

FAITH^{AND} VICTORY

Church of God Servant



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Prayer for New Year 1971

Another year is dawning!
Dear Master, let it be,
In working or in waiting,
Another year with Thee.

Another year in leaning,
Upon Thy loving breast,
Of ever-deepening trustfulness,
Of quiet, happy rest.

Another year of mercies,
Of faithfulness and grace;
Another year of gladness,
In the shining of Thy face.

Another year of progress,
Another year of praise;
Another year of proving
Thy presence "all the days."

Another year of service,
Of witness for Thy love;
Another year of learning
Thy holier ways above.

Another year is dawning!
Dear Master, let it be
On earth, or else in heaven,
Another year for Thee!

—Frances R. Havergal

ONLY ONE WAY



A tourist asked at the service station the way a certain town. The directions were carefully given. The tourist said, "You think this is the best way, do you?"

The service man replied, "It is not only the best way, but it is the only way."

The Bible is the only way to heaven. Do you live to all it teaches every day?
—C. E. Orr

The Word of Faith

The Apostle Paul declared that under grace the righteousness which is of faith cometh by "the word of faith which we preach; That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved." Rom. 10:8, 9.

"For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake." 2 Cor. 4:5.

"For the Jews require a sign, and the Greeks seek after wisdom: but we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto the Greeks foolishness; but unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God." 1 Cor. 1:22-24.

How many times was our dear Savior asked to show a sign from heaven that they might believe Him? But to them who were called we hear words like these: "Have mercy upon me, thou Son of David." "If I may but touch the hem of his garment." "Speak the word and my servant shall be healed." "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God." You know there were many such words coming from those who heard the Word of God and believed it. Also, many times we hear Jesus say, "According to your faith, be it unto you." "If ye can believe, all things are possible." "Go thy way, thy son liveth," and so on.

How plainly it is set forth in the Word of God that a man cannot receive anything except it be given him from heaven. For faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God. The Word of God is from heaven. So many people want to see things happen, but they do not believe the Word of God.

Jesus said in John 3:3, "Verily, verily, I say unto thee, except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." In the 9th verse of the same chapter, we hear Nicodemus ask, "How can these things be?" He was looking too much at the things that are seen. In 2 Cor. 4:18, we read, "While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are

seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal." How we need to grasp the truth in this Scripture!

Our mind goes to Luke 1:38, "And Mary said, behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word." Dear ones, when we hear the Word of God, may our hearts be tuned like Mary's heart was as she spoke those words.

"This is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith." Also, it will be through faith if we receive anything—healing or any spiritual help from the Lord. Faith does not come by signs, but by hearing the Word of God, that is, hearing and believing in the heart. In Heb. 4:1, 2 we read, "Let us therefore fear, lest a promise being left us of entering into his rest, any of you should seem to come short of it. For unto us was the gospel preached as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard it." "By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed, and he went out, not knowing whither he went." Any time you or I want God to give us a sign in order to believe, we dishonor His Word. A wicked and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign. If, while we were yet sinners, He died for us, how could it be that He would not give us of all that He has promised? Surely, He will not withhold from us any thing that is good for us spiritually. If we live in the Spirit, we should desire spiritual things, or heavenly. "Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts." James 4:3.

If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit. "If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above," and not things which are upon the earth. In Rom. 8 we hear the beloved Bro. Paul say, "But we are not in the flesh, but in the spirit." Could he say this of us? Is our heart fixed on heavenly things to this extent, or do we still look at the things on earth as if they belonged to us, and we are not going to give them up? "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross and follow me." Matt. 16:24.

Have you heard people ask, "What is wrong with the Church?" or "Why don't we see more miracles?" or "Why do you preach healing?" and, "Why don't you stop preaching if there is not going to be anything come of it?" I want to say, that kind of questions was common in times of old. But what does the Word of God say to these things? Rom. 3:3, "For what if some did not believe? shall their unbelief make the faith of God without effect? God forbid: yea, let God be true, but every man a liar," (or any man).

In Isaiah 55:3 we read, "Incline your ear, and come unto me: hear, and your soul shall live; and I will make an everlasting covenant with you, even the sure mercies of David." Hear and your soul shall live is surely a truth that we need to let sink down into our hearts. If we can hear and believe God's

Word, it won't take a lot of our zeal for God to do great things.

Recently as I was musing on the lives and labors of certain departed saints, and how fruitful their lives seemed to have been for God, it seemed the Lord spoke to me and said, "They just counted Me faithful and did the little that I bade them, then waited on me and I worked in them to do My will." This caused me to do some thinking. If we will close our eyes to things around us that would trouble us, and turn our ears toward heaven, God will fill our souls with joy and give us a real vision of the true Church of God which is standing firm upon the Rock, and will ever stand. Praise God!

I think of the Scriptures in 2 Kings 6:15-17, "And when the servant of the man of God was risen early, and gone forth, behold, an host compassed the city both with horses and chariots. And his servant said unto him, Alas, my master! How shall we do? [Looking at the things that are seen.] And he answered, Fear not, for they that be with us are more than they that be with them. And Elisha prayed, and said, Lord, I pray thee, open his eyes, that he may see. And the Lord opened the eyes of the young man; and he saw: and, behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire round about Elisha." When we look too low, we don't see the Church of the living God, for she is in the top of the mountain. "And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the Lord's house [or church] shall be established in the top of the mountains and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations [saved people] shall flow unto it." Isaiah 2:2.

May we ever be still enough to hear that voice that is small and still, but powerful and true—"the word of FAITH which we preach." —H. A. McMillan

What Salvation Is

Friends, salvation, or the new birth, is as far as the east is from the west from mere joining of a church and profession of Christ as your Saviour. "Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." John 3:3. "Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish." Luke 13:5.

Did you ever stop to think that most of us in a nominal way accept Jesus as our Saviour? I have always accepted Him as my Saviour, but He didn't accept me until I repented and turned from my sins, and called upon Him to forgive me and take control of my life forever more.

We realize also that many of us come into the world with splendid natural characteristics, mental uprightness and sense of honor, etc., but this is not salvation. Many of us come into the world with gifts and talents and endowed with a love and desire to work and serve in the kingdom of God, but that is not salvation. All of this is possible with the natural birth.

In the face of all our natural graces and good works, God hath said, "... all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God" (Rom. 3:23), that man's

"heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked" (Jer. 17:9); "the tongue can no man tame" (James 3:8); and declares man "must be born again."

Salvation is not an experience we grow into. Of course, we grow in grace, after we have received grace. But salvation is an experience that comes in the twinkling of an eye. It is the gift of God, it is the divine miracle of the new birth that lifts man from sin and the love for worldly amusements and worldly habits and transforms him into the likeness of Christ. It comes through one final definite sweeping act, as man forsakes all known wrong in his heart and life and calls upon Jesus Christ to forgive and save his soul.

When man thus approaches God, he comes into vital touch with the living Christ, whose power makes him a new creature, changing his nature, his purposes and desires, and the individual knows all about it. Praise God! He knows when he comes into the presence of the Saviour and when the work was done. "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold all things are become new." 2 Cor. 5:17.

Friends, it is one thing to join a church and make a profession of Christ; it is another thing to confess one's sins to God, forsake them and get to Christ.

It is the greatest thing in this world to have peace with God; to lie upon your bed at night, look out at the stars and know that there is nothing between you and heaven. —Mary K. Jack

Garbage Cans

What is a garbage can? Yes, there are all kinds of foul, rotten and decayed food in it which are a stench to you. There is nothing pure in there. Oh, yes, you say that you see a good piece of bread on top? Well, do you want to eat it? No, it has been contaminated with the other foul, dirty stuff.

Did you know that some people make a garbage can out of their minds? They will read anything and look at anything. They don't have any line that they will draw when it comes to filling their minds with foul, dirty and rotten material. The book might have some good, but you remember the evil you read.

It is shocking the extent our laws are permitting our nation to come to. The sale of pornographic books, magazines, and films, it is said, has reached the \$2 billion mark. What does the word "pornography" mean? It means "a prostitute writing, pictures, etc., intended to arouse sexual desire." (Webster.)

One time I was in a bus station waiting room with another sister. We were talking about the terrible shocking trends of today, and then I said, "We could walk over to that bookstand, pick up a book, leaf through it, and we would soon find it to be pornographic material." Then I added, "Let me prove it to you." We walked over there, and at random picked up a book that looked all right on the outside. We turned over toward the middle and read a few lines, and there it was. Oh, how sad! It did grieve my heart, as I knew it might be the means of some

pure girl or boy falling, or some man or woman committing sin. My soul cries out against all impurity. God's wrath is being poured out upon our nation and people because of moral corruption.

Someone told me that he had talked recently to a salesman who had returned from Denmark. He said that all obscenity laws had been abolished there. This salesman said that it was so horrible what one saw that it really made one sick. He remarked that he would not want to live there.

Oh, we do pray that God will not let our nation go any further than it has. It has been said that case after case could be told in which tortures, sex perversion, and even murder occurred after the offenders had been watching lewd movies or reading obscene literature. The Detroit Police Inspector said, "There has not been a sex murder in the history of our department in which the killer was not an avid reader of lewd magazines." Do you not understand why we plead with you in the precious name of Jesus to shun obscene literature and pictures, as if they were rattlesnakes? It will poison your mind and ruin your soul. Be careful what you read and look at. Keep yourself clean and pure. Only you can do this. Have a standard of right thinking and right reading, and stay with it. Don't let anyone tear it down. Evil thoughts make their marks upon one's countenance and are seen by others, so keep your thoughts pure, we beg you in Jesus' name. Don't make a garbage can out of your mind. A stench will flow out from your life and your talk.

"Unto the pure all things are pure: but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving is nothing pure; but even their mind and conscience is defiled." Titus 1:15. To keep yourself pure, you must have pure thoughts and read and look at only those things that are pure. Refuse to listen to the "dirty jokes" that are being told today. That dirty joke will hang a picture on the wall of your mind that will be hard to take down. The Bible speaks of those who will not "retain God in their knowledge" and be pure, holy, and clean-minded. It says that when people persisted in evil ways, "God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient." Rom. 1:28. God turned them loose, and they continued on in their evil ways and reaped the consequences which brought sorrow, remorse, and deep troubles, even to the taking of their lives and landing in hell. Oh, how terrible for a soul to leave God out!

Surely, we are nearing the end, as our nation is one of the last to break down in its morals. God will pour out His wrath on this wicked nation and destroy it, if it does not awaken and cry out for mercy and turn away from its wicked ways. But you can be spared and your soul saved, if you will turn away from wickedness and turn unto purity and holiness. God did take Lot, his wife and daughters by the hand and led them out of the city. He told them not to look back. Dear ones, God will lead you by the hand to eternal safety, if you will let Him, and not look back as Lot's wife did. Take a firm stand against all kinds of evil, and resist any evil thought because it will affect your actions. —Sister Marie Miles

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

This non-sectarian paper is edited and published in the interest of the universal CHURCH OF GOD each month (except August of each year, and we omit an issue that month to attend campmeetings) 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

At the dawn of this New Year of 1971 we extend Christian greetings and best wishes to all our readers who, with this issue, include several thousand who are receiving this full gospel paper for their first time and will also receive it for the months of February and March. If you are a new reader, it is likely that a kind friend of yours has subscribed for you for these three months with the hope and earnest prayer that the contents of these issues will prove a special spiritual benefit to you and your family. (These trial issues are coming to you without charge, and you will not receive a bill or statement.) Please read these copies carefully with an open heart and mind, and compare the teachings with the Bible. We hope that you will become a regular subscriber at the end of these trial issues.

We thank the Lord and our readers for over 6,000 new names who will receive this issue of the paper, as well as the issues for the months of February and March. May God bless and reward everyone who had a part in this gospel extension effort. Pray that the Holy Spirit will carry the truth to the heart of every reader. There is transforming power in believing the gospel.

We are sorry that some persons, for whom this paper was intended, will not receive their copies because the addresses were not correct, complete, or legible, or perhaps they moved in the meantime. The postoffice charges us ten cents for each notification of a change of address. If you move, please advise us at once, giving old and new address and zip code.

This January issue (over 14,000 printed) will go in the mail just prior to the beginning on Christmas day of the 64th Oklahoma annual 10-day Assembly meeting held here at Guthrie, Okla. A large attendance from over the state is expected, in addition to many saints and ministers from other states. Best of all, we anticipate the mighty presence and power of God in showers of blessings for the saved and unsaved. You are cordially invited to attend every service of this meeting which will close on Sunday, Jan. 3, 1971.

Again, this writer and his wife were granted the privilege to attend the annual Assembly meeting during Thanksgiving week on the General Southern Campground at Hammond, La. While there, we stayed in the home of our son, Byron, and family who live near Hammond. As usual, the Lord met with His people on the old campground, and a feast was enjoyed at Father's table by the many saints present, which included a number of out-of-state and in-state ministers. The services were well attended, and at times the chapel was filled to capacity. The Holy Spirit richly anointed the preaching of His Word. Individuals sought and received spiritual and physical healing. The church was edified and fortified for the spiritual battles in which we are engaged and for those just ahead.

On our return trip home we visited our son, Harvey, and his family in Houston, Texas, and our Aunt Vesta Harris in Corsicana, Texas. The Lord's hand of mercy was over us amid the heavy traffic on the dangerous highways, and we thank and praise Him for a safe round trip.

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Bro. Wayne Turner enjoyed immensely the Hammond meeting and the fellowship of the saints, though he was working during the week in Baton Rouge where he lived at that time. Adjusting himself to the "outside" after confinement for ten years requires time and God's grace, for which he requests your continued prayers. With reference to his release, the Louisiana Governor signed his pardon or commutation from a life sentence to a short term of years which automatically made him eligible for parole, and he anticipates no difficulty in completing the parole term. The Lord has favored him with job opportunities by which he will be able to support himself after the initial cost of setting up housekeeping. Here is his present address if you would like to send him a Christmas greeting: Wayne S. Turner, 305 Haase St., Plaquemine, La. 70764.

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As Bro. and Sister Sam Abbott, ministers of the gospel, were driving toward their home in Dayton, Ohio, from the Hammond, La., meeting, they were involved in a four-car collision near Jackson, Miss. Bro. Abbott was injured in his back and neck, but Sister Abbott was not hurt, though she was very ill when they left Hammond. After staying in a motel that night and getting the car repaired enough to drive, they drove on to Dayton by the special blessings of the Lord. The car was damaged front and back, and it is reported that it will likely be a total loss. At this writing (Dec. 16) Bro. Abbott is doing fairly well in answer to prayer, but Sister Abbott is in a very serious condition—congestion in her lungs, sinus pain in her head, and a general break-down of health. Their only child, Sister Alberta Cook, of California, is now at her bedside. Let all the saints agree in prayer for her restoration to health. Healing is the children's bread, and Sister Abbott needs a crumb.

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Now available are heavy paperbound books of the eleven issues of the "Faith and Victory" paper for 1970 at \$1.00 each, postpaid. Ready also are the 1970 "Beautiful Way" books for juniors (52 papers for the year) at \$1.00 each, postpaid. Bound books of various prior years are priced at 50c each, postpaid.

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The beautifully colored 1971 Scripture Text wall calendars are still available, priced at 50c each, postpaid.

Congratulations and best wishes to Bro. and Sis. Marcus Stephens of Ripley, Okla., who quietly observed their Golden Wedding anniversary on Nov. 30, 1970, and to the A. W. Markens of Twin Falls, Idaho, who will celebrate their 55th wedding anniversary on Dec. 21, 1970. May the Lord in His love and kindness extend many more years to their lives together.

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Many of our readers would like to know the dates of the Church of God campmeetings for 1971 so they can pre-arrange their vacations to attend these meetings. Those who have this information please send in the campmeeting dates by Feb. 15, 1971, so we can publish the entire list in the March issue.

The Oklahoma State Campmeeting here at Guthrie, Okla., will be held, Lord willing, on May 28 to June 6, 1971. The date for the National campmeeting at Neosho (Monark Springs), Mo., is July 23 to Aug. 1, 1971.

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The Brevity of Life

In considering the brevity of life the sacred writers of old all but exhausted their vocabulary in describing the brevity of human existence. They compared the brief period that we call life to a shadow, which now may be seen, and in a moment is gone. They illustrated its brevity by a hand's breadth, a swiftly moving messenger, and Moses, when reviewing the past, declared that we spend our years as a "tale that is told."

The Psalmist David in writing of a long life-time declared: "The days of our years are three score and ten; and if by reason of strength they be four score years, yet is their strength labor and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away, . . . so teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom." Psalms 90:10-12.

Time indeed is valuable, because during the span of human existence is sealed the destiny of all mankind.

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More of those excellent out-of-print books written by the pioneer ministers of the Church of God Reformation will be reprinted and added to our stock as time and means permit.

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As we cross the threshold of the new year of 1971, we face the unknown and untried future. Yet, in looking back upon the Ebenezer stone which we set up at the end of 1970, we can boldly declare, "Hitherto hath the Lord helped us," and with courage and confidence in Him we can move forward to meet the unknown challenges and problems of the new year. We know not what the future holds, but thank God, we know who holds the future in His hand. If the Lord delays His coming and spares our lives, Jesus' Great Commission to His Church to carry the gospel to "every creature" is still a challenge to each of us. Even though the world will become more wicked every day, it is God's plan that every person should hear the gospel message. Then they will be without excuse. One of the best means is by the printed page—

the "white-winged" gospel messenger—which can go to the nooks and corners of the earth where an individual may never set foot. Let us resolve by the grace of God in this new year to dedicate our lives more fully to spreading the soul-saving gospel of Christ by precept and example that when the Master returns, whether at morning, noon, or night, He may find us faithful at our post of duty.

—Lawrence Pruitt

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OBITUARIES



Wayne Sutton Miller, the son of Margaret and Jeff Davis Miller, was born in Rankin County, Miss., on June 10, 1890, and departed this life to be with the Lord on Dec. 7, 1970, in Hammond, La., at the age of 80 years, five months, and 27 days.

In 1907 he was married to Beulah Wallace. To this union 12 children were born, one child dying in infancy. His wife, Beulah, passed away on February 16, 1958. In 1963 he was married to Marie Gaines of Myrtle, Mo.

In 1932 Bro. Miller met the saints on the Hammond campground, and was saved and accepted the Bible truth.

He leaves to mourn his passing his wife, Marie, of the home; four sons, Herman, Truitt, Laddie and Elmer; seven daughters, Mrs. Mettie Zachery, Mrs. Minnie Lee Davis, Mrs. Donice Cagel, Mrs. Myra Chesher, Mrs. Ruth Baham, Mrs. June Sprouse, and Mrs. Dorothy Williams; twelve step-children, and a host of other relatives and friends.

The funeral services were held at the Hammond Campground Church of God chapel, conducted by Bro. C. C. Carver, and assisted by Bro. Herbert Probst. Interment was in the Greenlawn Cemetery.

(Editor's note: Some years ago Bro. Wayne Miller, our longtime brother in the Lord, wrote his testimony of how he met the saints under the title, "The Bell Call," a part of which follows: "I met the saints back in 1932 on the dear old camp ground in Hammond, La., and I accepted the whole truth of God's Word . . . I had been living in this part of the country for several years, but I did not know anything about the Church of God camp ground or the holiness people of God until one Monday morning I heard a bell ringing about one mile from where I lived. I asked a man who had lived here a good while what that bell was ringing for on Monday morning. He said, "They are having a big holiness meeting." And how I do thank God till yet that my mind was led that way. So I made my way over there to see what was going on. I went to the camp ground and met the saints,

and they were so friendly and nice to me and it seemed to be the most precious place to me that I had ever been, and it still is precious to me. Praise the Lord! I arranged to get my family in the services and we all got saved the Bible way—born again. Oh, how I do thank the Lord for a born-again experience!"

Guy Earnest Keeler was born at Willow Springs, Mo., on Oct. 17, 1894. He passed from this life Nov. 2, 1970, at the age of 76 years and 15 days.

He was united in marriage on Jan. 16, 1916, to Daisy Martin, and to this union five children were born, one son preceding him in death.

Bro. Keeler did not get saved until up in years, but he was a man who loved the Lord and would testify to that. He always carried a burden for lost souls and his lost children.

He leaves to mourn his passing three sons, Harley, of Wichita, Kansas, Gerald of Coffeyville, Kansas, Emil of Delaware, Okla., one daughter, Juanita Hackett of Kent, Wash.; two brothers, four sisters, eight grandchildren, and five great grandchildren.

Bro. Keeler will surely be missed in our Nowata, Okla. congregation.

The funeral service was conducted at Benjamin's Chapel at Nowata, Okla., by Bro. Clarence Fry and Bro. Tom McMillan.

Laura Della Bell was born June 9, 1908, at Beaver, Okla., and departed this life at Enid, Okla., on December 8, 1970, at the age of 62 years.

Her father, N. L. Chrisman, two sisters, and one brother preceded her in death.

She leaves to mourn her passing her mother, Ethel Chrisman of Enid; her husband, Albert Bell of the home in Enid; six sons, Leroy, Elwood, Ross, Vernon, Ira Joe, and David; five daughters, Mrs. Jay (Lovella) Layton, Artesia, Calif., Mrs. Leland (Alice) Ukena, Enid, Mrs. Richard (Vera) McCleary, Minot AFB, N. D., Mrs. Bill (Delores) Pepitone, Satellite Beach, Fla., Miss Sue Bell of the home; six brothers, Delbert, Sam, Robert Dee, L. D., and Paul Chrisman of Enid, and Bill Chrisman of Tonganoxie, Kansas; five sisters, Mrs. Sylvester (Murella) Arnold, Mrs. Alfred (Zula) Fellow, Sr., Miss Earnestine Chrisman, Mrs. John (Florence) Sisk of Enid, Okla., and Mrs. Harold (Opal) Colder of Baker, Ore.; 40 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

According to Scriptural teaching and Church of God doctrine concerning the new birth, Sister Della realized the need of a change in her life, and she accepted the Lord and was baptized in 1963.

The Lord called her home after much suffering through a lengthy illness.

The funeral service was held in Enid Church of God chapel, conducted by Bro. Willie Murphey. Burial was made in Memorial Park Cemetery, Enid, Okla.

Sister Sidonia Benjamin was born October 23, 1891, to Mr. and Mrs. George Tolton, and departed this life November 17, 1970, at Natchitoches, La., at the age of 79 years.

She united in marriage to Joseph Benjamin, and to this union fifteen children were born, eight boys and seven girls, with one son preceding her in death.

Sister Benjamin was saved in the Church of God, where she lived a holy life, teaching her children and grandchildren the way of truth and setting a pattern by the life she lived each day. Truly, she believed that without holiness no man should see the Lord. She said on her

bed of weakness, "My only desire is that souls everywhere be saved."

She leaves to mourn her passing her devoted husband, Elder Joseph Benjamin; 7 sons, Henry of Richmond, Calif., Joseph, Jr., of Port Arthur, Tex., Otis Ray of Houston, Tex., Homer of Natchitoches, La., Rodney and Orie of Compton Calif.; seven daughters, Mrs. Mary Wilson of Alexandria, La., Mrs. Willie Mae Benjamin and Mrs. Gussie Johnson, both of Port Arthur, Tex., Mrs. Gladys Houston of Los Angeles, Calif., Mrs. Ruby Beal of Los Angeles, Calif., Mrs. Nina Gordon and Miss Eunice Benjamin, both of Natchitoches, La.; fifty-four grandchildren, fifty-nine great grandchildren, and a host of other relatives and friends.

The funeral services were held in the Shiloh Baptist Church at Natchitoches, La., on Nov. 22, conducted by Bro. Lewis Williams, assisted by Elder K. P. Jones and others. Interment was in the Morning Star Cemetery at Natchez, La., to await the general resurrection.

"Sleep on, Sister Benjamin. For us, weeping shall endure for a night, but joy will come in the morning."

(Editor's note: In past years Sister Benjamin attended the State meetings in Oklahoma, and she was a long-time reader and faithful distributor of this paper and other gospel literature from this office. May God comfort the relatives and friends in their bereavement, knowing that their loss is heaven's gain.)

Card of Thanks

We thank each of you for your kindness and sympathy which you and the saints of Oklahoma and Kansas showed to us. God alone knows our appreciation to the Church of God saints whom my mother loved so dearly. We are looking to meet her again. We were so glad to have Bro. and Sister Lawrence Pruitt in our home on the day prior to her funeral, and Bro. and Sister O. C. Porter at the funeral. Please remember us in your prayers.

—Eunice Benjamin

Mary Anne Galloway, daughter of John and Catherine Kurtz Maier, was born in Bismarck, N. Dak., on March 22, 1884, and passed away in Tillamook, Oregon, on Sept. 24, 1970, at the age of 86 years, six months, and two days.

Sister Mary Anne was married to George Galloway, and to this union six children were born. Her husband preceded her in death.

Sister Galloway's life was an example to all. She had strong faith in God and trusted Him for the healing of her body. While living at Waterloo, Oregon, she was very active in the Church of God at Jefferson, Ore.

She is survived by two sons, Ezra of Tillamook, Ore., and Paul of Lebanon, Ore.; four daughters, Mrs. Alta Edwards of Hillsboro, Ore., Mrs. Mabel Allan, Portland, Mrs. Clara Proctor, Bend, Ore., Mrs. Mary Metcalf, Springfield, Ore.; four sisters, one brother, 15 grandchildren, 30 great grandchildren, four great great grandchildren, and a host of friends.

The funeral was conducted at Tillamook, Oregon, by Bro. Charles Elwell and Sister Beatrice Spaur. Interment was in the Oddfellows Cemetery at Tillamook.

Sister Marie E. Clair was born July 16, 1883, and departed this life July 20, 1970, at the age of 87 years and four days.

She was united in marriage to Willard Clair. To this union were born one daughter and two sons, all of whom survive. Her husband preceded her in death in 1963.

Sister Clair was a precious saint. She had been frail in body, but her faith in God was strong. Many times

she testified how the Lord had heard prayer and touched her. She was only ill a few days when the Lord called her home.

The graveside service was conducted by Elder Alfred Enns.
—Sister Beatrice Spaur

JEFFERSON, OREGON MEETING REPORT

The Jefferson, Ore., Assembly meeting is now history, but our souls are still rejoicing, for God gave us special blessings in this meeting.

Bro. Trotter, Bro. Samons, Bro. and Sis. Ostis Wilson, and Bro. and Sis. Carver were the out-of-state ministers with us. The Lord used these four ministers greatly, and many deep, soul-searching messages were preached. It seemed the burden was that now is the time to make preparations for the coming of Christ. We appreciated Bro. Carver having Bible study during a few of the afternoon services.

An isolated Sister wrote how God had put a burden of prayer and fasting on her for the meeting. May God help us all to know that prayer is the key that unlocks closed doors.

—Pastor, Sister Bea Spaur, written by Margaret Cable

WICHITA, KANSAS MEETING REPORT

The autumn meeting in Wichita, Kansas, was a wonderful time in the Lord. The saints travailed in prayer for the meeting and there was real unity in prayer. The Lord did bless in an abundant way and the saints received much edification to their souls. We can say that we feasted sumptuously on the Word of God and there was much rejoicing and praising God.

One night there was a real break-through and many sought the Lord at the altar. Most of them were children, but we thank the Lord for children.

From the third day of the meeting there were visiting ministers present. Bro. Woodrow Warren was here through the end of the meeting. The following ministers were in attendance some time during the meeting: Sister Katherine Williams, Bro. Effinger, Sister Hazel Clark, Sister Velma Smith, Bro. and Sis. Herman Kelly, Bro. Mackie Francisco, and Bro. M. D. Gaines.

We want to thank all of the saints who prayed for the meeting, came to help us and contributed financially. We feel the meeting was directed by the Lord and a very profitable one.
—Reported by Shirley Knight

HAMMOND, LA., MEETING REPORT

Our Lord has blessed us with His rich presence throughout another Assembly meeting here in Hammond, La. Praise our God for His faithfulness toward all! His convicting and convincing power prevailed and souls were drawn to Him. We were made to realize vividly His faithfulness to mankind and how blessed we are to have the gospel brought our way. Every message was rich food for the soul. Praise God for Holy Ghost-filled ministers who are still preaching and teaching all the truth! Thank God for every minister He sent to be with us, and we want you to come again whenever the Lord leads. We were made to realize more than ever before that it isn't the man or woman, but rather the Holy Spirit leadership as man humbles himself and is pliable in God's hands.

We had a day of fasting and prayer for the sick on Wednesday followed in the afternoon with the ordinance service, which was precious. I went up to be prayed for

when different ones were being anointed, and the Lord wonderfully blessed me. I had walked to the chapel with a crutch, but I left it in the corner that day and haven't needed it since. Praise the Lord!

We thank the Lord for sending Bro. and Sis. Ira Stover here to be with us some this fall. They proved a real blessing to many. Souls were saved and are pressing on for more of God. Yes, our Lord is still gleaning souls here and there. He wants to save all who will humble themselves to walk in His way. Dear reader, it is a glorious way. O! taste and see that the Lord is good. Our time here is short, with an endless eternity awaiting all. The deceitfulness of the things of this world will only lead souls to that eternal dark night without hope and without God. I pray in the name of our Lord that people will be awakened before it is too late to pray.

The richest blessings I have known are when I can shut the door and pray and communicate with my Lord. He is everything to me. My greatest desire is to spend the rest of my life walking close to Him and praising Him for the mercy and love He has shown to me. My deepest regret is of the times I have failed Him. But my prayer is that the rest of my life will be spent only to bring Him glory and be a blessing to others. Anything we give up in this life for God will pay great dividends over in Gloryland. I want to meet you there. Pray for me. Your Sister in Christ, —Gladys Cashio

Prayer Requests

Arkansas—Dear Ones: I hope this finds all well and enjoying the blessings of our dear Lord. He has been so good to us. Oh, how I thank Him for saving and keeping grace! I am determined to live for Him and walk in all the light He shines upon my pathway, for I do want to make heaven my home. It is so wonderful to have a friend like Jesus to walk with us and know He loves and cares for us.

I feel I should write to tell you how our son, Derek, is getting along. I know Mother and Daddy sent a request for prayer several months ago. There has been no change yet, but I am expecting it each day when I look in his ear. I am thankful that God has worked it out thus far so that I have been able to trust Him fully. I can't understand sometimes why, but I know that is not for me to know. I am not discouraged as I intend to trust Him all the way.

The November issue of the paper had a message to "Watch and Pray" by Sister Virginia Wittenborn. I surely did enjoy it. It strengthened my faith and showed me how I should pray for this. I do thank God for light and understanding. I always read your little paper through and enjoy it very much.

We thank you for your prayers and desire your continued prayers for the complete healing of our son. May God bless each of you in your labors for Him.

Christian love,

—Nellie Henderson

(Sister Henderson is a daughter of Bro. and Sister E. A. Loftis of Prattsville, Ark.)

Ohio—"I used to get this paper over 40 years ago. I am sick . . . pray for my deliverance." —Mrs. Ernest Cox.

Calif.—"I have arthritis and it is very painful at times. It is the crippling kind. . . . Pray that God in His mercy will heal me to His glory. I want to be a help to God's people as I have been in the past. . . . I appreciate the prayers of God's people." —Sister L. Hoffman.

Ind.—"I have diabetes and eye trouble . . . would like to be able to read the Bible." —Mrs. Effie Walls.

Texas—"I need prayer for my body." —Sis. F. McDonald.

Colo.—"My husband is suffering with rheumatoid arthritis, bleeding ulcers, and other complications. . . . Other needs . . . My sister broke her hip. . . . I have two nephews in Vietnam." She also has a number of other requests, and relatives who need to be saved. —Mrs. G. M. Young.

Miss.—"Bad heart condition . . . other burdens." —Lena Smith.

Ark.—"Pray for my husband. He is a bed patient most of the time . . . I am crippled and have to use a stroller to get around and wait on him. . . . We celebrated our 70th wedding anniversary on Oct. 18 . . . we need earnest prayer." —Kate Dodson.

Oklahoma—"I am sick with high blood pressure." —Mary McGriff.

Calif.—Our dear Sister Atha, whom the Lord has given grace to face her latter life in blindness, desires healing of gas attacks.

Ohio—"Please pray for me. I am very sick. My lungs fill up and are sore. But God has checked the fever. The sinus condition is awful. Both eyes red and inflamed. My left eye doesn't focus properly . . . so weak in body . . . Sam is fair." —Sister Armilda Abbott

Canada—"I have an affliction in my left side and pain goes to my ankle . . ." —Clare Smith.

Ind.—Bro. Koehler has a bad affliction. Sis. Koehler desires prayer for her eyes and hearing.

Kans.—Sister Ella Mayo, 87 years old, desires prayer for her healing.

Calif.—Sister Tammie Severs has an affliction and she suffers greatly.

Texas—Pray for my son and his wife to be saved, and other desires to be granted. —Mrs. Floyd Doak.

Dear saints, let us pray much for the saints of God everywhere. It seems the devil is doing all he can to destroy faith in God. He is coming from every angle that he feels might touch each one in a way to bring them to discouragement, or make the battle so fierce that they become scared or fearful and do the wrong thing and then he will tell them that they now have sinned against God and there is no use to try any more. Dear one, look up and know that if you make a mistake there is a way to rectify it. You can receive forgiveness, you can correct it and clear things between you and God.

A mother who has children whose homes the devil is trying to break up writes: "It seems to me there is a spirit abroad in the land that is set to destroy every home and marriage if possible, and to turn the children against their parents and parents against their children." Surely this is true, and every soul needs to be on guard. You may have perfect confidence in your companion or children, but you can't have confidence in the devil who is working in them. It is important that each be on his guard and never let the devil get his foot in the door of your heart or even get your attention. "Keep your heart with all diligence, for out of it are the issues of life." Be diligent about this, and watch your thoughts, your attentions that are drawn to others, your feelings about others and what they do, and see that you ever keep a forgiving attitude. It means much to be ready to meet our God and live a clean and holy life. —Sis. Marie Miles

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Foreign Field Reports

MISSION REPORTS FROM MEXICO

From Bro. Tomas Mendoza: God has answered the prayers of His people concerning the Ruben Mendez family. His wife was sick unto death. God healed her. Also Ruben was healed when he was very sick. Their little daughter, for whom we have been praying for some time, is well. She had trouble with her head. The doctors said the only thing that could help her was an operation. Our Great Physician healed her! Another Brother who had gone out into sectism has returned to the truth.

From Sister Carrie Sheppard: She is enjoying teaching the children, and is rejoicing in being able to have weekly services at the Indian Village of La Huerta.

From Sister Edith Cole: God has been healing and blessing in Patzcuaro. Bro. Raul Gonzales and wife are deepening in God and the Lord blesses him to preach the gospel. Miguel Gaspar was here to hold a meeting. Three came to the altar and received much blessing from the Lord. There is much rejoicing.

From Sister Opal Kelly: Pray especially for a 14-year-old boy who has just heard of Jesus and the gospel for the first time. We are planning for a few nights' meeting in December. Pray for souls.

From Bro. David Rosas: We are passing through many tribulations. The Lord has not called us to a life of pleasure, but a life of suffering. When we suffer for Christ, we have joy. Work is very scarce at times. One day when we were without provisions, some neighbors killed a goat and invited us to eat with them. The Lord is very good to us. The Lord has called me to His work and I use all the time when not working in witnessing and helping in the work of the Lord. Our little baby is well, and my wife also, for which we thank the Lord. There are about 3,000 people in this valley. We have homestead land, as yet unproductive because we have no well. The other day a sick man came for prayer. The Lord took away his pain and saved his soul. Pray for his wife.

From Bro. Irineo Rama: God is blessing the new converts and all are showing great interest in beginning to build our new chapel. We have had a trial in that the owner of the property wants to sell it to another man who has the cash, and we would lose our down payment. We are trusting God to help in this, as it is His work and will be His house of prayer. We have found our dear God to be so faithful and good to us. Pray for souls here. There are many who have lost confidence in Catholicism and are seeking God.

MISSION REPORT FROM INDIA

S. India (Dec. 4)—Beloved Brother Pruitt and saints, greetings again in the precious name of Jesus:

Thank you very much for your letters dated Nov. 16 and Nov. 19, the details of which are much encouraging and inspiring to me. "Oh, how great is thy goodness, which thou hast laid up for them that fear thee; which thou hast wrought for them that trust in thee before the sons of men!" Psa. 31:19.

I hope you and your wife returned safely after attending a week's meeting at Hammond, La.

From this month onward, convention season commences here. We decided to conduct the convention at Karikkom during the first week of January, 1971. Now we are busy with its various arrangements. We request your prayers for the blessings and for the temporal needs of this convention. After Karikkom, we must march on to the convention at Calicut towards the end of January. The poor believers at Calicut also need the prayers from abroad. As you know, at Calicut the hall they use to worship in is very small, and so for the convention we have to hire a large public hall owned by the government of Kerala, for four days. We have already given a portion of the hiring charge in advance to the authority. Please pray for all such expenses. Anyway, as you said, the gospel of salvation must be distributed while it is day because the night comes when no one can work.

In your letter you asked me what would be the cost to purchase a van. Here a new van may cost above \$3,500, and if it is a second-hand van, it would cost less. The additional cost to keep it in operation is very small.

Remembering you and your labors in prayers, I am
Your younger Brother in Christ, —John Varghese

PASTOR'S MISSION REPORT FROM NIGERIA

Southeast State, Nigeria (Dec. 7)—Dear Bro. Pruitt: "But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ, from whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto edifying of itself in love." Eph. 4:15, 16.

Sincere greetings in the blessed and loveable name of our precious Redeemer, Jesus Christ, who alone is able to do all things. Thank you sincerely for a nice love gift of a Bible delivered to me just this morning by the postman, together with two rolls of back issues of "Faith and Victory" papers for July, 1967. Thank you also for yours of November 16, 1970, and the enclosure of money and a copy of "F&V" paper for November, 1970. You have nothing to lose at all in mailing me such a lifetime guaranteed Bible. In it, and from it flows the river of Living Water for hundreds of thousands of thirsty sinners in this jungle. Glory be to God!

Our annual National convention, God willing, takes place at Asana, December 11 through 13. Please pray for the success of this convention, even though Satan is at war within and without. We are expecting large attendance at this convention. All who need help in soul and body are cordially invited to attend these services, expecting our dear Lord to be present with us to supply the need according to His riches in glory. Pray with us for all around success and blessings.

Praying for you, I am,
Yours for souls,

—J. U. Etuk

LETTER FROM NIGERIAN FIELD SECRETARY

Southeast State, Nigeria (Dec. 5)—Dear Bro. Pruitt: We send greetings in the name of the Son of God who came for our redemption. He is Emmanuel, and Lord of lords and King of kings. In heaven and earth there is none like Him. Praise Him forever!

I want to say thank you for your nice letter of 16th of November and the bank draft. I feel all letters and drafts you sent from the beginning of year never got lost, and thanks to God for His care and direction given to the letters. The pay sheet will by Tuesday be put in the

mail. The other money to purchase Efik Bibles is not used yet. . . .

I am convinced God blessed the meeting at Hammond, and took you both back home safely. The work is functioning fine here. Pray for us that the enemy be defeated. We pray for you.

Yours in the precious bond of Christ, —Nse Umanah

From The Mail Box . . .

Illinois—Dear Anna Marie: Enclosed is . . . to be used as needed there.

I'd like for you to send me a copy of the book, "Trials and Triumphs of Eva Grant" . . . A friend of ours said she had a copy years ago, but loaned it and it was not returned. She knew Eva, and so did I.

May the Lord bless you and keep you in His love. We are thankful for what He has done for you lately and hope to read of many more of His children being set free from their afflictions.

Your Sister in God's family, —Thelma Reineking

Virginia—Please renew my subscription to the Bible Lessons. These books are so good that I don't want to miss a one of them. May the Lord bless this work and everyone of His children. . . .

Bro. Curtis Williams and wife, and Bro. Dale Doolittle and daughter came to our place on Tuesday, Nov. 10. We were gone, but got back at 9 P. M., and found their note on the door. My daughter-in-law called me that morning and told me to come on out to their house from work as it was my birthday. Any other time I would be right home from work. I am so sorry I missed seeing them.

—Sister Bessie Faudree

Minn.—Dear Bro. Lawrence and Sister Marie and all the workers at the Lord's Print Shop: Greetings of Christian love in the name that is above all names, Christ the Lord and Saviour of mankind. This leaves me well in soul and body at the age of 84, and I thank the Lord for His love and kindness toward me and all His saints. Glory to God in the highest! It is my hearts' desire to be with Him through a long, long eternity, and to bring others with me.

In the One Body, —Bro. Andrew Senti

Ohio—Dear Sister Miles: I enjoy reading the "Faith and Victory" paper very much. It is truly food for my soul. I am glad to be a part of the Church of God by the new birth and believe in the unity of God's people.

Please remember me in your prayers, as my husband and children are unsaved. Please remember my daughter's boy friend in prayer, as God is dealing with him. He was saved a few weeks ago, but now is back in sin. The Lord has His hand on this boy for something special, and he is running from God. If you will agree with me in prayer, I believe he will get back to God.

I am sending you a list of the books I want, and check is enclosed.

Yours in the Lord Jesus, —Mrs. Harmon Boysell

Colo.—Dear Bro. Pruitt and saints at our Lord's Print Shop: Please send me another copy of the November issue of "Faith and Victory," as I let a grandson have mine and I like to copy some of the poems published and put them in letters. . . . Although I am isolated from all saints, by God's grace I keep myself in the love of God. I would be glad to receive letters from saints anywhere, and it thrills my soul to read in "Faith and Victory" how

God is using His ministers to rescue sinners. I was especially blessed of God when I read Sister Abbott's letter, and more especially what she said about Bro. Abbott's heart attack, for I was there and witnessed it. I thank God for the gospel paper and all who have a part in publishing it. It is the best that I know, and each reader has a little part in keeping it in circulation.

Yours in Christ's service, —Fred B. Allen
118½ E. Stanley, Canon City, Colo. 81212

La.—Dear Bro. Pruitt and workers: This leaves me still going on and still looking for His return. I mean to go all the way. May our Lord bless and encourage all of you to keep the good work going. Think of me as you pray. I need your prayers.

Much love to the saints. —J. M. Mitchell

Oregon—Christian greetings: Send us another 100 copies of "Touching Incidents." Check is enclosed. This continues to be one of my missionary programs—to give them out. I praise the Lord that I am able to continue in this kind of work as I am past 84 years of age.

In Christian service, —Frank D. Kropf

Kentucky—Greetings in the wonderful name of Jesus: I do love my dear Savior best of all. I really enjoy reading the "Faith and Victory" paper. It is just like a big feast to my soul. I never lay it down until I have read every word of it. May God bless each one of you in His service.

Will you please pray for my brother? He is in bad health. I know God can touch his body. He did for me. Praise His dear name!

I am enclosing money for my paper for another year. Please pray for me.

Your Sister in Christ, —Elizabeth Arnold

Testimonies and Answers To Prayer

Kansas—Dear Anna Marie and all: I feel that I especially have much to be thankful for at this time between Thanksgiving and Christmas. I'm thankful for the freedom we still have in our land to worship in truth and holiness, without fear. I'm thankful for the birth of the Saviour that brought salvation and redemption from sin. Also, through the atonement and shedding of the blood of Jesus on the cross came healing to our bodies.

I surely appreciate the prayers of the saints in my behalf when I was suffering such great pain. I found out when I got my permit to go back to work that it was neuritis of the sciatic nerve. God has been so good to heal me and give me relief, and make me able to go back to work.

I found out later that a man at the grocery store where I trade has been off work since August with the same thing. He was in the hospital and is still taking therapy for this.

Some at the office have asked me if I took any medicine, and I told them no. I had no desire to trust anything, but God only.

I don't know why people want to tell and hear a story about a Santa Claus and a bunch of foolishness when the story of the birth of Jesus, the Saviour of the world, is such a beautiful and touching story. A more beautiful story has never been told. I surely appreciate the birth and death of our dear Saviour. While I was sick I thought so much of the song, "Tell me the story of Jesus, write

on my heart every word, tell me the story most precious, sweetest that ever was heard."

Enclosed is a small offering. Thanks again for your prayers for me and your interest in my behalf.

Love, —Wildenna Huffman

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

Calif.—Dear Sister Marie and saints everywhere, greetings in the precious name of Jesus: I am glad to be saved today and encouraged to live for the Lord. At times I am not well in body, but my whole trust is in God who saved me, and kept me and healed me ever since I was saved in 1938. I am now 70 years old and ready to go or ready to stay. I heard the truth preached in its fullness in my early life almost 56 years ago. I need your prayers for healing to my body.

May God continue to pour out His blessings on every one of you.

In the One Body, —Sister Katie Gaines

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

Va.—Dear Bro. Pruitt, greetings in the Lord: Hope you are well physically and enjoying the Lord spiritually. I am happy in the Lord and encouraged to go to the end by His grace. The campmeeting at Neosho, (Monark Springs), Mo., was marvelous. To be clear before God, free in the Lord, the approval of God on my life, His peace in my soul, and guilt all gone, the yoke of bondage broken, the devil defeated makes me praise God!

I love the saints with all my heart. As quick as the "Faith and Victory" paper comes, I read it. Oh, to hear from the saints, how it thrills my soul! I had suffered for years with a rupture. Since the ministers anointed me and prayed, I am feeling the best I have for years. Thank God for His healing touch! . . .

In Christian love, —Wm. J. Preston

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

Ohio—Dear Saints at the Print Shop: Thank God that I'm yet saved and trusting my Lord for my all.

I haven't been saved a year yet, but I praise God for His keeping as well as saving grace. I thank Him for extending mercy to me, a backslider twice over; but praise His name, He still loved me and called after my heart one more time. (I believe it was my last chance!) I thank God so much for bringing me down where I could see how insignificant I was and how much I needed Him. I'm so glad for God's precious dealings with my soul. When I finally reached the place where I knew I could go no further in life without God, and by the faithful prayers of the church, He wonderfully saved and sanctified my soul and I have never been so happy in all the years I indulged in sin. The Lord has answered many requests we had before Him, one in particular—He saved my companion. We both need your earnest prayers, as we aren't able to make this journey without the saints' prayers.

Enclosed are forty names of persons I feel would get help from the truths contained in the "Faith and Victory." Many have been invited to church, but they have not come, so this is our effort to get the truth to them by the printed page. Praise God for all the saints and the ministers who make the "Word of God" so plain and clear to our hearts.

Pray that God will help souls to take heed to His Word before it is too late.

—Bro. Clifford and Sister Virginia Grimes

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

Okla.—Dear Sister Anna Marie, greetings of love in Jesus' dear name: I am very much encouraged in the Lord. He is very good to us all. A week ago last Saturday night my son, Timothy, was real sick. He just

groaned with pain at his stomach all through the night. The next morning my husband went to the store to get him some 7-Up. While he was gone I called Sister Barton and told her about Tim being so sick. She said she would request prayer for him at meeting that morning. Bob came back, then I had to go pick up my step-daughter at her friend's house. I was gone probably ten minutes. When I came back, Tim was sitting up in bed smiling and said, "I feel fine, Mama." The enemy tried to make me feel that it wasn't the Lord, because Sister Barton hadn't even gone to meeting to request prayer, but the Lord brought the Scripture in Isaiah 65:24 to my mind. All I thought of was: "Before you call I will answer." I looked it up and it says: "And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear." That was very encouraging to me. How I do appreciate the Lord's goodness to us! . . . Much Christian love, —Daisy Harris

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

Indiana—Dear Bro. and Sister Pruitt, greetings of love: Three weeks ago I got up that morning with a sick stomach and didn't eat any breakfast. I got to feeling better and ate dinner about 2 P. M. After I washed the dishes I got very sick at my stomach and vomited all afternoon. We went to bed about 8 P. M. and I was never so sick in all my life. Michael, my husband, prayed for me, and as soon as he quit praying, I got all right and rested well all night. Praise God for His healing power!

May God bless all of you is our prayer.

—Bro. and Sister Michael Koehler

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

Okla.—Dear Saints and readers of "Faith and Victory:" Greetings in the precious name of our Savior who brought peace to my poor troubled soul and has been so good and merciful to me.

When I quit my job, the Lord promised He would supply all my needs, and He surely has done that. He gave me work that I didn't even ask for, as He knew I'd need to change cars, and I had enough to pay the difference when I traded. This is just one of the many temporal blessings, but the greatest of all is the many precious blessings to my soul.

Now that I'm getting older and have aches and pains and problems I've never had before, I see in the Word where He let us know our outward man would perish, but our inward man could be renewed day by day. It makes us sorry we haven't lived better for the Lord in the past, and gives us a greater desire to live better for Him in the future.

I've certainly been blessed for having stayed with dear Bro. and Sister Sam Barton. I've seen them in many deep trials and afflictions, but I've seen the Lord be so near and dear to them, and hear and answer prayer many times. Sister Barton suffers so much, but she has a real press in her soul and presses against the suffering and goes as much as she can.

I love all the saints and all souls and have a burden for the lost, especially our unsaved loved ones—which are many—so please remember them when you think of it.

I believe it is a time when we have to do like David of old. We have to encourage ourselves in the Lord sometimes. Pray for me that I ever be faithful to the Lord and know His leadings at all times.

Christian love,

—Sister Frances Perkins

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

Calif.—Dear Saints of God: Thank the Lord for this opportunity to testify of His great love and mercy to me. I am a young saint just starting out for the Lord, although

I have professed salvation from time to time in years past. I was reared in the truth. Although I've always had a good example before me, many times I've let Satan overthrow my soul. But praise God! I now have victory over sin, and the blood of Jesus has made me whole. By God's grace I'll keep pressing on, for I know that all other ground is sinking sand.

Christian love, —Segatha Douglas

La.—Dear Bro. Lawrence, greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. I want to thank the Lord for dealing with my heart once again and saving my soul during the recent Assembly meeting at Hammond, La. He opened my eyes and helped me to see myself as He saw me—lost and undone before Him. I cannot thank Him enough for His goodness to me. I certainly need your prayers that I won't fail the Lord again, but will stay true to Him. . . .

Last summer our younger son, Mark, had an awful looking knot to swell up on the back of his head, and we praise God for healing him.

I also thank the Lord for healing my knees. I hurt them this summer, and they would swell up and pain me so much that I could hardly kneel or walk, but since I got saved, in only a matter of a few weeks they are well. I do thank Him for it.

Your Brother in the Lord, —Doyle G. LaCroix

Postscript—Just a few lines to say I love the Lord today, and that I feel I should tell of His goodness to me this year. I got my fingers badly bruised and cut in the blades of a mixer at the Myrtle, Mo., campmeeting. The Lord came to my rescue, and after prayer the pain was all removed in about 20 minutes' time. Thank the Lord! I can hardly tell now that they were ever hurt except for some stiffness in my knuckles.

Last winter the Lord wonderfully healed our son, Glenn, of a very contagious sore mouth. He could only take liquids and soft foods, and then Sonja took it before the dentist told us it was a sore mouth instead of a cavity in his tooth. After Bro. Probst anointed them and the saints here had earnestly prayed, the very next day they began to improve. Thank the Lord so much! We need your prayers.

—Cynthia LaCroix

Mo.—It will be about two years ago this Feb. that our water well soured. It smelled bad. I was getting Sunday dinner, and I said to myself, How can I use this water? I just thought and said, "Lord, you know I need good water. Please heal this water; make it good and sweet." I went on getting dinner and forgot all about the water. From the minute I asked for good water, I had it, but I never even thought about it until later when I drank a glass of water and it was perfect. It still is. We knew nothing could get into the well, but it had just soured, like rain water.

We need to take our every-day problems to God. He has also stopped fires for us. There are many things I could write.

Your Sister in Christ, —Sister Goldie Knapp

Oh, could there be an altar call
Down in that place below—
How with a mighty rush all hell
Would to the altar go!
No coaxing would be needed then,
No pleading needed there;
One chance, a thousandth of a chance,
Would call all hell to prayer.

The Beautiful Snow

"Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool." Isaiah 1:18.

In the early part of the Civil War, one dark Saturday morning in the dead of winter, there died at the Commercial Hospital, Cincinnati, a young woman over whose head only two-and-twenty summers had passed. She had once been possessed of an enviable share of beauty; had been, as she herself said, "flattered and sought for the charms of her face"; but, alas! upon her fair brow had long been written that terrible word—fallen! Once the pride of respectable parentage, her first wrong step was the small beginning of the "same old story over again," which has been the only life history of thousands. Highly educated and accomplished in manners, she might have shone in the best of society. But the evil hour that proved her ruin was but the door from childhood; and having spent a young life in disgrace and shame, the poor friendless one died the melancholy death of a broken-hearted outcast.

Among her personal effects was found, in manuscript, the "Beautiful Snow," which was immediately carried to a gentleman of culture and literary tastes, who was at that time editor of the "National Union." In the columns of that paper, on the morning following the girl's death, the poem appeared in print for the first time. When the paper containing the poem came out on Sunday morning, the body of the victim had not yet received burial. The attention of one of the first American poets was soon directed to the newly published lines, who was so taken with their stirring pathos, that he immediately followed the corpse to its final resting place.

Such are the plain facts concerning her whose "Beautiful Snow" will long be regarded as one of the brightest of gems in American literature.

Oh! the snow, the beautiful snow,
Filling the sky and earth below,
Over the housetops, over the street,
Over the heads of the people you meet;
Dancing—Flirting—Skimming along.

Beautiful snow! it can do no wrong;
Flying to kiss a fair lady's cheek,
Clinging to lips in frolicsome freak;
Beautiful snow from heaven above,
Pure as an angel, gentle as love!

Oh! the snow, the beautiful snow,
How the flakes gather and laugh as they go,
Whirling about in maddening fun;
It plays in its glee with every one:

Chasing—Laughing—Hurrying by,
It lights on the face, and it sparkles the eye;
And e'en the dogs with a bark and a bound
Snap at the crystals as they eddy around;
The town is alive, and its heart is aglow,
To welcome the coming of beautiful snow!

How wild the crowd goes swaying along,
Hailing each other with humor and song;
How the gay sleighs like meteors flash by,
Ringing—Swinging—Dashing they go,
Over the crust of the beautiful snow;
Snow so pure when it falls from the sky,
To be trampled in mud by the crowd passing by
To be trampled and tracked by thousands of feet,
Till it blends with the filth in the horrible street.

Once I was as pure as the snow, but I fell,
Fell like the snow flakes from heaven to hell;
Fell to be trampled as filth on the street,
Fell to be scoffed, to be spit on and beat;

Pleading—Cursing—Dreading to die,
Selling my soul to whoever would buy;
Dealing in shame for a morsel of bread,
Hating the living and fearing the dead.
Merciful God, have I fallen so low?
And yet I was once like the beautiful snow.

Once I was fair as the beautiful snow,
With an eye like a crystal, a heart like its glow;
Once I was loved for innocent grace—
Flattered and sought for the charms of my face!

Father—Mother—Sisters—all.
God and myself I have lost by my fall;
The veriest wretch that goes shivering by,
Will make a wide sweep lest I wander too nigh;
For all that is on or above me I know,
There is nothing so pure as the beautiful snow.

How strange it should be that this beautiful snow,
Should fall on a sinner with nowhere to go!
How strange it should be when the night comes again.

Fainting—Freezing—Dying alone.
Too wicked for prayer, too weak for a moan,
To be heard in the streets of the crazy town,
Gone mad in the joy of the snow coming down;
To be and to die in my terrible woe,
With a bed and a shroud of the beautiful snow!

Helpless and foul as the trampled snow,
Sinner, despair not! Christ stoopeth low
To rescue the soul that is lost in sin,
And raise it to life and enjoyment again.

Groaning—Bleeding—Dying for thee,
The crucified hung on the cursed tree!
His accents of mercy fell soft on thine ear,
"Is there mercy for me? Will He heed my weak prayer?"

O God! in the stream that for sinners did flow,
Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

For God so loved the world, that He gave His only
begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should
not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3:16.

"Him that cometh unto Me I will in no wise
cast out." John 6:37.

A MOTHER'S DREAM

One night a few years ago, the Lord permitted me
to have a dream which has been a great help to me in
times of trial and temptation.

It seemed I was in a big room where there were
several people seated and someone was at a stand speak-
ing. It didn't seem to be anything of much importance,
yet I didn't seem to be condemned for being there. It
seemed to last a long time, and after it was over, I visited
with different ones around me, then put my coat on
and went outside to go home. After going but a few
feet from the door I stopped, and my heart about sank,
for lying on the ground right in front of me was our two
sweet little girls asleep, without coats on, and huddling
close to each other for comfort and warmth. I was so
hurt and ashamed, because it seemed that during the
meeting I hadn't even thought of them.

I woke up and cried and cried, for I couldn't under-
stand why I would dream such an awful dream. My hus-

band and I have always been the type to take our chil-
dren everywhere and hardly ever leave them, even with
close loved ones.

The Lord started showing me how the dream was for
me. The saints have a greater responsibility toward their
sweet little children than merely feeding, clothing, and
caring for them. The Lord showed me that, although I
wouldn't think of leaving our little girls in such an awful
condition as I had dreamed, I was doing the same thing
by being so busy that I didn't take time for their little
desires and giving each the personal love and instruction
they needed. They were having to get that warmth and
comfort from each other.

Then I've thought how the Lord doesn't wait until
He gets all His "work" done before He listens to us or
comforts us. How many times can we think of when
the Lord has been a present help in time of need? I can,
many, many times. Since that time, I've found that even
though I was very busy, that if I would listen to them
and smile, that it would satisfy them, and yet I wasn't
hindered, but the bond of love was growing stronger.

May God help us parents to look to God for love and
understanding and wisdom with our precious God-given
jewels. Let's pray for each other. —Name Withheld

Praying For Me

When the battle is long, and I'm weary with strife,
When the legions of sin and evil are rife;
I feel—and new courage flows into my life—
That you are praying for me.

When victory comes out of seeming defeat,
And dark lowering clouds shine with rainbows replete,
'Tis then that I know—the assurance is sweet—
That you are praying for me.

I'll gird tighter my armor and advance in the fight,
With a staunch heart and brave I'll battle for right,
I'll retreat at no danger, and fear no might—
If you'll keep praying for me.

—Sister Sam Abbott

The Cobbler and His Guest

There lived in the city of Marseilles, a hundred
years ago, an old shoemaker, loved and honored by
all his neighbors, who affectionately called him "Fath-
er Martin."

One Christmas he sat alone in his little shop
reading of the visit of the wise men to the infant
Jesus, and of the gifts they brought, and he said to
himself: "If tomorrow were the first Christmas, and
if Jesus were to be born in Marseilles this night, I
know what I would give Him!" He arose and took
from a shelf two little shoes of softest snow-white
leather, with bright silver buckles: "I would give
Him these, my finest work. How pleased His mother
would be! But I'm a foolish old man," he thought,
smiling. "The Master has no need for my poor gifts."

Replacing the shoes, he blew out the candle, and
retired to rest. Hardly had he closed his eyes, it
seemed, when he heard a voice call his name, "Mar-

tin!" Intuitively, he felt aware of the identity of the speaker. "Martin, you have longed to see Me. Tomorrow I shall pass by your window. If you see Me and bid Me enter, I shall be your guest and sit at your table."

He did not sleep that night for joy. Before it was yet dawn he arose and tidied up his little shop. Fresh sand he spread on the floor, and green bows of fir he wreathed along the rafters. On the table he placed a loaf of white bread, a jar of honey, a pitcher of milk; and over the fire he hung a hot drink. His simple preparations were complete.

When all was in readiness, he took up his vigil at the window. He was sure he would know the Master. As he watched the driving sleet and rain in the cold, deserted street, he thought of the joy that would be his when he sat down and broke bread with his Guest.

Presently he saw an old street-sweeper pass by, blowing upon his thin, gnarled hands to warm them. "Poor fellow! He must be half frozen," thought Martin. Opening the door, he called out to him, "Come in, my friend, and warm, and drink something hot." No further urging was needed, and the man gratefully accepted the invitation.

An hour passed, and Martin next saw a poor, miserably clothed woman carrying a baby. She paused wearily, to rest in the shelter of his doorway. Quickly he flung open the door. "Come in and warm while you rest," he said to her. "You are not well?" he asked. "I am going to the hospital. I hope they will take me in, and my baby," she explained. "My husband is at sea, and I am ill, without a soul to whom I can go."

"Poor child!" cried the old man. "You must eat something while you are getting warm. No? Let me give a cup of milk to the little one. Ah! What a bright, pretty little fellow he is! Why, you have no shoes on him!"

"I have no shoes for him," sighed the mother.

"Then he shall have this lovely pair I finished yesterday." And Martin took down the soft little snow-white shoes he had looked at the evening before, and slipped them on the child's feet. They fit perfectly. And shortly the young mother went her way full of gratitude, and Martin went back to his post at the window.

Hour after hour went by, and many needy souls shared the meager hospitality of the old cobbler, but the expected Guest did not appear.

At last, when night had fallen, Friend Martin retired to his cot with a heavy heart. "It was only a dream," he sighed. "I did hope and believe, but He has not come."

Suddenly, so it seemed to his weary eyes, the room was flooded with a glorious light; and to the cobbler's astonished vision there appeared before him, one by one, the poor street sweeper, the sick mother and her baby, and all the people whom he had aided during the day. Each one smiled at him and said: "Have you not seen Me? Did I not sit at your table?" and vanished.

Then softly out of the silence he heard again the gentle Voice, repeating the old, familiar words: "Who-so shall receive one such little child in my name receiveth me. For I was an hungered, and ye gave me meat; I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink; I was a stranger, and ye took me in. Verily, I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me." —Sel.

Our Miracle-working God

Great miracles our God oft brings
With wondrous healing balm;
He stills the tempest when it flings,
And gives a peaceful calm.

Vile scoffers tremble at His Word
Which conquers death and pain,
For He's a miracle-working God—
Jehovah is His name.

He still abides in youth and age,
Though fortunes rise or wane,
Grim sorrow's role He doth assuage,
And loves us just the same.

He brings Arcturus in on time,
Without a moment's loss,
And Mazaroth He holds in line,
The heavenly skies across.

He binds the starry Pleiades,
Orion, bright hath made,
And traces boundless galaxies,
While the sea's proud waves are stayed.

He holds celestial mastery
Where great Leviathan plays,
And sets the foaming boundary
Above the mount and waves.

Fail not to tender reverence,
Accentuate His fame,
For He's the tower of defense—
Jehovah is His name.

The things which ne'er by us were done,
To Him are but routine;
They are no challenge to the One,
Who's Master of life's scene.

If He were only commonplace,
Devoid of deity,
And obstacles could not erase,
Great God He would not be.

Creator of the land and sea,
Forever shall He reign,
For a miracle-working God is He—
Jehovah is His name!

—Emily Hale

Dear Christian reader, do you meditate? Do you go apart each day and with the mind wholly detached from every thing of earth, fix it quietly, calmly on God and some portion of His Word? Do you become lost to every thing of earth in the loving thought of God?