

# FAITH AND VICTORY

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## Church of God Servant



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### The Needy Meadow

Out in nearby meadow,  
Down from heaven blue,  
Hear a voice is calling,  
Calling out for you.  
"Come into the meadow  
For there is work to do;  
Come prepared to labor,  
There is much to do.  
"Tares are in the wheat,  
Thorns are in the clover;  
Flowers here are withered,  
Their heads bending over.  
While the sun is hidden  
By night time waxing bolder:  
Come and sow my meadow,"  
Cries the God of thunder.  
"Young men, stop your pleasure,  
Courage now you need;  
Women, leave your comforts  
For workers do I plead.  
Plow the waiting meadow,  
Sow the gospel seed;  
Out from tangled thistles  
My harvest must be freed."  
Out in nearby meadow,  
Down from heaven blue,  
God Almighty pleads for help  
From someone such as you.  
Daily hear His voice resound  
The call for workers true:  
"Come into the meadow,  
For there is work to do!"

—Connie Sorrell

### Eat Ye That Which Is Good

"Wherefore do ye spend money for that which is not bread? and your labor for that which satisfieth not? hearken diligently unto me and eat ye that which is good, and let your soul delight itself in fatness." Isa. 55:2.

We believe the prophet had special reference to the soul and its proper nourishment in this text. As it is good for the body to eat good food; so it is good for the soul to feed on good, wholesome, spiritual food. Jesus says, "I am that bread of life;" and "I am the bread which came down from heaven."

Babes in Christ are to desire the sincere milk of the Word, that they may grow thereby. Some are perfect, and able to know how to "choose the good, and refuse the evil"; but not all are perfect and able always to separate good food from bad; but, like young birds, open their mouths and swallow everything that professes to be food for the soul. Such persons will soon become what might be termed spiritual dyspeptics, and cannot thrive or live any length of time under such treatment.

We are now privileged to eat of the tree of life. The life-giving fruit of this tree can be had any month in the year. Rev. 22:2. The tree represents Christ, the bread of life. There is no mixture of good and bad fruit on the tree of life, but they who eat continually will grow fat and flourishing, and their soul will delight itself in fatness.

Some people think they can go to hear Babylon sermons, read sectarian literature, read novels, by choosing what is good and refuse what is evil. No child of God can incessantly read literature that is tainted with false doctrine with perfect safety to the soul, unless it be those who do so with the object of refuting such doctrine. If there is any carnality in the soul, it will naturally begin to feed on the false doctrine; and, in this way, many get deceived.

Much less can saints sit and listen to crooked sectarian preachers who are too blind to see the difference between truth and error, and receive good to their souls. If you think you are wise enough to go back and enjoy the good things the preacher says, and refuse the evil, you prove yourself destitute of

heavenly wisdom. That preacher who fights against the pure gospel, and then tries to preach as near like the saints as he can, and yet not go against his sect, is a more dangerous instrument in the hands of Satan than the saloonkeeper, whom you would not patronize under any circumstances whatever.

When a person goes into a saloon, he does not expect to find Christ or salvation there; but when he enters a professed gospel meeting, it is expected that he believe what is taught there, and that it is going to benefit him for eternity. Therefore, we boldly declare in the fear of God, that the man who makes his fellow creature drunk with beer or whiskey is no worse than the man who makes people drunk on the wine of the fornication of Babylon.

How could a saint go into a barroom and enjoy the spectacle of a man selling intoxicating beverages to his fellow creatures, and making them drunk? No more can a true saint in this beautiful evening light enjoy hearing and seeing a soul merchant of Babylon deceiving poor men and women.

Just fancy how a true wife would enjoy the sight of some other woman—a harlot—using her deceitful arts and devices in an attempt to be recognized as the wife of her husband. Just so with sectism. Babylon claims to be the bride of Christ, and is using all her devices to be thus recognized.

We ought to hate every false way, and ignore every abomination, from the old mother Rome, down to the latest deception under the guise of holiness. Let us, in holy love, be separated according to the Word. Let us "eat clean provender, which hath been winnowed with the shovel and with the fan." Isa. 30:24. Read clean, pure literature. If there are none in your locality who preach the pure gospel, and no saints with whom to assemble, do as a good old mother in Israel did when isolated from God's people, with none but sectarians around her—stay at home and read your Bible. Do not attend the saints' assemblies one part of the day; and then go out for a drive or a walk, and go to hear the sect preacher, and come back feeling he is a good man, and that he said many things which did your soul good.

If that is your condition, you are getting pretty drunk already, and, if you continue to go, you will soon be so drunk that you cannot be awakened until the judgment day. You had better cut yourself clear; for it is the time of the Lord's vengeance.

—J. C. Berry

Taken from *Gospel Trumpet* 1903

King Saul was exalted to be head of the tribes of Israel when he was little in his own sight, but his deplorable experience of being dethroned, and at last his disgraceful death, stand out in history like danger signals to us all, warning us to keep far from the rock of self-exaltation, upon which thousands have been wrecked in the past.

—J. W. Byers

"Enter not into the path of the wicked, and go not in the way of evil men." Prov. 4:14

## The Church of God

The Church of God is the only institution on earth that is of heavenly origin. It is the only institution on the shores of time that will continue to exist in eternity. All else will pass away with the closing of time. The glory of empires, the magnificence of civilization, the grandeur of monarchies of time will have no reflection amid the glories of heaven. The splendor of earth's fortunes, the pomp and show of earth's glories, the renown of eloquence and oratory, the fame of schools of learning, the enchantments of beautiful forms and ceremonies of creeds will find no imprint, will have no representation in that land beyond the grave. Only the Church of God will shine there. It came down from heaven, and will return to heaven.

The Church of God is God's body, not only on earth, but also through all eternity. The Church is God's habitation now and forever. God will dwell in His people and His people in Him while the cycles of eternity roll on unending. The Church of God on earth is God's incarnation among men. As men read the history of the true Church they will read the biography of God. The life of the Church is His life. The world is God's creation as a Creator, the Church is His creation as a Life-Giver. It is His own life. It lives in Him and He in it. The Church is a creation in Christ. The Church is not created in Christ by a mere creative act, but by being born of God. The Church is born of God in Christ and is the offspring of God. God loves the world as His creation. He loves the Church as the life of His life.

The Church of God on earth contains heavenly elements and nothing that is not heavenly. The Church bears God's image. God views His own likeness in His Church. The Church is a mirror which reflects all the Divine perfections. The Church of God is a living thing. It lives upon the life of God. God's life flows through its veins. The life of Jesus circulates freely through His Church, as freely as the blood circulates through the human body—the Church is His body. It feeds on heavenly food. It breathes the atmosphere of heaven.

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. God made the sun, moon, and all the shining stars, but He does not make them His dwelling place. When He built His Church, He said, "This is my rest; here I will dwell and multiply myself; here I have found such beauty and worth as to call out the fullest capacity of my love; here I find the fullest complacency of my being, here I see of the travail of my soul and I am satisfied."

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. It is the only institution over which they sing, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men." All of the conquests of the Church on earth bring joy to the angels.

The Church of God is the only institution on earth that can worship God. God, to be worshipped, must be worshipped in Spirit and truth, and nothing but the Church has the Spirit and the truth. The Church is full of heavenly instincts. God gives instinct to the bird and this instinct teaches it to do things. Heavenly instincts fill the Church, teaching it to do heavenly things. Its life is heavenly life. It lives by heavenly things, and divine things are wrought out by her activities. The Church is Holy Spirit-filled and Holy Spirit-governed. The Church is in the world, but the world is not in the Church. There is no room for the world in the Church. It is filled with divine things. The fish is in the salty ocean, but the fish is not salty. If you die in the Church you do not go out of it; if you die out of it you can never get in it. There is no sin in the Church. Her law is the law of holiness. All honor in the Church is given to the Holy Trinity. Some day the Church of God is going to be caught up to heaven and receive a faultless presentation into the immediate presence of God's glory, and the joys of heaven will be full, complete, and undiminished while eternity rolls on forever.

—C. E. Orr

## Let Me Ever Walk With Thee

Saviour, let me ever walk with Thee,  
Lead me over life's angry sea.  
There are pitfalls all around me, Lord;  
Guide me safely from this sinful world.

Master, let me ever be close to Thee,  
Never to stray away from Thee.  
Let me ever embrace Thy love divine  
And I will forever be Thine.

I love and adore Thee, my blessed Christ,  
Thou Son of God, Saviour of my heart;  
Thou art gentle, kind, and faithful,  
Wilt never forsake, but ever trustful.

My fascinating Lord, Thee alone I adore;  
Draw me closer to Thy cross I implore.  
When earth and time shall fade away,  
In Thee my soul forever stay.

When this life's journey is ended,  
Pain and heartaches will be faded;  
There we shall see the King in His beauty  
In the endless, boundless, glorious eternity.

In that home I shall behold my Saviour—  
We'll walk the streets of gold together;  
And with our beloved James, John, and Peter  
We'll sing and praise our God, the Father.

—Harry G. Markus Sr.

## Dying To Self

When you are forgotten or neglected, or purposely set at naught, and you don't sting and hurt with the insult or the oversight, but your heart is happy in being counted worthy for Christ—**THAT IS DYING TO SELF.**

When your good is evil spoken of, your wishes are crossed, your advice disregarded, your opinions ridiculed, and you refuse to let anger rise in your heart or even defend yourself, but take it all in patient loving silence, **THAT IS DYING TO SELF.**

When you lovingly and patiently bear any disorder, any irregularity, any impunctuality, or any annoyance when you stand face to face with waste, folly, extravagance, and spiritual insensibility and endure it as Jesus endured it . . . **THAT IS DYING TO SELF.**

When you are content with any food, any offering, any raiment, any climate, any society, any solitude, any interruption by the will of God, **THAT IS DYING TO SELF.**

When you never care to refer to yourself in conversation or to record your own good works, or itch after commendation, when you can truly love to be unknown—**THAT IS DYING TO SELF.**

When you can see your brother prosper, and have his needs met, and can honestly rejoice with him in spirit and feel no envy, nor question God when your own needs are far greater and in desperate circumstances—**THAT IS DYING TO SELF.**

When you can receive correction and reproof from one of less stature than yourself, and can humbly submit inwardly as well as outwardly, finding no rebellion or resentment rising up within your heart—**THAT IS DYING TO SELF.**

Are you dead yet? In these last days the Spirit would bring us to the cross "that I may know Him . . . being made conformable to His death."

—Author Unknown

## Mind the Little Things

Take care of the pennies and the dimes, and you will have the dollars. A pin scratch has caused the death of folks. If you begin to think a thing is too small to be given attention, you are entering a dangerous path. Little bricks build a great house, and little sins make a great sinner. You can put more love in doing little things than in great things. There is less danger of self being in the little things than in the great things. By guarding against every little evil and fault, and faithfully doing every little good thing possible, you can build up a beautiful holy life. Guard your thoughts and words. Lift up your soul to God many times a day. Keep the Lord set before your face. Spend your spare moments on your knees in a sweet little talk with Jesus.

—C. E. Orr

# 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 Randall D. Flynn, assisted by Wayne Murphey and other consecrated workers at the FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE, 920 W. Mansur, Guthrie, Okla. 73044 (USPS184-660)

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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 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.

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### FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE

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## EDITORIALS



**WE GREET YOU ONCE AGAIN** in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. We trust that you have been richly blessed and are faithfully pressing on in the service of our Lord. As the song says, "I'm so glad I'm a part of the family of God."

The autumn season has returned once again, bringing with it an end to the busy activities and labors of the summer months. No doubt many of you were able to attend at least one of the camp meetings this summer, and we trust that you were edified and much inspired in the things of the Lord. It rejoices our heart as we hear of different ones that yielded to the dealings of the Holy Spirit, and not only do we rejoice, but there is much rejoicing in heaven over each sinner that repenteth. (Luke 15:7) But, oh, how sad it is to think of those who did not yield to the convicting spirit of the Lord. There can never be too much emphasis placed on the importance of yielding one's life to the Lord. In the day of judgment, no doubt, the cry of many will be, "Oh, if I had only yielded to the Lord; why did I not yield?" But then it will be too late; mercy will be a thing of the past and the time of judgment will have arrived.

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The Guthrie congregation has been saddened by the illness and passing of our dear Sister Geneva Ray. Sis. Geneva was a real pillar in the congregation, and was a true example of Christianity and holiness.

In May of 1938, she was definitely led of the Lord to move to Guthrie, Okla., from New Mexico where she had been teaching school. She felt burdened to work here in the Print Shop and labored faithfully for many years. She learned to operate the Linotype and folding machines, and submitted many articles for the *Faith and Victory* paper. In recent years she did much proofreading and as long as she was physically able, she came to the office each month and operated the folding machine to fold the *Faith and Victory* paper.

Befriending and helping others was one of Sis. Geneva's delights. She and her devoted husband, Bro. Hyrum Ray, opened their home many times to the saints and those in need. Her deeds of love and kindness to God's creation will surely reap for her a great reward in eternity. "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me." Matt. 25:40b.

We earnestly pray the Lord will give the needed comfort to Bro. Hyrum and the family. There is naturally a vacancy and much sadness of heart at the parting of a loved one, but what a blessing that we "sorrow not, even as others which have no hope." 1 Thess. 4:13. Praise God for another victory that has been won!

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Bro. Curtis Williams has been in a tent revival meeting at Delaware, Okla., which began Sept. 17, and is to continue through Sept. 26. We have heard

some good reports from the meeting thus far, and trust that the gospel seed that has been sown will germinate and grow, and produce much fruit.

We pray the Lord will prepare hearts and richly bless in the other revival meetings that are scheduled to be held in the near future.

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We extend congratulations to Bro. Dennis Wattenbarger and Sis. LaVonda Sharp who were united in marriage on Sept. 11, 1982. Sis. LaVonda is the daughter of Bro. Donald Sharp who pastors the congregation at Dayton, Ohio. We trust the Lord will bless this union with many happy, fruitful years together, and that their home and lives will be centered around their devotion to God. They are currently residing at Rt. 6 Box 10, Shawnee, Okla. 74801.

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Many of you are no doubt anxious to know how Bro. Lawrence is. It saddens our heart to see how he continues to weaken in body, but his faith in God is strong and steady. Bro. Lawrence is very weak, and takes very little nourishment, but he is able to sit up some in his chair each day. It is so wonderful how the Lord is a present help to relieve pain in times of suffering. He feels and appreciates so much the prayers of the saints, and is looking steadfastly to the Lord for his deliverance. Bro. Lawrence and Sis. Maybelle appreciate your continued prayers.

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As days turn into weeks, weeks into months, and months into years, just that swiftly we are being ushered to the final judgment and our eternal home. **Where will that home be?** That, dear reader, depends on you and me. We, individually, decide where our eternal home will be. Our heavenly Father, the great eternal God, has prepared two places for mankind to dwell eternally; one is called heaven and the other is called hell. God created mankind with factors of reasoning, thus enabling him to decide or choose for himself. Even though man is born into sin, he does not have to remain in sin. God has provided a plan of redemption; man has the power of choice. He can choose to remain in sin, or he can choose to accept or partake of God's redemptive plan of salvation. In other words, we either yield ourselves to Satan and sin, or to God and righteousness. "Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?" Rom. 6:16.

As we near the judgment, Satan realizes his time is getting shorter. He is working with full capacity and no respecter of persons to destroy faith in God and drag souls down into the Lake of Fire—the place of everlasting punishment—abandoned from God and hope. Dear reader, where are you today? The choice is in your hands. If you are not one of God's redeemed children, consider your ways. Where will they end? Is this what you really want? If not, turn to God in true repentance and humbleness of heart. "Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his

thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon." Isa. 55:7.

Dear Christian, praise God for your deliverance! Firmly stand for truth and right; keep your affections set on things above. Satan is a conquered foe through the blood of the Lamb; through the grace of God you will prevail. Praise our God! —Randall Flynn

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## *In Memorial*

Anna Geneva Bailey Ray was born December 27, 1910, at Jasonville, Indiana, to John and Ava Bailey. Sister Geneva went to sleep in Jesus at her home on September 14, 1982, at the age of 71 years, 8 months, and 18 days.

At about the age of 16 she moved with her family to Espanola, New Mexico, where she graduated from High School as valedictorian of her class. After college she taught school in the mountains of New Mexico for some time, residing with an older Spanish couple who could not speak English. She was a very adventuresome person, riding horses, and even going to school in the snow on skis.

In 1935 Brother Fred Pruitt and a gospel company came into that area of New Mexico for a series of meetings. Sister Geneva, being convicted of her sins and her need of a Savior, yielded her heart to God and embraced the truth of His Word. She later moved in response to the call of the Lord to Guthrie, Oklahoma, and began to work in the Faith Publishing House. She operated the Linotype and paper folder for the Lord's Print Shop for many years besides contributing articles for the *Faith and Victory* paper.

She was united in marriage to Hyrum Ray on March 23, 1941, at Guthrie, Oklahoma. Although she was not granted to bear any children of her own, her heart reached out to other children, taking many into her home and care as foster children, and also adopting two sons, John and Jesse.

Sister Geneva's greatest concern was the work of the Lord, the welfare of souls, and the spreading of the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. She was a faithful member of the Church of God congregation of Guthrie

throughout the years until the Lord called her home. She was an efficient Bible teacher, song leader, and example of righteousness and godliness by her life. She had a compassionate and generous heart, always reaching out to do for others in need.

She is survived by her husband, Brother Hyrum Ray, of the home; two sons: John and Jesse, of Guthrie; three brothers: John Bailey of Constable, New York, George Bailey of Indianapolis, Indiana, and Wesley Bailey of Greenwood, Indiana; four sisters: Arletta Bailey of Las Vegas, New Mexico, Thelmarie Salazar of Thousand Oaks, Calif., Ruth Stone of Scotland, Indiana, and Ava Callahan of Odon, Indiana; three grandchildren, beside other relatives, and a host of friends and saints. Her father, mother, two brothers, and one sister preceded her in death.

Funeral services were held at the Church of God Chapel at Guthrie by Bros. Leslie Busbee, Willie Murphey, and Archie Souder. Burial was in Summit View Cemetery, Guthrie, Oklahoma.

—Bro. Leslie Busbee

#### Note of Appreciation

I want to use this means to express my thanks and appreciation for all the prayers of the saints for my dear companion in her sickness. Also, I wish to thank each one for the cards, phone calls, and all the other services rendered in this time of need. The Lord has wonderfully blessed and helped us all through this time of affliction and sorrow. The saints were so good to help bear the burden of prayer and caring for her. May God bless and reward each one. Remember me in prayer that I might be faithful to the end and meet my dear companion with all the saints in glory.

—Bro. Hyrum Ray

### *O Zion, Haste*

O Zion, haste, thy mission high fulfilling,  
To tell to all the world that God is Light,  
That He who made all nations is not willing  
One soul should perish, lost in shades of night.

Chor. Publish glad tidings, tidings of peace;  
Tidings of Jesus, redemption, and release.

Behold how many thousands still are lying  
Bound in the darksome prison-house of sin  
With none to tell them of the Savior's dying,  
Or of the life He died for them to win.

Proclaim to ev'ry people, tongue, and nation  
That God in Whom they live and move is love;  
Tell how He stooped to save His lost creation,  
And died on earth that man might live above.

Give of thy sons to bear the message glorious;  
Give of thy wealth to speed them on their way,  
Pour out thy soul for them in prayer victorious,  
And all thou spendest Jesus will repay.

—Mary A. Thomson

"Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin." James 4:17

### Your Mother and Mine

#### In Memory of My Aunt, Lillie Mae Chandler

She has gone to be with our Mother,  
One she loved so dear.  
They in childhood walked together  
Tho' with frequent sigh and tear.  
The way was steep but they continued,  
Now, they have entered in  
Where joys are new, forever new!  
The victory they did win.  
Oh, can't you hear them singing  
A melody, calm and sweet!  
"Oh, 'twas worth the toil and suffering!  
Now in Heaven, here we meet;  
To forevermore rejoice  
On God's eternal shore.  
To share a new and happy life;  
The old one is no more.  
Look up, dear children," they say to us,  
"Your race has not yet been run,  
But by God's grace you can make it  
Where our bliss has already begun;  
Weep not for us, but for yourselves—  
Strength, comfort draw from above.  
We have shown you the way;  
God will not fail,  
But will keep you forever in His love."

—Louise Pierro

## MEETING REPORTS AND NOTICES

### SANDUSKY, OHIO TENT MEETING REPORT

We really appreciate God's blessing us here to hold our first tent meeting Aug. 9—16. It was a glorious meeting. The Word of God was preached with power under the anointing of the Holy Ghost, wherein the saints did greatly rejoice.

We appreciate the Lord sending Bro. and Sis. Hargrave and family, Bro. L. Kimble, and Sis. Sanders to be with us.

We are grateful to Bro. Keith Fuller, pastor of the congregation at Akron, Ohio, and the congregation for their support in the meeting. The Lord was faithful to send us the Word of God on many lines.

Many souls were able to hear the truth. We trust the souls the Lord was dealing with will yield their hearts to God.

—Bro James Bruner, Pastor

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### REPORT FROM BOLEY, OKLA., CAMPMEETING

We are thankful to the Lord for blessing us with a wonderful camp meeting in Boley, Okla. The Lord was faithful to send His ministers, workers, and saints to labor in the meeting. The Word of God was preached under the anointing of the Holy Ghost. Many souls were convicted of their needs and made their way to an altar of prayer to seek the Lord for spiritual help along many lines. Several were saved.

One soul that came out of Babylon, after praying through, said, "I left my burden at that altar and I got



victory." Another soul that was delivered from a rebellious spirit and other things was praising the Lord and said, "This is real!" Praise God!

We had good altar services day and night. The Holy Spirit surely did its office work, and our hearts did rejoice! The attendance was very good. Several states were represented during the meeting.

The singing was glorious. The ordinance and baptismal services were precious. The presence of the Lord was felt in our midst.

We give thanks unto God and praise Him for it all—praise the Lord! —Katherine Williams

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#### NEW ORLEANS OUTREACH REPORT

We surely do appreciate God's blessings to us in this meeting, also for the support and help the Lord sent. Souls testified to salvation and four souls followed the Lord in baptism.

We also are thankful for the prayers and offerings that were given to make this meeting a success, but above all we are truly grateful for the anointing of God's Word and how He blessed Bro. Hargrave each night.

Bro. Egbert Allen delivered us messages on "Jesus is Coming," and "Confidence, Rejoicing, and Hope," which were very stirring.

Sis. Annie Bell Allen from Dallas, Texas, had a burden for the children. Bible School attendance was very good.

Other ministers and workers that came to help in the meeting were Sis. Ladolia Fuller, Sis. Mary Hargrave, Bro. Carl Shaffer, also saints from Florida, Baton Rouge, Loranger, and Hammond, La. May God bless each one of you for your efforts and support.

We ask that the saints pray with us that God will supply us with a place of worship. As souls are added, we need more space.

Pray for us as we "contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints."

Yours for souls, —Bro. Louis Kimble

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#### ALL-DAY MEETING AT BOLEY, OKLA.

Lord willing, there will be all-day services of the Church of God at Boley, Okla., Sunday, October 17, 1982.

The afternoon service will be conducted by the young saints. We urge all young people to attend this service.

We extend a warm welcome to all to attend this meeting; both young and old are cordially invited. Come praying that the Lord will bless the meeting and our souls will be enriched from heaven.

—Katherine Williams

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#### ANNUAL FALL MEETING AT GREEN PASTURES, OKLA.

The fall revival meeting at the Church of God chapel in Spencer (Green Pastures), Okla., will begin on Friday, October 1, and continue through Sunday,

October 10. There will be three services on the first Sunday—at 11 a.m., 2:30 p.m., and 7:30 p.m. Services thereafter will be nightly at 7:30. The meeting will close with the afternoon service on the last Sunday.

We are praying that the Lord will send ministers and workers of His own choosing, and work mightily in this area. A warm invitation is extended to all.

The chapel is located at N. E. 57th and Denver. For further information, contact Brother Charles Chandler at 740 N. E. 81st St., Oklahoma City, Ok. 73114; phone (405) 478-1653. —Charles Chandler

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#### REVIVAL MEETING AT HOLLY HILL, S.C.

A revival meeting at Holly Hill, S.C., is planned to be held, Lord willing, Oct. 10-17, 1982. We pray that God will send ministers of His choosing. We extend a hearty invitation to all to attend the meeting. Come praying that God will pour out His Spirit on the people of this area. "How shall we escape if we neglect so great salvation?" Heb. 2:3.

For more information, contact Bro. Utson Platt at Rt. 1 Box 34, Holly Hill, S.C. 29059, or phone area code (803) 496-5759. —Bro. Utson Platt

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#### TENT MEETING NEAR LORANGER, LA.

The saints of the Oak Grove Church of God congregation near Loranger, La., are planning a revival for the third week in October, beginning Sunday, October 17 and continuing through Sunday, October 24. Also, a singing will precede the revival meeting on Saturday night, October 16.

Bro. Tom Melot of Guthrie, Okla., and Bro. Danny Lane of Ontario, Calif., plan to be with us in this meeting, and we feel that it would be profitable for this meeting, as an outreach to souls, to be a tent meeting.

The tent will be located on Hwy. 40, southeast of the community of Loranger, approximately 2 1/2 miles east of the caution lights at the intersection of Hwy. 40 and the "Morris Road," or approximately 1 1/2 miles west of the Oak Grove Church of God Chapel and the "Zemurray Gardens" entrance.

Please pray that this tent meeting will prove a great blessing to the saints, and reap a harvest of souls for the kingdom of heaven.

Christian love, —Bob Forbes

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#### FALL REVIVAL AT WICHITA, KANS.

Kan.—Lord willing, the Wichita Fall Revival Meeting will be held October 29 to November 7. We feel a definite need for a general stirring for all. We saints need our pure minds stirred up and need to be spurred on to greater victories. The backsliders need to be stirred about the urgency of returning to their Father soon. The sinners should be stirred about the fact that time is short and they must hurry and get started for heaven.



We are looking to the Lord to work and lead according to His will and give us an anointed and Spirit-filled meeting.

The pastor is Bro. Lewis Williams, and he can be reached at (316) 264-8481. His address is 2643 N. Spruce, Wichita, Kans. 67214. —Shirley Knight

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#### AUTUMN REVIVAL AT HOFFMAN, OKLA.

The annual autumn revival meeting will be held, Lord willing, at the Church of God chapel at Hoffman, Okla., November 10-14, 1982. There will be services each night at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is cordially invited to attend; we will appreciate your presence and prayers.

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

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#### ASSEMBLY MEETING AT JEFFERSON, OREGON

The Assembly meeting on the Church of God campground near Jefferson, Oregon, is scheduled to be held from Nov. 5 to 14, 1982. There will be three regular services daily. The meeting will be supported on the free-will offering basis, and the meals will be served in the dining hall on the grounds. Everyone is cordially invited to attend these services.

Directions to the grounds: Go to the Texaco service station at the north edge of Jefferson, turn right on Marion Road for about 3/4 mile, then turn left on Skelton Road for 1/2 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.

#### Prayer Requests



La.—“I have some kind of weakness that keeps me house-bound all the time. I’m not able to go to church or anywhere else. Please pray for me.” —Grace Lee

Okla.—Sis. Maude Britt has been in failing health for a number of months. She has been suffering much of late, requiring constant care. Her trust is fully in the Lord. Pray the Lord will give her a divine touch.

Calif.—“Bro. Gene [Harmon] has been very bad; it looked like he would go, but he rallied and is some stronger. He is very frail in mind and body; he’s in bed most of the time and can’t walk alone.”

—Sis. Loretta Harmon

Okla.—Sis. Mary Lounds is much in need of prayer. An affliction which has been on her body for many years has worsened to the point that she is now bedfast. Her faith and trust are firmly fixed in the Lord, and she values the prayers of the saints very much.

Fla.—“Please pray for me. I have very bad stomach trouble and poor appetite.”

—Sis. Anna Rouse

Ala.—“Please pray that I can keep right with God and get completely well or go on to heaven.”

—Ray Long

What a great privilege it is to bring *everything* to God in prayer! It seems that much of the time our requests are for the healing of our bodies, but this is not the only thing that we can bring to the Lord in prayer. Any need that we have can be brought to our heavenly Father. “Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.” 1 Peter 5:7. Notice the word “all.” This is a simple word, but let’s notice some of the dictionary definitions: “The whole extent or quantity of; the entire number of; the greatest possible; any.” Dear ones, may your eye of faith open wide; behold what the Lord has for you! Whether it be spiritual, physical, or temporal things you have need of, our God has it ALL. —Randall Flynn

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#### FOREIGN MISSION REPORTS

##### LETTER FROM PHILIPPINES

San Jose City, Philippines—Our dearest Brother Hammond: Happy greetings of holy love in the most precious name of our wonderful Saviour, Jesus Christ. He suffered much and died for the sake of sinful people; if they will repent of their sins, He will make them new creatures. . . .

We cannot express all in words our happiness and thankfulness for your immeasurable love for us. Yesterday we received the books you sent us. As I opened the pages, I was so eager to read and finish each of them. Thank you so much for your concern for me to come to the understanding of the whole truth. Each of those books contributed much to my enlightenment of the true Church of God. I’m praying much for God to mold me and prepare me to a greater ministry of the only one true Church, that many people will be able to find the highway of true salvation which is the only way to heaven.

I’m so happy to report to you that three young people requested to be baptized, and were baptized last Sunday afternoon. A family of three believers in Carrdad was scheduled to be baptized also last Sunday, but I was not able to cross the river because it was rising and flowing high. The mother of this family was the one with the hopeless sickness I wrote to you about. They sent someone to ask me to pray for her. I went over and prayed for her fervently with the saints there. With God’s wonderful love and mercy He showed a miracle to us. She got well immediately and since that time, she was always eagerly attending worship services. She was very active reading the Bible and praying with her family. She, her husband, and the daughter are requesting to be baptized.

I’m praying for the Faith Publishing House that it may continue to be a blessing to the world. How is Bro. Pruitt today? We are praying for him privately and in groups.

We appreciate so much your burden for souls. May the Lord give you strength and many more

fruitful days to serve Him. We are always praying for the Lord to open the way for you to come again to visit us in the Philippines.

With much love, —T. S. Tangunan  
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### MISSION REPORT FROM OJOS NEGROS

Ojos Negros, Baja Ca., Mexico—Dear and appreciated Brother Lawrence: We greet you in the much loved name of our Lord Jesus desiring that His rich blessings be over you all and all your family. We are well, thank God.

This last weekend, Bros. Carnell Montgomery and Robert Sherman came to visit us. It was much encouragement to us and the rest. We went to Chapultepec to visit Sister Amparo Garcia and her family. We were all so happy together in the name of our Lord. We also went to the valley to be with the Rosas family. They are very encouraged and we are all praying for a work there. It is the desire of Brother Peter, who is now elderly, to have a place where they can be in service regularly where they speak the truth and God's Word. I believe, of a truth, he sees the Church of God as it is. We desire to know the will of our Maximum Chief who is Christ Jesus.

Also, Brother, we are in supplication to God for your affliction, that He will work. He is able to; is that not so? We know that He who is our Maker, has power and grace to make an end to our affliction that we will be able to labor in His vineyard; but if it is His will to carry us to that celestial mansion to rest, what a privilege to enjoy the presence of the Lord while others have to keep on fighting against temptations, trials, and many other things!

May the Lord help us and give us grace each day to follow Him faithfully and teach others of His love and goodness in these difficult times . . . perhaps there is very little time left.

Accept greetings from all the faithful ones here, the people of La Huerta, and all the rest. Although we don't know all of you, we love you all in the Lord.

Greetings of Christian love and an exchange of prayers.

—Mayarino, Panchita, Mario, and Sarah Escobar  
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### MISSION REPORT FROM INDIA

S. India (Aug. 20)—Dear Bro. and Sis. Pruitt, Bro. George Hammond, and all the dear ones everywhere in the U. S. A.: Greetings to you once again in the precious name of Jesus Christ, the wonderful Counsellor.

Many thanks for the letter written by Brother Hammond, and the enclosures were noted with much gratitude and appreciation. My heart is heavy when I think of the illness of dear Bro. Pruitt; I wish God would touch and heal him. The whole Church in India prays earnestly for Bro. Pruitt.

I am very glad and thank the Lord for the wonderful camp meetings there this year and am happy to note that God sent a revival in the Church and

that many young people moved to God with dedication and submission. Praise the Lord!

The Church activities here are moving on fine with considerable progress. The chapel building at Athani is slowly progressing. The rainy season will come to an end soon and the convention season starts by December. We expect some saints from the U. S. A. in our conventions this year. May God send someone to visit India this time.

Let us exchange our prayers. Our prayers are for all of you.

Yours in Him, —John Varghese

### NEW VAN PURCHASED

Bro. John Varghese writes: "We searched for a used van to buy, but failed to find one of good condition. We decided to buy a new van, and bought one with a seating capacity of 15 for \$10,000. The fund was \$7,000, and we gave that amount to the company. The balance of \$3,000 we have to pay within a few months in several installments. Please pray for this need. We thank the Lord because He answered our prayer for a van. I am sure He is able to clear this debt also." Anyone who desires to contribute to this worthy need may do so by sending your offering to this office specifying that it be for Bro. Varghese's van. May the Lord direct each of us as to what He would have us to do. —Randall Flynn

### From the Mailbox . . .

Okla.—Dear Bro. and Sis. Pruitt: Greetings in Jesus' dear name. I am still saved and pressing on for the dear Lord, although I am on the bed of affliction. My trust is in the dear Lord.

I want to extend my sincere appreciation and thanks for all of the cards, phone calls, love offerings, visits, and prayers in my behalf. Continue to remember me in prayer. I am enclosing an offering.

Your sister in Christ, —Mary Lounds

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La.—Dear Ones: We send Christian love in the precious name of Jesus. May the Lord bless each one of you there. It saddens our hearts to think of Bro. Lawrence's condition, but we know God doesn't make any mistakes—may He give him sustaining grace to endure if He doesn't see fit to heal.

I'm thankful I'm getting stronger. The Lord is so good to us. Harold and I still need prayer for the healing of our bodies—our faith and trust are in God and not man. We appreciate the prayers of the saints.

Our prayers are for God to continue to bless and supply every need there in the print shop. We do enjoy the paper, books, and tracts.

Love and prayers, —Harold and Norma Purvis

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Mo.—Dear friends at the Print Shop: Hope this finds all well and encouraged to press on to the prize. I'm glad to report that I'm on the Lord's side; He's been so good to me. I owe Him so much. I'm

determined to walk the straight and narrow way.

I ask an interest in your prayers. I've been praying about something and I wish you'd agree with me that the Lord would work it out.

Your sister in Christ, —Thelma Halbrook

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Mo.—Dear Friends: I see my subscription for the *Faith and Victory* paper has run out. I do so much enjoy the little paper. I appreciate the poem each month on the front page. Enclosed is \$2.00 for my and my daughter's subscriptions.

May God bless you as you work for our soon-coming King. —Mrs. Marie Hockmeyer

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Penn.—Dear saints at Faith Publishing House: Greetings in Jesus' precious name! I am glad to be part of the family of God. He is so precious to me; He sees me through each time of affliction and hard place. Praise His name!

We are having beautiful fall-like weather. After all the humidity of the warmer days, it is a very welcome change. Time is fleeting fast away and we must do all we can to help someone find the One True Way and live for God. What we do we must do quickly. The enemy is coming in like a flood, but God's people will stand. Praise His name!

God bless each one who gets out all the printed pages. I am sorry about Bro. Lawrence Pruitt. I pray daily and as often as his name comes to mind. It is very hard on him I know.

May souls be saved through your ministry is my prayer.

Yours in Him, —Eva Cox

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Texas—Greetings of love in the precious name of Jesus. These few lines leave me still pressing on to the gloryland.

A Jehovah's Witness came to see me. . . . She said, "I know you've prayed the Lord's prayer a lot: 'Our father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come.'"

I said, "But I don't pray it that way; His kingdom has already come and my name is in the Book of Life in heaven."

She said, "There is no Church on earth."

I said, "Oh, yes, there is. The Church of God is in heaven and earth. For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named."

I hope the Word which I quoted will not return void, but will accomplish whereunto it was sent.

I am sending an offering. May the good Lord keep you in the center of His will.

Christian love and prayers, —Nellie Lovell

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La.—Dear *Faith and Victory* ones: I'm still saved and encouraged to press on. God is so good to everyone. I do hope Bro. Pruitt is better.

Keep my *Faith and Victory* paper coming. I enjoy reading it.

With Christian love, —Etta B. Averett

Colo.—Dear saints at the Print Shop: Greetings in Jesus this lovely day. Jesus has been so good to me. I want to live to please Him and at the last have that home in heaven where there won't be any more sickness, sorrow, or trouble. Oh, won't it be wonderful there! . . .

I do desire your prayers for our unsaved children and loved ones.

Love to all and may God bless each one,

—Sis. Addie McEndree

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Mo.—Dear Bro. Randall: Greetings in Jesus' name! We trust this finds all well and everything going fine at the Print Shop.

We are keeping encouraged, even though Murphy is slowly going down. He can't seem to sit up very long without being in *much* pain. We'll appreciate your continued prayers.

Christian love,

—Natalie Allen

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Miss.—Dear Bro. Lawrence, and all at the Publishing House: We greet you this morning with love from heaven, also grace, mercy, and truth. The great God of this universe and all heaven I praise. "I will bless the Lord at all times: his praise shall continually be in my mouth." Psalms 34:1. "In thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures forevermore." Psalms 16:11. . . .

Nothing less than God's best blessings be with you all.

Christian love,

—Ethel Lowery

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## Testimonies and Answers to Prayer

Canada—Dear Bro. Flynn and Bro. Murphey, and all co-workers in the Print Shop: Greetings in the holy name of Jesus. I feel impressed to send in a testimony of what the Lord has done for me. I could never tell it all, but the Lord knows best. The gift of salvation is the starting point. It is the beginning of the innumerable blessings of our God in heaven. I am walking and living by faith day by day. I can recommend my Lord to all who need a true friend in their lives. The song says it very well: "I've 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 25 years old before I got saved, so I know what living in sin is all about. I have no intention to go back into sin and the lust of the flesh. My faith and trust are in God alone, who has also healed me many times in my body. 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. Oh, how it pays to serve Jesus our High Priest. I have been sanctified and have myself fully given to the Lord. Oh, what a blessed life! I want to get closer and closer to the Lord our God.

We appreciate so much the love of all God's people. Please pray for us here as we do for you there in the Print Shop. May the Lord help you to do His

will and give you strength for the work in the Print Shop and everywhere.

May God bless and reward all of you (especially Bro. and Sis. Pruitt), and our dear Sister Grace Lassche for that you have consecrated to give of your time and talents for the work of the Lord in getting the printed Word of God out to the people in this world.

—Bro. and Sis. George Schroeder

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Kans.—I desire to tell of God's goodness to me. The first week of February, I was awakened one night with a very severe headache. God gave some relief, but the headache still lingered. Two days after that, my vision became very blurry. The first week of March I went to have my eyes examined, thinking I needed to change glasses. The eye doctor told me that both eyes were normal and healthy and that there was no reason for this blurriness, yet he said that according to the eye chart I had no vision in my right eye. He said that changing the prescription at this time wouldn't help; that there was something else wrong. He insisted that I go to an eye disease specialist, so the next day I went. This doctor told me that the optic nerve behind my right eye was swollen, causing my vision to be blurred. He also said that I most likely had a tumor somewhere in the back of my head. He wanted to put me on medications and because of the side effects I would have to be under a regular physician's care. He also wanted X-rays. I told him that I didn't want medicine or X-rays; that I believed in divine healing, and that my trust was in God. He was very upset and let me know that when I changed my mind, he was ready to help.

Well, as time went on, I suffered much. My head hurt all the time. I called for prayer often, and each time God was faithful to give relief.

During this affliction, God dealt much with my soul, but I did not heed His dealings and, therefore grew worse. Many times God uses affliction to get our attention. He was wanting me to put down some things and to deepen my consecration. Many times we hold back on God and cause ourselves to lose many precious blessings. When I finally surrendered all to God, I was in the right place for my blessing.

Yet I still grew worse. At the Guthrie meeting, the suffering was great. Along with the constant headache, there was a burning sensation in my head. But God was faithful to give ease. I knew when I came home from Guthrie that unless God undertook I couldn't last long. The Saturday following that meeting, God gave a real touch. Bro. Williams told me that day that all I had to do was to claim my healing, but that wasn't easy, as I still had pain.

Sunday night after service, my head hurt so badly that I could hardly stand it. When I got home, I fell on my knees and told God that I was claiming my healing by faith. The devil didn't like that at all, and he really gave me a battle. My head felt like if it didn't burst, it would burn up. I called Bro. and Sis. Williams for prayer. They came to the house, and we had an agreement of prayer that the devil be rebuked. God had given me several Scriptures, so I had His Word to

stand on. God again heard prayer, but this time, the pain was gone. God had healed me! Praise God!

Since that time God has blessed my vision to where it is almost back to normal. What a mighty God we serve! It pays to put our trust in God. There is nothing too hard for Him.

—Christina Austin

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Calif.—Dear saints of the most high God in every nation: Greetings of love in the name of Jesus, who has redeemed us with His precious blood. I thank and praise the Lord for healing my granddaughter of an upset stomach and a very high fever. Praise His holy name for ever and ever! He is the same yesterday, today, and forever! Be much encouraged to continue to follow after righteousness and fight the good fight of faith.

Yours in His service,

—M. Viser

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Calif.—Dear saints of God: May God ever bless you and the work there.

Thanks to our God and you dear ones in prayer, God has, in Jesus' name blessed here and answered our request to you about the poor woman who was causing trouble in our block. Oh, what blessed quietness came! She is out only a little bit and doesn't trouble her neighbors. Praise God! I am yet praying for her and hope she can find salvation in Jesus Christ.

Christian love and prayers,

—Sister Margaret Hall

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W. Va.—Dear Ones: We send greetings to the workers at the Print Shop and to the dear saints everywhere. We are much encouraged in the work of the Lord, finding in Him more than we need. He supplies all our needs for soul and body; He is rich to all who call upon Him.

We neglected to send in a report of our meeting last month. We would like to report another very good spiritual meeting. Souls were saved and added to the congregation and the saints were much encouraged. The Lord sent the ministers that we needed.

The new tabernacle proved to be a real blessing, as we had a large crowd this year. Some have asked if the tabernacle was all paid for. It cost around \$7,000 and we still owe around \$3,000 on it, but the Lord has always supplied the needs.

We were much encouraged with the way the Lord blessed in the camp meetings this summer, especially at Monark. It was so precious; also the ministers' meeting at Monark was good. I feel there is a closeness, and more unity among the body of ministers now than I've ever seen before. We know that the devil will hate that statement. "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity." The theme of our ministers' meeting was having respect for one another. I pray the Lord to help us to respect each one in the Body where the Lord has placed them. We are one body, but many members. Not all have the same calling. We need to respect and support each other where God has placed us.

We appreciate the workers at the Print Shop. We are praying daily for you. Also, we are holding up Bro. Lawrence and our other afflicted brothers and sisters.

We desire prayer for the work here. Also, pray for me that I will be able to fill the place the Lord has called me to fill.

Much Christian love to all the dear saints.  
 "Steady as you go." —Bro. and Sis. Mart Samons  
 P.O. Box 127, Green Bank. W.V. 24944

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Ks.—Dear Bro. Flynn and saints abroad: I'm happy to greet you this day in the precious name of Jesus, and to greet you as our brother in the Lord's work at the shop, who came in to help our dear Bro. Lawrence and the workers to carry on. I'm so sad to hear that Bro. Lawrence is so frail, but I'm still praying that the Lord will spare him to be up again.

I enjoyed the August paper so much. I am asking that the saints earnestly pray for my spiritual strength. My hearing is not good; I don't hear the sermons, prayers, or testimonies. Most of my help is from the printed word. My sight is also poor but I manage to carry on. I love to attend the meetings to see the saints and friends.

I have a severe skin problem. I know it looks bad as my color is brown, but is turning a pinkish white—not an even color, but spots, splotches, and streaks. There's nothing to be done, only pray that the Lord give me grace to accept it. . . . I feel the Lord has a purpose in it, and only let it come after I was 80 years old. I will know all about it some day.

I am very thankful for other blessings and that at 87 I am still able to care for myself. I am still walking up the King's highway, and mean to make heaven my home. Until then, please pray for me.

Christian love, —Amy Hunter

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Okla.—Dear saints: I would like to take this opportunity to witness for the Lord about what He did for me recently. While visiting relatives in West Virginia the first part of August, I became very seriously ill. Rarely, if ever, have I suffered such intense pain. Not having seen a doctor, we will probably never know exactly what was wrong, but I had sharp stabbing pains very low in my right side. I examined my life to make sure I was clear before the Lord and that there would be no hindrances in receiving help from the Lord. For three days my condition worsened and the pain became more severe until Sunday. Bob and I hardly slept at all the night before. Finally about 5:00 a.m., I could stand the bed no longer, so Bob helped me sit on the side of the bed. I suddenly broke into a cold sweat and a numbness swept over my whole body. My chest felt so tight I had to pull for my breath. My brother and his wife joined with us in earnest prayer, and soon I felt the numbness fade away. The sweating stopped, leaving me very weak. Since I felt improved, the family went on to church. Around 11:00 a.m., my whole abdomen became filled with very sharp pains. Being so weak, I told Bob, "Honey, I don't see how I can stand any more." We were alone since everyone had gone to

morning services, so he called some of the saints for prayer. Also, the saints at the Myrtle campmeeting were contacted. I received some relief shortly after in answer to prayer. When the morning services were over, a number of the saints from the Greenbank congregation gathered in and earnest prayer was again offered. Within fifteen minutes all the sharp pains were gone. We wept with joy and thanksgiving for what the Lord had done. From that time on I improved until Friday, when we were able to start our trip home. My side was very tender, but otherwise I made the trip fine.

After being home for a couple of days, the same symptoms started returning. We tried to resist anything the devil might try to impose upon us, but I continued to lose ground until I had no appetite and was beginning to suffer sharp pains again. This continued for about three days. Apparently I had an internal abscess, because Friday a.m., it broke and drained the most terrible infection for about two hours. From then on, I improved and within a couple of days I had no pain whatsoever.

A very concerned neighbor advised, "You'd better go have an operation. That could kill you." He could hardly believe it two days later when he saw me walking outside, perfectly well.

What a blessing it is to trust the Lord fully for soul and body. Many blessings are lost or weakened by turning to man for aid instead of fully trusting the Lord. Everything the Lord allows to touch our lives will work for our spiritual growth if we will guard our attitudes and maintain a full consecration to the Lord's will. We do not want to soon forget the many lessons the Lord has taught us during this time of trial.

We were astonished at all the long-distance phone calls and cards we received for the next two weeks. Saints called from all parts of the United States. Bob and I shared many tears and prayers of thanksgiving for all the love and interest shown. Thanks to everyone who shared in our burden. It has endeared all the saints to us and has given us a challenge to be more faithful in bearing the burdens of others.

Please pray for us. Our greatest ambition in life is to always be in the center of the Lord's will. He had a purpose in sparing my life. I desire to dedicate the rest of my days to His service in helping others in need, and most of all to be an example to the world of God's saving, healing, and keeping power.

—Irma Sallee

#### PRAYER REQUEST

Bro. Clifford Mitchell from Florida called requesting the prayers of the saints for himself, and also for Joe Barnett of Oak Ridge, Tenn., who suffered a heart attack recently.

—Editor

"My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth." 1 John 3:18

HOME



LIFE

### A Father's Duty

"And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord." Eph. 6:4.

It is true that a father's chief duty is to provide the temporal necessities of life—food, clothing, a comfortable home—but we learn from the latter part of the foregoing text that a father's responsibility does not end when he has supplied these things. He is expected to share with the mother the task of training the children. A mother is able to do much for her children, but it is unfair and unscriptural to add to her already heavy burdens the part that the husband and father is designed of God to perform.

From a reading of various Bible texts relating to the character of a father, it develops that one of his principal duties is to admonish, guide or chasten, as necessity requires. "Whom the Lord loveth he correcteth, even as a father the son in whom he delighteth." Prov. 3:12. Since the apostle, in two instances (Eph. 6:4 and Col. 3:21), exhorts fathers not to provoke their children to anger, it would appear that he recognized the sterner nature of men and realized that it must be softened by love. That this view is a correct one is illustrated in every-day home life. How often it is the case that children respect and fear father, but when sympathy and love is desired they go to mother.

The words of our text, though very brief, set forth an important principle or method to follow. The process of nurturing and admonishing requires much care and watchfulness. It would never do to set out a tender plant, leave it untended and unwatered for a time, then, in frantic effort to stimulate growth, dig deeply around it, loosening the roots and pouring upon it a flood of water. Or, who would suggest letting a choice vine run on the ground until the tendrils begin to grow and reach out, then grasping it roughly and tying it up where it should have been placed in the beginning? Again, a little spark can easily be quenched, but what devastation and ruin it leaves in its path when allowed to become a mighty flame. These illustrations from natural things appear perfectly plain, yet methods that men will condemn as foolish when practiced in garden, workshop, or in business will be followed unthoughtedly in the home.

Johnny and Ethel may perform many little acts that are wrong, without the father's reproof. Instead, in many cases, he waits until an accumulation of offenses stirs up his wrath, calling forth drastic treatment, upsets the peace and harmony of the household, and provokes the anger in the child. The little sparks of disobedience, selfishness,

rudeness, should be quenched by the parents before a great conflagration of anger with its attendant harmful effects upon the moral nature of the child takes place.

The father stands between his children and the outside world, and to them he is a pattern which they are likely to follow. A consideration of this fact should cause every father, whether a Christian or not, to give serious attention to the example he is setting, as every man desires that his children be moral, useful, and well-behaved. Especially should Christian fathers give heed to bringing up their offspring in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. The most serious thought of all is this, that from the conduct of the earthly parent, the boy or girl forms his conception of the heavenly Father. Is it making too strong a statement to affirm that thousands of people have an erroneous idea of the love and fatherhood of God because their fathers did not treat them as they should have?

In talking with a wayward boy about his soul's salvation, a Christian worker was trying to explain to the boy the love of God. In the course of his talk he said, "Harry, God loves you just as your father does." Instantly there came into the boy's eyes a peculiar look that the gentleman was unable to understand. Soon they parted for the time, no progress apparently having been made. A few days later the worker decided to visit the boy's home and have another talk with him. While conversing with the mother about her son, the mother burst into tears and told how the boy's father, who was a drunkard, greatly abused them and made the family-name a reproach to the neighborhood. It was then that the gentleman understood the meaning of the look in the boy's eyes. Later when he talked with him he said, "God loves you as your mother does." The appeal was effective and the lad gave his heart to Christ.

"Like as a father pitieth his children, so the Lord pitieth them that fear him." —By. R. F. Lamm

—Sel. from *The Gospel Trumpet*, 1912

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It is our prayerful desire that these columns prove a source of encouragement to each one. We all encounter times of perplexity in life, but find comfort in the knowledge that God can provide grace and wisdom as we look to Him. Let us not despair in the challenge to produce a good home environment. Some may say, "Times are so wicked. One cannot rear a family properly anymore." I recall the story of a man who sought a doctor because his leg was paining him. The doctor examined the leg and declared that the only problem with it was that it was eighty years old. "That's true," the man said, "but the other leg is eighty years old, too, and it's all right."

Since the beginning of time, and in spite of unfavorable circumstances and an evil environment of sin and unbelief, children have been reared to love and honor God. Just as the source of the old man's problem was attributed to time, so many today blame their home difficulties on "the times." Let us make use of every good influence that comes our way and

encourage one another with helpful advice. Address all correspondence to HOME LIFE, P. O. Box 518, Guthrie, Ok. 73044.

—Wayne Murphey

## Question and Answer Column

By Ostis B. Wilson

**Question:** Please explain the part of Matthew 16:19, that says, "Whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."

**Answer:** [In the July 1982, issue of this *Faith and Victory* paper, Bro. Wilson dealt with the first part of this verse regarding "the keys of the kingdom of heaven." —Editor]

Matt. 16:19, reads in full, "And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." 2 Cor. 5:19, says that God "hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation." Mark 16:16, confirms this by saying that he who believes the gospel and is baptized shall be saved. But to God's true ministers is also committed the ministry of condemnation and Jesus confirmed that, too, in this verse where He said, "He that believeth not shall be damned." Paul said 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 the savour of death unto death; and to the other the savour of life unto life. And who is sufficient for these things?" Surely, only those whom God has called, qualified, filled with His Spirit, commissioned and sent forth would be sufficient for this responsibility of loosing and binding souls for the judgment.

In this grant to the ministry from Jesus Himself is also included the power and authority of the ministry under God through the divine unction and anointing of the Holy Spirit and in strict accordance with God's Word to govern, execute discipline, and maintain order in the Church of God. In the teachings of Jesus in Matt. 18:15-18, in the matter of dealing with a trespassing brother, He gives a step by step procedure for dealing with this. If the trespassing brother was obstinate and could not be gained through the first two steps, then it culminated in taking the matter to the Church. If he refused to accept admonition from the Church, then he was to be counted as a heathen and a publican. Then follows in verse 18 the same statement as given in Matt. 16:19, "Verily I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: . . ."

Thus we see that the "keys of the kingdom" are also used by the true ministers of God in exercising government, discipline, and keeping order in the Church in binding certain things and people or loosing certain things and people, and that when these things are carried out through the leading of the Holy Spirit and according to God's Word all the way, even to our attitudes, feelings, purposes and motives,

God in heaven will back it up and count it the same way in heaven. Remember, God's Word is forever settled in heaven and it is the same down here as it is up there, and when it is strictly observed down here it will register up there just the same.

In the 5th chapter of 1 Cor. Paul is dealing with the matter of an incestuous person in the Corinthian Church and he instructs them in verses 4 and 5, "In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, when ye are gathered together, and my spirit, with the power of our Lord Jesus Christ, to deliver such an one unto Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus." Here they are instructed in the power and authority of Christ through the Spirit to excommunicate or cast out of the Church (bind him according to our text). He gives the reason for this in the next verse: "A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump." In other words, if that person stays among you in that condition, the infection will spread and more will be affected by it, so purge out the leaven and save the Church. This is one purpose of discipline in the Church—to save the Church and keep it clean.

Discipline remained strict in the Church through those early years as the ministry used the keys that God had given unto them—God's Word and God's Spirit—to administer discipline and government in the Church. God put His seal of approval on this and through it kept the Church clean and pure and made it a light to the world, a city on a hill that could not be hid. He continued to confirm His Word with signs following among them and to show forth the glory of God and the perfection of beauty in it. But down in the third century discipline became more slack, and foreign elements began to creep in. God never stopped this trend because He had given unto His ministry in the Church the keys of the kingdom and the power and authority to bind all evil elements and to loose all right and good things. He never interfered with this trend, but as evil elements were allowed to come in and continue there, He Himself just moved on out and left it with them. The result was the great apostasy was set up and established in the earth. The true Church was lost sight of for a long period of time.

### MY JESUS!

Who gives me grace when I would pray,  
Who gives me peace at close of day,  
Who is the Light along life's way?

**My Jesus!**

Who is He that dwells within,  
Whose constraining power keeps me from sin,  
With whom new life and joy begins?

**My Jesus!**

Who cares for me when man doth fail,  
Whose love will always sure prevail,  
Whose Name shall mortals ever hail?

**My Jesus!**

—Edward M. Brandt



## Satan the Accuser



Many of the souls who are trying to walk in the way of holiness, have not sufficient keenness and sensitiveness of conscience to reach and maintain the necessary depth of consecration to God, and loyalty to His Word, to enjoy the real experience of entire sanctification. These are always leaning more or less to selfish interests, conforming somewhat to the world to avoid reproach, or holding the friendship of the corrupt fallen sects to avoid persecutions, and the present real offence of the cross. Such can never attain unto real holiness of heart unless they will wonderfully sink down out of self, and pray God to so sharpen and intensify their conscience that they will tremble at His Word, and count all the wealth, and friendship of this world but dung that they may win Christ, and utterly lose sight of their sect fellowship, for the sake of being fully in line with God. Real and imperative action of conscience is what is wanted to bring men down from their good name among sectarians, and up to the true standard of the Bible. Get a conscience that has a single eye toward God, and you will soon be able to stand alone with Him. That is, you will order your whole life and conduct to please God only, and to have His approving smile, should it even forfeit the friendship of all men. The question of coming out from among, and being separate from everything that is not clean and true to the Bible line, is simply a matter of pure, humble, sincere, devotion to God; and honest, intelligent, whole-hearted, conformity to His Word.

We want to think on the conscience that the enemy takes advantage of in opposite directions. If accompanied by spiritual knowledge, and abiding trust, our conscience cannot be too exquisite and tender. A very fine conscience, in the absence of proper light, is apt to give place to the "accuser of the brethren, the old serpent and satan." What the Holy Spirit has been teaching us we trust God will bless to the peace of fellow sufferers in the kingdom, and patience of Jesus. First then, we assure you, that every accusation that comes to the honest, sincerely consecrated soul, is of the devil. However slow we may be to learn, or whatever mistakes and sad failures we may make, God never accuses the honest, consecrated soul of anything whatever. Therefore settle it in your heart once for all, that every thing that comes to you in the form of an accusation is of the devil. God and His saints will correct in kindness, admonish in love, and when necessary reprove with sharpness, but the devil and his children do all the accusing. Accusation is a legal term. It is an attempt to make out a case of evil against a person; it proceeds from a desire to attribute wrong-doing to the person accused. Correction, instruction, admonishing, and even sharp rebuke differ very much from accusation. They are efforts to do the person good, and spring from love for his soul and the sacred cause of Christ.

How can I tell the difference between a correction by the Spirit of God and an accusation from the devil? In this way: God is light and love, the devil is

darkness and hatred. Therefore all corrections and advance requirements that come from God break gently upon your mind, when in tranquility and when conscious of a holy and sweet presence of God. In short, they will come to your soul as light, while the criticisms and accusations of the devil will be accompanied with shades upon your mind, doubts, and a degree of confusion. God always raises our minds to a higher knowledge of His will, by flooding our souls with clearer light. Satan tries to bring in his suggestions by getting the mind befogged and our faith unsettled. God never gives His orders to us when the mind is not in a good, clear state to receive them. In fact, He usually elevates the soul into a clearer knowledge of His will by an increase of His light and glory upon us. When Satan accuses, he first endeavors to put the mind into such a state that it is difficult to determine between duty imposed by the Lord, or temptation from the devil: and the effect is distressing to the mind. When God instructs, He floods the mind with clear spiritual perception and His orders fill the soul with peace and gratitude.

But do not holy men and women err? and does not God accuse them of their errors? They may err, but God looks at the heart. The heart that is "pure as He is pure," and filled with perfect love, and does all things out of love, God never accuses. Accusation is a law term, and against love there is no law. Perfect love casteth out fear, and sets the soul above accusation from every source. Entire sanctification is that state of the soul in which it is "holy" and WITHOUT BLAME before Him in love." Eph. 1:4. "Holy and UNBLAMABLE and unprovable in His sight." Col. 1:22. These Scriptures simply describe perfect holiness. Therefore the same faith that constantly claims heart purity through the blood of Christ, puts us beyond blame and accusation. If mistakes occur through imperfect judgment, Satan will not cast them up to you, for he would rather you should continue in your mistakes than know them. God will never accuse you of them, because in heart and in the law of love, He does not count you a transgressor. He will not, however, leave us in error if we faithfully and humbly walk with Him. His revelation of our errors never puts a ruffle upon the sea of our peace, but only starts a new strain of gratitude and praise to God in our hearts. Then set it down once for all, consecrated and sanctified to God, every accusation comes to you from the devil. Christ does not even accuse sinners, much less holy saints. He said to the Pharisees: "Do not think that I will accuse you to the Father: there is one that accuseth you, even Moses." John 5:45. The devil and the law accuse. "But Christ is the end of the law, for righteousness to every one that believeth." And having come to Christ "we are free from the law." Yes "Now we are delivered from the law." Rom. 7:6. Glory to God, it is Christ that justifieth, who is he that condemneth another man's servant? Bless God! while under the blood and perfect in the love of God, you may resist the devil in every accusation he brings.

—Selected from *Gospel Trumpet* of 1884