

FAITH ^{AND} VICTORY

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In Memory

Of My Mother, Sister Frances Blackwell
Who passed away May 6, 1963



Mother's gone, but not forgotten,
From our family circle now.
Every tender word she's spoken
Lingers round us all somehow.

Oh, those prayers she prayed to heaven
For us children, one and all,
Seem to float back to my memory
And her words we all recall.

How she prayed for God to guide us
In the straight and narrow way,
That our steps should never wander
Into paths that go astray.

And the life she lived before us
Was so saintly day by day,
Showing forth the life of Jesus
As she walked the holy Way.

She was just a little old-fashioned,
People often used to say,
But when in trouble, trial or sorrow,
It was her they'd call to pray.

Oh, dear saintly, godly mother,
Such a heritage you've left!
Not of silver, gold, or houses,
But a life of righteousness.

And, dear mother, may we follow
In the path that you have trod,
Till our family all is gathered
Round the golden throne of God.

—Hazel (Blackwell) Davis

Busy Mothers



"As thy days, so shall thy strength be." Deut. 33:25

My heart goes out to the busy mother who has her hands, heart and time filled. She longs to have time to be alone with the Lord and pray as she did before she had her children. She will get the babies to bed at night and think, "Now, I will have time to sit down and read my Bible and study a little while." But when she sits down and relaxes she finds herself so tired and weary that she can scarcely keep her eyes open. Her mind seems so dull from an exhausted body because of the many, many duties that had to be done through the day. She finds that isn't the time to try to read the Bible so she resolves she will get up early in the morning and take her Bible to read before the children waken, but it seems they awake with her. She then tries to get them all in bed for a nap in the afternoon so she can have that time to be alone, but when she tries to read or pray, one awakes before the other, or one will be late going to sleep, and so many demands surround her or the phone rings. Perhaps someone will drop in for a visit or there are other interruptions. Then, of course, that basket of ironing never seems to disappear. It is always there to be done. She feels her spiritual life ebbing away and the many interruptions become a great burden to her. She begins to complain and murmur. She longs for a time for herself and God. Many a mother has said, "Oh, what shall I do? I don't seem to have time to do anything for the Lord or even to keep my spiritual life what it ought to be." Then, of course, the devil is right there to bring disappointment and discouragement.

Now my dear, there is a way out for you. First, you must have a right attitude about your position. Remember that your first obligation is to your God, and then your family comes next. First, be willing to follow the words of Jesus when He said that he "came not to be ministered unto, but to minister." Then in one place He said that the disciple was not above the master. Your place in the body of Christ is to minister. You are doing the service of the Lord

A man never sees all that his mother has been to him until it is too late to let her know that he sees it.

—W. D. Howells

when you are ministering unto your baby, your little children, older ones, and your husband. That is your life's work. You are working for the Lord when you do all those little things that are needful in caring for your home. When your family is grown, or older, you will then have plenty of time to do work outside the home. If you teach those little ones about God as you do your work and pray for them, you have a big job on your hands. It is said that the "hand that rocks the cradle rules the world."

In the morning as you dress, have your Bible open, or look on the Christian Scripture calendar and get just one verse to meditate upon throughout the day. Have a Bible in the kitchen where you can get another verse. There is a way to feed your soul as you do your work. I know this to be true by experience. Just now it comes to my mind when I had my little ones and I had much to do. One day I was washing venetian blinds. I asked the Lord to give me a scripture to meditate upon. I remember so clearly that He just spoke to my heart and brought to my mind the verse, "I am the vine, ye are the branches." I remember how my soul was blessed as I meditated upon that verse. Many other times He did the same for me. I remember that at times I found time to pray in some very unusual places or positions as I went about my work. A busy mother with small children won't be able to read and pray at the same time every day alone. Of course, there must be that time when the family will get together and have family worship but we are talking about the times when a person needs to get alone with God. This is so necessary for the growth of every person spiritually.

Let those interruptions be opportunities to do good. Don't feel you are too busy to do for those who call at your home in person or over the phone. You will be surprised how much energy you are using up by worrying and fretting over your work and your worry over not being spiritual or being able to get out and do more for God as the enemy presses these things hard upon you. When you let the Lord change your attitude and do all you do to the glory of God, praying and praising the Lord as you go about your work, you will find that your soul will be overflowing with the love of God. Just verses instead of full chapters in the Bible will grow to be real spiritual food to your soul. You will be abounding in the good things of the Lord. You will be happier and your family will be happier, also.

—Sister Marie Miles

Communism Is Atheism on the March

Communism Is Conquering the World!

Communism now controls about one billion people in our world.

The Communist aim is no less than world conquest, with Moscow as the center of power. This is no unfounded boast, since they have grown to their present numbers from a mere 40,000 in 1917.

Communism Is Atheism!

Karl Marx, founder of Communism, described religion as "the opium of the people."

His great follower, Lenin, starts his pamphlet on religion with these words, "Atheism is a fundamental portion of Marxism, of the theory and practice of scientific socialism."

Nikita Khrushchev recently stated, "We remain the Atheists we have always been; we are doing as much as we can to liberate those people who are still under the spell of this religious opiate."

Wm. Z. Foster, former head of the Communist Party, USA, applies this principle by saying, "God will be banished from the laboratories as well as from the schools."

No matter what else you know about Communism, never forget that its fundamental premise is atheism!

Communism considers man a soulless animal!

Have you wondered how the Communists can so cruelly (and coolly) kill millions of people in nation after nation where they take control? (American Communists estimate it may be necessary to liquidate 50,000,000 Americans when they seize our country.)

They can murder millions without any pangs of conscience because they consider man only an animal, the highest in the scale of evolutionary development. In order to build the perfect Communist world, all persons tainted with the "disease" of religion or capitalism must be exterminated, just as diseased animals are.

Communists expect to conquer America soon.

Lenin said, "First we will take Eastern Europe [they already have], then the masses of Asia [this they are doing], then we will encircle the United States, which will be the last bastion of capitalism. We will not have to attack. It will fall like an over-ripe fruit into our hands."

The Communists confidently expect to conquer the United States in this generation. It is said that the year 1973 is tentatively set as the year of conquest.

If the Communists control America, your religious worship will be systematically suppressed, your family will likely be separated, your home and your children will belong to the state, your freedom will vanish with your present government, and your children will be taught in atheistic schools.

This is, at best, an optimistic estimate because as a Christian, you are quite likely to be one of the 50,000,000 Americans destined for death.

What should this mean to you?

If you are not a Christian, God sends you this warning, "Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish!" The menace of Communism is just one more reminder from God that there may not be much time left to make your peace with Him. Whether or not the Communists conquer America and force you and your children to support atheism depends on whether or not you repent and believe in His Son now! If you are a Christian, God is reminding you that there is a terrible urgency about your Christian witness. As one door after another in our world closes to Christian missions, and as the Church is suppressed in one Christian country after another, He reminds us to

wake up and bring the Gospel to the unsaved about us while we are still able. The Church you take for granted may not always be free to preach and teach as she is now. Whether or not the people of America repent and so avoid the wrath of God depends on whether or not you bring others the Gospel of Jesus Christ now! Christ's commission to you is, "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations . . ." (Matt. 28:19)

Under Communism, you would be giving everything to support atheism . . . how much are you giving now to Christ's work? Under Communism, your life, time and talents will be controlled by the state . . . how much of your life, time and talents are you giving now to the cause of Christ?

God will triumph, you say? Yes, but He has not necessarily promised to do so while there is still an America left or while you are still alive and free to teach your children about the Savior! For an unrepentant America there is little hope! It's time to take God's Word and warning seriously! Jesus Christ is our only hope! Atheism is on the march!

—Mrs. E. W.

Jericho, a Type of the World

(Joshua 6th and 7th chapters)

"Now Jericho was straitly shut up, because of the children of Israel: none went out and none came in. And the Lord said unto Joshua, See, I have given unto thine hand Jericho, and the king thereof, and the mighty men of valor." Joshua 6:1, 2.

How true this is! The world is "straitly shut up, and none went out and none came in." The world in general does not want the gospel today. They will not go out to get it. Very few indeed ever make an effort to come out to hear the truth. And if we carry it to them, they will turn a deaf ear unto it. They have built a great wall of false doctrines, ideas, and opinions of their own around themselves and are content to remain behind these walls, and hear nothing else.

Regardless of all this, it is the Father's will and plan that their walls of defense shall fall before the great onslaught of the pure Word of God as it is preached under the mighty influence of the Holy Spirit of God. This can be accomplished when all dross is removed out of the camp and God's army moves from victory unto victory, obeying every command, in complete harmony and unity of purpose, all seeing eye to eye, and all speaking the same thing.

"And ye shall compass the city, all ye men of war, and go round about the city once. Thus shalt thou do six days. And seven priests shall bear before the ark seven trumpets of rams horns: and the seventh day ye shall compass the city seven times, and the priests shall blow with the trumpets. And it shall come to pass, that when they make a long blast with the ram's horn and when ye hear the sound of the trumpet, all the people shall shout with a great shout; and the wall of the city shall fall down flat, and the people shall ascend up every man straight before him." Joshua 6:3-5.

God has a divine purpose in everything He does, and in all that He permits to come to pass. In the type before us of the world, and the gospel being preached to the people of the world we have seven days, seven priests blowing seven trumpets leading the people around Jericho for seven days, and around these walls seven times on the seventh day. The number "seven" is the numerical representative of perfection, being the most sacred number in the Scripture, and used more times than any other number. Seven priests were blowing seven trumpets continually (vs. 13), marching with the priests that bare the ark of the covenant which represents the New Covenant. The seven priests were to blow the seven trumpets continually, to continually preach the Word, as the people followed in perfect silence. "Ye shall not shout, nor make any noise with your voice, neither shall any word proceed out of your mouth, until the day I bid you shout; then ye shall shout." vs. 10. Here we have a wonderful type of the gospel being preached to all the world, beginning at Jerusalem, on down through the ages of the universal church. The faithful ministers proclaim the precious Word while the people listen in silence.

If all the priests and people from the days of Christ's personal ministry until now had obeyed the instructions given as these did when the walls of Jericho fell many walls that are standing today would have fallen long ago. But sad to say, many talk when they should be listening in perfect obedience. We do not learn when our mouths are running.

The watchmen blowing the trumpet to warn the people of coming danger is a symbol of the ministers preaching the gospel. Ezek. 33:1-9. "Blow ye the trumpet in Zion, and sound an alarm in my holy mountain:" Joel 2:1. ". . . and the Lord God shall blow the trumpet." Zech. 9:14.

In verse 18 the people were warned: "Keep yourselves from the accursed thing." God wants the walls (false doctrines) of sectism to fall under the mighty power of the preached Word, in order that the faithful (typified by the household of Rahab) may escape and come home to Zion. "She dwelleth in Israel even unto this day" vs. 25. But we must not be partakers of the "accursed thing" (Babylonish stones) or follow after them in their evil ways. "Be not conformed to this world." Rom. 12:2. If we partake of the things of the world, following after their sins, we will be condemned and suffer the same penalty that Achan suffered, and cause Israel to lose victory after victory until we shall be cast aside, becoming as weak and lifeless as the movements we pattern after.

"Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, and I will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty." 2 Cor. 6:17, 18. We must keep the camp of Israel clean by purging out all the dross and keeping ourselves from the "accursed thing."

Yours in Him,

—H. P. Huskey

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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.

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EDITORIALS

Thinking of Mother's Day, my mind naturally turns to my own dear mother whose life and devotion to God and His cause, and to her family, stands as a monument in my life. She reared three daughters and three sons, bringing them up in the fear and admonition of the Lord. Impressed upon their lives were the virtues of obedience to authority, reverence for God and His Word, cleanliness, modesty, and honesty in every phase of life. I remember very distinctly when I was about five years old, living on the homestead on the plains of New Mexico, that my mother took me to visit a neighbor. While there I picked up a shiny doorknob, which appealed to my fancy, and brought it home unbeknown to Mother. As soon as she saw it, she inquired where I had gotten it. I told her the truth, and she said I must return it to the neighbor at once for it was not mine. I did, and that was one of my first lessons in making restitution for taking something that did not belong to me, as the Bible plainly teaches.

From my earliest recollection all the family gathered together morning and evening for family worship to God. This service consisted of singing the songs of Zion, reading the Bible, and offering prayer and praise to the Lord. The family altar was not neglected, but was considered more important than getting together for the family meal.

More than ten years have passed since the Lord called my dear mother to her Home on the eternal shore, but I still fondly cherish her memory and humbly acknowledge that it is through the grace of God, the prayers and godly example of my parents that I am what I am today. With the poet I pray:

"God, hallow the holy impress
 Of the days that used to be,
 And keep me a pilgrim forever
 To the shrine at mother's knee!"

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The church, the spiritual Body of Christ, has never been involved and concerned with politics as such, but where the Scriptural principles of truth and right are concerned the church must not and cannot remain silent, passive, or "neutral." To do so is to invite or give comfort to the paganistic spirits which are eating at the vitals of Christian civilization today. The Apostle Paul declares, "For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places." Eph. 6:12. After Pentecost when the apostles were commanded by the Jewish Sanhedrin to be silent about Christ and His resurrection, they refused and said, "For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard." Acts 4:20.

The world-wide movement of godless Communism is rapidly spreading its atheistic theories to every country on the globe. This is the revival of the same "great red dragon" power which opposed the apostolic church of the first century. Christianity then prevailed over paganism and the "dragon" was bound

for a long period of time. John the Revelator tells us that "when the thousand years [long period of time] are expired, Satan [the dragon] shall be loosed out of his prison, and shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth..." Rev. 20:7, 8. That deception is now in full swing.

The atheistic doctrines of Marxist Communism is infiltrating every phase of American life with the resultant rapid decay of moral principles, and contributing to the present increase in crime, riots and general disregard for law and order. Documentary evidence proves that communists or communist-sympathizers have infiltrated the government in high places, the religious denominations, the National Council of Churches, the schools, the mental health programs, the press, the radio, television and motion picture industries, the labor unions and national minority groups.

The terror tactics of communism is to pit class against class and race against race, for its ends and purposes are greatly advanced in the midst of confusion. Marches do not promote God's cause. Many are participating in these communist-inspired plots!

The youth of our land is the No. 1 target of the Communist conspiracy—the "great red dragon." In the schools the textbooks, the personality and psychological tests are slanted to raise doubts in the student's mind as to the existence of God; to resent parental and civil authority, and to disregard the Christian principles of right and wrong. No doubt this accounts for the current student riots and mob violence. When such a generation of students come to take the places of leadership, what kind of society can you expect?

The Bible prophecy has forewarned us of the loosing of the "dragon" which has gone into the four directions of the compass to deceive the nations. The final acts of this great conflict is the compassing of the "camp of the saints"—the church—by this combined "dragon" power and fire comes down from God out of heaven and devours the adversaries. The only safe place for your soul in this world of atheism is "the camp of the saints," and there dare to seal your testimony for Christ with your own blood! Nominal Christianity has already surrendered to the foe, and the Church is the only institution that will survive the final onslaught of Satanic forces. The spiritual body of Christ is of divine origin and "the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."

Late word from Bro. and Sister Ira Stover in Arizona indicate that Bro. Stover is improving some, for which we thank the Lord. Their faith and trust remains firm in the Great Physician. May the Church at large continue in an agreement of prayer and supplication for his complete recovery.

Just off the press is the reprint of the book, **"THE PILOT'S VOICE,"** which was written many years ago by Isabel C. Byrum. The narrative of real-life experiences is a message of warning to youth and enlightenment to parents. All the characters mentioned are real but their names were withheld or

changed as some were still living at the time the narrative was first published.

In the preface the author writes: "In this day and age, when there are so many unwholesome stories afloat to mislead and corrupt the immature minds of our young people, we should do all that lies in our power to counteract the influence of such dangerous reading material and to help youthful persons to understand themselves and to be able to judge between right and wrong principles.

"The object of the story from beginning to end has been to help the youths of our land as they start out upon the journey of life for themselves. Byron's [main character] experience will help them to see the necessity of being piloted by one who understands the dangers abounding in the great, broad ocean before them, and will direct them to the Holy Spirit who alone is able to serve as Pilot. The conscience needs and must have the cooperation of the Holy Spirit in order to be able to perform its work properly.

"How many times we are greeted by the words, 'If only I had known, or been instructed, concerning the fruits of disobedience, how many sorrows and heartaches I could have avoided.' Many a life that could have been bright and happy is sad and blighted by the effects of sin and disobedience. This simple story will fulfill its mission if it helps honest souls to listen to the warning of 'the Pilot's voice.'"

This paperbound 146-page book is illustrated with several full-page pictures. Order several copies and place in the hands of young people. Very reasonably priced at 60c each, or two copies for \$1.00, postpaid.

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The type is now set on another good book which has been out of print for many years, entitled **"The Man of His Counsel"** written by Effie Williams. This book portrays the real-life experiences of a man and his wife who were led to salvation. Then by taking the Bible as the "man of their counsel" and resorting to prayer, the Holy Spirit led them step by step into the true doctrines and practices of the New Testament. It will feed your soul and enlighten you on the evils of sectarianism.

Lord willing, this paperbound book of approximately 120 pages will be ready for distribution by May 8. Price, 50c per copy, or five copies for \$2.00, postpaid. Order your copy now for delivery the first part of May.

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The postoffice has asked us to remind all our readers to use the zip code numbers on all their mail matter. You can secure the number for any address by asking for it at your postoffice. The use of this number tends toward faster and more efficient handling of the mail. Please get into the habit of always writing your zip code number with your address, and also of securing the number for every address which you send to this office. Thank you.

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The weekly radio broadcast of the Mission Trail, conducted by Willie and Frances Murphey over Station XEG, Monterrey, Mexico, will be heard at a new time beginning Friday, May 7. It will be on at 11 p. m.

instead of 11:30 p. m. as previously. Many are being blessed by this broadcast, but they would appreciate the cards and letters from many more of their radio listeners. Address the Mission Trail, Guthrie, Okla.

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W. Va.—“Brother is sick, has drink habit, internal bleeding, needs salvation. My son has T. B., unsaved, doesn't want to leave his family, his wife has diabetes. Other burdens.”

Mo.—“Afflicted and spiritually hungry.”

Mich.—“My mother's head bothers her. I have stomach trouble.”

“Pray that my wife will be willing to give up her TV.”

Calif.—“Have ulcers and bad nerves.”

Oregon—Dear Sister Marie and all the dear saints everywhere: I greet you in Jesus' precious name. I've felt that it would be the Lord's will to write through the paper my request for prayer. For over a year now I've suffered with ulcers. My stomach, back and side are so sore and painful. I also need prayer for my nerves and migraine headaches. I appreciate and love all of God's people, and thank you for your prayers for me. May God bless all of you. —Ruby Hutchinson

Meeting Notices

ALL-DAY MEETING AT HOLLY HILL, S. C.

The congregation of the Church of God at Holly Hill, S. Carolina invites you to attend their all-day meetings which are held on each second Sunday of the month. Please pray for these services that precious souls will be saved.

For further information, contact the undersigned.

Your brother in Christ, —O. Neal Pratt
Rt. 1, Box 38, Holly Hill, S. C.

ALL-DAY SERVICES AT COFFEYVILLE, KANSAS

The saints at Coffeyville, Kansas extend a hearty welcome to all to attend our all-day services each second Sunday of the month, and especially the next one which will be on May 9 as we plan to observe the ordinances of feet-washing and the Lord's Supper. Anyone desiring to partake of these ordinances or needing spiritual help, come and be with us. We are expecting the Lord's blessings to be upon us. Come praying for a high day in Zion.

—The Coffeyville, Kansas Congregation,
Corner of Elmwood and Eldridge Sts.

SPRING MEETING IN OKLA. CITY

There will be a spring meeting at the Okla. City Church of God, 3rd and Phillips, May 7 to 16, Lord willing. We invite all to come and be with us. Anyone having a spiritual need is welcome. We are expecting the Lord to bless and we need your prayers.

For further information, contact the pastor, Bro. Herman D. Kelly, 2304 N. Everest, Okla. City, Okla. Phone GA 7-7314.

OBITUARIES

Bro. G. W. Nisely, age 86, of Pettisville, Ohio, passed away suddenly on December 1, 1964 at the home of his son, Lowell, at Wauseon, Ohio. He had gone there that day to be cared for by them and suffered a heart attack. He was born near Archibold, Ohio, and had lived in Pettisville for the past 41 years.

Bro. Nisely is survived by his wife, Alice K.; three daughters, Mrs. Jess (Beulah) Grimm of Hometown, Ind., Mrs. Donald (Dorothy) Brand of Ashley, Ind., Mrs. LeRoy (Lueta) Brand of Kendalville, Ind.; two sons,

Lewis of Boca Raton, Florida, and Lowell of Wauseon, Ohio, fifteen grandchildren and 13 great grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at the Short Funeral Home with Olen Nofziger officiating. Burial was in the Pettisville Cemetery.

Bro. Leroy Syas, Sr., son of Albert and Rose Lee Syas, was born in MacIntosh Parish, La. January 18, 1884 and departed this life February 1, 1965 at the age of 81 years and 13 days. He met and married Alberta Rue in 1906. To this union 14 children were born, 4 sons and 10 daughters. His wife and one daughter preceded him in death.

In 1910 he and his family came to Oklahoma and settled around Wetumka. Here he met the saints and was saved in the Church of God about 1914. He lived for the Lord for some time but in later years he strayed from the Lord and the saints.

About 1924 he moved to Okmulgee County, and in March, 1964 he renewed his consecration with the Lord and lived faithful until the end. He was a devoted and affectionate husband and father, always willing to help wherever he could. To know him was to love him.

He leaves to mourn his passing four sons, L. C., Okmulgee, Okla., Nickolas, Taft, Okla., Harry, Boynton, Okla., and Leroy, Jr., Chicago, Ill. Nine daughters, Mrs. Louise Ruben and Mrs. Margie Roberson, Okmulgee, Okla., Mrs. Charity Syas and Mrs. Eddie Walker, Boynton, Okla., Mrs. Gussie Brooks, Seattle, Wash., Mrs. Josephine Walker, Haskell, Okla., Mrs. Leona Martin and Mrs. Lorine Hawkins, Tulsa, Okla., Mrs. Luvenia Syas, Chicago, Ill.; two brothers, two sisters, 70 grandchildren, 45 great-grandchildren, a host of other relatives, saints and friends.

Wilhelmina M. (Schuster) Rabausch, beloved wife of Adolph Rabausch, dear mother of three, grandmother of seven, departed this life March 11, 1965. She was born in Seneca, Ill., Dec. 4, 1890.

When health would permit her, Sister Rabausch would go to the Cook County Hospital to give out tracts and Gospels of St. John. She served her Lord faithfully unto the very end.

The funeral service was held in Park Ridge, Ill. with Bro. Kirby L. Kinman officiating. Graveside services and interment were in Oakwood Cemetery, La Salle, Ill.

—Her daughter, Mrs. Geo. Pike

(Editor's note: Sister Rabausch was faithful over the years concerning the gospel publishing work and passing out gospel literature. Now she is at rest from her labors and her works will live on.)

Illinois—Dear Saints: Thank you for the sympathy card. I miss my companion. I am retired and we would go together, when my wife was able, and pass out gospel tracts on the buses. We would go to the County Hospital. My wife would go into one of the wards and pass out tracts and give Gospels of John to everyone who wanted them. I would pass out tracts on the corner by the hospital. Yesterday I went by myself. Pray that the people she talked to will get saved. She had a burden for her sister heavy on her heart.

You all pray for me and my children. My son is in the State School. He has a mind like a four-year-old child. I know he will get to heaven. He will be 44 years old on April 15, 1965. My wife and I were married 45 years on February 7, 1965. I thank God that I could take care of her. What a mighty God we serve! She said before she died that it must be terrible when a person is not saved and on his deathbed.

Your brother in Christ,

—Adolph Rabausch

URGENT CALL FOR GOSPEL WORKERS

Kansas—Dear precious Saints: Greetings in Jesus' dear name. We are so thankful we can report victory over sin and the devil. We are indeed thankful that he is a defeated foe. So long he held us in captivity, but praise God, we are free. What glorious freedom, no longer a slave to evil!

We feel it good to report to you concerning the Missionary Fund. We have seen some needs, and looked to the Lord to supply them. He heard our prayers and supplied. Those of you who have supported this fund have been a real blessing to us, and as we would send out help it continued on and on to be a blessing to many. Only eternity will tell of the good that has been accomplished. We pray that you will have felt a real blessing in your souls for your sacrifice and labor of love.

Lord willing, Bro. Charles Smith of Shawnee, Okla. will take the evangelistic tent and equipment and hold a meeting at the fairgrounds at Jonesboro, La., beginning on May 21. Everyone in that area is cordially invited to attend that meeting, and the saints abroad will be praying for its success. Bro. Smith may not be able to continue with the tent after this meeting, but this gospel tent should be kept busy in the great harvest field. Gospel workers, God is calling for you NOW! Who will consecrate your services to the Lord? Souls are perishing for whom Christ shed His precious blood.

Anyone or ones with a God-given burden for this particular evangelistic effort, please contact the undersigned for more information.

Yours in His service, —Ralph M. Beisly
407 Eldridge, Coffeyville, Kansas

MISSIONARY REPORT FROM NIGERIA

It is already a known story that since Bro. Ostis Wilson returned from Nigeria to the States by early October last year, he has been sending us a lesson each week. These lessons are in the forms of sermons on particular subjects—a project he started since his arrival in August last year until he was forced to hold the last one on Sept. 15, 1964. Being responsible to translate these lessons, I have seen how far the Lord is using them to change the hearts of many folks and how more blessed we have become. I am more concerned with them than anything else. They are too precious to receive a second attention, and more to be desired than gold. I am particularly grateful to the Lord in the way He has led Bro. Wilson to prepare these lessons. The one on "Humility" followed up by the one on "Pride," have evoked applause not only from our members but also from the non-members, for I read them to anyone who would care to hear and that at any time. Apotheosis is dwindling as a result of the lesson on "Pride." From "Humility," I can see the ridiculous fantasies which need to be taken away from the minds of the so-called religious dignitaries who call themselves "his lordships," "right reverends," "bishops," etc. Maybe some day, somehow, sometime, this affront to our Almighty God will be a history for which posterity will be happy that they had not lived in this age. The tract, "Reverend is His Name," not only gave us a background to this realization but has been understood better through these lessons. Praise the Lord!

The language classes are in very good progress. The teachers concerned are not slack in the discharge of their duties. Though this season is the time which every lay farmer clears his bush, tills the soil, and plants food-crops, yet I am happy that they leave their work to at-

tend these classes. The classes are attended to the first thing in the mornings for two hours and then dismissed to allow the folks to attend to their personal duties. Our main objective here is to see that every one is able to read the Holy Bible in Efik—a problem that faces many congregations here, and by the grace of God we hope to overcome it.

Aside from going to different congregations to see about the progress of the work, we had two important occasions this month, one this side, and the other among the newly converted souls. The first was a Communion Service at Ukpom which took place on March 14, 1965. The second occasion for the month was a get-together service for the new converts, comprising Nduo Eduo, Ikot Obio Inyang, Obiokopk and Three Towns Ikono. It took place at Nduo Eduo. About 350 people attended, and 11 souls were converted.

The distance is far, but still, the next get-together service will bring all the congregations together—the old and the new ones. This will bring a sense of oneness and togetherness to the new converts. Praise the Lord!

On behalf of the whole field, I wish to express my thanks and gratitude to God for the speedy recovery He has brought to those of our members who fell victims to the recent outbreak of measles. But for the grace of God, many of us would not have been spared. We prayed, and all the saints there in the States took the request for prayer to the Throne of Grace leaving it there for the Lord to do as He pleases. The Lord heard the prayers and effected an immediate cure! Hallelujah! Praise His Name forever more! This reminds me of a song I was taught more than two decades ago:

"I feel like singing all the time,
My tears are wiped away;
For Jesus is a Friend of mine,
I'll serve Him every day.

I'll praise Him! Praise Him! Praise Him all the time!
Praise Him! Praise Him! I'll praise Him all the time."

May His love and blessings abide with us all.

Your co-heir to the Throne, —Friday F. Ekpo

(Editor's note: The above excerpts are from the detailed written account of the March mission activities in Nigeria, W. Africa. Let us continue to pray for and support this foreign missionary work before the doors are closed to the pure gospel as it has already happened in many countries.)

MEXICO MISSIONARY REPORTS

Rosarito, Baja Calif., Mexico (April 15)—Dear Saints and Friends: "But my God shall supply all your needs according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus." Phil. 4:19. We thank the Lord today that he is our mission board. We want to thank everyone that has helped in the month of April.

Because of the recent rains here, neither we nor Bro. Smith has contacted the mission in Santa Catarina or El Alamo. I am sure they have also had trouble with the roads and I am sure they have many needs. In Rosarito we are continuing with the Sunday School and Bible studies. Sister Shirley Stice felt the Lord's blessings on a trip home so she is now with her folks in Oregon.

We see the spirit working in the lives of different ones. Bro. Tores, a father of 11 children, is in the hospital. Since two operations he has little hopes of working hard again to supply for his family. Pray especially for his spiritual needs and his children.

Charlotte feels the blessings of the Lord in teaching the children. Other requests are being answered; we believe. Pray for Bro. Estevan in southern Mexico that he will keep on testifying in that dark place. Pray that we may reach out more to the children and to the hungry souls.

—James Huskey

Box 2075, San Ysidro, Calif. 92073

Santa Catarina, Baja Calif., Mexico, (March 19)—Dear Saints—Brothers and Sisters, we greet one and all in the precious name of Jesus: We are so glad that we can report that we are saved and sanctified and pressing on for God and would not ask for a different way than the way that the Lord has been leading us. However, there are times when we would question, then we realize we are only the clay and He is the Potter and has a right to do as He sees best with the "lump."

For some time we have felt that we should send in our testimony, but the demands of the busy life we have, seems to rob us of many things but we are glad that the Lord can use us here to witness for Him. I had suffered all my life with a bowel condition, or as far back as I can remember, I have had this affliction. Like most everyone else I just endured it and would seek other means of relief. For some time I felt that I would have to face it and decide if I was going to go on as I had in the past or accept healing and deliverance from this slavish thing. Well, while still living in Alamo I met the thing and could not get away from it but God was there and by His sweet loving Spirit caused me to see that I could be delivered only by trusting in Him. Well, He has never failed me, and for about four months I have enjoyed such sweet deliverance in body and joy in my soul. Praise God, He is able to deliver us of all manner of afflictions and diseases. Oh, dear saints, let us take hold of the mighty hand of God and go forth to conquer the foe that has set forth to defy the mighty army of the Lord. As we read in the Word of the different ones that have done things for God, we notice it was never those who were well equipped in the eyes of man, but those who were willing to hear the voice of God and obey Him as He would lead them. Think of little David, he only had a sling and a few little stones, but that was enough to take care of the giant in that day. We, too, have many giants that are out to destroy the work of the Lord. Let us lay hold on our spiritual slings and little stones and slay the foe in our day. He is low enough to use any method to destroy the children and the babes, so may we take the sling of prayer and the stones of faith and go forth as He would have us and get the victory for the weak, the feeble, and the babes that we might not lose any of them to him.

Sister Opal Kelly had a call from the Lord to teach the children here in Santa Catarina and she needed to make arrangements to move over here. We came and Bro. Tomas said that the burden he once carried for this place had been lifted and that he felt the best thing to do was just to change places which we did the following Monday. This involved a lot of lifting and packing to be able to make the move. During this time of extra work the devil afflicted with an old headache that I had suffered from so much of my life. For more than a month it was a constant companion day and night, but God did undertake for me. I want to thank all the dear saints for their prayers for me and for carrying the burden as they did. I am sure if it had not been for the prayers of those interested in me I would probably still be suffering, but now I have deliverance from it. Praise God!

At first I was not willing to help in the school, but later the Lord dealt with me, so we are in school, Sister Kelly and I, five days a week and six hours a day; then

there are meetings and visits to be made as we are able to wedge in a few. We are not sorry for the way the Lord has led us and would not ask for another if we had our choice.

One of the little Indian girls was burned very badly on her thigh about a week ago and has suffered much from it, but the Lord has taken away all the pain and she is able to sleep well at nights and to run as she wishes in the day time. When it first happened she said that Jesus could and would heal her, so we do thank the Lord for that faith, and may it grow until it becomes a mighty tree and others may be able to sit and enjoy the fruits from it.

I also want to thank each of the dear ones for your prayers for my mother. The Lord has touched her again and she is enjoying a reasonable amount of health. We know it is only a gift of the Lord and we know it was only through prayer that the work was done.

Do continue to remember us in prayer, for we do need much help from the Lord—wisdom, knowledge, and understanding to walk in this place as it would please Him.

Your sister in Christ,

—Ruby Marken

Mexico (March 15)—Greetings to all in the name of our dear Savior: I am so glad to be able to declare victory in the face of every foe. Truly God is reigning in my heart this morning.

Ruby Marken and I are teaching school together in Santa Catarina. She has a class of eight who are fairly well on the same level of learning, though having a sufficient amount of difference in some studies that it is needful for each one to recite separately. The same is true of the older group of eight which I am teaching. No two of them are in exactly the same place in their books which makes it needful to differentiate their reading and spelling time.

Last year at the end of school the Indian chief told Edith Cole that they would no longer need her services as a teacher as the government was going to send a teacher in, but when a census of school-age children was taken; the government didn't feel that there were enough children in Santa Catarina to warrant their sending a teacher, so for the first half of this school year they had no school. By the time we found that the government wouldn't send a teacher, Edith Cole already had an established place of labor in Patscuaro near Mexicali.

The Lord showed me while I was living in El Alamo that He wanted me to come to Santa Catarina and teach. I had never taught school in my life, even in English, and told the Lord I felt so inadequate. He showed me that was the very reason He wanted me to come for I would realize it wasn't any abilities I had that would make me a teacher but my complete dependence on Him was all I needed. He promised to go with me every step of the way and has surely kept His promise. How I do thank Him for His leadings and daily guidance in teaching these precious children. We feel that if the people in Santa Catarina are going to be reached with the gospel it will be through the children. The people here are not giving the attentive ear to the Word they once did and I don't know how much longer the Lord will permit us to labor in this place. We are just living one day at a time as nearly as we know how, according to His leadings.

Please pray for all the work in Mexico, for time is fast passing. Pray that we will continue to hear the voice of God and do His will continually with all our might and be all He would have us to be.

Yours in His service,

—Sister Opal Kelly

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TESTIMONIES



Ohio—Dear Sister Miles and all the dear saints: Greetings of much love in Jesus' dear name. I feel the Lord would have me write my testimony of God's wonderful healing power that I experienced Jan. 28, 1965.

Many say the days of miracles ended with the disciples but, dear ones, I want to say on the authority of the Word of God that the days of miracles are not past. Our God is the same Almighty God that has been from the beginning. Praise His dear name! Jesus Christ the same yesterday, today, and forever. (Heb. 13:8) Yesterday would take us back to the creation. God has never changed. People change, the fashions of the world change, but, thank the Lord, He has never changed and He never will. His precious Word will read the same at the Judgment Bar of God as it does today. Let us lay aside our ideas, opinions, and take God's Word that will stand forever.

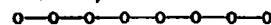
I had been very poorly for a long time. The Lord had raised me up at different times but in September I hemorrhaged worse than I had for some time. At times I would suffer severely but when prayer was offered in my behalf, the Lord would never fail to come to my rescue. I managed to get to services occasionally but was in bed most of the time. I have trusted the Lord for healing for several years and I decided to trust God even if He didn't heal me. I appreciate the precious lessons I learned during my lengthy illness. I had to pray many times for more grace to endure.

In the week of Jan. 18 the Lord brought Abraham to my mind. I read about him and his faith in God. I was impressed with how prompt he was in obeying the commands of God. How wonderful it would be today if we had more Abrahams among us! I had been pretty sick all day one Sunday but I decided I'd try to go to services. During services I got very sick. Before dismissal the brethren laid hands on me and prayed. I got a little relief. By the time I got home I was really suffering. My daughter-in-law called Bro. McCoy for prayer. He said they were in prayer for me when she called. About ten or fifteen minutes later, all at once, all the pain stopped. At the same time there seemed to be such a wave of glory that flooded my very inmost being. It just seemed that heaven had come down right into my room. There was such a sweet calmness that came over my soul, and such assurance that seemed to make me know I was going to be all right and that I had nothing to fear. It came to my mind where Jesus rebuked the wind and said unto the sea, "peace, be still," and the wind ceased and there was a great calm. (Mark 4:37-39) Dear ones, that was the most marvelous experience I ever had. I still wasn't healed. The next morning I lost all desire to pray for my healing. I thought that the Lord had given me a witness the night before that He was going to take me. I just lay on my bed in such a heavenly atmosphere, just waiting for what was going to come next. The next few days I could hardly get up and down. On Thursday afternoon Bro. Curtis Williams came. I was telling him about the wonderful experience the Lord had given me and that I felt the Lord was going to take me. He told me of a wonderful experience he had with the Lord. The Lord had given him a clear witness that his request was going to be answered. After he got the witness he didn't have any more desire to pray for his request. He anointed me and prayed. The Lord wonderfully raised me up. I was hungry so ate a bowl of chili, the first chili I had eaten for at least two years. That was the 28th day of January and now I can eat about anything I want. I haven't missed but one service since

that day. God gets all the praise and glory. I want to say everyone who was praying for my healing has had a big share in what the Lord brought to pass. I am able to do my house work. At times it seems that heaven is in my room. Praise His dear name! This experience has given me a far greater vision of the power of God than I ever had in my life before. I want to say that by God's help and grace I expect to live for my Lord the rest of my life. I know as long as I keep obedient to all the word of God and submissive to His precious will that He'll never fail me. In Matt. 24:13 it says, "But he that shall endure unto the end the same shall be saved." I'm so glad I can say that I'm saved and sanctified and healed by the power of God. May the Lord richly bless you dear ones. I do appreciate the dear saints. It took me a long time to get established in the truth but I wouldn't sell what I have in my soul for the wealth of this whole world. I expect to prove faithful unto the end. If anyone wishes to write me, be free to do so.

Your sister in Jesus,

—Maudie Sharp



Kansas—Dear Saints everywhere: Greetings of love. I felt that I should write and tell some of the things the Lord has done for us the last eight or nine months. Last July, Clayton came to Topeka to go to Mechanics School. Right after he came he had a wreck in the pickup which put it out of running order. He was in Topeka, I was in Missouri, and our furniture was in Bartlett, Kansas. One morning the devil painted a dark picture before me. Clayton couldn't seem to find any apartments at a reasonable price. We needed another automobile. It looked as if we wouldn't have a way to go to meeting. There were many other dark pictures brought to my mind that morning. Finally I said, "I'm going to commit this to the Lord and trust Him to make a way." The Lord did make a way. My dad took a load of our furniture to Topeka on his way to Kansas City. The Lord helped Clayton find a station wagon at a very reasonable price, so we moved the rest of our things on weekends and got to attend meeting at Coffeyville. The Lord helped us find a reasonably-priced apartment. We have attended services quite often on weekends at Kansas City. The Lord worked out all of our problems. No matter if the problem is large or small the devil will try to paint a discouraging picture but the Lord will provide a way if we will trust in Him.

The Lord healed Clayton's chest a few months ago within a few days after prayer was requested. He healed Ruth of some sores on her face. Right after that she had a terrible nose odor. One night my faith was inspired and I said, "I believe the Lord is going to heal her of this." We prayed for her and felt the Lord was going to heal her but the Lord allowed our faith to be tried. Several months went by and it didn't get any better and at times seemed worse. About three weeks ago Clayton requested prayer for her at Kansas City and said, "We are expecting the Lord to heal her." On a Tuesday morning after that the Lord undertook.

A few weeks ago our station wagon broke down. While working on it a bolt broke and hit Clayton in the eye. It broke his glasses. He got glass in his eye. He was suffering. That night we prayed for him, and prayed that if there was any more glass in his eye that the Lord would cause it to come to the corner of his eye. The next morning he got a piece out of the corner of his eye. His eye still bothered him. The saints in Kansas City prayed for him. In a few days his eye was feeling all right again.

We decided the car wasn't worth fixing but Clayton got the truck in running condition again, so we still have

a way to go and hope to use the truck to move our furniture, as the school will be over April 23. We are looking to the Lord to provide a job and direct us where He would have us go. Pray for us.

Christian love, —Clayton and Eva Lou Gaines
o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o

S. Carolina—Dear Brethren at the Print Shop: I want to send in a testimony about my companion, Bro. J. D. Winter—just how the Lord touched his body. It was a miracle. He had a stroke on the 5th of February, 1965, another one on the 24th, which was worse, and affected one side of his face and went up to his brain. He didn't know the children when they came in. We called in some of the saints. Bro. and Sister Clarence Fry agreed in prayer and called on God. Then we called Bro. and Sister Sam Abbott who were at Holly Hill holding a meeting. They came and we just called on the Lord for help and praise the Lord, He answered prayer. My husband knew the children, one from the other. Praise the Lord! Last Sunday we took him to services and the Lord led him to get up and he brought the message, although he could not speak real plain. We are glad to know that we are serving a God that is not asleep. What He did for us and my companion, Bro. Winter, he will do for all that put their trust in Him. Praise His name!

Please pray for us both that we will always trust Him to the deathline and then go home to ever be with the Lord.

Yours in Christ, —Bro. and Sister J. D. Winter
o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o

Missouri—Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ: I want to testify for my dear Saviour. He has done so much for me. The greatest and most wonderful thing He did for me was to save my soul, delivering me from the bondage of sin and giving me peace and joy I had never known before.

Dear reader, if you are in sin and trouble, turn from sin and come to Jesus. He invites everyone to come. Read Matt. 11:28, 29, 30. He loves everyone, no matter how deep in sin you are, so come to Him and find peace, joy and pleasure that you will never find anywhere unless you get saved and live for the Lord. You cannot find a better friend. He is one who will never leave nor forsake you. He is a wonderful physician for soul and body.

I had an affliction on my body and I suffered so much. I just kept praying and writing to the saints for prayer. I was anointed and prayed for when Bro. and Sister Busbee were here once for all-day meeting. I did all I knew to do, so I just kept believing God would heal me and He did. Dear child of God, look up, keep encouraged, press on for the Lord knows and cares when you are going through trials and afflictions. Just keep true. We sing the song, "Oh, yes, We'll trust Him while we live, We'll trust Him when we die." So let us not give up. We cannot trust a better friend than the One who loved us so much that He gave His life for us. He made us new creatures which is the greatest miracle of all blessings. Our souls are worth so much more than our bodies. (Psalms 103)

Dear unsaved readers, come to Jesus before it is too late. The Lord tells us in His Word that He is not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance. 2 Peter 3:9. May the Lord bless every reader is my prayer.

—Sister Becky Barnes
o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o

W. Va.—Dear Brother Pruitt: Will you please send me the book written by your father, Fred Pruitt. Also send me some free tracts.

Brother Pruitt, do you have the article "The New Modern Cross" that you printed in March, 1965 issue of

"Faith and Victory"? I would like to have some of them. If you don't have it in tract form, could you print it?

Brother Pruitt, I have talked to Bro. D. S. Warner time and time again. He was a man of God. I will be 85 on May 14, 1965.

May God bless you and your staff. Yours in His glad service and brother in Christ, —Elder N. H. Payne

(Editor's note: Yes, we have in 4-page tract form "The New Modern Cross." Send coin or stamps for a packet.)
o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o

Arkansas—Dear Sister Miles and saints everywhere: greetings to one and all. This morning, as I was doing my housework, the Lord burdened me to write a testimony for the "Faith and Victory" paper. I have a strong determination to live close to the Lord and be just what He wants me to be. I am thankful to be saved and trusting the Lord for soul and body.

I would like to tell how the Lord healed me when I was badly scalded. I had the pressure cooker full of water, heating it to fix corn for the freezer. The pressure rose to 20 before I realized it. It showed that it had gone down when I opened it but there was so much pressure in it that the lid blew out of my hand, onto the floor. Most of the water blew out on me and over the floor. I was scalded from my neck down to my waist. In places the skin came off as I took my clothes off. Blisters as large as a half-dollar rose on me. That happened about five o'clock in the evening but by eight o'clock the dear Lord had eased the pain and calmed my nerves. I went to sleep and rested well. The Lord completely healed me. We had no desire to use medicine. Praise the Lord! We called Bro. Charles Smith, and the Senath, Mo. saints knew about it, and possibly some others. The Lord has healed all of us in different ways.

I thank the saints for their prayers and the Lord for what He has done for me lately. I have felt better this winter but I still desire prayer for my back and different other afflictions that the Lord will completely heal me. We are so thankful to the Lord for sending Bro. and Sister Eck and DeLoris here. They have helped us and been an encouragement and blessing to us. I feel DeLoris has proved to be a real blessing to the young people. We hate to see them leave but we are thankful the Lord has burdened Sister Ruth Murphey to come here. We love her and all of the saints. Pray for our work here at Grubbs, Ark. and all of our loved ones. I am thankful for how the Lord has blessed in our home.

One who loves the Lord, —Opal Bradley
o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o

Calif.—Bro. Lawrence Pruitt and Sister Marie Miles: Greetings in the name of Jesus. I surely enjoy your paper. I believe in the old-time way. I am enclosing stamps for the two books you are sending to readers, "God's Gracious Dealings" and the book of poems, "Spiritual Paintings."

May God bless you good people. Pray for me. I have arthritis in my hands and neck. It is real painful at times and hard for me to write any more. I know God is able to heal as He has healed me many times. Pray for my husband. He isn't saved and is 71 years old.

I want to order the book, "The Pilot's Voice" when it is ready on April 15.

A Christian friend, —Sister Leona Ong

(Editor's note: The 146-page book, "The Pilot's Voice," is ready for mailing to you at 60c each, or two copies for \$1.00, postpaid.)
o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o

Tenn.—Dear Ones in Christ: Greetings in Jesus' dear name to the saints and readers of the "Faith and

Victory" paper: It has been quite a while since I've given my testimony through the paper. I do feel like I have a few words to say for my dear Saviour, who gave His precious life's blood for me. I love Him this morning with all my heart, mind, and strength. Each day I strive to please Him in all I say and do. I feel that He is still hearing my cries to Him. He has done much for my little girl and me since I gave my last testimony. Lately He has healed her of a breaking out on her body, colds, and other diseases. I had a bad sick spell recently. It looked as if the dear Lord might take me. After the sick spell I received something very special to my trusting heart. I saw a large graveyard, and there was a bright spot in that graveyard. My soul was taking its upward flight and such rejoicing my soul was experiencing! When I awoke I was somewhat disappointed. I can never forget that sweet experience that I received to my soul. Surely the day is far spent and the night is at hand. Let us continue to live and work for the Master till He calls for us. Much holy love,
—Nora Clayton

Mo.—Dear Sister Miles and all the dear saints: Greetings in Jesus' name. Thank you for the cards. God has blessed me with my 87th birthday on March 30, 1965. I received many cards and good letters from the dear saints. I thank you each and every one. God bless you continually. I am not able to write letters to each one. Pray for me that I will be faithful unto death and can meet all of you in Glory. The dear saints mean so much to me and Jesus is all and in all. —Sister Minnie Noakes

Ind.—Dear Brothers and Sisters: I do want to be a regular reader of your paper, "Faith and Victory." I have enjoyed it so much these three months. I also want to thank the friend that sent it to me.

I am enclosing money for a single subscription for three years. I do hope I am not too late to receive the April paper.

I want to say thanks to you, and may God bless you.
—Mrs. Mary A. Gluth

Okla.—Dear Saints: Greetings in the precious name of Jesus. Today I am still saved and very much encouraged to press on for the dear Lord. He is so good to us. My desire is to please God in every walk of life. Words can't express my deepest thanks to our Lord for His goodness in answering our prayers.

Three of our little girls had some kind of skin trouble, which we believe was ring worms. It was a very bad case. They seemed to have suffered greatly from them. God, who is so faithful to His trusting children, did not let us be tempted above that we were able to bear. He gave us great grace to trust Him for the complete healing of the children without any medical aid from man. I am so thankful that I can say we serve a great and mighty God. "If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you." (John 15:7) We asked God to heal those children and God answered prayer. We surely give God the praise. We appreciate the kindness of all the saints for their prayers in our behalf.

I desire all the saints' prayers that I keep holy and do all that God will have me do, and be a real true saint of God. My deepest desire is to please God in everything. I am striving every day to please my Lord.

Your sister in Christ,
—Clara Barnett

Miss.—Dear Sister Marie, greetings in Jesus' dear name: About three weeks ago I had a terribly swollen hand and never will know just what caused it. Something

might have bitten me while carrying in wood. I phoned you on Tuesday which was prayer and fast day, and you all had prayer for me. A little later the swelling went down and it is all right again. To God be all the glory!

I do so much enjoy the testimonies in the paper. I want to send an offering. It is not much, but I try to give of what I have.

I have three or four people on my prayer list that I want our God to show the way. I am praying for them, and I see God's hand in the cases of all of them. Pray for my brother in Oregon. He and his wife have vision trouble. May God bless you all. —Sis. J. Strickler

Spirit of Free Love

Clothed in a cloak of religious piety and feigned sanctity we find almost every vile spirit that Satan is able to send forth; but it is doubtful if any one is so stealthy in its approach as the spirit of free love. With its charming glitter and pretended innocence it has allured many unsuspecting souls from the exalted plane of sexual purity to the depths of sin and shame. By free love many happy homes have been broken up and brought to disgrace; the tender affections of man and wife have been turned into bitter hatred, and the music of their household into strains of sorrow. Before it we see the peaceful and joyous reign of Platonic love; behind it we see the confusion and sorrow of ten thousand broken hearts. Oh, the sorrow and sadness brought to the human heart by this vile enemy of peace! I trust by the help of God to be able to point out some of its worst features that the reader may know that there is such a spirit, and that it is earthly, sensual, and devilish.

Free love is not confined to any one class of people; young or old, married and unmarried, rich and poor, and people in almost every walk of life have by it been deceived and led astray. From cellar to garret of human habitation we can trace its licentious track, and those who do not believe me have but to read and be convinced. Julius Caesar, one of the world's greatest men, was tainted with free love; Cleopatra, the beautiful queen of Egypt, was under its influence; and Solomon, the wise man, was overtaken by this "outlandish" spirit, and by it led astray. Many others whose names glitter on the pages of history and decorate the world's literature could be pointed out as slaves of free love. Modern society in general is little or no better, for almost every daily paper records some disgraceful doings of free-lovers.

Before going further it may be well to define the term free love. Webster defines it as, "The doctrine or practice of consorting with the opposite sex at pleasure without marriage."

The spirit and doctrine of free love are of a much worse type than the simple perversion of the natural affections. A person may allow his affections to be perverted, and allow them to go out in a way they should not; but unless a person becomes under such an influence that he feels free to love different ones, it cannot properly be termed free love. A free-love spirit leads to what the doctrine of free love teaches, viz., consorting with the opposite sex at pleasure

without marriage. Some have made use of the term free love in a very wrong way by applying it to almost every form of trouble with the affections. This we should not do. There is a difference in being for a short time slightly led astray by the influence of undue affection, and being under a free-love spirit. Allowing the affections to go uncontrolled, however, sometimes leads to free love, and those who would keep themselves pure and keep themselves out of the reach of free-love spirits should keep their affections under perfect control.

Under the cloak of religion the spirit of free love has destroyed many souls. The doctrines of many religious bodies afford many advantages to the devil on this line. If Satan can succeed in getting people under the influence of the spirit of free love, it matters little to him whether or not they publicly advocate the doctrine. Catholicism, Spiritualism, Shakerism, Mormonism, and many other like institutions afford an excellent harbor for spirits of free love. A profession of religion without salvation is also an excellent hiding place for all such spirits, for they can there carry on their unclean work for years without being even suspected by the most of people. Another suitable refuge for such spirits is society. Those who stand high in society, like those who are esteemed highly in religion, are often guilty of harboring many things of which they are not in the least suspected; consequently many society circles become nothing but a rendezvous of wicked and unclean spirits and yet pass as the best of society.

Causes of Free Love—The most potent cause of free love, and every other evil under the sun, is the influence of the devil and depraved human nature; therefore in all cases of free love we may assign the primary cause to an ungodly spirit and a depraved heart; but there are different minor causes, or in other words, different circumstances, under which the soul is endangered to this vile spirit. Every man and woman has a weak place, and Satan is not unacquainted with this fact, so we must both watch and pray. Satan can get one person into trouble in a way which he dare not approach another; so he shifts his position to suit his subject; hence one falls a prey to free love, while another is led into some other trouble. Sometimes disappointment in marriage affords the proper soil in which the devil soon sows the seed of free love. Satan will come to the disappointed party and point out the admirable qualities in this one and that one and suggest that such would be a much more suitable companion than the one chosen. These suggestions are repeated until the tempted person loses all affection for the wedded companion and burns with illegal desire for first one and then another, till Satan has gotten the heart completely under control of a free-love spirit. The affections of the human heart require attention, and the man or woman who neglects to cultivate the affections of his or her companion neglects a thing of more value than silver or gold.

Undue familiarity also is a fertile field for the working of free-love spirits. This, of course, opens

up the way for both married and single persons to be led astray. Every gentleman owes a certain respect to all ladies, in his manners, speech, etc.; and every lady owes to herself, as well as to God, a certain reserve in all of her actions toward the opposite sex. Long acquaintance, religious connections, or even kindred ties should never induce either sex to overstep the bounds of modesty. This reserve is not a false modesty. However, private matters and even things which are generally considered as improper, may be talked of in a modest, delicate way, without the slightest shadow of indecency or forwardness. The motive which fills the heart and finds its way under the manners and speech tells more than all else.

The approach of free love is often so stealthy that the person affected is not aware where Satan is leading until the vile spirit has almost gained control. Its first suggestions are so polished and so seemingly free from wrong that the unsuspecting are often led astray a step at a time. Sometimes it requires years of subtle and cunning work for Satan to accomplish his design; but Satan, unlike many people, is never discouraged; so if he is not detected and sternly rebuked he toils on inch by inch, step by step, till he gains the ground he desires.

The disgusting influence of a person controlled by a spirit of free love can be felt by others, and especially detected by the children of God that are taught on these lines. Conscientious souls have often been accused by the devil of being under a free-love spirit when they could feel this awful influence in some one else. Of all abominable things to a pure man or woman, the unclean looks and actions of a person under a free-love spirit are most obnoxious.

Effects of Free Love—If the spirit of free love is allowed to have its course it invariably leads to the depths of shame and disgrace and plunges the soul into despair. A person under a free-love spirit is like a drunkard, who at times longs for deliverance, but finds none. When in more considerate moments he views his condition it naturally brings remorse attended by despondency, and often it seems there is no way of escape. When a person has been captured by the spirit of free love one of four things generally occurs: the spirit and doctrine are renounced and deliverance is gained, prostitution is chosen, insanity ensues, or the despondent soul gives way to suicide. A great many cases of murder and suicide are caused directly or indirectly by the influence of free love. When a person has become bound by this spirit, a spirit of murder often accompanies it, and when its wishes are interfered with the passions of free love will often wade through blood to accomplish the desired end.

Remedy—The best and only sure remedy for free love, and every other work of the devil, is the blood of Jesus Christ. Resolution and reformation are insufficient in most cases, to deliver the soul from the doctrine and spirit of free love. The cleansing stream, which if applied purifies the heart and cleanses the perverted passions, is the only sure route to permanent victory. The devil will often try to intimidate

persons in this condition by telling them that they are too weak on this point to withstand him if they are set free. This is the devil's "scarecrow," for well he knows that if Jesus undertakes the case he is defeated. It is true that some persons may be weaker on this line than others, but to such God will give more grace. Christ, who has the keys of death and hell, would lock the archfiend in his den before he would suffer the least and weakest one who trusts in Him to be overcome. —D. O. Teasley, 1903

USE YOUR BETTER JUDGMENT

There are certain fixed laws of the universe beyond which no one can go without suffering the penalty. For instance, you are standing beside a hot stove and know if you put your hand upon it you will receive a severe burn as a result. But you say, "I will risk it, and as God is a just God He will not let me get burned." You proceed, get burned, and curse God for letting you get burned, and say He is unjust, when it is only a result of your foolish, unwise course which you persistently pursued at the same time your better judgment warned you not to pursue such a course. This is just about as reasonable as to accuse God of sending souls to hell or permitting them to go there. —E. E. Byrum

BIBLE STUDY

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

May 2, 1965

GOD DEMANDS OBEDIENCE

Printed Portion 1 Samuel 13:5-14

1 Sam. 13:5 And the Philistines gathered themselves together to fight with Israel, thirty thousand chariots, and six thousand horsemen, and the people as the sand which is on the sea shore in multitude: and they came up, and pitched in Michmash, eastward from Bethaven.

6 When the men of Israel saw that they were in a strait, (for the people were distressed,) then the people did hide themselves in caves, and in thickets, and in rocks, and in high places, and in pits.

7 And some of the Hebrews went over Jordan to the land of Gad and Gilead. As for Saul, he was yet in Gilgal, and all the people followed him trembling.

8 And he tarried seven days, according to the set time that Samuel had appointed: but Samuel came not to Gilgal; and the people were scattered from him.

9 And Saul said, Bring hither a burnt offering to me, and peace offerings. And he offered the burnt offering.

10 And it came to pass, that as soon as he made an end of offering the burnt offering, behold, Samuel came; and Saul went out to meet him, that he might salute him.

11 And Samuel said, What hast thou done? And Saul said, Because I saw that the people were scattered from me, and that thou camest not within the days appointed, and that the Philistines gathered themselves together at Michmash;

12 Therefore said I, The Philistines will come down now upon me to Gilgal, and I have not made supplication unto the Lord; I forced myself therefore, and offered a burnt offering.

13 And Samuel said to Saul, Thou hast done foolishly: thou hast not kept the commandment of the Lord thy God, which he commanded thee: for now would the Lord have established thy kingdom upon Israel for ever.

14 But now thy kingdom shall not continue: the Lord hath sought him a man after his own heart, and the Lord hath commanded him to be captain over his people, because thou hast not kept that which the Lord commanded thee.

Memory Verse: And Samuel said, Hath the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams. 1 Sam. 15:22

Practical Truth: A complete surrender and being filled with the Holy Spirit will give one power to obey God.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Saul was chosen as king for the people. He had a good beginning. He, at first, felt so unworthy of such a high position. But soon he became lifted up. He lost the fear of God from his heart inasmuch that he broke one of the commandments of God. God had said that only the high priest was to offer the sacrifices. When the enemy gathered together with such a big force, the people were trembling and even some leaving him, Saul took things into his own hands and offered the sacrifice. When Samuel arrived he gave the excuse that he "forced" himself to do this. Samuel told him that he had acted foolishly.

How many today start out for God with great capabilities but when the pressure is on and persecutions come from many sources they begin to let down and then disobey. Oh, how sad! Adam and Eve had everything in their favor, but they disobeyed. The rich young ruler had so many good qualities that "Jesus beholding him loved him" but he was not willing to obey. (Matt. 10:21) Judas was one of the disciples but he "did foolishly" and came to a tragic end. Disobedience will bring shame and disgrace to the child, the young person, and to the old person. Saul tried to excuse his disobedience. The only way to get forgiveness is to confess the disobedience, repent with godly sorrow and God will forgive. We need to all watch and pray or we will fall into the same snare. It is good to think about what causes disobedience so a person can guard against it.

May 9, 1965

ONE SIN LEADS TO ANOTHER

Printed Portion 1 Samuel 18:5-16

1 Sam. 18:5 And David went out whithersoever Saul sent him, and behaved himself wisely: and Saul set him over the men of war, and he was accepted in the sight of all the people, and also in the sight of Saul's servants.

6 And it came to pass as they came, when David was returned from the slaughter of the Philistine, that the women came out of all cities of Israel, singing and dancing, to meet King Saul, with tabrets, with joy, and with instruments of musick.

7 And the women answered one another as they played, and said, Saul hath slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands.

8 And Saul was very wroth, and the saying displeased him; and he said, They have ascribed unto David ten thousands: and what can he have more but the kingdom?

9 And Saul eyed David from that day forward.

10 And it came to pass on the morrow, that the evil spirit from God came upon Saul, and he prophesied in the

midst of the house: and David played with his hand, as at other times: and there was a javelin in Saul's hand.

11 And Saul cast the javelin; for he said, I will smite David even to the wall with it. And David avoided out of his presence twice.

12 And Saul was afraid of David, because the Lord was with him, and was departed from Saul.

13 Therefore Saul removed him from him, and made him his captain over a thousand; and he went out and came in before the people.

14 And David behaved himself wisely in all his ways; and the Lord was with him.

15 Wherefore when Saul saw that he behaved himself very wisely, he was afraid of him.

16 But all Israel and Judah loved David, because he went out and came in before them.

Memory Verse: Every one that is proud in heart is an abomination to the Lord: though hand join in hand, he shall not be unpunished. By mercy and truth iniquity is purged: and by the fear of the Lord men depart from evil. Proverbs 16:5, 6.

Practical Truth: We are only what we are because of the grace of God.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

It grieved Samuel because Saul the king had chosen to please himself instead of God. God told Samuel to anoint David as king, which was done privately. After David had killed the giant he lived at the palace and became a hero in the sight of the people. This displeased Saul and he "eyed David." Oh, that monster, jealousy, and also envy, which took control of Saul. How miserable Saul was as he thought of ways and means to get rid of David, yet he had a certain fear of the people. He knew that God was with David and this was a wall of protection to David. God did not permit Saul to kill David, although he tried many times.

I read recently of a little girl who threw an iron into the bassinette and killed her baby brother because someone told her that her mother would love the baby more than herself. Through grief the mother died. This girl grew to be a lonely woman, although she was rich. She very seldom smiled. These things are sad but there was a beginning of this jealousy and also of Saul's. It is the "I" that wants to be "it." The "I" can't endure for another to be praised. The "I" would not think of murdering anyone but what about murdering a person's influence with the tongue? Maybe not going that far, but just making slighting remarks or watching to see how they can make their good to be turned into having an evil motive behind it. God wants us to "esteem others better than ourselves." True glory and respect will be earned through humility.

May 16, 1965

A DEDICATED KING

Printed Portion 2 Samuel 5:1-7; 9-12

2 Sam. 5:1 Then came all the tribes of Israel to David unto Hebron, and spake, saying, Behold, we are thy bone and thy flesh.

2 Also in time past, when Saul was king over us, thou wast he that leddest out and broughtest in Israel: and the Lord said to thee, Thou shalt feed my people Israel, and thou shalt be captain over Israel.

3 So all the elders of Israel came to the king to Hebron; and king David made a league with them in Hebron before the Lord: and they anointed David king over Israel.

4 David was thirty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned forty years.

5 In Hebron he reigned over Judah seven years and six months: and in Jerusalem he reigned thirty and three years over all Israel and Judah.

6 And the king and his men went to Jerusalem unto the Jebusites, the inhabitants of the land: which spake unto David, saying, Except thou take away the blind and the lame, thou shalt not come in hither: thinking, David cannot come in hither.

7 Nevertheless David took the strong hold of Zion: the same is the city of David.

9 So David dwelt in the fort, and called it the city of David. And David built round about from Millo and inward.

10 And David went on, and grew great, and the Lord God of hosts was with him.

11 And Hiram king of Tyre sent messengers to David, and cedar trees, and carpenters, and masons: and they built David an house.

12 And David perceived that the Lord had established him king over Israel, and that he had exalted his kingdom for his people Israel's sake.

Memory Verse: I have set the Lord always before me: because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved. Psalm 16:8.

Practical Truth: When we know that we are in God's will we can face hard things.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Poor Saul came to an awful end. He was wounded in battle and begged his armor bearer to take his life but he would not. Saul then fell upon his own sword and killed himself. (1 Sam. 31:4) David mourned over the death of Saul and his friend Jonathan. David was made king of the tribe of Juda at Hebron. The son of Saul reigned for two years after Saul's death and then the people came to David and wanted him to be their king. Our lesson brings out the fact that the people had not forgotten the godly manner in which David had conducted himself while Saul tried to kill him. In the battle of reverses the devil would make one think they were not doing good but if one will continue faithful he will bear fruit. David, no doubt thought all were against him but our lesson shows us that the people wanted him to be their shepherd, to feed them and be their captain. He had proved himself to be God's man. A great person is one who does not see his own greatness but only recognizes God working through him. David did not say he killed the lion, the bear, and Goliath, but he said, "The Lord that delivered me out of the paw of the lion . . . the bear, he will deliver me out of the hand of this Philistine." 1 Sam. 17:37.

The last part of our lesson tells us that David began to build the city of David, Jerusalem. David then understood that for "his people's sake" God had established his kingdom.

May 23, 1965

WORSHIP IN JERUSALEM

Printed Portion 2 Samuel 6:12, 13, 17, 18; 7:1-3, 11b-13

2 Sam. 6:12 And it was told King David, saying, The Lord hath blessed the house of Obededom, and all that pertaineth unto him, because of the ark of God. So David went and brought up the ark of God from the house of Obededom into the city of David with gladness.

13 And it was so, that when they that bare the ark of the Lord had gone six paces, he sacrificed oxen and fatlings.

17 And they brought in the ark of the Lord, and set it in his place, in the midst of the tabernacle that David had pitched for it: and David offered burnt offerings and peace offerings before the Lord.

18 And as soon as David had made an end of offering burnt offerings and peace offerings, he blessed the people in the name of the Lord of hosts.

7:1 And it came to pass, when the king sat in his house, and the Lord had given him rest round about from all his enemies;

2 That the king said unto Nathan the prophet, See now, I dwell in an house of cedar, but the ark of God dwelleth within curtains.

3 And Nathan said to the king, Go, do all that is in thine heart; for the Lord is with thee.

11b Also the Lord telleth thee that he will make thee an house.

12 And when thy days be fulfilled, and thou shalt sleep with thy fathers, I will set up thy seed after thee, which shall proceed out of thy bowels, and I will establish his kingdom.

13 He shall build an house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom for ever.

Memory Verse: Exalt the Lord our God, and worship at his holy hill; for the Lord our God is holy. *Psa. 99:9.*

Practical Truth: Through Jesus the kingdom of David was set up forever.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

David had tried to bring the ark, which was the Ark of the Covenant that Moses had made, where the presence of the Lord dwelt, to Jerusalem one time. He put it on a cart, which was pulled by oxen. At one time the oxen stumbled and a man named Uzzah tried to steady the ark with his hand. It was the law of God that no one was to touch the ark but the priests. For this unlawful act he died instantly. David was afraid to proceed further in his attempt to bring the ark to Jerusalem. It stayed at the house of Obed-edom. Sometimes problems will arise among God's people. Someone feels that they must do something about it. Unless they move according to God's will they will lose their souls. One time a person wrote my father that the church was going to pieces and he should do something about it. He wrote them back that the "government shall be upon his shoulder" (*Isa. 9:6*). God's church will never fall. The gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

The ark would stand for the presence of the Lord. Where his presence is there is joy, blessing and gladness. Inside the ark there is the Holy Place and the Most Holy Place. This is the type of justification and sanctification, the two works of grace in our hearts today.

David wanted to build a house for the Lord to dwell in. He got the materials together but God did not let him build the temple. Solomon, the son of David, built it.

May 30, 1965

CONSEQUENCES OF SIN

Printed Portion 2 Samuel 12:1-10

2 Sam. 12:1 And the Lord sent Nathan unto David. And he came unto him, and said unto him, There were two men in one city; the one rich, and the other poor.

2 The rich man had exceeding many flocks and herds:

3 But the poor man had nothing, save one little ewe lamb, which he had bought and nourished up: and it grew up together with him, and with his children; it did eat of his own meat, and drank of his own cup, and lay in his bosom, and was unto him as a daughter.

4 And there came a traveler unto the rich man, and he spared to take of his own flock and of his own herd, to dress for the wayfaring man that was come unto him; but took the poor man's lamb, and dressed it for the man that was come to him.

5 And David's anger was greatly kindled against the man; and he said to Nathan, As the Lord liveth, the man that hath done this thing shall surely die:

6 And he shall restore the lamb fourfold, because he did this thing, and because he had no pity.

7 And Nathan said to David, Thou art the man. Thus saith the Lord God of Israel, I anointed thee king over Israel, and I delivered thee out of the hand of Saul;

8 And I gave thee thy master's house, and thy master's wives into thy bosom, and gave thee the house of Israel and of Judah; and if that had been too little, I would moreover have given unto thee such and such things.

9 Wherefore hast thou despised the commandment of the Lord, to do evil in his sight? thou hast killed Uriah the Hittite with the sword, and hast taken his wife to be thy wife, and has slain him with the sword of the children of Ammon.

10 Now therefore the sword shall never depart from thine house; because thou hast despised me, and hast taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be thy wife.

Memory Verse: Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me; And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments. *Ex. 20:5, 6.*

Practical Truth: A life of sin means a life here and in eternity without God.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

After Nathan, the prophet, told David a story which showed a terrible sin, David said the man who had done this wrong needed to be put to death. How shocked he was when he was told "Thou art the man." We can't do wrong and get by. You might think no one knows what you have done but God knows. You will have to deal with God. David thought he had his sin covered up. He was surprised when it was made known. In the 51st Psalm David bares his heart and cries unto the Lord. He realized how terrible was his sin. He knew it had cut him off from God. He said, "Wash me and I shall be whiter than snow. Create in me a clean heart, O God, renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from thy presence and take not thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation and uphold me with thy free Spirit." (verses 7-13). God heard his cry and saw the anguish of his spirit. He forgave him. "A broken and a contrite heart" God will not despise but will heal and forgive. Not only did David need to seek God's forgiveness but he needed to forgive himself and then forget his iniquity. Paul tells us that he forgot those things which were behind and pressed toward the mark of the high calling in Christ Jesus. (*Phil. 3:13, 14*)

Great trouble came to David's house because he sinned. His baby died. Later his son killed his brother and then his son tried to take David's throne. This was grievous to David. We reap what we sow. —Marie Miles