

FAITH ^{AND} VICTORY

Church of God Servant



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A Bright New Year

Step by step, with silent tread,
The old year slipped away;
Just a minute at the time,
And then by hour and day.

The old year died; it is no more,
Nor will it ever be.
It has joined the years that went before
To a past eternity.

And now a new year shining bright
And clear as the deep blue sky
Is given to this world of ours
From the hand of God on high.

But what it holds within its store,
No human tongue can tell;
The One that gave the year to us,
He knows it very well.

We may not as we desire,
Just quite effect our plans;
But this we know our life and all
Are in His loving hands.

And He will do that which is the best
According to His will;
Although we may not understand,
By faith we'll trust Him still.

And through this year, if we should live,
We trust that we shall be
Directed by His hand divine
In each activity.

—Ulysses Phillips

Solemn Questions of Life

The old year with its sorrows, suffering, loss, disappointments, gain, joys, peace and everything else is in the past. Those neglected opportunities for doing good will never return.

As we step over the threshold into the new year, no doubt we find ourselves wishing that certain things had never happened in the old year. Perhaps some of us have made new decisions to live a more devoted life to God this year than we have lived in the past. These good resolutions will not amount to anything unless we put them in action.

How much closer are we now living to the Lord this year than we were a year ago? Have we examined ourselves to see whether we are where the Lord wants us to be? What we need today is more God in our lives, a closer walk with Him—a Spirit-filled life. We should put on the whole armour of God and fight the good fight of faith. Can we truly say with Paul, "I have fought a good fight, I have kept the faith?"

In 2 Cor. 13:5 the Apostle Paul exhorted the Corinthians to "examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves." This injunction applies to us today as well. Have we taken a complete inventory of our lives? Have we thoroughly examined our own selves whether we be in the faith? Are we examining our lives daily? How about our conversation, foolish talking and jesting which are not convenient?

Every business firm takes an inventory of their stock to see how much is on hand, sold, dead stock, expenses, profit and loss. How much more should we be concerned about our own spiritual condition—our relationship with God and our fellow-man? How much is on hand of love, faith, patience, meekness, brotherly kindness, endurance and forbearance? How about our daily prayer life and devotions?

A merchant who has confidence in his goods he is offering for sale knows he has something that the people want and will buy. How about our own religious profession and contact with God? Will it take us through the hour of death and stand uncondemned before the Judgment bar of God? Is it worth offering to others? Do we possess something that others would like to have also? Is Christ really living within us? Is He our personal Saviour, Guide and Counselor?

"Dead stock" is old merchandise, out of date, damaged, carried over from year to year, or goods not wanted. It is an expense—a loss to the firm. Dear friend, could it be possible that we may have just a mere profession, lean in our soul, going on from year to year, and not being fully dedicated and consecrated to God and His service? If so, it has been a loss—a detriment to our life. We possess something that others do not want. We are not the inspiration to others that we should be.

Have we made any spiritual gain in the last year? Have we grown in grace? Do we have more victory in our soul over sin and Satan? Can we really testify with fullness of joy to the glory of Jesus Christ and tell what the Lord has done for us?

What is your answer to these questions now, and how will you answer them before God in the final day of Judgment?

Jesus Will Give You Rest

Dear reader, are you in sin with a heavy heart full of sorrow and trouble and can't see any way out? Is your grief and sorrow so great that you have no one who can share them? Perhaps you are in sin and feel that no one cares for you, and that you cannot tell anyone the burden of your heart.

But listen, my friend, there is One who knows, who cares and who understands. You can come to Him and find rest, peace and joy in your soul. He will forgive your sins and heal your broken heart. That One is Jesus Christ. He came to save his people "from their sins" (Matt. 1:21) and to heal the broken-hearted. (Luke 4:18). So listen now to the good news. Jesus has not slighted you, for He has given you a wonderful invitation. He says in Matt. 11:28, "Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest." Yes, Jesus will give you that rest and peace that you need. Just come to Him in prayer. Repent and forsake your sins. Confess them to Jesus and ask Him for pardon and salvation through the atoning blood of Christ. He will save you from your sins and give you that rest and peace "that passeth understanding."

You cannot deliver yourself. Satan has bound your soul in sin. Read again the wonderful deliverance promised in Luke 4:18. Jesus came to deliver the captives who are under the bondage of Satan and sin. The devil will discourage the captives and make them think that there is no way out, but don't listen to him. There is hope and help for you.

Come to Jesus while you have time and opportunity. Today is the day of salvation. Jesus loves you and His people love you. Come to Him now! Don't wait until too late. The Lord is not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance. (2 Peter 3:9). So don't be discouraged; there is peace and joy for you. When you are made a new creature in Christ (2 Cor. 5:17) all the old sinful things will pass away.

But if you die in your sins, there is no more hope—no more chance after death. Only everlasting

punishment will await you then. How sad! Read Matt. 25:46.

May God help you to come to Him before too late that you may have peace and rest here in this world and a home in Heaven when this life is over.

One who loves your soul, —Sister Becky Barnes

Deceitfulness of Material Gain

I feel led to warn you about the cares of life and the deceitfulness of riches. Read 1 Tim. 6:5, "Perverse disputings of men of corrupt minds, and destitute of the truth, supposing that gain is godliness: from such withdraw thyself." Some seem to think that because they are prospering in this world's gain that they are spiritual. But this verse says, "Supposing that gain is godliness." Suppositions are oftentimes untrue; therefore they are unsafe to place our soul's welfare upon. "But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out." 1 Tim. 6:6, 7. The rich will be paupers when they leave this world. There are no pockets in a shroud. We will take nothing with us when we leave this world; we will have to leave it all behind.

"For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows." 1 Tim. 6:10. It is sad to think of many who are getting their mind on the cares of life too much, and are not spiritual like they used to be. The 11th verse says, "But thou, O man of God, flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness." The true riches of God's grace are so much more important than the things of this life. Matt. 6:19 says: "Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt and where thieves break through and steal: but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through and steal." In Luke 21:34 Jesus says: "And take heed unto yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares." In verse 36 He says again, "Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the son of man."

Solomon, the wise man, wrote in Eccl. 2:11, "Then I looked on all the works that my hands had wrought, and on the labours that I had laboured to do: and behold, all was vanity and vexation of spirit, and there was no profit under the sun." Jesus asked this solemn question in regard to gain: "For what is a man advantaged, if he gain the whole world, and lose himself, or be cast away?"

Oh, dear ones, let us take heed to these precious Scriptures, lest we be taken up with the cares of life, and lose our soul in the end. Lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven and be ready to go where your treasures are when Jesus comes again.

May God bless every one. —Murphy Allen

Christ And The Church

"This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning **Christ and the church.**" Eph. 5:32. In this 5th chapter of Ephesians we not only see the original design in the marriage institution, but also the primary subject of the union of Christ and His Church.

In John 3:29 we see the Church as the Bride (wife) and Christ as the Bridegroom (husband). Then in Rev. 19:7 we see the consummation of the marriage: "Let us be glad and rejoice and give honor to him; for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready." In Rev. 21:9 the Church is called the "Lamb's wife." Christ truly hath redeemed His Church by His own blood, "... arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints." Rev. 19:8.

In Matt. 16:16 Peter confessed: "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God." The subject was the Rock, as the poet says: "Jesus is the Rock where we safely rest." Also the prophets spoke of this Rock in numerous places—Psa. 18:2; 42:9; Isa. 8:14; 28:16; Rom. 8:14; 1 Peter 2:6. Paul speaks out, "... and that Rock was Christ." 1 Cor. 10:4. Then answered Jesus: "Upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." Matt. 16:18. Peter's faith was later so firm and stable that he also signified a stone or rock. In Eph. 2:20 we also read of the Church, the household of God: "And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone."

Returning to the text concerning Christ and the Church (the Bridegroom and the Bride), we shall speak of the home, the nation, and the Church. With reference to the mothers of America the motto used to say: "The hand that rocks the cradle rules the world." Sad to say, this power has largely crumbled, for it has lost its value in millions of homes, and the divorce courts have become a menace to the nation.

Let us notice the Apostle Paul's great concern about this chaste virgin to Christ: "For I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to **one husband**, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ." 2 Cor. 11:2 Note that Paul says, "ONE" husband; also that he had them espoused (engaged) to Christ as a pure Bride to her "one" husband, meaning to be converted to Christ or Christianity, as Matthew Henry puts it: "The conversion of a soul is its marriage to the Lord Jesus."

Paul's jealousy was mixed with love and fear—love, because of being married to the true Christ (the "one" husband), and fear, because of that false divorce doctrine which is that other gospel (Gal. 1:8, 9). It is a curse and always causes trouble for this married couple. The bride of Christ (Church) must be a chaste virgin (who knew no other man), clean, pure and spotless. By this we see that if one is united with Christ, married to this "one" husband, and ever dissolves this unity, she can never marry "another Christ." Thus we see that the design of our marriage to Christ is for life. There is no ex-

ception in this marriage. If a separation ever takes place, she must remain separate or be reconciled to Christ, her husband. 1 Cor. 7:11. There is no other true husband (Christ) for her to marry.

With reference to the natural marriage institution, the acceptance of the idea of divorce and re-marriage would never harmonize with this spiritual marriage of Christ and the Church.

In Romans 7:1-3 we see a clear illustration. Perhaps you may say that this passage is not speaking on marriage. Paul very emphatically is illustrating the way of freedom under grace from the law of Moses by using the marriage institution founded on God's Word in the beginning, and no better design could be placed than the marriage covenant, for marriage is also a law. We find that the commandments in the Old Testament were ceremonial laws, and Paul is showing how that the law has dominion over a man as long as it lives. This must be accepted as a marriage to the law. We also notice that this law marriage was binding until the death of the law. In this new or second marriage we are "redeemed from the curse of the law." This cannot take place until the law is dead. There can be no marriage to Christ until the law, the first husband, is dead. In verse 2, Paul makes this plain that the woman is bound to her husband during his lifetime. "So then if, while her husband liveth, she be married to another man, **she shall be called an adulteress**: but if the husband be dead, she is free from that law." Therefore, we repeat that our second marriage is to Christ, but the law must first be dead before we can be married to Christ. In verse 4 we read: "Brethren, ye also are become dead to the law by the body of Christ; that ye should be married to another, even to him who is raised from the dead, that we should bring forth fruit unto God."

When Paul treated on the subject of marriage in 1 Cor. 7:39 he brought forth practically the same thought: "The wife is bound by the law as long as her husband liveth; but if her husband be dead, she is at liberty to be married to whom she will; only in the Lord."

In this illustration by the original marriage institution, the Apostle Paul leaves no place for divorce and re-marriage, which would be adultery.

Let us notice the Lord's pleading in Israel's day: "Turn, O backsliding children, saith the Lord; for I am married unto you." Jer. 3:14. Here God reckons Israel as His married wife even though she was unfaithful. He calls her a treacherous wife, but yet His wife. He will not disown the relationship—the marriage covenant. No, God never divorced His wife, though treacherous as she was. Her death by the offering of the body of Christ ended that relationship and brought the new covenant dispensation into reality. The middle wall of partition between the Jew and Gentile was abolished. The carnal and ceremonial ordinances of the law of Moses were nailed to His cross and extinguished. Then, and only then, did the Bridegroom marry his second wife—the New

(Continued on Page Four, Col. 2)

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Its motto: Have faith in God. Its object: The glory of God and the salvation of men; the promulgation and restoration of the whole truth to the people in this "evening time" as it was in the morning church of the first century; the unification of all true believers in one body by the love of God. Its standard: Separation from the sinful world and entire devotion to the service and will of God. Its characteristics: No discipline but the Bible, no bond of union but the love of God; no test of fellowship but the indwelling Spirit of Christ; and separation from all secret and religious orders organized and governed by man.

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CHRIST AND THE CHURCH (Cont'd from Page 3)

Testament Church. Israel with her ceremonies was "a shadow of good things to come"—the beautiful Bride of Christ—the Church.

The unity of Christ and the Church is a great mystery—"For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones. For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh." Eph. 5:30, 31. We observe that Paul is speaking primarily of the marriage relation of Christ and the Church right in the midst of the subject of the marriage relation between man and woman. While there can be no divorce and re-marriage in the Christ-Church institution, neither can there be between husband and wife and still retain salvation. —Levi Bontrager

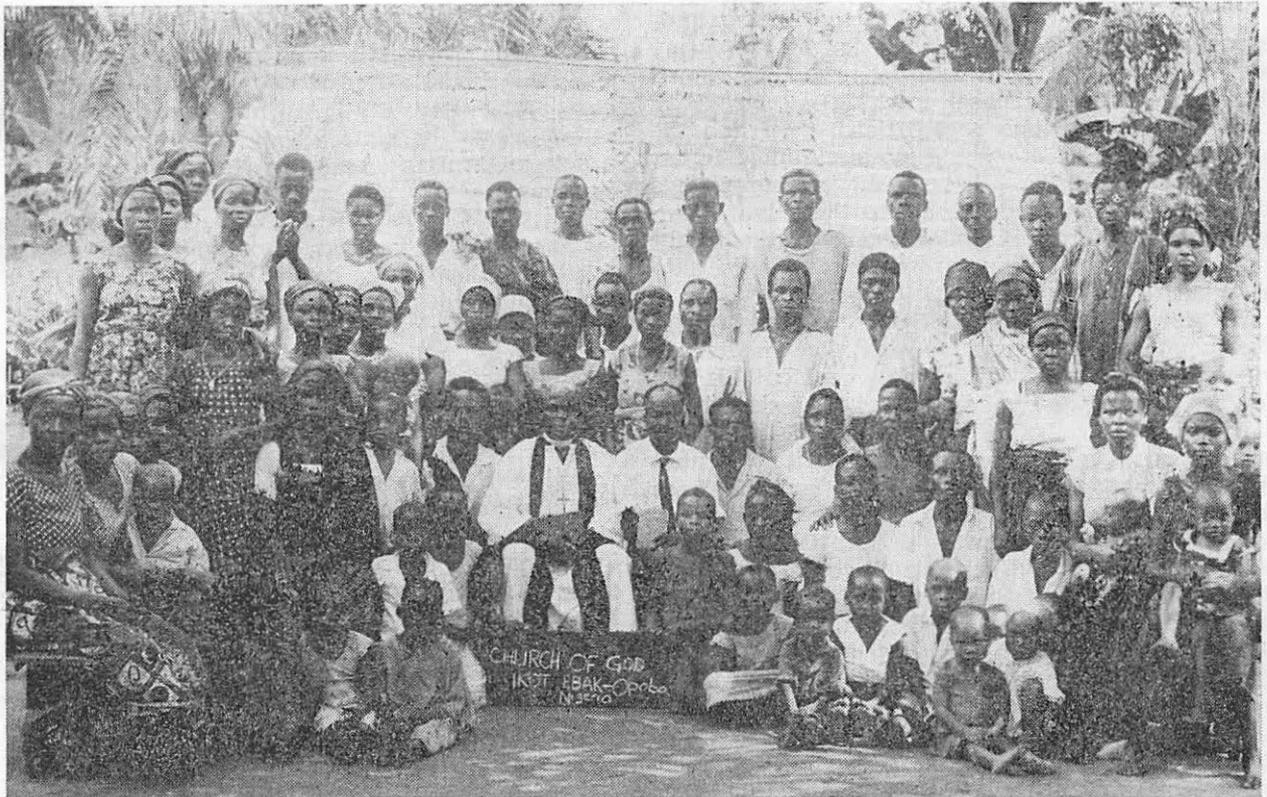
The Church of God Chapel at Guthrie, Oklahoma is located on the corner of Sixth and W. Warner. The congregation welcomes you. —Bro. Ira D. Stover, Pastor
417 N. 13th, P. O. Box 210, Phone BUTler 2-3244

**Beginning To Print The Paper,
"Faith and Victory"**

(Chapter 12)

When (1923) we began to print the "Faith and Victory" paper, we met with discouragement on every hand and from many sources—from some who ought to have loved the truth. But God had His hand upon the work, and in due time others began to see and love the truth which the literature contained. The subscriptions kept coming in and the truth found its way into the hearts of honest souls. More evangelists responded to the divine call to labor in the field, and more campmeetings came into existence. The saints in general rallied to the truth as they realized it was a faith work given of God.

During these years, as the Gospel Trumpet people as a whole drifted farther and farther into the world, some of the more honest souls began to split from that body and form themselves into a clan of their own. But they had drifted so far from the original truth, had so many things of a worldly nature attached to them, that they are now drifting along with the current of the world and will continue to drift. However, there are some who are really getting back to the truth taught by Bro. D. S. Warner and his early associates. When they do fully return, they fit right in with the saints that have not moved from the truth taught in the beginning when God worked with the movement so mightily. We reach our hands in fellowship to every blood-washed soul. Some seem to be clinging to the world in some ways that hinder their fellowship with the consecrated, blood-washed body of believers who constitute the spiritual Body of Christ functioning in the world, which is the Church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth. All the springs of fresh truth are to be found in her and she is marching on with a firm footstep, owning and possessing all that God



Bro. Herbert O. Fain has sent us some letters he received from a Brother in Nigeria, West Africa who is very much interested in the Church of God and its doctrines and practices. Bro. Fain had previously sent him some Church of God books and literature. He loved the truth and has been preaching it to the people there. As a result, a congregation has been raised up as shown in the above picture. The Brother preacher is the man sitting to the left of the man with robe. You will note that some are very poorly clad and are in need of more teaching, along with the assistance of money and clothes. This would be a good opportunity for anyone called of God as a missionary to go there to assist them in getting established in the truth and to interest others in the way of full salvation. Anyone feeling led of the Lord to send means to support this work, may send it to Faith Pub. House and we will see that they receive it. We expect to have more about this missionary field in the February paper.—Fred Pruitt.

allows her feet to stand upon, and will do so until the end of time.

Today many, who had been swept along with the compromise, are seeing from whence they have been decoyed and are returning to Zion with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads. They are obtaining joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing are fleeing away. Thank God, the gates of hell have not prevailed against the true Church of God which Jesus built and occupied on the day of Pentecost. She is still shining in the world as a pure, crystal white institution and will shine on in this world unto the end in spite of the persecution that seems to be coming in the near future.

There are souls yet scattered in sectism and in the Trumpet movement and in those who have split off from it and formed themselves into cliques and clans, who are honest-hearted. In heart they are against all evil. God is calling them out of all these pens. Some are coming now, but the majority of them will come later when persecution gets to raging and their eyes will be opened to the fact that the system they are in is no part of the true Church of

God which Jesus built. There are men and women now in the different sects who see the evil of Communism, Catholicism and the Council of Churches, and are crying out against these present evils and future wickedness which is like an octopus sucking the spiritual life out of precious souls by getting them to partake of the world and its follies.

These cliques and clans which have split off from the apostatized Trumpet movement have imbibed so much of the worldly religion that they look upon the true Church of God as being fanatic because they still preach and practice the truth taught and practiced by D. S. Warner and his early associates. Because of this rejection of the truth, they will go the way of their mother. It is necessary to speak plainly, and we dare to do so for the sake of precious souls who are in these movements. Satan seems to be an expert in creating bodies of people calling themselves the Church in order to get precious souls lodged up in these counterfeits and hinder them from getting into the real Body of Christ which is not of this world, but is the true Church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.

The devil also has some lodged up in that anti-cleansing doctrine which is a delusion of the enemy and will draw everyone in perdition who believes and follows after that diabolical teaching.

When the end-time persecutions come and the true Church of God is shining more and more in her glorious beauty, there will be a movement of souls from all these man-made pens into the bright, shining, glorious Church of God. Then will the bright light of heaven be shining from the east even unto the west.

In Rev. 16:12 we have a Scripture that in symbolic language shows up this condition existing in the world: "And the sixth angel poured out his vial upon the great river Euphrates; and the water thereof dried up." Symbolically speaking, the river Euphrates represents that river of salvation that in times past has been pouring righteousness and life from heaven into honest hearts of men and women wherever they were found, but since the devil has succeeded in decoying and drifting all these dear souls into worldliness, vanity and pride, the water of life has ceased to flow into their hearts. This is symbolized as the Euphrates being dried up. In Smith's Bible Dictionary the meaning of "Euphrates" is defined as "the good and abounding river." These many souls who are now dried up once had the river of salvation, which was "good and abounding," in their souls. Now they are symbolized as the Euphrates river dried up. "That the way of the kings of the east might be prepared." The kings of the east no doubt mean these wicked king spirits who are now swarming down and possessing these dried up souls. They are, after being dried up of salvation, fertile ground for these evil spirits to work upon, in and through.

"And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet." Being like frogs would symbolize them as being cold toward practicing the truth of God's Word, although they may preach a lot of it for the purpose of deceiving. A frog is a cold, self-satisfied creature. The dragon refers to that evil power of paganism which was ruling in the Roman Empire when it had sway and rule over practically all the world. This Satanic power, called the red dragon, had most of the people worshipping idol gods of various natures. They were heathen and rebellious against Christ, the apostles and the saints that followed them. They persecuted the true Church of God in the early morning time of the Church and many of the saints were slain with the sword, torn and eaten by lions, while still others were burned at the stake. But the saints kept testifying with power, healings and miracles following their preaching and testifying. The Scripture speaks of this conflict in Rev. 12:11, "And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death." They held true to God until this great Satanic power was put down (Rev. 12:9) and ceased to exist openly in that form any more in a general sense.

According to the Word of God in Rev. 20:7-8 this dragon power was to be loosed for a little season after the thousand years' reign of the souls in paradise. Read Rev. 6:9-11. This thousand years has reference to the time when Catholicism ruled the people in the Dark Ages and slew thousands of precious souls who would dare to believe in and practice the truths of God's written Word. They were reigning through that long period of time in paradise, and John saw them there crying unto God, asking how long would it be until they would be avenged on the persecutors that slew them.

"And out of the mouth of the beast." This beast represents the Catholic church with its rituals, doctrines, ceremonies and idol worship. In the past 25 years it seems that the Catholic church has been invested with a special Satanic angel-of-light spirit in its activities in gaining converts to its beastly power. No doubt this is because the Euphrates is dried up in so many souls that they give this spirit fertile ground in which to work in gaining converts. They have been and are now decoying souls into their corrupt system in a far greater number than for centuries past, and that is because that unclean spirit like a frog has risen up among them and is symbolized as coming out of the mouth of the beast.

"And out of the mouth of the false prophet." This false prophet is a symbol of sectism, for they have always taught a lot of false doctrines. To see this unclean spirit like a frog, we will have to find the thing that is cold toward the truth as it is in Jesus and cold toward the saints of God in the earth. We do not know of anything that more closely resembles this picture than does "the World Council of Churches." This thing has performed a miracle, springing up in the last ten years like a mushroom. Now they claim over forty million subjects, and it has arisen out of sectism—the mouth of the false prophet.

They have even made up a new version of the Bible and have it so fixed or perverted that the reading suits much better their apostatized ideas and opinions. We have before us a booklet recently written by R. K. Paisley of Belfast, Ireland entitled, "The New English Bible, Version or Perversion?" In this booklet he exposes the deceitful way in which the authors or translators have weakened the truth in the Scriptures. It also shows that the people who sponsored this New English Bible are in co-operation with the movement which produced the 1952 Standard Revised Version of the Bible and sponsored by the Council of Churches in America. I will quote in part the introduction of this book, and also one paragraph in the conclusion of the booklet.

Quote: "On March 11th [1961] the New Testament part of The New English Bible was published. Two other parts are to follow, the Old Testament and the Apocrypha.

"The Apocrypha part of the Bible! This is certainly a New Bible indeed. Rome can rightly rejoice that at last her view of the canon of Scripture has displaced that of the Apostolic Church. Of course,

what else could we expect from a project directed by those British and Irish Churches which constitute the World Council of Churches in these islands? The repeated requests of the World Council of Churches for co-operation from Rome is, alas, only too well known.

"It may be argued that there are good things in the New English Bible. When there is poison in a cake one does not spend time praising the good fruit and other ingredients which the cake contains; rather one warns against the poison—and rightly so! Reader, the perversions of the N.E.B. are more dangerous to your soul than poison to your body. Turn from the N.E.B. which is the production of an age of doubt and turn to the old Authorized Version which is the production of an age of faith. The A. V. is reliable because it tells us as accurately as possible what the Bible says and not what some galaxy of scholars, who, however learned, are after all, but mortals like ourselves, thinks it ought to say."

In speaking of these three unclean spirits like frogs, the Revelator in 16:14 pictures them thus: "For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth [not of God] and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty." It is a miracle to see how fast these three unclean spirits are working in these days and gathering souls unto them. These three unclean spirits are now gathering nearly the whole world under their influence and are brain-washing the people against the true God and Christ Jesus. The kings of the earth are represented by the great preachers who have been given power to sway the people into these nets of Satan. Many popular preachers are swaying the folks into the Council of Churches and adding thousands to their frog-like system which is cold toward the true God and the saints in the earth who are not of this world. The battle of Armageddon is being fought now in the ecclesiastical heavens, and will become greater and more fierce as time moves on to the great Judgment day and the end of this sin-benighted planet.

—Fred Pruitt

(Editor's note:— The above article is the 12th chapter of the new book recently published entitled "Past, Present and Future of The Church." This book of 72 pages should be in the hands of every Christian who loves the truth and desires to know what is going on in the ecclesiastical heavens leading up to the coming of the Lord. World conditions are developing quite fast in these perilous days and every soul needs to be awakened to the moves that Satan is making to decoy, deceive and bring blindness upon souls for the purpose of landing them in perdition with his crowd of unbelievers in Christ. Order these books for you and your friends. Keep awake to existing developments and be among the wise when "the angel which I saw stand upon the sea and upon the earth lifted up his hand to heaven, and sware by him that liveth forever and ever, . . . that there should be time no longer." Read this in Rev. 10:5, 6. This book will be sent to any address in the U. S. for fifty cents, or three books for \$1.00, postpaid.

We have two other books recently printed entitled, "How We Got Our Bible," by E. E. Byrum, and "Salvation, Present, Perfect, Now or Never" by D. S. Warner. These

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Obituary

Herbert Otto Gaines, son of the late Aaron and Martha Mahola Gaines, was born on April 20, 1901 in Phillips County, Kansas and departed this life at his home north-east of Thayer, Missouri on November 8, 1961 at the age of 60 years, six months and 18 days.

He was united in marriage to Anna Marie Stroup at Athol, Kansas on July 17, 1921 and to this union 12 children were born. His father, mother, two sisters and two brothers preceded him in death.

He is survived by his wife, Anna Marie, of the home near Thayer, Mo.; seven sons, Charles of Logan, Kansas, Gordon and Kenneth of Grants Pass, Ore., Victor of Topeka, Kansas, Herbert Jr. of Mammoth Springs, Ark., Clayton of Myrtle, Mo., and Ray V. of the home; five daughters, Mrs. Martha East of Topeka, Kansas, Mrs. Leota Dubois of Omaha, Nebr., Mrs. Lois Moreland of Omaha, Nebr., Mrs. Mae June Poulette of Koshkonog, Mo., and Mrs. Myrtle Sorrell of Myrtle, Mo.; five sisters, and 36 grandchildren.

He was a member of the Church of God at Myrtle, Mo. He was a faithful husband and loving father, spending himself almost beyond his strength for family, friends and neighbors. He was a true child of God laboring in the cause of leading others to Christ.

Funeral services were conducted by Bros. Sam E. Abbott, Murphy Allen and Darius Gibson. Scriptures used: 1 Thess. 4:13-18; 2 Samuel 14:4.

Burial was in the Saints' Cemetery at Myrtle, Mo.

Thayer, Mo.—Dear Saints everywhere, greetings of love in Jesus' precious name.

The passing of my husband has greatly saddened our hearts, but gladdened the spirit to know that my companion went out of this world so peaceful and quiet. He was not sick in bed very long this time. He suffered much pain, but at those times we would pray and he would receive help from the Lord to be calm and quiet for a while. He kept up his courage in the Lord and was very patient during his affliction.

Ten of the children came home. Only three are in the true way, but all the children expressed their willingness to let their father trust in God all the way. None mentioned for him to have a doctor. All were sweet and loving to help in every way possible. Also the neighbors came in to do their best to help.

Bro. Allen and Bro. Gibson came the night he took his bed. Also, Bro. Earl Sorrell helped send up our prayers through the night. Bro. Allen stayed on longer to help us through the trying hours.

It is so lonely now and hard to face the worship time without him to read and teach. We realize that God has been merciful and kind to us to spare him this long. Doctors of medicine told him to take care of his business

as far back as 21 years ago so I could manage. He promised then that he would serve the Lord, but with our large family, sickness, discouragements, etc. he finally lost out, although he always taught and wanted the family to live a good clean life. About six years ago he found the Lord, and He has added these years so he could rear his family and see them in homes of their own. Praise the Lord!

The whole family wishes to thank all the saints for their cards and letters, and all the words of comfort and kindness shown. Aunt Lita Sorrell and Sister Coquette felt led to come and pray. Sister Lita spent a day with me. We are so thankful for God's people. Some called from Guthrie, Okla., Senath, Mo., California and other places, which was a comfort to our hearts. Bro. Abbott also came to see us and be of help.

Thirty minutes before he passed, I gave him a drink. Then Martha, the oldest daughter, gave him a drink after that, and he said, "That's enough, Martha." He had a clear mind and knew us all to the very end. He closed his eyes as going to sleep, and went out quietly into eternity, rocked to sleep in the arms of Jesus.

His desire was to be laid to rest in the Saints' Cemetery at Myrtle, Mo., and his wish was fulfilled.

Pray for us all that we will stay faithful to the end at any cost. —Sister Herbert Gaines and family.

Meeting Reports

BENEFICIAL MEETING AT NEOSHO, MO.

Dear Bro. and Sister Pruitt, greetings to you in the precious name of Jesus our Lord. Trust this finds you both well in body and soul.

I thought I would give a brief report on the meeting held here at Neosho, Mo. by Brother O. B. Wilson. He started the meeting on Nov. 17 and continued through the second Wednesday night, Nov. 29. Several were at the altar—some for salvation, and some for sanctification. Most of those at the altar were young people and smaller children. We were glad to know that God was dealing with them and that they were yielding. I trust that all those who received help will continue on in His goodness.

The messages were all inspiring, heart-searching, encouraging and instructive. I am sure that we were all benefited very much. I feel that the truths which went forth in this meeting will be a means of helping the Church in this locality to gain higher heights and deeper depths. I trust that we will all hold fast to that which we have gained.

Several saints and ministers from other places came to the meeting. We appreciated the presence of each one.

Bro. Wilson left about midnight Wednesday to go to Bro. Carver's to begin a meeting there.

Your Brother in Christ, —Thomas V. McMillian

JEFFERSON, ORE. ASSEMBLY MEETING REPORT

Once more the Assembly at Jefferson, Oregon has come and gone, and I can say of a truth that it was blessed of the Lord. A few were saved and sanctified, and there was much rejoicing as we exercised victory over the devil. One day most of the camp was oppressed very heavy, but as the preacher entered the pulpit God came down in a very precious way, and the saints began to testify. It was some time before the minister could preach, so great was the joy.

Through the meeting the preaching was with power and to the point. Some took their stand for the truth,

seeing the one Body of Christ. Several people came from other states. Our hearts were enlarged as fellowship abounded, and our love toward the saints increased.

I have been to Jefferson many times to assemblies and campmeetings, and every time the Lord has especially blessed—in spite of the fact that the devil has worked hard to destroy the work there, but Jesus has said that the gates of hell shall not prevail against it (the Church), there or anywhere else. Some special accomplishments were realized and special blessings received, for which all glory be to the name of the Lord. It has been difficult for us to leave after each meeting. We usually stayed a few days or a week to help strengthen the saints before leaving, but this time pressing things at home called for us.

Ministers present were: Brother Carver of La., Bro. Stover of Guthrie, Okla., Bro. Huskey of Orland, Calif., Bro. Kleiver, Bro. Kroker, Bro. Olsen, all of Oregon, and myself, A. E. Harmon, of Glendale, Calif.

Sister Beatrice Spaur is the pastor there, and the saints love her. On behalf of Sister Spaur and the saints there, I would like to invite the saints from other places to attend the camp and assembly meetings there, also any who are looking for the truth. I am sure that God will supply the right ones to rightly divide the Word of truth. This is not a large congregation, but the Lord blesses.

Yours in Christ,

—A. E. Harmon

HAMMOND, LA. ASSEMBLY MEETING REPORT

The Assembly meeting at Hammond, La. was held November 19 to 26, inclusive. Several of God's ministers and saints from out of the state were present to help in the meeting. The Lord blessed throughout the meeting and in the preaching of His Word. There was fasting and prayer on Friday. Several were prayed for and received help in their bodies. The ordinances of the Lord's House were observed on Saturday, which was a precious service.

On the last night of the meeting as the Word went forth conviction rested on the audience. We were reluctant to dismiss the service, knowing that the Lord was talking to souls. As the invitation was extended, the Spirit of the Lord prevailed. The Lord gave anointing as different ones gave exhortations. Many of the young people yielded to the Spirit's pleading, came forward and sought the Lord with tears. Let us pray earnestly for these young saints that they may become established in the Lord and be real workers for Him.

We wish to announce for the benefit of those in the vicinity of Hammond, La. that there will be all-day services here on the campgrounds at Hammond on the third Sunday of each month beginning in January, 1962. All are invited to come and worship the Lord with us. The young people also meet together every other Friday night. The next meeting will be on the 22nd of December, and the next on the 5th of January, and so on.

—Max F. Williamson

PROFITABLE MEETING AT SPRINGFIELD, MO.

Dear Saints of God everywhere: We are so thankful to the dear Lord for His goodness to us.

We are pleased to send in a report of the very profitable meeting which the Lord gave us here at Springfield, Mo. The Lord sent Bro. Sam Barton and Bro. Leonard Roberts to hold us a meeting and they obeyed. The Word was so precious and the saints were much encouraged. Best of all, the unsaved saw their need of the Lord, and fifteen came to the altar and gave their hearts to the dear Lord. Some were so overjoyed that they could

hardly quit rejoicing. Of course, we were all so happy as we rejoiced, and the heavenly host rejoiced with us. We are still rejoicing and praising God. Most of these were young people. The Bible says, "Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth." Pray for them and the work at this place.

We, the pastors—Bro. and Sister John W. Wilson, are getting old; both 77 years of age, but we are still on the battlefield doing what we can. We need your prayers. The congregation is encouraged.

May God bless all the workers at the Publishing House, His workers everywhere, and the dear ministers who came and held this revival meeting. Some blessed day Jesus will say that it is enough, and we will lay down the cross and take up the crown, and sing and shout forever around the great white throne of God.

—Bro. and Sister John W. Wilson

Reports From The Field

Dear saints scattered abroad, we greet you in Jesus' precious name: It is through His manifested love and mercy to us that we have and enjoy this great salvation. Praise the Lord! Truly the song has well said, "If I had ten thousand lives in which to praise Him, I could not enough my blessed Lord adore."

We have not written since the campmeetings, but we have by no means been idlers in the Master's vineyard. We are thanking Him for the daily health and strength He gives us to labor on. We are made to realize that what we do for God and lost souls must be done quickly, for the end of all things may be nearer than we think.

At the time of the Myrtle, Mo. campmeeting my father was ill and I could not feel clear to leave him, so did not accompany Bro. Abbott, though I wanted to attend that meeting. While on the grounds there, husband suffered two heart attacks, which were evidently brought on by insufficient sleep and rest. How we do thank God for the dear saints who interceded in his behalf, for God healed him and he was able to travel several hundred miles in the next few days. According to previous plans, he went to Dayton, Ohio to officiate at the wedding of our niece.

Soon after we moved here (Kentucky) about a year ago, we started doing personal work and praying for God to open up a door of utterance for us in this part of the country. We learned of a place called Elrod, where there was a small congregation with a nice chapel but no pastor. When we were at home on Sundays we visited their Sunday school, and they would always invite one of us to preach, and sometimes we did. They all seemed to enjoy the Word and always invited us back.

Bro. Abbott attended the ministers' meeting at Guthrie, Okla. in company with the Dayton, Ohio ministers. A two-weeks' meeting to be held at Dayton was discussed. We attended the latter part of that meeting, as it had begun unexpectedly. The Lord did work mightily on the hearts of the backsliders. The saints had all been carrying a burden for them, and the first night two were reclaimed. Several others claimed the experience, but we feel that some failed to pay the Bible price, so have fallen by the wayside again. These things are so sad. However, we understand that a few were baptized and sanctified, and are growing in the Lord. We truly thank God how He is working in that congregation, especially how He is blessing the young ministers and prospering them spiritually, and burdening them not only to help with the work in their home congregation, but also sending them out on the missionary field. Thank the Lord!

We received a delayed message about dear Brother Gaines' severe illness at Myrtle, Mo. We phoned and learned that God had already called him Home. We both desired so much to go, but my father was to return to the hospital the next day. He is now past 81 years of age, not well and frequently in and out of the hospital, so I was unable to leave him. God blessed Bro. Abbott with a safe trip and he returned home at 3:00 a.m. on Sunday. By the help of the Lord he was able to fill the pulpit that morning at Elrod, Kentucky, which was the first service of a full week's meeting there. Through much prayer, personal work and wisdom, God had given us favor with the people and they asked for a revival meeting. Praise the Lord! Oh, how God blessed His precious Word during that meeting. One sister said she did not know this old-time truth was still being taught and lived. Many papers, tracts and books were distributed, and the meeting was well advertised. There is about a dozen in the group, and they desired that we continue to preach and work in that community. They agreed to do their part, so we believe that in due time God will "bring again Zion" in this place. We desire all the saints to pray for this work in a rural community.

Bro. Abbott went to the Hammond, La. assembly meeting, but not for long, as he was called to Athens, Tenn. to officiate at the funeral of dear Sister Derrick. Some may remember her being at the National campmeeting two years ago. The funeral was very impressive, husband said.

After the morning service at Elrod on Sunday, we went to Prestonsburg, Ky. for the evening service with the saints there. It's about 175 miles through the Cumberland mountains. Some will remember that the truth was planted there three years ago when we held the first meeting in a schoolhouse. At that time a few took a stand for God and the truth, and have been having prayer-meetings and Bible study in their homes since that time. They desire a public place for services, so pray that God will open up something for them.

Now that my father seems to be doing all right, we plan to visit them more often.

We wish to say that we deeply appreciate every token of love manifested in our behalf. May God bestow His richest blessings upon each one is our earnest prayer. Truly, we are workers together with God, and we shall receive our reward at the end of the race. Remember us in your prayers.

Your Bro. and Sister in the Master's service,

—Sam E. Abbott and wife, R. 3, Box 41, Somerset, Ky.

We thank the Lord for the ministers who are on the field laboring for the Lord. We should all pray for them that God will make them a blessing.

Bro. Ostis Wilson was here at Guthrie while the pastors, Bro. and Sister Stover, attended the Oregon Assembly meeting, and also ministered encouragement to some isolated saints. While here, Bro. Wilson held a few nights' meeting in addition to taking care of the regular services. His preaching was very uplifting and a blessing to the saints. The "pure minds" of the saints were stirred to a greater diligence. A message on the text, "The curse causeless shall not come," (Prov. 26:2) was very searching. One point was: the church is the mother and when a person is at the altar of prayer, the church—the mother—needs to be in perfect agreement that the individual would come through with victory. It is needless to say that improvement should be made on this line.

The saints at Okeene, Okla. and others who attended the meeting there were richly blessed by the Word of God

given out by Bro. Isaac Chandler. Some from Guthrie attended and returned each time greatly blessed.

Sister Ruth Murphey came by Guthrie and was with us one Sunday night service. The Lord blessed her in encouraging us to know that God will bring us through the problems of life. She had been at Shawnee, Okla. in a two weeks' revival meeting. Reports came how that the Lord had used her in that meeting to the blessing of many souls. Some from Guthrie went to the meeting several nights. The messages were very inspiring.

We have a report of the meetings Bro. Ray Key held out in western Texas. The isolated saints there rejoiced in the Word.

The saints in Michigan have written how much their souls were fed through the Word of God that was given out by Bro. Murphy Allen and Bro. Vada McMillian in a recent meeting there. Much good was accomplished.

Bro. and Sister Stover returned from being in the meeting at Jefferson, Ore. God blessed, and the saints from there write about how much they appreciated the Word given to them by the various ministers present.

The Assembly meeting held at Hammond, La. during the week of Thanksgiving was a blessing to all who were privileged to attend. A number were at the altar of prayer for help in soul or body. Some from the Guthrie congregation attended the meeting and received benefits. The ministerial help was greatly appreciated, some of whom were: Bro. Darius Gibson, Bro. Murphy Allen, Bro. Sam Abbott, Bro. Richard Madden, Bro. Curtis Williams, Bro. Earl Sharp, Bro. Herbert Probst, and others.

We pray God to bless all those on the field, known or unknown, who are working for God.

TESTIMONIES

La.—Greetings to the saints and readers of Faith and Victory: "To God be the glory, for all He has done; for life and salvation, the gift of His Son." Praise our Lord, He has visited His people and maketh us to KNOW there is a reality in the God we serve! Oh, that men would praise God more for all His mighty works! We see Him sending rich blessings untold and I know that my Redeemer liveth. He knoweth the way that I take. He has promised to never leave us or forsake us, and we know that He will not fail.

My mother has been threatened with total blindness. This autumn it seemed that her good eye would go out any time. The sight in one has been totally gone for several years. But we knew that God could preserve the good eye and allow her to see, so we called mightily on Him and she has been blessed to be able to read and sew. When we think of the difference of being able to see and being blind, we thank God over again for sparing her eye sight.

This morning mother called me and said she needed prayer. She has an abnormal knee—the bone is much enlarged and deformed from arthritis, and it is pitiful to see her walk. When she got up this morning she could not walk; her knee was locked, and she was suffering so badly. She had already called Bro. Max Williamson, the pastor, for prayer. We went to the Lord and poured out our heart to our Great Physician. Then I called back to ask how she was. Mother answered the telephone with great rejoicing. She could walk! Our God came to her rescue. Praise the Lord! That blessed my soul so much that I felt I must send in a testimony. It is surely wonderful what the Lord has done and will do for His trusting children.

Our Assembly meeting here at Hammond, La. during the week of Thanksgiving was very precious. Many of our young folks came to the altar. My youngest brother, Carroll, got saved and my sister, Dianne, along with others, came forward. My heart is full of joy and thanksgiving to God for them. Again I knew He had answered prayer.

I am so glad that I forsook all to follow the Lord. I gave up much, but my reward is much greater. There is no profit in a self-willed sinful life. God is our Friend. He knows the way—let us follow Him.

All of you who know the worth of prayer, please pray for our unsaved loved ones, and please pray for the young folks that they will see the glorious beauty and joy of going all the way with God.

Dear young people, please go all the way with the Lord. Commit questionable things to God and say amen to His will. No one can ever be happy with half-hearted service to God. Commit your all to the Lord and your joy will be full.

With much Christian love, your Sister, —Gladys Cashio

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

Okla.—Dear Brother in Christ: Grace be to you, and peace from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

I thank my God daily for the Christian people who can show others by their daily living that they have found the new birth in Christ whereby the Lord has put within them a new heart. Therefore, I thank the Lord for men like you, and for such a Christian paper like the "Faith and Victory", by which sinners can find Christ through the writings of God's people. Enclosed is a dollar to renew my subscription to the paper.

I am wishing for you much strength and health in your Christian walk, and trusting that the Lord's Word will flow into many, many hearts through the truth in your paper. May God bless all of you.

Your Brother in Christ,

—Sam Nusz

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

Ohio—Dear Saints: I thank God for His wonderful love and mercy He has extended to me and my family.

"I will sing of thy power; yea, I will sing aloud of thy mercy in the morning: for thou hast been my defense and refuge in the day of my trouble." Psa. 59:16.

This last summer my 13-year-old daughter went on a vacation, traveling alone by airplane. The saints and I prayed earnestly for God to take care of her. He wonderfully blessed her with a safe trip there and back. Praise His name! On the return trip, God withheld a rain storm until after the plane landed. Soon after we left the airport, the blinding rain came—almost a cloudburst. We had to stop driving. But God did not permit the storm until after the plane landed and we were in the car. What a mighty God we serve!

I also thank the Lord how He preserved the life of my niece and three other young people in a very serious auto accident. They missed a curve, went a few feet in the air and came down a telephone pole. The car looked like a train may have hit it. One couple was thrown out about 20 feet. My niece couldn't get out of the front because the pole was lying on her, and the driver was pinned in and unconscious. Everyone of them had broken bodies, but praise be to God, He spared their lives. Only His hand brought them out. What a merciful God we serve. Please pray for them for soul and body.

I thank God how He undertook for me again in my affliction. The saints are holding me up in prayer. They came and anointed me last night, and how God did bless!

I have been suffering with a bladder and kidney infection. I am looking for complete healing. Pray for me.

Your Sister in Christ, —Annie Stills



Ariz.—To the saints scattered abroad, greetings:

I am still saved and living for Jesus every day. I am so thankful He counted me worthy to be His child. I mean by His help and grace to go all the way with Jesus. He supplies all my needs according to His riches in glory. I know that He will never leave nor forsake me, for which I praise Him.

I want to testify how the Lord healed my eyes of cataracts. He has made me every whit whole, for which I praise Him.

Saints, please pray for me that I will prove faithful unto the end.

Yours in Him, —Sister Bertha Slaughter



Okla.—The Lord saved me the 23rd day of April, 1950, and sanctified wholly in October, 1951. I was in a holiness meeting when the Lord convicted me of my sins and saved me.

I had been a habitual drunkard, and also bound by the demon of tobacco-using. For nearly 45 years I was enslaved with these sins of Satan, but in this holiness meeting the Lord broke the bondage of Satan and set this captive free instantly. Praise the Lord! I will always give the Lord all the praise and glory for what He did to me that day. From that hour to this, I have been a different person. Those things that I dearly loved, now I actually despise. From that hour to this, I have never taken a strong drink or a smoke, or any other of the devil's sins. I certainly would rather face God here while His judgment is mixed with love and mercy than to have to face Him at the final Judgment when all His wrath will be poured out without mixture.

I was nearly 62 years old when the Lord saved me, and there was nothing that could make me hate strong drink and tobacco until the Lord came into my life. He changed my heart, and I hate those things now.

You may be bound in these and other ways, but God can deliver YOU if you will let Him. The Scripture says, "Though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow." Isa. 1:18. This is proof that the blood of Jesus will cover every known sin, and make us as though we had never sinned. Praise God! What a covering for an old wretch like me! Any thing that could change a terrible sinner like George Nering could come no other way except by the blood of Jesus Christ. (2 Cor. 5:17).

Now instead of the bottle and tobacco, it is the Word of God for me. Instead of hatred, there is love. Instead of sitting at the bar with other drunks, I am kneeling at the altar of God praying for them. I used to sing to the devil's music, but now I sing to the glory of God.

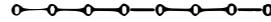
I want to say with John the Baptist that Christ must increase and I must decrease. I thank God for the colored preacher that I picked up one time when I was drunk. He told me that God would chop me down. That stayed with me until I got saved. I am now past 73 years old, and I want to say right here that it doesn't pay to wait as long as I did to get saved, for it might be too late. Seek Him in your youth while He may be found; call upon Him while He is near. "There is a time I know not when, a place I know not where, that marks the destiny of man to heaven or despair."

Dear sinner, you must repent of your sins with Godly sorrow. Read 2 Cor. 7:10. Godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation, not to be repented of, but the sorrow of the world worketh death. Without the shedding of

blood there is no remission of sins. It takes the precious blood of Jesus Christ, the Son of God, to cleanse us from all sin. Read 1 John 1:7-10 and 3:7-10. He that committeth sin is of the devil; he that is born of God doth not commit sin. Therefore, if any man be in Christ Jesus he is a new creature.

Light conflicts with darkness, and they cannot stay in the same place at the same time. I thank God that He divided the light from darkness in the beginning. God intended that we be separated from all sin in this life. And only Christ can break the bondage of sin in our lives.

There was never a greater miracle than what was performed on me. Jesus Christ is the same, yesterday, today and forever. My name is written in the Lamb's Book of Life, and I am in the one true Church of God which is written twelve times in the New Testament. Read Acts 2:47. —George Nering



Illinois—Dear Bro. Pruitt and all the saints at the Printshop: I feel that God would have me write a few lines as a witness for Him. I praise God for salvation that saves and keeps my soul on fire for Him.

On the 3rd of November the good Lord gave me victory over the trouble that I had been having with my nose. Oh, I am so thankful! Praise His holy name! I have trusted God for over 30 years and He has never failed me. When we do our part, He does His.

I want you saints to keep praying for me that I will keep on the altar for God, for I love Him and my heart's desire is to measure up to His Word.

I am sending a little offering, and I know it will be used for the glory of God.

Your Sister in Christ, —Mrs. Laura Nicholson



Okla.—Dear Sister Marie Miles: I am still saved to sin no more, and trusting the Lord for soul and body to all I know and understand.

I thank the Lord that I had the privilege to attend four campmeetings last summer. I enjoyed all of them. I am still praising the Lord for keeping me from getting hurt on the last Sunday of the Boley, Okla. meeting. During the afternoon service some of us went to the Boys' Home at Boley to have meeting with the boys there. When we returned to the campground the service was about over. They were singing before closing. As I sat in Sister Daniels' car listening to the good singing, all at once the car began rolling. Sister Daniels jumped into the car about that time, and it hit a big tree and stopped. No one was hurt. We have so much to be thankful for.

I am sending a little offering to use to the glory of God.

Please pray for me and my unsaved loved ones.

Your Sister in Christ, —Lizzie Randles



Calif.—Dear Sister Marie and saints, greetings in Jesus' precious name:

Our dry California has been blessed with a good rain. All living things just seemed to lift their heads to God in heaven to say, "Thank you."

I am so thankful at this Christmas of 1961 for a salvation that can be lived without sin. "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old, he will not depart from it." That was the way I was brought up—by a dear God-fearing mother. I am thankful for the Lord's tender mercy in healing our bodies when we are sick, taking us through trials with victory in our souls, protecting us on the busy highways, for the Lord's ministers (angels) and dear saints. I am thankful for

our mother (Annie McKinney) and the good health she enjoys. It's a pleasure and privilege to have her visit us in our home.

I enjoy the "Faith and Victory." There are so many good things to read that it's hard to put it down until every page is read. We study our Sunday school lessons from the paper. Pray for me that God will open a door for me to witness for Him and be alert for opportunities. We must first be partakers of the fruit in order to witness for Him. As in our lesson today, God caused those Jewish leaders to be convinced that Peter and John had "been with Jesus." They had borne the fruit and witnessed for Him. My desire in life is to live so close to Jesus that people will know that I have "been with Him."

May God bless each and every one of you at this Christmas time. May we not lose sight of what Christmas really means. We need each other's prayers.

—Sister Lucille Allen

Calif.—Dear Sister Miles, I greet you in Jesus' name:

We arrived home late last night from Old Mexico and all are weary. Bro. Harland Smith, my husband, daughter and I generally go down there on Friday nights and return on Sunday nights. I have a class that averages 30 each Sunday. My burden is heavy for them. There is a wide range in their ages, but the Lord helps. My Spanish is still quite limited, but the Lord helps there, too. I am trying to spend some time each day in studying Spanish. I have been able to teach them memory verses such as John 3:16, Prov. 20:11 and Col. 3:20, and several choruses. Also we have studied the ten commandments, and are now starting the Christmas lesson. Their dark little faces and dark bright eyes stay before me constantly. We had 29 in attendance yesterday, but often have 33 or 34.

God is blessing our efforts there in El Alamo, and it is a great joy to be a part of it. We've had some real experiences there already. It's been quite cold down there lately, and we've been camping in the church building while the little house is being finished. The church building is not quite complete yet, but the doors and windows are up, so we built a camp fire on the dirt floor and cooked our food on it, put our sleeping bags out, and slept right there. This past week-end it rained hard on Saturday and the men could not work. We set up a wood stove we had been able to buy, made a good fire and cooked our meal. It got dark early, so we ate, sang hymns and studied some for Sunday. Our Coleman lantern, stove and sleeping bags gave us all the "home" needed.

We have had as many as 64 and as few as 37 in attendance on the nine Sundays we have had services there. The interest seems good and there are new families being reached each week.

We had a precious experience a few weeks back. On stopping at a home on our way into El Alamo we found the lady's face swollen badly and her left eye was shut. After anointing and praying for her, God touched her almost instantly and she could open the eye. It was just wonderful. She has some kind of allergy. She and her husband are a fine couple, and have six very nice children. They come to services regularly even though it is nine miles. Three other families come quite a distance.

We have to get up and get the two trucks out early in order to get everyone to services on time. One of the boys there in the village is good to help, so he generally takes a truck and goes one direction, and my husband, Bill, goes the other way. Then there are some who come in their own old battered vehicles.

We marvel at the way God works. Only our God could lead, guide and perform these things which are so wonderful!

I must close now.

—Sister Geneva Hite

Illinois—Greetings of love in Jesus' name to all the saints at the Publishing House: May the Lord bless each of you as you work for Him.

This leaves me still pressing forward toward the Glory land. The devil and the world is trying to slip in around every corner, but thank God for the Saviour who has all power and will guide us as we follow Him.

Enclosed is an offering to be used in the Lord's work in any place that it is needed. Pray for us.

Yours in Christ,

—Albert Green

"BABYLON IS FALLEN"

(Part II, in conclusion from December issue)

The Church is not a joinable institution like the pretending modern practice of today—only the Lord adds to His Church those who are being saved from sin. (Acts 2:47). The doors of His Church are wholly under His sovereign control and direction, "He opens and no man shuts, and shuts and no man opens." Isa. 22:22; Rev. 3:7. Our physical birth made us members of our earthly father's family, while the second or spiritual birth made us members of our heavenly Father's family, or His Church, and it amounts only to folly when men tell us that only by their approval and consent can we become members of the Church.

Men who are in authority tell us that the probable end of civilization is upon us. The ferment and upheaval of whole continents is unfolding before our very eyes, and even our own America could hardly be called a first rate power, yet in the very face of halocaust and destruction the fake builders on the crumbling and decomposed walls of denominationalism are bending their every carnal effort toward propping up and healing the breaches of their own peculiar and fallen sectarian pens, when as a matter of life and death they should cry aloud in repentance for their divisional sins and then see to it that every sectarian barrier is removed and destroyed so that Christians around the world might join hands and hearts in an all-out united effort to stem the godless tides that are now ready to engulf the world. Our Babel strategists often point out various conditions and things that in their estimation hinders a God-sent revival, but never do they put their fingers on the real thing or condition, which is nothing more or less than their tenacious determination to continue their role of witch doctor and dole out their fetish traditional sectarian potions to the starved and emaciated flocks who pine and die under their control. Something must be done and fast, but whatever is done that is telling and worthwhile will be done only by individuals who are fully awake to the perils that now hang over our heads like the sword of Damocles. But we only waste and dissipate our efforts by "placing the cart before the horse." We need not look for rest from our enemies as long as we cling to the

wretched, baneful and devil-inspired system that separates Christians one from the other.

The winning of the battle which now faces our generation is going to take nothing less than GOD INSPIRED UNITY, and by this statement, I do not even allude to the ecumenical or union efforts that are given such wide publicity in the religious news of the day, for man's counterfeit union efforts have long since been weighed and found wanting. Now if we really aspire for final and glorious victory over all enemies whomsoever, we must, like Israel of old when they faced the walled city of Jericho, obey the Lord and start marshalling and alerting all dependable forces, who will not fear to blow the trumpets and march seven days, or whatever time is necessary, to breach the divisional walls and utterly destroy the pens and cells that for years have held many Christians in a state of helplessness and impotence. Our starting forces need not exceed the three hundred who stood loyally with Gideon and utterly defeated and dismayed the uncounted hosts of the Midianites. Will you be a Gideon? Well consecrated thousands are ready with their lamps, pitchers and trumpets, and will follow any God-ordained leader that can show by irrefutable evidence that heaven's call is upon him. Only men tried in the fire, sold out and fully committed will be able to meet the tests and onslaughts that will be hurled at them by the defenders of Babylon. This evil city will not be a push-over, for she is well equipped with all manner of weapons, as well as with a false and backslidden leadership who are cunning and deceitful above all things and are ready to do and to die for their false system.

No class of men have made a greater contribution to the present state of world confusion, turmoil and disillusionment than has this Babylonian hierarchy who have attempted and pretended to present the challenge of the gospel, yet always making such presentation only within the framework of their fallen and corrupt denominational sects, and for proof of this statement, I call to witness the very low ebb to which the moral and spiritual tides of the world have now fallen, as well as to the unprecedented number of cold, lazy, unregenerated so-called church members, who are a stumblingblock to earnest hearts who honestly seek an entrance to the kingdom of God.

We have been conditioned and brain-washed over the years with the old refrain that "all sectarian roads lead to heaven." This, of course, like so much of Babylon's propaganda, amounts only to a lie of the devil. The Bible makes mention of only two roads; one, we are told, is very narrow and the other is exceeding wide and broad. It is the earnest hope of this writer that at least most readers of this article have not been taken in and deceived by such slanted lies of Satan, for surely those who go to make up the habitation of devils, the hold of every foul spirit, and the cage of every unclean and hateful bird could hardly be classed as road builders to heaven.

The last message to the church was a call to repentance, but repentance is a repugnant and disturbing word to our modern day religionists, and it

is very safe to assume that they will have no part in any such move as will expose their own sinful and undone condition. Hence, if we are to see a real move of God upon the hearts of this generation, every humble child of God must stand and be counted, and come to the time and place of full surrender and total commitment.

We ask amiss when we pray for revival, for a general revival will never be given until we "Laodiceans" have poured out our souls in the sackcloth and ashes of repentance, and have bidden adieu and farewell to Babylon, the world, and all that she stands for, and have started being what we ought to be and saying what we ought to say.

Some one has said that "little is much when God is in it," and again, "the world has yet to see all that God will do through one person who is fully surrendered for service." A few hearts set aflame and made one in Christ by the bonding power of the Spirit of God are bound to produce this same fire in other hearts, and these in turn will spark still others, until soon a great multitude on fire for God will be the result of our humble beginning. And finally by that heaven-inspired unity, and with every holy man and woman "in their place round about the camp" and with the authority and endowment of the Holy Spirit upon every life and in every born-again heart, we will then, **AND ONLY THEN, be victorious** "through Him that has loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood." —Herbert O. Fain

Christian Concern Gets Results

Some time ago a sister-in-law of the writer was looking over some old papers of her preacher husband, W. H. Haly, who has been dead for years. She came across an account in his handwriting of his conversion in 1898, after he had lived for seventeen years with no contact with the church whatever, due to the fact that his parents never attended church. Then, when some special meetings were in progress at a church in Johnstown, Penn., he felt much impressed to go.

He says, "On Friday evening I went to the church and stood outside near the door as the people were going in." There he waited and waited, until the people began to come out. After the church was locked he went home. But not a single person spoke to that soul, who was deeply feeling his need. He says further, "I came back the next night, but waited outside again, trying to overcome my fear. I went home once more very much troubled and disappointed. I came back on Sunday in time for the evening service and stood near where I had been on the two previous nights. The people filed into the church. I listened to the songs, which increased my desire to get inside."

That night when the people were leaving, one man, a Mr. Duncan, spoke to him at the church door and shook hands with him and invited him to come back the next night. Said Mr. Haly, "That handshake met a need in my life, and I shall never forget it. I felt that when the people passed by without

speaking or asking me to go in that I was not welcome. I hesitated still longer, but somehow I next found myself inside the door just as the invitation was being given. I knelt at the altar, confessed my sins, and found Christ as my Saviour."

One peculiar aspect of this case was that the minister had had a very vivid dream, which he had related to the congregation, of a young man dressed in a brown suit with a dark stripe coming up the aisle and bowing at the altar—a dream which he took as evidence that the meetings were going to be the means of bringing many to Christ. When he saw young Haly coming up the aisle he declared publicly, "There is the young man that I saw in my dream." He was the first seeker in that revival campaign.

—Arnold's Commentary

THE DEVIL'S CONVENTION

Those in Attendance Included

Malice, Envy, Pride, Greed, Sinful Pleasures, Etc.

"Now my good imps, what have you done today to weaken the Church of God?"

"We have been very busy today, making empty seats in the church house," began one.

"Nothing could please me better," answered their king.

"I persuaded one man that he had a headache and kept him from a sermon that might have changed his whole life," said one.

"I induced one good man to slip to his store and fix up his books," said another.

"Good!" said the king. "He'll soon give up public worship altogether."

"I was able to get one pure young man to use tobacco, attend the movies, dances, card parties, etc., also led him to visit some old friends," said one imp.

"Hallelujah!" roared Satan. "Work all you can, and stir up sinners to visit Christian people on Sunday and make them think they must stay at home and entertain them. And instead of a plain simple dinner Sunday, make people think they must have something extra so the servant or some of the family will have to stay away from church services and Sunday school. You can work this on the people who think they are real devoted."

"I worried a good sister about her old hat until she decided to stay at home until she got a new one," said the imp labeled "Pride."

"And I made several poor women who were hungry for God's Word stay at home to repine over trials. I just said to them, 'Oh, these well-to-do people don't care for you; you can't wear fine clothes, so I wouldn't go where I was looked down upon.'"

"That is one of the best ways to cheat poor people out of heaven that I know of," answered the king with approval.

"I induced a good many men and women to believe they were not well and strong enough to attend church services," said one called "Indifference." Of course, all these folks will be at their business on Monday, even if they feel worse. But they could not go to church services when they have the least ailment, so I made them believe they couldn't go to church services unless they were perfectly well."

"Very good," said Satan, with a sulphurous grin, "a Sunday headache is one of the best excuses for absence from church services."

"I am the weather imp," said one fellow. "I go around making people believe it is going to rain, or that it is too cold, too damp or too hot to venture out. It is enough to make even your gloomy majesty laugh to see these same people start out the next day in the worst weather imaginable. One would think it a sin to carry umbrellas and wear rubber coats to meeting."

"I am able to do a good deal with some of the ladies of the church," said the one labeled "Fashion." "I can induce some to stay home because the new hat did not come, or because their clothes are out of style."

"I have a scheme which empties the seats of the workers in the church."

"That is what we want," said Satan.

"I make these members overwork on Saturdays. I just keep them rushed with neglected things till late at night and then they oversleep or are sick the next day, and can't get out."

"Splendid plan," cried Satan.

"Yes, it works very well with delicate women. If they clean house or have Saturday company, they can be kept at home without knowing they have disobeyed the Lord. A social gathering late Saturday night helps to empty seats."

"You are doing finely, my imps," his majesty said warmly, "Preachers may work and pray over their sermons all week, but there will be no results in preaching to empty seats. Your plans are excellent, but I might suggest another good point. All preachers have human imperfections—some fault of manner or speech. Get Christians to criticize their pastor, especially before their children. If you can stir up a spirit of fault-finding against the preachers, or among the members, it will help empty seats. If the seats are empty, the minister may be a saint and preach like an angel to no purpose. See the result of your labor in the church today."

"Not only did the people who stayed at home lose a blessing but each empty seat did its work against the Lord's kingdom. A little imp in each empty seat surely can put the damper on a fervent preacher. He made unusual preparation and went with his heart aglow, but the empty seats chilled him and he did poorly."

"It isn't a smart preacher, nor a rich congregation, nor a good location, etc., that makes a successful Church. It is the church members always being there that draws in the unconverted. As soon as a Christian begins to stay at home from one excuse or another, I know I have a 'mortgage' on his soul which, if he does not pay off, I will foreclose on the Judgment Day."

"Now one last word," said Satan as he was closing the convention, "get the Christians to say something unkind to the preacher—anything true or untrue; tell him the truth if necessary, that hurts! But say it in an unkind manner, so that you get him discouraged. Just one preacher discouraged is worth a host of laymen discouraged. If you can only work those lines too, it will greatly augment our growing number of EMPTY seats. Tell him he's long-winded, that he rambled in his talk, you know, anything—but just get him discouraged—that will take the 'fire' out of him. Once that's done it won't take the 'fire' long to go out in the people in the pews. Then it won't be long before we can close another church building and write across its portals, 'ICHABOD!—the glory of the Lord hath departed!'" —Selected.

Why Can't I Work in a Defense Plant?

Does your conscience tell you that it is wrong to kill? Then it is also wrong to make munitions and supplies

with which others can kill. "The safest course is to produce nothing which is war material, or which is designed specifically to contribute to the war effort." If your question concerns one of the "borderline" cases, seek the counsel of the Lord and His ministers.

BIBLE STUDY

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

January 7, 1962

LAWS FOR LIVING

Printed PortionExodus 34:1-5; Matt. 5:17-20.

Exodus 34:1. And the Lord said unto Moses, Hew thee two tables of stone like unto the first: and I will write upon these tables the words that were in the first tables, which thou brakest.

2. And be ready in the morning, and come up in the morning unto mount Sinai, and present thyself there to me in the top of the mount.

3. And no man shall come up with thee, neither let any man be seen throughout all the mount; neither let the flocks nor herds feed before that mount.

4. And he hewed two tables of stone like unto the first; and Moses rose up early in the morning, and went up unto mount Sinai, as the Lord had commanded him, and took in his hand the two tables of stone.

5. And the Lord descended in the cloud, and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the Lord.

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

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.

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

Practical Truth: Through prayer and watching we are able to keep God's laws.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Our lessons this quarter will be on the Ten Commandments.

What great love God had for humanity! All down through the years after Adam sinned, God continued to deal with the souls of men. Our lesson shows us how God gave the Ten Commandments and the laws which is a "school master to bring man to Christ." The first four commandments sum up our relationship with God. The last six deal with human relationships. God was trying to show mankind something about Himself. God is holy, and the Bible says, "... holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord." (Heb. 12:14).

The law given to Moses failed to make holy. Jesus came to fulfill that law, and wherein it failed to make man perfect in holiness, the blood of Jesus did the work.

Jesus made it possible for man to have the relationship with God and his fellow-man that the Law intended.

The 8th chapter of Romans shows the difference between the Law of Moses and grace through Christ. It is spoken of in terms of flesh and spirit, carnal mind and spiritual mind, the spirit of adoption compared to the spirit of bondage. The Law was a standard that man tried to stretch up to and couldn't, but grace transfers us into Christ who delivers us from sin. How wonderful it is that we have the privilege of living under grace and not under the Law.

ONE GOD

January 14, 1962

Printed Portion.....Ex. 20:1-3; Deut. 6:4-9; Matt. 6:24-25.

Exodus 20:1. And God spake all these words, saying,

2. I am the Lord thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.

3. Thou shalt have no other gods before me.

Deut. 6:4. Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God is one Lord:

5. And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.

6. And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart:

7. And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou risest up.

8. And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes.

9. And thou shalt write them upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates.

Matt. 6:24. No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.

25. Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on.

Memory Verse: No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon. Matt. 6:24.

Practical Truth: Let God be a great big God to you.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

We need to understand who God is and what relationship he has with man. God is omnipresent, which means that He is everywhere at the same time. God is omnipotent which means He has unlimited power. God is omniscient, which means He knows all things. God is immutable, which means He is unchangeable. God is infallible, which means He can never do wrong. God is holy, which means He is perfectly pure in every sense. God is eternal, which means that He has no beginning nor ending. How great God is!

The unity of God is important to our faith. God is one God. Jesus taught the unity of God. He said that He and the Father were one. (John 14:1-11). Jesus also taught that we can become members of God's family by being born again. (John 3:3-7). Jesus laid the groundwork for the coming of the Comforter, the indwelling Spirit of God. This was fully realized on the day of Pentecost. The Holy Spirit came into the hearts of men and dwelt there.

God is one—God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit. God has chosen to reveal Himself to man in these three ways. God is almighty and desires every man to yield to Him. He has a claim on man because He is his Creator, yet He has given man his choice. This conflict cannot come to a compromise. Jesus points out that "ye cannot serve God and mammon (any other object of worship)."

January 21, 1962

GOD IS A SPIRIT

Printed PortionEx. 20:4-5a; John 4:7, 9, 10, 19-23.

Exodus 20:4. Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth:

5. Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God.

John 4:7. There cometh a woman of Samaria to draw water: Jesus saith unto her, Give me to drink.

9. Then saith the woman of Samaria unto him, How is it that thou, being a Jew, askest drink of me, which am a woman of Samaria? for the Jews have no dealings with the Samaritans.

10. Jesus answered and said unto her, If thou knewest the gift of God, and who it is that saith to thee, Give me to drink; thou wouldest have asked of him, and he would have given thee living water.

19. The woman saith unto him, Sir, I perceive that thou art a prophet.

20. Our fathers worshipped in this mountain; and ye say, that at Jerusalem is the place where men ought to worship.

21. Jesus saith unto her, Woman, believe me, the hour cometh, when ye shall neither in this mountain, nor yet at Jerusalem, worship the Father.

22. Ye worship ye know not what: we know what we worship: for salvation is of the Jews.

23. But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him.

Memory Verse: God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth. John 4:24.

Practical Truth: We should let the Spirit of God lead us through life.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

God does not possess a physical body, for He is a Spirit. (John 4:24). Spirit means a being capable of consciousness and commonly considered as possessing reason, will and emotion. Spirit is used for an immaterial being. Our lesson today emphasizes the spiritual nature of God. No man has seen God. Moses was hid in the cliff and God passed by, and the Bible says he saw his back parts. Ex. 33:19-23. God cannot be made into an image, but it seems that man wants something he can see and so has taken many different material things as his gods. The second commandment of God forbids this. Jesus told doubting Thomas that "Blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed." (John 20:29). If man does not worship God by means of "true" worship, he will turn to substitutes. "True" worship of God is that which is made by the spirit. There is a spirit that dwells in man, and God can only be worshipped by spirit and as a spirit because He is a Spirit. Acceptable worship can be done

only in truth. This distinguishes our worship from false worship. "True" worship can arise only from a clean heart. God hears only the praises and thanksgiving of the penitent and righteous heart—those who have been "born again."

January 28, 1962

REVERENCE FOR GOD'S NAME

Printed PortionEx. 20:7; Matt. 5:33-37; Matt. 6:5-8.

Exodus 20:7. Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.

Matt. 5:33. Again, ye have heard that it hath been said by them of old time, Thou shalt not forswear thyself, but shalt perform unto the Lord thine oaths:

34. But I say unto you, Swear not at all; neither by heaven; for it is God's throne:

35. Nor by the earth; for it is his footstool: neither by Jerusalem; for it is the city of the great King.

36. Neither shalt thou swear by thy head, because thou canst not make one hair white or black.

37. But let your communication be, Yea, yea; Nay, nay; for whatsoever is more than these cometh of evil.

Matt. 6:5. And when thou prayest, thou shalt not be as the hypocrites are: for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward.

6. But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut the door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly.

7. But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking.

8. Be not ye therefore like unto them: for your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him.

Memory Verse: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Matt. 6:9.

Practical Truth: Our words should bring honor to our Father in heaven.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

God's name should always be spoken with a high respect to the point of awe. This would be showing reverence for God. Some in the world will use the name of God in light religious way or just by a habit they fall into. There would not be with it a feeling of deep reverence. This is not pleasing to the Lord and should not be. We know that those things we have which we lightly and carelessly use have little value to us. God wants to be real in our lives.

Under the Law of Moses the person who blasphemed or cursed the name of the Lord was put to death. (Lev. 24:10-16). What an awful penalty hangs over the head of thousands today who take the Lord's name in vain. They will not go unpunished.

Jesus tells us to let our speech be, "yes, yes, and no, no." In other words we should not use idle talk. There is so much slang used but God is not pleased with that. It should not be in the vocabulary of a saint of God. A person can be profane by talking idly and leaving God out of the place where He deserves to be honored and praised. "There is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." Acts 4:12.

—Mrs. Marie Miles