# FAITHAND VICTORY Church of God Servant



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## Christ Is Born

Christ is born, we love to tell it— How the Saviour came to save, And our hearts in praises swell it, While salvation's banners wave.

Age to age the sound is ringing Out the news to all the earth, Hope and peace, salvation bringing, Giving men a heavenly birth.

Christ is born, He came from Heaven Human form to take upon; All His glory-power given, Breaking forth a glorious dawn.

He, the Morning Star, arises
From the sea of dark despair,
And Himself He sacrifices,
Bears our sorrows and our care.

Christ is born, life's pathway starting: Every phase of human woe He endured, each day imparting Grace triumphant o'er the foe.

Hell is moved at His appearing,
Satan seeks to cast Him down,
But He forward comes, not fearing,
Takes from him the victor's crown.

Christ is born, my friend, He willeth Not thy death or endless loss; All the restless strife He stilleth Through the atonement of His cross.

He is living now in Glory,
Ris'n triumphant o'er the grave;
He is able, wond'rous story!
To the uttermost to save.

-Leslie Busbee

"And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name Jesus: for he shall save his people from their sins."

# A Gift For YOU!

As the Christmas season draws near, our mind is filled with many thoughts; however, there is one thing that stands out considerably more than the others. That one thing is a "gift." We think of a gift as something that one gives to or bestows upon another.

The giving of a gift is usually prompted by one thing-love. Oh, yes, there are some that only give to receive: they give in hopes of making gain, but think of how foreign to God's plan is this type of giving. In 2 Cor. 9:7 we read, "Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver." Yes, when we think of giving, we want to think of it being motivated by love. As we give, we expect our gift to be received with thanksgiving. We do not expect it to be refused. Have you ever desired to show your love to someone by doing some kind deed for him or giving him something? Have you ever had someone refuse to accept the gift of love you were trying to give him? "Oh," you may say, "don't think of something like that." But what kind of feeling would something like that bring to you? It would no doubt be one of sorrow and disappointment. Maybe you worked hard and sacrificed much in order to fulfill your desire only to have your efforts turned away and shunned: but, on the other hand, how happy and joyful it makes us to see our gift accepted with happiness and thanksgiving. All of the toil and sacrifice are forgotten as we behold the rejoicing of the one on whom we have bestowed our love.

Now, I would like for us to turn our minds in a little different direction of thought. Up to this point, we have been thinking along the lines of temporal things, but now I would like for us to seriously consider the spiritual side. Have you ever thought about God having a special gift for YOU? Yes, God has already given His gift and He is now waiting to see if you are going to receive it. What is this gift and what prompted the giving of it? For our

answer, let us look to a familiar text of Scripture found in John 3:16. "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." Think of what great love God had for you and me! He gave all He had—His only Son. As was written by the poet, "The love of God is greater far than tongue or pen can ever tell; it goes beyond the highest star, and reaches to the lowest hell. . . . Oh, love of God, how rich and pure! How measureless and strong!"

This gift of God was given freely and without grudging. It was done with love for you and me. Oh, yes, it was a great sacrifice for Him and it hurt Him so much to know and see what His dear Son had to suffer for your sake and mine. Yes, Jesus took our place. He took our sins upon Himself and bore them to the cross so that we would not have to be condemned to eternal death, but rather, through Him, could inherit eternal life. As God gave His Son. He did not want His gift to be refused. He wanted everyone to receive the gift of His dear Son.

Dear reader, have you refused to accept this gift? Oh, how can you do such a thing? Think of how the great heart of God is grieved to see His wonderful gift spurned away, shunned, and talked about as evil. Oh, dear one, how would you feel if you were God? We should be thankful for this priceless gift. We should be happy to open our hearts wide and receive the gift, Jesus Christ, into our hearts. As St. Paul said, "Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift." 2 Cor. 9:15.

Let us now consider some of the blessings or benefits of accepting God's gift to us. The first thing that one finds when he accepts Christ is peace. While one is in sin, he does not have peace. Sin separates us from God: sin causes us to be at enmity with God. The one in sin knows that if he were to die, he would be unprepared to meet God and could have no hope of dwelling in heaven with God. Oh, what distress and anguish sin brings to one's life. What despair, sorrow, and disappointment there is in sin! Praise the Lord, there has been a way provided for mankind that they do not have to remain in sin. Now, through the gift of His dear Son, Jesus Christ, we can have the burden of sin removed. No longer do we have to live under the condemnation of sin. The distress and anguish of sin has been replaced by the sweet, quiet peace and love of God in our hearts. Our sins have been forgiven and removed from us "as far as the east is from the west." Notice this scripture in Isaiah 32:17, which says, "And the work of righteousness shall be peace; and the effect of righteousness quietness and assurance for ever." Just think of what a beautiful picture is portrayed in this verse. How different this is from the burden of sin! This wonderful peace is found in Christ. "These things I have spoken unto you, that in me [Christ] ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world." John 16:33.

Next, we would like to think of the comfort we find in Christ. When we are going through some great trial or being tested on some line, it is such a comfort to know that we are not alone. though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me." Psa. 23:4. It is such a great privilege and comfort to be able to cast all our care on Him because He cares for us. 1 Peter 5:7. Many times we are in trials or carry heavy burdens that others know nothing about, but it is so wonderful how the Lord blesses our souls and gives us the comfort and strength that no other can give. The Word is of such comfort to us in hours of trial. Have you had the Lord whisper to you, "I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee?" Oh, how hard it is for one to try to walk his path alone! Yes, through the gift of God we can find all of the comfort, help, and strength we will ever need in this life, but we must accept Christ in our hearts before we can have these blessings.

There are so many wonderful things we find through Christ, such as joy, love, patience, humility, sanctification, and healing for our bodies. We do not have space to elaborate on all of these things, but in conclusion we would like to think about eternal life. We are well aware of the shortness and uncertainty of this natural life. The Word of God plainly instructs us that we should not strive and labour for these temporal things that will pass away with time, but that we should labour for the things that are not seen-the things that are eternal. If there was not any hereafter, we would not have to be concerned about these things, but the Bible clearly shows us what comes after this mortal life is over. There is a reward, either good or bad, awaiting every soul. "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." Rom. 6:23. Notice that this scripture shows us how eternal life is obtained-through Jesus Christ. You cannot have one without the other. Yes, everyone would like to have eternal life, but he must first accept Christ. "Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock. And everyone that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand." Matt. 7:24, 26.

Dear reader, do not be as the foolish, but make the wise choice and let Jesus come into your heart. You will never have another gift equal to this one offered to you. It is a priceless gift: it is the supreme gift, the GIFT of gifts! There are no imitations or substitutes. Will you accept it?

-Randall Flynn

What is rest? To step out of self-life into Christlife; to lie still, and let him lift you out of it; to realize that you are not a mighty messenger, an important worker of His, full of care and responsibility, but only a little child with a Father's gentle bidding to heed and fufill.

—Sel,

# "Yet Forty Days"

Nineveh was an exceeding great city and the people of that city had corrupted themselves in their lust, revelry, pride, and indifference to God until God's wrath had been kindled against them and was sending the prophet Jonah to that city to preach unto them. The message that God gave Jonah for them was short and to the point. Without any qualifications, He told Jonah to say, "Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown." When God told him to cry against the city, for their wickedness had come up before Him, he arose to flee from the presence of the Lord. He did not have courage to face the people of that city with such unqualified judgment. Perhaps he thought he would be slain by them for carrying them such a message. He took a ship to Tarshish. There arose a mighty tempest and the ship was in danger of sinking. He was thrown overboard and the Lord had prepared a great fish to swallow Jonah. He was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights. Then Jonah cried unto the Lord, prayed to God, and became humble, willing and obedient, saying, "They that observe lying vanities forsake their own mercy. I will sacrifice unto thee with the voice of thanksgiving; I will pay that that I have vowed. Salvation is of the Lord." Then the Lord spake unto the fish, and it vomited Jonah out upon the dry land.

God spoke to Jonah again the second time and told him to go to Nineveh, that great city, and "preach unto it the preaching I bid thee." Jonah was willing and obedient this time and he went and entered into the city a day's journey and began to preach, "Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown." scripture says, "So the people of Nineveh believed God." That is just what the people of today need to do-believe God, believe the gospel. If people would really believe the gospel there would be a mighty stir in the land. Folks would repent, fast and cry mightily unto God until He forgave and rained righteousness down upon them. The people of Nineveh proved that they believed God, for they proclaimed a fast and put on sackcloth, the greatest to the least. The king was stirred in heart, laid off his robe and it was published as a decree of the king, "Let neither man nor beast, herd nor flock, taste anything; let them not feed nor drink water; but let man and beast be covered with sackcloth, and cry mightily unto God: yea, let them turn everyone from his evil way, and from the violence that is in their hands. Who can tell if God will turn and repent, and turn away from His fierce anger that we perish not?" Dear reader, you can see by the deeds of those people that it meant more than just turning over a new leaf to repent.

There were many people that came to John the Baptist who had not repented from the heart, and he said unto them, "O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bring forth, therefore, fruits meet for repentance."

The people of Nineveh turned away from their evil ways, fasted, prayed, and called mightily upon

God. They bore fruits of repentance, real heart repentance. It is written, "And God saw their works that they turned from their evil ways; and God repented of the evil that He said He would do unto them; and He did it not."

Dear soul, if you want to find favor with God, and be prepared to meet Him, you will have to repent, turn away from all evil and observe His ways.

Paul tells us in the tenth chapter of Romans, the tenth verse, "For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation."

We will now quote some scriptures you should believe and act accordingly to find favor with God. I mean that He will lift all condemnation and guilt from your soul and you will find peace with God through belief in the Lord Jesus Christ, for Jesus was the Lamb of God that was sacrificed for us, appeasing the wrath of God for all the sins that we have committed. Believe it and thou shalt live. With all your sins blotted out, you will be fully prepared to meet God.

"Seek ye the Lord while He may be found, call ye upon Him while He is near. Let the wicked for-sake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord, and He will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon." (Isaiah 55:6, 7).

"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. If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land: but if ye refuse and rebel, ye shall be devoured with the sword, for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it." (Isa. 1:18-20).

There are several instances recorded in the Bible where men really repented and found favor with God. The prodigal son, (recorded in the fifteenth chapter of Luke) when he came to himself, began to repent and confess his sins to his father. He first had to arise and go (which means quitting your sinful ways) to his father and then said, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before thee." He proved to the father that he had really repented from the heart when he quit evil and came to him. The father was looking for him and had compassion on him, fell on his neck, and kissed him—truly forgave him, and began to minister unto his needs. —Fred Pruitt

#### What Is A Home Without A Bible?

What is home without a Bible?
'Tis a place where day is night,
For o'er life's beclouded pathway
Heaven can shed no kindly light.

What is home without a Bible?
"Tis a place where daily bread
For the body is provided,
But the soul is never fed.

What is home without a Bible?
"Tis a vessel on the sea,
Compass lost and rudder broken,
Drifting, drifting, aimlessly!

# "FAITH AND VICTORY"

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This publication teaches salvation from all sin, sanctification for believers, unity and oneness for which Jesus prayed as recorded in John 17:21 and manifested by the apostles and believers after Pentecost. By God's grace we teach, preach, and practice the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ, the same gospel which Peter, John, and Paul preached, taught, and practiced, including the divine healing of the body. James 5:14, 15.

Its motto: Have faith in God. Its object: The glory

Its motto: Have faith in God. Its object: The glory of God and the salvation of men; the restoration and promulgation of the whole truth to the people in this "evening time" as it was in the morning church of the first century; the unification of all true believers in one body by the love of God. Its standard: Separation from the sinful world and entire devotion to the services and will of God. Its characteristics: No discipline but the Bible, no bond of union but the love of God, and no test of fellowship but the indwelling Spirit of Christ.

Through the Free Literature Fund thousands of gospel tracts are published and sent out free of charge as the Lord supplies. Co-operation of our readers is solicited, and will be appreciated in any way the Bible and the Holy Spirit teaches you to do or stirs your heart. "Freely ye have received, freely give." Read Exodus 25:2; 1st Chron. 29:9; 2 Cor. 9:7; and Luke 6:38.

Free-will offerings sent in to the work will be thankfully received as from the Lord. Checks and money orders should be made payable to Faith Publishing House.

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

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

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## **EDITORIALS**



THE SEASON'S GREETINGS TO ALL OUR READERS in the precious name of the Holy Child Jesus, of whom Zacharias prophesied, saying, "Blessed be the Lord God of Israel; for he hath visited and redeemed his people, and hath raised up an horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David; as he spake by the mouth of his holy prophets, which have been since the world began: that we should be saved from our enemies, and from the hand of all that hate us; to perform the mercy promised to our fathers, and to remember his holy covenant; the oath which he sware to our father Abraham, that he would grant unto us, that we being delivered out of the hand of our enemies might serve him without fear, in holiness and righteousness before him, all the days of our life." Luke 1:68-75. May God's presence abide with you now and always.

#### The deceptive Christmas spirit, beware! . . .

Readers, we solemnly warn you to beware of the perverted Christmas spirit which pervades the non-professing and nominal Christian world. The modern, commercialized celebration of Christmas, with its debauchery and revelry, supposedly in observance of Christ's birthday, is a disgrace and a reproach upon the name of the Holy Child Jesus. Christmas (from Christ Mass), as presently celebrated by the so-called Christian world, is an institution originated by Papal Rome, the "Beast," whom the Revelator designated "Mystery, Babylon the Great, the mother of harlots and abominations of the earth." Beware, lest ye be partakers of her sins and receive of her plagues.

Bro. George Hammond, who had returned to India with Bro. Varghese on August 15, had advised us that he would arrive by plane in Oklahoma City on Nov. 2. However, he left India earlier, and at 10:30 p.m. on Thursday night, Oct. 31, a phone call came from him at the airport in Oklahoma City. We drove down and picked him up. He was well in body and happy in the service of the Lord. Last Wednesday night, Nov. 13, he gave an encouraging report to the Guthrie congregation of his mission contacts in India. He has now made application for a visa to Nigeria where the native mission workers there are pleading for someone to come from the U. S. A. Pray that the Lord's will be done to answer this call from that foreign field.

#### Another Major Flood in Guthrie . . .

After several days of rain on the watershed of the Cottonwood Creek which flows through Guthrie, it overflowed its banks on Saturday night, Nov. 2, flooding many homes and business places in West Guthrie. Ample prior warning was given and there was no loss of life, but much property damage resulted. The water reached about 30 inches deep in the Church of God chapel and about 44 inches deep in the dining hall on the campground. When the water receded on the following Monday, a layer of mud was left on the floors and furnishings, which necessitated a major clean-up job for several days and we were unable to have services in the chapel for two Sundays. Prior to the flood, most of the benches had been removed from the chapel. The dining hall was damaged when the pressure of the water broke the double doors on the south side. There was not sufficient time and help to get out the heating stoves, hot water tanks and large refrigerator. Most of the clean-up work was done by the Guthrie congregation, and we certainly appreciate the additional help from the Shawnee and Enid, Okla., congregations, as well as that rendered by Bro. Paul Garber of Mustang, Okla.

The flood lacked about two inches of getting into the Lord's Printshop, for which we were very thankful to the Lord. Not knowing how high the water would get, we (including our co-workers and others) worked about all Saturday night raising the motors and material on or near the floor to a higher level. The flood water crested about 3:30 a.m. on Sunday, and we thanked the Lord for keeping it out of the Printshop.

Just off the press is a very inspiring new book, "Life's Golden Gleanings," written by Sister Ruby E. Stover, in which she tells some interesting experiences of her childhood and how God answered prayer in marvelous ways in her family and during the past fifty years of the gospel work in which she and her husband, Bro. Ira D. Stover, are engaged. Part of this book was printed by continued stories in the "Beautiful Way" paper. This book of 94 pages is bound in a nice heavy paper cover. Price, \$1.00 each, plus 15c for postage. Sister Stover requested that the proceeds from the sale of her book be used to publish more gospel literature. May the Lord bless and reward her worthy efforts.

Bro. Max Williamson's sister, Queenie Williamson, is being cared for in their home at Hammond, La. She is advanced in years and in very poor health. Her desire was to use this means to thank everyone for their prayers in her behalf and for the nice cards that have been sent to her. Continue to remember her in prayer for all her needs.

Congratulations to Bro. Jackie and Sister Bonnie Riley of Goulds, Fla., on the arrival of their firstborn, little Bonnie II, on October 23, 1974. Sister Bonnie (Matthews) Riley is a recent former worker here at the Lord's Printshop. Their address is 10845 South 221st St., Goulds, Fla. 33170.

Sister Katherine Williams of Okla. City wrote: "On Sunday, Nov. 10, we took Bro. Ulysses Phillips to Dover, Okla., with us, and, oh, how he did enjoy being in his old home town again! He preached from the 23rd Psalm on "The Good Shepherd.' It was very good. He walked over the campground and under

the tabernacle, recalling memories of long ago. We took him to his old home place. He rejoiced as he walked in the old house, looked at the old dug-out, chicken house, barn, etc. It was a joy just to see him so happy. He flew home to California this morning, Nov. 11. This was his first flight."

Sister Katherine Williams, minister, is now in North Carolina working for the Lord, and plans to be in the meeting at Goulds, Fla., during Thanksgiving week. Pray the Lord to prosper her efforts.

Bro. James Huskey and Bro. Tom Melot of Guthrie, Okla., left for Old Mexico last week to take clothing for distribution and to contact the native missionaries and believers in the area across the border from Texas. We pray the Lord to bless their labors.

Bro. Clifford Wilson, pastor at Nowata, Okla., held a meeting from Nov. 3 to 9 at the Church of God chapel on N. E. 23rd Street in Oklahoma City where Bro. Archie Souder is the pastor. We were privileged to attend the services two nights, and enjoyed the rich Word of God.

It was our pleasure to have Brother and Sister William Cramer of Shawnee, Okla., formerly of Pennsylvania, to visit us several days the first part of November. They arrived the day before the flood in Guthrie, and witnessed the damaging overflow. They remained with us to help with the clean-up operation, for which we are truly grateful.

Forty-six years ago, in 1928, Bro. Wm. Cramer and his sister, Julia—just young people—drove from Pennsylvania to Guthrie in a Model T Ford car to help in the Lord's Printshop in answer to His call. They were very zealous for the cause of God, and fitted well with the Pruitt family and the gospel publishing work. Sister Julia stayed six months and Bro. William a year and a half. This writer, aged 18 at that time, had not seen Bro. William since he left Guthrie until this summer—a space of 44 years. It was a glad reunion, and they hold a warm place in our hearts.

Lord willing, this writer and his wife plan to attend the annual Assembly meeting at Hammond, La., which will be in progress during Thanksgiving week. The presence and power of God is expected as His people assemble from far and near to worship Him in the beauty of holiness.

The shipments of printing paper from the mills are still not arriving on schedule. Costs of paper are going up and up, and the paper salesman advises us there will likely be another large increase on January 1st. A few days ago we received a shipment of 5,000 pounds which cost about \$1550.00. Another 15,000 pounds of paper are scheduled for delivery before Jan. 1st. Lord willing, we want to reprint more of the out-of-print books by the the pioneer Church of God ministers. The Bible truth they taught then brought out a clean people for God, and that same

truth is surely needed today to expose the heresies that are increasing under the name of the Church of God. The publication dates of these excellent reprint editions will be announced in future issues of this paper.

Since last month, no apparent change has been made in the obstacle confronting the Lord's publishing work. Your prayers are effective in this delayed action, so please continue to hold the matter before the Lord. He is the Master of the situation.

As this year of 1974 comes to a close (and it has gone so swiftly), we want to express again our sincere thanks and appreciation to all those who have prayed for and co-operated with us, financially and otherwise, in printing and mailing out the "white-winged" silent gospel messengers around the world. Let us continue to be "workers together" with the Lord in this soul-saving rescue operation, for we "shall reap if we faint not."

—Lawrence Pruitt

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## **OBITUARIES**



Arceal Johnson, the daughter of Enoch and Susie Jones, was born on March 21, 1918, at Silver City, Okla., and departed this life on September 28, 1974, at the age of 55 years.

Sister Johnson had lived in Fresno, Calif., for the past thirty years where she had gained many kind and devoted friends. She will be deeply missed in that community, but God doeth all things for the best and it is for us to trust in Him. She was saved and a Sunday school teacher.

She leaves to mourn her passing: six brothers, Elliott Jones, Enoch Jones, Deadwyler Jones, all of Fresno, Calif., Melvin Jones, San Bernardino, Calif., Wesley Jones, Tulsa, Okla., and Charmas Jones, Phoenix, Ariz.; four sisters, Mrs. Knosha Henry and Mrs. Ophelia Bonton of Fresno, Calif., Mrs. Roxie Mitchell, Phoenix, Ariz., and Mrs. Christina Fortson, Modesto, Calif.; and many other relatives and friends.

The funeral service was conducted by Brother E. J. Trotter in Fresno, Calif., and the interment was in Mt. View Cemetery, Fresno.

Leona E. White, the daughter of Charles and Myrtle Smith, was born on August 15, 1901, and departed this life at Bloomington, Illinois, on October 17, 1974, at the age of 73 years, one month and seventeen days.

She was a wonderful wife and the mother of six children who loved her dearly. We will miss her very much, but thank God, she was ready to meet the Lord Jesus, and that is a great comfort to all of us. She suffered much pain in this life, but there will be no more pain for her now. Praise the Lord!

She was a member of the Church of God. She enjoyed attending services as long as she was able, and was concerned about anyone who did not seem to realize the danger of rejecting Jesus.

Leona White is survived by her husband, William White; six children, 23 grandchildren, and eight great grandchildren.

Pray that all of us will be together again in heaven some day where there will be no more suffering or heartaches.

—Bro. William White

#### GOD SET THE BOUNDS OF THE FLOOD

I want to thank God for keeping the water out of the Lord's Printshop during the recent flood. I do feel that God set a bound for the water, that it could not pass.

On Saturday, Nov. 2, I was reading in Psalms, and I underlined this verse in Psalms 93: "The Lord on high is mightier than the noise of many waters, yea, than the mighty waves of the sea." The verse before that reads: "The floods have lifted up, O Lord, the floods have lifted up their voice; the floods lift up their waves." The Psalm is very good, telling of the strength and majesty of the Lord.

We had never lived close to flood waters before we moved here. In June, when the flood came, (it wasn't nearly as bad as this one), we lived far enough away that the flood came in without us realizing it had come. We could not hear the roar of the water as we did this time. It is an awesome sound to hear the rumble and roar of the flood as it rushes in!

There was talk of flooding on Saturday as we were having so much rain. I hadn't listened to the news, so I didn't really know too much about it, but in the afternoon around 4:30 one of the saints that we met uptown told us that the creek was to overflow at 6 a.m. on Sunday. That was the warning that was being broadcast on the radio. The water came out earlier than expected. By 11:30 p.m. Saturday night the water had covered Highway 33 on the west side of the viaduct in Guthrie, making it impossible to get from one side of town to the other. Unless you've been in a flood, you cannot realize all it means. People had to flee from their homes, and some were brought out in boats. There was continual traffic, people passing on foot, and cars moving where they could. There was much excitement.

Naturally, the saints were concerned with trying to get things that could be moved up out of the reach of the water. First, the benches, books, etc., at the chapel had to be moved. Things at the dining hall had to be secured as well as possible. All were hoping the water would not get in the chapel. (It hadn't during the June flood.) It soon became apparent that this flood was going to be much worse than the last one. My heart was warmed as I saw the brethren and some of the sisters working so hard at the Printshop to try to prepare for the worst. Three times I went to bed, thinking there was nothing else I could do except pray, which I did, of course. I reminded the Lord of the Scripture that I had read that day. I told Him that this was His work. Each time I could not stay in bed; I had to get up and see how far the water had risen. I was amazed at how quickly the water came up. As I stood in the office door, looking out and seeing the water edge closer to the door, I silently prayed and told the Lord that He COULD hold the water back. I know that others were praying, too.

Around three o'clock Sunday morning, Sister Marie (who couldn't sleep either) appeared, and together we made sandwiches and hot chocolate for those who were working so hard. The water was about an inch from the floor level at the back door of the shop on the east side. GOD HELD IT THERE! It didn't rise anymore. The crest had come and the waters began to slowly recede. About four a.m. everyone went home to get some needed rest.

When I awoke around 8 o'clock, I immediately went out on the porch, and then over to the shop to look out the office door, to see just where the water was. I rejoiced to see how much it had fallen. With thanksgiving in my heart, I tuned in the Mission Trail broadcast, and listened to Bro. Murphey's message, "Seven Reasons for Thanksgiving." I felt that I had eight reasons! Then I opened my Bible and my eyes fell upon the 32nd Psalm. The sixth verse seemed especially for me: "For this shall every one that is godly pray unto thee in a time when thou mayest be found; [He can always be found if we love Him and are doing His will]: surely in the floods of great waters they shall not come nigh unto him." The next verse is good also. "Thou art my hiding place; thou shalt preserve me from trouble; thou shalt compass me about with songs of deliverance. Selah."

I know I wasn't the only one who prayed. I'm sure everyone was praying as they worked. I am so glad that God is still mindful of His children and answers their cries for help.

The water rose 30 inches from the floor in the chapel and it was much deeper in the dining hall because the floor was lower. It has taken a lot of hard work and time to get the mud cleaned out and everything in order again. Probably some things in the dining hall are damaged so much that they will have to be replaced. Some

of the benches in the chapel came apart and are past repair. May God bless those who labored so faithfully and willingly. We do appreciate the saints here so much!

—Sister Thelma Sprague

#### MEETING REPORT FROM WICHITA, KAN.

We had a glorious meeting from Oct. 25 to Nov. 3 here in Wichita, Kansas, and it closed with victory. The Lord surely heard His children's cries and was faithful to answer prayer in an abundant way. The Word was delivered with power and accompanied by real conviction. More than a dozen sought for salvation, and many of the saints sought spiritual help at the altar of prayer.

We were blessed to have Bro. Ulysses Phillips with us. The Lord gave him the strength to deliver some messages. The Lord really did anoint the Word which he brought forth and the results were fruitful. We are grateful for every minister that was able to be with us and appreciate the sound truth that was brought forth by each of them. Also, we are thankful for all the out-of-town saints that came to help us in the battle. We give God all the glory. [Bro. George Hammond was at the meeting on the last Saturday, and told the saints of his mission trip to India and of his proposed trip to Nigeria in Africa.]

—Shirley Knight

#### OKMULGEE, OKLA., MEETING REPORT

Bro. Woodrow Warren, pastor, and all the saints here at Okmulgee, Okla., are reporting a good autumn revival meeting which was held Oct. 14 to 20. We are still rejoicing in the God of our salvation whose Spirit did visit and revive us again to a lively hope in Him. The power of God was manifested in behalf of precious souls. "The Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved." How we do thank and praise His great name!

We are grateful for the faithfulness of God to send in Holy Ghost-filled ministers to rightly divide the Word of truth in simplicity, with power and judgment, and for the different singing groups who helped in the battle. The music was heavenly. The general attendance was good and more than fifteen ministers were present. We could feel the presence of God in the ordinance service, also in the noon-day prayer services, and the fellowship was so sweet.

"The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." These bountiful blessings from the Lord should stir our very soul to "give our all to Him." "Oh, had it not been for a Man called Jesus, then forever our souls would be lost!"

May the Lord bless each one for the burden he carried for this meeting. We feel that the notice in the paper was a great help in the attendance of visiting saints. Thanks so much.

Much Christian love, —Sister Erma Johnson

## CALIFORNIA STATE ASSEMBLY MEETING

The annual California State Assembly Meeting of the Church of God, located at 12312 Osborne Place, Pacoima, California, will convene, Lord willing, on December 20 and continue through December 29, 1974.

We are praying and expecting the Lord to send in Spirit-filled ministers to preach the Word with heaven's anointing. A most hearty welcome is extended to all.

For further information, contact the chapel at phone 213-899-9021, or Bro. Robert Sherman, 12312 Osborne

Place, Pacoima, Calif., phone 213—896-7593, or Brother James Pierro, 11316 Glenoaks Blvd., Pacoima, California, phone 213—896-7771.

—Patsy Fields, Sec.

#### OKLAHOMA STATE ASSEMBLY MEETING

The 68th annual Oklahoma State Assembly meeting of the Church of God will be held, the Lord willing, at Guthrie, Okla., on Dec. 20 to Dec. 29, 1974, inclusive, during the Christmas holidays. A hearty welcome is extended to all to attend this annual gathering of God's people in the central area of the U. S. A.

The chapel is located on the corner of 6th Street and West Warner Avenue. The dining hall and dormitories are located in the same block for your convenience. All who come will be cared for. The expenses of the meeting will be met as usual by free-will offerings.

We are praying and expecting the Lord to send in Spirit-filled ministers to preach the Word with heaven's anointing. All hungry souls seeking light or spiritual help, come, and God will meet you here. If you are sick in body, come and be healed by faith in the Great Physician. Saints, come praying with a burden for the unsaved and for all who need help in soul and body. These are perilous times, and we need to be about our Father's business, doing what we can for lost souls.

Please send all contributions for the coming State Assembly meeting directly to the State Treasurer, Sister Frances Deforth, Route 2, Guthrie, Okla. 73044.

# Prayer Requests

Ind.—Pray earnestly for Bro. Earl Bliss who is badly afflicted with stomach and bowel trouble. He is trusting fully in the Great Physician.

Ohio—Remember a woman, who loves the Lord to all she knows, that has inflammation of the hair roots. The itching is almost unbearable. She scratches her head until it bleeds. She also has had operations and still has other afflictions. She has had trouble in marriage and mistreatment. Pray that God will have mercy upon her to know how to trust Him, also that God will touch her body.

—Name withheld

Another woman needs healing and help from God. She writes, "I had a breast cancer operation one year ago . . . had treatments. . . . I have a reddish place around a mole near my arm pit. . . . My arm stays swollen down to the elbow. . . . I am at home alone. My nerves are bad. . . . Please pray that God will witness to my heart that I am sanctified. I do want to mind Him and do what I can for others." —A Reader

Miss.—"I need healing for my nervous system . . ."
(She has a deep heartache and burden for her loved ones.)
—Ethel Lowery

Tex.—"I have had arthritis in my feet and ankles for about twenty years. . . . God does give relief at times, but I expect to be healed."

—Sister Lessie Speed

N. Carolina—"Pray for the healing of my wife. She has had a stroke. She is in a bad, crippled condition."

Ohio—"I would like for you to be agreed in prayer for me. I have had a bad heart condition for twelve years."

—Mrs. Fred Ross

W. Va. —"Please pray for the services here and the few that are coming. . . Pray for an old man that is not saved and is sick; also for a man and his wife who live

close to the chapel. . . . Pray for a spiritual awakening here at this place."

—Sister Flora Hinzman Mo.—Alice Rhodes desires complete healing of sinus

headaches. Bro. Rhodes also need prayer.

La.—"I would appreciate your prayers for Mother. Her hip and lower spine are out of place. She is in bed."

—Donna Sue Savoie Guyana, So. Am.—"Pray for me. I have diabetes."

—Mrs. Kathleen Christian Ark.—"Pray for me. I have a noise in my head and ears. I love the Lord and trust in Him."

—Miss Mae Foust Okla.—Saints, do remember Bro. Ira Stover. He has labored for the Lord many years. He is now very weak and unable to eat much. He can't sleep very well at times. He and Sister Ruby Stover have God's work upon their hearts. It is hard on them because they are not able to go and work for the Lord. They have so many calls, so do pray for them. God is abundantly able to heal. A card or letter of encouragement would be appreciated. Of course, please let them know not to answer as we do not want to add to their burden. Their address is: 6304 S. W. 97th W. Ave., Tulsa, Okla. 74107.

Ore.—Still remember Bro. Earl Watson in this fight of faith against affliction. His trust is in God.

Mo.—Continue to pray for Sister Emma Rhoads. The Lord has done so much for her, but she still needs complete healing.

Mo.—Still remember Sis. Prudie Broaddus for complete healing.

Calif.—"Remember my husband in prayer. God has been very good to him. It hurts to know that he does not trust or love Jesus. He drinks, left home and is not working. . . . I am taking care of the children, working and trying to go to school at times. Please pray that I can get the job that has been promised to me. Pray for my unsaved loved ones."

—Name withheld

La.—Pray for Bro. and Sister Ben Goldsberry's son, Roger, who was in a motorcycle accident. When they called for prayer on Nov. 18, he was in intensive care at the hospital. Most of all, they desire his soul's salvation. Pray God to have mercy, and touch him both soul and body. Sis. Sybil Goldsberry has other requests for prayer. She needs healing to her body.

Dear saints, do be encouraged in the Lord. Hold your faith steady in God. He knows your needs and He is your Helper. Praise the Lord! We must remember that the devil will contest anything God does for us. So we must continually resist the enemy of our soul, and the enemy of all that God does. I remember so well when the Lord healed me of a goiter, a number of years ago. I was anointed and prayed for in prayer meeting, after having a definite inspiration from the Lord to do so. After I went home that night, the devil tried to put that affliction back on me. I had such a severe attack from it. but I refused to accept it. I told the devil that he was a conquered foe, and that he was trying to take away from me what God had done for me. I had obeyed God's Word and I was standing upon it. Even in the attack, I kept thanking God for healing, resisting the attack and the devil, who I felt was at the bottom of it all. God did give me the victory and the devil had to flee. Praise God! I have never had any trouble since. I am afraid that we let the devil cheat us out of healing many times just because we do not hold on to it. We look at the affliction, and then our minds are filled with doubts. The devil moves right in to take our healing. Yet there are times when we receive a definite touch from the Lord, and the devil knows it does not pay to try to bother us. Other times, we might not have a definite touch at the time but just stand upon the Word of God. Regardless of how the enemy works, if we have obeyed God's Word, we can shout the victory right in the face of the devil, the feelings, and the looks of afflictions. We must press to get from God what He has for us.

—Sister Marie Miles

#### Note of Thanks

I want to thank everyone who sent me cards and letters of comfort and made telephone calls of encouragement. The loss of my darling son was almost more than I could bear. Life will never be the same. It seems so hard to go on, but my faith and trust are still in God. Pray for me that I will not fail. I want to thank all of you for praying for me and taking time to write. Some of you I have never met, but I love you every one. We are brothers and sisters in the Lord. Forgive me for waiting so long to tell you thanks. Also, I have some urgent prayer requests.

—Sister Goldie Knapp, Forest City, Mo. 64451

# BRO. HAMMOND RETURNED BY PLANE FROM INDIA ON OCTOBER 31st

(Nov. 14)—Dear Bro. Pruitt and saints everywhere: Greetings once again in the all-powerful and blessed name of our Redeemer who so patiently watches over each one of His children. Praise His name forever!

Through God's grace and mercies I am once more back in Guthrie, Oklahoma, and very thankful for my health and strength which He was faithful to preserve. He gave me complete relief from the pain in my hip last spring which allowed me to escort Bro. John Varghese to the many meetings in this country and then to go back to India with Bro. John and travel among the saints there. This was surely a blessing to my soul and the saints there surely appreciated having someone to visit them. They all send their love accompanied with their prayers to the saints in America. It was certainly hard to part with the dear ones there and especially Bro. John who was my close traveling companion for five and one half months. His kind and loving spirit among the saints here was shown to me while I was at his home there. Bro. John's vounger brother, Bro. Philip Varghese, who took care of the church services while Bro. John was in the United States, was always ready to do anything for me and did much going to secure the physical necessities for me. He was also a ready help in all the services. Bro. John's good wife, Saramma, and his mother showed much kindness and care for me as well as many of their neighbors who came in to help in any way they could.

I was so thankful to see the great interest in the Word of God there in India. The believers are very diligent in their study of the Word and in worship services. Even with all their physical and temporal needs, they are blessed with a good spirit and a desire to serve the Lord. It was a blessing to meet with all the pastors and their families as well as with all the saints and many other people of the communities which we visited. They were all so friendly and helpful. They were thrilled to see a "sipe," which they call a white man, amongst them. The Lord surely blessed in so many ways.

Before I left, Bro. Varghese was able to secure a printing press, and get it set up and running in a new building on the rear of their chapel. He also purchased

a 1971 Fiat car which is a great convenience even though the gas is \$2.50 per gallon. He hopes to put an amplifier on the car for use in street meetings.

Kerala is a beautiful state. Although it is the smallest in India it is the most densely populated. It also has the greatest majority of Christians. I also saw many signs of the Communists pushing in. The president of Kerala is a Communist and many Catholics are turning to them. I did not see many signs of starvation in the country where many have their own plot of ground and raise some tapioca and rice. The government ration of rice was cut in half while I was there and many items are scarce. They live from day to day and depend upon a regular crop to feed them. Most people have to buy all their food and wages are very low. The general health of the adults is probably better than here in the States because of under-eating and much exercise. The little children suffer most with skin diseases, probably from too much starch and lack of sanitation. Many we prayed for were healed and many were encouraged to trust fully in God. Some of the pastors are living in deplorable conditions, but these are being changed through the generosity of the saints in America. Bro. John will give a report of what he is getting done.

It was surely a hard matter to part from them, even though I was anxious to get back home and get some other things done. I felt that they are very capable of carrying on. Lord willing, I hope to return there again, or perhaps someone else of the saints, if the Lord opens the way. I surely want to thank all the saints for their faithful prayers on our behalf because God surely was faithful to His promises.

In Christian service, —Bro. George Hammond

#### MISSION REPORT FROM SOUTH INDIA

S. India (Oct. 18) — My dearly beloved Bro. Pruitt and family and all the other saints there and abroad:

Warm, loving greetings again in the precious name of Jesus, the great Intercessor and Advocate for us and the High Priest who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners and made higher than the heavens.

Thank you very much for your encouraging letter dated Oct. 1, and the enclosures were noted with very much gratitude. There is no other group in this world like the saints and we appreciate the concern and love of the dear saints in the U. S. A. to the saints in India. This is the same grace of God bestowed on the churches of Macedonia, "how that in a great trial of affliction, the abundance of their joy and their deep poverty abounded unto the riches of their liberality. For to their power, I bear record, yea, and beyond their power they were willing of themselves; praying us with much entreaty that we would receive the gift and take upon us the fellowship of the ministering to the saints." 2 Cor. 8:1-4.

We truly enjoyed the last two months very much with our dear Bro. George Hammond through the many meetings in different parts of Kerala, India. We plan to participate in a few more meetings this week. Brother Hammond wishes to leave for the U. S. A. by Nov. 1st. Today we are going to Cochin for the confirmation of his ticket reservation. The saints here are very unhappy to lose him. Especially I cannot bear his leaving because we never separated even a day since last June and we had such a close fellowship. We always pray for him and his family, and also for his safe trip to Africa.

We just finished the building of the room on the rear of the chapel for the printing press. It is running

and printing tracts in our native language. Millions of praises to God! We need to buy paper, ink, a few shelves and other material. Surely our faithful God will provide everything. Also, we purchased a used 1971 Fiat car in good condition for \$3600.00. Surely we are thankful to God for this gospel car which can be used for the furtherance of the gospel.

My mother, wife and all the saints here extend their love and greetings to all of you there and to the saints abroad. In all our meetings we earnestly pray God for the solution of the special problem at the publishing house. I am thankful to you for your valuable advice and exhortations through your letters.

With love and prayers, your younger Brother in Jesus Christ, —John Varghese

#### MISSIONARY RETURNING TO MEXICO

Oklahoma (Oct. 29)—Dear Ones: Greetings of love to all in Jesus' holy and precious name.

Having completed the things God gave me to do and the mission on which He sent me, Lord willing, I will leave this week to return to my field of duty in Ojos Negros, Mexico. For the first time, the members of the congregation in Ojos Negros were left with a responsibility for their own souls. Pray earnestly that they will continue to grow in the things of God.

I thoroughly enjoyed meeting saints this summer in isolated places and in their home congregations; some I'd never met before. Please, each one I met, keep all of the work and workers held up in prayer. We are all in need of much wisdom from God to teach His little ones the whole truth of God's Word, and to gain other honest souls for Him.

I surely appreciated God's love as it was manifested to me in every saint's home and congregation. Let us all press on and do all we can for the upbuilding of God's kingdom in the place He puts us.

I will surely appreciate your continued prayers for me. Christian love, —Sister Opal Kelly

Ap. Postal No. 284, Ensenada, B. Cfa, Mexico

#### LETTER FROM MEXICAN MISSIONARY

Valle de Trinidad, Mexico (Oct. 20) — Dear Brother Lawrence and Sister Marie: I greet you in the precious name of the Son of God. I hope that all are well, not only in body but also in soul. I hope that all brothers and sisters in the Lord have their eyes placed on the prize which is Christ Jesus.

How great our God is in the care of His people! The Psalmist David expressed it in Psalms 23, "The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want." What a shame that many people in this world do not know Him. They walk about in darkness, in desperation, and in sin. "Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it." Matt. 7:14. I was thinking and desired to know the reason why. I discovered that they do not look for the Lord because they are too occupied in material things. Their time passes without a realization of their condition and soon they arrive at the end with sadness. They see that they would have to forsake all that which has occupied their lives. This is a sad truth. In Luke 14:15, God showed me His love for the world. All is prepared, but we see that the people think more of the things that satisfy them carnally. For this reason, there are very few that truly enter the narrow way. Today it is harder for the people to think on things of life eternal. Why? The problem of the economy is the principal factor. The people are worried about the things to come in this business world and they are not thinking on life eternal. These things are more important to them than their soul. The economy is also affecting the children of God. They get careless in their prayer life, and as they walk far from God they get weak spiritually.

My dear brothers and sisters of the Church of God, I hope that all will keep on being faithful, and busy for their soul's welfare with much fervor. I give you thanks for the way you have co-operated with the gospel work in Mexico. May God repay each one in that day. Greetings to all, and please pray much for the work here, and for me and my family.

With love and prayers,

-Tomas Mendoza

#### **NIGERIAN MISSION REPORT**

Southeast State, Nigeria (Oct. 29)—Dear Bro. Pruitt and saints scattered all over the globe: Greetings of love and fellowship in the name of the Son of God.

We are pleased to acknowledge thanks for your letter of Oct. 2, together with the draft and the October issue

of the "Faith and Victory" paper.

We herewith report our visit to Bro. B. Ben Taylor of Tombia, Nigeria, for four days (Oct. 10 to 13, 1974). Members on the tour were Bro. A. J. Ubaha, Bro. S. U. Udo and the writer. God protected us all, both on the road and on the sea. Yes, His presence is everywhere. We arrived in the area and found the brethren working vigorously to win souls to Christ, using the literature from Faith Publishing House. Bros. Ubaha, Udo and I spoke to them Scripturally and we were pleased that they opened their ears and hearts to adopt the words. On the last day, Sunday, the 13th, we went (both hosts and guests) in a canoe down to Port Harcourt to worship with the brethren in a rented room where Bro. Fineface Orji (assisted by Bros. Friday Igbanibo and Emmanuel Dokubo) care for souls. They were very happy to have us and received the Bread of Life delivered to them by us. The Church of God is expanding slowly and steadily to different states of this country. (Tombia is about 115 miles from this address.) Pray with us for the work in this country in general, while we are doing likewise for vours.

Bro. Geo. Hammond's visa will soon expire to India, and soon the clock will turn its face to this country. We hope to hear more from you in this regard.

Your Brother in Christ, -N. B. Umanah, Sec.

# THE LOVE OF JESUS (Part 3)

At the beginning of my 13th summer, a great burden fell upon my soul to study the Word. The motive behind this was an appalling realization that I knew almost nothing about the Word of God. The Spirit drew me away for hours in my room; and as fast as I humbled myself and accepted it, the light came bright and clear. Hallelujah! "For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. [How my heart's motives and thoughts were discerned!] Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do."

(Heb. 4:12, 13). Note that the inspired writer speaks of these thoughts in conjunction with the rest of the Christian—the rest that I so hungered for. And he states that we have a high priest who is touched with the feelings of our infirmities. The spiritual infirmities that I had along the way had so weakened me at times that on one occasion the Lord had told me, "The big problem with you is not that you need to know more, but that you need to live up to what you already know." Now Jesus was touched with the feelings of my infirmities and was saying: "Come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need." Oh, dear people, how can you linger in a weak and feeble spiritual condition when our High Priest (who is no respecter of persons) waits for you to come and humble yourself in begging for mercy before His throne? Oh, bless the Lord for love divine, O wondrous, wondrous story! Now hear Bro. James: "Do you think that the scripture saith in vain, The spirit that dwelleth in us lusteth to envy? But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble. Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double-minded. Be afflicted, and mourn, and weep: let your laughter be turned to mourning, and your joy to heaviness. Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up." James 4:5-10. As the blazing light fell upon my life and heart's condition, I humbled myself and stood in awe of each truth, and I sought the Lord many times during the searching with crying and remorse for the waste, the shallowness, the lack of Christ-likeness, and the doublemindedness. My laughter was turned to mourning, for my life was found to be so far beneath the perfect standard of the Book that I was constrained to admit of the truthfulness of the Apostle's warning to the unpurified in the church at Corinth: "Your glorying is not good." (1 Cor. 5:6).

How wondrously kind the Lord has been to this His servant! The searching of the Word with the co-operation of the submitted will was producing a steady measuring up, an emptying of self before God-all necessary for the reception of new light. "O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out!" (Romans 11:33).

"O Lord, thou hast searched me, and known me. Thou knowest my downsitting and mine uprising; thou understandest my thought afar off. Thou compassest my path and my lying down, and art acquainted with all my ways. For there is not a word in my tongue, but, lo, O Lord, thou knowest it altogether. Thou hast beset me behind and before, and laid thine hand upon me. I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: My substance was not hid from thee when I was made in secret, and curiously wrought in the lowest parts of the earth. Thine eyes did see my substance, yet being unperfect; and in thy book all my members were written, which in continuance were fashioned, when as yet there was none of them. How precious also are thy thoughts unto me, O God! how great is the sum of them! Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts: And see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting." Psalms 139:1-5, 14, 15-17, 23-24. -Mark Spinks

(To be continued)

# From The Mail Box . . .

W. Va.—Dear Bro. Pruitt: Please send me two copies of the book, "What The Bible Teaches."

We do hope the Lord is still blessing you dear ones there at the Printshop.

Bro. Mart Samons just closed a very good 10-day meeting here at Green Bank, W. Va. The Lord blessed us in many ways. The Word that came forth was a real blessing to all. . . . Pray for us here in West Virginia. -Bro. James S. White

Mo.—Dear Sister Marie: I have been studying the Bible a lot and have become thoroughly enchanted and interested in doing so. I marvel at the greatness of the Bible and God's plan for mankind down through the ages. I still remember our motto that you taught us one year in Bible study at the Guthrie young people's meeting-"Study to shew thyself approved."

0--0--0--0--0--0 Kansas-Dear Sister Marie: Greetings in the precious name of Jesus, the One that loves us so much. I don't know how to love as He does, but I surely want to have the true love of God in my heart.

I hope and pray God to richly bless each one of you as you have need.

My stomach is much better. I am claiming healing in the name of Jesus. I know there is healing in His name. Thank you for your prayers. . .

God is so good to let us have the "Faith and Victory" to read, and I pray He won't let anything hinder in the publishing of it. It is food to my soul, and I am sure it is to many others.

0-0-0-0-0-0-0 Calif.-Greetings to all of the beloved in the Lord, in every land, at home and abroad: Sweet, happy, and holy greetings in the name of Jesus, our King and Redeemer, the precious Lamb of God, whose blood was shed to redeem us from the awful curse of sin.

I am writing to say that during the past years I have received many precious Christian letters and cards from saints in the Lord. They came from near and from far. One came from far-off Africa. My soul and spirit were thrilled and uplifted by those acts of Christian love. All were very highly appreciated. Many of them have not been answered due to the handicap of old age-dimness of eyes and other old age infirmities. So please, count this letter and the little articles I send through "Faith and Victory" papers as my answers. By the help of our great God, I will endeavor to keep you on my prayer list, and will pray for all the saints everywhere. I trust you will remember me.

I truly thank the Lord for this consecrated paper, as a means of Christian communication. May the Lord continue to bless and prosper it as such, and bless and encourage each reader is my prayer. Each testimony is to me a blessed message from way-faring pilgrims on their journey to that heavenly shore. Surely, it seems we could almost be there.

In much Christian fellowship and love, I am your elderly sister and mother in the Lord, —Ethel K. Miles

Mo.-Dear Ones: Since we have been thinking of you we will write and let you know we are concerned and praying about the situation there. To be without the "Faith and Victory" paper would be like not hearing from

our brothers and sisters in the Lord the world over. We are one big family and interested in each other's welfare. Whatever the need is, the Lord is mindful and able to overrule if the saints will get burdened enough to unite in earnest prayer.

It came to my mind that we should take heed lest we become so involved with our own little world that we fail to carry the burdens of the church. We don't want to remain mere children spiritually who are unable to assume responsibility, but we want to be normal, healthy and fully matured adults in the Lord, strong enough to be pillars in the church. Also, the Lord might add more children if there were plenty of healthy, capable parents.

If we have been saved for years and are yet unconcerned over the burdens of the church, it is time that we had a check up, as Bro. Varghese said. We had better take our temperature and have our heart checked to see what is hampering our spiritual growth. I think the prescription would be more reading of the Word and praying for grace to obey.

I pray the Lord to help me to be worthy to be called one of the saints of God.

--Louie and Evodna Marler

Mich.—Dear Sister Marie: Greetings in Jesus' blessed and lovely name. We pray all is well at the Lord's Printshop, and that whatever the problem is it will be taken care of by our Lord and Master.

As Thanksgiving Day is drawing nigh, we look back over the past days and months and see all the showers of blessings that have been poured upon us from our dear heavenly Father. We praise and thank Him for His goodness and mercy that He has shown to us. It's so good to be able to lean on the everlasting arms of our dear Saviour and know that He will carry us through all our life's journey. . . .

We are so thankful for the prayers of God's dear children, for they give us strength to carry on in this dark world of sin. We pray for all of you, too. We wish all of you a very happy and blessed Thanksgiving season. May God's richest blessings be upon you in body and soul.

Much love,

—Sister Olive Getterson and parents

Virginia—To the Faith Publishing House: I have been out of touch with the "Faith and Victory" people so long that I don't know who the editor is now. I am wondering if it could be Bro. Fred Pruitt's son. . . . I'm sure you will remember my mother, Laura Powell. She was a Reformation preacher for years at Richmond, Va. She taught me the way of the cross and the truth about God's one true church, the Church of God which Jesus purchased on the cross. I thank God for this wonderful knowledge.

I stayed in a backslidden condition for over thirty years. About five months ago I got saved. . . . I want to live for Christ and stay in the real truth. . . . I wish we could have a preacher like Bro. Fred Pruitt, Brother Darius Gibson or Bro. George Peek to preach here in this area. As far as I am concerned it has to be the whole truth and nothing but the truth. The world needs the true gospel in these last days because time is certainly running out. Pray for us.

Yours in Christ, —Bro. Robert L. Powell

La.—Dear Sister Marie, greetings: The Lord is real and precious to my soul, and I love Him above all else in this world. Really, I would not want to be in this world without God. Then we think of so many that are

without Him, including so many of our own loved ones, and it just hurts our heart. . . .

I was much impressed with the message that Bro. Herbert Probst preached last night about living in and walking in the truth. Truth is truth wherever it is found. God has a standard of truth which is light and life. Unless we abide in it, we will be left on the side to our ownselves, our own ways and opinions, but the truth will march right on. He brought out what it means to measure to and march along in and with the truth of God's Word. It surely means something in this evil age to live to all of the truth of God's Word. . . .

We are earnestly praying for Bro. Lawrence's healing. We pray God to bless you each one and for your love to me.... We thank God for the comfort and courage that He gives you, but we do know that the devil is not dead. God is greater than all the workings of the enemy's power. Praise His name forever!

Sister Marie, I do want to be true and honest in every detail and walk of life, love God supremely, and save myself by taking heed to God's Word, and by so doing maybe I can help save someone else.

Our dear mother is fair and is at Alta's home this week. We feel we just can't leave her alone, even though she thinks she can be left. I do have a deep care for aged people.

—Sister La Vern Manuel

Okla.—Dear Sister Marie: I greet you in the name of our blessed Lord and Saviour, who loved us and gave Himself for us. I'm so happy to be saved, and I am encouraged in the Lord. I'm so thankful for all His rich blessings and I trust all is well with you.

Please remember to pray for me, especially for my eyes. It seems that I have been suffering with a strained nerve which has affected my vision. I know that God is able to restore my vision as He has touched my eyes time and again, especially after having two break-downs. I am so grateful for what God has done for me physically, and I thank everyone who prayed for me. Also, I have some very special requests which I desire you to remember earnestly before the Lord. Pray for my little daughter who is not saved.

I especially desire prayer for all the patients and residents here at the Golden Rule Home. Sister Dolly Green has a cancer on her face. She has lost the eyesight that she had, and needs lots of assistance. I'm glad for the privilege of helping Sister Green. . . . I am glad for any of the old folks who desire to trust the Lord for their healing, and even willing to die trusting Him.

Sister Blanche Tipton is real precious to me. She desires comfort from others in her severe suffering. When I went into her room to clean some, she said that she felt she wouldn't live very long. She asked me if I thought she would ever be well again. I encouraged her to commit it all to God and look to Him for brighter days. The Bible says, "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart, and lean not to thine own understanding." I felt impressed to stop my work and comb her hair. While doing this, I felt led of the Lord to ask her if she was ready to meet the Lord. Immediately she said with much sincerity, "I've searched and searched, but I didn't find anything, and if there's anything wrong in my life, I don't know what it is. If someone will tell me of anything, I will do all I can to clear it up." This really touched my heart. Do pray earnestly that God will comfort her and alleviate her suffering.

I desire much wisdom and knowledge from God to know how to be a blessing and comfort to these precious souls here at the Home. I feel so incapable.
Yours in Christ, —Elnora Conley

# Testimonies and Answers To Prayer

Calif.—Dear Sister Marie: Today I am saved, sanctified and settled with a firm decision to make heaven my home.

I thank the saints for their prayers in my behalf, and also for my family. We have all been blessed. I thank God for having such a people here on earth, and making it possible for me to be one of them. It is a blessing to know that we are children of God.

I am praising God this morning for complete victory over the imposing powers of Satan. God has healed my body completely. I give all the glory and praise to His holy name!

The little six-year-old son of Brother and Sister W. Johnson has a terrible odor in his nose. He is very self-conscious about the smell. I feel that the Lord has burdened my heart for this child's condition. Remember this child in your prayers that God will remove it from him, that the child may be accepted by his playmates without embarrassment.

Pray that God will heal my brother of bladder trouble. I know that God is able to make it possible for him to attend services.

My daughter needs a job again. The Lord gave her one last year when I asked for prayer, but she was let out for certain reasons. She has not been able to get another job. She has four children in school. Pray also for my oldest daughter. She has a child-care center, and gives a donation to the Lord as He prospers her. Please pray that God will give her more children for her center.

Pray much for me that I may be always found doing the will of God at all times.

Your saved Sister in Christ, —Shawnee Little

Okla.—Dear Sister Miles and all at the Printshop: Greetings in Jesus' dear name. I received your good letter, also the tracts. I am still able to go. I trust you and all are feeling fine and happy in Jesus.

The good Lord allowed my beans to grow in August when it was so dry. I told the Lord that if it was His will, to let my bean seed come up and put on beans. So God saw fit for me to have them, and I thank Him for it. . . . God is good to us. If we trust Him and believe, He will do what He says He will do. I know Jesus understands and knows how to help us. Praise His name!

I want all of you to pray for me, also for my children. I have three more that need to get saved. So many people around here need God, and some are going to hell because they won't straighten things up with their neighbors. Some tell us they are Christians, but they sit in front of their television for hours at a time looking at these old ball games and movie stars. God is good to all, and He has stayed His coming to give people time to repent. We can pray and stay true to God until Jesus comes for His own.

May God bless all of you real good.

With love in the one faith, —Sister Della Harrison

N. Carolina—Dear Brother Pruitt: Thanks for the prayers you have offered up in my behalf. I am feeling better. Keep praying. I am praying for you and your workers. . . . I am still enjoying the "Faith and Victory" paper.

—James McLester

Texas—Dear Sister Marie and all of God's children: We send greetings in holy love. We have so much for which to be thankful. We want to tell it and trust it will encourage and benefit others.

As many know, I have had an affliction for many years—a problem with my food, etc. I went through clinics and had some of the best doctors of that day about thirty years ago. None seemed to know what caused my trouble. I have been anointed and prayed for several times. Four years ago, an itching rash appeared to add to my heart and stomach trouble. Around the first part of October, 1974, I became nauseated at times and my head would swim. My skin had turned yellow and I felt like I had gone just about as far as I could. I had a couple of days alone to talk to the Lord and told Him. that to look on my condition with the natural eye one would have said I would never be well again. I had neighbors who said they knew I was a Christian the first time they saw me, but they say the day of miracles and healing are past. I told the Lord about it. It wasn't so much my desire to be healed to escape the suffering as it was to show the people looking on that Jesus is the same today as He was when He walked the shores of Galilee. I had requested prayer at the Monark Springs, Mo., meeting for God to inspire my faith for healing. Later I received much help through a taped message by Bro. Ed Wilson. It seemed it was on my part to get hold of that inspired faith and I began to press my case before the Lord more diligently. It seemed that everything I ate worsened my condition. I was losing weight and the neighbors were mentioning it. I was impressed to give my whole being over into God's hands and I told Him that I knew He could even give me a new body, that nothing was impossible with Him. Something seemed to cause me to quit drinking milk. I left it out of my diet, and in less than two days I could see a great change in my skin. The itching became less and the hard dry skin on my arms began to look more normal. I began to thank the Lord for what He had done, but asked for complete victory over the affliction. I began to eat more different foods. My head quit swimming and I wasn't nauseated any more. It was hard to believe that every affliction that had troubled me for so many years became lighter all at once. Oh, how I have rejoiced and thanked the Lord for being mindful of me, the least of His little ones. The Lord could have shown me my trouble years ago had He seen fit.

I must have been allergic to milk; yet I can't see how milk could have caused so many ailments. So I am thanking the good Lord for the healing touch. Let the affliction be what it may be, He gets ALL the credit. I am now eating some meat, bread and pastries—things that I had not been able to eat for two years or more. I have never felt better in my life. Praise the Lord!

I haven't failed to tell it to anyone who will listen. So, dear afflicted ones, take new courage. What the Lord has done for me He can do for you. He is no respecter of persons. When we go just as far as we can go, if we will let go and let God work, He will never fail us.

"Before I was afflicted I went astray: but now have I kept thy word." Psa. 119:67. My prayer is that God will show me myself as He looks on me, and help me to fulfill the purpose He has for me in this life. "I will also leave in the midst of thee, an afflicted and poor people, and they shall trust in the name of the Lord." Zeph. 3:12.

We are in a battle, dear ones, but let us be good

soldiers. Only a few more days until it will all be over in this world.

I covet your prayers.

-Edith Wall

Calif.-Sister Marie and saints: I thank the Lord for His blessings to me this year. I am still saved and very much encouraged to live for the Lord. He blessed by enabling me to attend some of eight meetings this year, including revivals and campmeetings. I received much help to my soul. The preaching was stirring and souls were saved. It made me have a desire to carry a greater burden for the work of the Lord.

I had a real test two days before the Bakersfield. Calif., campmeeting. My toe became very sore. I was determined to press my way and go to the meeting. I had to wear a house slipper for about thirty days before I could wear a shoe. It was infected and swollen. My family and also the devil began to say that gangrene could set in and poison my whole system. I was calling on God, and was anointed and prayed for at the meeting. The toe got worse. I began to search my life to see if there was anything God was trying to get to me. One day I went to work after three weeks of continual soreness and pain. It turned blue. I would stop and look at it every twenty or thirty minutes. About 10:30 that morning I went to prayer and said, "Lord, I am going to trust you regardless of what happens to this toe. I am claiming healing this minute, and I will not look at it any more." It got no better, but I was rejoicing the rest of the day. I stopped at a Sister's house and she asked how my toe was. I told her that it was swollen and hurting, but by faith it was healed. I left and went home. When I walked in, my grandchildren asked how my toe was. I looked down and all the swelling was gone. I praised God by jumping up and down, and rejoicing. It had been three weeks since I had been able to walk very well, but the work was done. Then God told me that this had been a test of faith. I thank God for His healing power. He is real to me and faithful to our souls. It gave me a greater concern for those in the valley of affliction.

This fall I had a real trial. I could hardly carry the load. I fasted and prayed, and God helped in a marvelous way. He showed me some real spiritual needs that I had. Thank God for such a loving Father that knows all our needs! When the trials come heavy, they serve to help the need of our souls. I thank God for teaching me that. No matter from what source our trials come, there is something we need to get hold of and not look at the person through whom the trials come. So many times we blame the person, but that is the way God has of showing us our weaknesses. Joseph did not blame his brothers for what they did. He knew that suffering was God's way of getting him to Pharoah's seat. Our trials are a way of getting us to where we can sit in heavenly places in Christ Jesus. I surely do thank the Lord for that trial. It made me desire to draw closer to Him and live more devoted to the work of God. He can use us then to His glory. Today I can say with the song, "Press on my soul to glory. My courage is renewed. The devil stands defeated, and I am feasting on heavenly food."
I need your prayers that I may keep humble.

-Naomi Jennings

Texas-Dear Sister Marie and all the dear ones at the Printshop: On April 31st, I sent to you dear saints for prayer for the healing of my body. God heard and answered prayer. I have been feeling fine ever since.

God knew what was going to happen, and He saw me through it all with victory in my soul. I lost my dear husband on the 27th of June, 1974. He has gone to be with the Lord. I am so thankful I obeyed God when He put it on my mind to write for prayer. My husband and I were both sick at the time I wrote. God has taken care of me in a marvelous way. I praise Him every day and night.

Your Sister in Christ, -Mrs. Rozella Amos

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Mo. -Dear Sister Anna Marie: I thank the Lord for touching my body and giving me the victory over the devil and sin in my life. It has been four weeks that I had bursitis in my shoulder and I was almost helpless. but thank the Lord. He always answers just in time. Praise His name!

I'm still thanking the Lord for healing my arm even though it is very sore, large and cumbersome. I need your prayers that I can hold on to my courage and resist the devil. I believe that Jesus is just the same yesterday, today, and forever. I can truly say my help cometh from the Lord. I thank the saints for their prayers. I depend on them. Continue to remember me for complete deliver--Prudie Broaddus

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Ark,-Dear Sis, Marie, Bro, Lawrence and all: Greetings of Christian love. Praise the Lord, I am still leaning on His everlasting arm. I enjoy reading the testimonies of the Lord's healing virtue that is still working among His believers. Oh, how can we doubt God's holy promises! His Word cannot fail or fall. Our God cannot be defeated. I am so thankful that I can grow in the knowledge of the Almighty. We have just a little while to stay here; just a little while to wait, so we must keep busy praying and witnessing for our wonderful Lord. Please pray for me, that the Lord will give me spiritual and physical strength.

Yours in Christ,

-Cherry Alba

# ····O OUT OF THIS LIFE

Out of this life I shall never take Things of silver and gold I make.

All that I cherish and hoard away After I leave, on this earth must stay.

Tho' I have toiled for a painting rare To hang on the wall, I must leave it there

Tho' I call it mine, and boast its worth. I must give it up when I leave this earth.

All that I gather, and all that I keep I must leave behind when I fall asleep.

And I often wonder what I shall own In that other life, when I pass alone.

What shall they find, and what shall they see.

In the soul that answers the call for me?

Shall the Great Judge learn when my task is through.

That my spirit has gained some riches too,

Or shall, at last, it be mine to find That all I'd worked for I'd left behind?

-Author unknown