

FAITH^{AND} VICTORY

Church of God Servant



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The Life that Counts

The life that counts must toil and fight;
Must hate the wrong and love the right;
Must stand for truth, by day, by night—
This is the life that counts.

The life that counts must hopeful be;
In darkest night make melody;
Must wait the dawn on bended knee—
This is the life that counts.

The life that counts must aim to rise
Above the earth to sunlit skies;
Must fix its gaze on Paradise—
This is the life that counts.

The life that counts must helpful be;
The cares and needs of others see;
Must seek the slaves of sin to free—
This is the life that counts.

The life that counts is linked with God;
And turns not from the cross—the rod;
But walks with joy where Jesus trod—
This is the life that counts.

—A. W. S.

Faithfulness and Its Reward

“Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.”—Rev. 2:10.

These precious words were addressed by Jesus Christ, who is here designated the first and the last, who was dead and is alive, to the angel of the church in Smyrna, or to the minister and pastor of that church, who afterwards delivered them to all the members of the church. Though there was considerable wealth in the city of Smyrna, the followers of Jesus who resided in it were poor; but they were rich in spiritual things; they were wealthy in the best

sense of the word. And they were greatly persecuted; they suffered much for the sake of Christ and His gospel. “I know thy works,” said Christ, “and tribulation, and poverty, (but thou art rich) and I know the blasphemy of them which say they are Jews, and are not, but are the synagogue of Satan.” But this persecuted church was not left without consolation. Christ further said, “Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer; behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days,”—ten prophetic days, or a short period,—“be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.”

This blessed promise is left on record for the encouragement of all Christians. It is as applicable to us as it was to the church of Smyrna. None are without tribulation and difficulty, and to obtain the reward laid up in heaven, we must all be faithful unto death.

Faithfulness consists of honesty, uprightness, obedience, holiness. It is steadfastness, constancy, unwearied perseverance in the things of God. It is firmness in our belief of God's Word, a strict adherence to Christian principle and Christian duty.

You must be faithful in Christ. He is your Law-giver, your Teacher, your Redeemer and Saviour, and as such you must obey him and love him. Your allegiance and loyalty to God's dear Son must be manifest in every thing. Be concerned for his dignity, his honour and glory. Some deny his Deity, his Divine Nature, and degrade him to the level of a man. But the true and proper Divinity of Jesus Christ is plainly revealed in the Bible, and must be defended. Both the prophets and the apostles teach it. It lies at the foundation of the Christian system. The whole superstructure is built upon it. If it falls, everything falls with it. If Jesus was not divine as well as human, I dare not trust my soul in his hands. If he was only a man, I should be afraid to hazard my salvation with him. As I have but one soul, and am undone for ever if I once lose it, I dare not venture my soul with any man, or any number of men, or any priest, or any

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synod, or any angel: I dare not trust it with any but God. Lay it down then in your minds as a principle not to be doubted or disputed, that the Godship of Christ is a Scriptural doctrine, and stand by it with unflinching adherence. Be faithful to Christ; speak of him as the Scriptures speak of him; honour him as the Apostles honoured him; and, if required, be willing to suffer for him as the primitive Christians suffered for him.

You must be faithful to the truth which Christ taught. Of all the valuable things in the world, there is nothing, next to charity, so valuable as truth. Truth, eternal truth, must be the object of your search. You must embrace it, love it, cherish it, wherever you find it. To seek truth, to lay fast hold of it and retain it, is one of the noblest achievements. By the multitude the truth is not yet received; therefore, you must labour to spread it. Be not afraid of knowing and of making known the truth. Despair not of its final triumph. It will live on through endless ages; and its triumphs will know neither limit nor end. It is from heaven, and must prevail; it is immortal, and must outlive its foes. It will live and flourish while falsehood will be subdued and die. But it requires your aid; you must hold it up; you must teach it; you must diffuse it everywhere. Do justice to the truth; be faithful to it, and no power, however great, shall overcome it. God requires this, and the state of the church and the world requires it. Nor must you fear to suffer for the truth. Though some men decry it, and persecute it, and despise the books that defend it, be you its unflinching advocate. Live for the promotion of the truth; be no less willing to die for it. Let it be the daily food of your souls, the daily delight of your minds. To cherish a deep, inward reverence for truth; to give up luxuries, riches, honours, friends, and reputation for the sake of truth; to suffer reproach and loss, and be called fools, madmen, enthusiasts, and hypocrites for the cause of truth;—this is virtuous and Christlike; this is true faithfulness; this is the only true honour upon earth, the only sure path to glory.

You must be faithful to duty. You must slight none of your obligations, but must regard all as sacred. Believe the truth you must, and spread it too; but to stop there will render you unfaithful. The truth assented to by the understanding, must be submitted to by the heart, and allowed to influence and regulate the life. In searching the Holy Scriptures, whatever is revealed to you as a duty, you must do; and in watching the movements of Divine Providence, that path which appears plain to you as the path of duty, you must walk in with all diligence.

Faithfulness to duty is a comprehensive term, and may imply all that is required of us. Still, to make this part of my subject as plain as possible, I will also add, be faithful to your conscience. Seek first to have your conscience enlightened and purged by the Holy Spirit, and then be true to its suggestions in all things. You can neither be wise, nor good, nor happy, if you do not pay respect to conscience. Do everything

(Continued on Page Eleven)

Escape in Temptation

"There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that you are able; but will with the temptation also make a way of escape, that ye may be able to bear it." 1 Cor. 10:13.

But God is faithful to make a way of escape. These are important words. He is the one to make a way of escape when we are in temptation and trouble. So often we, in our human frailty, try to seek means of escape, but that is solely the business of the Lord. Our escape routes usually lead to a detour and we have to return to the Lord's way after all.

His way of escape requires much humility. I am thinking of the old-fashioned fire escapes that used to be on public buildings; one could not escape through one of them in a proud manner and, neither were you thinking of what others thought about you. Escape was the only thought in mind and you adjusted yourself to the only route of escape.

It's so easy to miss the Lord's way of getting through our trials victoriously if we do not humble ourselves. His word is true. In every trial or temptation God is faithful to provide a way for us to escape that we may be able to bear them. "He giveth grace to the humble."

At one time the great apostle Paul escaped from the Jews in a basket. He did not remind the Lord of his importance and pray for a more noble way of escape, but, no doubt, he was thankful for the basket route. We cannot be choicy in our ways of going through our trials, just so we get through in the way that pleases the Lord.

Humility is the grace that makes it easier to follow the Lord's instructions in escaping.

—O. A. Davenport

GOD'S PLAN

When God made man, He had a plan. Out of one, He made two. According to His plan, He then took the two and made them one, "male and female, made he them." He also had a plan for them. It was God's will for them to multiply and bring forth fruit to glorify his name. He made man in his own image. Jesus said, "What God hath joined together, let no man put asunder. For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh." (Rom. 7:2-3). Nothing but death can separate them, even as you cannot separate hot water and cold when they are put together.

Under the law, which was the old covenant, Moses gave them a command to write a bill of divorce to put her away. (Matt. 19:7-8). "He saith unto them, Moses because of the hardness of your hearts suffered you to put away your wives: but from the beginning it was not so." God's Word shall never pass away. His plan from the beginning still stands.

Jesus said, "I did not come to destroy the law, but to fulfill it." In the 5th chapter of Matthew Jesus opened his mouth and taught the order and law of the new covenant that He came to establish. (Jer. 31:31). Then said he, "Lo, I come to do thy will O God." (Heb. 10:9-10). "He taketh away the first that he may establish the second," (v. 10) "By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once and for all." God's plan for us is written in Heb. 12:22-25. "But ye are come unto Mount Sion, the heavenly Jerusalem and unto the city of the living God, to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant." "This is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws in their mind and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people." (Heb. 8:10). Amen.

—Sister Myrtle Bishop

GENTLENESS

"The servant of the Lord must be gentle." (2 Tim. 2:24).

When God conquers us and takes all the flint out of our nature, and we get deep visions into the Spirit of Jesus, we then see as never before the great rarity of gentleness of spirit in this dark and unheavenly world.

The graces of the Spirit do not settle themselves down upon us by chance, and if we do not discern certain states of grace, and choose them, and in our thoughts nourish them, they never become fastened in our nature or behavior.

Every advance step in grace must be preceded by first apprehending it, and then a prayer-resolve to have it.

So few are willing to undergo the suffering out of which thorough gentleness comes. We must die before we are turned into gentleness, and crucifixion involves suffering; it is a real breaking and crushing of self, which wrings the heart and conquers the mind.

There is a good deal of mere mental and logical sanctification nowadays, which is only a religious fiction. It consists of mentally putting one's self on the altar, and then mentally saying the altar sanctifies the gift, and then logically concluding therefore one is sanctified, and such an one goes forth with a gay, flippant, theological prattle about the deep things of God.

But the natural heartstrings have not been snapped, and the Adamic flint has not been ground to powder, and the bosom has not throbbed with the lonely, surging sighs of Gethsemane; and not having the real death marks of Calvary, there cannot be that soft, sweet, gentle, floating, victorious, overflowing, triumphant life that flows like a spring moving from an empty tomb.

"And great grace was upon them all." (Acts 4:33)

—G. D. W. (Streams in the Desert, Cowman Pub., Los Angeles, Calif.)

"Thy word is truth" John 17:17.

THE CALIFORNIA STATE CAMPMEETING

The California State campmeeting of the Church of God will be held on the saints' camp ground, located at 12312 Osborne Place, Pacoima, California, from August 24th through September 2nd, Lord willing. Pacoima is a suburb of Los Angeles, located in the northwest part of the city near the town of San Fernando.

If you come from the north by train or bus, get off at San Fernando. If you are on a train that does not stop in San Fernando, get off in Glendale. But do not go on in to Los Angeles as it is several miles farther through heavy traffic. If you come from the east or south, come into Los Angeles and phone for someone to come get you. The phone number is EMpire 9-3608.

Those coming to the meeting who do not own a cabin on the grounds, should remember that all of the cabins are owned by individuals and if you want the privilege of using a cabin you should make arrangements with the party owning the cabin before you come, and have the owner send us a notice of such arrangements; otherwise, you will need a tent and should notify us as early as possible as to your needs (tent and beds), since we have to go 25 miles after the equipment and rent a truck to haul it. The management will not take the responsibility of letting any one in a cabin without permission from the owner. Please make such arrangements before you come.

We expect the same visitation from God and the same manifestations of His power and grace as has characterized this meeting in former years, and we urge all of the saints throughout the west to plan to attend this meeting. Let us all come with a true purpose of heart to do good and to get good and let us all pray for, and expect, great things from God.

We expect a number of Spirit-filled New Testament ministers to be present to expound the doctrines of the New Testament in their entirety, to proclaim the soul-saving message of the gospel and to pray the prayer of faith in behalf of the spiritual and physical needs of the people.

We will be looking forward to seeing you at the campmeeting. All are welcome from any part of the country.

—Ostis B. Wilson

"Who Will Go For Me?"

The gospel tent and equipment are still idle, waiting for consecrated and qualified gospel worker volunteers to make use of them in the great field of harvest for souls. God-called reapers are urgently needed NOW lest many perishing souls be eternally lost. The wise man has rightly said, "He that observeth the wind shall not sow; and he that regardeth the clouds shall not reap." Eccl. 11:4. No doubt the fierce winds and clouds of adversity are hindering many from fulfilling the call of God.

One minister or gospel worker cannot handle the tent work alone. At least a company of three or four able-bodied persons are needed. Bro. Curtis Williams of Ohio has planned to use the tent during a part of July in Kentucky, so there should be time for a number of meetings elsewhere if all the plans are co-ordinated.

Also, there still exists the urgent need for a travel house trailer as part of the tent work equipment, along with additional liberal contributions to the National Missionary Fund to finance the tent evangelistic work.

Please send your contributions or inquiry about the tent equipment to Bro. Ralph Beisly, 407 Eldridge St., Coffeyville, Kansas.

—Lawrence D. Pruitt

"FAITH AND VICTORY"**16-PAGE HOLINESS MONTHLY**

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

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

Its motto: Have faith in God. Its object: The glory of God and the salvation of men; the promulgation and restoration of the whole truth to the people in this "evening time" as it was in the morning church of the first century; the unification of all true believers in one body by the love of God. Its standard: Separation from the 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.

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

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

In order to comply with the Oklahoma laws as a non-profit religious work, the Faith Publishing House is incorporated thereunder.

FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE

P. O. Box 713, 920 W. Mansur Ave., Guthrie, Oklahoma
Phone No. BUTler 2-1479

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

Editorials

We are now sending forth the July "Faith & Victory" papers and praying that the Lord will make the contents of this paper a rich blessing to every soul who reads it. There will be no August "Faith & Victory" paper printed, as we omit the paper for the month of August so the workers can have time to attend the camp meetings or do work for the Lord in other ways, and enjoy a change from the continued toil in the Print Shop.

We will print the Sunday School lessons for August, and those who have been getting them regularly will receive the lessons. Any others who want the Sunday School lessons for August should let us know very soon and we will send them to you.

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The "Evening Light" song books in shaped notes are now printed and we have them in the hands of the book-binders in Oklahoma City. They expect to have them finished in ten days or less, and we will have them in stock to send out to all who order them. These books have better cloth cover material than the last ones printed, and this book contains 16 additional pages of songs, making a total of 512 pages in the book. By the good providence of God we accepted a bargain in the buying of the paper and we are leaving the price the same as the former books, which is \$1.50 for each book here at the office. When shipped out, they are \$1.50 plus the transportation charges. One book would cost \$1.50 plus 15 cents for postage and wrapping. One dozen books would be \$18.00 plus \$1.00 postage. Send in your orders now, and the song books will be shipped very soon.

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We are praying that God will bless in the camp-meetings this summer and make them soul-saving meetings, and also that the saints of God may be fed on heaven's Bread. Every saint ought to try to attend one or more of the campmeetings this summer, and get his or her soul refreshed on the good things that come from Father's bounteous table.

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In the 17th chapter of John where Jesus was heavily burdened for the welfare of the souls of His disciples, He named over a number of things to the Father which He wanted the disciples to observe and do. In the third verse He wanted them to know the only true God and Jesus Christ whom He had sent, and went on to say to the Father that He had glorified Him on the earth. "I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do." In the 6th verse He said that the disciples had kept God's word. Justified souls keep the Word of God as far as they know, and in that way walk in the light as He reveals light and truth to them. In the 11th verse, with a burdened heart He cried unto the Father that these were in the world and asked

the Father to keep them through "thine own name those whom thou hast given me that they may be one as we are one. While I was with them in the world I kept them in Thy name." He said the world hated them because they were not of the world even as "I am not of the world." He did not pray that the Father would take them out of the world but that He would keep them from evil, and said that they were not of the world even as He was not of the world. Then He prayed the Father to "sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth." He said, "For their sakes I sanctify myself [or set himself apart to die on the cross] that they also might be sanctified through the truth." He wasn't praying for them alone but for them also "which shall believe on me through their word." What was this all for? "That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me." This is a wonderful prayer and reveals to us the burden that Jesus had for his disciples and us that we be sanctified and unified in one body.

In John the 15th chapter and the 2nd verse we read, "Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit." Every saved person is a branch in the true Vine, Christ Jesus. To purge means to purify or to cleanse.

In the 16th chapter we have some more encouragement to the disciples and to us. Let us begin reading at the 5th verse, "But now I go my way to him that sent me; and none of you asketh me, whither goest thou? But because I have said these things unto you, sorrow hath filled your heart. Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you." Now listen to what the Comforter will do when He comes into your soul. "And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: Of sin because they believe not on me; Of righteousness, because I go to my Father, and ye see me no more; of judgment, because the prince of this world is judged." The prince of this world here spoken of is none other than Satan, the enemy of all righteousness and of the truth. The Comforter living in your soul will be a rebuke against this evil spirit, and will give you power to witness for God and stand true in all the trials and temptations in this life. The Scripture says, "If God be for us, who can be against us?"

There are many places in the Bible where justified souls are exhorted to go on to perfection and receive the Holy Spirit, being cleansed from the sin nature which had passed upon all men through Adam's transgression. We have a clear expression of this truth brought out by John 14:15 where he first exhorts the justified soul, saying, "If ye love me, keep my commandments." A justified person will have to be keeping His commandments as far as he knows in order to be ready to receive the abiding Comforter. In John 15:3 Jesus tells His justified disciples that

they were clean through the word which He had spoken unto them. They were walking in the light as far as the Lord had revealed truth unto them and therefore He pronounced them clean.

Now in John 14:16 let us read, "I will pray the Father, and he will give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you forever: even the spirit of truth whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him; but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you." He says that the world cannot receive him. The world has reference to sinners, unsaved people. One has to be in a justified state before he can receive the Comforter, the Spirit of truth. This truth is also brought out in the fifth chapter of 1 Thess. Beginning at the 13th verse we read many things which a person ought to do, or truth they should walk in before they are ready to be sanctified, and the last exhortation given is, "Abstain from all appearance of evil," and then Paul says, "The very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ." Now listen to what he says, "Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it." God will do this very thing for you if you will make a consecration according to the Word of God found in Romans 12:1, 2.

Again we read in 1 John the first chapter where the apostle was instructing some justified children, and in the 4th verse was writing unto them that their joy might be full. They had some joy in a justified state, but John wanted their joy to be full in a sanctified experience, and thus he exhorted them to walk in the light. If we walk in darkness and claim fellowship with Him, we lie and do not the truth. In the 7th verse he says, "If we walk in the light as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin." A justified person must be walking in all the light that the Lord gives him in order to be ready for cleansing from that sin nature that passed upon all men through Adam's transgression (Romans 5:12). It comes out more clearly in the next verse which reads thus, "If we say that we have no sin [to be cleansed from], we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us." In the 9th verse he shows us the need of being saved or justified, and then cleansed. This is what he says, "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, [when we are forgiven of our sins we have peace with God through Christ] and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." That sin nature that passed upon all men because of Adam's transgression is an unrighteous element and must be cleansed out of the heart by faith in the cleansing blood of the Lamb of God through our consecration or presenting our body to Him as a living sacrifice. Bless His dear name!

Jude was burdened that the truth on sanctification should not be neglected to be taught to souls, and said in part by writing a letter to those who were sanctified by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ and called into the ministry that they should

"earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints." That faith for the reception of the Holy Spirit was given unto them on the day of Pentecost, and that is the faith that all true ministers should preach and practice today, for the need of this truth is great in this day and time. Many today are falling away from the truth and are denying the cleansing of the sin nature from the soul in the reception of the Holy Spirit. When they do that, they absolutely deny the truth that Peter spoke about the matter found in Acts 15:8, 9 which reads thus, "And God which knoweth the hearts, bare them witness, giving them the Holy Ghost, even as he did unto us; and put no difference between us and them, **"purifying their hearts by faith."** It would take the power of Satan to influence a man to contend against the above clear Biblical truth. The word "purifying" means "cleansing." Satan certainly does hate to have any one consecrate to God in such a manner that the sin nature will be cleansed from his being. As long as that sin nature is in the soul he can make that soul see the Scriptures in the wrong light, and they will be deceived and will be deceiving others. Read the 11th chapter of 2 Cor. and you will see how cleverly Satan worked to deceive unsuspecting souls.

BIBLES, BOOKS AND CARDS

- Bible Story ABC Book, spiral binding, 26 full-color pictures, size 8½x11, 32 pages, for ages 4-7.....\$1.00
 Stories Jesus Told, clothbound, 60 pages, 15 full-color pictures, the principal parables Jesus told, for ages 6-10\$1.95
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 1960 and 1961 "Faith and Victory" books, 11 issues of each year, bound in heavy paper—60c each, or 2 for \$1.00
 Cruden's Complete Concordance, 200,000 references 4.00
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Christ has no hands but our hands
 To do His work today.
 He has no feet but our feet,
 To lead men in His way.
 He has no tongue but our tongues
 To tell men how He died.
 He has no help but our help
 To bring them to His side. —A. J. Flint

Obituaries

Reuben Wesley Beisly was born March 11, 1874 in Cherokee County, Kansas and passed away June 4, 1962 at Nowata, Oklahoma at the age of 88 years, 2 months and 24 days.

On October 25, 1896, he was married to Lillie May Minter at Nevada, Missouri. Last October they observed their 65th wedding anniversary, proving a devoted life to each other.

The Lord blessed this union with 12 children: four daughters and 8 sons; two sons preceding him in death. He leaves to mourn his passing his devoted wife, Lillie May; four daughters, Mrs. Ruth Crain, Hayward, Calif.; Mrs. Pauline Tucker, Vinita, Okla.; Mrs. Lorene Gant, Nowata, Okla., and Mrs. Amy Imel, Aloha, Oregon; six sons, Tom, Caney, Kan.; P. J., Vinita, Okla.; Ralph, Coffeyville, Kan.; Rufus, Welch, Okla.; Jim, Vinita, Okla.; Edward, Nampa, Idaho. He also leaves one sister, Mrs. Laura Hanon; 2 half brothers, Walter and Ernest; 36 grandchildren, 34 great grandchildren, nieces, nephews and a host of other relatives, neighbors and friends.

He gave his heart to the Lord and lived a devoted tender life unto the end. Therefore, we shall not weep for the bliss of eternity has begun for him.

Funeral services were conducted by Bro. Richard Madden, assisted by Bro. Cecil Box.

Susie A. Williams was born Sept. 11, 1911, in Guthrie, Oklahoma. She departed this life March 31, 1962 at the age of 51 years.

While still a young girl she was saved in the Church of God. Sister Susie remained, until her death, a devout Christian, loving mother and wife; ever maintaining that through faith and prayer all things are possible through God. She was always cheerful and persistent in her duties pertaining to her religious belief.

She married Marion H. Jackson July 3, 1930, in Guthrie, Okla. To this union eleven children were born, nine sons and two daughters, two preceding her in death. Surviving are her husband, two daughters, seven sons, ten grandchildren, one sister, and four brothers. The daughters are: Mrs. Lorene Daniels and Dorothy. The sons are: Lawrence, Robert, Willie, James and Paul of Oklahoma City; Raymond of Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, and Rosenthal of Fort Chaffee, Ark., and many other relatives and friends.

Funeral services were conducted at the Church of God chapel in Oklahoma City by the pastor, Bro. Herman D. Kelly, assisted by Sister Josie Winn and Bro. E. Sanders. Scriptures used were: Ecc. 3:1-2, 2 Cor. 5:1-2-10, 2 Tim. 4:6-7.

Laure Blanch Nichols, daughter of Jake and Emma Speed, was born Sept. 19, 1891 in Kentucky and departed this life May 14, 1962, at Wichita, Kan. at the age of 70 years, 7 months and 25 days.

When a small child she moved, with her parents, to Alderson, Okla., where she also received her schooling. She was united in marriage to Mr. Edward Nichols June 13, 1911, at McAlester, Okla., and to this union four children were born. Her husband and one daughter preceded her in death. She was saved in the Church of God about 1916 and remained a faithful member until her death.

She leaves to mourn her passing, three children, Herbert Edward of Kansas City, Kan.; Mrs. Mary Jones, Portland, Ore., and Mrs. Naomi Jones, Wichita, Kan.; a

brother, John Speed, Detroit, Mich; ten grandchildren, other relatives and friends.

Funeral services were conducted by Bro. Lewis Williams, assisted by Bro. Bowman and Bro. U. Phillips.

James W. Warren was born April 17, 1878 in Holly Spring, Mississippi, to Mr. and Mrs. Karo Warren. He was united in marriage to Mollie Tarten in 1899, and to this union 12 children were born: 9 girls and 3 boys. His wife and 8 children preceded him in death.

Brother Warren moved to Wichita, Kan., in 1959. He was saved in the Church of God and remained a member until his death, May 20, 1962.

He is survived by three daughters, Mrs. Loudella Boykin, with whom he lived at the time of his death, Mrs. Kate Ella Knox, Mrs. Margaret Pete, all of Wichita, Kan.; one son, Avon Warren, Los Angeles, Calif.; 30 grandchildren, 28 great grandchildren, one brother, Crump Warren, one sister, Mrs. Eva Lyers, both of Holly Spring, Mississippi; a host of other relatives and friends.

Brother Warren has left behind him a memory of good deeds, for to live is Christ and to die is gain.

Funeral services were conducted by Bro. Lewis Williams, assisted by Sister Ada Davis.

Daniel A. Eck, son of Adam and Eva Eck, was born near Moundridge, Kan., on July 15, 1885 and passed away June 9, 1962 at the age of 76 years, 10 months and 25 days. When just a child he came with his parents to homestead near Meno, Okla., where he made his home.

On January 1, 1905 he was united in marriage to Ida Becker of Halstead, Kansas, at Meno, Okla. The Lord blessed this union with 17 children, 7 of whom preceded him in death, also his wife.

He leaves to mourn his passing 6 daughters: Mrs. Abe (Eva) Penner, Fairview, Okla.; Mrs. Carolina Chrisman, Enid, Okla.; Mrs. Ralph (Inez) Beisly, Coffeyville, Kan.; Mrs. Leonard (Clara) Wahl, Enid, Okla.; Mrs. Juell (Ruey) Tucker, Enid, Okla.; Mrs. Riley (Ella Mae) Mallatt, Wichita, Kan.; four sons: Albert D. Eck, Bartlett, Kan.; Waldo D. Eck, Covington, Okla.; Edwin D. Eck, Goltry, Okla.; Paul D. Eck, Meno, Okla.; 41 grandchildren, 21 great-grandchildren, 2 sisters, Mrs. Jacob (Lena) Koehn, Meno, Okla.; Mrs. Eva Unruh, Lynwood, Calif.; 1 brother, Henry A. Eck, Meno, Okla., besides a host of other relatives, neighbors and friends.

He gave his heart to the Lord in his youth and was faithful in giving good sound spiritual instruction to his children. He and Mother stood together in rearing their large family; he was a good provider for his family. Often we heard him quote II Cor. 12:14, "For the children ought not to lay up for the parents, but the parents for the children." Many are the sacrifices he made for the sake of his family.

He dearly loved all the little children. Grandchildren and great-grandchildren held a special place in his heart. Many times he would say, "I want to go to heaven where all the little children are."

He was patient in his trials of afflictions. Just since the first of the year, when he was burned so severely, he never complained though he never fully recovered from it.

He faithfully read his Bible and told us so often of the comfort he received from it. So many times we've heard him say, "Search the scriptures, for in them ye think ye have eternal life and they are they that testify of me [Christ]."

The funeral services were conducted at Meno, Okla., by Bro. Charles Smith, assisted by Bro. Fred Pruitt. Interment was at Meno, Okla.

Campmeeting Notices

JEFFERSON, OREGON CAMPMEETING

The Church of God campmeeting at Jefferson, Oregon will be held, Lord willing, this year on June 29 through July 8th.

All are invited to attend. Come and bring some one with you. We are looking forward to a good meeting and expecting the Lord to send the ministers of His choosing. The meeting will be supported by free-will offerings. For further information write N. C. White, Rt. 1, or Sister Beatrice Spaur, P. O. Box 254, Jefferson, Ore.

—Emma Busch, R. 2, Box 218, Scio, Ore.

Green Pastures, Okla. Campmeeting—July 6th to 15th

NATIONAL CAMPMEETING AT NEOSHO, MO.

The National Campmeeting of the Church of God will be held, the Lord willing, on July 20 to 29, 1962 on the Saints' campgrounds at Monark Springs, Mo. which is five miles east of Neosho, Mo. on Highway 86.

We are extending a hearty welcome to all who can attend this meeting, to come and enjoy the blessings that the Lord has in store for all that will come expecting a blessing. We will be able to feast upon the precious Word of God. Let us not quench the Spirit of God by our disobedience in any way.

There will be five services daily beside the children's meeting. Here you can receive salvation from sin, sanctification for complete cleansing, and divine healing for the physically sick and afflicted. Come and receive a blessing. The Lord will send His Spirit-filled ministers to preach His precious Word in its fullness.

Those coming by bus or train will find it necessary after arriving in Neosho to either take a taxicab to the campgrounds or phone to the grounds for someone to come and get you. The campground phone number will be posted at the bus and railway stations.

Meals will be served in the dining hall, financed by free-will offerings and donations of meat, vegetables and fruit as the Lord provides. As in the past, the camp tents will rent for \$5.00 each. A steel cot, including the mattress, rent for \$1.00. Space in the dormitories, including cot and mattress, rent for \$2.50. Those who feel unable to come due to financial circumstances, we encourage you to come. The Lord will provide and you will be cared for to the best of our ability. (God has never failed.) Those who can, should bring bedding, for often the nights are cool, especially if it rains. It has been decided best to not rent out tents to boys or girls unless they will be accompanied in the tent by an adult.

Bro. Merrill Williamson of Jena, La. has expressed his willingness to help in the tent and dormitory responsibilities, for which we are very grateful.

Those desiring tents or spaces in dormitories should send their orders in NOW, addressed to the undersigned. To send in contributions for the meeting, orders for tents, etc., or for further information, write Brother Ralph M. Beisly, 407 Eldridge St., Coffeyville, Kansas.

BAKERSFIELD, CALIF. CAMPMEETING

The campmeeting at Bakersfield, Calif. will be held, Lord willing, from August 3 to August 12, 1962, at the Church of God chapel, located at 501 South Brown St.

We extend a hearty welcome to all who can attend this meeting to come expecting to receive a blessing and to be a blessing to others. The expenses of the meeting

will be met through free-will offerings and contributions. Meals will be served in the dining hall on the grounds and sleeping quarters will be provided for all who come.

Those coming from the north on Highway 99, turn left on 4th street, which is about ½ mile south of California Ave. Go two blocks past Lakeview Ave. Those coming from the south on Highway 99, turn right on 4th Street, which is about ½ mile north of Brundage Lane. Go two blocks past Lakeview Ave. (4th Street changes to Virginia Ave.) The chapel is located on Virginia Ave. and Brown Street. Those coming in on No. 466 (Edison Highway), turn off just before entering town at left angle onto California Ave. Go about one mile, then turn left on Brown Street to Virginia Ave.

For further information, contact Francis Blackwell, 501 Monticello Ave., phone FA 3-2731, or I. C. Chandler, phone TE 1-5028.

GUTHRIE, OKLA. STATE CAMPMEETING

The Oklahoma State Campmeeting at Guthrie, Okla. will convene, Lord willing, Aug. 3 to 12, 1962 at Sixth and W. Warner Sts. We are looking forward to another gathering together of the children of God in these parts. We extend a hearty welcome to all who can attend this meeting. Provisions will be made to care for all. Expenses will be met by free-will offerings. Send contributions or donations of food to Bro. M. A. Davis, Rt. 4, Guthrie, Okla. Come praying for a soul-saving meeting.

—Bro. Ira D. Stover, Pastor

BOLEY, OKLA. CAMPMEETING

The annual Church of God Campmeeting at Boley, Okla., will begin, Lord willing, Friday, August 17th and end on Sunday, August 26th. We are looking to the Lord to send Holy Ghost filled ministers whom He can use at this place. Saints, pray for the meeting. —Sis. Ora Spears

MYRTLE, MO. CAMPMEETING

The Lord willing, the Myrtle, Mo. campmeeting of the Church of God will be held this year on Aug. 17 to 26. The campground is located ½ mile east of Myrtle and ¼ mile off the B B Highway. Watch for signs on the highway.

An invitation is given to all to come and receive a shower of blessings from the Lord. Please bring your pillow and bedding if you can, as it will help out. The meeting will be supported by the free-will offering plan as usual.

Pray much for the meeting, and that the Lord will send whom He wants to preach His Word.

If and when you come by bus or train to Thayer, Mo., phone Westmore 8-2482 or 8-2483. Some one will meet you there. For further information you may write or address: Church of God, Myrtle, Mo.

Your Bro. and Sister in the Lord,

—Alsia and Bessie Sorrell

California State Campmeeting, Pacoima, Calif. — August 24 to Sept. 2. (See complete notice on Page Three)

DOVER, OKLA. CAMPMEETING

The Lord willing, the Dover, Okla. campmeeting will be held on the chapel grounds, one mile north and 2½ miles east of Dover, beginning Aug. 31 through Sept 9, 1962. Dover is on Highway No. 81. Anyone desiring to be met at the bus station, notify us in time, and also what time your bus will arrive at Dover. This is important.

We stand for and teach the truth—justification, sanctification, divine healing, and the unity of believers. The meeting will be supported by the free-will offering plan.

For further information write to Henry Caldwell or Ulysses Phillips, Dover, Okla. Pray for the meeting.

NOTICE

Juniors—ages 8 to 12, bring your Bibles to Monark! Remember—and plan to attend your class every day in the dining hall during the afternoon service.

Girls—ages 11 to 15, be sure to contact Sister Sylvia Busbee at the Monark Campmeeting to determine time and place for a class your own age. Bring your Bibles!

MISSIONARY WORK IN OLD MEXICO

Calif.—Dear saints at the Publishing House: I salute you in the name of Jesus. At this writing, my heart is overflowing with praise and thanksgiving to God for his untold blessings. Truly the way grows brighter and brighter every day. The trials and tests the Lord permits to come our way are a great encouragement to us because we know that we already have the victory through Christ our Lord! We would be ashamed if we had to confess discouragement; for we see God's hand on every side, feel his power within, enjoy the fellowship of the saints through the oneness of His Spirit, and can only say, "Brighter days are sweetly dawning."

This past weekend was a glorious time spent in Rosarito Beach, Old Mexico, where the new work is increasing in spirit and number. Saturday we worked on the building, setting in some rough plumbing and getting a good start on the cement blocks. During the day, a little boy came with word that his mother wanted to see Brother Huskey. When he arrived at the home he found the mother suffering from a heart attack. She and her husband desired to be taken to Tiajuana to the doctor. Brother Huskey offered prayer with them, put them in his car, and drove to the building site to tell me of their request. As I met them at the road, saw the condition of the mother, and was aware that she was in great pain and hardly able to breathe, the Lord inspired my heart with much faith that he wanted to manifest himself and heal the woman of her suffering. I suggested that we have prayer. They looked at me rather skeptical. Brother Huskey turned off the engine. As prayer was offered the Lord came down on the scene and immediately healed the woman of her suffering. The husband was touched and tried to choke back tears. I suggested that Brother Huskey take them home, excused myself, and went back to work. The couple requested we come back and visit them that night. This we did and found them rejoicing in the healing power of God, sparing them the trip to Tiajuana, expense of a doctor and medicine, and with not any assurance of relief.

Sunday morning Brother Huskey went out on his motorcycle to invite the people to the afternoon service. About 1 p.m. he left with his station wagon and brought several loads of men, women, and children to meeting. In all, there were about 60 people in attendance. Sister Esquer, a native of Mexico, taught the children's class of between 30 and 40. This sister has been saved about a year now. She is a real inspiration and witnesses freely to the people.

We were able to employ a block-layer for \$4 a day and a helper for \$3.50 a day, so we trust the building will move along rapidly. This will be a great blessing to the work. The potential seems unlimited in that town of several thousand where God has opened the door for us to reach the people with the gospel.

After the meeting was over Sunday, several people asked for special prayer, and God manifested his power in touching sick bodies.

We're aware that the saints are praying as we are conscious of his anointing in preaching the unsearchable riches of Christ. Pray for us that we keep saved. I agree with Brother Chandler who often says if he keeps saved, the preaching will take care of itself. We delight in the straight and narrow way; for to walk therein brings a calm assurance and strength to the inner man, where abideth faith, hope, and charity.

While Sister Edith Cole is enjoying a furlough at her home in Missouri, Ruby Marken and Shirley Stice are carrying on the work in Santa Catarina, Mexico, and vicinity. They reported that two saved brothers in El Rodeo have expressed a desire to move out and help in the Lord's work. We've been praying that God would raise up native workers, and we're seeing evidence of the prayers being answered. Remember them in prayer.

—Harland H. Smith, 317 E. Cucamonga, Claremont, Cal.

TESTIMONIES

Calif.—Dear Brother and Sister Pruitt and all the dear Saints scattered abroad over the land: Greetings of sincere Christian love. I am saved today, sanctified and kept sweetly in His love. His will is my delight and comfort. He has said He will never leave us nor forsake us, and why should he? We are his purchased possession. We are purchased with the precious blood of His only begotten Son.

I want to thank all the dear saints for their prayers and help in this time of my affliction and, also, the loss of my dear husband. Praise God, he has only changed his address from 604 N. Juanita Ave., Redondo Beach, Calif., to the portals of the glory world, where Jesus, our blessed Redeemer, dwells. He loved the Lord with all his soul, mind and strength. He proved it by keeping His commandments. (John 14:23; 1 John 2:3-5). Praise our God forever. There is a way whereby we can know if our lives (our daily walk) is pleasing to God. I am praising God with all my ransomed power for ever finding this blessed highway of holiness. Our Lord will go with us for he hath trod the way before us. We need not fear what man may do unto us. The dear Lord is an intimate friend and helper. We have daily, his companionship and council. I was so glad that as I had to part with my dear one that God had special mercy and didn't let him linger and suffer long weary days or months. His life was unselfish, willing and obedient in the service of the Lord. He had finished his course. He made it his business to be ready and keep ready. I am so glad he ever came into my life. He taught me many lessons, one of which was greater patience. I never have seen more patience in one person, I don't think. I am doing my best for the Lord now and I mean to be more watchful. The enemy of our souls is sly. He doesn't mind if we live saved the most of our lives, if he can, he will cause us to get careless and lose our soul.

I had an accident. I tripped over a water pipe, which was rusty, and it broke off near the ground. Its jagged points pierced my left limb near the ankle. It was a deep wound and is not entirely well yet, but I have His promise. I fully believe He will complete the work. I am willing to wait on, and trust in Him. I would trust no other. Praise his dear name forever! I made my decision many years ago to take the way God mapped out for me for His way is best and the only way to ever see Him in peace. I have too much in this to lose out

now. I am not discouraged nor tired of the way for His way is best for us. We find many ways. People are making their own way. They are taking what they want from this and that group and leave off what they don't want to measure up to, therefore they are climbing up some other way; a way of their own choosing. I am so glad my heart doesn't want to change a single word that God gave us in his blessed word. Let me still share your burdens, joys and sorrows, for I feel I have a part and lot with the saints of the most high God. Let us all be faithful.

Yours, to love, pray for and serve till my summons comes.

—Georgia V. Zinn

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

Ohio.—Dear Sister Marie and Saints: I send greetings to all in the dear name of Jesus. It has been some time since I wrote in a testimony to the Faith and Victory, but the Lord has surely been good to me.

The last testimony I wrote I told about the serious auto accident in which my niece was involved. We surely thank you for your prayers in their behalf. God worked a mighty miracle and healed her spleen. We fasted and prayed earnestly that her kidney would be healed. God performed a miracle. Oh praise God! Oh, that men would praise the Lord for his goodness and for his wonderful works unto the children of men. Her pelvis was broken in three places and God put that together. Praise his name for it all. All the glory and praise belongs to God. She is back working full time on her job.

I thank God how he healed an affliction I had in my body. I woke up early this morning with a pain in the lower part of my stomach. It seemed I could not get up. I prayed and claimed the never failing promises and I began to feel better. I thought to myself that I was going to get up by faith. I did get up and got down and prayed. I came back to bed and God healed me. I could move any way that I wanted to. Praise God for it all. He is a wonderful Saviour to me.

I desire all of your prayers.

Yours in Christ,

—Sister Annie Stills

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

Ind.—Dear Sister Marie: Greetings in the name of our precious Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Today we surely have great reason to praise our Lord for the merciful way He has dealt with us in our time of need. We certainly want to thank the saints for the comforting letters and cards sent to us after my father went to be with the Lord. Words cannot express how much we appreciate everything that was done for us. May God richly reward each and every one for their many kind deeds. It is hard to have to realize that we will never see my father (Bro. Scott Baker) again in this world, but it is so wonderful to know that "if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens." (2 Cor. 5:1). And again the apostle Paul says, "But I would not have you ignorant brethren concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him." (1 Thess. 4:13, 14). Surely we are encouraged by the many promises in the Word of God.

Now, I want to again thank each of the saints for their many letters and prayers in our behalf.

Your sister in Christ,

Betty Mae Baker

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

N. Carolina—To the saints scattered abroad, greetings in our precious Lord: I am thanking Him today for salvation that makes us happy here and gives us a title to a home in heaven when this fleeting life is over,

and for the fellowship of the dear saints of God. They mean so much to us here in this old sin-cursed world. We see so many these days professing but not possessing real salvation.

The testimonies of the saints of God in the "Faith and Victory" paper mean much to us. We certainly need much encouragement in these times in which we live. We have many tests and trials, but God has given us the victory in every one. We have found his grace sufficient in every test and trial of life. We have a settled decision today to go all the way with the dear Lord regardless of the price. Heaven will be cheap at any cost.

We are trying, by the help of the Lord, to carry on a little work here for the Lord. It is a small work but it is a clean work. We are always glad for the saints of God to visit us in our work for the Lord. We have had the joy and privilege of meeting Brother and Sister Gibson from Missouri and Brother and Sister Abbott from Kentucky, also Brother Allen from Missouri and Brother Williams from Ohio, and Brother and Sister Sammons and Brother Key. We were so happy to meet them and hope to see some of them soon again.

Pray much for us here that we will always do our best for the Master.

—Stacy Biddix

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

In Texas traveling south (June 2)—Dear faithful ones at the Print Shop and saints scattered abroad, greetings to all from the byways and hedges: This finds us all quite well in body and much encouraged in our souls, as the Lord has made it possible for us to start out again with car and house trailer, and He has so strengthened my body that I'm standing the work and traveling fine. To the Lord be all praise and glory. And how we do appreciate the saints' prayers in our behalf!

We do want to be at our best for God, as we realize time is fast closing in. We can see more and more the careless attitude. Oh, dear people of God, let us be on fire for God; we don't want that spirit of unconcernedness to over-shadow us. Let us keep busy for the Lord. Be steadfast, walking in all the light that He flashes upon our pathway. Have one purpose in mind, and that is to please the Lord above all else in life.

The devil did fight hard against our starting out, but we felt it was God's will for us to go forth, and we were determined. We have been gone from our home eleven days, and we have truly felt the Lord's blessings upon us. We feel that our path has been directed.

Please continue to remember us in prayer as we labor in God's great wide field. We have a deep love for precious, lost and deceived souls for whom Christ suffered and died.

—Darius and Evelyn Gibson

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

Oklahoma.—Greetings to all the readers: O, my soul doth magnify our God this morning! He has freely given me His love, mercy and grace, and kept the victory in my soul, so I am able to say, I am still saved and encouraged to go all the way with Him.

God in His great love and wisdom has seen fit to take us through some needful tests and trials, but did not allow more on us than, by His grace, we were able to bear, and He has given us the victory again. Praise His dear name!

Dear saints, all our prayers have been answered in behalf of our daughter, Carol Ann. Mother Barton has written about her in the paper from time to time. She was born with a dislocated hip and wore a cast on both legs for nine months, and a brace for three months. My husband isn't saved, and he took her to a doctor at the age of 2½ yrs. The doctor put her in the hospital in traction for several days to pull her leg in place. This was

such a terrible shock to her. He was greatly surprised when the bone went in so easily. He said later that he wasn't expecting that, but thought he would have to operate to put it back in socket. I told him there had been a lot of prayers for her. God answered prayer and enabled her to adjust herself and be sweet and extremely patient in that uncomfortable cast, and even be happy and play and get around in it. For a year our hearts were so burdened and heavy for her complete healing.

At this time we want to thank everyone for their cards, letters of love and encouragement, gifts and help to Carol Ann and us during all this time. It meant so very much to know that others were under the burden with us.

We took her to the healing service on prayer and fast day that summer at Monark campmeeting and when hands were laid on her and prayer was offered, a minister said that God had just spoken to them and said, "Look up! I am going to heal this child." Praise the dear Lord! what faith He inspired in me, when right there was the witness from God and He enabled me to believe it and stand on His word from then on. She started mending from that very hour.

Last March she was checked, and according to the doctor's X-rays, she is doing all right; he even commented on how straight she walked.

While Carol Ann was in the cast we found out that God was going to bless us with another baby. Oh, how I did cry, beg and plead with God to let it be normal in every way. God gave me the faith to believe He would grant me this desire.

When this baby girl was six months old the doctor checked her and made X-rays. He said the hip dislocation trouble was hereditary and she could have it, too. To my great surprise, he said that her hip socket was not forming as it should. Somehow, God wouldn't let me truly believe this, even though the enemy worked hard.

In Nov. 1961, the doctor put a pillow splint on her, strapping it on in such a manner so as to hold her legs apart. He said to have her wear it day and night for about six months. I let her wear it for about two months, then my faith in God just wouldn't let me make her wear it during the day, only at night.

In March we took both girls to be X-rayed, and upon examination of the baby's X-rays the doctor said, "It looks like this girl will be a normal child." Praise our great God! "No good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly." (Psa. 84:11).

Recently God gave us another victory which I feel like telling for His glory: Our oldest child, Linda, was sent home from school with a rash on her face. It continued to become worse and spread; the itching was terrible. Linda wanted to trust God for her healing. Mother and Dad Barton came and anointed her as Jas. 5:14 tells us, and prayed for her. She suffered with the itching most of the time, except when we prayed. Her daddy had her taken to the doctor the next day and he diagnosed it as poison ivy or oak. He gave her a shot and told her to come back for two more. She didn't want to go back to the doctor she told her daddy. We were praying that he would be willing to let her trust in the Lord. God answered our prayer, and her daddy said she didn't have to go back if she wanted to trust God.

The itching was almost unbearable at times and her eyes were swollen almost shut, but God relieved her when prayer was offered from time to time. We all prayed that God would kill the effects of the shot if it would make her worse. She began to get discouraged because God hadn't healed her yet. We tried to help her understand about patience, and why God sometimes waits. She would try

to be more patient and would cry and pour her little heart out before God, and He surely blessed her in it, but she just didn't get any better.

We began fasting and continued to pray, doing all we knew to do, and begged God to let Linda look better when her daddy saw her so he wouldn't take her back to the doctor. When he saw her he said, "Well, you do look a little better." The swelling had gone down and the itching was not so bad. My heart leaped for joy when I saw God was working to get glory to His own name. The rest of the day she felt much better and on Friday she felt good all day. Saturday the enemy tried to bring the trouble back. She started itching in a different place and it was red. Linda said that God hadn't healed her like she thought he had, and she became discouraged again. After talking about it for awhile, she and I just rebuked the devil in Jesus' name and declared God had healed her, and we wouldn't believe anything else. The enemy had to leave and she continued to get better. The next day we couldn't even tell where the rash had been on her face.

Oh, how I love God today and thank Him for all his gracious dealings with me. He led me out of Babylon (the confused man-made churches of the world). "Come out of her my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins." (Rev. 18:4). The devil tried hard every way possible to deceive me and keep me in those man-made churches, even let some of my relatives get me interested in a way, where I innocently followed and got an experience of talking in "tongues." God Almighty delivered me from that way and led me into the one true way.

I am now free from all these churches that are in the world and also of the world, where the members look, act, and speak like the world. God has put me in His church that is in the world but not of the world. His church is from heaven. It is spoken of as the bride of Christ in the Bible. It is holy and pure, and no sinner is in it. When anyone, anywhere, repents and asks forgiveness, God forgives them and they are saved, or born, of God and they are in God's church right then at that moment, and are not supposed to join any man-made church. God will lead them by his Holy Spirit into the one body if they will read and obey the Word of God as they understand it.

I find His service sweeter all the way, and desire to yield myself more into His hands so He can work through me to help win souls for Christ. Pray for me, and my unsaved companion and family.

—Sister Mona Lee Barton

FAITHFULNESS AND ITS REWARD

(Continued from Page Two)

your inward monitor urges you to do; refrain from everything it bids you abstain from. It is the Spirit of Christ whispering within who commands you to feed that hungry brother, and clothe that half naked sister, and visit that afflicted widow, and educate that orphan child; who convinces you that you ought to wage war with that false and popular notion, and advocate that great neglected truth, and stand forth as a bold Christian reformer; and not to obey will incur the Divine displeasure. Your life will be unhappy, your very existence will be a burden, and your future prospects will be alarming beyond expression, if you set aside the authority of conscience. Better to offend the whole world than to sting your conscience and offend God. Better to lose every friend on earth,

and be stigmatized by all the opprobrious names which malice can put together, than to disregard the dictates of conscience. Better to suffer the loss of all things, be banished from our native land, imprisoned, or put to death, than to act contrary to our convictions of right and wrong. We must never act thus, either for the sake of worldly gain, or through fear of worldly loss; either for the sake of pleasing our earthly masters, or through fear of losing our situations; either for the sake of obedience to human authority, or through fear of reproach and persecution. A good conscience is the best enjoyment in the world. "No bed so soft," says Taylor, "no flowers so sweet, so florid, and delicious, as a good conscience, in which springs all that is delectable, all that may sustain and recreate our spirits." A conscience void of offense, whose admonitory voice has been respected and obeyed, is a blessing of inestimable value. The brightest examples of moral excellence ever known, were those of Christians who gave greatest heed to the suggestions of conscience. Be faithful then to your inward monitor.

This faithfulness should be exercised by all classes of persons. Whatever their position in the world, whatever their office in the church, whatever their relation in the domestic circle, they must be faithful. And here let me exhort you to the practice of this faithfulness.

Preachers of the Gospel, be faithful to your hearers. Tell them all God's truth so plainly that they cannot misunderstand you, or apply it to any but themselves. Aim not to win their approbation, but their hearts. "The grand scope of the Christian ministry," says Robert Hall, "is to bring men home to Christ." Any other design is a dishonour to God, and a dishonour to the ministry. Unfaithful ministers are the ruin of precious souls, and will stand at the great day of God's wrath, wrapped in a black shroud, charged with their damnation. Every minister should remember that God searches his heart, and examines his motives, and knows the design he has in view. Owen says, "Ministers are seldom honoured with success, unless they are continually aiming at the conversion of sinners."

Sunday school teachers, be faithful to your scholars. This consists in something more than instructing them in the written word; that word must become the soul's food, the mind's comfort, the heart's ease, and the life's regulator and guide. Children must be taught, not only to become Scripture-readers, but Scripture-lovers and commandment doers, of God's Word. They must be taught, not only to show outward respect to all things sacred, but to feel an inward reverence for them. They must be led to Jesus in life's early dawn, conducted to the cross ere their hearts become hard and their wills stubborn, and that they may grow up pillars in the temple of the living God. If you seek not the accomplishment of this great end, you are unfaithful to their souls. A knowledge of the way of life without walking in it, will increase their condemnation.

Parents, be faithful to your children. Let the

same pious disposition possess your souls, which possessed the soul of Joshua when he said, "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." Do not leave the whole work of their instruction and salvation to their teachers, but cooperate with them and help them. Too many neglect this, hoping that their deficiency will be made up in the Sunday school. This is unfaithfulness, and must be laid aside: what is taught in the school must be confirmed and illustrated at home. You must back up the efforts of the teacher alike by your instructions, your prayers, and your example.

Christians of every class, be faithful to the ungodly world. Let your warning voice sound in every ear, and ring in every heart and conscience. Reprove, rebuke, exhort, teach, invite, and use every lawful means to save sinners. Let your instructions be understood; let your light be seen; let your influence be felt; let your example attract. Suffer none to perish through ignorance; suffer none to fall over the precipice of time into the future state unprepared for want of being apprized of their danger; allow none to die in despair for want of the blood-stained cross being held up to their view. Be faithful in your instructions to them; in your example before them; in your prayers and intercessions for them; in the use of all the means employed for their salvation.

And this faithfulness must be exercised in all places, in all circumstances, and at all times. You must be faithful in the mill, in the forge, in the warehouse, in the market, behind the counter, and on your farms. You will be subject to reproach and loss; you will be tempted and buffeted; but you must be faithful, Christ will be with you. There are many weeds in earth's garden,—many thorns and briars, which may prick and annoy you, and give you pain; but you must be faithful. You may be called to move in the humblest walks of life, may be reduced to poverty; but you must be faithful. You may be called to suffer disease and anguish, even in the noon of life, and your earthly prospects, once cheering, may be blighted; but you must be faithful. And if God calls you to it, you must be faithful unto the death; you must be willing to lay down your life, if required, and suffer with a martyr's courage.

In all your endeavors to be faithful seek, by earnest prayer, the aid of the Holy Spirit. You can do nothing in your own strength, separated from Christ. Whoever depends upon himself, will fall. The powers of the world and the powers of the evil spirits which are set in array against you are so great, that Omnipotence alone can hold you up, and enable you to conquer. But the promise of the Holy Spirit is given to all who believe, and in every duty and in every conflict we may have his assistance.

Christ addresses these words to each Christian, to every one, individually. "Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life." None need be afraid of being overlooked or forgotten in the mass. He may have dwelt in an obscure village; he may have passed his days in a forest, or on the mountain side; he may have lived in a lonely, humble cottage;

he may have been unknown in the Christian world; he may have lived in poverty; yet these words are spoken to him as much as to the Christian in the crowded city; or the palace, or the pulpit, or the college, or the hall of science, or any public place or public situation. To every true disciple, whether young or old, rich or poor, learned or ignorant, black or white, be he on the sea or on the land, in his native country or ten thousand miles away, amongst friends or amongst enemies, Christ says, "Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life."

In conclusion, let me ask, Are you amongst the number of the faithful, and do you claim this promise as belonging to you? Are you serving God? Have you quitted the devil's service, deserted the devil's ranks, and taken your place amongst the followers of Jesus? Do you own Christ as your Master, your Lawgiver, your King? Are you his willing servants, his obedient subjects; and are submission and obedience your delight? Are you endeavoring to serve him faithfully? Are you striving to obtain the crown of life; and is the crown in prospect? Have you a well-grounded hope of receiving this blessedness, this heavenly felicity; and does that hope bear you up amidst life's trials? If this is your condition, you are happy, and have cause for unspeakable gratitude to God; but if it is not, you have cause for deep humiliation and sorrow. You are in a wretched, deplorable state. If you are not serving Christ, you are serving Satan. There is no middle state between these two. If you are not running for eternal life, you are running in the path that leads to death. If you have not a prospect of the better country, you are groping your way in clouds of darkness, which, unless dispersed by the light of heaven in answer to the prayer of faith, will thicken and thicken till you are lost in the blackness of darkness for ever. Then turn now to the Lord and seek forgiveness. Seek it with earnestness. Seek it by faith in the blood of the Lamb. It is the great office of the Lamb of God to take away sin. In asking you to part with sin, I am asking you to part with an enemy: in asking you to come to Christ, I am asking you to come to a friend that sticketh closer than a brother. The service I ask you to leave, is the worst on the earth, and its wages is death; the service I ask you to embark in, is the best in the world, and its reward is a crown of life.

—S. Henn

Law of Liberty

"But whoso looketh into the perfect LAW OF LIBERTY, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed." James 1:25.

The "PERFECT LAW OF LIBERTY" here is referring to the New Testament Word of God. "When you think of a law you think of something that restrains you. You feel that you are able to do just so much and no more. When you build a house in some areas you have to build it according to the specifications laid down by the law. In some places you must

build a house that costs a certain amount. Maybe you would like to have a cow, horse or some chickens, but where you live the law forbids it. You are restrained from having that. A law is "rules of conduct established and enforced by authority." (Web. Dic.) So there are limitations in a law. But our text speaks of a "law of liberty." Webster's Dictionary tells us that liberty means "freedom; not confined; freedom from slavery, captivity, or any other form of arbitrary control." Our text tells us that if we will look into the Word of God, the perfect law of liberty and continue in it, being obedient to it, we will be blessed in so doing.

When a person has confessed his sins and turned his back upon sin, with a willing heart, and seeks to know what God wants him to do, God will forgive him and he will be freed from the bondage of sin and the devil. A person who is in sin is under bondage. He is not free. The apostle Paul speaks of how it was with him when he was in sin. He said, "For the good that I would, I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do." He was under the bondage of sin. The devil was his master and he had to obey him. He said, "But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is my members." He declared that he was a "wretched man" and cried out, "Who shall deliver me from the body of this death?" But he looked to God and said, "I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord." (Rom. 7:19-25). Praise the Lord, there is deliverance for every soul through the precious, innocent blood of Jesus. There is freedom and liberty in Christ. As a person goes on to perfection and is filled with the Holy Spirit, his soul can rejoice in freedom, liberty and love. Oh, the love of God so fills the soul that you desire to please the One who liberated you from that awful bondage of sin. God is love and love caused Jesus to come down here to this sin-cursed world to live, die and be resurrected again for our sins. When we see His great love, it melts our hearts in love for Him. That love grows stronger as we learn more about Him. And in sanctification our love is perfected. (1 John 4:17). There is no restraint in the law of love, but it is the "law of liberty."

When I was growing up I was governed by a love that I had for my parents. My father is a minister (Bro. Fred Pruitt), and you know how ready some are to criticize a minister. I did not like for anyone to say anything against my father. He had often told his children that we must be examples and obey him because the Bible said, "For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God?" (1 Tim. 3:5). Therefore it was impressed strongly upon me that if I did something wrong, my parents would be blamed. Since I loved them I tried to not do anything that would bring criticism upon them. It was not hard for me to do those things they required of me because I loved them. I had a happy youth and childhood because I loved to do the right, yet others looking on probably said and felt that I had been held too strictly, but if

they only knew it, I loved to do what was right and my parents only required that which was right and according to the Word of God.

This is the way it is with our God. When we are saved and filled with the Holy Spirit, we love to obey Him. We do not feel it is just our duty but a privilege to please Him. A child of God is ever seeking to know more how to please the Lover of his soul. Love is the governing force and therefore there is no restraint but liberty in living for God. When God's children look into the "perfect law of liberty" and see something that God says for them to do, it makes them happy to know that and to do it. Why? Because they love God and love to please Him. Then the blessings that are showered upon the soul through obedience are so wonderful that they again seek to find out how they can better please the Lord. Oh, it is wonderful! It is ever in their hearts and minds, "not my will, but Thine be done." A complete surrender of mind, soul, body, will, strength and all to God brings liberty. "Now the Lord is that Spirit: and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. But we all, with open face [heart] beholding as in a glass [Bible] the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord." (2 Cor. 3:17-18). Does that sound like bondage? Praise the Lord, the soul has freedom and peace after looking into the Word of God with an open heart. By obeying it we are changed from glory (justification) to glory (sanctification). God's ways will bring true happiness and freedom.

"Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage." Do you want to be free? You can find liberty in God's Word. God's children go to all the shows and amusements they want to. They dress just the way they want to. They love God so much that they want to and delight in doing the things they find in the "perfect law of liberty." —Marie Miles

ARE YOU BUILDING ON THE ROCK, OR ON THE SHIFTING SAND?

Two men once started, we are told,
A goodly house to build;
And each went forth with courage bold,
His purpose to fulfill.

The one looked well the landscape o'er,
And tested out the soil;
Something must be done said he,
Or else my plans will spoil.

And so he said, This will I do,
I'll dig down to the rock,
And then if stormy winds should blow,
My house will stand the shock.

He dug, and dug, until at last
He hit the solid rock.
And thereupon he built a house
That did withstand the shock.

He laid a sure foundation stone,
And built upon the same;
Of which a house as this, said he,
I will not be ashamed.

The other man, he builded, too,
Just so as he had planned;
But he did not take time to dig,
But built right on the sand.

The sun was bright, the days were calm,
The house was soon complete,
The structure seemed to be the same
As the one across the street.

One day a dark cloud in the west
Foretold a coming storm;
The lightning flashed, the wind was fierce,
The thunders gave alarm.

The rain in mighty torrents fell,
The flood arose, and then,
The house built on the shifting sand
Went down with the stream.

But see! the house built on the rock
Withstood the howling storm;
It was not moved, it did not shake,
And neither felt of harm.

Where are you building friend, today:
On Christ the Solid Rock?
Or on the whims and creeds of men
That will not stand the shock?
—Ulysses Phillips

BIBLE STUDY

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

July 1, 1962

JOSIAH'S REFORMS

Printed Portion 2 Kings 23:2-3, 21-27

2 Kings 23:2 And the king went up into the house of the Lord, and all the men of Judah and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem with him, and the priests, and the prophets, and all the people, both small and great: and he read in their ears all the words of the book of the covenant which was found in the house of the Lord.

3 And the king stood by a pillar, and made a covenant before the Lord, to walk after the Lord, and to keep his commandments and his testimonies and his statutes with all their heart and all their soul, to perform the words of this covenant that were written in this book. And all the people stood to the covenant.

21 And the king commanded all the people, saying, Keep the passover unto the Lord your God, as it is written in the book of this covenant.

22 Surely there was not holden such a passover from the days of the judges that judged Israel, nor in all the days of the kings of Israel, nor of the kings of Judah;

23 But in the eighteenth year of king Josiah, wherein this passover was holden to the Lord in Jerusalem.

24 Moreover, the workers with familiar spirits, and the wizards, and the images, and the idols, and all abominations that were spied in the land of Judah and in Jerusalem, did Josiah put away, that he might perform the words of the law which were written in the book that Hilkiah the priest found in the house of the Lord.

25 And like unto him was there no king before him, that turned to the Lord with all his heart, and with all his soul, and with all his might, according to all the

law of Moses; neither after him arose there any like him. 26 Notwithstanding the Lord turned not from the fierceness of his great wrath, wherewith his anger was kindled against Judah, because of all the provocations that Manasseh had provoked him withal.

27 And the Lord said, I will remove Judah also out of my sight, as I have removed Israel, and will cast off this city Jerusalem which I have chosen, and the house of which I said, My name shall be there.

Memory Verse: And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say? Luke 6:46.

Practical Truth: Whatsoever a man or nation sows they will reap.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

The next 14 lessons will cover a period of about 100 years in the history of the southern kingdom, Judah. The seeds of idolatry had been sown by Solomon and later the fruit of trouble was reaped. They refused to listen to the prophets that were sent to them. Because they had sinned, God had promised to punish them. Into this situation, the young 8-year-old Josiah became king. Josiah loved God and our lesson begins with him and the people listening to the book of God being read that had been found in the rubble of the temple of God. It is believed by some that this book was the book of Deuteronomy. Read the 28th chapter. You can then understand why they were so troubled. The young king tore his clothes and commanded that the law of God be kept. He put the idols, images, wizards, etc., out of the land. He wanted to set his house in order. Maybe, the Lord would change his mind and not pour out his wrath upon them. But it was too late or they just did not all return unto the Lord with all their heart as did their king. It seems that nations reach a point of no return as it seems our nation has. Our last verses in our lesson tell us that God was still going to punish that nation for their sins. God promised the young king that it would not happen in his day because he had humbled his heart. (2 Kings 22:18-20). God will bless individuals and give them grace, even if they live among wicked people.

July 8, 1962

JEREMIAH ANNOUNCES IMPENDING TRAGEDY

Printed Portion Jeremiah 25:1-11

Jeremiah 25:1 The word that came to Jeremiah concerning all the people of Judah in the fourth year of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah king of Judah, that was the first of Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon;

2 The which Jeremiah the prophet spake unto all the people of Judah, and to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, saying,

3 From the thirteenth year of Josiah the son of Amon king of Judah, even unto his day, that is the three and twentieth year, the word of the Lord hath come unto me, and I have spoken unto you, rising early and speaking; but ye have not hearkened.

4 And the Lord hath sent unto you all his servants the prophets, rising early and sending them; but ye have not hearkened, nor inclined your ear to hear.

5 They said, Turn ye again now every one from his evil way, and from the evil of your doings, and dwell in the land that the Lord hath given unto you and to your fathers for ever and ever:

6 And go not after other gods to serve them, and to worship them, and provoke me not to anger with the

works of your hands; and I will do you no hurt.

7 Yet ye have not hearkened unto me, saith the Lord; that ye might provoke me to anger with the works of your hands to your own hurt.

8 Therefore thus saith the Lord of hosts; Because ye have not heard my words,

9 Behold, I will send and take all the families of the north, saith the Lord, and Nebuchadrezzar and the king of Babylon, my servant, and will bring them against this land, and against the inhabitants thereof, and against all these nations round about, and will utterly destroy them, and make them an astonishment, and an hissing, and perpetual desolations.

10 Moreover I will take from them the voice of mirth, and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom, and the voice of the bride, the sound of the millstones, and the light of the candle.

11 And this whole land shall be a desolation, and an astonishment; and these nations shall serve the king of Babylon seventy years.

Memory Verse: Turn ye again now every one from his evil way, and from the evil of your doings. Jeremiah 25:5.

Practical Truth: We love people when we tell them how to avoid trouble.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Jeremiah began prophesying during the time of king Josiah. His ministry covers a period of about 40 years. Jeremiah was opposed by powerful forces. He spent considerable time in prison and at times fled for his life. He had a message to give from God that went unheeded. He constantly reminded his listeners that his message came from God and not him. One time he thought of not making mention of the Lord any more but he said, "His word was in my heart as a burning fire shut up in my bones, and I was weary with forbearing, and I could not stay." (Jer. 20:9).

He was full of the love of God and could not bear to see the people madly rushing on into certain destruction and exile. He wept and pleaded. Some may say, "Why tell them if they will not hear?" But it's God's plan that all be given a chance to choose the right. Surely His love and faithfulness to every soul is great.

Jeremiah told them that the king Nebuchadrezzar would come with an army and destroy them. Some, he would take into exile and the nation would serve him 70 years. He pleaded with them to turn from their evil ways so this would not happen. But it seemed they had ears to hear but did not hear. Today people are being warned about the end of the wicked, but they go on in their sins and do not listen or make a change. How sad it makes the heart of those who love them.

July 15, 1962

HABAKKUK QUESTIONS THE WAYS OF GOD

Printed Portion Habakkuk 1:1-6; 2:2-4

Habakkuk 1:1 The burden which Habakkuk the prophet did see.

2 O Lord, how long shall I cry, and thou wilt not hear! even cry out unto thee of violence, and thou wilt not save!

3 Why dost thou shew me iniquity, and cause me to behold grievance? for spoiling and violence are before me: and there are that raise up strife and contention.

4 Therefore the law is slackened, and judgment doth never go forth: for the wicked doth compass about the righteous; therefore wrong judgment proceedeth.

5 Behold ye among the heathen, and regard, and wonder marvellously; for I will work a work in your days, which ye will not believe, though it be told you.

6 For, lo, I raise up the Chaldeans, that bitter and hasty nation, which shall march through the breadth of the land, to possess the dwellingplaces that are not theirs.

2:2 And the Lord answered me, and said, Write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it.

3 For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry.

4 Behold, his soul which is lifted up is not upright in him: but the just shall live by his faith.

Memory Verse: Behold, his soul which is lifted up is not upright in him: but the just shall live by his faith. Habakkuk 2:4.

Practical Truth: God does all things right. He is never too early or too late.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Habakkuk prophesied the same time that Jeremiah did, under the same conditions. His burden was heavy. Difficult questions filled his distressed soul because of the sins of the people and how they refused to listen to the voice of God. He cried unto the Lord and said, "O Lord, how long shall I cry and Thou wilt not hear?" How long will God allow evil kings to dominate the nation? In the 5th and 6th verses the Lord answers. God had prepared the Chaldean nation to come as the corrector of Judah. They were a wicked people and famous for their atrocities.

God did not answer all of Habakkuk's questions nor is he supposed to question God. But rather, "the just shall live by his faith." (verse 4). This is the key to the whole book of Habakkuk. Paul (the apostle) five hundred years later repeats these words. (Rom. 11:17). He describes this being the means by which men are reconciled to God, through Christ. Those who believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and have saving faith are justified and become the true children of Abraham. Then 1500 years after the Apostle Paul wrote this, Martin Luther found his peace with God through this same scripture and the light began to break through to others in that time of darkness.

Habakkuk writes in the last four verses of his book that he was surrounded with fears but secure in his faith.

July 22, 1962

JEREMIAH EXPOSES FALSE PROPHETS

Printed Portion: Jeremiah 27:12-17; 37:6-10

Jer. 27:12 I spake also to Zedekiah king of Judah according to all these words, saying, Bring your necks under the yoke of the king of Babylon, and serve him and his people, and live.

13 Why will ye die, thou and thy people, by the sword, by the famine, and by the pestilence, as the Lord hath spoken against the nation that will not serve the king of Babylon?

14 Therefore hearken not unto the words of the prophets that speak unto you, saying, Ye shall not serve the king of Babylon: for they prophesy a lie unto you.

15 For I have not sent them, saith the Lord, yet they prophesy a lie in my name; that I might drive you out, and that ye might perish, ye, and the prophets that prophesy unto you.

16 Also I spake to the priests and to all this people, saying, Thus saith the Lord; Hearken not to the words of your prophets that prophesy unto you, saying, Behold, the vessels of the Lord's house shall now shortly be brought again from Babylon: for they prophesy a lie unto you.

17 Hearken not unto them; serve the king of Babylon, and live: wherefore should this city be laid waste?

37:6 Then came the word of the Lord unto the prophet Jeremiah, saying,

7 Thus saith the Lord, the God of Israel; Thus shall ye say to the king of Judah, that sent you unto me to enquire of me; Behold, Pharaoh's army, which is come forth to help you, shall return to Egypt into their own land.

8 And the Chaldeans shall come again, and fight against this city, and take it, and burn it with fire.

9 Thus saith the Lord; Deceive not yourselves, saying, The Chaldeans shall surely depart from us: for they shall not depart.

10 For though ye had smitten the whole army of the Chaldeans that fight against you, and there remained but wounded men among them, yet should they rise up every man in his tent, and burn this city with fire.

Memory Verse: Render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's and unto God the things that are God's. Matthew 22:21.

Practical Truth: When we are yoked up with Christ we are willing to trust him to lead us right.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Judah had been overrun by the Babylonians and some were taken captive but the city had not been destroyed. Zedekiah had been put on the throne by their conquerors. Zedekiah and the people were wanting to rise up against their conquerors but our lesson begins with the prophet Jeremiah advising them to come under the yoke of the Babylonians and live. Jeremiah knew that this was God's will for them at this time. He said that they should be submissive and live. But there were other prophets in the land who were false prophets. They were telling the people to rebel and that the king of Babylon would not come against them again. Jeremiah knew that if the Babylonians came again they would destroy the city of Jerusalem and the temple. He felt sad because the people would listen to the false prophets.

Jeremiah wore a yoke and gave messengers from other states yokes to take back to their rulers. Jeremiah 37th chapter tells about a false prophet taking off the yoke from Jeremiah and breaking it. Jeremiah told him that God had put a yoke of iron on them and because he taught a lie that he would die within the year and it came to pass.

We have false prophets today that are giving out false messages and are deceiving the people. They feel it is too humble a way to be yoked up with Christ. They want to follow the majority. It truly becomes a yoke of iron to them. The yoke of Christ is light.

July 29, 1962

JEREMIAH SEES HOPE BEYOND TRAGEDY

Printed Portion Jeremiah 30:18-19; 31:31-34; 33:14-16

Jer. 30:18 Thus saith the Lord; Behold, I will bring again the captivity of Jacob's tents, and have mercy on his dwellingplaces; and the city shall be builded upon her own heap, and the palace shall remain after the manner thereof.

19 And out of them shall proceed thanksgiving and the

voice of them that make merry: and I will multiply them, and they shall not be few; I will also glorify them, and they shall not be small.

31:31 Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah:

32 Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt; which my covenant they brake, although I was an husband unto them, saith the Lord;

33 But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the Lord, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people.

34 And they shall teach no more every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for they shall all know me, from the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith the Lord: for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.

33:14 Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that I will perform that good thing which I have promised unto the house of Israel and to the house of Judah.

15 In those days, and at that time, will I cause the Branch of righteousness to grow up unto David; and he shall execute judgment and righteousness in the land.

16 In those days shall Judah be saved, and Jerusalem shall dwell safely: and this is the name wherewith she shall be called, The Lord our righteousness.

Memory Verse: But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the Lord, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people. Jeremiah 31:33.

Practical Truth: We can rejoice today because we are living under the new covenant.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Jeremiah preached a message of repentance to Judah before they were overrun by the Babylonians. Then when judgment did come he urged them to submit to the rule of the conquerors. Now, as he turns to the 8000 skilled men and others who were captives, his message takes on a different tone. They are asking how long will they have to stay in the foreign land as captives. Our lesson is part of a letter that Jeremiah wrote to the captives. He wrote words of comfort to them and told them to build them homes and live peaceable with their captors. We read in the book of Daniel about him and his three friends who were captives. He told them that they would return in 70 years to their home land and again the city would be built.

The last part of our lesson is a prophecy of what was to come in the time of Jesus. He is the Branch of Righteousness who was a descendent of David. He tells them that he was going to make a new covenant with them. We are living under that new covenant today. The Holy Spirit has come and those who are forgiven of their sins and are filled with the Holy Spirit have the law of God written in their hearts. He is our daily guide and comforter. We are in the everlasting kingdom which was promised to David. 2 Sam. 7:16.

The Bible is divided into two great sections—the Old Testament or covenant. On the night of Jesus' crucifixion, he handed the cup to his disciples and said, "This cup is the new testament (covenant) in my blood which is shed for you."

—Sister Marie Miles