

FAITH^{AND}VICTORY

Church of God Servant



Volume 53, No. 7

53rd Year

Guthrie, Oklahoma

35¢ Per Year

October, 1975

"Upon This Rock I Build My Church"

These words the Saviour spoke on earth
Amid the stagger of men's lurch
(The One who brought the Heavenly birth):
"Upon this Rock I build My Church!"

Thus spake He there in loud reply
To Peter's own confession great:
"Thou art the Son of God most high!"—
To Christ he gave the highest rate.

For flesh and blood had not revealed
This knowledge of the Holy One,
But God Who had this Truth concealed
Made known His well beloved Son.

Upon this solid Rock we see
The souls of men in love are stayed
Through time and long eternity:
For Zion a foundation laid.

"Upon this Rock I build . . ." He said;
No earthly pow'r can take away
Or bring to naught. He is the Head,
He is the Truth, the Life, the Way!

Throughout all ages has it stood,
Unchanged by mortals' strife and wrong;
Sealed through the virtue of His blood:
For saints an everlasting song.

"I build My Church" despite of hell
And men whose hearts are void of light,
The dark confusion to dispel,
Prevailing for the holy right.

Still yet today this Rock doth stand
For us to build our souls upon:
The Saviour yet extends His Hand
To bless and save us every one.

Not on the creeds and praise of men
Will mortals stand the judgment shock,
But by His blood to save from sin—
He built His Church upon the Rock.

—Leslie Busbee

The Subject of Membership In The Church of God

The matter of membership in the New Testament church is one of vital importance. The nature of the church will help us to determine the manner of its membership. It is a heavenly and divine institution. Christ built it, and He is declared to be its head, foundation, and door of entrance. A moment's reflection on this point should convince all reasonable minds that God alone can take members into His Church. It is also declared to be a spiritual door of admittance. It is beyond the power of any man to admit us into a spiritual structure. The Lord alone can do this. Men can add and admit to a literal, earthly organization, but not to one that is spiritual, heavenly, and divine. In its universal phase, the church of God and the family of God are identical. We are born into the earthly family, and the same is true of God's spiritual family and church. In the work of salvation through the instrumentality of the Holy Spirit we are born into and become members of God's family and are thus made members of His Church. "As many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: which were born . . . of God."—John 1:12-13.

The new birth is the only means of entering into the kingdom of God (John 3:5); and the church is the visible form of Christ's kingdom here on earth. In Col. 1:13 it is positively declared that the Lord alone can deliver people from the power of darkness and translate them into the kingdom of His dear Son. This is identical with becoming members of His Church.

Jesus positively declares, "I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved" (John 10:9). Several denominational bodies make water baptism the door into their particular institutions. Baptism is a very important and sacred Christian rite, but at best it is but a ceremonial ordinance which one person can perform upon another. It was instituted for church members, those who already have been born of the Spirit of God. As John Wesley clearly expressed it, "It is but an outward testimony to an inward work." No, Christ Himself is the door of entrance into the New Testament

church, and all who obtain access through Him are saved. This is a door that no man can open and no man can shut (Rev. 3:7). The conditions of entering through this strait gate and narrow door are a deep, thorough repentance and a living faith in Christ our Saviour.

On this question of church membership the united testimony of the New Testament Scriptures is decisive and beyond all controversy. "But now hath God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him" (I Cor. 12:18). This body is the church. That is what Paul is treating in this chapter—the New Testament church. And how do we become members of this institution? Here is the answer: "But now HATH GOD set the members EVERY ONE OF THEM in the body"—the church. You see he didn't leave a single one to be taken in by the preacher. This modern process of ministers' taking members into the church is absolutely without scriptural authority. There is no example anywhere in the New Testament where any apostle or primitive minister attempted to take members into the church.

But how does God do this? The answer is found in I Cor. 12:13: "For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit." "That which is born of the Spirit is spirit (John 3:6)." In the work of regeneration, God, through the Holy Spirit, baptizes or inducts us into His divine church. It follows, then, that all who are converted or regenerated by the Spirit of the Lord, become members of the New Testament church. In the second chapter of Acts we read that following the mighty outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the original one hundred and twenty gathered in that upper room, "there were added unto them about three thousand souls," and all who thus received the Word "were baptized." From this language some have inferred that the apostles, through the rite of baptism, added these people to the church. But this is wrong. In verse 47 of this same chapter it is positively stated how that they were added. "And the LORD ADDED to the church daily such as should be saved." This last clause is rendered in the Revised Version, "those who were being saved." This is so definite and clear that there is no appeal from it. It was not the apostles and ministers who added the members. The Lord did that the moment they were saved, the very instant of salvation through Jesus Christ. After they were thus added through sound conversion, they received baptism at the apostles' hands.

These clear texts, facts, and truths establish two definite points which I wish to emphasize:

1. Since people become members of the New Testament church through the work of conversion or regeneration, then any church that salvation does not constitute one a member of, cannot be identical with the New Testament church. Any institution on earth that salvation does not constitute you a member of is not the true church of God.

2. Now it follows that since salvation constitutes us members of the church, all who are saved are its members. Being the body of Christ, it must include all the members of that body. Being the bride of Christ, it must include every blood-washed one. This being true, any church that does not include in its membership all

the saved people on earth, every true Christian, cannot be the true New Testament church of God.

Let us now consider the class book or church record. The title of the book in which the names of all the members of the church are written is found in Phil. 4:3. "Whose names are in the book of life." This is the church record, the class book. The Lord Himself writes the names, keeps a list of the membership, because "the Lord knoweth them that are his." Only those who live a victorious life above sin can hold their membership and retain their names in this book (Rev. 3:5). There are thousands of people who call themselves church members who have no record on high. They base their hopes of heaven on the fact that some fallible preacher wrote their names with pen and ink in a little book here on earth. In the last great conflagration, when the earth and all that's in it will be burned up, all these earthly records kept by man will be consumed in judgment fires. Dear reader, that will profit you nothing. But membership in the true church of God, having your name in the Lamb's book of life, will give you an entrance into the golden city of the new heaven and new earth (Rev. 21:27). But what about those who may hold membership in earthly, man-made institutions, who have their names written with pen and ink on earthly records but have failed to have them written by the Lord in the book of life? Here is the answer: "Whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire" (Rev. 20:15). Oh, the disappointed myriads in that great day! Will you be among them? —Sel.

Some Reasons For Unanswered Prayer

Because many prayers are prayed that seemingly are not answered, many people have become discouraged and faint-hearted, and have given up in despair, without earnestly seeking to know the reason why. When we come to God for anything, there must be a real burning desire in our hearts to receive that for which we ask, and without that desire, there is no real prayer. The intensity of the desire is what puts power in the prayer, or petition, and when the desire of the heart is strong enough, one will not be easily discouraged if his or her first request seems to be unnoticed. Of course, we understand that one's will or desire must of necessity be in harmony with the will of God. When it is clear that the desire is in the will of God, one should be encouraged to press his request until he receives an answer.

To substantiate this thought, we refer to the parable that Jesus Christ gave concerning the widow and the unjust judge. "And he spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint; Saying, There was in a city a judge, which feared not God, neither regarded man: And there was a widow in that city; and she came unto him, saying, Avenge me of mine adversary. And he would not for a while: But afterward he said within himself, Though I fear not God, nor regard man; Yet because this widow troubleth me, I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me. And the Lord said, Hear what the unjust judge saith. And shall not God avenge his

own elect, which cry day and night unto him, though he bear long with them? I tell you that he will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?" Jesus here teaches a lesson of importunity, or of holding on in prayer to God for the things we need. No doubt you have seen the little plaque which says, "Prayer Changes Things". Jesus said that men ought always to pray and not to faint.

There are several instances recorded in the Word of God of men who prayed and prayed again before receiving an answer to their petition. There is the case of Elijah and the widow's son at Zarephath. It doesn't appear that he received his desire the first time he prayed, but he did not cease. He continued to pray until God heard and answered by restoring the widow's son to life again. On another occasion when he prayed for rain after a drouth of three years and six month's duration, we find that his faith did not shrink because he did not receive an answer after the third or fourth prayer. He prayed on until the answer came. After the seventh prayer the servant returned, saying, "Behold, I see a little cloud out of the sea, like a man's hand," and Elijah sent word to Ahab to prepare his chariot and go lest he should be stopped by the rain. In the meantime, the heavens were black with clouds, and there was a great rain.

The Apostle Paul prayed for a certain favor three times, and though not having his desire directly granted, he received an answer that brought satisfaction to his soul, God having said to him, "My grace is sufficient for thee". Then said Paul, "Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me". He was satisfied that God knew best. One reason why the desires of some are not satisfied after they have sought God in prayer, is because they are not perfectly willing to let God have His way in the case. They want their own desires granted whether they are in harmony with His will or not. They have not learned to say from the heart, "Not mine, but thy will be done". I will admit that this is not always an easy thing to say. Sometimes there must be a real dying out to the self-will and the dying may be hard, but die we must. God is to have His way with us. That is why Paul could say, "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me". Gal. 2:20. He was willing to count all things but loss that the glory of Christ might shine out through his life.

Another reason why some prayers fail is because they are not prayed in faith. Jesus said, "Therefore I say unto you, what things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them". Mark 11:24. It is useless for one to pray if he does not believe that the Lord will regard his petition. Doubt always hinders prayer and delays or stops the answer from coming. If one would have power with God, he must have faith in God. "But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him." Heb. 11:6. One who prays in a careless, indifferent manner, will not accomplish much through his cold, dead form of prayer. But the effectual, fervent prayer of a righteous

man availeth much. Fervency and faith will move God on His throne.

Some may ask, "How may I obtain more faith?" We shall let the Bible answer this question: "So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." Rom. 10:17. Read the Word of God, read the testimonies of others who have received answers to their prayers, and believe the promises of God. You will find your faith in Him increasing and your confidence in His willingness to answer prayer growing stronger. "And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us: and if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him." I John 5:14, 15. Obedience to the commands of God is a great incentive to faith and confidence in Him: Perfect obedience brings perfect faith, and pure faith brings down the answer to prayer.

To hold a grudge or ill feeling in one's heart toward another is a definite way to block the answer to prayer. One who holds a grudge, or feeling of hatred, or ill will toward another need not expect God to answer him, because his heart is not right in the sight of God. David said, "If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me." That is true. And we read, "Love worketh no ill to his neighbor". And again Jesus said, "When ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven, may forgive you your trespasses". There is little use for people to pray who are at "outs" one with another, or will hardly speak one to another. Such ones should humble themselves and become reconciled with each other, and then make their prayers and supplications to the Lord of heaven: not that He does not already know, but that is His will and is His plan. He said, "Ask and ye shall receive". And James said, "But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering; for he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea, driven with the wind and tossed. For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord".

There are other hinderances to prayer. A lack of harmony between husband and wife will greatly hinder prayer, especially when both are professing to be followers of the meek and lowly Lamb. Peter exhorts the wives to be in subjection to their own husbands, even as Sarah was subject unto Abraham, in the days of old. Likewise, he exhorts the husbands to give honor to their wives, as unto the weaker vessel and as being heirs together of the grace of life, that their prayers be not hindered.

So much is depending upon those who can really pray through, and the enemy of souls is doing what he can to hinder the prayers of those who pray, or to cause them to neglect prayer altogether. Prayer is one of the greatest privileges granted to man, and Jesus said that men ought always to pray and not to faint. May God grant you to be an overcomer in His name. Amen.

—Ulysses Phillips

The burden of suffering seems a tombstone hung about our necks, while in reality it is only the weight which is necessary to keep down the diver while he is hunting for pearls.

—Richter

"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.

(Second class postage paid at Guthrie, Okla.)

Dated copy for publication must be received by the 18th of the month prior to the month of issue.

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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.

FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE

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Special Subscription Offer--

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Unfold the enclosed self-addressed envelope and you will find spaces for ten names and addresses of friends, neighbors, and relatives whom you want to receive this "Faith and Victory" paper for the three months beginning with the Jan., 1976, issue. Write or print the names and addresses VERY PLAINLY on the lines prepared, enclose a dollar bill, check or money order, then refold the envelope as it was, seal and stamp. Send in the names as soon as possible. This offer will expire on December 8, 1975. Request more order blank envelopes, if needed, and send in all the names and addresses possible. This special offer is made possible by the free-will offerings of the saints and lovers of the Bible truth, as the small subscription price does not cover the cost of publishing the paper. This is your opportunity to be a missionary, aiding in your part of the Great Commission to the Church to carry the whole gospel to the whole world. Let us work and pray to win souls.

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EDITORIALS

With the arrival of this autumn season we again make a special effort, by the blessings of the Lord and the co-operation of our readers, to reach many more thousands of people with the pure gospel message. The summer is ended, the campmeeting season is past, and millions of souls are not saved. Shall we fold our hands and wait for another convenient season to reach the perishing? No! "Every second, sad to tell, counts another soul in hell," the poet wrote. "Dreadful sight to see them bound in sin's dark pall. What in life we all may do, can but save a very few, yet the blessed Saviour shed His blood for all."

To have a part in this gospel extension effort, just use the enclosed subscription envelope to list ten names and addresses of your relatives, friends, and neighbors, enclose \$1.00 and mail to this office. This gospel paper will be sent to these addresses for three months beginning with January, 1976. These issues will set forth the plan of salvation. People need to hear and believe the gospel more than anything else in the world. May we, as the family of God, unite our prayers and efforts in taking or sending the soul-saving gospel to the masses. There is no better way than by the printed page. May the Lord abundantly bless each one for his part in this literature evangelism. Time is running out, and what we intend to do for the salvation of precious souls must be done quickly. If you do not find an envelope with this copy, just list the ten names on a sheet of paper.

"The Beautiful Way" papers and the "Bible Lessons" for the fourth quarter of 1975 (for use in Sunday school classes) were put in the mail on Sept. 9 and Sept. 12, respectively.

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The 512-page Church of God hymnal, "Evening Light Songs," is in stock again for prompt delivery. The very reasonable price is \$3.00 each, plus 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.

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Ministers' Meeting Begins on October 7 . . .

A general ministers' meeting of the Church of God will be held, Lord willing, at the chapel here in Guthrie, Okla., on **October 7, 8, and 9, 1975**. Come praying with a desire for continued harmony and unity, and expecting the Holy Spirit to impart great spiritual refreshments from the throne of God. The first service will begin at 10 a. m. on Tuesday, October 7. Every minister is urged to be there on time.

The dining hall and dormitory facilities will be available to the ministers. Offerings for the support of these facilities should be sent directly to the treasurer, Sister Frances Deforth, R. 2, Guthrie, Ok. 73044.

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Sister Edith Wall, whom we have known for many years, and formerly of Dallas, Texas, recently moved here to Guthrie. Her address is Route 4, in care of Etta Davis, Guthrie, Ok. 73044. We welcome her to the Guthrie congregation.

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In August and September, 5000 gospel tracts in the Ilocano language were printed and shipped to the Philippine Islands for distribution, as well as several thousand Efik language tracts were printed and mailed to Nigeria in West Africa. Many requests come for foreign language tracts, as well as a great demand for those in English. We are doing all we can to grant these requests for gospel literature.

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Special Day of Fasting and Prayer—Oct. 15 . . .

One of our longtime readers, Sister Effie Miller, of Loranger, La., suggested that a day of fasting and prayer be set for the Church everywhere to be agreed in prayer at the same hour for the healing of Bro. Mart Samons who has a continual ringing in his head, and for many others who are sorely afflicted. She cited the instance when the Apostle Peter was miraculously delivered from prison when the Church met together in earnest prayer. Surely, prevailing prayer in one accord is the key to victory. Brother Samons and this writer are heartily agreed with Sister Miller's suggestion because there are so many urgent needs to pray for in these perilous times.

Note the prayer requests on another page of this paper, note the multitudes unsaved all about us, note the tragic increase of violent crimes, note the rapid breakdown of morality in society, the ungodliness in the schools, and the corruption in government. Knowing all these terrible conditions, a true saint would naturally cry out to God in intercessory prayer. For these good reasons, let the whole Church observe **Wednesday, October 15, 1975**, as a day of fasting and prayer, with a special agreement of prayer during the noon hour, 12 to 1 p. m., for these many urgent needs, and all other requests that may be brought to your attention. God's many precious, un-failing promises are available to those who pray and believe. Let the pastors and ministers encourage the saints to get under the burden of earnest prayer, especially on this day and hour. If the saints do not pray through to victory, who will? You may be hale and hearty now and feel you have no special personal problems to pray for, but remember that serious reverses will come to you and then you will be glad for the saints to fast and pray for your deliverance. This writer would certainly like to be included in this agreement of intercessory prayer for his healing, as he has been in the furnace of affliction for quite some time and his faith has been severely tried, but it is still firm in God's promises. Good lessons have been learned, and now we are ready for God's healing touch. Also, remember Sister Miller in fervent prayer as she needs complete healing. It would be nearly impossible to list all the prayer requests, but let us pray for all mankind everywhere, and especially for the household of faith.

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When a man poses as a Church of God preacher and says he does not belong to any group, he surely does not discern the visible Body of Christ. The true Church is definitely a visible group—a called out body of saints—but not in the sectarian sense of carnal groupism, factions, or parties which are fostered by schismatic spirits. A preacher who cannot discern the fellowship of the Body of Christ must be a "wandering star" of whom the Apostle Jude writes. The apostles of the morning Church knew the location of "their own company." After Peter and John had been threatened by the authorities for preaching in the name of Jesus and "let go, they went to their own company, and reported all that the chief priests and elders had said unto them." Acts 4:23. When a person says that the Church of God is not a visible group or company, he is definitely lacking in spiritual discernment. "For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, . . . and have been all made to drink into one Spirit." 1 Cor. 12:13. When one drinks into that one Spirit, he is no longer a "wandering star," or working on an independent line and apart from Christ's spiritual body.

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It seems that obituaries are taking up a considerable percent of the limited page space in this paper. In the September issue about ten percent of the space was devoted to obituaries, and in this October paper

the percentage is much higher. We would like to print all obituaries in full, but we believe the Lord would rather have more of the limited space used for publishing the gospel and Bible truths for the spiritual benefit of all the readers. Perhaps we need to restrict most of the obituaries to a "Death Notice Column" in which would be listed only the name and dates of birth and death of the deceased, as many of the deceased persons are known only by a very few of the readers. Please pray with us about this matter that the Lord will direct clearly in these proposed changes.

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Souls are being saved and the interest is so encouraging that the tent meeting at Nowata, Okla., which began on Sept. 12, will continue, Lord willing, through Friday, September 26. Bro. Lewis Williams and Bro. Curtis Williams have been aiding Brother Samons in that tent meeting.

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Thank you each one in anticipation of the special "three months" subscriptions which you will be sending to this office to get the gospel of Christ to many more precious souls. There is transforming power in really believing the gospel, and the multitude of souls all about us desperately need to be made "new creatures" in Christ.

—Lawrence Pruitt

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

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.

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

Webster's New Word Dictionary (1975 Copyright). Bound in red cloth cover with 896 pages. It has 105,000 vocabulary entries; full definitions, concise and to the point, with examples of usage; coverage of special terms

in arts, science, business, plus new or informal words; origin of language, elements, current meanings noted of words; easy-to-read pronunciations; a single alphabetical listing of all entries; 632 pictures illustrating well over 1000 terms; large, clear type, valuable supplements, including a guide to punctuation, spelling, and usage; tables of weights and measures. Price, \$7.25.

The Last Reformation by F. G. Smith. Just recently made available, this reprint edition contains 256 pages. Nice paper binding is priced at \$3.00 each, and the cloth binding is \$5.00 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.

Available at this office are four records of songs by the Bakersfield Evening Light Singers. Each of these 33 RPM records has from 10 to 12 songs. These records are designated by number—No. 1, No. 2, No. 3, and No. 4. Specify the record you want by the number. The price is \$5.00 each. This office receives no part of the profit from the sales, and the singers use the proceeds in the work of the Lord.

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OBITUARIES



Wesley Jones passed away in early June, 1975, at Tulsa, Okla., at the age of 55 years. He left a wife and four children who live in Texas.

Deadwaller Jones passed away on Sept. 7, 1975, in Fresno, Calif., at the age of 45 years. He left a wife and nine children.

These Jones brothers were born to Bro. and Sister Enoch Jones at Silver City, Okla. They are also survived by four brothers and four sisters.

I would like to thank all the saints who stood by us in our great losses, and for your love, prayers, cards and telegrams. Pray for my unsaved family.

—A Sister, Ophelia (Jones) Bonton

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Wilbur F. Jarvis, born Nov. 27, 1897, departed this life on August 8, 1975, at Danville, Ky., at the age of 77 years.

Bro. Jarvis had been saved many years. When we moved to Danville in 1967, he took his stand for the teachings of the Church of God. Though he had quite a few afflictions over the last few years, he trusted the Lord for his healing to the end. Many times he would attend the services when he was not able.

He leaves to mourn his passing, his wife, dear Sister Jarvis; five daughters, Mrs. Pierson F. Vanhorn, Mrs. Chester Hughes, Mrs. James Pickens, Mrs. Robert L. Davidson, and Mrs. Elise R. Warmouth; two sons, Melvin and Henry; nineteen grandchildren, and six great grandchildren.

The funeral service was conducted by Bros. Mart Samons, Curtis Williams, and Gordon Humphrey. Remember dear Sister Jarvis in prayer. —Mart Samons

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Louis Edwin Droke, the son of Joseph and Lillie Droke, was born on Jan. 8, 1905, and departed this life on Sept. 2, 1975, at the age of 70 years, seven months and 25 days.

On March 21, 1923, he was united in marriage with Alberta King at Kingfisher, Okla., and to this union five children were born.

Bro. Droke was saved when he was a young man, and in 1961 he was ordained a deacon in the Church of God. He loved and served the Lord until the end.

He is survived by his wife, Alberta Droke; five children, Muriel A. Droke of Okla. City, Odessa D. Johnson of San Bernardino, Calif., Pearline Nichols of Tempe, Ariz., Lillie Mae Graves of Kansas City, Kan., and Frances L. Johnson of Hennessey, Okla.; eighteen grandchildren; fifteen great-grandchildren; three brothers, Albert Droke of Portland, Ore., Joe Droke of Okeene, Okla., and Arnold Droke of Okla. City; one sister, Neldray Knight of San Antonio, Texas, and many other relatives and friends.

The funeral service was conducted at the Church of God chapel in Enid, Okla., by Bro. Lewis Williams, assisted by Bros. Herman Kelly and Murphy Allen. Texts: 2 Cor. 5:1, 2 Tim. 4:7,8. Interment was in the Parvin Cemetery, Okeene, Okla.

In Memory of Bro. Louis Droke

Another soul its flight has taken,
To realms beyond the sky,
Where parting saints and angels meet,
And never more shall die.
He ran the race with patience here
To win a starry crown.
He wore a smile for those he met
When e're he walked around.
But now we miss his smiling face;
His voice we hear no more.
Ere long we'll meet him face to face
On yonder blissful shore.
May we press on and do our best
To win one more soul for Christ
Who shed His blood on Calvary
At such an awful cost.
We dare not stop, nor slack our pace;
The race is almost run.
We want to hear the Master say,
"Well done, my servant, well done."
'Twill not be long 'till day is done;
The sun is almost down.
And may we gain a sure reward—
A shining, golden crown.

—Ulysses Phillips

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Elizabeth Lima, the daughter of Eugene and Mary Petetan, was born on Dec. 15, 1882, in Washington, La., and departed this life in Los Angeles on June 30, 1975.

In 1909, Elizabeth was married to John Bautista Lima at Lake Charles, La. To this union four children were born, two boys and two girls. One son preceded her in death.

Sister Lima heard the gospel preached in the Church of God in 1925, and accepted Christ as her personal Saviour and lived a devoted Christian life until the Lord called her Home. She was reared in the Catholic faith, but when she heard the full gospel preached, she accepted the Lord as her Saviour, Sanctifier and Healer. At that time she was very ill with stomach trouble, and could take only a little milk. The doctors said she could live only two months, but the Lord healed her stomach trouble.

Sister Lima's love for the Lord was very evident even in the midst of her sufferings, for she believed that all her present sufferings were not worthy to be compared with the glory that she would one day experience.

Elizabeth Lima left behind John Lima, her husband for 65 years, two daughters and a son, five grandchildren, nine great grandchildren, and a host of other relatives, saints and friends. Her presence will be greatly missed in the Los Angeles congregation.

The funeral services were held at the Angelus Crenshaw Chapel with Bro. Alvin Lucas officiating, assisted by Bro. Mackey Francisco. Interment was in the Lincoln Memorial Park, Los Angeles, Calif.

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John Bautista Lima, the son of Archagoa and Augusto Lima, was born on August 4, 1878, in Lisbon, Portugal, and departed this life on July 8, 1975, in Los Angeles, Calif.

On Dec. 16, 1909, he was married to Elizabeth Petetan at Lake Charles, La. To this union were born four children: Palmira, Beata, John Jr., and Harold.

Bro. Lima embraced the truth along with his wife in 1925. He had a very tender heart. Sometimes after the Word was preached, he would go to the altar for prayer for a closer walk with the Lord. He was very faithful to attend the services for many years. We at the Los Angeles congregation will certainly miss his presence.

Bro. Lima leaves a son, two daughters, five grandchildren, nine great grandchildren, and a host of relatives, saints and friends.

The funeral services were held at the Angelus Crenshaw Chapel with Bro. Alvin Lucas officiating, assisted by Bro. Mackey Francisco. Interment was in the Lincoln Memorial Park, Los Angeles, Calif.

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Frank Kutra was born on November 5, 1893, and departed this life at Montrose, Colo., on Sept. 9, 1975, at the age of 81 years.

Bro. Kutra heard the gospel and got saved when he was about 30 years of age. Holding faithful to the truth, he met the Lord in peace.

He is survived by two sons: James Kutra of Claremont, Calif., and Paul Kutra of Yucaipa, Calif.; five grandchildren and one great grandchild. His wife preceded him in death in 1960. He was buried near his wife at the Orchard Mesa Cemetery at Grand Junction, Colorado.

(Editor's note: This writer had known Bro. Frank Kutra for 45 years, during which time he had been a reader of this paper and a supporter of this gospel publishing work. Now he is at rest with the Lord, and we will miss his letters and visits. In his last letter of July 14, 1975, he ordered the book, "Revelation

Explained." May the Lord comfort his two sons in their bereavement.)

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Samuel J. (Sam) Baumgartner of Hammond, La., passed away September 14, 1975, at the age of 84 years, 5 months and 19 days. He was born in Berne, Indiana, on March 30, 1891, but had lived in Hammond for the past 35 years with his wife, Sister Audrey Baumgartner.

Bro. Sam attended services regularly for years at the Church of God campgrounds in Hammond up until the last few years. Due to physical disabilities, he was confined at home.

Last year about this time, Bro. Sam felt the Lord was dealing with him about some things that had existed in his spiritual life over the past years which kept him from being in full fellowship and agreement with the brethren, and he humbled his heart before God and made an earnest endeavor to clear up his life before God and the brethren, and manifested a good spirit of fellowship and unity. He had a desire to be baptized again, so on the last Saturday of the Hammond, La., campmeeting this past July, 1975, he was baptized by Bro. Bob Forbes, and his baptism proved to be a blessing not only to him, but also to the ones that were present and the minister that baptized him.

A few hours before his death, Bro. Sam felt that his time of passing away was near and began to pray, "Lord, take me; take me, Lord," and he would then say, "I believe He will. Let me die the death of the righteous, and let my last end be like His." He prayed this prayer several times, and then, in a few short hours, the Lord took him Home.

He is survived by his wife, Sister Audrey (Buttrum) Baumgartner; two daughters, Mrs. Lelia Dague and Mrs. Majesta Locke; one sister, Mrs. Mina Andress, seven grandchildren and 17 great grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Mrs. Iva Becher Baumgartner.

Funeral services were held in the Harry McKneely and Son Funeral Home in Hammond, and were conducted by the saints of God from the Hammond and Oak Grove, (Loranger) congregations, with the brethren from both congregations being pall-bearers, and Bro. Bob Forbes and Bro. Max Williamson officiating. Burial was in the Oak Grove Church of God Cemetery.

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Lela De Phillips of Loranger, La., passed from this life August 15, 1975, at the age of 75 years, 2 months and 20 days. She was born in Loranger, La. on May 25, 1900, and had lived in the Loranger area all of her life.

Sister De Phillips was baptized approximately a year and a half ago by Bro. Max Williamson, and had attended services frequently at the Church of God Campgrounds in Hammond, La. She had been staying in the home of Sister Zora Pinkerton on White St., near the Campgrounds in Hammond, La.,—where she died.

It seemed that God had been preparing Sister De Phillips the past few months for this appointment, as she had expressed quite often to those she visited and conversed with, her desire to live for the Lord and be ready to go when He called her from this life.

She is survived by two daughters, Mrs. Ruby S. Cooper and Mrs. Shirley Mae Drouse; one son, John L.

Simpson, Jr.; sixteen grandchildren, twenty-seven great grandchildren and four step-grandchildren. Preceding her in death were her husbands, John L. Simpson Sr. and Leander De Phillips; two sons, Hulon A. Simpson and William O. (Mickie) Simpson.

Funeral services were held in the Thomas Funeral Home Memorial Chapel in Hammond La., and burial was in the Oak Grove Cemetery, Loranger, La. The services were conducted by the saints of God from the Hammond, La., and Oak Grove (Loranger) congregations, with Bro. Max Williamson and Bro. Bob Forbes officiating.

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Lura Mae Phillips was born November 10, 1925, to Mr. and Mrs. Willie Lee Phillips at Okemah, Oklahoma and departed this life on July 14, 1975 in Oklahoma City.

She was united in marriage to Norman Durham. To this union, four children were born, one preceding her in death. She professed her hope in Christ at an early age.

She leaves to cherish her memory, her husband, Norman B. Durham; two sons, Cecil M. and Norman Jr. Durham, both of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; one daughter, Olivia A. Durham of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; her mother, Mrs. Jettie Mae Phillips; her father, Mr. Willie L. Phillips of Fresno, California; four grandchildren; three brothers, Oliver and Tommy Phillips, both of Sacramento, California, Leon Phillips of Los Angeles, California, and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

The funeral service was conducted at the Church of God chapel, 800 N. E. Third St., Okla. City, by Bro. Herman Kelly, assisted by Bros. Charles Kelly and Otis Hill.

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Mary Lee Collins, the daughter of Richard and Lizora Fancher, was born on Dec. 25, 1898, in Marlin, Texas, and departed this life on July 5, 1975.

She was married to Lewis Davies Collins. To this union one daughter was born.

Sister Collins met the saints at an early age. Her mother and five sisters followed her in serving the Lord in the Church of God.

She is survived by her daughter, Hallie Mae Kelley; three sisters, Mrs. Edna Sandels of Okla. City, Mrs. Rethola Carter and Mrs. Ezella Gant of Los Angeles; a half-sister, Mrs. Gertrude Mack of Okmulgee, Okla.; a host of other relatives, saints, and friends.

Graveside services were conducted by Bro. Mackey Francisco, assisted by Sister Mildred Sherman. Interment was in the Lincoln Memorial Park, Los Angeles, Calif.

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Sharon C. Ellis was born Aug. 10, 1943, at Delta, Iowa, and departed this life on Aug. 25, 1975, at Salem, Ore., at the age of 32 years and fifteen days.

She was married to Kedron Ellis in 1966, and to this union two sons were born, Keith and Mark.

While Sharon was single, she worked in the gospel publishing work at Guthrie, Okla., for about four years. Her burden was to help souls through the printed gospel. She also had a talent for singing.

She is survived by her husband, Kedron Ellis and her two sons, Keith and Mark, of the home; her father, Richard Watkins and step-mother, Nedra Watkins, of Turner, Ore.; one brother, Richard Watkins of Phoenix,

Ariz.; two step-brothers, Darrell Watkins of Mahama, Ore., and Dale Watkins of Turner, Ore.; two step-sisters: Mrs. (Shirley) Mancil Doolittle and Donna Watkins of Turner, Ore.

Bro. Charles Elwell assisted at the funeral services, and burial was in the Belcrest Memorial Park at Salem, Ore.

REPORT OF CALIFORNIA STATE CAMPMEETING

We are very thankful to the dear Lord for how He wonderfully blessed the California campmeeting at Pacoima and for the ministers and workers who labored in the meeting. The Holy Spirit was faithful to anoint the Word of God and to convict precious souls. Also, the beautiful songs of Zion were inspiring.

The last service was just especially precious. It began at 7:30 p.m. and then dismissed around midnight. Through the singing of the gospel, many souls received spiritual help. The altar began filling and refilling for quite some time. Among the ones who came were sinners and souls needing spiritual help. The saints were rejoicing, for which we say, "To God be the glory!"

The attendance was good throughout the meeting. Several ministers were present from different states. We thank the Lord for all who labored in the meeting to make it a success. —Sis. Patsy Fields, Sec.

WICHITA, KAN., MEETING REPORT

The Wichita, Kansas, Annual Fall Meeting was held early this year—Aug. 29 to Sept. 7, during the campmeeting season. We give thanks to God for His continued faithfulness to us. He did not fail to bless in our meeting and sent what was needed.

Not many sinners showed an interest in the meeting and only two sought for salvation. If these two would only stay saved, it would be worth the whole ten days of meeting. The main burden of the meeting was for the saints to receive the spiritual help needed. Several messages warned us of the nearness of the end of time and what the great Judgment day will be like. We were urged to be sure we were ready for it. The saints were stirred and a number sought for spiritual help at the altar of prayer. Some also sought for sanctification.

We thank the Lord for each minister He sent and for how He anointed the message they delivered. We are also thankful for the saints from different places who were able to attend the meeting and be a blessing, and trust they also received a blessing.

—Submitted by Shirley Knight, Secretary

REPORT OF THE BOLEY, OKLA., CAMPMEETING

We give thanks and all praise to our dear Lord for blessing us with a wonderful campmeeting in Boley, Okla., from Aug. 15 to 24.

The attendance was very good. We thank the Lord for the "gathering in" of the saints, and for the ministers and workers He sent to help in the battle against sin. The Word of God was preached under the anointing of the Holy Spirit. Conviction was in the meeting. Several were saved. Some sought the Lord

to be filled with the Holy Spirit in the sanctifying grace. Nine followed the Lord in water baptism, which was a glorious service. The ordinance service was precious and anointed of the Lord. Many hearts were touched as we remembered the death and suffering of our dear Lord and Saviour for the remission of our sins. Praise the Lord!

We appreciated all who worked in this meeting to help make it a success—the cooks who laboured so hard in the kitchen, all the ministers, gospel workers, and saints. We thank the Lord for every one.

Pray for the new converts, that they will keep saved and go all the way with the Lord.

The writer would like to express how the Lord healed her foot. I suffered at times during the meeting, but the Lord kept me on my feet, so that I could attend the services. He has completely healed my foot. Praise the Lord! Thanks to the dear saints for their prayers! I give the Lord all the praise!

Yours in His great name, —Sis. Katherine Williams

REPORT OF FRESNO, CALIF., CAMPMEETING

The campmeeting at Fresno, Calif., held Sept. 5 to 14, was very successful. The meeting was well attended. We thank the Lord for the ministerial help which He sent our way and for all those who came and shared the burden of the meeting. The early morning prayer meeting was a real blessing. God sent His Word on various lines. A few souls were saved, and some sought help for many things. We appreciate everyone that came. We pray that we will all spend our time to God's glory.

—For the pastor, Bro. E. J. Trotter, by Naomi Jennings.

GREEN PASTURES REVIVAL MEETING

The annual fall meeting of the Church of God at Green Pastures will be held, Lord willing, on October 10 to 19, 1975. The chapel is located at 57th and Denver Streets, Spencer, Okla. A hearty welcome is extended to all.

We are looking to the Lord to burden the ministers of His choosing to come and deliver His Word. Come praying that God will bless, and souls will be saved.

For further information, contact the pastor, Bro. Herman Kelly, 1504 N. E. 48th St., Okla. City, Okla. 73111, phone 427-7314, or Sister Icylee Tillman, phone 769-4118. —By Icylee Tillman

REVIVAL AT GREEN BANK, W. VA.

A revival meeting will be held, Lord willing, at Green Bank, W. Va. from October 17 to 26, 1975. A cordial invitation is extended to all to attend these services where the gospel will be preached, setting forth God's plan of full salvation.

For further information, write or call Bro. and Sister Mart Samons, P. O. Box 127, Green Bank, W. Va. 24944, phone (304) 456-4469.

REVIVAL AT OKMULGEE, OKLA.

The revival meeting in Okmulgee, Okla., will start, Lord willing, on Monday night, Oct. 20, at 7:45 p.m. and

continue nightly through Friday, Oct. 24. There will be all-day services on Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 25 and 26. We are expecting divine anointing upon every part of each service. While the door of mercy is still open, a warm welcome and plea to all the saints is, "Come over and help us." Perishing souls are at stake. "For Zion's sake will I not hold my peace, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until the righteousness thereof go forth as brightness, and the salvation thereof as a lamp that burneth." Isa. 62:1.

For more information, contact the pastor, Bro. Woodrow Warren, 810 N. Porter, Okmulgee, Okla. 74447, or phone (918) 756-6425.

—Sister Erma Johnson

OREGON ASSEMBLY MEETING AT JEFFERSON

The annual Oregon assembly meeting of the Church of God will convene in Jefferson, Oregon, on November 7 and continue through November 16, 1975, Lord willing.

Those who come by bus from either north or south should come to Albany, Ore., if traveling on an express bus. Some of the local schedules come through Jefferson. If you travel by train, get off at Salem as trains do not stop in Albany. When you arrive, phone 928-7223 or 327-2855 and someone will pick you up at the station.

The meeting is financed by free-will offerings only, and the ministers who labor in the meeting are supplied by the same means. We urge all saints and lovers of the truth throughout the Northwest to attend this meeting. There are cabins and a dormitory available on the camp ground, and also a limited number of places available in the saint's homes. All who come will be cared for.

We are expecting several ministers to be present who will be able to preach and teach God's Word with the inspiration and anointing of the Holy Spirit. The truth of the gospel will be expounded in a way that all souls may be enlightened, instructed, edified, built up and strengthened. Let every one come with a true purpose of heart to do good and to receive good.

We will be looking forward to seeing you at the meeting. Yours and His in the Master's service,

—Ostis B. and Evelyn Wilson

6505 N. E. Sunset Dr., Albany, Oregon 97321

GENERAL SOUTHERN ASSEMBLY MEETING

The General Southern Assembly Meeting of the Church of God will be held November 23 to 30, 1975, inclusive, at the Church of God Campgrounds, 109 White Street, Hammond, La.

We would like to invite the saints of God of all nations to come and be with us in this meeting, and let us worship the Lord together in Spirit and in truth. We are expecting the Lord to send the ministers of His choosing to preach the Word of truth in its fullness.

As usual, meals will be served free of charge in the dining hall, and beds will be available in the dormitory, as well as camper facilities, electrical hookups, etc., on the campground.

For further information, or if you wish to reserve sleeping places, contact Bro. Max Williamson, phone 504-345-4566, or Bro. Bob Forbes, phone 504-542-

1144, or write to us at 109 White St., Hammond, La., 70401. All who come to the meeting will have a place to stay and will be cared for.

Come praying that God will pour out the rich anointing of His Holy Spirit upon this assembly meeting. —Bro. Bob Forbes

PRAYER REQUESTS



Ark.—"Please remember me in prayer. I still suffer pains in my back and side. I can't be up but a few hours a day, as I am so weak and have such coughing spells at times. My whole trust is in the God of all power. I know He is still with me and His blessings are rich and many. He gives me songs in the night. Praise God for such a Redeemer as mine!" —Sis. N. E. Adams

Tex.—"Please keep praying that God will heal my husband's stomach . . . I had you send an anointed handkerchief for my eyes about three months ago, and God has done wonders for my eyes. The pressure has not been in them anymore and they don't hurt like they did." —Mrs. I. T. Strickland

Colo.—Remember Sis. Roland Tombleson in prayer. She has been suffering with pains in her neck, head, and knees.

Mo.—Remember Sis. Elizabeth Moore in prayer. Her mother passed away on Aug. 26, 1975.

Neb.—"Saints, please pray for me, as I lost my husband on Sept. 2, 1975 . . . Pray that my body will be made well." —Sis. Alice Britt

Mo.—"Pray for my brother, as he has a bad leg."

—Jewell Lane

Okla.—Remember Sis. George Abbott. She had an accident and is being sued.

Ala.—"Remember my daughter in prayer. She suffers from tensions, doubts and is fearful."

—Leora Fink

Ohio—"Very weak in body." —Bro. C. Stanford

Ill.—Let us still remember Sis. Pitts. She is some better, but wants complete healing.

Ark.—Remember Bro. and Sis. Ewell Dotson. They both have afflictions.

Fla.—"I was in an auto accident and injured my leg. I'm suffering with much pain." —James Moore

Pa.—"My eyes are better, but I still need prayer for them, and also need strength so I can do my work and be able to be alone." —Berniece McKenrick

Ill.—"My leg and hip are giving me a lot of trouble."

—Vivian McClain

Remember the different ministers that need complete healing. Bro. Curtis Williams is still expecting complete healing. Bro. Murphey Allen and others are afflicted, yet they keep going for the Lord. We know that the devil is not pleased for this gospel to be preached. So pray that God will undertake for His workers, as you fast and pray especially on October 15th. There is power in agreement. Also, remember the different saints who are holding on for complete healing. As you pray, ask God to hear the prayers and answer for all the church who are earnestly seeking for their needs to be taken care of.

We are so prone to look at what the natural eye and mind can comprehend and then gauge our faith by our

own conclusions. God wants us to look away from these natural things and look at the supernatural. We need to change our natural way of adding up things and deeply comprehend a small measure of the great power of God. When we think of the greatness of His power, our finite minds can't fathom the depths of that power. But God has planned it so that we can see enough of His power to know that He will help us in our problems.

When Lazarus died and Jesus appeared and asked that the stone be taken away from the grave, Martha sternly doubted His power. Jesus said to her, "Said I not unto thee, that, if thou wouldst believe, thou shouldst see the glory of God?" John 11:40. Has not God spoken to us through the Bible? Do we want to see the glory of God? Then the answer is that we must believe. Faith is the key that opens the storehouse of God. There we can find help for ourselves in any way we have need. Use that key today. Believe and receive. Doubts and faith never work together. Doubt kills faith. So kill all doubt and you will have faith.

—Sis. Marie Miles

Note of Appreciation

Mo.—Dear Sister Marie: We want to thank all the saints for their prayers for Junior Sorrell while he was so sick. The Lord has been so good to us again. Junior is up, but not able to work yet. He is gaining after losing 20 pounds in two weeks. His sinuses still give him trouble and make his head hurt at times, but his nose seems to be opening up, as he is able to smell. Most of the time his nose has blood clots in it and is so sore. Then it will bleed. But the Lord is so good to give help when we call. We are still trusting the Lord to help Junior as he has 11 more teeth that are infected with pyorrhea and one tooth that is hurting him so bad even now. We know God is able to finish the work he has started and clear up this infection and cause his blood to clot normally so that he can have the bad teeth pulled.

We know God is going to help us. —Doris Sorrell

MISSION REPORT FROM INDIA

S. India (Aug. 20)—Dear Bro. Pruitt and saints abroad: Greetings of great joy and love to all in the glorious name of Jesus Christ, the true Vine. "I am the vine, ye are the branches . . . If a man abideth not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered . . . If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will and it shall be done unto you." John 15:5-7.

Thank you very much for your good letter, and the enclosures were noted with overflowing and heartfelt gratitude, including the tracts.

I was very glad to hear that the National campmeeting at Neosho, Mo., was wonderfully blessed this year with a large attendance. Praise the Lord! I remember how God's Spirit worked in last year's meeting in which many young and old went to the altar, yielding to the invitation. May God keep all those newborn babes in their spiritual joy until death.

On August 9, we had an all-day meeting at Kalayapuram with good fellowship. Wherever the

saints gather together, there the Lord commands the blessing, even life for evermore (Psa. 133). This week is our national festival days, so we wish to conduct open air meetings at several places during these days. Our car is a great help for that purpose. The "Evening Light" magazine is increasing much in circulation. Your prayers are the main reason for its progress.

Here is good news. My wife, Saramma John, delivered a baby girl on August 13, 1975. Now the mother and baby are all right under the great care of God. She sends her love to all of you.

Yours in His service, —John Varghese

LETTER FROM NIGERIAN PASTOR

Midwest Nigeria (Aug. 26)—Dear Bro. Pruitt: Greetings in the most holy name of Jesus, to whose holy family we now belong by His love and mercy.

We received your letter dated August 1st. The enclosures of both the sum of \$. . . and the tracts were received intact. The recent bloodless coup in Nigeria which toppled the military government of General Gowon gave rise to the delay in receiving your letter. Thanks immensely for remembering the hungry. The Lord will abundantly bless all of you in America. All three congregations here in Kwale have been duly informed of the remittance . . . Food will be bought and distributed to the hungry people, especially to the believers who are walking in the light of the gospel. These congregations are on the march to the Glory Land.

Yours in Him always, —Titus U. E. Enu

FROM MISSION IN NIGERIA

Southeast State, Nigeria (Aug. 22)—Dear Bro. Pruitt and saints: Love and christian greetings to all of you in the name of our Lord and King who is worthy of all honour and praise.

I am in receipt of your letter of July 2nd which was addressed in care of my old address . . . Thanks also for your letter of August 1st with the draft to help in various items . . . Thank you for your concern for our welfare and support to further the Bible truths in this sinful part of the globe. Extend our thanks to every donor.

The efficacy of your prayers are felt much. We earnestly pray to God to approve Bro. Melot's desire to return to Nigeria once again. Please send a quantity of English and Efik tracts to this work. We are praying for you.

Your younger Brother, —Nse B. Umanah

According to Their Nature

The bee and the spider go to the same flower; one extracts honey, the other extracts poison. They each extract, according to their own nature. We people accordingly extract either honey or poison from the flow of earthly life. Should we not all have the bee nature and enjoy the sweetness of heaven in the soul while coping with the prosperities and adversities of life? It is good to be able to feel down deep in the soul that "All things work together for good to them that love God."

—Sel.

The Space Program and the Bible

Did you know that the space program is busy proving that what has been called "myth" in the Bible is true? Mr. Howard Hill, president of the Curtis Engine Co. in Baltimore, Md., and a consultant in the space program, relates the following development:

"I think one of the most amazing things that God has for us today happened recently to our astronauts and space scientists at Green Belt, Md. They were checking the position of the sun, moon, and planets out in space where they would be 100 years and 1000 years from now. We have to know this so we don't send a satellite up and have it bump into something later on in its orbits. We have to lay out the orbit in terms of the life of the satellite, and where the planets will be so the whole thing will not bog down! They ran the computer measurement back and forth over the centuries and it came to a halt. The computer stopped and put up a red signal, which meant that there was something wrong either with the information fed into it or with the results as compared to the standards. They called in the service department to check it out and they said, 'It's perfect.' The IBM head of operations said, 'What's wrong?' 'Well, we have found there is a day missing in space in elapsed time.' They scratched their heads and tore their hair. There was no answer!

"One religious fellow on the team said, 'You know, one time I was in Sunday School and they talked about the sun standing still.' They didn't believe him, but they did not have any other answer so they said, 'Show us.' So he got a Bible and went back to the book of Joshua where they found a pretty ridiculous statement for anyone who has 'common sense.' There they found the Lord saying to Joshua, 'Fear them not; I have delivered them into thy hand; there shall not a man of them stand before thee.' Joshua was concerned because he was surrounded by the enemy and if darkness fell, they would overpower them. So Joshua asked the Lord to make the sun stand still! That is right! 'The sun stood still and the moon stayed . . . , and hasted not to go down a whole day.' The space men said, 'There's your missing day!' Well, they checked the computer's going back into the time it was written and found that it was close, but not close enough. The elapsed time that was missing back in Joshua's day was 23 hours and 20 minutes—not a whole day. They read the Bible and there it said, 'about [approximately] a day.'

"These little words in the Bible are important. But they were still in trouble because if you cannot account for 40 minutes, you will be in trouble 1000 years from now. Forty minutes had to be found because it can be multiplied many times over in orbits. Well, this religious fellow also remembered somewhere in the Bible it said the sun went backwards. The space men told him that he was out of his mind. But they got out the Book, and read about it in Second Kings 20: Hezekiah, on his death-bed, was visited by the prophet Isaiah, who told him that he was not going to die. Hezekiah did not believe him and

asked for a sign as proof. Isaiah said, 'Do you want the sun to go ahead ten degrees?' Hezekiah said, 'It is nothing for the sun to go ahead ten degrees, but let the shadow return backwards ten degrees.' Isaiah spoke to the Lord and the Lord brought the shadow ten degrees backward! Ten degrees is exactly forty minutes! Twenty three hours and twenty minutes in Joshua, plus 40 minutes in 2 Kings make the missing day in the universe. Isn't that amazing? Our God is rubbing their noses in His truth. That's right!"

—Selected

KIND WORDS



This morning I was making orange yogurt. I poured hot water into a green glass measuring cup that had belonged to my mother. It probably was over thirty-five years old. We are told that age gives glass a beautiful hue and this was a beautiful green cup. After emptying the boiling water, I set it aside and poured other things into my mixture. I took the orange juice out of the refrigerator and poured it into the pretty green cup. I heard a cracking sound. I knew immediately what had happened. The cup was still too hot to pour in cold juice. A long crack marred my beautiful, green, valuable cup. I felt bad about it. I thought that some of my grandchildren might have enjoyed having it since it had been their Grandmother Pruitt's cup. As I looked at it I thought, "My regrets, disappointment in being careless, my wishing it had not been broken, and even tears cannot fix it."

I continued to meditate, and the thought came to me that this was like careless, unkind words that are spoken, which wound others. When we see that we have spoken quickly and realize that our unkind words have wounded someone, we feel bad. But those words have been spoken to human beings who have minds and a memory. They may see and know that you are sorry, but the dart has been shot. It has pierced some tender heart and has caused a deep wound. Our regrets and our tears cannot fix it. Our wishing and efforts at correction will not fix it. Our disappointment at being so careless in speaking won't fix it. Those words have gone forth and stand as they were spoken. Some might say that they forgive, but they can still remember those words. There are people who won't forgive, but hold a grudge for years. Forgiveness might be asked with tears, but only God can fix it in the minds and hearts of those who will let Him fix it. God alone can help people to have true forgiveness so that they can forget. God can take away the sting and heal the wound if the person will let Him.

A mother was teaching a class of boys at the ages of seven to eleven. She had her little baby in a bassinet in the room with her. As most babies do, it put its hands in its mouth, and this mother's baby did it more than most. One boy in the class sat beside the bassinet and kept playing with the baby's hands. The mother told him that she wished that he would wash his hands before he touched the baby's hands. This deeply offended this boy. He took it all wrong. He didn't think his hands were all that dirty. About ten years later, he

stood at the door of this mother's home, and in the conversation he mentioned about how he had never forgotten how she talked to him about playing with her baby's hands. She told him that she was sorry she had hurt him and asked his forgiveness, but he wouldn't forgive her. He had been hurt and still held it against her. You might think that this is a small thing, and it does seem to be, but he had been offended and hurt because he was spoken to about his dirty hands in front of the whole class. This is just an example of how very careful we need to be with our words.

Sometimes when we think about how words can wound and cause heartaches which last for years, we think that we should just go around and say nothing, or say just as few words as we can possibly get by with. But let us look at the other side of the speaking of words. Words can be a great blessing. The Bible says, "A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver." Prov. 25:11. What a blessing it is when kind words are spoken to a person who has lost a dear loved one! Words of sympathy and sharing one's grief can bring great comfort to the crushed and broken heart. What a blessing kind words are to someone who is bowed down from grief and sorrow through the disappointment in the unfaithfulness of a friend or someone dear to them! How the kind words of a sister, brother, mother or father soothe the child that is filled with imaginary fears! What joy it brings to lonely persons to share with them your joys or the joys of others! How wonderful it is to tell about the goodness of the Lord and to tell what He does for His children or for us! We can know no greater joy than to see a person brought to the Lord after we have told them of the saving power of God. Sharing your various experiences cheers the heart and gives new meaning to life. The Bible says, "A good word maketh it [the heart] glad." Prov. 12:25. Kind words can cause friendships to be restored. Kind words can help to smooth out troubles in a family. Kind words can cause tears to be dried. Oh, what a great blessing kind words can be!

Our prayer should be that the Lord will help us to think kind thoughts about everyone and keep a kind, gentle, sympathetic feeling toward all. That will help our words to be spoken in a kind manner. Some people have a harsh voice or a natural, quick, firm way of speaking, which can grate on the hearer's tender feelings. They especially need to seek God for help that their manner of speaking be seasoned with kindness so they can speak in a right tone. Many times those that are the closest and most dear are carelessly spoken to and are expected to take it or not take it. None of us can speak the right words without God's help. We must always feel our dependence upon the Lord and seek Him for help. The Apostle James has said, "If any man offend not in word, the same is a perfect man, and able also to bridle the whole body . . . Even so the tongue is a little member, and boasteth great things, Behold, how great a matter a little fire kindleth! . . . But the tongue can no man tame; it is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison . . . Who is a wise man and endued with knowledge among you? let him shew out of a good conversation his works with meekness of wisdom . . . The fruit of righteousness is sown in peace of them that make peace." James 3:2-18 —Sis. Marie Miles

Becoming A Christian

Text: "King Agrippa, believest thou the prophets? . . . Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian" (Acts 26:27-28).

Back of this all-important question was the fact of the gospel preached to Agrippa by Paul. "Believest thou that the Hebrew prophets were inspired of God?" Then he added his own statement, "I know that thou believest."

Agrippa was visiting with his sister, Bernice, in the province where Paul was in prison. Hearing of the notable prisoner that Festus had, Agrippa asked to see Paul and to hear him. Paul came before the king with a glad and happy heart. He expounded the gospel in a powerful and convincing way. It pierced the heart of the king and brought from him the statement, "Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian." This statement indicates that Agrippa was under deep and pungent conviction. He, no doubt, felt the awful anguish of a soul away from God and the deep pangs of guilt and remorse that had seized upon him at the preaching of the gospel by Paul.

This deep conviction lies at the very bottom of becoming a Christian. It is, indeed, the foundation of Christianity. Before one can become a Christian he must feel the need of being saved and the awfulness of being lost. What an awful thing it is to spend a whole life in the wilderness and the darkness of sin and shame, and to wander through life in a state of absolute uncertainty, facing death every moment without due consideration of what it will mean.

Paul reasoned with Agrippa. He related his own experience—how the Lord struck him down and he became blind and how he was converted in Damascus, and how obedient he had been unto the heavenly calling. No doubt Agrippa had heard something of Saul before his conversion—how he had gone on a tirade against the church and persecuted them even to strange cities. But now Paul (converted) stood before the king with a glowing, convincing testimony of what Jesus had done for him. And inasmuch as Jesus had done so much for Paul, He could do the same for Agrippa.

While Festus accused Paul of being insane because of his much learning, Agrippa was seized by the Spirit of God and carried back over the devious track of his mis-spent life, piling before him the sins that had checkered his hellbound career. He stood trembling under the mighty hand of conviction. Agrippa believed the Old Testament prophets. He, no doubt, had known about them. He had felt the mighty impulse of their potent prophecies and was convinced that they were of God. His own statement would indicate that he not only believed in the Old Testament prophets but the New Testament prophets as well. "Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian." To believe in the promised Messiah, heralded by the Old Testament prophets and foreshadowed by the law, meant to believe in the Christ of the New Testament preached by the apostles of the Lord.

Agrippa lacked just the one thing that many a penitent has lacked—"Almost, but not altogether." To become a Christian one must be altogether persuaded, altogether convinced that the blood shed on Calvary is

for the remission of his sins, loose every restraint, cut every strap and band that binds and holds, and throw himself completely onto the mercy of the Lord. There is none good but One. He is the only One, and is the only Saviour of the world, our only hope. The depth of His power and love to save has never been sounded. Sinners have gone to the very bottom of sin and shame, but Christ's love has gone yet deeper—down below the lowest sinner. Salvation is insured to every sinner of Adam's fallen race if he will but repent and believe.

"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ," cried Paul to the Philippian jailer. Believe on Him. Put your trust and confidence in Him. Faith in the Lord Jesus Christ is the thing that can save your soul. You may try everything else and yet be a lost man or woman, but when you look to Christ on Calvary, hear Him speak to God for you, "Father, forgive them," He blots out all of your transgressions, (not merely paints over them). You become a child of the King, a citizen of another country, a pilgrim on the highway of holiness. This great privilege and heaven-sent blessing is for every sinner.

May God bless you with such deep and pungent conviction that bitter remorse may seize your unhappy soul. May you find rest at the feet of Jesus and at last realize a full and free experience of old-time, heartfelt, blood-washed religion. Salvation makes you a child of God and a brother or sister to the vast host of redeemed of both heaven and earth. Just forsake sin. Walk off of the devil's territory. Quit peddling his goods and believe in Jesus Christ to the saving of your soul. Get loaded up with a new and different outfit. Start scattering the sunshine of his blessed salvation, and you will fill a need in this old world and will serve a purpose that will never be realized or appreciated until we land home in heaven. We can sit down with Abraham, Jacob, and Isaac, cast our trophies at the feet of Jesus, and proclaim Him Lord of all, and join in singing that new song.

—Selected

FROM THE MAIL BOX . . .

Mich.—Greetings in the lovely name of Jesus: We are so thankful for His wonderful love and mercy toward us. He loved us so much that He made a way that we could be saved and live a holy life. Praise His name! Surely we do thank God for His precious Word and Holy Spirit to lead and guide us into all truth.

It was so good to talk to you once again on the phone. Gary, Judy and family, Ralph, Ralphie, and I went to Wisconsin for the meeting in Racine. Bro. Ed Wilson was there.

Chris (our daughter) called to let us know how her mother-in-law in Oklahoma City was doing. She told how happy they all were for Sis. Maybelle and you (Sis. Marie) to visit and pray for her . . . Since you had prayer for her she hasn't had any pain. Thank the Lord! I really do appreciate your taking time to go, and I'm praying that God will bless them . . .

—Sis. Dorothy Wilkins

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Okla.—The old song says, "Oh, I want to tell of the Saviours' love." How can tongue express our thankfulness for the richest gift (salvation) this world

holds! God's great love and mercy were shown to us poor, lost, undone, miserable people when we were without God.

Salvation is a free fountain of life. Oh, taste, dear precious lost souls, and surely if you really taste and are born again, you will desire more and more of the water of life.

I still stop and marvel at what the Lord has done for me these last two years. There were times that it seemed that I would go to my eternal home to be with my Lord. It seems there is such a very tiny bit I can do for Jesus for all He has done for me. God leaves me here, so there must be just a little more I can do, and I'm willing and listening for Him to let me know.

Words can't tell how dear to our heart are the prayers of God's children. It is truly a wonderful blessing, for the prayers of the "righteous availeth much."

We were expecting the Lord to take care of you and the work there at the Print Shop, and He did. We look forward to each "Faith and Victory" paper. It is the means of keeping God's children in touch.

—Sis. Doris Bowers

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

Okla.—Jesus is our all and in all. I don't know how people go on so carefree in their sins when eternity is looming in sight. It seems I can feel it. Since the Lord gave me that visitation, it seems I have a keener sense of eternity.

I want to take this opportunity to thank you each one for your prayers and love shown in the loss of my brother, who departed this life on Aug. 6. God surely did bless, comfort, and protect us on our trip to California and back. The flight coming home on Aug. 14 was beautiful.

My other brother lives in Louisiana. He had an ugly place on the side of his face. He had it taken off and it was malignant. I would like for all of you to be agreed in prayer for him for both soul and body . . .

We received the "Faith and Victory" paper yesterday. I finished reading it today. I always enjoy it. I don't like to lay it down for long until I'm finished.

—Sis. Emma Dilly

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

Ill.—I was riding down the street in my town, on the bicycle, and I came across one of your "Faith and Victory" papers, lying in the street. I picked it up, took it home and read it. It had some good, interesting things in it. I would like to subscribe to it for one year. —A new Subscriber

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

Ala.—Please send the "Faith and Victory" paper to this address. It is a wonderful little paper and full of truth. I wish I could place it in more homes.

—Mollie R. Totty

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

Ohio—Dear Bro. Lawrence and co-workers: Greetings in Jesus' precious name . . .

Bro. Egbert Allen was here at Dayton yesterday (Sept. 14) for our all-day meeting. He preached three good sermons. Quite a few of the people came from New Castle, Ind. . . .

I trust you are better in body.

In much Christian love, —Bro. Wm. McCoy

Mo.—I am praising God for salvation and am enjoying its benefits which are many. Yesterday morning I got up with a cold. I couldn't see to do what I needed to do, so I just told the Lord about it in prayer and God healed me. I worked with peaches and tomatoes until in the evening. How thankful I was! I am so glad I have One to go to in time of need. Many times God answers prayer instantly, and other times we need to wait. God always knows best.

I still need prayer for this place on my cheek and other ailments. I am looking for victory, so be agreed with me. I remember you there in prayer.

—Sis. Goldie Knapp

o—o—o—o—o—o—o

Calif.—Greetings in Jesus' dear name: I hope all of you got to attend several good campmeetings. How it brings back memories of old times to think about campmeeting. We loved to go to them. The first one I attended, I sold a yearling calf to Papa and bought a round-trip ticket on the train to Sherwood, La. Papa came in one day and said two brethren were to be on the train the next day, so I had them put me on the same train. When we arrived at our destination, there was no one there to meet us. Bro. Martin and Bro. Knight asked me what I wanted to do. After spending all my money, I wanted to go on. It was about 25 or 30 miles. We started out on foot. I tried to walk as fast as I could. We stayed all night at a large farm house. They were all very nice to us. Then we got to Bro. Billy Ward's home. They were Church of God people, so I stayed until evening and went with them to the meeting. Bro. I. Q. Coplin was there and went with us. Bro. A. J. Kilpatrick had just gone on, and Bro. Martin and Bro. Knight also went on and didn't wait for us. I imagine they breathed a sigh of relief after leaving me behind. Bro. E. E. Byrum was also there at the meeting. That was one reason I wanted to go so much, as our family had known him for a long time. A large number of girls gathered at Bro. and Sis. R. H. Owen's home and how we did sing!

Remember me in prayer,

—Sis. Mary (Forrest) Worley

o—o—o—o—o—o—o

Ky.—I am writing to let you know what the dear Lord has done for me. It has been about six months since I could walk. I have been in a wheel chair about five months. I can walk a little. I know the Lord is going to heal me, as I am trusting in Him... I love the Lord and want to obey Him. I have faith and must wait on the Lord. I want all of the saints to pray that God will heal me.... Pray for my children. I want to be ready when the Lord comes. —Sis. Alma Humphrey

o—o—o—o—o—o—o

Tenn.—Dear Sis. Marie and Brother Lawrence: I hope you are both in good health. I just pray that the Lord will heal Bro. Lawrence of his trouble. I have been sick, but thank the Lord, I'm feeling better. I get the "Faith and Victory" paper every month and enjoy it very much. I just pray that God will bless everyone at the Print Shop.

Please pray for me. I'm going on 87 years old. God has blessed me with pretty good health, for which I do thank Him. I would like so much to meet you both face to face, but guess I can't, as I live so far

away. I hope we will meet sometime over in heaven. That is my prayer. —Mrs. Daisy Gossett

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Testimonies and Answers to Prayer



La.—We thank the Lord today for the privilege of living for Him, and for His many blessings on us from day to day. We think about this quotation that we read, "When God tests you, it is a good time for you to test Him by putting His promises to the test, and claiming from Him just as much as your trials have rendered necessary." The writer goes on to say that "we should recognize the trials as a challenge from God to claim a larger blessing than we have ever had, and to hail it with delight as an opportunity of obtaining a larger measure of Divine grace. Thus, even the adversary becomes an auxiliary and the things that seem to be against us turn out to be for the furtherance of our way. Surely, this is to be more than conquerors through Him who loved us."

Oh, that each of us might do this when the tests and trials come so mightily against us! I'm sure we'd soon gain victory and be strengthened in our souls. I thank the Lord for how He has blessed me the past few weeks. I was down nine weeks with my heart and anemia. I was so weak at times that it seemed I could scarcely breathe, but the past week I've been stronger and am not having any weak spells or fainting spells, or hardly any pain, for which I surely do thank the Lord.

Bro. Lawrence, we are still holding you up before the throne of grace for complete healing. You know it is a real miracle that God gives you strength to do the work you have to do, and strength to keep you up and going.

In Christian love, —Sis. Sybil Goldsberry

o—o—o—o—o—o—o

W. Va.—I thank the Lord for salvation. He forgave my sins and helps me to live free from sin. Praise His name! Since writing you the other day and asking for prayer, the dear Lord has healed me of that affliction. Praise His name forever! By the help of God I mean to stand firm and steadfast for Him, and make heaven my home.

I would like to ask prayer for an unspoken request. I know God does answer prayer.

Love and prayers, —Erma Clevenger

o—o—o—o—o—o—o

Calif.—I was glad to be in the Pacoima, Calif., camp meeting, especially the last night. Heaven came down and many were bowing at the altar. It looked like every sinner in the house fell at the altar. There was no preaching that night, just singing.

Pray for me, as I have a deep cold. For that reason I shall not get to attend the Fresno, Calif., camp meeting.

Wife received a wonderful blessing of healing of the affliction that seemed to be destroying her health. But the last few days her affliction of long standing is giving her much trouble, so pray and request prayer for her. God is able to heal her.

May God bless in all phases of the work there.

—Bro. and Sis. H. P. Huskey

o—o—o—o—o—o—o

Mo.—With love, I want to greet each one. I am getting along fairly well since the stroke in camp meeting here at Myrtle.

I desired to be in the meeting, but it was not granted to me. I can take care of myself, cook, wash, and do my house cleaning. My whole right side was affected. My daughter, Myrtle, took care of me for one week. Then Martha and Marie stayed the next week. The Lord has wonderfully blessed me in so many ways. I surely give the Lord all the praise. Praise His name! I go to meeting, and have driven to town two times (18 miles). I can talk, yet once in a while I have to stutter.

I want to thank each one for each letter and card I received. Also, thanks to those who came and prayed for me or visited me. I love the Lord and the truth. I'm not discouraged, but I am determined to press on. I want to praise Him for all that He has done.

Your Sister in Christ, —Marie Miller

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

Fla.—I enjoy reading the "Faith and Victory" paper very much. It is so much encouragement to me. I don't live near any of the saints, so I thank the Lord that I do have Him with me daily. I love all of God's children everywhere, and pray much for every one. I know that we all need each other's prayers. The Lord has surely been blessing and encouraging my heart. He has burdened my heart to pray much for lost souls.

Dear ones, let every one of us be encouraged and draw close to God. We must have that divine love, as the Lord desires, for all of our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Yours in Christ, —Bro. Hughsie Owens

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

Ohio—"Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits." Truly, I love Him and praise Him for His blessings to us. He has brought me through many afflictions the past year. My desire is to live for Him who died for me. The Lord knows what it will take to get us to Heaven. My desire is to make Heaven my home. I just pray for grace to go through what God sees best to come my way. I have made many failures it seems, but I'm still pressing and climbing.

The last trial of affliction I went through I had to do some pressing, but I thank the Lord that He brought me through. I awoke with my throat feeling sore and scratchy. I began losing my voice and coughing quite a bit. I testified that I had been able to sleep at night. This meant a lot, as then I was able to go through the day. The devil hears our testimonies, too, and that night I began four nights and days of almost constant coughing. I begged and cried to the Lord at night, so I could get some sleep. The saints were praying, too. Usually, toward morning I would go off to sleep from exhaustion. My mind was even tired and I couldn't get my thoughts together to pray, and also at this time another trial came my way. My mind felt like it was numb. Continually my heart cried out to the Lord. I needed help.

I asked the saints to give in a request for me at the tent meeting in New Castle, Ind. I had a very heavy burden and needed much help in body. Praise the Lord for His people! The Lord did answer prayer in behalf of the heavy burden, but I continued coughing. On Sunday, I didn't get to bed until around 6:00 a.m., but by the

Lord's help I slept a couple of hours. I got up and prepared to go to New Castle, Ind. to the tent meeting, which is about 80 miles from my home. I surely didn't go on feelings. It was good to be with God's people. The message that morning was, "Be Ye Ready." My heart cried out to the Lord, "God, please help me to stay true to Thee; I want to be ready." I was anointed again after the afternoon service. On the way home it didn't seem like I coughed as much. When I got home, which was around 6:30 p.m., I told my husband that I wanted to go right to bed, as I felt like I could sleep, and I was so tired. I asked him if he would watch the children and he said he would. I went to bed and slept about 14 hours. I told some that I felt like the Lord had given me a tranquilizer. It was just precious, and the Lord did it! I think of the song, "He is so precious to me." I coughed some a couple more days, but nothing like I had been, and thank the Lord, I was able to sleep at night again. It is wonderful! Now my throat is practically normal again. Bless the Lord!

We are looking to the Lord in behalf of some other burdens. We do want to trust Him and wait on Him. This is a pressing way, but Heaven will surely be worth it all. "Let every thing that hath breath praise the Lord."

In Christian love, —Sis. Della Gutwein

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

New York—I am still saved and pressing on toward the mark of the high calling in Jesus. Continue your prayers in my behalf. I am much stronger in body than at this time a year ago. I am constantly praying for all the saints and friends. May God bless all of you.

Yours in Christ, —Sis. Ella Hemphill

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

Oklahoma—I am praising God for His love and goodness to me. I do love the dear Lord with all of my heart. My greatest desire is to be ready, watching and praying when He calls me Home. I am so glad He called after my soul and I heeded the call. I am so thankful to be in dear Sis. Hettie Barton's home. We worship our God together. Praise our God forever! I am so thankful for the work all of you are doing there for God and His children.

Christian love, —Sis. Essie Moore

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

Calif.—Dear Bro. Lawrence: Greetings of love, peace, and joy to you and all the workers, in the name of the Lord. Our God of love is surely good to us. His mercy endureth forever. Praise the Lord!

I am writing to tell you that my dad, Frank Kutra, passed away on Sept. 9, 1975, to be with the Lord. I saw him last summer and it was his desire to be healed before he died. Praise God, the cancer on his face was all healed over with just a tiny scab in maybe three places, but the awful, big, deep place on his face was healed! Praise God for His love, mercy, and tenderness that He shows to all of His children.

I have joy in my heart to know that Dad is just beginning to live. Oh, how glorious it will be when we meet the Lord!

Christian love, —James Kutra

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