

FAITH^{AND}VICTORY

Church of God Servant



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51st Year

Guthrie, Oklahoma

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Thanksgiving Day

One long ago December day
On the New England shore,
The Pilgrims came from far away
God's favor to implore.

To worship Him in freedom's land
They came with faith and zeal;
They were a brave and earnest band
Who sought God's grace to heal.

The winter did their courage test,
And half of them were dead
When spring returned, and o'er the rest
Disease and hunger spread.

Not turning back, the Pilgrim heart
Looked forth to better things;
He planted corn and wheat to start
The joy that harvest brings.

A bounteous season God bestowed,
Their barns to fill withal;
A special day was set aside
When work was through that fall:—

A special day of thanks and praise
To God for all His care,
His loving kindness, gracious ways
That led them through despair.

And ought not we with like accord
To praise the Lord of love,
For fruitful seasons He hath poured
Upon us from above,

To count our blessings most of all
Rejoicing just to know
That Christ hath saved us from our fall
And washed us white as snow?

Leave Fret and Murmur far behind;
Give thanks in everything;
For out of Zion God hath shined
Salvation's joys to bring.

—Leslie Busbee

Who Will Go?

"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: and he laid it upon my mouth, and said, Lo, this hath touched thy lips; and thine iniquity is taken away, and thy sin is purged. 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. And he said, Go. . . ." Isaiah 6:6-8, 9a.

"Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, . . . teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you. . . ." Matt. 28:19, 20. "And the Lord said unto the servant, Go out into the highways and hedges. . . ." Luke 14:23.

The question is, Who will go? Go where? How about a little place in the hills where a few have come out of sectism, taking their stand for the truth, where a number expressed they were tired of sectism, where at least a dozen men and women lifted their hands acknowledging they needed spiritual help? There is not much pay, but a lot of hard work. Who will go?

How about a place where there is a real nice group of new converts who are begging for someone to come and teach them? But you say, I would have to leave my nice new home. Who will go?

How about down south where there is a large congregation pleading for some one to help them? But you say, I don't like down south, and how would I live? Who will go?

What about over in North Carolina where a little group has been trying to hold on for years? Some get discouraged and give up, then they will try again. What we need, they say, is a pastor. But you say, I want to live where my children are. Who will go?

A number of other places are begging for help. Some ask, Won't you just come by once a month, or every two months? They say, We don't know the way. Most of these people are not interested in which seal we are living, or what trumpet is blowing, or what date the 91st Psalm was written. They want to know how to live a holy life. Is it a sin for women to wear pants? How about birth control pills? Should

we wear long sleeves? Is it wrong to wear rings or gold? What is sanctification? What do you mean by divine healing? Who will go?

You may say, But I want to be around the saints. I want to be where I can go to the all-day meetings. I want to be in the campmeetings. Who will go? I don't want to give up my good job. I have only a few more years until I retire. Who will go? I don't want to leave the congregation where I am. I've been pastor here for years, even though I admit the work is going down and drying up right around me, but I'm settled here. Who will go?

Jesus said, "Feed my sheep; feed my lambs." I don't believe all His sheep and lambs are gathered up in a few places. He gave evangelists, pastors, and teachers for the perfecting of the saints. That means everywhere.

I feel that if God calls someone to the ministry, He calls them for a special work. I know it is, necessary to work with our hands sometimes, but the only reason Paul worked was to help support his ministry. A minister should never work just to get a finer car, or to send his children through college, but it should be just to help him to be used more of God.

Pray that the Lord will lay that live coal on our lips. I would like to stay home more sometime, too. In fact, we have been advised to stay home more—no use to go out in new fields to help folks out of sectism, or help folks get saved. They say there is no one to care for them. But Jesus said, Go! The question is, Who will go?

Your fellow-laborer, —Bro. Mart Samons

The Visibility of The Church

"But these people [it is alleged against the saints of the Most High God] do not believe in a visible, organized church." This, again, is an untruthful statement. That glorious temple, built by the invisible God, is the visible church. She is "the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid." Matt. 5:14. Though the wind is an invisible power, its effects are very perceptible to the eye. So the invisible hand of God builds the structure, and organizes the body of His church on earth, which is seen of all. The confused tradition is generally circulated by sectarians, in defense of their own rival organizations, that the constitution of sects is essential to the visible manifestation of the church. But "sect" is a portion "cut off." Is there any sense, reason, or divine truth in the teaching that an invisible body is made visible by cutting a portion from it? None of the present sects came into existence till that of Rome in the latter part of the third century. Was God's church an invisible thing on earth for nearly three hundred years? And, who can affirm that the multitude of Protestant sects have made visible the church of God, from which they are severed by their peculiar creeds and doctrines? Nay, we affirm in the presence of the Judge of all men, and with a clear consciousness of His truth to support the proposition, that the

creation of the sects of Christendom have had exactly the opposite effect.

Their traditions have made of no effect the Word of God. Their confusing creeds, heaps of rubbish, and interminable machinery have utterly subverted, and well-nigh hid out of sight the church that Jesus built on earth. As the historian D'Aubigne has faithfully recorded, when in the third century an "earthly association," "an external organization was gradually substituted for the interior and spiritual communion which is the essence of the religion of God," then, "The living church retired gradually within the lonely sanctuary of a few solitary hearts." That is, the real church of God retired almost from view because of the outspread pomp of the false.

So then men's sects do not make visible God's church, but on the contrary they obstruct her life, and obscure her glory. These are facts of history that no honest, intelligent man can deny. The babel of human sects has long obscured the sight of the church of the first-born. Until the evening light revealed the true church, as she shone out in the morning of the dispensation, everybody looked upon the man-built substitutes as the divine church, and the body of Christ, which only is the church, was scarcely discerned at all. But visibility is a natural characteristic of the church of God. Though organized by the invisible Spirit, she is composed of men and women who are as visible now as they were when they were in the kingdom of darkness.

While the kingdom of God is substantially the same as His church, the former relates only to the spiritual leaven and unseen power of God that transforms the hearts of men into righteousness and fills them with all joy and peace in believing. Hence, it "cometh not with observation." The church, on the contrary, is the assembly of the saved, the household of God. It includes the bodies of the saints no less than the "hidden man of the heart." "Know ye not that your bodies are the members of Christ?" 1 Cor. 6:15. And Christ, His body, and the church, are all identical in 1 Cor. 12:12, 13, 27, 28. So it is in our physical bodies that we compose the assembly of God. Hence, she is a visible ecclesia. A house, a vine, a family, the human body, "an army with banners," "a light," "the moon," "a mountain," and "a city set upon a hill," are the most common figures of the church, and surely all these denote visibility. God's ministers are not invisible agents, neither did Barnabas and Paul assemble a whole year with something they saw not, with unseen spirits, at Antioch, when "a whole year they assembled themselves with the church." Acts 11:26. Neither had the church become visible by the organization of any sect, for none then existed.

This whole conception of God's invisible church on earth is a superstition of the dark ages—a falsehood, devised by Satan to justify the rival headship of the pope, and the formation of all the Protestant rival bodies. The Scriptures teach that Christ only is the head of the church, and He Himself the door, and that God sets the members into the body. But this leaves the Roman hierarchy without a head, and

the Protestant sects without a member; therefore, Satan puts this lie into the mouth of the papists, "Christ is the head of the invisible church, and the pope of the visible;" and this falsehood into the Protestant creed, "God takes into His invisible body, and we admit members into the visible church."

It is true that the world cannot see the Head of the church, as do the Christians, for He manifests Himself unto the latter as He does not unto the former; but they can see the children of God, and they are the body of Christ, the church. "Whosoever sinneth hath not seen him, neither known him." 1 John 3:6. This, again, explains why the masses of the sects do not discern Christ, nor His church. It is because they are sinners and Satan blinds their eyes to their condition by telling them that Christ and His church are invisible.

Again, the class-book of God's church is not here on earth, nor seen by natural eyes. But notwithstanding this, the spiritual "see to read their title clear," and know their names are written there. To hypocrites and formalists this is all invisible, hence, they console themselves by being written in a class-book on earth which they can look upon with sinful eyes and handle with unclean hands. What God has to say about them you will find in Jeremiah 17:13.

The divine church, without any tampering by man, is a visible and glorious city of God on earth. Yea, so very visible that it is even the light of the world.
—D. S. Warner

God's Minister

A man who continually manifests the sweet, gentle and meek Spirit of Christ, and a loving concern for everyone would be useful in the work of God.

The ideal minister should be a man of continuous, earnest, and heart-to-heart prayers. His speech should be constantly guarded to the extent that he would never speak an unfitting word. The constant application of his thoughts, prayers, and incidents of his life should be concentrated on developing the life of Christ in his soul. Every message should fall from heaven, powerful as thunderbolts, clear as the Spirit of God can make it, full of weight and authority, and thoroughly permeated with that unique holy unction which only can stir and shake the hearts of the listeners. He should live continually in eternal realities; his soul should be thoroughly steeped in and perfumed with the choicest of heavenly odors; his soul—dead to all but God. His life should be so conditioned to heavenly realities that the temporal duties which are necessary become an extension of the inward, pulsating desire of the soul. At all times, the weight of his sacred charge should be upon him. The realization of his awful unworthiness and lack of qualification should continually rest upon him, causing him to seek the Great Giver more humbly and earnestly, that God alone may be glorified, and that he may be an effectual servant of the Most High. "Faithful is he that calleth you; who also will do it."
—Mark Spinks

A New Creation

I am living now for Jesus;
I have left the world of sin,
And all of its vain follies,
I once did revel in.

This world is awful shaky,
With no place wherein to hide;
But I feel safe while walking
Close by Jesus' side.

He is now my companion,
And when He talks with me,
His voice is real consoling,
And as soothing as can be.

What a blessed consolation
To walk with Him today;
I'm going to stay real near Him
To the ending of life's way.

Then we will be together
On heaven's happy shore,
Where trouble, care, and sorrow,
Will cease forever more.

Oh! Glory! Hallelujah!
I've been made anew—
From all the devil's traffic,
Dear friends, I now am through.

You ask me, "What's the matter?"
I sure don't feel the same,
Since Jesus sought and found me;
He also changed my name.

He brought me through a narrow door,
And washed me in His blood.
An awful sinner I had been;
Now I'm a child of God.

I would not change, I would not change,
For this world full of gold,
For Jesus gives me treasures rare,
That's never yet been told.

I'm now yoked up with Jesus;
For me, that's just all right—
I find His yoke is easy;
I find His burden's light.

Oh, come and join our company,
I know you'll not repine,
For joy, peace, and satisfaction
In my Jesus you will find.

There is plenty room for others,
You need not stay away;
His arms are stretched wide open,
To welcome you today.

—Ulysses Phillips

"Blessed is the man that endureth temptation." Temptations are outward influences acting upon our natural emotions and passions to induce the will to act contrary to the law of grace, in order to satisfy self.
—C. E. Orr

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In the October issue of this paper an order blank envelope was inserted in each copy with spaces for ten names and addresses of friends and neighbors whom you want to receive the "Faith and Victory" paper for three months, beginning with the January, 1974, issue. Please print or type names on a sheet of paper and send in all the names and addresses as soon as possible. This offer will expire Dec. 8, 1973. A premium will be given for every group of ten names and \$1.00 remittance. This liberal offer is made possible by the free-will offerings of the saints and lovers of the truth. This is your opportunity to be a missionary, aiding in your part of the Great Commission to the Church to carry the whole gospel to the whole world!

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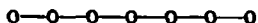
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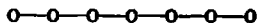
EDITORIALS



The response of our readers in mailing in the lists of names for the special three-months' subscriptions is very encouraging, and we want to express our appreciation to everyone who is co-operating so faithfully in this gospel extension effort. The subscription envelopes are arriving daily, and we would like to have the one that was put in your paper last month, so don't disappoint the Lord and us—just take a few minutes to write ten names and addresses of your friends, relatives, and neighbors, enclose \$1.00, and mail it to this office. Please keep them coming, as it brings pleasure to the Lord and us in anticipation of reaching several thousand new people with the gospel message during the months of January, February, and March of 1974. For additional subscriptions, please type, or print very plainly, the lists of names on a sheet of paper and mail them in promptly. A premium of your choice will be mailed to you for each list of ten names and addresses. Be a home missionary in this manner, and the Lord will bless you abundantly for your labor of love for souls. Please send in all names by December 8. Thank you!



Sister Thelma Sprague and her daughter, Mary, a senior in high school, arrived in Guthrie from Illinois on Oct. 16. For some time they had been desiring to help in the publishing work, and now they are here aiding in various ways, especially in typing the names on wrappers for the three-months' offer. May the Lord bless and reward them for their sacrificial labors. Also, we welcome them to the congregation.



"Thanks be unto God . . ."

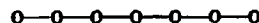
The Bible abounds with exhortations to mankind to offer thanksgiving and praise to their Creator, for all honor is surely due unto Him. Daily thanksgiving and praise is the normal practice of the child of God, for he knows the Giver of all his blessings. Thanks and praise are the wings which carry his petitions to the throne of mercy, for he is exhorted to let his requests be made known unto God with thanksgiving. "In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you." 1 Thess. 5:18. "By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name." Hebrews 13:15.

If God's people do not praise Him, who will? The world of mankind in general is unthankful and unholy. They take the Lord's bounteous temporal blessings for granted, and like the hog feeding under the acorn tree, they never look up to see where the acorns come from. The Apostle James informs us that "every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights. . . ." James 1:17. In Psa. 150:6, the Psalmist exclaims: "Let every thing that hath breath praise the Lord," and all the pure in heart say, Amen. "Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift," the gift of His only begotten Son for our salvation!

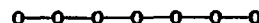
A flood resulting from 15 inches of rain on October 10 did considerable damage to the city of Enid, Okla. Though nine lives were lost, the Lord protected His people. However, the chapel had about eight inches of flood water over its floor and required a cleaning and drying operation.



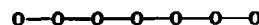
Brother and Sister Murphy Allen were with the Guthrie congregation in meeting from October 3 to 7. The Lord gave us messages of instruction and soul-food through Bro. Allen who is the pastor at Springfield, Mo. May the Lord continue to bless their efforts. Neither one is very well in body, so pray that God will heal and enable them to carry on in His service.



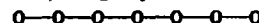
God's people belong to Him in a two-fold sense—first, by the right of creation, and second, by the right of redemption. Let each one of us, by the grace of God, fulfill the purpose for which He has placed us in this world.



It is amazing to see how many persons who profess to be "saints in light" hold to Papal views and traditions. "The fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is." 1 Corinthians 3:13c.



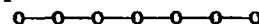
Brother Max and Sister Lula Williamson of Hammond, La., were with the Guthrie congregation on Wednesday night, Oct. 10. Bro. Williamson brought a good message of Bible truth. He ministers to the congregation at Baton Rouge, and other places. Bro. Williamson needs a healing touch to his body, as well as their son, David, so pray for them.



"Humility, thou secret vale . . ."

Humility is that contrite condition of the heart of which our God takes special note. In the Scriptures, we are exhorted to humble ourselves, to put on humility, to be clothed with humility, and to walk with all humility of mind. Special promises are given to the humble. "God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble." James 4:6. "For whosoever exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted." Luke 14:11. "Though the Lord be high, yet hath he respect unto the lowly: but the proud he knoweth afar off." Psa. 138:6. The only way for man to find favor with God is to humble himself.

The most humble person is the one who does not know that he is humble. When one recognizes or boasts of his humility, he ceases to be humble. May we ever dwell in that "secret vale, unknown to proud in heart, where showers of blessing never fail, and glories ne'er depart."



A Crisis in Constitutional Authority . . .

The Scripture exhorts that prayers be made for all men, "for kings and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty." 1 Tim. 2:2. If we ever prayed

for the rulers of our nation, we should pray now. These are crucial times. Corruption exists in the government from top to bottom, as well as in all other areas of life. Rulers and people alike need to humble themselves in confession and repentance.

This constitutional government is crumbling. At present, there is no vice-president and the president is threatened with impeachment. If the hand of the Lord does not intervene to stop this trend, then anarchy and revolution will follow. The only hope for this nation is genuine repentance and turning back to God. It is repent or perish! Let us pray fervently for all men in these momentous times. —L.D.P.

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OBITUARY



Lillie Mae Greenway was born on May 4, 1892, at Sioux City, Iowa, and departed this life on Sept. 4, 1973, at Seattle, Washington.

Her husband, William E. Greenway, preceded her in death in 1951.

Sister Greenway was at a mission meeting in Seattle, Wash., when I was drawn to her while attending the meeting. I talked to her and told her about the Church of God in Jefferson, Oregon, and asked her to visit us. She came down, heard the truth and immediately accepted it, rejoicing greatly. In most of her testimonies she praised the Lord for having found the true church and how she loved all the saints. She spent much time in my home, as she would come to be in the meetings. She was very charitable and helped a lot in remodeling around the church property. I never heard her utter an unkind word to anyone. She spent several years in a rest home in Seattle, but kept her faith in God and was always encouraged when I visited her. We will miss her, but she is now reaping her reward and rejoicing with her heavenly family.

Sister Greenway is survived by seven children: Mrs. Bert Ness, Wm. E. Greenway, Jr., Mrs. Willard McGary, Richard D. Greenway, Russell F. Greenway, Eugene A. Greenway, Mrs. Robert N. Burns; 20 grandchildren, and 10 great grandchildren.

Her children sent word for me to come and I attended the funeral services which were held at Green Lake Funeral Home in Seattle. Interment was in the Evergreen Cemetery, Seattle. —Beatrice Spaur

Our sympathy and prayers are extended to and for Sister Lizzie Jordan of Okmulgee, Okla., whose husband passed away on Sunday, Oct. 14, after a long illness. Her address is P. O. Box 362, Okmulgee, Okla. 74447.

REPORT OF FRESNO, CALIF. CAMPMEETING

The annual campmeeting at Fresno, Calif. was a real inspiration to our souls this year. The attendance was small through the week, but God was present in every service. The preaching went forth under the anointing of the Holy Spirit. Some souls were saved, and some sought help for other needs. Nine converts were baptized.

Several out-of-state ministers were present. We thank the Lord for each one. Also, the singers and workers were much help in the meeting. May God bless each one, is our prayer. —Bro. E. J. Trotter, pastor

HAMMOND, LA. ASSEMBLY MEETING

The annual assembly meeting at Hammond, La., will convene on Nov. 18, and continue through the 25th, 1973.

We are expecting the Lord to send ministers of His choosing.

We invite all to come regardless of race or color. All will be cared for.

For further information, write to M. F. Williamson, Box 1084, Hammond, La. 70401.

AUTUMN REVIVAL IN GOULDS, FLA.

Fla.—Dear Bro. Lawrence and co-workers: Greetings in Jesus' dear name, the precious Lamb of God. We are happy to report the victory. The "old paths" still give us plenty of liberty, for we want to do only those things that please the Lord.

We are grateful to the Lord for permitting us to be in the Bakersfield, Calif., campmeeting. Seeing the saints and being in their midst gave us much joy. However, as a warning to us all, let us earnestly contend for the faith once delivered unto the saints. From Bakersfield, we visited the Pacoima, Calif., campgrounds, and shared one precious evening of meeting together. The visits with some of the saints were very encouraging. Leaving Pacoima, we headed in the direction of Boley, Okla. There was very rich fellowship throughout the five days we stayed at that campmeeting. Our souls were greatly enriched. We had much to bring home and share with the saints.

Special joy was ours to see the saints in Swainsboro, Georgia. Where two or three are gathered together in Jesus' name, there He will be in the midst. Surely, the Lord did visit the meeting this year. There was more community interest, and some out-of-town visitors. We thank the Lord for the chapel, their very own in which to worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness. Thank the Lord for the children who came to the altar. We are praying for an increase in the Sunday School. Conviction was in the meeting. We left with some still resisting the sweet call of the Lord. Let us pray that they will make their turn before too late. We have a special burden concern-

ing a campmeeting for this area. Please pray with us to this end that the Lord's will be done.

We were thankful to have been able to bring some of our young people to Guthrie who had never been there. The service on Wednesday night was a stir to our souls. We are impressed that more digging is needed in the area of the healings we desire for the sick.

The Lord willing, the fall revival here in Goulds, Fla., will begin Nov. 18, and continue through Nov. 25. On Nov. 18, and 25, there will be all-day services. All who are interested in this meeting may contact me for further information. As many as are led, feel free to come. You are welcome.

—Brother H. H. Hargrave

22345 S. W. 117 Place, Goulds, Fla. 33170

AUTUMN MEETING IN LOS ANGELES, CA.

The annual fall meeting at Los Angeles, Calif., corner of Naomi and Walnut Streets, will convene at 7:30 p. m. on Friday night, November 23, and continue nightly until Sunday, Dec. 2. There will be all-day services on Saturday, Nov. 24, Friday, Nov. 30, and Saturday, Dec. 1, in addition to both Sundays.

We desire your prayers for this meeting. All are welcome.

For further information, please contact Bro. Lawrence Francisco, 719 W. 58th St., phone 778-5669; Bro. Alvin Lucas, 918 W. 62nd Place, phone 759-3962; or Bro. T. R. Summers, 711 W. 85th St., phone 752-1135, all of Los Angeles, California (area code 213).

EVANGELISTIC TENT MEETING REPORT

Kentucky—Dear Brother Lawrence and saints everywhere: We feel we should give a little report of the blessings of the Lord in the tent meetings this past summer. Surely, He did bless in a wonderful way.

We would like to say, first, that we appreciate how the Lord supplied every need. Also, we want to thank those who worked with us, especially Bro. Bobby Forbes and family. They are wonderful workers for the Lord. Also, we thank those who prayed, and the ones who gave of their means to help support the tent work. I feel this is an important work. We have reached some souls that may never have heard the truth otherwise.

Our first meeting was at Kokomo, Miss. The Lord wonderfully blessed there and we met some fine people. Also, some we were especially burdened for found their way back to the Lord. There were three baptized, and some good seed sown. Then we went to Hammond, La. next, and had a real good meeting. It seemed mostly a time for the saints to be built up. The tent was close to the road where it was so noisy. I feel it was a big hindrance to the meeting. Then we went back to Green Bank, W. Va. The meeting there this year was really blessed of the Lord. The little group there was ready, and had been praying a whole year for the meeting. The weather was perfect, and a number of saints from other places were there. Some souls were saved, sanctified, and healed. We left the saints there encouraged and rejoicing. Then after the campmeeting at Monark Springs, Mo., we took the tent to Opp, Ala. We didn't know what to expect down there, but felt like Philip of old when the angel told him to go down south. We felt that there was some one the Lord was seeking for. When we got there, we found that the place where we were to put the tent was rough. So a Mr. Schofield said to put it in his yard. I told them

that I felt the Lord had sent us there for a special reason. I found out that this man didn't go to church much and wasn't interested. But the Lord got to dealing with him, and before the meeting closed, he and his brother both came and got saved. Others were at the altar for help. We met so many nice people there who seemed to appreciate the Word so much. One man said that was the kind of preaching he got saved under 38 years ago. We plan, Lord willing, to go back next year. From there, we went to Newton, W. Va., another new place. We marveled how the Lord worked, and the way people received us. It seemed that most of the people there had lost confidence in the churches, so-called. Many rejoiced to hear the truth. Three came out and took their stand for the truth. We are hoping to get a little work started there, and are expecting to go back next year. The last day of the meeting we took the tent down in the afternoon as we wanted to get an early start the next morning. That night we put some lights on poles, and had an outside service. It was the best of all with our largest crowd. I asked all to lift their hands who needed spiritual help. There must have been a dozen or so hands. We hated so badly to leave. Pray for these dear ones.

We just got home from North and South Carolina. We had some profitable meetings in those states. At Spruce Pine, N. C., we left the folks encouraged to press on. The Lord wonderfully worked something out. We were glad to have Sister Katherine Williams with us in that meeting. Then at Holly Hill, S. C., the Lord really blessed. There were a number saved. Ten were baptized. Then we went to Ridgeville, S. C., where the Lord is working with those people. There were a number at the altar for help, and to find peace in their souls. How they need help there! Not only there, but about everywhere we go, they are begging for some one to come and help them. I have seen among the older congregations where there would be a good Sunday School teacher for children and maybe only two or three children. At Ridgeville, on Sunday morning, there were around 50 children and young people, and not any one that knew really how to teach them, though they do the best they can. Who will go?

If the Lord wills, we are looking forward to working with the tent next year. There are a number of open doors for tent meetings. I noticed in the paper about the truck fund. I pray that every one will take this to heart. We will have to have another truck, or spend a lot on this one. I didn't know whether it would make it home on the last trip. I don't see many of the saints' personal cars, that are 1959 models, setting around on the campgrounds. Pray for us that we be led of the Lord.

We are living in the time it speaks of in the 17th chapter of Isaiah. Two or three berries are in the top of the uppermost bough. It takes more travel, more time, and hard work to reach souls now than ever before. It is a gleanings now. Let us all work together to reach what we can before darkness comes. I'm afraid too many are laying up treasures here on earth. Jesus said to lay them up in heaven. May the Lord bless each one, is our prayer.

Yours for all the truth, —Bro. and Sister Mart Samons
P. O. Box 89, Junction City, Ky. 40440

Measure thy life by loss and not by gain,
Not by wine drunk, but by the wine poured forth.
For love's strength standeth in love's sacrifice,
And he who suffers most has most to give.

—Sel.

Special Offer—Ten names for three months for \$1.00

Prayer Requests

Ohio—"I have arthritis very bad. I had a bad fall a few weeks ago and now my back is bothering me. I can take only a few steps with a walker."

—Mrs. J. L. Roush

Mo.—"Pray for a poor woman who is suffering with her feet. . . . Pray for me. I have an awful bad suffering and I need God's help to be able to go and do for others. Sister Fannie Williams needs me as her eyes are so bad. Keep praying for her."

—Becky Barnes

Conn.—"Please pray for me. I have hardening of the arteries of the head. The doctors can't do anything for me, but I know God can!"

—Mrs. Mamie Buchert

Okl.—"Remember Bro. Waldo Eck in prayer. He is near a nervous breakdown. Sister Beatrice is not well. A card or word of encouragement would be a help to them. We would be glad to forward it to them."

Ore.—"Pray for my wife. She has lots of pain in her back and legs. It is hard for her to walk."

—James Moore

Mo.—"Pray for the healing of my kidneys and bladder. . . . I know God is able."

—Sister Eathel Hill

Ohio—"I have a painful knee and a nervous condition. . . . Please pray for me."

—Sister Maude Smith

Ohio—"Pray for my grandson who has diabetes. . . . He is terribly nervous. . . . Pray for my other grandson." [He needs to be saved.]

—Sister H. Hiles

Ill.—"Request prayer of all the saints and that they come to see me. Pray the Lord to heal my eyes of glaucoma, and my ears of deafness." —Lettie West (Write to this office for her address.)

Be encouraged, dear ones. The enemy of our souls knows that his time is short. It seems he is working overtime to discourage and cast down God's people. Sin is abounding on every hand, but thank God, "grace did much more abound." The devil has so many in this world going his way, and sin is openly on display when in years past it was more under cover. Surely, God is looking down today as He looked at the people in Noah's day. The Bible says, "God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually." Gen. 6:5. Jesus said, "As the days of Noah were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be." Matt. 24:37. We can see the signs of the end of time. It will behoove each of us to be faithful in the testing times. It seems the saints are being severely tested in various ways. We want to be able to say with the Apostle Paul when we come to our end, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith, henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing." 2 Tim. 4:7, 8.

The Lord has blessed me in a special way in my body. I am at the office doing my usual load of work. I still need more strength, as at times I have a weakness, but I know the Lord will take that away also. I do appreciate the saints' prayers for me. The Lord blessed me while I was on my trip. It was nice to see my family, and also be with the saints in service at Pomona, Calif. They are few in number and need a pastor, but they are faithful to keep the chapel doors open and services going.

—Sister Marie Miles

Foreign Field Reports

MISSION REPORT FROM INDIA

Kerala, S. India (Sept. 21)—Beloved Brother Pruitt, greetings in the most holy name of Jesus, whose mercy endureth forever.

Thank you for your letter dated Sept. 3, and the enclosures were noted with maximum gratitude.

Our heavenly Father helped us much to hold open air meetings at various places during the national festival for the last two weeks. They were blessed and profitable beyond expectation. It caused many nominal Christians belonging to denominations to think and to search their present stand, that is, to check if their present profession is Biblical or not. "And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues." This word reacted and worked in the hearts of many.

Our campmeeting season begins in November. Brother L. K. John and the church at Calicut wish, Lord willing, to conduct a campmeeting there in April.

Brother, the famine is increasing here day by day. . . . Surely, my God shall supply all our needs according to His riches in glory. We are always thankful to the church in America for the Christian love and fellowship shown to the church in India.

I have purchased the Bibles and distributed all except three. . . . The tracts that were printed are being distributed. . . . We pray for a printing press.

I am very glad to let you know that my wife delivered a boy child to me last month. Mother and child are doing well under the broad wings of God. Praise the Lord! My youngest sister, an active member of our congregation at Karikkom, is to be married on Sept. 27. She requests your prayers.

Last week I got my passport. Praise the Lord! I will apply for the visa next April so I can start to America in May. With the tourist visa, I can stay at least four months.

My earnest prayers are for the work you are doing at the publishing house.

Your younger Brother in Christ, —John Varghese

REPORT FROM OJOS NEGROS, MEXICO

Immediately after the campmeeting in Ojos Negros, Mexico, the Lord permitted eleven people, including myself, to leave together for the National Campmeeting in Missouri—Bro. Tomas Mendoza and family and two young people from the States. The Lord blessed us with a safe trip. We all thoroughly enjoyed the meeting and believe each has been inspired to a more careful walk with the Lord.

While I was in Oklahoma, the Lord made it possible for Bro. Tomas to have the 1967 Chevrolet pickup and campershell which we took back there, and for me to have a new 1973, 6-cylinder, 4-speed pickup and campershell.

God performed a miracle in providing funds to pay on it, for I was left with a debt of only about \$1000 to pay. A brother in the church is carrying that without interest with the option to pay as I can. How good the Lord is! Yet I see in this goodness that He is making me more responsible in the work He has given me to do.

We had a good meeting last Sunday, though not too many were out. Pray earnestly that we will be able to carry out what the Lord has laid on our hearts to do. He said, "Go ye out into the highways and hedges and compel

them to come in." Since not many are coming to service, He has burdened me to take it to them, if they will permit a service in their homes, or if not, to leave literature with them and leave them with the responsibility of what they do concerning their own souls.

I am still alone except on weekends. Could it be that God has called you and you have not answered that call?

My American address is P. O. Box 2860, San Ysidro, Ca. 92073.

Yours in Him, —Sister Opal Kelly,
Ap. Postal 284, Ensenada, B. Cfa., Mexico

NIGERIAN MISSION REPORT

Southeast State, Nigeria (Oct. 4)—Dear Bro. Pruitt and saints everywhere: Greetings in the holy name of our Lord and King, Jesus Christ. He loved us and surrendered His life on the cross at Calvary that we might live. Let us return the love to Him because He first loved us.

We received your encouraging letter and contents on Sept. 3, with gratitude and thanks. The fund has been distributed to the gospel workers as the enclosed sheet will show.

We were glad to learn that the summer's campmeetings closed with victory, and many souls were saved.

We note your explanation about someone coming to us. Now we are desirous that one from there should attend our forthcoming 12th annual campmeeting to be held from December 13 to 16, 1973, at the main mission station. Agree with us in prayer and let us hear from you.

Communion services were held at Ikot Akpan Eda on Sept. 9, at Ikot Akpanya Asuma on Sept. 23, and Ibekwe Akpanya on Sept. 30. In all the services, the believers partook of the emblems of the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. Souls were saved and the afflicted were healed in answer to the faithful prayers of the saints. Praise the Lord!

We are well and faithfully obeying the Master's command. We love and pray for you.

Yours in Him, —Pastor Ben E. Udoka

From The Mail Box . . .

Oregon—Dear Sister Marie: I am leaving tomorrow, Sept. 25, for West Virginia by plane from Portland. My sister, who has cancer, sent for me. She is a dear saint, 57 years of age and has never been married. Pray for her and me, as I plan to be gone at least a month.

May God bless all of you there, is my prayer.

—Sister Beatrice Spaur

New Mexico—Dear saints, greetings in Jesus' dear name: We pray that all are doing well and God is blessing in all the work there.

We do thank God for everything and all His goodness and mercy, especially to my dear husband. Thanks so very much for praying for him. He is improving, but still needs prayer.

I do pray for Sister Marie and Brother Lawrence. I trust they are doing well. I also have a dear brother who needs prayer, so please remember him.

—Sister Ruth Doolittle

Okla.—Dear Sister Marie, Bro. and Sister Pruitt: I am enclosing \$1.00 for renewal of my subscription to the "Faith and Victory" paper for three years. I do enjoy it. I appreciate you folks and the work you are doing for the Lord. I appreciate the truths in this little paper, also

the letters and testimonies. May the Lord continue to provide help for you to continue until Jesus comes. May the Lord bless each of you.

In Christian love,

—Lizzie L. Jones

Wash.—Dear Sister Marie and all: Greetings in the dear Lord's name. I am so thankful to Him for salvation and for all He does for us from day to day. I love Him and His people.

I would appreciate an interest in your prayers for my family. All are unsaved. I pray daily for all there. I surely hope and pray that the Lord has healed Brother Lawrence's body. I am so thankful the Lord has raised you up again and that you are able to be in the office as usual.

I have had a Sunday school class in my home since 1963. Last Sunday, 21 children were here. I wish that many would come all the time.

Christian love,

—Sister Violet Thomas

Okla.—Greetings to all in the precious name of Jesus: This leaves husband and me very well, and praising the dear Lord for all He has done for us. We thank Him for the good rain last night and this morning. We did need the rain so badly. The air is cool and fresh; feels and smells so good.

I am so thankful, dear Sister Marie, for all the Lord has done for you and for me. I thank each dear one for their prayers for me when I was so sick last spring. I suffered, and was weak and sick a long time from the gas poisoning. Some said my liver was damaged from that. I did not go to a doctor, but trusted the Lord, and, praise His dear name, He healed me!

We enjoyed the good messages at Monark Springs, Mo. campmeeting and seeing the dear faces from over the country. Wherever we hear the saints preach the Word, it helps us have a deeper determination to keep our eyes on Jesus only.

Bro. Lawrence, we are holding you before the throne for increased faith and complete healing.

To get the "Faith and Victory" paper is an encouragement, joy and pleasure to us. Thank you for the rolls of the "Faith and Victory." We will be prayerfully handing them out as time permits.

May the Lord bless and supply each need and encourage each one in the Lord's family.

Christian love,

—Doris Bowers

Miss.—Dear precious friends and co-laborers who are working together with the Lord for the salvation of souls: I appreciate so much your prayers, and all that you are doing for the Lord.

I am old and "well stricken in years." For more than 63 years, I have trusted Jesus for His saving, keeping, and healing power. "Not one word of His good promises has failed." By His help and grace I mean to trust Him alone to the last step of the way. He has promised to go with us. Bless His precious and holy name! "Behold, I am the Lord, the God of all flesh, is there anything too hard for me?" No, He can't fail. As our faith is, so shall it be. . . . I was never tempted to go back to medicine. I know that His way is best. Don't be discouraged, Bro. Pruitt. The Lord remembers. Victory will come.

In His love,

—Cressie Hudson

La.—Dear Sister Marie: I am glad for the strong, high tower, which is the name of the Lord, that the righteous can run into and be safe. Surely, we realize more and more just how much we need this strong, high tower

to run into in this day of trouble. We do know that the enemy of all of our souls is on our path to destroy us if he can. But I rejoice in His saving and keeping power, which will never decrease. Praise Him forever! He is yet mighty to save and mighty to keep, for His grace remains like the ocean, boundless and deep. My prayer is that the Lord will help us all to receive it in abundance.

We had services at Hammond, La., last Sunday, October 7. . . . I hope, if the Lord wills, to go to Jena, La., this coming Sunday, as they are having all-day services, including the ordinance service. . . .

I pray for you often. . . . I do pray that the Lord will give you courage and strength to press onward, and upward. God's grace is sufficient to take you through to the great eternal reward—the crown of life, joy and happiness in eternity. . . . I pray for Brother Lawrence and trust that he is improving in his condition.

—Sister La Verne Manuel

Oklahoma.—Dear Brother Lawrence, Sister Marie, and co-workers: Greetings of love in the name of our precious Saviour. We trust all are well and enjoying the rich blessings of the Lord.

We do pretty well, for which we want to give praise where praise is due. This has really been a busy year for us, and we are real thankful for strength and courage to meet the trials of life. The Lord has really blessed our efforts.

We enjoyed a real good meeting in Sapulpa, Oklahoma, last week. The preaching was real good.

Find enclosed an offering in honor of our late, dear Bro. Fred Pruitt's birthday [Oct. 4th]. We are so thankful to be serving the same God he served.

Love and prayers, —Oscar and Margie Wall

Indiana.—Dear Bro. Pruitt: Greetings to you and all the workers at the printshop and saints everywhere. I hope you are much improved in body and happy in the Lord.

I am praising my dear heavenly Father because my sins are gone, and I am on my way to heaven. Praise God forever! I surely thank the Lord for you dear folks who are putting out this wonderful truth to a lost world, and I want to do all I can to keep it coming out to save lost souls. . . . We love the little paper, "Faith and Victory," and all the books and tracts we get. We love the old-fashion Church of God, and believe there is none other, and I am glad to be a part of it.

Remember wife and me when you pray. I am praying for all of you.

Your Brother in the service of our King,

—Nathan Mobley

WHAT A TRACT CAN DO

Early in 1819, while waiting to see a patient, a young physician in New York took up and read a tract on missions, which lay in the room where he sat. On reaching home he spoke to his wife of the question that had arisen in his mind. As a result, they set out for Ceylon, and later, India, as foreign missionaries. For thirty years the wife, and for thirty-six years the husband labored among the heathen, and then went to their reward. Apart from what they did directly as missionaries, they left behind them seven sons and two daughters. Each of these sons married, and, with their wives and both sisters, gave themselves to the same mission work. Already have several grandchildren of the first missionary become missionaries in India. And thus far thirty of that family have given 529 years to India.

Testimonies and Answers to Prayer

N. Mex.—Dear Bro. and Sister Pruitt and co-workers: I greet you in the name of Jesus whom we love and serve with joy and praise.

I hope this finds all of you well and happy, and rejoicing in Jesus' love. He paid the price of our sins, and with His stripes we are healed. Oh, that all would praise and honor Him!

God has healed me, but the devil tries to impose affliction, yet I rebuke him in Jesus' name. If God wills, I will go on Oct. 20 to Alabama. Pray for me.

Your Sister in Jesus,

—Eunice Taylor

Florida.—Dear Sister Marie, greetings of much love to you and all the workers at the shop in the precious name of our Lord Jesus who sees and cares for all of us. I thank you for the tracts and letter.

I heard from my daughter. She says she feels like she is well. She knows we are praying for her. She is home and is doing nicely. I tell her to tell Jesus and trust in Him as I do and everything will be all right. . . .

I am so thankful to live with my sister. The Lord blesses us here. . . .

Your Sister in the One Body, —Sister E. B. McNair

Missouri.—Dear saints: I would like to write my testimony of how the Lord brought me out of a false church. I was brought up in that way and didn't know any better. I'm glad I see differently now. Praise the Lord! It took me a while to come out. I'm glad I did. I can rejoice in the Lord and praise Him more now. When I was in the false way, I felt dead and cold much of the time. . . . I began studying the second chapter of Acts and the Lord showed me what it was. My husband and his sister prayed for me and helped me to see it differently. I can rejoice that I have the victory in Jesus Christ.

I want all the saints to pray that I will stay true to the Lord. I love the Lord with all my heart. I want to learn all the truth that I can.

Your Sister in Christ,

—Mrs. John McPherson

Missouri.—Dear co-workers at the print shop and saints abroad: I appreciate salvation so much and what the Lord has done for me, also the love and consideration of the different saints toward me.

I recall how I reveled in sin before the Lord so mercifully saved me. I think of the woman mentioned in the Bible who was caught in adultery and how Christ dealt with her. She was not condemned, but sent on her way and told to sin no more. Thank the Lord!

I thought of the wells of salvation and how precious they are. We can have that living water if we but ask. It is like an artesian water well. People cap artesian wells sometimes and they cannot flow. When we lived in Alamosa, (the San Louis Valley), we had a capped well in our yard. Across from our garden fence was a large artesian well in a neighbor's field. It was never capped while we lived there. I have seen it in all four seasons. In spring, summer, and fall, it was a beautiful spray resembling a large waterfall, eight feet high. In winter, these sprays would freeze and form a large mound of ice up in the air. One winter it was nearly ten feet high, and the water kept spraying and freezing. The sun would come out and it would glisten and be beautiful to look upon. We can keep the living water surging through us, too, and our lives can be beautiful to look upon. We can be real examples of what the Lord would have us to be.

Or, we can reject and cap off that living water that Christ has for us, making a dreary, sad countenance and be a poor example and no encouragement to others.

If we keep the living waters flowing within, we won't be reaching out for different religious movements. We won't try to hoard up worldly gain, but we can be seen helping others. We will have joy, peace, and contentment that the world knows nothing about. We will be rooted and grounded in the truth, easily entreated, and easy to get along with. Our feelings won't be sticking out like a sore thumb. The Lord will give us grace to cope with all problems. It isn't so much what we have as it is what we do with what God prospers us with.

We regret Bro. and Sister Eck's leaving us here at Myrtle, but do want the Lord to bless them and have His way.

We are thankful that Bro. and Sister Atnip came our way, so we are not alone. May the Lord help us to endear them to our hearts also.

Bro. Audie Sorrell is at Thomas and Myrtle's (Sorrell) at present. He is progressing real well. The Lord has showed mercy again to our grandson, Dwane, and brought him through severe sickness with victory.

I have not been as well as usual of late, but my trust is in the One who does all things well. I was real sick, nauseated and vomiting badly, but before 10:30 last night I got relief and am up this morning feeling the Lord has undertaken. I thank Him so much for how He has come to my rescue.

Do pray for me that I stay humble and live pleasing to the Lord in every way. Also, remember my unsaved children.

Christian love, —Marie Miller

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

N. Mex. (Oct. 10)—Dear Brother and Sister Pruitt: About a week ago I was sick in bed. I sent a request for prayer to the saints. About as soon as they went to praying, I got to feeling better. I want to thank the saints for praying for me. I am up and getting around good now.

—Bro. E. B. Weir

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

Pennsylvania—Greetings of love. I am trusting all are well. I am thankful to say that the Lord is my Shepherd. I am thankful for His peace and soul rest. The Lord is man's best friend. I am trusting Him for all my needs. I'm pressing on with Jesus. He has brought me through many things. I will trust Him while I live and trust Him when I die. Sometimes I think my time is up, but the Lord keeps me here a while longer.

Thank you, Sister Miles, for the nice encouraging letters you write. They come at times when the trials are hard. . . .

Pray for me and my loved ones that they, too, may embrace this pure gospel. —Mother Olive Harris

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

N. Carolina—Dear saints: It is with a very grateful heart that I write my testimony. I have had eczema on my arms and hands almost every year of my life. It seemed to grow worse as I grew older. This summer, it became so severe on my hands that I couldn't even grasp anything very well. I requested prayer at prayer meeting (in Durham) one night and the saints were to fast the next day. My hands just seemingly got worse. We began to realize it was really going to be a battle. We kept holding on until one night it seemed we just had to have help. My hands had become almost a solid mass of running sores, then dried and cracked open. This was so painful, and I couldn't get relief. That night happened to be during prayer meeting at Guthrie, so my husband,

Ed, called for an agreement of prayer. The Lord eased the pain in a matter of minutes and I went off to sleep. They improved somewhat and had nearly cleared up when they broke out again. I knew the Lord had healed me, but this came as a surprise! I thought I had seen the last of those sores. I have never been sick, therefore, I had never had my faith tried for healing. I felt so alone with Ed at work and no saints near. I really felt sorry for myself! But God was trying to teach me some lessons.

With not being able to do my housework, and having to be waited on so much, I could feel my nerves were becoming rather frayed, besides having the eczema. I was trying to hold on by faith for visible results of my healing, but it was all so new to me and my faith felt weak.

I finally decided to call the printshop for prayer. Bro. Lawrence answered the phone. I don't remember what all he said, but I remember he said that our faith will be tried sometimes. My father [Murphy Allen] happened to be there in the printshop so I talked to him also. Both tried to speak encouragingly to me, which I appreciated. But what lifted me more than that, was their living examples. After I hung up, I felt so ashamed of myself. I hadn't stopped to think of the fight of faith both were having. All this came to my mind after talking to them. The Lord seemed to speak to me and say, "Now look at Bro. Lawrence and your father—they have much more serious afflictions than you do, and look how long they have been holding on by faith." Looking at such examples was really a lift to me. My faith was strengthened, and Romans 8:25 became a reality: "But if we hope for that we see not, then do we with patience wait for it." As I began to realize what faith really was (hoping for that we see not), I became so much more patient and calm. Then this portion of song came to me:

"Regarding not what I may see
My faith, O Lord, ascends to thee. . . .
My cry shall be till time shall cease
O blessed Lord, my faith increase."

We have truly appreciated the prayers and concern of the saints during this time. It has meant more to us than we can express. I am not sorry that this has come my way. The Lord knew exactly what I needed and I appreciate the fact that He loved me enough to send it my way. I have been humbled by it and have learned many precious lessons through it. My hands are almost normal now—all praise be to our great God!

We desire your prayers that we will be faithful and endure what comes our way, "that the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ." 1 Peter 1:7.

—Janice Johnston

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

When you are forgotten or neglected or purposely set at naught, and you smile inwardly, glorying in the insult or oversight, because thereby you are counted worthy to suffer with Christ—that is victory. When your good is evil spoken of, when your wishes are crossed, your taste offended, your advice disregarded, your opinions ridiculed, and you take it all in patient, loving silence—that is victory. —Sel.

To walk in the Spirit we must avoid talking for talk's sake, or merely to entertain. To speak effectively we must speak in God's appointed time, and in harmony with the indwelling Holy Spirit. —Sel.

"UNAWARES"

"By surprise, without warning"—Dictionary

Luke 21:34-36, "And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares. For as a snare shall it come on all them that dwell on the face of the whole earth. Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man."

Overcharged is "filled or loaded too full." In this case, to be filled or loaded too full with eating and drinking and cares of this life—this present world.

Surfeit means super abundance, excess, or excessive indulgence in, (as in food and drink).

Take notice that the things Jesus warns us about are not great sins, but the common, everyday necessities of life. It is necessary for us to have food and drink. Physically, we could not live long without them. There is, however, a great danger in being too much concerned, or taken up with these things.

Jesus said "that day" (meaning the Judgment Day) may come upon us **without warning** if we become fully taken up with surfeiting, with eating and drinking.

God commands us (Matt. 6:25), "Therefore, I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body more than raiment?" In other words, He is saying, "Do not become loaded down with concern for what you will eat, drink or wear. There is more to life and your body than any of these things." (Paraphrased.)

We live in an age of super abundance in America. Almost everyone has more than they need of many things, and are always seeking more. This is an age of eating and drinking. When we eat more or drink more than we need, that is surfeiting. When we seek after more and better possessions for ourselves than we actually need, that is excess. No longer are men content to live simply. Life has become complicated because we must have this or that, or more and newer and finer homes, cars, and possessions of all kinds. We have lost the joy of being thankful to God for our daily bread, and each necessity supplied. Instead, lives are burdened because we must work so hard to pay for all these things we think we must have.

Work in itself is not wrong. "The sleep of a laboring man is sweet," the Wise Man tells us. It is not wrong in itself to make money. What is wrong is the purpose we make it for, or use it for. We are told so plainly not to lay our treasures up on this earth. Instead, this is what the Word says, "Sell that ye have, and give alms; provide yourselves bags which wax not old, a treasure in the heavens that faileth not: where no thief approacheth, neither moth corrupteth." Would you sell what you have and give it away? **Did you know that only what you give away**

is what you can keep? That is all the lasting treasure we can have.

When those repenting came to John the Baptist, and asked, "What shall we do then?" [to be saved], he answered and said unto them, "He that hath two coats, let him impart [give, or bestow] to him that hath none; and he that hath meat, let him do likewise." Luke 3:11.

I wonder how many ever think about this portion of the Scriptures?

Here is another scripture that should give us much to consider. Ephesians 4:28, "Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth." This is quite a different reason for working than most people have!

No where does God's Word teach us to store up treasure here, but rather to lay it up in heaven. **"For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."** Remember, the Son of God "had not where to lay his head"—but we sleep on firm mattresses, with pillows under our heads. When Jesus died on the cross, His meager belongings were parted (divided), by lot among the soldiers who had nailed Him there. Our closets hang full of garments, and we always need something "new" before we wear out the old. To have changes of apparel is not wrong, but excess is. To have a mattress, a pillow, even a home, is not wrong. It is when we begin to expend all our efforts and time toward having these things, and have no time to tend to spiritual duties, or nothing left over to give to him that needeth, that these things become a snare to us.

Whom did the King commend in Matt. 25:36, 40? Those who had fed the hungry, given drink to the thirsty, clothed the naked, visited the sick and the prisoners, and shown hospitality to strangers. Are there not many hungry souls today who need to be fed with the bread and water of life? Should our doors not be opened to those coming our way that we can minister to? Should our hands not be opened in mercy to the sick and the prisoners of sin? **What are we doing to help spread the gospel?** Are we concerned enough about lost individuals? Have we become so surfeited we have lost the compassion, the pity, the mercy God would show forth in us, toward a lost and dying world? Have our hearts become hardened by the deceitfulness of riches until we are content to live in our own selfish way, holding aloft our empty lamp of profession?

There is a real danger of the saints being led away with the spirit of the time we live in. This is why Jesus warns us, "Take heed to yourselves lest at any time your hearts be overcharged." Any time our hearts become burdened, filled with thoughts of anxiety about temporal things (for now, or in the future), we stand in danger! Then if the Lord should come, or the Death Angel call, could we stand before the Son of God in peace?

We are to be faithful stewards of our time, too. True, we must work and provide the necessities of life, but are we living for what we eat and drink and wear and to lay up for our old age, etc., or, are we

living for the world to come? Remember in the parable of the sower, the seed that was sown among the thorns became **unfruitful**. The thorns are the cares of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches. We are torn and wounded by thorns. Jesus said it was the thorns that "choked" the word and caused it to become unfruitful. Have you seen a garden choked by thorns and weeds? In our area, we have "sticker bushes," and if we don't keep these bushes cut down, soon our seed fails to mature as it should. The "sticker bushes" really take the garden. There are so many of them, and although we chop them down, it isn't long until many more spring up. It is necessary to keep chopping.

I remember the testimony of a saint long ago who had been praying for the Lord to show her how to be more spiritual. One day the Lord spoke to her and said, "Cultivate your salvation." Farmers know what it means to cultivate their crops, and I think all of us can understand that to "cultivate" our salvation means to work at it, tend it, keep the weeds and "sticker bushes" cut out so that they cannot "choke" our salvation. We should not let anything come before God in our life! I believe some are unaware they are "choked." When we rush to get our hay in, our chickens fed, our crops planted, our homes built and painted and remodeled, and our time is all taken up with these things, until we have a hard time finding a little time "left over" to breathe a prayer to God, or we fall asleep when we try to snatch a few words from the Scriptures, it is time to become alarmed about our spiritual condition. We have become "overcharged!" God is worthy of first place, and it is a dishonor to offer Him leftovers!

Jesus said, "For as a snare it shall come on all them that dwell on the face of the whole earth." A snare is a trap consisting of a noose. A noose is something to get hung in. "For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night. For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape." 1 Thess. 5:2, 3. Also 2 Peter 3:10, 12, and Rev. 3:3.

Luke 12:39, 40, speaks of the Lord's coming "at an hour when ye think not." When we aren't thinking about it; when our thoughts are full of other things; then the Lord will come. Before Jesus spoke these words, He urged His disciples (and us), to "take no thought for your life" (this earthly one) what ye shall eat; neither for the body, what ye shall put on. Read also verses 22 and 31 of Luke 12th chapter.

Luke 17:26-30 tells us that men will be going about their normal pursuits when the Lord comes—eating, drinking, marrying, giving in marriage, buying, selling, etc. The world will have no inkling or hint that the Lord is near. Will it be so with the saints also? Paul, in 1 Thess. 5:4-11, tells us we are the children of day, "therefore let us not sleep as do others; but let us watch and be sober." We are not to let that day come upon us unawares. "For ye were sometimes darkness [ye walked in darkness for some time], but now are ye light in the Lord [now you

have understanding]: walk as children of light." Eph. 5:8. Let us not be caught sleeping as those in darkness, nor drunken on the cares of life. Let us take heed unto ourselves. Are our hearts overcharged? Are we thinking more about this present life, spending our time and using our energies and means to gain the things of this world, while our spiritual life is slowly being choked? Are we grieving the Spirit of God away, instead of being led by the Spirit? Will "that day" take us unawares? —Thelma Sprague

Mighty Working Power

The huge 747 jet airplane has the potential of great power. When the pilot starts the motors and pushes the buttons, it lifts off the ground with its passengers and cargo. But that airplane will not move unless the pilot has enough faith in the power that it possesses to start the motors. Just looking at it, or knowing about it, will not make it work.

Our God has great power, but we must have faith in that great power for it to be of any help to us. The Apostle Paul knew about this mighty working power. He wanted us to know about it. He writes, "That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him: . . . that ye may know . . . what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power, which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places." Eph. 1:17-20.

Notice that this mighty working power is to "us-ward who believe." We must have faith in God. It will never do us any good unless we, by faith, let His mighty working power work in our hearts and then we can see the effects of that power. For this power to work, self must be crucified and only a dependent, humble attitude toward God must be working. Patience must be exercised also. We must remember that God's ways and time are not according to our way of thinking of time and the way things should be done. We must just literally let go and let God.

What kind of power will work when we place ourselves and the whole situation into His hands? That same power that we know about through many witnesses, that God used to raise Jesus from the dead and caused Him to ascend to His Father. The power of God was so great around that tomb that the soldiers, who were placed there to guard the body of Jesus, fell down as dead men. They were helpless. Oh, dear weary soul, look up. You can have this same mighty working power in your life. First, get out of the way and let God take care of it. Many times God can't work because we seem to think we have to do this or say that. Trust God to do it in His own time, and then it will be done perfectly.

We thank God for those who are letting God work in their lives. As I think of the different ones of the saints that I know, they loom up as spiritual giants before me. There are those wives who have to live

with their drunken husbands and God gives them grace. Those poor men are ruled by the demon of drink that holds sway over them. They do things that they would never do when they are sober. Again and again, those saved wives need God to help them keep sweet and trust God, sometimes even for their very life. Those poor men are to be pitied and need much prayer, so they will be delivered from that wicked demon of liquor. But those wives need some of this "mighty working power" in their lives to be able to stay with them and trust God to deal with their souls. Some dear sisters that I know, suffer greatly through various ways from their husbands, yet they want to win them and not very many others even know what they suffer. Through the mighty working power in their lives, they go forth with a smile and victory. How can they do this? Only through dying out to self and letting God work in them by faith with His mighty working power. Praise God for each one! They are spiritual giants and God's blessings are upon them.

There are those husbands who live with wives who drink and do many other wicked things which cause them great distress. Thank God for those saved husbands and fathers who know about this mighty working power. They are spiritual giants because they do not think of themselves, but have put everything into God's hands and are watching Him work. Those wives are driven by the devil and need to be pitied. They need God in their lives.

There are saved parents who are spiritual giants. They are weeping, praying, and seeking God daily for their children. They feel the weight of the responsibility that God has placed upon them to guide their children rightly. They are forgetting themselves and are looking to God for that mighty working power to help them. They are busy doing things with their teen-agers that will keep them interested in the things of the Lord and not the things of the world. We appreciate our saved parents.

There are those young people who daily face a hostile world which is bidding high for them today. The world offers many enticing things to lure them away from God and His work. Young people feel that the future is before them. In their natural strength, they feel that they can go out and take from the world what the flesh desires. Their minds are keen and their lives are before them. Oh, how we do appreciate those young people who are putting God first in their lives and are heeding the call of God rather than the call of the world. We see the mighty working power of God in their lives and we humbly ask God to bless them. We want to see them strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. We are glad for those who are going through hard things, yet clinging to the Lord.

Thank God for the spiritual giants today through whom the mighty working power of God is manifested.

—Sister Marie Miles

Nothing, no matter what it may be, is "trivial" if it is done to the glory of God.

Head Faith and Heart Faith

"With the heart man believeth unto righteousness." We have narrowed the word righteousness down to mean only the right condition of the soul. The true meaning of the word is, being right, and it includes spirit and body. When man fell his whole being suffered through it. God provided a full salvation for the whole man. Jesus did all that was necessary to secure this redemption, and we can get it by faith.

There is a head faith and a heart faith.

The head faith brings us nothing, but heart faith brings us everything that Jesus secured for us, which is perfect rightness in spirit, soul, and body. Most people believe with the head only, hence do not get what God has promised. The head sees, understands and counts things true, but only the heart can appropriate, or lay hold of and cling to, things that are "freely given us of God." The head looks at the surroundings, difficulties, and hindrances. The heart looks at the thing desired, and the promise of God and refuses to see the hindrances. It is the heart that "Laughs at impossibilities, and cries, 'IT SHALL be done.'" Head faith is strong when things are favorable, but heart faith is just as strong when all things are against it, because it rests on the Almighty God who cannot be hindered by any person, power or thing.

Head faith grows weak and fails when the answer is delayed. Heart faith says, "I received when I prayed, and the answer is as much mine NOW as it will be when I have it manifested." Head faith says, "Be careful not to profess until you can see, for by so doing, you may bring reproach on the cause." Heart faith says, "The thing I am asking is sure to appear soon and confirm my profession, and I shall honor His cause because God ALWAYS rewards faith." Head faith says, "There might be a failure." Heart faith says, "Because of God's promise and His oath to keep His promise, it is impossible for failure to come." Head faith says, "I trusted until I saw everything getting worse." Heart faith says, "Though He slay me, YET will I trust in Him," and, "I shall yet praise Him for the help of His countenance." (Psalms 42:5).

The head reasons about things. God says, "Casting down imaginations [margin says, reasonings] and everything that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God." (2 Corinthians 10:5). The heart lays hold of things that are beyond ALL reasons; holds fast and expects God to do things that are impossible—contrary to reason. The head investigates how God is working, the progress, and results. The heart clings to His Word, even when there is nothing in evidence. The head says, "I shall know I have my petition when my senses give evidence that it is in my possession—when I can see it, feel it and experience it." The heart says, "I KNOW I have it NOW, because I have met the conditions and have taken it." It is the heart that "Stands still and SEES what,

to others, is invisible." It is the heart faith Paul is speaking of when he says it is "the evidence of things NOT seen."

Head faith gives up easily, but the heart faith is that of Jacob that cries, "I WILL not let Thee go, except Thou bless me." It was the heart faith that caused the Syrophenician woman to hold on to Jesus when "He answered her not a word," and not to leave when the disciples wanted Him to send her away. (See Matthew 15:22-32.) It was heart faith that would not be discouraged even when Jesus told her that He was not sent to her, because she was not an Israelite and that it was not right to give "the children's bread" to her. Heart faith, when all else has failed, will do what she did—fall down at Jesus' feet in humility and worship until He says, "Be it unto thee even as thou wilt." Jesus will always say that to heart faith when we are seeking after anything that God has promised in His Word. It is only to heart faith that He says, "As thou hast believed, so be it done unto thee." Head faith gets discouraged easily, but it is of heart faith that the Bible says, "This is the victory that overcomes the world even our faith." Jesus said that Satan was the prince of this world. If faith overcomes the world, it must overcome its prince, so the above includes all our spiritual enemies.

If you have been believing for something and have not yet had it in evidence, see if your faith has not been the head faith, which is dependent upon seeing, feeling, and experiencing before it can rejoice in the answer. See if you have not been reasoning and have not been affected by obstacles in the way. Perhaps you have the head faith that says, "It will be done some time," instead of the heart faith that says, "It was done when I prayed." Oh, exercise the heart faith that deals with the unseen and counts things that be NOT, as though they WERE, and then you will overcome all obstacles, even the devil himself, by that faith which overcomes the world.

The Bible says that God looketh on the heart. He will not see or regard your head faith. He is not looking at your head and it will not matter how much head faith you have; but He will see the heart faith, even when it is as small as a grain of mustard seed, and will NEVER fail to say to that faith, "According to thy faith be it unto thee." You must remember, however, that it is the heart faith that worketh "by love." If there is the least bit of dislike or criticism in your heart to even the most trying person, this heart faith cannot work because it worketh ONLY by love. The Bible says, "If our heart condemn us not, THEN have we confidence toward God." Many of God's children do not FEEL condemned by things that God's Word condemns. If there is any person I will not forgive and truly love; if I will not fully obey God; if there is pride, selfishness, or wilfulness in my heart; these things condemn me before God and hinder my faith. It is only when we are abiding in Christ that "there is no condemnation," and we have confidence (faith)

toward God. God says we abide in Christ ONLY as we walk as He walked. (1 John 2:6).

Examine your faith, and if you have been exercising head faith, exchange it quickly for the heart faith that will bring to you all God has promised in His precious Word.

—Selected

The Open Door That Closed

"AND THE LORD SHUT HIM IN!" Genesis 7:16

The door of the Ark stood open for a long time. The people got accustomed to seeing it standing open. It stood open so long that no one felt any alarm. It always seemed that there was plenty of time, just because it stood open so long.

While the door stood open, Noah delivered his warning message. He warned men of a coming flood because of world-wide wickedness. He preached the righteousness of God, and called upon men to repent. While he preached, the Spirit strove with men, but Noah's message fell on pleasure-loving, sin-hardened ears. Men gave themselves to gluttony—to eating and drinking in excess—and to marrying and giving in marriage—a life of legalized lust, void of the sacredness of the marriage tie. Man had filled the earth with violence, and man's wickedness was very great.

While Noah preached, the door of the Ark stood open—and the weeks grew into months, and the months grew into years, and men grew in sin, and matured in transgressions, and ripened in iniquity, making of God's long-suffering mercy an occasion to sin yet more and more.

Doubtless, some thought that IF it rained the Ark would be a nice place to be in—but, of course, it would not rain since it never had rained. (Genesis 2:5, 6.) And possibly some thought that if they went in, and it did not rain, they would be laughed at.

While Noah preached, he labored—his preaching and work all telling the same story—**THE FLOOD WAS COMING!**

So while they laughed, he labored—and while they jeered, he joined timbers—while they mocked, he mortised beams—while they danced, he daubed seams with pitch—while they feasted, no doubt he fasted.

The constant sunshine never discouraged Noah. He spent no time looking for clouds, or listening for thunder. He never lost faith in his message.

God had been patient and long-suffering—but the 120 years of grace finally drew to a close. When the time for the flood came, the fowls, and the cattle, and the beasts, and the creeping things were gathered into the Ark to restock the earth, and God said to Noah, "Come thou and all thy house into the Ark." Genesis 7:1.

Up to that time the sun shone just as brightly, the birds sang just as sweetly, men plied their callings and pursued their pleasure with no omens or sense of impending disaster. Sin was just as bold

and rampant and defiant—the mocking and jeering at the Ark and its builder were unabated.

Then!— then!!— THEN!!!—a mysterious and awful thing happened!—the door that stood open so long began to swing slowly shut!—closing tightly!—and, “THE LORD SHUT HIM IN!”

Then the air grew hazy—and the sky became overcast with clouds, the gentle breezes sighed and moaned, became fitful and angry, increasing to gales and shrieking tempest and tearing tornadoes. Dazzling lightnings leaped across the gathering blackness, and pealing thunders rumbled and roared—and THEN CAME THE RAIN!—showers and sheets and torrents and cloud-bursts; and “the same day were all the fountains of the deep broken up, and the windows of heaven were opened.” Genesis 7:11.

In the meantime, THE DOOR WAS SHUT! The same door that shut Noah and his family IN, shut all that unbelieving generation OUT!

The time came when every one of them believed!—but THE DOOR WAS SHUT!

The time came when they pleaded and prayed for admittance, and beat their fists upon the Ark—AFTER THE DOOR WAS SHUT!

Outside of the Ark the “King of Terrors” held universal sway. Retributive Justice had transformed a world of life into a world of death, destruction—world-wide and mountain-high, engulfing the earth in universal ruin. A fair creation that once called from its Maker the superlative note of praise, was now by the same Omnipotent hand turned into a chaos of ruin—because of man’s SIN.

Above this carnival of destruction, with its nameless tragedies unseen and unheard—rode the Ark with its precious cargo of life, bound for the Port of Hope in a renewed world.

The destruction was not instantaneous, but gradual. The lowlands were first inundated and deserted. Perhaps few perished there—most fled to the uplands. As the flood crept upward, submerging the elevations, men and beasts and great snakes fought for possession of little islands just above the rising waters. But gradually and relentlessly that ever-increasing menace pursued and overtook them one by one—and there came the hush of a great silence, unbroken by frenzied appeal or supplication of prayer—hushed was the voice of ridicule—silenced were the mockings of unbelief—stilled were the wise men and their arguments that there would be no flood.

Infidels would have us believe that the story of the flood is but a superstition—a baseless legend—an invention of priest-craft.

Let Earth bear her own testimony to the flood. Spread over the tops of highest mountains are sea-shells and skeletons of fish and deep-sea monsters—HOW CAME THEY THERE? Skeletons of elephants and whales were found buried in England, skeletons of crocodiles in Germany—HOW CAME THEY THERE? In Arctic Siberia, elephants that cannot live in a cold climate are found frozen in the ice with their flesh so well preserved that dogs and wolves eat of it greedily, and in several instances

scientists have had a meal of this ancient meat which has been kept in cold storage down through the centuries. The question is—HOW DID IT COME THERE? Butterflies have been found in glacial ice at Cardovo, Alaska—HOW CAME THEY THERE?

The FLOOD is the answer to all these questions—they were washed there by the flood.

The story of the Ark and of the flood is a vital story of our time. Jesus’ chief use of it was as a type of the spiritual blindness and pleasure loving spirit that will characterize the time of His coming.

Jesus said: “For as in the days that were before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered in the Ark and KNEW not until the flood came and took them all away, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.” Matthew 24:38, 39.

For 120 years Noah had been preaching the coming of the flood—yet they “KNEW NOT,” until it came—evidently, they BELIEVED NOT—yet it came! This story reveals the enormity of sin—its prevalence and judgment. It reveals God’s mercy that bears long with the wicked that they might repent. It reveals God’s uniform way in dealing with the wicked to amply warn them before judgment.

“But the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven, and destroyed them all. Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed.” Luke 17:29, 30.

The Ark is a type of Christ. As the Ark carried over from the old world the citizens for the new, just so, Christ will carry over from this world the citizens of the “new Heavens and new Earth.”

Has my reader engaged PASSAGE?

—Selected

THE FATHER’S HAND

While through this changing world below
I would not choose my path to go;
’Tis Father’s hand that leadeth me,
Then, O how safe His child must be.

Sometimes we walk in sunshine bright,
Sometimes in darkness of the night;
Sometimes the way I cannot see
But Father’s hand still leadeth me.

Sometimes there seems no way to take,
But Father’s hand a way doth make.
Sometimes I hear Him gently say,
“Come follow Me, this is the way.”

Why should I mind the way I go?
His way is best for me, I know.
He is my strength, my truth, my way,
He is my comfort, rod, and stay.

So on we travel hand in hand,
Bound for the heavenly promised Land
Always through all Eternity,
I’ll praise His name for leading me.

—Ida L. Cornett