FAITHAND VICTORY Church of God Servant



King Of Kings

King of kings, Thou great Jehovah,
Prince of peace, Thou art the same;
Lion of the tribe of Judah,
Glory be to thy great name.

Wisdom, might, and understanding, All belongeth unto thee; Thou didst break the bars asunder, And hast set the captive free.

Thou hast called the east from nowhere,
Stretched the north o'er empty space,
Upon nothing hung our planet,
And bid the sun to run its race.

Thou didst give to man a mission—
Thou most high and holy One:
But man failed, and sinned against Thee;
Then Thou gave to earth a Son.

He the great eternal Saviour,
Token of Thy tender love,
Gave His life—Himself a ransom,
And prepared a home above.

King of kings, we now adore Thee,
Thou eternal Prince of peace,
May we reign with Thee for ever,
May Thy kingdom never cease.
—Ulysses Phillips

"GAVE GIFTS UNTO MEN"

A gift creates great interest. Sometimes small packages are the most expensive. But as you look at your wrapped gift, you natually hope you are receiving just what your heart has desired.

Dear ones, God has given us a gift. It came to us in a very small package. Mankind had never received a gift like it before. It came to us in the form of the baby, Jesus Christ. This gift was wrapped in swaddling clothes and laid in a manger. The angels announced the giving of it to the shepherds who were watching their sheep at night. This gift was brought to the attention of the wise men of the East who were

looking at the stars, and they came to give gifts to Him in return.

Is this gift what we have desired? Did it cost very much? Was it freely given? Let us look at this gift and the Giver. Here is the gift of all gifts. Our hearts were burdened with sin and condemnation but as we receive this gift, all this is taken away. Oh, how happy we are! Before we received it we did things that we hated to do. We vowed we would change but again we fell into the same condemnation. This gift gives us power to do the right and become free from sin and the bondage of sin. Praise the Lord! There is power in this gift: power to lift us to the level of angels; power to overcome evil and not be overcome by evil. Oh, the wonderful gift from heaven!

"For God so loved the world, that he GAVE his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth on him should not perish, but have everlasting life." The Giver of this gift "owns" the cattle on a thousand hills." He is the creator of all things. No power or might is greater than His. The gift He gave is all that He says it is. He knows all about us and knows just what will fill every longing of our desires. Oh, praise the Lord for this Gift of gifts! "By the righteousness of one the free gift came upon all men unto the justification of life." Through Jesus we have justification. Wonderful gift! It cost heaven its brightest jewel, but it was freely given to us by God. We did not merit this gift. We were not any

special friend of God because we turned our backs upon Him when we disobeyed Him and rejected His counsel and advice. But He did not let this keep Him from giving us this gift. It is there for each one of us. All we need to do is to just take it, receive it, and quit the sinning business. "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." (Rom. 6:23) Death to the soul is ours unless we receive this gift of eternal life. We can reign over sin in this life when we receive it. "For if by one man's offense death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ." (Rom. 5:17) Before, we yielded our members to the devil; and now we can yield our members to Christ. (Rom. 6:13)

passed over the group which had gathered round to listen.

"There were six of us, who thus blasphemed the work of God. In less than a year the hotel keeper

work of God. In less than a year the hotel keeper stumbled, and falling, ruptured a blood vessel and died. Nothing strange, you say; but mark this, it was a violent death.

"Two years later, the young man who proposed the act—while with a hunting party at a country house—got up in the night to get a drink of water, and falling to the lower floor, broke his neck. He lived only two days. The third year Tom—lighthearted and the noisiest in the mock service—opened the wrong door in his house, fell to the cellar floor, and broke his neck.

"I began to be curious as to my two remaining companions in revelry. One of them, I learned, thought to break the sequence of events and went West. He became a conductor on a Western road. A newspaper item brought the story of his death three years ago. He was crushed between the bumpers and died in agony.

"Two of us were left. Last year I found my remaining companion. Sunken in poverty, his wife and family were dead. That very night a fall of six feet from a saloon door broke his neck. Since then I have been waiting. Today my time has come. Within ten years, the six men who performed that impious feat have been taken away by violent death.

"Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap." Gal. 6:7 —Selected.

God Is Not Mocked

"Unto every one of us is GIVEN GRACE accord-

ing to the measure of the GIFT of Christ. Wherefore

he saith, "When he ascended up on high, he led cap-

tivity captive, and GAVE GIFTS UNTO MEN." (Eph.

4:7-8) Jesus came to this world, lived, died and rose

again. He ascended up to heaven and there he is

giving to each of us that which we desire if we will

receive it. He will set the captive free from the

power of the enemy of all souls. Our part is to re-

ceive it. Oh, dear soul, open your heart and receive

grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared

to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and

worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously,

and godly, in this present world: looking for that

blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great

God and our Saviour Jesus Christ; who gave himself

for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity,

and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of

Thank God for the "unspeakable gift" to us-

-Sister C. B. (Marie) Miles.

good works." (Titus 2:11-14)

the Gift of all gifts.

this Gift of all gifts-this unmerited gift.

With an air-splitting crash, the wrecked train shuddered and lay silent along the tracks. Then cries of the injured began to fill the air. The unhurt passengers quickly rallied to assist. Among them, a Mr. A. T. Worden later published a report from which we select the following:

A well-dressed man, propped up in a broken car seat in the station, called Mr. Worden to his side. The man's back was broken, but he suffered little pain. Hopelessly injured, he asked Mr. Worden to listen to his story.

The man, a traveling salesman for a New York City drug company had—ten years previously—happened to visit the barroom of a hotel in upper New York, reports Worden. Conversation that night turned to the ridicule of a religious revival then in progress in the town. The revival leader was a white-haired minister upon whom the rowdies had played many pranks and gone unrebuked. Now, jesting and drinking, the men in the barroom recalled in the crudest and coarsest of language the events which had taken place. Finally someone asked how the meetings were conducted. A partly drunken young man offered to demonstrate. Would half a dozen of the others assist?

Here the dying man relating the story wiped the sweat of excitement from his brow and said, "What I am telling you is the truth as sure as I stand on the verge of eternity."

"Six of us knelt down on the floor of that barroom and burlesqued God. We mockingly prayed to God to forgive us our sins, even simulating the tears of repentance. We closed the performance with 'Rock of Ages,' a hymn we had learned at our mothers' knees. Before we finished, the barroom was empty. Horror-stricken, the other drinkers had left for home."

As the injured man paused to rest, a shudder

True Believing

True belief and faith in God are being undermined today by one of the most insidious and subtle tricks the devil has ever invented: the "Only Believe," and the "Acceptance" theory. Satan himself believes (James 2:19), and having suffered defeat at Calvary, he dares not suggest to those whose eyes have been opened, that there is no salvation through faith in the atoning blood of God's sinless sacrifice. So he has set about to make null and void, if possible, this faith, by the infiltration of modernism into the churches of God, which God has ordained as soulsaving stations throughout the land. His method is to offer a substitute for soul saving faith, via a mental acceptance only; that the Gospel is true, and that Christ died for our sins, and rose again for our justification.

The ministry today is so bowing the knee to Baal (this false acceptance theory), that, although multitudes are made to realize their undone condition, and are brought to the very door of the Kingdom, they fall away, dead still, in trespasses and sin, not having contacted the source of life because of those who stand in the door, not entering themselves, nor permitting those who would, to enter.

The sinner is urged to "accept Christ" which is an utter impossibility without old time repentance, by which he comes to the place of acceptance. For Christ will be accepted by none; nor will He acept any, until they repent and are willing to part with every known sin.

No one who believes in God at all will deny the marvelous truth of John 3:16, nor will discount the merits of Rom. 10:9, Mark 16:16 (and other like Scriptures) "If thou shalt confess . . . the Lord Jesus, and believe in thine heart . . . thou shalt be saved." "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved." But that this is not enough, is evidenced by the fact that the same Lord who spoke these gracious words, said also, "Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish." And again, "Let the wicked forsake his way and the unrighteous man his thoughts." Luke 13:3, and Isa. 55:7. In the light of these Scriptures, common sense will tell you that there is no salvation for you until you are willing to accept the whole truth and to forsake sin.

Since the Scriptures are in perfect harmony, one with another, our difficulty must be in deriving at the true meaning of various words and phrases contained therein, and of ascertaining the depths to which they go. Let us consider the key word "believe;" this, evidently has a far deeper meaning than appears on the surface. True belief is an awakening of the soul to the facts of eternal realities—a quickening from the dead, by the Holy Spirit. Much light is shed on the word belief, by an old definition given recently in "The Authority of the Believer" (used by permission). "The word 'belief' has a two-fold meaning fraught with deep significance. In it are two old Anglo-Saxon words, 'be,' to live or exist, and 'lifan' which conveys the thought of accordance. Thus to believe anything, means literally, to live in accordance with it. We are accustomed to consider belief, as simply mental acquiescence with some particular truth. But its root leads us to action; that which the mind accepts, the will must obey."

So to really believe the Gospel in the Bible sense, is to live according to its precepts; and to thus live, is to live eternally.

Surely, "Strait is the gate and narrow is the way which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it." "Strive to enter in at the strait gate; for many, I say ... will seek to enter in and shall not be able." Matt. 7:14, Luke 13:24.

"There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death." Prov. 14:12.

—Selected.

The Hallowed Home

The Christian home is a sacred place—a hallowed spot. It is the dearest place and most like heaven of any place in the world. It affords excellent opportunities for the practice of self-denial and the manifestations of love. A little boy of the back-alley was asked where heaven was. He replied, "Down at our home since father and mother have found Jesus." It is indeed a blessed thing when parents have so much of heaven in them that their children recognize it and look upon the home as a heavenly place. Children

may not have accepted Christ, but where the parents are Christian they can teach their children to respect the God they love and worship. If parents will live in that sacred atmosphere, carry that hallowedness of soul, it will command the respect and esteem of all in the home. Unhallowed things should not be allowed brought into the home. This cannot always be avoided except both parents are heirs together of the grace of life. But where one is not, the other can live such a heavenly life as to wield a silent influence that commands reverence. Such unhallowed things as tobacco using, card playing, profane language and jazz music and such things should not be given place in the home. God will not dwell there. Let your home be simple and free from all extravagances. Let there be not those decorations and ornamentations and richness that speaks of a love of earthly things. These earthly things when beyond the line of simplicity and modesty profane the home, and relieve it of all sacredness. Christian parents should have their homes such a place where Jesus would delight to live and where He could say to them, "Thou hast chosen the better part." It is with a grieved heart that He says, "Thou art troubled about many things." Keep fussiness, fret, worry, and care out of the home and make it a Paradise. Because you see so few of this sort of homes, should be no discouragement unto you. There are a few. It is such homes that are preserving the world. These homes are growing fewer every year. Some day ere long they will not be of sufficient number and of great enough hallowedness as to stay off the fire from heaven.

Christian parents, do not cease to keep the incense rising constantly from the fire on your altar of prayer. Keep your family worship fragrant. They can be so intensely spiritual as to impress those of the home who may not be saved. The children will go out some day to found homes of their own, and you should have stamped upon their memory the sacredness of prayer and of a hallowed life that they will never forget. In after years they will remember father and mother's prayers. They will remember when their parents prayed down the needed help from heaven.

The Christian home is God's type of heaven. It is the reflection of our Father's house above. We exhort Christian parents to not neglect providing their children with recollections of God and of heavenly realities. Keep heaven in your home, keep it a hallowed spot, keep your life a hallowed life, make your home a place of prayer in the Spirit, keep all its relationships sacred, and in the after years your children will talk to their children about the hallowed life of father and mother. To store up in the minds of your chidlren the memory of the blessings and realities that belong to the Christian life is far more important than making provisions for them of earthly things. God bless our Christian homes, and make them a bit of heaven in this barren waste of worldli--C. E. Orr.

"Be not carried about with divers and strange doctrines. For it is a good thing that the heart be established with grace." Heb. 13:9.

"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.

Dated copy for publication must be received by the 15th of the month prior to the month of issue.

(Second class postage paid at Guthrie, Okla.)

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Single copy, three months\$.10
Single copy, one year\$.35
Single copy, three years\$1.00
Roll of 4 papers to one address, one year\$1.00
Roll of 12 papers to one address, one yr\$3.00
Roll of 16 papers to one address, one yr\$4.00
Roll of 20 papers to one address, one yr\$5.00
Roll of 25 papers to one address, one yr\$6.00
Roll of 30 papers to one address, one yr\$7.00
Roll of 50 papers to one address, one yr\$10.00
Roll of 100 papers, one address, one yr \$20.00
Subscribe to "The Beautiful Way", per year60c
Five sets or more to one address,
each set per year 40c

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

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

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

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

The Faith Publishing House is incorporated under the laws of Oklahoma as a non-profit religious organization.

FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE

P. O. Box 713, 920 W. Mansur Ave., Guthrie, Oklahoma Phone No. BUtler 2-1479 The Church of God Chapel at Guthrie, Oklahoma is located on the corner of Sixth and W. Warner. The congregation welcomes you. —Bro. Ira D. Stover, Pastor. 1208 W. Mansur, P. O. Box 210, Phone BUtler 2-3244

EDITORIALS

We surely are grateful to God for all past and present blessings. We know that we are not worthy of any of these good things for he found us deep in sin and sinking deeper every day and month, and with all our trying and struggling we were unable to extricate ourselves from the tangled webs of the enemy; but glory to God, Jesus, the dear Son of God, came looking for us and reached down and pulled us out of the pit of sin, washed us in his own precious blood and made us clean in mind and heart; fitting us for an abode in heaven with him. Bless his holy name! "The blood will work a perfect cure, will cleanse the heart and keep it pure."

It causes rejoicing in our hearts to see the interest the saints have taken in the "Three-months" Offer" in getting the Faith and Victory paper into so many homes during the winter months when people read more. From the looks of things at present we will have by far a greater number of threemonths' subs for the paper than ever before. This will make much more work and expense in getting the papers to them, but we are here to spend and be spent for Him and His cause among men. If we know our own heart, to know His will is to do it; and I know that the Lord being our great high priest, will succor us in getting the Gospel to men by the printed page. God makes it easy to serve the souls of men whom the Lord loves. We furnish the willingness and He gives the power, strength, and wisdom to carry out His wishes and pleasure. Thank God His grace is sufficient and He gives us power to walk with Him, to run, and sometimes He makes us fly as if on eagles' wings, bless His name.

As we are taught in the Bible to walk in the footsteps of Jesus we should not think it strange for Him to give the needed grace to do so. He who puts on the whole armor of God and holds up the shield of faith with the sword of the Spirit in his heart and hand will never be defeated in the hottest contest or battle with the enemy. When God resurrected his Son from the tomb Jesus ascended upon high and led captivity captive and gave gifts unto men. Satan is a conquered devil today with all those who keep their souls covered under the precious blood of the Lamb of God.

I have been thinking of the close relationship between Jesus Christ and His blood-washed children. Paul says that we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones. (Eph. 5:30.) For this cause we ought to forsake all the world together with all of its foolishness and folly and walk with Jesus. Amos says, "Can two walk together except they be agreed?" We will have to keep agreeing with the Lord in order to walk with him. He does not change

His course or His mind because of our narrow contracted thought or fleshly ambitions or peculiar selfish desires but His still small voice whispers to the soul, "This is the way, walk ye in it." Some people seem to think that the business of the Lord is run like politics or patterned after the humanly organized sectism all around us. Peter tells us in 1 Peter 2:9 that "Ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should show forth the praises of Him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light."

I stepped into the hardware store the other day to get some gaspipe fittings and the proprietor said, "Well, how is the world serving you?" My answer was. "Fairly well, but the fact is that the world is not serving me, the Lord is serving me; for I am not of the world. I am in the world but not of the world." He said. "That is what the Lord told the disciples." What the Lord told the disciples to do is surely good for us today. The more you become like the world, the more the worldly minded religious people will like you for they will love their own. The more you follow in the footsteps of the Lord the more the Lord will love you and will freely abide in you. Just yield vourself into the hands of God and let him work in you, both to will and to do of his good pleasure and all will be well and heaven will be sure.

Jesus says in Matt. 6:15, "But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses." There is a vast difference in forgiving your brother from the heart and from the head only. If the forgiveness is from the head only you are apt to have feeling toward your brother that ought not to be and the result will be fault-finding and remarks made which prove the forgivenness was not from the heart. Sister Dilly gave us an exhortation from the pulpit last prayer meeting night on the subject of the tongue and being offended, which was good, and she also brought in the truth of being converted and becoming as a little child. People who are easily offended will also be ready to receive praise of men. We who are saved ought to have good thoughts toward all men. If we love God we will love the things that He loves and hate the things that He hates. The saint of God will love the souls of men but will hate the thing that causes them to do evil and will hate for anyone to do evil deeds. Jesus was continually offending the Pharisees because they loved not the truth and his words of truth found no place in their hearts, therefore they hated him and finally became so bitter against him that they clamored for his blood to be shed, because their deeds were evil and the deeds and words of Christ were righteous.

One man puts it this way, "A man can have strong convictions and defend what he believes to be truth, without in the least hating anybody. I do not hold myself up as an example, but I am reported to stand as vigorously for what I believe and against what I feel I must oppose as any man in these parts. But I can, with true sincerity, say if there is any man in my acquaintance whom I hate, I cannot name him.

There are many whose actions I detest. I cannot love what some about me stand for, but I try to follow in the footsteps of the Master in my feelings toward false prophets, evil doers, and the workers of iniquity everywhere. Christ with great feeling referred to some as whited sepulchres, wolves in sheep's clothing, false prophets, serpents and a generation of vipers, hypocrites. He says of them, 'How can ye escape the damnation of hell?' But he did not hate them. He died for them."

This pious love for every thing and everybody can easily be mixed with hypocrisy and worldly compromise. I firmly believe that Satan used many of the leaders to go astray by causing them to love the world and to love their self life and in that way a great falling away took place and the evening light truth that so many loved and rejoiced in became darkness to them and they received a delusion from the Lord because they loved not the truth any more. They may speak of it glibly but do not practice it any more. When the light that is in a man becomes darkness, how great is that darkness.

As Christmas and this year's holiday season approaches, we will see a great stir among the people of the world, shopping and sending gifts. If this were all done in the spirit of the Lord it would be a scene of pleasure to the Lord; but, alas! the most of it is in a worldly spirit which is the enemy of God. The giving of the saints should be in the Spirit that prompted the Jews to send gifts one to the other as recorded in Esther 9:20, 21 and 22. At that time the Lord had set them free from their enemies and they had that day set aside for feasting and joy of sending portions one to another, and of sending gifts to the poor. Then we also read in the Bible of how when Jesus was born the wise men of the east was guided by a star to the young child and they gave gifts to the parents as it is stated in Matt. 2:11, gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Do not mix your giving up with any heathen custom but give as unto the Lord and because it is the Lord that has delivered you from your enemies and He is worthy of gifts and praise and honor. Let your moderation be known to all men and with a sincerity of heart, worship the Lord in your giving.

Obituaries

Sister Alta Mead was born at Hubbard, Oregon on Sept. 20, 1892, and departed this life on Oct. 28, 1959 in Salem, Oregon at the age of 67. Her seven brothers and sisters are all living. Two daughters preceded her in death while two sons survive her, Leonard Watkins of Hubbard, Oregon, and Richard Watkins of Turner, Oregon; also her husband, Herbert of Coquille, Oregon and eight grandchildren.

She was saved early in life and called into active gospel ministry which she followed with her husband, Mr. Watkins, for many years. Following his death she later married Mr. Mead and continued in her ministry as much as permitted by failing health until her last years. Even then she was always joyful in spirit and had a word of comfort for everyone.

Funeral services were conducted by Albert Nielsen, using the text in Heb. 4:13, and was assisted by Bro. Thomas Hall. Her body was laid to rest in the Hopewell Cemetery, Hubbard, Oregon.

0-0-0-

Clinton Payne, son of Mr. and Mrs. Clayborn Payne, was born August 25, 1908 in Lowdns County at Columbus, Miss., and departed this life Oct. 15, 1959 at the age of 51 years, one month, and 20 days. In April, 1933 he was united in marriage to Miss Marie McIntosh who preceded him in death in March, 1951.

God in his great mercy saw fit to save his soul dur-

ing his last hours.

He is survived by one daughter, Ruthie Mae Payne of Oklahoma City and one grandson, Wilbert Gene; six sisters and one brother; and a host of relatives and friends.

Bro. Lewis Williams, who officiated, used the text, James 4:14.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Pray that God will give me full deliverance from affliction and make me well to His glory, and give me victory in every way over all powers of sin and darkness that Satan sends to tempt me, especially worrying and doubting, and that I'll not be lacking on any lines for the Lord. -An isolated saint.

Will you church folks please pray for me that the Lord will talk to me like He used to? I pray hard, myself, but just can't pray through. I want more than anything in this world to be right with my Lord and Saviour. I also have several unspoken requests. Please pray earnestly -Mrs. Esther Corn. Ohio. with me.

0---0---0---0

Calif.—Dear saints at Pub. Co.,—Greetings in Jesus' name. We are going through a trial of afflictions. Husband is getting so much worse and is an invalid from this disease he has. I have been quite poorly for several weeks and need much help so I will be able to care for him. Do pray for us that we will never get discouraged. Your Bro. and Sister, -A. G. Wittenborn.

Ind .- Dear saints,-Please fast and pray for my healing of serious case of prostrate gland trouble, also bad nerves. I am in a very serious condition and can't live very long unless the Lord heals me for His name's sake at this place.

Your Bro. in Jesus, -J. B. Trinkle.

La.—My daughter has cerebral palsy and crippled badly. I know God can heal all diseases. Mother has heart trouble and high blood pressure, needs prayer. -Mrs. Tropp

SPECIAL NOTICES

SAPULPA ALL-DAY SERVICES

Sapulpa, Okla. all-day services are Nov. 29. Come and stay all day. Sandwiches will be served at noon. Bro. Richard Madden, Pastor.

CALIFORNIA STATE ASSEMBLY MEETING

The California State Assembly Meeting will be held from Dec. 25, 1959 to Jan. 3, 1960 on the saints' camp ground at 12312 Osborne Place, Pacoima, Calif. (a subburb of Los Angeles) Lord willing.

We urge all saints throughout the west to attend this meeting and extend a hearty welcome to others farther

east who might be able to come. There will be a number of the Lord's ministers present to preach the Word in the anointing and power of the Spirit of God. Also they will be able to help you with your spiritual problems and pray prayers of faith for your physical needs as well. If you are in need of help from God for soul or body, we urge you to come to the meeting.

We are expecting the same visitation from God as in former years and expect His power to be present to save, sanctify, heal, and edify and work effectually in every phase of His work. Will be looking forward to

seeing you at the meeting.

Ostis B. Wilson, 12312 Osborne Place, Pacoima, Calif. Phone EMpire 9-3608.

OKLAHOMA STATE ASSEMBLY MEETING

The Assembly Meeting of the Church of God at Guthrie, Okla. will begin Friday, December 25, 1959, and continue ten days.

All are welcome to attend this meeting. Dormitories and dining hall are located close by for your convenience. Ministers, filled with the Holy Spirit of God will be present to aid you in your needs, spiritually or physically. We are sure you will be blessed as you come and labor with us for the salvation of souls. The expenses of the meeting will be taken care of by free-will offerings. Those desiring to send offerings or supplies, send to M. A. Davis, Rt. 4, Guthrie, Okla.

We had some flood damage which needs to be taken care of before the meeting, especially mattress pads and tableware, (knives, forks, and spoons). If all who can will bring enough stainless steel tableware for their own use, and then donate this to the cause of God it will help -Bro. I. D. Stover, Pastor. greatly.

-0-REPORT FROM SANDUSKY, OHIO

We, the saints at Sandusky, Ohio, send greetings to all the dear saints everywhere in the name of our precious Lord and Saviour.

Bro. Louis Williams was here and ran a seven-day meeting during the second week of October. The Lord surely did bless in the meeting. One precious soul was saved and some sanctified. Our hearts were made to rejoice in the Lord. We are more encouraged to press the battle on.

We were also blessed to have with us in the first of the meeting Bro. Darius Gibson. Some of the saints of Dayton were down the first and the last part of the meeting. Sister Alice Moreland, a minister from Springfield was also with us throughout the meeting.

The saints of Akron were down every night. We do thank the Lord for his true saints and ministers. God bless each and every true child of God.

The ordinance service was held during the last Sun-

day of the meeting. Pray for us that we continue to be -Pastor, Bro. Henry Chaney. faithful in His service.

AN OPENING FOR A GOD-SENT PASTOR

Greetings of Christian love to all the saints and workers of the Kingdom of God. We feel led to make a public announcement of an opening for a pastor here at Shawnee, Okla. We have labored here for some ten or eleven years and feel our labors have been blessed of God in a precious way. We have given our time and labor to God and in return He has surely blessed our souls, and cared for us in a marvelous way.

As most of you know we accepted the work in the footsteps of dear Bro. and Sister O. B. Wilson, Sr., who were outstanding pillars in the Reformation for many years and who went on to glory and left the work with us and God. During the ten years or more we have been taught many precious lessons in many ways, had many battles and many victories, but for the past several months we have been feeling the Lord was relieving us of the responsibility of the weight as pastor here. As providence has not ordained for some time that another preacher live here in Shawnee, it has made a problem for me to leave the congregation on Sunday for it would be without a preacher. So I have been filling the place and will continue for awhile until the Lord sends someone else or gives further orders. I did want, though, that all the ministers of God know the place is open and I will step completely out as soon as someone feels led of the Lord to come here as pastor, and I will pledge to any God-sent minister full co-operation as long as I am here.

I haven't fully decided what God has for us yet, but there are many openings in the great work of God and we are praying earnestly for God to lead us to the place He has for us. Right now we feel like doing some evangelistic work for awhile as the Lord wills but we are very burdened for all the work of God and surely do desire your earnest prayers that we can find our place in the body and fill it in the fear of God with all our soul, mind, and strength.

TENTS FOR NATIONAL CAMPMEETING

Dear Bro. Pruitt and saints everywhere,-Greetings of Christian love in Jesus' name. We are at this time considering the need at the national campmeeting grounds. In the business meeting it was made known the lack of having enough tents to fully accommodate the increasing attendance. So in the course of discussion a suggestion was made to take care of the problem. The motion was made and accepted. I was appointed to present the plan to each congregation and individual and the facts and figures. So in brief to our knowledge a new tent will cost approx. 55.00 to 60.00 dollars. If only ten people out of each congregation would give 20 cents each week for the next eight months it would more than pay for a new tent. Anyone, anywhere, who will contribute to this need I am sure will be blessed. In buying these tents ourselves it will save quite a sum that is paid out each year on tent rentals.

Send all contributions for this need to Bro. Ralph Beisly, 407 Eldridge, Rt. 5, Coffeyville, Kansas.

—Bro. Richard Madden.

I Had Company

"Why were you not at meeting Sunday?" was asked, and the answer was, "I had company."

A schoolteacher was asked, "Why were you not at school Monday?" and she answered, "I had company."

A merchant was asked, "Why did you not open your store for business Monday?" and he answered, "I had company."

Does the reader say he knows better than that, for no teacher and no merchant ever gave such an answer? Right you are, for nobody ever gives that answer except those who miss church services. The

reason is, whether they will acknowledge it or not, that they think the church service is of less importance than school or store. No teacher would think of such a thing as missing because company came in just as he was starting to school, and no merchant would think of such a thing as failing to open his store because company stepped in; and the reason is that the teacher and the merchant think their work is important. See the point?

—Sel.

EVENING LIGHT SONG BOOKS — Now Available!

The sixth edition of the "Evening Light" song book is printed and in stock to fill orders. This book contains most of the familiar songs from the "Select Hymns" song book, and some choice songs from other sources. It contains 496 pages, shaped notes, with durable cloth binding that will stand much wear. Single copy, \$1.50 here at the office. Mail orders require additional 15c each for postage and wrapping. Postage on one dozen books is \$1.00; on thirty, \$2.30; on fifty, \$3.85. No reduced price for quantities.

Send Postal Money Order or personal check to: FAITH PUB. HOUSE, Guthrie, Oklahoma





CHRISTMAS GIFTS — Order Early!

emiliarians difficulting.
Egermeier's Bible Story Book, 640 pages \$ 3.95
Egermeier's Bible Picture ABC Book, clothbound 1.95
Cruden's Complete Concordance, 200,000 references 4.00
Smith's Bible Dictionary, 818 pages
Fox's Book of Martyrs 3.00
The Pilgrim's Progress
World Bible, approx. 5 x 7, gift boxed, No. 1121C 11.50
National Bible, approx. 6 x 9, large print, No. 451 7.00
World Bible, approx. 5 x 8, No. 1129C
National Bible, approx. 5 x 4, gift boxed, white, 5.00
National Bible, approx. 8 x 5, black, stiff back, 5.50
National Family Bible, approx. 6 x 9, designed cover, 12.50
Pocket New Testaments, Values from \$1.75 to \$3.00
Christmas Cards, tall or square with scriptures 1.00
Birthday, Get-Well, All-Occasion, Sympathy Cards 1.00
1960 Christian Home Calendars, one copy, 40c; 3 for

\$1.10; 12 for \$4.00; 25 for \$7.50; 50 for \$13.75, postpaid.

We have a limited supply of Beautiful Way books of 1959 papers on hand. Order today. Price, \$1.00, postpaid.

Is It Wrong?

Is it wrong to sit and watch adulterous men and women parade around half naked and flaunt their sex-crazed bodies in the faces of your boys and girls?

Is it wrong to encourage the drinking of beer, liquor and wine and to teach our children to do so?

Is it wrong to allow someone to bring into our homes the low, vulgar and off-color language of the dives of sin and to fill our minds with their actions and words?

Is it wrong to allow ungodly libertines to invade our homes and seduce our wives and daughters?

Is it wrong to allow half-naked harlots to cause our husbands to commit mental adultery (which Jesus said was just as bad as the real thing)?

Is it wrong to rob our homes of their personal and God-given sanctity by introducing into them that which will dull our spiritual senses and rob us of real victory in our souls?

Is it wrong to encourage drinking, smoking, petting, sexual promiscuity, vulgarity, murder, robbery, dancing, gambling, rape, and worldliness?

Yes, of course, these things are wrong. Any thinking person, whether a Christian or not, will have to admit that these things are wrong. Then if these things are wrong, Television is wrong—for television is the devil's chief promulgator of all the evils mentioned above, plus hundreds of others.

If a husband could read his wife's mind as she watches the sexual libertines on television, he would tear the godless instrument to pieces. If a wife could look into the mind of her husband as he watches the "hellywood harlots" and dreams of committing adultery with them (and no normal man can look at naked women and keep a clean mind), she would throw the thing out and never have another one.

If the parents could perceive the thoughts of their teen-age sons and daughters as they dream of dancing, drinking, petting and committing adultery with the reprobates they see on television, they would clean out the rotten thing from their home and never have another.

America is experiencing the worst wave of teenage sex delinquency ever known in the history of the world, and crime is now increasing four times as fast as the population. The entire cause can be laid at the door of the movies, television and rotten literature.

Every night thousands of precious girls lose their virtue because they are stimulated by the godless allurement of movies and television. When you support television you help to damn the souls of the 200,000 girls who go astray each year.

Television is helping to fill the jails, the hospitals, the insane asylums, the divorce courts, the clinics for veneral disease, the houses of ill-fame and even hell itself.

Television is robbing the attendance to church services and is putting out the spiritual fires of many who once loved God. Wherever television goes, real vital spirituality disappears. The television habit grows, and industrial surveys show that more and more time will be given to it until it becomes almost an unbreakable obsession.

Some say that it is just the same as Radio, (and this is no attempt to excuse the sin of radio) but there is a difference. It is the difference between hearing the voice of a half-naked woman and having her prance around before you. It is the difference between hearing about an adulterous libertine who stole some man's wife and of having him come into your living room to seduce yours. It is the difference between hearing about beer and liquor, and of having them set up a bar in your living room and drink before your children. Yes, there is a vast difference. Psychologists say that up to 90 per cent of our thought life is stimulated by what we see. Thus only 10 per cent of our thoughts are aroused by hearing, smelling, feeling and tasting. Television employs the quickest, surest route to the polluting of the mind and the damning of the soul. Some claim that they will control theirs, but none of them do it for very long. It soon controls the owner. "I will set no wicked thing before mine eyes: I hate the work of them that turn aside; it shall not cleave to me." Psalm 101:3.

After only a few years of history, television has already established an all-time record as a promoter of crime and sin of all kinds.

Christian people (regardless of what some profess) do not support either movies or television. They neither buy nor watch television. For if television is not wrong, then nothing is wrong, for television promotes all kinds of sin and wickedness. Those who are seeking to be like Jesus can neither enjoy nor sanction the hellish rot on television. No one can imagine the spotless, pure, clean-minded Son of God supporting such filthy trash.

God's people abstain "from all appearance of evil" or "looks of evil." In talking about evil men, the Bible says that "He that biddeth him God-speed is partaker of his evil deeds" (2 John 11), so if you sanction the rot on television and lend your support to buying or watching them, God says that you are as guilty as they.

I would hate to stand at the judgment and have God class me with that "hellywood" crowd, but that is what is going to happen to millions who love the devil on television.

The safe thing to do is to clean house and keep it clean. May God help us to stay clear of this destructive evil and to live separate Christian lives.

---Unknown.

SOUTH AFRICA PLANS BAN ON TV IN HOME

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa, Oct. 30 — (AP) — The South African Government says it is going to protect the country's white children and all its colored people by keeping television out.

"We must not forget television is nothing but a miniature movie brought into the home and over which parents have no control," Albert Hertzog, post and telegraph minister said in a Johannesburg paper.

•1

Testimonies

Kansas—Dear friends in Christ,—I have never written to you before, but since the dear Lord has recently so abundantly blessed me I feel it my duty to offer my testimony.

I have been a member of a sectarian church for more than 50 years and thought that I was right. Last January I began to worship with the saints here at Coffeyville. Some of their teachings were very peculiar to me but I kept right on attending services trying to learn. However, I did not want to give up my church membership.

You will ask why I wasn't in my church? Well, I am not very well. I haven't walked without the support of a crutch or cane for more than a year. So I have a very dear saint living with me and it was through her that I began to attend the Church of God services.

The saints were very kind to me and I learned to love every one of them, but I was confused in the way they worshiped. I had not been used to that way. We have been studying Revelation at the mid-week services and I knew nothing about that book. But on Oct. 16, 1959 another good saint came to visit us and we studied the 12th chapter of Revelation in connection with other chapters of the Bible. I began to receive some light that night when retiring for bed. I thanked the dear Lord for some light and prayed that He would lead me in more light. But the enemy said right away, "What will you do about your church affiliation?" I answered back by saying, "I can't give up my church membership." But the Lord said, "Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus, Just to take him at his word. Just to rest upon his promise. Just to know thus saith the Lord." Three times I refused to say yes, but the fourth time I said, "Yes, Lord, I'll do what you want me to do," and peace came over me.

The next morning about ten o'clock I was going about with my cane when it seemed as though such a quietness came over me and a voice said, "Why don't you try and take a few steps?" and I did and sat down. But the voice said, "Take a few more steps," and I did. The lady who was staying with me noticed that I had taken these steps and along with her we began to praise the Lord and such a wonderful blessing I did receive! It was then easy to come out of church membership.

In Christian love, —Mrs. Isabel Owens.

0-0-0-0-0

Ind.—Dear Bro. Pruitt and saints at the Faith Publishing House,—Greetings in the precious name of Jesus, I've been feeling like I should write to you and tell you what God has done for me. You know how my feet were swollen when I was at the campmeeting at Monark Springs and also at Guthrie. I was prayed for and didn't seem to get any better but I knew God could and would hear me. I didn't get any better until I got home. The first night I was home the swelling left my feet and has never come back. Praise the Lord. A few days later the people began to tell me how much better I was walking. It seems that I keep getting better a little at a time.

I'm now staying with a woman in Cornersville, Ind. doing her work for her. I can't find any real saints here but about everybody I meet are church members. Oh, if people could just see the truth. I love the truth better than my life.

Pray for me and my two boys. They have been reared in the truth but have wandered away. Also pray that we will have a work here. We were mixed up in sectism but six came out of it. Two of them are gone and now I'm away, so the few need much prayer.

Your sister in Christ Jesus, Beryl Young.

It's Good To Be Out

It's good to be out when the day is clear,
And the sun is shining bright;
Where you can hear the song bird's note
Or see the lark take its flight.
It's good to be out.

It's good to be out when you've been confined to your room so long—

Tortured with aches and pains,
And now you can roam the fields again,
And walk down the wooded lane.

It's good to be out.

It's good to be out of the trappings of sin,
And out of confusion and strife,
It's good to be out of the old broad way,
And walking in the path of life.
It's good to be out.

It's good to be out from the pales and creeds of ungodly men,

And unbelievers, and those who doubt. Yes, God was right when he gave the decree, And said to His people, "Come out!"

It's good to be out.

It's good to be out—
"Come out from among them and be ye separate;
Touch not the things that defile.
If you come out, I'll be your God,
And you shall be my child."
Come out. It's good to be out!

0-0-0-0

Miss.—Dear Christians,—Greetings of love in the name of Jesus, a name which means more to me than any name in heaven or earth, for it is the only name whereby we can be saved.

I have just finished reading the "Faith and Victory" paper, and enjoyed it very much. I do miss Aunt Cora Brant's testimonies, though, so very much. She was so sweet to advise me in my Christian experience. But for some reason it was hard for me to come out of the sect church. I still love those people, and go there for Sunday school, but after Aunt Cora passed away, I felt my duty as a Christian to come out and since I did it seems like God is leading me to see the true church of God. I do want to come to some of the campmeetings as soon as there is a way opened. I do want to fellowship with the saints. I spend lots of time reading, praying, and writing. I get lots of spiritual food by taking Scripture and putting it in letter form.

I want to add my amen on the piece on television.

It is destruction of the soul to both young and old.

With Christian love, —Flora Keller.

0-0-0-0

Mo.—Dear Bro. Pruitt and saints,—Greetings in Jesus' name. May His sweet love and grace be with you is my prayer. I am glad to be able to say I am still pressing in the service of the Master and intend to be faithful until He calls from labor to reward. I am so thankful God permitted us to meet the saints of God and hear the blessed truth. That was three years ago at a tent meet-

ing at Winona, Mo. with Bro. Charles Smith. I thank God for a willing mind to accept the truth and thank Him for showing me the wrong in Babylon. Praise His holy name for ever. I am praying that more may find this truth. It just suits me and we know there is no other way to be happy; but only to trust and obey the Lord at all times. God's way is right and man's ways are failures. The Christian life is the only life to live. How can we do without Him? We need him when we are passing from time to eternity. As the song says, if we be his friend while living, he will be our friend in death.

God is calling his people out of Babylon one by one. It is a blessing to meet the saints. It causes us to have more joy when we see others in the service and worship of God. There are not very many who want to follow the Lord in the holy way but without holiness no man shall see the Lord. Remember us here in your prayers that we may be faithful in the Master's service. Grace, mercy, and peace be with you, amen.

Oregon—Greetings to the saints scattered abroad,-I am praising the Lord this morning for his love and mercy he has shown to me: for saving my soul and healing my body so many times. I want to testify again how he healed me of a severe pain in my side. My side was so sore it hurt me when I would move. I thought of phoning Bro. Pruitt for prayer, but while I lay there praying I told the Lord if he would heal me I would send what it would cost to phone or to get a doctor to help in the gospel work. He took the pain and soreness all away. In a few days my foot got so sore I could hardly walk. Again I called on the Lord and He healed it. Praise the Lord. He is a present help in every time of need. He has told us in the 5th chapter of James, "Is any among you afflicted? let him pray." That is what I did and He heard. I'm so glad healing was included in his death on the cross. He takes notice of his smallest saint.

I am isolated from the saints but not from the Lord. We are living in perilous times. The devil is after the saints to cheat them out of their privileges if he can, and to get them to send for a doctor instead of trusting the Lord. That is the first thing my children think of when I get sick, but I think of the Lord. I am more determined to be true than before and want to fight a good fight and finish my course and obtain a home in heaven.

Mo.—Greetings of love to all the saints and every one,—I'm so thankful to be serving a merciful God who hears and answers prayer for those who love and trust in Him. We want to thank all the saints and every one who sent presents, books, get-well cards, and letters while our little girl, Portia, was hurt. She enjoyed them all so much. We thank all the saints for their many prayers and give God all the praise for answering prayer and taking care of the whole matter. Thank the good

Four weeks ago yesterday (Sept 27) our little girl, Portia, who is five years old, got kicked by a horse. How awful it was! I wish everyone could see what the Lord has done for her. It was around eleven o'clock Sunday morning when Portia got hurt. Bro. and Sister Louie Marler and family had come up Saturday night to be here for a funeral Sunday. That morning Bro. Louie and Arla (my husband) went to the cemetery. Sister Evodna and children stayed here. We thank the Lord that they were here when Portia got hurt.

The pasture where we keep the horses is by our yard. I was keeping three of my brother's children. Some of them were riding one of the horses. Sister Evodna and I took all the little children out, and were going to let them ride some too. I caught the other horse. Just as I helped one of the children on, the horse kicked. Little Portia was near, so the horse kicked her down. She said, "Oh, Mother." I got to her soon and could see that she was hurt awfully bad. We all began to pray for the Lord to have mercy. I put a wash cloth over the place on her head and started through the yard to the porch. The blood was just pouring out of her little head. I knew she couldn't last long if it didn't stop. Thank God it had stopped some by the time we got to the porch. Sister Evodna and the children and I prayed again. Portia still knew everything, even though her little head was cut open from the bottom of her right eye around up through the middle of her eye on up her forehead. It was a three inch cut, taking seventeen stitches to sew it up. Her brains were even visible.

She began to cry for her daddy, so we told her we would send for him and the saints to help us pray. She told us she was going to die, but we told her God could help her live. Praise God, He did! Each time we prayed the Lord would help her. We told all the little children to kneel around her and pray, and they did. How sweetly God answered their little prayers. Three times it looked like Portia was going, but we were praying earnestly for God to spare her life until my husband came. When he came, Portia was resting better and knew everyone. Bro. Louie and Lenard Marler came too. I was willing for the Lord to have his way. I knew the Lord could heal her if it was His will. Arla said he wanted us to wait for Aunt Katie and the other saints to come to pray for her before we took her to have the place sewed up. Some called Bro. and Sister Murphy Allen and also the saints at Guthrie. The saints were here in a little while. They all were agreed in prayer. How good it was to have the saints so near in time of need.

We left then with Portia. Lenard Marler drove us 25 miles to the hospital. Portia lay on our lap with her head on a pillow. She usually got sick at her stomach when she rode in a car, but we prayed that she wouldn't. and thank God she didn't. We got there and one doctor looked at her then called another (a brain specialist) to take care of her. He was nice to her. It was only in looking to God that we had any hope of her making it through. I told the doctor the children and I trusted the Lord for our healing. I knew that place on Portia's head needed to be sewed up, but as for my part that was all I wanted them to do. They took her to the operation room. This was the hardest of it all for me, as she didn't want to go. I kissed the little darling, then they rolled her away. Arla talked to me and was a lot of encouragement. He said he knew the Lord had helped her. Arla isn't saved but is willing for the children and me to trust the Lord, which we are very thankful for.

Portia was in the operation room over an hour. Then the doctor came out and told us she would have to stay in the hospital and that no one could see her but Arla and me. I asked him if he objected to us having the saints come and pray for her and he said he'd rather I'd have the people pray some where else, that Portia was in a bad shape and didn't need to be disturbed at all. This hurt me. The thought came to me where the Lord said to pray in secret and He would reward openly. Thank God we were rewarded.

That Sunday night Bro. and Sister Murphy Allen came. I told them what the doctor had said. Arla told one of the nurses Bro. Allen was a minister and had come to see us, so she let him in to pray for Portia. The next morning the doctor came and I told him Bro. Allen had been there. The doctor said the ministers could come in any time. We were so thankful. Bro. Allen came back Monday morning and anointed and prayed for her. Tuesday Bro. and Sister Abbott came. It was good to see them. Wednesday Bro. Gibson came. How thankful we were to God for sending his ministers by, for we didn't know any of them were coming until they got there.

Portia knew Bro. Gibson. She knew everything all the time. The doctor and nurses said they never saw any one come through the operation room like Portia did. They said she told the nurses they didn't have to hold her hands. The doctor said only one time she got restless, and that was when he had lifted her skull off her brain where it was caved in. He said that was painful. He said Portia told him to hurry up and get it done. We knew only God could help her stand it like she did. There were so many of the saints praying for her. On the way to the hospital Portia looked up and saw I was crying. She said, "Mother, don't cry. It doesn't hurt any more." Thank God she didn't complain with her head hurting any more.

When they looked at her eye and gave her medicine she didn't want to take it and begged hard to come home. They told her to take the medicine that it would help her, but she told them she didn't want it. She knew God helped her, as he had many times before. They made her take some medicine, which made her sick at her stomach. She cried and begged them not to give it to her which caused both eyes to swell shut and look bad. She wouldn't eat, but wanted to come home. So we asked them to quit giving her this medicine and they did. Many times she asked me to pray that God would make her eye stop hurting. Thank God he would. One evening she began to sing, "Jesus Loves Me." Then she looked at me and said, "Mother, let's pray and thank Jesus for helping me." We did. It was at this time the Lord witnessed to me he was going to completely heal her. When we took her to the hospital the doctor said Portia might not have the right use of her mind, or could loose the sight in her right eye. But I felt the Lord was going to take care of it, which He did. Praise the good Lord.

Portia began improving fast after this. Bro. Gibson prayed for her on Wednesday and that evening she was able to be up in a wheelchair, and could see out of her left eye. On Thursday she was walking. Friday she began laughing and told me she could see out of her right eye. We just couldn't thank the Lord enough for this.

She got along so well that the doctor took the stitches out and let us take her home Sunday morning which had been one week. He told us he might want to operate on the eye for he still couldn't tell if it was going to turn right, as the packing behind her eye was gone. I knew God could take care of it all. We had to take her back Wednesday. The doctors and nurses said they never saw one get along so well. Three doctors looked at Portia. The doctor said if I'd bring her back one more time that he would just look at Portia. So we took her back last Tuesday, the 20th. The doctor said her eye turned all right. Portia went to school last week and also today and is doing well. We are so thankful and give God the praise. She is still nervous at times, but it makes us rejoice to see her play. Without the help of the Lord she might have been a cripple.

The Lord was good to me to give me strength to stay with Portia all the time she was in the hospital. I left only three times, and that was to visit my daddy who had a stroke on Wednesday after Portia went to the hospital. We got to witness to a lot of people of what the Lord had done for the children and me. The doctor and nurses were good to us even though they couldn't understand why we wanted to trust the Lord and not take medicine. In February, 1955 the Lord wonderfully healed our other little girl, Verna, who is six now, of a bad mouth disease. Verna and Portia are the same size and love each other very much, so we are thankful the Lord spared their lives so they can still be together.

Again we thank the saints for their prayers. Our neighbors and friends were so good to us, and we truly thank them all. Pray for us that we live for the Lord and do his will.

Christian love to all, -Edith Robinson.

0-0-0-0

Wash. -Dear Sister Marie,-Greetings to you in the dear name of Jesus. I never can forget what the saints have meant to me-how precious they have been. such love, and care. God has surely manifested Himself to me in the last seven months. I think of how ill I was before I left Charleston and how the dear Lord saw fit to take my dear husband home. I think what God's people meant to me while we were both ill and how God so wonderfully undertook for us time and again. Husband would pray for me it was so precious! Words fail when I try to write about these things. Then when my husband's health gave away, Bro. Wilson came to our home, then Bro. and Sister Stover and Bro. Troy Meek. How faithful they all were! How I pray God to bless them for their kindness and love to me!

In July I felt I should try to go to the campmeeting at Monark Springs, Mo. At that time I was not very well, but prayed for the dear Lord to open the way and make me well enough so I could go. A Sister Mary Farlow was willing to drive my car from Dayton to Missouri. The Lord wonderfully worked this. I had never met Sister Mary but found her a precious, saved girl and so kind and good to me. The Lord was so wonderfully with us all the way to Monark Springs. The meeting was so good and precious. I was blessed as I attended the services. He strengthened me in body and as I met the dear saints (some I knew and some I had never met), they were all so wonderful to me and we were like one big family. Some wanted me to make my home with them. Surely God has surrounded me with love among God's people.

Mary and I felt we should go on to Guthrie, Okla. after the campmeeting closed at Monark, so Sister Allen took us to her home which was a sweet home, and then went on with us. We also took Sister Edith Cole. The meeting was soul food from the beginning to the end and as at the Monark meeting, the saints all looked after my welfare showing that same sweet love that can only come from the Holy Spirit. This was my first time in Guthrie. Mary and I stayed at Bro. and Sister Stover's home which was truly a home of love. After the meeting closed I went to the Lord's Print Shop and as I looked around I could see the love there and the sacrifice in getting out the Faith and Victory papers. I asked the Lord to help me to try and do more for this wonderful work. Mary and I with others, had the privilege of helping to fold and wrap the Faith and Victory paper for the Sept. issue. Now as I write I can see Bro. Lawrence sititng at the press and the sheets of paper coming through, working till late at night; Sister Sylvia Forbes busy at the Linotype and proof-reading; Sister Marie working at the folder and her husband also doing his part; then Sister Malinda Penner and others on the address machine. It was something wonderful to me. I felt like it was truly a sacred place and a precious work of the Lord which I appreciate more since visiting there.

We left Guthrie for California August 25. There were two car loads: Bro. and Sister Stover, Bro. Leslie Busbee and Sister White in one car, and in my car there were Sister Edith Cole, Sister Allen, Sister Mary and myself. As we traveled along we sometimes sang, sometimes discussed the scripture, then had seasons of prayer. Surely it was like being in a campmeeting as we traveled along the highway. God gave us a safe journey and there we attended ten days of wonderful services. I met saints whom I had never met before. All showed such love and care. I stayed in the home of Bro. and Sister Erle Forbes, another precious home.

After the meeting in Pacoima closed, we made ready to start for Seattle, Wash. to visit my two brothers that lived there. Mary felt the Lord would have her return home in Ind. and as I felt I would like to take my car I again took this all to the Lord, and again He undertook for me, giving Bro. and Sister Ostis Wilson to drive for me. Again God was with us as we went on our way. We stopped to see different saints along the way. The first two nights we stopped with the dear young saints, Bro. and Sister Bob Stover. It was so precious to me how God, through each one we met, comforted our heart. We spent one night with the saints in Orland, Calif. There we found all so precious to us. Again, words fail us. Truly this has been a real missionary journey. My heart overflows with love and appreciation to all. I pray God to bless all.

We got to my brother's home in Seattle Sept. 24 and Bro. and Sister Wilson started back a few days later. I am now with my loved ones. All are very good to me, but I miss the dear saints. Now I keep in touch with them by letters which is a great comfort to me.

God's people do not need any insurance from men. God will care for His trusting children. I would not be afraid to start out to go anywhere, trusting in God.

I do hope Bro. Pruitt and wife are well and also all the others. We do pray the dear Lord to bless you.

Pray for me. —Bea Spaur.

Mo.—Greetings of love, I feel it is good to testify for the Lord again. He has done so much for us in different ways. We still love the Lord and his way of salvation. It is very precious to us. We have had trials we could not have borne had we not known the Lord. Praise his holy name. We want to be found faithful at all times. Our transportation had become bad and we had no way to haul our milk, as milk haulers would not pull in here for the road is so bad. But the Lord worked out a deal and we were blessed with a new pickup. We are very thankful for this and give God the praise for it all. The Lord surely is good to his trusting children. We only ask to be worthy of his blessings to us.

We are much encouraged to press on. Our all-day meeting yesterday was wonderful. Bro. Abbott, Bro. Dairus Gibson, and Bro. Allens were with us. There were some real good truths presented from the Lord. We ask the prayers of the saints that we will be sent a pastor to feed our little congregation, but we do want the Lord's will in this. Also pray for my daughter who is standing true against much opposition, and her husband, that he

will have a change of heart. Pray, too, in behalf of my husband who is quite afflicted in his body.

-The Gaines.

Ohio,-To the dear saints everywhere,-Greetings in the name of Jesus. I thank the Lord today for being saved, sanctified, and satisfied, ready to go all the way with the Lord. I am still loving and obeying the truth like I heard it in 1919. I praise God for bringing me to retirement and now as I look back I see how He did so wonderfully bless me to live true to Him. Many favors were shone to me by the owner of the place of work, and I am sure it was the great mercy of God. Prayer went forth for me that God would give me that kind of favor. Truly it is wonderful to have faith in God. I had many trials along with the favors but by keeping the love of God in me and living it out it caused the owner to ask for prayer to be made for himself and his business. After these days were over these scriptures came to me: Isaiah 43:1, and 2.

I am sending my testimony at this time with the thought that none of us know how long we will be in this life and I desire to be a comfort to some others souls. I have found that regardless of how severe the tests and trials are, keeping true to God kept me with the victory.

Your saved brother, —Bro. W. T. Tomlin.

La.—Dear Bro. Pruitt and saints everywhere,—Greetings in Jesus' name. I want to write my testimony for the Lord, of His goodness and mercy unto me. I have been waiting and hoping the dear Lord would completely heal me. He hasn't yet, but I do thank him for what he has done for me in stopping the pain and bad feelings.

Very often I thank God for his great salvation and a born-again experience, and the true Church of God. I am living in it the best I know how. I love this holy way that leads to heaven and God's holy Word is food to my soul. The dear saints of God are a great help and encouragement to me. I don't see how I could live without them and also the dear Lord for I lost my wife about two years ago. I have suffered a lot in the upper part of my back and in my neck and head. It has made me feel very bad but I know Jesus can heal me, praise his name. It doesn't matter what the affliction is or how long we've had it or how old we are, Jesus can and will heal us if we will do all he requires of us. Dear saints, I want to do just that. I want to do and be all the Lord wants me to do and be. Please pray earnestly with faith believing that God will completely heal me of everythingthe burdens, sad feelings, and all other things the devil imposes on me. I want to understand how to completely commit everything to Him as He wants me to so I can be happy in my soul and body and be a witness for Jesus, and that people can see Jesus in me and that I will be a help and encouragement to everyone I meet. I want to be more willing to let God have His way and will with me as long as I live. This is the desire of my heart. I know he can and will do this for me with your prayers and the help and grace of God.

I have my unsaved daughter and three children with me now in my home, but it is unhappy for they don't care about spiritual things. I stand against television, and every thing evil that the devil puts out, the best I know how. Please pray for my daughter and her children, and for my other children to be saved before it is too late.

I enjoy the Faith and Victory paper and the good testimonies from the saints. It is food to my soul and helps me to keep encouraged.

Your brother, —W. S. Miller.

0-0-0-0-0

Oregon—Dear Saints everywhere,—I have felt led to write my testimony of how the Lord healed me instantly, and taught me a lesson. How I do praise and thank the Lord for it, and the blessing to my soul was worth all the suffering and more.

I hadn't been very well for some time but just left it with the Lord. Then Thursday night I took very ill and suffered all night. In the morning I was no better, so we looked to the Lord as we have done so often but I got no better, and even worse. That evening was Bible study so as my husband got ready to go he said, "We will remember you in prayer," and I said, "All right," for I was sure that then the Lord would heal me.

So I lay there and watched the clock and it seemed like the pain got worse. I knew about what time they would go to prayer and it seemed like I was just holding to a thread of life. I could hardly breath and as the time went by, I got no better. I thought, "Lord, why? You healed me so many times before." Then the Lord spoke to me and said, "Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church." That was all he needed to say for I knew the rest of it. So I began to think how I could do it, for by the time my husband would get home they would all be gone home, but the Lord spoke again. Then the devil tried to find excuses to wait till morning but the Lord had said, "Now." Just then my husband came in and I asked him if Sister King had gone to bed and he said she had a light, so I told him what the Lord had told me. He called her and they anointed me, praying to God. He heard and instantly took all the pain away, healing me. I thank and praise the Lord.

He taught me a lesson, that though he will hear and answer the saints' prayers, he wants us to obey him. He said, "Call for the elders and have them pray." Truly, the Lord is good and wants to teach us what is best for us. He has put me through another trial since, and I thank him for it. I expected instant healing again, but he taught me patience, and I thank and praise him for it. It brought me closer to him. Pray for me that I'll always do his will.

Your sister in Christ, —Margaret Olson.

o—o—o—o—o
Texas—Dear ones in Christ Jesus,—Greetings of love

Texas—Dear ones in Christ Jesus,—Greetings of love to one and all. Behold what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us that we should be called the children of God. How good God is! He is the precious Being. How I praise Him for His mercy to me and what He has intrusted in our hands. We do know He is and that He is a rewarder of those that live for Him. Words cannot express the deep settled peace He blesses His children with. Praise our heavenly Father!

As many of you know, we have been going through a severe, I mean terrible test, but God, in His mercy, lifted the burden and gave us the witness to victory. Praise our God. Now we desire prayer that we will hold the victory. We know we are weak, but our minds are stayed on God and have been taught there is no, I mean NO defeat to a child of God if we will only keep our eyes and faith in God. If we keep humble and obey Him, He will carry us through with victory. Praise His name.

I fear God from the bottom of my heart and truly

don't want to get out of the order of God. We do know He loves us and cares for us this morning as I sit here by myself. (My condition has been so that I couldn't stay by myself, for I seemingly couldn't do anything but cry.) I began to cry, and said to myself, "Why did I stay here by myself again?" But then I picked up my song book and said I would sing a song just for God. So I opened it up to "Salvation Is The Sweetest Thing" and "Safe In The Arms Of Jesus." I didn't know the first one, but the title meant much, for we know there is nothing as sweet as salvation. Then I began to sing, "Safe in the arms of Jesus, safe on his gentle breast, there by his love o'er-shaded, sweetly my soul shall rest. Hark! 'tis the voice of angels, borne in a song to me. ..." Praise God no one knows except those who have experienced it—the joy and peace that flooded my soul. As I sang, the angels had borne that song to me. Oh, I thank God from the depth of my heart that we know he does still love and care for us. He says to work out our own salvation with fear and trembling. We do tremble for fear we will displease him. To know that he is pleased is all that counts in this world.

May God richly bless each and every one of you.

Thanks so much for each prayer you have prayed for us.

Christian love,

—Sister Essie Moore.

OUR PRECIOUS YOUNG PEOPLE

Our Talents

A talent or more to us God doth give, Saying, "Child, go thou; use it today, That my name may be glorified here as you live, My child, hide thou not it away!"

Our talents all differ in God's kingdom on earth, All equal in use and in need;

At home, in God's house, anywhere they're great worth,

Surrendered to Him, God's Spirit will lead.

Some wayfaring pilgrim may be in need,
A discouraged brother, or poor sinner lost,
Of a hymn we might sing, or a prayer we might
plead,

To help any soul's worth all cost.

Remember, to use not our talents at all,
We'll unprofitable servants be,
And after a time the Lord will call,
Then cast us into outer darkness eternally.

So let's watching and praying servants be,
And use our talents for the One
Who, on that day will say to thee,
"Thou good, faithful servant, well done."
—Sister Mona Lee Barton.

Kansas— Dear ones at the Publishing House,—Greetings of Christian love extend to you this evening. We are very thankful for the Lord's blessings to us.

The Lord has been so good to us—so good that I feel like passing on to others the opportunity of the same blessing we have received. We were very much in need of long stockings for our 16 months old daughter, Jeannette. We were able to get long stockings for our 3 year old, Cynthia, through the catalog, but infants' stock-

ings were not available. We had even sent in a special request but no reply for a month. Finally I wrote Aunt Etta as I remembered hearing her say she had an address of a place where the stockings could be obtained. She responded with this address: Gohn Bros., Middlebury, Ind. I placed an order, not knowing whether the company still handled the stockings or not. Praise the Lord, the stockings came soon and I was so thankful. My heart was just filled to overflowing. I thought maybe there are others, just like myself, who haven't been able to find long stockings for their girls, and I want to share the information with them.

In Christian love, —Donald and Marilyn Eck.

Calif.—Dear saints of the Faith Publishing House:— I felt inspired to send in my testimony about God's wonderful blessing to us. I was married a year ago last July and the Lord has and is so wonderfully blessing my husband and me. I can't express it in words. We are both saved and trying to live for God, although only 23. We have lots to learn and the devil tries us many times, but thanks be to God, he, through his wonderful saints, has taught us the secret of prayer.

I want to say to every young person who is single or married, no matter how hard the trial gets, whether financially, in-laws, home affairs, God is waiting to help

and bring you through.

I must thank all the saints for the continuous prayer to God about my husband having to go in service. God so miraculously came to our rescue; we had gone to the draftboard; sent to Bro. Pruitt for help, and above all, put in our request to God and the saints agreed with us. When he went up to be examined they classed him 1-A, then they called him to really go in three weeks later: (this is when he went to the draftboard and Bro. Clyde Smith accompanied him advised by Bros. Trotter, Pruitt, Chandler, L. Williams and many more), but praise to God they said his ankle wouldn't turn but one way. Then he was sent to a specialist at the Army Hospital and they all asked him if he didn't want to go in, but told him he would never be bothered again and classified him 4-F, thank God.

Our favorite saying is, "Who wouldn't serve such a God like him." Through this, God has taught us to love and appreciate each other more, and above all, He must come first in our lives. Pray for us.

Your sister,

-Dorothy Stubblefield.

Kansas—Dear saints of God,—I want to report victory in my soul and say that salvation is sweeter to me every day. These last few days have brought me close to God, and I find it a wonderful place to be. I'm so thankful that the Lord loved me enough to save me from sin and opened the door to a beautiful way.

To unsaved young people, I would like to say that there is nothing more satisfying or rewarding than a life of service to God. Before salvation, serving the Lord seemed like a hard thing for me to do, but I've found that it's so much easier than serving sin. The devil promises many things to people, but he can't promise them peace and the hope of eternal glory.

Pray for me that I'll stand steadfast in the faith

and never fail the Lord in any way.

Your sister in Christ,

-Dixie Hand.

Okla.—Dear saints and readers of the "Faith and Victory"—I feel like telling what the Lord did for me. Day before yesterday I was staying with my twin sis-

ters while my parents went to look for work. I was getting ready to give my sisters a bath and I spilled a pan of boiling water on my left hand. I did it about one o'clock. I cried and cried but there was nothing I could do. When my brother and sisters came in from school I sent them to call Bro. Charles Smith. He came out and prayed. My hand quit burning and was healing by the next morning. It didn't even get sore and hardly blistered at all. I know it was the Lord that healed it because I didn't put a drop of medicine on it or anything.

I am not saved but I do know the Lord can heal and also answer prayers and I give Him all the praise for my healing.

Love, Lina Brewer.

P. S. There are two very special unspoken requests our family would like for the saints to remember.

BIBLE STUDY

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

STANDING BY A NEW CONVERT

December 6, 1959

Printed Portion Acts 9:10-20, 26-29

10. And there was a certain disciple at Damascus, named Ananias; and to him said the Lord in a vision, Ananias. And he said, Behold, I am here, Lord.

11. And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go into the street which is called Straight, and enquire in the house of Judas for one called Saul, of Tarsus: for, behold, he prayeth,

12. And hath seen in a vision a man named Ananias coming in, and putting his hand on him, that he might

receive his sight.

13. Then Ananias answered, Lord, I have heard by many of this man, how much evil he hath done to thy saints at Jerusalem:

14. And here he hath authority from the chief priests to bind all that call on thy name.

15. But the Lord said unto him, Go thy way: for he is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel:

16. For I will shew him how great things he must suffer

for my name's sake.

17. And Ananias went his way, and entered into the house, and putting his hands on him said, Brother Saul, the Lord, even Jesus, that appeared unto thee in the way as thou camest, hath sent me, that thou mightest receive thy sight, and be filled with the Holy Ghost.

18. And immediately there fell from his eyes as it had been scales: and he received sight forthwith, and arose,

and was baptized.

19. And when he had received meat, he was strengthened. Then was Saul certain days with the disciples which were at Damascus.

20. And straightway he preached Christ in the syna-

gogues, that he is the Son of God.

26. And when Saul was come to Jerusalem, he assayed to join himself to the disciples: but they were all afraid of him. and believed not that he was a disciple.

27. But Barnabas took him, and brought him to the apostles, and declared unto them how he had seen the Lord in the way, and that he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus.

28. And he was with them coming in and going out

at Jerusalem.

29. And he spake boldly in the name of the Lord Jesus, and disputed against the Grecians: but they went about to slay him.

Memory Verse: Be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you. Eph. 4:32.

Practical Truth: Those of us who know the Lord should help new converts in every way we can.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATIONS

Our topic today should be a reminder for all of us to be careful that we do our best to help those who have newly come to the faith. Just as the first few hours and days of a new-born babe is a period when they need special care, so it is with the newly-born child of God. The devil is right there to devour the child of God if possible. One of his main tricks is to tell them they didn't get saved. It is the church's responsibility, which is the mother of the new convert, to encourage him. Some may say it is the pastor's responsibility, but I say it is the pastor's responsibility and yours, too. In Isaiah 66 we read where the church is to take care of the new convert. In verses 13 and 14 it says the new converts are to be borne "upon her sides, and be dandled upon her knees," "as one whom his mother comforteth, ye shall be comforted in Jerusalem."

In 1 Peter 2:2 it speaks about the new-born babes receiving milk and in Heb. 4:14 the Bible says that strong meat belongs to "them that are of full age." We need to be sure that we do not try to give a new-born babe some strong meat. Be careful about instructing them in the deeper things of the Word until they are ready for it.

Notice how Ananias called Saul Brother. Notice that God sent him right away to see Saul. Then notice how Barnabas recommended Saul to the apostles and stood for him. What a blessing it would be to the world if we could encourage some new-born babe in Christ and he became another Paul. We need more Pauls.

PETER'S BROADENING MINISTRY December 13, 1959

Printed Portion Acts 11:1-18

- 1. And the apostles and brethren that were in Judaea heard that the Gentiles had also received the word of God.
- 2. And when Peter was come up to Jerusalem, they that were of the circumcision contended with him,
- 3. Saying, Thou wentest in to men uncircumcised, and didst eat with them.
- 4. But Peter rehearsed the matter from the beginning, and expounded it by order unto them, saying,
- 5. I was in the city of Joppa praying: and in a trance I saw a vision, A certain vessel descend, as it had been a great sheet, let down from heaven by four corners; and it came even to me:
- 6. Upon the which when I had fastened mine eyes, I considered, and saw fourfooted beasts of the earth, and wild beasts, and creeping things, and fowls of the air.
- 7. And I heard a voice saying unto me, Arise, Peter; slay and eat.
- slay and eat.
 8. But I said, Not so, Lord: for nothing common or unclean hath at any time entered into my mouth.
- 9. But the voice answered me again from heaven, What God hath cleansed, that call not thou common.
- 10. And this was done three times: and all were drawn up again into heaven.
- 11. And, behold, immediately there were three men already come unto the house where I was, sent from Caesarea unto me.
- 12. And the Spirit bade me go with them, nothing doubting. Moreover these six brethren accompanied me, and we entered into the man's house:

- 13. And he shewed us how he had seen an angel in his house, which stood and said unto him, Send men to Joppa, and call for Simon, whose surname is Peter;
- 14. Who shall tell thee words whereby thou and all thy house shall be saved.
- 15. And as I began to speak, the Holy Ghost fell on them, as on us at the beginning.
- 16. Then remembered I the word of the Lord, how that he said, John indeed baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost.
- 17. Forasmuch then as God gave them the like gift as he did unto us, who believed on the Lord Jesus Christ; what was I, that I could withstand God?
- 18. When they had heard these things, they held their peace, and glorified God, saying, Then hath God also to the Gentiles granted repentance unto life.

Memory Verse: Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons: but in every nation he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him. Acts 10:34-35.

Practical Truth: Since the gospel is for all nations, we should have some part in carrying it to those who have never heard it.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATIONS

Jesus had told the disciples that they would receive power to witness for him in Jerusalem first, in Judaea, and then to the "uttermost part of the earth." (Acts 1:8) We find in our lesson how Peter was prepared to witness to others besides the Jews. The early church did not have all the light but as it was promised after they received the Holy Spirit he would "guide them into all truth." Now in our lesson we read how God flashed more light upon Peter and through him receiving light, others also were brought to more light through his testimony. God caused the Jewish Christians to know God had sent his Son to die for the Gentiles as well as the Jews. When they were convinced they glorified God that the Gentiles also were "granted repentance unto life."

God loves everyone. Jesus died that "whosoever will" can be saved. He died for the drunkard in the gutter, for the dope fiend, for the person who has committed the very lowest and vilest types of sin as well as for the moral person who is self righteous without God's righteousness. He died for the peoples all over the world. He is no respecter of persons. It is not His will that any perish. If you perish it is because you will it so. Come and seek forgiveness at the feet of Jesus before it is too late.

GOOD NEWS FOR THE WORLD

December 20, 1959

Printed Portion Luke 2:8-14; Acts 11:19-26

Luke 2:8. And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

- 9. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.
- 10. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold. I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.
- 11. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.
- 12. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

- 13. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,
- 14. Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.
- Acts 11:19. Now they which were scattered abroad upon the persecution that arose about Stephen travelled as far as Phenice, and Cyprus, and Antioch, preaching the word to none but unto the Jews only.
- 20. And some of them were men of Cyprus and Cyrene, which, when they were come to Antioch, spake unto the Grecians, preaching the Lord Jesus.
- 21. And the hand of the Lord was with them: and a great number believed, and turned unto the Lord.
- 22. Then tidings of these things came unto the ears of the church which was in Jerusalem: and they sent forth Barnabas, that he should go as far as Antioch.
- 23. Who, when he came, and had seen the grace of God, was glad, and exhorted them all, that with purpose of heart they would cleave unto the Lord.
- 24. For he was a good man, and full of the Holy Ghost and of faith: and much people was added unto the Lord.
- 25. Then departed Barnabas to Tarsus, for to seek Saul:
- 26. And when he had found him, he brought him unto Antioch. And it came to pass, that a whole year they assembled themselves with the church, and taught much people. And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch.

Memory Verse: I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. Luke 2:10-11.

Practical Truth: The gospel of Christ is good news for the whole world.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATIONS

Today we join the angels in praising God for the babe that was born in this world. Oh, how we thank God for sending His precious only begotten Son to this sincursed world to live, die and arise again for our salvation! How happy we are in our souls because Jesus saved us from our sins. We have so much to be thankful for because salvation brought to us through that babe spoken of in our lesson the best thing this side of heaven. He was the gift of God to us. Many gifts might be given at this time but no gift can be as great as the gift of God to us. We never tire of the precious old, old story of Jesus and his birth. "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."

Because Jesus came and went away the Holy Spirit came. The early church was full of the Spirit but the devil tried to stamp out the truth. Much persecutions came to the early church. But through these persecutions they were scattered abroad. God wanted the world to hear about Jesus and that was one way it came to pass. We find that many believed and they were first called Christians in Antioch. A Christian is a follower of Christ. Barnabas brought Paul or Saul to Antioch to work for God there.

GOD IS OUR HELP

December 27, 1959

Printed Portion Acts 12:1-12

1. Now about that time Herod the king stretched forth his hands to vex certain of the church.

- 2. And he killed James the brother of John with the sword.
- 3. And because he saw it pleased the Jews, he proceeded further to take Peter also. (Then were the days of unleavened bread.)
- 4. And when he had apprehended him he put him in prison, and delivered him to four guarternions of soldiers to keep him; intending after Easter to bring him forth to the people.
- 5. Peter therefore was kept in prison: but prayer was made without ceasing of the church unto God for him.
- 6. And when Herod would have brought him forth, the same night Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains: and the keepers before the door kept the prison.
- 7. And, behold, the angel of the Lord came upon him, and a light shined in the prison: and he smote Peter on the side, and raised him up, saying, Arise up quickly. And his chains fell off from his hands.
- 8. And the angel said unto him, Gird thyself, and bind on thy sandals. And so he did. And he saith unto him, Cast thy garment about thee, and follow me.
- 9. And he went out, and followed him; and wist not that it was true which was done by the angel; but thought he saw a vision.
- 10. When they were past the first and the second ward, they came unto the iron gate that leadeth unto the city; which opened to them of his own accord: and they went out, and passed on through one street; and forthwith the angel departed from him.
- 11. And when Peter was come to himself, he said, Now I know of a surety, that the Lord hath sent his angel, and hath delivered me out of the hand of Herod, and from all the expectation of the people of the Jews.
- 12. And when he had considered the thing, he came to the house of Mary the mother of John, whose surname was Mark; where many were gathered together praying.

Memory Verse: Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you. 1 Peter 5:7.

Practical Truth: God is able to help us even in times of extreme peril.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATIONS

We have no way of knowing whether God would have delivered Peter from his impending fate if the church had not prayed. We know He did not deliver James but we are sure that his death caused a stir in the early church to pray for Peter. Oh, what a prayer meeting that must have been! The children were there and I'm sure the concern of the parents was transferred to them. Who would take Peter's place? And then again a wave of concern and earnest prayer was made for his deliverance. Oh, how they agonized in earnest supplications to the Lord to deliver him. God put the church to a severe test by waiting until the very last night before He gave them the answer. They might have had different ideas just how God would answer their prayer but when he did answer, it was in a way that astonished those who were on their knees in prayer at Mary's house.

Notice how Peter was taking his troubles. He did not have anything to worry about. He was ready to live or die. He was asleep between two soldiers. Salvation brings rest to those who have it. Praise the Lord. When we have it settled to please God live or die we can have victory when things are seemingly not going our way. I know it to be true, and so does all who are God's Holy Ghost-filled children. —Mrs. Marie Miles.