

FAITH^{AND}VICTORY

USPS184-660

Church of God Servant



Volume 62, No.5

62nd Year

Guthrie, Oklahoma

35¢ Per Year

July 1984

The Shepherd and His Sheep



"And when he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them, and the sheep follow him: for they know his voice." John 10:4.

The Lord our Savior is the guide
When He puts forth His sheep;
He faithfully doth go before,
And in His path them keep.

Sometimes He leads up mountains high
Where winds so fierce do blow;
Or onward in a desert place
Where nothing seems to grow.

It may be through a verdant vale
With grasses green and tall;
Or in a quiet resting place
Beside a waterfall.

The sheep do not the Shepherd ask,
"Why must we go this way?"
Nor question when the road is rough,
Or storms becloud the day.

They do not ask to be the guide,
Or seek to choose the way
Into a path that seemeth right,
But sure to lead astray.

So meekly they do follow on
Behind their Shepherd true;
Trusting in His faithfulness
To lead them safely through.

—O. A. Davenport

Our Spiritual House

Truly, we love the Lord today and desire to let Him have His way in our life. The Lord blessed us with some thoughts about our spiritual house a few weeks ago, and we feel that we should share them with you.

We read in Prov. 24:3 and 4, "Through wisdom is an house builded; and by understanding it is established: and by knowledge shall the chambers be filled with all precious and pleasant riches."

"Through wisdom is an house builded. . . ." How true it is! Wisdom teaches us not to start with the roof or the walls, but to first lay a firm foundation in the Lord. Christ said in Matt. 16:18, ". . . upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." What was that rock? It wasn't Peter, for he has been dead and gone for many, many years. It was Peter's belief that Christ is the Son of the living God. So it is in our lives; we must first start out with a firm faith in God and the blood that Jesus shed for the remission of sins. Many people are willing to believe in God, but when it comes to the teachings of the apostles they just cannot believe that it was given for our day and age. They let a little loose sand get in under their foundation, and when their house begins to settle, the foundation starts cracking and crumbling. This faith is so very important. 1 Tim. 1:19, says, "Holding faith, and a good conscience; which some having put away concerning *faith* have made shipwreck." Let us keep a strong faith in the whole Bible that our house may stand when the winds of life blow down upon it.

". . . and by understanding it is established." We may have faith in God and a belief in His Word, but until we use understanding as to how to put it to use in our life, our structure will go up unevenly—crooked window and door facings, sloping floors, and leaning walls. Have you ever seen someone overly strict in one area and very lenient in another? Or perhaps they are holding to part of the truth, but just not accepting it all. Their house is going up crookedly, and it is an abomination unto the Lord. Prov. 11:1,

Attend National Campmeeting, July 20 to July 29, Neosho (Monark Springs), Mo.

says, "A false balance is abomination to the Lord: but a just weight is his delight." We read in 2 Tim. 2:15, "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, *rightly dividing* the word of truth." God put His Word here to use as a plumb line to line up our house with; not to abuse through compromising nor by becoming a fanatic. May the Lord help us to hold to the true standard and an even path.

"...and by knowledge shall the chambers be filled with all precious and pleasant riches." How is knowledge obtained? It is mainly obtained through experience—either of ourselves or the experiences of others. Each trial and test we face, or the trials we fight with others let us gain knowledge. Even if we fail in a test, it still lets us know what we should or shouldn't do. God allows trials and tests to come that we might be able to fill our house with the riches of love, joy, peace, longsuffering, etc. I think of Bro. Peeples' message of fighting the devil. He said that it needed to be "skin for skin." Sometimes that's the way the battle goes, and nearly always we have to lose more of self; but when we do, the plaque we have to hang on the wall is a little more precious to us, and gives more courage to fight harder in the future.

We find in Prov. 14:1, "Every wise woman buildeth her house: but the foolish plucketh it down with her hands." Let us each one work to build Mount Zion into the beautiful city of God, and not be plucking it down with our own hands. Ps. 48:2, says, "Beautiful for situation, the joy of the whole earth, is Mount Zion. . . ."

Your sister in the Lord,

—Anita Probst

The Practical Side of Religion

The sun was slowly sinking toward the western horizon while I wended my way up the rugged hillside. As I ascended the winding path ever higher and higher, my horizon broadened. When at length I reached the summit and turned to gaze back over the valley, the city lay spread out like a great picture at my feet. The winding river, with a steamer slowly moving along on its bosom, shimmered in the evening sunlight. The sounds from the city were softened and blended until they rose to me like the musical strain of far-away melodies. The low-hanging sun glorified the drifting clouds with the hues of the autumn mountain-side. Crimson and orange and gold, they burned in that western expanse. I gazed upon the scene, and its influence seemed to exalt and enrapture my spirit. There stole into my being a sense of rest and peace and joy that lifted me out of the monotony of ordinary things. I sat there and drank in the beauties of the scene until the sun sank out of sight behind the hills and the stars began to twinkle overhead. The lights flashed out in the city beneath. The quiet hush of the evening seemed to settle over me, and it seemed good to be alive and to be there.

The mountain-top is a delightful place. There the soul reaches heights and depths such as it reaches at no other time. Preachers love to preach and poets love to sing of the mountain-tops of life. How delightful are these times in our spiritual life, and how naturally we long for these seasons! How often

they are pictured up till one would suppose that they are the principal things in the Christian life! Some people have fancied that when they became Christians the mountain-top experience would be their constant portion. They may have been led to expect this from hearing preaching that exalted the emotional side of religion. It may be that when they were converted their new-born joys seemed to be unending. They thought that this exaltation of spirit was the normal state of a Christian. They gloried in it as the days passed by. The time came, however, when this emotional glow subsided. As the barometer of their feelings fell, they began to question themselves thus: "What is the matter with me? Have I done something wrong? Am I mistaken in thinking that I was saved?" Thus, their faith fell with their emotions. After a while their emotions rose again, and their faith rose with their emotions. Now they knew that they were all right.

There are times when we seem to draw near to God in prayer, when the sight and sound of the world is shut out. An inexpressible sweetness and joy and satisfaction come into the heart. How near God seems! How calm and precious is the hour! How our spirits drink in of the water of life! How we seem to talk face to face with our Lord, and how the curtain seems drawn back till our eyes behold the secrets of the Eternal! We give ourselves over to the supreme enjoyment of the hour. But alas! in a short time we find ourselves no longer on the mountain, but out in the broad plain of life, and how tame and monotonous is that plain when we think of the mountain!

In this the natural and spiritual are alike. What would you think of the man who would build a store upon the mountain-top, apart from the throng of purchasers whose business he desired? Would you think that wisdom was displayed? Do business men do this way? No, they seek the busy street that is trodden by a multitude, where flows the constant stream of traffic; and there, amid the noise and dust and hurry, they ply their trade with little thought of the mountain-top.

The mountain-top is a very good place to which to make an excursion now and then. It is the place to spend our holidays, but it is not the place for the real accomplishments of life. When we wish to make a living, we must leave the mountain-top with its far-flung panorama of beauty. We must roll up our sleeves and take up the rugged toil and, mid sweat and grime and noise and discord, produce the real results that feed and clothe and shelter us. The real accomplishments of life are not on the mountain-top, but in the monotonous, soul-trying daily grind of business. If you imagine that you are to live in the idealism of a mountain-top experience, you will find yourself coming short of it most of the time. You will be continually lamenting over your failure to make your experience measure up to your ideal. So long as you are reaching toward this ideal and unconscious of your failure to reach it, your attention will be absorbed by this, and you will be of little use to God. The sooner you come down to the place where you stop condemning yourself because your emotions are not always joyous or because you cannot always pray with that full outpouring of soul, the better it will be for you. You will never become a practical Christian

till you learn that the Christian life, like the natural life, is largely made up of a monotonous round of duties.

There is little glamor or brilliancy in labor or ordinary things. That is reserved for the special things in life. It is true that there is joy in the toil and in the hardness, yea, even in the bitterness, if there is a consciousness of duty well done. It is the daily grind that tests the faithfulness. God wants people who will be true in the daily toil of life, who will do well the little, uninteresting things. He wants practical Christians, people who are willing to do the work even if it means weariness, even if it means little of emotion, even if it means sacrifice.

If you lived on the mountain-top always, the scene would soon lose its beauty, and you would soon forget its loveliness. When, after the days of toil, after the months of the prosaic, you lay aside your tools and turn from your labors, it is then that you can go out and enjoy the beauties of nature. It is then that you can enter into her moods and her comrade. You can enjoy her then and be refreshed by her as you could not be without those weary days of toil. Many people are willing to enjoy, but they shun the work. In natural things we call such persons lazy.

Idealism has its place in life, but it must not close our eyes to the practical side of life. Enjoy what of the mountain-top God may give to you, but do not count this the ordinary, usual thing of Christian life. Learn to enjoy the toil. Learn to find the sweetness that is in it. Learn to find the beauty in the common things of life, for some of the most common things are among the most beautiful when our eyes are taught to see their beauty. The Christian life is pre-eminently a life of service. That is its highest and broadest purpose. To try to be a Christian merely for the joy that is to be found in it is often to render ourselves miserable. To seek happiness for ourselves as the chief end of life is a very unworthy purpose, and is one that can but end in disappointment.

See that you do your part in life in the every-day things, and God will permit you to live on the mountain as He sees best. Appreciate the mountain experiences when they come, but do not let them make you despise the common things. —C. W. Naylor

(Taken from the book *Heart Talks*)

Fiery Trials and their Benefits

Can it be possible that there are real benefits received from passing through a fiery trial? Truly in the midst of trial we may not be able to see where the benefit is to be derived, but after it is all over, if we have been true to God we can realize the richness in it, and that it has worked out "an eternal weight of glory" unto our souls.

Ofttimes it takes a real fiery trial to burn the dross out of us, to bring us to the point where we can have sweeping victory, and qualify us for the greatest use for God. A sister who had for years been tempted and tried and tossed about by the enemy, and yet would not turn to serve him, could not realize the blessings there are in the life of salvation. While passing through a severe trial, she began earnestly calling upon the Lord to know just where the trouble

lay; and in looking over her past life she saw plainly how that through her years of trial and temptation, and her Christian life, she had only been enduring those things instead of enjoying them. She saw how plainly the Word of God set forth the blessings, and her privilege of enjoying instead of enduring salvation; then came the words: "Count all things joy." She saw where her mistake had been all these years, and right there she reconsecrated herself to God, and cast aside all these accusations of the devil and merely enduring temptations, and began right in the midst of trials to thank God for them. When the tempter came she would thank God that He had opened a way to escape; and that though she was to endure temptations, she could rejoice through it all and really enjoy a real trial, and God could get glory through it all. From that time she had sweeping victory over the powers of the enemy, and the point was well gained.

We read in 1 Pet. 5:10, that after ye have suffered awhile God will make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, and settle you. This does not mean a suffering from disease, but suffering the trials and temptations of life, as we read in the first chapter, that, if need be, we are in heaviness through manifold temptations for a season. So if it requires some of these things in order to stablish, strengthen, settle us, let us get the real benefits out of the same; and through it all remember that He says, "I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee."

—E. E. Byrum

(Taken from *The Secret of Salvation*)

Death Is Coming On

Step by step with silent tread,
Not desired nor bidden;
But shrouded in a veil of dread,
In every corner hidden.

In twilight beams, or midnight shades;
Or in the morning's dawn,
Or 'neath the rays of mid-day sun,
Death is coming on.

Without regard to high estate,
Or rich or poor domain;
With no respect for age or youth
Or honor, pride, or fame.

Nor trade, nor skill, feat or plan,
Nor kindred, race, or tongue,
Without regard to one or all,
Death is coming on.

What will you do when at last
You meet with death some day?
Have you found Him whose hand divine
Can take its sting away?

O sinner friend, do not wait;
But yield your heart to God
Before you reach your doleful fate
And sink beneath the sod.

To us is given victory
Through Christ, God's only Son;
With faith in Him we need not fear
Though death is coming on.

—Ulysses Phillips

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)

(Second class postage paid at Guthrie, Okla.)

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

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

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Single copy, one year \$.35
Single copy, three years..... \$1.00
Roll of 4 papers to one address, one year \$1.00
Write for prices on larger quantities.

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

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

Through the Free Literature Fund thousands of gospel tracts are published and sent out free of charge as the Lord supplies. Co-operation of our readers is solicited, and will be appreciated in any way the Bible and the Holy Spirit teach you to do or stir your heart. "Freely ye have received, freely give." Read Exodus 25:2; 1 Chron. 29:9; 2 Cor. 9:7; and Luke 6:38.

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

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

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

FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE

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

Postmaster: Please send address corrections to: Faith Publishing House, P.O. Box 518, Guthrie, Oklahoma 73044.

SUBSCRIBE TO THIS PAPER—3 YEARS FOR \$1.00

EDITORIALS

We are thankful that God has made it possible to publish another issue of the *Faith and Victory* paper. We trust that you will find encouragement in the articles and testimonies of God's people.

Already the summer has seen several camp meetings come and go. It was encouraging to see all the saints that gathered in for the Okla. State Camp Meeting held here at Guthrie. It is now history, but if you were not a part of this meeting, there is still ample time for you to attend one. The National Camp Meeting at Neosho (Monark Springs), Mo., is scheduled to begin, Lord willing, July 20. If you are able to attend be sure and do so. Do your part in make it a profitable meeting.

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

It was a great shock to many of us, and especially to Aunt Maybelle, to learn that on June 13, her son, Byron Pruitt, was killed in an automobile accident. Especially remember his wife Clarice, his daughter, Genece Doolittle and her husband Nelson in your prayers. There will be some dark days ahead, but we know that God will stand by them.

Byron was a real saint of God who had a way of getting close to your heart. I know there will be many, many people who will miss his kind smile. We have memories of him that we will always treasure. His obituary is on a following page.

If you should desire to send a card, you may do so by addressing it to: Clarice Pruitt, Rt. 1 Box 174, Lorranger, La. 70446.

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

We now have in stock the 512 page *Evening Light Songs* book. We have changed the style of binding on the books to what is called a "tight bind." This was done with the hope that the books will be better able to endure wear and tear. We have also put a heavier weight material on the cover. The price is \$6.00; there is a 10% discount on orders of 12 or more books. You will also find a partial list in this *Faith and Victory* issue of other books that we stock. Be sure and add 65¢ for the first dollar and 7¢ for each additional dollar of your total order for postage and handling.

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

For some time now we have been considering whether it is profitable or not to continue printing *The Beautiful Way* papers for children. Sis. Dorothy Wilkins has invested much time and effort in the writing of these lessons, not to speak of all that is entailed in printing them. We would appreciate the input of those who use the lessons to help us in our evaluation of this facet of our printing. There are many other areas into which this time and money could be funneled if the Lord should so direct.

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

In the upper right hand corner of the address label which is on your paper, note the month and year in which your subscription expires. Renew your subscription in plenty of time so that you will not miss a single issue. A self-addressed remittance envelope is usually placed in the issue with which the subscription expires.

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

As has been our custom in past years, this *Faith and Victory* paper will not be published for the month

of August. The omission of one issue will relieve the workload somewhat and allow the workers here some time off. As there is a continual request for literature, the Print Shop will remain open all through the summer months with orders received being filled and correspondence answered.

The Lord willing, Aunt Maybelle Pruitt, along with the help of others, will operate the bookstore on the Monark Springs camp ground during the July meeting. Many books will be stocked there, also many of our tracts. Those who buy there will be saved the expense of postage and handling. The bookstore will be open between services.

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

We have allowed our stock of paper to run quite low because our fiscal year had just ended. However, we must now restock. We plan to order several thousand pounds of paper soon, which will amount to quite an expense. If the Lord should lay it on your heart to help with this expense, we would greatly appreciate it.

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

Merrill Eck, who is the son of Bro. Edwin and Sis. Lillian Eck, was in a mishap on June 14, in which his hands were severely injured. I am sure that he would appreciate your prayers and encouragement. Do remember him in your prayers. Merrill Eck, Goltry, Ok. 73739.

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

"And the cares of this world and the deceitfulness of riches, and the lusts of other things entering in choke the word, and it becometh unfruitful." Mark 4:19. This is an excerpt from the explanation of a parable that Jesus related to the multitude. In another place, Jesus warned to take heed concerning the cares of life, lest the last day should come upon you unawares. These admonitions are very applicable for us today. When has there ever been a time that people were more burdened down with the duties of life?

All things have properties of evolution when they are left to themselves. Some things will get better, and some things will get worse. A sorrow will soften if it is not nurtured. Time has a way of healing it. Care is the opposite. It worsens with time. In order to rid yourself of an over abundance of care, you must actively pursue that goal.

The weight of care we feel may be determined by our attitude toward it. Martha complained to Jesus because Mary was not helping her in the preparation of a meal. Perhaps Martha would have had a more pleasant day if she had considered the situation that she found herself in as a privilege and opportunity to serve her Lord by preparing a meal for Him. Instead, it seemed a great burden. Many times we dwell on only those things that appear burdensome to us rather than looking for the blessings offered in each situation.

Once there was a man who expressed this sentiment: "Take my advice, and never draw caricatures [a picture in which certain features or mannerisms are exaggerated for satirical effect]. By the long practice of it I have lost the enjoyment of beauty. . . . I never see a face but distorted, and never have the satisfaction to behold the human face divine." We must not allow ourselves to acquire the habit of perceiving only negative things in life, but look for the good. James 1:2, 3, very aptly point this out. "My brethren, count it

all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience." Facing every day with this attitude would eliminate much of the weight of our cares.

Some people mistakenly suppose that freedom from care is freedom from work. This is not so. It simply means that one directs his life in such a way that he is at peace with God, himself, and his surroundings.

—Wayne Murphey

Partial List of Items Available

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

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

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

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.

Personal Experiences of S. O. Susag was written by himself, a Norwegian who had many marvelous experiences and answers to prayer as an early-day minister in the Church of God. 192 pages are bound in a heavy paper cover. Price, \$1.75 each.

The Last Reformation by F. G. Smith. Just recently made available, this reprint edition contains 256 pages. Nice paper binding is priced at \$3.50 each, and the cloth binding is \$5.00 each.

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.

The Cleansing of the Sanctuary by D. S. Warner and H. M. Riggle. Reprinted verbatim in 541 pages, cloth binding. Price \$5.50 each.

Bible Readings for Bible Students and for the Home and Fireside compiled by S. L. Speck and H. M. Riggle. Originally published in 1902, this excellent volume contains 432 pages of Scripture references and comments on many Bible subjects. Nice cloth cover. Price, \$5.50 each.

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

Adventures in the Land of Canaan by R. L. Berry. An instructive allegory of true-to-life experiences in the grace of sanctification. 128 pages in paper cover. Price, \$1.00 per copy.

Beyond the Tomb by H. M. Riggle. This excellent book of 288 pages deals with man, his present and future, in a nice cloth cover. Price, \$4.00.

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

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

Evening Light Songs, shaped notes, with 512 pages in a cloth binding. The right hymnal for the Church of

God. Price, \$6.00 each. A 10% discount is granted on orders of 12 copies or more placed at one time.

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

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

Must We Sin? by D. S. Warner. This 24-page booklet records the supposed conversation between Bro. Light and Bro. Foggy on the sin question. Price, 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.

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

Divine Healing for Soul and Body by E. E. Byrum. Available ONLY in the German language, it contains 282 pages bound in a heavy paper cover. Price \$2.50.

Bible Humility by J. W. Byers. An excellent treatise of this subject in 32 pages with a heavy paper cover. The price is 35¢ each, or three copies for \$1.00.

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

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

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

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

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

Tim and His Lamp, re-written by Fern Stubblefield. This excellent booklet of 52 pages for children and young people is bound in a heavy paper cover. Price, 40¢ each, or three copies for \$1.00.

Harry the Newsboy and Other Stories by Sis. Isabel Byrum. 32 pages in a heavy paper cover. Price, 35¢ each, or three copies for \$1.00.

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

St. Paul and His Gospel by G. P. Tasker who was an early-day minister and missionary of the Church of God Reformation. This inspiring book contains 88 pages in a heavy paper cover. Price, \$1.00 each.

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

A Saloonkeeper's Daughter Saved by Bertha Mackey. This 16-page pamphlet is an inspiring true story. Price, 15¢ each, or seven copies for \$1.00.

Winning A Crown by C. W. Naylor. This book tells how to accept the plan of salvation and then goes into detail on how to keep the victory in everyday Christian living. It contains 368 pages in an extra heavy paper cover. Price, \$3.50 each.

Write for a complete list of other excellent books in stock at this office and ready for prompt deliver.

For postage and handling, add 65¢ for the first dollar and 7¢ for each additional dollar of total order.

Mail Orders To—

FAITH PUB. HOUSE, Box 518, Guthrie, Okla. 73044

In Memorial

Elsie H. Dietrich, daughter of the late Jens and Nettie Jensen, was born August 20, 1898, and departed from this life on May 30, 1984, at the age of 85 years 9 months, and 10 days.

Elsie was united in marriage to Frank Dietrich Oct. 29, 1931, in Milltown. They then moved to Stanley, Wisc., where she served as pastor of the Church of God for many years.

Survivors include her husband, Frank; one daughter, Mrs. Gloria Yeager of St. Paul, Mn.; one son, Gerald Dietrich of St. Paul; one grandson; two sisters; and many other relatives, saints, and friends. She was preceded in death by her parents, one sister, and two brothers.

Funeral services were held in Plombon Funeral Home, and burial was in Oakland Cemetery, Stanley, Wisc.

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

Byron Leon Pruitt, born October 20, 1934, in Guthrie, Ok., passed away June 13, 1984, at the age of 49 years 7 months and 24 days.

Byron attended school in Guthrie, Ok., and graduated from high school in 1952.

On Nov. 6, 1955, Byron was united in marriage to Clarice Nichols. To this union was born one daughter, Zelda Genece. Since 1959, they made their home in southern Louisiana near Loranger. Before moving to Louisiana, Byron worked in the printing trade and continued to do so after moving there. Byron and Clarice were also engaged in poultry growing and raising beef cattle.

Since childhood, Byron had a tender heart and always had a great desire to serve God. He was a member of the Church of God and actively participated in the Oak Grove Church of God. His upright character in life is an outstanding example of one yielded to the Lord.

Survivors include his devoted wife, Clarice, of the home; one daughter, Mrs. Nelson (Genece) Doolittle of Loranger, La.; his son-in-law, Nelson Doolittle; four grandchildren; his mother, Maybelle Pruitt of Guthrie, Ok.; and one brother, Harvey Pruitt of Guthrie, Ok. His father, Lawrence, preceded him in death in 1982. Many other loved ones, saints, and friends mourn his passing.

Funeral services were conducted in the Thomas Funeral Home Chapel in Hammond, La., by Bro. Willie C. Murphey, Sis. LaVern Manuel, and Bro. Bob Forbes. Burial was in the Oak Grove Cemetery near Loranger, La.

Note of Appreciation

The family would like to express their appreciation to all those who stood by them in their loss. The cards, flowers, food, and all other tokens of love were a real encouragement. Above all, your prayers were highly valued. May the Lord reward each one.

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

Roy Madison Bradley was born to John and Nellie (Hudgens) Bradley in Fulton County near Byrom, Ark. on Jan. 22, 1907. He passed from this life on May 30, 1984, at the age of 77 years 4 months and 8 days at his home near Bartlett, Kans.

Roy was united in marriage to Opal Everette on Jan. 19, 1945, in Newport, Ark. To this union one daughter and three sons were born. Their daughter, Lela Mae, preceded him in death at the age of 2 months and 5 days in the year of 1946.

Roy was a retired cotton and bean farmer of Weiner, Ark. Roy attended the Church of God in Grubbs, Ark. until 1979 when, due to ill health, they moved to Kansas.

He is survived by his wife, Opal, of the home; three sons: Randel and Luther, both of Bartlett, Ks.; and Jerry of Bradford, Ark.; ten grandchildren; and other relatives, saints, and friends.

His only brother, Shelby, preceded him in death in Aug. of 1983.

Funeral services were conducted at Chetopa, Ks. by Bros. Clifford Wilson, Leslie Busbee, and Merrill Smith. Burial was in Lake Creek Cemetery, Bartlett, Ks.

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

Sister Edna Crummie was born in Orangeburg County, N. C., to John and Adeline Platt. She passed from this life on May 21, 1984, at the age of 64 years 1 month and 21 days.

Sister Crummie was born into the Church of God when she heard the truth of God's Word preached around 1959. She was faithful all through her Christian life. She fully trusted God to the end.

Survivors include her husband, Hudson; two daughters: Mrs. Woodrow Clark of Moncks Corner, and Cecilia Crummie of Holly Hill; six sons: Floyd, Hodge, Monroe, and Stanley Crummie, all of Holly Hill, Dannie of Orangeburg, and Ronnie of Eutawville; three sisters; four brothers; six grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; and many other relatives, saints, and friends. She will be greatly missed by many.

We pray the Lord to comfort Bro. Crummie and his family.

Funeral services were conducted by Bro. Curtis Williams.

-----o-----
SUBSCRIBE TO THIS PAPER—3 YEARS FOR \$1.00

Remaining Camp Meeting Dates For 1984

Fresno, Calif.—July 6-15.

National Camp Meeting at Neosho (Monark Springs), Mo.—July 20-29.

Missouri State at Myrtle, Mo.—July 30-Aug. 5

Bakersfield, Calif.—Aug. 3-12.

Durham, N. C.—Aug. 12-19.

Boley, Ok.—Aug. 17-26.

California State Camp Meeting at Pacoima, Ca. Aug. 24-Sept. 2.

MEETING REPORTS AND NOTICES

ORLAND, CALIF. CAMP MEETING REPORT

Dear saints and faithful brethren: We are happy to relate that God has blessed us with another wonderful time in Zion in our five-day camp meeting. Souls were strengthened, encouraged, and provoked unto righteousness. We thank all the saints for their prayers and support.

We would like to leave a thought we received from God with all the saints: "His Church shall be blameless, which means 'without a known fault.' "

Yours in the kingdom of God,

—The Orland congregation

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

FORTY-SEVENTH NATIONAL CAMP MEETING

The forty-seventh National Camp Meeting of the Church of God will be held at Neosho (Monark Springs), Missouri, Lord willing, July 20-29. Everyone is invited to the National Camp Meeting where the Lord will be worshiped in spirit and in truth. We earnestly request your prayers that the Holy Spirit will have complete control of this meeting.

The Monark Springs Campground is located approximately five miles east of Neosho, Mo. It is one mile east and ¾ 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.

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

—Bro. Jim Wall (Business Manager)
5825 E. 64th Street, Tulsa, Ok. 74136

MISSOURI STATE CAMP MEETING

The Missouri State Camp Meeting held at Myrtle, Mo., will begin on Monday, July 30, and continue through the following Sunday, Aug. 5, 1984, Lord willing. We extend a hearty invitation to all to attend. We are praying the Lord to send the ministers of His choosing to preach the Word of God under the direction and anointing of the Holy Spirit. Come praying and with a burden for souls. We want the Lord to be glorified and His Church edified through this meeting. The Myrtle meeting begins on the day after the Monark Springs National Camp Meeting ends, which will make it convenient for those desiring to drive from there on over to the Myrtle meeting—a distance of about 200 miles. Anyone coming by bus to Thayer, Mo. (the nearest station), may call the Church of God campgrounds at Myrtle, Mo., phone (417) 938-4682, and arrangements will be made to bring you to the grounds.

For further information, contact Harlan Sorrell at Rt. 1 Box 118-A, Myrtle, Mo. 65778, phone (417) 938-4336, or Joe Sorrell at Rt. 1 Box 119, Myrtle, Mo. 65778, phone (417) 938-4458. —Harlan Sorrell

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

DURHAM, N. CAROLINA CAMP MEETING

The Durham, N. Carolina Camp Meeting of the Evening Light Church of God will be held, Lord willing, August 12-19, 1984, with two services daily at 11:00 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. We are praying that God will send Holy Ghost filled ministers and workers of His choosing.

Meals will be served on the grounds daily. Accommodations are limited; however, hotels are located nearby.

Directions to the chapel: Take Guess Rd. exit off I-85, go north on Guess Rd. approximately 4 miles until you get to Umstead Rd.; turn left on Umstead, then turn right on Bivins Rd.; at stop sign turn right on Russell Rd.; then left on Kelvin Drive. The chapel is on the right.

For further information, contact Bro. and Sis. Melvin Lennon, 3203 Apex Hwy., Durham, N. C. 27713, phone (919) 544-2891, and the chapel phone no. is (919) 471-3624.

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

TENT MEETING

It has been announced that there will be an outreach for souls with a tent meeting located between the towns of Water Valley and Coffeerville, Miss. The meeting will begin, Lord willing, at 7:30 p. m. on Aug. 24, and continue through Sept. 2, with two services daily beginning at 10:30 a. m. and 7:30 p. m.

Everyone is not only invited to attend this outreach, but urged to come with a real burden for souls. Pray that the Lord will send ministers of His choosing.

If you come from the North on Interstate 55, to find the tent, at the Water Valley exit take Highway 7 South towards Coffeerville. If you are coming from the South on Interstate 55, take Highway 7 North.

All who come will be cared for; however, bring your own bedding if possible. There will be room for campers for which electricity will be available.

For more information, contact Bro. Louis Kimble, phone (504) 738-9017; Sis. Ladolia Fuller, phone (504) 822-2544; or Bro. Leslie Brown, phone (601) 675-2718.

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

CAMP MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS AND SPANISH LITERATURE REPORT

We surely are thankful to the Lord for His presence and blessings in the camp meeting held in Ojos Negros in April.

Now, there are more needs for His blessings. The house which was purchased in Chapultepec will be the camp meeting site. As the date for this meeting has been changed to June 26-July 1, most of the notice will have to be given by word of mouth, but there is ample time for preparation for a second meeting at the same site scheduled to be held, Lord willing, Aug. 8-12. All are invited. Please get the mind of the Lord and come if He so directs.

We desire that you will come with a genuine burden for lost souls. The saving of honest-hearted souls, and the encouragement of souls now serving the Lord should be our first concern. We are looking to the Lord to send ministers and workers of His choosing, that they might be examples of a consecrated effort. Many do not speak the Spanish language, but by their actions, attitudes, and characters can preach a good message accepted of God.

The camp meetings in Mexico are run on the free-will offering basis. Let's be willing and consecrated to accept the accommodations provided, and go as willing workers for God.

Directions are as follows: Stay on Calif. Interstate 5 until you reach the border at Tijuana. After getting through customs, watch for a sign within the next block pointing to Ensenada Cuota (toll road). Follow these signs, paying the required tolls, until you reach Ensenada (about 65 miles). Take La Vigia through Ensenada until you come to the statue of Benito Juarez. Go right on Highway 1, which goes toward Maneadero. Turn right at the first blinking light after you pass an army camp on your right, go to the dead end and turn right again. Go to the last street (about 4 blocks) and turn right again, and the house will be on your left (about ½ block). It is a stucco house. The neighbors on the right, the Cabellon family, will welcome you and be glad you have come to help.

Due to giving extra care to my 94-year-old mother, work time for the Spanish literature has been limited, though the setting of material on the Olivetti 221 is progressing. Opportunity was made recently to get several orders sent to Peru, Guatemala C. A., and Honduras. Four boxes of tracts were sent to New Orleans, La., and Goulds, Fla., via workers who are planning some trips to Honduras. That these tracts will be put into the hands of people who are hungry for the gospel is our prayer.

Keep praying for this channel of God's vineyard.
Yours for souls, —Opal Kelly

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

REQUEST FOR BOOK

A reader desires to either borrow for a short time or purchase a copy of the book, *Bible Proofs of the*

Second Work of Grace by D. S. Warner. You may respond directly to Bro. Bob Mutch, c/o Paul Sorrell, 6369 Mt. Baker Hwy., Deming, Wa. 98244.

Prayer Requests

Va.—“My brother, Leroy Byrd, is on the critical list in the hospital with pneumonia.” —Wilma Bivens

Va.—“Please remember my grandfather, Vono Baker, in prayer for the healing of his body. I also have some other requests. Please join with me in prayer for these matters, too.” —Wayne Henderson

Mi.—“I would like for you to pray for my joints, shoulders, and arms. I believe that the Lord will heal me. Also, please pray for my son to be saved.”

—Rosa Rosenthal

La.—“Remember Sis. Elva Joiner who is very ill.”

—Sis. Effie Miller

Ok.—“Please remember me and my son, Fredrick.”

—Kathryn Barber

Ohio.—“I am feeling better and I thank God. Pray for me for an increase of faith.” —Willie Gibson

Ok.—“Please remember me; I feel real bad at the present.” —Floy Woolery

N. C.—“Remember my wife; she has emphysema.”

—J. L. McLaughlin

There are times when trials come our way that seem so very hard to bear. Sometimes we tend to question, “Why this?” or “Why that?” or “Where is there any good in this?” I remember one sister, and one of her favorite texts of Scripture was Romans 8:28, “And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.” Once this sister and her husband were involved in an automobile accident, and the husband asked, “Now, where is your Scripture?” Her reply was, “It’s still there!” Oh, what a blessed thought! Not only is Romans 8:28, still there, but so is all of the Word of God. It is truly an anchor to which we can cling in full assurance at all times—whether in sunshine or shadow, calm or storm. God’s Word is forever the same, fixed and settled in Heaven. Though we may seem to be pressed on every side, if we will maintain a firm faith and trust in God and His Word, we will triumph over Satan and all his foes, and come through with victory. This is my heart’s desire and determination. Let’s be faithful to hold one another before the throne of grace “that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in every time of need.” Hebrews 4:16.

—Randall Flynn

SPECIAL NEED FOR URGENT PRAYER

Bro. and Sis. Dwayne Sorrell of the Guthrie congregation have been in a very severe battle of affliction with two of their children. On the morning of June 20, the Lord saw best to release little Vicki from her afflicted body. The other child is showing signs of improvement and is able to be up some, although he is still quite weak. Pray earnestly for the parents and other family members in this time of deep sorrow, and that the Lord will stand by and protect them in the future.

—Randall Flynn

“But godliness with contentment is great gain.”

FOREIGN MISSION REPORTS

PHILIPPINES MISSIONARIES REPORT

Philippines (May 23)—Dear Sis. Pruitt: Greetings in Jesus’ wonderful name! May this letter find you sound and happy under His wings.

I received Bro. Hammond’s letter that he arrived in Manila. We are all very glad for his safe arrival. May he come to my place very soon because all of the brethren here are very anxious to see him. I hope he can stay a little longer with us here. There are six villages that need his visit and encouragement. We are going to hold meetings in said villages. I believe many souls will be blessed and get saved. Many want to get baptized. . . . May God cover us with His precious blood so that we will be successful in sowing the truth. Perhaps this is the fulfillment of our late Bro. Pruitt’s dream that the truth be established in my country and more congregations raised up.

We are praying for you and all there at the Print Shop that God will continue to shower His blessings upon all. May He give you health and strength.

—Xavier Prado and all the saints here

May 22—Dear Sis. Pruitt and all loved ones in the U. S. A.: May this letter find you all healthy, happy, and busy in the Lord’s work. Our hearts are flooded with joy because of the love of God and the love of the saints for us. Bros. Hammond and Redington arrived here in San Jose safely with the loving care of our Lord. We met them at the airport, and what a joyous moment it was for us to see them! How sweet it is to have fellowship with the saints. The saints here were all encouraged with their words of admonition and testimonies of salvation. . . .

This morning we are preparing to go to Puncan to see the saints there and talk with them about some lumber they are preparing for the chapel in San Jose. We may go to Manila tomorrow to ask if their visas can be extended, and to inquire about boat schedules going to Mindanao. . . .

Please give our heartfelt thanks to all the saints who participated to raise the fund for the lot and chapel building in San Jose.

Your brother in Christ’s service,

—M. S. Tunganan and family

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

SIS. KEISER WRITES FROM GHANA

Ghana, W. Africa (Apr. 7)—Dear Sis. Maybelle, workers at the Print Shop, and saints scattered abroad: Greetings in the lovely name of Jesus. Once again we come your way from Ghana with good news of the Church work here.

God is adding to the Church daily such as should be saved. Hardly a service goes by but what someone comes forward to get saved. Bro. Jim Akwasi, Bro. James Badu, and I revisited one of the two villages previously visited. We had a night service outside by lantern light. Both villagers came together for this service. In order to sit down, they carried benches on their heads (about three miles). The bugs were bad, in and out of our clothing, biting, and it was so hot, but the service was very profitable. Three men were restored back to the Lord. We spent the night in the village and early the next morning the two brothers

had a service in the village for those who would be going to their "farms" to work.

We are painting the mission house now. The outside is finished, the outside doors have been hung, but the carpenter still has to put louvers in the bedroom and bathroom windows. We can't finish the inside bedroom walls until this is done as this is the rainy season now and the wind blows in water.

Bro. Jim has planted tapioca (one of their main foods), okra, tomatoes, onions, and everything is doing well. . . .

It is very hot here, but God is helping me. I have lost quite a bit of weight, but keep fairly well.

We all send our love to you and "me da wasi" (thank you) for the letters received and the offerings enclosed.

Your missionary to Ghana, —Sis. Dorothy Keiser
c/o Jim Akwasi Konadu, Yiadom

Box 44, Akumadan-Ash, Ghana, W. Africa

[Following is a letter from a brother in the congregation where Sis. Keiser is. Sis. Keiser writes: "Teachers receive very little pay here, and often it comes late. Since he is a family man with a wife and eight children, he has many problems which put him on his knees before God. I have asked him to relate to you one of his experiences of faith." —Editor]

Dear saints everywhere: Greetings in Jesus' holy name. I want to write my testimony of how our heavenly Father has moved some saints to provide me with shoes to enable me to carry the redemptive death of our Lord Jesus Christ to needy souls.

I was saved during an open-air crusade at Akumadan a few months ago. Before then I was a terrible drunkard; I had drunk for sixteen years. I could neither feed nor clothe my family because almost 80% of what I earned as a teacher went into drinking. We were a miserable lot.

When the Lord freed me from the clutches of Satan, I enjoyed perfect peace, and saw clearly the plight of those Satan still held captive. I sympathized with them greatly, and wanted to share the good news of redemption with them, but I was not confident enough because the effect of my drinking—shabbiness—was clearly visible in my life.

As the weeks passed by, the burden to preach the Word became unbearable. I decided to go out, but the only footwear I had was a kind of bush sandal not fit to be worn in town. Scoffers and idol worshippers are everywhere. These were the people I was going to preach to. It occurred to me that they would scoff at me and say, "If God your Father is really what you say He is, the Creator and Owner of whatever there is in the world, why can't He provide you with a pair of decent shoes or sandals?"

I did not tell any of the brothers or sisters about my need, but went straight on my knees and appealed passionately to my heavenly Father to help me. In three day's time, He dramatically moved a brother to give me shoes; four days later a sister added a really beautiful pair and 500 Cedes (\$10.00 U. S.), which I also needed at the time.

I was deeply touched and saw very clearly that my beloved Father definitely wants me to move also with the message. Praise God! I cannot disappoint Him, so I am getting ready to work.

In the mean time, I have asked all the saints at Akumadan to pray about it; I humbly extend the same request to all the saints the world over. I am confident Father will glorify the name of His holy Son, Jesus, because His Word says, "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations. . . ." Matt. 28:19.

In the Master's service, —John Yaw Paprah
o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o

REPORT FROM S. INDIA

(May 21)—Dear Saints: Greetings to all of you dear ones again in the glorious name of Jesus Christ, "which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty." Thank you very much for your kind letter dated May 4, and the enclosures were noted with much appreciation.

I am sure, by this time, the Guthrie Camp Meeting is in progress, and we pray for the spiritual blessings of all the camp meetings in America this year. May God send a revival in the Church through His Word.

We are earnestly praying for Sis. Keiser's safety. May God keep and protect her under His wings in Ghana. "There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling. For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways." Psa. 91:10, 11.

Last week I was in North Kerala to conduct a meeting at Vellikulangara, and to conduct a wedding service in our chapel at Athani. By faith we laid the foundation stone for a new chapel at Poomala. May God supply the fund to get the chapel building finished in time.

We pray for the progress of the Church of God in America and in all other continents. Your support, prayers, and advice are a great help for the furtherance of the gospel in India.

With love and prayers, —John Varghese
o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o

NIGERIAN PASTOR WRITES

Tombia, Nigeria (May 11)—Dear Bro. Hammond: Greetings of Christian love in the precious name of our Saviour, Jesus Christ. We received your kind letter and an enclosure. Thank you so much.

By the grace and hold of Almighty God, we are still in the evening light truth. Thank you very much for the tracts and booklets you have mailed to the brethren. . . . Thank you very much for the *Faith and Victory* you are mailing to me each month. . . .

Yours in Christ, —B. Ben Taylor
o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o

BRO. HAMMOND RETURNS TO THE STATES

Ok. (June 20)—Dear saints at the Print Shop and abroad: Just a short note of greetings of love in the precious name of Jesus our Saviour, Keeper, and Friend. He has gloriously brought me back home in health and joy in the Holy Ghost. Bro. Jeff Redington has extended his visa for six months, and is with the Tangunan family. His feet were still giving him some trouble, but are much better, and his stomach is adjusting to the food. He would appreciate some letters from the saints.

We did secure the property for the building and have it paid for. The Lord stretched our money by \$300 by inflation of the peso, which took care of the

land. The folks at Puncan, with the help of other saints, are supplying the lumber. Bro. Tangunan said he would get the footing and floor in soon. Bro. Jeff is unable to help much at present, but he can help supervise. They will need help on the financing of the walls and roof.

All seem much encouraged in the truth and are getting down to business with the Lord. The only hope for the people there is to become anchored in the truth. The religions there are a detriment to them. The work in Mindinao is surely hopeful and inspiring under Bro. Prado's determined leadership. He and Bro. Tangunan are determined to get the work on a true, self-sustaining basis. We were able to buy a car for Bro. Tangunan for \$1100. This will help him much in the work there. Bro. Prado still owes \$300 on his motorcycle, and could make good use of a sidecar which carries eight or nine people. They are in need of someone to come there to Mindinao and teach the truth. Pray that someone will be able to fill this need and stay with them for six months or a year. It is very promising in both these areas. Pray that all the needs may be met and that God's work will be firmly established in the whole truth. The opportunities are endless if God's people will get behind them.

Bro. Prado is planning a ministers' meeting the end of June and a young people's meeting in July. Bro. Jeff and Bro. Tangunan plan to go down with some of the young people if they have the finances. It would cost them about \$100, but I believe it would be a great blessing. There is a good spirit amongst all the brethren and great hope.

In Christian love, —Bro. George Hammond
[You may write to Bro. Jeff Redington in care of M. S. Tangunan, 32 Paseo Rueda, Sibut, San Jose City, N. E., Philippines 2331.]

From the Mailbox . . .

Okla.—To the household of faith and those who are seeking for the true way: This finds me still pressing on in the strait and narrow way. I am thankful the Lord gave me a tender heart from a child, and dear saintly parents to teach me and help me stay tender. Thank the Lord!

Our camp meeting has closed. The dear Lord gave us lovely weather and good attendance. The singing was heavenly, and the preaching and exhortations were really heart-searching. It is now left up to us who heard the Word to measure to it. The light has been flashed upon our pathway, and now we must walk in it lest we go into darkness and become rebellious. It is the deep desire of my heart to be willing and obedient. Read Isa. 1:19, 20.

I want to be an example on all lines so when the world looks upon me, nothing but Christ will be seen in my walk, in my talk, in my dress, and in the way I act. The Word says, "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. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes and the pride of life, is not of the Father but is of the world." 1 John 2:15, 16.

This is a close, pure life. Yes, it is a beautiful life when we live in every way to please the Lord and

wholeheartedly measure to the sacred Word of God. Oh, to keep a tender, willing and obedient heart is going to mean so much. When we come to the end of life and have to face our Savior, can we face Him with a clear conscience that we have truly done all we knew to do to be a godly example on all lines? My heart is stirred as I realize the truth of those words in Matt. 7:21, which says, "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven." The way of salvation is a pure, plain, clean way.

May our hearts be stirred as never before to so live that others may see only Christ in us in all we do or say so that it would be safe for them to follow us and make it safely to heaven.

I am still in much need of prayer. I am still sorely afflicted, but not discouraged. I am determined to be true and prove to the world what side I am on. I am still calling for the old paths and walking in them. (Jer. 6:16). —Sis. Evelyn (Gibson) McCoy

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

Calif.—Dear workers at Faith Publishing House: Greetings in Jesus' dear name. We are encouraged to press the battle on in this evil day and time. We appreciate your efforts to print the truth to a lost and dying world. Keep encouraged!

God bless you is our prayer.

—Bryan and Sheri Rich

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

Meghalaya, India—Dear Bro. Hammond: Greetings to you in the matchless name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Thanks very much for your inspiring letter dated Jan. 10. Please forgive me for not replying earlier.

I am so very glad to know that you are praying for me that God will bring back good eyesight and grant grace to my soul. I believe the Lord will answer your prayers. I am praying that God will work a miracle in my body so that I may testify to His glorious name.

I live in the northeast part of India. It is quite a long distance from Kerala—not less than 1500 miles. I am in the state of Meghalaya.

Brother, I request you to remember me in your prayers for the following requests:

That the Lord Jesus will touch and heal me completely from head to foot. I need a healthy body in order to work for Him.

That the Lord will give me strength to face all kinds of difficulties and hardships, trials, and temptations in life.

That I may live a Christ-like life to be an example to others.

That the Lord Jesus will touch the hearts of my sons and daughters so they will surrender themselves to Christ.

Pray for the Church of God in Meghalaya. . . .

I pray that God will be with you in all you do for Him, and that He will strengthen you as you travel from place to place to proclaim the gospel of our Lord Jesus. May God lead and fill you with the power of the Holy Spirit so that signs and miracles will follow you.

Your brother in Christ,

—M. W. Laloo

Testimonies and Answers to Prayer

Ark.—Greetings in the name of our Saviour to all of my brothers and sisters in the Lord. I do love, with a heart full of Christian love, everyone who is a member of the Church of the firstborn spoken of in Heb. 12:23. There is only one Church of the living God, and its members do not need to join a denomination. I feel assured that some have, when they repented with a godly repentance, been persuaded, deceived, and made to believe that it was right for them to join a sect denomination made by man. They did not know they were disobeying the Lord, the head of the Church of the living God.

The Word of God says in Hosea 4:6, "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge," and in Jer. 23:1, we read, "Woe be unto the pastors that destroy and scatter the sheep [the people] of my pasture, saith the Lord." It grieves my heart when I see so many of God's people, or the ones who profess to be the Lord's people, scattered and divided up as they are by letting false teachers and preachers divide and scatter them. We are now living in the last days, in which Paul said, "This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come." 2 Tim. 3:1.

I am so glad to know that the Word of God teaches me there is one Body (not two), and one Spirit by which we are all baptized into one Body or Church, which is the Body of Christ—the one, true Church. The Church is the Bride of Christ, which makes the Lord Jesus our husband. We, the saints, or Christians, should do all things in our husband's name. We are dishonoring our husband if we do not do all things in His name. . . .

Paul's admonishment to the saints, and faithful brethren in Christ who were in Colosse is good for us, His saints, today. Paul told them to "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him." Col. 3:16, 17. . . .

May the dear Lord bless each and every one of you there in the Print Shop, and also everyone there in the congregation of the saints.

A brother in the Lord Jesus,—A. C. Gilleland
o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o

Calif.—Dear saints of God: All praise be to Almighty God for healing me of a very painful affliction. "Bless the Lord, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits: who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases." Psal. 103:1-3. "Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the Lord delivereth him out of them all." Psal. 34:19. Blessed is the man whose trust is in the Lord!

I know you think on this as I do—what a blessed privilege it is to trust in Him for all things! By not trusting in Him, we are living below our privilege. We are missing many blessings and the abundant life that Jesus promised, and are denying the power of God, staggering at His promises. Lord, help us not to grieve you by staggering at the promises, but settle it in our hearts to trust you for soul and body, live or die, for we are set for the defense of the gospel.

Be much encouraged, saints, and let the praises roll. Christ is the great physician—He is forever the same. He is still healing like He did when He walked the sea and the shores of Galilee. Praise our God! All power in earth and heaven is in His majestic name!

Yours in His service,

—M. Viser

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

Mo.—Dear saints: The Lord has impressed me to relate some of His great blessings to me over the last ten months or so.

I am employed as a city carrier with the U. S. Postal Service in Springfield, Mo. In July, 1983, I put in my bid for a new route. This route was to be converted to a new van-plan concept. Being the successful bidder, I began my new route in August. After several weeks, the post office put this new plan into effect. I was to be the driver, taking three other letter carriers out to their routes each day. My duties also included picking them up for lunch at noon, delivering all of their packages and relays, and then delivering my own route; after that I would pick them up to go back to the office. The weight of the mail I was handling amounted to at least 3000 pounds each day. My supervisor went with me every day for a month. He followed me everywhere I went, and wrote down everything I did. Needless to say, I was becoming quite anxious to please everyone and ended up not pleasing anyone.

During this time a hip problem which I have had for years flared up from climbing in and out of the van and carrying very heavy loads. When I would walk my route carrying the mail, my hip would feel like it was out of socket. I don't know if this was the problem or if it was arthritis or calcium deposits, but God knows what it was; I never had it checked. The pain was so severe at times that I would walk stooped over almost in an "L" shape. I dreaded seeing people out in their yards. Finally, realizing it was getting worse each day, I put in an urgent request for the healing of my hip. God undertook, and my hip is in better condition now than it has been in years!

Back now to my job on the van. I knew right away that I had made a mistake in bidding on this job. It was too late, though, because that was my last bid until July, 1984. I felt trapped in a job I couldn't handle physically or mentally.

On Monday, Nov. 14, I awoke during the night with terrible pain in my left breast and down my left arm. The pain in my arm was a sickening bone ache. I discovered a tumor the size of a small hen egg in my left breast. I found several marble sized ones later. I felt too inhibited to confide in anyone for some time. I wanted to have a firm decision to trust the Lord before I asked for prayer. I began requesting prayer in earnest that God would perform a miracle to get me off the van. The weight I was having to lift was just aggravating my condition. I began to notice that I was cradling my left arm whenever I had the opportunity. Then a very bad back pain began which felt like a knife was being twisted under my shoulder blade. When I got home from work each night, I would lie on the floor, rolling back and forth, trying to get the pain to let up.

By this time my nerves were so bad that I would cry over nothing. It really scared me. I was so depressed and run down in body I couldn't think nor-

mally, and would just repeat the Lord's Prayer over and over through the day. God knows what kind of mental state I was in. On Jan. 18, the Lord impressed me to give in a request for my healing. I confessed my faults and asked for prayer. I could feel the support of the saints' prayers. God even impressed one to write encouraging letters to me each day, and others sent cards. I appreciate the saints so much! I had to call for prayer different times, and God always heard and answered.

On Jan. 29, I felt a definite leading to be anointed and prayed for. God touched my back, and although the work load remained the same, my back was healed! I want to add that I was working from one to four hours overtime each day during all of this time. I felt so dependant on God and the prayers of the saints; I felt they truly "held up my hands" during this time.

Back in November, God encouraged me with some verses. Psalms 55:16, 17, "As for me, I will call upon God; and the Lord shall save me. Evening, and morning, and at noon, will I pray, and cry aloud: and he shall hear my voice." This was such a blessing to me, and I determined to do just that. He also gave me Psalms 55:22. I stood on these verses every day.

A fast day was held for my healing on Feb. 1. I felt that God would hear, and praised Him for the healing. When the pain would return, I rebuked the devil, and he and the pain both fled away. God gave me 1 Peter 5:10, for encouragement. "... after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you." After this, the pain in my breast was sporadic instead of constant. Gradually all the pain was gone. God has removed the large tumor and several of the smaller ones. God alone is worthy of all the praise and glory!

God worked another amazing miracle for me on March 12. The Post Office gave me my car back; I was to begin doing my route as it was originally designed. Praise God! Every day I come to work and pass by the van, thanking God for removing me from an impossible situation. My supervisor had told me over and over this could not be done, but Jesus said, "With men it is impossible, but not with God: for with God all things are possible."

There is one more thing I want to mention. In April, I felt a marble sized lump in my neck. It was quite painful and I had a hard time keeping it out of my thoughts. I took it to the Lord each day, only to have the devil bring it back. Around May 6, I finally was able to totally commit it to God and had peace again. The next day God removed it! I'm thankful to be serving a great and mighty God.

The devil is already coming hard against me for writing this testimony. Please pray for me; I want to be faithful to God.

—Lynne Johnson

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

Ore.—Dear saints: I would like to tell of two incidents that happened to me during the past few days.

My son and his wife had come to visit me for a short time. I had placed a lighted candle on my window sill in what I thought was a glass holder but which turned out to be plastic. We went shopping and I failed to put it out. When we returned two hours later, we found the house full of smoke and soot. The

candle had melted the plastic holder as it burned down, and the heat even cracked the window and left a charred section on the window sill. There was no fire, however, and the fiberglass curtain was neither scorched nor burned. I thought, "What put out that fire?" There was a glob of plastic and wax burned and melted together. I realized that God had stopped the fire from destroying my home. I went to prayer meeting that night and testified of what the Lord had done for me. A cleaning service came the next day and completely cleaned my house—shampooing my rug, waxing and cleaning my floors, washing my ceilings, and restoring things nicer than before. Truly, all things work together for good to those who love God.

Two day later I turned into a left turn lane near my home, and I heard brakes screaming as a car had been coming toward me. It really burned rubber trying to miss hitting my car. It was as though a great hand had reached out and stopped it just in the nick of time. I was shaken and realized again that God had performed another miracle for me. Thus my life was spared from serious injury or death right here at camp meeting time. It surely pays to have Jesus for our Friend at all times.

—Sis. Grace Jones

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

Mexico—Greetings, dear saints. In the sweet love of Christ we desire that the peace and love reign in each heart, and that the fervent desire of serving the living God be our first love in the which we are rejoicing and give thanks to the Lord for having saved us from the place we were in—being saved through His great mercy.

First, we desire to thank the Lord for the blessings He has poured out upon us, especially in our souls and for some requests we had that He has answered. We were praying to the Lord for a large, enclosed vehicle for us to pick up all our people for service in one trip. When it was so cold, we had to make two or three trips in the pickup for each one to ride inside. We put it in the hands of the Lord. A few days ago, some men came to my husband and wanted to buy the pickup. He gave them an answer with the amount above that which the pickup cost. What a surprise it was when they accepted that, and so, the pickup was sold. We were left very sad, but we know and trust that the Lord works in all. About five days later we saw the very vehicle we needed, advertised for sale. Three days in a row Mayarino went to see the man who had it for sale, but he wasn't at home. Finally, when he found him at home, the man said, "You're in luck, friend. Three days ago this vehicle would have sold for 75,000 more in pesos (\$1155.00)." Do you want to know the price he quoted to us? It was the exact amount we had gotten for the other pickup! We give thanks to God that He works in everything, even the very smallest desires of His children.

We are very grateful to be able to say we have a faithful and just Father, who has provided in all.

In the camp meeting, we felt a great blessing for and in every message received, for the visit of all our dear brethren and sisters, and we trust and desire that God will always lead in all.

Thanks to the saints and congregations who have a part in one form or another in the work of the Lord in Mexico.

Love and prayers, —Sis. Panchita Escobar

Ohio—Dear saints: Greetings in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ. I am happy in the Lord and still pressing my way through this dark and sinful world.

There is so much for which I have to thank the Lord. I had been going through a battle with the enemy, and he was trying to convince me that I was losing my mind. This was something I feared so much. I have been told that the devil works on our weaknesses. My nerves were a wreck from worry and fear. I did not know what to do but to depend totally on the Lord. He gave me these Scriptures to stand on: Phil. 4:7, "And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus," and James 4:7: "Submit yourselves therefore to God, resist the devil, and he will flee from you." These really helped me. I had to learn, and am still learning, that no matter what happens to me, I am the Lord's, and what He permits is going to be for my good. Rom. 8:28, says, "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love the Lord, to them who are the called according to his purpose." I received a lot of encouragement from reading the books *Winning a Crown* and *Heart Talks*; they helped me to know how the enemy can work.

I love the Lord and His dealings with me. I desire to go all the way with Him. The Lord is faithful to give us what we need. Please pray for me.

Your sister in Christ, —Connie Cox

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

Iowa—Dear workers at the Print Shop: First of all, greetings from our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, and may our wonderful Lord bless the work that you are doing at the Print Shop. What a blessing you have been to me!

I would like to offer my testimony to your readers, that through it some may come to be blessed.

At the present time I am a prisoner here in Iowa, serving a sentence for the crimes I have done. But that isn't what I wish to write to your readers about, for all who are sinners are captives of Satan. What I wish to tell you about is the wonderful freedom that God gives to each of us when we put our lives into His hands. For years I walked the path of unrighteousness and pursued the things of this world, never fully realizing how deeply Satan was tricking me. I had an undisciplined nature and my heart was filled with darkness. One day, while my heart was filled with despair and my very life force seemed to be at its lowest ebb, I bowed my head and kneeled at the throne of God, and in tears I begged His forgiveness and mercy.

Praise His holy name, His promise was not in vain, for He plucked me from my despair and filled my heart with joy! He gave unto me a peace beyond all understanding, and these past two years He has truly set me free. So you see, when you give your heart over to Him, regardless of your position in life or your present circumstances, He is there with open arms to welcome you into the Church of God and into the family of all the saints.

If anyone would care to correspond with one such as I, your letters of encouragement would be warmly received. Please write me at the address below and I shall be waiting to hear from one and all.

Thank you for your wonderful prayers and may God continue to be a blessing in your lives and as you serve Him.

—Kenneth Jensen #103872

Box 316, Fort Madison, Iowa 52627

HOME LIFE



Give Your Child Security

"Mother, where are you?" Soon there was another child looking for Mother. The children had come home from school, and Mother was not in sight as they opened the door. She answered them, and they found her in the bedroom working. As soon as they saw her, they put their books down and out they went to play. Mother was there, and everything in their young lives was all right.

Parents are to give security to their children. They cannot grow normally unless they feel that they are being cared for and loved. It's a comfort and an anchor to them. Rules that are held and not compromised are a stay to children. They might not like those rules, but if they are held firmly by the parents those children have a knowledge of what they can and cannot do. They have to come up to the rules, even though they might not like them. It gives them a secure feeling. They are not set adrift without a resting place to which they can gauge their emotions or adjust their lives. Rules in a home, which are a protection to teen-agers, are often misunderstood in their immaturity, but when they grow older and look back, they are glad for those loving thoughts which caused their parents to make those stiff rules.

I read a survey taken of college students about things they missed in their early teen-age days. I never forgot what one girl said. She said that when it was barely getting dark, one mother would call her child to come in. A father would whistle for his child, and other parents would call, but she said, "No one called for me to come in. I would sit on the curb and wish that my parents loved me enough to call me to come in." How sad! Yet the ones who had to come in and were taken care of might have fussed to stay out.

"The aged women" are to "teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children, to be discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed." Titus 2:3-5. These Scriptures let us know exactly what God wants us to do.

First, we notice that it says to "love their husbands," and then be "obedient to their own husbands." To be a good mother, one needs to love her husband. When the parents love one another this gives a secure feeling to the children. Then if the wife is "obedient" to her husband, that makes for smooth

running in the home. Two bosses trying to run a place never works, unless those bosses talk things over and agree before orders are given. When a man and his wife don't come to an agreement, then it's the wife's place to submit. If a man loves his wife as the Bible teaches, nourishing and cherishing her, loving her as his own body and even willing to lay down his life for her, there will not be much problem of their being in agreement. (Eph. 5:25, 28, 29.)

The Scripture says for mothers to "love their children." It means much to really love one's children. Some say that they love their babies too much to correct them. That is not real love. Yet there is a way to correct them. Be consistent—don't say they can do something one time and then the next time they can't. We want our children to be emotionally stable. Parents should start making their children mind before they are a year old. By the time children are 18 months old they should understand clearly what parents mean when they say "no," and be taught not to talk back. Many parents make the mistake of waiting until the child is too old to start his training.

There is a way to punish a child. Don't hit him on the head or knock him down. This could injure him. Using a heavy board could also injure a child internally. A keen switch, or a doubled thin strap stings, and that should be sufficient. Carelessness needs to be used not to hit so hard as to break the skin. Pray with your children when they are disobedient. You need God's help in rearing them. One good, sound whipping with a switch will be worth more than a hundred slaps. Nagging should never be employed. Always assure your child that you love him and that is the reason you are punishing him.

We notice the Scripture tells the young mothers to be "keepers at home." I appreciated my husband's never wanting me to go out to work. Some men want their wives to work outside the home. Children need their mothers at home, as it's a full time job to train a child and make home a place he will enjoy. Recently, I read that the "Census Bureau estimates at least two million children, ages seven to thirteen, are left alone each day without supervision." There are "millions of youngsters too young to go to school who are shuttled about from baby sitters to group-care homes or relatives or neighbors." In 1978, "according to U. S. Department of Labor, 60 per cent of all women with school age children were working, along with almost 44 per cent of all mothers with children under six years of age." This is alarming to me.

I believe God will work out a way for a mother to be with her children. During World War II, my husband was drafted into the army. I was left with two children, ages three and seven, with only \$100 a month—the amount the government sent from his check. This was not sufficient to live on. I lived in California, away from my relatives who could help me in any way. It was a trying time for me to face. Women were being begged to go to work at the Air Depot and other defense plants, and as men were drafted, many women did go to work at those places. I just couldn't bring myself to leave my precious boys in the care of a baby sitter, nor in a child care center. I prayed earnestly about it. God worked things out for me and made me know what to do. I decided to

stay at home and take in washings, ironings, and some sewing. Part of the time I took care of two little girls through the day. It was hard work, as I wasn't very well, but God gave me strength and I stayed home and cared for my own children. God blessed me and I had no debts and a home for my husband to come back to when he was discharged. Houses to rent were scarce and many men came back from the service with no home. God's ways are best!

Most of all teach your child, by word and example, to love Jesus and make Him his best Friend and to obey His Word.

—Sis. Marie Miles
(Written in 1979)

Question and Answer Column

by
Ostis B. Wilson

Question: Please discuss Ezekiel 34:12—"the cloudy and dark day."

Answer: The gospel dispensation or gospel day is divided into four distinct parts and to get a clear understanding of any one of them it must be viewed in connection with the related other parts of the day. These periods are known as the "morning time;" the "noon time" when the sun was darkened at noon and the earth was darkened in the clear day (Amos 8:9) which is known in history as the "dark age" of Popery; then a period which was neither light nor dark (known to the Lord as not day nor night in Zech. 14:6, 7, and known as the "cloudy and dark day" in Ezek. 34:12); then the "evening time" which was to be light. (Zech. 14:7). Thus we have a gospel day which was bright and glorious both in its morning and evening (its beginning and ending) but in between those two periods of time of gross darkness (the dark ages of Popery) followed by a time of part light and part darkness as we approach the Evening Time when the sun was again to shine forth in its strength.

Now for a brief summary of each of those periods in order to establish the "cloudy and dark day" in its relation to the other periods of the gospel day.

In Isa. 21:11, we read, "The burden of Dumah. He calleth me out of Seir, Watchman, what of the night? Watchman, what of the night?" According to the Pictorial Bible Dictionary (Zondervan), Dumah means silence. This prophecy probably refers to the 400 year period between the close of the Old Testament with Malachi to the beginning of the New Testament era and the coming of Christ during which time there was no prophet from God nor any word from Him. A lack or absence of any communication with God surely produces spiritual darkness and night. What the prophet is actually asking here is, "What time of night is it?" Then in verse 12, the glad announcement is given, "The morning cometh." This was certainly an encouraging announcement after so long a night of dismal darkness. Again in Isa. 60:1-3, we read, "Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee. For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the Lord shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee. And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy

rising." This is another prophecy of a glorious, new day which was to come.

These and many other Old Testament prophecies were gloriously fulfilled in the coming of Christ and His ministry and work and teachings among the people. He ushered in the dawning of the new and glorious gospel day. In Matt. 4:16, we read concerning Jesus, "The people which sat in darkness saw great light; and to them which sat in the region and shadow of death light is sprung up." And again in Luke 2:32, Jesus is declared to be "a light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel." Jesus is the "Light of the world," and with His coming the darkness of night was dispelled and the glorious light of the gospel was ushered in. This was the glorious morning of the gospel day.

Many grand and glorious things could be written about that morning time of the Church and the gospel going forth conquering and to conquer, but space does not permit. Neither is the question concerned with that.

In Isa. 21:12, after the announcement that "The morning cometh," it immediately followed, "And also the night." There was an age of awful, terrible, frightful spiritual night that followed the glorious light of the morning of the gospel day. This was brought about by apostasy from the pure standards of the pure gospel in the morning Church. This apostasy brought about the setting up of a human, man-made religious system (the Roman Catholic Church) in the place of the spiritual Church built and presented to the world by Jesus Christ, with the pope at the head of it in the stead of Jesus Christ, the Head of the pure New Testament Church. This period was prophesied in numbers of prophecies. I will refer to perhaps only a couple from the Old Testament and then maybe one or two from the New Testament. Amos and Micah describe it thus: "And it shall come to pass in that day, saith the Lord God, that I will cause the sun to go down at noon, and I will darken the earth in the clear day" (Amos 8:9); and, "Therefore night shall be unto you, that ye shall not have a vision; and it shall be dark unto you, that ye shall not divine; and the sun shall go down over the prophets, and the day shall be dark over them." (Micah 3:6).

After Jesus had described the destruction of Jerusalem and the calamitous tribulations during that time, He said in Matt. 24:29, "Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken." The language here is all figurative or symbolic, and signifies a terrific upheaval and commotion in the spiritual heavens and the darkening of the spiritual atmosphere. This was the result of taking from the people the pure Word of God and substituting in its place the theories and doctrines of men and the substitution of the form for the fact of godliness. This period lasted for 1260 years until the time of the sixteenth century reformation by Martin Luther which broke the power of the Catholic hierarchy.

Now we reach the period of time involved in our question—"The Cloudy and Dark Day." The 34th chapter of Ezekiel is a prophecy which may have a two-fold fulfillment. It may have a direct fulfillment

in ancient Israel, but it certainly has a fulfillment in spiritual Israel in this gospel day. God's rebuke of the unfaithful shepherds certainly describes the ministry of the apostate church in their brutishness, severity, arrogance, and tyranny over the people in those dark ages. Then at the time of the reformation, light broke in upon the darkness when Martin Luther declared the truth that "The just shall live by faith." Justification by faith in Jesus had not been taught to the people all during the dark ages. Now there was some light shining through, but it shone dimly—as through a cloudy mist or fog. Following the 16th century reformation we have a period of sect making and organized religion known as Protestantism. There were many sects or denominations formed, each having its own creed and doctrine. This was perhaps due to the different leaders of the period getting hold of certain truths as they began to be gradually revealed as they were coming out of the dark night of papalism, and each leader establishing a creed and doctrine on the particular principle or principles of truth which he had received. But there was still considerable darkness and practices carried out of the dark ages mixed in with the truth which had been revealed to them. Zechariah prophesied of this time in Zech. 14:6, 7. "And it shall come to pass in that day, that the light shall not be clear nor dark: but it shall be one day which shall be known to the Lord, not day nor night. . . ."

The people of God generally became identified with these different sects and denominations, and consequently were scattered and divided one from another. This was not God's plan for His people. The New Testament teaches throughout the unity of spirit and faith (doctrine), and oneness of the people of God. Consequently, it is said in Zech. 14:7, immediately following the quotation of Scripture above, "But it shall come to pass, that at evening time it shall be light."

We are in that glorious time now when the pure gospel light is once more shining forth in its brilliance and beauty, and God's people are being gathered to the one body of Christ. The main thrust of the Evening Light Reformation message is the unity of God's people and the one, true Church divine. This is what is meant in Ezek. 34:12, ". . . So I will seek out my sheep, and will deliver them out of all places where they have been scattered in the cloudy and dark day."

The cloudy and dark day period lasted 350 years from the time of the 16th century reformation in 1530 until the time that the Evening Light Reformation broke in 1880. The evening time will last until Jesus comes again which rounds out and completes the gospel day.

REMINDER OF BOLEY, OK. CAMP MEETING

A cordial invitation is extended to all to worship with us in our camp meeting to be held, Lord willing, August 17-26, 1984. There will be two services daily at 11:00 a. m., and 7:30 p. m. On both Sundays there will be all-day services. Dormitories are available for both men and women, and there is ample space for campers, trailers, etc.

For further information contact Sis. Ora Spears, Rt. 1, Boley, Ok. 74829, phone (918)667-3376, or Sis. Katherine Williams, 905 N. E. 15th St., Okla. City, Ok. 73104, phone (405)235-2270.

—Katherine Williams