

# FAITH<sup>AND</sup>VICTORY

## Church of God Servant



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### See Yonder Fields?

"Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest."—John 4:35.

See yonder fields, O man of God?  
See yonder fields of grain?  
Know ye they must be harvested  
E'er the Savior comes again?

See yonder fields, O man of God?  
Look at those fields again!  
See how wild tares are growing fast,  
Smothering the golden grain?

Pray, pray, O man of God,  
Pray, pray; then pray again  
For laborers, men tried and true,  
No work will be in vain.

Night is near, O man of God;  
The sun is sinking low;  
Gird on thy strength, have faith in God,  
Forward, forward go!

—Mabel Miller

### Do You Love Life?

"Come ye children, hearken unto me: I will teach you the fear of the Lord. What man is he that desireth life, and loveth many days that he may see good? Keep thy tongue from evil, and thy lips from speaking guile. Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it." Psa. 34:11-14.

These wholesome words of instruction were given by one of the Lord's messengers many, many years ago, and they are just as valid and important today as when they were first spoken. Their purpose is to insure length of days, the goodness of God, peace and happiness to all that will give heed to them. And who is he that does not want to enjoy these wonderful blessings? Most every one would like to live to a good, ripe age, and enjoy peace, and have the favor of God rest upon him.

The first thing that one needs that he may have a firm foundation upon which to build his hopes and anticipation of a beautiful and successful life, is the fear of the Lord. One must believe there is a God, and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him to do His will. The fear of the Lord is an absolute "must"; no progress can be made in the field of righteousness without it. Turning to Deut. 4:9-10 we read, "Only take heed to thyself, and keep thy soul diligently, lest thou forget the things which thine eyes have seen, and lest they depart from thy heart all the days of thy life: but teach them to thy sons, and thy sons' sons; specially the day that thou stood before the Lord thy God in Horeb, when the Lord said unto me, Gather me the people together, and I will make them hear my words, that they may learn to fear me all the days that they shall live upon the earth, and that they may teach their children." Notice He says, "I will make them hear my words, that they may learn to fear me." The fear of the Lord will cause one to do the thing that is right. Without the fear of God, men's hearts are hardened, their consciences become seared, and they boldly and brazenly indulge in sin and evil of all kinds without shame or remorse, and they will wax worse and worse, going farther and farther from God and right. The earth is filled with violence, iniquity is in the streets, and the hearts of the sons of men are fully set in them to do evil because of a lack of the fear of God. Listen to the voice of God as He speaks in Job 28:28, "And unto man he said, Behold, the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom; and to depart from evil is understanding."

One of the great evils of today is mentioned in 2 Tim. 3:2, "For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy," and so on. The Apostle advises us to turn away from such. The fear of God will cause one to turn away from evil. Psa. 37:27 reads, "Depart from evil, and do good; and dwell forever more." One of the great evils of today as mentioned in the above catalogue is disobedience to parents. There are a number of the Lord's commandments, but the first one with a

promise is: "Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee." Exodus 20:12 and repeated in Eph. 6:1-3 by Saint Paul. He says, "Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise; that it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth." I am sure that many, yea, thousands would be surprised, if they knew how many of the promising youth descend into an early grave directly on account of being disobedient to their parents. This is a great evil, and is prevalent throughout the land today, and is very grievous in the sight of God. It was such an abomination in the sight of God in the days of Moses that he dealt with offenders by drastic measures. Let us take a look at Deut. 21:18-21, "If a man have a stubborn and rebellious son, which will not obey the voice of his father, or the voice of his mother, and that when they have chastened him, will not hearken unto them: then shall his father and his mother lay hold on him, and bring him out unto the elders of the city, and unto the gate of his place; and they shall say unto the elders of his city, This our son is stubborn and rebellious, he will not obey our voice; he is a glutton and a drunkard. And all the men of his city shall stone him with stones, that he die: so shalt thou put evil away from among you; and all Israel shall hear and fear." Because a good many disobedient children seem to prosper, and get by, so to speak, that is no sign that God is not taking note. "Be not deceived; God is not mocked. Whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap." One reason why there is so much disrespect for parents today is because the fathers and mothers are not diligent to teach their precious sons and daughters the fear of the Lord. These parents do not have the fear of God upon their own hearts and are not inclined to teach it to their children. God's command to the parents is that they teach His Word to their sons, and to their sons' sons, and on down through the generations, that they may learn to fear the Lord, that it may be well with them, and that the pleasure of the Lord might rest upon them.

Dear children, little children, large children, old children, young children, honor thy father and mother. Let them know how you appreciate the interest they have manifested in endeavoring to teach you the clean, holy way that has promise of this life and the life which is to come. Never speak saucy, or irreverently to them, and do not refer to them as the "old fogey" or the "old pokey." Read Matt. 15:1-9 and see what Jesus had to say on this subject. "Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man." Eccl. 12:13b.

"Then came to Jesus scribes and Pharisees, which were of Jerusalem, saying, Why do thy disciples transgress the tradition of the elders? for they wash not their hands when they eat bread. But he answered and said unto them, Why do ye also transgress the commandment of God by your tradition? For God commanded, saying, Honour thy father and mother:

and he that curseth father or mother, let him die the death, but ye say, Whosoever shall say to his father or mother, it is a gift, by whatsoever thou mightest be profited by me; and honour not his father or his mother, he shall be free. Thus have ye made the commandment of God of none effect by your tradition. Ye hypocrites, well did Esaias prophesy of you, saying, this people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth and honoureth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me. But in vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men." Matt. 15:1-9. "My son, forget not my law; but let thine heart keep my commandments: for length of days, and long life, and peace shall they add to thee." Prov. 3:1-2.

I ask again, do you love life? May God bless every son and daughter that may chance to read this article is my prayer.  
—Ulysses Phillips

## How to Rear Delinquent Children

In notable contrast with the way Timothy was reared by his godly mother and grandmother is the following:

The Houston, Texas police department is distributing a leaflet entitled, "Twelve Rules for Rearing Delinquent Children." Eleven rules are as follows:

1. Begin with infancy to give the child everything he wants.
2. When he picks up bad words, laugh at him. This will make him think he's cute. It will also encourage him to pick up "cuter" phrases that will blow off the top of your head later.
3. Never give him any spiritual training. Wait until he is twenty-one and then let him "decide for himself."
4. Avoid use of the word "wrong." It may develop a guilt complex. This will condition him to believe later, when he is arrested for stealing a car, that society is against him and he is being persecuted.
5. Pick up everything he leaves lying around—books, shoes, clothes. Do everything for him so that he will be experienced in throwing all responsibility on others.
6. Let him read any printed matter he can get his hands on. Be careful that the silverware and drinking glasses are sterilized, but let his mind feast on garbage.
7. Quarrel frequently in the presence of your children. In this way they will not be too shocked when the home is broken up.
8. Give a child all the spending money he wants. Never let him earn his own. Why should he have things as tough as you had them?
9. Satisfy his every craving for food, drink, and comfort. See that every sensual desire is gratified. Denial may lead to harmful frustration. His 'nerves' may be so bad that he cannot stand correction for anything.
10. Take his part against neighbors, teachers and policemen. They are all prejudiced against your child.

11. Prepare for a life of grief. You will be likely to have it.

## The Evil of Envy

Envy is so prevalent that it is regarded casually. Since we seldom hear it condemned, we might wonder if it is really sinful. But of course it is sinful. Any attitude as unchristian as envy is anti-christian. Envy should be recognized and dealt with as such.

Envy does not travel alone. It has companions. Paul, in writing under the inspiration of the Spirit of God to the Galatian Christians, puts envy in the company of murder (Gal. 5:19-21). Envy and murder do seem to be companions because they are so often found together. Paul also puts things such as witchcraft, drunkenness, hatred, strife, heresies, in the same company. That is because they are of the same source and the same spirit. They are kindred.

John Bunyan in "Pilgrim's Progress" writes about a Christian traveling to the eternal city. Christian meets many dangers on the way. One of them is Envy, who is traveling with Liar and other degrading companions. Christian escapes their wiles, but they are able to bring about the death of his companion.

Webster's dictionary puts envy in the company of hatred and ill will. And their first cousin he lists as jealousy.

One of the reasons why envy is such a deadly sin is that it is so subtle. One can so easily possess the spirit of envy without being aware of it.

The first murder of which we have record (Cain's murder of Abel) was the result of envy. Cain saw that Abel's sacrifice was pleasing to God while his was not. So Cain killed Abel. As a result Cain was banished from the fellowship of his God and his family. Envy still results in alienation from God.

Envy causes a person to do things which would otherwise be out of character for him. Take King Saul, for example, the first king of ancient Israel. When first anointed king, he stood head and shoulders above his fellows not only physically but in their esteem of him. He was a man of courage, God's man.

But, alas, he became jealous of a mere boy. He brooded over David's popularity and finally tried to kill him. As a result he lost his throne, his kingdom, and his life.

True, Saul's case was an unusual case, but the sequel of the story is quite ordinary. We see it over and over—people doing unlovely, unchristian, and inconsistent things because of envy.

Sometimes people admit that they have some envy in their hearts, but they insist that it is a little thing with them. They would never allow it to motivate their actions, they say. But they are wrong.

"Thou shalt not steal," whether a million or a mite. "Thou shalt not covet" anything of thy neighbor's, large or small. Seemingly small sins are so large because they are against the law of God and the law of life, and are for such a small cause. One point of that law is not to be envious.

A person who continues to live with more or less envy in his heart cannot say he will not meet the consequences of such living. As long as a person is aware of a wrong condition in his life but is unwilling to do anything about it, the condition will become more firmly entrenched. He cannot say what will or will not come of it. That bad spirit within the heart may open the door to kindred spirits.

Envy is denounced in the Bible, and no person can justify the feelings of envy he has in his heart, be they little or large.

It is notable that people envy others not because of a bad thing which comes into their lives but because of a good thing. In a world where there is so much trouble and evil, we should always rejoice over any good which comes to any person. Every good act should be recognized. Every talent put to good use should be rejoiced over.

May I suggest a course of action for the person troubled with envy? If you feel envious of anyone, decide now that you will be free of it. Humbly acknowledge the matter to God—He knows about it anyway. Ask God's special help. And then do what you can to be a blessing to those you have envied. This is the way to defeat the spirit of envy or any wrong attitude. One must take positive action in order to have positive victory.

Let us be as candid as the Bible in acknowledging wrong wherever it is found. It sometimes happens in a congregation that a person becomes jealous of another who is honored, perhaps with an appointment. Such jealousy hinders the worker by setting up negative and reactionary forces against him. It blocks the spiritual progress of the person who envies. It hinders the entire congregation by grieving the Holy Spirit and preventing the flow of love and fellowship from one heart to another.

Every person should realize that whether or not he has a "man appointment," he has a "God appointment." Is not that a greater honor? He is appointed to pray for the effectiveness of those who are "in authority."

In these fateful years when Christian action and influence are so much needed in our world, how can we do otherwise than wish Godspeed and pray God's blessings upon every Christian leader? How can we feel justified in entertaining any spirit of envy?

Let us follow the course dictated by love, the Christlike course. Let us have done with small ways of thinking and acting.

"Envy [is] the rottenness of the bones" (Prov. 14:30). "Let us walk honestly . . . not in strife and envying. But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ" (Rom. 13:13-14). "Love one another" (Rom. 13:8). "Pray one for another" (Jas. 5:16). —N. A.

### A BOOK REQUESTED

The book, "The Church of God Doctrines," by C. C. Carver, 6125 Willard St., Shreveport, La., is out of stock. He has calls for this book. If you have a copy and do not care to keep it, please send it to him and receive his acknowledgment for the same.

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**Editorials**

**NOTICE** the Special 3 Months' Offer on this page!

God, our Father in heaven, had two sons. Adam, his first son, was a created son; Jesus, His second Son, was His only begotten Son. Both of these sons are frequently spoken of in God's Word to man—the Bible.

Adam was created out of the dust of the earth. Some commentaries say that Adam was made out of red clay. Let us take a look at Adam as he was molded into a man and lying there with no life in him, just as man is today when he dies and life is gone from the body. In Genesis 2:7 we read that God breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and man became a living soul. It was not a strange thing for God to make Adam out of the dust of the ground and fashion him into the form of a man. Men could do that today, but the miracle which He performed was the placing in that body the life from heaven or from God and man became a living being. Blood began to circulate in the body and the physical senses began to operate. He began to talk, to see, to taste, to hear and to smell. He could walk about and do things.

When God saw that man needed a companion He performed another miracle and took a rib from Adam's side while he was in a deep sleep and made a woman for Adam. God not only gave Adam a wife, a companion, but also put him in a garden with all things growing which man would need to eat and keep the body alive. Thus God lavished upon Adam and his wife all that their hearts could wish that was good for them.

There was only one thing that God required of Adam and Eve—that they should not eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, and at the same time He added the penalty of death if they did so. He said, "For in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die." The woman, whom God gave to Adam, was tempted of the serpent (the serpent represented Satan) to eat of the forbidden tree. The serpent contradicted God and told her that they would not surely die, but that the tree would make them wise. He enticed her to look at what he called the good things the eating of the fruit would do for them. Pride swelled up in her heart, vanity took hold of her, and she not only ate of the tree but also gave to her husband and he did eat, knowing all the time that God, their Creator, had forbidden them to eat of it or touch it. In doing this, they both sinned against God who had created Adam out of the dust of the earth, and also performed a miracle in giving him a wife. They came under such condemnation that they did not want to see God any more, but tried to hide from Him.

It is a sad condition to think of, but the fact is that most all of God's creation today are trying to

hide from God by joining some humanly-organized church where the sword of the Spirit is little used and scriptures are wrested from their true meaning. They deny the power of God to keep them free from sin, but teach their converts that they cannot expect to live free from sin in this life. The devil is lying to people today as he did to Adam and Eve in the garden of Eden, and they are rebelling against God, their Creator. When Satan gets them to join his churches, he keeps lying to them and telling them that they belong to church now and they should be there every meeting time, thereby keeping them away from the place where the blazing truth is preached in all its purity, which, if believed, would save men and women from sin and place them in the spiritual garden of Eden where they could live free from sin and have communion with God their Father with His pleasure resting upon their souls. How sweet to be at home in the bosom of God!

Let us read what God said to Adam after he had eaten of the forbidden fruit. Genesis 3:17, "And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life; thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field; in the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art and unto dust shalt thou return." We see by these scriptures that God kept His promise and death was pronounced upon Adam's physical body and it was to return to dust again from whence it was taken. Not only this, but in this same chapter it says that God drove the man out of the garden. He died a spiritual death—separated from communion with God.

Paul, in writing about Adam, has this to say in Romans 5:12, "Wherefore as by one man [Adam] sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned." We find in Genesis 5:3 that Adam "begat a son in his own likeness, after his image; and called his name Seth." In the beginning God had created Adam in His own likeness and image. (Gen. 1:26). Now since Adam had sinned, the moral image of God in him was marred by that sin, and when children were born, they had that same image and likeness of fallen Adam. That sinful nature caused Adam's posterity to commit sin and come short of the glory of God. This is the very thing that God's only begotten Son did for mankind—destroyed this sin out of the soul and placed man back, in a spiritual sense, in the garden of Eden and made him as Adam was before he fell, being in full favor with God through Christ. When John the Baptist saw Jesus coming toward him he said, "Behold the Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world." That "sin of the world" was nothing more nor less than that sin of death received through the fall of Adam and was transmitted to every child born into the world. In order to deliver man from Adam's penalty, it was necessary for God

to have a "begotten Son" who had no sin and did no sin that He might give His life as a blood sacrifice on Calvary's cross and thereby atone for our committed sins and destroy that sinful nature out of man's heart and restore to him the divine nature of God as Adam possessed in the day he was created in the image and likeness of God. In this new, created state, man converses with God and has grace to know His will and do it.

God's second Son, Jesus, was begotten of God, and was sanctified and sent into the world. He did not have that sinful nature, for He was not begotten of man but of God. Being free from that sinful nature, He did not sin, and therefore He could die in our stead and thereby lift the penalty of death for sin which hung over our heads, and we could be made free from sin and condemnation as Adam was before he transgressed the law of God. Now through the death of Jesus Christ on the cross we are made free from all sin and we can by the grace of God "serve him without fear, in holiness and righteousness before him, all the days of our life." Luke 1:74, 75.

According to the Word of God, His only begotten Son came into the world in this manner. Let us read Matthew 1:18, "Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost." To verify this statement, let us read the record again in Luke 1:34, 35: "Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man? And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God." How plain, clear and definite are these statements that Jesus was begotten of God through the Holy Ghost and born of the virgin Mary, and yet there are men in the world today who are influenced by Satan to deny the virgin birth of Jesus Christ. Any one who denies the virgin birth of Jesus Christ is under the influence of Satan and unsafe for anyone to uphold or follow. To associate with such people would mean that you are in the company of criminal characters in the sight of God. Satan is lying to people today and doing all he can to undermine their faith in God and the truth of His Word.

Let us read in 1 Cor. 15:21, "For since by man [Adam] came death, by man [Jesus] came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive." Let us also read verses 45 and 46, "And so it is written, the first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit. Howbeit, that was not first which is spiritual, but that which is natural; and afterwards that which is spiritual." We find according to the scripture that the second Adam, Jesus Christ—God's only begotten Son—delivered us through His blood sacrifice from all the sin that His first son, Adam, got us into. Thank God for Jesus Christ our Lord who was begotten of God and born of the virgin Mary, and willingly gave Himself as a

ransom to bring us back to God, giving us power to live free from sin with a knowledge of the earnest of the Spirit in our souls and thereby making us know that we have a full inheritance with God to live with Him forever.

Satan, that old serpent that lied to Adam and Eve in the garden, is lying to people today, causing them to miss heaven. One lie which he has a host of people believing is that if you are once saved you cannot be lost or fall from grace. Other deceptive teachings and practices are: that the body sins all the time but the soul is in favor with God; that the act of sprinkling infants is baptism; making water baptism a saving ordinance; telling the people that they cannot expect to live free from sin in this life; saying merely that you believe in Christ without any Godly sorrow and repentance; joining any one of the many sects or human religious bodies calling itself the church; denying the virgin birth of Jesus, and saying that all the miracles ceased with the apostles. Of this class the Apostle Paul says, "Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: FROM SUCH TURN AWAY." 2 Tim. 3:5.

### Obituaries

Torrence T. Chubb was born at Williamsport, Penn. on June 25, 1879 and departed this life at Bristow, Okla. on July 3, 1961 at the age of 82 years and eight days.

On September 29, 1953 he was married to Mrs. Irene Abbott at Sapulpa, Okla. He was a member of the Church of God.

He is survived by his wife, Irene, of the home; four sons, H. W. Chubb, Rochester, N. Y., Alfred Chubb, Williamsport, Penn., J. C. Abbott, Dumas, Texas, George Abbott, Bristow, Okla.; five daughters, Ruth Lynn, Springfield, Mo., Florence Pryor, Williamsport, Penn., Nelyn Bunnell, Okla. City, Okla., Frances McDonald, Dumas, Texas, Mildred Cox, Dumas, Texas; sixteen grandchildren, other relatives and friends.

Funeral services were conducted by Bros. D. H. Wheeler and Orie Young.

Harry David Pettiford, Jr., the son of Leontine and Harry David Pettiford, Sr., was born at Muskogee, Okla. on Nov. 27, 1912 and departed this life August 17, 1961 at Tulsa, Okla.

On Nov. 18, 1929 he was united in matrimony to Miss Mayetta Leverett. He leaves to mourn his passing a wife, seven sisters, one brother, a host of other relatives and friends.

Funeral services were conducted by Bro. Sam Barton, assisted by Bro. Woodrow Warren.

Charles Aaron Davis was born Aug. 2, 1877, and passed to his reward on July 19, 1961 at the age of 83 years, 11 months and 17 days.

He was saved when he was a young boy and always loved the Lord and His people. Not until the year of 1955 did he find a people who, he felt, worshipped the Lord in the beauty of holiness. For years he had been desiring to find a people who lived and taught the one true Bible way. He was taken by friends to the Jefferson, Oregon campmeeting and there met with the dear saints. How it satisfied his hungry soul to hear the truth go forth and to sing the good songs of Zion!

Although blind and afflicted in other ways, he bore it all with much patience and, like Job of old, he did not charge God foolishly.

He is survived by his wife, Betty Land Davis; five daughters, Edith Boyer, Plains, Mont., Veda Carvey, Tacoma, Wash., Gwen De Bolt, Douglas, Wyo., Ruth Webber, Plains, Mont., Idabess Hames, Worland, Wyo.; two sons, G. Wyles Davis, Plains, Mont., Charles A. Davis, Jr. of Glasgow, Mont., eighteen grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Bro. D. A. Gibson of Seymour, Mo. Texts: Luke 1:68; 2:25-30; Titus 2:11-15. Burial was in the Plains Cemetery at Plains, Mont.

James N. Clardy was born to James and Hester A. Clardy on Jan. 26, 1882 in Howard County, Arkansas, and departed this life July 19, 1961 at the age of 79 years, six months and 23 days.

While a young man he was married to Miss America Ellen Boyd who preceded him in death six years ago. To this union one daughter and four sons were born, one son, James Arthur, passing away in infancy, and a son, Sandy Louis, in recent years.

Hearing the gospel of the Evening Light Church of God during their early married life at Deep Fork, Okla., they embraced it joyfully and devoted their lives to its teaching. His favorite song was, "I Am a Child of God."

In 1955 he was married to Sister Dora Scyas. After two years of happy married life, she, too, passed away.

He leaves to mourn his passing, one daughter, Sister Essie Lee Gibson; two sons, Wiley C. and Henry H.; other relatives and a host of saints and friends.

Funeral services were conducted by Bros. I. C. Chandler, Johnny Johnson, and Cecil Flechter.

### Meeting Reports

#### MYRTLE, MO. CAMPMEETING REPORT

The eleventh annual Missouri State Campmeeting of the Church of God at Myrtle, Mo. has come and gone, but we trust the effects of this meeting still remains in each heart. It has been one to be long remembered.

More souls were at the altar for help in various ways than ever before. Several were saved, sanctified, satisfied, and healed during the meeting, but some, to our sorrow, went away under heavy conviction.

God blessed with eleven ministers of His choosing who brought forth the Word of God under the anointing power of the Holy Ghost. The saints were very much encouraged and the joy of the Lord filled our hearts as the messages came forth with Holy Ghost fire.

One sister, who was hurt in a car wreck so badly that she had to be turned in the bed by her folks, called in for prayer as she had planned to come to the meeting. The saints were burdened for her healing, and Bros. Murphy Allen and Curtis Williams felt led of the Lord to go pray for her. When they prayed the dear Lord instantly healed her and she arose from her bed well again. She attended a week of the meeting. Praise the dear Lord!

The dear Lord also healed Bro. Sam Abbott of two heart attacks during the meeting. The next day after being healed of the last attack he was able to drive his car all alone on his way to Ohio. Surely we are serving a mighty God who has power to heal all manner of diseases and afflictions!

To the best of my knowledge, there were 13 states represented at the meeting. Several new ones were with

us and some had never been to a campmeeting before. We are happy to report that twelve persons were buried with Christ in water baptism and arose to walk in newness of life.

We were glad to see so many of the saved and unsaved giving good attention in all the services, and trust that each one and many others, too, will come and be with us next year if the Lord permits.

May the Lord bless each one in the prayer of our heart.  
—Effie Miller

### SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CAMPMEETING REPORT

The campmeeting at Pacoima, Calif. began on Aug. 25, 1961 and continued ten days. The attendance was about as usual except on the two Sundays when the attendance was very good and the chapel was nearly full.

The Word of God was preached with much anointing which proved a real blessing to the saints as they listened. Sinners responded to the Spirit's call and came to the altar, weeping their way to the cross and found the Lord sweet to their souls. Seven followed the Lord in baptism to walk in newness of life. The ordinances of the Lord's House were observed by 129.

More than twenty ministers were present to preach God's eternal truth. The Spirit of the Lord filled the camp all the way through the meeting. Bro. Trotter's daughter led the song service which was a real uplift to the preaching service. Her services were much appreciated.

The weather was nice and cool for the meeting up until the last two days when it became real warm.

—E. M. Zinn

### OREGON ASSEMBLY MEETING NOTICE

The Assembly Meeting at Jefferson, Oregon will be held, Lord willing, November 3 through Nov. 12, 1961.

We are expecting ministers of the Lord's choosing to be with us to bring the Word in all its fullness.

This meeting will be supported, as usual, with free-will offerings. Cabins are available for those who come.

All who need encouragement, or help in soul or body, are invited to attend these services, expecting the Lord to be present to supply your need.

For further information write N. C. White, Rt. 1, Jefferson, or Sister Beatrice Spaur, P. O. Box 254, Jefferson, Ore., or Emma Busch, R. 2, Box 218, Scio, Ore.

### NOTICE

We will board and care for an aged Christian in our home. Write for details to Bro. and Sister Edward J. Cramer, 1310 W. Logan, Guthrie, Okla.

### Observing Your Editor's 80th Birthday

Our father, Fred Pruitt, editor of this paper for the past 38 years, will observe his 80th birthday on Wednesday, Oct. 4, 1961. Especially from the former workers at the office, and anyone else, a card, note, or letter to him at this time would be appreciated. He and his wife will be at home on that day especially to receive visitors.

We want to give our roses to our wonderful father while he is living. He has lived a life of devotion to God, working early and late in publishing the gospel in order to help souls make it into heaven. We love and appreciate him dearly. This note is being slipped on the press at the last moment, hoping that your cards and visits will be a pleasant surprise to him.  
—The Pruitt Children

## TESTIMONIES

Tenn.—Greetings to all the saints: The dear Lord so wonderfully cares for us that I have very much to be thankful for.

I do thank the Lord for permitting us to go to the National Campmeeting at Monark Springs, Mo. this year. The meeting seemed more precious than ever to my soul. I believe I received lasting good. Quite a while before the time for the meeting I was looking to the Lord to provide a way, as I believed it was His will for us to go. I began preparing for the trip. The day before we left the Lord provided us with some money, so I went to the bus depot to get the tickets for my little girl and myself. I found out that the fares were higher than I had expected, and didn't have enough money to get both of them. I went ahead and got mine with faith in God to have the rest to get hers. The Lord provided for her, so the next day we started.

I was trusting the Lord to help us get out to the campground from the bus depot at Neosho, Mo., a distance of five miles. At Neosho I asked the depot agent if he knew the people's name who operated the store near the campground. He told me that the store had gone out of business. But he took it upon himself to call several phone numbers which were those of some of the saints. He called Sister Severs who lives not far from the depot in Neosho. She came down and took us to her house. We rested a while, cleaned up and had a very nice supper. Then she took us out to the campground for the night service. Surely the dear Lord does more for us than we think or ask.

I went to the meeting to learn more about God and His Word, and to work for Him. On the trip I gave out F. & V. papers, tracts and books. Two men were looking for a book in the magazine rack at the bus depot, so I gave each one a book to read.

I trusted the Lord for a way back home, and He wonderfully supplied. We rode with Sister Katherine Key and Sister Sheppard to Thayer, Mo. where we caught the bus on home. At Thayer we had to wait several hours so went out in town and passed out tracts. I love to live for Jesus and to work for Him. I am burdened for lost souls, and want to do my best for Jesus in this life.

When we arrived back home, Mother wanted me to take her to see her sick brother in Rodford, Va. So we were blessed of the Lord to make that trip and work for Him. There is much that needs to be done. I feel that the day is far spent and the night is at hand. There's no time to idle around. Saints, let us be up and about our Father's business.

Let us be true to God and to each other. The devil is doing all he can to destroy faith in God. May the Lord increase our faith in Him and our confidence in one another. Your blood-washed Sister,  
—Nora Clayton

Ohio—Dear Bro. Pruitt and all the workers at the print shop: We send greetings of love in Jesus' dear name.

We feel like writing our testimony this morning to the glory of God with reference to the auto accident we had on our way going to the Boley, Okla. campmeeting. We had gotten six or seven miles out of Decatur, Ill. The time was about six o'clock. An old man who appeared to be about 80 years old was standing by the highway waiting for us to pass. When we got within 40 feet of him he ran out in front of us and stopped. It forced us to take the ditch to keep from killing him. Truly, saints,



the Bible is right where it says to commit your ways to the Lord and He will direct your path. In our case He surely did. Our car turned over six or seven times, and when it stopped we had come out where the windshield had been. (The picture which he sent showed that the car was practically demolished.)

The ambulance came, picked us all up and took us to the Macon County Hospital. The first thing we thought of was spiritual help, so we called (had the nurse call) the printing office at Guthrie, Okla. for special prayer. Sister Miles answered and informed us through the nurse that Bro. Probst, a saint of God, lived in Decatur and for us to call him also. We had the nurse to call them, and, oh, how quickly they responded! The Lord wonderfully touched our bodies as soon as they came and prayed. Thank the Lord and His precious saints!

Saints, we mean to go right on until the crown is won; we mean to fight the fight of faith until life on earth is done. The doctors tried to force us to take medicine, but we refused. Pray for us.

Yours in the One Body, —Bro. & Sister G. A. Johnson

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

Okla.—Dear Saints, greetings in the precious name of Jesus: I am still saved, sanctified and satisfied in Jesus. I mean to make heaven my home. Truly the Lord is good to me.

In the month of May my eyes were giving me so much pain. I had been praying for my healing but it seemed like the pains grew worse. So I began to search my life and talk to the Lord. I told the Lord that I had done all that I knew to do and that I couldn't find any thing wrong in my life that would cause Him to withhold the healing. The Lord showed me that I had not been anointed with oil and prayed for. So I wrote Bro. Pruitt and the saints at the publishing house for an anointed cloth and the Lord healed me. I want to thank all of you for your prayers. Also I am thankful to God for His mercy upon us. I love the Lord and I'm glad I counted the cost.

I have some unspoken requests that I would like for the saints to remember in their prayers.

Your Sister in Christ, —Clara Barnett

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

Oregon—Dear Sister Marie, I greet you in Jesus' dear name: I am thanking the dear Lord for salvation and victory in my soul. He is so good to me.

Yesterday was our all-day meeting here at Jefferson. The Lord surely was with us and sent three good messages—Sister Spaur in the morning, Bro. Kroken in the afternoon, and Bro. Hansel Olsen at night. All three were really anointed. We thank the dear Lord for the ones He has added to our congregation. Sister Grace Jones was with us for the first time in almost a year. Sister Adelia Davis and Sister Greenway from Seattle, and Sister Sorensen from Eugene, Ore. were also with us.

We love our pastor, Sister Spaur, so much. She is so precious, and of course, all the saints are. The sweet love and fellowship is so precious among God's people.

I heard from the Brother in Africa and he had received the tracts and things you sent. He said that nine others and himself were surely enjoying them very much. They received so much good from that tract, "Forty-eight Hours in Hell." Do pray for him and the work he is doing there for the Lord.

May the dear Lord bless all of you there.

In Christian love, —Sister Emma Busch

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

Mont.—Dear Sister Miles, greetings in Jesus' dear name to you and all the dear ones at the Lord's Print Shop:

I want to thank you for your prayers for us during my husband's illness and passing. He slipped quietly from us a month ago. The dear Lord was so good to send Bro. and Sister D. A. Gibson and son to visit us on Friday before he passed away on Wednesday. You can imagine their help in a time like this! Oh, we can't thank our dear Lord enough. Praise His dear name forever!

Please continue to pray for me and mine.

With love,

—Betty Davis

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

Calif.—Dear saints scattered abroad, greetings in Jesus' dear name: Truly my soul is rejoicing today for the goodness of God and what He has done for me. He saved and sanctified my soul in due time. He is a present help in time of need and a refuge in trouble.

I had an affliction on my body—a knot under my arm about the size of a small egg, and more knots extending through my breast. Burning pains went all over my body—in my back, arms, and limbs—and it would make me real sick at times. The pain in my throat and gums was so great that I could hardly eat at times. Bro. Chandler came, and he and Bro. Trotter, my pastor, prayed for me and the knot began to go down, but the pains still held on. I went to the Bakersfield campmeeting and was prayed for there and received strength. I was inspired by Bro. Chandler and Bro. Johnnie Johnson when they testified how the Lord healed them of long standing afflictions. I went to the Pacoima, Calif. campmeeting and received complete healing. Praise the dear Lord! The messages inspired my faith. When the brethren prayed for me, the Lord gave me faith and the healing virtue went through my body and I knew I was healed. I know that the enemy will try to contest me but I mean by God's grace to hold on. Pray that my faith will fail not. I am a living witness that God can heal anything, for He healed cancer for me, and I will never cease to praise Him. His all-seeing eye is running to and fro to show Himself strong toward them that serve Him with a perfect heart. I mean to go through the Bible way.

Your Sister in Christ,

—Laura Nichols

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

Illinois—Dear Saints, greetings in Jesus' precious name: Today finds me saved, sanctified and healed by the power of God. The love and mercy of God for poor, sinful men cannot be fully expressed, but I am surely thankful for salvation. I wish all mankind could know the joy and peace I have within my soul.

The dear Lord healed me of an affliction that kept me in bed most of two months. Many times He showed His power by helping me in answer to prayer, but now I know I have been set free. Praise our God! All praise and honor be to Him. We didn't inquire of a doctor what could be wrong. I knew God knew, and that was enough. I do thank the saints for every prayer they prayed in my behalf. Some of them traveled many hundreds of miles to pray for me, and the saints near here in our little congregation were just wonderful. May God bless every one with His richest blessings.

—Vivian McClain

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

Okla.—Dear saints in Christ, greetings: I thank the Lord for this beautiful day He has spared me to see. I am thankful to say that I am saved and sanctified in His precious name. I mean to go right on until the final victory is won. I am praying the Lord to give me boldness for Him, as I want to be in that number when the saints go marching in.

I thank the Lord for saving my husband but he is



not sanctified. I am praying the Lord to help him and give him more knowledge and understanding of His Word. He was real sick this year before he got saved. Through the saints' prayers the Lord brought him out.

In 1946 I was operated on for gall stones. I was unsaved and afraid, and promised the Lord that if He would let me live I would serve Him. I failed to keep my promise, but the Lord had mercy on me and let me live until I got saved in May, 1958.

My husband's eye sight is poor; he can't see to read. I ask the saints to pray for him. I have children and loved ones out in sin. Please agree in prayer for them.

The Bible says, "Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you." Pray for us that we may be an example before our children and others.

Your Sister in Christ, —Fannie Henderson

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

State Prison—Dear Bro. Pruitt: I want to thank you for your paper.

Please pray for me that I will be healed of arthritis in my right shoulder. I read my Bible every day and I read your book through. I want to give myself to God and serve Him the rest of my days. I go to church here every Sunday. I have a faithful, loving wife and children who are saved, but I let the old devil cause me to backslide. I am sorry and have repented with bitter tears. I am thankful that my dear wife and children are still standing by me.

Yours sincerely, —(Name withheld)

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

Calif.—Dear Bro. Pruitt and all the saints at the Print Shop:

This morning finds me saved and happy in the Lord. I want to tell of some of the things the dear Lord has done for me. I could never tell it all, but He has healed me of so many different things of late. I had trouble with my heart, neck and other things, but praise the Lord, He heard and answered prayer. I feel so good in body and soul. The soul means more than the body. If our hearts are right with God, that is all we need—He will do the rest.

I still have a tumor on my shoulder. It has been there for years, but I am still trusting God to take it away. So please pray for its removal.

We are having wonderful meetings here at Orland. I thank God for His saints. Oh, how wonderful to be in that number when the saints go marching in!

People don't want God out here. But they will want Him to have mercy in that Judgment day. How sad, it will be too late! Pray for my unsaved family that they will get saved before it is too late.

—Sister Ada Leach

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

Mo.—Dear Ones: I wish to tell what the Lord has done for me. He is our present help in time of trouble.

I know that as we grow older we can't always have our parents to help us. Sometimes we must face difficult decisions ourselves. About six weeks ago while at work in the school cafeteria I slipped and fell backwards into some scalding water that was being poured down the drain. The first they did was to rush me to the hospital. The Lord was with me and helped me to get out and come home.

The Lord wonderfully blessed and worked it out so I could be at the Myrtle, Mo. campmeeting.

Pray for me that I will always live for the Lord and be a shining light for Him.

—Ruthie Robinson

Miss.—Greetings in Jesus' dear name: I love every body with a Christian love, even the unlovable. I want to be as the salt of the earth. Even though some may separate us from their company, in the darkest hour we must prove true to Him who has redeemed us and called us to follow Him. I want to go with the Lord all the way by His grace and help. Pray for me.

The Lord has healed me and mine many times. I believe James 5:14-15 and all the remaining verses in the chapter.

Yours in Christ,

Sister J. Strickler

## Hearing and Obeying God's Word

Dear Bro. and Sister Pruitt and the workers at the Print Shop, greetings in Jesus' name: I feel impressed to write to the readers of the "Faith and Victory" paper.

I am glad to report victory in my soul. The Lord has been so good to me. He saves me from all sin, sanctifies my nature, heals my body, and comes to our rescue in time of trouble. In fact, He is all in all to me. I wouldn't know how to live without Him. He has done so much and taught us so many lessons. Praise His dear name forever!

"For God so loved the world"—that is you, me or any body else. It is not God's will that any should perish, but that all should come unto repentance, and be saved from their sins. Such a wonderful Savior that would sacrifice His life for us weak creatures of the earth! May God help each one to realize the greatness of our God.

We realize more and more how nothing we are without the Lord, and we really can't do anything without Him. Some one may say, "I don't depend on God to help me, I don't need Him, and I can get along without Him." But just stop and think for a moment, where does our breath come from? From God. Who makes our heart beat? God does. God supplies the good water we have to drink. He sends the rain and sunshine on the just and on the unjust. There is no one who can get along without God no matter how much they might try to make themselves think they don't need Him. God is everywhere, and doeth all things well for all mankind. And when we see people ride over the mercies of God and go on in their own ways, it grieves our heart and I know it grieves the great heart of God.

May God help each one of His people to live so close to God, be so filled with His love, be so dead to self and all surroundings, be so alive to God and His will for our lives, and follow the example of Jesus so close that we could attract the attention of some that they would want to surrender all and follow Jesus, too.

Another thing that grieves my heart is to see people come to the altar of prayer and get saved, but have never really counted the cost, and in a few days they go back on the Lord, walking in their own ways again. Jesus gave His all—His life on Calvary's cross for the sins of the world. How can we be so careless and heartless! Look, see Him there, hanging on the cross for your sins. Won't you begin to seek the Lord with a desire to serve Him and a determination to go all the way?

There is only one way—that is the Bible way. What the Bible says, we must do. That reminds me of the parable of the sower in Mark 4:3-9. "Hearken, behold, there went out a sower to sow; and it came to pass as he sowed some fell by the way side, and the fowls of the air came and devoured it up. And some fell on stony ground where it had not much earth; and immediately it sprang up, because it had no depth of earth; but when the sun was up,

it was scorched; and because it had no root it withered away. And some fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up, and choked it, and it yielded no fruit. And other fell on good ground, and did yield fruit that sprang up and increased; and brought forth, some thirty, and some sixty, and some a hundred. And he said unto them, He that hath ears to hear let him hear."

In the parable that Jesus gives the sower went out to sow seed. It was all good seed, but some fell by the way side. The seed is the Word of God. They by the way side heard the Word but were not diligent to keep it. Satan came and took the Word away immediately. Some fell on stony ground. They received the Word gladly, but had no root in themselves, so endured only a short time, gave up the Lord and went to serving the devil again. The Word also fell among thorns. They heard the Word, but the cares of life, the deceitfulness of riches, and the lust of other things entered in, and choked the Word, and it became unfruitful. We cannot serve God and mammon. Some seed—the Word of God—fell on good ground. They heard the Word and received it, and brought forth fruit, some thirty fold, some sixty, and some a hundred. May God help us to cultivate the soil of our hearts, so we will have depth of soil to produce fruit for Jesus who is the way, the truth, and the life. "All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out." John 6:37.

When we see the terrible calamities coming upon the earth today, and hear of wars and rumors of wars, it makes us to know that it won't be long until Jesus will come for His spotless, waiting Bride—the Church. The Bible says that when we see all these things come to pass that we should look up, for "our redemption draweth nigh." Oh, how we need to live every day as though it were our last day, so that we will be ready when our call does come.

Isaiah 58:1, "Cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet and shew my people their transgressions, and the house of Jacob their sins." I feel that we need to cry aloud against the things that are wrong—for instance, the practice of women and girls going on the street with scarcely any clothes on. It is a sin, and causes adultery which is another sin. I fear that even some who come among us are leaning that way. I warn you that God is not pleased with it at all. We had better dress modest as the Bible teaches that we should. Read 1 Tim. 2:9. We see these high heels and short dresses. What a shame! I write this for the good of every reader. May God help us to take it as we should. In Gal. 6:7 we read, "Be not deceived, God is not mocked; for whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap."

May God bless this to the good of every soul.

—Mrs. C. D. Dilley

## Satan Is Loosed For a Season

The dragon power (paganism) which persecuted the saints in the morning Church is now working in the world in this "evening time." It was prophesied that Satan was to be loosed for a little season before the end of time. (Rev. 20:7). This same dragon, atheistic spirit and power is now operating in the world under the cloak of Communism and the whole world is being deceived into its clutches. Great distress of nations and people is soon to be upon us. This same dragon is brought to view in Rev. 20:1 which reads thus, "And I saw an angel come down from heaven,

having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain [the gospel] in his hand. [The gospel rejected will bind and cast down]. And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is called [see Rev. 12:9] the devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years." The symbolic manner in which Satan was bound a thousand years took place during the thousand years or long period of the reign of dark Catholicism. The infidel, pagan power was cast down by the faithful saints and was cast into the bottomless pit (was put out of existence), and the beast power of Catholicism was set up covered with a cloak of religion and belief in Christ, and in a general sense there was no more anti-Christ and anti-God infidelity taught. Rev. 20:3 reads, "And cast him into the bottomless pit and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season." That Satan spirit and power is loose now and is now deceiving nations into infidelity and the rejection of God and Christ living in the soul of man. This Satanic spirit is now at work under the cloak of Communism and nations are being deceived. At the present time our nation is tottering under its deceptive influence and power.

Rev. 20:4, "And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them; and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the Word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast [Catholicism], neither his image [sectism, the harlot daughters of Catholicism], neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands, and they [the souls of them that were beheaded] lived and reigned with Christ [in paradise] a thousand years." This is symbolic language and has no reference to a thousand years in a literal sense, as some teach, and claim that Christ will come and reign a thousand years upon this earth. This scripture has reference to the saints who were slain by the pagan and beast power and were reigning with Christ in paradise. Let us read Rev. 6:9, "And when he had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them that were slain for the Word of God, and for the testimony which they held: and they cried with a loud voice, saying, how long, O Lord, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth?"

The symbolical thousand years has reference to that long period of time when Catholicism reigned and ruled in the world, which was a time of spiritual darkness and the true Church was surrounded by a wilderness state, and was bruised and crushed down by a body of carnal, persecuting people who claimed to be the Church, but in fact were nothing more than the great whore, "Mystery, Babylon the Great, the mother of harlots and abominations of the earth." Rev. 17:5.

During this thousand years those souls, disembodied spirits, who had been slain by the pagan and beast powers, were under the altar or in paradise reigning with Christ. The next verse (Rev. 20:5) reads thus; "But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This is the

first resurrection." To make it clearer we could word the last sentence of this verse in this way and not change the meaning, "I am talking about the first resurrection," which is spiritual. During that thousand years of night very few souls were being born again, or in other words, spiritually resurrected in the full sense of the word.

That this "first resurrection" is a spiritual resurrection the Bible bears out very clearly in the 24th and 25th verses of the 5th chapter of John's gospel, which reads thus, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, he that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is [present] passed from death unto life." He is made a new creation. The 25th verse makes it stronger: "Verily, verily, I say unto you, the hour is coming, and now is [present] when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God: and they that hear shall live." This is the first resurrection. This truth is also verified by Paul's statements. In Eph. 2:1 we read, "And you hath he quickened who were dead in trespasses and sins." Also, we read again in Col. 3:1, "If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God."

Let us now read John 5:28 where it is made plain that there will be only one literal resurrection of the dead, which consists of both the righteous and the wicked. Here it is from God's sacred Word: "Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which ALL that are in the graves shall hear his voice [it says, "ALL"], and shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation." How could words express this truth any clearer?

There were very few souls being saved, or resurrected from the dead, during the thousand years' reign of Catholicism, called the ages of spiritual night, when the true Church of God was being trampled on and put under the cruelty of a false religion professing to be the true church. But in the course of time God began to shine light upon some souls to whom He gave boldness to declare it at the risk of their lives. Then men and women began to be resurrected to life again from a dead state of sin to life in God, and this is why the Scripture says, "The rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished," and John the Revelator surely is writing about the first resurrection, which is spiritual.

There will be only one future literal resurrection, and it will consist of both the righteous and the wicked. This also will be the general Judgment day. That doctrine which teaches that Christ will reign in a literal sense on this earth for a thousand years is a false theory, and the enemy has kept it going from the beginning of the formation of the true Church of God, says Eusebius who wrote a history of the Church during its first three hundred years of existence. On page 113 of his book is a record of one by the name of Cerinthus, who revived this false theory in the first century and he is termed by the true Church as "a leader of another heresy." We will here quote Euse-

bius' writing in full on this subject:

"About the same time, we have understood, appeared Cerinthus, the leader of another heresy. Caius, whose words we quoted above, in 'The Disputation' attributed to him, writes thus respecting him: 'But Cerinthus, by means of revelations which he pretended were written by a great apostle, also falsely pretended to wonderful things, as if they were showed him by angels, asserting, that after the resurrection there would be an earthly kingdom of Christ, and that the flesh, i. e. men, again inhabiting Jerusalem, would be subject to desires and pleasures. Being also an enemy to the divine Scriptures, with a view to deceive men, he said that there would be a space of a thousand years for celebrating nuptial festivals.' Dionysius also, who obtained the episcopate to Alexandria in our day, in the second book 'On Promises,' where he says some things as if received by ancient tradition, makes mention of the same man, in these words: 'But it is highly probable that Cerinthus, the same that established the heresy that bears his name, designedly affixed the name (of John) to his own forgery. For one of the doctrines that he taught was, that Christ would have an earthly kingdom. And as he was a voluptuary, and altogether sensual, he conjectured that it would consist in those things that he craved in the gratification of appetite and lust: i. e. in eating, drinking, and marrying, or in such things whereby he supposed these sensual pleasures might be presented in more decent expressions; viz. in festivals, sacrifices, and the slaying of victims.' Thus far Dionysius. But Irenaeus, in his first book against heresies, adds certain false doctrines of the man, though kept more secret, and gives a history in his third book, that deserves to be recorded, as received by tradition from Polycarp. He says that John the apostle once entered a bath to wash; but ascertaining Cerinthus was within, he leaped out of the place, and fled from the door, not enduring to enter under the same roof with him, and exhorted those with him to do the same, saying, 'Let us flee, lest the bath fall in, as long as Cerinthus, that enemy of the truth, is within.'"

—Fred Pruitt

(Editor's note:—The above article is copied from the new book which we have written entitled, "The Past, Present and Future of the Church," containing 14 chapters in 72 pages. The above article is the 8th chapter. This book will be postpaid to any address in the U. S. at 50c for single copy, or three books for \$1.00. Quite a few have already ordered the book and we are sending them out just as fast as the orders come in.

This book not only tells of the Church but also shows up the work of Satan under a religious cloak. It tells about the wicked city of Cain, the great city wherein the Lord was crucified, and how that great city, according to the scripture, is now divided into three parts. But Satan is so working among them that in time he will put to silence two voices, making one out of the three. You can read about the dividing of this great city in Rev. 16:19.

We feel that every saint or person who desires to keep out of the traps and snares of Satan should have one of these books and also some to give to their friends. Order these books today and keep posted as to what is going on in the ecclesiastical heavens.)

## The Prince of Peace Versus War

Let us accept for our authority the teachings and example of Jesus Christ, the Founder of the true Church and the Prince of Peace, and consider the teachings and practices of the apostles and saints of the early morning Church. Many may want to take an easier way, the way of least resistance, the way the majority are going, and the way which shuns the reproach of the cross of Christ, but it is certain that all who "live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution."

Jesus' sermon on the Mount, as recorded in the 5th, 6th, and 7th chapters of Matthew, sets forth the rules of Christian conduct. Relative to the Christian doctrine of nonresistance, let us read what Jesus taught. "But I say unto you, that ye resist not evil [nonresistance]; but whosoever shall smite thee on the right cheek, turn to him the other also. Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them which despitefully use you and persecute you; that ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven; for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust. For if ye love them which love you, what reward have ye? Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect." Matt. 5:39, 44-48. "And as ye would that men should do to you, do ye also to them likewise." Luke 6:31. This might more correctly be termed the "forgotten rule" because of its widespread, universal violation today. When Jesus sent the disciples forth to preach the gospel, He said, "Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves: be ye therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves. But when they persecute you in this city, flee [non-resistance] ye into another." Matt. 10:16, 23. When Jesus was on trial before Pilate, He answered, "My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from hence." John 18:36. Are you in Christ's kingdom in which His servants do not fight? At the time Jesus was arrested, Peter, under the influence of the carnal nature, drew his sword and cut off the ear of the high priest's servant. "Then Jesus said unto him, Put up again thy sword into his place: for all they that take the sword shall perish [be lost] with the sword." Matt. 26:52. After Pentecost Peter had no more use for carnal weapons. Jesus commanded the disciples, "Go ye into all the world," and that includes other nations, even though they be enemies,—not with sword or gun, but with the gospel (good news) of salvation.

Let us notice the teachings of the Apostles, for they agree with the teachings of Jesus. Paul writes, "Bless them which persecute you, bless, and curse not. Recompense to no man evil for evil. Avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath; for it is written, Vengeance is mine: I will repay, saith the Lord. Therefore, if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink; for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head. Be not overcome of evil,

but overcome evil with good." Rom. 12:14, 17, 19-21. Peter writes: "Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example that ye should follow in his steps: who, when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not." 1 Peter 2:21, 23. "Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord." Heb. 12:14.

### The Practice of the Early Church

The foregoing is what Jesus and the apostles taught and practiced. Now let us notice how these truths were interpreted and practiced in the early morning Church, as recorded by the church fathers and historians.

In Cadaux' *History of the Church* is found documentary evidence from the church fathers that for the first two and one-half centuries when a soldier was converted he left the army.

We now quote from West's *World Progress* history which was the Oklahoma state-adopted text when (1928) the writer attended high school: "Clean lives marked the early Christians to a notable degree. The Christians kept apart from most public amusements. This made Christians seem unsocial. Also, because Christ had preached peace, many Christians refused to join the legions, or to fight, if drafted. These 'pacifists' and 'conscientious objectors' irritated their neighbors by even refusing to illuminate their houses or garland their portals in honor of national triumphs."

Myers' *General History* records the following: "Christianity had come into the world as a religion of peace and good will. The Master had commanded His disciples to put up the sword and had forbidden its use by them, either in the spread or in the defense of the new faith. For three centuries now His followers had obeyed literally this injunction of the Founder of the Church, so that a Quaker, non-military spirit had up to this time (A.D. 312) characterized the new sect. By many of the early Christians the profession of arms had been declared to be incompatible with the Christian life."

### How Practice Changed to That of Today

These historical records show clearly that a non-resistant, non-military spirit prevailed generally in the early Church for three centuries. Now let us notice how and who accepted the military spirit into nominal Christianity. As the Bible student well knows, the seeds of apostasy began to grow in the time of the Apostle Paul and John the Revelator. The leaven of spiritual decay spread gradually but surely. Christianity (so-called) became so popular that by A.D. 306, when Constantine the Great succeeded to the throne as emperor of the Roman Empire, he became a Christian by profession, but not by practice, and is known as the first Christian emperor. Christianity by him was made the state religion, and he also recognized the Christian Sunday, the first day of the week, as a day of rest, forbidding ordinary work on that day.

Constantine had several rivals for the imperial throne, and he fought to hold his position. One of the most important of the battles was that of Melvian

Bridge, about two miles from Rome. The historian, Myers, says: "Constantine's standard on this celebrated battlefield was the Christian cross. He had been led to adopt this emblem through the appearance, as once he prayed to the sun-god, of a cross over the setting sun, with the inscription above it: 'In this sign conquer.' Obedient unto the celestial vision, Constantine had at once made the cross his banner, and it was beneath this new emblem that his soldiers marched to victory at the battle of the Melvian Bridge."

Myers further states: "This act of Constantine constitutes a turning point in the history of the Christian Church. The most sacred emblem of the new faith was made a battle standard, and into the new religion was infused the military spirit of the imperial government that had made that emblem the ensign of the state. From the day of the battle at the Melvian Bridge a martial spirit has animated the religion of the Prince of Peace. Since then Christian [?] warriors have often made the cross their battle standard."

From then until the present, most of Christendom, both Catholic and Protestant, participate in military service and enter into the war efforts of their respective nations. Even so-called holiness movements, some passively and some positively, glorify war from the pulpit and press, and they "whose minds are blinded by the god of this world," say that Jesus' Sermon on the Mount is not applicable to our age. Some would place loyalty to country above loyalty to God, concluding that one who dies in defense of his country has a sure passport to heaven.

### What Is War?

War is the enemy of all Christian ideals. War means all that Jesus did not stand for. It is the complete reversal of the Christian attitude toward life. Instead of ministering to and healing the wounds of man, experiments and research are made as to how greater and more deadly wounds can be inflicted. The Chief of Chaplains of the U. S. Army is quoted as saying that "War is a nasty, dirty, destructive, damnable business." If he is right in his description—and I think he is—then some good (?) folk have gone into a terrible business.

The scriptures most commonly used to support participation in carnal warfare are Rom. 13:1-6 and 1 Peter 2:13-17. The argument usually presented is that the "Christian" must be subject "to the powers that be" and this includes taking part in carnal warfare at the command of that government of which he is a citizen. To accept this interpretation would require the true Christians of ALL THE NATIONS engaged in war to fight for their respective governments, with the result that brethren in Christ would meet on the battlefield, seeking to kill and destroy one another. Such a course is unthinkable, for it would violate every cardinal teaching of Christ. In Rom. 13:1-6 the thought that the Christian should participate in carnal warfare at the command of the "powers that be" is not under consideration by the Apostle; but the opposite is taught, as is clearly shown

by reading the preceding chapter and the verses following the 6th verse of the 13th chapter. It reveals an unbroken line of truth relative to love in action to our brethren, our neighbor, our enemy, and to all men, and leaves no room for vengeance or retaliation of any kind. However, it is the Christian's duty to faithfully obey the State in all requirements which do not involve a violation of the New Testament teachings. But he must obey God rather than man when the demands of the State conflict with his supreme loyalty to Christ. Government is ordained of God, especially for the punishment of evil doers. God's people is a called-out, holy nation, separate in spirit from the world, and whose "citizenship is in heaven."

Some try to justify fighting by the Old Testament practice of warfare, forgetting that "the times of this ignorance God winked at: but now commandeth all men everywhere to repent." Acts 17:30. The Israelites under the Old Testament were permitted to go to war only by specific Divine appointment or commission. When they went to battle out of Divine order, they were defeated. No such Divine sanction has ever been made by the Lord in the New Testament dispensation. On the contrary, the use of military force or violence as pertaining to God's people was annulled by the Lord's Sermon on the Mount, as was also the practice of polygamy.

### Consenting or Aiding in the Deed

Some will say that we all help in wars—by paying taxes, etc. That is true, more or less, but the responsibility is on those who spend the tax money. Here are some points to consider relative to paying taxes. First, taxes are levied for collection—not a voluntary contribution—and, second, Jesus, by precept and example, teaches us to pay taxes. Luke 20:20-25; Matt. 17:27.

There are those who feel their conscience allows them to accept non-combatant service in the military. Saul of Tarsus, evidently in "all good conscience" thought within himself "that I ought to do many things contrary to the name of Jesus." Acts 26:9. In this thought he persecuted the unresisting church, "and when they were put to death, I [Saul] gave my voice against them." He "kept the raiment of them who slew" Stephen, "consenting unto his death." But later, when awakened, he sensed his guilt of the blood of Stephen, and says he "obtained mercy because he did it ignorantly in unbelief."

On a large bill-board were these words: "The war bonds you hold are fighting bonds." Perhaps you would not fight, but will loan your money to carry on the fight. War plant or defense workers are termed "soldiers on the home front," and surely they are as necessary for the prosecution of war as the soldiers who use the weapons on the battle front. However, farming and producing food for general use is not necessarily considered as directly engaged in the war effort.

In 1 John 3:8 we read, "For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil." God is not the author of war,

nor the creator of any implement for waging war. Therefore, war and all things pertaining thereto, must necessarily be the works of the devil. How can professed children of God knowingly and willingly aid in and help carry on that which Christ came to destroy? "In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil." 1 John 3:10.

### No Hope for Permanent World Peace

Peace is derived only from a right condition of the heart and mind. War and fighting will continue as long as man possesses the carnal nature or the principle of sin in the heart. Ever since Cain slew his brother Abel, there have been fighting and killing in the course of history, and such a condition will exist as long as the world stands, regardless of the number of peace conferences held or the scope of economic and political adjustments. Not for long can peace be enforced with the threat of retaliation.

### The Attitude and Hope of God's People

One may ask, what should be the Christian's attitude toward war? The negative attitude is to refuse to participate in military service in any form or to aid in the war effort, and on the positive side to renounce war and work for its elimination by teaching and living the gospel of Christ which alone brings peace and good will to man. Constructive non-resistance means overcoming evil with good.

There is hope and comfort for the true children of God who face these conditions. We who are of faith know "we look for a better country, that is an heavenly," and "confess that we are strangers and pilgrims on the earth." We already enjoy the "peace that passeth understanding." We already have the "victory that overcometh the world, even our faith." The freedom we declare is "that we are made free from the law of sin and death." The liberty we share is that we are "delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God." Thank the Lord!

—Lawrence D. Pruitt

## BIBLE STUDY

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

October 1, 1961

### HOW JESUS GREW

Printed Portion ..... Luke 2:39-52

Luke 2:39. And when they had performed all things according to the law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own city Nazareth.

40. And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom: and the grace of God was upon him.

41. Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the feast of the passover.

42. And when he was twelve years old, they went up to Jerusalem after the custom of the feast.

43. And when they had fulfilled the days, as they returned, the child Jesus tarried behind in Jerusalem; and Joseph and his mother knew not of it.

44. But they, supposing him to have been in the company, went a day's journey; and they sought him among their kinsfolks and acquaintance.

45. And when they found him not, they turned back again to Jerusalem, seeking him.

46. And it came to pass, that after three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the doctors, both hearing them, and asking them questions.

47. And all that heard him were astonished at his understanding and answers.

48. And when they saw him, they were amazed: and his mother said unto him, Son, why hast thou thus dealt with us? behold, thy father and I have sought thee sorrowing.

49. And he said unto them, How is it that ye sought me? wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?

50. And they understood not the saying which he spake unto them.

51. And he went down with them, and came to Nazareth, and was subject unto them: but his mother kept all these sayings in her heart.

52. And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man.

Memory Verse: The child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom: and the grace of God was upon him. Luke 2:40.

Practical Truth: The growth of Jesus in wisdom, as well as in physical strength, reveals the fact that His humanity was real.

### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

The subject of our lessons of this last quarter of the year is Christian growth. We do not grow into justification or sanctification because they are two definite instantaneous experiences in the soul from God. But after we have full salvation, which includes both experiences, we are just then ready to grow in the Lord.

"At twelve a Jewish boy became a son of the law, with responsibility of a man." (Bruce).

Our lesson today is about "how Jesus grew." Jesus was one child that needed no salvation. He was one whose nature had never been touched by sin. He was the Son of God as well as the son of man. Yet he needed to develop physically and mentally. As he grew up, he learned many facts about the Old Testament and the interpretations given by the rabbis concerning the world about him. He did not have the wisdom and knowledge of a full-grown man when he was a child. He "increased in wisdom . . . and in favor with God." We know that God always looked upon him with favor, but as he grew and always chose the right Jesus increased in favor with his heavenly Father. We remember that God one time spoke from heaven and said, "This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased." At that time Jesus had grown to the point and his character had been tested that it brought the blessings of God upon Him, more so than the untested character of the babe.

The Father gave to His Son directly the deep truths that He taught. He spoke as God spoke to Him. (John 12:49).

October 8, 1961

### HOW CHRISTIANS GROW

Printed Portion ..... Phillippians 3:8-17

Phil. 3:8. Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my



Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ,

9. And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith:

10. That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;

11. If by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead.

12. Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus.

13. Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before,

14 I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

15. Let us therefore, as many as be perfect, be thus minded: and if in any thing ye be otherwise minded, God shall reveal even this unto you.

16. Nevertheless, whereto we have already attained, let us walk by the same rule, let us mind the same thing.

17 Brethren, be followers together of me, and mark them which walk so as ye have us for an ensample.

**Memory Verse:** I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. Phil. 3:14.

**Practical Truth:** The growth of a Christian should be toward a definite goal.

#### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

We notice that Bro. Paul added up the things in his life until he accepted Christ as his personal Saviour and the answer was a great loss. In comparing them with what he had gained through Christ they meant nothing. Material wealth, the honors of this world, a life of comfort and ease, and the satisfaction of a home was given up. He had turned away from his own righteousness, which the Bible says is "filthy rags." Only the righteousness that comes down from above through faith would satisfy him. He had made a decision. He had a goal in view. He knew the quickening power of God in his soul. He had been made a "new creature in Christ Jesus." Having had a part in the first resurrection, he was ready for the second resurrection, to a life beyond the grave of everlasting bliss.

Notice in the 13th and 14th verses the three important things Paul does. First, he forgot those things which are behind. Second, he reached forth or looked ahead to those things which God had promised. Third, he pressed. This is the condition each one of us has to get into before we can grow in the Lord. After a person has been forgiven of his actual transgressions and cleansed by the Holy Spirit, he must keep his face set toward heaven. You will be stronger after going through a battle than you were before.

October 15, 1961

#### GROWTH IN KNOWLEDGE OF GOD

Printed Portion .....Matthew 5:17-20, 38-48

Matt. 5:17. Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil.

18 For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.

19. Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

20 For I say unto you, That except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven.

Matt. 5:38. Ye have heard that it hath been said, An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth:

39. But I say unto you, That ye resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also.

40. And if any man will sue thee at the law, and take away thy coat, let him have thy cloke also.

41. And whosoever shall compel thee to go a mile, go with him twain.

42. Give to him that asketh thee, and from him that would borrow of thee turn not thou away.

43. Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbour, and hate thine enemy.

44. But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;

45. That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust.

46. For if ye love them which love you, what reward have ye? do not even the publicans the same?

47. And if ye salute your brethren only, what do ye more than others? do not even the publicans so?

48. Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect.

**Memory Verse:** Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. Matt. 22:37.

**Practical Truth:** Christian maturity should be accompanied by a satisfying fellowship with God.

#### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Those who lived under the law were justified as they kept the law, but now Jesus has come. He is expecting more of us. We cannot live under the law or make a pattern of righteousness for ourselves to follow, but we must have a personal knowledge of God. Knowing that God has dealt with our soul, that we have followed His Spirit into justification and have been filled with the Holy Spirit, it gives us a foundation upon which to build or grow. We could not keep the truths given to us in our lesson unless we have this foundation.

The Word of God—the Bible—was written under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, and we need the Holy Spirit to reveal it to us. The work of the Holy Spirit is "to guide us into all truth." Not only do we need to read the Word of God and meditate upon it in order to grow in knowledge of God, but we need the Holy Spirit.

We should have a vital and satisfying prayer life in order to grow in the knowledge of God. The more we lift up our hearts in prayer, supplication and thanksgiving to the Lord the more we acknowledge our dependence upon Him. This pleases the heavenly Father and it invokes His blessings upon our soul.



October 22, 1961

## GROWTH IN CHRISTIAN RELATIONSHIPS

Printed Portion .....Colossians 3:8-17

Col. 3:8. But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth.

9. Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds;

10. And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him:

11. Where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond nor free: but Christ is all, and in all.

12. Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering;

13. Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye.

14. And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness.

15. And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.

16. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

17. And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.

**Memory Verse:** Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others. Phil. 2:4.

**Practical Truth:** As Christians grow, they should have a more profound respect for the convictions of their fellow Christians and should strive to live in peace with them.

## COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Our lesson brings out the truth of how people need to change their clothes of sin, which are dirty, filthy and ragged, and put on the clean, white robes of righteousness. (Rev. 3:4-5; Matt. 22:3-14).

Malice is in the heart of the angry person—a desire to do something spiteful. Taking God's name in vain or saying something filthy will come forth from the person that has on the clothing of sin.

Our lesson tells us what kind of clothing to "put on." I am sure you will agree that it is a beautiful garment. Then the climax of the lesson is: "Above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness." Oh, the love of God in the heart is a wonderful virtue. Love is the essence of all God-given blessings. Love binds everything together in perfect harmony.

Notice the word "let" in the two verses, 15-16. How wonderful it is to "let" the peace of God rule our lives and the Word of Christ dwell in us.

October 29, 1961

## THE CHURCH AND CHRISTIAN GROWTH

Printed Portion .....1 Corinthians 12:12-27

1 Cor. 12:12. For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body; so also is Christ.

13. For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.

14. For the body is not one member, but many.

15. If the foot shall say, Because I am not the hand, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body?

16. And if the ear shall say, Because I am not the eye, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body?

17. If the whole body were an eye, where were the hearing? If the whole were hearing, where were the smelling?

18. But now hath God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him.

19. And if they were all one member, where were the body?

20. But now are they many members, yet but one body.

21. And the eye cannot say unto the hand, I have no need of thee: nor again the head to the feet, I have no need of you.

22. Nay, much more those members of the body, which seem to be more feeble, are necessary;

23. And those members of the body, which we think to be less honourable, upon these we bestow more abundant honour; and our uncomely parts have more abundant comeliness.

24. For our comely parts have no need: but God hath tempered the body together, having given more abundant honour to that part which lacked:

25. That there should be no schism in the body; but that the members should have the same care one for another.

26. And whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; or one member be honoured, all the members rejoice with it.

27. Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular.

**Memory Verse:** Those members of the body, which seem to be more feeble, are necessary. 1 Cor. 12:22.

**Practical Truth:** As part of the body of Christ, we should strive to live in a way pleasing to Him.

## COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Our lesson compares the saved people or the body of Christ to the human body. Christ had only one body. We have only one body. There is only one spiritual body in the world today, which is the Church of God. The saved people are each one individual members in the one Body of Christ. Just as the human body works together so the body of saved people work together. This makes a beautiful, visible picture in the world today. All members are important. God places them in the body as it pleases Him. He gives gifts, and when each one works at what the Lord by His Spirit leads him to do, it brings harmony and unity.

In the human body, when you hit your finger accidentally with the hammer the other hand grabs that finger in sympathy. Just so, when a member in the body of Christ suffers the other members are touched and go to see how they can help. When one member is honored, the others rejoice with it. The body of Christ is knit together with love, and the Holy Spirit is the motivating force of the whole body. If you tend to be critical, slack, or have a drawback, it will throw you out of joint with the body. God cannot use a swollen, proud member any more than we can use our arm when it is swollen. So may God help us to keep humble and work in our place.

—Sister Marie Miles