

# FAITH<sup>AND</sup>VICTORY

## Church of God Servant



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### "They Comfort Me"



I have been through the valley of weeping,  
The valley of sorrow and pain,  
But the "God of all comfort" was with me,  
At hand to uphold and sustain.

As the earth needs the clouds and sunshine;  
Our souls need both sorrow and joy;  
So He places us oft in the furnace—  
The dross from the gold to destroy.

When He leads through some valley of trouble,  
His omnipotent hand we trace;  
For the trials and sorrows He sends us  
Are part of His lessons in grace.

Oft we shrink from the purging and pruning,  
Forgetting the Husbandman knows  
That the deeper the cutting and paring,  
The richer the cluster that grows.

Well He knows that affliction is needed;  
He has a wise purpose in view,  
And in the dark valley He whispers—  
"Hereafter you'll know what I do."

As we travel through life's shadowed valley,  
Fresh springs of His love ever rise;  
And we learn that our sorrows and losses  
Are blessings just sent in disguise.

So we'll follow wherever He leadeth,  
Let the path be dreary or bright;  
For we've proved that our God can give comfort,  
Our God can give "songs in the night."

Though He may allow great trials to come,  
Could we declare, like Job of old—  
"Yea, though He slay me, yet will I trust Him,"  
At last we "shall come forth as gold."

—Job 13:15 and 23:10

### Remove Not the Ancient Landmarks

By Ostis B. Wilson

(Part II)

In Zechariah 14:20 it says, "In that day shall there be upon the bells of the horses, HOLINESS UNTO THE LORD; . . ." This is the standard we are to lift up for the people. This is the law of God's house. Ezekiel 43:12 says, "This is the law of the house; Upon the top of the mountain the whole limit thereof round about shall be most holy. Behold, this is the law of the house."

The first Methodist discipline had in it a paragraph which forbid the reading of such literature or the exercise of any diversions which were not conducive to spirituality and holiness. This may still be in the Methodist discipline. I do not know. But we all know that this principle has long since passed out of the lives of many of the communicants of that faith, and most faiths so far as that is concerned. The departure from this principle was the moving of a clear definite landmark which had formerly set certain bounds and established a certain course for the people to go by. So long as they remained within those set bounds and followed that certain course in their lives, God's glory was manifest among them and His power worked mightily in their midst. But the removal of this landmark broke down the boundary and set the people adrift and threw them into confusion as to what the standard of Christian living was and today almost anything of the world is acceptable and very little divine power and glory is manifest in the lives of many. But let us realize that the New Testament can become a dead letter to many of us also if we do not watch ourselves very closely and stay real close to its teachings in our manner of life in every phase.

The general over-all rule for Christian living, and which would also be the standard for the church to go by collectively and individually, is found in 1 Cor. 10:31, "Whatsoever you do, do all to the glory of God." This should be the corner stone from which we would survey everything in every area of our lives. To state this rule or principle conversely will

not suffice in this case. To state it conversely would be to state it negatively—"Will this or that dishonor God?" Let us realize we are here for the express purpose to glorify God and we should hold this principle at all times in its positive form just as it is stated here, "Do all to the glory of God" and survey everything in life from that corner stone of truth.

Jesus, Himself, laid down this pattern for us to go by. In John 4:34 Jesus said, "My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work." Again in John 5:30 Jesus said, "I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which sent me." In John 8:29 Jesus said again, "The Father hath not left me alone; for I do always those things that please him." Jesus did always those things which pleased His Father. He is our example. In 1 John 3:22 we read, "And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight."

Now let us consider that those who keep His commandments may be saved, (howbeit, some may not be saved who are quite strict about the commandments in the main, at least) but we must seek to do those things which are the most pleasing unto God if we would enjoy His rich blessings upon our lives. This text is put in its positive form also, "Do those things that are pleasing in his sight." Let us think of it this way and not in its negative form, "Will this displease God?" We are plagued to a great extent with negative thinking, anyway. We think and talk more about the things we do not believe in than the things we do believe in. Some have come more to an attitude of thinking, "Is this or that sin?" than of thinking, "Is this or that glorifying to God?" But let us realize there are some things which could not actually be located as sin which do not really please God for us in our particular case and would not be glorifying to Him.

I esteem very highly the early pioneer ministers of this evening light reformation and the standard of holiness they held both in life and teaching. I consider those standards to be right because they worked and produced results and the results they produced are the very same results the people of God yearn for and decry the lack of in our midst today. I reverence those early brethren to the extent that it is very grievous to me when I hear people criticizing them and challenging their teachings. But it is common practice among those who accept and condone the innovations of worldly things which have been coming in among us little by little over the past few years to speak lightly of the standards taught and held by the early brethren. They also down-rate those who hold for those standards yet in our day and sometimes such remarks as this are heard: "I do my own thinking. I do not accept a code that has been handed down by tradition from someone way back there that I did not even know," etc. Sometimes those who stand for those old standards are accused of just subscribing to some old tradition and doing things because someone else

said to do it, etc. But when we see those old standards and that old way work and produce results and better results than the codes which people want to bring in and go by now, that is the deciding factor in our thinking.

Of course, that attitude is not fair on the face of it, for who of us do not do things because others do them. Those who are in the "know" regarding those things tell us that the human race produces only a very small percentage of leaders. All the others are followers. Have any of you folks ever been conscious of having originated any style or fashion which went on and later became popular and was generally adopted by the world? If you cannot say "Yes" to this question, then are you not just following the styles and fashions originated by others and doing those things because the world does them? If you did not originate the styles and fashions you are subscribing to, then certainly you are a follower and not a leader. Then why would you think it fair to condemn and ridicule those who choose to stand by the standards which have come down to us from our fathers?

Would any of you even imagine that if the styles were to change in the world to long skirts that you would continue to wear the short ones you now clamor for? If suddenly no woman of the world would ever curl her hair or wear a permanent, do you imagine you would still think it necessary to curl yours and contend for those things as you do now? If not, why not? Then why would you think it proper and fair to taunt those who choose to stand by the old landmarks and not move the bounds in such a way and think of them as you do?

You may think, and I have been asked if I believed the early brethren had all the light. I would not have to believe that for my statement to be true in regard to them. But let us realize there is a vast difference between new light as it is being advanced today and more light on what the brethren of the early days taught and the church subscribed to in that time. I believe without doubt that we of our day have more light on some points of truth than they had in their day because there has been developments in the intervening time which would throw some clearer light on some points of truth than they could have had in their day. I can accept additions of light on these points of truth on that basis but I cannot accept "new" light which contradicts the basic teachings of the early brethren on any points of truth. But I believe that the doctrines taught in the early days of this evening light reformation contained the overall coverage of the truth as taught in the New Testament though some of it was perhaps in a limited sense which developments have brought out clearer than they had it.

But let me make it clear in this respect that most of the points I could call to mind in this category would be dealing with scriptures of prophecy and having to do with the signs of the times and the fulfillment of prophecy and not with the real standards of holiness and Christian living. In regard to that,

I believe I can say at this point that I accept the standards as taught and lived by the early brethren as being right, full and complete and as having no need of any deductions or additions. And I feel inclined to warn all of you at this point to be careful about accepting or being carried away with any of the innovations of worldly things or variations in teaching and practice which have been coming in among us the last few years and are coming in among us now.

If I could see more real godliness and deep holiness of life and more of the power of God accompanying these things, I could be more interested in them. But when I fail to see this but rather the opposite—a decline in spiritual power and deep holiness of life and more worldly mindedness, etc. I feel that the best policy for the church is to flee these things and follow after godliness. Let us not remove the old landmarks nor remove the bounds which have been set for us by those who have gone before us. Let us remember that God's Word pronounces a curse on all who do this.

I do not believe anyone could successfully contradict that there was more real divine power and spiritual life and more miracle working power and healings and genuine powerful conversions and devils cast out, etc. in those early days than what we are able to witness and testify to in the church of our day. I know you don't like that. I don't either. I would like to see it different but to be honest I must face up to the facts as I see them and I feel you should, too. Some of the very folks who are taking in with these innovations of worldly things and variations from the former teachings and practices of the earlier brethren, decry the lack of spiritual power and miracles and healings, etc. in our day and refer back to how the early brethren did it and ask why our brethren of today do not do it that way. It is the age-old idea of wanting to have the cake and eat it, too, which cannot be done. Some would like to have all that power and glory and benefits of the early church but they are not willing to follow that standard. The two can never be harmonized so we may as well stop trying and if we are willing to throw the standards of the early brethren overboard, just throw the rest overboard, also, and quit worrying about what they had that we do not see in that same measure in the church of our day. We can never hope for the one without the other. —O. B. Wilson

(Follow closely Part III in the next issue. —Editor.)

## To The Young People

We read in 1 Kings, chapter 2 about David realizing his time was short, yet his love for God and His work was strong. He was burdened for his son to carry on. So he began to instruct him, saying, "I go the way of all the earth, be thou strong therefore and shew thyself a man. Keep the charge of the Lord thy God, to walk in his ways, to keep his statutes and his commandments, and his judgments, and his

testimonies, . . . that thou mayest prosper in all that thou doest."

Dear young people, we wish to exhort you in like manner. As we take note of so many of our older saints, wearing out in the Lord's work and know that they will soon be going the way of all the earth, we wish to make a plea to the youth to be strong and shew yourself a man.

The work of God is suffering now for the lack of young workers to fill the place of the dear ones who have been called home in recent years. "Be strong." John said, "I write unto you young men because you are strong." Yes, you are strong, you have energy. We take note of the young people, how they like to be on the go, like to be up late at night, and have strong ambition to accomplish something great. Why not use all this strength and energy for God and fill the place of some deceased minister or worker that has passed on? So many of our ministers are afflicted in body today and hardly able to carry on because the load is too great. There are not enough ministers and workers, causing the few to be called on too often. Oh, who will hear the call? Be strong and shew thyself a man.

Paul said in Titus 2:6, "Young men, likewise exhort to be sober minded in all things shewing thyself a pattern of good works, in doctrine shewing uncorruptness, gravity, sincerity, sound speech that cannot be condemned." So many young people are unwilling to be sober long enough to read the Word enough to learn the doctrines so they will be able to teach others. And so many fail to take time to pray until they really pray through.

Dear young men and women, look at the condition of the youth of the world, look at the riots, the sin that's abounding and ask yourself what can you do to help today.

We read about Isaiah when he saw the glory of God. He felt so undone, but after the angel laid the live coal on his lips, then he heard a voice saying, "Whom shall I send and who will go for us?" Isaiah answered, "Here am I, send me." Too many times young people will get a vision of the great work and feel so undone, they just give up and say, "I can't do it, I'm not able, I'm too backward." Oh, dear young people, stay before the Lord until He touches your very heart and life with that live coal and then you can say, "Here am I, send me. I will go where you want me to go, I will say what you want me to say and I will be what you want me to be, dear Lord."

I think of the departure of our dear Sister Key. She was a precious minister. I loved her so dearly. She was called to the work when she was young. I just wonder what young girl will be consecrated to fill her place.

Young people, I am praying for you to be sober. Spend more time in prayer and reading God's Word. Don't go to campmeetings just to have a good time, but go to get help in your soul to make you stronger for the work of the Lord.

May God bless you each one. —Margaret Eck

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## EDITORIALS

With arrival of autumn we again make a special effort by the blessings of the Lord and the co-operation of our readers to reach many more thousands of people with the pure gospel message. The summer is ended, the campmeeting season is past, and millions of souls are not saved! Shall we fold our hands and wait for another convenient season to reach the perishing? No! "Every second, sad to tell, counts another soul in hell," the poet wrote. "Dreadful sight to see them bound in sin's dark pall. What in life we all may do, can but save a very few, yet the blessed Savior shed his blood for all." Jesus exhorted, "Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest." John 4:35. In other words, Jesus meant that the harvest for souls was always ready, summer and winter.

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The campmeetings at Boley and Dover, Okla. were very profitable. The Word of God was preached under the anointing of the Holy Spirit. Many souls were benefited, and the saints were edified and fortified for the battles of life.

The Lord enabled Bro. and Sister Darius Gibson to attend part of the Dover, Okla. campmeeting. Though very weak in body, he preached the Word as the Lord gave strength. Both of them need fervent prayer for complete healing of their afflictions.

Heartfelt sympathy is extended to the Isaac C. Chandler family of Bakersfield, Calif. in the sudden tragic death on Aug. 30 of their son, Paul, aged 20. May the "God of all comfort" pour in the healing balm for their aching hearts.

**Prayer request:** Bro. Curtis Williams of Clearfield, Kentucky, a faithful young minister of the gospel, phoned for a special agreement of prayer for his healing. He suffers most of the time with pain in his

right lung, and does not get much rest. He requests the saints abroad to earnestly pray for him that he may be healed to the glory of God.

"I have set watchmen upon thy walls, O Jerusalem, which shall never hold their peace day nor night: ye that make mention of the Lord, **keep not silence.**" Isaiah 62:6. What is the effect when the watchmen on the walls of Zion "keep silence"? The saying is that "silence gives consent." The Lord said to Ezekiel, "But if the watchmen see the sword come, and blow not the trumpet, and the people be not warned; if the sword come, and take any person from among them, he is taken away in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at the watchman's hands. So thou, O son of man, I have set thee a watchman unto the house of Israel; therefore thou shalt hear the word at my mouth, and warn them from me." Ezek. 33:6, 7. Young Timothy was exhorted to "Preach the word." Silence on any line of positive Bible truth will open an avenue for Satan's deadly work to destroy souls. The Apostle Paul felt the seriousness of this responsibility as a watchman on Zion's walls when he testified: "Wherefore I take you to record this day, that I am pure from the blood of all men. For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God." Acts 20:26, 27. Today God's ministers, watchmen on the walls of Zion, will do well for their own soul's sake, as well as those to whom they preach, to declare "all the counsel of God" lest the blood of any soul will be found upon their hands when the Chief Shepherd shall appear.

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The Sabbath and the Lord's Day by H. M. Riggle. 160 pages, paper bound. Comprehensive coverage of the subject. Price 60c each or two for .....	1.00		

Some souls were at the altar from time to time for spiritual help and healing. As we heard their testimonies and saw their shining faces, we felt God had blessed them. We thank God for His ministers who are not afraid to cry out against all sin.

Every need was fully met through free-will offerings. God is still blessing us here in the work of the Lord. The saints are encouraged. Yes, we are still in the battle of the Lord. Tests and trials will come, but our help cometh from the Lord. Therefore, we are not afraid of what man shall do.

—Sister Bea Spaur

## Obituary



Johnnie Lee Creel was born July 22, 1947, at Enid, Okla. and passed from this life Sept. 3, 1966, at Enid, Okla. at the age of 19 years, 1 month, and 12 days.

Johnnie Lee attended services of the Church of God since childhood. His Sunday school teacher made mention of his good attention in class the last Sunday before his death. He had shown a keen interest in the training which he was taking at the Enid State School and had a great anticipation as he looked forward to learning more in his food service training. Yet God in His infinite wisdom saw best to bring his young life to a close. To this we humbly submit even though there is left a great vacancy in the lives of those who knew Johnnie best.

He leaves to mourn his passing his father and mother, Lela and Chester Creel, Enid, Okla., two sisters, Ruth and Theresa of the home; a paternal grandmother, Mrs. Frances Creel of Bethany, Okla., and many other relatives.

Funeral services were conducted by Bro. Willie Murphey and Bro. John Sisk. Text: "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom." Proverbs 9:10.

## SENIOR SAINTS' HOME IN OPERATION

Dear Bro. Lawrence, greetings in the Lord:

We are all in the Home now, my sister and brother and Cecil and I. We are all very happy here. The Lord is blessing us all here in a wonderful way.

We are happy to have Bro. and Sister Ira Stover here with us while Bro. Ostis Wilson is away. They are filling the place as pastors and as administrators in the Home in a wonderful way. Sister Evelyn Lynch is filling her place in the Home as manager very well. She is quite efficient. There are fourteen living in the Home at this time. Three of these are workers—the nurse, the housekeeper, and myself, the laundress. All are very happy.

I will close now with greetings to all the workers at the print shop.

—Rada F. Watkins

## WORK DAYS ON NATIONAL CAMPGROUND

There will be work days on the National Campground at Neosho (Monark Springs), Mo. on Oct. 8 and 10, and Oct. 22 and 24, Lord willing. Much work needs to be done on the grounds, which includes removing of several dead trees, painting dining hall floor, and laying about 350 concrete blocks to afford a screened-in area adjoining the dining hall on the east. Please bring tools to work with. Mark these dates on your calendar, come and offer your services to the Lord.

Since this is a national meeting the saints in all states should support and maintain these buildings and grounds where hundreds of you come every year to receive spiritual edification. If you cannot come to work on these days, perhaps the Lord would have you to send a free-will offering to purchase material for the improvement. You

can have a part in the great work of God and lay up your treasures in heaven.

—Ralph M. Beisly, Business Manager and Treasurer  
407 Eldridge St., Coffeyville, Kansas 67337

## OREGON STATE ASSEMBLY MEETING

The Oregon State Assembly meeting at Jefferson Oregon will be held, the Lord willing, Nov. 4 through 13, 1966. It will be run on the free-will offering plan. We extend a hearty invitation to all who can attend this meeting. Come and enjoy the precious Word of God which will be preached by ministers under the anointing of the Holy Spirit. Come, expecting a real blessing. We have cabins and other sleeping quarters furnished. Meals will be served in the dining hall.

For further information, write to Sister Hilda Nielsen, Box 34, Jefferson, Oregon. Phone 327-2564, Area Code 503 or write to Sister Beatrice Spaur, P. O. Box 254, Jefferson, Oregon. Phone 327-2855.

—Sister Beatrice Spaur, Pastor

## Prayer Requests

Minn.—Dear Sister Miles and saints—I need more of God. I have many trials and temptations and I'm asking for prayer from everyone that knows how to pray. Please pray that God will bless me with more love for Him—so much that it will grieve me deeply to displease Him. I have a very sincere request that He will take away the habits that I have that I know displease Him. I have come to the realization of how much I need God, and I know that I need the prayers of the saints to help me. I cannot do it alone. Help me pray to get an experience that will stand.

—Margaret (Trotter) Richardson

Ohio—"My saved sister is suffering from a nervous condition. My other sister has small children and is suffering from hay fever." Mrs. Ida Hartley.

Mo.—"One of my patients has a sore on her back. Pray God to heal it."

Ga.—"Have an unspoken request."

Ind.—"My nerves are so bad." Edna Hammond.

Mo.—"Pray that my sister can find employment. She is in much need of it. I also have an unspoken request."

Okla.—"Pray for my son who seems to have a devilish spirit. He desires deliverance from it and wants prayer. It is getting him into trouble now that he is older."

Kansas—"Heart trouble." Maude Hogle.

Neb.—"My lung is sore. Seems like it is a spot in my right lung pretty low." Carolyn Holland.

Ark.—"Arthritis and up in years." Sis. McMurrin.

Calif.—"Depression from the devil, feelings of discouragement, bad eyes, want to know what God's will is concerning me, want to be a soul winner and be able to keep out of the snares of the enemy." A Reader.

Calif.—"Son's family needs deliverance from a spirit of a cult."

Sister Ruth Murphey is at the Golden Rule Home and in very much need at this time. She had pneumonia and a general breakdown of her health. Pray earnestly for her. She is worthy of your prayers. She has been a hard worker for others and the Lord.

La.—"Have an aching in my left limb until I can't sleep on my left side." Sister Effie Miller.

Kentucky—Bro. Curtis Williams desires earnest and fervent prayer for the healing of a serious affliction in his right lung. He is unable to fulfill his ministerial calling until he receives healing from the Great Physician.



La.—Bro. Oscar Williamson needs God's healing touch to remove an affliction from his body.

Ark.—Dear Bro. and Sister, I was anointed and prayed for at the camp meeting for a sore on my forehead and it seemed to be well, but later it got worse. Now it seems to be healing up again. I promised the Lord I would send in my testimony. I am still trusting in God and desire your prayers that this thing, which looks like a skin cancer, will completely heal. Pray for my brother that he will quit smoking and others that I have on my heart.—Sister Johnnie West.

### NATIONAL MISSIONARY FUND REPORT

Greetings to all the readers of the "Faith and Victory": This leaves us still saved and satisfied with Jesus. We want to search our lives daily and be sure He is satisfied with us. Pray for us to be faithful to the end.

As Secretary-treasurer of our National Missionary Fund, we feel very dependent on the Lord to direct and help us. We feel it is a part of the Lord's work, so we do it as unto the Lord and will humbly do our best.

Since this fund is to aid in the evangelistic tent work and several have sent offerings for this purpose, most of the funds have gone toward this part of the work. Good reports have come from those going from place to place with this equipment, spreading the gospel to many who otherwise might never hear it. Let us earnestly pray for these gospel workers, and also for the ones who accepted the Lord during these meetings, that they remain faithful. Those who rejected need much prayer that the Holy Spirit will still deal with their hearts. The tent season is about over for this year. May God bless all who made it possible for the tent to go out one more summer. Next summer we trust the Lord will supply for a new tent, as Bro. Mart Samons reported the old one is almost beyond repair.

As the Lord supplies, offerings are also sent to ministers who are in need of financial assistance.

We heard that it was discussed one year at our National campmeeting that it would be good for each congregation to have a special offering set aside for this purpose. Only a few have been faithfully doing this. Possibly some did not hear about this suggestion.

Our little congregation surely appreciates the ministers who sacrifice to come so far to feed us spiritually now and then. Bro. Willie Murphey was with us a couple of nights just recently, and we were truly blessed. You who are abundantly fed can have a part in sending ministers out into isolated places to feed the hungry who are scattered all over the world. God will bless you for your concern and love.

Please pray for the dear ministers. So many are afflicted and unable to get out much. May the Lord send forth more laborers into the harvest.

—Louie and Evodna Marler,  
Rt. 1, Senath, Mo. 63876

### GOD HEALS MISSIONARY

Dear Sister Anna Marie and all: I am so glad to be able to declare victory today in the face of every foe.

As many of you know, only eighteen hours after I arrived in Mexico to resume my duties as a missionary after nursing my mother back to health, the chief of the Pai-pai tribe of Indians and I were loading bed springs into our four-door pickup, and the last time we pulled them, in order to shut the tailgate, they lunged sideways, knocking me out of the pickup bed backwards.

The Lord has performed such a miracle in my body since my fall, I'd like to share it with others. Space will not permit me to tell all the details of it, but I do want to give God all the glory. First of all, I would like to take this opportunity to thank each one for his or her part in helping in any way to care for me from the time I hit the ground and the Pai-pai chief tried to help me up until this very moment. It would be almost impossible to personally thank each one for there were so very many who helped, but none went unnoticed. If I failed in seeing it, the Lord didn't and my prayer is that He will richly bless each one. I do thank each and every one who offered prayer in my behalf during this time, also. In this way only did man touch this case for a doctor was not consulted nor were X-rays made. To God be all the glory! Praise His precious name!

My left limb and both arms were the only parts of my body that escaped injury. I will just mention some of the worst injuries sustained. My back was injured to the point that when I was being moved from one improvised bed to another I would scream in spite of all I could do. There were six places severely injured in my right limb. I felt if three or four ribs could be broken it would be a blessing, for then my heart would have sufficient room to beat as it was so swollen, but one rib was broken and punched my heart every time I was turned with a sheet. It was ten days before I could turn to my right side at all.

For three days and nights my suffering had no relief regardless of prayer. The Lord had a purpose in this. I had been asking for a deeper burden for lost souls in Mexico and this was the answer to my prayer. After this period of suffering the Lord spoke to me saying, "Just think! You may think this has seemed as an eternity to suffer so severely but those who are not saved and go into eternity in similar conditions never have any relief from their sufferings." Oh, how terrible! If we do not have our senses in eternity, how could the rich man have known he needed a drop of water to cool his parched tongue? He is still pleading today. (Luke 16:19-31.) In Ecclesiastes 11:3 we read, "... where the tree falleth, there it shall be."

We don't know by which route the Lord will answer our prayers, and if one is not willing to suffer, then he should not pray in this manner. I say wholeheartedly I would not have missed this experience in the Lord for I have learned some very precious lessons and surely have seen the great mercies of our God poured out in great abundance on one of His little ones.

I am so very grateful to the Lord for permitting my return to Mexico eight weeks after the accident. I'm not resuming my full capacity of work as yet, but believe He will make me able to perform more duties as He sees fit and I have a full amen in my heart for the will of God in my life, wherever, however, and in whatsoever capacity He chooses to use me.

I intend by His grace to be faithful to Him who called me out into this marvelous light and I want Him to help my light shine to those with whom I come in contact, daily. Pray for me.

Your sister in Christ,

—Opal Kelly

"BIRTH OF A REFORMATION—Life and Labors of D. S. Warner" by A. L. Byers is now available for prompt delivery! Out of print for many years, it is reprinted in 496 pages and bound in a nice gold-lettered cloth cover. The price is \$4.00 per copy, postpaid. Order today from this limited edition. Request list of other books by pioneer Reformation writers.

FAITH PUB. HOUSE, P. O. Box 713, Guthrie, Okla. 73044



### MISSIONARY REPORT FROM INDIA

August 18—Dear Bro. L. Pruitt, love and greetings in the sweet name of Jesus, our Lord and Savior:

I just returned from my northern trip. My visits to new places were responded with warm welcome. At Kozhikode I met with a group of believers.

I also visited some places in Trichur, Kunnankulam, Pazhanji, Porkulam and held meetings. The meetings were well attended by a good crowd. Praise the Lord! There needs follow-up work. Two brethren have come forward with decision for full time work. These brethren are very, very poor. But the family as a whole has trusted the Lord. They suffer a good deal of privations and difficulties. I want to help them partly, at least. I stayed with them and I was moved with compassion to see the children go to school with empty bellies. The congregations are poor. Still they feel happy to help the workers to a little extent. There must be one to shepherd each congregation. They do not have money to take a hall for rent for meetings. Please pray for the new openings in the north. Those places are about 400 miles from here. 1 Cor. 16:9.

It is amazing to see how bravely and perseveringly the saints cling to the Lord in spite of oppositions and poverty and other trials and temptations. We have to lift up and uphold them in our prayers.

We badly need a public address system and also a gospel van. Our believers and workers are ardently praying for this equipment for evangelistic efforts. Our sisters and brethren go in a company to a new field and take a building for hire for staying. From that base, we go out for open air meetings, house visits, tract distribution, etc. Please pray that God may supply the petition of the believers here. Our brethren and all believers pray for the saints in America that God may bless them all and enrich them with spiritual as well as worldly goods that they may magnanimously and cheerfully distribute and contribute to the poverty-stricken believers here. God is providing us through His sincere people and we believe He will continue to the end.

We solicit the prayers of the saints in America. We are sure the Lord will abundantly fill your treasury and granaries with funds and spiritual food for the valuable souls here. Our prayers are for you all.

Thank you for your concern for the souls here. Time is short. "I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day; the night cometh when no man can work."

Your younger brother in the Lord, —C. M. Verghese

### NIGERIAN MISSION REPORT

Under date of Sept. 5, 1966 Bro. B. U. Etuk, native minister in Nigeria, W. Africa, wrote a cover letter for the report of the Church of God mission activities for the month of August written by the field secretary, Bro. Nse Umanah. This report was shorter than usual because this is the rainy season and they were unable to contact very many of the outlying stations. However, they visited several congregations on Sundays for worship.

At the time of writing there were seven persons at the House of Prayer at Ukpom, Nigeria, looking to the Lord for the healing of their bodies. Prayers were being answered, and they confidently affirmed that the Lord had never failed them yet. Appreciation was again expressed to all those who contributed funds to make this building possible.

On Sunday, Aug. 28, several ministers made a special visit to Nya Odiong No. 2 congregation. Pastor Stephen Akpan delivered a soul-stirring sermon, pointing out the

typical meaning of the first covenant. More than 80 persons were in attendance.

Bro. Umanah concluded his report with these words: "Still we pray to God to send a resident missionary or missionaries (male or female, regardless of color) from the midst of our brethren in the United States of America into this opened door. Pray for this country's government to return to peace."

Bro. Jackson Etuk wrote that the last part of August he went to Asana, the main mission station, and attended a very profitable three-day Bible study class taught by Bros. B. E. A. Inyang and W. G. Udoffia.

Bro. D. U. E. Enu of Benin City, Nigeria wrote on Sept. 6 that the Lord was greatly blessing the Church of God mission in that city. "God daily adds to His Church," he reported, and many new people come to the services. He is pastoring this congregation.

God will stand by His Word wherever it is proclaimed and distributed over this world. May the church accept the challenge and endeavor with all its ransomed power to pay the debt that it owes to the unsaved far and near. Time is running out. —L. D. Pruitt

### IN MEMORY OF SISTER DOROTHY BARTON

(Who passed away Jan. 23, 1966)

I was privileged to spend about the last 24 hours of dear Sister Dorothy Barton's life with her. To me it was precious. She awoke around 3:00 a. m. and was very, very sick. Dear Sister Barton was at her bedside in a minute. She had a terrible sore on her body that prevented her from rising up. We cared for her for some time. I never heard her murmur or complain. She felt bad that others had to wait on her in her condition. She said to me, "You would draw the night when I am so sick." I assured her I was just where I wanted to be.

When she began to feel a little better, she asked for some watermelon. Dear Bro. Barton did all he could to find one, and around one o'clock in the afternoon had a watermelon for her to eat. She said, "Frances doesn't like watermelon, but she is going to have to feed me some." I again assured her I was glad to feed her watermelon. She was always thinking of others.

Different ones came in during her last day and she made it a point to speak to each one. She asked some to come closer to the bed so she could see them. She slipped away from us so easy.

Sister Dorothy didn't want a doctor or medical aid of any kind. Someone sent a health nurse to the home on Friday evening. As soon as Sister Dorothy saw her, she asked, "Who sent you?" The nurse said she didn't know as she got her orders from the office. The nurse wanted her to have a doctor and mentioned some who would come to the house. She offered to call one but Sister Dorothy stood firm and refused. The nurse left, saying she would be back on Monday morning. Sister Dorothy asked the saints to pray if it was the Lord's will, to heal her, and if not, to take her before Monday morning. She said it didn't matter to her which way the Lord took. The Lord surely answered prayer and took her around 6:15 on Sunday evening.

I can't put in words what she really meant to me and my family. She helped us get established in the truth. She took us many, many miles to meeting and never wanted to take money for gas. She was my mother in Israel, my sister in the Lord and my real pal. She was one I could confide in and trust to tell no one but the Lord. She helped my own family so much, as well as many others. I've seen her help in different ways. She was willing to share what she had with those in need. In

her last years she didn't have much income. She was always anxious to help a soul in need, no matter what the need, physical, spiritual, or temporal. She always wanted a car full when she went anywhere. She wanted others to share her happiness. Many nights she spent sleepless because of suffering in her own body but she never complained and went right on doing what she could for others. Truly, she lived a life of self-denial. Often we would call each other for an agreement of prayer or confide in one another in person. I miss those times but the Lord has helped me. Her life truly is a challenge to me. Surely she left a pleasant memory in my life.

—Sister Frances Perkins

## TESTIMONIES

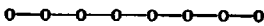


### GOD PROTECTED OUR HOUSE

California—Some of our neighbors were trying to connect a gas stove without turning off the gas and a fire broke out. My house is 10 to 15 feet from their house. I prayed for God to stop the flames and protect our house. I picked up my Bible, my important papers and my purse and left the results with God, knowing He knows what is best, even if I had lost everything.

The firemen marvelled because our house did not catch on fire. They said, "Somebody was protecting your house because it should have been on fire. We don't see how your house got by. The wind was blowing in your direction and it should have been on fire." We witnessed to our neighbors, the firemen, and everyone we could. We wanted them to know that God is not dead, but very much alive. My neighbors marvelled at the house not catching fire. They all thought surely it would, but I trusted God completely. I know what Romans 8:28 says. "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose." That is one of my most beloved Scriptures, as well as 2 Tim. 1:7. I was resting in the Lord while I watched the flames and I saw them come only so far and couldn't come any further.

Pray for us. —Sister Margaret Cable



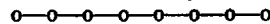
Ill.—Dear Saints: Greetings to you in Jesus' name. I just had to write you to let you know how God has answered prayer. Surely, there is nothing impossible with Him and it is just as He says, "If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, remove hence to yonder place; and it shall be removed, and nothing shall be impossible unto you."

Our only son entered the army at Ft. Leonard Wood on May 10, 1965. On August 13 of that year he was taken to Ft. Benning, Ga. to prepare to be shipped overseas. Soon the word came to them it was to be Vietnam. I had been praying all along for God to care for him and work things out for him. He isn't saved, but he knows God hears and answers the prayers of the saints. At Ft. Benning he was given a good desk job and shown many favors by his superiors. He told us he didn't want to go to Vietnam, so we told him we would pray and God could change that plan. As I prayed about it, my faith grew. I knew God had heard prayer and that my son wouldn't have to go to war. The time drew nearer for them to leave. They were put on alert, equipment packed and sent on ahead. We told him we were still praying. We wrote to several of the saints and asked them to agree with us. On May 15, 1966 my husband had a severe stroke. I knew the answer had come. We farm about 600 acres, and dependable help is very scarce. We called him to

come as his daddy was very ill. He got a pass, five days, I think it was. They had ordered him to get his cash to take overseas. His time was so near to leave, he could not believe he was not going. We had papers prepared, letters from various business men we knew, to get a permanent discharge for him. He was almost sure it would take two or three weeks to put them through. It was planting time and he was so very badly needed here at home, but he had to leave for camp. It seemed I could scarcely bear to see him leave. He was my right hand while he was here. I told my daughter I had asked God to send him back in a week. She didn't think God could work that fast! On the 23rd he went back to camp and started his papers through on the 25th. On the 3rd day of June he got his discharge. There was a three-day period over Memorial Day when the offices were closed. The 4th day of June he was home to stay. Praise God forever! Space fails me to tell all God has done for us in just this one case.

My husband is steadily improving in health, trusting God completely. He has not failed us one time. "In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths." And that path will be good for us. I believe God will save our son. My faith takes this in, too.

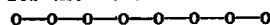
Pray for us that we will stay true. —Vivian McClain



La.—Dear Saints of God: The Lord has been so good to me I don't want to fail to keep my promise to Him in any way. I thank Him for the wonderful privilege of serving Him and trusting Him for all things.

I promised the Lord if He would help me to pass in my math in school I would write my testimony. I failed math the first year of high school. The next year, when I saw I was failing it again, I became discouraged and gave up on everything with no intention of going back to school the next year, for it seemed, to pass math, was an impossibility for me. When school started last year, with different ones praying for and encouraging me to go back, I made a start with faith in the Lord to help me conquer the math. I did real well until toward the end of the term. It became so hard I felt there was danger of my failing again. I asked for prayer and prayed earnestly myself to be able to pass my final test. It was a real blessing and encouragement the way the Lord helped me through. I made an average of C plus for the year in math and a B on my other subjects.

I thank the Lord so much for the way He helped me, and I also appreciate so much the interest of those who prayed for me. I need the prayers of the saints that I will always live for the Lord.



Oregon—Dear Sister Anna Marie: It has been some time since I have written my testimony of what the Lord has done for me. I was in California about a year. I took care of a 100-year-old lady who was living for God. On my day off I went up the mountain to spend the night at my mother's. It was snowing when I started back the next morning (April 2) to work. I got about five miles and my car skidded on the ice and hit the side of the mountain. It bounced back and nose-dived into the dirt on the shoulder of the highway. I was thrown out of the front seat and onto the floor in the back. My right shoulder was wedged on the back of the front seat and the left shoulder was pressed on the back seat. I felt that my back was broken, and I didn't know how I could stay in that position. I begged the man who stopped to please help me up on the seat, but he was afraid to touch me, so I prayed and asked God to give me the strength and I pushed myself up enough to crawl up on the back seat. I was having a chill so covered up with

a coat I had in the car. I told the man I didn't want an ambulance but I wanted my mother to send for me because I didn't want to go to a hospital. I wanted God to take care of me. He sent word, but the ambulance was already on its way. The ambulance took me to my mother's and I trusted God. I was unable to sit up for three weeks, then with God's help I managed to pull myself up and walk a little. I decided God would help me to go back to work. I went to work doing housekeeping and child care but wasn't able to keep it up.

I moved to Oregon and am staying at my cousin's home. God is helping me much in body and in spirit. I am putting my trust in Him.

Remember me and my loved ones in prayer.

Your sister in the Lord, —Ruby Lott

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

Georgia—Dear Sister Miles, Bro. Pruitt, workers in the Print Shop and the saints of God everywhere, greetings in the name of our loving Lord who said, "I am he that liveth and was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore." Rev. 1:18. I am glad we are serving a true and living Lord. I am happy to report victory over sin and the devil. The Word tells us that with joy ye shall draw water out of the wells of salvation. Isn't it wonderful to worship a God like this!

It has been quite a while since I've written to you, but I kept you before the Lord.

I certainly do enjoy living for the Lord and I am so glad I can trust God for my healing. When I get sick I don't call on the doctor, but I call on Jesus. He comes and touches my body with his healing power. Praise His name! Yes, He is a wonderful Savior!

Do pray for me as I pray for you. We all need help from the Lord.

Yours in the one Body, —Sister P. R. Bowers

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

Pa.—Dear Saints at the Print Shop, greetings to one and all in the precious name of Jesus:

The Lord is so good to me, for He saved me from all sin and condemnation. He brought me through many hard trials. The Word of God is my refuge. Oh, I am learning more and more how to serve Him.

I enjoy the "Faith and Victory" paper. I often read from Bro. C. E. Orr's book, "Odors From Golden Vials." I find great encouragement in reading, meditation and prayer. I am finding out in my experience that the more we learn of God the more we need to watch and pray.

My heart is full of peace and joy. He brings new mercies every day. Jesus is the joy of my life.

I wish to testify of God's goodness. Many years ago I was afflicted with a skin disease that took my hair out and almost blinded me. Every year it would get worse until I could not rest night or day. I sent to Bro. Fred Pruitt for an anointed handkerchief. I received it. I have been easily discouraged in prayer and faith so I kept reading, obeying the Lord and He gave pardon, peace and helped me to surrender to Him my all. I received peace and happiness that I never experienced before. My faith has returned now and this affliction has departed from me. I am happy and thankful. Bless the Lord for this great deliverance through the Spirit and Word of God. I am depending upon my Savior and given over to His will. May God bless all of you dear saints.

Your Sister in Christ, —Sister Olive Harris

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

Ind.—Dear Sister Marie, greetings in Jesus' name: We feel much encouraged to press the battle on to final victory. The dear Savior is more real to us than ever before, and so is the devil, but the Scripture says that where "sin doth abound, grace doth much more abound."

There is such great wickedness in the world today. The devil tries us on every hand, but thank God, we can have His grace and victory through every trial, no matter how hard the devil may try us, if we keep faithful to Him. We love the Lord, want to live for Him and make heaven our home when our lives are finished here. We have found by experience that we can't stay lukewarm or God will "spew us out of His mouth." We either go forward or backward; there is no standing still or laziness in God's church.

I have recently been going through some afflictions and trials. There is no one who can come and pray for us here and we have to lean wholly on the Lord. We have to do the praying and seeking ourselves. But praise our God, He is just as real to us as He would be if we were in a big congregation of saints, which is so nice, but not necessary to be in touch with God. We thank the Lord for His wonderful love and mercy that He has extended to us.

Pray for us that we will ever be what the Lord is calling us to be. Our highest aim is to make heaven our home. Christian love, —Sue and Louis Morgan

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

Okl.—Dear Saints: I wanted to write my testimony this morning, and also to thank all the dear saints for their many prayers and sympathy shown to us in our time of sorrow. Our twin boys were born dead on the 15th of July. The saints here at Guthrie were very precious to us and helped in many ways. We do so appreciate all of them, also the different saints who attended the California and Myrtle, Mo. campmeetings who were praying for us during this time. The Lord has been so good to us. I realize that it was for the best that our sons died. We can't always understand these things, but we do know that all things work together for good to those that love the Lord. Also the babies are in a much better place now and won't have to go through life in this wicked world.

My husband, Elbert, and I are encouraged to live for the Lord. We have our trials, tests, temptations, and burdens as everyone else does but we have the Lord on our side. Praise the dear Lord! If we didn't have the Lord to turn to and comfort us in our times of need, I don't know what we would do.

Pray for us that we will stay faithful and not fail the Lord as it seems so easy to do sometimes. We do need the prayers of all the saints. We want to live for the Lord always. Please pray for our daughter, Evelyn, who is nine years old. She has a lump that has risen on her body. I know the Lord is able to make it go away. He has healed us all many times.

Love to all the saints, —Elbert and Bonnie Johnson

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

Tenn.—Dear Saints, greetings in Jesus' name: I am glad for victory in Jesus, and what He has done for me. After months of agony, nervousness and accusations God touched me during the campmeeting at Hammond, La. Bro. Pinkerton sent me an anointed cloth, and God undertook. Bless His name! I thank everyone that prayed for me. Satan comes back sometimes but I keep claiming the victory and keep a rebuke against him.

I pray for all the requests in the "Faith and Victory" paper. Please continue to pray that I overcome for the Lord. Christian love, —A Reader

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

Mich.—Dear Sister Marie, greetings to you in Jesus' dear name: Oh, He is so precious to me! I surely thank Him for what He has done for me. I surely thank Him for answering prayer last Wednesday when Lorella, my sister, fell on her bike and the handle bars hit her in

the side. It caused severe pain for her. Mom and Dad thought maybe she broke a rib or something. She asked to have Bro. and Sister Ralph Wilkins come and pray for her. They prayed and she was able to go to sleep immediately. The next day one would never have known she had been hurt. Praise the Lord!

My ear is a lot better and I thank the Lord. The pain is gone and most of the draining.

Please pray for me that I will always take my problems to the Lord. Pray also that God will send us a minister. We are in great need of soul food.

Love and prayers, —Kathy Sneed

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

Colo.—Dear Saints at the Publishing House: I am glad this morning I can report victory in my soul. I am thankful for God's goodness and mercy to me. I am almost normal again, only I can't see yet. I still want to have my eyesight back for the glory of God.

We didn't get to go to any campmeetings this year, but the Lord sent people this way and we had a little campmeeting right here in our home. We do thank the Lord for sending Bro. Curtis Williams and Bro. and Sister Waldo Eck this way. They were our first visitors. I was sorry that Brother Williams felt so ill that he had to leave. I hope he is healed by now. Then after they left on Monday morning, Bro. and Sister Dan Kroker came on Wednesday. Thursday we called different ones and told them there would be services the rest of the week, so we had good services again. Not many came, but God was here. One night there were only seven of us, but the Lord blessed our souls. We are more determined to do His will.

Bro. and Sister Herbert Probst and sons came on Sunday just as Bro. Kroker was beginning to preach, so all in all we've had some wonderful services.

The Sunday that Bro. Williams was here, Bro. and Sister Edwin Weir and two young people came from Raton, N. Mex. and Bro. and Sister Eck's daughter and husband, Carl and Berniece Miles, came from Denver, so we had dinner in the home. I think there were 19 of us, so we had a profitable time all together. One soul was saved and sanctified in the morning service and one sister got help. All of us were encouraged and want to serve Him and do our best for the Lord. Still remember us in prayer as we need it.

We are glad for the saints to come this way and visit us.

Then yesterday we had Sunday School in the morning and it lasted until about 11:30. In the evening we had 10 children for children's meetings, and four adults. It was another good service, for which we thank the Lord. I am glad Jesus didn't say we had to have a big crowd. He said just two or more. Praise God! He is still on the throne and will answer prayer. He is a wonderful Savior to us. He never leaves us nor forsakes us.

Your Sister in Christ, —Sister Addie McEndree

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

Ohio—Dear Sister Marie and the saints at the publishing house: I sent in a request for prayer for my grandson who was in the State Hospital for two and a half years. He was released last week. He has a job now, has his own car, and in good health, both physically and mentally. I do praise the good Lord today for such a wonderful God. I thank you dear saints for praying so faithfully for our requests. We always feel the work will be done when we write for prayer.

Love and prayers from a sister, —Mrs. Ida Hartley

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## The Brevity of Life

It was only day before yesterday, it seems, that I came into this world. It was only yesterday that I came into God's kingdom. It was only this morning that I began to realize my years are piling up—more than 70. It is now that I feel I have done but a little.

TIME! What is it? A measured portion of duration. How is it spent? Mostly dreaming, by many people, too busy while we are young, and too indifferent when we are old.

The Wise Man said, "Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, . . . when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them."

Youth is a happy time until it begins to wear away with age, but there is a way it can be joyful and profitable through life. The prophet said the child shall die an hundred years old. This is true by renewing. Paul said the outward man perishes, but the inner man is renewed day by day.

Our life is but a vapor. Why not put it in God's hands? In Him is the only safety of the soul.

The following is a little poem I wrote for my last sister upon her passing:

Childhood days are brighter days  
With never a bit of sorrow,  
But as the years go fleeting by  
There gleams the day—tomorrow.

Before the sun of noon has come—  
Sweet life, peace, and gladness.  
The flowers bloom, there is no gloom,  
No trouble yet to borrow.

But noon has passed, the sun shines hot;  
The toils of life get heavy.  
The weary arms, the bending back,  
The stooping of the shoulders.

Then comes the shades of evening,  
Where life is spent and almost gone.  
The longing look toward the home,  
We travel down the long, last path.

—A. E. Harmon

o

## God Protected His People

"Are you sure this is his tent?" whispered one member of the mob to the other.

"Yes, I saw him sitting in the door of the tent reading 'this afternoon,'" whispered the third.

"We must get the rope on him and make away with him before the camp is aroused," someone said.

"What shall I do?" thought Bro. D. S. Warner [who was called Evangelist Blank in the book]. "Does it mean that I must suffer death at the hands of this mob, simply because I preached the truth? Will they hang me? Will they choke me? Will they stone me? Will they drag me over these awful rocks until life is dashed out? What meant the gleam in the sect preacher Bond's eyes last night in the service? What will become of my dear wife and boy in Ohio? Will I recant? Will I deny my Lord? Will I shun to declare the whole counsel of God?" All these questions and many others flashed across Bro. Warner's mind like angry streaks of lightning across a black cloud.

Through the thin canvas he saw in the moonlight half a dozen husky men seize hold of one end of a rope, the other end of which was arranged in a slip-loop.

"When I get the rope on him, make for the hills," said one man as he began to untie the strings that held the door of the tent. Just at this instant Bro. Warner slipped under the edge of the tent on the opposite side from where the men were planning their awful deed, and under the edge of Jake Benton's tent, which stood just about two feet from his own. With a quickness of mind that was almost miraculous, he donned a dress and shawl and bonnet belonging to Sister Benton, and stole out of the tent and across the ground toward the arbor in full view of the enraged men as they came out of the tent that he had just vacated.

The men were as much astonished as enraged at not finding their prey. They ransacked Jake Benton's tent and demanded that he reveal the whereabouts of the preacher. Jake flatly refused. Except for his trembling, he stood like a stone wall and faced that score of masked men, thirsty for righteous blood. Really they appeared as so many thoroughbred devils right from the pit. They were masked in a way, not only to conceal their identity, but in a way to make them appear as hideous as possible. The leader of the mob shouted, "Jake Benton, you sanctified hypocrite, if you don't tell us where that preacher is we'll hang your carcass up for the crows to pick."

"Maybe you will, but I'll hang there before I'll tell," poor Jake said in a trembling voice.

"Who was that 'ole lady who left your tent and went across the ground a while ago with a bonnet on?" shouted one of the mob.

"I never saw an 'ole lady going across the ground," replied Jake. (In this he was telling the truth, you know.)

"Hang him up to a tree, boys, hang him up, if he won't tell," shouted one of the gang.

"Bring the rope," shouted another as he took hold of Benton's arms.

Just at this juncture the leader of the mob suggested to Jake that if he and his comrades would break up camp and leave the ground immediately, they would not hang him, but would continue their search for the evangelist. To this Jake and the whole party of campers readily agreed. In the light of the moon, the whole group of campers, consisting of more than a dozen families, hitched their teams to their wagons and made their way over the hills homeward. Before any wagon was allowed to leave the ground it was carefully searched by the mob to ascertain whether or not the evangelist was there. He could not be found.

When old Bro. Bunk and his wife and children arrived home they were alarmed when they saw someone sitting under the poplar tree in their yard. Imagine their surprise when the person shouted, "Praise God, Bro. Bunk, many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord delivereth them out of them all!" It was Bro. Warner. He explained to them that he had

walked the two miles from the camp through the woods.

The mob supposed that Bro. Warner had made his way from the campground to Jake Benton's house. Bro. Benton and his family arrived home about three o'clock in the morning and about a half hour later the mob arrived. They would not be satisfied until they searched his house and then they withdrew into the woods and built a fire to warm themselves and discuss further plans. Jake Benton waited for a time and then he crept out close to the place where the men were gathered, Indian fashion, around the fire. They had taken off their masks and he recognized them. Most of them were prominent members of Mt. Olivet church. One of them was the pastor and one a deacon. Benton crawled back down the old rail fence and went home.

Shortly after sunrise Bro. Bunk came over and told Bro. Benton that Bro. Warner was safe, and happy in the Lord. They agreed to have meeting that Sunday at Bro. Bunk's house. The saints gathered and they had a happy time together in the Lord. The Lord blessed them and they prayed for more boldness. "Great grace was upon them all." That night the meeting was resumed at the arbor and continued for two weeks longer. Many were saved and they didn't have any more trouble.

—Adapted from "Deacon of Dobbinsville"

## Let God Rule

Oliver Cromwell's secretary was dispatched to the continent on some important business. He stayed one night at a seaport town, and tossed on his bed, unable to sleep.

According to an old custom, a servant slept in his room, and on this occasion slept soundly enough. The secretary at length awakened the man, who asked how it was that his master could not rest.

"I am afraid something will go wrong with the embassy," was the reply.

"Master," said the valet, "may I ask a question or two?"

"To be sure," answered the envoy.

"Did God rule the world before we were born?"

"Most assuredly He did."

"And will He rule it again after we are dead?"

"Certainly He will."

"Then, master, why not let Him rule the present, too?"

The secretary's faith was stirred, peace was the result, and in a few minutes both he and his servant were in sound sleep.

Beloved in Jesus, your heart has been aching within you. You were busy at work for the Master; many depended upon you. You seemed almost to be the mainspring of the machinery; but sickness comes, and you lie helpless on the couch, and unbelief creeps in. Dear friend, let God rule the present. He allows your affliction; He sits by as the refiner until He can see His own image formed in you, and there is some gracious purpose to be accomplished in the present

dispensation. "For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory. —Selected

#### It Is Not Necessary—

For me to understand everything.  
For me to always have my way.  
For me never to make a mistake.  
For me to be gifted or as able as someone else.  
For me to be as wise or as prosperous as another.  
For me to be as greatly appreciated and praised as some other one.  
For me to have the absence of pain or the presence of much pleasure.

#### But It Is Necessary—

For me to be converted.  
For me to have heart relation and fellowship with God.  
For me to live a life of integrity and righteousness.  
For me to support the Church by my presence in its services, my influence and money.  
For me to seek in a positive way the salvation of my fellowmen.  
For me to be Christian in my attitudes toward the unlovely, the unkind, and those who wrong me.  
For me to give my testimony for God in public and in private, by word and by act.  
For me to have a clean heart, which involves the "holiness without which no man shall see the Lord." —Lydia J. Jantz

#### ALL-DAY SERVICES AT SPRINGFIELD, MO.

ON OCTOBER 30, the fifth Sunday of the month, there will be all-day services at the Church of God chapel, 718 N. Kansas, Springfield, Mo. with dinner provided on the ground. You are cordially invited to attend these worship services. For further information, contact Bro. Leslie Busbee, Pastor, at the above address.

### BIBLE STUDY

Primary Picture Roll for 3 months, \$1.95; Lesson Cards, 15c per pupil for three months.

October 2, 1966

#### ISAIAH, THE WILLING PROPHET

Printed Portion ..... Isaiah 6:1-9, 11, 12

Isaiah 6:1 In the year that king Uzziah died I saw also the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up, and his train filled the temple.

2 Above it stood the seraphims: each one had six wings; with twain he covered his face, and with twain he covered his feet, and with twain he did fly.

3 And one cried unto another, and said, Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory.

4 And the posts of the door moved at the voice of him that cried, and the house was filled with smoke.

5 Then said I, Woe is me! for I am undone; because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips: for mine eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts.

6 Then flew one of the seraphims unto me, having a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with the tongs from off the altar:

7 And he laid it upon my mouth, and said, Lo, this hath touched thy lips: and thine iniquity is taken away, and thy sin purged.

8 Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I, send me.

9 And he said, Go, and tell this people, Hear ye indeed, but understand not; and see ye indeed, but perceive not.

11 Then said I, Lord, how long? And he answered, Until the cities be wasted without inhabitant, and the houses without man, and the land be utterly desolate,

12 And the Lord have removed men far away, and there be a great forsaking in the midst of the land.

Memory Verse: Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me. Isaiah 6:8.

Practical Truth: When we see God as being great, pure, and holy, then we can see how much we need Him to help us to be ready for heaven.

#### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

I am sure that conditions existing in Judah at the time of the call for someone to go for the Lord, to tell the people of their wickedness, was about the same as today in the United States. The people of Judah knew about God and His greatness. They had been taught the commandments. They knew of the blessings upon them when they obeyed and the curse upon them, as a nation, when they disobeyed. In that day there were many in poverty, yet the nation was having a prosperous time. There were many unscrupulous deals made which tended to bring dissatisfaction among the people and caused justice to be perverted. There was much idleness and irresponsibility among them. As it is today, they had just a sham religion. They went through rituals and forgot it when it was over. Their lives did not measure up to God's commandments. They needed a prophet from God to tell them of their needs and help them to become awakened to the judgments of God. Our nation is sleeping on the very brink of severe punishment from God. In the last few years there have come to pass many troubles because people are forgetting God. God is asking the question, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?"

Seraphims are heavenly beings standing before God. Seraphim comes from the Hebrew word meaning "to burn," thus indicating the nation needed their depravity burned up. (Clarke)

We cannot help others until we are equipped with the Holy Spirit and God's Word.

October 9, 1966

#### JUDGMENT ON UNGODLY LIVING

Printed Portion ..... Isaiah 5:8, 11, 12, 14, 18-23

Isa. 5:8 Woe unto them that join house to house, that lay field to field, till there be no place, that they may be placed alone in the midst of the earth!

11 Woe unto them that rise up early in the morning, that they may follow strong drink, that continue until night, till wine inflame them!

12 And the harp, and the viol, the tabret, and pipe, and wine, are in their feasts: but they regard not the

work of the Lord, neither consider the operations of his hands.

14 Therefore hell hath enlarged herself, and opened her mouth without measure: and their glory, and their multitude, and their pomp, and he that rejoiceth, shall descend into it.

18 Woe unto them that draw iniquity with cords of vanity, and sin as it were with a cart rope:

19 That say, Let him make speed, and hasten his work, that we may see it: and let the counsel of the Holy One of Israel draw nigh and come, that we may know it!

20 Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!

21 Woe unto them that are wise in their own eyes, and prudent in their own sight!

22 Woe unto them that are mighty to drink wine, and men of strength to mingle strong drink:

23 Which justify the wicked for reward, and take away the righteousness of the righteous from him!

**Memory Verse:** But the Lord of hosts shall be exalted in judgment, and God that is holy shall be sanctified in righteousness. Isaiah 5:16.

**Practical Truth:** We should see to it that we bring forth good fruit in our lives or we will reap a harvest of the fiery judgments of God.

#### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Isaiah was faithful to the calling of God. In our lesson he plainly tells the people about the sins that they were committing and how God was greatly displeased. Woe means "great sorrow; grief, trouble." (Web.) The people were drowning the judgments of God with feasting, fast music, drinking and revellings. They had a cart load of sin that was being pulled with cords of vanity. They became inflamed with strong drink from morning until night. They called evil good and good evil. They "justify the wicked for reward."

Can we apply this lesson to the evils of today? What about the "rock and roll" music of today? It is a trick of the devil to bring such ridiculous beats called music before our young people today. This affects their minds and emotions until they fall easy prey to the suggestions of the devil to go into deeper sins. It is the same tactics that the army uses to train their men to drop at the command of their officer. It has a hypnotic effect. It is just plain getting drunk on the fast beat.

I feel that God's people should not just practice temperance in strong drinks, but complete abstinence. A little leads to more and then drunkenness.

October 16, 1966

#### IN WHOM DO WE TRUST?

Printed Portion ..... Isaiah 7:3-7a, 9c-16; 31:1-3

Isa. 7:3 Then said the Lord unto Isaiah, Go forth now to meet Ahaz, thou, and Shearjashub thy son, at the end of the conduit of the upper pool in the highway of the fuller's field;

4 And say unto him, Take heed, and be quiet; fear not, neither be fainthearted for the two tails of these smoking firebrands, for the fierce anger of Rezin with Syria, and of the son of Remaliah.

5 Because Syria, Ephraim, and the son of Remaliah, have taken evil counsel against thee, saying,

6 Let us go up against Judah, and vex it, and let us make a breach therein for us, and set a king in the midst of it, even the son of Tabeal:

7a Thus saith the Lord God, it shall not stand.

9c If ye will not believe, surely ye shall not be established.

10 Moreover, the Lord spake again unto Ahaz, saying,

11 Ask thee a sign of the Lord thy God; ask it either in the depth, or in the height above.

12 But Ahaz said, I will not ask, neither will I tempt the Lord.

13 And he said, Hear ye now, O house of David: Is it a small thing for you to weary men, but will ye weary my God also?

14 Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

15 Butter and honey shall he eat, that he may know to refuse the evil, and choose the good.

16 For before the child shall know how to refuse the evil, and choose the good, the land that thou abhorrest shall be forsaken of both her kings.

31:1 Woe to them that go down to Egypt for help; and stay on horses, and trust in chariots, because they are many; and in horsemen, because they are very strong; but they look not unto the Holy One of Israel, neither seek the Lord!

2 Yet he also is wise, and will bring evil, and will not call back his words; but will arise against the house of the evildoers, and against the help of them that work iniquity.

3 Now the Egyptians are men, and not God; and their horses flesh, and not spirit. When the Lord shall stretch out his hand, both he that helpeth shall fall, and he that is holpen shall fall down, and they all shall fail together.

**Memory Verse:** But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk and not faint. Isaiah 40:31.

**Practical Truth:** We can trust a God who made the world and us to take care of everything in our lives.

#### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Trust means "firm belief; faith; confidence or honesty in one trusted." We are glad that we have a God to trust at all times that is able to do "exceedingly, abundantly above all we are able to ask or think." Friends, and loved ones—indeed all mankind will fail us at times, or will be unable to help us, but God has all power and wisdom and never makes a mistake. We only know about yesterday and today, but God knows all about our tomorrows, therefore we are glad to put our trust in Him, even if we do not see how everything will work out.

Two kings were coming up against Judah. (verse 4) God sent Isaiah to tell the king to fear not because He was not going to permit their plans to stand. (verse 7) It was in God's plan that the line of David would not be cut off because Jesus was to come from Judah. Verse 14 tells the sign given that Jesus was to come. He would be born of a virgin. Immanuel means "God is with us." Oh, how wonderful to think of the great love of God for us even years and years before we were born! Now today we have God with us and in us.

King Ahaz did not believe God would help him so he sent for the king of Assyria to help him. The enemies were defeated but the king of Assyria made slaves out of King Ahaz and the people. It would have been better to trust God.

The last verses of our lesson are about King Hezekiah who trusted in God after God sent Isaiah to give him



the warning not to go to Egypt for help. We need to trust God and not man.

October 23, 1966

### GOD, OUR REFUGE AND HELPER

Printed Portion ..... Isaiah 37:14-21a, 33-35

Isa. 37:14 And Hezekiah received the letter from the hand of the messengers, and read it: and Hezekiah went up unto the house of the Lord, and spread it before the Lord.

15 And Hezekiah prayed unto the Lord, saying,

16 O Lord of hosts, God of Israel, that dwellest between the cherubims, thou art the God, even thou alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth: thou hast made heaven and earth.

17 Incline thine ear, O Lord, and hear; open thine eyes, O Lord, and see: and hear all the words of Sennacherib, which hath sent to reproach the living God.

18 Of a truth, Lord, the kings of Assyria have laid waste all the nations, and their countries,

19 And have cast their gods into the fire: for they were no gods, but the work of man's hands, wood and stone: therefore they have destroyed them.

20 Now therefore, O Lord our God, save us from his hand, that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that thou art the Lord, even thou only.

21a Then Isaiah, the son of Amoz sent unto Hezekiah, saying, Thus saith the Lord God of Israel,

33 Therefore thus saith the Lord concerning the king of Assyria, He shall not come into this city, nor shoot an arrow there, nor come before it with shields, nor cast a bank against it.

34 By the way that he came, by the same shall he return, and shall not come into this city, saith the Lord.

35 For I will defend this city to save it for mine own sake, and for my servant David's sake.

Memory Verse: God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Psalm 46:1.

Practical Truth: God knows the sorrows and troubles of today and tomorrow. Trust Him to help you and do not worry.

### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

The desire for security is natural with every human being. The fear of the loss of it causes much concern and if great enough, it will shorten one's life. When the second child is born into a family, it sometimes causes the first child to fear being unwanted. Teenagers fear to resist the gang lest they be unwanted. Some think marriage is the answer for security. Older people feel that old age assistance is the answer. People need an anchor for their soul. The devil presents many solutions to these problems but we can only find the answer in God.

We need to get a firm hold on God through justification and then be filled with the Holy Spirit. To have a deep love for God and a carefulness to obey Him will bring faith and confidence in Him to the extent that we can have peace and rest as we face the problems of life. Faith is not inherited. Faith is not catching. Faith is given us by God. The greater our love for God the greater our faith. "Faith which worketh by love." Gal. 5:6. Faith is not afraid of trouble.

Hezekiah spread his letter with its problems before God and then left it there. His prayer for deliverance and victory was for the glory of God. God heard his

prayer and sent an angel of the Lord into the camp of the Assyrians and smote 85,000 in one night. (Isa. 37:36) Sennacherib returned to his home. Later he was slain by his sons while worshipping his pagan god.

October 30, 1966

### JEREMIAH, THE RELUCTANT PROPHET

Printed Portion ..... Jeremiah 1:1-10

Jer. 1:1 The words of Jeremiah the son of Hilkiah, of the priests that were in Anathoth in the land of Benjamin:

2 To whom the word of the Lord came in the days of Josiah the son of Amon king of Judah, in the thirteenth year of his reign.

3 It came also in the days of Jehoikam the son of Josiah king of Judah, unto the end of the eleventh year of Zedekiah the son of Josiah king of Judah unto the carrying away of Jerusalem captive in the fifth month.

4 Then the word of the Lord came unto me, saying,

5 Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations.

6 Then said I, Ah, Lord God! behold, I cannot speak: for I am a child.

7 But the Lord said unto me, Say not, I am a child: for thou shalt go to all that I shall send thee, and whatsoever I command thee thou shalt speak.

8 Be not afraid of their faces: for I am with thee to deliver thee, saith the Lord.

9 Then the Lord put forth his hand, and touched my mouth. And the Lord said unto me, Behold, I have put my words in thy mouth.

10 See, I have this day set thee over the nations and over the kingdoms, to root out, and to pull down, and to destroy, and to throw down, to build, and to plant.

Memory Verse: Be not afraid of their faces: for I am with thee to deliver thee, saith the Lord. Jer. 1:18.

Practical Truth: If God calls you for a duty, be assured that He will go with you.

### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

God told Jeremiah that before his birth, He had a purpose for him in his life. God has a purpose for all of us in this life. Sad to say, many do not get ready to do very much for the Lord and fulfill the purpose that God has for them because they are not willing to be workers for God. They should accept the advice given Jeremiah from God, "Be not afraid of their faces: for I am with thee to deliver thee." God is not asking us to work for Him with the wisdom that we naturally have, but He wants an empty vessel that He can talk through and "whatsoever I command thee thou shalt speak." (ver. 7)

Sometimes God has to permit many things to touch our lives before we get in a condition to work for Him. "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose." (Rom. 8:28) Not shall work, or have worked, but are working together now, for our good and for the good of others in fulfilling the purpose that God has called us to in this life.

We need to pray for more boldness and confidence in God to help us do as He bids us. There are inner conflicts and outer pressures that must be overcome through the power of the Holy Spirit. We must completely die out to the flesh and be willing to suffer for the cause of Christ because we love our God and mankind.

—Sister Marie Miles