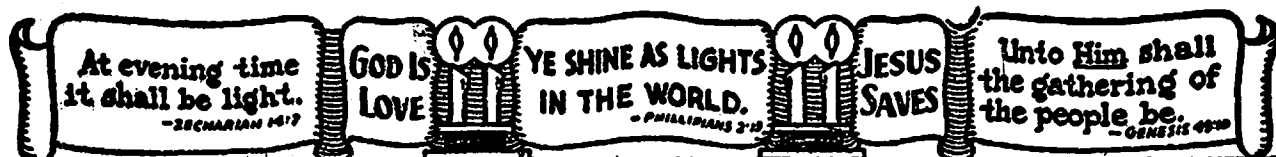


FAITH^{AND}VICTORY

Church of God Servant



Volume 34, No. 2 42nd Year Guthrie, Oklahoma 35c Per Year January, 1965

The New Year 1965

Another year is ours to meet
Upon the sands of time;
The old year makes her dark retreat
In history's solemn chime.

We stand upon the great unknown
And pause for solemn thought;
We weigh life's lessons here alone
The old year to us taught.

All life is destined to decay,
Its feeble fires are low—
We think of those who passed away
From earth and things below.

And of the changes on life's scroll
The old year brought to pass
As we embark with heart and soul
Upon the new year's mass.

Hark! hear we now the breakers roar
Upon the shores of time:
Eternity! her surges pour
In gospel notes sublime.

Who from our midst will rend the veil
And flee the scenes of earth
In this new year that we now hail
A glad and joyous birth?

What dark encounters lie ahead
We know not, yet we trust
That He who died in mortals' stead,
Will guide our lives of dust.

And should this mark our year of death
With joy we'll fly away,
And offer in our dying breath
A hope of Heaven's day!

—Leslie Busbee

Salvation—What Does It Mean?

O, reader, have you given attention to that which is contained in the word SALVATION? O, man, think of this; it concerns you more than all other objects taken together for which the whole world is in pursuit.

Salvation is worth a thousand times more than health of body; in comparison with which men consider money no object; and for the hope of regaining they lavish gold and greenbacks as free as dirt.

Salvation is more to be desired than all the glory and pleasure that the highest honors of earth can yield. Yea, it places the soul upon a plane so elevated as to receive the admiration and adoration of heaven. "If any man serve me, saith the Lord, him will my Father honor." (John 12:26). It places a man far above the highest object of earthly ambition. It gives him a kingdom greater than Alexander or Napoleon ever swayed scepter over. "It is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom." Even the "kingdom of heaven." "They which receive abundance of grace and the gift of righteousness, shall reign in life by one Jesus Christ." (Rom. 5:17). And this glorious reign is not located in some future age; but John, writing to the seven churches in Asia, in the first century of Christian grace, declared that Jesus Christ, who is the faithful Witness, the Prince of the kings of the earth, him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood, hath also "made us kings and priests unto God and his Father." (Rev. 1:5, 6). As again seen in this beautiful book of symbols, at the very opening of the plan of redemption the blood-washed celebrated the praises of God with a "new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood, out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation; and hast made us unto our God kings and priests, and we shall reign on the earth." (Rev. 5:9, 10). And Peter calls God's church "a royal priesthood," i. e., a priesthood of kings.

All who live in sin are slaves to their own lusts, and are not able to govern themselves. But salvation

makes us kings in rule over our own selves; over our passions, appetites and desires. "And he that ruleth his spirit is greater than he that taketh a city" Prov. 16:32. Salvation also places us in kingly triumph over all the elements of this world; over sin, fashion, and popular sentiments; and over the devil himself, who claims to be the ruler of earth; a master of the situation of life, with a peace that nothing disturbs; and a joyful faith in God which sees all things working together for our good, and contributing to our happiness.

Salvation is greater riches than all the gold, silver and valuable treasures of this earth summed up together. A treasure that never faileth; a wealth so great that to the happy possessor everything of earth is, in comparison, reduced to dust and dirt. O "the unsearchable riches of Christ!" Eph. 3:8. "Ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich." 2 Cor. 8:9. How rich? "He that overcometh shall inherit all things." Rev. 21:7. "He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?" Rom. 8:32. Yea, hath given. "For all things are yours. Whether Paul or Apollos, or Cephas, or the world, or life, or death, or things present, or things to come, all are yours." 1 Cor. 3:22.

So teaches the word of God, and so bear witness all who have tested His wonderful claims. Reader, look back over that long line of holy martyrs, who, in the possession of this great treasure, gloried in tribulations, and shouted for joy amid the flames, disdaining life, with all it could offer, when tendered to them as a compensation for their hope in Christ; and there behold the eternal and incalculable value of salvation. If, then, such unbounded wealth, such innumerable blessings, and such infinite bliss and happiness are all treasured up in salvation, who can afford to be indifferent to the gracious treasure? But again we ask, What does it mean?

Salvation Means Deliverance

The entrance of sin into our world has brought in its train indescribable wretchedness. Guilt and remorse sting the conscience and fill the soul with shame. Sinful habits form the links of an iron chain, which binds the life in utter despair. A chain of bondage which defies all human strength. Burning lusts are set on fire from hell, all clamoring for unholy indulgence; the gratification of which is only followed by greater misery. Restless and unnatural desires deprive the soul of peace; and the half-awakened fears of death and judgment hang dark and gloomy over the life. Hope dies, and with it, manhood and womanhood give up their struggle, and surrender the life to dark melancholy or open shame. Reader, salvation means deliverance from all these elements of woe and misery. And should even this picture fall short of the deep shades of your case, salvation yet means complete deliverance from the strongest chains of habit, the lowest depths of sin, the deepest hell of

intemperance and debauchery. Deliverance from darkness into light, from the power of Satan unto God. From the woes of a guilty conscience into peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ; from remorse into the joys of pardon; from the thralldom of sin into the glorious liberty of the sons of God. O how wonderful! wonderful!! deliverance by the almighty arm of Him whose name is Wonderful!

And when all this blessedness is reached by the divine miracle of regeneration, if the new-born soul continues to "desire the sincere milk of the Word, and grow thereby," he will soon come to the privilege of another great and glorious epoch in divine grace; the entire sanctification of his nature; the utter destruction of all inward bent to evil, and the restoration of the "divine nature." 2 Pet. 1:4. Perfect deliverance from the "body of sin," into the "image of God," and his perfected love.

Beloved, this is not an overdrawn picture, nor a tale of human fancy. Nay, it is the very substance of the sure Word of God: "For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him." 2 Cor. 5:21.

"Wherefore he is able to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them." Heb. 7:25.

"This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance, that Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief." 1 Tim. 1:15.

And "where sin abounded grace did much more abound." Rom. 5:20.

Here saving grace is placed over against all sin. And even in hearts and lives where "sin abounded," grace, the saving mercy of God, much more abounds. Though your sins tower up like dark mountains unto heaven, grace towers far above. Though they be as deep as hell, the grace of God with omnipotent arm reaches unto you. Though great wickedness spreads over all your past life, grace super-abounds to save you. "Though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool." Isa. 1:18.

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." 1 John 1:9. "And the blood of Christ, his Son, cleanseth us from all sin." 1 John 1:7. To meet your wants as a great sinner, God has sent to you "a Savior and a great one." Isa. 19:20. Though your soul is cursed by your manifold transgressions, and your mighty sins," Amos 5:12, you may "make your supplication to the Almighty." Job 8:5. Though your lusts and wickedness rise like mighty billows and threaten to sweep you quickly down to hell, "The Lord on high is mightier than the noise of many waters, yea, than the mighty waves of the sea." Psalm 93:4.

"And being made perfect he became the author of eternal salvation to all them that obey him." Heb. 5:9.

"For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh; how much more shall

the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?" Hebrews 9:13, 14.

Reader, be assured that the writer is one, and he is personally acquainted with thousands of others, who, though our case has been as dark and hopeless as yours, have, by the grace of God come to a happy realization of those precious scriptures. Therefore, full salvation is not only true in the Word, but also in fact. And if you are willing and obedient, it will prove true in your case. —D. S. Warner

What Time Is It?

Time is the duration of anything. We could also say it is the opportunity, or the favorable moment of doing something or not doing it. Time began when God spoke this world into existence and time will end when "the Lord cometh as a thief in the night," and we are all called into Judgment. There will not be any time in eternity. You cannot measure eternity with years or even think of it as man thinks of measuring the duration of anything.

Your time began when you were born. Time will end for you one of these days in this life. Every moment is precious that you live. It is very important that you realize this so you can use every moment in the right way. You do not have long to stay here. The Bible says, "For what is your life? It is even a vapor that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away." James 4:14. We have just a little while to stay here.

"A wise man's heart discerneth both time and judgment." Eccl. 8:5. We cannot ignore time and we cannot ignore the judgment. There is time given here to get ready for the judgment. Death is sure and the judgment is sure. A wise man will realize this and use his time to get ready to meet his God. "Today, if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts" Heb. 3:15. It is time to repent. It is time to seek God with godly sorrow. It is time to yield to God. It is time to serve the Lord. It is time to be filled with the Holy Spirit. It is time to work for God. Time is fast passing. Time will soon end. Death is sure. Are we ready to meet God? "And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed. The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light. Let us walk honestly as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying. But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfill the lusts thereof." Rom. 13:11-14.

One afternoon a young couple left the camp meeting and went to their home. They hurried to get their work finished so they could return to the meeting that night. Time for the meeting came closer and they hurried faster. When they arrived on the camp

grounds the service had already started. That night dear Bro. John Wilson had a heavy burden upon his heart. His subject was "TIME." He was exhorting those present to prepare to meet God because time was so short. All of a sudden there was a commotion in the back of the tabernacle. Soon the word was passed that the wife of this young man had had a heart attack. Several ministers went back to pray but she was gone. It seemed to me that the message was being preached out in reality, so I started the song, "Have We Any Time for Jesus?" The camp was stirred and souls sought the Lord.

Dear ones, time is valuable to us. Ask yourself the question, "What time is it in my life?" When will time end for you? Will it end within the week, or month, several years, or will it be ended within the next few moments? We are living in such a high-gear world, and easy transportation causes us to take on so many things that the strain is hard upon the body, the heart and nerves. So many today are going with heart attacks.

Just a week or so ago in our town, a man and his wife were getting ready to go out for the evening. After they were dressed, he asked his wife to rub a sore spot on his back. He said it had been sore for a few days between his shoulders. She rubbed it and he fell over with a heart attack and was gone. The doctor told them that it was a blood clot and when she rubbed it, it moved to his heart and he was gone.

Dear ones, time is so short for some of us. How short is it for you? What time is it in your life? Are you ready to meet your God? Have you confessed your sins and are they covered by the precious blood of Jesus? Today is the time to seek God. "It is high time to awake out of sleep." As death finds you so will the Judgment. Prepare to meet thy God.

—Sister A. Marie Miles

NEW BOOK OF POEMS AVAILABLE

Just off the press is a new book of poems entitled, "Spiritual Paintings," written and published by Sister Minnie Penner. As the title implies, these are pictures painted in poetry, portraying the moral and spiritual principles involved in the true-to-life events and happenings in our society of today. Many of the poems are supposed conversations between two or more persons. Several poems are accompanied with illustrative drawings.

This book of poetry consists of 180 pages, bound in a nice heavy paper cover. The cost of publication to Sister Penner has been considerable, but after prayer, the Lord has directed her to make it available free of charge except for the cost of postage on mail orders. It is the fervent desire of Sister Penner that every reader will derive a spiritual benefit from its contents.

As long as the supply lasts, the request for a copy will be filled in the order that it is received, limiting one copy to a person. Send your request to this office and enclose 10c in coin or stamps for mailing.

Faith Publishing House, Box 713, Guthrie, Okla. 73044

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This non-sectarian paper is edited and published in the interest of the universal CHURCH OF GOD each month (except August of each year, which is campmeeting month, and we omit an issue that month to attend these meetings) by Lawrence D. Pruitt, assisted by Marie Miles and other consecrated workers at the FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE, 920 W. Mansur, Guthrie, Okla. 73044.

Dated copy for publication must be received by the 13th of the month prior to the month of issue.

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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; and no test of fellowship but the indwelling Spirit of Christ.

Through the Free Literature Fund thousands of gospel tracts are published and sent out free of charge as the Lord supplies. Cooperation 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; 1st 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 Faith Publishing House.

A separate Missionary Fund is maintained in order to relay missionary funds from our readers to the support of home and foreign missionaries and evangelists.

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

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The Church of God Chapel at Guthrie, Oklahoma is located on the corner of Sixth and W. Warner. The congregation welcomes you. —Bro. Ira D. Stover, Pastor 415 N. 14th St., P. O. Box 210, Phone BUTler 2-3244

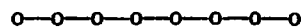
EDITORIALS

With the dawn of this new year of 1965 we send Christian greetings of love and best wishes to all our readers which, with this issue, includes several thousand and who will be receiving this full gospel paper for the first time and will continue to receive it for the months of February and March. If you are a new reader, it is very likely that a friend of yours has subscribed for you with the hope and earnest prayer that the contents of these issues will prove a special spiritual benefit to you and your family.

Please read it carefully with an open heart and mind, and compare its teachings with the Bible. For more than 40 years it has been the aim of this paper to present the plain positive truth as revealed by the Spirit and Word of God—the same gospel which Jesus and the apostles taught. The gospel of Christ is still "the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth," even as the Apostle Paul testified in Rom. 1:16. Over the years God has used these columns to edify and unify the spiritual Body of Christ, which is the Church of God, the pillar and ground of the truth. It has always been God's will that His people be in "one fold" under the Chief Shepherd upon whose shoulders the government rests.

The continuing response of our readers in sending more names for the special three-months subscription offer is very much appreciated, and we are certain that the Lord will reward every effort put forth in His cause. Though some lists of names have been received after the date of Dec. 8, they are being added to the many others with the prayer that these readers, too, will hear and heed the gospel invitation. One soul is worth more than the whole world, so we should earnestly and faithfully labor to rescue the "lost sheep" who are wandering on the bleak and barren mountains of sin.

As this January paper goes to press, there are on the mailing list about 5,600 new names who will receive the paper for the next three months. It is a pleasure to report that this number is more than was received in any previous year under the special subscription offer. With thanksgiving to God and our readers, we anticipate a harvest of souls and that the truth of the gospel will be planted in many new homes. One plants, another waters, but God must give the increase.



Through the blessings of the Lord a number of saints from Guthrie were privileged to attend the Hammond, La. assembly meeting which was held Nov. 22 to 29. From the office, Sister Sharon Watkins, one of the faithful workers, my wife and I were permitted to attend this very profitable meeting and enjoy the fellowship of the saints. To us the saints living in that area are just "home folks" as we have

met with them in services many times since our first contact at the Hammond, La. assembly meeting in December, 1928—some 36 years ago.

Of course, we enjoyed our visit and stay in the home of our son, Byron, and his family who live near Hammond. He works at the printing trade there.

Several out-of-state ministers were present at the recent meeting at Hammond where Bro. Max Williamson is the pastor, and the Lord anointed richly for the preaching of His Word. At times the building was filled to its capacity. A number of souls found help from God at the altar of prayer. The ordinances of the Lord's house—feet-washing and the Lord's supper—were observed by the group of happy saints. The spirit of love and unity prevailed at the meeting. Sister Katherine Key, pastor at Loranger, La., expressed that she felt this assembly meeting was the best ever held at Hammond. We trust and pray that the Lord will continue to bless and prosper His work in the South.

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Bro. Ostis Wilson just closed on Dec. 2 a 10-day revival meeting at the Church of God chapel on N. E. 50th Street in Oklahoma City. A very profitable meeting was reported. Bro. Wilson is now in a revival meeting at Neosho, Mo.

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Many of our readers would like to know the dates of the various campmeetings for 1965 so they can arrange their vacations to attend these meetings. Those who have this information please send in the campmeeting dates by Feb. 1, 1965 so we can publish the entire list in the March issue.

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The December issue of the Spanish paper, "La Luz de Esperanza" (Light of Hope); edited by Bro. Clifford Smith, Los Angeles, Calif., has been printed and mailed to the Mexico mission workers for distribution to the Spanish-speaking people.

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We keep in stock over 300 different titles of gospel tracts. Send for a free sample. One tract may save a soul from sin and its tragic consequences.

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After many months of negotiations we find that we do not have enough single subscriptions to qualify under the rules of the Postoffice Department for second-class mailing rates in order to continue mailing out "The Heavenly Path" for primaries as a separate youth paper under that title. Therefore, we are combining this primary paper with the junior paper, "The Beautiful Way," for which we already have a second-class mailing permit. Beginning with the second quarter (April, May, June) of 1965 all the subscribers to either of the youth papers will receive the paper entitled, "The Beautiful Way," but it will consist of papers for both primary and junior classes, and those Sunday schools who have both classes can separate the papers and use them in each class. This is the best arrangement we can make under the circumstances. As the Lord supplies, we are expecting in the future to have helpful pictures and drawings

in the youth papers, so please pray with us about this matter.

The combination of these papers makes it necessary to change the subscription price of "The Beautiful Way" to 80c per year. When your present subscription expires for your Sunday school classes, or when sending in new or additional subscriptions, please note this price change.

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The Apostle Peter, preaching to the Jews on the occasion of the healing of the lame man at the gate of the Temple, said: "Ye are the children of the prophets, and of the covenant which God made with our fathers, saying unto Abraham, And in thy seed shall all the kindreds of the earth be blessed. Unto you first God, having raised up his Son Jesus, sent him to bless you, in turning away every one of you from his iniquities." Acts 3:25, 26.

In the latter part of this text is expressed the ultimate blessing and purpose of the gospel of Christ which is "to bless you, in turning away every one of you from his iniquities." This great gospel blessing is primarily concerned with the moral and spiritual benefit for the soul of man, the inner being, that immortal part of man which God breathed into him at creation and "man became a living soul." That immortal soul from God must live on somewhere forever at the end of this mortal life, either in torment or at rest with the Lord.

Man fell under the temptation and power of sin in the Garden of Eden. Subsequently, through the weary centuries the human race was in bondage to sin and Satan until the light of the gospel shone forth with the coming of Christ and His redemptive atonement for sin. Jesus Christ came to break the sinful bonds of Satan and set the captive souls at liberty.

The Jews had long looked for the coming of the promised Messiah, foretold by the prophets of the Old Testament. Yet the teachers of the Jews had misinterpreted the prophecies to the people, and they expected the promised Messiah to come in pomp and show as an earthly king to deliver them from their Roman conquerors and restore the kingdom to Israel. They expected the Messiah to bring them wonderful blessings of temporal and physical prosperity. This misconception of the purpose of the Messiah's coming and the nature of His kingdom was the chief cause of their rejection of Jesus Christ as that Messiah. Though the Jews were in temporal bondage to the Romans, yet their spiritual bondage to sin and Satan was of infinitely greater consequence. A spiritual and moral restoration or blessing was their greatest need. Jesus said to the wicked Jews: "Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do." John 8:44. Then in 1 John 3:8 we read, "For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil." The angel of the Lord appeared unto Joseph, saying, "And she [virgin Mary] shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins." Matt. 1:21. The chosen people of Israel were bound in sin, separated from fellow-

ship and communion with their Creator, but Emmanuel "visited and redeemed his people."

The blessing of salvation or deliverance from sin was not confined to the Jewish nation alone, but in the covenant which God made to Abraham was this provision: "In thy seed [Christ] shall all the kindreds of the earth be blessed." This spiritual blessing was designed for the Gentiles as well as the Jews.

An individual can experience no greater blessing than to have his sins and iniquities blotted out by the blood of Christ and his name enrolled in the Lamb's book of life. Man desires to be at rest in the paradise of God when this life is over, but sin can never enter there. Jesus said to the unbelieving Jews, "... ye shall die in your sins; whither I go, ye cannot come." Jno. 8:21. Think of the great love and mercy of God in sending His only begotten Son "to bless you in turning away every one of you from his iniquities." Heed the exhortation: "Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out. . . ." Acts 3:19.

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Prayer Requests

In times past we have named the affliction and the state from which the request has come of a few of the many requests that come into the office but this time we will just ask that you ask the Lord to hear and answer prayer concerning the many requests that come in here. Only God is able to heal, work out problems and save souls. We can do nothing but just pray and ask Him. We do thank God for how He does answer prayer. Just this morning we received a letter from a dear one who was thanking God for delivering her out of darkness who had written some time ago for prayer. It is through your united prayers that God does hear and answer. We do thank God for how He does hear and answer prayer.

Sister Powell in Virginia has cancer in her head. It is now affecting her eyes. Please remember her in prayer. She is trusting God fully and it is wonderful how God has stood by her. The saints there appreciate her very much.

Please remember some homes that are on the verge of breaking up because the devil has worked in.

A brother in the South was in a bad auto accident and needs healing and the problem concerning it worked out. Two other saints also have been in accidents and need healing.

I am so glad that I can be a witness to the fact that "prayer changes things." —Sister A. Marie Miles

OBITUARIES

Lloyd Dennis Dollins, son of William D. and Zelfie Dollins was born February 15, 1925 at Pomona, Mo. He was called from this life on November 16, 1964 at the age of 39 years, 9 months, and one day.

On July 24, 1941 he was united in marriage to Zella Pauline Evins. To this union six children were born, five sons and one daughter.

Nearly twelve years ago, in response to the invitation of the gospel of Christ, Brother Dollins yielded his heart and life to God. Setting his affections on things above, he endeavored unto the end of his earthly days to live that righteous, godly life that pleases God. As his Christian experience progressed, he received the divine call to minister for the Lord in preaching the gospel. His ministry was owned and blessed of God, proving to be a spiritual benefit to saint and sinner alike. As he continued to live for God and walk in the light of the gospel, he came in contact with and embraced the teachings of the Evening Light saints of the Church of God. He remained in their fellowship to the end.

The last years of his life were spent beneath the shadow of much affliction. But it only tended to draw him closer to God, and to make that world above more desired and welcome. While the outer man suffered in affliction the inner man was anointed and kept aflame with the life of Christ. He was a man of great courage, possessing a keen zeal for the truth and right, and also a strict abhorrence for evil. He was not afraid to take his stand for truth even at the expense of the favor of men. He was kind and humble, proving to his brethren in the Lord of his love and spiritual interest in them. Above all, his greatest desire and aim was to live for Jesus and always be found accepted of Him.

Brother Dollins seemed to have knowledge of his close departure from this life and left a clear witness of his readiness to meet God. He will be greatly missed in the assembly of the saints and in his own home circle, but we are surely confident that he is forever present in the assembly above.

He passed away at his home near Elkland, Mo. in the presence of his wife, children, and a number of saints and close friends. He died a triumphant death in the faith for which he so devoutly lived. A few hours before he passed, the scripture was quoted by one of those beside him: "Lo! I am with you alway, even to the end of the world." Though seemingly unconscious, he mustered strength to repeat: "To the end of the world." These were his last words. He suffered but little in his final sickness and just fell asleep in Jesus.

He leaves to mourn his passing his wife, Zella; Dennis, Steven, David, and Connie of the home; Bill and Gary Dollins and their wives of Springfield, Mo.; his mother, Mrs. Zelfie Dollins, West Plains, Mo.; five sisters: Mrs. Hazel Burgess, Pomona, Mo.; Mrs. Lola Wood, West Plains, Mo.; Mrs. Lois Collins, Siloam Springs, Ark.; Mrs. Helen Collins, Diamond, Mo.; and Mrs. Vina Womack, Birchtree, Mo.; one brother, Aubrey, of West Plains, Mo.; and one grandson, besides a host of other relatives, saints and friends. "Let me die the death of the righteous, and let my last end be like his!"

Funeral services were conducted in the Ralph Thieme Funeral Chapel of Springfield by Bro. Darius Gibson, assisted by Bros. Murphy Allen and Leslie Busbee. His mortal remains were laid to rest in the Timber Ridge Cemetery, south of Elkland, Mo. Sermon text: Psa. 116:15.

Sister Bessie West, the daughter of Mac Warren and Auloh Moland, was born Feb. 20, 1904 at Gladewater, Tex., and departed this life Nov. 10, 1964 at Tulsa, Okla.

She was united in holy matrimony to Willis West on Nov. 19, 1934. Sister West heard and embraced the Church of God teachings in 1937. She was faithful and the saints were surely her people.

She leaves to mourn her passing, a devoted husband, two sons, Willis, Jr. of Baltimore, Maryland, and Leron West of Tulsa, Okla.; two daughters, Barbara Jean Mopin of St. Joseph, Mo. and Julia Ann Ross of Los Angeles, Calif., her stepmother, Mrs. Ionia Moland, two brothers, William Moland and William Bramlett of California; 8 sisters, Mrs. Girtha Durant of California, Miss Marsha Moland, Okla. City, Beulah Whiteside and Lucille Hynson, Tulsa, Okla., Mrs. Odessa Lynn, Mrs. BIRTHA Barkley, Mrs. Pecolia Yates and Ada Williams, all of California, and a host of other relatives, friends and saints.

Eulogy by U. Phillips, assisted by Bro. Sam Barton and Bro. Woodrow Warren. Burial was made at Tulsa, Okla. Text: Rev. 14:13.

Alice (Thackery) Wells, the daughter of Elmer and Fannie Thackery, was born in Pennsylvania on May 30, 1895 and died Dec. 2, 1964 at Guthrie, Okla. at the age of 69 years with an apparent heart attack.

In 1916 Alice came with her parents to Guthrie, Okla. and lived there most of her remaining life. She had been a close friend of the Pruitt family for more than 45 years, and in earlier years attended the services of the Church of God. For many years she worked for the Christian Triumph Co. She had been afflicted for a long time and confined to her home. Suffering many disappointments and heartaches during her lifetime, she bore them patiently and cheerfully. Alice was possessed of a very pleasant disposition, was a kind neighbor and loved by all who knew her.

Her husband, Howard Wells, preceded her in death 11 years ago. Survivors are one sister, Mrs. Pauline Brant, Geuda Springs, Kansas, one brother, Ernest Thackery, Ellinwood, Kansas, several nieces and nephews, and a host of friends.

Funeral services were held at the Guthrie Church of God chapel, conducted by Bros. Ira Stover and O. C. Porter. Interment was in the Summit View Cemetery, Guthrie, Oklahoma. —Lawrence Pruitt

Bro. Steve Dafnis, age 70, passed away in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma on Nov. 6, 1964, following a stroke. He came to Oklahoma recently from Arizona, but formerly lived in California. He attended the camp meetings this past summer and made his home in Oklahoma City. He attended services at the chapel on N. E. 50th Street and was loved very much by all in the congregation. His sweet spirit of Christ was continually manifested in all of his words and actions.

Earlier in his life Bro. Dafnis, our Greek brother, accepted Jesus as His Saviour, and because he did this, his wife left him, taking their two children. This was heart-breaking, but he could not give up his Lord. He spent many lonely hours as far as human companionship, but he had the Lord to sustain him.

He is survived by two children: Mrs. Virgil Morningstar and Harris Dafnis, both of San Bernardino, Calif.

He left to mourn his passing many saints who miss him.

The funeral was conducted at the Guthrie, Okla. chapel by Bro. Archie Souder, assisted by others. Text: "And everyone that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my name's sake, shall receive a hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life." Matt. 19:29. Interment was made in the Summit View Cemetery at Guthrie, Okla.

—Archie Souder, Pastor

OREGON ASSEMBLY MEETING REPORT

To the dear saints scattered abroad: It is with joy that we greet you again in the dear name of Jesus.

Our hearts are rejoicing in the love of God and we are praising Him for His blessings. We are very thankful for the good assembly meeting He gave us here in Jefferson, Oregon. As we write this we think how the church here has truly been in the furnace of affliction and persecution. The church here has been through fiery trials. Sad to say, some have drifted away through discouragement, wiles of the enemy, and all the things he has to come against the church in these last days. Some have stood true, faltered at times, but as they looked to Jesus, they were able to take a firmer stand for truth and right. We thank God for the few that are faithful. Some were tossed about for awhile but through prayer and showing the spirit of love these have got their balance again. The ones who have been so sorely afflicted, God is restoring back to health. We have cause for rejoicing and we are looking to our God for greater victory.

Our assembly meeting was precious from the first day to the last. Sweet unity and love prevailed. God sent ministers that were well qualified to preach the Word, being anointed by the Holy Spirit. Eight visiting ministers were here. God blessed each one with anointing to bring the Word of life.

All here were so glad to have our Brother Gene and Sister Beulah Harmon with us for the meeting. Also our hearts were rejoiced to have Bro. Ostis Wilson and surely our God used him in a wonderful way to bring precious truth to us. We could see the great power of God and it only made each one feel that the reward will be great to those who are faithful to the end. Bro. H. Probst was used of God also in a wonderful way to exhort and warn the young people. The Lord blessed Bro. Trotter with some real deep truths on being on the alert to know the voice of God. Bro. Huskey was blessed in giving a message on the church which was a great blessing to the church. The saints here were so happy to see Bro. and Sister Poulos as it had been several years since they had been here. Sister Poulos brought us some precious messages that were food to our souls. It was indeed a precious gathering. Saints came in from different states. Many souls were at the altar for help for body and soul. Saints went down deeper in God. Some differences melted away and there was great rejoicing in sweet fellowship. One sister testified that God had healed her of cancer. Others testified to healings. The ordinances of feet washing and the Lord's Supper were observed.

Some attended that were under deep conviction but did not yield. We are still praying for them. Dear saints, we must not fail to keep a burden for the lost. We are still in the battle for the Lord and tests and trials will come but our help cometh from our God. Therefore we are not afraid what man shall do. Pray for us that we be faithful to the end.

—Sister Beatrice Spaur

REPORT OF AFRICAN MISSIONARY WORK

In a late report from Bro. B. U. Etuk, native minister of the Church of God mission in Nigeria, W. Africa he writes: "Bro. [Ostis] Wilson is sending us regular weekly [Bible] lessons, and we are all very happy indeed for these. Everybody is enjoying the lessons very much, and we are indeed very grateful to Bro. Wilson. The adult language classes are still carrying on as usual and many of the natives are intensifying their efforts to go through the Efik reading."

Bro. Etuk reports how the Lord is blessing and increasing the gospel work at the mission by adding four more native gospel workers. This brings to 21 the number of Christian natives working now under this mission. Bank drafts are being sent regularly each month from this Office's separate Missionary Fund to provide monthly allowances for these native gospel workers, and to pay the salaries of the six adult language class teachers. This is a service to our readers to relay missionary funds to the mission fields as each contributor may direct.

We are praying for and believing that the Lord is calling and preparing more gospel workers of the Church in America to go to Nigeria to continue the efforts to establish a solid and permanent mission work for God in spite of the apparent reverses which have come to it in the past year. Certainly, this is no time to retreat or slack our pace in reaching the unreached millions of the earth with the gospel message. "Christian, gird thy armor on; there's a victory to be won!"

—Lawrence Pruitt

A Challenge

In Memory of Sister Opal Wilson who died on the Nigerian mission field Sept. 24, 1964

She gave her best, she gave her all,
She heard the Macedonian call,
And sailed the ocean, wild and wide,
With her companion by her side.
But angels came one fateful day
To bear her soul to heaven away.
She dropped the torch she carried high,
Shall that flame flicker out and die?
Oh! who will keep the torch aflame
To honor her and Jesus' name?
For hungry souls there cry for bread.
They need from God's Word to be fed.
There's surely someone who can go
That they may full salvation know.

—Grace Jones

NATIONAL MISSIONARY FUND REMINDER

Dear Saints: We send greetings of love in Jesus' dear name. His name is to be praised, for surely He doeth all things well.

We have been musing on the thought of why shouldn't we live for God who giveth us all things to enjoy—physically, temporally, and spiritually—most of all, the riches of His divine grace. Surely our souls do magnify the Lord! What are these few trials of faith compared to the fullness of joy in gaining the victory over sin and all the powers of the devil? Let all that hath breath praise the Lord!

We have been earnestly desiring and praying that the Lord would let His Word be confirmed more among His children and let us see more of the power of God in

causing the lame to walk, the blind to see, binding afflictions to go, minds restored, devils cast out, also the power of the Holy Spirit to bring conviction on the hearts of sinners and stir us all to a closer walk with God.

We are praying the Lord to bestow the gifts of faith and miracles upon His trusting children. Surely He is still the same today. Praise be to His name!

We have felt for some time that we should write a few words of encouragement through the paper concerning the National Missionary Fund. The Lord bountifully blessed in the tent evangelistic effort this past summer and we are still praising God for how He led in purchasing the house trailer and supplying the means. Some who made it possible have gone on to heaven where they had laid up their treasures. God is not unfaithful, but will reward each faithful servant.

Even though the evangelistic house trailer, tent and other equipment are stored here for the winter, we are still sending means through this missionary fund to help to keep our ministers on the field. Let us not forget the teaching of God's Word in 1 Cor. 9:11, the Apostle Paul writing, "If we have sown unto you spiritual things, is it a great thing if we shall reap your carnal things?" Let us all have a greater missionary zeal to help rescue poor lost souls. We are praying the Lord to call and send laborers with the tent just as soon as the weather conditions are permissible. Make this a burden of your heart and a matter of prayer.

In this new year may more be accomplished for God than ever before. Pray for us that we will be faithful servants.

Our Christian love, —Ralph and Inez Beisly

(Editor's note: Please send the offerings for the Church of God National Missionary Fund directly to the treasurer, Bro. Ralph M. Beisly, 407 Eldridge St., Coffeyville, Kansas.)

NEW LOCATION OF CHURCH IN AKRON, OHIO

Ohio—Dear Sister Marie, Bro. Lawrence, workers and saints abroad: Greetings in the precious name of our Lord Jesus Christ, a name that has power, as the Psalmist prayed, "His name shall endure forever; his name shall be continued as long as the sun: and men shall be blessed in him: all nations shall call him blessed. Blessed be the Lord God, the God of Israel, who only doeth wondrous things. And blessed be his glorious name forever: and let the whole earth be filled with his glory; Amen and Amen." Psa. 72:17-19.

I am praising that name today with all that is within me. We are striving that our life and everything in it will show forth the gratitude due to our Saviour for looking down on mankind with mercy. Yet the spirit of mortal man is so proud and exalted above measure. This small space of time of our lives is a probation period as we journey on to our eternal Home. Should we not live it to the glory of our Maker, Creator, Redeemer, and Keeper? To stem the tide of these last days spoken of by the Apostle Paul in 2 Tim. 3:1-7, we must have a full consecration of our will, yes, be "pouring material for our Lord" or these great evils will affect us. The air is charged with evil spirits, such as envy, jealousy, malice, strife, division, hatred, and dishonesty. This grim epidemic does not confine itself to the religious world which is already tottering under its influence, but will likewise attack the elect of God. Let us diligently watch and pray. The first symptoms can easily be detected by lethargy which spreads fast when we fail to use the preventive cure, the cleansing by our Lord's precious blood.

November 21 marked the end of my first year in Akron, Ohio, having been sent here by my Lord. Though a stranger in this city, I came trusting and obeying a Commander that has never lost a battle, knowing of myself my insufficiency, yet obeying Phil. 4:13, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."

Truly our Lord has blessed us here by saving, healing, and encouraging souls. We are still receiving letters from some who received such wonderful benefits in our campmeeting held here last July. Now we are rejoicing to know we can look forward to another one in July, 1965, as our Lord has blessed us with a church building with an attached assembly hall. Capacity of the building is 125 to 150 persons; the hall is 200 to 250. It has a dining hall with kitchen all equipped, basement under both buildings, rest rooms, and parking lot. It is a miracle wrought with such a small congregation. Yet, we were able to get this building into escrow with all papers signed. There will be a sixty-day escrow as the congregation from whom we purchased it will not be able to vacate before that time. By faith we are looking for Ohio to have a larger and better campmeeting in 1965. Not only so, but by faith we are expecting our Lord to save souls to the capacity of our building.

Saints, this is your building as well as ours, so we solicit your prayers and help in meeting the necessary payments. You are welcome at all times.

We would be unappreciative if we did not mention how the Lord blessed Bro. and Sister Lindner of Florida to come here and completely remodel our old building where we worshipped previously, into a 3-bedroom apartment. We are so grateful to them and our Lord. May the Lord bless them for their faithful labors.

The new location of the church building is at 419-21-23 West Thornton St., Akron, Ohio.

Please send all donations to the church parsonage, the home of the undersigned.

—Sister Hazel Clark, or Sister Anna B. Allen
544 Van Everett St., Akron, Ohio 44306

TESTIMONIES

La.—Dear Saints everywhere, greetings of love in our Saviour's name. This is a note to all, to tell you about Bro. Wayne Turner who is in death row at Angola, La. prison. He is deepening down in the Lord and studying the Word faithfully. He is also doing some study of the Greek Bible. He is keeping encouraged and we are thankful for that.

The Lord willing, I plan to visit death row again on Dec. 12. Brother Turner requests prayer for his eyes and a place on the back of his neck, that the Lord will completely heal him.

The jail services at Amite, La. have grown and the Lord surely has blessed. Robert Gregori has been growing in the Lord and changing from worldly habits to painting pictures, etc., and we surely do thank the Lord and desire your prayers for this man's continual encouragement. Pray for these services at Amite, La. each Sunday afternoon.

Continue to hold Bro. Turner up to the Lord in prayer. The U. S. Supreme Court hearing for Bro. Turner was on Nov. 19. The decision will be handed down later. It could be as late as July, 1965, so pray for this also.

I need healing in my body. I have not been well and desire your prayers.

May God bless each one.

In Christian love,

— E. B. Pinkerton

Texas—Dear Saints of God, greetings in the name of Jesus: It is through the power of the blood of Jesus that I am able to say that I am saved and sanctified in this blessed way of truth.

I promised the Lord that I would send in my testimony concerning some afflictions that I have had recently. I had a thumb to swell up nearly twice as large as the other. I couldn't remember getting anything in it, but one day I noticed that it was beginning to feel sore. From that time on it began to swell. Soon it hurt me quite a bit and I couldn't rest well at night. It looked as though blood poisoning was beginning to set in. Bro. Ray Key was here at that time and I was anointed and prayed for by him and other saints here. The Lord began to undertake from that time on. I later felt impressed that night to lance the thumb and by the help of God, I got nearly all of the corruption out that night. Praise our God! This was about the middle of October. At this date, Nov. 23 the thumb is nearly completely healed. It is still just a little tender but I have confidence that it will be normal before long.

Soon after the Lord had begun to undertake for my thumb, I had a boil to come on the back of my neck. It caused me much pain. But through all this the Lord was there to bless and sustain me. It wasn't very long until the Lord had relieved me of this affliction, too. Of course, there were those who wanted me to go to the doctor, but I told them that my confidence was in the Lord.

Through these trials of faith the Lord brought to my mind the Scripture in Psalms 34:19, "Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the Lord delivereth him out of them all." Looking back on my other experiences with the Lord, I can see that I have had several afflictions, sometimes in trials, sometimes in body, but the Lord has delivered me out of them all. Praise the Lord! The Lord has been good to me. Pray that I will continue on steadfast in the faith.

Your brother in Christ,

—Kedron Ellis

Ohio—Dear Saints and fellow-laborers: I am sending some more names for trial subscription to "Faith and Victory," also a short testimony to the healing power of our Lord and Saviour, the Great Physician.

Some time ago I sent a request for prayer for several ailments, one of them quite serious. I am happy to testify it has cleared up and I'm much better. I trusted and am trusting Jesus fully for healing of body and soul. I have very poor hearing and have received assurance and a promise that the Lord will deliver me in His own time, and to be patient. I am just trusting and waiting patiently for that time, believing He will do it. Praise His name! He is able and is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

—Bro. L. Hassinger

Missouri—Dear Sister Marie and all the saints, greetings in the lovely name of Jesus: We read in God's Word not to rejoice because the spirits are subject to us but to rejoice because our names are written in heaven. I am rejoicing that my name is written in heaven.

My cousin had a doctor before she sent for me to come and pray for her. She was lying on the bed and could not walk. I laid my hands on her and the dear Lord helped me to pray the prayer of faith. It was not long until she got up and walked. Dear Jesus healed her. Praise the dear Lord.

I have an unspoken request. The dear Lord knows, doesn't He?

I love to see the snow. The other morning I went through the snow up the railroad to the grain cars to

put tracts in them. I love to work for dear Jesus. He won't let me suffer more than I can bear. It seems it would be so nice to work for Jesus with the saints with me. I am happy, pressing on to glory. I love Jesus.

I know you all have much to do for dear Jesus. Time is going fast.

Your sister,

—Mary Whitmore

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

Texas—Dear Ones in Christ Jesus, greetings: Once more the dear Lord has come to my rescue with a great healing. Most people think the days of miracles are past, but we who know the dear Lord and trust Him fully know He is the same yesterday, today and forever.

I already had a sore on my leg, then I blistered my heel and undoubtedly got dew poisoning in it and we believe blood poisoning set up. My leg was swollen to my knee with red streaks on one side of my foot and leg. The blister spread like a big burned place across the whole back of my heel, but God touched it, healed it and dried it up with no medical aid whatever. I bathed it in clear hot water and prayed earnestly.

When I was lying there thinking in meditation, I remembered Lazarus when he was laid at the rich man's gate full of sores, desiring even the few crumbs that fell from the rich man's table. Then I thought of when I first began to trust the precious Lord, how we all had the itch and how my husband put me out our front door and told me to go home to my mother's and how my mother said, "No, I don't want her, she has the itch and won't do anything for it." Praise our God, He healed me then and is still the same today, and that's been over twenty years ago. I'm still with my husband and he is better to me than he's ever been. Prayer does help and changes things. Praise our God.

One person that saw the healing said, "I guess it does pay or help to pray." One said, "I never saw anything heal as fast as that did when it started healing." Well, we serve a mighty God, one that loves His children and likes to do for them, likes to show Himself strong in their behalf. Oh, how we thank and praise Him for His love to us! We believe He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him. Nothing is too hard for our God.

Pray for me that I'll ever be faithful and true to the God that created me.

Much love and prayers for each one. A sister in Christ,

—Essie Moore

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

Ohio—To the dear saints everywhere: Greetings to you in Jesus' dear name. We thank the Lord that we are saved and encouraged deep in our souls to follow the good Lord all the way by His help and grace. We mean to go through. We are not discouraged at all, but happy on our way to heaven, and wouldn't take anything for our journey.

The Lord has been good to me. He has blessed me so many times. I can't thank Him enough. Praise His dear name for His mercy unto me!

Last year the first week in October I went to our basement to get a window. I got the window and set it down beside a basket and when I turned around to get the other one I stumbled and fell. My face struck the window glass. I was unconscious for a few minutes. When I lifted my head out of the glass, the glass fell to pieces. The Lord protected me. My face was not cut too badly. We praise Him for His goodness.

This year on Aug. 27 I went to the basement to put the window down and I fell and hurt my shoulder very badly. I couldn't raise it. The Lord helped me to get up and go upstairs. I called one of my daughters. She

came, then we called the saints. They came and anointed me and prayed. Campmeeting was going on in Boley, Okla. My daughter called there and they prayed. Three days later the Lord touched my shoulder. I got up and sat out on the porch. We surely thank the Lord and thank all the saints for their prayers. I still desire your prayers that the Lord will complete my healing. I can use my arm some. We do thank the Lord for how He has blessed me. The doctors didn't have my case. The Lord is my doctor. My trust is in the good Lord. We believe in trusting the good Lord fully.

We desire the saints to pray for our unsaved children that the Lord will save them.

Your sister in the one Body, —Victoria Chaney

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

Ark.—Dear Sister Marie and all the saints: Today finds us still pressing on, doing all we know and understand to make heaven our home. The Lord is very good to us and we feel encouraged in this beautiful way of holiness. We love the Lord and love His people. It is a pleasure to live for the Lord. The more we deny ourselves, the more pleasure we have in His service.

On November 12 we left home for Vandalia, Ill. We were privileged to stop at Rolla, Mo. and be with the few saints there for a couple of nights. We were sorry to find Sister Engle so very ill. She needs our earnest prayers for her recovery.

We reached Vandalia on Nov. 14 and had a week's meeting with the dear saints there. We felt the Lord working and blessing. Let us remember them in prayer and especially Sister Green. She is very weak in body.

From there we journeyed to Grubbs, Ark., stopping on the way to visit the saints at Kennett, Mo. They are a precious little group of saints there. One can feel the love of God flowing from heart to heart and that's what it takes. We are living now at Swifton, Ark. and are having meetings at Grubbs, Ark. Bro. and Sister Adams live in Swifton, so we thought it good to live here where we could take them to meeting.

The dear saints here are so happy to have us, as they have been isolated and they have all been so good to us, helping us out in every way they could. There are not many of us but we have the Lord with us and we endeavor to do all we can to win other souls to the Lord.

We are only 63 miles from Myrtle, Mo. and we plan to go there on their all-day meetings. This is a very needy place as there is no minister living near here and we surely need the prayers of the saints that we may be a help to these isolated saints.

We also wish to invite any other isolated saints in these parts to get in touch with us and visit us or if you need prayer in time of sickness you may write us. Our address is Box 352, Swifton, Ark. We hope to get a telephone after the first of the year and we will let you know our number. We desire the prayers and cooperation of the saints. In Christian love,

—Bro. and Sister Albert Eck and DeLoris

o

"None in Hell!"

"Tracts everywhere!" said a man, with a sneer, as a young Christian boy handed him a tract one Lord's day afternoon.

"No," said the boy quietly, "there will be none in Hell," and passed on. God fastened that single sentence as a nail in a sure place, and he could not get rid of it. "None in Hell!" seemed to echo in his

ears every time he saw a tract, and soon after that he was converted.

Dear reader, there will be no tracts in Hell—neither Gospel invitation nor Gospel entreaties. How eagerly the lost multitudes in the hopeless region of despair would welcome the first invitation of mercy; but their day is past, their time of grace is over.

They will remember how many times, while here on earth, they heard of the wondrous love of God in the gift of His Son, and through Him salvation was offered to them but instead of gladly accepting Him as their Saviour and receiving rest and peace to their souls, and all eternal blessings in Him for eternity they turned away and refused God's love and mercy.

Many invitations were offered to them while they were on earth but there are "none in hell!" How are you, my dear friends, treating these golden opportunities, solemn warnings, and loving invitations as found in John 3:16, Matt. 11:28, and John 6:37. Accept these invitations speedily, for O remember, there will be "none in hell!" But if you will not heed, your doom is fixed.

"Because I have called, and ye refused; I have stretched out my hand, and no man regarded. But ye have set at naught all my counsel and would none of my reproof: I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when your fear cometh; . . . then shall they call upon me, but I will not answer; they shall seek me early, but they shall not find me" Prov. 1:24-27.

"He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life: but the wrath of God abideth on him" John 3:36.—Sel.

SANCTIFICATION

It is God's purpose and plan through a full and uttermost salvation to completely restore man to the creative, Edenic state of perfected holiness in the image of God. Col. 3:10 says, "And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him." Eph. 4:24 says, "And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness." Gal. 4:4, 5 says, ". . . God sent forth his Son . . . to redeem them that were under the law." But redemption involves a complete restoration. In the matter of financial obligations and mortgages, etc. it means for a thing to be just as free from debt as before any debt was put on it. In scripture and as it pertains to our salvation, it means for one to be just as free from sin and corruption as before sin was ever introduced into the world.

Therefore; a second experience of divine grace which completes the work of restoration and is termed in the scriptures "Sanctification" or "Baptism of the Holy Ghost" is necessary and is available to all believers.

Sanctification has two meanings and signifies two distinct things.

1. The act of consecrating or of setting apart for a sacred purpose; consecration.

2. The act of sanctifying or making holy; or the state of being sanctified or made holy; the act of God's grace by which the affections of men are purified, or alienated from sin and the world, and exalted to a supreme love of God; also the state of being thus purified or sanctified.

Sanctify is defined as: 1. To make sacred or holy; to set apart to a holy or religious use; to consecrate by appropriate rites, to hallow. 2. To make holy or free from sin; to cleanse from moral pollution and corruption; to make fit for the service of God, and the society and employments of heaven.

The term is used in the first sense throughout the Old Testament and involves only the consecration or setting apart for sacred purposes and does in no way and at no time refer to a moral change in one's nature. In Lev. 27:14-29 we note that the term "sanctify" is used in regard to houses (vs. 14), lands (vs. 17), animals (vs. 26), and the term "devoted" is used interchangeably with "sanctify" in verses 21, 28, and 29.

In Exodus 40:9 the tabernacle and all its furnishings were sanctified (hallowed), the altar was sanctified (vs. 10), the laver was sanctified (vs. 11) and Aaron and his sons were sanctified for the priest's office (vs. 12, 13).

In Ex. 19:10, 14 Moses is commanded to sanctify all Israel and it is said that he did sanctify them. In Lev. 11:44 the people are commanded to sanctify themselves to be holy unto the Lord. We see here that inanimate objects which were not capable of receiving any moral change were sanctified under the law. Also that the sanctification of the people was done by man or by themselves and was not a work of God at all. This term was used generously throughout but this is sufficient to show its general use in Old Testament times.

The term is also used in a limited way in this sense in the New Testament but generally in the New Testament the term is used in the second sense meaning to make holy or free from sin; to cleanse from moral corruption and pollution.

In John 17:19 the term is used in both senses. It is said here that Jesus sanctified Himself that we might be sanctified through the truth. In John 17:17 Jesus prayed unto God that He might sanctify His followers through the truth. This was a work that God was to do and could not be done by man as in the case of Old Testament sanctification.

That Old Testament sanctuary of God had to be sanctified before He would dwell in it but that sanctification was a legal, ceremonial, ritualistic sanctification or consecration done by man. That tabernacle was a type of God's holy temple in this age of time.

In the first eight verses of the ninth chapter of Hebrews a detailed description of the Old Testament sanctuary with its furnishings, its altars and sacrifices, etc. is given. Then in verse 9 it says, "Which was a figure for the time then present . . ." In Hebrews 9:24 it says, "For Christ is not entered into

the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; . . ." Here we learn that the Old Testament sanctuary was a type or figure of the true or New Testament sanctuary. Then in Heb. 8:2 speaking of Christ's ministry and priesthood it says, "A minister of the sanctuary, and of the true tabernacle, which the Lord pitched and not man." Here it is said that the true tabernacle was built by the Lord and not man and that Christ Himself is its high priest and minister. In Matt. 16:18 we learn what the tabernacle which the Lord built is. Jesus said here, "Upon this rock I will build my church." The New Testament church, then, is the true tabernacle of the Lord which He built in this age of time.

But the New Testament Church is composed of men and women who are saved and cleansed from sin through faith in the blood of Jesus. In Heb. 3:6 we read, "But Christ as a son over his own house; whose house are we, if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of hope firm unto the end." And again in Eph. 2:21, 22 it says, "In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord: In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit." Again in 2 Cor. 6:16 we read, "For ye are the temple of the living God." And in 1 Cor. 3:17 it says, "For the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are."

Since the Old Testament sanctuary or temple was a type of the New Testament temple or church, and, since this holy temple (New Testament church) is composed of men and women who are saved by faith in Christ's blood, we conclude that every object in that Old Testament tabernacle is to be found in its reality and fullness in our own personal experience of salvation.

Then, the fact that there were two compartments in the tabernacle, the first and second (Heb. 9:2, 3) or the holy place and holiest of all (sometimes called the most holy place) there must of necessity be two parts or experiences or works of grace in our salvation. Also, since the ark of the covenant containing the tables of the covenant was in the second compartment (Heb. 9:4) we see that we do not reach the place where God's law is fully written in our hearts and His holy will perfected in us until we enter that second experience of divine grace which completes our salvation. Heb. 10:14 says, "He hath perfected forever them that are sanctified." Here it is made plain that sanctification is the completion of our salvation and the perfecting of our experience and where God's law is fully written in our hearts.

—Ostis B. Wilson

Is It a Lack of Faith, or Unbelief?

You will never get rid of unbelief by calling it a lack of faith. You will have to confess and forsake unbelief, and get forgiveness for yielding to such a God-dishonoring principle. Let the blood wash it all away. "Lord, I believe; help thou mine unbelief."

Call on God to remove it; trust Him till it is done. Get the unbelief out, and faith will get in. If you undertake to exercise faith on any point where you possess a degree of unbelief, you are sure to doubt; therefore Jesus said, "If ye have faith, and doubt not," "ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you." Abraham staggered not through unbelief (Rom. 4:20). How did he keep unbelief out? Paul said, "He considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet, the deadness of Sarah's womb." Had he considered this, what would he have done? He would have staggered through unbelief; but what did he consider? He considered the ability of God. "God was able." He also counted the faithfulness of God—"counted God faithful." He counted God's word immutable; therefore he was strong in faith, giving glory to God. I imagine he shouted some. Why not? He had faith, and no tincture of unbelief in it. When we get in the steps of the faith of Abraham, and like Abraham step out on the promise of God, we are not only blessed with faithful Abraham and shout glory to God, but we are as sure of obtaining the thing desired, as if we had it in possession. Anxious care and worry are all gone. We have the substance, like being in possession of a hundred dollar check or draft, which is the substance of the hundred dollars that lies in the bank.

—G. L. Cole

Rejoice in This Day

One blustery, wintry day in Canada, when the mercury had dipped to 30 or 40 degrees below zero, a Christian lady remarked to an unsaved friend: "What a horrible day! Isn't this miserable weather?"

He answered quickly, "How dare you find fault with this day? Doesn't the Bible say, 'This is the day that the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it?'"

Well, Mr. Unbeliever was right. The Bible does talk about rejoicing in this day. In Psalm 118, verse 24, we read, "This is the day which the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it."

I think we need to remind ourselves of this truth upon rising each morning. The Lord has made this day. Therefore, it must be a good day for everything good comes from God. Look at this verse once more. Think of it in three sections.

First, THIS is the day. The most wonderful day of your life is today if you look at it as such. The friend you had, the trip you took YESTERDAY is forever gone. All that's left is a memory. TOMORROW may never dawn for you. Therefore, enjoy THIS day—today. Don't waste it by worrying over the future or regretting deeds of the past. THIS is THE day! It's the greatest day of your life because you're living it NOW!

Second, let's add another clause: "which the Lord hath made." Yes, "this is the day which the LORD hath made." God made this day. It began with the golden streaks of dawn. It will close with the multi-colored glories of the sunset. This is just no ordinary

day. Never let your philosophy become: "Well, another day, another dollar." God gave you today for a greater purpose than to make a living. He gave it to you to make a life. You are not on this earthly planet by chance. You are living this day by divine appointment. Somehow, little you, little me are fitting into God's plan and purpose of the ages!

Therefore discover God's will for today. Then do it. By so doing, you will be investing this day in the bank of eternity. Divine dividends will be yours if you live well THIS day that the LORD hath made.

Third, "we will REJOICE and be GLAD in it!"

I like that positive declaration of the Psalmist, don't you? You see, it's up to you, it's up to me whether this day will be filled with rejoicing or repining, gladness or grouching. Each morning, whether you realize it or not, you accept some outlook for that day. When I face a day pleasantly, I am surprised how pleasant everyone has become. And when I am not as sweet as I should be, I am amazed how sour everybody else is. It's not how the world is treating you that's so important. Rather, the question is, How are YOU treating the world?

Well, you will treat it right and bright if you will arise each morning and say with the Psalmist: "This is the day which the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it!"

—Selected

PURITY

There are but few words in the English language sweeter and more beautiful than the word "purity." What tender, mellow light beams out from its depths through its crystal clearness! what a halo of glory encircles it! what a sweet melody is contained in the sound, which, as it falls upon the soul, awakens all that is manly, noble, and godly there! Purity! who can repeat this word and not feel and hear a sweet rhythm reverberating through all the avenues of his spiritual being? "Keep thyself pure." Is there a soul so deep in slumber, so stupefied by the opiates of sin, as to know no awakening by the sweet melodious chimes that ring out from this heavenly command? Dismal, indeed, must be the heart in which no aspirations for a pure, devoted life are awakened by these glorious words.

Listen, O my soul, to the sweet music, "Keep thyself pure." Tuned by the Spirit and sung by the voice of inspiration, in the bright morning of this glorious gospel day, it comes ringing down through the ages and is awakening desires and aspirations for the truest nobility of manhood, the deepest piety, and the highest plane of moral purity to which man can attain through the redeeming grace of God.

The command to you, young man, is, "Keep thyself pure"; and to you, young lady, "Keep thyself pure"; and to all who are farther down the stream of life and hastening on to the boundless ocean of eternity, "Keep thyself pure." If you desire to com-

prehend something of the true meaning of purity, think of heaven; what purity is in heaven, so it is on earth; what it is in the life of Christ, so it is in the life of man. Here upon the shore of time we look away, by an eye of faith, and behold the purity of heaven and its inhabitants. We behold the angels on the great white throne, upon which sits the King of glory; but who, of all mankind, will really be eye-witnesses of that fair scene? The Lamb, who is the light over there, makes answer, "Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God."

Purity of soul and heart and mind and conscience and thought and life is an experience to be attained to and enjoyed in this life. Peter says, "seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth." 1 Peter 1:22. Jesus says, "Blessed are the pure in heart." Matt. 5:8. Paul says, "I thank God, whom I serve from my forefathers with pure conscience." 2 Tim. 1:3. Peter says, "I stir up your pure minds." 2 Peter 3:1 says, "Whatsoever things are pure, . . . think on these things." See Phil. 4:8, 9. Christ is the standard of purity. "And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure." 1 John 2:3. Purity in affections, in all the desires, in all the motives, and in all the thoughts. The heart that is made pure in the light of God reveals nothing contrary to heaven. Nothing can be more noble and beautiful upon earth than a pure life. Oh, how many unclean and impure thoughts and desires are filling the minds and hearts of men and women in these awful iniquitous days! Dear readers, "Keep thyself pure."

—By C. E. Orr in "Food for Lambs"

BIBLE STUDY

Primary Picture Roll, \$1.75; Lesson Cards 12c

January 3, 1965

THE GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM

Printed Portion Matthew 3:1-12

Matt. 3:1 In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judaea,

2 And saying, Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

3 For this is he that was spoken of by the prophet Esaias, saying, The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.

4 And the same John had his raiment of camel's hair, and a leathern girdle about his loins; and his meat was locusts and wild honey.

5 Then went out to him Jerusalem, and all Judaea, and all the region round about Jordan,

6 And were baptized of him in Jordan, confessing their sins.

7 But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees come to his baptism, he said unto them, O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come?

8 Bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance:

9 And think not to say within yourselves, We have Abraham to our father: for I say unto you, that God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham.

10 And now also the axe is laid unto the root of the trees: therefore every tree which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire.

11 I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire:

12 Whose fan is in his hand, and he will thoroughly purge his floor, and gather his wheat into the garner; but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.

Memory Verse: Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand. Matt. 3:2.

Central Thought: When we repent we have peace with God.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

It was prophesied hundreds of years before John the Baptist appeared that he would be a voice or forerunner to Jesus. He came to announce that the kingdom of heaven was near. Jesus was in their midst when John was preaching but he was not made known to them. Up until this time the people had offered yearly sacrifices for their sins but now there was one who had come who would get at the very root of sin and destroy it. It is compared to an axe laid at the root of the tree. That root is the sin nature that is passed upon every one who is born in the flesh from Adam on down. When one is baptized "with the Holy Ghost, and with fire" the fire of the Holy Ghost destroys, purges, cleanses out that sin principle or sin nature. Thank God for the great plan of salvation. Through His blood we are justified and sanctified. (Heb. 13:12).

Gospel means "good news." It truly was good news to all that their sins could be forgiven through godly repentance and a forsaking and turning away from them and then they could be filled with the Holy Spirit, which is a second definite work upon the heart. We are then in the kingdom and the kingdom is in us. Jesus said, "Behold, the kingdom of God is within you." Luke 17:21. We are then kings and priests, reigning on the earth (Rev. 5:10), reigning over the devil and sin.

January 10, 1965

THE TEMPTATIONS OF JESUS

Printed Portion Matthew 4:1-11

Matt. 4:1 Then was Jesus led up of the spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil.

2 And when he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was afterward an hungred.

3 And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread.

4 But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

5 Then the devil taketh him up into the holy city, and setteth him on a pinnacle of the temple.

6 And saith unto him, If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down: for it is written, He shall give his angels charge concerning thee: and in their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone.

7 Jesus said unto him, It is written again, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God.

8 Again, the devil taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain, and sheweth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them;

9 And saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me.

10 Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.

11 Then the devil leaveth him, and behold, angels came and ministered unto him.

Memory Verse: Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve. Matt. 4:10.

Practical Truth: Jesus was tempted and knows how to help us.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

To tempt would mean to test, try, induce, allure, attract, to be inviting to. We read in 1 John 2:15 how we are tempted in this world. It is through the "lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the pride of life." From the very beginning of time the devil has worked through this to tempt mankind. In Gen. 3:6 it tells us that Eve was tempted through the same three ways. In our lesson our blessed Saviour was tempted through the same three ways but he did not yield as Eve did. He is our example and because He overcame, we, too, can overcome through Him.

In James 1:14, 15 we read how sin brings death to the soul when temptation is not resisted. "But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust [overmastering desire] and enticed [promise of reward or pleasure]. Then when lust hath conceived [received or formed] it bringeth forth sin [transgression] and sin when it is finished, bringeth forth death [separation from God]." It is very important that we resist temptation immediately as Jesus did. He did not let the thoughts or suggestions linger in his mind and therefore they did not get a chance to get down into his heart and bring forth sin.

Just as Jesus was blessed when he stood firm through the temptations of the devil, we also will be blessed.

January 17, 1965

THE KINGDOM IS AT HAND

Printed Portion Matthew 4:12-25

Matthew 4:12 Now when Jesus had heard that John was cast into prison, he departed into Galilee;

13 And leaving Nazareth, he came and dwelt in Capernaum, which is upon the sea coast, in the borders of Zabulon and Nephthalim:

14 That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying,

15 The land of Zabulon, and the land of Nephthalim, by the way of the sea, beyond Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles;

16 The people which sat in darkness saw great light; and to them which sat in the region and shadow of death light is sprung up.

17 From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

18 And Jesus, walking by the sea of Galilee, saw two brethren, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea: for they were fishers.

19 And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.

20 And they straightway left their nets, and followed him.

21 And going on from thence, he saw other two brethren, James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, in a ship with Zebedee their father, mending their nets and he called them.

22 And they immediately left the ship and their father, and followed him.

23 And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people.

24 And his fame went throughout all Syria: and they brought unto him all sick people that were taken with divers diseases and torments, and those which were possessed with devils, and those which were lunatick, and those that had the palsy; and he healed them.

25 And there followed him great multitudes of people from Galilee, and from Decapolis, and from Jerusalem, and from Judaea, and from beyond Jordan.

Memory Verse: And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people. Matt. 4:23.

Practical Truth: A sincere desire and patience is needed to be a good fisher of men.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Thank God the kingdom of God has been set up. We are not looking for the king to come because He has already come. He came as it was foretold hundreds of years before. When Jesus comes again He will be our judge.

Our lesson tells us that according to prophecy he would preach to the people in the land of Zabulon and Nephthalim who "sat in darkness" that they would see great light. When we think of how wonderful it is to the person who has been lost in the deep, dark woods and all of a sudden they come out into the sunlight, then we can know what it meant for those people to find Jesus, the light of the gospel shining into their hearts. Jesus was the light of the world. As many as believed upon him found light to their darkened souls. Jesus told the people to "repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

Jesus called others to help him in his great work. He told them he would make them fishers of men. It takes bait and a fishing pole to catch fish but it takes something more than that. It takes much patience. It also takes patience and a deep love in our hearts for the lost for us to win souls. We need to point souls to a better way of life. We must have a deep love in our hearts for Jesus and then we can recommend him to others. It is a blessed life to follow Jesus. There is a great need for more workers for Jesus; those who will leave all and truly follow Jesus.

January 24, 1965

CHRIST AROUSES OPPOSITION

Printed Portion Matthew 9:9-13; 10:17-25

Matt. 9:9 And as Jesus passed forth from thence, he saw a man, named Matthew, sitting at the receipt of custom: and he saith unto him, Follow me. And he arose, and followed him.

10 And it came to pass, as Jesus sat at meat in the house, behold, many publicans and sinners came and sat down with him and his disciples.

11 And when the Pharisees saw it, they said unto his disciples, Why eateth your Master with publicans and sinners?

12 But when Jesus heard that, he said unto them, They that be whole need not a physician, but they that are sick.

13 But go ye and learn what that meaneth, I will have mercy, and not sacrifice: for I am not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.

10:17 But beware of men: for they will deliver you up to the councils, and they will scourge you in their synagogues;

18 And ye shall be brought before governors and kings for my sake, for a testimony against them and the Gentiles.

19 But when they deliver you up, take no thought how or what ye shall speak: for it shall be given you in that same hour what ye shall speak.

20 For it is not ye that speak, but the Spirit of your Father which speaketh in you.

21 And the brother shall deliver up the brother to death, and the father the child: and the children shall rise up against their parents, and cause them to be put to death.

22 And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake: but he that endureth to the end shall be saved.

23 But when they persecute you in this city, flee ye into another: for verily I say unto you, Ye shall not have gone over the cities of Israel, till the Son of man be come.

24 The disciple is not above his master, nor the servant above his lord.

25 It is enough for the disciple that he be as his master, and the servant as his lord. If they have called the Master of the house Beelzebub, how much more shall they call them of his household?

Memory Verse: He that findeth his life shall lose it: and he that loseth his life for my sake shall find it. Matthew 10:39.

Practical Truth: If we will stay with Jesus He will stay with us.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

When we belong to God and have Him dwelling within our hearts we, too, will arouse opposition, just as Christ aroused opposition while He was here in this world. People today do not love that Christ life and spirit any more than they loved Him when He was here. The devil hates all that is good and righteous. If he ever condones any good it is with an evil purpose behind it. We then should not be surprised if we feel opposition. We should fortify ourselves for it. We should not "think it" strange concerning the fiery trials which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you: but rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy." 1 Pet. 4:12, 13.

Our lesson bears out how we should act under severe persecutions. We should not think it strange even if those of our own loved ones would turn against us and deliver us before the authorities or make light of us before others. Jesus has forewarned us of this and we should not be frightened or surprised by it. We also need to be careful that we still keep the love of God in our hearts for those who will bring opposition against us. Jesus definitely told us to pray for our enemies. Pray God to bless them and have mercy upon their souls. Thus we can face opposition with calmness and assurance as Jesus did.

January 31, 1965

JUDGMENT AND INVITATION

Printed Portion Matthew 11:20-30

Matt. 11:20 Then began he to upbraid the cities wherein most of his mighty works were done, because they repented not:

21 Woe unto thee, Chorazin! woe unto thee, Bethsaida! for if the mighty works, which were done in you, had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes.

22 But I say unto you, It shall be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon at the day of judgment, than for you.

23 And thou, Capernaum, which art exalted unto heaven, shalt be brought down to hell: for if the mighty works which have been done in thee, had been done in Sodom, it would have remained until this day.

24 But I say unto you, That it shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom in the day of judgment, than for thee.

25 At that time Jesus answered and said, I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes.

26 Even so, Father: for so it seemed good in thy sight.

27 All things are delivered unto me of my Father: and no man knoweth the Son, but the Father; neither knoweth any man the Father, save the Son, and he to whomsoever the Son will reveal him.

28 Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

29 Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.

30 For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

Memory Verse: Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. Matthew 11:28, 29.

Practical Truth: We can repent and come to Jesus and receive rest to our souls.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

A person cannot sit under the sound of the gospel and feel the touch of God upon his heart without being held responsible. A gospel message is not like a political speech which can be partly accepted or all rejected. When the gospel goes forth, it is God speaking to us. We must give heed. We will meet that message again in the judgment. We will have to give an account as to what we did about it. If we do not accept it and obey it we will be held guilty before God. We are held responsible for the light and understanding that we have.

Our lesson brings out clearly the fact that the people of Jesus' day were more responsible than the people in Sodom and other cities who were in darkness. We think of the wickedness of Sodom (Gen. 19) and how God sent fire down from heaven and destroyed it, and then we think of the cities where Jesus worked many miracles. In comparing them, Jesus said that Sodom would have repented if they could have seen these mighty works.

God reveals these facts to those who will humbly seek Him. He is doing everything He can to get souls to awaken and be ready to meet Him in peace. He is standing with outstretched arms, saying, "Come unto me." If you feel the burden and load of sin, trouble, and distress, Jesus is calling for you to come and cast your burden upon Him. He will bear it for you. Learn of Him and be at peace.

—Sister A. Marie Miles