

FAITH^{AND}VICTORY

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A Mother's Love

(In memory of Sister Marie Miles
and Sister Thelma Sprague)

Of all the bright creation
That filled God's loving heart,
I think the noblest station
Is in a Mother's part.

A godly Mother's bearing
We underestimate;
The glory she is sharing
Will always be first rate.

The love and charm of Mother
Bestowed on one and all
Is equalled by no other
In great things and in small.

It lingers fresh and glowing
Upon the heart and mind;
A child is rich in knowing
A Mother sweet and kind.

And when she's called to heaven
From earthly scenes away,
The love that she has given,
The things that she did say

Will sweetly echo over
And tarry with us here,
Sweet as the breath of clover,
Our weary hearts to cheer.

When long and hard's our journey
On life's dark rugged road,
Our thoughts to Mother turning
Will lift our heavy load.

And to our hearts she's speaking
Sweet words of hope and love
While we are ever seeking
That City built above.

Some day when life is ended,
Sweet Mother we shall see
With Jesus' goodness blended
In all eternity.

—Leslie C. Busbee

The Debt We Owe

"And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." Every kind of business must be done systematically, otherwise it will result in failure. Helping to send the gospel to all nations should also be done in a systematic way. The responsibility of preaching the gospel to all nations is not laid upon the preachers only, but equally as much upon the whole Church.

Under the Mosaic law God demanded one-tenth of the income of His people with which to keep the priests and Levites, besides the freewill offerings for the benefit of the poor and for other purposes. As long as this system was kept up, the work of the Lord prospered and the people prospered in both spiritual and temporal things, but when they became careless and did not bring in the tithes they began to lose the blessings of God, both spiritually and temporally. They had actually been robbing God. Mal. 3:8, 9-12. Of course, we are not living under the old law, nor the tithing system, but will God demand less of us who are living in, and enjoying this blessed Holy Ghost dispensation? Since we are living under a better covenant our responsibility is correspondingly greater. We are commanded to carry the gospel to *all* people.

Jesus said, "Whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath cannot be my disciple." Luke 14:33. We must surrender all before we become disciples and then present our bodies a living sacrifice, to be used of God in any way He chooses. God makes us stewards over His goods. That being the case, should we feel that God is demanding too much of us when He calls for a fractional part of the income of His own goods?

Some one may say, "I am so poor that I have nothing to give." Begin to bring in the portion of what you do have, and God will bless you with more. Mal. 3:10. The reason so many people cannot draw any money out of the bank is because they do not put any money in; begin to sow, and God will multiply the seed to you. If we sow sparingly, we shall reap also sparingly. He which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. 2 Cor. 9:6. So the more we give to God, the more He gives us in return.

Brethren, we owe the gospel to this world. God has not called every one to preach, but He has called every one to help in getting the truth to the lost world. There are many preachers who are consecrated to go and preach, who do not have sufficient to support themselves while preaching to the people; so in many cases the preachers stay at home for lack of means to care for himself and family, while those to whom we owe the gospel must perish. Oh, who will be responsible for those poor lost souls in the day of judgment? May God awaken every child of God to his duty along this line for the sake of poor, lost souls. Brethren, if we follow the plan laid down in 1 Cor. 16:2, there will always be some ready means when calls for meeting are made or when money is needed for other purposes, and we will be able to pay the debt we owe. May it be said of us as it was said of the woman: "She hath done what she could." Mark 14:8.

—T. W. Cooper

"Come Unto Me."

The invitation is "Come," which shows very clearly that God does not drive, but that He leads. God in His wisdom ordained that man should be a free moral agent; that his eternal destiny should depend upon his own decision. The two ways are put before him, and while he is earnestly invited to choose the right and turn from the wrong, yet the power of decision rests entirely with him. This is shown very clearly in Josh. 24:14, 15. Just before his death, Joshua had Israel assemble before him, and after enumerating what God had done for them in the past, and admonishing them to fear the Lord and serve Him in sincerity and truth, he said, "Choose ye this day whom ye will serve." At the same time he stated his own decision, that he and his house would serve the Lord.

"God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him." Gen. 1:27. But shortly after the creation man fell in a shameful manner through disobedience. From that time on, as mankind increased and multiplied on the earth, they grew worse and worse, until "God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually." So the Lord decided to destroy the people with a flood, but finding Noah a just man and perfect in his generation, He told him to build an ark for the saving of himself and his household. Noah obeyed the Lord, and when all was finished God said to him, "Come thou and all thy house into the ark." Gen. 7:1. He accepted the invitation, and was saved from destruction.

As the years went by after the flood and the people had once more increased and multiplied, they indulged in idol worship almost continually. God was unwilling to destroy them again, so He said through His prophet, "Come now, and let us reason together." Isa. 1:18. He pled with them to cease their wrong-doing, turn to Him, and He would prosper them with the good of the land. Again in the fifty-fifth chapter of

Isaiah we read, "Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. . . . Incline your ear, and come unto me: hear, and your soul shall live."

When the time came for the prophecies to be fulfilled Jesus came to earth with the gospel of salvation, and when He saw the people laboring under a heavy load of form and ceremony His heart of love was melted for them and He gave the invitation: "Come unto me, all ye that labor 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. On the last day of the feast in Jerusalem Jesus taught in the temple, and said, "If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink." John 7:37. He was willing, yea, anxious, that all should partake of the water of life that He so freely offered.

Having their welfare at heart and wanting them to be a separate people, not yoked up with unbelievers in spiritual confusion, the Lord invites His children to come out from among all such—"Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you." 2 Cor. 6:17. "Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues." Rev. 18:4. Near the end of the Word of God a final invitation is given—"And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely." Rev. 22:17.

If we have accepted the invitation to come, and have lived in obedience to all the known will of God, when we meet the Lord in the last judgment we shall hear His loving voice say, "Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world." Matt. 25:34. If you have not yet accepted this invitation, Jesus lovingly extends it to you, Come now, while there is yet time and opportunity, and while the door is open, for soon it will be too late.

—J. M. Philpott

Ohio—Greetings in Jesus' name this Lord's day morning. Surely God is good to us and I love Him. I have so much to be thankful for, and I depend on Him for all my needs. I am so glad I can see to read the Word of God, which I do. I am sure the prophecies are being fulfilled. We see how the world is running after worldly amusements, even professing Christians, yet the worldly things are their idols. Thanks be to God that when He saved me He took all the desire for worldly things from me. He gave me a desire to serve Him and Him only. His Word tells us the things we once loved we now hate; the things we hated, we now love. That has been true in my experience.

Please continue to pray for me and my affliction, as God is my Physician. I am trusting Him for help. Enclosed is my freewill offering. —Carrie Ross

Sanctified By Faith

Paul was made an apostle to the Gentiles "to open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me." Acts 26:18.

The only way to be sanctified is to consecrate our all to God and believe for the blood of Christ to sanctify us wholly. Every one who is sanctified today received it by faith, not by feelings. "Wherefore Jesus also, that he might sanctify the people with his own blood, suffered without the gate." Heb. 13:12. Jesus has shed His blood to sanctify the people, but the people can receive no benefits until they believe.

After we receive forgiveness of sins, the next thing in store for us is sanctification. "For this is the will of God, even your sanctification." 1 Thess. 4:3. Then if it be God's will for us to be sanctified we cannot fulfill His will on earth until we believe and are sanctified.

The part of sanctification left to be accomplished is not God's part, but man's part. God's part was completed at the shedding of Christ's blood. It is a very easy matter for God to sanctify us wholly, because Christ's blood possesses the abundant efficacy to cleanse. The failure is always on man's side. Many people say they want to be sure they are sanctified. Then they should be sure to do their part, which consists of a perfect consecration to God's will, and faith in the promises. "... Whether is greater, the gift, or the altar that sanctifieth the gift?" Matt. 23:19. If you will put all on the altar—time, talents, earthly store, soul, body, mind, spirit, present, future, and all—surrender your ownership of self and all else to God, have a deep, heart-felt amen to all God's will, then place implicit faith in God's promises to sanctify you, stepping out boldly upon them, believing for the blood to cleanse you, you need have no fear that you will not be sanctified wholly and be made as pure as heaven.

"Sanctified by faith." "Hearts purified by faith." We must appropriate the cleansing blood to our souls and believe that it makes us pure. We must do this before we can expect any feelings, and, in fact, we may not have very much feeling of any kind. Of one thing we may be sure, if we put all on the altar and have faith, we can and must declare boldly and unhesitatingly that we are sanctified and the Spirit will make Himself felt and known to our consciousness in His own good time and way. Many people lack real faith in God.

Doubt is manifest in questionings as to whether or not we have the Spirit, whether or not we are truly sanctified, etc. Cast such unworthy fears away. God is a thousand times more interested in your sanctification than you can be; then commit it all to Him and never question His divine power again. What more can we do than yield up all to God and then believe? Nothing. It is true that we apparently are stepping out upon a seeming void; that we are hanging over a bottomless abyss, and to drop will mean disaster; but

when we do let go we drop upon God's immutable promises, the eternal rock of truth, and find ourselves in the arms of Infinite Power. Oh, the blessed rest of faith!

We are sanctified by faith, and we keep sanctified by faith. It matters not what your feelings were when you consecrated, or what they have been since that time, if you can still say you are on the altar, and really are there, you are still sanctified. One time I was assailed with a very curious and harassing temptation. It was of such a nature and so construed by the cunning ingenuity of the devil, that I felt guilty of sin even though I had not transgressed God's law. Each time I was assailed I would be overcome with accusations of sin and would do my best to find deliverance from the temptation by the route of repentance. This only made the case more severe and the trial more frequent and distressing. At length I saw the true method of Satan's attack, and determined to defeat him. I knelt down before the Lord and asked Him to keep me pure and holy right through the temptation. At the first opportunity I was thrown into the same temptation, with all the accompanying confusion, accusations, and distress. I said, "I am pure and holy, saved and sanctified, through and through." "No, you are not," said Satan, "See, you have sinned. You need to repent." "I will not repent," said I, "I am saved and sanctified." "You are a sinner. See how you feel. You will get deceived if you do not repent." "I will not get deceived," I replied, "neither will I repent." "Better go pray," said Satan. "I will not pray. I am saved and sanctified, pure and holy," I answered. I stood and fought in this way with naked faith in Christ's sanctifying blood for some time. I felt as if I had lost all, but claimed my perfect redemption by pure faith. The result was a glorious victory, and Satan was so badly whipped that that form of temptation lost all of its power and, in fact, stopped almost altogether. It has been years now since I have felt it. However, Satan comes around once in a while yet, to see if I keep the shield of faith up (which thing I have learned to do, by God's help). When he sees that it is up he passes on to find and attack some other soul who has not yet learned to keep up the shield or is a little weak about using the sword.

We are sanctified by *faith*. Do not forget that, dear reader. Get it grounded in your understanding that after we consecrate we are sanctified by *faith* alone. Get it also fixed in your memory that we keep sanctified by faith. If you doubt, you will lose your experience. There is a difference between doubting and being tempted to doubt. You may have to fight doubts all day, but if you do not admit them by giving up to them, you are still sanctified.

Do not neglect to testify to being sanctified. Do so radically and with faith. We are sanctified by faith, definitely, instantaneously, subsequent to regeneration, by the Holy Spirit and the blood of Jesus Christ.

—R. L. Berry

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 other consecrated workers at the FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE, 920 W. Mansur, Guthrie, Okla. 73044 (USPS184-660)

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Write for prices on larger quantities.

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 service 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; 1 Chron. 29:9; 2 Cor. 9:7; and Luke 6:38.

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

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

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

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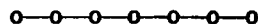
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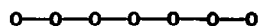
OUR GRACIOUS HEAVENLY FATHER, who controls time and all things, has extended time again to this campmeeting and tent meeting season when the Church in general makes a special effort to reach the unsaved with the soul-saving gospel of Christ in various areas of the United States, Mexico, and Canada. Since the summer season is the most suitable time of the year to conduct these tent and campmeetings, the Church should redouble its efforts to rescue the perishing before time runs out.

God spoke to the wicked people in ancient times before the flood, and warned them that His Spirit would not always strive with man. Since they did not take the warning and repent of their sins, God sent the flood and destroyed mankind except Noah and his family. This world again is on the path of destruction, and no doubt God's wrath is about to be poured out. This time the heavens and the earth are reserved unto fire, and "the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up." 2 Peter 3:10. What could be plainer? Yet few are heeding the warning.

Let us all agree in prayer continually through this special season that God's Word presented from the pulpit and press, and by personal contact, will find a response in a multitude of honest hearts, and that they will be translated into the Kingdom of God. Time is surely running out, and what we intend to do to rescue precious souls must be done quickly.

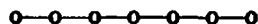


The campmeeting at Goulds, Florida, closed on April 18. Reports indicate that they had a profitable meeting with a number of souls being saved. Several out-of-state ministers assisted in that meeting.



Next on the schedule this year is the Oklahoma State campmeeting here in Guthrie, Okla., which will be held, Lord willing, from May 28 to June 6, 1982. (See further announcement on another page.) A large attendance is expected from several states, especially for the first week-end, as the Memorial holiday comes on Monday, May 31.

The saints are urged to come praying for a soul-saving session. Showers of blessings are anticipated. The Guthrie congregation extends a hearty welcome to everyone to come and worship the Lord together in the beauty of holiness at this 48th annual campmeeting on these holy campgrounds where the people of God have maintained the "evening light" Bible truth of the Church of God since the year of 1905.



Just off the press, in order to replenish our depleted stock, is an edition of the excellent book, "The Secret of Salvation" by E. E. Byrum, in a heavy paper cover.

The English edition of "Bible Readings for Bible Students" by Speck and Riggle, and bound in a cloth cover, is scheduled for reprinting very soon, as those

books will be out of stock before the reprint edition is ready.

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Just off the press is an excellent book entitled, "St Paul and His Gospel", written by G. P. Tasker who was an early-day minister and missionary in the Church of God Reformation. Out of print for many years, this inspiring book contains 88 pages in a heavy paper cover. The price is \$1.00 each, plus 65c for postage and handling. Get your order in for a copy or two TODAY!

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Another book just off the press is a German translation of the excellent volume, "Bible Readings for Bible Students" by Speck and Riggle. Bro. Alfons Oppel of Ontario, Canada, and other German saints were burdened and concerned to get this excellent Bible Readings book translated to German in order to make these Bible doctrines available to the German-speaking people in this country and abroad. I understand that Bro. Oppel did the translation, and Sister Agatha Friesen did the typing of the pages and illustrations for reproduction by the offset printing process. This 360-page book is bound in a heavy paper cover. The price on this German edition is \$4.00 each, plus 85c for postage and handling.

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Sales of Stereo Song Records Are Dropped . . .

Since our supply of Stereo Song Records is very low and their sales process consumes much paper work, we are dropping the sales of the Song Records. We have a few records remaining in stock at the same prices advertised in past issues. When they are gone, that is all.

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In the month of April we received an order of 2,872 pounds of printing paper at a cost of \$1,260.81, and we must order more paper soon with which to reprint these large books for stock. We are pleased to know that more people are ordering and reading these books written by the early-day writers of the Church of God. Sincere folk are searching for solid Bible truths on which to stand.

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Our best wishes and prayers go with Bro. Merrill Williamson, pastor at Jena, La., and Sister Violet Watson who were united in marriage on April 22, 1982, at Four Corners Chapel, Vinita, Okla., with Bro. Clifford Wilson officiating. May the Lord bless and prosper this union to His glory and for the advancement of His great cause.

They are currently residing at Vinita, Okla., but after June 1st they plan to establish their permanent home at Bro. Merrill's address which is Star Route 1, Box 49A, Olla, La. 71465.

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Congratulations to Lonnie D. Miles and Jeannine I. Gellenbeck whose marriage will be an event on Saturday, May 1, 1982, at the Guthrie Church of God chapel with Bro. Willie C. Murphey officiating. We

wish this Christian couple a long and happy life together in the service of the Lord.

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This writer is still in the furnace of affliction, and on April 15 he suffered the worst hemorrhage yet, which left him weaker. However, in spite of the weakness and pain, the Lord enables me to work at the office a few hours each day, for which I certainly praise Him. By God's grace I am still holding up the shield of faith and holding fast to His promises for healing to His glory. He never comes too late, and His time and way are always right. Please continue to agree in prayer with me that my faith will fail not, for faith is the victory. —L. D. Pruitt

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Partial List of Items Available

Birth of a Reformation—Life and Labors of D. S. Warner by A. L. Byers. A reprint with additional pictures of pioneer ministers. Cloth bound, 496 pages. Price, \$5.50 each.

Prophetic Lectures on Daniel and the Revelation by F. G. Smith. It contains 260 pages in heavy paper cover. Price, \$3.50 each.

What The Bible Teaches by F. G. Smith. A reprint of the original 1914 edition, containing 576 pages in cloth binding. This is a book that should be in every home. Price, \$5.50 each.

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Personal Experiences of S. O. Susag was written by himself, a Norwegian who had many marvelous experiences and answers to prayer as an early-day minister in the Church of God. 191 pages are bound in a heavy paper cover. Price, \$1.75.

The Last Reformation by F. G. Smith. Just recently made available, this reprint edition contains 256 pages. Nice paper binding is priced at \$3.50 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, \$5.50 each.

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. Nice cloth cover. Price, \$5.00.

The Revelation Explained by F. G. Smith. Reprint of 1906 original edition (fourth reprint), plus two 17x22 inch wall charts in two colors. 464 pages in nice cloth cover. Price, \$5.50 each.

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Christian Baptism, Feet Washing, and the Lord's Supper by H. M. Riggle. This excellent doctrinal book on the three ordinances of the New Testament contains 264 pages in a nice cloth cover. Price, \$3.50 each,

The Christian Church; Its Rise and Progress, by H. M. Riggle. Bound in cloth cover, 488 pages. Price, \$5.00.

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God's Gracious Dealings by Fred and L. D. Pruitt. This enlarged Seventh Edition is a history of this gospel publishing ministry in the Church of God for the past sixty years, as well as a record of the work of the Church at large. Contains 496 pages, including more than 100 pictures, in a nice cloth cover. Price, \$5.00 each.

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

Must We Sin? by D. S. Warner. This 24-page booklet records the supposed conversation between Bro. Light and Bro. Foggy on the sin question. Price, 25c each, or five copies for \$1.00.

Life's Story and Healings by Sister Nellie Poulos. This is a reprint of her first book, plus additional material. This volume contains 160 pages with a heavy paper cover. Price, \$1.50 each.

The Double Cure, or Redemption Twofold by D. O. Teasley. This book should enlighten the reader on the two works of grace, and correct the thinking of those who deny the cleansing element in sanctification. 160 pages of large print in a heavy paper cover. Price, \$1.50.

The Battle of Armageddon by O. B. Wilson. A clear exposition of this much misunderstood subject in an enlarged 24-page booklet by the author. Price, 20c each, or six copies for \$1.00.

Divine Healing for Soul and Body by E. E. Byrum. Available ONLY in the German language, it contains 282 pages bound in a heavy paper cover. Price, \$2.25.

Bible Humility by J. W. Byers. An excellent treatise of this subject in 33 pages with a heavy paper cover. The price is 30c each, or four copies for \$1.00.

The Hero of Hill House by Mabel Hale. A very interesting and inspiring true story, this book contains 224 pages in a heavy paper cover. Price, \$2.00 each.

Secular Humanism: The Most Dangerous Religion in America, is the title of a book that everyone should read, especially ministers and teachers. It contains 81 pages in a heavy paper cover. Price, \$2.00 each.

Lest We Forget by Sister Margaret Eck. 72 pages of many encouraging experiences with the Lord bound in a heavy paper cover. Price, 75c each, or three for \$2.00.

Memoirs of George E. Harmon, sponsored by Vera M. Forbes. This is a brief autobiography of our beloved Bro. George Harmon, a long-time minister in the Church of God, including the record of the memories of a few others who knew him. It will inspire your faith in God. Its 56 pages with four pictures are bound in a heavy paper cover. Price, 60c each, or two copies for \$1.00.

Food For Lambs by C. E. Orr in the English language. This English version contains 168 pages in a heavy paper cover. Price, \$1.50 each.

Food For Lambs by C. E. Orr in the German language. It consists of 127 pages in a heavy paper cover. Price, \$1.00 each.

Tim and His Lamp, re-written by Fern Stubblefield. This excellent booklet of 52 pages for children and young

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Heart Talks by C. W. Naylor. Consists of 59 chapters with a different subject treated in each chapter. It contains 280 pages in a heavy paper cover. Price, \$2.50.

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German translation of the excellent book, **Bible Readings for Bible Students** by Speck and Riggle. This German edition of 360 pages is bound in a heavy paper cover. Price, \$4.00 each.

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In Memorial

Essie Ola Moore was born Jan. 12, 1909, and departed this life to be with the Lord on April 1, 1982, from the home of her daughter, Barbara Freeman, in Sapulpa, Okla., at the age of 73 years.

Sister Moore was saved many years ago in the Church of God, and kept a glowing experience with the Lord through many severe trials and tests. She endeavored to bring up her children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. During her last, long illness, Sister Moore radiated with victory in Jesus. She ever kept heaven in view, never looked back, and died in the triumphs of a living faith. Our loss here is heaven's gain.

Survivors include five daughters; four sons; one sister, Nellie Lovell, of Bagota, Tx.; and many other relatives, friends, and saints.

Funeral services were held at the Smith Funeral Chapel in Sapulpa, Ok., with Bros. Richard Madden, Cecil Carver, and Sister Ruth Murphey officiating. Some texts used: Prov. 31:10; Ruth 1:15-17; Rom. 8:35; 2 Tim. 4:6. The Carver quartet furnished the singing. Interment was in the Cuthand Community Cemetery, Cuthand, Texas, to await the general resurrection.

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Gwendolyn Renae James, born August 23, 1959, passed from this life to her eternal Home March 26, 1982, at the age of 22 years and 7 months. She was born in Loranger, La., where she had been a resident all her life, and lived in the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Monroe James.

She lived a meek and submissive life, always manifesting a sweet Christ-like spirit and humble

attitude as she battled several severe afflictions during her young life, and especially in the last 1½ years.

Gwen, as she was known to her family, relatives, saints, and friends, will be greatly missed, but God's way is best, and we know she is at rest with the Lord, in whom she had made her profession of faith and followed in baptism in her late teens.

She is survived by her parents; one sister, Mrs. Steve (Arlette) Elston; two nephews, many relatives, saints, and friends.

Funeral services were held in the McKneely Funeral Home Chapel in Hammond, La., and burial was in the Oak Grove Church of God Cemetery, near Loranger, La.; with services being conducted by Sis. LaVern Manuel, Bro. Merrill Williamson, and Bro. Bob Forbes.

Yours in Christ,

—Bob Forbes

NOTE OF APPRECIATION

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their love, prayers, and concern during the lengthy illness and passing of our beloved daughter and sister, Gwendolyn Renae James. We appreciate the beautiful cards with their comforting messages, your letters, and gifts of love. Your support and kindness have been a great comfort during this difficult period.

—Monroe and Cwilla James and Arlette J. Elston

Carrie Jane Mallory Tombleson, daughter of George and Elizabeth Mallory, was born near Allenville, Illinois, October 15, 1890. At the age of 1½ years her parents chartered four railroad cars and moved to Missouri, settling in the Pea Ridge Community near Mansfield, Missouri.

On March 1, 1908, she was united in marriage to Edward Tombleson. To their happy union three children blessed their home: Hubert, Doris, and Kenneth.

She spent most of her life close to the original community, except for six years in Colorado, returning to near Mansfield, Missouri in 1918, settling on the old home place where she spent 64 years of her life, and passed away there April 3, 1982, at the age of 91 years, 5 months, and 19 days.

Carrie (as she was known throughout the entire neighborhood) maintained a spiritual attitude and her heart's desire was a closer walk with her Lord whom she personally knew since a very young lady. Her days always began with reading of the Bible and prayer. She dedicated her life completely to the service of the Lord and worshiped with the Church of God congregation, to which she remained faithful. She told her family the morning of the day of her passing: "I believe this will be the day." And just a few minutes before her passing she looked up and said, "I hope Jesus has an abundance of entrance for me."

She not only was a loving wife to her companion for over 67 years, but was a wonderful mother to her family, and throughout the entire neighborhood she helped and cared for those in need.

Her husband, Brother Ed Tombleson, left her for his heavenly home October 12, 1975. The children all survive: Hubert, of Grain Valley, Missouri; Mrs. Doris Kinser, of Hartville, Missouri, and Kenneth, of Katoomba, Australia. She is also survived by five grandchildren, twelve great-grandchildren, two step-grandchildren, and one sister, Mrs. Amy Tombleson, Lamar, Colorado.

Funeral services were conducted at Hartville, Missouri, by Bros. Leslie Busbee and Egbert Allen. Burial was in the Hartville Cemetery.

The family of Sister Carrie Tombleson wishes to express special thanks for the prayers and kindness that everyone has shown in the sickness and passing of their dear mother.

—Leslie C. Busbee

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George N. Mobley, son of Nathan and Olive Mobley, was born in Brown County, Ind., on Dec. 9, 1926, and departed this life on April 13, 1982, to be with the Lord.

About three months before he passed away, he got saved and embraced the "Evening Light" truth of the Church of God. He took hold of the Truth and stood for it.

I asked him about an hour before he passed away, if he felt good in his soul, and he nodded his head, yes. I asked him twice, and it was yes both times.

He is survived by his wife, a son, George II of the home; a daughter and grandson; a brother, Raymond of Bloomington, Ind., a sister, Alice, of Oolitic, Ind., other relatives, and a host of friends.

We thank the dear saints for their many prayers in his sickness.

—Nathan and Olive Mobley

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David Dean Inman was born April 27, 1964, at Kansas City, Mo., and departed this life April 1, 1982, at his home near Peculiar, Mo., 26 days before his 18th birthday.

He is survived by his parents, Glen and Leta Inman; two brothers, Charles and Paul; one sister, Glenetta, all of the home; his maternal grandmother, Marjorie Wall of Vinita, Okla.; his paternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Lonzo Inman of Fayetteville, Arkansas, and many other relatives, saints, and friends.

David was a senior at the Raymore-Peculiar High School, and a kind, compassionate boy with a sincere love for God.

Funeral services were conducted at the Atkinson Funeral Chapel in Harrisonville, Mo., with Bro. Curtis Williams, Bro. Mart Samons, and Bro. Clifford Wilson officiating. Burial was in the Orient Cemetery in Harrisonville, Mo.

Note of Appreciation

We want to express our sincere appreciation to our friends, loved ones and the saints for your prayers, loving expressions of kindness and sympathy extended during the passing of our loved one. Many attended the funeral and traveled a distance to be with us. Your presence was such a great comfort in our sorrow.

I have thought so much of one of the Scriptures used at the funeral: "He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief..." I realize whom the Scripture was written about, but as it was being read, and knowing of so much David had endured in school because of his affliction and how he bore it so patiently, it seemed so appropriate. We sorrow not, even as others which have no hope, but intend by God's grace to meet him again someday.

—The Glen Inman family

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William E. Laughlin, aged 75, departed this life on Jan. 30, 1982, at his home in Carthage, Mo., after three months of ill health. We trust he was prepared to meet the Lord in peace.

Campmeeting Dates For 1982



Following are the Church of God campmeeting dates for 1982, and a more complete announcement of each meeting will be printed in later issues:—

Oklahoma State Campmeeting at Guthrie, Oklahoma,
May 28 to June 6.

Tulsa, Okla.—June 11 to 20.

Jefferson, Oregon—June 11 to 20.

Chilliwack, B. C., Canada—June 21 to 27.

Oakland California—June 18 to 27.

Ojos Negros, Baja Cfa., Mexico—July 5 to 11.

Fresno, Calif.—July 2 to 11.

Green Bank, W. Va.—July 2 to 11.

Akron, Ohio—July 11 to 18.

National Campmeeting at Neosho (Monark Springs), Missouri—July 23 to August 1.

Myrtle, Mo.—August 2 to 8.

Bakersfield, Calif.—August 6 to 15.

Boley, Okla.—August 20 to 29.

Durham, North Carolina—August 21 to 29.

California State Campmeeting at Pacoima, Calif.—
August 27 to September 5.

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OKLAHOMA CAMPMEETING AT GUTHRIE, OK.

The Oklahoma State Campmeeting of the Church of God will be held, Lord willing, May 28 to June 6, 1982, at the chapel located on the corner of Sixth and West Warner Streets, Guthrie, Oklahoma.

A hearty welcome is extended to all to attend this 48th annual campmeeting on these grounds. Provisions will be made to care for all who come. Dining hall and dormitories are on the grounds. Expenses will be met by freewill offerings. Come praying for a profitable meeting, the salvation of souls, sanctification of believers, and the divine healing of bodies.

Contributions should be sent directly to the treasurer, Sister Frances Deforth, Rt. 5, Guthrie, Okla. 73044. For further information, contact the pastor,

Brother Leslie Busbee, 417 N. 11th, Guthrie, Okla. 73044, phone (405) 282-2421. The phone number at the chapel is 282-5499. Come and hear the old-time reformation truth. Let us worship the Lord together in the unity of the Spirit and be brought to the unity of the faith of the New Testament. —L. D. Pruitt

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JEFFERSON, ORE., CAMPMEETING

The annual campmeeting of the Church of God at Jefferson, Oregon, is scheduled to be held on their new campground near Jefferson from June 11 to 20, 1982. There will be three regular services daily. Everyone is cordially invited to attend these services. The meeting will be supported on the freewill offering basis, and the meals will be served in the dining hall on the grounds.

Bring sleeping bags and folding canvas cots, as well as bedding. Please let Bro. Wilson know in advance of your coming so arrangements can be made for your lodging.

Directions to campground: Go to the Texaco service station at the north edge of Jefferson, turn right on Marion Road for about ¾ mile, then turn left on Sheldon Road ½ mile to the chapel.

For further information, contact the pastor, Bro. Ostis B. Wilson, 6505 N.E. Sunset Dr., Albany, Ore. 97321, phone (503) 928-7223. The chapel phone is (503) 327-9916.

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TULSA, OKLA. CAMPMEETING

The Tulsa Campmeeting of the Church of God will be held, Lord willing, June 11 to 20, at the chapel at 1102 E. Pine Place.

We extend to all a hearty welcome. We are looking to the Lord to send ministers and workers of His choice to help in the meeting.

Dear saints, will you come praying that the anointing of the Lord will be upon His Word and upon the hearts of precious lost souls, that they may hear and be saved?

For further information, contact Sis. Eva Hardman, 2232 N. Norkfolk, Tulsa, Okla. 74106, phone (918) 583-2929, or Bro. Norman Simpson, 1333 E. 8th St., Tulsa, Okla. 74120, phone (918) 583-2096.

—Maple Littlejohn

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HAMMOND, LA., CAMPMEETING DATES

The campground in Hammond, La., is for sale, and there is a possibility that it will sell before campmeeting time. In case it does not sell, the campmeeting date is set for **June 26 to July 4, 1982**. Look for the final announcement of dates in the June issue.

—Bob Forbes

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NO CAMPMEETING AT HOLLY HILL, S.C.

The congregation at Holly Hill, S. Carolina, will not have a campmeeting this year.

However, we are planning, if it is the Lord's will, to have a revival meeting here at Holly Hill from Oct. 10 to 17, 1982. Pray for that meeting, and the saints and ministers are urged to come.

—Utson Platt, pastor
R. 1, Box 34, Holly Hill, S.C. 29059

Old-Fashioned Campmeeting at Chilliwack, B.C., Canada

The Church of God will hold, Lord willing, a campmeeting at Charis Camp from June 21 to June 27, 1982. There will be services daily at 10:30, 2:30 and 7:30. The young people will have the 2:30 service.

We extend a hearty welcome for all people to come and be with us. Bring bedding and extra food if possible. There is a \$1.50 per person per day charge by the camp. Otherwise, the meeting will be on the freewill offering basis.

Charis Camp is located about nine miles north of Chilliwack on Highway 1. Watch for signs.

Much emphasis will be placed on prayer and the reformation truths. Pray much for this meeting.

For more information, contact Ron and Ann Walter, 576 Wellington Ave., Chilliwack, B.C., Canada V2P 2E9, phone (604) 792-5201, or Paul Sorrell, 6407 Mt. Baker Hwy., Deming, Wash. 98244, phone (206) 599-2014.

MEETING REPORTS AND NOTICES

WICHITA, KAN., SPRING MEETING REPORT

We really appreciate God's blessings again to us here in Wichita, and the precious things He did for us during our meeting.

The first day of the meeting, about an hour or so before service was to start, one of the teen-age sons of Bro. and Sis. Charles Taylor, Lamont Taylor, received burns on his face from the explosive-like igniting of propane gas. He had been saved about two weeks and stood with his parents about not going to the hospital when the firemen (who came to extinguish the fire which had been started in the camper) and accompanying paramedics were insisting it was necessary.

The ministers had been called, and earnestly prayed for him, and God took away the burning pain. He had some blisters for a few days, but by the last of the meeting he was all healed up and his color returning to the burned places. It was such a blessing to see how God worked and Satan was defeated in the whole situation. It has proved a blessing and encouragement to the whole congregation and to the other saints that were here. Praise God!

The Lord was faithful to send ministers and give them the Word that was needed. The Word came on many lines, and was truly a mirror for saints and sinners alike to see where they stood.

The Lord healed, strengthened, encouraged, sanctified, enlightened, convicted and blessed during the

meeting, and we truly give Him thanks and praise. Now that we stand more responsible before the Lord, may we all keep marching up the King's highway.

—Submitted by Shirley Knight

SPECIAL SERVICES AT HOFFMAN, OKLA.

Lord willing, the saints at Hoffman, Okla., plan to have a gospel singing on Saturday night of May 8, 1982, and all-day services on Sunday the 9th at the chapel. Come and be with us for the singing, and plan to stay for the all-day services on Sunday.

For further information, contact the Pastor, Bro. Woodrow Warren, 810 North Porter, Okmulgee, Okla. 74447, phone (918) 756-6425. —By Lorene Payne

National Ministers' Meeting

A national ministers' meeting of the Church of God will be held, Lord willing, at Guthrie, Okla., beginning on Monday, June 7, at 10:00 a.m., following the Guthrie campmeeting which closes on Sunday, June 6, 1982. The dining hall and dormitories will be available for the ministers. Pray fervently for the success of this meeting in the advancement of the cause of Christ and His Church.

We are very sorry that the dates or place of this meeting could not be changed for the two or three that responded. As you well know, it is nearly impossible to set a date and place that would be suitable for all. May God's will be done in all these deliberations.

—L. D. Pruitt

NATIONAL CAMPGROUND PROGRESS REPORT

Campmeeting time is getting closer, and we are looking forward to the Lord's blessings through another campmeeting season as He has done in past years.

The work days for the preparation of the campground at Neosho (Monark Springs), Missouri, are scheduled for July 10 and 17. This is a little different than it has been done in the past. We have purposely scheduled only two days (weekends) with the hope that more congregations will respond with more workers on those two days, so the jobs can be done without so many long trips to Monark. This is a **National Campmeeting**, and we want all that have a burden for the meeting and can, to share in the effort to make the grounds ready. We will try to have the work organized that everyone will have a job to do.

In addition to the normal cleaning and organizing tasks, there is some electrical work to do. Cable has been donated for a new power supply for the northwest corner of the grounds. Some new cabins are being built on the new lots at the east edge of the property. Electric service should be extended for the new cabins. So far, seven of the new lots have been leased. Several plan to build cabins this year.

The late Sister Blacksher of Springfield, Mo., left her house and belongings to the National camp-

ground. The house is being advertised for sale, but so far we do not have a good prospect. We would appreciate it if the saints would help us pray for this need. The personal property has been sold, except for a few items, and the money deposited in the Church account. It was intended that the proceeds from the sale of this property be used to build a public-use building on the campground.

—Bro. James R. Wall, General Manager
5825 E. 64th St., Tulsa, Ok. 74136

WORK DAYS ON OKLAHOMA CAMPGROUND (MAY 15 and 22)

With the fast approach of the 48th annual Oklahoma State campmeeting of the Church of God at Guthrie, Okla., we find much work needing to be done on the campground and buildings in preparation for this meeting. We thank the Lord for the facilities He has provided for this meeting place, and we feel a responsibility to continue to maintain and improve it as long as He desires us to have the campmeeting in this location. There is considerable work needing to be done on the buildings beside the normal big task of cleaning and preparing the dormitories and getting the dining hall set up and operational. We desire to paint the outside of the dining hall and part of the chapel. The porch roofs on the dining hall also need to be reshingled.

For these reasons we are announcing **May 15 and 22 as general work days on the campground.** We urge each congregation in the state to accept the responsibility and feel an urgency to come and assist in the care and upkeep of the facilities the Lord has provided. Let us be workers together with God, whether it be in the preaching and teaching of His Word or the care and maintenance of the campground.

Anyone that can provide his own paint brush for painting windows and trim, and paint scraper or other associated tools to work with, please do so.

A noon-day meal will be provided each work day by the sisters of the Guthrie congregation. Accommodations will be made for all who desire to spend the night.

Let us all meet together in the spirit of love and cooperation that much may be accomplished and that our association together might be well pleasing to the Lord.

—Bob Sallee

Praise God wherever you may go.
Praise God from Whom all blessings flow.
Praise God for saving your poor soul.
Praise Him and not a mite withhold.

—Effie Miller

Somehow, not only for Christmas,
But all the long year through,
The joy that you give to others
Is the joy that comes back to you.

—John G. Whittier

Prayer Requests



Phil.—Pray for Bro. Xavier G. Prado, a native missionary in the Philippine Islands, who is suffering from a growth at the base of his neck. He desires the Church here to pray earnestly for his healing, so that the gospel work will not be hindered.

Kan.—Sister Delores Bradley is still suffering from injuries (possibly a broken hip) sustained in a fall on ice about six weeks ago. She is able to be up on crutches only a few minutes at a time. Pray earnestly for her healing.

Texas—Pray for Sister Lessie Speed that the Lord will heal all her physical ailments.

Missouri—Continue to pray for Bro. Murphy Allen of Springfield and Sister Eva Lou Gaines of Thayer who are suffering in the furnace of affliction. Pray fervently and continually for their deliverance to the glory of God.

Fla.—Bro. and Sister Hargrave and their 12-year old daughter Rachel of Goulds still need your prayers for grace and courage to meet all the tests, and for the Lord to work out all the problems they face in this extended trial of faith.

—L. D. Pruitt

NOTE OF THANKS

Dear saints: I thank you for your prayers, visits, phone calls, cards, and letters. I am thankful to be in the family of God that when one suffers all suffer. I have much to be thankful for. I praise our dear heavenly Father who hears and answers prayer in my behalf. I am not back to normal yet, but I'm expecting more strength with each new day.

Christian love,

—Cassie Wilson

Rt. 1, Box 210A, Senath, Mo. 63876

FOREIGN MISSION REPORTS

NIGERIAN MISSION REPORT

Bendel State, Nigeria (March 24)—Dear Bro. Pruitt: Greetings in the strength-giving name of the Lord Jesus. "Seek the Lord and his strength, seek his face continually." 1 Chr. 16:11.

Thank you for your letter dated March 2, 1982. Its receipt gladdened our heart to find you surprisingly strong enough to communicate with us still in the land of the living. Praise God! Its contents are appreciated.

Admittedly, the Lord's name should be exalted for clothing His Church with the gift of healing which countless numbers, who have faith in the fervent prayer of the Lord's anointed, have been blessed to enjoy. . . . You are assured of hopeful contact with the Throne for your healing. Let us know when the touch of the Lord is felt.

There was not much mobile evangelism during the month of March, but the saints have been gathering jubilantly in Zion, inside her impregnable

walls of salvation, praising God in the City of the great King. Each time of gathering, gates of praise fly open and God is glorified in our midst. We acknowledge His blessings. Not only does the Lord bless His people in Zion, but, as predicted in Isa. 25:6, He spreads a feast of rich things before them. We honour Him to Whom triumph belongs.

Three congregations, namely, Kwale, Umuachi-Afor and Obetim-Uno, accepted the advice of this writer to embark on experimental farming to find means for the Lord's work in Africa. Acres of land have been acquired as a result from a family of Obetim-Uno community for cultivation of seasonal crops. Clearing of bush is in progress. For effective supervision of the project, this writer may not travel out of Nigeria this year, as hitherto contemplated, to ensure the successful start of the venture. Work now in the vineyard of souls in Nigeria is vast and great, causing this writer overwork and mental strain.

The chapel under construction at Kwale has since been roofed. Kwale congregation was blessed of the Lord to invest thousands of dollars to materialize our dream of building a chapel for gathering of the Lord's people. We shall go over to face the following phase of the work after resting for a while: Flooring, plastering, ceiling, and fixing of doors and windows. We have to express our indebtedness of gratitude to those U. S. saints who helped in the Lord's work in Africa. Our faith in the great God is unshakable.

We must be sanctified wholly to remove from the heart the cause of carnal divisions.

Ever yours in Christ, —Titus U. E. Enu.

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MISSION REPORT FROM INDIA

S. India (March 20)—Dear Bro. Pruitt, saints at Guthrie and everywhere: Our greetings of Christian love to all of you in the precious name of Jesus Christ in Whom all treasures of wisdom and knowledge are hidden. Thank you very much for your kind letter dated March 1, and the enclosures were noted with much appreciation and heartfelt gratitude.

Sister Keiser's three-months' stay here was a real blessing to the Church in India, and we thank the Lord that He gave her a safe trip home. Her work among the children was very profitable, and now many children from Hindu and Catholic families attend our Sunday school regularly.

We had wonderful meetings in the North. The four-days' meeting at Kodassery and the two-days' meeting at Kolazhi were blessed with good attendance and anointed messages. The newly built chapel at Kodali was dedicated and opened for services on March 3. We are thankful to Bro. Archie Souder and his congregation for the support to build this chapel. It took a long time to get it finished due to many hindrances.

The Lord helped us to buy land at Chalakudy and at Athani on which to build chapel buildings, and the saints in those places are waiting for the support to build.

—John Varghese

From the Mailbox . . .

Ont., Canada—Dear Bro. and Sis. Pruitt: Greetings in the precious name of Jesus! I gladly say that the good Lord has never failed me. In all kinds of trouble, He is a present help and my best Friend.

We appreciate so much the love of all of God's people, and I want to tell you, dear Brother, that we here in Canada appreciate the work of the Lord's Print Shop. We believe, and have read it, that the good Lord touched you, and you feel better.

We remember when we first came to the Monark Springs campmeeting in 1976, how the Lord blessed us and we were able to see the true Church of God in operation. Since we met the saints, we are a happy bunch of people, singing the praises of the Lord at home, in service, and at work.

May God bless all of you in the Lord's Print Shop, is my prayer. Even though we are few in number, the Spirit of God anoints and blesses the same as in a large congregation. The Lord is truly blessing our meetings.

Dear Bro. Pruitt, we often hold you up before the Lord, and trust that God will have His perfect will done in regard to your healing, as the Lord may need you for many years to come at the Print Shop.

I do ask you to remember us in your prayers.

Christian love,—Bro. and Sister George Schroeder

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Fla.—Dear Bro. Pruitt: I do hope the dear Lord is blessing you more and more, and giving you more victory and health.

I just celebrated my 95th birthday on April 13. It is wonderful how the dear Lord has cared for me for so long. I remember a lot about the early saints. They were so precious. I am the only one in my family standing for the old paths. They were old, and yet so new in those days, and still are.

—Sister Anna M. Rouse

Testimonies and Answers to Prayer

La.—Dear workers at the Lord's Printshop: Today finds me pressing for heaven. I am very frail in body, and I know my time is getting short. I want to be ready when Jesus calls me, so pray for me that I ever stay true to my Lord. Heaven will be cheap at any cost.

Yours in Christ,

—Mary Bush

(Editor's note: Sister Bush, aged 85, lives in Hammond, La., and she is much concerned and burdened for the spiritual welfare of our young people and the future of the Church. She will have a message for them in a forthcoming issue of the *Lamp of Youth* paper.)

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W. Va.—Dear Bro. Lawrence and co-workers: Greetings of Christian love. We trust this finds you looking upward and pressing onward, "waxing valiant" in this fight of faith in the Lord's service. We, the servants of the most High, should have bright

spiritual prospectives, and a keen vision of eternal things.

When Stephen was being stoned to death for his testimony and witness for the Lord, "he being full of the Holy Ghost looked up steadfastly into heaven and saw Jesus standing on the right hand of God." Acts 7:55.

When the Lord leads us into the furnace of trial or affliction, His desire is to bring us through with victory. Jesus sits as a refiner and purifier of silver, using extreme heat to remove all the dross and impurities and everything that is not Christlike. His desire is to see His image reflected in our lives.

Be a brave soldier for the Lord. "Take, my brethren, the prophets, who have spoken in the name of the Lord, for an example of suffering affliction, and of patience. Behold, we count them happy which endure." James 5:10, 11.

The Lord has recently performed a miracle in our home. Our daughter, Joyce, fell on a toothbrush, puncturing a large hole into the soft area in the back of her mouth. Severe bleeding followed, but the Lord stopped it almost immediately. She was suffering intensely, and could not eat or drink without pain. We brought her to the Lord, called the saints for prayer, and the Lord miraculously healed her. He closed the wound, removed the pain, and in less than 24 hours she was completely recovered and has been well and eating fine since then. What a mighty God we serve! It truly pays to live for the Lord and to trust fully in Him with a pure heart. Prayer is the key to heavenly treasures.

Saints, put both hands on the plow, set your eyes upon the goal, and don't look back. "Be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord. . . ."

In His service, —Bro. Mancil Doolittle
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La.—Dear saints everywhere: I feel impressed to send in my testimony of what the Lord has done for me. I could never tell it all, but God's gift of salvation is the beginning of all the blessings that we, the people of God, receive from day to day. I can recommend my Lord to all who need a true friend, or one to help in every time of need. Oh, to know Him is to love Him! As the song says, "I tried the road of sin and found its prospects all deceive; I've proved the Lord and joys abound more than I could believe."

I was almost 23 years old before I got saved, so I know that living in sin is not worthwhile. The peace that God gives, "not as the world giveth," is such a blessing and comfort! To be changed, know all is clear, and to receive all those "good things" God has for those who walk uprightly, is something to rejoice about. It is wonderful to trust Him, knowing that He knows what is best and He never makes a mistake.

Recently God healed me of a sore on my back that had reached the point I could not lean back in a chair and I could hardly lie down on the bed. It caused my whole back to feel sore. Anyway, in answer to prayer, the Lord caused it to drain and it is healed now. The

Lord has healed my family and me many times, and I do thank Him and praise His name for it!

The Lord allows us to suffer at times and to go through hard things, but He is always right there with us and will never leave us alone. Is there anyone in sin who doesn't go through sickness and trials? They don't have a loving Savior to comfort and encourage them. The enemy just comes to "steal, to kill, and to destroy." Oh, how it pays to serve Jesus. It pays every day. There isn't anything in the life of sin that I desire. I want to get closer and closer to God, and that is my desire for others. Open your eyes and look at your life and the way you are going. Is it really what you want out of life? Make your decision. Choose ye this day whom you will serve. Turn from sin and serve the Lord. "Jesus saves, yes, saves today."

I desire your prayers, —Virgie Flynn

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Tx.—Dear Bro. Pruitt and workers: May God bless you one and all there in the print shop. I thank the Lord Jesus Christ for His many blessings to me. I give thanks for His saving grace at all times.

I was very ill in January with pneumonia. I had to go to the hospital as I live alone and was too sick to stay by myself. The medicine did not help my illness, and my lungs were very congested with cold. I came home and my sister Ruth Donnelly of Los Angeles sent my name to you for prayer. The Lord touched my body and I was healed. The doctors were surprised when I went back for X-rays after the February 10 special prayer day. I thank the good Lord for touching my body and healing me. I thank all the saints for their prayers.

God bless you all there and all over the nation. Do pray for me that I will continue in this beautiful saved way of truth. Please accept this small gift of love.

—Hazel Alexander

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Tenn.—This is a delayed testimony, but I feel the Lord wants me to give it. I do praise and give thanksgiving to God, and pray and trust that it will be a help and encouragement to others, and will inspire greater faith and trust in the Lord for every need.

In July, 1980, something rather strange and unusual happened to me quite suddenly. It may have been a light stroke. There was no pain or paralysis, but a sudden feeling of depression, fear, and anxiety came over me. This was so different to my long years of cheerfulness, joy, peace, and happiness, with faith and trust that had given me victory and courage many times during my life. Now, for several days (about two weeks) I had a real battle with fear, worry, depression, sleep interruptions, and discouragement.

My faith and trust were in God, Who had healed me and our family over the years, and had blessed in many wonderful ways. As I prayed and searched my life for needed improvement, and as the enemy tried so hard to use his chief weapons—discouragement and blown-up accusations—certain definite healings from the Lord started happening. Bro. and Sis. Lawrence

Burleson of Spruce Pine, N. C., came 75 miles to visit us, not knowing of my need or condition. The Lord surely sent them on a day that Christian help and fellowship were really needed. They were a real blessing and encouragement. Then, in expressing a need for prayer in a letter to Bro. Pruitt, without going into details on symptoms, he sent me two or three tracts, two of which so fitted my case and were really helpful in defeating the enemy. A few nights later, a long-time friend and Christian brother—Bro. W. R. Fox of Marion, Ky.—phoned, not knowing anything about my need. Prayer was requested by him, and by Bro. Curtis Williams and family.

Then, the next day, Sunday, July 27 or 28, was the last day of the National Campmeeting at Monark Springs, Mo., where I had attended in previous years, heard God's Word preached with power and conviction, and where many souls had been saved and sanctified, and others healed of various types of sickness and afflictions. My thoughts were, "Why not ask this great body of saints to unite with others for my healing?" So a call to the camp ground about 10:30 a.m. was made, where Bro. Mart Samons took my prayer request to that portion of the body of Christ, the Church of God assembled there, and they prayed earnestly for my healing. Praise the dear Lord, about 5:00 p.m. that day I was healed. How I thank Him for the peace, assurance, cheerfulness, and victory that returned to me. Oh, what a blessing this was, and I want to forever be grateful and walk humbly and obediently before Him each day. Also, I am thanking all of you everywhere, along with our family, friends, and good neighbors, who prayed for me with love and concern.

With Christian love, —Charles B. Williams

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

La.—Dear Bro. and Sis. Pruitt and saints everywhere: Praise the Lord, I'm going to keep holding on! Although my foot is healed, I am still having one illness after another. My faith is still in my blessed Savior until He sees fit to call me Home.

In Psa. 62:5 it says, "My soul, wait thou only upon God." While we are in the furnace, we can walk with God and no earthly elements can get on our garments. We can live and be surrounded with a heavenly atmosphere. Many times this Word falls on my heart like a benediction, WAIT! The Lord will take our burden and set crooked matters straight.

In St. John, we read that a man waited by the pool who had been afflicted thirty-eight years. But it was all as a day, after the Lord healed him. You and I, too, if the Lord bids us wait in our trials, sorrows, and afflictions the rest of our lives, can trust in the Lord. Yet there will come a time when He will take us by the hand to Himself, and all our grief will be forgotten in that hour! Praise the Lord! WAIT, dear saints upon God!

"If a man die, shall he live again? All the days of my appointed time, will I WAIT, till my change come." Job 14:14. Also, in Psa. 25:3, "Yea, let none that WAIT on thee be ashamed; let them be ashamed which trans-

gress without cause." So bless the Lord, I will WAIT upon Him. He leads me. One day I shall see His face in Glory. Wait on the Lord, all you dear saints. He knows what He is doing with all of us. Be prayerful and have the faith that was once delivered to the saints. Hold on, and keep holding on.

Bro. Lawrence, our prayers down South are with you constantly, and with all the other dear sick saints. I love the Church of God, and all the saints. I am looking forward to meeting them on yonder shore. Should we meet here no more, let us be faithful to our Savior.

Love and prayers, —Sis. Rubye Quave

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

Kansas—Dear saints: Holy greetings in the name of our blessed Lord. I'm so thankful today for His wonderful love and mercy unto me.

I want to thank Him and all of the family of God for their prayers during my time of distress. Many of the saints thought I fell on ice, but I fell from a two-foot stool. I was sitting on the stool and leaned too far forward to look into the oven, and the stool skidded back from under me, and I sat flat on the floor. I am 86 years of age and weigh over 200 lbs., so it was quite a fall. Praise His dear name forever, no bones were broken! Yet I was almost helpless for about two weeks. God was good, the saints were kind, and the family I stay with took good care of me. I thought I would surely need a walker or wheelchair, but after five or six weeks, I was able to walk around the house without even a cane. I still have some trouble with my back. I am looking to the Lord to move everything out that hinders.

I don't know why such an ordeal happened to me at this age. I thought the Lord might take me home, but He restored me to my feet again. I did learn to have more patience and humility, and I certainly mean to trust Him. I will praise and love Him as long as I live.

I get much help from 1 Kings 8 and parts of verses 30 and 39, "... And hearken thou to the supplication of thy servant, ... and when thou hearest, forgive. For thou, even thou only, knowest the hearts of all the children of men."

I ask the saints to pray for my complete healing. My hearing and sight are poor, also.

Christian love, —Sis. Amy Hunter

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

W. Va.—Dear saints: Greetings in the dear name of Jesus. Truly, we are thankful to be a child of God, and to have a knowledge of the truth and of the saints of God. Nothing else will satisfy when you once have a vision of the true Church of God.

The Lord has done much for me, and I know I could never tell it all, but I do want to thank the Lord for how He has kept me saved now almost 25 years.

I remember before I got saved and with the true people of God, I would pray and ask the Lord to please help me to come to the place where I could forsake all for Him. I had been saved a few years earlier in a denomination, but it lasted only for a few

months. Before I backslid, I got acquainted with the saints, and the Lord showed me that this was the way to go. Sorry to say, I was afraid my husband would leave me if I went with the saints and dressed as they did. He had gone to one of their services with me and had just made fun of them. So I gave up the Lord because I loved my husband more than God. But the Bible teaches us in Luke 14:26, "If any man come to me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife and children and brethren and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple."

I was not happy away from the Lord, and I would get so hungry to be saved again. I prayed and asked the Lord to help me come to the place where I could forsake all for Him. He let many things come my way to help me reach that place. I remember when our youngest son who was born with asthma was three, he had a bad asthmatic attack. I took him to the doctor and they gave him a "shot." It only made him worse. The Lord talked to me and said, if I would call the saints for prayer He would heal him. I finally called the saints about 11:30 one night, and the Lord did heal him. He never had any more attacks of asthma. I didn't get saved right away, but I began to count the cost more earnestly. I realized that I owed my life to the Lord. I began to go to the saints' meetings after this quite often, and I finally came to the place that I could forsake all for Him.

That fall after the Lord had healed John, there was a revival meeting in Dayton, Ohio. Bro. and Sis. Sam Abbott were holding the meeting. The first night I went, I got saved. I had asked the Lord before He saved me, "If you can't keep me saved, don't even save me." So five nights later He saved my husband and that took care of the hindrance I had had in the past. I still had to come to the place that I would love the Lord more than my husband or anyone else.

It has been a precious life living for the Lord. I had been deep in sin, and I wonder today if I had not come to the place that I was willing to forsake all, would my husband and two of our children be saved? Surely the Lord has rewarded me a hundredfold for forsaking all. I think of that Scripture where Jesus says that if we forsake all, how we'll have a hundred fold in this life. Mark 10:29, 30. I have found this Scripture true in my life. I think of the many homes we have away from home, the many fathers and mothers in Israel, the many brothers and sisters, and also the many children we have in the Lord. Truly, there is just no way of expressing how I feel. I surely want to stay true to the end, so I can have eternal life. I love the dear people of God. They are my family.

I want to thank the Lord for touching my body when I was anointed and prayed for, while we were in the revival meeting in Okla. City, the first part of March. It has been hard for me to travel the last sixteen months. I fell on ice a year ago last Thanksgiving, and I must have broken or fractured a bone. It has been very hard to sit for very long at a time, and sometimes I could hardly get up without severe

pain. But since I was anointed and prayed for, there has been a big difference. Thank the Lord! I also thank the saints for all their prayers for me.

We just closed a revival meeting here at Green Bank, W. Va., last Sunday night (April 11). Surely the Lord did bless and send His Word forth with much anointing, and souls were convicted and found help at the altar. We were thankful for Bro. Tom Melot, Bro. Keith Fuller, and Bro. Donald Sharp who came to bring us the Word of God. Several isolated saints got to come and be with us in the meeting. It was very encouraging to them. We were happy to have several of the saints from Ontario, Canada, with us, and also the folks from Michigan.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank each of the saints that sent offerings on our tabernacle which we plan to have ready for our campmeeting beginning July 2. Almost \$2500 have come in. We believe we can build it for between seven and eight thousand dollars. Truly God is faithful.

Our attendance has been increasing each year, so we feel we have to enlarge our facilities. We surely thank the Lord for all He has done for us here at Green Bank. Pray for us here that we'll keep busy for the Lord, and when He calls us Home to be with Him we can hear Him say, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant."

May God richly bless each of you, is our prayer.

—Sis. Verna Samons

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Question and Answer Column

By Ostis B. Wilson

Question: What is the meaning of 1 Cor. 6:1-3? Especially deal with Paul's statement "The saints shall judge the world." How much territory does this cover, and what does it not cover?

Answer: This is part No. 2 of the discussion on this question. In Part No. 1 last month the discussion was principally on these three verses in general. Toward the last there were some points on the particular part, "The saints shall judge the world." It is my purpose now to go farther on this point.

John 5:22 says that the Father has committed ALL judgment unto the Son. Hence, the statement, "The saints shall judge the world" could not possibly refer to the saints participating in the general judgment on the last day. Jesus Christ Himself will be the one and only judge on that day, and will judge all men including the saints. But the saints do stand in a very particular relation to this world and in a very unique relation with Christ and the Father. God has chosen to carry on His work and promulgate His gospel in the world through the Church, the body of Christ. The Bible says that the saints are "Workers together with God" (1 Cor. 3:9 and 2 Cor. 6:1), and Jesus commissioned His apostles and also their successors throughout this age of time to "Go and teach all nations"—Matt. 28:19—and again, "Go ye

into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature" Mark 16:15. Incidentally, here is the answer to that part of the question, "How much territory does this cover?" That is, the entire world, all nations, and every creature.

You may ask, but what does all this have to do with the saints judging the world? Simply this: The proclamation of the gospel of Christ is a judgment against sinful men, and Jesus is with those who go forth with it (Matt. 28:20) and works with them, confirming the Word with signs following (Mark 16:20). And Jesus said in His commission in Mark 16:16, "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; and he that believeth not shall be damned." Thus, a judgment (preliminary) is going on continually by the faithful giving forth of the pure gospel from the Church and its God-called, God-sent, God-qualified, Spirit-filled and anointed ministry.

In Matt. 18:15-18, where Jesus is giving step by step instructions how to deal with an offending brother, and the final step is to take the matter to the Church and let them judge; then He said in verse 18, "... Whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." This makes it clear that God works in and through the Church and backs up and confirms its judgments when done in the Name of Jesus through the divine anointing of the Holy Spirit.

Paul wrote in 2 Cor. 2:15, 16, "For we are unto God a sweet savour of Christ, in them that are saved, and in them that perish: To the one we are a savour of death unto death; and to the other a savour of life unto life. And who is sufficient for these things?" This makes it clear that those who go forth in Jesus' name carrying on the work of God are a sweet savour unto God regardless of the people's response to the gospel. It also makes it clear that the results are entirely in the people's hands as to how they respond and react to the gospel. Then the very solemn question: "Who is sufficient for these things?" Obviously the answer is, "Only those who are living to the full light of the gospel, who are walking in truth, have the power and grace of God abounding in their lives, who are overcoming sin and living victoriously and triumphantly." They only will be sufficient to execute judgment against sin of all kinds. 2 Cor. 10:6 says, "And having in a readiness to revenge all disobedience, WHEN your obedience is fulfilled." In some instances judgment against evil is rendered ineffective when people who are not fulfilling these requirements get into it and endeavor to execute judgment. This only complicates things for those who are qualified and endeavoring to work out a problem.

Now let us look in upon a church (a congregation of saints) who is up to this standard and fulfilling these requirements and see how it works. If all the saints are on fire for God and full of zeal and fervency of spirit, and a lukewarm professor comes in among them, he will soon recognize that he does not fit in that atmosphere and become convicted of his

need. If all the saints are manifesting an attitude of mutual concern for one another's welfare, bearing one another's burdens, and showing a disposition to help and encourage one another, and a self-loving, self-centered person comes in among them, it will be the same. If all the saints are joyful, happy and cheerful and manifesting a positive outlook on life and some person who is glum and down in the dumps and with a sour disposition toward the world and every body in it comes in, he will soon recognize that all that negativism does not fit in this positive crowd and will become convicted. If all the saints are full of expressions of appreciation for one another and for God and His blessings and a habitual, chronic critic comes in among them, he will soon recognize that his criticism does not fit in that atmosphere and will be put to silence. If a covetous person comes in among a generous, liberal, free-hearted, big-hearted bunch of saints, it is not likely he will feel very comfortable and snug among them. In these ways and many more "The saints judge the world" by their outflow of godliness and manifestation of abundance of grace on every line.

In Matt. 24:14 Jesus said, "And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come." Note: He said the preaching of the gospel was FOR A WITNESS. In Isa. 43:10 and 12 God says to the Church, "Ye are my witnesses." God will surely execute judgment upon all sin and all sinners, but He must "Be justified when He speaketh, and be clear when He judgeth"—Psalm 51:4. Therefore He wants His truth preached unto the glorious end of time as a witness even though it may prove a savour of death to every body. He also wants the gospel lived and practiced by the Church as a witness unto the world. Therefore, He could clearly state to the condemned when pronouncing judgment upon them, "Here are my prophets who preached My gospel unto you and preached unto you the way of salvation and you rejected and refused them and would none of their reproof; and here are my saints who lived and practiced the principles of my truth right among you to show you the way; you made light of them, persecuted them and they were down-graded among you; and now you can only go your way to your own place." Of course, all of this speech will not be necessary and will not be said. Just seeing the saints whom they knew in this world, who manifested unto them the Spirit of Christ, the glorious life of the gospel, its standards of truth and holy living and let their light shine unto them, will be sufficient to condemn them in their own conscience and cause them to go away. In this very real sense, "The saints will judge the world."

There are also the many who have been defrauded of their rights in worshipping God and trusting Him according to His Word. There will stand Herschel Hargrave, K. C. Rich, Curtis Williams, Earl Parsons, and many, many, many more who have been persecuted, prosecuted and judged for trusting God for their children in sickness and death. The

judicial judges who have sat in judgment against these children of God in such cases could be told in that day, "Today I am your judge; you have no jurisdiction at all in this court wherein you stand today." The court-appointed guardian of Rachel Hargrave who boldly declared he would move heaven and hell to see that she got the medical treatment she needed, could be told in that day, "You are up against something today that you can't move." Christ could say to all of them in that day, "Here stand my faithful servants who had in their hearts to trust, obey, and honor me according to my Word and you have defrauded them of this right and broken their hearts with grief and sorrow; therefore, they shall be your judges."

Of course, we suppose that none of these things I have stated could be said will not actually be said nor need to be said because all these people will know at a glance and in an instant just how things are with them without anything being said.

When we consider how close Christ and His people are, and that many of His judgments that He mentions revolves around them and their treatment, and that they are workers together with Him; then we can see how they judge the world by participating in the judgment in a secondary way.

The Infinite Value of Time

At every tick of the watch thousands of souls are hurled into eternity. As the sun rises in the morning millions are in the land of the living, some serving their Maker according to His Word, but a great number serving their own desires and the enemy of souls. The sun goes down in the evening. Only a few hours have passed, but oh, what a change has been wrought! Many thousands of precious souls have spent their last day. They have crossed the last span of life and have passed over the river of death where they are now waiting for the day of judgment. A few have crossed the river in peace, knowing that all was well with them and that heaven would be their future abode; but many have died in fear. Also, during this short space of time more than this number have come into existence to follow in the steps of those who have passed away. What a solemn thought! How awful must be the scene in the day of judgment when "we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ" (Rom. 14:10), "and before him shall be gathered all nations." Matt. 25:32.

Dear brother and sister, are you doing your duty towards your unsaved neighbors and friends? Is your life pointing them to God "who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth" (1 Tim. 2:40), "not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance"? 2 Pet. 3:9. Are you doing all that you can for their salvation? Soon you will stand among this vast throng in judgment to give an account of how you have spent your time in this world, whether for self or for the salvation of others.

—Clyde Anthony

"Fear Not, Little Flock"



There is something endearing about the words "little flock." These words are used by Jesus when He is speaking of those who believe on Him. The term "little" does not signify a fewness in number, but it is used as an endearing word to show the close relationship between God and His children. The term "flock" is suggestive of a shepherd in his tender care for the sheep. As God's "little flock," we have nothing to fear. He will tend us as a shepherd. He will attend us all along the journey of life. When the way is dark He will not desert us; when danger threatens He will not forsake. The devotional psalm-singer said, "The Lord is my light and my salvation whom shall I fear?" No way can be dark when God is our light. Darkness may sometimes gather about us and we may not know which way to go, but if we wait on God, He will come and light up our way. Again David says, "The Lord is the strength of my life of whom shall I be afraid? Though an host should encamp against me, my heart shall not fear." The dark powers of Satan may sometimes encamp against you, but fear not, only believe. Trust in Him who will never desert His "little flock." How safe we should feel at all times; how free our life should be from fear, because we are the sheep of the Lord's pasture and nothing can harm us. Tonight, as I see God in His loving care for His flock, such a sweet feeling of security possesses my soul. I see Him carrying the lambs in His bosom and not one who believes on Him shall perish. If we see God as He is to us we can not but be happy no matter what may be our circumstances in life. Sometimes we may be in the furnace fire but even there He will be with His "little one" in such a manner that the furnace flame cannot harm. Bless His name! A prophet of old said, "I will trust in the Lord and not be afraid." Isa. 12:2. David says, "What time I am afraid I will trust in thee." By this he means in a time of temptation to fear he would put his trust in God. Again he says, "In God have I put my trust: I will not be afraid what man can do unto me." "Fear not, little flock." It is the Christian's privilege to be calm, restful, and undisturbed as he journeys on through life. Many things may arise to test his faith and cause him to fear, but in this time of tempest he may hear the words of Jesus, "Fear not, little flock." This will keep his soul in calmness and rest. Have faith in God. Trust Him and He will keep you in perfect peace.

—C. E. Orr

I once was blind,
But now I see.
Help me, Father, to always be
What you are expecting of me.

—Effie Miller

"Only the God of grace can give the grace of God."
—Edward M. Brandt