ahab, had all the heirs of the throne killed after she found out her own son was dead so she could reign upon the throne. She did not know that her sister had taken Jehoash or Joash, then a baby, and hid him in her own house. Little Joash was brought up to love God by his aunt and uncle, who was Jehoiada, the high priest. Our lesson tells about when Jehoash was seven years old, and that at this age he was proclaimed king by his uncle at the changing of the guards and the wicked queen Athaliah killed.

Jehoiada was a religious leader, and the period of his rulership as the power behind the rule of Joash was righteous. We appreciate Jehoiada's bravery. It took courage to put Jehoash on the throne with such a wicked woman ruling. But Jehoiada had faith in God. He knew God was for the right and would stand by him. Today we need more God-fearing men and women who will stand up for right against wrong of all kinds. At the risk of our life we need to send forth the good news that Jesus saves.

Because Jehoiada dared to risk his life a whole nation turned back to God. The pagan religion was broken and a covenant made between God and the people of Israel. Today we are faced with the pagan power (communism) which is threatening our whole nation. Will we stand for right at the risk of our lives? —Mrs. Marie Miles.