

# FAITH<sup>AND</sup>VICTORY

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## Church of God Servant



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### Our Thoughts

The root of all life's woe and care  
So oft is vainly sought;  
The dark travail we sorely bear  
Lies on the human thought.

Our thoughts, ideas, insights, show  
And choose the course we take;  
They are life's framework, this we know  
As mortal's prime mistake.

Take heed what thoughts take shape within  
Your heart and soul and mind.  
Beware lest thoughts become the sin  
That will your spirit bind.

As high above the heavens bright  
Send out their rapturous glow,  
Just so the thoughts of God are right  
Above what mortals know.

We need His counsel, thoughts divine,  
Bound up on wisdom's scroll  
To chart the course and mark the time  
For our immortal soul.

Oh, grasp the weapons He hath given,  
Not carnal, flesh to fight,  
But faith, and light, and truth from heaven  
To conquer for the right.

Pull down the strongholds in your mind,  
Seek wisdom nobly priced,  
Each thought subdue and wholly bind  
In fellowship with Christ.

Oh, learn of Him and hold in pray'r  
The course of life you take,  
Oh, listen! Let His lessons rare  
Impressions on you make.

Oh thoughts! the structure of the soul!  
With Jesus coincide,  
And let His Spirit have control,  
Our mortal path to guide.

—Leslie C. Busbee

### Distinguishing the Church

Mankind today is swamped with a great number of churches and religious groups that testify that they have and are holding to the "truth," or the doctrine of the gospel. They go by many different names. Some even use the title "Church of God." These religious groups are made up of people who have different motives and reasons for their affiliation with the group they are in. Some, no doubt, are seeking God and His truth. As they understand more from God, they respond to His leadings and walk in that new understanding. As they do, God will lead them to see the error of manrule and Babel's confusion.

Then there are those who join for convenience sake, for social and political notice, and those who join to have their "itching ears" soothed by teachers who say what they want to hear. Perhaps this last group would account for the vast number of churches that are in existence today.

We know Christ has only one body (Eph. 4:4), and that body is not divided (1 Cor. 1:13). Yet we see in those churches that testify of having the truth that they live such contrary lives to each other. They cannot agree together on the doctrine, and they have a varied list of do's and don'ts, yet live most worldly and unholy lives. Even in the individual congregations, jealousy and carnality abound. There is backbiting, striving for leadership or preeminence, and to have one's way; they are jealous over the different offices in the church. I knew of one case where there was much contention over who would be the piano player. You can see in these churches a lack of brotherly love and preferring their brother (Rom. 12:10).

In the churches of today, there is large-scale confusion on the doctrines of the Bible and what is the truth. It is little wonder they present to the people the question: Which is the right church, and which is the wrong church? Or even to the point that some will ask, "Is there anything to religion or Christianity at all?" The Word tells us that God is not the author of confusion (1 Cor. 14:33), so we must conclude that if a church is bogged down in and manifesting confusion, it is not the true Church or Body of Christ.

The devil is sharp and cunning. He has a church made to order for every type of person except those who want the truth. The devil was, and still is, a murderer from the beginning, never abode in the truth, is a liar and the father of lies (John 8:44). He cannot create a pure and holy church. Only one of purity and holiness himself can produce seed that will bring forth purity, holiness, and godliness. We can find that only in Jesus Christ, the Son of God, "Who did no sin, neither was guile [deceit] found in his mouth." 1 Pet. 2:22.

How then is one who is honestly seeking the truth and the visible body of Christ to know which way to go and in what group to put confidence? How is one to know when he or she has found the truth? The answer lies in the Word of God: In John 8:32, "And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free", I believe Jesus himself answers the question. We have here a testimony from Jesus as to what the truth will do in a person's life when one accepts and lives up to it, "... and the truth shall make you free." Praise God! If any church or religious organization professing Christ as their shepherd and having the truth is not free, then we must also conclude that it is not of the truth.

From what does the truth free us? First and most important is sin. Jesus came to "... save His people from their sins." Matt. 1:21. If a church still believes you must sin and cannot help but sin, then that church is not of the truth. "Whosoever abideth in him sinneth not: whosoever sinneth hath not seen him, neither known him." 1 John 3:6. If a church says it expects its members to follow their way in sin and see the Lord, then that is not of the truth, "Follow peace with all men, and holiness [sinlessness], without which no man shall see the Lord." Heb. 12:14.

If a church professes holiness, and yet worldliness is in its members' lives, in their dress, speaking, homes, entertainment, and it is hard, if not impossible to distinguish them from those churches which do not profess holiness, then the truth is not there. "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him." 1 John 2:15.

Jesus came to free us from the carnal life—that which is the root of the problem. John the Baptist said, "And now also the ax is laid unto the root of the trees: ..." Matt. 3:10. Those fleshly appetites must be mortified by the Spirit for us to be free (Rom. 8:13). Then if a church does not teach dying out to self and fleshly appetites, and persists in the idea of serving God and self at the same time, it is not of the truth. "So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God." Rom. 8:8.

The truth will free from pride, anger, lust, envy, hatred, jealousy, backbiting, worldliness, lies, seeking preeminence, filthy habits of the flesh, immorality, selfishness, and any other thing that violates the purity of Christ and is not of His Spirit and Word. The truth, and only the pure, unabridged truth, will be able to stand at the judgment without guilt. Jesus said, "... I am ... the truth ... no man

cometh unto the Father, but by me." John 14:6.

If any church professes to be in the truth, yet its members are not manifesting the fruit you would expect to find in and manifested by Christ, then it is safe to say there is no seed of Christ in that church. "Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them." Matt. 7:20.

The true Church that Jesus established is that Jerusalem that is from above and is free (Gal. 4:26)—free from manrule and man's carnality. In the true body of Christ, Christ himself is the head (Eph. 5:23), not man, not a board, nor a committee, but Christ.

"If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed." John 8:36. *Indeed* means: certainly; truly; admittedly; often used to give emphasis. The emphasis of the true Church then is freedom from sin, self (or carnality), manrule, Satan, anything and anyone that would hinder us from worshipping God "... in Spirit and in truth." John 4:24.

If what you are in is not free indeed, wholly and completely, and teaching the pure, true gospel of freedom in Christ Jesus, then the cry goes out, "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.

Thank God for the truth! Thank God for freedom! Thank God for a Church that not only teaches the truth, but one that lives the truth—The Church of God!  
—Stanley E. Dickson

## "Will Ye Also Go Away?"

In the sixth chapter of John, we find where Jesus was being followed by a large multitude. They had been observing the miracles that Jesus performed on those who were diseased, etc., and now they were following Him. Notice the reason they were following Jesus: "And a great multitude followed him, because they saw his miracles. ..." John 6:2. In verses 5-13 of this same chapter, we have the account of yet another miracle—the feeding of the five thousand. It seemed that in the eyes of the people this miracle just put the crowning touch, so to speak, on all that Jesus had done before them. Many of them affirmed, "This is of a truth that prophet that should come into the world." When Jesus perceived that the people were ready to take Him by force and make Him their king, he departed from them and went alone up into the mountain. That night Jesus and His disciples crossed the sea of Galilee and entered Capernaum.

The next day the people perceived that Jesus was not there, so they also crossed over to Capernaum and there found Jesus. From outward appearance it seemed that these people were really zealous in following Christ. No doubt many exerted much effort to cross the sea of Galilee and find Jesus, but what was the reason for their pursuit after Christ? Was it for spiritual benefits or for their own personal satisfaction and well-being? In verse 26, "Jesus answered them and said, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Ye seek me, not because ye saw the miracles, but because ye did eat of the loaves, and were filled."

Christ began to instruct the people according to their spiritual needs, and not to labor for the meat that perisheth, but for that which endureth unto everlasting life; to become partakers of Him, the Living Bread, that Bread which satisfieth that deep, inner hunger for something other than natural food—the craving of the spirit. But the people became offended at the teachings of Jesus; they could not and would not understand what He was trying to teach them. Their hearts were set on earthly things; they wanted a sign, something they could see with their literal eyes, something they could feel with their hands, and taste in their mouths. Then we find in verse 66, "From that time many of his disciples went back, and walked no more with him." Oh, what a sad picture is painted before us here. What have these people done? They have turned from the only source of true wealth, happiness, and satisfaction. If there is only one source through which something may be obtained, and if that one source is rejected, what hope is there?

This was, no doubt, very grievous to Jesus. No doubt His heart was torn as He saw the people slowly walking away. I would like to imagine that Christ, when He had finished speaking to the multitude, just began to observe the people, waiting to see how they would respond to His words. We see the people begin to talk among themselves, and then we see two or three over here start to walk away, then three or four over there are leaving, and finally a great number have left until there are just a few left with Jesus and His twelve disciples. Then in deep sorrow Jesus turns to His disciples and asks, "Will ye also go away?"

Dear saints, this same question is being asked to us today. There have always been people who, after following Christ for awhile, become unwilling to continue on. I can think of quite a number with whom I have been acquainted in my short life time, who had once tasted of the good things of God, and some that once broke the Bread of Life and gave it out to others, who have gone back and walk no more with Him. What have they gone back to? What is there to go back to? Nothing but the temporary, perishable, fleeting, trifling things of the world. Maybe it's for prestige, the honor of men, worldly pleasure, or tobacco, a television, etc. Is it worth it? These things will have absolutely no value to us when we stand before God at the Judgment, but if they stand between us and God, they will be as a mountain.

I have been reading of late in Fox's Book of Martyrs of the sufferings and tortures that thousands of the early Christians went through because of their faith in God and refusal to bow and worship the pagan gods, or to accept the teachings and practice of Catholicism. What courage and valour these saints manifested as they were tortured and killed! How steadfast and unmoveable they were from their faith and trust in God! We are not being faced today with physical abuse, tortures, etc. but we are faced with something just as deadly, or even more so, and that is compromise. Physical abuse and torture cannot

separate us from God; but compromise can. Abuse and torture cannot harm the soul; but compromise can. Abuse and torture are only temporary, but the effects of compromise can be eternal.

In our minds, let's picture a large circle. At the very center of this circle is Christ, the Light that lighteth the world. His light is illuminating in all directions—it is reaching out to all the world. We see people coming from all directions; their eyes and their affections are centered on Christ. They have nothing else in view but Christ and His will; they enter the circle of His love; they are in the fold. But, wait! Something else has attracted someone's attention. He is looking to the left; his attention has been drawn from Christ, and now he is walking in the direction of what his eyes are on. He is no longer moving towards the center of the circle, but is, slowly but surely, headed toward the edge of the circle. Oh, I see someone else has turned completely around! Something behind him has somehow attracted his attention. Behold, his own shadow has now cast darkness on his pathway! Oh, how sad. Dear reader, do you get the picture? We see one who has just turned slightly to one side, but is his *entire* life being flooded with the light of Christ? What if something else attracts His attention that is still a little farther to the left, and on and on, until he has completely turned to where his back is to Christ just like the other person? See the danger of allowing some little thing to draw our attention? Where will it end?

"Then Simon Peter answered him, Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life." John 6:68. Saints, there is no other one who has "the words of eternal life." There is only one Light. If we turn our backs on it, what will our end be? Oh, dear ones, my heart is burdened to see the Church move forward—not to the right nor to the left, nor backwards, but *forward*—straight forward. The Church of God is pure and spotless. It is not tainted by the world, but is separate. Of what is the Church composed? It is of human beings. Therefore, if we are a part of God's Church, we must be holy, without spot or wrinkle. Though we are in the world, we cannot be part of the world; we are separate and we must *remain* separate. "Thus saith the Lord, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the *old* paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls." Jer. 6:16.

Dear ones, be encouraged to continue in the old paths. Seek after them and follow them with your whole heart. Time is swiftly passing and eternity is looming in sight. A crown of life is promised to the true and faithful—those not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing (Eph. 5:27). Praise God for those who will not go away!

—Randall Flynn

—o—  
 "Christ could not rise triumphantly  
 If He had never died;  
 And we can never live for Him  
 'Til self be crucified."

—Sel. by Effie Miller

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

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

Its motto: Have faith in God. Its object: The glory of God and the salvation of men; the restoration and promulgation of the whole truth to the people in this "evening time" as it was in the morning Church of the first century; the unification of all true believers in one body by the love of God. Its standard: Separation from the sinful world and entire devotion to the 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.

### FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE

P.O. Box 518 920 W. Mansur, Guthrie, Okla. 73044  
Office phone 405-282-1479; Home phone 405-282-2262

## Editorials



"Wherefore say unto the children of Israel, I am the Lord, and I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians, and I will rid you out of their bondage, and I will redeem you with a stretched out arm, and with great judgments." Exodus 6:6.

If you are reading these words and are not saved, let this be an encouragement to you. Just as God delivered the Israelites from Egyptian bondage, He can deliver you. Another Scripture says that "God's hand is not shortened that it cannot save." It doesn't matter what you are entangled in or how far from God you may be, He can give you a complete deliverance.

Notice that God delivered the Israelites only after they became weary of their bondage. Many people make a start toward God, but soon find themselves back in their old sinful condition. Often, the reason is that they never were sick and tired enough of the life of sin for God to give them complete deliverance. We cannot bring about this deliverance ourselves, but we must be totally willing to allow God to free us from sin.

The first step toward God is to realize that you are a sinner. Modern Christianity has been of great detriment to many souls. It offers an excuse for almost any sin that an individual can commit. No longer is sin identified as sin. Once President Lincoln, in addressing a group of people, asked them, "How many legs would a sheep have if you called its tail a leg?" The group promptly replied that it would have five. "No," said Lincoln, "it would not. It would have only four. Calling its tail a leg doesn't make it one." Sin is sin, no matter what softer names people may call it.

Recognize that you are a sinner, allow God to deal with your heart, get sick and tired of the way you are living, and God will certainly be faithful to deliver you.

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On May 20, seven seniors took part in the Path of Life School graduation ceremony. They were: Jeanne Busbee, Bunnie Craddock, Leah Huskey, Lissa Melot, Dean Flynn, Terry Speights, and David Weir. Terry Speights is a young lady from the Path of Life School in Goulds, Fla. We pray that God will bless each of these young people as they face new responsibilities, and we trust that each will find the place that God has for them in the Church, leading productive lives that shew forth the fruits of God's Spirit.

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By the help of the Lord, things have been running smoothly here at the shop. We have enjoyed the presence of Bro. William and Sis. Betty Lassche' from Canada for the past few weeks. Bro. Lassche' has been occupied doing repair and maintenance work around the shop, and making himself useful for whatever need arises. He and his wife are here temporarily due to difficulties encountered with immigra-

tion authorities. Lord willing, in the future they hope to permanently locate here in the States.

Bro. George Hammond made several trips to Wisconsin during the month of May. It appears that he is being freed from some responsibilities there so that he might be able to put more time in the work of the Lord.

The perfect binder which we purchased has been in operation here at the shop and is proving very useful.

Our paper stock has depleted to the point that we have placed an order for 15,000 pounds to replenish it. Considering the current cost for paper, we feel that we are receiving this shipment at a fair price.

We appreciate your prayers and support in sending the gospel out to lost souls. —Wayne Murphey

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As in past years, this current issue of the *Faith and Victory* is being mailed at the beginning of the Oklahoma State Camp Meeting held here in Guthrie. We are looking forward to the gathering in of the saints from different parts of the country, and are praying the Lord to richly bless this camp meeting. Pray that the Lord will richly bless in all of the meetings scheduled for this summer, that many precious souls will find deliverance from the bondage of sin, and be able to see the Church and oneness of God's people.

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Construction of the new building for the Path of Life School here at Guthrie has begun. The cement floor was poured this week, and delivery of the building is scheduled for May 25 or 26. It is hoped that construction will be completed in time for the beginning of the 1983-84 school year. The interest and support the saints have shown is greatly appreciated. Contributions for the school construction should be sent to the local treasurer: Sis. Bertha Miles, 10 Magnolia Ct., Guthrie, Ok. 73044. Please specify that it be for the school building project.

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Congratulations are extended to Bro. Carl Shaffer and Sis. Rebecca Sorrell who were united in marriage at Mammoth Springs, Ark., State Park on May 7. Bro. Carl is a young minister of the Church of God, and Sis. Rebecca used to be one of our co-workers here at the Print Shop. We appreciate their lives for the Lord, and trust they will be blessed with many fruitful years together in the service of the Lord.

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In recent weeks, Bro. Tom Melot and family, and Bro. and Sis. Larry Hale and their family moved to Hot Springs, Ark., endeavoring to spread the gospel in that area. Pray that the Lord will bless their efforts in His vineyard, and that souls will be enlightened to the gospel and be rescued from the confusion of sectism. —Randall Flynn

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Those who reject Jesus as their Savior are accepting the judgments of God upon themselves.

—Sis. Marie Miles

## 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.

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**Holy Spirit Baptism and the Second Cleansing** by R. R. Byrum. Consists of 108 pages in heavy paper cover. Price 75¢ each, or three for \$2.00.

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**Guided By the Unseen Hand** by Murphy Allen. An 84-page book bound in heavy paper cover relating many experiences and inspiring answers to prayer centering around the 44 years of Bro. Allen's ministry. Price, 75¢ each.

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**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, 25¢ each, or five copies for \$1.00.

**Life's Story and Healings** by 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.

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**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.

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## Camp Meeting Dates for 1983

Following are the Church of God camp meeting dates for 1983, and a more complete announcement of each meeting will be printed in later issues:

Jefferson, Oregon—June 10—19

Tulsa, Okla.—June 10—19

Oakland, Calif.—June 17—26

Chilliwack, B. C., Canada—June 20—26

Duncannon, Pa.—June 24—July 1

Prince George, B. C., Canada—June 28—July 4

Greenbank, W. Va.—July 1—10

Fresno, Calif.—July 1—10

Akron, Ohio—July 8—17

National Camp Meeting at Neosho (Monark Springs), Missouri—July 22—31

Myrtle, Missouri—August 1—7

Bakersfield, Calif.—August 5—14

Durham, N. C.—August 15—21

Boley, Okla.—August 19—28

California State at Pacoima, Ca.—Aug. 26—Sept. 4

### CAMP MEETING AT PRINCE GEORGE

We are planning, Lord willing, a camp meeting here in Prince George, B. C., Canada, from June 28, to July 4, with the first service beginning at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday. This is a pioneer work, and we trust the Lord will send those with a burden for souls. Please bring campers or bedding. We will try to accommodate all who can come. Pray much for these meetings; we believe the harvest is at hand.

For further information you may call Sis. Daisy Rabel at 604-963-7093, or Bro. Ed Shiers at 604-562-4212.

—Sis. Daisy Rabel

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### CAMP MEETING AT GREEN BANK, W. VA.

The camp meeting of the Church of God at Green Bank, W. Va., will begin, Lord willing, July 1, and continue through July 10, 1983, under the new tabernacle. There will be two services daily at 10:30 a. m., and 7:30 p. m. There will be some special services in the afternoon, and there will be meals served on the grounds. The meeting will be supported by freewill offering.

Green Bank is located about 50 miles south of Elkins, W. Va., on route 92, or about 57 miles north of

White Sulphur Springs, W. Va. Everyone is welcome, and all who come will be cared for. Bring a coat as the nights are cool. Come praying for the success of the meeting. The main burden of the meeting is to reach the unsaved, and call people out of confusion.

For more information or if you desire to help in the meeting, contact: Bro. and Sis. Mart Samons at P. O. Box 127, Green Bank, W. Va. 24944, phone 304-456-4469, or Bro. Mancil Doolittle at P. O. Box 4, Green Bank, W. Va. 24944, phone 304-456-4884.

—Bro. Mart Samons

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#### TENT MEETING IN PENNSYLVANIA

A hearty welcome is extended to everyone to attend the third annual tent meeting here in Duncannon, Pa., June 24—July 1. This meeting is an effort to reach souls here in the east—souls who are struggling along in Babylon, souls who know nothing about the one true Church of God, and souls who are bound by Satan's fetters of sin.

We entreat consecrated saints to come work for Jesus. We're looking to the Lord to send the needed help for this meeting. All who can, come with a burden for souls. If you are not able to come, pray for our meeting.

For more information and directions, you may phone Bro. Kinney Farris at 717-567-3982, or Sis. Virginia Myers at 717-834-4595, or Sister Barbara Campbell at 717-921-8244.

—Virginia Myers

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#### FRESNO, CALIFORNIA CAMP MEETING

The Fresno, Calif., Camp Meeting of the Church of God will be held, Lord willing, July 1—10, 1983, at 388 N. First St., Fresno, Calif.

A hearty welcome is extended to all to attend this meeting. Provisions will be made to care for all who come. Motorhomes, campers, and trailers are welcome. All meeting expenses will be met by free-will offerings. Come praying for a profitable meeting, that souls will be saved, believers sanctified, and bodies healed.

Directions to the grounds are as follows: For those coming from the north on highway 99, take the Belmont exit, go east three miles to First St., turn right and go two blocks to Grant. For those coming from the south, take the Ventura Exit, go east to First St., turn left and follow to Grant. For further information, contact the pastor, Bro. E. J. Trotter, at 1543 E. Brimer, Fresno, Ca. 93702, phone 209-441-1758, or Bro. Charles Parrish at 5970 E. Fedora, Fresno, Ca. 93702, phone 209-291-9958.

—Lavern Moles

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#### AKRON, OHIO CAMP MEETING

The Akron, Ohio camp meeting will convene, Lord willing, July 8 and continue through the 17, 1983. All are welcome to attend. We are praying the Lord to send laborers to assist in the cause of truth in this area of the country.

The chapel address is: 421 W. Thornton St., Akron, Ohio. The telephone is: 216-762-2286. For further information, contact Bro. Waymon Parmer. His telephone is: 216-836-1907, or Bro. Keith Fuller, pastor, at 244 Storer Ave., Akron, Ohio, 44320. His telephone is: 216-864-1128.

Your brother in Christ, —Keith Fuller

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#### FORTY—SIXTH NATIONAL CAMP MEETING

The forty-sixth National Camp Meeting of the Church of God is scheduled to be held at Neosho (Monark Springs), Mo., Lord willing, July 22—31, 1983. We are again earnestly asking God to bless this gathering of the Church of God. All are invited to come and bring others to enjoy the meeting.

The Monark Springs Campground is located approximately five miles east of Neosho, Mo. It is one mile east and  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile south of the intersection of highway 86 and highway 71 Alternate.

If you travel to Neosho by bus, you may take a taxi to the campground or call the campground at 472-6427 (Granby, Mo.) for free transportation.

All expenses of the meeting are met by freewill offerings. There is no charge for meals or lodging on the campground. We trust that no one will stay away because of lack of finances. We are confident that God will supply as needs arise. Meals will be served in the dining hall. Dormitory space, tents, and trailer spots are available on the campground on a first come, first served basis. Trailer spots include electricity, water, and sewer hookups. Motels are available in the area. Reservations should be made in advance.

All correspondence about tent orders and dormitory space should be addressed to Sister Esther Hightower, Rt. 7 Box 376, Neosho, Mo, phone 417-472-3775. She will be coordinating all requests for sleeping quarters on the grounds.

Bro. Dale and Sis. Dora Doolittle are the caretakers of the campground. Their address is Rt. 4 Box 417, Neosho, Mo., phone 417-451-2543.

Please come with a burden for souls and a love for the truth.

—Bro. Jim Wall (Business Manager)  
5825 E. 64th Street, Tulsa, Ok. 74186

### *In Memorial*

**Sister Christine Dutsch Cleland**, wife of the late William Henry Cleland, was born June 21, 1883, and passed to her eternal reward on the 24th of April, 1983.

Sis. Cleland was a resident of the Waldheim Community in Covington, La. She was one of the old-time saints. My wife and I visited her regularly through the years, and she was always glad to have us come and read the Word of God and have prayer with her. She was faithful to the end, and has gone to receive the "crown of life."



She leaves to mourn her passing: two sons, Carl and Cyril Cleland of Covington, La.; three daughters, Christine and Florence Cleland, and Annie Charles, all of Covington, La.; and other relatives and friends.

Funeral services were conducted by Bro. Max F. Williamson and Bro. Johnson. Texts used were Psalms 23, and Prov. 31:10-31. —M. F. Williamson

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**Ellen Rosa Glass** was born July 15, 1908, to John and Lucy Glass at Fremont, Mo. She departed this life May 18, 1983, at Shawnee, Okla., at the age of 74 years.

She was married to Farmer Ewing Wilson Aug., 1946. They lived in Neosho, Mo., for years, and later they moved to the Golden Rule Home in Shawnee, Okla. Farmer Wilson preceded her in death on April 13, 1983.

She leaves behind: one sister, Lily Glass, of the Golden Rule Home; one nephew, Wilbur Hilton; and one niece, Yvonne Newbury, of Joplin, Mo.

Her twin sister, Elizabeth Glass, preceded her in death in 1982.

Sis. Ruth Murphey and Sis. Fern Stubblefield officiated at the service. Bro. Charles Smith had the graveside service. Burial was at Bethel Cemetery, Shawnee, Okla.

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**Ivan E. Christiansen**, of Hartville Road, Rolla, Mo., died Wednesday, May 11, 1983, at the age of 83 years.

He was a Rolla resident since 1933, and was a member of the Church of God.

He is survived by his son, Kenneth Christiansen of Rolla, Mo.; two daughters, Nadine Laney of Belle, Mo., and Kathleen Warren of Rolla, Mo.; a brother, Hugh Christiansen, Los Angeles, Calif.; two sisters, Ruth McKinney and Eileen Kuhl, both of Spokane, Wash.; seven grandchildren, and thirteen great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Bros. Egbert Allen and Lee Jacobs at the Null and Son Funeral Home chapel. Burial was in Rolla Cemetery.

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## MEETING REPORTS AND NOTICES

### MEETING REPORT FROM OKLA. CITY

"By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another." John 13:35. We want you to share our joy in knowing that the Lord did truly bless in our spring revival. It was short, but very effective. The Lord was faithful in anointing His precious Word, sending us gospel messages of love.

We praise the Lord for every soul that committed his life to Jesus, and for the others who received spiritual help on different lines. To God be the glory! We do appreciate the ministers: Bros. E. J. Trotter, Woodrow Warren, Sis. Katherine Williams, and Bro. Jordan; also the visiting saints from California, surrounding states and cities. Only God can unfold to

you how we love and appreciate your support. May He in His love and mercy reward you greatly is our prayer.

Yours in Christ, —Bro. Herman Kelly

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### MEETING REPORT FROM WICHITA, KANS.

We continue to praise the Lord for His faithfulness and continued blessings unto us. He again blessed us with a good meeting, and we glorify His name. There were messages sent from God to stir, awaken, help, teach, and encourage. Many sought for spiritual help along different lines at the altar of prayer. We are very thankful for the soul that returned to the fold, and trust that he will follow God faithfully all the way to the end.

We thank the Lord for all who came, prayed, or helped in any way with the meeting. There was a message delivered in the meeting for young people that we wish the youth everywhere could have heard and would take heed to. Bro. Melot was warning about the waste of youth and how it can be avoided if one would turn to God and let Him use his life. May the youth of the land awaken and be wise before they waste and ruin their lives.

Praise God, we can have the abundant life if we will only pay the price. And to top it all off, we will get the prize at the end if we remain faithful.

—Shirley Knight

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### REPORT FROM THE FIELD

W. Va. (May 12)—We send greetings to the workers at the Lord's Print Shop, and saints everywhere: We just returned from a two-month evangelistic trip in which we traveled nearly nine thousand miles. We feel much encouraged in what we saw, and of the way the Lord is so wondrously working among His people.

While we were in Calif., the Lord gave a message about where He told Elijah that He had seven thousand who had not bowed their knees to Baal. I'm glad to report that God still has a people who have not bowed to the ways of the world, but are still holding to the old path. One thing we did find and that is the saints are in a real battle, but the Lord said it would be this way. We will make a mistake if we don't recognize the time in which we are living. The battle of Armageddon is being fought now—the spirits of the devil against God's Spirit-filled people (Rev. 16:14). "Satan shall be loosed out of his prison, and shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle: the number of whom is as the sand of the sea. And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the saints about." Rev. 20:7, 8, 9. This is the time we are living in. Jesus said in Luke 21:28, when you see all these things begin to come to pass, "Look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh." (Read Isa. 17:4, 8.)



We visited the congregation at Loranger, La. The meeting there was blessed of the Lord, and many sought help at an altar of prayer. We appreciate the standard the ministers are holding there.

From Loranger we went to Guthrie, Okla., for meeting. We were much encouraged how the Spirit of the Lord worked in the meeting. We appreciate the pastor and the dear saints who are standing true.

After leaving Guthrie, we went to the Church of God congregation on 23rd Street in Okla. City., for a revival. We have been going there for twenty years; it seemed like this was the best one of all. We appreciate the ministers there, and what they are standing for.

Our next stop was in California. We were much impressed with what we found out there. The Lord is surely working in that area. Thankful we got to be in meeting with Bro. Danny Layne and the folks there. We feel the meeting there was real profitable, and we really enjoyed being there. We visited the saints in Orland, Calif., and are thankful for those there who have not bowed to Baal. Then we were with the saints at Pacoima, Ca. We can see that the Lord has been working there in a wonderful way. We appreciate the work Sis. Reed is doing there.

On our way back east, we were with the congregation at Enid, Okla. We found the saints there holding true. After leaving Enid, the Lord blessed with a wonderful meeting at Neosho, Mo., and we appreciate the saints and ministers there. From Neosho we went home. We were in sixty meetings [services] in all. There were many at the altar to be saved, sanctified, or to receive help.

Some say the Church is not what it ought to be, and that there is a great falling away—that the saints are dead. I've been hearing that for twenty-five years. There has always been some who would not measure up, and some do fall away; and then there is that mixed multitude that has always been around. But right in the midst of it all, I found the dear saints standing true, resisting the devil, and refusing to bow down to compromise or go along with any other foreign spirit. I pray the Lord to bless His dear saints. They don't need criticism—they need encouragement. My desire is to stand against all wrong, and be a blessing to the cause of Christ.

Pray for us, —Bro. Mart Samons

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#### EVANGELISTIC OUTREACH AT FRANKLIN, LA.

An evangelistic outreach will be held, Lord willing, in Franklin, La., Aug. 10–14, 1983. Franklin is located approximately 115 miles southwest of New Orleans. Brother H. H. Hargrave and family have accepted a burden for this meeting, along with those who feel led by the Holy Spirit to come and help in this meeting for souls. All who come will be cared for as the Lord provides. There will be room for campers, but there are no hookup facilities. There are motels in the area with reasonable rates. We are expecting to have street meetings and a daily outreach effort made.

For those who will be either flying in or coming by bus, purchase your tickets for Lafayette, La., and call either of these numbers, 828-7954 or 828-7550, and someone will pick you up. Should anyone come early, come to New Orleans and contact Bro. Louis Kimble at 504-738-9017, or Bro. Sidney Jasmine at 504-737-2145. Come fasting and praying for the welfare of souls.

For further information, you may contact either Bro. Kimble or Bro. Jasmine at the above mentioned phone numbers. —Bro. Louis Kimble

#### RECORDED SONGS AVAILABLE

The saints of the Church of God congregation at Dayton, Ohio, have cassette tapes available of special songs not found in the *Evening Light Songs* hymnal. The recording is of group singing, quartets, trios, etc. The tapes are 90 minute cassettes recorded in stereo, and are available at the price of \$5.00 each, which includes postage. Any profit realized from the sale of these tapes is being placed in the building fund for a new chapel at Dayton. Send all orders to:

—Bro. Kenneth Abbott, Jr.  
512 Conard Dr.; Xenia, Ohio 45385

#### WORK DAYS ON NATIONAL CAMP GROUND

It is time to start planning for the National Camp Meeting at Monark Springs, (Neosho, Mo.). We are scheduling work days every Saturday in July until the meeting begins on July 22.

Much work is required to prepare for the meeting. One of the projects is the installation of new electric service for the new cabins being built on the east side of the camp ground.

Volunteer labor is depended upon for the work done on the camp ground. We invite all that are interested in the camp meeting to come to the work days on July 2, 9, and 16. We greatly appreciate how the saints have cooperated on these work days in past years.

For further information you may contact:

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

#### REQUEST FOR BOOK

A reader is requesting to either borrow or purchase a copy of Charles E. Brown's book *When the Trumpet Sounded*. Should you have a copy available, please contact this office stating price or if you would be willing to submit it for loan. —Editor

#### HELP NEEDED

Bro. & Sis. Lowery of Laurel, Miss., would like for a saint sister to come and live with them to be of assistance in house work, etc. Bro. and Sis. Lowery are not bedfast, but they are getting up in years so that they need someone with them. They are not able

to attend church services regularly, and it would be of great encouragement to them to have someone there in the home that they could worship with. If you feel a burden for this need write to: Bro. and Sis. Lowery, Rt. 1, Box 472, Laurel, Mississippi, 39440, for more information.

## Prayer Requests

Pa.—Sis. Cora Slifer has requested the prayers of the saints for some needs she has.

Ore.—Sis. Grace Jones called for prayer for the healing of her left leg and foot in which she suffers severe pain; she also has a growth in her right ear.

La.—Sis. Bernice Constable suffers from arthritis and dizzy spells. Remember her in prayer.

Miss.—Sis. Viola Touchstone writes often for prayer. She desires special prayer for her eyes, and for the Lord to strengthen her memory.

Miss.—Remember Sis. Ethel Lowery in prayer. She is bothered much with her nerves and depression.

Okla.—Sis. Tillman desires the Lord to grant a healing touch to her body; she can hardly walk at times. She also desires prayer for unsaved loved ones.

Ala.—“Remember my niece who has cancer and her little daughter who has leukemia; also my grandson who is having lots of emotional problems. Continue to pray for me.” —Sis. Frances Everhart

Ore.—Continue to pray for Bro. Ostis and Sis. Evelyn Wilson for the healing of their bodies.

La.—Bro. Sidney Jasmine requests prayer for sickness in his home. Also, Bro. Louis Kimble has a standing, special request.

Calif.—Bro. Gene and Sis. Loretta Harmon both need a special touch from the Lord. Bro. Gene is quite aged and requires much care.

W. Va.—Pray the Lord will be pleased to grant a healing touch to Bro. Mart Samons.

Ill.—“Please pray for my sister, Dorothy Robinson. She is in a coma, and is showing a few signs of coming out of it.” —Wilma Sanders

La.—Sis. Eunice Joiner suffered a stroke recently. Pray for the Lord to undertake in her behalf.

Saints, let's be faithful to “hold up the hands” of those who have been so sorely afflicted for so long. Pray the Lord will work a mighty deliverance in their behalf. It is human nature to wonder why the Lord allows some of his dear children to linger so long in the furnace of affliction, but we must never question God's wisdom. God has a purpose in allowing these things to be. May each of us keep our hearts open before the Lord to receive what He has for us. There are many great and precious promises for the true and faithful. “Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.” Matt. 5:8. —Randall Flynn

If the human souls would grow in moral stature and moral beauty and fruitfulness, it must keep open to the light of God and absorb that light as it falls upon it.

—C. E. Orr

## FOREIGN MISSION REPORTS

### REPORT FROM THE PHILIPPINES

San Jose City (April 25)—Dear Sis. Pruitt and all the dear saints in the U. S. A.: Greetings of Christian love in the precious name of Jesus, our loving Savior. I want to express my heartfelt gratitude for your love for us in the Philippines. I received the check you sent for the tricycle payment. . . . Please say for me, “thank you,” to the congregation who gave this offering. We are praying for them and may the good heavenly Father grant special blessings to each one of them. This is truly a wonderful help for the mission work in the Philippines. The tricycle is so helpful to us in our everyday activities for the gospel work.

The young people are busy in the barrios today teaching Vacation Bible School. I bring them with the tricycle to their destination every morning, and take them home in the city in the evening, except those who are teaching in farther barrios. They just go home once in a while with passengers in a jeepney. We are also having open-air evangelistic services. We are taking the opportunity to go out to the barrios while it is not raining, because during the rainy season the roads are very muddy and slippery.

There is a need to preach the whole truth of salvation to other areas of the country. . . . There are sincere people in other towns who need real salvation, and they are so hungry for the pure gospel. Please pray for them. The wise king said, “Where there is no vision, the people perish.” Prov. 29:18. . . . We desire to spread the truth as wide as we can before the night comes when no man can work (John 9:4). . . . I remember Bro. Pruitt once said in his letter, “Time is running out, and whatever we intend to do for precious souls must be done quickly.”

Bro. Hammond told me of his desire to visit us again in the Philippines, but he said his hip is becoming weaker; however, he said he is praying for the Lord to help him to come. I truly appreciate his concern and burden for precious souls' salvation. We are praying for him that the Lord open the way for him to come teach the truth to the people here. . . .

We are all praying for you and for all the saints everywhere.

With much Christian love,

—M. S. Tangunan and family

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### MISSION REPORT FROM INDIA

S. India (Apr. 20)—Our dearly beloved brothers and sisters in the Print Shop, dear saints at Guthrie, and scattered abroad: Greetings of Christian love and joy to you all in the holy name of Jesus Christ who fills our hearts with peace that passeth understanding.

Thank you very much for your kind letter, and the enclosures were noted with much appreciation and with an odor of a sweet smell, a sacrifice acceptable, well pleasing to God.

The drought in our state is much worse now as no rain has fallen for six months. Most of the fields and farms were already dry. People and animals run for water to drink. We are on the edge of a famine, but our God, the God of Elijah, cares and provides for His children. Surely, this is the judgment of God, and people of our state look high and cry to God for rain.

We begin a three-day youth camp meeting at Karikkom tomorrow. It is for the spiritual progress and growth of the youth in the Church. We bring water from distant places in our vehicle for use in this camp meeting.

The new chapel built at Chalakudy was opened for service on April 1. Some more work has to be done on it to get it completed. We had a baptismal service and ordinance service at Chalakudy on that opening day.

Our next attempt is to get the chapel at Athami finished. May God open the way for it, somehow.

Surely this is the last days of perilous times. Wickedness has increased to the maximum effect as in the times of Noah and Lot. Let us watch and pray in the day and night.

Yours in the Lord's service, —John Varghese  
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#### LETTER FROM MISSION IN MEXICO

Ojos Negros, Baja Cfa.—Dear saints: We greet you in the holy and precious name of our Lord, Jesus Christ, who is over all names in the heavens and in the earth. We trust this finds you in good health and with much fervor in the things of God. These are my desires and prayers. . . .

Thank the Lord, we had a beautiful camp meeting in which we felt the touch of the Holy Spirit and the glory of God in all, because we had people in this camp meeting we have never had before. Although only two people came to the altar to be saved, all the rest came and will be more responsible because they have heard from the Word of God. God has touched their hearts. They just need to touch Him by faith to be regenerated in all their manner of living, turning their backs to the world and looking to Jesus. . . . I plead much prayer for the work here and all places.

Brethren, we have been thinking of opening a new work in Chapultepec. We have talked to Bros. Sherman and Kutra, and Sis. Edith of buying a lot there and begin the construction if it is the will of the Lord. In the Valley of the Trinity, the lot is already there. We need workers with a burden for those places. I ask a special request that the Lord will send workers with a special burden for souls. Let us pray that God will work in all of this and that we will do the will of God, giving Him the honor and glory forever.

We appreciate much the offering for the work and for all you have done for the work in Mexico. We now have electricity . . . which is a great blessing. Please pray much for us that we will be a Timothy. With much love and prayers,

—Mayarino Escobar and family

#### REPORT FROM NIGERIA, WEST AFRICA

Nigeria (April 28)—Dear brethren of the holy family: Greetings in holy Christian love, the divine element that never fails. "God is love"—that is love for others, and the moment we fail in love towards another, we put ourselves out of fellowship with God, for God loves him even if we do not.

Thank you for your letter which arrived greatly behind schedule. Our hands are on the plough steadily, working with marked attention on our assignments daily. Why talk about what we did yesterday or what we are going to do tomorrow? The world will be won by deeds and not by talk. . . .

The young people of Kwale, Obetim—Uno, Okpai, Umuachi-Afor, and Umuolu congregations assembled themselves in Kwale for all-day and all-night prayer and fasting for three days. They sought the face of the Lord for a higher ground in His service for souls, also for refinement and stability. As requested, this writer addressed them on two occasions on Christian marriage and unity of the believers. All returned to their stations fully strengthened and spiritually equipped to go ahead to work.

Evangelistic meetings held at Tombia with effect from March 20th, closed with the desired victory. This writer was duly notified of the meetings and invited to attend, but ill health kept me from participating. I shall make it to Tombia and Port Harcourt as soon as practical. I have been there on several occasions and enjoyed the divine food together.

Yours for souls,—Titus U. E. Enu  
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#### MISSION WORK IN GHANA

Okla.—Dear Bro. Flynn and saints scattered abroad: Greetings of Christian love in Jesus' dear name.

I am coming your way again with the latest news I have received from Ghana. Bro. Jim Akwasi reports that his uncle, Duku, who is a military man, has contacted the President of Ghana in regard to obtaining a one year visa for a resident missionary in Ghana, and that it has been granted; all they need is a name to put on it.

God has prepared and is preparing the hearts of the people in Ghana for gospel labor. The door is open for someone to enter. I am wondering who will heed the Macedonian call, "Come over into Ghana and help us"? The only name I have heard mentioned in regard to going to Ghana is Bro. Danny Layne. He carries a burden for the work there, but he assures me that he is not burdened to go at this time. God has not released him from his burden of pastoring a work in Ontario, Calif.

Let us not say, "There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest." John 4:35. There are so many demands for our time today, that it becomes easy to put off needful things to some time out in the future. Next January it will be one year since I went to

Ghana. There is a great need for an established work of God there. The field is so new that it shouldn't be left unattended. There are many false movements abroad which are only too anxious to take unguarded sheep.

By September of this year (three months away), it seems that someone should have the knowledge of a definite call from God to go to Ghana; and by Jan., 1984, (six months away) that person called should be ready to go—passport, visa, ticket, and a consecrated, prepared, qualified heart ready for service. . . .

I have some good slides to show and many interesting things to tell of my trip to and of life in Ghana. If anyone would like to talk with or write to me regarding Ghana, I will be happy to help in any way I can.

I want to thank everyone for the offerings which have been sent for the work in Ghana, and for the many prayers that have ascended to heaven for them in their hours of great need. Continue to keep them in your heart. Pray for me, that I will ever be faithful wherever God places me in the harvest fields of the world.

Yours in Him, —Sis. Dorothy Keiser  
Rt. 6 Box 8B, Shawnee, Ok. 74801  
Phone 405-273-2949.

## Testimonies and Answers to Prayer

Canada—Dear saints of God: Greetings to all of you in the name of the One who "shews himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him." The Lord certainly has shown Himself strong in our behalf. We thank Him for full salvation, and we appreciate the Church of God, the glorious truth, and the wonderful saints of God. Nothing transcends the love, fellowship, care, and concern of the saints. They're just one big family!

In the last issue of the *Faith and Victory* was printed a request for prayer concerning our move to Chilliwack, B. C., Canada—a move of about 2800 miles. We know that many earnest, effectual prayers went up to God's throne in our behalf, and we appreciate each one. We want to share with the saints how marvelously God did answer prayer and helped us out. Unless one realizes the condition that my sister is in, it would be quite difficult to understand what an undertaking the trip really was, and how miraculously God undertook for us.

Betty is in a virtually immobile condition, and she never leaves the couch. Her joints are stiffened and frozen. She is crippled into a sedentary position, and moving her any distance most always causes her excruciating pain. Moving her any great distance would seem almost unrational, humanly speaking.

We felt definite leadings of the Lord to make this move and felt assured that He would work everything out. I want the saints to know that God took care of every aspect of the trip and removed every impediment that arose or threatened. We had virtually no

problems at all. This is a miracle! Praise the Lord! When we moved Betty in and out of the motorhome and house, the Lord marvelously blessed her and touched her so she didn't even have pain. Praise God forevermore! She took the driving marvelously well. In fact, she told me that she was feeling better than she had been for several weeks at home. We made the trip in five days, whereas we had expected it to take perhaps up to ten days. . . .

We would like to take this opportunity to thank each one of you for your prayers, cards, letters, and offerings. We appreciate it more than we can tell. I want to especially mention that we really appreciate Bro. Curtis Williams being willing to help us make this move and furnish us with the use of his motorhome for the trip. . . . We realize that it was a big request, but we are sure that God will leave no sacrifice unrewarded. When we know that we are in the will of God, no sacrifice is too great.

I also want to mention that the Lord laid it upon Sis. Ann Walter's (from Chilliwack) heart to come and help us on the trip with Betty, as we realized that mother was not capable anymore of helping care for Betty. God will surely reward her for her sacrifice. The saints here in British Columbia have been a great help to us already, and we enjoy their fellowship.

Perhaps I'll take this opportunity to briefly report on Betty's condition. Please don't stop praying. We're still in a battle, and we need the Lord's help more than ever. Betty seems to be weakening day by day, and at times she gets quite low. Her trust is fully in God, and she is submitted to him for life or death. She feels that a turning point will come soon. Please hold us up in prayer.

"Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits."

Christian love,

—Agathe, Betty, Mary, and Elizabeth Friesen

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Okla.—Dear saints: The Lord has been so good to me; I don't ever want to fail to thank Him.

I have been going through a trial of faith, and I thank Him so much for answering prayer. About six months ago, I had a front tooth that needed a root canal done on it. When I went to the dentist, he said that it would take only three visits to fix the tooth. Two of those would require medicine injected in it to kill the infection. Well, I thought a tooth was such a small thing that maybe it wouldn't matter to go ahead and let him do it his way. But that wasn't the Lord's way. The tooth would not heal up, and after five weeks, I realized that I had been trusting in that medication instead of trusting in the Lord. He had been dealing with me about this, so I decided not to go back until the pain and infection were gone. It took fasting and prayer, but praise God, a few days ago the Lord answered, and inspired me to get my tooth filled. Before going, I went to a sister in the congregation and we had a season of prayer together about it. I could feel the Lord was with me, and He

flooded my soul with wonderful verses about standing on Jesus' power alone.

The dentist had made a remark that, "God has better things to do than to heal a tooth," but praise God, when I went, he said it had to be a miracle! He could hardly believe it, and still did not want to fill it without medication, but not finding any infection, he had to do as I requested.

The Lord has taught me such a wonderful lesson of keeping our faith in God, and *never* doubting. There were times I did doubt, and wondered if He would ever heal it, but then comes the lesson of patience. Praise God! It has made me realize never to step down from the standard He has set for all His saints. It may be a very small thing, but small things count with God.

I'm thankful for the prayers of the saints, and I know that if we all get under a bigger burden for the older saints who have afflictions on their bodies, the Lord will answer prayer. I want the Lord to help me do my part.

Pray for me, —Jeanine Miles

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Mo.—Dear ones: We have not sent our testimony in to the *Faith and Victory* for a long time, I want to tell the saints of God that the Lord is still healing and working miracles.

Louie was anointed during the Assembly Meeting for a skin cancer on his forehead. After a few weeks or months, he was able to quit putting a bandage on it, and it is now healed completely. Thank the good Lord! The place was increasing in size rapidly.

I did write a letter to the *Mission Trail* about the wreck Melonie, the two little girls, and I were involved in. A drunk driver hit us head on. There was no chance to change our way of living then, for we just froze and couldn't say a thing. The angel of the Lord surely protected us from being killed or badly injured.

We are endeavoring to live to please the Lord and not the flesh. By His help and grace I know we can make it all the way. It pays to examine our lives daily and move up on our weak lines. . . . It is so easy to cultivate bad habits and not be aware of it. . . .

Praying for you, —Evodna Marler

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## Wondrously Healed of Heart Trouble

Calif.—Dear saints of God: Greetings of heavenly love in the Name that opened mercy's door and the fount of cleansing for every soul. In view of recent events in my life, I felt indebted to the Lord and His people to write a testimony of the Lord's gracious dealings with our soul and of His merciful kindness to the children of men. The condescension of the Prince of glory to favor us with His eternal plan of redemption causes us to feel our unworthiness; however, when we consider the many benefits that accompany salvation, we are made to more keenly feel a greater depth of love and gratitude to the Sweet Rose of Sharon, my Prophet, my Priest, and my King.

Perhaps two years ago, it pleased the Lord to bruise us with the hand of affliction. The symptoms of the affliction resembled heart trouble very much, although we were careful not to claim it. There was also every indication of low blood pressure, and in fact, the Lord did reveal that truth to us, and an effort to eat those foods to build up the blood was made. Every so often we would become so overcome with pains in the chest, stomach, and back, and with vomiting, that we had to go to bed. On one occasion, we were unable to carry on our duties for three weeks. During this particular illness, which was in Sept., 1982, the Lord allowed us to hear a conversation of two voices which He identified as two imps of the devil. It seems that we were the subject of the conversation which ended with these words: "I know we can't keep her out of heaven, but at least she'll be out of the way." The Lord then began to deal with my heart as to how the devil would be pleased to get all of God's people to give up the fight in affliction before the Lord is finished with them in this life. After that time we endeavored to rest and eat as regularly as possible; also, we were left with a shortness of breath and were easily tired.

On Tuesday, April 12, 1983, we started the day feeling very weak, tired, and our breath was quite short. That night we began to have severe pains in our chest and right arm more often than ever, which appeared to be very typical of what we had been experiencing. However, the Lord gave us the understanding that our sickness had reached a point where it was unto death, and that I needed to inform my family that it was, and to make it a public request. From all evidence we had a heart attack. This left us very weak and without the use of both arms—especially the right arm. The saints were very kind and patient in caring for us, and held on in earnest prayer.

It may be well to note how important our initial consecration to God is as we present our bodies a "living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service." Romans 12:1. How much it grieves the great heart of God for us to take ourselves off the altar that sanctifies us in the time of our affliction, and put our bodies in the hands of the "arm of flesh." Surely, the arm of flesh will fail you, and you dare not trust your own. It is also equally important that those who care for the sick be just as consecrated to the eternal will of God concerning the divine healing that their every utterance is an inspiration of faith and confidence in God. We must recommend those who cared for us as being unshaken in faith in spite of every evidence of impending death.

During the next week we experienced two more attacks, one of which seemed to be destined as fatal. It was on Wednesday night, April 20, that those attacks were accompanied by severe pains in the chest and arms, and also there was a feeling of fading out. At this point I have to tell what was told me, as I was not always fully conscious of my state. We can say, however, that my interest in this time world

became a great effort. My speech left me, and my body seemed to lose its normal functions. The saints were called in for prayer, and they labored for about an hour as we tried to rally to live as much as we were consciously able to do so. Every breath seemed to be the very last, as breathing became a great struggle. It seemed it would have been much easier not to struggle against what seemed to be death. We understand that we took on the look of death as the throat began to make what was called a death rattle. As prayer was offered, the Lord would give a touch and we would seem to be coming back to life, only to go through the same struggle again. Finally, the Lord gave a very definite touch so that we could sit up with help, and join in the praises around our bed. That attack left me unable to walk, and the next day I had to be nourished through a straw. That afternoon there was another like attack and the fading away; however, the Lord heard prayer immediately, and it lasted only for a short while. It was not as severe as the night before. That night, the saints began to gather in the living room for prayer, as we were very weak and nervous with pain often in our body. As they were praying we began to have an attack which seemed to have a greater force than the night before. The same symptoms appeared, and also other signs of a definite passing, during which time there were long periods of unconsciousness and very short periods of alertness. The pains seemed unbearable in my chest and arms, and breathing again seemed an impossibility.

As earnest prayer was made around our bedside and death seemed inevitable, the Lord always witnessed to our hearts that He was very near. At one point of consciousness, as my eyes were focused toward the middle of the ceiling. I saw Jesus standing and telling me "to fight on." He didn't look like the pictures we commonly see, and was accompanied by the figure of one I never was able to make out. After about two hours of battling the enemy, as saints were called across the nation, the Lord gave a touch such as witnessed to our heart that the battle was won. We were still weak, but the Lord gave us strength to lift up holy hands for VICTORY. As we began to sing, the Lord's presence was manifest, but the pain in my chest and right arm began to throb. We were at this point anointed and prayed for, and the Lord witnessed to our hearts once more that the work was done. The sisters assisted me with putting my robe on, and as soon as my feet touched the floor a surge of virtue from Heaven went through my body! It seemed that I couldn't stop leaping and shouting praises to the High Priest who is touched with the feeling of our infirmities. Most of the congregation who were not already present, gathered in to join in the singing and rejoicing which lasted well past midnight. How the Lord's handmaiden did glorify the Lord for His miracle working power which He manifested to each one present, and to each one of His servants across the country that helped to bear the burden of our affliction. The Lord is so real and His

saints are so dear! We trust this account will encourage and strengthen the trust of every one of the saints of God in the Shepherd and Bishop of our souls. As the Lord has favored life for us once more, it is our earnest desire that we not take one selfish breath and that we labor faithfully until our life's work is ended.

Gratefully and eternally His,

—Sis. Beverly Reed

## HOME LIFE



### A Rich Heritage

by Jeanne Samons

"Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it." Prov. 22:6.

I used to wonder how anyone could be so sure that their children would live for the Lord when they became adults. After I had a family of my own and I began to seek the Lord earnestly for wisdom to train my children in "The Way," I began to understand. Because each of us have to make our own decision whether or not we want to choose the way of the Lord, there is never any full assurance our children will be saved. But from observing my own family, other saints' children, and the world, I have come to some conclusions.

If parents teach their children to believe in the Bible, trust in the Lord, and back it by the example of their own lives, that "Way" will never be forgotten by those children. I have noticed children of dedicated Christian parents. Even though the children do not live Christian lives themselves, they are often quick to uphold their background or former teachings. As long as they live, they are never able to completely "depart from it."

But what has impressed me most are those children who have been instructed in the "nurture and admonition of the Lord," and who have followed the godly example of their parents. They have grown to be strong men and women in the Lord. I have been made aware from observing these lives of how much the influences of one's young life have to do in the decisions of one's adult life.

I have thanked the Lord so often for the sound doctrine and strong dependence on the Lord that my parents worked so diligently to instill in me. Those teachings are the reasons I am living for God today,

I'm sure. So often, as I was growing up, I was tempted to do so many things all young people are tempted to do. By knowing the genuine love and concern my parents had for me, and being convinced of their understanding by discussing problems with them, their praying with and for me, I kept a real fear of displeasing God and doing wrong. Down through the years I have been thankful for what I have been saved from because I did fear the Lord. As years went on, I experienced my own experience of salvation and the power of God to **keep** us from sin. But I still contribute very much to my strong Christian background.

I have often seen people get saved who haven't had a good background. Sometimes these people have such struggles in their Christian lives because they have been allowed in their earlier years to indulge in so many unholy things. I have watched them be up and down for so long, unable to acquire any real strong foundation, simply because they have never had to be strong before.

We parents sometimes become weary of watching for the children, pulling them out of disagreements, restoring peace, and instructing them the same way over and over again. But this training is a constant "workout." There is so much you have to watch for in that child: their influences, their reading, their playmates, talk, attitude toward others, etc. There is so much to do to shape the growth of that tender, little life. If it is left without constant training, it will be sure to loose the race.

When we are trying to train an animal for something, we have to spend a lot of time with it. If it was left to itself, it would either never get done or the animal would become too old to train. It is the same way with our children. It is impossible for them to train themselves. That is why God would like for every child to have godly parents to train them. That is not to say God cannot take someone who has not been "trained" in the truth, save, and use them as adults, but God can use good parents as a tool in early life to train and develop that heart for many more years of the Lord's use.

It is a full-time job; a job which many young parents are not willing to take on. Sad to say, they are pursuing their own pleasures and careers. If we have children, we are duty-bound by God and His Word to spend as much time as we can "training" that child. It is not always easy.

I think often of the things the world offers to our youth of today. It is intended to and will attract them unless we fill our children's time with something to replace what the world has to offer. Work and duties of the home are good, but they will not fill all the void. They also need some type of pure, clean recreation. It is up to us as parents to fill their idle time with something they will enjoy and benefit from. If they are left to find their own entertainment, you can be sure it will lead to sorrow.

Above all, the best example for our children is the godly life of their parents. If they can see something

in their mother's and daddy's lives that is working, they will be more apt to try it. If they see their parents acknowledging God in all their ways, they will be more apt to learn how to do that, also.

May God help us as parents to let go of our own pursuits or pleasures, and dedicate our time and our minds to "training" up our children in "the way." When they are older, we will feel good because we have done all we could, fulfilled God's plan for us, and with the Lord's help, may we see fruits of our sacrifices.

(to be continued)

## Question and Answer Column

By Ostis B. Wilson

**Question:** I am confused as to the meaning of the following Scriptures: 1 Peter 3:19-20; Jude 6; and 2 Pet. 2:4. As I look up cross references, I find nothing that is real explanatory. I had always thought that heaven or the angels' abode was completely holy and there would be nothing to tempt angels. Also, that anyone dying in sin was lost; so I can't understand Jesus preaching to spirits in prison. Nothing in the gospels seems to mention any such or else I've missed it.

**Answer:** 1 Pet. 3:19-20, reads: "By which also he went and preached unto the spirits in prison; which sometime were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water."

The thought really begins in verse 18, and this verse holds part of the key to interpreting the other verses. Verse 18 reads, "For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit." The "S" in the word "Spirit" here is capitalized, indicating that it is the Holy Spirit, the third person of the triune God-head that is meant here. It was through the power of the Holy Spirit that Christ was raised from the dead. Then verse 19 says, "BY WHICH he went and preached unto the spirits in prison." Then it was through the power and operation that He preached unto the spirits in prison. Then verse 20 tells when it was—"When once the long suffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, . . ."

The preaching to the spirits in prison here was done in the days while Noah was building the ark and all the while preaching righteousness unto them—the people in the prison house of sin. Peter said in 2 Pet. 1:21, "For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost." It was the same Holy Spirit that raised Christ from the dead that preached through Noah in his day warning the people to turn from their wickedness and flee from the wrath of God which was to come. It was the same Holy Spirit then in Noah, or preaching through Noah, as in Holy Spirit filled ministers today through whom Christ is preaching His gospel of salvation and warning sinners to repent of sin, believe the gospel, and thus flee from the wrath of God which is to come.



These spirits are called "spirits in prison," and rightly so. Prison is a place where one's liberties are taken away. Spirits who have yielded themselves to the devil forfeit their liberties and become slaves to Satan and the power of sin. Those souls in Noah's day who had their imaginations of the thoughts of their hearts only evil continually were whipped and lashed by a relentless, tyrannical master (the devil), and had no power or liberty of their own. Jesus Himself said in John 8:34, that he that "committeth sin is the servant [slave] of sin." But Jesus again said in John 8:32, that you "shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." It takes the power of the gospel of Christ to free men from sin. Paul said in Romans 6:17, 18, "But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you. Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness." Any person who will obey the gospel and believe in the merits of the blood of Christ to redeem them from sin shall be made free from sin. Being a servant of righteousness is much different from being a servant of sin, because when one is a servant of righteousness, he is living according to the nature God placed in man in the beginning, which is liberty and freedom in the fullest degree. Sinful man has had a sinful, fallen, corrupt nature imposed upon his true nature. This nature tends to rebellion against God and right, and consequently robs him of all his liberty and freedom. This is what Jesus came to free men from by His sacrifice and the power of His blood, and to restore him back to his true nature (the divine nature) in the image and likeness of God and thus to full freedom and deliverance.

The prophet Isaiah, in Isa. 42:7, said that one of the particular functions of the ministry of Jesus was "... to bring out the prisoners from the prison, and them that sit in darkness out of the prison house." Even those in solitary confinement or the dungeon—even the worst of them were to be brought out also. Again, Isa. 61:1, says, "The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me; because the Lord hath anointed me . . . to proclaim . . . the opening of the prison to them that are bound." In Luke 4:18-19, Jesus read this very prophecy in Isa. 61:1, concerning Himself and then said to them in verse 21, "This day is this scripture fulfilled in your ears." Jesus, the great liberator, had come to open the prison houses of sin and let the prisoners come out free men. Eph. 4:8, says that when He ascended up on high "He led captivity captive." The margin here says, "A multitude of captives." Jesus led a great multitude which no man could number out of the kingdom of darkness and sin, and translated them into the kingdom of God's dear Son through the abundance of His grace and the power of His blood.

This does not mean that He opened up the prison and penitentiaries and turned the criminals loose on society. No, not at all. But the psalmist said in Psalms 142:7, "Bring my soul out of prison." So we see that souls can get in prison the same as bodies and men can be imprisoned spiritually as well as physically. And it was to those who were imprisoned spiritually that Jesus in Spirit preached to through Noah, and it is to those who are imprisoned spiritually today to whom He preach-

es in His Holy Spirit filled ministers, and to whom He opens the prison doors to liberate them when they obey from the heart that form of doctrine delivered unto them.

Jude 6 says: "And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day."

I have mulled over this and wrestled around with it at different times, but never came up with anything that was satisfactory even to myself. Finally, I came across Bro. C. E. Orr's interpretation of this text. He said that the angels referred to in this text were Adam and Eve. That seemed plausible and correct to me when I considered that they were created beings just like the angels, and designed for everlasting life just like the angels so long as they ate of the tree of life. Before they sinned they were holy just as the angels. When they sinned, they lost their righteous estate (kept not their first estate), and were driven from the garden (left their own habitation). This is the best I have to offer on this text as of now.

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### "The Steps of a Good Man"

*Psalms 37:23*

Life and time are so structured that no one may remain long in one place. Time and life move, requiring us to move, as there is no way for each succeeding day to remain as the one before it. Conditions change, circumstances change, and our reactions to these change, so each day and its experiences are different from all the others.

Our dear Lord has counseled us to order our steps as we travel this path of life so that our conduct will be proper and acceptable when measured against the standard of holiness prescribed for men to follow. Our first step, then, would be to recognize the value of such conduct. Experience has taught us that we are unable to achieve that plane alone, so our next step is toward the One who is able and willing to help us.

And so begins our life's walk with the dear Lord—step by step, test by test, victory by victory until at last we have completed our life's journey and meet Him face to face.

—Clifford W. Wilson

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### Extreme Deceptiveness of Sin

The nature of sin is to deceive. Its nature is like its author, the devil, and it deceives those who yield to its power and influence. Often sin does not seem wrong or bad when we are being tempted or deceived by it. A great many today are being deceived by sin, because many sinful things are popular.

Many people hide their sins and cover them over with a cloak of religion; but the Lord has said, "He that covereth his sins shall not prosper; but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy." Prov. 28:13. "If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me." Psalms 66:18.

—J. C. B.  
—Selected from *Gospel Trumpet*, 1911.