

# FAITH<sup>AND</sup>VICTORY

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## Church of God Servant



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### Today

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Today can bring blue skies,  
That yesterday were gray.  
Today can bring flowers,  
To scatter along life's way.

Today can bring new courage,  
To a man deep in the mire.  
Today can give new vigor,  
And set the soul on fire.

Today is rich with treasure—  
Ours; but to uncover.  
We receive much pleasure,  
In the new things, we discover.

Today as in the days of old,  
From the teaching of our mother,  
We receive earth's richest gold,  
In doing for another.

At last, today should conquer—  
Our inner-self to free;  
For what we do today,  
Shall determine eternity!

Today can bring gladness,  
To a heart that once knew pain.  
Today can bring sunshine,  
After a heavy rain.

Today is a fulfillment  
Of yesterday's promise—  
To be enjoyed by you,  
Not by a doubting Thomas.

Today is the day of salvation.  
Now is the accepted time.  
Repent and believe on Jesus  
And life will be sublime.

### The Fine Art of Keeping Sweet

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Engraved on the tombstone of a woman, underneath her name were four little words: "She was always pleasant." Now, I am sure that this woman was not one of those people to whom being pleasant is second nature, else no one would have given her credit for it as being anything meritorious. She had probably worked hard, long, and patiently, to win the battle over self, which resulted in her being "always pleasant."

Of all the problems that confront the busy woman of today, there is no more important one than how to live her life satisfactorily; for, "at the best," as the Irishman says, "she has the worst of it."

A woman owes it to herself to be sensible, neat, and pleasant. But away down under this outward manner, she owes herself the duty of "keeping sweet." It is an old-fashioned phrase, "keeping sweet," but it means so much. It is being womanly, and gracious, and kindly, and thinking sweet, lovely things, and putting into your face gentleness and sweetness. And this means a constant fight against the annoying, trying things of life, the little pin-pricks, the small, trying things which come to mar the perfectness of even the most sheltered life, and which are scattered broadcast over the path of the working woman.

Once on a crowded street car, I met a delicate woman, her hair touched with gray, and she was standing. She was not tall enough to hold a strap, but was valiantly trying to keep her footing. A lurch of the car threw her against a burly fellow, and he scowled at her. With one of the sweetest and most winning smiles I ever saw, she looked up at him. "I beg your pardon," she said. The man's face grew red, and he looked embarrassed for a moment, then he said, "It's

—Russell H. Douglas

me that should beg yours, ma'am: I am sorry I was cross." After a while we both got a seat, and I said to her: "Doesn't it annoy you to see such rudeness, and lack of courtesy as there is, for instance, on this car?" She smiled again and said, "My dear, I can not afford to let myself get annoyed over anything; I must earn my living in this cross, old world, and I must do a bit of coaxing, and it's pleasanter than scolding; don't you think so?" There she had it. Coaxing is better than scolding. "A smile will always bring one more than a frown," is a saying trite and old, but it is true.

One business man had a stenographer fourteen years. She came into his office when he was a young lawyer and she a green, inexperienced girl. For fourteen years she followed the upward tide of his success, until she knew the detail work as only a thoroughly interested person would know it. She was thirty-three years old, and she had worked hard and long. One day she came into his private office, and told her employer that she was going to leave him, as she was going to be married, and she suggested getting her successor, so that she might help her to become adjusted. Her employer quietly agreed with her suggestions, and told her to find some one to take her place, and then he said to her: "Miss Jones, you have been part of this office, and part of the success of this business since it started. I may not have seemed as appreciative as I might a great many times, but I want you to know I have understood your worth, and in selecting a successor there is just one of your traits I must insist upon, absolutely."

"And that is?"

"She must be pleasant—you have smoothed the rough places more times than you will ever know by being pleasant in the face of things where it would have been excusable to have been otherwise, and many a time I know it has been a struggle, but I respected you the more because I knew that it was not always easy." Have you ever heard of a recommendation you would rather have than that one?

If there is one thing that will help more than another in gaining this sweetness, it is unselfish little things you can learn to do for those with whom you come in contact. You meet persons in your daily life to whom just a smile means much. Just look about you and see the sad, tired faces, and think how many hard, sad things crowd into every life. Think how little one can do to lighten the burden, and yet how much that little helps.

There was a woman whom I had seen going to and fro, every day for several years. Sometimes I had wondered about her; she had an air

of refinement, a wonderfully winning smile, and the once or twice I had heard her voice, it sounded so sweet and womanly, I quite longed for an occasion to speak to her. One day it came, and I learned that she was a business woman who was supporting a widowed, invalid sister and her two children, besides a crippled child she had adopted. Her life had been full of tragedy, for she felt that the accident which crippled the child had been indirectly her fault, and to a tender heart nothing could hurt more than that. After a hard, and often worrisome day, she would go home smiling, with some bit of bright news of the outside world for her "shut-ins", as she called them, giving of her individuality freely and fully. There are heroes and heroines in the world of every-day folk, and the outward and visible sign is often a bright and cheery smile!

The woman upon whose tombstone were engraved the words: "She was always pleasant," may have been a mother, living in the shelter of a home, caring for those whom she loved and who loved her; or she may have been a business woman, out in the big world of men, making her own way, with no one to stand between her and the unpleasant things of life, but whichever she was, she had trained herself to smile, to see the bright side of things, to sympathize, and to give out the milk of human kindness; in short, she had mastered the art of "keeping sweet."

(Selected from the *Gospel Trumpet* 1912.)

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## Leonard Fell and the Highwayman

Leonard Fell, returning from meeting one Sunday evening, and passing along a solitary road, was suddenly attacked by a highwayman, who, seizing the bridle rein, demanded, "Your money or your life." The young man immediately took out his purse and handed it to him. As he did so the robber, seeing seals and watch chain, became bolder and presenting his pistol again, demanded, "Your watch or your life." The watch was immediately given him. Emboldened still more by this, and thinking he had only a coward to deal with, he became still bolder, and presenting his pistol again, said, "Your horse or your life." The young man dismounted, and the robber mounted the horse and would have ridden off, but Leonard Fell took hold of the bridle rein, and began to expostulate with him on his sinful course, preaching to him "of righteousness, temperance, and judgment."

Again the pistol was presented with the threat, "If you do not stop, you are a dead man." But without paying any regard to this

threat, our young friend continued his earnest words of rebuke and exhortation, to the amazement of the robber, who exclaimed: "I thought you were a coward — you gave me your money, your watch and your horse to save your life; and now that you have nothing more to lose, you risk it by standing there preaching to me."

Leonard Fell's reply is worthy of being written in letters of gold.

**"Though I would not risk my life to save my money, my watch, or my horse, yet I would risk it to save thy soul."**

The man dropped his pistol, listened to the words of the young preacher, dismounted, restored all he had taken from him, and with tears of contrition confessed his sin, gave a sad detail of his past life, and the circumstances that had led him to such a course. He told how he had taken to drinking, lost his work and his character, and when going downhill, found everyone ready to give him a kick; so he had gone from bad to worse until, with a sickly wife and starving family, he had been driven to his present life.

Leonard Fell gave him his address and promised to provide him with work if he would forsake his evil ways and abstain from liquor. He did so, and became a changed character, and henceforth lived industriously and honestly. How much better than if the life of either had been sacrificed.

—Selected

### Be Patient and Work

"Patience does not mean indifference. We may work and trust and wait, but we ought not to be idle or careless while waiting."

—Gail Hamilton

(From the July *Faith and Victory*, page 14.)

Jesus' own words in Luke 8:15 tell of those who heard and kept the word, "and bring forth fruit with patience." The sowing brings its harvest yield only after patient working.

We should encourage and restore those who fail, that if measured and returned to God's Word they can bring forth fruit with patience. "Patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer," Romans 12:12.

"But that on the good ground are they, which in an honest and good heart, having heard the word, keep it, and bring forth fruit with patience." Luke 8:15. If we will work for our heart to be the good ground, the seed sown will "bare fruit an hundredfold." Luke 8:8.

"For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise." Hebrews 10:36.

"Be patient therefore, brethren." James 5.7.

—Nelson Doolittle

### Sanctification According to James

James, who was the Lord's brother, wrote his book to Christians. He was trying to help them understand sanctification.

"But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing." James 1:4. When he mentioned "perfect", he was referring to heart perfection or entire sanctification.

"A double minded man is unstable in all his ways." James 1:8. A double minded man is a saved or justified person. They have the spiritual mind and the carnal mind. The carnal mind is to remain inactive until they are sanctified and rid of it. The power of God holds it in check. A sinner only has the carnal mind. A sanctified person only has the spiritual mind. Therefore, the only person that could be double minded is a justified person. "Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; [first work] and purify your hearts, [second work] ye double minded." James 4:8.

—Juanita Blankenship

### What Some Men Have Said About Humility . . .

"The doctrines of grace humble man without degrading, and exalt without inflating him."

—Charles Hodge

"They that know God will be humble; they that know themselves cannot be proud."

—John Flavel

"It is no great thing to be humble when you are brought low; but to be humble when you are praised is a great and rare attainment."

—Bernard

"There is many a wounded heart without a contrite spirit. The ice may be broken into a thousand pieces but it is ice still. But expose it to the beams of the sun of righteousness, and then it will melt."

—Thomas Middleton

"To be humble to superiors, is duty; to equals, is courtesy; to inferiors, is nobleness; and to all, safety; it being a virtue that, for all its lowliness, commandeth those it stoops to."

—Thomas Moore

"Humility is not a weak and timid quality; it must be carefully distinguished from a groveling spirit. There is such a thing as an honest pride and self-respect. Though we may be servants to all, we should be servile to none."

—E. H. Chapin

"Humility must be produced in a proper order. Some people decide they will be humble so that they will think little of themselves. The truly humble think little of themselves and then comes humility."

—Wayne Murphey

## FAITH AND VICTORY

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This publication teaches salvation from all sin, sanctification for believers, unity and oneness for which Jesus prayed as recorded in John 17:21, and manifested by the apostles and believers after Pentecost. By God's grace we teach, preach, and practice the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ—the same gospel that Peter, John, and Paul preached, taught, and practiced, including divine healing for 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. Cooperation of our readers is solicited, and will be appreciated in any way as 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.

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

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## EDITORIALS

As is our custom, we did not print an August issue of the *Faith and Victory*, so it seems a long time since we have shared with you the good news of Jesus Christ. It is a joy for us to be able to print the testimonies, articles, notices and other information that concern the people of God.

The Lord has been faithful to provide for the needs here at the Print Shop. We want to thank each one who has sent offerings and purchased literature to distribute. It enables us to keep the presses going.

We have reprinted several books lately that we keep in regular stock, and there are more that await printing. Most notably is the *Evening Light Songs*. Our stock is very low at the present time. However, before we will be able to reprint them we must order 5,000 pounds of paper which will be used entirely for this job alone.

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The Path of Life Christian School here at Guthrie is preparing to begin its ninth year of operation. We continue to be thankful for the nice school building which was completed last year. Various ones concerned with its operation are endeavoring to make the sacrifices that were put into the building of it count in the lives of the children. Continue to uphold the Church Schools which will be operating this year with your prayers.

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We have been notified of the approaching marriage of Sis. Pearlene Whitson of Jasper, AL, to Bro. Emmett Gerald, of Okla. City, OK. Lord willing the ceremony will take place Aug. 31, in the chapel which the saints have recently purchased in the small community of Enterprise, Alabama.

Also planning to marry are Cecil Benson, of the Guthrie congregation, and Jeanie Dollins. They have set their date for Oct. 18, in the Springfield, Mo, chapel, where Jeanie attends services. We wish both couples God's blessing and many fulfilling years together.

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"But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint." Isa. 40:31. We all would like to run in our experience and we can do that when everything is smooth, but there will be times when we will just have to walk. God does have grace for us to walk no matter what difficulties we face. We

can always be learning and progressing. We should never assume the attitude of the group to whom this maxim is accredited. "It is better to walk than to run, it is better to stand than to walk; it is better to sit than to stand and it is better to lie than to sit." In this spiritual life this attitude would bring about death.

Here is the provision that God has made that enables us to run and not be weary, walk and not faint. "And having your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace." God has provided shoes for His children. How hurtful it is and how weary we become when we have to walk on rocks and other sharp objects with our bare feet. Shoes are a real blessing that we often take for granted. Having one's feet shod with the gospel of peace is a blessed thing also. It shields us from many injurious things in life. Gospel shoes are soft, comfortable, tailor made and long lasting. Jesus trod this earth and He knows exactly what we need to shield us from its hazards.

They are soft in that it is a gospel of peace. God will speak peace to the soul of a sinner and keep him in perfect peace. It is a comfortable situation to be in peace. We must always watch for the enemy, but we can rest in God. This will also bring peace with our fellow man. We are instructed to, "as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men." Heb. 12:18. Some people have a Christian profession which is like shoes that are rigid. Their profession and zeal always make them hurt, which in turn makes them grumpy instead of peaceful. They are ill-fitted and not equipped to really run the race that is before them.

These shoes, the gospel, are so endurable that we can "tread upon the lion and adder: the young lion and the dragon shalt thou trample under feet." Ps. 91:13. This denotes victory over the devil no matter what form he takes. The shoes God gives are sure footed. He sets us on a high and holy plane and His shoes will keep us there. We can attain the mountain top experience of salvation without worrying about falling from grace. These shoes are made to stand hard work in the harvest fields of God and one need not worry about them wearing out or becoming scuffed. The gospel does not lose its shine when fitted to a working saint, but it brings glory to both the saint and to the gospel. They complement each other.

When we have the gospel of Christ we can then "run with patience the race that is set before us." Heb. 12:1. It would seem that running and patience are contradictory terms. Yet we find in the gospel that there is great wisdom in knowing how to run. Patience means endur-

ance. It is the wise who know how to endure from one day to the next.

It is miserable to be without the gospel. The sinner must bear the discomforts of life and not only that, but he is always having to kick against the pricks. He needs this salvation that will keep him clean and free of the cuts and bruises of sin. "How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation; that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth!" Isa. 52:7.

—Wayne Murphey

#### FUND STARTED

Due to a burden that has been expressed to us by several, there has been a fund started with which to purchase Bro. Ed Wilson a new or a dependable car. Bro. Ed, who lives in Okla. City, and is a minister of the gospel, could use a better car in spreading the gospel. If you feel a burden to help with this need, send your donations to: Bro. Richard Madden, 6250 S. 97th W. Avenue, Sapulpa, OK 74066.

—Bro. Richard Madden

### MEETING REPORTS AND NOTICES

#### MISSOURI STATE CAMP MEETING REPORT

Another state camp meeting at Myrtle, MO is now in history. Although the attendance was quite small this year we are glad to report that the Lord was here. The messages which went forth were very timely and edifying to the saints. A sweet spirit prevailed in the meeting and the Lord was faithful to deal with souls. The attendance of all who came was appreciated and we trust that each one carried something home with them by which they may profit eternally.

—Harlan Sorrell

#### FRESNO CAMP MEETING REPORT

The Fresno saints are still rejoicing over the blessings of God during our annual camp meeting that just closed.

God was so faithful to us, as usual, giving out His Word in warnings to the lost to prepare for eternity, and encouraging His people to be faithful and endure to the end. We were reminded to watch and pray, redeeming the time, since there is no other business half as important as the taking care of our souls.

We can see on every hand the end is near. Our meetings seem to reveal to us that even the gleanings time is almost over. But let us pray

earnestly that even yet many more will be saved.

We appreciated Brother and Sister Woodrow Warren of Oklahoma who labored so faithfully in our meeting. Also other ministers and helpers from our home state who helped carry the burden of the meeting.

May God richly bless each one. Continue to remember us here in Fresno in your prayers.

—Lavern Moles

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#### WEST GERMANY MEETING REPORT

We greet all the dear saints in the precious name of Jesus! Truly He is providing us with tender, loving care and much peace and victory in this the most perilous of times. We are thankful to God that with great joy we can report on our trip to Germany. Bro. and Sis. Alfons Oppel, our co-laborers and myself, felt very much directed of the Lord to go to have meeting with the saints there. We found them to be another part of God's true, holy remnant, standing for the truth of this "evening light." They speak no English so Bro. Oppel was the interpreter for the messages. We preached every night except one and twice on Sunday of the eleven days we were there. God richly blessed our labors and the truth was received with tears of joy as many sought help and were stirred by the Word.

Most all of these saints were born, brought up and lived most of their lives under communist rule in Russia. They attended Church of God meetings there and were much persecuted, but have stood true and have kept the faith "once delivered to the saints." They are in contact with other saints and congregations in Russia and ask our prayers for those still oppressed on the other side of the "Iron Curtain." We need to take this prayer request to heart that these dear saints will have the power of God that their faith fail not and that they be encouraged. We brought home with us copies of both the song book they use in Germany and one of the song books the "evening light" saints use in Russia. In these song books are the same songs we sing out of our *Evening Light Songs* book. It touches our heart to know that these blessed songs, containing so much biblical truth and comfort, are being sung amidst much persecution in communist Russia. The saints in Germany tell of numerous congregations of the Church of God they know of personally in Russia who are holding the standard of truth. They send their greetings to us from these saints in Russia as well as their own greetings from West Germany.

We surely appreciated spending time with the saints in Europe on this trip and their won-

derful hospitality and are hoping to make another such journey as God opens the door. Pray for the three congregations in Germany. Their prayer request to the Church in America is found in 2 Thess. 3:1, "Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may have free course, and be glorified even as it is with you."

Saved by His blood, —Bro. Danny Layne

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#### CHILLIWACK, B.C., CANADA MEETING REPORT

We are thankful to the Lord for His faithfulness to us once again for a soul-stirring camp meeting. There were a number of special needs met and souls touched by the gospel. We appreciate the unified effort for outreach and also for the ministers that felt burdened to come and support the meeting. The Lord has blessed with the financial need every year thus far and we are grateful for all the offerings received. We pray that the following years will accomplish even greater things for God. Please remember the work here.

Sincerely yours, —Bro. and Sis. Snell

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#### TULSA, OK CAMP MEETING REPORT

Our camp meeting in Tulsa, June thirteenth through the twenty second was a blessing to us. Thanks to all that came and all that helped in the meeting.

May God bless you richly.

—Sis. Eva Hardman

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#### WICHITA MEETING NOTICE

Wichita has set its Fall 1986 meeting for Sept. 19-28. We want the meeting to be all to the glory of God. We are praying for Him to send the ministers of His choice with burdens for the present needs. We are asking Him to lead and anoint everything that goes forth in every service. We want so much to see souls delivered and saved to the uttermost. We need some serious afflictions healed and desire to see it done in this meeting.

We need the great power of God manifested in every way and mean to pray earnestly that He will truly send the power down. Praise His dear name! We pray God will send helpers and ones who need help as He sees fit. May our faith together bring great victory.

The chapel is located at 1701 N. Ash. For needed information you may contact: Bro. Keith Marsh, (316) 722-8114; Bro. Raymond Johnson, (316) 264-5803 or Bro. Lewis Williams, (316) 264-8481.

—Sis. Shirley Knight

**FT. LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA REVIVAL**

The congregation at Ft. Lauderdale has announced that, Lord willing, they will have a revival meeting beginning September 28, and continuing through Oct. 5, 1986. There will be meeting each night and on Saturday night, Oct. 4th, there will be a singing.

For more information, contact Bro. Robert McIntyre, whose telephone number is: (305) 233-2166, or Sis. Mattie Savage, (305) 763-8690.

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**AUTUMN GOSPEL SINGING AT MYRTLE, MO**

We extend a hearty invitation to all to come and worship the Lord with us in holy song on Saturday evening, October 4. All-day services will follow on Sunday, October 5, 1986. Pray that the presence of the Lord will enrich each service by the anointing of the Holy Spirit.

—Harlan Sorrell

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**NOWATA, OKLAHOMA REVIVAL**

It has been announced that, Lord willing, a revival will be held in the Church of God chapel at Nowata, OK. It will begin on October 6, 1986, and last as long as the Lord leads. There will be services nightly at 7:30. The chapel address is: 201 S. Cedar. This is located on the corner of Fairview and Cedar, which is two blocks west of Highway 169. For more information, contact Bro. Clarence Fry, P.O. Box 145, Nowata, OK 74048. Telephone (918) 273-3890.

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**SHELL LAKE, WISCONSIN FALL MEETING**

The Shell Lake, Wisconsin fall meeting of the Church of God will be held, Lord willing, October 8th through the 12th. A hearty welcome is extended to all to attend this meeting. We are trusting the Lord to send in the workers. Come praying for a profitable meeting.

Sleeping arrangements will be made for all who attend.

For further information, contact Bro. Duane LaVeau, Rt. 1, Box 102, Shell Lake, WI 54871, Phone (715) 468-2798.

In His love, —Sis. Janie Woodruff

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**HOLLY HILL, SC CAMP MEETING**

Lord willing, there will be a camp meeting held at Holly Hill, South Carolina, beginning October 19 through the 26. We are extending a hearty welcome to all that would like to attend. Pray that God will send ministers of His choosing.

For more information, contact Bro. Utson Platt, Rt. 1, Box 34, Holly Hill, SC 29059.

**Prayer Requests**

VA—"I would like to request prayer for my brother. He has a heart condition and needs to be delivered from smoking. Pray for his deliverance."

—Wilma Bivens

MD—"Please have prayer for my healing, also for a grandson who needs help so much."

—Marie Taylor

CA—"Please remember Brother and Sister Charles Hall, they need healing."

IN—"My son was operated on July 1st. They think they got all the cancer but he is awful sick. Still remember him that God will save and heal him. Also my other children and grandchildren need God."

—Sis. Dessie Wilson

CA—"Remember a young person whom I only know by the name, Brenda."

—Melia Viser

MO—"Please pray for me and my sister."

—G. Richey

SC—"Pray for our great-granddaughter."

—Utson Platt

MS—"I have some very urgent requests."

—Mrs. Noel Napp

OH—"I have some urgent requests."

—Mary Vice

CA—"Pray for my mother for soul, body and mind."

—Sis. Patterson

CA—"Please have 'special prayer for my daughter, Brenda, there is a lump on her neck.'"

—Doris Pihaylic

SC—"Pray for me, I have had dizziness and am sick."

—L. Scott

OH—"Please remember me and my family in prayer."

—Janice Shaw

MO—"Remember us when you pray—Roy needs special help from God."

—Ruby Blanchard

TN—"Pray for me I have high blood pressure."

—Helen Derrick

LA—"I have several urgent requests."

—Effie Miller

LA—"Pray with me for some urgent requests."

—Gladys Cashio

MI—"Sis. Carman Simpson needs healing so she can take care of her family, also there are burdens to pray about. My cousin needs prayer, she has cancer."

—Olive Gettersen

TX—"We are saved but have health problems. Please remember us in prayer."

—Jim and Sue Campbell

FL—"Please remember my husband and children."

—Bonnie Riley

OK—"Please pray for me, I am sorely afflicted."

—L. Duvall

FL—"Please pray for me and Cheryl, my daughter—at this time we have some heavy burdens."

—Helen Underdown

Please remember Sis. Hiles in Columbus,

Ohio. She is aged, eyesight and hearing bad. Ask God to comfort and bless her. So many aged saints need special help from God.

—Maybelle Pruitt

## FOREIGN MISSION REPORTS

From Mexico . . .

July 31—Dear Saints: I greet you in the holy and precious name which is above all names, desiring that this finds you in good health and enjoying the rich blessings of God which is my desire and prayer.

We thank the Lord for the precious salvation and sanctification of our souls. To me it is a great privilege to be saved through God's mercy and to have Christ reigning in my heart, glory to God, where there is no division, organization nor human direction, but the Holy Spirit of God.

Thank God for His Word which calls all to holiness, unity, humility and obedience. If we do this we will be with God for all eternity. (Rev. 22:14-20 and Titus 2:12-14.) Thank the Lord for His Word. May we be faithful. Amen.

Beloved Brethren, we thank the Lord for the blessings He has poured out on the work and for the camp meeting we had which was a great blessing. Although few people came, the glory of God was manifest. Only one soul came for salvation and healing. May we pray much for her.

God can do everything. We have a new family coming here now. They seem very nice and very humble, but my desire is that they will get the Lord in their hearts. God is still adding members to His Church every day. We are working for the work of God and having Bible studies in the afternoons, giving out what God has given us.

Appreciated brethren, pray much for me and my family that we can pastor the flock of God, administering the Word of God in love, humility and holiness.

Many thanks for the offering for the work of God. May the Lord bless you richly, spiritually and materially.

Greetings from yours in the Lord,

—Mayarino Escobar and family.

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From the Philippines . . .

July 15—Dear Brother George Hammond, Wayne Murphey and Sister Maybelle Pruitt: Greetings to you all in Jesus' wonderful and precious name.

Brothers and sisters, I am always thanking our Lord for the graces and blessing He has

given me, together with the *Faith and Victory* paper that I received from you. I thank you so much.

Our work in the church is going fine and well. During our services everyone devotedly prays and we discuss so many things during our Bible study.

In our preaching time we have gone to Kimaya, 15 kilometers from Gingong. We met Brother Bacheara, Brother and Sister Sabunol and family. We have to go there frequently for these souls need my help. Our brothers and sisters there in Kimaya would like to open a church there so for their likes and needs I plan to do so.

After our services in the morning here in Gingong we will then move to Kimaya in the afternoon. Many of our brothers and sisters there were very eager to hear words of God. There is always a big crowd when ever we go there. For our sacrifices in the work, God is always with us and answers all our needs in life. Praise God.

Your brother in the Church,

—N. Capuyan

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From India . . .

July 10—Our dearly beloved elder sister Maybelle Pruitt, Bro. Wayne Murphey, other dear ones in the Print Shop and the Saints scattered abroad: Greetings to you all again in the glorious name of Jesus Christ. We pray for the blessings of the national camp meeting this year. We had a blessed monthly meeting and ministers meeting at Karikkom last week. Many in the church are suffering from influenza and some kind of an eye disease.

Beloved, we are not called to a life of convenience, but we are called to a life of commitment. On the paths of Christian discipleship, we often come across storms one after another. Adversity might follow adversity. All of a sudden we might run into rough weather, but these are times to prove our trust in the Lord. Do not forget that "the trial of our faith being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honor and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ." I Peter 1:7. Our faith strikes deep roots only in rough weather. Let the spirit of Job be ours. He proclaims from the deep pit of afflictions "though he slay me yet will I trust in Him." Job 13:15. "Now thanks be unto God who always causeth us to triumph in Christ." 2 Cor. 2:14. Let us see through the eyes of prayers every day.

Yours in Him,

—John Varghese



From Bendel State, Nigeria . . .

June 30—Dear Sis. Maybelle Pruitt and the Saints of God: Greetings in the precious name of the Lord Jesus; the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords. Praise Him forever!

Thanks a lot for bearing us in mind and writing regularly to encourage the Saints of this way. It does in fact strengthen us to put ourselves in array firmly against Babylon round about. The bow is being bent to shoot at falsehood steadfastly, sparing no arrow. The Word of God is fire to devour the wood.

Hands are on the plough steadily. Hindrances and hardship could not prevent the commissioned of the Lord from ensuring a steady adhesion to the wonderful soul saving ministry of God's dear Son. A team of brethren from Kwale, Okpai and Umuolu footed through the muddy, slippery, pot-hole road of seventeen miles distance to Akarai-Obodo for open air evangelistic meeting of a week duration. Finding the outcome most encouraging, a new work has to be started there. Praise the Lord.

This writer and three others from Kwale were at Tombia on June 7th on a scheduled visit to hold an important business meeting with representatives from other Church of God congregations who also availed themselves at Tombia as summoned. Leaving Tombia on June 8th, we went to Warri in Bendel State to worship with and strengthen the brethren of that congregation. All were exceedingly joyous to have us in their midst. The Warri congregation is lively and promising.

Three brothers and a sister were at Kwale from Benin City to demand visit of this writer to them. This meant launching once again into the deep at Benin City. The Church of God became practically non-existent in Benin City since twenty years ago as a result of the Nigerian Civil War. We shall in His name, launch into the deep and let down the net at Benin City in a short while.

The Lord has arrived swiftly through His Saints in the U.S. to redeem His people from their plight of utter starvation, caused by flood and crop disease which wiped away all the crops planted individually and collectively in our farms of the 1985/86 season. Immense thanks to the Saints for enlisting to us their sympathy. There will be remarkable improvement as the Lord continues to care through His Saints.

Yours in His service, —Titus U.E. Enu

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

From Lagos, Nigeria . . .

Aug. 8—Dear Sir/Madam in Christ: I received your letter today and want to thank you

for taking the time to write. I greet you and all the dear Saints everywhere in America in particular, and the world in general, in the all wonderful name of Jesus.

I presume all is well at the Print Shop, and the workers there are doing fine. As for me, I am happy in the Lord. I never enjoyed the dear Lord more in my life than I do right now in this awful wicked time. Praise the Lord.

I want to leave a request. Please pray for my body, my entire family and my country Nigeria. I will be happy to receive these prayers in Jesus' name.

May God continue to bless your work.

Yours in Christ's love, —Donatus Adoga

—————o—————

### From the Mailbox . . .

CA—Faith Publishing House: We are sending you a love offering. We love you, the saints of God and the work you are doing. We must do what we can for time is passing fast.

Yours in Christ Jesus,—Ed and Ruth Upton

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

OK—Dear Sister Maybelle, Brother Wayne and saints in Jesus: Greetings to all one more time from this side of eternity.

We are full of praise and gratitude to our heavenly Father, our Savior Jesus and the wonderful Holy Ghost, for full salvation. Praise God.

We are under heavy burdens, praying much, knowing that God cannot fail His Word or His saints. We plead all your needs there from the youngest to the oldest.

Yours in Him, —Sis. Ada Scanlon

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

LA—My Dear Friends in the Lord: It has been quite some time since you have heard from me, but I haven't missed one *Faith and Victory*, which is the next best reading to the Bible. I really enjoy reading it.

The reason you haven't heard from me, I have been down for five years with some kind of sickness. I am, and have been, so weak I can hardly walk . . . I am asking you dear people to please pray for me.

Your Sister in Christ, —Grace Lee

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

CA—Sincere greetings to the saints of God everywhere: I am so thankful to be saved. I have not been able to attend services like I desire, but my whole aim is striving to please the Lord. He is so good.

Just last week a young man was about to go some place that it might not have been wise for

him to go. I was very burdened about it, so I prayed and asked God to do something about it, and this trip was miraculously cancelled. Thank God.

Pray that we all will continue to live according to the way that God would have us to live and show sincere love to every one.

Love, —Sis. Corene Foster

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

WA—Dear Saints of the Lord's Print Shop: Greetings of love in Jesus' dear name. We are thankful to Him for all He does for us daily. We feel so unworthy of His blessings to us. There have been so many times over the years He has come to our rescue. He has brought us through many rough places. I surely love Him and want to please Him with my life. We trust you are all well. We pray daily for the work.

Christian love, —Sister Violet Thomas

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

WV—Dear Sis. Pruitt and all Saints: Greetings of love in Jesus' dear name; the name above every name, the only name whereby we can be saved. I thank Him for His saving, keeping and healing power. I want to obey His every command and get closer to Him each day. It seems that the world is getting more wicked as time goes on.

I'm so thankful for the Church of God and the Light of the Church. I have so many things to thank Him for, I can't count them. Although we are isolated and don't get to go to service too often, I try to be worthy of His love and goodness to me. Do pray for us and our family as we pray for all at the Print Shop.

Much Christian love,—Sis. Erma Clevenger

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

SC—Dear Saints at the Print Shop and all the dear Saints: Greetings in Jesus' dear name. We are thankful that we can report that the Lord is still merciful and still blessing us here at Holly Hill, SC, but the enemy is still working. We are thankful that God said one saint can chase a thousand and two ten thousand (See Lev. 26:8).

May God richly bless you all as you work. I love the *Faith and Victory* paper. I like to hear what God is doing for His people.

We are desiring much prayer from all of God's children.

Yours in Christ, —Utson Platt

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

NJ—Dear Brothers and Sisters at the *Faith and Victory* Print Shop: We thank you very much for sending us the *Faith and Victory* paper in good shape. The Lord has been such a

comfort to me since the loss of my dear son. He has led us and kept us . . .

Sincerely yours,

—Wilhelm and Martha Kelm

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

OH—Dear Brothers and Sisters: Greetings in the name of Jesus. I am still saved and trusting the Lord for my health. I hope you are all well. I am still reading the *Faith and Victory* paper and I love it.

—Willie Gibson

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

CA—Dear Sister Pruitt, Brother Murphey, and good, faithful workers: Please remember my husband who is overcoming a very bad case of illness. I am much weaker than usual. My trust is in our beloved Jesus. Please remember us once again as we remember you all there daily.

Yours Sister in Him, —Margaret Hall

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

AL—Dear Brother and Sister in the Lord: I receive your paper *Faith and Victory*. It is wonderful. It is good truth in it. Nothing but the Word is going to stand.

Please pray for my son. He is out of fellowship with the Lord. I have been fasting some. Help me pray he will be saved. I am a widow woman. I need help that only God can give. Thank Jesus for the truth.

Love your staff, —Mrs. Jeanette Mooney

—————o—————

### Testimonies and Answers to Prayer

OK—Dearest Sis. Maybelle and Workers in the Lord's Print Shop: Greetings of love in Jesus' dear name.

I feel impressed to send in my testimony of how God blessed me in my soul and body.

For nine months I have been sorely afflicted with severe pain in my right limb from my foot up to the knee. I have suffered untold misery. I have favored the right limb so much that the left one began to give down. The Saints anointed and prayed for me.

On July 13, God touched my body. I got up and was able to walk on my own. I thanked and praised God that morning, and I am still praising Him for His saving grace and healing power.

I wish to thank all the Saints for your prayers, love and concern for me.

Your Sister in Christ, —Theresa Gaines

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

OH—My Dear Beloved Brother and Sisters in the Lord: I Hope you all are well in soul and body. Today leaves me feeling good in my soul and body.

He is just the same today. I want to testify how the Lord wonderfully healed my body. I came home from work and I began to have severe pains in my left side. I couldn't speak or move. So I called on my Jesus and He immediately touched my body and healed me. Praise God. He said, "Peace be still." Mark 4:39. All praise to God. No man can do what my God did.

Continue to pray for me and family, also the work here in Sandusky. Our pastor, Brother and Sister Bruner, are so faithful. We really appreciate them and their labor here.

Christian love, —Sis. Mattie Green

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

OR—I send greetings of Christian love to all saints who read this. I am home again after flying many miles to the Monark Camp Meeting. Lucille Trimble and I were met at the Oklahoma City airport by Sister Betty Smith and Bro. Merrill Smith's wife on July 15th and driven to the Golden Rule Home. We so enjoyed seeing dear Sister Stover and many of the saints there. We toured the home and apartments and were impressed by all we saw. We enjoyed eating at the dining hall, everyone really made us feel welcome.

We spent two days in nice air conditioned rooms. Lucille stayed with Sister Stover whom we really enjoyed seeing again.

Sis. Janyce Porter drove us to Monark on Saturday. We saw many of the dear saints we had not seen for a long time and found them rejoicing in God's services. The messages were uplifting and went forth with power. I am sure much good was done. One night the altar was lined with people seeking sanctification and a closer walk with God. Some came for salvation during the meeting. Truly we sat in heavenly places in Christ Jesus—Heaven will be like that only there will be no parting anymore.

I developed a bad case of gout near the end of the meeting in my left foot. Since I have returned home it is improving through prayer. I thank God who always causes us to triumph.

Christian love, —Sister Grace Jones

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

TN—Dear Brother Murphey and Co-workers: Greetings from East TN in the lovely name of Jesus, our Lord and Saviour.

We are truly thankful for what the Lord has done, and is continuing to do for us. Especially for my wife, Margaret, who had a severe stroke last February.

Her recovery has been wonderful; very near miraculous. Her positive, cheerful and cooperative spirit has been such a blessing to all concerned.

We want to thank all of you and the people of God everywhere, both far and near, for the many prayers in her behalf.

The Lord has wonderfully blessed in her healing and good recovery thus far, and to Him we give the glory, praise and honor. What a mighty God we serve. His love, mercy and grace are ever present, and are as eternal as He is; always the same, faithful, helpful and concerned about our every need.

We desire a continued interest in your prayers. May God bless and encourage each of you in the good spiritual work and its outreach being done there at the Publishing House.

With Christian love to all,

—Charles B. Williams

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

MO—Dear Saints: Greetings in the Lord. It was so nice seeing the saints at the Monark Camp Meeting.

I want to testify how the Lord healed me. In June I had trouble with my sciatic nerve, I guess it was, and could hardly walk because of the pain and suffering. I was anointed and prayed for. I suffered several days after that. Jean Garret called Sis. Eck and others were praying for me. On Wednesday night I began to amend. It was wonderful to sleep for an hour at a time, but even more wonderful when the Lord helped me to sleep all night. Praise His dear name. He is so good to all of us. I thank the saints for praying for me.

Remember us here at Webb City. We desire to please the Lord and make heaven our home.

We surely appreciate the *Faith and Victory* and you dear ones who print it for us.

Sincerely, —Betty Cash

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

KS—Dear Saints everywhere: I would like to send my testimony in. It has been a long time since I have. I love all the dear precious saints everywhere. I feel so encouraged to tell all, I appreciate all the one's who are serving the Lord. I think of the people, even families, who are living in turmoil and confusion, they do not have the soul rest that God has for us. We should have gratitude in our hearts for the right teaching of God's Word. We say we have the truth, but what counts is what we do with the truth. I thank the Lord daily that we have the privilege of serving Him thus far in freedom and in spirit.

I want to keep the fruits of the Spirit and stay hid away with Christ. I want to keep heaven in view.

I can rejoice that through much prayer and determination, that after two years of shingles

the Lord has taken the pain away. When I was so bad Bro. Merrill Smith came to my home. He anointed me and prayed the prayer of faith. I had been suffering so much till then; but after that it began to dry slowly and the pain left me. I never did see a doctor so what was done the Lord did. I surely thanked Him so many times for it. I am His whether I die or live. I do thank the ones who pray for me. I covet all your prayers.

Your Sister in Christ, —Marie Miller

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

OK—Dear Saints: Greetings in Jesus' dear precious name. I am glad I can still report victory in my soul, and am happy in the Lord. I appreciate God's great love toward me, who gave His Son Jesus to come down to an old sinful world, and die on the cross, and make it possible for us to live a pure holy life all the days of our life.

I am so thankful that His dying wasn't in vain in my case. I love the Lord. He has done so much for me. I want to tell of His goodness. Isaiah 12:4b tells us to declare His doings among the people, make mention that His name is exalted. Surely, His name is worthy to be praised. I have been somewhat slow about writing my testimony in the paper. God has been so good to me. I thank Him for the many times He came to my rescue.

One of my legs was badly injured some years ago in a car accident. At times, it has given me some trouble. In the summer during the hot weather, it seems to give me the most trouble. This summer, during the month of June, inflammation set up in it, causing me to become very uncomfortable and begin to make me sick. But God in His great love looked down on me and gave me relief. Praise the Lord.

I thank all the saints for their prayers, letters, and the love that was manifested toward me. I also thank the saints for their prayers concerning my husband. He still needs prayer for both his soul and body.

As much as God has proven His love to me, I mean to prove mine to Him by precept and example. I covet your prayers.

Sincerely, —Christine Warren

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

OK—Dear Bro. Murphey, Faithful Workers and Saints everywhere: Yesterday the Lord sent some warriors to help us wage this warfare here in prison. Bro. and Sis. Madden, Bro. and Sis. Busbee and other dear saints came to be with us in a service. The Lord blessed with beautiful songs, testimonies and preaching of the Word. I am most thankful to these dear ones and all

who have been praying and supporting the effort here.

Prison is a terrible experience. The loss of one's freedom is a tragedy indescribable. However, the One that stood with Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego in the fire, stands by me! It would take too much space here to tell of the many times Christ stood between me and the evil that Satan designed against me! Lies and conspiracies have come to naught these eight years. Yes, Jesus is real today! Praise His holy name.

I pray He will bless each one that reads this to know He will not forsake His trusting children!

The wind may blow and storm clouds arise but He that stilled the tempest years ago, stands by us today! Oh, praise His holy name.

Yours in the heat of the battle,

—Bro. Elbert Johnson

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

CA—I am a 29 year old, divorced, mother of three. My children are 6, 4, and 5 months. I began using and abusing drugs and alcohol at age 13. By 18 I was addicted to Heroin. At 19, I was convicted of burglary, which is what I did to support my habit. I spent 8 months at the California Rehabilitation Center, which is a minimum security prison designed for addicts. When I was released, I vowed never again to use heroin.

After my marriage in 1979, I pretty much cleaned up, mainly just smoking pot, and occasionally, a "line" or two of cocaine and a little alcohol. In 1984, when my marriage broke up, my two children and I moved into a low-income apartment complex. Everyone here was on welfare and/or dealing drugs. Soon I was introduced to snorting crank, an amphetamine. What started out as a little "fun" and partying, doing a couple of "lines" to celebrate New Year's Eve, within two months had turned into a daily habit of ½ to ¾ of a gram a day. I became totally withdrawn. I would lock myself in my room and shoot dope all day and night.

Tiring of crank, I went back to Heroin. When I would start picking up a habit from the heroin, I would go back to crank. It was not fun anymore. No matter how much dope I did, there was no peace. I was so unhappy! Dear God, would this insanity ever end?

Finally on July 1st, my children and I moved to my parents, leaving this lifestyle I hate.

God is the only One who can help and bring peace. I thank God for the strength He has given me to fight this battle. As of writing this, I have four weeks clean. It is not easy, but every day without drugs, I become a little bit stronger.

I don't even crave pot, which is something I thought would never happen. With God's help, I know I can make it.

What I have written doesn't even skim the surface of what hell and insanity my life has been. For anyone who reads this, and feels this will never happen to them, and they can handle a little drugs and partying, think again, because you're wrong! It can happen to anyone, weak or strong, rich or poor.

I thank God for my mother, family members and friends, who have not given up on me and written me off as a lost cause. I believe with all my heart that their love and prayers for me is the only reason I am alive today. Thank you, I love you all.

—Darlene Taylor

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

LA—Dear Sister Maybelle and all the workers there at the Lord's Print Shop: We greet you in the sweet name of Jesus. The song says, "tis so sweet to trust in Jesus, Just to take Him at His word." We know His Word will stand forever. So we are safe standing on the Word of God.

We enjoyed the good preached Word while Bro. Ostis Wilson and company were here for a few nights' meeting. The Lord really blessed with good messages. It seemed every message was better than the others. I feel I can measure up and live closer to the Lord. The Lord is so faithful to us. He knows just what we need.

Many people who apply for a job inquire about the pay, the benefits and what kind of retirement plan they have. Well, as one Brother said, living for God is the best pay, the greatest benefits and the best retirement plan than any business of this old world. I agree with him one hundred percent. I love the Lord, I love this way and I mean by His help and grace to keep pressing on in this strait and narrow way. There is nothing in this old world fit to turn back to. I'm so glad the Lord took the love of the world out of my heart over 50 years ago and I have never had any desire to go back to the things of the world since God put His love in my heart. I just can't thank the dear Lord enough for all He has done for me. He is my Healer, my Saviour, my King, my Redeemer, my refuge and strength and a very present help in trouble. He is my all in all.

We have several unspoken requests, do help us pray for them.

May God bless and supply your every need is our prayer.

With Christian love, —Effie Miller

—o—

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## In Memorial

**Elsie Frances Bates Jarvis**, 89, formerly of Danville, Ky., died July 22, 1986 in Lexington, North Carolina.

Born Sept. 13, 1896, in Kinmundy, Ill., she was the daughter of the late William and Elizabeth Bates. She was the widow of Wilbur Jarvis. She was a member of the Church of God in Junction City, Ky.

Survivors include five daughters, Mrs. Pier-son (Alvena) Van Norman of Frankford, Ky., Mrs. Chester (Lorene) Hughes of Dover, TN, Mrs. James (Louise) Pickens of Anderson, IN, Mrs. Robert L. (Elizabeth) Davidson of Stanford, Ky., and Mrs. Elsie Warmith of Thomasville, NC; one son, Melvin Jarvis of Lapel, IN; a brother, William Earl Bates of Portland, OR, 19 grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren.

She also had a son, Henry Jarvis, who preceded her in death.

Funeral services were held at First Church of God, Danville, Ky. with Bro. Mart Samons officiating, assisted by Bro. Rosco Evans.

Burial was in Danville Memorial Gardens.

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**Hans Patrick Huskey** was born March 17, 1899, to James and Christine (Briggs) Huskey in Victoria, Missouri.

He was united in marriage to Ella Mae Hughes on October 15, 1933. To this union three children were born; two sons and one daughter. Ella Mae preceded him in death on Sept. 8, 1952.

He was married to Agnes Dunaway on May 31, 1958.

As a young man he sought God for salvation and found the Saviour, Jesus Christ, precious to his soul. He later felt a call to preach the gospel. He came in contact with the saints of the Church of God in this Evening Light and embraced the truth, taking his stand with the people of God. He has been a minister of the Church of God since 1932. He pastored congregations in Lincoln, Nebraska; Anthony, Kansas; Senath, Missouri; and Orland, California. He was an earnest student of the Bible and loved the precious Word, measuring to its standard. He wrote many articles for the *Faith and Victory* paper and was a faithful supporter of the Faith Publishing work.

Bro. Huskey passed from this life at the Sunset Guest Home in Pacoima, California on August 2, 1986, at the age of 87 years, 4 months, and 16 days. The final days and months of his life found him drawing closer to God, with

victory over the enemy, and active in the service of the Lord.

He is survived by his wife, Agnes, of the Sunset Guest Home in Pacoima, California, where Bro. Huskey spent the last 10 years of his life. He is also survived by one brother, James Huskey, of Bridgeton, MO; two sisters, Laura Deck, of Glenn Allen, Mo., and Evelyn Bridwell of Hillsboro, Mo.; two sons, James A. Huskey, of Guthrie, Ok., and David L. Huskey of Oregon City, Oregon; one daughter, Esther Hightower, of Guthrie, Oklahoma; fifteen grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

A funeral service was held in the saints' chapel at Pacoima, California conducted by Bro. Jim Kutra. A memorial service was held in the saints' chapel in Webb City, Missouri and the graveside service was conducted by Bro. Leslie Busbee in the Webb City Cemetery where he was committed to the earth to await the great resurrection day. The topic of the graveside service was on the everlasting gospel. Texts: Matthew 24:14, Galatians 1:6-8 and I Cor. 15.

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

Copied from cover pages of Diary, 1975-76, written by H. P. Huskey.

"When we have conquered the fear of death, we can face anything that life might have in store for us. We do not mind the crucifixion when we are sure of the resurrection."

"We can enlighten only because (when) we can give them the Glory of God as we see it in the face of Jesus Christ." (II Cor. 4:6).

"When we demonstrate love and unity among ourselves before the watching world, we shake the gates of hell. True love and visible unity are powerful weapons that God expects us to use dynamically."

"Modern science tells man that he is an accidental arrangement of molecules, but the Word of God proclaims that he is crowned with glory and honor."

"Only the truly great are humble, and only the humble are great."

"Every one engaged in work that he enjoys, knows the feeling of complete restfulness that comes when he is most busy."

—Copied by James Huskey, Aug. 5, 1986

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Prayer is God's victory in the soul. The heart that prays is a heart in which God is constantly victorious. It is His throne, and there He reigns, shaping every thing in us after the pleasure of His will. God loves the prayers of the heart. "The prayers of the upright are His delight."

—C. E. Orr

## THANK YOU

We would like to thank all the dear saints for your love, support, prayers, phone calls, donations, cards and flowers during the loss of our beloved daughter, Linda. Our loss is very great but we thank the blessed Lord for His love and mercy to save her before He took her unto Himself.

We need your prayers,  
—Bro. and Sis. David Lottahall and family

## Question and Answer Column

by  
Ostis B. Wilson

(Continued from last month.)

**Question:** Please comment on 2 Thess. 2:6-11 with emphasis on the words "Only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way" and "Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders".

In the first part of 2 Thess. 2:7, Paul said "For the mystery of iniquity doth already work." The seeds had already been sown and were taking root and growing in Paul's day. In those early times of the Church the ministry consisted of elders OR bishops (not elders AND bishops; the two were the same) and deacons. They were all humble men of God subject to the leadership of the Holy Spirit and there was no one among them seeking preeminence or to be lord over the others. However, this idea did surface among the apostles in their early days before the Holy Spirit came—James and John desired the chief places; one on the right hand and one on the left hand of Jesus in His kingdom, and all the apostles debated among themselves at one time who would be the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. (Read Mark 10:35-45 and Luke 22:24-27). In these places Jesus taught them that was the way of the world and of the Gentiles and their kings and great men exercised lordship over them but it should not be so among them. And in Matt. 23:8 He nailed it down when He said "One is your master, even Christ, and all of you are brethren." The apostles got the point of that teaching and this thing never showed up in them any more throughout their lifetime. They all remained just humble men of God entirely submitted to the directions of the Holy Spirit. As one historian who has already been referred to said "The Christian church was in the begin-

ning a community of brethren guided by a few of the brethren."

This was all very beautiful just like God makes every thing beautiful and good; but Paul detected in his time the sprouting of the tares which had been sown among them and said the mystery of iniquity was already showing their symptoms. He called it the "mystery of iniquity" (2 Thess. 2:7). John wrote in 3 John 9 about one named Diotrepes who loved to have the pre-eminence among them and went on in verse 10 saying this man would not receive the brethren and forbid others from doing so and those who did he cast out of the church. This was after Paul's time but he encountered some of the same thing himself. He wrote in 1 Cor. 4:18 saying "Now some are puffed up, as though I would not come to you." How different this was from those humble men of God in the early days of the Christian church.

The evidences of spiritual decline were manifest in the churches of Asia in the Revelation. The church at Ephesus was holding steadfastly to the doctrines and standards of Christ and His apostles but they had left their first love. Jesus reproved them for this and commanded that they repent and do their first works or He would come and remove their candlestick. (Rev. 2:1-7). To keep the Word of God and hold its standards (outwardly) and not possess the Spirit and love of God (inwardly) is to substitute the form for the fact of godliness. Christ called this a fallen church. It was to this very church that Paul gave his solemn charge to in Acts 20:17-35 and admonished its elders with tears to be alert and watchful. He saw these things coming.

The church at Laodicea (Rev. 3:14-22) had become very worldly and fallen to a very low spiritual level and become lukewarm and rating their spiritual status by their worldly prosperity. In a lukewarm state they were very obnoxious and nauseating to Christ and He was ready to spue them out.

Things were wrong in every church except Smyrna. They had false teachers and various kinds of wickedness. This low spiritual level and a high level of worldly prosperity combined to produce among the church leaders a lust for power and authority and preeminence and a competition for position. Soon every group of elders exalted one among them to a position of preeminence among them and to him was reserved the exclusive title of "Bishop" (before they were all bishops). Then the idea of ecclesiastical organization progressed a step farther and several bishops in an area formed a conference and the most influential bishop among them was elected to the position of Archbishop

with authority over all the bishops in that diocese. Then as it progressed still farther one of the archbishops in a large district was exalted to the office of Metropolitan with authority over all the archbishops in his district. And so on and on until the Pope of Rome was declared to be the universal head of the church. He had authority over political kings and could humble and dethrone them and actually did this in some instances. Today the universal head of the church reigns with almost absolute authority over the world's largest congregation of 800 million souls.

This man sits in the temple of God showing himself that he is God (2 Thess. 2:4). His title is "Vicar of the Son of God" and this title is lettered across his miter. But, as was set forth in the first part of this discussion and confirmed with definite Scriptures, God's Word and God's Spirit were His two representatives (vicars) in the Church. So the title attributed to this ecclesiastical ruler is blasphemous and presumptuous. As this apostacy developed and the system produced by each step of its progressive build up of a human government over the church system, the Holy Spirit Who had formerly exercised leadership and governmental authority in the Church was relegated to a lesser and lesser place and human preeminence took away His authority. He was taken away to make place for the man of sin (this human government system and its head, the supreme pontiff of Rome). This is what is referred to in Rev. 11:3 where it is said "And I will give power unto my two witnesses (the Word and Spirit) and they shall prophesy . . . clothed in sackcloth." This signifies that they would be in humiliation and mourning and would be relegated to the background and have a very limited operation. Their operation during all the time of the dark ages (1260 years) and the reign of the apostacy was just among the few who were faithful to the Lord Jesus Christ and His gospel and would not bow to human rule and faced the bitter persecution that came against them from this false, human, and apostate system.

And as the system of human organization progressed to its climax in the Roman Catholic Hierarchy, those carnal, exalted, power and position-lusting men declared that God had given unto them the power to "Prescribe authoritative rules of faith and manners to govern the people of God." Thus they became a legislative and governing body for the church with power to enact laws and make decrees which they did and many of which were carnal ordinances and in direct opposition to the New Testament teachings of the pure truth of the gospel of salvation.



Thus the Word (the other of the two witnesses (vicars of Christ in the church) was taken away and denied its rightful place in the Church.

It has been pointed out earlier that a body of religious worshippers must have both the Word of God and the Spirit of God working among them with full liberty in order for it to be the Church of God. Since this vast, apostate system to which the whole world bowed and worshipped, had neither the Word or Spirit it could not be of God but was totally human and of hellish and devilish origin. Therefore it is said "Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders." This was Satan's substitute church and head in opposition to the true Church of God in the earth and its head, Jesus Christ.

### Ought and Duty

"Ought" is a word we get from the word "owe", while "duty" is taken from the word "due". We hold in our possession that which we owe, and that which is due God and our fellowman. The great achievement of life is to give God and our fellows that which we owe them. To have the consciousness that we have done our duty is a reward of which there is none higher. God has implanted in man a sense of obligation and no one can violate this sense and be at ease. The consciousness that we have given to our fellowman that which was due him from us, and that we have done what we could in the service of God brings purest joy to the soul. Such an one has risen up into all that is manly, pure and noble. Man is far down in the scale of human beings who, for some personal advantage, refuses to do his duty. Our duties are not left to our choosing. They are brought to us by the hand of God. They fall across our pathway, and all is left for us to do is to do them in sincerest love to God and man. To live to do our duty brings us into a life far above that of personal considerations. Developed character, ennobled manhood, and likeness to God come only to those who stand faithful to their post of duty until death.

—C. E. Orr

All true service begins in personal contact with Jesus. One cannot know Him personally without catching the warm contagion of His spirit for others. And there is a fine fragrance, a gentle, soft warmth, about the service that grows out of being WITH HIM.

Wherever the Spirit of the Lord Jesus sways the heart, there is a passion to serve.

—Selected



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"About a month ago I felt led to go to a certain home in El Alamo [Mexico]. When I arrived, the grandmother, the mother, and some of her children were there. The mother was sick in bed with the flu. A chair was offered me and I sat down. The Lord helped me to deal with her concerning her lost condition, sinful life, example before her children, and eternity with or without God. She received the Word of God and counsel with a broken heart and said she wanted to be saved.

"Dear Ones, I want to tell you that when prayer was offered for that soul 'heaven came down.' That little woman raised up off her pillow and began to agree in prayer and say, 'Lord, with all my heart I repent!' Jimmy Jones remarked afterward that he couldn't understand the prayer (in Spanish) but he certainly was blessed. Everyone got the witness that 'a new name was written down in heaven.' I believe that when people really come clean with God it will be just that way every time."

—Bro. Harlan Smith

"If there ever was a time when our nation as a whole needs to humiliate themselves in fasting and prayer, it is surely now! Speaking in a general sense, our people have become proud and haughty, heady and high-minded."

—Fred Pruitt

"Some people use idols or go to leaders of churches as their mediator to God. Perhaps they do not know that Jesus has never transmitted His power to forgive sins to any one on earth."

—D. D. Tieszen