

FAITH^{AND} VICTORY

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A Soul's Regret

Acts 24:24-25

God's Spirit came with tender voice to me,
"Come now and I will set you fully free."
"Not now," said I "some more convenient day,
When all my plans are met and debts are paid."

Years have passed, my plans have come to nought
Still the Spirit ne'er my soul forgot.
"Come now, please do not turn me away."
"Not now, but some other convenient day."

"Wait a little while, then I'll consider thee,
Then I'll repent and let you set me free,
But now my time is not for you—
Some other time will have to do."

The Spirit once again has fled away.
"He'll come again," I thought, "some other day."
Then on in sin I reveled foolishly,
Drinking in the cares of life's wild sea.

Now my tender years have quickly passed
The end is drawing nigh for me at last.
I never found that more convenient day
For I was busy wasting time away.

Then I began to pray, "Oh God forgive;
I do not want to die, I'd rather live.
Send thy gentle Spirit to me now,
In thy presence I'm willing to bow."

Patiently I listened, but in vain
For ne'er again the Spirit called my name.
I've shunned the only way to heaven's door
Too late, too late, I'm lost forevermore.

With outstretched arms hell waits for me
My soul is doomed for all eternity
No joy, no peace to follow where I go
For I shall sink down into endless woe.

Oh, may this be a warning to the lost,
Take time today, take heed and count the cost.
Sinner friend, don't wait 'till some convenient day
For when He calls, THEN is the time to pray.

—Donald W. Sharp.

The Awful End of a Backslider

The following is a short account of the life and death of William Pope, of Bolton, in Lancashire. He was once a saved and happy man. His wife, a devoted saint, died triumphantly. After her death his zeal for religion declined, and by associating with back-slidden professors he entered the path of ruin. His companions even professed to believe in the redemption of devils. William became an admirer of their scheme, a frequenter with them of the public-house, and in time a common drunkard.

He finally became a disciple of Thomas Paine, and associated himself with a number of deistical persons at Bolton, who assembled together on Sundays to confirm each other in their infidelity. They amused themselves with throwing the Word of God on the floor, kicking it around the room, and treading it under their feet. God laid His hand on this man's body, and he was seized with consumption.

Mr. Rhodes was requested to visit William Pope. He says: "When I first saw him he said to me, 'Last night I believe I was in hell, and felt the horrors and torment of the damned; but God has brought me back again, and given me a little longer respite. The gloom of guilty terror does not sit so heavy upon me as it did, and I have something like a faint hope that, after all I have done, God may yet save me.' After exhorting him to repentance and confidence in the Almighty Saviour, I prayed with him and left him. In the evening he sent for me again. I found him in the utmost distress, overwhelmed with bitter anguish and despair. I endeavored to encourage him. I spoke of the infinite merit of the great Redeemer, and mentioned several cases in which God had saved the greatest sinners, but he answered, 'No case of any that has been mentioned is comparable to mine. I have no contrition; I cannot repent. God will damn me! I know the day of grace is past. God has said of such as are in my case, "I will laugh at your calamity, and mock when your fear cometh." ' I said, 'Have you ever known anything of the mercy and love of God?' 'Oh, yes,' he replied; 'many years ago I truly repented and sought the

Lord and found peace and happiness.' I prayed with him after exhorting him to seek the Lord, and had great hopes of his salvation; he appeared much affected, and begged I would represent his case in our Society and pray for him. I did so that evening, and many hearty petitions were put up for him."

Mr. Barraclough gives the following account of what he witnessed. He says: "I went to see William Pope, and as soon as he saw me he exclaimed, 'You are come to see one who is damned forever!' I answered, 'I hope not; Christ can save the chief of sinners.' He replied, 'I have denied Him, I have denied Him; therefore hath He cast me off forever! I know the day of grace is past, gone—gone, never more to return!' I entreated him not to be too hasty, and to pray. He answered, 'I cannot pray; my heart is quite hardened. I have no desire to receive any blessing at the hand of God,' and then cried out, 'Oh, the hell, the torment, the fire that I feel within me! Oh, eternity! eternity! To dwell forever with devils and damned spirits in the burning lake must be my portion, and that justly!' On Thursday I found him groaning under the weight of the displeasure of God. His eyes rolled to and fro; he lifted up his hands, and with vehemence cried out, 'Oh, the burning flame, the hell, the pain I feel! I have done, done the deed, the horrible, damnable deed!' I prayed with him, and while I was praying he said with inexpressible rage, 'I will not have salvation at the hand of God! No, no! I will not ask it of Him!' After a short pause, he cried out, 'Oh, how I long to be in the bottomless pit—in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone!' The day following I saw him again. I said, 'William, your pain is inexpressible.' He groaned, and with a loud voice cried out, 'Eternity will explain my torments. I tell you again, I am damned. I will not have salvation.' He called me to him as if to speak to me, but as soon as I came within his reach he struck me on the head with all his might, and gnashing his teeth, cried out, 'God will not hear your prayers.' At another time he said, 'I have crucified the Son of God afresh, and counted the blood of the covenant an unholy thing! Oh, that wicked and horrible deed of blaspheming the Holy Ghost! which I know I have committed!' He was often heard to exclaim, 'I want nothing but hell! Come, O devil, and take me! A: another time he said, 'Oh, what a terrible thing it is! Once I might, and would not: now I would and must not.' He declared that he was best satisfied when cursing. The day he died, when Mr. Rhodes visited him, and asked the privilege to pray once more with him, he cried out with great strength, considering his weakness, 'No!' and passed away in the evening without God."

Backslider, do you know you are in danger of the fires of hell? Do you know you are fast approaching the

"Line by us unseen

That crosses every path,
That marks the boundary between
God's mercy and His wrath?"

You are, and unless you turn quickly, you with William Pope will be writhing in hell through all eternity. God says, "The backslider in heart shall be filled with his own ways." But He says again, "Return, ye backsliding children, and I will heal your backslidings." Oh, come back and be healed before God shall say of you, "He is joined to his idols, let him alone." —Remarkable Narratives.

"Praise Him, You All Praise Him"

Through the influence of room-mates and associates, while attending boarding school, Ethel had been influenced to believe that making a public confession of the Lord Jesus Christ, and receiving baptism by immersion was all the preparation needful to insure her soul endless joy when life on earth was over.

For years Ethel's Christian mother had endeavored to impress upon her daughter's mind the importance of being born, not of water, but of the Holy Spirit. With resolute tenacity Ethel clung to the doctrine of "Water Salvation," which she had so deeply imbibed from her companions while away at school. Notwithstanding all discouragements, Ethel's mother knew from past experience that God was faithful in his promises of divine truth, so by persistent faith and daily prayer she called upon Him at the Throne of Grace to show Ethel the error of resting upon ordinances for spiritual safety, when the blood of Christ, and a saving faith in its atoning merits alone, could secure to her soul eternal life and home in heaven.

One day, after much earnest wrestling in prayer, her mother was comforted by receiving the assurance of the Holy Spirit that God would be gracious and eventually turn Ethel from the error of building on a foundation of sand.

Not long after this, although but twenty-two years of life had passed over her head, Ethel came to know that she stood with the billows of death rolling very near her feet. It was then that she began to realize the fact that water baptism would not avail to rescue her soul from the perils of sin and the coming judgment. "Man's extremity is ever God's opportunity," and now the Holy Spirit began to convince her that she had need, not only to repent and call upon the Lord, but to believe in Him as a personal Saviour. The conflict of her soul with doubts and fears was short but severe. Faith at length triumphed.

Only five days before her departure from earth, after lying speechless for hours, in the throes of dissolution, her mother, who was near her couch, heard Ethel say, with great effort, "Whosoever—will—may come." Just then the saving power of the Holy Ghost fell upon her heart, and as a bright smile overspread her beautiful face, she exclaimed, "Praise Him, you all praise Him." Those were Ethel's last words on earth. —Written for this work by Mrs. V. E. Markin, of Litchfield, Ky.

(Editor's note: The scripture in First Peter 3:21 very plainly teaches what water baptism represents. It

is "not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God." Thousands upon thousands of souls will be lost because some unlearned preachers put the stress on water baptism for salvation. The fact is that the scriptures teach us that water is a "figure whereunto baptism doth also now save us." John the Baptist rebuked some who were coming to him to be baptized and said, in part, "Who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance." You should know that your sins are forgiven that you have peace with God through Christ before you are ready to manifest the "figure" of it in water baptism.)

WORLDLINESS

Worldliness is simply another division of the subject of sin, for worldliness is sin. There are some special thoughts I wish to present under this heading.

Since sin, in its various forms, has become universal and is surrounding us on all sides, as realistic as nature itself, the Bible writers often refer to it as "the world." This includes, not only the grosser forms of sin, but all manner of disobedience to God. God's people must be free from all these things. Paul said to the brethren who had been quickened in Christ, "in times past ye walked according to the course of this world." (Eph. 2:2) But Christ gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world. (Gal. 1:4) Our separation from the world in this sense is to be real. It is shown by the words of Christ: "If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: But because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore, the world hateth you." (John 15:19) Reader, bear in mind that if you take your stand for God and the whole truth of his Word, determined to be free from all worldliness, there will be a real separation in spirit and in life between you and the worldly minded. You will even have opposition. "Yea and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution." (2 Tim. 3:12)

This was truly realized by the first disciples. For we have the testimony of Jesus himself that they were free from the world. He said of them in prayer to the Father: "I have given them thy word: and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world . . . I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil. They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world." (John 17:14-16)

To us this means that everything which partakes of the spirit and nature of the world must be forsaken—worldly sentiments, worldly associations, worldly ambitions, worldly amusements, worldly dress—everything that is not in strict harmony with the plain teaching of God's word. "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but of the world. And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he

that doeth the will of GOD abideth forever." (John 2:15-17)

According to the principles of truth already laid down, it is evident that the holy people of God cannot go to and participate in those amusements which have as a direct object to cater to the spirit of foolishness, vanity and sin. At the present time, Satan is seeking by this means to draw the hearts of people into the deeper ways of sin, thus causing them to forget God, especially is this true respecting the young.

How many are the forms of worldly amusements that have been devised and that serve this purpose—shows, festivals, races of various kinds, card parties, prize fights, theaters, etc. These things are not of the Father, but are of the world. No true child of God can indulge in such things without loss of his spirituality. And if the indulgence is continued, the final loss of the soul is the result. "Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart." (2 Tim. 2:22)

The Christian must live a life of prayers and devotion to God. This means his spirit is refreshed from day to day and he thus obtains conquering grace for trials and temptations. But this life of devotions cannot exist where the spirit of worldliness is allowed sway. Those who attend worldly amusements do not feel a burden for secret prayer and devotion and they have little or no active interest in the salvation of souls. While on the other hand, those who are spiritual and live in prayer before God, have no desire for amusements. They are dead to the world and its pleasures. Of them Jesus can say, "they are not of this world, even as I am not of the world."

—Sel. by Thomas J. Bowers.

Little Foxes

"The little foxes spoil the vines." S. of Sol. 2:5.

Holy living means faithfulness to God and souls. We must reprove sin in the Spirit of Christ if we would live holy. If we do not correct and reprove others for wrong doing, we will lower the standard of holiness in our own soul and soon lose sight of true holiness. There are many things in among the people of God now that would surprise them if they could see them as God sees them. They see no harm in a little jesting, in idle words and slang phrases, in a little make-up, a little adorning, a bit of gossiping, a little talebearing, a little backbiting, of evil surmisings, of fret and worry, of burdened with the cares of this life, a little frolic and fun, a little neglect of prayer. I think I can see a number of these "little foxes" running around among God's people doing very harmful work. A loose nail rolling about in a ship wore a hole through the side of the ship and caused the loss of the vessel. Better keep those little "no harms" out. They will cause a leak in your soul and the grace of God will run out.

Fear is the Devil's busiest grave-digger.

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

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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
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The Church That Jesus Built

The Church that Jesus built for his Father and kept in his Father's name is spoken of by the prophets and referred to many times by Jesus and the New Testament writers. The prophets refer to the Church of God as a house of God, kingdom of God, a temple of God, a sanctuary of God, a tabernacle of God, a house of Israel, a house of Jacob and a house of David. This house or Church, the apostle Paul also kept in the Father's name. Eph. 3:15.

In Genesis 28:17, when Jacob awakened from his vision or dream he said, "This is none other but the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven." According to this truth, the house of God which is the Church of God, the pillar and ground of the truth is the gateway to heaven.

In 2 Samuel 7:19 we read, "And this was yet a small thing in thy sight, O Lord God; but thou hast spoken also of thy servant's house for a great while to come. And is this the manner of man, O Lord God?" It is easy to see that David discerned something that was beyond and above man's building of a literal house for it was to be a great while to come. In other words, the literal house that his son Solomon was to build was to be typical of a spiritual house that, according to other scriptures would last forever. In Isaiah 22:22 we read, "And the key of the house of David will I lay upon his shoulder; so he shall open, and none shall shut; and he shall shut, and none shall open." Turning to the 9th chapter of Isaiah we read in the 6th verse that the government shall be upon his shoulder, speaking of the child Jesus that was to be born. In the 7th verse we read, "Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his Kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even forever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this." In Luke 1:31 we read of what the Angel said to Mary before Jesus was born, "And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: And he shall reign over the house of Jacob forever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end." Christ is now sitting upon the throne of his father David and is reigning over the Kingdom of God, the house of God which is the Church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth. Read I Timothy 3:15.

Prophecies Of Jesus Building His Church

Read the whole chapter of the 132nd Psalm and we will quote the 11th verse, "The Lord hath sworn in truth unto David; he will not turn from it; Of the fruit of thy body will I set upon thy throne."

Let us turn to the 6th chapter of Zechariah and read the 12th and 13th verses, "And speak unto him, saying, Thus speaketh the Lord of hosts, saying, Behold the man whose name is The BRANCH; and he shall grow up out of his place, and he shall build the temple [Church] of the LORD: Even he shall build the temple of the LORD; and he shall bear the glory, and shall sit and rule upon his throne: and he shall be a priest upon his throne." Read Hebrews 4:14, 10:21, and 9:11 and you can see plainly that Christ is now a High Priest over the house of God, which is the Church of God, which he has built. It is a spiritual house. In I Peter 2:5, "Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ."

Let us read in Amos 9:11, 12, a prophecy of the church, "In that day [the gospel day] will I raise up the tabernacle of David [house or Church] that is fallen, [the Jewish economy had fallen, Jesus said, "Your house is left unto you desolate."] and close up the breaches thereof; and I will raise up his ruins, and I will build it as in the days of old." Let us turn now to Acts 15:16 and read what James says in quoting this same scripture. "After this I will return, and will build again the tabernacle [house or church] of David, which is fallen down; and I will build again the ruins thereof, and I will set it up." James knew that the prophecy was fulfilled and that the Gentiles had access to it as it included both Gentiles and Jews. Peter says, "In every nation he that feareth him and worketh righteousness is accepted of him."

Let us turn to the 23rd chapter of Jeremiah. "Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that I will raise unto David a righteous BRANCH, (Jesus) and a King shall reign and prosper, and shall execute judgment and justice in the earth. In his days Judah shall be saved, and Israel shall dwell safely: and this is his name whereby he shall be called, THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS." Christ's Kingdom: House or Church is a spiritual institution built and ruled alone by the Son of God. He is reigning now over all of His spiritually-born children, the House of God which is the Church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.

In Matt. 21:42 we read, "Jesus saith unto them, Did ye never read in the scriptures, The stone which the builders [the Jews] rejected, the same is become the head of the corner: this is the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes?" Jesus here referred to the prophecy in Psalms 118:22.

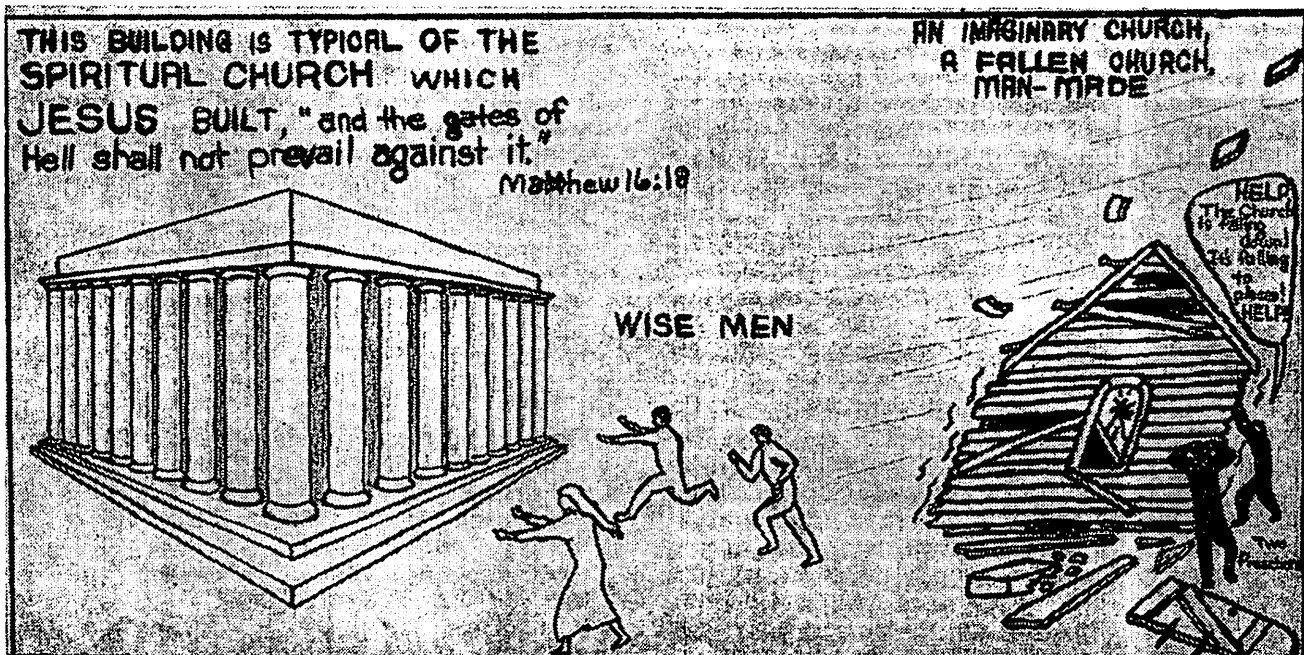
When Jesus began to preach the Gospel he began to build his spiritual house out of men and women who repented and believed in Him. Jesus was the chief corner stone and the apostles were foundation stones in the Building. They followed him, believed on him and many others repented and believed and became lively stones in his spiritual building. One time he sent out seventy lively stones of the building, who preached the Kingdom of God and manifested their calling by healing the sick and

even the Devils were subject unto them. When Jesus asked Peter "Whom say ye that I am?" Peter said, "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God." Jesus knew that flesh and blood did not reveal this truth unto him but his Father which was in Heaven. He told Peter that upon this Rock (which is Christ) he would build his church and the gates of hell would not prevail against IT. It, means just one.

There is just one body of people in the world today that can truthfully be called the House of God, which is the Church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth. This one Church contains all of the men and women, boys and girls who are born from above by a spiritual birth, who retain that spiritual life of Christ in the soul. In Romans the 8th chapter and the 9th verse we read, ". . . Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his." This is plain language. The evidence that God gives us of knowing that we are his child, we find written in the 16th verse and reads thus, "The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit that we are the children of God."

It took Solomon seven years to build the literal house or Temple which prefigured the spiritual house or Church. However Jesus was only three and one half years in bringing together the material and building His spiritual house. The church was in one accord on the day of Pentecost when he occupied the building by a glorious infilling of the Holy Ghost. The Church of God which he had purchased with his own blood began to function in the world by the gifts of the Spirit, for God had placed the members in the body as it pleased him.

In the first verse of the third chapter of Malachi we have a plain statement of Jesus occupying his temple or Church on the day of Pentecost and it reads thus: "Behold, I will send my messenger, [John the Baptist] and he shall prepare the way before me: and the Lord, [Jesus] whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his Temple, [House or Church] even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold he shall come, saith the Lord of hosts." On the day of Pentecost we find the word "suddenly" is used as in this prophecy. "And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all of one accord in one place. [He had the Church built of lively stones, for the spirit of truth was with each one (Jn. 14:17) and put them together in one accord]. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. [The glory of the Lord filled the house as it did when God occupied Solomon's temple which typifies Jesus' spiritual house.] And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, [cleansing] and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost . . ." It was a glorious infilling when Jesus occupied his Temple, or Church with the Holy Ghost. Peter, while preaching under this marvelous outpouring of the Spirit of God, referred to David (Acts 2:30) as "being a prophet and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him, that of the fruit of his loins, according to the flesh,



Here live the elect of God who are "an habitation of God through the Spirit." (Ephesians 2:22)

Here dwell false prophets, wolves, all manner of "unclean and hateful birds." (Rev. 18:2)

he would raise up Christ to sit on his throne." This reign and rule began when Christ, in the form of the Holy Ghost, occupied his spiritual temple, house or Church on the day of Pentecost. He is ruling and reigning today over his people who make up his spiritual body, the Church.

We want to give some scriptures from the New Testament showing that it is a spiritual house and cannot be tampered with by human organization even in the least way and remain the house or Church of God. In first Peter 2:2, we read what Peter has to say of new-born babes: "As new born babes desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby: if so be that ye have tasted that the Lord is gracious. To whom coming, as to a living stone, [Christ] disallowed indeed of men, [the Jews] but chosen of God, and precious." Now notice: "Ye also as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ." If we had only this one scripture to prove that it was a spiritual house or Church it should be sufficient, but there are a number of scriptures proving the same thing. Turn with me to Hebrews 3:1, and let us read, "Wherefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our profession, Christ Jesus; who was faithful to him that appointed him, as also Moses was faithful in all of his house. For this man was counted worthy of more glory than Moses, inasmuch as he who hath builded the house hath more honor than the house. For every house is builded by some man; but he that built all things is God. Moses verily was faithful in all of his house, as a servant, for a testimony of those things which were to be spoken after; But

Christ as a son over his own house; WHOSE HOUSE ARE WE, if we hold fast the confidence and the re-joicing of the hope firm unto the end." In the eighth chapter of Hebrews and the second verse, in speaking of Christ, we read, "A minister of the sanctuary, and of the true tabernacle which the Lord pitched and not man." Man had nothing to do with the building of the true tabernacle, the Church. Neither yet does he have any thing to do with its organization, for God places the members in the body as it pleases him. All that man can do is to yield himself into the hands of God and let him use each member in his place in the Body, which is the Church.

In Ephesians the 2nd chapter and beginning at the 19th verse we read, "Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God; and are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone; in whom all the building [not part of it] fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord: in whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit." How could words be put together to express more clearly the spiritual house of God, which is the Church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth?

Above, you see a symbolized picture of the solid, immovable, spiritual Church of God, against which, Jesus declares, that the gates of hell shall never prevail. The gates of hell (humanly-organized churches) can in no wise prevail against it. They never have, and never will. Precious souls, because of being taught wrongly and having a lack of knowledge concerning the true Church, get into some of these human organizations, but God is calling them out of

these pens. They are all going to perish and be burned in the end. In the last five verses of the 6th chapter of 2nd Cor. the scriptures make it very plain what souls should do when they find themselves lodged up in a humanly-governed church. In the last two verses we read, "Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, and will be a Father to you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty." In Revelation 18:2, we read, "And he cried mightily with a strong voice, [God wants you to hear] saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird." How could you picture a thing more corrupt and deceitful? The thing is held together for the burning at the Judgment day.

Here, also is a figurative picture of the Imaginary Church which is being torn up, and two preachers are calling for help to hold the building together. You see some saved souls leaving the building and running to the true Church which Jesus said, the gates of hell would never prevail against. They are wise folk and are going to a city of refuge to abide in Christ alone, to be a member in His temple or Church that will never fall.

Today you will find in the world large congregations of men, women, boys and girls who call themselves the Church of God. Among them you will find those of the world (which is the enemy of God), insomuch that they dress or undress like the world with bobbed hair, rings, painted face and finger nails, wearing gold, pearls and costly array, with the world's T. V. in the home, living in adultery, double marriage, and committing many other presumptuous sins. Such people are in the "Imaginary Church of God" which will be torn to pieces and burned in the end.

Other congregations band themselves together and call themselves the church of Christ and yet many of them will dress or undress like the world, will live in double marriage, some times get mad and curse, use filthy tobacco and yet call themselves the body of Christ. They even teach their members that they can't expect to live free from sin in this world. In this they contradict the plain Word of God, for in Luke the first chapter and the 73rd verse we read, "The oath which he sware unto our Father Abraham, that he would grant unto us, that we being delivered out of the hand of our enemies might serve him without fear, in holiness and righteousness before him all the days of our life." In Titus the 2nd chapter and the 12th verse we read, "Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously and godly in this present world." People who live unrighteously and call themselves the body of Christ are blaspheming the name of Christ and God the Father. Anyone who claims to be a member of the body of Christ and at the same time says he cannot live free from sin in this world is accrediting the devil with having

more power than God. God tells us in his word to live soberly, righteously and godly in this present world. Yet they say you cannot live free from sin, and thereby declare that Satan has more power than God. Jesus says, "They that commit sin are the servants of sin [or Satan]." John says in 1 John 3:8, "He that committeth sin is of the devil . . ." The teaching in these few verses is that the family of Satan do sin and the family of God do not sin. Brethren, escape the enticing ways of Satan while the light is shining clearly in your soul lest darkness come upon you and you receive delusions from the Lord and be lost eternally. —Fred Pruitt.

Obituaries

Alice Kingsbury was born in Birmingham, Ala., April 23, 1882, the daughter of Lewis and Annie Wilcox and departed this life Aug. 8, 1960 at Akron, Ohio, age 78 years. She was married to Ben Kingsbury Feb. 6, 1889 at Alderson, Okla. To this union were born three children, one son and her husband having preceded her in death. Those remaining to mourn their loss are one sister, Mrs. Birda Henderson; one son, Alfonso Kingsbury, Seattle, Wash.; one daughter, Mrs. Beatrice Suddieth, Hudson, Ohio; six grandchildren; 17 great-grandchildren; and other relatives and many saints and friends.

She was saved more than 40 years ago and delighted in the truth, going about many times and in different places to tell of the wondrous love of Jesus that had come to her heart and urging others to accept this precious truth. Often, she would say how glad she was that she had found it. In these last days she would say to her sister and daughter and others around her that she wanted to go home and was ready to go. To us who are left behind it seems that she is just away for awhile, but as our thoughts grow deeper we are happy to realize she has departed to that eternal home where congregations never break up and sabbaths have no end. Age and sickness bore heavily upon the weak body but she held her confidence in God, satisfied in the thought that He who gave the body understood how to care for it. We believe she would say with the poet

When life is o'er and I come down to that silent bed of clay,

I'll know no fear, I'll rest secure; Christ holds my soul against that day.

Funeral services were conducted by request by Bro. W. T. Tomlin. Scripture read, John 14:1-7. Bro. J. A. Brunes assisted.

Ole B. Olsen was born on October 15, 1882 at Canoe, Iowa, and departed this life on Aug. 24, 1960, at the age of 77 years, 10 months, and 9 days.

He leaves behind: a son, Elmer Olson; three daughters: Mrs. Fred Whitcomb, Mrs. Clifton Baker, and Mrs. Merlyn Mattison; eight grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild; also two brothers: Martin and Edward of Portland, Oregon.

Bro. Olsen found the Lord just a short time before the Lord called him home. During this time he enjoyed reading his Bible and hearing the truth preached. He remained true and faithful until the end.

Malenda M. Hallenberger, the daughter of Samuel and Martha Jane Pearce was born July 26, 1882 at Boss, Mo., and passed away at the home of her daughter in Webb

City, Mo., Aug. 31, 1960 at the age of 78 years, one month, and five days.

On Dec. 25, 1908 she was united in marriage to Chas. Hallenberger. He preceded her in death in 1943, also four baby daughters and one son, Clyde.

She leaves two sons: Horace of Boise, Idaho, and Randal of Baldwin Park, Calif.; one daughter, Mrs. Paul Taylor of Webb City, Mo.; seven grandchildren; and a sister, Mrs. B. F. Stokes of Dunnegan, Mo.

She was a member of the church of God many years. She was faithful to God to the last and left many wonderful testimonies to encourage her loved ones and all of us. She was an example of meekness and patience. We will miss her but our loss is truly heaven's gain. As more of the saints pass over it brings heaven, it seems, a little closer.

Services by Sister Ersa Carrick. Scripture used: Prov. 31:10.

IN MEMORY OF SISTER HALLENBERGER

By Sister Noakes

The angels came in silent tread
And gathered 'round our sister's bed,
Unto their shining home above
They bore her in their arms of love.

Thank you, Lord, for your tender care—
In your good way you answered prayer,
Thy great spirit our hearts doth fill
As we submit unto thy will.

We thank you for our sister's life;
It makes the way shine very bright.
She held steadfast to the pure light
Until her faith was lost in sight.

We miss our sister's smiling face,
There'll always be a vacant place.
Through her going, heaven's more dear,
Let's bear our cross without a fear.

Our loved ones are going on before
To enter those mansions fair;
O blessed tho't for ever more,
O what will it be to be there.

Artie Myrtle (Hutchens) Bowers was born in Edwinburgh, Ill., Nov. 19, 1877 and departed this life Aug. 28, 1960 at the age of 82 years, nine months, and nine days. She came to Granby, Mo., at the age of four years. She lived there until she was married to Charles A. Bowers, and to this union six children were born. They lived all their married life in Berry County, Mo. At the age of 19 Sister Bowers was saved. She lived a faithful Christian life until death. She labored in the active ministry for 30 years or longer. The past 12 years she accepted and labored as pastor of the Neosho congregation. She will be greatly missed in her labors, especially of visiting the sick and shut-ins.

Two sons, Orvan and Nelson Bowers, and one daughter, Opal Bowers, preceded her in death. She leaves to mourn her passing two daughters, Mrs. Nellie Robbins of Dodge City, Kans., and Mrs. Mildred Fraust of San Lorenzo, Calif.; two sons: Chalmer of Wyandotte, Okla., and Lowell of Purdy, Mo.; one step-daughter, Mrs. Ethel Brooks, La Russell, Mo.; one sister, Sister Jennie Brooks, of Shawnee, Okla.; one brother, Dave Hutchens, Wyandotte, Okla.; 18 grandchildren and 26 great-grandchildren; several neices, nephews, and a host of other relatives, saints, and friends.

Funeral services were conducted in Neosho, Mo., by Bro. Charles R. Smith, assisted by Bro. Sam Barton. Text: 2 Tim. 4:7, "I have fought a good fight."

Ansel Griffin Duncan was born in the state of Ga. Sept 6. 1882 and passed from this life Sept 2, 1960. He was married to Miss Minnie L. Thrasher on Dec. 4, 1904. One daughter was born to them who died some years ago, leaving behind two sons, Charles and Leslie, whom Bro. and Sister Duncan reared in their home.

Bro. Duncan heard the truth preached years ago and before his departure to the great beyond he said he was ready to go. He was away from the Lord a number of years but he put forth an effort to serve Him in later years. Bro. and Sister Duncan were isolated from the saints but always made the saints more than welcome in their home.

Besides his two grandsons he leaves behind his wife, three great grandchildren, and other relatives and numerous friends.

Funeral services were held in Edinburg, Texas, the town in which he lived for a number of years. Some of the Scripture texts used were Job 14:1-2, Psa. 90:10, 12, Num. 23:10. Sister Katherine Key conducted the service.

PRAYER REQUESTS

I have had a fall and was hurt. I need prayer that God will heal me of these hurts and the effects of them. Do pray that He will fully and firmly establish me in His perfect will and against the devil and his works, to serve Him in every way possible as long as I live.

—A completely isolated saint.

Dear Bro. Pruitt and all the saints, I have been a reader of the Faith and Victory paper for many years, and have received many blessings from its pages.

I have a very hard trial at this time. I have also written some of the saints to pray earnestly for me. I have an unsaved husband and he is going with a woman at another town. They are living very deep in sin. I have tried to talk to him but it just makes things worse for me, so I have just laid it at Jesus' feet and I believe the good Lord will hear and answer our prayers. He can make ways where there are no ways. I believe He will answer our prayers. He has healed me many times. I am searching my life so everything is right in my life and nothing in the way. We are both in our fifties. He has a good job but is not interested in our home or children or grandchildren. So I will appreciate your earnest prayers. Where two are agreed on earth as touching one thing He will hear us. So I am trusting Him.

—Your saved sister.

Okla.—Dear Bro. Pruitt,—Greetings in Jesus' dear name. I'm still saved and mean heaven at any cost. I desire your prayers in behalf of my oldest daughter. There is something wrong with her eyes. They do fairly well during the day, but at evening after school they begin to itch and swell at the bottom of each and run water. I'm looking to God for her healing. I also have an affliction I would like God to heal me of. I desire your prayers. I also have some souls on my heart I want prayer for, that God will send conviction upon them. All of you pray earnestly for us. Thank you.

Your saved sister,

—Clara Barnett.

SURVEY FOR SAINTS' BOARDING HOME

In the business meeting of the recent Oklahoma State campmeeting here at Guthrie, the need was expressed for the Church to establish and sponsor a Saints' Old Peoples Home in this state. After some discussion, the possibility of establishing a state-licensed nursing home for the aged saints was ruled out on account of the fact that the Church could not go along with the state regulations in regard to having registered nurses and doctors on duty and submitting to medical aid. However, it was disclosed that a saints' boarding home would not come under such state regulations, and a resident in such a home would be free to trust the Lord in time of affliction, and yet be eligible to receive the old-age pension from the state. Out-of-state saints could live in such a home provided they had Social Security pensions or other means to contribute to their support. Perhaps the way could be opened so that any aged saint from any state would be cared for in the home regardless of whether or not he had any means of support.

The question which the Church wants to know is how many aged saints would come to live in a saints' boarding home if one were established in the state of Oklahoma? We were requested to make this survey through the paper and submit the response to the saints at the Guthrie Assembly meeting to be held in December. If you desire to live in a saints' boarding home in this state, express your desire in written form, stating whether you could contribute to your support in such a home, and mail it to the undersigned by December 25th. This survey is the first step in determining the advisability of establishing a saints' boarding home.

(Bro. Charles Smith still has a burden for a Saints' Home at Shawnee, Okla. However, he was not in the business meeting to express his burden, but he has read and approved the above statement for publication.)

—L. D. Pruitt, 1116 W. Wash., Guthrie, Okla.

MEETING NOTICES

JEFFERSON, OREGON ASSEMBLY MEETING

The saint's chapel of the church of God at Jefferson, Oregon is located on Hazel Street. The Assembly meeting will convene, the Lord willing, Nov. 4th to 13th. We are praying that the Lord will send ministers of His choosing and we extend a hearty welcome to all who can to come and enjoy with us the many blessings as we feast upon the precious Word of God.

God is truly blessing His saints here in Jefferson. Some are coming down from Seattle, Wash., to be with us. We are also expecting others to move in to be near the saints. Truly we rejoice in the Lord as we are all workers together in His vineyard.

We will be praying and expecting to see you Nov. 4th. For further information write Sister Emma Busch, Rt. 2, Box 206, Scio, Oregon, or Bro. Noah White, Rt. 1, Jefferson, Oregon.

WICHITA, KANSAS ASSEMBLY MEETING

We will start our annual Assembly Meeting Nov. 4th to the 13th, the Lord willing. The chapel is located at 1701 N. Ash.

We invite all to come and worship the Lord with us. Anyone desiring spiritual help is invited to come and we will pray with you. For further information, contact Bro. Lewis Williams, 1336 Piatt St. Phone number, HO-bart 4-8481.

ALL-DAY MEETING AT WEBB CITY, MO.

There will be all-day meeting on Sunday, Oct. 2nd, at Webb City, Mo. Everyone is welcome to come and enjoy the fellowship of the Spirit with us. The chapel is located at 421 So. Devon.

Sister Ersa Carrick, Pastor, 701 So. Walker, Phone number, Orchard 3-3353.

ALL-DAY SERVICES AT STOUTLAND, MO.

There will be all-day services every second Sunday of the month, also on each Saturday night before, at the Pritchett School House, five miles north of Stoutland, Mo.

We would be glad to have the saints come and help us. We cordially invite the saved and unsaved to come and hear God's Word.

—Sister Becky Barnes

CAMPMEETING REPORTS

PACOIMA, CALIF. CAMPMEETING REPORT

The Pacoima, Calif. Campmeeting was rich. Between 37 and 40 were at the altar for help. Much good preaching was done and there was good unity throughout the services. The fellowship was sweet and the hearts of the saints were drawn very close to each other. The attendance was good. Some strangers came who were not familiar with the doctrinal teachings of the church of God, but readily accepted the truth and were bold to openly confess their love for it.

Now we are ready to begin a campaign for souls as never before. The weather was warm, but did not hinder the meeting very much. Over one hundred were in the ordinance meeting.

—E. M. Zinn.

REPORT OF BAKERSFIELD, CALIF. CAMPMEETING

The Bakersfield, Calif. Campmeeting began on August 5th and continued ten days. The weather was not too hot, and with air-conditioners in the chapel it was wonderful. The attendance was good and Sunday the chapel was seated to its capacity. The number of those at the altar during the entire meeting was 75. They sought the Lord for spiritual help needed for which we are very thankful to God. On the last Sunday night the overflow came when 37 were at the altar. Several were at the altar for the infilling of the Holy Ghost and the work of the Holy Ghost in many hearts was definite and clear. The workers at the altar gave clear instruction so that souls understood their needs and how to get the experience.

Forty-eight were baptized showing there had been a death to sin in the hearts and thus were buried to arise to walk in newness of life. When a person dies a physical death he is buried beneath the ground. So it is with those who die to sin. They are buried, not in the ground, but beneath the watery grave in baptism.

The ordinances of the Lord's house which are foot-washing and the Lord's supper or sacrament, were observed by 122. The men washed the men's feet, and the sisters the sisters' feet. These two ordinances are very sacred, and while solemn, are done with much joy and humility of heart.

Those used in leadership by the Spirit were ministers of home and surrounding congregations, with a few from out of state. We look for another campmeeting here one year from now, if the Lord wills. So let us live for God so we may be prepared for another one as good or better than this one.

—E. M. Zinn.

MYRTLE, MO. CAMPMEETING REPORT

The tenth annual campmeeting at Myrtle, Mo. has come and gone. A dozen visiting ministers were here to bring us precious Bible truths. Nine different states were represented and some from South Carolina were here for the first time. We thank the Lord for their coming and for the blessing they were to us. By the help of the Lord we had our chapel air-conditioned which proved a real blessing and comfort to all. Sixty-six took part in a precious ordinance meeting. Several found help at the altar, some were saved, re-claimed, sanctified, and healed. Three were baptized. Pray with us for an even better meeting next year. —The saints at Myrtle.

P. S. Ministers, the church at Myrtle desire and need a Pastor, and we feel we can no longer fill this office. Our calling, the past few years especially, has been to the evangelistic field. God has provided us a house trailer for our need, and supplied for the repair of the same a year ago when it was wrecked. We receive many calls for the gospel, especially in the East, and several new fields have opened up in the past two years. Anyone feeling burdened for the cause at Myrtle, may contact Bros. A. J. or Earl E. Sorrell, Myrtle, Mo. or write us at Thayer, Mo., Box 278. Brethren, pray for us.

—Bro. and Sister S. E. Abbott.

DOVER, OKLA. CAMPMEETING REPORT

To the saints and readers of the Faith and Victory paper,—Greetings in the precious name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Redeemer. The Dover Campmeeting is now history. The Lord did wonderfully bless us here on every line. The Word of God went forth in purity and power, and under the anointing of the Holy Spirit. We do not believe the Word will return void, but that it will prosper to the glory of God, and to the good of precious souls, and also to the edifying of the church.

There were fifteen ministers present, going and coming. On the last day of the meeting there were seven or more at the altar, seeking help from the Lord; some for salvation. Peace and harmony prevailed throughout the meeting, and there was much rejoicing at times when the Spirit moved in the camp. May God bless everyone for their liberality and prayers that helped to make the meeting a success. Pray for us.

Yours in His Service, Henry Caldwell and U. Phillips.

NOTICE

I was at the cemetery here at Guthrie one day, and I was made to feel sad when I did not see a tombstone at the grave of Bro. George Stephenson. A stone would not need to be large but a permanent marker should be there. I wondered if the friends of Bro. Stephenson would like to go together and purchase a suitable tombstone? If so, we here at the Office would be glad to take care of the purchasing and having it erected for you.

—Sister Marie Miles.

Our praise to God from the heart will open fountains in the desert, when murmuring will only bring us judgment. When prayer fails to reach the fountain, try praise with faith. Read Num. 21.

It is possible to see the will of God in everything, and to receive it, not with sighing, but with singing.

Testimonies

La.—Dear saints and loved ones,—I would like to say that I thank the good Lord for a blessed Saviour who died on the cross for our sin and made a way for our salvation. I truly love the Lord and want to serve Him. He is very real to me today. I could never thank Him enough for all He has done for us. He watches over us both night and day. He has reached down many times when it looked like death was very near. I know He is the same God as Jesus was when here on earth. I know He holds the whole world in His hands.

I do not feel well in my body and realize I need His help very much. I have gall stones and a growth on my neck, but I know God is able to heal me. I have headaches that seem too much to live through and they leave me awfully nervous. I know I have been in too much a strain and too much work to do. I am taking care of my aged mother, Emma Cater. She is not able to do much for herself. My husband had to quit driving the school bus because he has bronchial asthma, and is not able to be out much in the winter. We have three children in school.

I earnestly desire your prayers for the healing of my body that I may be able to take care of the ones that need me so much and that I may be all my Lord wants me to be.

Your sister in Christ Jesus, —Mrs. Beulah Johnson.

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Okla.—Dear saints of God everywhere,—I have never put my testimony in the Faith and victory and I believe this would be a good time to do so.

God led me out of the dark pit of sin into the marvelous light of God by His precious Holy Spirit and His wonderful Word. He saved me, sanctified me, and gave me a vision of the true church and made me to know that the saints are God's children.

Although through carelessness I lost out and backslid, God has had mercy upon my soul and I would like to report that as of today I am saved, sanctified, and encouraged to live for the Lord. I have victory in my soul, and have the beginning of a closer walk with God.

The Lord has poured out a special blessing on my soul this day and I must tell someone about it and praise God for it. The living waters are flowing in my soul today and they are running so high that they have run over and I must let these living waters keep flowing so that the well will not get stopped up by carelessness. I thank God for His mercy and His blessings to me.

Your blood-washed sister, —Ruth Ellen Linden.

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S. C.—Dear Brother Pruitt,—Greetings to you and all of the dear saints at the print shop. I am writing to let you know that I am still standing up for the whole truth of God's Word. I am standing out free from all man-made creeds—standing all alone for the one church which Jesus died for and not man. Praise the Lord for it.

I thank God today how He is blessing me for hearing His Word from place to place. Bro. Pruitt, a few of us from S. C. went to the Myrtle, Mo. Campmeeting. We surely did enjoy the sweet fellowship of the saints of God. I have never been in anything better since I found the truth. Each day the Word of God was brought forth with the Spirit of the Lord. My cup of joy ran over. All of the saints were good to us while we were there. I am so glad I have found the truth until I can't thank God enough for it. One day He reached down His hand for me and now I am leaning on that loving arm. Praise the Lord. Since I found Him He is watching over me day and night.

I thank Him for the healing of my body. We saints are surely fighting a spiritual battle now for the Lord,

and if we win this battle we surely will make heaven. The time is too short to turn back. The life of a Christian is one hid with Christ in God. Oh, that my pencil could picture to your mind the glory and the strength of these words. Christ is hid in God and there, with Him, our life is hid. We have no need to fear. Nothing can touch the Christian life. When Jesus was here He said, "He that loseth his life for my sake shall find it." Everyone that comes to Christ must give up his life to Him. What does He do with it? He hides it in God. Is it any wonder the Christian soul pants after God? Is it any wonder his heart yearns and longs for Him and reaches forth to Him? His life is there. Does not the miser long for the presence of his gold? It is his life. My Christian friends, we can turn to the third chapter of Colossians and begin at the first verse and read, "If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God." Praise the Lord. "When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory." Praise the Lord. Saints, is there anything any better to read?

I thank God today that the old things in my life are passed away and now I'm living a new life—dead to this old world's goods and fighting a battle for Jesus. Saints, let's pray harder than ever because the devil is fighting hard against the saints of God. Many say they are Christians but sit before the ungodly televisions. They will not see Jesus when He comes for His saints because He is coming for a clean church that is unspotted from the world. Saints, pray much for me that God will keep me in the palm of His hand. I pray that this testimony will help and encourage some Christian somewhere to stand true to God till He comes for His children.

Your saved brother in Christ, fighting for heaven,
—Eddie Driggers.

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Mo.—Dear Sister Marie and all the dear saints scattered every where,—Greetings in Jesus' dear name. I'm very thankful tonight to be saved, sanctified, satisfied, and kept by the mighty power of our dear heavenly Father. The dear Lord is doing much for us. I never could thank Him enough for all He does. He has permitted me to attend part of three campmeetings this summer and I have been blessed in each one. I have seen the Lord working in mighty ways. Several have been saved and there have been many marvelous healings. I would like to tell of some of the healings the dear Lord did during the Myrtle Campmeeting.

My son, Darius, at Rockford, Ill., took something like an attack of appendicitis. They called us for prayer at the meeting one day and also prayer for my daughter who had sprained her ankle. The saints got under the burden for them and fervent prayer went up to God for them and our dear heavenly Father heard and sent healing to their bodies. I called them that night and they were much better, then I called the next day and they were completely healed, only my son was weak in body from vomiting so much. I thank the Lord very much for coming to their rescue and I also thank all the dear saints for their earnest prayers. The dear Lord healed me, too, of a hurting in my chest and also a headache. I'm so thankful for His many blessings to unworthy me. I just can't find words to thank and praise Him enough.

The dear Lord also healed a little girl we took with us to the meeting. She took a breaking out. Some said it was poison ivy. It covered her body and some was in

her face. She had to go home Sunday afternoon, so she was anointed and prayed for, and when we came by to see her a week later she was completely healed. Her grandmother said it lasted only a day or two. We do thank the Lord for this as her parents aren't saved. Pray for this little girl that she might live for Jesus. Pray for my saved children that they will keep saved. Pray for my unsaved children that they will get saved and accept this truth before it is too late. I need your earnest prayers that I'll keep true and faithful. The desire of my heart is to do the Lord's will in all things. May God bless all the dear saints everywhere is my prayer.

With Christian love,
—Effie Miller.

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Ill.—Dear ones in Christ,—I feel that I should write my testimony of God's wonderful love for us. First I want to thank and praise God for saving our two children that are here with us. Praise His name! This was only yesterday and they testified to being saved, praise God. He is ready and willing to receive all who call upon Him. I am much encouraged and expect, with God's help, to fight a much better fight than I have in the past. God has helped me to see some mistakes I have made in the past and with His help I intend to do better.

I love God and all He stands for and I want to serve Him all the days of my life and pray that God, in some way, will help me to be humble and ready to do His will at all times and give me a home with Him in heaven; not only me, but all who will come to Him.

Pray for my family. Some are unsaved. And pray for me that I will be a good leader and God will help me to do His will.
—Albert Green.

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Kans.—Dear readers everywhere,—I just received an answer to prayer concerning a small matter. The Lord answers prayer in His own time and way, for His own honor and glory. Also the Lord hastened my son's recovery from the mumps so he was able to return to school.

I enjoy the paper, "Faith and Victory" so much. It is a great encouragement at times. May God's richest blessings be upon you who are doing so much to get this true light to the world.

Please pray for all of our unsaved loved ones, our brothers and sisters and their families. Also pray for the unspoken request I have before the Lord. I believe God will begin to bring these things to pass soon, perhaps even before this reaches you.
—A Kansas reader.

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Okla.—Dear saints,—Greetings of love in Jesus' precious name. We thank the Lord for all the love and mercy He bestows upon us. We are glad to know Him and to be His children. Thank the Lord, too, for the saints who mean much to us. How we need one another! May He bind our hearts together closer and closer in love as time comes close to an end.

The Lord has been very precious to help us in our problems. One of our greatest problems was that our water well was polluted. When we bought our home we didn't know anything was wrong with the water and supposed it was good, since the other family had been drinking it. Finally we sent in a sample to be tested and found that it was unsafe. We inquired of different people as to what could be causing the water to be unsafe and no one knew. Then a year ago something went wrong with the pump and since the men had to work on that we had them measure the depth of the well. They found oil instead of water because crude oil was setting on top of the water. We wrote to the oil company who has a pipe line across the road and asked them to check about any leaks. They

were very prompt to answer and to look into the matter. They sent out different representatives who took oil and water tests, etc. The field representative came and put men to work digging to see if there were any leaks in the pipe line and had them draw oil out of the well until they gave that up. They found a place in the pipe line where there had been a leak several years ago. Our water had been bad since we moved here which has been about two years. The company saw they must settle some way for the damages. We asked them to have a well drilled and see that we got good water but they preferred settling with cash and asked how much it would take to settle. We knew little about how much money we might have to spend to get a good well of water on this place, if it were at all possible. For months we waited to see if and when we would get a settlement. Of course, there are many people who would sue for whatever amount they wanted, but we felt that was out of God's order and we looked earnestly to Him in prayer and others of the saints did, until at length the oil company paid us enough for a new well, pipe-cleaning, and everything it has cost us to have good drinking water. We count this a real blessing from God. We received the answer from the water test in December which said, "safe." Thank the Lord!

I desire to see souls won for the kingdom of God. People by the millions are going heedlessly on in sin. All are going to eternity somewhere. Once I asked the Lord to somewhat show me or give me a vision of what hell would be like. I know it will be much worse than what I experienced one night as I awoke with what seemed to be the fierce roar of an eternity away from God. There was no way of getting away from that dreadful noise until the hand of God lifted it, then how peaceful the quietness was to me. If people could only realize what doom they are facing when they step out into eternity, they would surely turn to the Lord while they have opportunity. I fear for those who want to live for the Lord and do not keep an experience; I fear that God will call them while they are unsaved. Oh, souls let us not let that day find us unprepared to meet our God.

In a dream a while back I was very impressed how we need to be ready to meet the Lord at any moment. We are fully dependent upon Him for life and all things. We pray God to stir the hearts of the unsaved and to keep His children spotless and ready to meet Him in perfect peace.

Pray for us that God will grant us wisdom in training our children in the way they should go, and give us grace to always do His will. I also have a special request for prayer. Let us all pray for our country and rulers. I feel that much prayer is needed in behalf of the presidential election. God can work and none can hinder, and prayer changes things.

Your sister,

—Aquila Benson.

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

Okla.—Greetings to all the saints, for they are my people. Today finds me still pressing on for Jesus. I have much to be thankful for. I thank the dear Lord He gave me the strength to help with the Monark Campmeeting. I really did have more strength than I had expected I could have after such a hard trip to California and back, as I had no time to rest in between, but our God is just like that. He gives us more than we deserve if we trust Him.

I have felt for some time that the Lord would lift the temporal burden of the work from me, but I will be at another post of duty, doing more spiritual work. I don't intend to rust out. I want to die in God's service. I want to be just as faithful to the new post of duty as I was in

"Martha's role." Dear Martha was saved but she wanted her Lord to be comfortable. So I had in mind the comfort of the saints. I shall pray God to fill my place around the kitchens of the meetings. May God help us all to feel we have a part to play in this great work of God. God is calling for you. "Come closer, my child, to me, so I can guide your life."

We had a real surprise during the Monark meeting. The saints got together and gave us a ready-built cabin. We surely are thankful to all the dear saints. Never before had such a gift been given to us. We surely hope the Lord permits us to live next year, so we can enjoy living in it. We appreciate what the saints have always done for us. We never thought of reaping a reward here in this life, but thank God we can live so we can feel we have done what we could. God will take care of us. Since the campmeeting I was down two weeks with my back. I cried and told God how much I needed healing and He came in twice and raised me up. Oh, what a mighty God we serve!

Do keep our little granddaughter on your prayer list, for the X-ray shows improvement in the hip joint. I do pray they won't operate to scrape out the joint. I pray God to do that. The doctor was surprised the hip was still in place. We know God is working. Our other granddaughter fell and broke her arm, so pray on, saints, continue to pray on.

—Sister Sam Barton.

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

Texas—Dear Anna Marie,—Greetings in the precious name of the Lord. I am still saved and sanctified by His Holy Spirit. I still find joy in serving the Lord amidst the trials, troubles, and cares of this life. Truly, he does comfort our hearts and causes us to love Him more and more each day. He also fills our hearts with such fervent love that it cannot help but flow outward to others. We just cannot keep this wonderful salvation to ourselves. It is too joyous.

Well, I would have enjoyed the meeting, but it was not the Lord's will for us to come this year. I hope some new ones in the Lord with families got to the meeting, and found strength and help, also found sweet fellowship with the saints. It means so much when one is first saved.

Thank God for His wonderful keeping power. I am very thankful for the saints' prayers for me and my family. Oh, pray that God will save my unsaved children. Oh, how I know what the saints mean now more than ever when they pray for the Lord to save the young people "while they are young and tender." If I ever needed guidance and wisdom I need it now. I have been fasting and praying for them.

Saints, pray for all of my family that God will dry up every sore or breaking out.

May God bless you. Love, Sister Velda Ellis.

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

La.—Dear Bro. Pruitt and saints there and everywhere,—I greet you all in Jesus' name. I am still thanking the Lord for free and full salvation and I love the Lord with all my heart and I love the dear saints of God. They have helped me in many ways and brought encouragement to my heart. I thank each one for their prayers.

The first part of August the saints here and other places fasted and prayed for my healing and I know the Lord touched my body and I am almost well. Praise the Lord. I am expecting to be completely well because I have obeyed God's holy Word and done what He said for me to do. I know His Word and promises are true, praise His dear name. I know and believe Jesus can heal anything, and will heal us until he gets ready to take us home. Thank God He can and will help us to keep saved if we will keep watchful and prayerful.

I thank God for His great mercy and love to me and for helping me to see the true church of God and I am in His church, thank God. I'm thankful for the pure and holy way that leads us to heaven. In Matt. 5:8 God said, "Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God." I pray the dear Lord to help us to keep our hearts pure. In 1 Tim. 5:22 it says, "Keep thyself pure." I am learning of my Saviour. I want to keep living for Him and be a witness for Jesus and be a help and an encouragement to others as long as He lets me live.

I went to the campmeeting at Myrtle, Mo. this summer and enjoyed it very much. The pure gospel was preached each day and night. The sweet fellowship with the saints and the good testimonies were much encouragement to me. Pray for me that I'll keep saved and be faithful and true to the end and make heaven my home.

Your brother in Christ, —W. S. Miller.

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

Ga.—Dear Laborers at the print shop, and saints everywhere in the vineyard of the Lord,—Greetings in Jesus' dear name. Truly I am thanking and praising the dear Lord for being able to send in another testimony. I thank Him for keeping me saved and steadfast in His love. There have been many tests and trials in my life, but thanks be to God, none of them have weakened my faith. They have increased my faith to trust God more. I know through faith, victory is won.

Please continue to pray for me and my family.

Your humble sister in Christ, —G. W. Williams.

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

Mo.—To all the dear saints of God,—God bless you. You are all so dear to me. Oh, how I love Jesus. I have lots of work to do for him since I came home. Jesus healed a boy for me. In one home the mother let me have prayer for a little boy about five years old and that dear little one got on his knees and prayed so sweet.

My hand is swollen this morning. The fluid still looks like it did. It is just as easy for the dear Lord to take the fluid out as it is to take the swelling out. This is Tuesday, I will be fasting with you. Pray for me.

—Sister Whitmore.

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

La.—Dear saints and readers of the Faith and Victory paper,—Christian love and greetings to all. I am real glad to be saved and sanctified and willing to obey the Lord on all lines of the Bible truth. Praise His matchless name! I truly appreciate the things God has revealed to my heart and mind. If you haven't made a special study of the works of the Spirit and the works of the flesh it will pay you well to do this. We all surely need to know every one of them perfectly, otherwise we are very liable to be guilty of some of the works of the flesh. If you haven't studied the works of the flesh as close as God wants you to, you will be surprised to know just what it means to abstain from all of them. While studying the works of the flesh my mind goes back to Matt. 7:13-15, 16:24; 2 Tim. 2:15-22, 3:16,17; and John 8:31,32. There are many other scriptures that can be used in the study of the works of the flesh, but the scriptures mentioned here is enough to help us to realize something about how important it is to know these works. When we come to the knowledge of them then we can rejoice in refraining from them.

Among the works of the flesh, to my mind and heart, revellings are the most dangerous, because there are some things which some folks think are all right and which are really and truly revellings. The answer to revellings or meaning in the dictionary is: 1. to take great

pleasure; 2. to make merry; 3. merry-making. Young saints, as well as older ones, take warning about these merry-making things such as picnics, ball games, and swimming meets. You can not do such things to the glory of God. Please read 1 Peter 4:1-5 and remember the Word says: "Be not conformed to the world." Rom. 12:2. God's Word tells us that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God. (Gal. 5:21.) I surely can praise God for the things He has revealed to me, and I trust these few remarks will cause others to get down deeper in the things of God. When we come down to the hour of death then we will surely be glad that we studied to show ourselves approved unto God and that God blessed us in refraining from the works of the flesh. God has given me these thoughts and I want to pass them on.

Praise our God for ever for His Word and many rich blessings bestowed on us. Pray for me. I surely want to make the grade for heaven.

Yours for God and His Word through our dear Lord Jesus Christ,

—John S. Green.

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Mo.—Dear ones,—Greetings to you. I went to Myrtle, Mo. Campmeeting on Wed. then took Bro. and Sister Cade and Sister Dolly Williams home. Then I went to Ill. Sister Evodna and two children, Sister Marler, and I went on Wednesday and spent that night at Bro. and Sister McClain's. Then we went on to Leonard Marlers' the next day in Rockford. We had three services there. The other carload from Senath came on Saturday. I spent three nights at Gentry's in Rockford. A family in Chicago who has lived in Louisiana came to Rockford to see me. I was very glad to see them. Bro. Louie and Sister Evodna and three children and I left Rockford Monday. They took me by to see Sister Ada Scanlin and her father. He is 96. It was precious to meet him. He loves the Lord. Just think, he got back to the Lord after he was 90.

We came on to Decatur, Ill., and found out the Probst family was going to Champain for a service Monday night, so we went along. I got to see Sister Puckett and meet Bro. and Sister Mack. We got back to Senath Tuesday evening. I came home Thursday. I have been very busy here. Bro. Cade's hand is bad with cancer. Remember him in prayer.

May God bless you.

Christian love,

—Sister Ruth Murphey.

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

Ohio—Dear brother Pruitt and wife and all the co-laborers with God in the printshop,—I come again in this day of Aug., 1960 to greet you all in Jesus' dear name. I never was there, but I can visualize all of you at work over there in that little Eden, as it were. I should like to be there, too, but since that is not possible now I shall have to endeavor to make an Eden here; and by the grace of God, that is what we will do.

God, through Jesus Christ did all that He could do to enable us to do just that in preparation for our heavenly abode. I am glad to think with Bro. Paul where he says, "For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens." I have come up through four generations now and I find this earthly house is fast crumbling in a material way, but my faith is becoming more firm, and my love and appreciation for God and the wonders He has done for me is much greater than ever before, and so much more meaningful. Just now I am going through an affliction that I brought on myself by a little carelessness in trying to get up to a rather high house porch. I bruised my leg on the shin bone half way between my knee and foot. I have not

gone to any doctor, but I am praying. It is God that will heal if any healing is done. All glory be to Him. I feel an assurance that God will heal it and not let any complications set in.

I wish all of you would pray for my healing of body (not only for the above mentioned wound, but other bodily afflictions as well). I do not know, as yet, what I shall have to pass through, but as God told Bro. Paul, "My grace is sufficient for you." So may it be for all of us.

I had a letter from Bro. Smith regarding the erection of a home for the aged. Many may need a home like that. May the Holy Spirit lead us on to a closer fellowship with God.

—G. W. Nisely.

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Fla.—Dear Sister Marie,—Your letter was received and it gave me such a lift to hear from a child of God. We have such a few real children of God but many are so-called. But glory to God, there is a profound difference in them.

I want to say again that I thank you very much for the interest you have shown toward me in my plea for help through our Lord. I wasn't especially in need of any material help, but I needed spiritual help, and I will appreciate it very much if you will keep me on your prayer list. My hearing is real bad and I have such loud noises in my ears until they are very annoying at times and make me nervous. Please pray for that, and ask God to show me where I am slack if this is the reason He doesn't heal me. I know it is not on His part. It is on mine.

I realize this old world is in a critical condition spiritually. I get a lot of help and encouragement from my Faith and Victory paper. Also thanks for the tracts.

The other night we were visiting some friends and one had a relative in prison in Georgia. He says he is not guilty. He came up for parole back in May I believe it was, and he wouldn't accept it. He said when he left the prison he wanted to be a free man, not a parolee, and that he was there because of somebody else. He would stay his time. I didn't know him personally, but I felt impressed to write him a word of encouragement and I sent him one of the tracts, "Cast thy burdens on the Lord." I hope it will be a help to him and to others.

Please pray God to show me just what I must do each day to receive my bread from heaven.

A sister in Christ, —Mrs. J. L. Poole.

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La.—Dear Bro. Pruitt,—I am writing you and all of my sisters and brothers in Christ. I was on a K. C. S. train going to Beaumont, Texas, best I remember, April, 1959. I came in contact with a lady and we began to testify to each other. How wonderful God's power was. I told her I had no church of my belief to go to so she told me about the church at Guthrie, Okla. I gave her my address. I have been receiving the Faith and Victory since June of 1959. I have been laying these papers aside until some leisure time. Last week I got interested in the paper. I want you to know your little paper is going to be a blessing to me as I love literature that explains God's Word in a way that brings a spiritual feast. Accept my thanks for your paper. May God's blessings continue with you is my prayer.

Is there any way you can contact this lady? I would be happy to correspond with her.

Yours in Christ, —Alice Bossier.

There is no limit to what God can do with a man, providing he will not touch the glory.—Whitefield.

Waving the Lantern

I read somewhere of a man being run over and killed by a fast passing train on a railway crossing. The signal man was arrested for failure to wave the signal lantern. On the witness stand the old man testified that he waved the lantern frantically but the travelling man gave no heed to it. The old signal man was cross examined, but he stood by his testimony unshaken. Although others testified that they saw no lantern, yet the old man stood firm declaring that he waved his lantern wildly in order to stop the man. Finally one of the lawyers asked him if his lantern was lit. The old man broke down, and in tears he confessed that he had neglected to put oil in his lantern and the light had gone out.

There are many folks today that are very active in church-work. They are arranging programs, they are inventing methods, they are prominent in the church socials—they are waving their lanterns, but they have no light.

BIBLE STUDY

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

October 2, 1960

THE GREATNESS OF GOD

Printed Portion **Psalm 8, 104:1-4**

8:1. O Lord our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth! who hast set thy glory above the heavens.

2. Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings hast thou ordained strength because of thine enemies, that thou mightest still the enemy and the avenger.

3. When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers,
the moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained;

4. What is man, that thou art mindful of him? and the son of man, that thou visitest him?

5. For thou hast made him a little lower than the angels,
and hast crowned him with glory and honour.

6. Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of thy hands; thou hast put all things under his feet:

7. All sheep and oxen, yea, and the beasts of the field;

8. The fowl of the air, and the fish of the sea, and whatsoever passeth through the paths of the seas.

9. O Lord our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth!

104:1. Bless the Lord, O my soul. O Lord my God,
thou art very great; thou art clothed with honour and
majesty.

2. Who coverest thyself with light as with a garment:
who stretchest out the heavens like a curtain:

3. Who layeth the beams of his chambers in the waters:
who maketh the clouds his chariot: who walketh upon the
wings of the wind:

4. Who maketh his angels spirits; his ministers a flaming fire.

Memory Verse: O Lord our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth! Psalm 8:9.

Practical Truth: God is great beyond all our powers to conceive.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Our lessons for a few Sundays will be from the Psalms and then the latter part of the quarter will be from the prophet Isaiah concerning the coming of Jesus and ending with his coming.

The Psalms bring a spiritual uplift whenever they are read. The Israelites used the words to sing praises to the Lord.

"When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers," and all the things that God has created I cannot fathom the depths of God's greatness. The word "universe" describes the working of God's creations. Although God is very great, He wants us to worship Him, and He is interested in each of us. Even though some do not seem to feel they need God, yet they do. But because most people feel this need, in spite of atheism, the human race as a whole is religious, to a certain extent. They more or less recognize God as the One great Intelligence, which is the Creator of all things. We would like for everyone to recognize God's Son as their Savior and receive a "born-again" experience. God expects something of us and He is not what most conceive Him to be. He doesn't just jump at our every call or whim and give us everything that we ask for whether it would be good for us or not. He is a God of wisdom and we want to look at Him as such. There are conditions to be met to receive from God. God is faithful to do His part for every person.

October 9, 1960

THE ADORATION OF GOD

Printed Portion Psalm 24

1. The earth is the Lord's, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.
2. For he hath founded it upon the seas, and established it upon the floods.
3. Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord? or who shall stand in his holy place?
4. He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully.
5. He shall receive thy blessing from the Lord, and righteousness from the God of his salvation.
6. This is the generation of them that seek him, that seek thy face, O Jacob. Selah.
7. Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in.
8. Who is this King of glory? The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle.
9. Lift up your heads, O ye gates; even lift them up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in.
10. Who is this King of glory? The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory. Selah.

Memory Verse: Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen. Eph. 3:20-21.

Practical Truth: Prayers of adoration to God are pleasing to Him and spiritually helpful to those who offer them.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

It is said that this Psalm was composed by David and sung on the occasion of the bringing in of the ark of the

covenant into Jerusalem and into the tabernacle which he had pitched for it. (2 Sam. 6th chapter.)

Jerusalem was on a hill and there the ark would stand. The question is asked, "who can go to the hill and into the holy place?" This was the work of the priest who had to first offer an atonement for his own sins. But today those who have clean hands and a pure heart are the only ones who can go unto the hill, which is Mount Zion, the Church of God, and into that holy place. Today the "born-again" children of God are "kings and priests ... reigning on the earth." (Rev. 5:10.)

As the ark came toward the temple we can picture the great eastern gates opening up as the people sang the Psalm. Today God wants sinners to open their hearts, renounce their stubborn wills, and let the King of glory enter in. Praises then will come forth from their hearts which is due the Lord of all creation. They will then be in a condition to enjoy the things God has for His creation in this world. If we have a need we can know in our hearts that our Heavenly Father owns the earth and all therein and can help us.

October 16, 1960

TRUST IN GOD

Printed Portion Psalm 121

1. I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help.
2. My help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth.
3. He will not suffer thy foot to be moved: he that keepeth thee will not slumber.
4. Behold, he that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep.
5. The Lord is thy keeper: the Lord is thy shade upon thy right hand.
6. The sun shall not smite thee by day, nor the moon by night.
7. The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil: he shall preserve thy soul.
8. The Lord shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in from this time forth, and even for evermore.

Memory Verse: My help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth. Psalm 121:2.

Practical Truth: God is able to protect and help those who put their trust in him.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Since the Psalm in our lesson is so short the 91st Psalm goes with it very well. They both stress the thought that the Lord is our helper, our keeper, and the refuge and fortress of those who trust God with a simple, child-like confidence. It is a comforting thing to know that our God never sleeps but is ever watchful over those who love Him. He will take care of His own in their "coming in or going out." We need God to protect us in these days of dangers on every side. On the highway this Psalm is a comfort. Someone said that every time an approaching car passes us, we are a split second from death. It does pay to be ready to go for we know not when the Lord will call for us. It is a good thing to be like the Psalmist David and have our trust firmly in the Lord who will preserve our soul.

When we have our trust in the Lord we can rest and be at ease. It is precious to know as Psalm 91:10 tells us that "no plague shall come nigh thy dwelling." Some have

testified they have stood on that promise when certain diseases were sweeping the country and God took care of them.

It is said these Psalms were sung by the travelers as they walked over the country through many dangers to the Feasts of the Passover, Tabernacles, and Pentecost, to Jerusalem every year.

October 23, 1960

OUR NEED OF GOD

Printed Portion Psalm 42

1. As the hart panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after thee, O God.

2. My soul thirsteth for God, for the living God: when shall I come and appear before God?

3. My tears have been my meat day and night, while they continually say unto me, Where is thy God?

4. When I remember these things, I pour out my soul in me: for I had gone with the multitude, I went with them to the house of God, with the voice of joy and praise, with a multitude that kept holyday.

5. Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou disquieted in me? hope thou in God: for I shall yet praise him for the help of his countenance.

6. O my God, my soul is cast down within me: therefore will I remember thee from the land of Jordan, and of the Hermonites, from the hill Mizar.

7. Deep callest thou deep at the noise of thy waterspouts: all thy waters and thy billows are gone over me.

8. Yet the Lord will command his lovingkindness in the daytime, and in the night his song shall be with me, and my prayer unto the God of my life.

9. I will say unto God my rock, Why hast thou forgotten me? why go I mourning because of the oppression of the enemy?

10. As with a sword in my bones, mine enemies reproach me; while they say daily unto me, Where is thy God?

11. Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou disquieted within me? hope thou in God: for I shall yet praise him, who is the health of my countenance, and my God.

Memory Verse: Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou disquieted within me? hope thou in God: for I shall yet praise him, who is the health of my countenance, and my God. Psalm 42:11.

Practical Truth: Every soul needs God as his Saviour and friend, and cannot be truly satisfied without Him.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

In reading the Psalm printed for our lesson we come to the conclusion that the writer is very discouraged. Three times he asks the question, "Why art thou cast down, O my soul?" We know not what the cause was for this discouragement. It might have been sickness, adversities, or persecutions from others. But we are encouraged with his statement at the last when he said, "Hope thou yet in God; for I will praise him." Discouragement comes from the devil. We should never yield to it. Counting your blessings over will bring a praise in your heart. It seems that there isn't anything that comes to us but what it could be worse. Yet we know as Paul tells us, "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called

according to his purpose." Rom. 8:28. It is good to examine the things that are coming against us and receive the good in them that is for us. We also ought to consider the factors involved and see if they ought to have the effect upon us that they are. The one factor that should overbalance all others is that God is alive and is able to help His trusting children. He truly is the rock of our salvation. (Verse 9.)

October 30 1960

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

Printed Portion Psalm 1; Romans 12:1-2

Psalm 1:1. Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.

2. But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.

3. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.

4. The ungodly are not so: but are like the chaff which the wind driveth away.

5. Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.

6. For the Lord knoweth the way of the righteous: but the way of the ungodly shall perish.

Rom. 12:1. I beseech you, there, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

2. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God.

Memory Verse: Be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God. Rom. 12:2.

Practical Truth: The way of life which God marks out for us in His Word is the kind of life which results in true happiness.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

There is much good to be received from each verse in our lesson. The first word is "Blessed" which literally means, "Oh, the happiness of the man!" Satan suggests we find happiness in sin but that is a lie from the pit of hell. Our lesson brings out that happiness comes from God and the wicked will perish.

At times each one of us needs to counsel with someone about problems. Our lesson tells the child of God not to take counsel from the ungodly. The godly and ungodly are living in different realms. Their spirits do not blend. Their aspirations and desires are different.

Young people will do well to counsel with those who are older and have been along the way. In 1 Kings 12 we have an example of the young king who rejected the counsel of the old men and took the counsel of the young men—thereby losing ten tribes of Israel.

The person who loves the Lord and delights to keep His Word will flourish like the tree planted by the rivers of water. That water is told about in Rev. 22:1. It flows from under the throne of God. We do not want anything to stop that flow or we will not bear fruit. Gal. 5:19-24 tells us the fruit borne by the sinner and the godly.

—Sister Marie Miles.