

# FAITH<sup>AND</sup>VICTORY

## Church of God Servant



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### *The Holiness of the Saints*



From the depths of sin and darkness:  
Wretched stains of guilt and woe,  
Christ redeems His purchased people  
Through the blood of Calv'ry's flow.

Washing all their stains of crimson,  
Life anew to each is given:  
Wisdom, knowledge, understanding  
Of the way that leads to heaven.

'Tis a new and holy nation,  
Separated unto Him,  
With their songs of full salvation  
Ceasing not nor waxing dim.

Careful, watchful, ever yearning  
More and more to please the Lord,  
Loving, prayerful, ever learning  
From the teachings of His Word.

Worldly, sinful paths forsaking:  
Charms of earth with all its pride;  
Straight and righteous paths they're making  
In their quickened, upward stride.

For their treasures are in Heaven,  
Their adorning is within;  
Outward show and selfish leaven  
They no longer seek to win.

For the Saviour is the Husband,  
He who died to make them pure;  
And they seek a richer beauty  
That will evermore endure.

Oh, to be a saint most holy,  
Measured to each royal line!  
Living, speaking, going solely  
For the will of God divine.

God Himself has set the measure:  
Who His teachings will obey?  
Nothing else will meet His pleasure  
On that final Judgment Day.

—Leslie Busbee

### *Holy Saints of God*



"Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the Church, and gave Himself for it; that He might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, that he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish." Ephesians 5:25-27. "Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ; as obedient children, not fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts in your ignorance: but as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy." 1 Peter 1:13-16.

From these two witnesses of the Holy New Testament of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ we find clear and definite truth of God's designs for men and women who partake of His everlasting salvation to live and be holy saints of God. Practical, personal holiness is what He is talking about. After one is justified from his past sins through the mercy of God in Christ and His precious blood, the fruit of his life must be unto holiness. A complete consecration of one's self and possessions must be made to Him who has wrought such great salvation. Romans 12:1. This must be a holy and acceptable sacrifice made without reservation unto the Lord. Jesus died that we might be able to do this. It is hereby that the Holy Spirit fills the temple and takes up His sacred abode in the heart and life of the child of God. This is blessed full salvation!

This is not the end, but rather the beginning and the foundation laid for a holy life right here in this wicked world. It is a careful, prayerful, watchful, earnest, zealous disposition on the part of the Christian to keep his heart and life clear and free from the entanglements of the world and earthly, fleshly things that are offensive to the Spirit of God. There are many things that the Holy Spirit will put His strict disapproval upon, much to the dismay and ridicule of those looking on. But for the earnest and obedient soul who is being led in this blessed holy way, it is a joy and a blessing to conform thus. Herein is where many people miss the mark in finding the true joy of Christian living. They are willing to profess Christ and claim hope in His promises, but when it comes to strict adherence to the standard of His holiness they draw back.

All filthy and foolish conversation, all pride and lust-feeding styles and fashions on the line of dress and adornment, all needless and unprofitable pursuits of pleasure and entertainment, all unsanctioned worldly associations and involvements, and whatever else the Holy Spirit communicates through His Word to us as being unholy and not accepted must be denied. These can and must be replaced by pure joys, pleasures, labours, and the service of the Lord in His sweet and holy fellowship. There are plenty of holy and righteous treasures to fill the human affections and time.

How sad that so many souls are deceived and in darkness concerning this important truth! The devil is glad to have it so. Upon the scene of life today we have so many unholy things to fill the heart and the mind. Just behold the frustration and disappointment and moral decay that such is causing in our nation and our society. Holiness to the Lord will cure all of these ills if it is sought after according to the gospel and commandments of our Lord Jesus Christ. Strict and careful living is repulsive to the unregenerated and carnal person who is blinded by the deceitful lusts of the flesh. People who seek to wholly please the Lord are criticized and persecuted oft by the worldly crowd. It is a precious and holy way, but it is despised and rejected by the world. If you would be holy, you need to realize this. Be prepared for the scorn of even those you love if you choose to be a holy saint of God. But rejoice because this is the only way to really live and be happy.

—Leslie Busbee

## Prepare To Meet God



"Prepare to meet thy God, O Israel." Amos 4:12.

This is an age of preparedness. In every department of life, whether business, educational, governmental, or national, the requirement of the times is efficiency and thorough preparedness. While there is a decided move toward universal peace and the outlawry of war, which we all welcome and fully approve, yet the great nations of earth are not neglecting adequate preparations for defense and emergencies that may arise.

The preparedness I shall treat in this writing is of immeasurable more importance than any of the things mentioned. We must all meet God. There are some things in life we can escape and evade, but here is one thing that is absolutely certain—we must meet God. We shall meet him at death when our spirit "goes to God who gave it." We shall all meet Him in judgment, for "we shall all appear" at that place and time. "I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God." "So then every one of us shall give an account of himself to God." The supreme question of life is—Am I prepared and ready to meet God?

Man in sin is unprepared to serve God acceptably here, to fulfill life's purpose, to meet God's demands, and he is not fit to die, to meet the Lord in peace, and to enter heaven. God is infinitely holy, and no unholy person can stand in His awful presence. To have boldness in the day of judgment we must be "pure even as he is pure," "righteous even as he is righteous," and "be found of him in peace, without spot and blameless." Heaven is a holy place. The road that leads there is "the way of holiness." To enter and enjoy its eternal felicities we must be holy, free from sin, for no sin can enter there. The holiness of

God clothes the holy man with majestic glory, and this awful glory will drive the wicked from His presence forever. (II Thess. 2:7-9).

The preparation is ours. "Set thy house in order, for thou shalt die." "Prepare to meet thy God." It is up to us; the responsibility is ours. Salvation is conditional. The principle of preparedness is right and reasonable. When people are about to take a long journey they always prepare in advance. In the fall of 1920, my wife, son, and I started on an eleven thousand mile trip, by an indirect route, from Akron, Ind., U.S.A., to Beirut, Syria. We first made extensive preparations. Our passports were secured from the United States government and endorsed and stamped by representatives from the various countries we expected to visit. Our baggage was already packed and properly checked, and our tickets secured. Not an item was overlooked. As a result, we had a successful trip, and after nineteen weeks of travel on land and sea we safely reached our destination. We are all soon to take a journey "through the valley of the shadow of death" when "man goeth to his long home, and the mourners go about the streets." Is it not strange that so few take time for preparation? Life and time is our only opportunity to get ready for this solemn event, our trip into long eternity. Every hour of our short life is laden with the great responsibility of getting ready for this solemn change.

In cold countries, people in summertime prepare for the winter. Life is our summertime, and it is a tragedy to let it pass carelessly by without preparation. Soon the frosts of an eternal winter will settle upon you; the chill of death will be felt; and then in despair you will cry: "The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved." Jeremiah 8:20.

It will then be too late forever. In some of the Western States people have caves near their homes. On inquiry I learned that these were prepared so that in case of tornado or cyclone the family could hastily flee to this place and be secure. Friend, the storms of judgment are approaching, the oncoming day of wrath, and what preparation have you made? "And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places. And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every freeman, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains; and said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb: For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?" Rev. 6:14-17. Are you ready to stand amid scenes like these? Oh, "prepare to meet thy God!"

As to the preparation required the Bible speaks plainly. No one need go through this world in uncertainty. The future is not a lottery, not a guess. We can "make our calling and election sure." "Unto us which are saved." "He hath saved us." "We know we are of God." "Hereby we do know that we know him." "We know that we have passed from death unto life." "Knowing in yourselves that ye have in heaven a better and enduring substance."

What brings such knowledge? 1. A deep, thorough repentance toward God. 2. A living faith in Jesus Christ, resting upon the immutable promises of the Word. 3. A sound conversion. 4. Holiness in heart and life. "Follow

peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord." Heb. 12:14. "Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God." Matt. 5:8.

Now is the only time to prepare for the future. It will be too late at death; too late at the judgment. Oh, the blessedness of being ready! Listen to the testimony of a man who came to death fully ready: "I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day." II Tim. 4:6-8. Millions of saints have faced death with this same assurance. Among other things this is why I am a Christian. I want to be ready for death and the judgment.

Oh, the terribleness of not being prepared! Hear the testimony of a man who faced death unprepared: "I am sore distressed; for the Philistines make war against me, and God is departed from me, and answereth me no more, neither by prophets, nor by dreams." I Sam. 28:15. The next day this poor man fell upon his own sword and committed suicide. While touring Palestine in the month of September, 1922, I visited the reputed place of Saul's death on the northern slopes of Mount Gilboa. I thought, "Here ended a life that began with a bright outlook and continued for a time with a successful career and then ended a miserable failure." We judge the success or failure of an enterprise, or a life, by its ending. I have known of many undertakings that had a good beginning, a sensational career, and then ended in failure. No matter what the accomplishments of life may be, if we come to death unprepared to meet God our whole life is a failure.

In Cambridge Springs, Pa., a young woman was dying. She had neglected the one important thing in life—salvation. A good sister was with her the night of her death. Shortly after midnight the dying woman sat up in bed and remarked to the sister, "Do you know that a terrible storm is coming? Why, I can see the lightning flash. Did you hear that thunder? The sky must be black." The other went outside and found it a beautiful moonlit night, without a cloud in the sky. She returned and assured the dying woman that there was no storm. But this did not console the woman who was in the agonies of death. She again said: "There is a storm, and it is coming nearer. Did you see that lightning? My, what a clap of thunder. I can hear the crash of an awful storm." About 1 a.m. she again sat up in the bed and said, "It is here," and fell over dead. My God, save me from such a death. This is what it means to come to the end of life unprepared. —H. M. Riggle

#### WINTER REVIVAL AT BAKERSFIELD, CALIF.

The annual winter revival of the Church of God at Bakersfield, Calif., is scheduled for Friday night, Feb. 11, through Sunday night, Feb. 20, 1977, Lord willing. Plans are for a daytime service at 1:00 on week days with three services on week-ends. Please pray for the success of the meeting. A warm welcome is extended to all.

The chapel address is 1802 Virginia Ave., 93307, phone (805) 322-9314. For further information, contact Bro. Z. E. Francisco, 305 So. Owens St., 93307, phone 323-0747, or Bro. A. W. Sherman, 201 "L" St., Bakersfield, Calif. 93304, phone 327-0411.

## Sin Is Universal



The consciousness of sin is universal, all men having fallen under its dismal and blighting sway. One of the grand arguments of Paul in the Roman letter was to show that all men are sinners, in order that he might emphasize the truth of Christ's mission as the universal Saviour. He charges the Jewish nation with sin, notwithstanding their revealed law of God, and quotes their Scriptures to prove the assertion. His description of the Gentile world shows their wretched condition morally. Then he proceeds to say: "For when the Gentiles, which have not the law, do by nature the things contained in the law, these having not the law, are a law unto themselves: which show the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and their thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another." Romans 2:14, 15.

The argument is plain. The Gentiles, independent of the written revealed law of God, possessed a revelation of God's law within their own natures sufficient to fix responsibility; therefore in transgressing this law they also became sinners. He is not teaching that men are saved by their conscience, independent of revelation, but that they are by this means all condemned and lost. Listen to his conclusion: "We have before proved both Jew and Gentiles, *that they are all under sin.*" Romans 3:9. "There is no difference: for all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God" (verses 22, 23). In another place he says, "The Scripture hath concluded all under sin, that the promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe." Gal. 3:22. It is unnecessary to multiply texts on this point. The uniform testimony of Scripture is that all men are "by nature the children of wrath."

—F. G. Smith

From *What the Bible Teaches*, 1913 edition

## Bible Versions



In 1970 "The American Bible" was produced by U. S. Roman Catholic scholars in cooperation with Protestants. "The New English Bible" was produced the same year by British Protestants with Catholic participation. The "Jerusalem Bible" (English edition, 1966) was a work by French Catholics with Protestants. "The Bible in Modern English," a kind of newspaper translation of the New Testament was issued in 1966 by the American Bible Society and was called, "Good News For Modern Man." The Old Testament was expected to be finished in 1975. The New International Version (1973) is a translation of the New Testament by Protestant Evangelicals. Perhaps the most dangerous and most widely used is the "Revised Standard Version" (1952), somewhat modified in 1973 and called "The Common Bible." It is approved by Catholics, Orthodox, and Protestants. Of the estimated twenty million Bibles published each year, perhaps three-fourths of them are inaccurate translations because they do not use "italics" to show that which is not in the original text. Examine your Bibles! If the text has no italics, don't trust it too far. —Albert Garner

"You give little to God when you give of your possessions. It is only when you give yourself that you have truly given sufficiently."

## "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.)

Notice to subscribers: Whenever you move or change your address, please write us at once, giving your old and new address, and include your Zip Code number. The post office now charges 25c to notify us of each change of address.

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

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

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

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 teach you to do or stir 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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## EDITORIALS



"TIME AND TIDE wait for no man." The river of time is surely and swiftly flowing down to the vast ocean of eternity. One by one we must pass beyond the reach of time. The poet wrote:

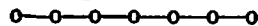
"Oh, joyful day to the faithful soul

Who walks with Christ in His purity!

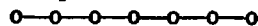
Life's battles fought and the victory won,

He shouts from time to eternity."

Time surely brings many changes. This nation, for the most part, is now in the grip of a winter blast which has brought the temperature far below normal, and a new president has taken the oath of office. Let us continue to pray for our rulers and those in authority that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness.



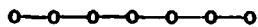
This February issue marks the completion of 54 years of publication of this monthly journal in the interest of Christ and His Church. We humbly acknowledge the sustaining and protecting hand of God over this gospel publishing work ever since its beginning here in Guthrie in 1923 when this writer's parents, Fred and Mary Pruitt, and co-workers, were led of the Lord to continue publishing the gospel by the printed page. From that meager beginning more than half a century ago, the Lord has expanded the facilities and added more workers to help meet the increasing demand for gospel literature worldwide. To Him be all the praise and honor!



### Another Precious Winter Meeting at Guthrie . . .

The 70th annual Oklahoma State Assembly meeting held here at Guthrie from Dec. 24 to Jan. 2, 1977, was a precious time in the presence of the Lord. There was a large attendance from this state and many others, which included a number of ministers. The Word was preached with the convicting power of the Holy Spirit, and many souls responded to the gospel invitation, finding the joy and peace of salvation. It was a time of rejoicing, and sixteen followed our Lord's example in water baptism. Heart-searching Bible truths went forth each day through the Lord's chosen vessels, and the hearers were instructed and edified in the holy way to heaven.

We were happy to have two carloads of German and Dutch saints from Canada. Attending these services for their first time, they rejoiced in hearing the old-time Bible truth and sharing the love and fellowship of the saints in light. The Guthrie congregation welcomes all to come again any time and worship the Lord with us.



On another page of this issue you will find a Question and Answer Column conducted by Brother Ostis B. Wilson, pastor at Jefferson, Oregon. Bro. Wilson kindly consented to conduct this column as the Lord directs, and we trust that this special feature will continue regularly in each issue, bringing

an understanding of God's Word on many vital subjects. Please mail your questions directly to Bro. O. B. Wilson, 6505 N. E. Sunset Dr., Albany, Oregon, zip code 97321.

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"God gives light for only one step at a time. When the call came to Abraham, he went out, 'not knowing whither he went.' We will never find the right road until we stop going down the wrong road."

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#### Have You Sent the 1977 Campmeeting Dates?

Those who have this information, please send in your campmeeting dates by Feb. 15, 1977, so we can publish the entire list in the March issue.

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**Congratulations** to Bro. Ulysses Phillips, long-time minister of the gospel, who will observe, Lord willing, his 90th birthday on Feb. 6, 1977. He attended the recent California Assembly meeting at Pacolma and lives near his daughter and family in San Bernardino. She wrote the touching poem in memory of her father's 90th birthday appearing in this issue. This writer has known and loved Brother Phillips more than 50 years. Most of that time he was living in the community of Dover, Okla., about 35 miles from Guthrie. May God's presence ever abide with Bro. Phillips and grant him an abundant entrance into the Glory world when his earthly course is finished. May we all keep ready for that grand reunion day. His address is 1240 Orange St., San Bernardino, Calif. 92410.

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#### New Roof on Chapel in Ojos Negros, Mexico . . .

Brother Robert Sherman of Pacoima, Calif., reported that he and other brethren went to Ojos Negros, Mexico, and on Jan. 7, 1977, they put a new roof on the mission chapel, using 27 rolls of composition roofing, which has all been paid for from the Missionary Fund maintained at this office, and we thank each one who contributed for that purpose.

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The sad news came of the passing of Bro. Israel Smalling, minister in Jamaica, W. Indies, on Dec. 27, 1976. He and his wife attended the National Campmeeting at Neosho, Mo., a few years ago. May God comfort and sustain Sister Smalling with the fact that he is at rest with the Lord and she can go where he is. Sister Olga Smalling's address is Frankfield Postoffice, Clarendon, Jamaica, W. Indies.

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The Philippine mission work is progressing in spite of the opposition of false doctrines. Brother Florencio Granil, the native pastor and missionary, writes to thank the saints who are carrying a burden to help them spread the pure gospel in their country. He has started a new work at Echague, about 25 miles from Cauayan, where there are many precious, hungry souls. His efforts are also directed toward translating some of our English tracts to the Ilocano language which we will print and mail to him. In January, many more New Testaments in the Ilocano

language were mailed to the mission stations in the Philippines for free distribution. Pray the Lord to add His special blessing to these efforts that many more souls will be rescued from sin and superstition.

Bro. Florencio Granil's father, aged 80, passed away on Jan. 5, 1977. He was saved five years ago when he saw the truth of the beautiful Church of God. The funeral services were conducted by Bro. Florencio, assisted by his brothers, Ben and Justo, at the Mission Chapel in Cauayan. They must also bear the funeral expense of \$150.00. Pray for them in their loss.

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#### Beautiful 1977 Wall Calendar Still Available . . .

This 1977 Wall Calendar has beautiful nature scenes in color for each month with Scriptural emphasis. Size 7¼ by 13½ inches. Price, \$1.00 each, postpaid to your address.

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Thousands of English, Spanish, and Ilocano language tracts have been recently printed. Also, we have reprinted a number of books in English, one of which is the 496-page, cloth-bound volume entitled, "The Birth of a Reformation—Life and Labors of D. S. Warner" by A. L. Byers. We expect to have it in stock again by March 1st. The price is \$5.00 per copy, plus postage.

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Now available are books in heavy paper binding of the eleven issues of the "Faith and Victory" paper for 1976 at \$1.00 each, plus 30 cents for postage and handling. Ready also are the 1976 "Beautiful Way" books for juniors (52 papers for the year) at \$1.00 each, plus 30c for postage and handling. Bound books of various prior years are priced at 70c each, plus 30c for mailing.

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#### New Song Book, "Echoes From Heaven" . . .

Just off the press is a new song book entitled, "Echoes From Heaven," consisting of 195 songs in shaped notes. About 180 of these songs are those from the old "Select Hymn" book that were not used in our standard song book, "Evening Light Songs," which was first published in 1949. This new collection is not designed or arranged for the general services of the Church, but merely as a supplemental song book from which songs may be selected for special singing. You will want a copy if you like the old-time songs of the Church of God Reformation. In heavy paper cover, the price is \$1.65, plus 35c for postage and handling. Order your copy today!

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May our heavenly Father ever comfort and sustain the bereaved relatives of those whose obituaries appear in this issue. One by one the Lord is calling His children to that Home above. The most recent, sudden, and shocking departure was that of our beloved Bro. Stanley Lounds on Jan. 19, but we must say amen to God's call. Bro. Lounds had been having some heart problems, but not enough to keep him from his daily occupation with the Oklahoma

City Board of Education where he had worked for 25 years. Though not feeling very well, he went to prayer meeting as usual on Wednesday night at the 23rd Street chapel of the Church of God in Oklahoma City. They had sung just two songs when he passed out, and was gone to that phase of the church above. As a faithful deacon and the Bible class teacher in that congregation, Bro. Lounds was a pillar in the church for many years. He was loved and respected by a great many people, and that respect was attested by the floral offerings, the testimonies, and the very large attendance at his funeral. For more than 50 years this writer was closely associated with Brother Stanley, and for many of those years we served together on the Oklahoma State Campmeeting Board. His Christian life was unique in a number of ways, and this writer feels that he has lost a personal friend and brother in Christ. May God especially speak words of comfort to the sorrowing family.

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Another 10,000 pounds of printing paper at a cost of about \$3,000.00 was received from the paper mill in January, 1977.

All the workers at this gospel publishing plant are happy to have a part in paying "the debt that we owe"—the debt of the gospel light—to the unsaved world. It is a pleasure to be "workers together" with you, our readers, who are so faithfully sending your free-will offerings to help get out more gospel literature. You are laying your treasures up in heaven where they will never fade away.

—Lawrence Pruitt

## Partial List of Items Available

Evening Light Songs, shaped notes, with 512 pages in cloth binding. The right hymnal for the Church of God. Price, \$3.00 each.

Prophetic Lectures on Daniel and the Revelation by F. G. Smith. It contains 260 pages in heavy paper cover. Price, \$3.00 each.

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

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.

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, \$4.50.

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. Price, 1.50 each.

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.

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

The Great Physician by Mrs. Lucie Newman, which is a booklet of 32 pages in a paper binding. This is a faith-inspiring, true story of a young lady who was miraculously healed by the prayer of faith in God after she was given up to die by the medical profession. Price, 35c each, or three copies for \$1.00.

Bible Readings for Bible Students and for the Home and Fireside compiled by S. L. Speck and H. M. Riggle. Originally published in 1902, this excellent volume contains 432 pages of Scripture references and comments on many Bible subjects for Bible study. Bound in a nice cloth cover. Price, \$5.00 each.

Tim and His Lamp, re-written by Fern Stubblefield. This excellent booklet of 52 pages for children and young people is bound in a heavy paper cover. Price, 35c each, or three copies for \$1.00.

From Darkness To Light, a twenty-page booklet by Bro. Mart Samons, which is his inspiring testimony of his marvelous conversion, his call to the ministry, and some of his experiences of living by faith in the gospel work. Price, 25c each, or five copies for \$1.00.

Parent and Child by J. W. Byers. Out of print for many years, this 60-page booklet with a heavy paper cover is heartily recommended for young parents to aid them in their child-training. Price, 40c each, or three copies for \$1.00.

Adventures in the Land of Canaan by R. L. Berry. An instructive allegory of true-to-life experiences in the grace of sanctification. You should get a copy and read carefully. Out of print many years, this paper-bound book consists of 128 pages. Price, \$1.00 per copy.

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1977 Wall Calendar has beautiful nature scenes in color for each month with Scriptural emphasis. Size 7¼ by 13½ inches. Price, \$1.00 each, postpaid.

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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 now reduced to \$3.00 each. This office expects no part of the profit from the sales, as the singers use the proceeds in the work of the Lord.

No. 5 Song Record is by the Hattley Evening Light Singers. It consists of 14 songs on the 33 RPM recording. Just a very few are in stock. Price, \$5.00 each.

No. 6 Song Record is just released by the Phillips Evening Light Singers—14 songs on 33 RPM record. The price is \$5.00 each.

For postage and handling, add 30c for the first dollar and 5c for each additional dollar of total order.

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## OBITUARIES

**Alberta B. Thompson** was born June 7, 1900, and passed away Dec. 2, 1976, at her home in Oregon City, Oregon.

She was married to Johnny L. Thompson on Oct. 5, 1925, and to this marriage two children were born. She is survived by her husband, John; one daughter, Alberta Adams of Oregon City, Ore.; one son, Don Thompson, of Greensburg, Pa.; five grandchildren and one great grandchild.

Sis. Thompson had worshipped with the saints at Gladstone, Oregon, since the start of the work here in 1969. Her love, interest, and labors have been such a blessing. We all miss her, but are comforted with the hope of eternal life, knowing that her passing is not the end of all things, but to be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord.

Funeral services were conducted by Charles Elwell and Malcom Cunningham with interment in Lincoln Memorial Park, Portland, Oregon. —Charles Elwell

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**Roella Dean Knight** was born at Marion, Ky., on Aug. 19, 1970, and departed this life on Dec. 27, 1976, at the age of six years, four months and eight days.

While Jesus was here on earth He said, "Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not; for of such is the kingdom of God." Mark 10:14b. Little Roella was in the kingdom of God, but she got a call to come and be with Jesus in a better place than this world. She was just a little rosebud that was gathered by the Master to make up His bouquet in heaven. She is in the presence of the Saviour and her joy knows no bounds.

She leaves to mourn her passing, her parents: Charles and Anneta Knight, Sr.; four sisters, Rebecca, Rosetta, Rhoda, and Reba; two brothers, Charles Jr., and Donald; grandparents, other relatives, friends, and saints.

Funeral services were conducted by Bro. W. R. Fox and Bro. Curtis Williams.

### Note of Thanks

Truly, we do appreciate the love of the saints toward us, and their many prayers in our behalf. We thank Bro. Fox and Bro. Williams for their prayers and presence with us during the loss of our daughter. The comfort that we have in our hearts is the work of the Lord. Our concern now is to live ready to go at God's call. Remember us in prayer.

Christian love, —The Charles Knight family

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**Ora (Allen) Horne**, the daughter of George and Charlotte Allen, was born on April 5, 1905, in Maringo, Ala., and departed this life on Nov. 29, 1976, in Okla. City.

Ora is a twin to Erma Allen who preceded her in death, and they were an example of togetherness. Ora was united in marriage to Alonzo Horne, and to this union were born two daughters and one son, the son having preceded her in death.

Sister Ora had heard the gospel of Christ the greater part of her life, made a commitment to God, and maintained that profession until death.

Survivors include two daughters, Alberta Freeny of Washington State, and Loetta Weatherly of Okla. City; a brother, George Allen Jr., of Boley, Okla., a sister,

Gertrude, of Okla. City; two grandsons, one great granddaughter, many other relatives and friends.

The funeral service was conducted at the Church of God chapel, Third and Phillips, in Okla. City by Bro. Herman Kelley, assisted by others.

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**Sister Becky Barnes** was born July 13, 1899, and went to sleep in Jesus December 31, 1976. In her lifetime as a young woman she felt the burden of sin upon her soul, and sought God for salvation. God saved her and made her a holy vessel for His praise and for the good of her fellowmen. Her greatest interest in life was to see the work of the Lord prosper and the truth go forth for the benefit of souls. She was a very faithful soldier of the cross, enduring great trials, but always possessing the sweet and humble spirit of Christ. For many years she lived in the area of Stoutland, Missouri, letting her light shine for Jesus. Her husband, Dave Barnes, and her son, Roy, preceded her in death. To know her was to love her. Funeral services were conducted by Bro. and Sister Gordon Humphrey, assisted by Bro. Melvin Doolittle.

### A Tribute to Sister Becky

Of all the people known in life  
Amid these scenes of toil and strife,  
More royal ones I've never found  
Than Sister Becky—she was sound.

Her gentle spirit, humble mind,  
Was filled with love so pure, so kind;  
She loved the Saviour and did cling  
To Him, His praises she could sing.

Of such sweet, lowly, stainless lives  
A fragrant mem'ry still survives,  
To follow them and here remain  
Reminding us of Heaven's gain.

Good night, dear Sister Becky, when  
The trumpet sounds we'll meet again;  
You meant so much to us down here,  
We'll ne'er forget your life of cheer.

—Bro. Leslie Busbee

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**James Jacob Pratt, Jr.**, was born in Stringtown, Okla., on Oct. 26, 1919, to James and Margaret Pratt. He died suddenly in Oklahoma City on Nov., 12, 1976, after a brief illness.

Survivors include his wife, Mary; three sons, James III, John and Samuel of the home; three daughters, Helen of the home, Mrs. Betty Holmes, Del City, Okla., and Mrs. Margaret Brown of Anchorage, Alaska; one sister, two brothers, seven grandchildren, and a host of other relatives and friends.

The funeral was conducted by Bro. Herman Kelley, and interment was in the Arlington Memory Gardens.

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**Stanley Robert Lounds**, was born in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, on March 21, 1914, to George and Gertrude Lounds. He departed this life January 19, 1977, at the age of sixty-two years.

He was united in marriage to Ethel Carter in 1938 in Boley, Oklahoma. To this union five children were born.

As a young man he was saved, and was a faithful member of the Church of God until his death.

He leaves to cherish his memory: his wife, Ethel of the home; three sons, George of Kansas City, Mo., Alford

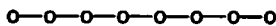


of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, Stanley LaReese of Overland Park, Ks.; two daughters, Dorcas Borders of Los Angeles, California, and Gertrude, of Overland Park, Ks.; three brothers, Henry and Jesse of Roxbury, Mass. and Carl of Los Angeles, California; five sisters, Oretha Price of Los Angeles, California, Melia Viser of Perris, Calif.; Juliette, Alberta and Mary of Oklahoma City, Okla.; seven grandchildren; a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

The funeral service was conducted at the 23rd Street Church of God Chapel, Oklahoma City, by Bro. Archie Souder, assisted by others, and interment was in the Trice Hill Cemetery, Oklahoma City, to await the general resurrection.

#### Note of Appreciation

The family of the late Stanley Lounds want to express their deep appreciation for the love shown to them by the many cards received, the flowers, the verbal expressions of love and sympathy, and in many other ways during the time of their bereavement.



#### IN APPRECIATION

The family of Henry Dudley Spears, who passed Dec. 13, 1976, at Boley, Okla., wishes to express our deep appreciation to our many friends, loved ones, and the saints, for your many deeds of kindness during the long illness and passing of our brother Dudley. We are very grateful for the cards, flowers, phone calls, visits, food, and your prayers in our bereavement.

The funeral services were conducted by Bro. Lewis Williams, assisted by Bro. Leonard Roberts, Bro. Herman Kelley, and Sis. Katherine Williams, at the Saints' Chapel in Boley, Okla. We desire your continued prayers.

—Bro. and Sis. Boley Spears and family

### The Work of the Church



The work of the church of God is twofold: 1. To care for and perpetuate itself; 2. To evangelize the world. It can prosper only as it keeps this twofold mission in view. A congregation that becomes self-centered, that cares for nothing but local prosperity, is almost sure to decline spiritually, and misses its mission of assisting in carrying the gospel to a lost world. Missionary work was prominent in the apostolic church, and was steadfastly pursued in obedience to Christ's command: "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." (Mark 16:15). But the accomplishing of this great work required the sacrifice of men and of means. A noble army of consecrated men and women who "loved not their lives unto the death" went forth to struggle against the powers infernal and win the triumphs of the cross. The churches of God poured out their money in order to meet the demands of the hour, even going so far in some cases, as at Jerusalem, to sell all their property and devote it to the interests of the cause of God.

The same thing is needed today. The work of God needs men and women who are consecrated to evangelize the world, even at the cost of personal comforts and advantages; and the Church of God must awaken to the fact that giving of means for the support of God's work is

both their privilege and their duty, and that it must be done. "Even so hath the Lord ordained that they which preach the gospel should live of the gospel." (I Cor. 9:14). Those who minister to the people in "spiritual things" must receive the benefit of the people's "carnal things" (verse 11). The work demands this; God demands it; and all the pure and holy in heart will say amen to the will of God.

—F. G. Smith

From *What the Bible Teaches*, 1913 edition

### To My Father, Bro. Ulysses Phillips on His Ninetieth Birthday—Feb. 6, 1977



Oft times we sit with pen and ink,  
And write about the things we think,  
Of those we loved who've gone before  
To be with Christ forevermore.

'Tis good, for they a crown have won,  
And heard the blessed words, "Well done,"  
For precious in God's sight are they  
Who walked within the Narrow Way.

Now to those with us we should give,  
Flowers of praises while they live,  
It's only now they roses smell,  
The good it'll do no tongue can tell.

And so to you, our father dear,  
We want to tell you while you're here,  
How grateful that we are for you,  
The life you lived, steadfast and true,

While we were yet in days of youth  
You taught us many Bible truths,  
Oft times you knelt with us in prayer,  
And asked God for His watchful care.

"Lord, let them not be led astray  
Into an evil, wicked way."

Sometimes you used the chastening rod  
To teach us, too, the fear of God.

We're thankful it was not in vain,  
Tho' there were times we caused you pain,  
But God was faithful to His Word,  
And turned our hearts unto the Lord.

Now there were others that were reached,  
By the Word of God that was preached  
Unto mankind, both young and old,  
"The love of God," to them you told.

The songs and poems and tracts you wrote,  
Enlightened hearts and gave them hope.  
As water to a thirsty land,  
So inspired words are life to man.

Tho' you have reached fourscore and ten,  
An age of honor among men,  
You still the gospel message tell  
And sing His praises, "All is well."

Father, the eventide has come  
When work on earth is nearly done,  
So let us ever faithful be

Till we dwell with Christ in eternity.

—Your daughter, Olive A. Davenport



**SUBSCRIBE TO THIS PAPER — 3 years for \$1.00.**



## CALIFORNIA ASSEMBLY MEETING REPORT

We are rejoicing in the Lord for how He answered prayer, saved souls and worked in our California Assembly Meeting in Pacoima, California (Dec. 24—Jan. 2).

On the last Sunday morning, the anointing was so heavy as the Lord sent the Word, that the Spirit of the Lord seemed to fill the building. Saints rejoiced and praised God. At the altar there were victories. Souls we had prayed for throughout the meeting received salvation. What a mighty God we serve!

Bro. and Sis. Woodrow Warren of Okmulgee, Okla., were with us throughout the entire meeting. They labored faithfully. We appreciate all the ministers and laborers that sacrificed to help in the meeting. We thank everyone for their prayers. —Submitted by Sis. Wynema Clay

## PLACE OF WORSHIP IN PITTSBURG, PA.

A congregation of the Church of God has been started in Pittsburg, Pa., and the place of worship is at 114 Hemlock Street. Everyone in that area is welcomed and urged to attend the services.

For further information, contact Bro. and Sister Earl Tinsley, 706 Silvis Way, Level Green, Trafford, Pa. 15085, phone 412-372-5008, or Sister Mary Johnson, 7524 Kelly St., Pittsburgh, Pa. 15208, phone 412-731-4053.

## NEW WORK OF GOD IN DALLAS, TEXAS

We thank and praise the Lord for the new work He has started in Dallas, Texas. A few souls have gotten saved since the work started, and we are expecting more.

We made several trips to Dallas, from Oklahoma City, since the work started. On our last trip we were more encouraged to see how God is working. Praise the Lord! The week-end of Dec. 11th and 12th, there were a number of saints there from out-of-state. Two carloads from Wichita, Kansas, a carload from Tulsa, Okla., some from Oklahoma City, and Bro. Tom Melot from Guthrie, Okla., came. We were thankful for the ministers who came—Sis. Eva Hardmon, Bro. Raymond Johnson, and Bro. Norman Simpson. The Lord blessed us with a wonderful meeting.

The little chapel is temporarily located at 2302 Pine St., in south Dallas. We are praying and looking to the Lord to give us a better building in a better location. We desire the prayers of the saints for this need.

For further information, you may contact Sis. Doris Hardmon, 4306 Woodhollow Drive, Dallas, Texas 75237, phone 214-330-6800, or Bro. Richard Porter, 516 Buena Vista, Hurst, Texas, 76053, phone 817-282-4887.

Yours in His service, —Sis. Katherine Williams

## "Your Own Version"

You are writing a Gospel  
A chapter each day,  
By the deeds that you do,  
By the words that you say.

Men read what you write,  
Whether faithless or true;  
Say, what is the Gospel  
According to You?

—Sel.

## Home Missionaries Needed

Dear ones scattered abroad: Greetings in the precious name of Jesus, who shed His blood that we might be redeemed from sin. So many are failing to get the blood applied to the heart. They trust in church membership, or this or that group, but only the redeemed are in the true Church of God. They that are led by the Spirit of God are the sons of God. "My sheep hear my voice, and a stranger they will not follow," says the good Shepherd. Thank the Lord for His sweet, kind voice. He will lead us into paths of righteousness.

We have had a burden concerning the home missionary effort and the need of more workers. I have often said that if we don't learn to be missionaries where we live, we won't be one anywhere else. We must begin at home. Souls are dying all around us. We need to let our lights burn that the world may see how to come to Christ. Go out into the streets and highways, visit the shut-ins, speak to children of the coming of the Lord. It is so near at hand. There is much work to do passing out tracts and *Faith and Victory* papers on Sunday afternoons or any other time. We have no time to pile up and warm by each other's fire and forget our duty and responsibility to the great field of perishing souls.

Two tents and the equipment are to go out this summer. We have evangelists who need some qualified workers to go with them. We must get under the burden that the Lord will give direction and strength to the ministers, and open up doors of utterance. The Lord still wants to save souls. He wants us to have a greater outreach. He does not will the death of any, but desires that men would repent. Let's pray that the truth will go out to hungry souls, and that conviction will be felt upon hardened sinners. The handwriting in the sky in Russia has reached us. It will do us well if we shake ourselves, look to ourselves and get out of the winter state of hibernation. This cold and indifferent attitude will not stand the judgment shock.

We appreciate those who faithfully support the Church of God Missionary Fund. We pray the Lord's richest blessings upon them. When we attend a meeting and see those who are there because of the tent effort, our hearts rejoice in the Lord, because it is not in vain. A few souls here and there hear and heed the gospel message. Thank the Lord.

We trust this New Year will find us all about our Father's business. "Every hour for Jesus; shall my motto be; There is plenty of work we may do. We may all keep busy 'till the Lord we see, 'till He comes for His faithful few." We want to be in that number, don't you?

Yours for lost souls,

—Ralph and Inez Beisly

(Editor's note: — Bro. Ralph Beisly is the treasurer of the Church of God National Missionary Fund which primarily supports the evangelistic tent work through the summers in this country and the active home missionaries. You may send your free-will contributions for this purpose directly to Bro. Ralph M. Beisly, 407 Eldridge, Coffeyville, Kansas 67337, and the Lord will bless your effort. Requests for tent meetings may also be sent to this address.)

"Be good to as many as we can, as much as we can, as often as we can, and as long as we can."

## PRAYER REQUESTS

Calif.—"I have a real trial with bursitis, can hardly get around, having lots of pain. Pray for me."

—Edna (Allen) Murry

Va.—"Pray for my husband, as he has had two heart attacks in fifteen months and is still not able to do anything, also remember me in prayer as I am not well. We live on a farm and I have so much to do."

—Sis. Erma Martin

Va.—"My father is in the hospital and needs your prayers for both soul and body. I still need your prayers for myself and my husband. I need to grow in some things . . . I have so many things to be thankful for. God is still answering prayer. . . . I was sick a couple times this winter, but it only lasted about a day."

—Sis. Barbara Wagoner

W. Va.—"We would appreciate the prayers of the saints for my parents as they need help from God. They aren't well. Mother has had a stroke."

—Duane and Lula Sizemore

N. Car.—"The Lord has wonderfully touched my body, yet I am still in bed most of the day and still very weak . . . Continue to pray for me."

Sis. P. R. Bowers

W. Va.—Do remember Sis. Shirley Carpenter, who has been suffering greatly with severe pains in her body. She is looking to the Lord for her healing.

Okla.—Remember Sis. Evelyn McCoy who has pains in that place on the back of her head. She does need complete healing. At times the Lord relieves her, but at other times she suffers greatly. Bro. Wm. McCoy has had some pains in his chest, so remember both of them.

Ohio—Sis. Harley Hiles called for prayer for some heavy burdens that she wants the Lord to work out.

Ore.—"Please pray for the salvation of my brother, Fred."

—Lucille Trimble

We receive many prayer requests, but can only print a few, so we need to remember each one of God's children in the whole household of faith and their loved ones that they carry a burden for. We need to pray that God will deal with souls as they read the literature of truth and hear the gospel message. We're living in perilous times and Satan is working to destroy every soul. People of the world are fulfilling the lusts of the flesh, and exalting the body or creature above the Creator, as is referred to in Rom. 1:24-32. We need to expose the devil and his works, so souls can live a clean and holy life before God.

—Sis. Marie Miles

### MISSION TO THE INTERIOR OF MEXICO

The Lloyd Eck family and I made a profitable mission to the interior of Mexico recently. The Lord blessed in the distribution of many hundreds of Spanish tracts and books. We had a good session with a man about coming out clear and clean for God. He admits he is in confusion. He had a much better attitude than formerly. We were in Caltzontzin with Bro. Irineo Rama, his family and congregation for four days. We had several profitable services, blessed of the Lord. There was much more interest there in the things of God than when we were there in July of 1975. Bro. Rama came back with us through Guanajuato where the number of interested people had increased from two to six. A tape recorder and 17 messages were left with them. Then we went through the Sierra Madre

Mountains to make contact with a person who had sent in an order for four Bibles and four hymnals. After hunting for him for two hours with misinformation, we gave up for the night. The next morning, Irineo was left in town to mail him a note about returning and meeting him there, and on checking the address with the girl at the postal window he found that this person was standing right behind him in line. How wonderfully God worked! This boy (16 years of age) only comes in for mail once a week and last week he had waited an extra day. He was there, not an hour too late, nor too early, but right on God's time. It takes him two hours to walk from his home. The ranch where he lives cannot be reached by car. Arrangements were made for Bro. Irineo to meet him the following day at 3:00 p.m. or later, to walk to his home, stay overnight, have service and return. After arriving at Ciudad Mante, we found that Bro. Efrain Huerta could go back with Irineo, so we left them there to complete the mission. Bro. Irineo planned also that they spend some time at a few other places where contact had been made by the distribution of tracts. Pray for these new saints and workers. They pleaded for your prayers and said they would be praying for the church here.

We were sorry to miss the Guthrie Assembly meeting; but for myself, I felt it a definite call to help some babes in Christ and others desiring to be born again. When I was praying about going or staying, the Lord spoke these words to me: "Where calls the voice of duty, be never wanting there." I surely wanted to be obedient.

Your Sister in Christ,

—Opal Kelly

### NIGERIAN MISSION REPORT

Bendel State, Nigeria (Dec. 31)—Dear Bro. Pruitt and those abroad: Greetings of the season in the dear name of the Holy Child Jesus—the Babe of Bethlehem, a special Babe indeed, the promised King! No wonder the night of His birth was filled with a chorus of heavenly voices—hallelujah! In His name all are wished a happy New Year. May God help us to keep the line of communication with heaven intact. Amen.

Thank you for your letter dated Dec. 3, 1976, which was just received. Much touring on my part for souls' sake resulted in my delay in going to the post office to claim it. Thanks for the contents which will be utilized for the purposes intended. Packages of books you mailed to us have been received. We have now a lot to read and to root deeper.

The evangelistic mission to Tombia where Bro. Ben Taylor is the pastor was carried out in December. Thanks to the Lord for its completion despite the high cost of transportation. Taxi fares went up by 30 percent. The mission brought to pass a glorious victory ever to be remembered in the island of Tombia. It was a remarkable five days of evangelistic efforts. Jesus proved Himself so true as His chosen vessels were filled to overflowing with His mighty Spirit and fire, which the audience proved indisputable. The light of the Church of God shone gloriously in the vessels of God, resulting in the crossing over of a great many to the Saviour's side for salvation and soul-rest. Heaven-sent messages filled the atmosphere to calm the vexed souls to the dismay of Satan, the devil. It was a joy to find the saved of the occasion to be bodily healed also. Praise the Lord! A saved woman

surrendered her carved wooden idol nicknamed "Lucky" to be burned. She resumed services with the church immediately, attending all the meetings.

The thought of some weeks ago has given birth to a decision on my part to shoulder a worthy sacrifice. Sacrifice is the law of the Christian life. We have no right to live as we please. "Be thou an example." 1 Tim. 4:12. The need of today is a greater burden for those for whom our dear Saviour gave His life. I am burdened to release, regardless of condition, the gratuity paid to me for my services of 27 years under the Federal Civil Service of Nigeria to purchase an engine boat to base in Tombia for the evangelization of the creek towns and villages of Kalabar Division of the River State of Nigeria. It is for a dual function. When not in use in the field of evangelism, it could be utilized for transportation of passengers to and from Port Harcourt, thereby to help finance the Lord's work in Nigeria. Tombia and Port Harcourt leaders have been asked to negotiate for it and communicate the estimated cost to me for immediate action. It may not cost less than \$3,000.00. Whoever is interested to help finance this worthy project in order to reduce my financial burden may send any amount, and may the Lord richly bless you with a hundredfold return for your contribution.

Bro. J. U. Etuk and Bro. Nse Umanah were at Tombia for the evangelistic effort. With me from Kwale were Sisters Regina Ukah and Esther Samuel, while Bro. Christian Nnabuihe joined us at Owerri. All have returned to their bases safely. Praise the Lord!

Tombia and Port Harcourt type of brethren are rare to find. Their rigid stand for the entire truth and sound doctrine of the Church of God won for them my admiration. Frequent visits to strengthen them are very necessary.

Yours to make Christ known,

—Titus Enu, pastor

#### MISSION REPORT FROM INDIA

S. India (Dec. 18)—My dear Bro. Pruitt and dear ones everywhere: Warm New Year greetings to all of you in the glorious name of Jesus Christ who was born King of kings in Bethlehem. He was good to us in the last year of 1976, and He is the same yesterday, today, and forever. Many thanks for His unspeakable gifts to us and for the saints in the U.S.A. May God give us much strength and special training for our hands to war and our fingers to fight against the world, the flesh and the devil in 1977.

Thank you very much for your letter dated Dec. 3, 1976, and the enclosed draft was noted with much overflowing gratitude. I especially appreciate the kind help for my home building which is almost completed. My co-workers are very thankful to all of you for the valuable aid to them also.

Our general campmeeting starts next week, and now we are busy levelling the campground, putting up a temporary tabernacle with cocoanut leaves and such other arrangements. We plan to conduct campmeetings in other places after this general meeting.

We just started a profitable work in a new village by the name of Vilengara. It is a Hindu village and God opened that field for us among many enemies. Thirty Hindu children now attend our Sunday school there to learn the Bible, and several of them and some Catholics attend our worship services to worship the living God, rejecting their idol worship which they followed thus far.

This is a great change from darkness into the marvelous light. They need Bibles and would be glad to get some used clothes to wear. They have no convenient place or building to assemble for worship. I hope the saints everywhere will pray for this important work, and will open their eyes and hands to help in the progress of the effort. Last Sunday I was in that place to assemble with them for services. Tomorrow I plan on going to Trichur to participate in the campmeeting there.

My continued prayers are for your good health and complete healing.

Yours in Christ,

—John Varghese

#### REPORT FROM OJOS NEGROS, MEXICO, AND SPANISH LITERATURE PROGRESS

Bro. Mayarino Escobar writes that the people there in Ojos Negros, Mexico, desired two services on the 25th of Dec. and he was going to make the best of the opportunity. They are also trying to raise up a new work in the center of Valle de la Trinidad and there are many obstacles to overcome. They make two trips a week to the Valley to have service, have services in Ojos Negros and on the Indian reservation, at La Huerta. He put in a very special unspoken request and some others that God knows all about. I'm sure that one of his heavy burdens right now is getting the new roof on the chapel before any more damage is done, as there has already been much destruction of roofing, sheeting, and sheet-rock. Pray much for this consecrated couple.

Through the mission to the interior of Mexico recently, we saw a great need for workers to have a book such as *Bible Readings* by Speck and Riggle, so this writer is now in the process of translating it, for distribution only to workers. Perhaps it will be zeroxed several times. Preparations are also being made to supply armor in the form of Doctrinal tracts to our workers. They desire special help and Scriptural proofs for all. Pray for me that I will have grace, knowledge, wisdom, and strength to accomplish all that God has given me to do.

Yours in Christ, for souls in Mexico,

Bro. Mayarino and Sis. Panchita Escobar, Ap. Postal No. 284, Ensenada, B. Cfa., Mexico, and Sis. Opal Kelly, 919 W. Mansur, Guthrie, Okla. 73044.

#### WHAT IS THE CHURCH?

God and man united in Christ is the Church. In the Church of God is the uniting of all men with God and with each other. The manifold wisdom of God, the mysteries of God, the character of God are revealed through His Church. God in His beauty shines out of the Church. She is all fair; there is no spot in her.

The Church of God is attended by the ministry of angels. It is the only institution on earth that angels desire to look into. They pass every other thing by, but stop at the Church to admire her beauty and to bestow their ministry. It is the only institution on earth that affords joy to the angels. All the conquests of the Church on earth bring joy to the angels.

—C. E. Orr

"If we were arrested for being a Christian, would we have enough evidence to convict us?"

## FROM THE MAIL BOX . . .

Okla.—Faith Publishing House staff: We went to Los Angeles, California, for my son's wedding and stayed there for the Pacoima, California, Christmas meeting, arriving home Jan. 3rd. The Lord wonderfully blessed in the meeting. The anointing of the Holy Spirit was upon every service.

We regret being unable to attend the Guthrie, Okla., meeting this year. We trust the Lord wonderfully blessed with a good meeting. May the Lord bless you each one, is our prayer.

Pray for us. —Bro. Woodrow Warren

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

Texas—Dear Sister Marie: I didn't get to attend the Guthrie winter meeting, but was sent some tapes this week. My soul has overflowed with joy while hearing the preaching of the Word. But I would have also enjoyed seeing the saints.

I am living for the Lord and my desire is to stay in the center of His will. I want to please the Lord and be ready when He comes. Thanks to everyone for praying for me, when I called for prayer for my side, which I thought was appendicitis. The Lord heard and answered prayer. Praise His dear name forever! I have been having headaches and a sore spot in my throat, for which I prayed earnestly last night. The Lord heard prayer. My throat and head are better this morning. I had a heart attack last night about 8:30, and the Lord heard prayer. I am able to be up this morning. Please request prayer for my complete healing.

—Sis. Nellie Lovell

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

Okla.—We are very thankful to God that things are as well as they are. We are trusting the Lord and serving Him each day. Since we know we are created for His pleasure, we desire to completely die out to self and be to others what He would have us to be. This is our daily prayer that we will be able to hear Him say, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant."

Love and prayers, —Mattie Simpson

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

Ohio—Enclosed is a small offering for the work of our Lord Jesus Christ. I wish I could send more. I love the Word of God. May God bless you and all who help with it. Keep up the good work for the Lord.

—Chris and Frank Sedlar

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

Fla.—Dear Bro. Lawrence and Sister Maybelle: We greet you with Christian love in this new year of 1977. The year of 1976 has gone with its every fulfilled and every unfulfilled desire. Things that were are behind us, and the words of the song ring in my heart, "Press on, to what's before us, in faith believing, too. God's Word will take you through."

We hope the Guthrie meeting was a victorious one. . . . We know we are in a lukewarm time. It's a time of shaking and everything that is not founded on the Rock is being shaken loose. God is gathering a remnant out of the remnant. God will forever have a people that will not bend or bow to Baal.

The Lord blessed us with a stirring message on being a martyr for the cause. The definition of the word itself stirs the heart—"A person who chooses to suffer or die rather than give up his faith or principles." See Dan. 3:13-

18, Acts 4:18-20; 5:28, 29; Heb. 11 and Rev. 6:9-11, which, bring home to us the question, "Who will suffer with the Saviour?"

May God help us to endure unto the end. The race is not to the swift, but to those that will endure. Pray with us as we strive to enter in.

—Herschell and Mary Hargrave

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

La.—Dear Bro. Pruitt and Sis. Marie: I am sending a few dollars. I wish it could be more, and it should be more for all the good things God has done for my wife and me and our children.

I shall never forget two of the greatest people I have ever had the pleasure of knowing—that was Bro. and Sis. C. E. Orr. Bro. Orr was the preacher on the Church campground. When I was a young man in Hammond, La., my wife and I lived right next to them. That was back in the 1930's.

Also, my father and mother-in-law, Bro. Wayne and Sister Beulah Miller, were saints in Hammond. Although the Lord has called all of them Home, I shall never forget them, and I hope to be with them again some day. Please pray that this will be so for me and my wife, providing we do our part.

—Craig A. Davis

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

Calif.—Dear Sister Miles: Holy greetings in the name of our Lord who saved me and helps me to press on toward the end.

We had a very good meeting in Pacoima, Calif. Several got saved and several got help. My little part was working in the kitchen at this meeting; also, I was very thankful for having a part in working for souls to be saved.

—Sis. Elizabeth Freeman

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

Ark.—Dear Bro. Lawrence and Sis. Marie: We are thankful how God has kept us through another year and has given us health and strength. We love Him and our desire is to stay true to the faith which He once delivered to the saints as long as He permits us to live on this earth.

We are enclosing . . . for foreign mission work. . . .

We trust the dear Lord is blessing you in soul and body.

Christian love, —Bro. and Sis. E. A. Loftis

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

Calif.—Dear Bro. Lawrence and all the dear faithful ones at the Lord's Print Shop: Greetings of Christian love. May God ever bless the printing effort and the workers.

I had the privilege of attending all of the Assembly meeting at Pacoima, Calif. The latter part of the meeting was wonderfully blessed of God. On the last Sunday, many were at the altar of prayer. Bro. Woodrow Warren of Oklahoma was with us, for which we are thankful.

Keep Wife on your prayer list. Special prayers went up for her, and the ministers anointed her and she claimed her healing. She has gained five pounds after going down to 92 pounds.

Your Brother, —H. P. Huskey

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

Ohio—Dear Bro. Lawrence: Greetings in the precious name of Jesus, the One who was willing to die that cruel death on the cross that we could be delivered from sin and set free. My desire is to make Heaven my eternal home, and I know we have to go God's way to get there.

I trust these lines find you pressing on the upward way. I would like to hear of your healing. We surely are living in a pressing time, and it seems the devil tries to hinder any way he can. But the dear Lord will help us if we keep our faith and trust in Him.

My wife and I, and some of my family left to go to Florida on Dec. 23, to be with our son, Bill, and his family. It had been over a year since we had seen him. . . .

The work of God is great and we all need to show more interest in the work of the Lord. I know you and the fellow-laborers there are doing your part. May God help the church to have a greater burden for souls.

We miss those who have moved from the congregation in Dayton—Bro. and Sis. Wm. McCoy, and Bro. and Sis. Sam Abbott. Our congregation is smaller, but we are having meetings regularly in the chapel. Pray much for the little flock in Dayton that Jesus will be the center of attraction, and that each one will be faithful.

I have some afflictions in my body that I desire prayer for. Also, there are some in the congregation here who need prayer for healing. Remember Sis. Donna Sallee much in prayer, as she has been poorly. Sis. Margie Sallee also needs help in her body. Dear Bro. and Sis. Ray Key are faithful in the service of God. It would be wonderful if God would heal Sis. Key's eyes of cataracts. Pray for her.

We call your name in prayer, Bro. Lawrence. God takes note of your faithfulness. I trust that God will continue to bless the work there and supply every need. Pray for us.

In Christian love, —Bro. Earl Sharp

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

Ala.—Dear saints: Greetings in the name of our precious Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. . . . I enjoy the *Faith and Victory* paper, and believe in the truth it prints. We are not close to a church here, but we are thankful that some of the dear saints live near. They are a blessing and an encouragement to us. Bro. Bob Forbes, Bro. Curtis Williams, and Bro. Mart Samons brought the tent and held us a good, old-time meeting. We surely enjoyed every bit of it, and are praying that the Lord will see fit to send them again. . . .

Please pray that God will touch my body and heal me of colitis. I am trusting Him.

—Mollie R. Totty

—————o—————

## Testimonies and Answers to Prayer

Ohio—Greetings to all the saints: I thank the Lord for the great mercy He showed unto me after all of my years in sin. The saints here were telling me I needed to be saved. Bro. Bruner began to instruct me about salvation. I told him repeatedly, "I hope I don't wait too late." Then I began to seek the Lord, and on Dec. 26, 1976, the Lord saved my soul. Praise the Lord!

I live alone and do my own work. I am 102 years of age and I have much to be thankful for. I mean to keep saved. Pray for me. I am the mother of Sis. Helen Ellis, of Sandusky, Ohio.

—Isabelle Grooms

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

Minn.—Dear Bro. Pruitt: Greetings in our Saviour's name. Another month comes around with its wintry weather, but the Lord provides us with clothing to keep

warm and also homes that are well heated. He also provides all our needs, for which I thank our Heavenly Father.

I am still well and happy in the Lord who has done so much for all His people, and still says to those who are away from Christ, "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." Matt. 11:28-30.

May God's richest blessings be upon you.

—Bro. Andrew Senti

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

Ohio—The last week in July, 1976, the Lord healed me of asthma which I had for a year. The doctors said I would have it the rest of my life, but the church got to praying for me and I was healed, and I still am. I couldn't lie down to sleep, just sat up, night after night in a big chair. Now I can go to bed and sleep all night and not cough. A few more ailments went, too. I thank the Lord for what He has done for me, and I tell it everywhere I go.

—Ida M. Hartley

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

Tenn.—Dear Bro. Pruitt and co-workers: Greetings from east Tennessee to all you dear ones there at the Lord's Publishing House.

We do appreciate your labors in reaching many people during this past year, and your interest, concern, and desire to continue doing the will of the Lord and reaching everyone possible with the gospel message. May God richly bless and direct you in His will and way, as you enter this new year in His service. His Word will not return unto Him void. Be encouraged to press the battle on, stand confidently on His promises, and proclaim the good news to all you can.

We are truly thankful for saving and keeping grace, His great love and mercy toward us and our loved ones. It's incumbent upon each of us to be like Him and show forth His nature, His will and plan for our lives. To do this, we need the indwelling Holy Spirit, His leadership, patience, kindness, longsuffering, love, and forbearance in order to be helpful and fruitful in winning souls to this spiritual King and kingdom that we represent.

We desire the prayers of the saints that we be more faithful and loyal, and put forth a greater effort to be true and unselfish servants.

Yours for the whole truth, —Charles B. Williams

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

Calif.—Dear Sis. Marie: Thank all of the saints there who prayed for my husband. The Lord revealed to me that he was ready to go. I get a great comfort in knowing this. Only God knows how to comfort in the loss of a companion. Part of us is gone. One of these days our labors for the Lord will be over, and we can go Home to be with Jesus. I want to finish my work for Him. Pray for us that we will press the battle on to the end of our race.

Enclosed is an offering for Bro. Varghese.

Christian love,

—Mrs. Earl Reece

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

Ark.—Dear ones at the Print Shop: I want to thank the dear Lord for His loving kindness and mercy He has shown toward us during the year of 1976. We may be very close to the end of our time, we don't know. Life is uncertain, and death is sure. I surely want to be ready

when He calls for me. Pray for me that I will be faithful in everything.

I need prayer. My head is worse. I need more faith and wisdom.

We were happy to have Bro. Murphy Allen here for a service a few weeks ago, and also for our all-day service at Grubbs. We were blessed to have Bro. Curtis Williams to bring the message in the morning service. Several went to the altar for help and encouragement. Bro. Donald Sharp brought the afternoon message.

I have a very urgent request for prayer. May the dear Lord bless Bro. Lawrence and speed his healing for God's glory.  
—Sis. Johnnie West

o—o—o—o—o—o—o

Calif.— Dear workers: I am encouraged and desirous to be more faithful this year than I was in 1976, more quickly to take hold of God concerning all matters than ever before, be quick to submit to His will concerning me. The first step is to always realize that no trial or test comes my way without His knowledge and consent. I'm remembering Romans 8:28 and submit to it with all my heart. I have endeavored to do this before, but desire to strive more diligently this year.

May God continue to bless each of you and give strength and grace for each day. I am praying God to especially bless Bro. Pruitt and all others that need a healing touch.  
—Lavern Moles

### MARY HAD A LITTLE BOY

Mary had a little boy,  
His soul was white as snow.  
He never went to Sunday school  
'Cause Mary wouldn't go.  
He never heard the story of Christ,  
That thrill the childish mind,  
While other children went to class,  
This child was left behind.  
And as he grew from babe to youth,  
She saw to her dismay,  
A soul that once was white  
Became a dingy gray.  
Realizing that he was lost,  
She tried to win him back.  
But now the soul that once was white,  
Had turned an ugly black.  
She even started back to church  
And Sunday school, too,  
She begged the preacher  
"Isn't there a thing that we can do?"  
The preacher tried, and failed and said,  
"We're just too far behind."  
"I tried to tell you years ago,  
But you would pay no mind."  
And so another soul is lost,  
That once was white as snow.  
Sunday school would have helped  
But Mary wouldn't go.

—Sel. by Effie Miller

## Question and Answer Column

By Ostis B. Wilson

**QUESTION:** Where is the Scriptural proof that the tabernacle of Moses was a shadow or type of the New Testament Church and the steps by which one enters into it?

**ANSWER:** In the 9th chapter of Hebrews, the first eight verses give a detailed description of the Old Testament Sanctuary with its altars, furnishings and all the appurtenances thereto. Then in verse 9 it says, "Which was a FIGURE for the time then present." This makes it clear that the tabernacle of the First Covenant was a figure of something. But what? In Heb. 9:24 it says, "... the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the TRUE. . . ." In the 8th chapter of Hebrews, the 1st verse speaks of the High Priesthood of Jesus and then verse 2 describing this further says, "A minister of the sanctuary and of the TRUE tabernacle which the Lord pitched and not man." Further, Heb. 9:11, "But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building." In Matt. 16:18 we see clearly what the greater and more perfect tabernacle was which the Lord pitched and not man and which was not made with hands. Here Jesus says, "... upon this rock I will BUILD my church. . . ." Then it is clear that the tabernacle which the Lord pitched (built) is His church. You may ask: "Is the church referred to in the New Testament as a tabernacle?" It certainly is in numbers of places. However, we must remember that the tabernacle was set up during the Israelites' wanderings in the wilderness and was of necessity a portable structure. When they became settled in the promised land and were permanently established, then the portable structure (tabernacle) was replaced by a permanent structure (the temple) which was identical with the tabernacle in its arrangements and served the same purpose in the exact same way. In the New Testament, the church is more generally referred to as a TEMPLE rather than a TABERNACLE. See Eph. 2:19-22 and II Cor. 6:16. However, it is also referred to as a TABERNACLE in Heb. 8:2; Heb. 9:11; and Rev. 21:3.

The steps by which we enter the tabernacle or temple of the Lord—His New Testament Church—are clearly typified in the Old Testament Tabernacle also. In the 38th chapter of Exodus, verses 1-20, is described the court surrounding the tabernacle, the brazen altar of sin and burnt offerings and the laver; all of which were outside the tabernacle proper, but necessary appurtenances to it; consequently typifying necessary steps to enter into the tabernacle or church. Into the court came the sinning Israelite with his sin offering to be offered on the altar of burnt offering. The court would typify the state of the convicted sinner. Just as this court was an enclosure separated from the outside world and general activities of the people into which the Israelite entered to make his offering unto God for his sins; so the convicted sinner stricken with remorse and godly sorrow today becomes withdrawn from the world and reckless sinful living. His state is described in II Cor. 7:9-11 where it describes the person stricken with godly sorrow as having a great carefulness wrought in him—not sinning recklessly and

"Better is little with the fear of the Lord than great treasure and trouble therewith." Proverbs 15:16.

with a high hand as before. Also, it speaks of him clearing himself and having a strong indignation against sin and wrong that has ruined his life. Also he has a vehement desire to be delivered and set free and a strong feeling for revenge against the works of the devil that has brought him to this ruined state.

Then as he follows these strong urges and impulses in his soul and approaches unto the altar of sin offering, which typifies Christ Himself (see Heb. 13:10-12 and 16, together with I Peter 2:5, which presents Christ as our altar), and in deep penitence and humbleness of heart offers himself dead in trespasses and sins on the altar of Christ (His mercy and love manifested at Calvary), putting his faith in the merits of the shed blood of the Son of God and that only for his pardon and forgiveness of sins, his sins are forgiven him for Jesus' sake.

Then he approaches the laver which stood just before the door of the tabernacle and was always filled with water in which the priests were required to wash their hands and feet before entering the tabernacle (this water typified the Word of God—John 15:3 and Eph. 5:26 and I Peter 1:22, and the blood of Jesus, Rev. 1:5 and I John 1:7), and is washed from his sins and enters into the tabernacle of the Lord through Christ, the door. John 10:9.

**QUESTION:** I am confused and do not know what the second resurrection is.

**ANSWER:** The Bible teaches two distinct resurrections and there is a first and a second. John 5:24-29 discusses both of these resurrections and presents them in their proper order. In verse 24 Jesus said, "... He that heareth my word and believeth on Him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life." Everlasting life and being free from condemnation describe a spiritual state and condition—salvation. Those who were passed from death unto life were those who were dead in their sins—Eph. 2:1; Col. 2:13 (this text makes it clear that this resurrection is brought to pass when one is forgiven all trespasses—saved). Then verse 25 says that the hour is coming and NOW IS when the dead would hear the voice of Jesus and live. It is clear that this being brought to life was a present reality and was to come also. In other words, this began to be realized in the ministry of Christ and His apostles and was to continue throughout this gospel dispensation wherever the gospel was preached and men believed it. This was the first resurrection—salvation.

Then in verse 28 Jesus said, "... the hour is COMING in which all that are in their graves shall hear his voice (verse 29), and shall come forth. ..." This is clear reference to the resurrection of the dead at Christ's second coming when all shall come forth from their graves. Note it says in verse 28, "The hour is COMING," but did not say "NOW IS" as in verse 25. This second resurrection was not then; neither is it yet at this time, but is something altogether future and will come to pass when Jesus comes again. See I Cor. 15:51-54; I Thess. 4:13-18; John 6:39-40, 44, and 54, and etc.

"Walk one step at a time, little by little, over rough places and smooth. Progress at times may be slow; the way may be long and oftentimes you may meet with weariness, heartache, and trial. But patiently and perseveringly, continue walking."

## Secret Sins



Some are very careful about not drinking strong drinks, smoking cigarettes, drinking tea, coffee etc., but what about the secret sin of self-abuse? The following experience was written by a dear sister whom God delivered from this sin. Some might think that this is only a sin of men, but it is a sin that boys and girls get into at an early age, and if parents do not teach their children, then it is the duty of the church to "cry aloud and spare not."

"I have often wished I had the opportunity of impressing upon your minds the great injury done to these bodies (which God created for His temple—I Cor. 3:17 says, 'If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are.') when the secret vice is indulged in. (This vice is 'the improper use of your hands on that part of your body called the sexual organs,' or masturbation.) When a very little girl, I learned of this great evil and how to practice it, but did not know what a great sin it was. I continued its practice to some extent for several years. Then an agent came to our house selling a book called *Plain Facts for Old and Young*. My parents bought one, but kept it carefully concealed, lest their children should find out some things which they thought were better for them not to know. But I was very desirous to know what was in the book that they were so particular about; so I kept watch over it, and as every opportunity afforded I read it; and there, for the first time, I was told what a dreadful effect this sin would have on us, if continued in. I stopped the evil practice at once, and kept perfectly clear for a year, but becoming a great novel-reader and being with evil companions, I was again ensnared. But, oh, the bitter remorse that stung my conscience each time the Devil's chain grew tighter!

"I finally married, hoping the chain would then be broken. But not only grew worse; and as time moved on, I found I was in the future to become a mother. Oh, the awful thought of this sin hanging to me, over which it seemed I had no power! By bowing almost daily to this tyrant, I became a physical wreck. My nervous system was shattered, my sleep was almost gone, and what I did get was almost worse than none, being attended with terrible dreams.

"Imagine, if you will or can, where I stood, with the thought that perhaps my child, if it lived, would inherit this awful lust and vice, and the effects of mine on its physical system. It seemed I was powerless in the hands of the enemy, 'led captive by him at his will.'

"Finally, I gave my heart to God, and cried mightily to him to save me from this evil, which I found was fast destroying my body. Sometimes I was very weak and sorely tempted of the devil; and I remember once yielding, and God let the chastening rod rest very heavily upon me for about a week. I pled earnestly for His forgiveness, but it seemed He would never answer; He wanted to teach me a good lesson. The devil tempted me hard, and then said, 'It is no worse to *do* this than to *want to*.' So I yielded, and this Scripture, in Jas. 1:15, was fulfilled: 'Then, when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin; and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.' When I conceived this evil in my heart and went about to do it, it brought forth spiritual death. The Lord forgave my



transgression and gave help in time of need. But since I am sanctified wholly, and the blood of my Redeemer has cleansed me through and through, I can look back and sing,

I was a captive, but mercy released me;  
I was in bondage, but grace set me free.

"I do realize that these words are true; for 'whomsoever the Son maketh free is free indeed.' I am as free from this vice today, and have been for years, as if I had never known it. Yet it is nothing that I have done, only to resist the devil and draw nigh to God, and He has done the rest.

"You ask if I was ever tempted after I was sanctified. Yes, sometimes, for awhile, but I resisted the devil and God made him flee. When he could not make me yield this way, he would sometimes come in my sleep and tempt me. But God gave the victory; so I am free indeed, praise His dear name! He has also healed me of that dreadful nervousness.

"If any who read these lines have fallen prey to this dreadful monster evil and do not know how to get out of its clutches, just come to Jesus. Ask Him to forgive all your sins, and then believe with all your heart that He does forgive. Then pray the prayer of David, 'Cleanse thou me from secret faults.' Believe that He will and does; for he says, 'Ask, and ye shall receive; seek, and ye shall find.'

" 'Watch and pray' much, 'lest ye enter into temptation.' If you have been a reader of novels, abandon it at once, as it leads toward secret sins. In place thereof 'search the scriptures,' and 'do good to all men.' 'Rejoice evermore; pray without ceasing; in everything give thanks.' May God add his blessing and help all of you.

"Lovingly,

—Your friend."

## What Is Sin?

Webster says sin is a "willful transgression of divine law, an immoral act, to do wrong." I John 5:17-19, "All unrighteousness is sin: . . . We know that whosoever is born of God sinneth not; but he that is begotten of God keepeth himself, and that wicked one toucheth him not. And we know that we are of God, and the whole world lieth in wickedness." I John 3:8-14, "He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil. Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God. In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother. For this is the message that ye heard from the beginning, that we should love one another. Not as Cain, who was of that wicked one, and slew his brother. And wherefore slew he him? Because his own works were evil, and his brother's righteous. Marvel not, my brethren, if the world hate you. We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death."

There are two ways that run through this dark world, and we are all on one way or the other. There is the way of life, and the way of death; the way of right, and the way of wrong; the upward way, and the downward way; the

way of righteousness, and the way of sin; God's way and the way of the devil; the broad way, and the narrow way. The Lord has set before us an open door, and each individual is permitted to choose the way he wants to travel, the strait and narrow way, or the broad and wide way. All who travel the broad way will end up in dark despair and die a horrible death. Those who follow Jesus will die in peace at last. Of course, there will be battles to fight, and the devil will have to be resisted, but they will be victors and obtain a crown of life.

Jesus came to this low ground of sorrow, endured temptations and shed His blood. He, who knew no sin became sin for us that we might inherit the righteousness of God and obtain everlasting life and live in peace and happiness in eternity.

Which will you choose, sin and shame, or life and peace? We are all advised by the voice of wisdom to choose life, and walk the holy way. But we must put on the whole armor of God to be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. The devil is the father of lies. Jesus overcame the devil on the mount of temptation, and He bids us to resist the devil and follow Him who did no sin, neither was guile found in His mouth. Say, "yes," to God and lift the banner high.

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. He that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life." The enemy of our souls will do all in his power to draw us away from the strait and narrow way, but we have the blessed promise, "Resist the devil and he will flee." The devil is a liar, and there is no truth in him. Heaven, the eternal abode of the overcomers, is cheap at any cost. Jesus Christ has paid our fare on Mount Calvary's rugged brow and has decreed that whosoever will may come.

I'm a pilgrim in this land, and for the Lord I take my stand. I am traveling on my upward way to Glory land. I've left the ways of sin behind, joy and peace in heaven to find. With the shield of faith and sword of truth, I'll press and fight every day, 'till from this world I'm called away. Then to the arms of Christ I'll fly, and bid this old world good-bye.

—Ulysses Phillips

## WHAT JESUS DID FOR ME

I knelt at an altar of prayer,  
And poured out my burdened heart there,  
And begged the Savior to come in  
And cleanse and save me from all sin.

The Savior heard my earnest plea,  
And came in love and rescued me;  
Filled my heart with love divine—  
Now I am His, and He is mine.

My cup of joy is flowing o'er,  
And He gives me joy more and more.  
To keep this joy I must stay  
In this pure and Holy way.

So help me, Lord, your will to do,  
Keep me humble, faithful and true.  
To see my Savior is my goal,  
For He saved and sanctified my soul.

—Sis. Effie Miller

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