

# FAITH <sup>AND</sup> VICTORY

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## Church of God Servant



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### Jesus Christ, Our Risen Lord



Down from the everlasting glory,  
Came Christ to die on Calvary,  
To Mary born, oh, wondrous story,  
Extending life to you and me.

His visit here was warm and tender  
Unto the haunts of human need;  
He left behind the dazzling splendor  
To suffer sorrow and to bleed.

He served the hung'ring mortals' yearning;  
He taught life's way for all to see,  
Despite the hatred ever burning  
In blinded, dark humanity.

At last the tide of people caught Him  
And to the hall of judgment cold;  
Where Pontius Pilate sat, they brought Him  
With none but God His hand to hold.

Then to the cross at last they sent Him  
Between two thieves condemned to die;  
With whip, and thorns, and nails they rent Him,  
With wagging heads they passed Him by.

Within the dismal tomb enshrouded,  
His body slept the hours by  
Until the morn, when broke unclouded  
The sun, far in the eastern sky.

They came in grief with pleasant spices  
Unto the tomb bereft of cheer,  
The angel filled them with surprises:  
"He's gone, He's risen, do not fear!"

Our Lord ascended up to Heaven  
Far, far, above all earthly might;  
He reigns with blessings to be given.  
For those who love His wond'rous light.

He lives to interceed forever  
For all who come to God so true,  
No pow'r of earth can from Him sever:  
Because He lives, we're living, too!

—Leslie C. Busbee

### EXCERPTS FROM A LETTER WRITTEN BY PONTIUS PILATE TO TIBERIUS CAESAR, EMPEROR OF ROME

The great feast of the Jews was approaching, and the intention was to avail themselves of the popular exultation which always manifests itself at the solemnities of a passover. The city was overflowing with a tumultuous populace, clamoring for the death of the Nazarene. My emissaries informed me that the treasurer of the temple had been employed in bribing the people. The danger was pressing. A Roman centurion had been insulted. I wrote to the Prefect of Syria for a hundred foot soldiers, and as many cavalry. He declined. I saw myself alone with a handful of veterans in the midst of a rebellious city, too weak to suppress a disorder, and having no other choice left but to tolerate it. They had seized upon Jesus, and the seditious rabble, although they had nothing to fear from the pretorium, believing, as their leaders had told them, that I winked at their sedition — continued vociferating: "Crucify him! Crucify him!"

Three powerful parties had combined together at that time against Jesus: First, the Herodians and the Sadducees, whose seditious conduct seemed to have proceeded from double motives; they hated the Nazarene, and were impatient of the Roman yoke. They could never forgive me for having entered the holy city with banners that bore the image of the Roman Emperor; and although, in this instance I had committed a fatal error, yet the sacrilege did not appear less heinous in their eyes.

Another grievance also rankled in their bosoms. I had proposed to employ a part of the treasure of the Temple in erecting edifices for public utility. My proposal was scorned. The Pharisees were the avowed enemies of Jesus. They cared not for the government. They bore with bitterness the severe reprimands which the Nazarene for three years had been continually throwing out against them wherever he went. Too weak and pusillanimous to act by themselves, they had embraced the quarrels of the Herodians and the Sadducees. Besides these three parties, I had to contend against the reckless and profligate populace, always ready to join a sedition, and to profit by the disorder and confusions that resulted therefrom.

Jesus was dragged before the high priest, and condemned to death. It was then that the high priest, Caiaphas, performed a divisory act of submission. He sent his prisoner to me to pronounce his condemnation and secure his execution. I answered him that, as Jesus was a Galilean, the affair came in Herod's jurisdiction, and ordered him to be sent hither. The wily Tetrarch professed humility, and, protesting his preference to the Lieutenant of Caesar, he committed the fate of the man to my hands. Soon my palace assumed the aspect of a besieged citadel. Every moment increased the number of the seditionists. Jerusalem was inundated with crowds from the mountains of Nazareth. All Judea appeared to be pouring into the devoted city. I had taken a wife from among the Gauls, who had pretended to see into futurity. Weeping and throwing herself at my feet, "Beware," said she to me, "beware, and touch not that man; for he is holy. Last night I saw him in a vision. He was walking on the waters; he was flying on the wings of the wind. He spoke to the tempest, and to the fishes of the lake; all were obedient to him. Behold, the torrent in Mount Kedron flows with blood, the statues of Caesar are filled with gemonide; the columns of the interium have given away, and the sun is veiled in mourning like a vestal in the tomb. Ah! Pilate, evil awaits thee. If thou wilt not listen to the vows of thy wife, dread the curse of a Roman Senate; dread the frowns of Caesar."

By this time the marble stairs groaned under the weight of the multitude. The Nazarene was brought back to me. I proceeded to the halls of justice, followed by my guard, and asked the people in a severe tone what they demanded?

"The death of the Nazarene," was the reply.

"For what crime?"

"He has blasphemed; he has prophesied the ruin of the Temple; he calls himself the Son of God, the Messiah, the King of the Jews."

"Roman justice," said I, "punishes not such offenses with death."

"Crucify him! Crucify him!" belched forth the relentless rabble. The vociferations of the infuriated mob shook the palace to its foundations.

There was but one who appeared to be calm in the midst of the vast multitude; it was the Nazarene. After many fruitless attempts to protect him from the fury of his merciless persecutors, I adopted a measure which at the moment appeared to me to be the only one that could save his life. I proposed, as it was their custom to deliver a prisoner on such occasions, to release Jesus and let him go free, that he might be the scapegoat, as they called it; but they said Jesus must be crucified.

I then ordered him to be scourged, hoping this might satisfy them; but it only increased their fury. I then called for a basin, and washed my hands in the presence of the clamorous multitude, thus testifying that in my judgment Jesus of Nazareth had done nothing worthy of death; but in vain. It was his life these wretches thirsted for.

Often in our civil commotions have I witnessed the furious animosity of the multitude, but nothing could be compared to what I witnessed on this occasion. It might have been truly said that on this occasion all the phantoms of the infernal regions had

assembled at Jerusalem. The crowd appeared not to walk, but to be borne off and whirled as a vortex, rolling along in living waves from the portals of the pretorium even unto Mount Zion, with howling screams, shrieks and vociferations such as were never heard in the seditions of the Pannonia or in the tumult of the forum.

By degrees the day darkened like a winter's twilight, such as had been at the death of the great Julius Caesar. It was likewise the Ides of March. I, the continued governor of a rebellious province, was leaning against a column of my Basilic, contemplating athwart the dreary gloom and these fiends of Tartarus dragging to execution the innocent Nazarene. All around me was deserted. Jerusalem had vomited forth her indwellers through the funeral gate that leads to Gemonica. An air of desolation and sadness enveloped me. My guards had joined the cavalry, and the centurion, to display a shadow of power, was endeavoring to keep order. I was left alone, and my breaking heart admonished me that what was passing at that moment appertained rather to the history of the gods than that of men. A loud clamor was heard proceeding from Golgotha, which, borne on the winds, seemed to announce an agony such as was never heard by mortal ears. Dark clouds lowered over the pinnacle of the temple, and setting over the city covered it as with a veil. So dreadful were the signs that men saw both in the heavens and on the earth, that Dionysius the Areopagite is reported to have exclaimed, "Either the author of nature is suffering, or the universe is falling apart."

Whilst these appalling scenes of nature were transpiring, there was a dreadful earthquake in lower Egypt, which filled everybody with fear, and scared the superstitious Jews almost to death. It is said Balthasar, an aged and learned Jew of Antioch, was found dead after the excitement was over. Whether he died from alarm or grief is not known. He was a strong friend of the Nazarene.

Towards the first hour of the night I threw my mantle around me, and went down into the city toward the gates of Golgotha. The sacrifice was consummated. The crowd was returning home, still agitated, it is true, but gloomy, taciturn and desperate.

What they had witnessed had stricken them with terror and remorse. I also saw my little Roman cohort pass by mournfully, the standard bearer having veiled his eagle in token of grief; and I overheard some of the Jewish soldiers murmuring strange words which I did not understand. Others were recounting prodigies almost similar to those which had so often smitten the Romans by the will of the gods. Sometimes groups of men and women would halt, then, looking back towards Mount Calvary, would remain motionless in expectation of witnessing some new prodigy.

I returned to the pretorium sad and pensive. On ascending the stairs, the steps of which were still stained with the blood of the Nazarene, I perceived an old man in a suppliant posture, and behind him several Romans in tears. He threw himself at my feet and wept most bitterly. It is painful to see an old man weep, and my heart already overcharged with grief, we, though strangers, mutually wept together. And in truth it seemed that the tears lay very shallow

that day with very many whom I perceived out of the vast concourse of people. I never saw such a complete division of feeling both on the extreme. Those that betrayed and sold him, those that testified against him, those that said, "Crucify him, we have his blood," all slunk off like cowardly curs, and washed their teeth with vinegar. As I am told that Jesus taught a resurrection and a separation after death, if such should be the fact I am sure it commenced in this vast crowd.

"Father," said I to him, after gaining control of my feelings, "who are you, and what is your request?"

"I am Joseph of Arimathea," replied he, "and am come to beg of you upon my knees the permission to bury Jesus of Nazareth."

"Your prayer is granted," said I to him; and at the same time ordered Manlius to take some soldiers with him to superintend the interment lest it should be profaned.

A few days after, the sepulcher was found empty. His disciples published all over the country that Jesus had risen from the dead, as he had foretold. This last report created more excitement than the first. As to its truth I cannot say for certain, but I have made some investigation in the matter; so you can examine for yourself, and see if I am in fault, as Herod represents me.

Joseph buried Jesus in his own tomb. Whether he contemplated his resurrection or calculated to cut him another I cannot tell. The next day after he was buried one of the priests came to the pretorium and said they were apprehensive that his disciples intended to steal the body of Jesus and hide it, and then make it appear that he had risen from the dead, as he had foretold, and of which they were perfectly convinced. I sent him to the captain of the royal guard (Malcus) to tell him to take the Jewish soldiers, place as many around the sepulcher as were needed; then if anything should happen they would blame themselves, and not the Romans.

When the great excitement arose about the sepulcher being found empty, I felt a deeper solicitude than ever. I sent for Malcus, who told me he had placed his lieutenant, Ben Isham, with one hundred soldiers around the sepulcher. He told me that Isham and the soldiers were very much alarmed at what had occurred there that morning. I sent for this man Isham, who related to me as near as I can remember the following circumstances: He said at about the beginning of the fourth watch, they saw a soft and beautiful light over the sepulcher. He at first thought that the women had come to embalm the body of Jesus, as was their custom, but he could not see how they had got through the guards. Whilst these reflections were passing through his mind, behold, the whole place was lighted up, and there seemed to be crowds of the dead in their grave clothes. All seemed to be shouting and filled with ecstasy, while all around and above was the most beautiful music he had ever heard; and the whole air seemed to be full of voices praising God. At this time there seemed to be a reeling and swimming of the earth, so that he turned so sick and faint that he could not stand on his feet. He said the earth seemed to swim from under him, and his senses left him, so that he knew not what did occur. I asked him in what condition he was when he

came to himself? He said he was lying on the ground with his face down. I asked him if he could not have been mistaken as to the light? Was it not day that was coming in the east? He said at first he thought of that, but at a stone's cast it was exceedingly dark; and then he remembered it was too early for day. I asked him if his dizziness might not have come from being wakened up and getting up too suddenly, as it sometimes had that effect? He said he was not, and had not been asleep all night, as the penalty was death for him to sleep on duty. He said he had let some of the soldiers sleep at a time. Some were asleep then. I asked him how long the scene lasted? He said he did not know but he thought nearly one hour. He said it was hid by the light of day. I asked him if he went to the sepulcher after he had come to himself? He said not, because he was afraid; that just as soon as relief came they all went to their quarters. I asked him if he had been interrogated by the priests? He said he had. They wanted him to say it was an earthquake, and to say they were asleep and offered him money to tell that the disciples came and stole him; but he saw no disciples; he did not know that the body was gone until he was told so. I asked him what was the private opinion of those priests he had conversed with. He said some of them thought that Jesus was no man; that he was not a human being; that he was not the son of Mary; that he was not the same that was said to be born of the virgin in Bethlehem; that the same person had been on the earth before with Abraham and Lot, and at many times and places.

It seems to me, if the Jewish theory be true, these conclusions would be correct, for, to sum up his life, it would be in accord with this man's life, as is known and testified by both friends and foes; for the elements were no more in his hands than the clay in the hands of the potter. He could convert water into wine; he could change death into life, diseases into health; he could calm the seas, still the storms, call up a fish with a silver coin in its mouth. Now, I say if he could do all these things — which he did, and many more as the Jews all testify; and it was doing these things that created this enmity against him; he was not charged with criminal offenses, nor was he charged with violating any law, nor of wronging any individual in person; all these facts are known to thousands, as well by his foes as by his friends; so I am almost ready to say, as did Manulas at the cross, "Truly this was the Son of God."

Now, noble Sovereign, this is as near the facts in the case as I can arrive at them, and I have taken these pains to make the statement more full so that you may judge of my conduct upon the whole, as I hear that Antipater has said many hard things of me in this matter. With the promise of faithfulness and good wishes to my noble Sovereign, I am your most obedient servant.

—PONTIUS PILATE

(For a more complete account of this letter write to Faith Publishing House, P.O. Box 518, Guthrie, Oklahoma, 73044, and order the book *How We Got Our Bible*. The price of the book is \$1.00, which includes postage and handling.)

Heart-realization of God's truth is very different from head-realization.  
—Selected

# 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 camp meetings), by Maybelle Pruitt, Wayne Murphey, and other consecrated workers at the FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE, 920 W. Mansur, Guthrie, Okla. 73044 (USPS184-660).

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## EDITORIALS

"In the morning sow thy seed, and in the evening withhold not thine hand: for thou knowest not whether shall prosper, either this or that, or whether they both shall be alike good." Eccl. 11:6. We are glad for the blessing of God that has allowed us to publish the gospel again. We are thankful for those of you who have supported God's work with your prayers and finances.

According to this Scripture in Ecclesiastes, we have no time to waste. Through the morning and evening of life—the entire day—we should continually sow the gospel seed in hope that it will fall on good ground. We may never know how God has taken our feeble efforts and blessed them in the salvation of precious souls until eternity reveals it. "And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not." Gal. 6:9.

The prophet Isaiah said, "Blessed are they that sow beside all waters . . ." Isaiah 32:20. This statement portrays a blanket coverage of sowing and yet a selective sowing. The places that are suitable for sowing, are moist ground which will cause the seeds to germinate and grow. We are not commanded to cast our pearls before swine, but we are to be wise in our sowing, that God's name might be glorified on earth. We should do all we can to see that the places of water are sought out. If we cannot go ourselves we can fulfill the second part of Isa. 32:20, when it pronounced a blessing upon those ". . . that send forth thither the feet of the ox."

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In Oklahoma it is the time of changeable weather. We have enjoyed beautiful springtime days, and we have experienced some rather stormy days, yet we are assured that God controls the elements of nature. He has established nature to fulfill its cycles, but our mighty God can change and intervene in all things.

On March 3rd, we received 3 inches of rain in 30 minutes. A tornado from the same storm system touched down a few miles south of Guthrie, destroying 8 mobile homes, but without seriously injuring those involved. The Cottonwood Creek that flows through Guthrie has twice, in recent days, overflowed its banks but not enough to cause major flooding.

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Bro. George Hammond has made plane reservations to return to the Philippines in early May. There is plenty of work for God to be done in those islands where there are many hungry souls. There are also those who would use the gospel for financial benefit to themselves. Those involved in such missionary outreach need much wisdom and your prayers.

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We want to thank those who have responded in the effort to bring Bro. John Varghese to the States to attend the campmeetings this summer. However, quite a sum is yet to be added to purchase the plane tickets.

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We have received a telegram from Sis. Dorothy Keiser, notifying us of her safe arrival in Ghana,

West Africa. Because of the unrest in the government of Ghana, it was unsure as to how long Sis. Keiser would be allowed in the country. As of now, she has been given a three month stay. Pray for her safety and that her stay in Ghana will be effective in the interests of the Church.

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The trial date has been set for Bro. Dwane and Sis. Connie Sorrell, resulting from the legal action that was taken in relation to the death of their daughter, Vicki. The trial is scheduled to begin at 8:30 A.M., April 16, 1985, and will be open to the public. Pray much concerning this proceeding.

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We have found a limited supply of the book, *The Secret of the Singing Heart* by C. W. Naylor. The price of the book is \$2.00, plus 77¢ for postage and handling.

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Word has been received that Sis. Ruby Stover, of Sapulpa, OK, sustained a fall and severely injured her hip. Remember her in your prayers for her recovery.

—Wayne Murphey

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## Camp Meeting Dates for 1985

Chapultepec, Baja, Cfa., Mexico — April 1-7.  
Goulds, FL — April 7-14.

Oklahoma State at Guthrie, OK — May 31-June 9.  
Jefferson, OR — June 14-23.

Green Bank, WV — June 14-23.

Tulsa, OK — June 14-23.

Oakland, CA — June 21-30.

Duncannon, PA — June 23-30.

General Southern at Loranger, LA —  
June 28-July 7.

Fresno, CA — July 5-14.

National at Neosho (Monark Springs), MO —  
July 19-28.

Missouri State at Myrtle, MO — July 29-Aug. 4.  
Bakersfield, CA — Aug. 2-11.

Boley, OK — Aug. 18-25.

California State at Pacoima, CA —  
Aug. 23-Sept. 1.

### MEETING CHANGE

The date of the Green Bank, WV campmeeting has been changed from the date that was printed in the March issue. The date has been set for June 14-23.

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### PRIDE

All lack of love for God and man,  
All resentment, all peevishness or touchiness,  
All self pity and seeking of sympathy,  
All indifference to the needs and feelings of others,  
All sharp hasty judgements,  
All efforts to minimize the accomplishments of others,  
All self defense and self justification,  
All inclinations to seek our own and please ourselves,  
All these have their roots in pride.

—Bro. O.B. Wilson

## In Memorial

Homegoing services for **Bro. William Adams** were held on Saturday, February 23, 1985, at the Church of God Chapel in Green Pastures, Ok. Bro. Charles Chandler, grandson of the deceased, officiated, assisted by Bro. Otis Hill and others. Bro. Adams had resided in San Antonio, Texas for 42 years. He moved to Spencer, OK in June of 1984. On Dec. 30, 1984, Bro. Adams felt the need of seeking the Lord at an altar of prayer. He took his stand with the Evening Light Saints, expressing a desire to be with his children to the end. Bro. Adams remained faithful unto the end, which came shortly afterwards. He was so happy, testifying to friends and saints of his new stand. His last day on earth was one of great rejoicing. On Tuesday, February 19, Bro. Adams quickly and quietly slipped away to be with the Lord. He was 82 years old.

Cherishing his memory are two daughters: Lillie Mae Bramlett, Bakersfield, CA; Frances Chandler, Spencer, OK; one son, William Adams, Jr., Oklahoma City, OK; three grandchildren, Robin E. Bramlett, Bakersfield, CA, Phyllis C. Peeples, Dallas, TX, and Charles L. Chandler, Spencer, OK; three great grandchildren and other relatives, saints and friends.

The body was laid to rest in Trice Hill Cemetery, Oklahoma City, Ok.

### TRIBUTE

To our Father, Grandfather, and Great-Grandfather:

We love you and will always cherish the memory of your kindness, unselfishness and appreciativeness. We thank you for the love you've given us and the joy brought to us. As your children, we remember your teaching us at an early age to love God and His cause.

As we grew up, though you were miles away you still inspired us to appreciate the better things of life. We shall never forget your unselfishness and your faithfulness as you often traveled across the miles to us and other family members in times of need.

As Grandchildren the summers spent in your home were days of bliss. We thank you for all of this. God was so good to choose in His infinite wisdom to allow you to come and spend the last months of your earthly sojourn with us. You brought so much love, patience, joy and happiness into our lives. Yes, we the little great-grandchildren loved our Grandpa, too. Those hours that we had with you were ones of pure delight.

Among our most blessed times with you were the ones when we gathered around the table and you lifted your voice in praise and thanksgiving to God, invoking His Divine mercy upon us all.

Dad, we are so thankful to have shared a sweet fellowship with you in the Lord's service. Just a brief space of time, but the memory is more precious than gold. As we watched you bear your affliction so bravely, patiently, and prayerfully, our spirits were strengthened. We trust God that these qualities will be richer in our lives. Yes, as we prayed together many times and sang that precious song, "Sweet

Hour of Prayer", our souls and yours found that sweet relief.

We watched you as you took your journey into the great beyond, a smile upon your face hour after hour, depicting the joy and bliss you were enjoying.

As you gripped our hand and smiled to us that final time our hearts were filled with gratitude to God alone. This is giving us strength and support for today and days ahead.

Farewell Dad. We will see you over there. We loved you, but God loved you best.

Lovingly, —Your Children, Grandchildren  
and Great-Grandchildren

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### Thank You

The family of Bro. William Adams is grateful to all of you who laboured in prayer for our loved one and also have shared with us in our loss.

May God shower His blessings upon you is our prayer.

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### In Appreciation

The family of Bro. Alex Fields wishes to express their sincere thanks to all of you for your many expressions of love shown to them during Bro. Fields illness and home-going.

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## MEETING NOTICES

### EVANGELISTIC MEETINGS IN CANADA

Bro. Egbert Allen, Lord willing, plans to hold an evangelistic meeting in Prince George, April 21-26. He then plans to go on to Chilliwack and hold a meeting there from April 28-May 5.

If anyone feels a burden to come along and help with the meetings, it would be much appreciated. To get in touch with Bro. Allen, call (417) 746-4250. Your prayers are desired for the success of these meetings.

In Christian love, —Bro. Jim Hightower  
R.R. #7, site 24, Comp. 35, Prince George, B.C.,  
Canada. (604) 963-9587 or (604) 963-7093

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### GOSPEL SINGING AND ALL-DAY SERVICES MYRTLE, MISSOURI

There will be a gospel singing, Lord willing, held at the Church of God chapel, Myrtle, MO, on Sat. night, May 4th, beginning at 7:30p.m. There will be all-day services the following day, Sunday, May 5th. We are praying the Lord to send ministers, singers, and saints to help make this weekend meeting a success, an encouragement and inspiration to all. Everyone is invited to attend. —Harlan Sorrell

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### BOLEY, OKLAHOMA SPRING REVIVAL

Lord willing, the Boley, Oklahoma Spring Revival of the Church of God, will convene on May 1-5, 1985. We extend to all a very warm welcome. Come and

worship with us. "Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord:", Isaiah 1:18. Come praying that the Lord will give us a Holy Spirit filled meeting.

There will be services nightly at 7:30, with all-day service on Sunday.

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.

Prayerfully submitted, —Katherine Williams

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### GOSPEL SINGING

We plan, Lord willing, to have a singing on Saturday night, May 18, 1985, at 7:30 P.M., at the Upper Wharton Church of God. The church is located on highway 74, east from Huntsville, AR. Everyone is welcome to attend. —Wanda Evans

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## Evangelistic Tent Work

I have a burden on my soul and feel impressed to write a few lines. My thought is: What is happening to the tent revivals? Proverbs 29:18 says, "Where there is no vision, the people perish". May the Lord help us saints to really check our vision and see if it is as clear and sharp as when God first revealed the Church and its working order on earth to us. Do we still behold the white fields around us and the need to go into the highways and hedges? We as members of the Church have a real responsibility of outreach to souls that are lost in darkness without a vision of the Church, the Truth, or God's will for man, and living a life free from sin. (Salvation) Has our vision dimmed?

The above scripture mentions the word vision, which means: "the ability to anticipate and make provision for future events; foresight; insight and imagination." Anticipate means to: "foretaste or foresee; to have previous view or impression of." We as saints of God should have the ability to anticipate. The Scriptures tell us that one of the gifts in the body (Church) is discernment of the Spirit. He also gave to the Church the ability of foresight and it is imperative that we use it before the Lord withdraws this gift.

My burden is the tent revivals and I believe we need a clearer vision of this work, that souls in the highways and hedges might be reached. The devil is doing all he can to stop the tent meetings. Saints, it is our duty to keep the tent and equipment rolling. As I write these few lines I write them with a heavy burden.

There are souls that would come to a tent meeting that would not attend a service in a chapel. The remaining portion of the word vision says, "and to make provision for future events." Saints, it is sad to say, but the tents and equipment are going down in disrepair, and I feel that we will be held responsible for the souls that could be reached out there in the field.

We were in a meeting last year and the attendance of the whole meeting was very good. We had to go out and borrow equipment to run the meeting. (Our equipment wasn't working.) We borrowed the amplifier, speakers and microphone. May the Lord help us. We have neglected the upkeep on the tents

and the equipment. Don't misunderstand me here, I know that there are some that are doing all they can in the support of the work, but, as a whole, God is expecting us to do better. It is important that while there is time we do all we can and do it quickly. In another meeting there were nine to get saved and they are still at this date pressing onward very much encouraged.

It is very important that we keep the tents rolling and its equipment in good working shape. One of the tents needs repairing badly, or replaced. The truck which is at Oak Grove, La. needs to be replaced. I don't believe it will make another trip.

May the Lord help us this year to get on the move with our Gospel Tent Revival. Praise God!

The tent ministry and workers have made great sacrifices to take the tents out. Let us get behind them that they won't have added burdens by being ill equipped. The Lord won't forget our sacrifice of labor and means of support. I want to say again, the tent revivals are a burden on my heart.

Yours for the furtherance of the Gospel,  
—Bro. Louis Kimble

#### NEW CASSETTE TAPES AVAILABLE

Songs recorded from the *Evening Light Songs* book are available as follows:

Tape No. 11 Song Nos. 188-205 .....Price \$1.50

Tape No. 12 Song Nos. 206-224 .....Price \$1.50

New song theme tapes available:

*Songs of Home, Sweet Home* .....Price \$1.50

*When Jesus Comes Again* .....Price \$1.50

Also, we have four tapes of songs, testimonies, and rejoicing from the Guthrie, OK, Assembly Meeting, Dec. 1984, entitled, "The Reformation Glory". The price for these tapes is \$1.00 per tape when ordering all four tapes, or \$1.50 otherwise.

Since April, 1983, approximately 5,000 tapes, or more, of *Evening Light* reformation songs have gone forth into at least 34 states across this nation, two provinces of Canada, and five countries overseas. Among these have been many tapes of the Monark Springs National Campmeeting. We have received some very encouraging responses from some of the recipients who have expressed a desire to attend the national campmeeting this year for the first time. It is my sincere and earnest desire that the outflow of these precious songs of Zion will be effective in bringing many souls "leaping and shouting home to Zion." Not long ago we received a request from Kenya, East Africa, for a shipment of 446 tapes to be sent to that land. The purpose was that their people might be able to learn the *Evening Light Songs*. We were not, however, able to send the total amount of tapes requested due to no remittance being sent with the order.

To encourage the circulation and use of these tapes for the work of the Lord and advancement of His cause I am making a special offer. Anyone desiring to purchase any of our tapes for use on the mission fields, or for gospel outreach, may purchase any quantity for the price of \$1.00 per tape. Write to us for a complete list of tapes available. Order from: SONGS OF THE EVENING LIGHT, c/o Harlan Sorrell, Rt. 1, Box 118-A, Myrtle, MO 65778. Please include \$1.00 for postage on your order.

Let us all do all we can to rescue all the souls we can in this year of 1985. I would like to share with you a song which was published by the Gospel Trumpet Co., in 1893, which has been a great inspiration and challenge to me.

"Come brethren, all, in phalanx strong,  
And let us push the battle here;  
Come save with means and prayer and song  
A million souls this very year.

"God shows your duty, lead the way;  
Oh, what my brethren can you fear?  
Will you, a hero, rise and say,  
A million souls this very year?

"The awful giant of despair,  
Holds all the world in sin's career;  
Hence, we must win by faith and prayer,  
A million souls this very year.

"The proposition now has come,  
An urgent call, my brethren dear,  
For you to go and help to win,  
A million souls this very year.

"Oh, will you go, if o'er the sea?  
Arise, forsake your earthly cares,  
'Redeem the time', he's promised thee  
A great reward in coming years.

"Oh, gather all the captives in,  
The Savior's coming now is near;  
Oh, save them from the power of sin,  
A million souls this very year.

"If we'd the victory achieve,  
And wake the slumbering world to hear,  
We must invade sin's ranks and save  
A million souls this very year.

"In Jesus' name we will go forth,  
With mighty faith and persevere,  
In gathering from the ends of earth  
A million souls this very year.

"A million souls this very year,  
A million souls, my brethren true;  
I'll rescue all I can, will you?"

If all the saints of God across the world would rescue at least just one this year, wouldn't that be wonderful? That would double our numbers! Let us avail ourselves of every opportunity. "Every hour for Jesus! shall my motto be, There is plenty of work we may do; We may all keep busy till the Lord we see, Till he comes for his faithful few. Ev'ry hour for Jesus! there is work for all, Spend your time in His service alone; Be ye ready waiting for His ev'ry call, Soon he'll say, 'Tis enough, come home.' " Ask the Lord what he would have you to do.

Brethren, pray for me. I desire to be faithful and make heaven my home. I desire to be more and more conformed to the image of Christ each day.

Yours in Him, —Harlan Sorrell

Faith adds its "Amen" to God's "Yea" and then takes its hands off, and leaves God to finish His work. Its language is, "Commit thy way unto the Lord, trust also in Him," and He will work.



## Prayer Requests

OK—"Request prayer for me." —Ada Scanlon  
MS—"We need your prayers, we have something before the Lord we desire Him to work out for us."

—Frances Reed

OR—Remember Charles Travis in prayer, he had a stroke, also remember his three sisters, Esther Turner, Florence Duvall and Dorothy Palmer in prayer.

CA—"Pray for me and my sisters. We are not well." —Australia Kelley

CA—"Please pray for me. I am going through fiery trials of affliction. Remember my family."

—Mrs M. Hardin

OH—An urgent request for healing.

—Juanita Blankenship

NY—"My eyes, and one hip joint, are bad."

—Doris L. Hungerford

MO—"Please remember Emma Whipple and Susie Laughlin in prayer." —Eunice Cole

AL—"Please keep my son, Earl Everhart, on your prayer list. The Lord answered prayer and he is better but needs salvation." —Frances Everhart

AR—Pray for Loraine Pollock, she is very ill.

CA—Helen Carson and her two sons are ill and desire prayer.

CA—Lois Underwood needs prayer for unspoken requests and her healing. Also, pray for her unsaved loved ones.

FL—"Pray for my eyes, I cannot see too well to read or write. My sister also needs prayer."

—Flora Knight

MO—"My daughter, Janice needs a special touch of healing, also three of my grandsons need help in different ways so please remember them. A dear friend and her husband need healing, both are disabled and have three children to rear."

—Juanita Blankenship

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## FOREIGN MISSION REPORTS

From the Philippines . . .

Jan. 24—Dear Bro. Hammond: Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, whom we love and serve. We trust that the blessings and guidance of our Lord is upon you always. Our Bible studies here continually grow in attendance in spite of some problems.

I received the books from Faith Publishing. I thank God very much because young people and neighbors are busy borrowing and reading them. Some of the books were taken to Fatima College by one of our young people who studied in the college.

Brother, this coming February I'll be back in Bukidnan because the people there invited someone to go back to their place. They are very interested to hear the precious Word. Last November while I was there they appreciated my teaching. Praise God for giving me courage, knowledge and strength. I thank God always because they are very happy in understanding the truth. Before, when they were not in Christ they would kneel in front of their idols, asking for help for all of their needs. Now, Praise God, through Jesus Christ our personal Savior, those people open their eyes and understand the truth. I

want to spread the precious Word to all places.

Your sister in Christ, —Victoria Sahilan

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

From India . . .

Feb. 18—Our dearly beloved Sis. Maybelle Pruitt, the dear saints at Guthrie and everywhere in America: We send our Christian greetings to you all dear ones in the glorious name of Jesus.

Thank you very much for your kind letter dated February 11, 1985. By the grace of God we are all doing fine here serving the Lord. Our local convention at Vilayanthur will be conducted during the last week of February. On February 9, we had ministers meeting at Karikkom which was a real blessed meeting.

A great emancipation day is coming for the children of God. The enthrallment of sin is to be forever broken; infirmities are to give place to incorruption, mortality is to clothe itself in immortality throughout all eternity. All this is to come with the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ.

My wife and children send their love to you.

Yours in Him, —John Varghese

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

From Nigeria . . .

Feb. 14—Dear Bro. Hammond and all in the Light: Greetings in the most powerful name of the Lord Jesus. In His name, the sick are being healed, the fallen raised, problems solved and forces of darkness subdued. Praise Him forever!

Let the Lord be praised and His name exalted for our devotion to duty in His Vineyard of souls. The messengers of the Master are going forth to proclaim and plant the truth of His only Church in the hearts of the deceived, for dethronement of the falsehood of sectism under which they have been subjected. The Lord is upholding us by His mighty hands, for apart from Him we can do nothing. The world may hate the truth, but it cannot stop the mouths which He has opened. The Lord is leading the way. We are in His army to take orders.

Mobile evangelism has taken off successfully with the first open-air preaching made at Lagos-Ogbe. The result of the first meeting of the year was very encouraging, as souls responded to the altar call in good number. The Lord has helped that we can now electrify fields of preaching with decent supply of lights through a generator purchased on January 19, 1985. As planned, in His name, evangelistic meetings of the year will have no limitation to special locality, but as wide as possible, we pray.

The spread of the famine in the continent of Africa caused by drought frightens all of the continent. The saints are requested to send prayers to the throne of God for arrest of the drought through the downpour of rain at regular intervals. We are on our knees this way the same. God bless you as you feel concerned.

Yours devotedly,

—Titus Enu

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

From Nigeria . . .

Feb. 27—Dear brother in Christ: May God's blessings abide with you and all the dedicated staff at the Print Shop, through the faith that is in Jesus by which we believe and work. Glory to God for making us the children of faith.



Thanks a lot for your letter which was shared with the brethren and served as a source of encouragement. The constant supply of materials is ever appreciated. May God bless you immensely.

I was made aware by the Lord at the beginning of the year of our moving closer to eternity, and of the fact that many souls are going to hell. We were inspired to put more effort in spreading the gospel. God has accordingly given us grace to do His work within the limits of our ability. We go from place to place and even house to house, preaching the gospel and giving tracts and the paper. The response is encouraging and God is already working in the hearts of some people. If we have means we shall be going to the villages too, more regularly.

I am near to Bro. Taylor. From Port Harcourt to Tombia is not far. I was there on Feb. 22, and conveyed to him your concern for him. He was here on 2/26/85, and hopes to be here again on 3/3/85 to administer baptism. Bro. Taylor is indeed a man called of God, who for many years has hazarded his life for Christ. In spite of the way God has used him, he does not feel lifted up, a common occurrence with some preachers who claim to have been called by God, but later act as if they have some personal ambition. His body is weaker but the spirit is renewed. I believe he is ripening for Heaven. He is mandating me to do a number of things for him. If he does not write constantly as you expected, do not be alarmed.

Be sure that God is blessing your efforts as souls are receiving blessings. May the Lord prosper you all.  
Yours in Christ, —F. Naths-Igbani

## From the Mailbox . . .

OK—Dear Ones: I am thankful that we have the Spirit of God to lead and guide us. We need that Spirit day by day to direct our path. I John 4:1 tells us to try the spirits because many false prophets are gone out into the world. For the encouragement of the readers, I would like to tell of some things that I remember in my lifetime.

I can remember back as a child when I was about 4 or 5 years old. This would be about the year 1918. The nearest congregation of saints to my family was about 15 miles away and they had no pastor. It was what you might call a crossroads where they were subject to everything that came along. When they would have a preacher, my parents would try to go. I was too young to remember what the preacher said, but I do remember remarks that my parents would make on the way home. (15 miles was a long way by horse and buggy.) They would say, "Well, that was of God", or "That was the truth, but such a spirit", or "We can't deny what he said is true, but his bell is cracked". It was a time in which there was a lot of confusion. However, there were times that God would bless those people as they sincerely worshiped Him.

I was saved in 1938 and came to know and associate with the saints of God. I have heard it said that the Church has not been what it should be from 1910 until recently, and that God has not blessed the Church. When I got saved, I was attending a revival meeting that Bro. Ray Key was holding. The spirit that was there was irresistible and I yielded. Bro.

Key's preaching was greatly anointed and some times it seemed that he could hardly stay on the floor.

I worked, traveled and spent many nights with Bro. Fred Pruitt. He didn't do a lot of jumping and shouting, but he taught some deep truths on the Church. There would be praises heard all over the congregation. Under his ministry the sick were healed, devils cast out, souls brought in from confusion and saints edified. In the night and as he would go about his work you would often hear his long P-r-a-i-s-e G-o-d. These were times of refreshing.

Bro. Ulysses Phillips would sometimes shout until it looked like he was going to be carried up right then. Bro. Sam Barton would just be carried away in the Spirit while bringing out Bible truths.

I am also glad to say that there are ministers now, in our present time, who bring forth deep truths that thrill my soul. It is not always a demonstrative message, but it is not always the demonstrations that bring the blessing of God upon the congregation. I love my wife dearly and try to prove it to her, but I don't believe that it is brought about by an outward demonstration in view of others. If the love is there it will be known.

I have a terror of confusion and dislike anything pointing to it. I want the bell to ring clear and unbroken. There has been glory in the Church as far back as I can remember, and I am confident that there always will be as long as the saints of God stay humble before Him.

—Hyrum Ray

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

OK—Dear ones in Christ: We thank the Lord for salvation and for knowing the truth. We're thankful that we were brought up in a home where we were taught the right way rather than in a deceived home. We are also thankful that the Lord has given us a desire to live for Him and teach our children this truth.

He has brought to our minds lately how we need to have more tolerance, more mercy and more love for others. "Love thy neighbor as thyself", Mark 12:31. Could this also mean our brothers in the Church, including ministers? Is it easy to overlook shortcomings or faults of our close loved ones? Then it should be easy to love those around us and to have the right attitudes in our hearts for all the brethren as Christians should. Christian means Christ-like. What would Christ's attitude be toward all the brethren? "Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love", Romans 12:10. "But why dost thou judge thy brother? or why dost thou set at nought thy brother? for we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ", Romans 14:10. "Let us not therefore judge one another any more: but judge this rather, that no man put a stumbling block or an occasion to fall in his brother's way", Romans 14:13. "Let brotherly love continue." Hebrews 13:1.

Lord, help us to walk worthy before you and keep our lives in harmony with your Word.

Christian love, —Nina and Gail Kelly

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

LA—Dear Sis. Maybelle: Greetings to you and all the dear workers at the Print Shop. I trust and pray the Lord is blessing everyone real good, and supplying

your every need. We know how He has taken care and blessed in the past year and I know He is sufficient for our every need, physical, temporal and spiritual, for this new year. My soul is stirred for a closer walk with our Lord and for a more watchful life; watching self. It can be our greatest enemy. We recently listened to a message on tape by Bro. Ostis Wilson on eternity. He spoke mostly on the facts of eternity in the darkness and endlessness of hell, the home of every soul who does not prepare for heaven and about the home for those redeemed by the blood of Jesus. There are only those two places in eternity and we surely don't want to be careless or take any chance of missing Heaven. Oh, what a stir it should put on everyone who hears that message to draw closer to the Lord.

Christian love, —Myrtis Flynn

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

CA—Greeting all in Jesus dear name: As the sun rose today in the early morning sky, I welcomed the bright rays of sunlight and thought of the rays of God's love shining down upon our hearts made pure in the blood of the Lamb. Oh, I am happy to be redeemed. Happiness fills the soul when we are translated into the Kingdom of Light. Praise God for salvation and the peace of God in our hearts and lives.

Christian love and prayers, —Jim Kutra

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

NY—Dear Brother Murphey: Praise the Lord for His saving grace. He really makes life worth living. I am so glad He gave me a chance to live for and serve Him. He's a wonderful Saviour indeed. We are so limited in our efforts to serve Him, but we must do what we can, no matter how small the efforts seem to us . . .

God bless you folks for the good work you are doing.

A sister in Christ, —Doris Hungerford

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

OK—Dear Ones at the Print Shop and Saints abroad: Greetings to you in Jesus dear name. I thank God that my name is in the Lamb's Book of Life. Living for God is the most important thing in my life.

Just recently we had an experience in which the Lord taught me some precious truths about traveling the road of life. We were returning home after a lengthy trip and it was evening time. The rain was falling lightly and night was coming on, but our car protected us from the rain and our lights were good. The rain grew heavier and we came to a stretch of road where there were low places and some water accumulating on the road. We began traveling slower, realizing there was some danger as by now it was dark, making it difficult to see the water on the road in places.

At one low place a good bit of muddy water was running across the highway and we looked earnestly to the Lord to help us through. How faithful He was in that time of need.

Sometimes the rain would grow less and we could see so much better and would be real thankful. Then again it would come and for a while it was so blinding that we just "crept" along, so to speak. The Lord

brought a scripture to my mind, "Hitherto hath the Lord helped us." I Sam. 7:12. I quoted it to my husband as he was driving and encouraged him that the Lord had helped us this far and would help us on home. He did and we thank Him for it.

As we were traveling along, looking to the Lord for help and seeing how He was helping us through each difficulty we met, it began coming to my mind about spiritual experiences in our lives along the road of life. I could see some parallels in things we were experiencing to spiritual trials and difficulties encountered in our lives. Sometimes the traveling was quite easy. Then again, the difficulties arose and we could hardly see the road, but God helped us and He will be faithful to help us in those times of spiritual battles, too. We may have to slow down some times, pray earnestly and watch diligently to see the road, but God will be there to help us through.

For a while there was a car ahead of us and we could watch to see what they met. That was a help. We can benefit by the experiences of our brothers and sisters in the Lord when they have gone through a trial and gained the victory.

How glad and thankful we were when at last we arrived safely at home. How glad and thankful we will be when we have fought our last battle, gained the last victory and go Home to be with the Lord. Truly this world is not our Home. We are just passing through.

My heart is encouraged to press the battle on. Pray for us. We want to be faithful.

Christian love, —Sister Fern Stubblefield

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

WI—Dear Saints: Greetings in the precious name of Jesus Christ my Lord and Savior! I was thinking today about a very major topic that God's people need to know about: Humanism. It seems that Satan has blinded people's eyes to what is going on in the school systems of our country today.

Humanism is a religion that denies the very existence of our God. Why do you think that prayer has been taken out of the schools? Why is evolution taught, but creation denied? Think for just a while about the things being taught in the education system today and just what it really consists of. We must keep in mind that the things taught in school today will be reality tomorrow.

The humanists say any children coming into school today with faith in God or country are mentally sick and until they renounce those loyalties, they are not fit for global citizenship. We need to see that the one-world-government is the goal of these people. Why do you think they are teaching Situation Ethics, Crisis Management and Global Awareness classes?

They say once a child's values are changed, it is impossible to put them back the way they were. What they don't realize is that what is impossible with man is possible with God. We must daily put back in the godly principles that the educators of our children take out. Consider the violence in the schools, the drug abuse, the obscenity, the undress. Are these things we want our children to be around? Can they be around this daily and not be influenced by it? Can we put enough Godliness in them every day to offset the ungodliness?

Let me say here that I have come to realize that

you can't rub shoulders with the world and not be affected by the ungodliness there. We, as God's people must "wake up, read and pray"! Our children's souls are at stake! Are we going to sit back and watch the enemy destroy them and sleep through it all until it is too late?

Consider what our children come in contact with five days a week if they are in a public school; the input into their minds of every evil! Through the lust of the flesh and exposures to every evil, Satan will destroy our youth! Suicide is the #2 killer among our youth today; school-age children and teens. Does that tell us anything?

Wake up, America and Saints of God! Quit sleeping. The enemy is walking about as a roaring lion, "seeking whom he may devour." I Peter 5:8. It is time to "Cry aloud, spare not." Isaiah 58:1.

I have been made to realize also the importance of knowing where our children are and what they are doing. Parents, don't allow your children to roam through the stores unattended when you are shopping. There is every evil set before them. Think of the filthy magazines that are on public display. What is to stop them from looking at them when you are not around? Once they have seen those things, they are a permanent record in their minds and they can see them again later. We must keep our children's minds as pure as possible. Where does God say we have to expose our children to evil?

I would like to share something that the Lord showed me about two years or more ago. My children have been attending the Church of God school where we now live since the fall of 1980. I was living quite a ways from the school, about 30 miles one way. About every day I took the children to school and went back to get them, making a total of approximately 120 miles a day. Sometimes, because of finances, we can get ourselves into a bad place, then the Lord has to come along and get us back on the right path. Well, as I said, because of finances and sometimes self, we can easily get out of the will of God. Because of these things, we checked into putting the children into a different school. (It was not Church of God.) This was a very bad decision. Thank God, He is faithful to convict us of wrong!

One night I had a dream, in which I could see a Scripture written down, but only the reference, not the words. The next day I looked it up and I would like to share it with you. It was Proverbs 1:15, "My son, walk not thou in the way with them; refrain thy foot from their path:". Alas, I was a little hard of hearing and in the end I was chastised for my deafness. I told the Lord then that regardless of the cost, I would keep my children in His school somehow. Once again the Lord was faithful and now I am living only one and one-half miles from the school and the problem is solved! Praise the Lord!

Saints, I think we need to pray for more schools among God's people. If we really get down before the Lord and pray about this, I believe the Lord will honor His people. Remember, it is our children's souls that are at stake! Will we be slack and send them out among the evil of this world and see them devoured? God didn't tell us to send our children into the world to teach and preach. Jesus sent out mature men with the gospel.

Ask yourself and the Lord what you can do and

what is really right. Don't let the cares of this life hinder us from serving the Lord. Our responsibility to our children is to teach them the way of life. To have your children in a church school is really a blessing. To hear them quote the Scriptures they have learned instead of the evil they have heard is truly wonderful and I thank God that my children have this opportunity.

In closing, I would like to give my testimony. Almost two years ago the dear Lord, who is so precious and faithful, called me out of an adulterous marriage. When the Lord saved me I didn't know about the wrong of second marriages and was married at the time. The Lord was faithful to lead me on and teach me the way, until finally one day He showed me, beyond the shadow of a doubt, that divorce and remarriage is wrong. He also gave me a Scripture that says, ". . . How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?" Romans 6:2. I thank the Lord for leading me out of darkness, into the glorious light!

I pray that if anyone reading this is in the same situation that you will ask the Lord to lead you out and show you the way. You will never regret it!

I thank the Lord for His saints and how precious they are to me. There is no family like God's family! Pray for me that I will be faithful to the Master and put Him first in my life.

Yours in Christ,

—Janie Woodruff

## Testimonies and Answers to Prayer

KS—Dear saints: Greetings in the name of Jesus. Thank the Lord, winter is about over and spring is on its way.

I am thankful to still be able to report victory in my soul today. I am pressing on and endeavoring to keep climbing upward. One little song says, "We are climbing Jacob's ladder, every rung goes higher, higher." I want to be that way.

Life has real meaning being in God's employ and I want to be a faithful servant until death. The wages are so enticing and the working conditions are all right too.

I just wish it was easier to convince people that they need to sell out and get into God's army for keeps because we cannot lose if we let God be our all and in all. Hallelujah!

"I have enlisted in the service till I die." Winning battles and being victorious is exciting. Some people just love to fight and be in a big scrape. If they would join God's army they could use that fighting in defeating the devil. That is a frequent job as a Christian, but if God be for us who can be against us?

Well, may God bless each one at the Print Shop with a good year.

Christian love,

—Sis. Shirley Knight

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

VA—To all my brothers and sisters in Christ: I am a new Christian. I was given this wonderful paper to read by my daughter-in-law. I just want you to know how very good it made me feel just reading all of the testimonies and answers to prayer. It is good to know what a beautiful family I am now a member of—God's family. I am happier than I have ever been in my life.

I was injured very badly in an auto accident in July of 1984, by a drunk driver in a pick-up truck who came over to my side of the road and hit me head-on. I wasn't expected to live, but I felt God's presence surrounding me and protecting me throughout the whole ordeal. I knew I would not die because God was and is with me. Glory to God.

I have a prayer request: Please pray for me and for a deeper religious experience, also for my son's spiritual and physical salvation. I am so blessed to have such a wonderful daughter-in-law. Please pray for her healing. . .

I have so thoroughly enjoyed this paper. I can hardly wait for my subscription to start. Thank the Lord for His loving care and help, and for all the wonderful good friends who prayed for my recovery and salvation. Pray for me that I will continue to grow in God. Thank God for His love and His many blessings. Thank God, I am reborn!

Your sister in Christ, —Barbara Schnurman

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

VA—Dear Sis. Maybelle: Greetings in the name of our precious Lord and Saviour. Oh, how we should praise Him more and more. Praise His holy name! Truly He is precious to me. I love Him with all my heart and my greatest desire is to please Him.

I feel impressed to share with the saints the things the Lord has done for me. Last July I broke all the bones in my left wrist. The doctor said it would be useless the rest of my life if I would not consent to surgery. I told him I was going to let the Lord take care of it. The Lord was once again a present help in time of need. The strength is coming back into my wrist and the movement is slowly returning. I can carry heavy objects, drive my car, sweep, rake the lawn, etc.

I had some other afflictions and the Lord has healed them also. "In times of afflictions my healer is He." Praise His name!

Please pray for me that I'll ever be true. I send my love to all.

Christian love, —Nancy Wagoner

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

WA—Dear saints at the Print Shop: Greetings to all in the dear name of our Savior and Lord. We are thankful to Him for His goodness to us. I have been having trouble with my eyes most of the winter, but He has healed them. I am thankful to the Lord and for everyone that prayed for my healing. He heals today just the same as He did when He walked the shores of Galilee.

Christian love, Sis. Violet Thomas

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

MT—Dear ones at the Print Shop: I want to let you all know that our dear Lord answered our prayers. You may remember in 1983 we requested prayer for the Lord's guidance. It was when we left it up to the Lord's will that He answered our request. We praise and thank the Lord.

Oh how we love to read the *Faith and Victory* paper. The healing testimonies encourage and build up our faith in the Lord.

At this writing Bro. Elhard is suffering much and is requesting prayer.

Yours in Christ, —August and Martha Elhard

AL—Dear Sister Maybelle: I am very glad to report that God answered prayer in behalf of my son who was critically ill in Sacramento, CA. His wife called this evening to say he was improving and had been moved out of the intensive care unit. The doctors had given her no hope for his recovery before prayer was offered for him. What a mighty God we serve. I wish to thank everyone who prayed for him. It is so good to be a part of the family of God. The love God's people have for each other is one of the greatest blessings we as Christians have.

I was, and still am, more concerned over his spiritual condition than the physical, so please remember to keep Earl on your prayer list.

I shall from now on pray more earnestly for those who request prayer through the *Faith and Victory* paper. God surely honors his people when they seek Him with their whole heart. I can't thank Him enough for all of the blessings He bestows on me; how He takes care of me in every way. I keep singing "Praise God from whom all blessings flow."

I pray God's richest blessings on you and all of the people there.

With Christian love, —Frances Everhart

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

CA—Dear Sis. Maybelle and all the dear workers at the Print Shop and abroad: Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. "Truly my soul waiteth upon God: from him cometh my salvation. He only is my rock and my salvation; he is my defence; I shall not be greatly moved. In God is my salvation and my glory: the rock of my strength, and my refuge, is in God. Trust in him at all times; ye people, pour out your heart before him: God is a refuge for us." Psa. 62:1,2,7,8.

I am sorry that I am late writing this new year but there has been much sickness this winter in many places. My daughter was ill for at least two months and I had to make a trip to South Carolina to visit her. I thank the Lord and all the dear saints, for their prayers. The Lord gave her a healing touch and I was able to return in a weeks time. I praise the Lord for keeping me well in that cold city . . .

Christian love and prayers, —Sis. Hazel Clark

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It may be God's will to lead the Christians to suffer persecutions and adversities so that they may cry unto the Lord and trust Him alone. It is deplorable that professing Christians in these days are in a state of slumber, under the lullaby of institutional, modernistic, sacerdotal, ceremonial, external, traditional religion. I believe it is high time for the nominal Christians to wake up from their fatal lethargy. However, the political upheavals will of course, bring upon Christians terrible results. Jesus has said, "In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world." (John 16:33) Praise the Lord! He is the Captain of our salvation. We believe His Church will march on, conquering and to conquer, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

—C. M. Verghese

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Real spirituality radiates a heavenly atmosphere.

—Selected

## Question and Answer Column

by  
Ostis B. Wilson

**Question:** Please explain the Scripture, "Thou shalt not wear a garment of divers sorts, as of woollen and linen together".

**Answer:** This scripture is found in Deut. 22:11 along with some other mixtures which are forbidden, beginning with verse 9. I will insert all of verses 9, 10, and 11 here because they all carry the same thought and teach the same thing. "Thou shalt not sow thy vineyard with divers seed: lest the fruit of thy seed which thou hast sown, and the fruit of thy vineyard be defiled. Thou shalt not plow with an ox and an ass together. Thou shalt not wear garment of divers sorts, as of woollen and linen together."

A parallel text to this is found in Lev. 19:19 and reads thus: "Ye shall keep my statutes. Thou shalt not let thy cattle gender with a diverse kind: thou shalt not sow thy field with mingled seed: neither shall a garment mingled of linen and woollen come upon thee."

This last text forbid their cattle to gender with a different kind. So let us look at a text now in regard to how God made things in the beginning. Gen. 1:24,25. "And God said, Let the earth bring forth the living creature after his kind, cattle, and creeping thing, and beast of the earth after his kind: and it was so. And God made the beast of the earth after his kind, and cattle after their kind, and everything that creepeth upon the earth after his kind: and God saw that it was good."

We see here that cattle were distinct and separated from the beasts of the earth and also the creeping things. They were all in separate categories, so I do not get the idea from Lev. 19:19 that God forbid the interbreeding of different breeds and strains of cattle such as hereford white faces, black angus, holstein, etc., which all are in the cattle category; but He did forbid the gendering of any and all cattle with a horse, mule, bear or any other of the multiplicity of beasts of the earth all of which are in a different category and of a diverse kind. God saw that the way He had made it was good and He forbid men to dabble with it and change it.

All of the things mentioned in these texts may have had some special bearing on the Israelites at that time. Perhaps they did, though I am not knowledgeable enough to know what it was altogether. I think it safe to conclude that there is no moral evil contained in any of these things; else they would have been carried over into the New Testament, but none of them were. Murder, adultery, stealing, lying, coveting, etc. — many other things which contain a moral evil which were first taught against and forbidden in the Old Testament, are carried over into the New Testament and taught against and forbidden there the same as in the old, but none of these things were.

However; though these things themselves were not carried over into the New Testament; yet the principle and teaching of them was, and it was a very important principle and constitutes a very important and far reaching truth for the people of God, the

spiritual Israel, in this age of time. That is what we want to look at now.

Heb. 10:1 says that the law had a shadow of good things to come. Heb. 8:5 says that the priests who offered gifts under the law (vs.4) served unto the example and shadow of heavenly things. Col. 2:16,17 says that their meats and drinks, holy days, new moons and sabbaths were all a shadow of things to come of which Christ is the body of reality. In the first 10 verses of the 10th chapter of 1 Corinthians is related a number of things which befell the children of Israel as judgments of God upon them for their disobedience and apostasy. Then in verse 11 we read: "Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples [types, margin]; and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come."

Thus we see that the law and Old Testament contained many types, figures, and shadows. It is in this category that I think it most proper to cast the things mentioned in these texts. They set forth an illustration of God's on-going doctrine of separateness and "no-mixture" for the people of God, which is set forth in different ways and numerous figures throughout the Holy Scriptures. These things are all presented literally but the main thrust of them all is spiritual in application. This is a great and very important doctrinal truth taught throughout the Holy Scriptures.

The very first thing God did in the creation in bringing order out of chaos was to create light and the very next step was to divide between the light and the darkness. (Gen. 1:1-5). Ever since that time God has presented truth and righteousness as light and error and sin as darkness and maintained a strict distinction between them. God's people are declared to be "children of light" (Eph. 5:8; Luke 16:8; John 12:36; 1 Thes. 5:5, etc.). Those who live in sin and serve Satan are spoken of as "children of the devil" (1 John 3:10; John 8:44; Matt. 13:38), and are said to be in darkness (1 John 2:9,11; John 12:35, 11:10, 3:19,20). God has maintained a strict separateness throughout this light and darkness in the spiritual realm.

In 2 Cor. 6:14 it says, "What communion hath light with darkness?" Clearly NONE! Therefore, it says in 2 Cor. 6:17, "Come out from among them and be ye separate, saith the Lord, . . ." Throughout the teachings of the New Testament there is a strict separateness and distinction maintained between light and darkness, truth and error, sinners and righteous people, the people of God and the people of this world. In Col. 1:13 it says, "Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness; and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son." 1 Peter 2:9 says, ". . . who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light." Eph. 5:11 says, "have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them." Verse 7 says, "Be not ye therefore partakers with them." All these Scriptures and many more make it clear that God takes every one that He saves out of darkness and puts them in the light. He forbids them to have any communion, fellowship or part with those works of darkness any more.

In Deut. 7:1-5, God commanded the children of Israel not to have any communion at all with the nations around them. They were commanded to commanded to utterly destroy them and destroy their altars

and burn their graven images and have no part in their idolatrous worship. They were especially and specifically forbidden to intermarry with them.

Verse 6 said that they were holy unto the Lord their God. The context here makes it clear that "Holy" in this text refers to them being "Separated" unto the Lord from among the nations, and not to a pure heart and sinless life in which connection the term "Holy" is used in the New Testament. That is also the common use of the term "Peculiar" (peculiar people) in the Scriptures — a separate and distinct people unto God. Note its use in the following texts: Ex. 19:5,6; Deut. 7:1-6, 14:2, 26:16-19, 28:9, 29:13; 1 Kings 8:53; Titus 2:14 (Purify UNTO Himself a PECULIAR people); 2 Cor. 6:14-18 which spells out in plain, definite language the separateness and distinctiveness of saints in light unto their God.

All of the above texts refer to God's people being PECULIAR unto Himself and separated from the idolatrous nations around them unto God. Psalms 4:3 says, "But know that the Lord hath set apart him that is godly for himself: . . ."

This doctrine of separation of God's people from the nations around them throughout the Old Testament and then from the world, and sin, and formal and false religions and all the works of darkness in the New Testament, is set forth and taught in different figures throughout the Scriptures. Whatever direct bearing it may have had in the lives of the Israelites at that time, I consider the text in this question and its related texts to be a part of the on-going teaching of the Scriptures of separation and no-mixing for the people of God.

## HOME LIFE



### An Ideal Home

A home where pure love reigns, is the dearest spot on earth. Sometime ago a brother wrote a letter concerning his home life, and though he did not mention his part relative to its existence directly, yet I felt that he also must have acted so as to make the conditions possible. He wrote, in part, as follows:

"My wife loves me. She rushes quickly to defend any accusation against my character or motive, which makes me believe her affections are as true as the compass needle and as firm as a thousand-fathomed rock. She reads my writings, and is as anxious to hear me preach, it seems, as those outside my home, which convinces me that I have her perfect confidence. When, occasionally, she speaks sharply to me, she immediately asks forgiveness and asks me to pray that she may be more of an overcomer, which reveals to me her true Christian worth. My wife truly

was a gift from God. To me she is a strong tower, an anchor, a fortress."

I thought: "That must be an ideal home. His wife is not a weak person with no individuality, she has a strong personality and positive temperament, which adds greatly to the strength of his letter."

His letter taught me that he did not look upon his wife as an intelligent slave nor an inferior helpmeet, but as an equal. Her love for her husband, I could see, was founded upon something more permanent than youth or a person that in time must decay; it was founded upon true worth, upon character, and the immortal man.

Who is worthy of such affection and love? It raised my confidence in that brother to the highest power. Indirectly that letter taught me that the elements of a happy ideal home were: moderation, temperance, self-control, tenderness, pity, helpfulness, kindness, respect for the other's feelings, self-sacrifice, and positive sincerity. Genuine affection is conscientious and works voluntarily and automatically. To marry, for any other reason than that which is true, pure, and sanctioned by God and nature, is an open invitation to sorrow and remorse almost beyond description. It may be a mistake as long as time, and possibly as long as eternity.

—J. G. A.  
(Selected from *Gospel Trumpet*, 1917.)

## What Some Men Have Said About Self-Examination

"Think not rightly to examine yourself by looking only to your own inner motives and feelings, which are the hardest of all things to analyze if looked at in the abstract and apart from outward actions. But ask, 'Do I believe all that God teaches, and endeavor to do all that God commands?' For in this is the evidence of true love to Him." —Tryon Edwards

"In self-examination, take no account of yourself by your thoughts and resolutions in the days of religion and solemnity, but examine how it is with you in the days of ordinary conversation and in the circumstances of secular employment."

—Jeremy Taylor

"Let not sleep fall upon thy eyes till thou hast thrice reviewed the transactions of the past day. Where have I turned aside from rectitude? What have I been doing? What have I left undone, which I ought to have done? Begin thus from the first act, and proceed; and, in conclusion, at the ill which thou hast done, be troubled, and rejoice for the good."

—Pythagoras

"If any speak ill of thee, fly home to thy own conscience and examine thy heart. If thou art guilty, it is a just correction; in not guilty, it is a fair instruction."

—Herbert

"If thou seest anything in thyself which may make thee proud, look a little further and thou shalt find enough to humble thee; if thou be wise, view the peacock's feathers with his feet, and weigh thy best parts with thy imperfections."

—Quarles

"When you decant on the faults of others, consider whether you be not guilty of the same. To gain knowledge of ourselves, the best way is to convert the imperfections of others into a mirror for discovering our own."

—Home



"Though not always called upon to condemn ourselves, it is always safe to suspect ourselves."

—Whately

"In order to judge of the inside of others, study your own; for men in general are very much alike, and though one has one prevailing passion, and another has another, yet their operations are much the same; and whatever engages or disgusts, pleases, or offends you in others will engage, disgust, please or offend others in you."

—Chesterfield

"Observe thyself as thy greatest enemy would do, so shalt thou be thy greatest friend."—Jeremy Taylor

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## The Carnal and Spiritual Mind Contrasted

Text: Romans 8:6. "For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace."

In this eighth chapter of Romans the apostle has a great deal to say about the flesh and the carnal mind. I wish to call attention to two outstanding thoughts portrayed in this chapter. First, and undeniably, the carnal mind is at the bottom of every sin committed among men. It will be safe to say, then, that carnality is the cause of all outward sin and is the base root for all evil in the world today. It is owing to this worldly, fleshly and sensual lust of depraved souls that we experience such perverse deeds as abortion, pornography, murder, rape, thievery, hatred and any rebellion against God, including divorce. On a somewhat lesser note, perhaps, the apostle says, "Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamor, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice:" Eph. 4:31, implying that it means much more than a mere profession to be a Christian. The gross violations against God and human decency are so widespread and commonplace, today, as to disgrace our nation into the depths of a head-long sinking shame.

An unresolved priority in our sin is abortion. Think of it; over one and one half million innocent lives being taken each year to satisfy the uncontrollable lust (licentiousness) of grown, and presumably, people who have had the advantage of some objective education along the way. People who should have gained some consciousness of right and wrong, to know the difference between godliness and ungodliness, and be able to recognize that, as factors in society, citizens have a moral obligation to uphold and, even to promote, the decency of the nation. It becomes a long and hard question as to how a person can be reared in an assumably Christian nation, with its thousands of Christian institutions, without running squarely into that ethical philosophy dealing with the science of Christian character, and being mentally and morally influenced by it.

Basically, it has to do with the law of life and death: "Thou shalt not kill," Exodus 20:15. Abortion is the definite act and practice of taking a human life by impassive and carnal minded parents; one or the other, or both. Think of it: one and one half million lives each year! They are lives that are innocent and helpless, with no redress in any court of law. (The Supreme Court has sanctioned their life termination.) They are the unwanted by-product, the flotsam, of

unrestrained sexual indulgence of the flesh. Ironically, these victims of infanticide are precious with as much potential for the pursuit of life, liberty and happiness as any living human being. They only lack the maternal affection, protection and concern that was, in all expectation, lavished upon their forebears. Abortion is a widespread scourge that is driving America to the brink of disaster. Make no mistake, God will bring this nation into judgment. He is now long-suffering, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance (2 Pet. 3:9,10). We should remind ourselves that, "The soul that sinneth it shall die." Ezk. 18:20. "For to be carnally minded is death." This Bible statement of our text is no simple proverb, but the profound reality of God's dealing with the sinner. As truly as the Scripture points out, the holy God of Heaven will be avenged for a rebellious, sinning and disobedient people. The price of murder is hell, and that, without repentance and His forgiveness, is everlasting. What a terrible price to pay for a few moments of wanton pleasure!

For many long years now we have been experiencing a revolution. Old standards of morality have been abandoned. A freer recourse to human, fleshly desires has been the demand. God and virtue has been placed on the sideline, or just carelessly forgotten. The standing values of by-gone days have been side-stepped or, generally, scoffed at in contempt. The play has been for independent freedom in action with no moral restraints, and the result has been havoc. Yes, I have been witness to broken homes; women, young and old, with shame written in their countenance; mothers and fathers in tears, and that inescapable sense of guilt shared by all those who have permitted themselves to be led into this criminal indulgence in sin — certainly as much for men as for women.

We feel the need to express a compassionate word for those unmarried and unattached women who discover themselves to be with child, and who use the abortion route to cover their shame. This indulgence, however, will solve nothing, only to prove irresponsibility. Yet, for us to say that there is no pity nor sympathy for the fallen is to prove us to have hearts of stone. Love is of God and the primary Christian virtue: "in his love and in his pity he redeemed them."

One wholly adequate principle to meet the emergent need of the unmarried, who are tempted, is the old-fashioned Biblical rule known as—**total abstinence**, not a popular solution in the world today, but it works. It has worked for the discretely wise in the past, and it performs wonders in the alleviation of future regret, guilt, mental torture and punishment. It meets all ethical claims and the Christian standard. A practical application and truth is found in the words of James: "Blessed is the man that endureth temptation; for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him," James 1:12. An even more immediate and personal solution to temptation is this: "This I say then, walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfill the lusts of the flesh," Gal. 5:16. A thoughtful perusal of the New Testament will reveal, more particularly, what these Scriptures imply. For all those who would humbly have their sins covered there is hope, help and healing. It is this: "But if we walk in the light,



as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin." I John 1:7. Thanks be to God, there is victory for those who will receive it!

—Earl Langley

## Thoughts on Prayer

Prayer is undoubtedly the first of all the means of grace; and it has this peculiar dignity and blessing, that it brings us before the throne of God himself; into the presence of Him, whom to see and love is the highest happiness of the highest created beings.

The approach to God, and introduction to spiritual perceptions, which are effected by prayer, seem, as it were, the connecting link between earth and heaven. In the blessed exercise of spiritual devotion, the soul is borne away, for a time, from all the perishable objects of sense, to appear in the presence of God; there to learn what the voice of man can never teach. The Christian loves to tarry in the secret closet, and from that sacred place and presence, he returns with heart so humbled, yet so refreshed, that like Peter on the mount, he feels it was good for him to be there. Earthly vanities have lost their charm, and earthly greatness its splendor, and though the business and cares of life may a little damp the ardor of his spirit, he will still be conscious of a secret, un-failing energy, which he drank in with the water of life that proceedeth out of the throne of God and of the Lamb.

Prayer is also the touchstone by which our lives are tried, and by it we become acquainted with the order of God's good providence; and with our own infirmities and necessities. Happy are they in whom the spirit of real devotion is ever increasing; who grieve not the Holy Spirit of God by whom they are sealed unto the day of redemption.

Prayer is our chief security in seasons of difficulty and temptation. Angels are sent forth to minister unto those who are heirs of salvation, and God himself is ever present with us, ready to hear our petitions.

—Sel. from *The Gospel Trumpet* June 1911

## Truth Never Dies

Truth never dies, the ages come and go,  
The mountains wear away, the stars retire,  
Destruction lays earth's mighty cities low;  
And empires, states, dynasties expire,  
But caught and handed onward by the wise,  
Truth never dies.

Though unreceived and scoffed at through the years,  
Though made the butt of ridicule and jest,  
Though held aloft for mockery and jeers,  
Denied by those of transient power possessed,  
Insulted by insolence of lies,  
Truth never dies.

It answers not, it does not take offense,  
But with a mighty silence bides its time,  
As some great cliff that braves the elements,  
And lifts through all the storms its head sublime.  
It even stands, uplifted by the wise,  
And never dies.

—Selected by Hazel Clark



Excerpts Taken From  
April, 1960 *Faith and Victory*

"Christ is 'the firstfruits' of the resurrection. (I Cor. 15:23.) He arose with a glorified body. Witnesses tell us they saw Him. Just as He arose, we too will arise to be with Him throughout eternity if we have had part in the first resurrection."

—Marie Miles

"While we were attending the Guthrie Assembly Meeting this year, we promised the Lord we would send in our testimony if He would give Doyle steady work. After we had been home for about three weeks Doyle got work in the oil field here in McComb, Mississippi."

—Doyle and Cynthia LaCroix

"At the time of the Guthrie Assembly Meeting our little boy, who is past five years old, was ailing in health. We did not know just what was wrong but he did not have an appetite, and was getting very thin and pale. We had the ministers to anoint him and pray for him. The Lord wonderfully touched him and gave him a good appetite."

—Bro. and Sis. Murphy Allen

"Thirteen new camp tents (6 large and 7 regular size) for the National campmeeting have been delivered to Bro. Ralph Beisly, business manager of the campmeeting, at a total cost of \$468.32, according to information just received from him.

"Plans were made and contributions pledged for materials last year to build a wing on the east side of the tabernacle at Monark Springs, MO. to provide adequate seating capacity for increasing attendance. Many more seats will need to be built, as well as extending the concrete rostrum at both sides."

—L. D. Pruitt

"It is a sad state indeed. When the Spirit of God is grieved away and you have no God in your soul, you are an ungodly man no matter how much your mind may retain of truth or how pious and nice you seem to be, or how well you may be able to preach or how many people you may be fooling."

—Fred Pruitt