

FAITH^{AND}VICTORY

Church of God Servant



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We Render Thanks to God

We thank Thee, Lord, because we know
That Thou our Father art;
O let the words of thy dear Son
Dwell richly in our heart.

We thank Thee for thy precious Word,
That thou in love hast given
To shed a light upon our path,
And guide us safe to heaven.

When we were far away from God,
And groping in the night,
We thank Thee for Thy Spirit, Lord,
That led us to the light.

We thank Thee for our daily food,
We thank Thee, too, for rest;
We thank Thee for the flame of love
That burns within our breast.

For every good and perfect gift
That cometh from above;
We thank Thee, Lord, because we know
That truly Thou art Love.

We thank Thee for the trials of life
That Thou has brought us through;
And pray that Thou wouldst help us now
Thy precious will to do.

We thank Thee for that blest abode,
A mansion in the sky,
Prepared for those who love the Lord,
And in His service die.

—Ulysses Phillips

NOTICE

A large number of subscriptions EXPIRE with this issue. If you find an expiration blank stapled to the inside of the wrapper of your paper, fill in the information requested and RETURN to this office AT ONCE so you will not miss a copy.

Do You Want Peace?

People of the world take tons of sedatives trying to find peace and happiness. Many writers, doctors, and people of the world continually call attention to the emotional and mental conditions, fears and doubts of people who are continually seeking peace and contentment. The night clubs, bar rooms, dance halls, theaters, and amusement centers are crowded with people trying to get their minds off their problems, troubles and that continual call within the soul which desires peace and rest. They are like the fish out of water. It is seeking its home. They are like the caged bird, flying against the cage, trying to soar away to its natural home. They are like the caged animal that walks back and forth, trying to find a way of escape to its home in the forest.

Oh, how sad for this to be when peace and happiness are within the reach of every person. It is so easy to find that many are overlooking the way. It is so different and contrary to the natural trend of the world and fleshly desires that so many will not take time to look in the right direction. It is so humble and simple that people are not willing to bow low enough to get peace. Dear ones, there is peace for every troubled soul. There is a way to find the home of the soul. You can be at rest.

The Bible says, "There is no peace, saith my God, to the wicked. But the wicked are like the troubled sea, when it cannot rest, whose waters cast up mire and dirt" (Isa. 57:21, 20). Your sins and wickedness are causing you the trouble and unrest. If you want to have peace, you need to get rid of your sins. You ask, "How can I do that?" You can't do it for yourself, but you must be willing to come to One who can do it for you. Jesus Christ, the Saviour, offered His innocent blood that your sins might be forgiven. Your part is to be willing to repent, confess your sins to Him, believe that He can and does forgive you, and the condemnation will be lifted from your soul. Believe the Bible which says, "For he hath made him [Jesus] to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him" (2 Cor. 5:21). "If we

confess our sins, he [Jesus] is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9). "For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness" (Rom. 10:10). We cannot find peace to the soul anywhere else except in Christ. Jesus has said, "I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace" (John 16:33). Oh, that wonderful peace, quietness and rest that will flood the soul when a person will come, humbly confessing his sins, forsaking them, and with faith believing that they are all gone.

Dear ones, there is peace for you. But it can only be found in Christ. Why go on in your sins any longer? Why continue to let that restlessness lead you here and there? Why not accept the humble way that leads to happiness? Why wait any longer? Why don't you find a place of prayer right now? Pour out your heart to Jesus. Tell Him all about your need and how your soul needs peace. Tell Him you are sorry that you have sinned against Him. Tell Him that you are tired of the ways of the world that do not satisfy your soul. Ask Him to forgive you, to save you, and to fill your soul with peace. Pray with faith. Believe His words when He said, "Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest" (Matt. 11:28). Since you have done your part by coming, He will never fail to do His part. He will give you rest. Praise the Lord! You will never be sorry that you made the decision to come to the Lord. You will find that it is a wonderful life to live. Your soul will be at home with Christ. Won't you come to Him today?

—Sister Marie Miles

HOLINESS—God's Only Standard For Man

The normal desire of every normal person is for purity of heart. The purpose for which God created man was for fellowship and communion with Himself, and no other state, or condition will ever fulfill the heart's desire. Riches, fame, or high position in any field of endeavor, without God, are all sadly disappointing. Holiness is God's standard—He has no other. Sinfulness is the devil's standard, and he has no other. We have our own free choice. There are no good sins and bad sins; little sins and big sins. It all goes together. It is just sin that keeps us out of the realm of God's grace.

Holiness is not attained by merely "turning a new leaf," or by forming a resolution. Perhaps the strongest opposition to Bible holiness arises from a misunderstanding at this point. To attain holiness and purity of heart, we must go with Christ to Calvary, and there die a spiritual death to sin and uncleanness. "If any man will come after me let him deny himself, and take up his cross and follow me" (Matt. 16:24). "I am crucified with Christ," says Paul, "nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me" (Gal. 2:20). The cross has a loving appeal to those who are broken in spirit.

The heart is the spring of every motive and purpose, and for that reason, there must be a regeneration of heart, if we are ever to be made acceptable with God. "A good man, out of the good treasure of his heart, bringeth forth that which is good, and an evil man, out of the evil treasure of his heart, bringeth forth that which is evil: for of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh" (Luke 6:45). Jesus said, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin" (John 8:34), and "No man can serve two masters" (Mat. 6:24).

By transgressing God's law, Adam died a spiritual death, and, by that act, he brought sin and death to all the human family. "As in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive" (1 Cor. 15:22). Since we are born under the Adamic curse, when we became personally accountable to God for our wrong-doing, and took another step downward and away from God, it should be easy for us to see the necessity of two divine works of grace to restore us fully to God's likeness and favor. There are two experiences of divine grace in full salvation. It is glorious beyond human ability to express. Repentance, and a full surrender to God, brings His pardon for all willful transgression, and a complete dedication of our life and all to Him, gives the fullness of the Spirit in sanctifying power into our lives.

This is all very beautifully taught in Hebrews chapters 9 and 10, in which he describes the superior sacrifice made by Christ, and its superior cleansing above the Old Testament sacrifices, which were a shadow, or type of Christ's sacrifice, which He made once and for all. "By one offering He hath perfected for ever, them that are sanctified" (Heb. 10:14). Sanctification is an instantaneous experience. It can not be gained by development, or growth. One well-known minister said: "If we try to grow into sanctification, we are like a big red guinea wasp—bigger the day we are hatched than we ever will be any more." That is true.

Under the Adamic curse, we abide in a state of spiritual death in sin. That means we are totally oblivious to the Spirit of life, which is in Christ, until we are aroused by the Spirit of conviction, and resurrected by the quickening power of God to new life in Christ, to walk in newness of life. (Romans 6:4). We understand this to be the first resurrection, and it says, "Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection" (Rev. 20:6). "God, who is rich in mercy, for His great love wherewith He loved us, even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened [resurrected] us together with Christ" (Eph. 2:4, 5). Becoming a Christian is a resurrection, born into a new spiritual realm, into which sin never can come.

Just as a sinner is dead IN sin, so is a Christian dead TO sin. "Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? God forbid. How shall we that are dead to sin live any longer therein?" (Romans 6:1, 2). "Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ" (Eph. 2:5). In that state we are as dead to sin as we will be to the activities

of this life, after we are dead, physically, and buried out in the cemetery. To be dead means dead, in either case. For instance we will say Mr. Jones is a farmer; but Mr. Jones dies and is buried, and everybody around knows he is dead. But someone comes along and says Mr. Jones is still active in his farm work. We would think that person was deplorably irresponsible, mentally. But that would be just as sane and reasonable as to say a man who has died to sin is still sinning.

Holiness has never been popular with this haughty world, and never will be. Naaman stayed a leper until he humbled himself and took God's way. There is no other hope for the malady of sin. "Who-soever commits sin is a child of the devil.—No man who is a child of God commits sin.—This is how the children of God and those of the devil can be distinguished" (1 John 3:8-10)—Goodspeed. Yes, that is the only way we are to know them, one sins, and the other does not. Oh, that God will help us see this important truth! —J. Rolley Self

Eternal Life, Our Inheritance

"Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned" (Rom. 5:12). God sent His only begotten Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh. Thus, we may be redeemed back to God through the shed blood of Jesus Christ. God gave His Son that we may have the gift of eternal life, which is our inheritance from our eternal Father. It is the gift of God to all mankind alike.

God in His great love and tender mercy stands with outstretched hands, holding out this unspeakable gift to you, and you, and you, and whosoever will may receive it. Though the world scorns, and hearts grow harder, His hand is reached out still. Not by works on our part, not by the good deeds that we have done, not that one can say in his own strength, "I have done good," but it is the gift of God to us. Though we do ever so much good, though we live a good moral life always, and give all our earthly possessions, unless we reach out and receive that gift, our eternal inheritance, we will miss heaven and be lost in sin's dark night. Again I say, it is not that we have done good or bad, but it is in coming to the realization of what God has done for us and humbling our hearts to receive it. God has the same gift for the good moral man, the drunkard, the thief, the murderer, or those steeped in a multitude of sins. You may have salvation if you will.

Won't you let Jesus come into your heart? Receive the blessings of sins forgiven. Accept Christ as your Saviour. Reach out by faith in God and receive that gift God has for you. Oh, the joy and peace that will flood your soul when Jesus comes into your heart! The nervous, restless nights spent because of a load of sin will be over when peace is made with God and we have done all we know to please Him. We can go to bed and sleep all night in

sweet restful sleep, knowing that all is well. We enjoy blessed rest as we keep all on the altar and hid away with Christ in God, awaiting that blissful day when we shall be changed from mortal to immortal, when death shall be swallowed up in victory (1 Cor. 15:54) and we shall go sweeping through the gates of glory to receive our eternal inheritance with God our Father and be with Him in a place of sweet rest forevermore. Praise our God, forever and ever! "My heart is fixed on Jesus, No other hope have I, I could not live without Him and without Him dare not die."

—Gladys Cashio

God's Sword and Sickle

In the Bible Jesus is referred to as both a Lamb and as a Lion; a Lamb for meekness and humility, a Lion for strength and power. In Romans 11:22 we read, "Behold therefore the goodness and severity of God: on them which fell, severity; but toward thee, goodness, if thou continue in his goodness: otherwise thou also shalt be cut off."

In this article we wish to show the goodness of God, along with His severity, that men may be taught to willingly obey Him who has created this universe and has all power, might and wisdom in His hands. Oh, that men would learn to fear to do evil and grieve the great heart of our Father, God, and His dear Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, and willingly be corrected when He chastens or rebukes.

In the first chapter of Isaiah and the 18th verse we find what our loving God says in His fatherly affection for us: "Come now, and let us reason together." In the next verse He says in kindness and love for us, "If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land." God calls for willing obedience. In this we see the goodness of God. Let us read the 20th verse and take note of God's severity if we are disobedient, for it reads thus, "But if ye refuse and rebel, ye shall be devoured with the sword: for the mouth of the Lord has spoken it." In Ephesians 6:17 we learn that the sword of the Spirit is the WORD OF GOD.

Whatever God sees is best for your soul's welfare, He will do that for you, whether it be chastisement, rebuke, or a prolonged furnace of affliction. In 1 Peter 4:12, we read, "Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you." After writing at length of our trials and afflictions, he ends up with this consoling and comforting scripture, "Wherefore, let them that suffer according to the will of God commit the keeping of their souls to him in well doing, as unto a faithful Creator." In all this we see the goodness of God to His beloved trusting children.

Now let us cite some instances of His severity upon those who rebel, refuse and ignore warnings and commandments. God is doing good to all people; to the wicked and to the righteous alike. He causes the sun to rise on the evil and the good alike, and

(Continued on Page Nine)

"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.

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Special Subscription Offer—**Ten Names, Three Months for \$1.00**

In the October issue of this paper an order blank envelope was inserted in each copy with spaces for ten names and addresses of friends and neighbors whom you want to receive the "Faith and Victory" paper for three months, beginning with the January, 1963 issue. Request more order blank envelopes if needed, and send in all the names and addresses as soon as possible. This offer will expire Dec. 8, 1962. A premium will be given for every group of ten names and \$1.00 remittance. This liberal offer is made possible by the free-will offerings of the saints and lovers of the truth. This is your opportunity to be a missionary, aiding in your part of the Great Commission to the Church to carry the whole gospel to the whole world!

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How We Got Our Bible. This book was written by E. E. Byrum. Paper bound, containing 46 pages—14 pages of which records the arrest, trial and crucifixion of Jesus Christ as reported by Pontius Pilate. This book is exceedingly interesting. Retail price, 25c.

The Christian Home Wall Calendar for 1963. The pictures are beautifully colored. There is a scripture text for each day of 1963, and daily thoughts for meditation. Retail price, 45c each.

(The above listed retail prices are for the information of those who may want to purchase any of these items separate from this special offer.)

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



Bro. B. U. Etuk and helper

In the above picture is Bro. B. U. Etuk and his typist sitting with the typewriter for which the saints sent money to him to purchase for their use in the Lord's work in West Africa. They are still calling for missionaries to come and help them in getting souls saved and churches of God established in the truth of His Word. Souls there are hungry for the truth. It seems to me that some one or ones whom God has settled down into the truth and established in soul-saving work, could hear the Macedonian call, "Come over to West Africa and help us." I am happy to say that one brother has been holding the matter of going before the Lord.

The native workers needed transportation facilities, so the saints have sent them money to buy two bicycles and some other things. It is very necessary that we have a missionary in that country to send reports to the church and keep us posted concerning the gospel work and other conditions existing.

—Fred Pruitt (Editor)

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We appreciated the good-will of those who sent us birthday cards and gifts on our 81st birthday on October 4th. Accept our thanks for the same, and I pray that the face of the Lord will shine upon you and all your interests; that all your days will be joyful and pleasant.

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The Lord's Print Shop has been a very busy place since the campmeeting season ended. With several additional workers we have been printing some books which were out of stock, also doing other work, such as printing gospel tracts and listing the subscriptions of the three months offer.

We are so thankful for the extra room for office and shop which the Lord has enabled us to build. It is a great relief not to be crowded up as it has been in past years. The Lord is increasing the work and the addition to the building was needful. The

Church of God tracts, papers, and books are reaching more people all the time, and the body of believers is increasing in number all the time. Bless His dear name! He surely does save to the uttermost all who come unto God by Christ our Saviour.

Let us do more for the saving of souls, and also see that we lay our treasures up in heaven to the glory of God, our heavenly Father.

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The true Church of God is a called out people from all humanly-organized so-called churches. They are divinely organized and governed by the Lord through the operation of the Holy Spirit. They are not of this world, therefore, they do not join the things of the world, nor move in the spirit of the world. Being born again from above, they are attached to the True Vine, Christ Jesus, and bear the fruits of the Spirit by the grace of God, in spite of hypocrites, ungodly professors, and wicked men who follow after the world and its deceitful ways to hell.

The Church of God flock was purchased by the blood of Christ. (Acts 20:28) He sets the members in the body as it pleases Him. (1 Cor. 12:18) The Church of God is a spiritual building (1 Peter 2:5). Jesus Christ is the chief corner stone and the apostles are foundation stones in the building. Read Eph. 2:20-22. They are all builded and fitly framed together, and they grow unto an holy temple in the Lord. They are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.

During the three and one-half years that Jesus Christ preached the Gospel here in the world, He gathered material—men who believed in Him and left all and followed Him. When he found Peter, James, John and Andrew with their nets, as they were fishermen, He called to them to follow Him and they left all and followed Him. By so doing, they became foundation stones in the Church of God. As He went on preaching, He found other of the apostles and they followed Him. Later He sent out seventy and commanded them to preach the gospel, heal the sick, cast out devils and tell the people that the kingdom of God had come nigh unto them. When Peter was asked whom he thought Jesus was, his reply was: "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God." Jesus said unto him, "That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against IT." As He was then in the act of building His church or kingdom, He said, "I will build my church," for much of the work of gathering material and getting it ready was yet to be done. On the day of Pentecost, He had them all together in one accord and He occupied His church by the incoming of the Holy Ghost and gave spiritual gifts to different ones. The church was set in order and began to function in the world as a body of people inhabited by His Spirit.

When the Holy Spirit came from heaven and entered into the 120 on the day of Pentecost and spiritual gifts were given, the church was completed. Immediately after Peter preached, others believed and were added to the church.

Let us quote some scriptures to prove where the church came from. In Malachi 3:1 we read "Behold I will send my messenger [John the Baptist] and he will prepare the way before me: and the Lord [Jesus Christ] whom ye seek shall suddenly come to his temple [his spiritual house], even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in [the Messiah, even Jesus]: Behold, he shall come, saith the Lord of hosts." Those who are mature enough in the Lord to discern spiritual truths can see very plainly that this prophecy relates to the coming of the Holy Ghost from heaven into the spiritual 120 justified saints on the day of Pentecost, and the church was cleansed and endued with power from on high.

Let us read in the 2nd chap. of Acts, verses 1-3, of the coming of the Holy Ghost. "And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly [this word "suddenly" was used in Malachi's prophecy] there came a sound from heaven [the elements of the church came down from heaven] as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them." They were all cleansed at the same time they received the Holy Ghost. Jesus refers to this occasion in Matt. 16:28, and Mark refers to it in the first verse of the 9th chapter which reads thus, "... Verily, I say unto you, That there be some of them that stand here, which shall not taste of death, till they have seen the kingdom [or church] of God come with power."

The apostle John saw this wonderful scene when he was on the island of Patmos. He has it on record in the 21st chapter of Revelation and the 2nd and 3rd verses and again in the 9th and 10th verses. Let us quote the 10th verse, "And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great and high mountain, and shewed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God."

Oh, the need of living in the Spirit, so one can clearly see the spiritual Church of God, the body of Christ which He inhabits and honors as His own in this world—the one little flock which He will take back to heaven with Him in that great Judgment Day when fire will be sent down from heaven to punish all who are out of Christ. As Noah's ark was the only safe place when the flood was on, so Christ will be the only safe place when the fire is burning the wicked with the earth and all things therein. Dear ones, if you are in Christ, be sure to stay in Him; if not in Christ, be sure to get in Him and He in you, that you may be always in a safe place, ready for His coming.

As Bible repentance is the believing ground for justification, so Bible consecration is the believing ground for sanctification.

The true Church of God universal is one body in Christ, but consisting of many member congregations, separated and divided geographically but not spiritually.

BIBLES, BOOKS AND CARDS

- I Learn to Read About Jesus, cloth binding, basic primer for 1st graders, 63 pages, simple short sentences 1.75
- 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
- Jesus Was Their Friend, clothbound, 64 pages, 18 full-color pictures, stories about men and women who followed Jesus, for ages 8-12\$1.95
- Egermeir's Bible Story Book, 640 pages, colored pictures, the best in its field\$4.50
- 1962 "Beautiful Way" books, paper cover, 208 pages; stories, poems and Scriptures for ages 5-12.....\$1.00
- 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
- Smith's Bible Dictionary 3.95
- Fox's Book of Martyrs 3.00
- Pilgrim's Progress (Illustrated) 2.95
- Rainbow Bible for Children, stiff, printed cover 2.75
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- National New Testament with Psalms, large print, approx. 6x8 3.75
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- Evening Light Song Book, 512 pages—\$1.50, 15c postage.
- Christmas Cards, scripture text, 21 in box—order now and avoid the rush. 1.00
- 1963 Scripture Text Calendar, postpaid45
- Order from Faith Pub. House, Box 713, Guthrie, Okla.

OBITUARIES

Ben Trinkle of Hardinburg, Indiana, was called to rest September 23, 1962. Had he lived until October 29, he would have been 79 years of age. He had been ill for nearly ten years and his suffering was great. The last two years of his life were spent in a nursing home at French Lick, Indiana.

He would always give me good advice. I would go and visit with him at night and as long as he could read, he would read the Bible to me. He understood it and loved it. He got worse and when we would go to see him, he didn't recognize us. I hope he is at rest now. I know he loved the Lord and the right way. He prayed much for all his children. Pray for us.

His daughter,

—Erma Smith

Sister Neva Buchanan was born in Illinois, April 9, 1877 and departed this life October 1, 1962 at Wynne, Arkansas at the age of 85 years, 6 months, and 21 days.

She was united in holy matrimony to William Buchanan, who along with two children, preceded her in death. Sister Buchanan was born into the Church of God when a young woman and was faithful to God until the time of her passing. She was called of God many years ago in

the tract missionary work and made extreme sacrifice to fill her place in the work of God. She never lost the desire for her work, even when she was much afflicted and inactive she would often express her burden to see the gospel go forth in the printed message. She was instrumental in writing some tracts of her own. Her family, neighbors, and friends rose and blest her for her faithful work. She will be greatly missed by all who knew her, but she needed rest and we are grateful for her release from the hard journey of life that she traveled.

She leaves to mourn her passing: one son, Winfred Buchanan of Flint, Michigan; one brother, Bro. Roy Cade of Shawnee, Okla., two sisters, Dolly Williams of Cherry Valley, Ark., and Laura Crawford of Caraway Ark., two grandsons; besides this, a number of other relatives and friends.

Funeral services were conducted in Cherry Valley, Ark., by Charles R. Smith assisted by Brothers Sharp and Sloan.

Carrie Magnolia McCarty was born July 22, 1878 in Jasper County, Mississippi and departed this life Aug. 24, 1962, at the age of 84 years, 1 month and 2 days. She was united in marriage to William Matthew James on November 11, 1895. To this union were born 15 children. Her husband and five children preceded her in death. She is survived by seven sons, Howard of Mobile Ala.; Harvey and Huston of Louin, Miss.; Oliver, Russell and Monroe of Loranger, La.; Tom Q. of Hammond, La.; three daughters, Mrs. Lottie (Joiner) Porter, Guthrie, Okla.; Mrs. Bessie Raynor, Louin, Miss.; and Mrs. Lila Winstead of Hammond, La.; thirty grandchildren and several great grandchildren, two sisters, Mrs. Rebecca Robertson of Downey, Calif., and Mrs. Rosa McNeil of Harlingen, Texas, several half-sisters and brothers and a host of other relatives and friends.

She had been a wonderful mother, wife, neighbor, and friend, and at the last, her words were, "I am ready to go." Remains were laid away in Antioch Cemetery near her home. We can say, the Lord giveth and the Lord has taken away, blessed be the name of the Lord.

John M. Houck, aged 43, husband of Jessie (Havens) Houck, died suddenly at his home in Springfield, Missouri after suffering a heart attack on October 2, 1962.

He was born in New Bloomfield, Pa., son of Charles L. and Grace (Burd) Houck. He attended the services of the Church of God in Springfield, Mo.

In addition to his wife and parents, he is survived by three children: Mae Ruth, wife of Leroy Smith, Perkaspie; John Ray Houck, Perkaspie; James Robert Houck at home; two brothers, Wade A. Houck, Duncannon, Pa., Charles Houck, Jr., Perkaspie; two sisters, Mrs. Earl Godshall and Mrs. Warren E. Myers, both of Perkaspie; one grandson. He was preceded in death by his first wife, the former Mae Keough, in 1947.

Funeral services were held at the Sommers Funeral Home, Telford, Pa., October 6. Interment in St. Andrews Union Cemetery, Perkaspie, Pa. Services were conducted by Bro. Darius Gibson.

Prayer Requests

S. Car.—Dear Readers and Praying People: I feel led to write and ask you to pray for me. I am now 72 years old and my health is failing me. I have hardening of the arteries and I am despondent most of the time. I try to pray to the blessed Lord all the time. I've been praying for sanctification for some time. The dear Lord

has shown me some things I must leave off. I'm trying to live up to everything the dear Lord wants me to do. I have many loved ones who are lost. It seems to me that people have forgotten God. Many who profess to know Christ, keep their television on just about all the time. Would to God their eyes could open wide and they could see themselves as God sees them. I believe the Lord will soon come again. Remember me in your prayers.

—Mrs. T. P. Barber

Mo.—Dear Bro. Pruitt: I need your earnest prayer in this hour of trouble. Many problems need to be solved for me and I want to see my children delivered from the chains of sin.

—Mrs. Blanche Coad

NOTE OF APPRECIATION

Greetings to all the dear people of God: This leaves us encouraged and willing to press on for God. Although words cannot express our hearts' gratitude, we do greatly appreciate the combined effort that has taken care of our loss suffered in the accident.

It is just about more than we can take in, how great God is. He has abundantly supplied all the need for the expense of the wreck on both cars. Praise His name! "All my soul could want forever, I do find in Christ." As the Word says, "Stand still and see the salvation of God." The devil tried to bring a lot of discouraging things. We had just started six children to school and were trying to work on our house. It looked like what money we had watched so closely was all gone and more, too, in different ways, but that One whose windows are always open, was looking down.

—Bro. and Sister Richard Madden and family

WORK DAY SET FOR NATIONAL CAMPGROUNDS

Bro. Ralph Beisly, business manager of the National campground at Neosho (Monark Springs) Mo., sent word to announce a work day on the campground for Saturday, November 10th for the purpose of re-roofing the large tabernacle. The present cedar shingle roof has been on more than 20 years, and those who attended the campmeeting last summer know well how it leaked from the rains. It was proposed that a white composition shingle of the square tab design be used for the new roof.

If enough help is present on that day, the job could be completed, so mark Nov. 10th on your calendar and plan to be there, Lord willing. Give some additional time and labor to the Lord and His great cause, and receive a spiritual blessing here and hereafter. Bring your hammer and nail apron.

The sisters will prepare the meals in the dining hall on the campground for the workers. May we meet you there?

Lawrence D. Pruitt, Secretary

SPECIAL NOTICE TO OKLAHOMA SAINTS

The saints assembled at the business meeting of the Oklahoma State campmeeting here at Guthrie last summer were informed by the trustees of the urgent need of repairs on the state campground buildings, especially the women's dormitory and the tabernacle. The women's dormitory needs a new ceiling and paint for the same. The tabernacle needs painting, and the entire composition shingle roof needs to be replaced. One or two of the hot water tanks in the dormitory and dining hall have rusted out and are leaking.

These repairs and replacements will cost approximately \$650.00. Since there are not sufficient funds

in the State Treasury to cover these costs, all the saints of Oklahoma are informed of these needs and exhorted to give cheerfully and liberally. This is your campmeeting and you will want the buildings in good condition for the benefit of all those who attend.

Please send your free-will offering direct to the treasurer, Bro. M. A. Davis, Rt. 4, Guthrie, Oklahoma. If you would like to donate some time and labor on the repair work, contact Bro. Davis by letter or phone BUTler 2-3442.

Meeting Notices

LOS ANGELES, CALIF., REVIVAL MEETING

The annual revival meeting at the Los Angeles Church of God will convene, the Lord willing, on November 23rd through December 2nd, 1962 at 1381 Walnut St., Los Angeles, Calif. Every one is welcome. We request your prayers for the meeting.

For further information, phone or write Bro. I. C. Chandler, phone TEmple 1-2166, Rt. 6, Box 37, Bakersfield, Calif. or to Bro. T. R. Summers, phone PLEasant 8-8319, 207 E. 76 Place, Los Angeles 3, Calif.

ANNUAL REVIVAL AT OKEENE, OKLAHOMA

The Church of God at Okeene, Okla., will hold its annual revival meeting, the Lord willing, on November 2nd through the 11th, 1962.

We are expecting Bro. Ostis B. Wilson and other ministers to be with us through this meeting. We are asking the prayers of the saints that people will come out to hear the word of God and souls will be stirred and saved.

Come west from Hennessey, Okla. on highway 51 to filling station which is 1½ miles west of the river bridge, then 2½ miles south or 7 miles east of Okeene and 2½ miles south.

For further information, write Louis Droke or Loyd C. Wilson, both Route 1, Okeene, Okla., telephone 18R53 or 18R525.

HAMMOND, LA. ASSEMBLY MEETING

The annual Assembly Meeting at Hammond, La., will run eight days, beginning Nov. 18th and ending Nov. 25th inclusive. We are expecting God to send ministers of His choosing. Everyone is invited to attend.

—M. F. Williamson
203 White St., Hammond, La.

Mexico Missionary Report

Dear Readers of the "Faith and Victory" paper:

Some while has elapsed since we sent in a report on the work in Mexico. First, and most important of all, we report victory through our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. I enjoy the blessings of God personally, which brings inspiration to tell others of God's wonderful plan of redemption. We solicit your earnest prayers that the missionary efforts will be owned and blessed of God with His Spirit leading, guiding, and directing as we endeavor to fill the place that God has given us to labor for Him.

In the Mexican settlement of El Rodeo some of the people have been drawn out of the meeting by a man who introduced himself as a preacher. Soon after meeting him we learned that he indicated that we were of the same faith and expressed a desire for us to unite and

build a church together. We had reason to hesitate to answer in the affirmative, and as a result, within a week he persuaded a number of the people to cease going to our meeting saying, "Those people are in error." Last Saturday evening the Lord especially blessed in the giving of His word. One brother who is new in the Lord, and just recently baptized, had been telling me about this preacher and thought it might be well to unite with him. He said the only difference that he knew of was that we do not use musical instruments and they do. Secondly, they say "hallelujah" and we don't. On the other hand, another brother, Andres Cuevas, had testified that they made lots of noise, danced furiously, and explained practically nothing. At the close of the meeting Saturday night the first brother mentioned, rose to his feet and praised God for the Word, saying, "I never heard anything like it." We give God the glory as it was His simple truth anointed by the Holy Spirit. Although there were only about twenty in service, as compared to the usual 40 or 45 we are not discouraged, knowing that honest hearts will eventually follow after the truth.

Two weeks ago in Llano Colorado four people came forward for spiritual help. This last Saturday evening (Sept. 22) the Lord again blessed in the singing and preaching. The interest is still high in El Alamo with approximately 75 in attendance Sunday morning. Recently, a young mother of three children was baptized in a pond near Rancho Viejo. She is wonderfully saved and desired her husband to be saved also. There are others asking to be baptized who have been manifesting the fruits of a saved life for some time. We regret to say that some who have been saved at one time have backslidden but still attend meeting and at times literally bury their heads as the Word goes forth. We see a slow but steady addition to the church, for which we give God thanks.

At Santa Catarina Sister Ruby Marken and Sister Edith Cole are meeting with opposition from the enemy but are of good courage and willing to carry the cross in order to see souls saved. They solicit your earnest prayers.

The Huskeys are back in Rosarito after having attended campmeeting in Pacoima. We came through Rosarito Sunday afternoon. The service had been over a while but a man and his wife were still there seeking spiritual help and counsel. We counseled with them for about a half an hour. We read scriptures and testified of God's grace and after having prayer together, left them much encouraged. Do pray for their complete salvation. A native brother named Tomas and his wife are a real asset to the work in Rosarito. He feels a calling to full-time service for God. They love the truth and manifest a Christ-like spirit. Pray for them and also a brother named Miguel Gasper, who has expressed a desire to come and help in the work in Rosarito or wherever God opens a door. At present time he is with his family in La Paz at the lower tip of Baja, California.

We bundle up many problems and ask you to pray that God will work them all out to His honor and glory.

We acknowledge receipt of a box of clothing sent from Tennessee during the month of September. We failed to note the name and address and desire the party who sent them to write us. We thank one and all for your prayers and offerings and close with this prayer that God will bless you and make you a blessing.

We enjoyed visits from a number of Oklahoma and Missouri folk the past two months. Trust all who came to Mexico were benefited. Yours, in behalf of all the workers,

—Harland H. Smith

GOD'S SWORD AND SICKLE

(Continued from Page Three)

the rain likewise to fall upon the just and the unjust, but He will bring every one into judgment in that last great Day. But oftentimes He shows His wrath upon wicked nations, cities or individuals here in this world before the final Judgment Day. In the case of Sodom and Gomorrah, cities that ignored Him and became so vile and wicked, He rained fire and brimstone down from heaven upon them and burned them up. But His goodness spared Lot and his two daughters whom He found to be righteous. I read in a book about this destruction. It was stated that God's wrath was so great against those wicked people that fire burned great holes in the earth where the cities stood, and today there are lakes of water in those places. In His kindled severity He spared neither the aged, nor the young, nor the babies.

Just think what He did to the Jewish nation who rebelled against Him and His commandments. It is recorded in Matt. 27:25 that the Jews asked for the blood of Jesus to be upon them and their children. God's wrath was kindled against them for this wicked deed and before that century ended (in the year 70 A. D.) He allowed the Roman armies to surround Jerusalem. It is written in the Jewish history that before the city was destroyed, a large comet like a sword appeared in the sky and hung over Jerusalem for a year and one whose mouth they could not stop walked through the city crying, "Woe, woe unto Jerusalem." Many other ominous signs were given of God to warn them of their pending ruin and death. You can read about this in Wickersham's "History of the Church." They are also related by Josephus in his history of the Jews. God was showing His goodness to them in giving them a last warning. The city was surrounded by the Roman soldiers and eleven hundred thousand of the Jews were killed or starved to death. The young men were sold as slaves and sent into foreign lands and the remnant was scattered throughout all nations. Herein is stated some of the severity of God on a rebellious nation.

We have a description of Jesus in figurative language set forth in the first chapter of Revelation, beginning at the 12th verse down to the 19th verse. In the 16th verse let us read, "And he had in his right hand seven stars: and out of his mouth went a sharp twoedged sword: and his countenance was as the sun shining in his strength." The sight was so wonderful and mighty that John fell down at His feet as one dead. The Lord laid His hand upon John, saying unto him, "Fear not, I am the first and the last: I am he that liveth and was dead; and behold, I am alive forevermore, and have the keys of hell and death."

In the 12th verse of the 2nd chapter of Revelation, mention is made again of Him being the one who has the sharp sword with two edges. The two-edged sword represents the Word of God. We read of it in the 4th chapter of Hebrews and the wonderful work it is able to accomplish if skillfully used, "For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and

sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart." Turn to the 19th chapter of Revelation and begin reading at the 11th verse down to the 17th verse and see the wonderful and mighty description given of the Son of God, who is our Savior, Lord and King, who is our Leader in this dark sin-benighted world and gives us the victory again and again. Bless His dear name! It is stated in the 15th verse that out of His mouth goeth a sharp sword and that He treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.

Let us turn to the 14th chapter of Revelation and see what is written about God's sickle. Beginning at the 14th verse, we see a white cloud and one sitting on it like unto the Son of man, having a golden crown on his head and in His hand a sharp sickle, and another angel cried unto him who sat on the cloud, "Thrust in thy sickle and reap: for the time is come for thee to reap; for the harvest of the earth is ripe." We see that there are several angels who have sharp sickles with which to reap. In the 18th verse we see that an angel cried with a loud cry to him that had the sharp sickle saying, "Thrust in thy sharp sickle, and gather the clusters of the vine of the earth; for her grapes are fully ripe." It is written in the 19th verse that the angel thrust in his sickle into the earth, and gathered the vine of the earth; and cast it into the great winepress of the wrath of God. In the 15th chapter of John, Jesus says, "I am the true vine," which indicates that there are false vines. "Vines of the earth" could not mean anything else but the many false religions that are thriving in the earth today. We who are of the TRUE VINE are of heaven and not of the world or earth. In Revelation 14:20 it says, "And the winepress was trodden without the city [outside of the city of God where His saints dwell] and blood came out of the winepress, even unto the horse bridles, by the space of a thousand and six hundred furlongs." This no doubt refers to the last days of time when the Word of God will stand as judgment to ungodly professors and Christ rejecters, together with all the wicked of earth. The blood for miles around being to the horses' bridles no doubt represents the great number of souls that will be slain by God's sickle and gathered into God's winepress of great wrath. In the 12th chapter of John and the 48th verse we read, "He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day." In 2 Thessalonians 1:8, 9 we read, "In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power." In Revelation 20:13, we read, "And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire."

Brethren and sisters, let us make our calling and election sure by living a holy life before God, for

without holiness no man shall see the Lord. The goodness, love and mercy of God is great toward us indeed in this time world, and it is not His will that any should perish, but His Word has been spoken and He will fulfill it to every soul. "The willing and obedient shall eat the good of the land; but if ye refuse and rebel, ye shall be devoured with the sword: for the mouth of the Lord has spoken it." God bore witness and said to the disciples on the mount of transfiguration, "This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased, hear ye HIM."

—Fred Pruitt

TESTIMONIES

Michigan—Dear Sister Marie: I greet you in the precious name of Jesus. I want to tell you and others how wonderfully the Lord touched and healed my body. I received the anointed handkerchief which you sent and applied it to my body and received healing. The Lord also healed me of sinus trouble in the year of 1957 and I surely am thankful and happy to know that He loves and cares for His own. We need not fear for He is always near.

My mother also expresses her praise and thankfulness to God for the healing of her body when she received the anointed handkerchief you sent some years back. Her ear bothered her so much, and after she applied it to her body she received healing and hasn't had any trouble with it since. She is so grateful. She does have trouble with her back quite often. She believes the Lord will heal her of this, too, and would like you to remember her in prayer.

We both enjoy the Faith and Victory paper with all the wonderful testimonies the dear saints send in. It surely is a great blessing to our souls. We read in Psalms 30:2, "O Lord my God, I cried unto thee and thou hast healed me." How precious those words are to me! I'm so glad I can serve such a great God who is so understanding and loving. He is not only a blessing for our bodies, but also for our souls. Psalm 103:3 reads, "Who forgiveth all thine iniquities, who healeth all thy diseases." Praise to His blessed name! I just never could tell all the wonderful and great things that Jesus has done for me. He has been my healer and comforter many, many times, and I do love Him for it all.

Please remember my unsaved father and some other loved ones of mine in prayer that the Lord will speak to their hearts and that they will be saved before it is too late.

May God bless all the saints everywhere is my prayer.

—Sister Olive Scaub

La.—Dear Readers of "Faith and Victory": I greet you in the name of Jesus. I so much enjoy reading the testimonies of the saints as well as all the articles in the paper. I thought it would be good to tell of God's goodness to us.

Last November my husband accidentally stuck the longest blade of his pocket knife into the muscles of the calf of his right leg. It began to swell almost immediately. He walked quite a distance to the car and it soon got real sore and had fever in it, but the Lord blessed and helped. He hopped on it a little each day but about the fourth afternoon it began to pain worse and had more fever. The next morning it was a greenish yellow color most of the way around the leg from his knee to his

ankle, and very painful. Bro. Curtis Williams and Bro. Earl Sharp were on their way to Jena, La. so they, and Brother and Sister Key came and prayed for him. It continued bad for several days. The enemy tried to worry me about it, but I felt the Lord had heard prayer that morning and would take care of it. He had to sit or lie with it propped up for several days. Then he began letting his leg down long enough to make two or three steps with a walker. He gradually increased the steps until he could get outdoors with crutches. During the third week, he began putting some weight on that leg and the yellow color gradually disappeared. Near the end of the fourth week he was walking with just a little limp. All glory and praise we give to the Lord!

I had a hurting in the right side of my back and up under my ribs for three or four weeks but I thank the Lord that most all of that is gone.

These things are hard sometimes, but they cause us to pray more, search our lives, and draw closer to the Lord. I've had greater victory the past year over the trying things of life. I'm so thankful for salvation and there is nothing that brings greater joy to my heart than to see others living close to the Lord with an interest in their own souls and that of others. Tears of joy filled my eyes the other night in song service when I saw three young boys sitting together, one about fifteen, and the other two a little older, with their hands lifted in praise to the Lord. Oh! may they ever be true to God and be workers for Him. Nothing grieves my heart more and brings tears of sadness than to see so many careless and disinterested in the service of the Lord. There are those who have put off yielding to the Lord so many times until they don't get touched with a real stirring message.

Oh, dear reader, professor or non-professor, if you are not ready to meet the Lord, picture yourself looking up and seeing Jesus in the clouds calling this old wicked world to judgment. Can you imagine how you will feel when you realize your chance for heaven is forever gone, and you will be cast into the lake of fire where there will be weeping and wailing and gnashing of teeth for ever and ever? People can go along careless and carefree in this life and get by, but what, oh what will they do in that last great Day?

My prayer is that everyone will prepare to meet God.

In Christian love,

—Mrs. A. E. Flynn

Calif.—Dear Sister Marie, Greetings of love in Jesus' name:

I feel it would be to the glory of God to write and tell you what the Lord has done for a very dear Catholic friend. Not long ago this lady was suffering with a painful wrist. She couldn't use her right hand, nor bend her wrist as it was so painful. At night she had to lay it so carefully in the bed to keep from hurting it. One day she said, "I've prayed and prayed and it doesn't seem to get any better. I want you to pray for me." I went to see Sister LeMelle that day and she and I agreed in prayer that the Lord would heal this lady's wrist. The next morning when my friend got up, her husband said, "How is your wrist?" She said, "Why, look! I can move it any way and it doesn't hurt. Yesterday I asked Mrs. Elliott to pray for me and I believe she prayed. It's a miracle." When she came in a day or so later she was telling me all about the miracle and thought I must be like some of these Christian Science healers who charge for healing. I assured her it was nothing in my power to heal and gave the Lord all the credit.

I told her another lady and I both prayed for her, and she was so grateful and happy that she cried.

In March she was operated on because of a tumor in her intestines. Lately she found she had another tumor and the doctor said it would have to be taken out or it would become malignant and he might have to collapse her rectum. She was very disturbed about her condition and would ask me to pray, and once when she came I had prayer with her and she said, "I have faith." She did not know whether she would come through the operation and said she hoped she could just live to see her thirteen-year-old daughter grown. Finally she said, "I'm resigned to the operation, live or die." The night before the operation her husband called and said she wanted me to know the operation would be at 8 a. m. I called the saints in Los Angeles a few minutes before the prayer meeting was over and they had special prayer for her. About 1 p. m. her husband called and said she had come through the operation fine and they just took out a tumor and didn't have to do anything further. He said, "Now we want you to pray that she won't have any more of those tumors." He was so grateful she was spared. I thanked the Lord that He answered our prayers.

Will you please pray that some way I may help her to see the light? I feel the Lord has permitted me to meet this dear neighbor because she is a devout Catholic and very conscientious. Her husband is Protestant and once when she was greatly afflicted, he said, "Shall I call Mrs. Elliott?" This divine healing that has been manifested to her is all new to them and surely the dear Lord is working.

Yours in the Lord, —Sister Lucille Elliott

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Illinois—Dear saints everywhere: We want to thank the Lord for the privilege of serving Him. We are so thankful for people who aren't afraid of what the world will say, but are willing to please the Lord regardless of the price.

Again this summer we were privileged to attend part of the National Campmeeting at Monark Springs, Mo. This was the third year for us. The Spirit-filled messages and the fellowship of God's people make it truly a spiritual feast. After camp-meeting Bro. and Sister Charles Smith were here in Illinois in a tent meeting and our spiritual feast continued.

One Sunday recently I testified to a lady that we trust God for our healing. Immediately she interpreted that as saying I believed healing was always instant. I tried to explain to her that we trusted God to answer our prayers in ways to bring about our good and His glory. The following Wednesday we were put to the test concerning trusting God. In the evening our little girl, Rosemary, came screaming to the house, blood streaming from her face. The dog had bitten her, making six deep cuts in her face, one near the eye. It was hard to understand, for the dog and the children had grown up together. The dog hadn't been vaccinated for rabies, but my husband said God was able to protect her from that as well as any other affliction. We had prayer for her and her face healed up miraculously. At prayer service on Friday, just two days later, she had only small scabs, and when she started to school six days after being bitten there were just one or two tiny scabs. She's never had any bad effects of any kind from it, and it has been nearly a month since it happened. Truly, we are serving a wonderful, loving Savior!

I would like to tell another wonderful experience of how the Lord helped. One night I was to go on an errand to town. The need was urgent. I went out to

start the truck and the motor wouldn't start. My husband checked the battery and it was dead, and there was no means available to push it. We came in the house and prayed earnestly. I told my husband that prayer changes things. I felt impressed to try once more to start the truck. He said that we didn't pray for that. I went out and tried to start the truck and it started, and I was able to go on the errand and had the opportunity of telling a sinner what God had so miraculously done for us.

It is truly wonderful to be a child of God and to be able to trust Him for all things. Oh, that we could tell many needy souls of God's wonderful love!

Pray for us. We want to keep in the center of God's will. In Christian love,

—Clyde G. and Anna Maye Edwards

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La.—Dear Bro. and Sister Pruitt and blood-washed Saints everywhere: We are praising our God for saving us from our sins, sanctifying us wholly and healing us of serious ailments. How we love Him today! Oh, dear saints of God, today we know God cares for us all and wants us to be humble. Christ dwells where there is humility of heart and soul. It takes that to get saved. When we humble ourselves at the feet of Jesus, He loves us with such a great heart of love, and is so ready and willing to forgive us of our sins. Praise His glorious name! He sweetly forgave all my sins and set my feet on the right path. I have been through some hard, rough places, but Christ has blessed and flooded my soul and my faith is stronger than ever before and my body is healthier than ever before.

It is remarkable how quickly confession brings relief. I looked up to God with faith springing up and I said, "Lord, I believe you will sanctify me," and He did. A big hand reached down upon me and all the carnal things came out of my heart. Praise God! By God's help and grace I want to keep my soul pure and press on, so I can see my Lord at the end of life's way. I want to be led by His Spirit always.

We work among old people and love them and are so burdened for their souls. We pray and sing, and oh, how God has worked! We thank God that a few have made it to Glory.

Sister Carrie Sheppard needs our prayers. She is caring for her mother and needs added strength. God has held her up many times.

Pray for me and my unsaved loved ones and friends. Praise God for the wonderful love He sends our way. Let us be faithful.

In Christian love, —Sister Rubye Quave

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

Texas—Dear Saints: I promised the Lord I would write my testimony to the "Faith and Victory" paper if He would heal me of an affliction I had on my body. I had a small knot to form on my body and gradually over a period of fifteen years it grew larger. About three weeks ago I noticed it had become as large as a small egg. It was very sore and painful. The whole side of my left hip hurt and I felt very weak from it. I just held on to the Lord to heal it and He did. I have been trusting the Lord for the healing of my body as well as for my soul. I have been saved about nine months.

Something bit my youngest boy's hand. We thought it might have been broken and we took him to the doctor to have it X-rayed. It had so much infection in it that the doctor had me to sign release papers so that he would not be charged with any responsibility, as he

wanted to give him shots. But we trusted God. It all just came to a head and kept draining out and just healed up. It was just wonderful how God healed his hand.

I am so thankful to God for salvation. I love the Lord and with God's help I intend to serve Him all the rest of my life. This is a beautiful way to live. The peace in my soul is worth more than the whole world.

God bless you all. —Sister Helen Lambright

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Mo.—Dear Saints of God: We have so much to thank and praise God for. My husband had a job and got laid off. He was out of work eight weeks, and spent all the money we had to buy gas to look for work, but did not find any. Then husband said, "Let's pray." We prayed to God for steady work, and He sent a man to our house, and gave husband a job. Thank the Lord!

I am very sick. Please pray for me.

—Bro. and Sister Earl Freeman

Testimony of Wayne Turner

(The marvelous conversion of Wayne Turner, who is now (October, 1962) awaiting his execution in the State of Louisiana for the crime of murder.)

"Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me." Psalms 23:4. As I sit down to write you these few words, dear friends, my heart is drawn to this very wonderful verse from the book of Psalms. It has come to be my daily guide and reminder of my Savior's love, and though I had learned this verse as a child, I never believed it would some day have a very special meaning for me. What does this verse mean? Well, to me it means many things. It means that with all your burdens, no matter how great or how small, you have a loving Savior who has promised to give you the strength and guidance you need to see you through even the greatest of trials. It also means the promise of an everlasting love from a Friend who gave His life so that you and I might be saved. Do you have the kind of friend today that would lay down his life for you so that you might be saved? But I can tell you that there is a Friend who has already given His life for you. His name is Jesus Christ, and He died so that you and I might be saved.

We all walk through the valley of the shadow of death every day of our lives, but there is going to be an eternal death for you, or eternal life. Only YOU can decide your fate, and where you want to live in eternity. Death need not be final for you. It isn't for me, and I live with it every day. But my death means eternal life, and though I live under its shadow, I have never been happier in all my life. Steel walls and bars are my present home, the electric chair is my sentence, and I am praising God. Why? Because He saw fit to save the terrible sinner that I was, so that when my physical life is over, I would be called Home to life eternal.

Yes, my dear friend, I have been sentenced to die in the electric chair for the crime of murder. On the 7th of October, 1960, I, Wayne Turner, attempted the holdup of a service station which resulted in my killing of the station attendant. How far can a life of sin lead a man? Well, my rotten sinful life led me to the taking of another person's life, and how much deeper in sin can a man go? Stealing, lying, cheating—that was my life, and jails and prisons were my homes. My companion in crime was the devil himself, and if ever

there was a rotten pair, it was the two of us. I do believe that had I died the sinner I was, even the devil himself wouldn't have wanted me in hell.

I saw the inside of my first jail at the age of ten, and the inside of my first prison at the age of thirteen years. Right now I am 27 years old, and as you can see, more than half of my life has been spent outside the law. But an even sadder thing is that almost all my life was spent outside of God.

Sometimes it takes a great shock to open one's eyes, and in my case this shock was murder. Day in and day out it caused me to tremble in fear, and I had not a moment's peace. I would go for days forcing myself to stay awake for fear I would dream nightmares when I slept. What sleep I did get was the sleep of utter exhaustion, and even then after just a few hours I would awake in a cold sweat, shaking with fear. In a year's time my weight went down from 320 pounds to 180, and I really believed I was going insane. Was there no way for me to get just a small measure of peace—no way at all? My whole being of body and soul cried out in agony for peace, and death at this time would have been a welcomed relief.

During this time church services were being held here in the jail every Sunday afternoon, and the dedicated men of God who came to speak to us tried desperately to lead me to Christ. But I constantly rejected both them and God. I would dread Sundays, and at times when the church service would begin, I would hide myself in a corner where I couldn't be seen. How could God save a sinner like me, I thought. I deserved only hell with all its fire and brimstone—not His loving salvation! My family was constantly praying for me and writing me letters, begging me to turn to God. They sent me the Bible my grandfather had given me several years before, but still I wouldn't read it.

Then one Sunday two men of God who had been of great help and comfort to my wife, Shirley, came to speak to us. My wife had asked them to come and I felt that as long as she had asked, I would pay them the respect of listening to what they had to say. I sat there for an hour listening to the speaker, and if ever a man felt guilty of his life of sin, it was I. As they were leaving, the speaker asked me, "Wayne, do you read your Bible?" I don't believe I answered him. I just shook hands and politely asked them to come again. But that night as I lay on my bunk I kept thinking to myself, "Wayne, you have never given God a chance in your life and have constantly turned your back on Him. Your life has been going deeper and deeper into sin. Your soul is tortured every minute, so why don't you give God a chance in your life?" I immediately unpacked my Bible, and for the first time in years I opened its cover and started to read. For several weeks I read and slowly the realization came to me that before I could expect any peace in my soul I would have to make my peace with God. But still I lacked the courage and wouldn't accept Him. My mind was so troubled and I could literally feel God speaking to my heart.

The following Sunday afternoon during the service the pastor spoke on the text "Behold, I stand at the door and knock." Oh, how his sermon went straight to my heart! God was speaking to me and there was no corner for me to hide in now. I was being given one last chance, and would I reject Him finally, once and for all time and eternity, or would I open my door and ask Him to come in?

That night I couldn't get the picture out of my mind of God standing at my door asking to come in. The image of that sight was so vivid, and I could hear His knock

and call so plain. All my years of sin and misery were before me as I got down on my knees before my bunk, and crying for the first time in over 10 years, I sobbed out, "Oh, dear God, be merciful to me a sinner!" The tears of a lifetime of sin came rolling down and I poured out my heart to God. The weight of my remorse was like a million pounds on my shoulders as I begged for forgiveness! "Save me, O Lord, take my life and do with it what you want to, but please forgive me of my sins!" Suddenly everything was strangely calm, and all fear seemed to leave me. My whole body seemed to have no weight at all and I felt as though I was floating on a cloud. A joy, such as I never knew existed, entered my heart, and on my knees with tears rolling down my face I was smiling. When the realization finally hit me I started sobbing all the harder, for then I knew that God had answered my prayer and had given Wayne Turner salvation. I had come out of my corner to open the door, and God had come in with arms outstretched to embrace me in glorious saving love! Can anyone explain this first moment in God's care and what it means to him? No, only those who have experienced His saving grace can fully appreciate this moment of realization, and the joy and thanksgiving that comes with it. My heart, body and soul were overflowing with thanks to my wonderful Savior!

I lay down on my bunk and the next thing I remember was hearing the jailer shaking his keys to wake us up. It didn't strike me at first, but all of a sudden I realized that for the first time in over a year I had slept straight through the night without waking up or dreaming once. I couldn't help it, I started crying again, and I went to my knees with prayers of thanks in my heart and on my lips. He had saved me, and I had peace in my soul, wonderful glorious peace!

Since that day my life has been just one blessing after another, and I can't stop praising my wonderful Savior. It is for this reason that I am telling you my story, because I want to warn you before it is too late, against making the same mistakes in life that I have made. To you who know my Savior I know you share my joy with me. And to you who haven't yet come to Christ, I plead with you to stand back and take a good look at your self. Nobody can come to Christ until they seek Him, and He is standing at your door now begging you to let Him in. Are you going to keep rejecting Him as I did for so many years, or are you going to throw wide the door of your heart and with arms outstretched, welcome Him in? My heart cries out for you who are unsaved and pray that in some way that what is written will help you to turn to Him.

Here on earth I had a trial where my fellowmen sat in judgment on me. Attorneys were there and a judge. But some day soon I will again stand trial and this trial is one which we all must face. God will be the Judge and Christ Jesus will be the Attorney. But will Jesus be your defense Attorney or will He be prosecuting your case? I sincerely pray that your verdict will be: "Well done, thou good and faithful servant," and not, "Depart from me, for I never knew you."

I cannot come and speak to you as I would like, but God has granted me this opportunity to write you these few words in the hope that my story will lead you to Him that loves you. I seek no personal gain whatsoever in writing this—I seek only to glorify my wonderful Savior. My life and my death are in His hands, and I would not have it any other way. My life is about over and soon I'll be going Home to live in eternity with my wonderful Savior. But before I go I want to tell as many

as I can what God has done for me and what He means to me. If I can't tell others of my glorious salvation, then I would rather not live, because there is nothing else for me here on earth. I may live in the shadow of the electric chair, but I wouldn't trade places with any of you who are unsaved. My strength and comfort is in Christ Jesus, and I know He watches over me. My reward is eternal life in heaven.

As I close I would like to leave with you another wonderful verse I hold dear to my heart. It is my assurance of God's promise to me and it can be your assurance also if you believe it. "For God so loved Wayne Turner that He gave His only begotten Son, that if Wayne Turner believeth on Him, Wayne Turner would not perish, but have everlasting life." Amen. John 3:16 paraphrased.

Remember me in your prayer, and I will never stop praying for you who don't know my Savior. May there be complete victory in your lives and may you dedicate yourselves to the work of winning lost souls for God, for then will you have the love of God and everlasting life. May God bless you forever and ever.

Yours in Christian love,

—Wayne Turner

(The saints at Hammond and Loranger, La. have services most every Sunday afternoon at the jail where Bro. Wayne Turner is confined. Of course, they are deeply concerned about what he faces, and desire earnest prayer for him, and also for the salvation of other men in the jail. The above testimony in tract form is available at this Office.)

—o— "Where Art Thou?"

My dear brother, or whoever it may be that may read this message: Where are you spiritually? "If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth: but 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." 1 John 1:6, 7.

These blessed words mean more than many of us seem to realize. To walk in the light as He is in the light means perfect agreement and harmony between all that are in the light, as Christ is in the light. Col. 2:2 reads, "That their hearts might be comforted, being knit together in love, and unto all riches of the full assurance of understanding, to the acknowledgement of the mystery of God, and of the Father, and of Christ." Oh, what a blessed comfort is mutually enjoyed by all those who are knit together in love and how wonderful the "riches of the full assurance of understanding." When two or more are knit together in love, God gives them the full assurance of understanding. This God-given understanding makes us able to understand one another, where without it there will be suspicion, doubt, and lack of confidence in our brother.

"To the acknowledgement of the mystery of God." Where this great unbroken love and faith in each other abides and remains, we understand and acknowledge "the mystery of God," "which is Christ in you, the hope of glory"—the work of salvation in our souls.

The inspired poet sang, "How sweet this bond of perfectness, the wondrous love of Jesus: A pure foretaste of heaven's bliss, oh, fellowship so precious!

[Chorus] O brethren, how this perfect love unites us all in Jesus! One heart, and soul, and mind we prove the union heaven gave us."

Dear ones, if there is the least lack of this great peace, harmony, love and confidence flowing in your soul and out to every blood-washed one, as we walk together in the light; if after you have enjoyed these great blessings, you find that you lack these things, something has blighted your precious soul. Whatever it is, it will keep you out of Heaven. That which causes you to be out of harmony here in this present world with the people of God will surely bar you out of heaven.

2 Cor. 13:5 reads, "Examine yourselves." Jesus warned the disciples to beware of the leaven of the Pharisees. And He said, "Take heed lest any man deceive you." Mark 13:5. The beloved disciple wrote of antichrists. "They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us they would no doubt have continued with us: but they went out, that they might be made manifest that they were not all of us" (1 John 2:19).

Dear ones, all down through the ages we have had those who went out from us, the true church of God. What caused them to leave the narrow way? First, a false spirit must influence one before he will leave the true Bible way. For a better understanding of this, let us consider a true marriage. As long as true love flows from heart to heart, there will be an understanding, a willingness to bear and forbear, to give, and to take. True harmony will exist between the lovers. But let suspicion and doubt of each other begin to creep in. This will bring wrong attitudes one toward the other. Soon, if this continues, there will be a separation—a divorce.

The same thing will take place in God's family, if the same course is pursued. As long as they are "all of us" all is well. If a letting down in spiritual things is permitted in one's life, a coldness enters one's soul, and the enemy gets his work in. Then wrong thoughts toward God's children are harbored. They begin to multiply, and soon the devil influences us to see only evil in our brethren. Then we are open to every false spirit and are led astray to join or to form another false movement. These go out from us full of bitterness and malice toward God's people. They profess very highly while leading souls astray, and filling them full of the poison of hell. All who follow them are deceived and poisoned against the true people of God.

Dear ones, be honest. It means heaven or hell for you. Have you been connected with a pull-off movement? You may admit that you have, saying, "But the one that I went with wasn't like the rest." Dear ones, there are no exceptions. "Where envying and strife is; there is confusion and every evil work" (James 3:16). And you may answer, "Yes, I went astray, but now I am back where I once was with the true people of God." But, let me ask, how did you come back? Did you renounce the false way that caused you to sin—holding the wrong attitude toward God's true people? Dear one, every false way is em-

powered by a false spirit. And if you have been enticed to follow a false prophet, you have partaken of his false spirit. This is serious, but it is the truth from heaven. There is but one way to come clear of all the poison that has entered your precious heart. And that is to renounce those who have misled you and humbly seek God for forgiveness and deliverance from every false thing that has influenced your life. And too, it is most necessary that you ask the saints to forgive you for every wrong thing that you have held against them, and for listening to others as they pratted against God's saints.

Dear ones, come clear in this matter. Heaven is where we are going, if we pay the price. There are some among us today who are not prospering in their souls, and more than that, they are trouble-makers, because they are still being influenced by false spirits. They have not renounced the false way that led them astray, and have not sought forgiveness and deliverance from every evil way. There are those among us, professing to be one of us, while holding wrong attitudes toward many of the true saints who are truly blessed of God. Using your influence against another brother will be putting yourself in the class of a division-maker, and such a thing grieves the Spirit of the Lord. It spawns suspicion and strife and hinders the free working of God's Spirit.

I write this in love to all who have been connected with false movements or otherwise.

Yours for the truth, —H. P. Huskey

THE CUP OF SALVATION

Help me, Lord, to drink the cup of salvation so free,
That others the beauty of the Lord may see.

It may be loneliness or deep agony of pain,
May my heart and tongue be guided by the rein.

You drank the cup, it was so bitter we know.
A failure to accept it, to a soul is sad woe.

Your plan is perfect, joy belongs to us, too.
For each day our souls should be refreshed anew.

We need not ask the question, "Oh why? Oh why?"
For thou dost hear our heart's rending cry.

—Minnie Penner

In regeneration the Holy Ghost baptizes the believer into Christ; in sanctification Christ baptizes the believer with the Holy Ghost.

BIBLE STUDY

Primary Picture Roll, \$1.75; Lesson cards 12c
(Please note change in prices.)

November 4, 1962

THE BIBLE

Printed Portion 2 Tim. 3:14-17; 2 Peter 1:16-21

2 Tim. 3:14. But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them;

15. And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

16. All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

17. That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

2 Peter 1:16. For we have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of his majesty.

17. For he received from God the Father honour and glory, when there came such a voice to him from the excellent glory, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

18. And this voice which came from heaven we heard, when we were with him in the holy mount.

19. We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts:

20. Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation.

21. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.

Memory Verse: Teach me, O Lord, the way of thy statutes; and I will keep it unto the end. Psalms 119:33.

Central Thought: Only through the Bible can we know the way to heaven.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Last words and instructions from a person are weighty. Paul wrote the first part of our lesson while he awaited execution in Rome. The last part of our lesson was written by Peter awaiting martyrdom. (1:14). What a comfort the scriptures were to them at that hour. Since they lived by them and were ready to die by them, we know that they are valuable to every person. The words of the Bible are given by the "inspiration of God."

I like one of the Greek meanings of the word "inspired." It means "God-breathed." There is no other book like the Bible. It has been said that the "Old Testament is the New Testament concealed and the New Testament is the Old Testament revealed." There is a theme running through the whole book, yet the different books contained in the Bible were written thousands of years apart. The theme is the redemption of sinful man. It is precious to read the prophecy written by the old prophets hundreds of years before Christ came. As they were writing under the anointing of the Holy Ghost, they wrote about the glimpse that was given them of Christ and His sufferings. They longed for a greater insight into the great plan of God but were denied it. Thank God, it has been revealed to us in this Holy Spirit dispensation. Since the Bible was written under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, it is only revealed to us today through the same anointing.

November 11, 1962

MAN

Printed Portion Psalms 8:3-8; Matt. 6:24-33

Psa. 8:3. When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained;

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

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

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

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

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

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

25. Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment?

26. Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns: yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they?

27. Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature?

28. And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin:

29. And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.

30. Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith?

31. Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed?

32. (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things.

3. But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

Memory Verse: Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power; for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created. Rev. 4:11.

Central Thought: Man was and is the crowning work of His creation.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

There are so-called learned men today who are trying to discredit the truth given us in the Bible that "God created man in his own image . . . male and female created he them" (Gen. 1:27). God made a clay man and "breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul" (Gen. 2:7). Eve is "the mother of all living" (Gen. 3:20). Malachi writes "Have we not all one Father? hath not one God created us?" We did not evolve from one cell, worm type, frog type, hairy mammalian and then man. Moses wrote the first five books of the Bible. Jesus said in John 6:47 "But if ye believe not his writings, how shall ye believe my words?" We must believe the Bible or our faith will be shaken in God.

Man is a moral being. He possesses freedom of will and can of his own volition decide what he wants to do. Man is also an intellectual and a spiritual being. He is a two-fold being. "Glorify God in your body and in your spirit" (1 Cor. 6:20; 2 Cor. 4:16). The body or "outer

man" will die but the soul or spirit will live forever. Man was made a little lower than the angels in that angels are wholly spirit-beings. (Luke 20:35, 36; 24:39).

Our lesson teaches us that God wants mankind to choose to serve Him. He will care for those who seek first the kingdom of God. Since we are His creation, He takes pleasure in us and wants all of our love.

November 18, 1962

GOD'S OUTSTRETCHED HANDS

Printed Portion Ephesians 2:1-10.

Eph. 2:1. And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins;

2. Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:

3. Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.

4. But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us,

5. Even when we were dead in sins hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;)

6. And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus:

7. That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus.

8. For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:

9. Not of works, lest any man should boast.

10. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

Memory Verse: There is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself a ransom for all. 1 Tim. 2:5-6.

Central Thought: Jesus took God's hand and ours and brought us together.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

In our last Sunday's lesson we talked about man, who he is and where he came from. Man chose to sin and was cast out of the garden of Eden and could not partake of the Tree of Life. Therefore his mortal body went back to dust and his soul was condemned to eternal punishment. Sin passed on all men and they were in an awful state. But God in His mercy made a way whereby man could be saved from eternal punishment. He gave His "only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16). Our minds are too finite to fathom the depths of the love of God. We just have to accept it and thank Him for His great mercy toward sinful mankind.

The Bible speaks of a physical death and a spiritual death. "But she that liveth in pleasure is dead while she liveth" (1 Tim. 5:6). What a wonderful transformation takes place in a soul that has been separated from God (dead in trespasses and sins) when it is quickened by the power of God and made alive in Christ Jesus! All a sinner can do is come to God and ask for mercy. "God, who is rich in mercy" will raise him up out of sin and cause him to "sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus." We have nothing to boast of

but our heart is full of praises and thanksgiving unto the Lord all the days of our life for salvation.

November 25, 1962

WE GRASP GOD'S HAND

Printed Portion Acts 16:25-34

Acts 16:25. And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them.

26. And suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened, and every one's bands were loosed.

27. And the keeper of the prison awaking out of his sleep, and seeing the prison doors open, he drew out his sword, and would have killed himself, supposing that the prisoners had been fled.

28. But Paul cried with a loud voice, saying, Do thyself no harm: for we are all here.

29. Then he called for a light, and sprang in, and came trembling, and fell down before Paul and Silas.

30. And brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved?

31. And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.

32. And they spake unto him the word of the Lord, and to all that were in his house.

33. And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their stripes; and was baptized, he and all his, straightway.

34. And when he had brought them into his house, he set meat before them, and rejoiced, believing in God with all his house.

Memory Verse: For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God. Eph. 2:8.

Central Thought: Each person will have to decide what he will do with Jesus.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

In our lesson today we view man's side of redemption. Man is a being, morally responsible. In the garden God asked Adam, "Where art thou?" Adam was accountable to God. Today every man is accountable to God for his sin. God will not make man repent, but he has the right to choose to come to God and let his sins be forgiven and blotted out or live in sin and meet them at the Judgment Day. This life is a place for us to get ready to live again in eternity. We can choose our destiny, either with God or be cast in hell with the devil and his angels. (Matt. 25:41). Man can grasp the hand of God and be saved. "And the Spirit [God] and the bride [church] say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely" (Rev. 22:17). Even the ones in hell do not want you to come there. They want you to accept Christ. The rich man in hell wanted his brothers to be warned. (Luke 16.) Choose this day whom you will serve.

Our lesson tells about a man who saw a living example of a firm faith in God. He marveled at the love and trust that Paul and Silas had in God. I am sure that this awakened a deep desire in his heart for God. That desire was brought into action by the prison being shaken by the power of God. After a personal invitation, the jailer surrendered and believed on Jesus. He was baptized and began to do good.

—Sister Marie Miles