

FAITH^{AND}VICTORY

Church of God Servant



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Motherhood

There is a noble place to fill,
There is a call of Heaven's will:
To be a Mother wise and true
With much important work to do.

It blends the strain of toil and tear
With happiness and love so dear;
Throughout the passing years of time
It rings a sweet and sacred chime.

To be a Mother oft is not
The choicest, and most easy lot,
But rich reward it offers here,
And great rejoicing over there.

For every man how great or small,
There is a Mother back of all;
Though oft obscure and out of sight,
A Mother shines her sacred light.

But in this evil day there flows
A tide of dark, deceptive foes,
Invading Home's sweet sacred ground
Where Mother surely should be found.

We find her oft so far away,
Engaged in traffic of the day.
To someone else the task is given
To watch her brood that came from Heaven.

Unwilling here to subject be
To God's great wise and just decree,
She seeks a loftier, higher sphere
Of worldly praise and earthly fear.

Hark! From the Holy Book is heard
The call of God's unshaken Word,
For Mothers to be born anew
To do what God has bid them do:

To guide the house and keep the home,
And from her duties never roam;
Her children and her husband love,
Possess that wisdom from above.

—Leslie Busbee

MOTHERS

In the middle of the night many years ago, a phone call came to my parents, Bro. and Sis. Fred Pruitt. They dressed and went to the bedside of Sis. Evelyn Taylor, a member of the Guthrie congregation. She was suffering severely with pain all over her body. She was groaning and at times, would holler out. She had not been saved very long, and this was the first time she had called for someone to come and pray for her when she was sick. She had been trusting in doctors, but Bro. Pruitt had taught her how to trust God for her healing. My parents fell upon their knees and prayed earnestly for her, being in perfect agreement. The Lord touched her and my father got up and sat on a chair. My mother still was on her knees beside Sis. Evelyn's bed. She asked her, "Do you feel any pain now at all?" Sis. Evelyn said, "Just a little bit." My mother then prayed for her. God took all of the pain away and my father encouraged Sis. Evelyn to praise the Lord. This was new to her also. She started praising the Lord and God just came down and filled her soul with a great blessing. She really praised the Lord. Sis. Evelyn said, that my father said, as they were leaving, that when they came she was hollering and now when they were leaving she was hollering, but it was a different kind of hollering. Sis. Evelyn said that Bro. and Sis. Pruitt helped her rear her children through prayer for their many afflictions, etc. She said that many times she would come over and talk to my mother about her problems. Someone told me just yesterday that they had not had a real confidante since my mother died. She passed away twenty years ago last October. She was a good, godly mother.

Mothers are so important. Mothers who have faith in God, and who seek the Lord to guide them in rearing their families, are precious. Today, in this complex world that we live in, mothers surely need much help from the Lord. The children face so much at school, that it takes much prayer to help them go through it all with courage to stand for the right. So mothers need to seek the Lord continually for help in rearing their children.

What touches a mother's child touches the mother deeply. Sometimes, when others come to a mother about her child, she is so touched that she might be tempted to take up for her child, when she should correct

him or her. Then, on the other hand, she might be too severe in correcting him because she personally has felt so ashamed of his deeds or actions. In this, parents need to seek God for help to keep even in their feelings and correct in the fear of the Lord. Take the child aside from the family and take time to pray with him (or her) and point him to the Lord. Let him know that he has not only disobeyed you, but God. Be firm, yet be filled with love and understanding. Win your child's confidence when he is young, and keep that confidence as he grows older. Listen to his little problems, and when he has greater ones he will tell them to you. This all takes time, but it will pay.

It is often said that "the hand that rocks the cradle rules the world." It is so sad that many mothers today are letting others rock the cradle while they go out to work. They are too tired to listen to their children and many times they are left to run the streets. God's plan is for mothers to make a home for their family and to love their husbands. Make the home so pleasant that the children will like to be there or with their parents. Take time to play with your children, as well as to teach them. If you don't take your children to places, they will find others to go with. Be pals to your children and teach them about the Lord. —Sis. Marie Miles

Evil Communications Corrupt Good Manners



We hear so much about pollution, and it is a very serious problem. Our natural resources are being destroyed by pollution. The air we breathe, the water we drink, the food we consume, all are contaminated by pollution. We need pure air, pure water and good food to survive in the natural sense.

There is an even greater pollution in the world today. It threatens far more than natural life! It is destroying eternal souls. The MORAL pollution is what the world needs to be most concerned about. I Cor. 15:33, 34 reads, "Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners. Awake to righteousness, and sin not; for some have not the knowledge of God: I speak this to your shame."

The dictionary gives these definitions for communication. "1. An act of transmitting, 2. exchange of information or opinions, 3. message, 4. a means of communicating." "Evil" communications would be "exchange of evil information or opinions". They also could mean, "close, sympathetic relationships." The commentary gives these thoughts on this verse: "Do not impose on yourselves (evil communications), and do not permit others to do it. Bad company good morals doth corrupt." "Be not deceived," do not let yourself be persuaded other than the fact that, that, "bad company good morals doth corrupt". Do not become unaware or asleep to the fact that what you read, hear or come in contact with continually, can do anything other than influence and affect your thinking and moral outlook.

There is an old saying, "the dripping of water wears away stone". So—in hearing and seeing corrupt or unclean things, we become corrupted. The first time we hear an oath, we are shocked. It stuns us, it scares

us. As we go on listening, the shock wears off. Soon that cursing becomes a part of us. We become bold enough to use those words ourselves. They become a part of our life. The first contact with immoral acts or expressions will at first repel us, but soon, if that association is continued, we will find ourselves taking part of the same. Small children, innocent and pure at first, are soon corrupted by evil communications. I well remember my own little son's experience with T. V. (We didn't have one, but others in the family did). Of course, it was a fascination for our children when they visited in those homes and watched the television. Tim never played shooting and killing until after he'd watched the cowboy and Indian movies on T. V. I could see a definite change in the trend of his play—a change for the worse!

Oh, parents, be not deceived, evil communications will corrupt the good manners of your children. The television is one of the most effective means Satan has in these last days to corrupt good manners. The minds and hearts of little children are defiled by what they are seeing on T. V. No wonder it is so hard to win children to the Lord who have this temptation ever set before them! Their minds are blinded to truth, their hearts are hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.

I often think how much better this world would have been if T. V. had never been invented. How much better the countries and homes are where there has never been a T. V. set! When Bro. John Varghese came to the U. S. from India, I believe he said it was the first time he had seen a T. V.

"Oh," you say, "Television is a wonderful invention. It does lots of good; it increases knowledge, etc." The invention itself is not sin—it is the use it is being put to. The world and the devil have taken it over. It does not belong to, or have any place with saints.

What kind of games do your children play? Are they not the things that they see on T. V.? Little children, playing shooting and killing, throw themselves down on the ground as they've seen the actors fall on T.V., acting out the plays that have been set before them. Violence, fighting, and drinking is the daily diet of many, and they react by being and doing what they see and hear.

Others, besides children, are affected, too. Many wives become discontented with their own husbands because they don't act in the "romantic way" the "heroes" on the "soap operas" do. Their own lives seem so tame and dull, just getting up and preparing breakfast, (if they do! Many wives let their children and husbands go off to school and work without breakfast, or with whatever they can manage for themselves. Wife, you fixed your husband's breakfast, he might not be so tempted with the pretty waitress at the coffee shop.) The wives and husbands, glamorized on T.V., are the exact opposite of the virtuous lives the Bible sets forth. Be not deceived—watching, listening, thinking on these things that you see and hear does corrupt you!

Another avenue of corruption is the reading material of today. Gone are the morally clean magazines and books of yesteryears. To find a decent book for a child to read is no longer an easy thing to do. And I wonder how much longer it will even be possible to find anything at all that is decent and sensible? I have picked up

books in the book stores that were filled with foolishness. The children's programs on T.V. are filled with foolishness. Do you wonder why our children act so silly? How could it be otherwise? Children are surrounded by a dream world of fantasy and foolishness. They are taught by animals and puppets; never with the fear of God. They never hear what God has to say in His Word. The Bible is considered "out-moded". The Bible alone can restrain, enlighten, convict and lead people to a righteous life. Take it away, and the way is open for all immorality.

The school books of a few generations ago were moral books. They were filled with good lessons. They were inspiring; they led children to want to be honest, good, and upright. The stories were based on the Golden Rule and Bible teachings.

I think of the adult reading of today. I'm sure I don't know the half of it, for I don't read it. Minds are polluted by the corrupt communications of the "best sellers" and other things passed out over the book counters of today.

A young man made reference to a certain 16 year-old youth he had known, who had committed suicide. The boy had been given to reading books on reincarnation. He read them until he believed what he was reading. When he committed suicide, he left this note: "Curiosity killed a cat, and I am a cat." Yes, he believed he would be reincarnated, live as someone, or something else, if he left this life. What a rude awakening!

What we read affects us tremendously. Then we ought to read things that are worthwhile and good. We have no time to waste on empty, idle things. If a story is not true, (though it may be called religious reading) is it worth spending time on? If what we read does not inspire us, lift us up, bring us to a fuller understanding or knowledge, or stir up the desire to be a better person, should we read it? God's Word speaks of "redeeming the time". To redeem means to make worthwhile, or to justify the time.

I remember my own experience when God was dealing with my soul, convicting me, and reproving me of sin. At that time, I was reading "True Story" and "Confession" magazines, (and they were tame, compared to some magazines today). God began to reprove me. I began to feel I shouldn't read those books because of the effect they had on me. I'd never heard any preaching about such things, either, as I wasn't a churchgoer. I was unlearned about the things of God, and truth. It was God's Holy Spirit convicting me. The magazines caused me to be more discontent with my own husband, and my lot in life. I realized they were not doing me good to read them. I put those books away, and tried to find cleaner reading. Thank God for dealing thus with me! I would have become more corrupt if I had kept reading such things.

Dear reader, are you being corrupted by the things you are reading? Is your mind polluted by the pages you scan? Would you be ashamed for others to know what you read? Do you have books you would not want your children to read, or look at? Or have you become so corrupted, you don't care what they read or see?

Many people today do not take time to read. They aren't interested in reading. Oh, what a source of knowledge is being passed by! You can learn to like

reading, if you will. You can change your habits. I know a young man who did not like to read, but his wife began to urge him to read good things. Today he enjoys reading. How profitable to read God's Word and other good books. May God help you to be inspired to read and enrich your soul!
—Thelma Sprague

Are You Spiritual?

"But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshipers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship Him" (John 4:23). "God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth" (John 4:24).

We can see by the teaching of our Saviour, that a spiritual worship is the only worship accepted by Him. All worship void of the Spirit is a lifeless form. People of all ages have been more or less liable to drift into formalism. We should endeavor to keep a distinct line drawn in spirituality as well as in doctrine.

It is not enough just to know and teach the doctrine, but we must be filled with the Spirit. A Spirit-filled man is a man that loves God's cause above every cause.

A man filled with the Spirit is not liable to compromise with the world or drift into extremes. The teaching of our Saviour was, "You shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you." A Spirit-filled man has power over the world, the flesh, and the devil. He has power with men to lead souls to Christ. A Spirit-filled church will put to silence all cold, formal religions, and it is the only thing that will. To have a name to live and yet be dead never convinced souls. I believe the primitive church was convincing because of spirituality. They were found "praising God, and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved" (Acts 2:47).

The gospel preached by the Spirit will bring sinners to Christ. It is very necessary for the ministry to keep filled with the Spirit as well as the doctrine. As the apostles went forth by the Spirit, devils feared and quaked, and the sick were healed. A Spirit-filled ministry has always been a shock to the devil's kingdom, and always will be.

When the primitive church prayed, the place was shaken, they were filled with the Holy Ghost, and spoke the Word of God with boldness (Acts 4:31). This kind of worship is destructive to Satan's kingdom, and God is glorified.

We can see by the following text that to rightly represent the Church of God we must be a spiritual people: "For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God" (Rom. 8:14).

Are we as spiritual in our home devotions as we should be? When we fail to meditate and pray, we fail to keep spiritual. We may know the doctrine, and be able to refute all false doctrine, but we still need the Spirit of Jesus just as much as when we first sought Him. May God keep His Spirit burning in our hearts. This will help us to adjust to all difficulties. It isn't any trouble to admonish a spiritual man. He is always desirous of pleasing God. Let us keep spiritual. —Sel.

"FAITH AND VICTORY"

16-PAGE HOLINESS MONTHLY

This non-sectarian paper is edited and published in the interest of the universal CHURCH OF GOD each month (except August of each year, and we omit an issue that month to attend campmeetings) by Lawrence D. Pruitt, assisted by Marie Miles and other consecrated workers at the FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE, 920 W. Mansur, Guthrie, Okla. 73044.

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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 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.

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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.

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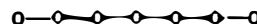
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EDITORIALS



THE CAMPMEETING SEASON is here again, and the Oklahoma State Campmeeting at Guthrie, Okla., is the next on the schedule, which will be in session, Lord willing, from May 23 to June 1. (See further announcement on another page.) A large attendance is expected from several states. The saints are urged to come praying for a soul-saving meeting here and at all the campmeetings and tent meetings throughout the summer. Now on behalf of the local pastor, Bro. Leslie Busbee, we give you a hearty invitation to come and worship the Lord together in the beauty of holiness at this 41st campmeeting on these grounds.



Sister Mattie Savage writes from Goulds, Fla., as follows: "Thank God for allowing us to witness another campmeeting [April 13-19] here in Goulds. The Lord is surely blessing in the services. The old-time gospel of peace is being preached with power from on high. We prayed the Lord to send ministers of His own choosing, and praise God, He did just that. Ministers and workers are here from other states. Souls are being saved, the saints are receiving edification, and sick bodies are being healed. Keep praying for us here that God will be glorified in our lives for Him."



"The present movement embraces all the truth contained in all the previous reformations. . . . But it does not stop there. It stands committed to all the truth of the Word of God. It goes straight to the heart of the reformation subject and reveals the pure, holy, universal church of the apostolic times as made up of all those who were regenerated, uniting them all IN CHRIST. Any reformation that has not for its object the full restoration of the New Testament church can not be a complete reformation, but must be succeeded by another. In this respect the church subject is fundamental and all-inclusive. To emphasize a mere "personal-union-with-Christ" theory to the disparagement of the divine ekklesia, is to evade the real issue. Jesus Himself declared, "I will build my church," and that church was an objective reality, which was not intended to be concealed under high-sounding theological verbiage nor dissipated in glittering generalities. It is true that Christ Himself must be presented as the ground of our hope and salvation and as the object of our personal faith, love, and devotion; as "the way, the truth, and the life"; but we must not forget that there is also a revelation of the way, the truth, and the life in the church of God. The apostles preached Christ as the divine "way"; but when men believed on Him, He straightway "set the members every one of them in the body"—the church. (1 Cor. 12:18). "And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved." (Acts 2:47). They preached Christ as the personification of "truth." But they also taught that the gospel was a special "treasure" committed to the church for dispensing to the

nations. Paul said that God hath "committed unto us the word of reconciliation." (2 Cor. 5:19). Therefore he could represent the church of God "as the pillar and ground of the truth." They preached him as "life," but He was also the life of the collective body of believers as well as of individuals. He dwelt in His church. He was its life, and through it He manifested Himself in the only form in which, since the incarnation, He can be fully exhibited to men."

This week (April 20-27) a revival meeting is in progress at Anthony, Kansas, where Bro. Willie C. Murphey is the pastor. The saints and ministers are coming in from other congregations and the attendance is good. We trust the Lord to bless in every service in a special way for the advancement of the gospel work there. This writer remembers when Brother S. M. Helm was the pastor at Anthony fifty years ago. My father, Fred Pruitt, held meetings in his congregation during those early years.

Notice to Ministers:

A general ministers' meeting of the Church of God will be held, Lord willing, at Guthrie, Okla., on June 3, 4 and 5, 1975, which is just following the Oklahoma State campmeeting at Guthrie. The first service will begin on Tuesday, June 3, at 10 a. m. All the ministers are urged to be there on time.

Sister Opal Kelly left Oklahoma on April 17th, driving alone in her camper truck, to return to her mission station at Ojos Negros, Baja Cfa., Mexico. We trust the Lord has given her a safe trip. Pray for Sister Kelly and all the missionaries worldwide. Her U. S. mailing address is: P. O. Box 3770, San Ysidro, Calif. 92173.

Bro. E. J. Trotter, pastor at Fresno, Calif., just closed a profitable meeting at the Church of God chapel, 800 N. E. Third Street in Oklahoma City on April 13. A number of souls were saved and the saints were instructed in vital Bible truth. It was certainly a blessing to this writer to be privileged to hear some of those messages.

Just recently available is a reprint edition of the book, "The Last Reformation" by F. G. Smith. Containing 256 pages in a nice paper binding, the book is priced at \$3.25 each, plus 35¢ for the postage and handling.

Write for our full price list of Bibles, books, and cards. Listed in our book stock are many of those excellent old books written by the pioneer ministers of the Church of God Reformation which had been out of print for many years. More of these old books of vital truth will be reprinted and added to our stock as time, means, and help permit. Watch for publication dates in future issues of this paper.

An agreement has been reached with the IRS and we have hope for a final consummation of the

matter by June 15. Thank God and His people for their marvelous assistance in answer to prayer alone. Only eternity will reveal in detail how God worked through His people to meet this urgent need for the continuation of His gospel literature ministry.

—Lawrence Pruitt

Partial List of Items Available

Birth of a Reformation—Life and Labors of D. S. Warner by A. L. Byers. A reprint with additional pictures of pioneer ministers. Cloth bound, 496 pages. Price, \$4.50 each.

What The Bible Teaches by F. G. Smith. A reprint of the original 1914 edition, containing 576 pages in cloth binding. This is a book that should be in every home. Price, \$5.00 each.

Holy Spirit Baptism and the Second Cleansing by R. R. Byrum. Consists of 108 pages in heavy paper cover. Price, 50 cents each.

Prophetic Lectures on Daniel and the Revelation by F. G. Smith. It contains 260 pages. Price for heavy paper cover is \$3.00 each; cloth binding is \$4.50 each.

The Cleansing of the Sanctuary by D. S. Warner and H. M. Riggle. Reprinted verbatim in 541 pages, cloth binding. Price, \$4.50 each.

The Christian Church; Its Rise and Progress, by H. M. Riggle. Bound in cloth cover, 488 pages. Price, \$4.00.

The Revelation Explained by F. G. Smith. Reprint of 1906 original edition (fourth reprint), plus two 17x22 inch wall charts in two colors. 464 pages in nice cloth cover. Price, \$4.50 each.

The Last Reformation by F. G. Smith. Just recently made available, this reprint edition contains 256 pages in a nice paper binding. Price, \$3.25 each.

Experiences of S. O. Susag is a record of the activities of S. O. Susag, a Norwegian who had many marvelous experiences and answers to prayer as an early-day minister of the Church of God. Originally published in 1948, the book contains 191 pages in a heavy paper binding. Price, \$1.25 each.

Life's Golden Gleanings by Ruby E. Stover. She records many experiences of her childhood, and how God answered prayer in marvelous ways in her family and through the years in the gospel work. 94 pages in nice paper cover. Price, \$1.00.

For postage and handling, add 25c for the first dollar and 5c for each additional dollar of total order.

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Obituary

Sister Julia Davidson, a member of the congregation of the Church of God at Ridgeville, S. C., where Bro. Oneil Pratt is the pastor, was born on Oct. 25, 1917, and departed this life on March 21, 1975. She was one of the Lord's saints, and a wonderful, loving mother.

—Her son, Marion Muckelvaney

Campmeeting Dates For 1975

Following are the Church of God campmeeting dates for 1975, and more complete announcements of each will appear in later issues:—

Oklahoma State at Guthrie, Okla.—May 23 to June 1.
Ministers' Meeting at Guthrie, Ok.—June 3, 4 and 5.
Holly Hill, South Carolina—June 6 to 15.
Tulsa, Oklahoma—June 6 to 15.
Jefferson, Oregon—June 13 to 22.

Due to the time of the Ministers' Meeting, the congregation at Jefferson has changed the date of their campmeeting to June 13 to 22.

Oakland, California—June 20 to 29.
General Southern at Hammond, La.—June 27 to July 6.

Ojos Negros, Baja Cfa., Mexico—July 1 to 6.
Akron, Ohio—July 5 to 13.

National Campmeeting at Neosho (Monark Springs), Missouri—July 18 to 27.

Missouri State at Myrtle, Mo.—August 1 to 10.

Bakersfield, California—August 1 to 10.

Boley, Oklahoma—August 15 to 24.

Blackford, Kentucky—August 15 to 24.

California State at Pacoima, Calif.—August 22 to 31.

Fresno, California—September 5 to 14.

OKLAHOMA CAMPMEETING AT GUTHRIE, OK.

The Oklahoma State Campmeeting of the Church of God will be held, Lord willing, May 23 to June 1, 1975, at the chapel located on the corner of Sixth and West Warner Streets, Guthrie, Oklahoma.

A hearty welcome is extended to all to attend this 41st annual campmeeting on these grounds. Provisions will be made to care for all who come. Dining hall and dormitories are on the grounds. Expenses will be met by free-will offerings. Come praying for a profitable meeting — the salvation of souls, sanctification of believers, and the divine healing of bodies.

Contributions should be sent directly to the treasurer, Sister Frances Deforth, Rt. 2, Guthrie, Oklahoma 73044.

For further information, contact the pastor, Brother Leslie Busbee, 1014 West Mansur, Guthrie, Okla. 73044, phone 405-282-2421. The phone number at the chapel is 282-5499. Come and hear the old-time reformation truth, and let us worship the Lord together in the unity of the Spirit and be brought to the unity of the faith of the New Testament. —L. D. Pruitt

NOTICE

A reader would like to purchase the book, "The Change in Smithville" by Effie Williams. Please send reply to this office, stating price and condition.

Since God knows what niche we are to fill, let us trust Him to shape us to it. Since He knows what work we are to do, let us trust Him to drill us for the proper preparation. —Selected

TENT MEETING AT JASPER, ALA.

Bro. Mart Samons announces that an evangelistic tent meeting will begin, Lord willing, on May 23, 1975, at Jasper, Ala., and continue as long as the Lord leads. It will be held at the same location as last year. All within driving distance are urged to attend these nightly services. The saints are encouraged to cooperate and pray earnestly that the anointing of the Holy Spirit will work in every service for the salvation of precious souls in this evangelistic effort.

For further information, contact Sister Pearlene Whitson, 235 S. Park Road, Birmingham, Ala. 35211. Phone 205-785-1072. Bro. Mart Samons' address is P.O. Box 89, Junction City, Ky. 40440.

SAN DIEGO, CALIF., REVIVAL REPORT

God blessed us with a Holy Ghost-filled revival meeting in San Diego, Calif., from March the 8th through the 16th. The singspiration on the 8th was surely anointed, and was such a blessed way to start our revival. The singers were from the different California congregations.

Bro. Woodrow Warren of Okmulgee, Okla., was with us throughout the entire meeting. Bro. George Hammond of Guthrie, Okla., was with us for a short while. Ministers from the California congregations were with us throughout the meeting also, and the gospel was truly preached under the anointing of the Holy Spirit. Saints were edified, uplifted, encouraged, taught, and in general, received much help from our God. I, myself, was completely healed of chronic sinusitis.

The attendance was very good, and was the largest in many years. The love of God among the saints was so completely manifested throughout the meeting that sinners were made to marvel, and were heard to remark concerning this great love. Praise our God forever! We believe that many were convicted of their sins, but were not willing to surrender at that time. But God's Word will not return unto Him void; it will accomplish His purpose.

We appreciate all that attended this meeting, and all the prayers, gifts, and offerings. May our Lord richly bless each one of you, is our fervent prayer.

—Sis. Tora Mae Jensen

WICHITA, KAN., SPRING MEETING REPORT

In unison the Wichita, Kansas, congregation says: "Praise the Lord". We give honor, thanks and praise to God for the glorious, victorious meeting He gave us. The Lord worked and caused us to change our meeting date to a week earlier than originally planned. We could also see the devil working hard to hinder the meeting even before it started, so we had a week of noon prayer meetings and the Lord heard and marvelously answered prayer and rebuked the enemy in our behalf.

The Word of God was rich and powerful and delivered with authority. Sinners were convicted and ten yielded. It would surely be wonderful if they would all stay saved. Let us pray for them. The saints were

edified and enlightened, causing many to seek for spiritual help (a touch of the Master's hand) at the altar of prayer. There was much rejoicing and praising God in some services. The Lord blessed through song as well as the preached Word.

The Lord blessed and sent more than a dozen ministers throughout the meeting. Most of the ministers were from Oklahoma but some came long distances. The Lord sent Bro. Effinger from Alabama, Bro. Francis Doolittle from California, Bro. Hargrave and Sis. Bonnie (Matthews) Riley from Florida. We thank the Lord for each minister He sent, and appreciate their sacrifice to come and help us win the battle.

—Shirley Knight

EASTER CAMPMEEETING IN MEXICO

Patzcuaro, Mexico (April 8)—Dear ones, Christian greetings from Mexico: Christ's love for mankind is beyond our understanding, but how grateful we are for that love!

This year no one came to the usual campmeeting that we have had here for several years at Easter time. Bro. Mendoza and family were unable to come, and it was not possible for Sister Opal Kelly to come and we knew of no one else who could come, so it seemed easy to just say, "Well, we won't have any special meetings here this year because we won't have any help." But as the time drew nearer, we felt that we should go ahead with services just as in past years. The Lord made us to know that He wanted the people to have the opportunity to hear God's Word and to worship Him during the Easter week of vacation. So we went out house by house, visiting and inviting them to come and worship the Lord with us. We had children's meeting in the mornings and a general service for all in the afternoons. The Lord was with us and put it on the hearts of folks to come to meeting. In the first children's meeting, there were 28 children and on the last day there were 50. They were good and orderly, which helped a lot in teaching so many at a time. The general services were especially precious with the Lord's blessing upon us. Several folks came who had never to my knowledge come to meeting and others who hadn't come for a long time. One evening the message was so good and the Spirit was dealing with souls. Three came to the altar. One was my own sister-in-law, Tomasa. She and her family are here from southern Mexico and she hasn't had the privilege to hear God's Word. She hasn't missed a service since she has lived here. She really seems interested in the Word of God. Do help us pray for her, for she surely needs help with the burden she has to bear. If she can know the Saviour's love for her, it will be easier to bear, for God will help her.

So we feel it was well worth the effort, time, and cost of these few days meeting, and we are committing the results into God's hands, for we feel we obeyed the Lord.

Thank you for the offering and your good letter. We trust the Lord has been blessing all of you. We ask an interest in your prayers, for we want to be faithful to our Lord until the end.

In Christian love, —Edith (Cole) Lara and family

PRAYER REQUESTS



Mo.—"My husband died Feb. 6th He was blind. He said he was ready to go, which was a comfort to me I have a terrible diabetic sore, but it is better now. I have arthritis and hardening of the arteries until I can hardly stand up or walk across the room. Please pray for me that I will be able to care for myself My vision is growing dimmer all the time."

—Mrs. W. E. Bryan

Sis. Lou Bray (Ark.) and Bro. Audie Sorrell (Mo.) had property losses by fire. They need prayer.

Ark.—"Pray for me. I have arthritis and a gaseous stomach condition." —Cherry Alba

Calif.—"Pray for my wife. She has pains in the back of her head." —A. R. Whitehouse

Ark.—"Renda and Norma's (Allen) little boy, Kent, needs prayer. His bones are so easily broken."

—Sis. A. Bray

La.—"Remember my wife in prayer for the healing of her body." —N. P. Futch

Calif.—Pray for dear Sis. Lois Longley. She has been ill for some time.

Calif.—"Pray for the Lord to heal me completely of bladder trouble." —Susan Stinson

Okla.—"Still remember us in prayer as we are much afflicted We are still looking to the Lord."

—Sis. Lottie Buchanan

Okla.—"The Lord gave Ted and me a promise yesterday that all was going to be well. So please help us pray that we can keep what we have gained It has been five weeks since I had the attack I'm able to be up some, but not for very long, but so thankful I feel as well as I do The Lord has been so near to us so many times, and we thank each of you for your prayers." (April 14th)

—Sis. Alta Bock

Okla.—"A spot (in my abdominal region) began to increase in intense pain. Other distresses have developed in my back and shoulders I am still holding on . . . for complete healing and I am asking your prayers in my behalf. I know our God can heal."

—Clyde W. Sweazy

Okla.—There is a great need for workers at the Golden Rule Home in Shawnee. They need nurses, workers in the garden, etc. Even older folks could help some. We still need printers here in the printshop and someone who would do some painting and maintenance work on the buildings. So do pray earnestly about these needs. We know God has to burden someone to do this or it won't be done. Listen to His call or pray God to burden someone else.

Oregon—Pray for Bro. Jimmie Linch. He has an affliction which seems to be rheumatic fever. He is not able to walk without crutches. He has a burden for the work of the Lord and we do know that the devil would like to hinder him. There is a great need of more workers for God, so pray that the Lord will send forth laborers in His vineyard and pray for those who feel that call.

Calif.—"My twin sister is still bedfast. I wish you would pray for her. She has such a fear of getting up and trying to walk. She fell a couple years ago, and broke her hip Remember several in the "Sunset

Guest Home" that are sick I ask your prayers for more strength in my body and that I will be all the Lord wants me to be."
—Sis. Edith Wittenborn

S. Carolina—Remember Bro. and Sis. Sam Abbott in prayer. They are in S. Carolina, doing what they can for the Lord. They are not well in their bodies. We know their faith and confidence are strong in the Lord, so pray for them.

Ky.—Dear Sister Marie, Bro. Lawrence, Sister Maybelle and saints everywhere: Greetings in the name of our blessed Lord and Saviour. It has been a long time since I have written to the "Faith and Victory" paper. I can truly say that the Lord has been good to us through the past years. He has brought us through many trials, temptations and afflictions. I have learned many lessons and I realize that everything He permits us to go through is for our good, or for the benefit of someone else.

I desire the earnest prayers of the saints for the healing of present afflictions. As some of you perhaps know, for many months, (I can't remember just how many it has been) I have suffered very much with a terrible noise in my ear and head. At times my head would feel all drawn up tight and like it would surely burst. All of this affected my nerves and memory.

The saints here are praying for me. I have been anointed and prayed for many times and would get better, and then it would come back again. Bro. Mart Samons, of late, has gotten that same trouble, at least, it seems much like mine. How I do hope and pray for him to soon be completely delivered of it.

On March 17, 1975, I had a hard fall while riding in my husband's trailer. Since then, I have suffered untold misery. For days I was unable to walk without severe pain. The thigh bone on my right side seems to be affected. God can heal it, regardless of what it is. There is nothing too hard for him to heal.

Twice, when anointed and prayed for, I was able to walk without a sign of pain or soreness anywhere. I rejoiced, feeling sure that I was healed, only to have it return as bad as ever.

I need complete healing, if it is God's will to heal me. Do please pray for me, and that I may clearly know God's will.

Your sister in Christ, —Sister Wilbur Jarvis

Recently, we had the privilege of hearing some messages that Bro. Trotter, pastor of the Fresno, Calif., Church of God, brought under the anointing of the Lord. One night he gave some good thoughts about faith. He referred to Daniel in the lion's den, and how the king was so sorry that he had been put there. The king fasted and could not sleep. He loved Daniel, but he was helpless to do anything about Daniel. A higher power stepped in and that was God. He brought him forth. We might be like the king; helpless to do anything about our afflictions or trials, but there is a God who can do it. We must trust and wait upon Him. We can't question God. Too many times finite man limits the infinite God. God does not owe us an explanation. Ezekiel said for the dry bones to come together. He didn't know how they would do it, but he had faith in God. There was a rattling and a moving and a coming together. God honored his faith. God is above the Mosaic law. The woman taken in adultery

was brought to Jesus. The law said, "stone her," but Jesus showed mercy and delivered her from the sin of adultery. "For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending His own Son, in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh." Rom. 8:3. We need to have faith that God, through Christ, can save the sinner, though he is deep in sin. Many people are like Martha, when Jesus said, "Take ye away the stone" from the place where the dead was laid. Martha said, "Lord, by this time he stinketh." That didn't bother Jesus. Even if people go so deep in sin that their sins stink, we must have faith and love. Don't cast them off and say that there is no hope. Love will bring them in. "Love found me." "We love him, because he first loved us." The poet said, "I know my sins have pierced thy heart, and now thy love is breaking mine." Keep praying. Have faith and show love to those who are in sin.

—Sis. Marie Miles

LETTER FROM INTERIOR MEXICO

Michoacan, Mexico (April 1st)—Brethren: I give thanks for your letter we received, and for the great love that you show to us. God has manifested His power to the brethren here. One Sister of Sirimicuro has just received healing. She was very sick and had no desire to live one more moment with her affliction, but God had compassion yesterday and in our service she said she was very happy and did not feel any symptoms of sickness. God healed her whole body. When we obey the Lord, we are worthy of His blessings. For this we humbly glorify God. He has blessed the brethren in healing their bodies.

We give thanks to the Brother who sent us \$100.00. We trust God will bless him and will bless you.

—Bro. Irineo Rama

LETTER FROM MEXICO MISSION

Baja Cfa., Mexico (April 6)—Dear Bro. Pruitt and Sister Marie, I greet you and all who love the truth of God and who have the same hope in the promise of Christ Jesus, the Son of God.

My beloved brothers and sisters, I hope all are real well in body and soul. I hope that all will continue to be encouraged in God's way.

My family and I are well. Thanks to the Lord for His great love which He has had for all of us in giving rich blessings. I am very happy in my soul because God is working in the hearts of two families, and they desire the truth of God. One of them asked me to pray for him as he wants to work for God. Please pray much for them that God would counsel them and that they all would leave the man-made sects!

Pray also for Bro. Antonio. He has pneumonia, and he also needs much help in his soul. He has had many trials. His son was sick in his mind for many months. We have been helping them when we could, but please don't forget to pray much for him.

Pray for me and my family, that we will be able to continue faithful to God.

Many thanks for your offerings. All are used in the work of God and to His glory.

With love and prayers,

—Tomas Mendoza



CHAPEL JUST COMPLETED AT AVOOR, SOUTH INDIA. Standing from left to right: John Varghese, P. Mathew (Avoor pastor), Philip Varghese, V. I. Thomas and Israel Thomas.

MISSION REPORT FROM INDIA

S. India (March 20)—My dear Bro. and Sister Pruitt and all the dear ones in the U.S.A. and abroad: I thank God for the privilege to greet you once again in the precious name of Jesus Christ, who is rich in mercy, "for his great love wherewith he loved us, even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, and hath raised us up together and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus."

Thank you very much for your loving and encouraging letter dated March 2 and the enclosures, including the valuable tracts and "Faith and Victory" paper. They were noted with much gratitude.

Now we are preparing for a two-days' monthly meeting, March 21 and 22, at Kalayapuram. All the ministers and most of the saints will assemble there to get more strength and courage in spirit from the mighty presence of God, to live victorious in these perilous times. At Kalayapuram we assemble in a home as we do not have a chapel. The need of a chapel there is a prayer request, and by faith I am looking for a small plot of land to purchase where, Lord willing, we can build a chapel. May God open a way for it, is our prayer.

Enclosed is a picture of the Avoor chapel which will be opened for services next week with a two-days' meeting in it.

After prayer we started to dig a well near Karikkom Bethel chapel for water for a baptistry, and we trust God will open the way for its completion. Yes, we received some rain this month and the farmers are happy

now. We thank God for hearing prayer. We appreciate your prayers for us in all matters.

Next week I plan to go to Calicut to see the building they recently rented in which to hold services.

We are called to be co-laborers with Christ, and nothing but His love should form the motivating force behind our labors—the "labor of love." Love is the basis of redemption, and that love indeed is the true basis of a response from the redeemed. One cannot truly serve without love. Jesus asked Peter, "Lovest thou me?"

With love and prayers for all of you, I am yours in God's service,
—John Varghese

NIGERIAN MISSION REPORT

Southeast State, Nigeria (April 2)—Dear Bro. Pruitt and saints everywhere: Sincere Christian greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, our Redeemer who washed our sins away on the cross of Calvary. He arose from the grave with victory over death in fulfillment of His promise that His "temple" would be destroyed and rebuilt in three days' time. Before He ascended to heaven He consoled and comforted His disciples and us with the promise that He would come again and receive us unto Himself that where He is there we will be also. Praise Him, and let us all be watchful and ready for His coming.

We are pleased to report the first quarter's communion services held at various centers in the field. On March 2, it was held at Asana with Bro. E. B. Ubara conducting the services for the congregations in

Section 1a. Bro. A. J. Ubaha exhorted the audience of 203 souls from Matt. 5:16. One hundred sixty-one members observed the ordinances of feet-washing and the Lord's supper.

On March 9, communion services were held at Ukpom for Section 2. Bro. S. Akpakpan conducted the services, and Bro. M. U. Ekpo exhorted on "Worried Minds" from John 14:1. Converts numbered seven. Bro. J. U. Etuk exhorted before 301 souls that took part in the ordinances of feet-washing and the Lord's supper.

On Sunday, March 16, a communion service was held at Ikot Obio Inyang for Section 3. Bro. N. T. Akpan conducted the service. Bro. M. U. Ekpo spoke on "Weakness" and how to be strengthened (Isa. 35:3). Converts were three. Feet were washed and souls numbering 220 partook of the Lord's Supper. Total attendance was 550.

On Sunday, the 23rd of March, a communion service was held at Ikot Esen for members in Section 1b. Bro. S. P. Akpan conducted the service. Bro. B. E. Udoka exhorted before administering the Lord's supper to 175 members. One soul accepted the Bible truth.

Thank you, brother, for your letter of March 2, and the enclosures to help us in this needy field. Your suggestion for two brethren from the Nigerian Church of God to meet with the Church in America is much appreciated. We pray the Lord to direct and qualify the ministers to come and to provide the funds. We suggest that they should arrive for the 1976 campmeeting season.

Everybody will stand at Christ's judgment seat, so we all should be ready for that great day while there is yet a little time to get prepared.

Our prayers are always for you and the gospel work there. Don't forget to pray for us.

Your Bro. in the Lord, —N. B. Umanah, Secretary

MURPHEY'S MISSION IN JAMAICA

Jamaica, W. Indies (April 10)—Dear Bro. Pruitt: In the precious name of our loving heavenly Father, accept our Christian greetings of love.

It is with grateful hearts to God and all the saints who made it possible for Bro. Willie and Sister Frances Murphey to visit us here in Jamaica, that we write this brief account of their visit. On the 19th of March, 1975, a company consisting of friends and a number of saints from this and another congregation chartered a minibus and journeyed to the Norman Manley Airport at Palasadoes to meet Bro. and Sister Murphey With the arrival of the plane at 4:30 p.m., what a loving meeting and greeting there was! After this, we left on our return home and reached Frankfield safely. Praise the Lord!

On the night of the 20th, beginning about 7:30 p.m., a welcoming service was held here in the chapel for Bro. and Sister Murphey Bro. Murphey delivered an exhortation from the Scriptures. On the night of the 21st, there was a service in which testimonies were given, followed by a message from the Scriptures by Bro. Murphey. The night following in our home, Bro. Murphey led an inspiring time of singing with which we were blessed. The following day (Sunday 23) at the mid-day service, the message was delivered by Bro.

Murphey. At the close, many sick were anointed and prayed for. The same day about 5:30 p.m., members from this and other congregations gathered in the town of Frankfield where a street meeting was held. Testimonies of salvation from sin were given by many. With the use of a loud speaker, Bro. Murphey delivered the message from the Lord. After this, we returned to the chapel for the night service. Some persons visited us then who had never done so before. The message was again delivered by Bro. Murphey.

On the 24th, the saints here chartered a minibus and, accompanied by Bro. and Sister Murphey, we went to a chapel a few miles from here for a night service. This meeting was largely attended. Bro. Murphey brought a message from the Lord. On the night of the 25th, there was a farewell service for Bro. and Sister Murphey. Tears could hardly be restrained as we sang repeatedly, "When we asunder part, it gives us inward pain; but we shall still be joined in heart, and hope to meet again." Thus ended their week's mission among us. Their coming to us is highly appreciated and has been a blessing. We pray that the seed sown by them has fallen on good soil. We believe there is much work here for Bro. Willie.

On the 26th we again chartered a bus and accompanied them to the airport, remaining until 8:45 a.m. when they left by plane.

Please continue to consider and pray for God's work here in Jamaica.

Yours in the family of God,

—Israel and Olga Smalling

LETTER TO BRO. JAMES HUSKEY

Mexico—We salute you in the name of the hope we have in Christ Jesus. The 3rd day of this month we received your letter. I'm very sorry you weren't able to come the day we proposed, the 29th of May. Well, God knows . . . The brethren here are very encouraged and are forming a congregation. Various new people are coming to the services. One is a young man named David, who is about 17 years old. He is studying the Bible through a correspondence course. He is much encouragement to me as is Bro. Andres. We are planning to make charcoal to sell in order to buy the roof for the chapel, even though it will be a slow process.

Last Sunday, a young man about 30 years old came to service. He was the son of a strict Catholic. He was very interested in the things of God. We read from a Catholic Bible. We trust God will work in his heart to bring him to the Lord.

My family salute you.

Your Bro. in Christ, —Efrain Huerta

The devil does not like to see any life sacrificed to God, for he knows how mightily God will use that life to defeat the works of darkness. —Sel.

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

Out of loyal love for the Lord, to deny the natural and to take up our personal cross daily, and follow Jesus, must be the deep underlying principle of every triumphant Christian life, the very pivot on which it turns. —Sel.

FROM THE MAIL BOX . . .

S. Carolina—Dear Brothers and Sisters at the Printshop: Greetings in Jesus' dear name. Today finds me much encouraged in the Lord. We hope and trust this letter finds all of you the same. Though the outward man perish, the inward man is renewed day by day.

The saints here at Holly Hill seem to be much encouraged also. We have Bro. and Sis. Sam Abbot with us. This we appreciate very much. They surely have been a blessing to me. Sister Abbott needs help in her body. She is very weak. Pray with us for her, and remember all of us, as we need help from God.

Brethren, keep encouraged! It won't be long until the Lord will come for us. Here is an offering to use where needed. All who can, please come to our campmeeting at Holly Hill to be held June 6 to 15.

Yours in Christ Jesus,

—Bro. and Sister Hudson Crummie

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

W. Va.—Dear Sis. Marie: Greetings in the precious name of our blessed Saviour. It's so good to be saved and serving the Lord. It's beginning to mean more and more to me how important it is to please the Lord in our life here

Lately I have been meditating on the seriousness of serving the Lord. I've been thinking about how small we are and the greatness of our Lord, and how He leads us. We can stop and look back on the years behind us and see how He has led us every step of the way and how He has worked things out and I didn't even realize it until it was all over. One time, when I was about 17 years old, I tried to take my life. I thought then that there just wasn't any way to face my problem and no way out. I had taken some pills and didn't know that I was in the world for a number of hours. They said I talked to the doctor, but of course, I can't remember anything about it. The only thing I know is that there was a blank space there for some time. I now can see how my loving Saviour pulled me out of the clutches of Satan, and He spared me from a devil's hell. Oh, can you imagine, Sis. Marie, how I feel to realize how close and how easy it would have been for me to have left this world and been lost? I honor the Lord every time I kneel to pray. I ask my heavenly Father to make me pleasing in His sight. I truly love my Lord and Saviour. When you love someone, it's only natural that you want to be pleasing in their sight and be near to them. Yes, the Lord surely deserves to come first in our lives.

Pray for me. I need to live godly right here in my home.

—Sis. Elaine Landis

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Miss.—Dear Bro. Pruitt and all the workers at the Publishing House: I still read and enjoy the "Faith and Victory" paper.

I haven't been well this year. Flu, followed by colds, have sapped my strength, but God has been good to me, and my determination to live for Him grows stronger every day. I want my life to count for Him. By His grace I mean to see the end of this Christian race.

Enclosed is my offering to be used as you see best. I pray God to bless you with health and strength to carry on His great work. —Mrs. Olen Williamson

Wash.—Dear saints: Greetings to all of you in Jesus' name. We thank Him for His great love for us. He shares all of our cares and sorrows, and is a very present help in time of need. We love Him with all of our heart and want to live a life pleasing in His sight.

We trust all are well there. We remember you in prayer, and do appreciate the work there. Please remember me and my family in prayer.

Christian love, —Sister D. T. Thomas

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N. Jersey—Dear Brothers and Sisters: Enclosed please find \$2.00 for the renewal of my subscription. The extra can be applied to stamps or whatever you see fit. I enjoy the paper very much. I am a shut-in, and 79 years old. Thank you for past favors.

Christian love, —Edna Schaefer

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

Mich.—Dear Bro. in Christ: I surely enjoyed the sample copy of the "Faith and Victory" paper that you sent to me, and I want to subscribe for it for myself and three other persons

I am an old saint and starving for the good gospel. All we get is just a few crumbs, so I'll be looking forward to receiving the paper. If I were near, I would be there at the church services.

May God bless all of you.

—Mrs. Merrill Burd

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Kansas—Dear Bro. Lawrence: I am glad to be able to greet you again in Jesus' name. Despite the weather and all the problems and burdens of life, we have a wonderful Saviour. He says in His Word: "Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time, casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you!" Jesus said, "But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved." Someone said, "I'm glad I can enjoy salvation; I don't just have to endure it." If we enjoy salvation, we soon learn that we must endure some real hard things, too, and we can do so with cheerfulness.

Your Brother,

—Homer W. Fee

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

Minn.—Dear Bro. Pruitt and co-workers: Greetings in the holy and precious name of Jesus, our best Friend. This leaves me well and happy in the Lord. I am going on until the battle is won. Times are bad, but the Lord provides our needs as He said He would. I love the Lord for His wonderful keeping power. He will never leave us, nor forsake us. God knows and cares for His own.

The weather remains cool, and we have had so much snow this winter.

I am asking God's blessing on all of you in the printshop. Hold fast, the Lord is soon coming.

Much love and prayer,

—Bro. Andrew Senti

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Pa.—Dear Sister Marie: Greetings to you and all the dear saints there. Praise God for salvation, the greatest gift of God's great love for us. We rejoice, and to Him give praise.

We have a solemn warning in Prov. 29:1, "He that being often reproveth, hardeneth his neck, shall suddenly be destroyed, and that without remedy." That's what

happened to the woman I had worked for the greater part of last year, until the accident. She was suddenly and quickly cut off on Sunday, Jan. 26. She went to a restaurant to eat her dinner. While eating she choked on something and died right there. They sent for an ambulance and took her to the hospital, but she was dead on arrival, according to the report. How often I spoke to her of her soul's need of God and Bible salvation! She was a heavy smoker and indulged in strong drinks, too. Sad, sad, indeed; almost unbelievable!

Yours in Christ, —Julia Llewellyn

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Wisconsin—Dear Bro. Pruitt and workers at the Shop: Greetings of love to each of you in the precious name of the Holy One of Israel who lives in our hearts today. Praise His name! I am thankful for His saving and keeping power. He is more precious to His saints day by day, for the "Lord taketh pleasure in his people. He will beautify the meek with salvation."

I surely miss being with the Lord's family at the Printshop. May God keep each of you encouraged and strengthened in Him. I pray that the work will progress in outreach and blessings to precious souls.

Things are going well here, and I have much to do. I was finally able to get over to Akron, Ohio, to Sister Clark's congregation this weekend (April 20). . . .

May God bless each of you.

In Christian love, —Bro. George Hammond
4303—75th St., Kenosha, Wisc. 53140

o—o—o—o—o—o—o

Ore.—Dearest Marie: My heart is full to overflowing with praise and thanksgiving to God for all of His many, many blessings. I was quite sick for about three days. I had many little hot, sharp pains in the area of my heart. I also had soreness and hurting all through my body, but I didn't hurt so much when I lay quiet. On Sunday a.m., I just especially desired to go to meeting, but about 8 o'clock, I was feeling so badly that I turned over in bed and went to sleep. The phone rang about 8:40 and when I got up to answer it, there was no pain. I was very sore and weak. I rode into meeting with Carolyn, my daughter, and family. At first, I was so short of breath that I could only sing a word or so at a time. I just kept looking to the Lord and by the time Sunday School was over, I could sing and was free from pain. I had felt strength come into my body. I surely do praise God for all the healing touches He gives me, but most of all for my soul being so richly blessed (and it still is!) I realized that for Him to touch my body, His holy presence would have to be so very near.

Last Sunday, we heard testimonies of praise from Bro. and Sis. Thompson. Bro. Thompson had been quite sick with the flu, I guess. He had a very severe cough and he could not lie down and sleep at night. He had been anointed and prayed for the previous Sunday night. God surely blessed and touched him so that he had been able to sleep good and was free from that awful cough. Then Sis. Thompson told, with rejoicing, how the Lord had kept her from getting the flu, although she was exposed to it in caring for Bro. Thompson and their daughter and great-grandbaby. Oh, our God is so very good to us all, isn't He?

I feel the loss of dear Sis. Virginia Wittenborn so keenly and yet, what a comfort to know she has finished her race and gone to that wonderful place that we are yet striving for. Surely, it won't be long until we will all be gone from this world and it will be well worth all we go through. As the song says, "Just one glimpse of Him in glory, will the toils of life repay."

The check enclosed is some of the Lord's money. After Bro. John Varghese was here, I felt so burdened to help with placing Bibles where they are so needed but I just didn't have the means to do it. One day, a verse of scripture, "Sell that ye have and give alms," kept coming to my mind. (Luke 12:33a) Finally I thought, "Well, what do I have that I could sell?" Then I began to think of numerous things. Some of Marlene's old dolls, some old hat pins, shoe button hooks and darning eggs, etc. I wrote a letter to a women's magazine and mentioned some of the items. I had written to this magazine before (for other purposes, recipes, etc.) but my letters weren't printed until this time. I had prayed for the Lord to have His way. Well—the response was almost unbelievable and I have sold almost all of the items. Through this, the Lord enabled me to have money to give to several places where I knew of needs and to help with Bibles I hope all the church is stirred to have a burden for lost souls. Of what use are our material things when they are not useful to us? How great is the need to get the precious Word of God to lost souls! If we sacrifice and get by with less, isn't that a small thing compared to the need? It still amazes me how the Lord did bless the efforts in selling the things. Through that effort we were able to give to numerous places, as God led us, even in helping a needy family . . . —Sis. Virginia Taylor

Testimonies and Answers to Prayer

La.—Dear Bro. Lawrence, Sis. Marie, and saints: Greetings in Jesus' name, the only name given under heaven through which we might be saved.

We feel it is time to tell about the accident that happened to us last Aug. 15th. As I was coming down a ladder where I work, somehow I missed a step and fell about seven feet. I hit the concrete with all of my weight on my left heel. Being on the job, I was required to go to the hospital and have it x-rayed. The x-ray showed that the main bone in my heel was badly fractured and driven up into my ankle. They called in a bone specialist and he was quite concerned. He wanted to give me a spinal block and operate, putting in a pin. I explained to him that I couldn't conscientiously let him do that, as I had trusted God for thirty years and He had not failed me. He said that he did not understand what I meant by that, but if I refused to let him operate he couldn't do me any good. I told him that if he could straighten it out without surgery I would allow him to do that. He stated that if I would not do it his way, he would have to do it the next best way—my way. He did succeed in straightening it some and placed a plaster splint on my heel for two weeks. At the end of the first week he again asked if I didn't want to change my mind and let him operate. I told him no, and that I still believed the Lord would take care of it. He explained

that it would be crooked, bother me in wearing a shoe and probably give considerable pain after the fracture healed.

After two weeks, he placed a cast on it and admitted that it looked better than he had expected. I wore the cast for six weeks and went on crutches. I was called back to my job after three days and the Lord blessed me to be able to do things that surprised everyone I worked with. I had only one or two little accidents with it and suffered but little pain after the first few hours. The doctor insisted on giving me a prescription for pain medicine which I told him I would not need and later told him I had no use for. The Lord let me sleep real good even that first night.

When the cast was taken off, the doctor admitted that he was really surprised at how well it had healed and thought it was crooked very little. I told him that I was not a bit surprised. He then told me he would like for me to come back in about six months and let him see it again. I haven't found a time to go back yet, but hope to soon. I believe this is the first case of divine healing that he has ever seen.

This leaves us encouraged to trust God more than ever. I desire the prayers of all the saints. I need prayer for my eyes, as it seems I am going blind. My wife still needs much prayer for complete healing. Please remember us. We are asking the Lord daily to heal you, Bro. Lawrence. We send our love to all of the saints.

With Christian love, —Ben E. Goldsberry

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

Kan.—Dear workers at the Printshop: All praise, honor and glory be to Jesus who is the same yesterday, today, and forever. I am glad to have a personal acquaintance with the Christ of Calvary. I have truly found Him to be one who cares for me and shares my burdens.

In reading the February issue of the "Faith and Victory," I found more encouragement and food for my soul than ever before. Praise God for supplying us with people like you to print such a paper. I remember all of you in my prayers.

I was thankful to hear of God answering prayer concerning the request held before Him by the workers of the Printshop. Our Father has never failed to answer the prayers of His people.

Bro. Pruitt, I pray that the Lord will keep you encouraged, in the midst of your affliction. As I took note of your faith and the faith of others who are battling affliction, the Lord made me to realize that more faith was needed in my own life. I can truly say that "My cry shall be 'till time shall cease, 'Oh blessed Lord, my faith increase'." Pray for me that I will be willing to pay any price that the Lord requires of me to get the faith I need.

A young Sister in the family of God, —Letha Phillips

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

Mo.—Dear readers: I want to tell of a little experience I had. I oftentimes have trouble getting back to sleep when I wake in the night. Someone told me to try reciting songs. It had worked for them, so as I lay awake last night, I thought about that. "River of Peace" came to my mind. I started out, "I'll sing of a river divine. Its waters from trouble release; more precious

than honey and wine, that river, sweet river, is peace." That's about as far as I got. I began to meditate on that verse. I thought about this old troubled world with corruption abounding on every side. If we drink of this "River of Peace," we have a release valve. "Its waters from trouble release." I thought of the pressure cooker. It has a release valve; otherwise, it would be dangerous. I thank God for this "River of Peace" and that I have it in my heart. As I lay there, I wept for joy and gave praise unto God.

Dear soul, if your life is full of trouble, learn about this river of peace. Get that experience in your heart.

I covet your prayers.

—Sister Thelma Busbee

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

Ark.—Dear Sister Marie, Bro. Lawrence, and all of the dear faithful laborers at the Printshop: Greetings in the most wonderful name of Jesus. Praise, honor and glory be unto Him forever! I trust all are well and encouraged each new day that the Lord makes for us to enjoy and to give thanks and praise to Him in.

I truly praise Him every day for saving my soul, for cleansing my heart from all pride, envy and strife, for healing me of many pains and for His Word that is food for my soul. I thank God for the dear saints who prayed for me. Some have come to my home and prayed for me, and the Lord heard and answered prayer. Oh, what a mighty God we serve! For 60 years He has been and still is, my Healer. Oh, how good and precious it is to trust in God and not be afraid. I want to love and trust Him forever. My 87th birthday is in the near future.

I am in prayer every day for God's rich blessings upon each one of you dear ones, and for healing where needed.

Trustingly, —Sister N. E. Adams

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

Okla.—Dear Bro. Lawrence and Sister Marie: Greetings to all of you in Jesus' dear name. I am so thankful for this common salvation which enables us to live every day for the Lord. It is good to know that we are saved from all sin . . .

I am thinking of the time I stayed away from the church, and Bro. Roberts took the time to talk to me about my soul. It wasn't a lot he said to me, but I remember the words, "Sister, don't wait too long." I told Bro. Roberts that I was coming back, and he said, "I'm going to hold you to that." From that day it stayed on my mind, and almost two years ago when the campmeeting was held here in Tulsa, I came back to the Lord. I thank and praise His holy name!

Please remember me in prayer. I am striving to get closer to the Lord and to be more like Jesus. I want to help people and we can't do anything without the Lord.

With Christian love, —Sister Leona Martin

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

Va.—Dear Sis. Marie and all: Greetings of love in the name of our Lord and Saviour. He is our strength, our rock, and our tower high. Although we are tried, all is well, because our faith is fixed in the Lord. He truly careth for us. I want to be faithful to serve Him. There is joy in serving the Lord.

Today finds me still pressing the battle on. Oh, glory to God! He is so good to me. Though I am tried, He is by me. He doesn't allow the furnace to get too

hot, just a little at a time. When the heat is turned on, I cry out to the Lord and draw close to Him. I thank Him for the trials. I count it joy to suffer for the Lord. The Lord has me in a furnace. It's cool at this time, but I feel He'll heat it again as He knows I desire to have a pure heart and I want to be ready to meet Him, which won't be long. The end of all things is at hand. We should thank Him for the trials and afflictions because we need them to get to heaven. In order for the gold to be pure, it must be heated and the impurities burned out. Let's always remember that if we are in the furnace, the Lord has control of the thermostat!

Pray for me that I'll be strong and hold fast to my faith in the Lord. Pray for my loved ones.

Do pray for us! —Nancy Wagoner

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

Va.—Dear Bro. and Sis. Pruitt, Sister Marie and all the saints of God: I thank God for His great love He has for me.

A few weeks ago I boiled some eggs. When I poured the boiling water out of the pan, it went on my hand. I called on God, and soon all the pain was gone. Praise God!

Last Thursday I received a note from Sis. Laura Powell's daughter with a check in it for \$10.00. I called her on the phone. She has a very sick husband, so do pray for him. She told me she was on her knees cleaning when she heard a voice, just like someone was in the room. It said, "Nannie is in need." She said she got up, left everything and put the check in the envelope and went right to the mail box. She asked me if I needed it. I told her that I didn't have a thing in the house to cook. It is wonderful how God helps His children.

I went down to get some food stamps. While I was waiting I opened up my little Bible to Matthew 6:25, where it says, "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." I know that was a message from the Lord. Now when I don't have anything, I don't worry about it. I just can't begin to thank the Lord for what He has done, and is still doing for me. Praise His dear name!

I wish I could express how I feel. I feel so free in the Lord. People tell me that for my age they don't understand how I get around so well. I'm retired from the box factory, but I work two days at the museum. I also go around to help some older ladies that live alone. I enjoy it.

I have a very special request I want God to take care of for me. Pray for my unsaved children. I don't know where one of my sons is.

I enjoy the "Faith and Victory" paper.

—Nannie Connell

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

Mich.—Dear Sister Marie and all the saints everywhere: Greetings in Jesus' dear name. We want to report victory in our soul. I was so thankful for your letter of encouragement to us. It was just what we had been going through. We love all the saints everywhere, and appreciate each one.

I see how I need more and more to commit my way unto the Lord, as it says in Psalms 37:5, "Commit thy

way unto the Lord; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass." No matter what our testings are, He will help us, for He is able. Oh, I thank Him for His blood that cleansed my soul and set me free from my sins. Oh, how I used to want to be free and tried so hard. I was real sincere, but it didn't release me from my sins. Jesus reached down and lifted me out of those sins and now I can shout, "I am free"! Praise the Lord!

Pray for us that we'll keep hid behind the cross.

—Aneta Corteway

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

Colo.—Dear Sis. Marie, Bro. Pruitt, and all the saints there: Greetings in Jesus' name this lovely day. I was glad for the good "Faith and Victory" and all the good literature we get. I have also been getting two taped messages a week from Okla. City. I can have them to play Sunday afternoon, after we have our Sunday school. The Lord helps us in our little Sunday school. Last Sunday, a little girl about 12, came and while sitting there, her tooth began to hurt. We were about through, and I asked her if she wanted us to pray. She said, "I don't care," so we knelt down, laid our hands on her and had a good season of prayer. Her face looked better and she said, "It doesn't hurt." She went off smiling. I hope and pray we can get some truth to the ones that come. I had five for children's meeting. My desire is to help anyone I can.

We're glad for our phone prayer band. The Lord has helped us all so many times. We can't get together and pray, but we can agree and all go to prayer. Jesus helps us. Oh, for grace to serve Him more!

I do hope Bro. Pruitt and all are better. So glad we ever got acquainted with the saints at Guthrie and the ones that have come our way.

—Sis. Addie McEndree

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

Mo.—Dear Bro. Pruitt and all the co-workers at the Printshop: Greetings in Jesus' dear name.

The Lord has been so good to us. As the song says, "I feel like traveling on." Praise His name! I thank Him for answering prayer for me. The wind was blowing so hard that it seemed like the top of our trailer home was coming off. I couldn't sleep, so I asked the Lord to calm the wind so I could rest. I called Bro. Egbert Allen and asked them to be agreed in prayer with me. God answered, and in a few hours the wind calmed down and I went to sleep. I give Him the praise.

I was almost a nervous wreck. The Bible says that perfect love casteth out fear. I still have a little fear, but I want that perfect love, so pray for me that I will be all God would have me to be. I also have some loved ones that I would like to see saved, so please remember them to the Lord.

With love and prayers,

—Sister and Bro. Howard Boulden

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

Colo.—Dear Christian workers: Greetings of love in Jesus' dear name. I thank you for your prayers in my behalf. God has helped me and I am doing real well in body and still on the Lord's side. I am glad I have my trust in Him. He has done so much for me. Sometimes the way gets lonely and yet I am not alone, as Jesus is with me. Praise His holy name! I just want to do more for Him and do His will all the time.

Enclosed is a little offering. May God bless all of you in your work and give you health. Pray for me.

A Christian friend, —Mrs. R. A. Tombleson

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

Calif.—Dear Sister Miles: I'm writing to testify that God has wonderfully touched my body. You printed a request for prayer for me. I can get around so much better, and can lift my arms above my head which I've not been able to do for two years. I have arthritis, diabetes, high blood pressure, a heart problem, and recently a rupture in my colon. Everyone in this trailer park is watching me because they know I believe in God's power to heal. When I moved here a little over a year ago, I could hardly walk, but now I get around almost like a 16 year-old and I was 62 on April 14. Please continue to pray that God will continue to let His healing power flow through every diseased organ of my body and make me fully whole again . . .

A sister in Christ, —Pauline McCoy

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

Ark.—Dear Brother Lawrence and all the dear ones at the Printshop: We here at Prattsville are encouraged to press on and live for the Lord. He has been so good to us through the trials and afflictions. The Lord has been so good to me. I could never repay His love and mercy to me. The Lord sends blessings each day that we don't even see.

Pray for us that the Lord will give us wisdom to know how to deal with our loved ones who don't know the Lord. We surely need the Lord's guidance in everything we say to help some soul.

It is so good to have the Lord's Word to stand on each day. When the enemy tries to cast us down, the Lord's Word says, "Be strong and of a good courage" and "He will strengthen thine heart." When we put forth the effort, He will give us courage.

Everyone is welcome to come by and see us at any time. Pray for us, as we pray for you.

Christian love, —Clarence and Lenora Bennings

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

S. Carolina—Dear Bro. Lawrence and all the workers at the Printshop: Greetings in Jesus' name, the One who came down and brought this great plan of salvation. that mankind could be saved. I am glad I accepted it when I did. I am yet saved and encouraged to press on, and truly thankful for the mercy and love of God that has made me a partaker of His wonderful salvation.

I have lived a long time (passed 85 years), and the longer I live the more convincing proofs I see that God governs the affairs of men. The more I press on this holy way, the sweeter it gets. I think of Ps. 92:14, "They shall still bring forth fruit in old age." Again we read in Prov. 3:6, "In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

Enclosed you will find money order for \$. . .

Your Bro. in the One Body, —Archie Sweat

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There is no burden which, if we lift it cheerfully and bear it with love in our hearts, will not become a blessing to us. —J. R. Miller

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"Two things abide: the Word of God and he that doeth the will of God."

The Doctrine of Healing



There are among the religious classes of people today multitudes of skeptics regarding faith healing, or healing of the body by the means set forth in the Word of God. Volume after volume has been written on the subject; an abundance of testimonies have been published and sent over the land; yea, people have been eye-witnesses to the healing of the sick, yet in the face of all this, many will not believe.

We do not base the doctrine of divine healing upon the testimonies of those who have been healed in these last days; nor upon what has been written in many of the volumes published, for there is a more solid foundation upon which to build. The Word of God is the true basis upon which its principles are founded, and it is presented in the strongest terms, from Genesis to Revelation. Then what if some do not believe? "Shall their unbelief make the faith of God without effect? God forbid: yea, let God be true, but every man a liar." Rom. 3:3,4.

The ways of the Lord are beyond the wisdom of men, and the heights and depths of His glory and mercies cannot be fathomed by human reasoning. Yet they can not be questioned when viewed from a standpoint of reason and logic, when we take into consideration the infinite power and majesty of God, and that He is "all and in all." "The same yesterday, and today, and forever." God who worked miracles in times past, still retains the same power, and will work through His true children; and none can hinder.

Those who try to study out a way to heaven, or the principles of divine healing, through some scientific method will make a failure, unless they broaden their science enough to accept the miraculous performances of God's power, and fall in line with the teachings of His Word. They may harmonize the parting of the waters of the Red Sea by the blowing of an east wind, but when the river Jordan is reached with its overflowing banks, and as the priests who bear the ark step into the water, which immediately parts and banks up on one side of them, and on the other side the river bed is left dry, a performance is witnessed which scientists fail to show any natural principles by which it was done, but are forced to admit that He who created the world was able to separate the waters in any way He saw fit to do, whether it harmonized with science or natural laws or not.

Abraham understood on what grounds this doctrine was founded, when he prayed for Abimelech, whom the Lord healed. So did Moses when he prayed for the healing of Miriam, who had been stricken with leprosy, but through his prayers was restored. The other patriarchs of old, the holy prophets, and devout men of God witnessed the healing of the sick by the power of God and were instruments in his hands to perform wonderful things before the people.

The promise of the Lord to Moses and the children of Israel, if they would obey the voice of the Lord, was, "I will take sickness away from the midst of thee." Ex. 23:25. "I will put none of these diseases upon thee, which I have brought upon the Egyptians: for I am the Lord that healeth thee." Ex. 15:26. "Observe and hear

all these words which I command thee, that it may go well with thee, and with thy children after thee for ever, when thou doest that which is good and right in the sight of the Lord thy God." Deut. 12:28. The promise, "With thy children for ever," reaches down to the present day. When God's children obeyed His voice, these promises were fulfilled; when they disobeyed Him, the promises were not fulfilled.

Centuries after these promises were given, we hear the Psalmist David breaking forth in these words: "Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits: who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases." Psa. 103:2, 3.

When Hezekiah was "sick unto death," he prayed unto the Lord a fervent prayer, and the same was answered by the healing of his body, and fifteen years were added unto his life. 2 Kings 20:1-6. But in 2 Chron. 16:12 we read of Asa, one of the kings of Israel, who sought not the Lord during his sickness, but put his case in the hands of earthly physicians, and the consequence was that he died. In those days it was safe for the children of God to trust in Him for the healing of their bodies; and coming down to the time of Christ we find Him healing all manner of diseases, "that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, Himself took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses." Matt. 8:17. Likewise His apostles went forth healing the sick, and doing wonderful things in the name of Jesus, and their work was wrought by the power of God. So we find the doctrine of divine healing is no new doctrine, as it is a part of the Word of God, and it has been the privilege of His faithful children in all ages past to claim His promises, and be healed of their diseases. —From "Divine Healing of Soul and Body."

Warning For These Last Days

We have been moved of late to write a little on the "last days." Peter says, "The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up. Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness." 2 Peter 3:9-11. We should be **looking, watching, and ready all the time**. In Jude 14, we read, "Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints, to execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly. . ."

It is so hard to get people to believe that the end of all things is at hand. Dear precious brethren, let us watch and pray. I fear there are so many asleep. Do we believe that every act of life, however small, has its bearing for good or for evil? Faithfulness or neglect in what are apparently the smallest duties may open the door for life's richest blessings or its greatest calamities. It is the little things that test the character.

Paul, in 2 Cor. 12, tells us about his trial, and the Lord said to him, "My grace is sufficient for thee." By

these precious words ample provision is ours, if we rely upon His strength and believe His Word. Praise be to Jesus!

The powers of hell are abounding on every side to try to destroy the beauty and purity of the church. Jesus said in His prayer in John 17:16, "They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world." Brethren, let us press with determination in the right direction, and God will be our helper.

Sad to say, in this world today many professed people of God are uniting with the world, living as they live, joining with them in forbidden pleasure, in pride and luxury of the world, in worldly and extravagant marriages, looking forward to many years of prosperity, when we have no promise of tomorrow.

Day by day God instructs His children by the circumstances of the daily life. He is preparing them to humbly submit to His ways if they will go through the fire. 1 Peter 4:12, "Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you . . . but rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings . . ." If you refuse to partake of their evil ways, they will persecute and mock, and call you foolish and so on, but God hears it all. We love Him just the same because He suffered so much for us.

We should now seek a deep and living experience in the things of God. We have not a moment to lose. Eph. 5:14-16, "Wherefore he saith, Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light. See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil." Oh dear souls, will you listen to God's precious Word? "Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is." It is not His will that any perish, but that all should come to repentance. So take heed!

Yours in His service for precious souls,

—Bro. Sam Abbott

MODESTY AND GODLINESS

Modesty and Godliness, precious jewels so rare,

Where have you gone, to "Vanity Fair?"

So worldly merchants can barter for gain,

Filling their coffers, leaving you in shame?

What care they for your Christian grace?

"Wear our styles and get in the race—

Yes, I say, race," but what meaneth this?

Race to give you a Jezebel look,

Race to disobey God's Holy Book,

Race to see who the shortest dress can wear,

Race to make one feel, "What do I care?"

Race, the faces of Christian men to blush,

When virtue and modesty are treated as mush

Can those who claim Christians to be,

Act so brazenly and shamefully?

Where are the women, the fair young women,

In innocence and purity stood,

In sweeter and holier ways—

A beautiful sisterhood?

Each year they are wearing their dresses more daring,

And skirts are becoming more brief.

So the styles may revert to the primitive skirt,

When the first one was only a leaf.

—Mamie Harrell

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