

FAITH^{AND}VICTORY

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Why Should I Not Be Thankful?

Though I meet with opposition,
And my plans are most upset;
I have found within the Bible,
Words that cheer my spirit yet.

As I muse upon the promise,
There's a light that shines within,
Set aflame by my Redeemer,
Who has saved my soul from sin.

And this gives me hope and courage,
As I plod along life's way;
And the star of hope shines brighter,
As I near the perfect day.

Where no storm cloud ever rises,
Where no sorrows ever come,
Where there are no disappointments,
And depression is not known.

Why should I not then be thankful
And contented with my lot
While I stand upon the promise?—
For the promise falleth not.

He has said He would not leave me,
If I would His law obey,
That He never would forsake me,
But go with me all the day.

He is with me in the garden,
He is present on the plain,
He is with me in the sunshine,
And He's with me in the rain.

Why should I not then be thankful?
Truly thankful I will be;
For the God that feeds the sparrow,
He also cares for me.

—Ulysses Phillips

God Satisfies The Longing Soul

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"Hungry and thirsty, their soul fainted in them. Then they cried unto the Lord in their trouble, and he delivered them out of their distresses. And he led them forth by the right way, that they might go to a city of habitation. Oh that men would praise the Lord for His goodness, and for His wonderful works to the children of men! For he satisfieth the longing soul, and filleth the hungry soul with goodness." Ps. 107:5-9.

Only God can satisfy the hungry and longing soul. There is deep within every human being a longing and a yearning for fellowship with God. The soul of man is made of the very same essence as God. Therefore he cannot be fully satisfied unless he makes contact and right relationship with His Maker. This longing and yearning is made manifest by the relentless nature of man in seeking for things he hopes will satisfy. Men seek for pleasure, wealth, discovery, inventions and many other things, only to be disappointed and frustrated in the end. What they are really seeking for is the satisfaction of their never-dying soul. It is reaching out for God, and can only be fully and happily satisfied with fellowship with God.

When a soul finds salvation and the grace of God in His Son, Jesus Christ, he finds the fulfillment of everything he ever wanted. This was what he was seeking for all the time, but he did not realize what it was. All fears and worries are gone. All restless yearnings are stilled. Peace, joy, happiness, pleasure, comfort, security and all the other things one might desire and seek for are found abundantly in knowing Him. As long as a person is seeking for contentment and satisfaction in material gain and pleasure, he or she is never completely satisfied. They are always reaching for more or for something else. There is not that genuine happiness and satisfaction deep

within the heart. Their happiness and satisfaction is only superficial. It only exists in the fulfillment of their fleshly aspirations and desires. If something happens to frustrate their desires the happiness and satisfaction is disturbed. Not so with the soul who has found satisfaction in knowing God. Unfulfilled desires and disappointed resolves are quickly atoned for in the comfort and assurance of God's gracious will working in our lives.

Oh, that people would hunger and thirst for God and His righteousness! Jesus said that such would be filled. (Matt. 5:6). The patriarch David was very expressive in his hungerings and thirstings for God. We find his longing for God expressed in Psalm 63:1-5. "O God, thou art my God; early will I seek thee: my soul thirsteth for thee, my flesh longeth for thee in a dry and thirsty land, where no water is; To see thy power and thy glory, so as I have seen thee in the sanctuary. Because thy lovingkindness is better than life, my lips shall praise thee. Thus will I bless thee while I live: I will lift up my hands in thy name. My soul shall be satisfied as with marrow and fatness; and my mouth shall praise thee with joyful lips:" Marrow and fatness represent the very best God has to offer—that satisfying portion that is only found in walking with God. People are trying to satisfy their souls with the husks of the world and its commodities. They are deceived in thinking they are happy, but their happiness is easily interrupted and spoiled. God alone has the satisfying portion for the soul.

My dear friends, what are you filling your soul with? If you are trying to satisfy the longing of your heart with pleasures and riches of this present life, you will never find the perfect contentment and happiness you are seeking for. Mark my word, there are great disappointments in store for you if you are seeking fulfillment in the beggarly things of this material and fleshly part of life. Turn your heart toward your Maker. Give Him a chance, and let Him show you what He can do for you. He alone will satisfy the longing of your soul.

In the Summit View Cemetery near the town of Guthrie, Oklahoma is a small and simple grave-stone. It marks the memory of an old man whom I knew in my youth. He came to Guthrie and took up his residence in a small cabin on the church grounds there. His testimony was that he lived most of his life without God. At the age of 65 years he found Christ as his Saviour and was born into the family of God at the Jefferson, Oregon Camp Meeting. He had longed for peace and satisfaction for many years, seeking for God and His truth. He found salvation and His longing soul was satisfied. He lived the last few years of his life growing in the grace of God. On this simple little stone are

engraved these words: "Jesus satisfied my soul. C. Weir."

—Bro. Leslie Busbee



Let Go and Let God

Do you have a problem that seems to continually nag at your mind? Worry can destroy your happiness and peace of mind. Therefore, the enemy of our soul is constantly going about seeking whom he may devour; seeking opportunities to drop thoughts in our minds that are very dark and discouraging. You may feel you have every reason to feel despondent over some situation, and the Devil will try to justify all of your doubts and fears.

Stop and consider a moment. Aren't God's people a tried people that they may come forth as gold with their dross removed? God is permitting this trying time to draw you closer to Himself. At the same time, the Devil is trying to overpower God's plan for you, by presenting a very dark picture for your future. We must learn to recognize that all discouragement comes directly from the Devil. Don't yield to the threatening blasts of the enemy! Tell the Devil that you recognize his tactics at work, and in the mighty name of Jesus you will not waste all the time and energy it takes to listen to him. The Devil wants you to reason with him and try to figure out how to get out of an impossible situation. Resist the Devil and rebuke him! Tell him you don't have to know all the answers, that you are flinging yourself recklessly out upon God's infinite love, and that you are going to completely turn loose of the whole situation to let God have full control.

Dear reader, this is the challenge God wants us to meet—"Let go and let God!" "Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;" II Cor. 10:5. This is the Christians' secret of a happy life: being able to rise above our imaginations or reasonings. Our mind has to be trained. Bring it to Jesus and He can heal your mind. You have to let go of your thoughts and turmoils, and cast ALL of your cares upon Him.

One of the hardest lessons I have ever learned is to "let go and let God". It was brought very clearly to my mind of Abraham's test of faith concerning the promise God had given that his seed would be as numerous as the stars in heaven. Abraham could have reasoned, "How could this be if I have to kill and sacrifice my long awaited and well-beloved son?" Nevertheless, Abraham counted God able to raise Isaac from the dead, but how his heart must have ached within him! They had traveled far, and on the third day of their journey

into the land of Moriah, Isaac asked his father a question that filled Abraham's heart with a terrible dread.

"My father," Isaac said, "behold the fire and the wood: but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?"

No doubt Abraham's voice was filled with emotion as he answered, "My son, God will provide himself a lamb for a burnt offering."

Abraham's words were prophetic, for God would do this very thing Himself in long years to come. He would provide a Lamb to die—Jesus, "the Lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world."

With weary steps, and Abraham's heart aching, they continued to "the place which God told him of; and Abraham built an altar there, and laid the wood in order." He explained to Isaac, the best he could, what God wanted him to do. Isaac yielded himself willingly. "And Abraham stretched forth his hand, and took the knife to slay his son." Suddenly, a loud voice said, "Abraham, Abraham, Lay not thine hand upon the lad neither do thou anything unto him." The voice said again, "Now, I know that thou fearest God, seeing that thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son from me."

It was then that Abraham saw a ram caught in a thicket. "And Abraham went and took the ram, and offered him up for a burnt offering in the stead of his son."

Try to imagine the blessings of God that were showered down upon Abraham and Isaac that day while they were offering up the ram as a sacrifice to God. They had "let go and let God." (Genesis 22).

Dear reader, I encourage you to put complete confidence and trust in God. There is a way this can be done. Please read the following two verses slowly and thoughtfully, and let them penetrate your mind and soul. "Beloved, if our heart condemn us not, then have we confidence toward God. And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight." I John 3:21-22.

To have a clear conscience toward God is the most blessed feeling we can ever have. God has designed that we can reach this wonderful way of living a holy life, free from sin, by the giving of His Son. "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3:16.

Can we not safely trust in God who gave us the best He had? "Let go and let God!"

Yours for Christ,

—Carol Cole



Subscribe to this paper, 1 year for \$1.00

"Thank You, Lord"

Even though I clutch my blanket and moan when the alarm rings every morning, thank you, Lord, that I can hear. There are many who are deaf.

Even though I keep my eyes tightly closed against the morning light as long as possible, thank you, Lord, that I can see. There are many who are blind.

Even though I huddle in my bed and put off getting up, thank you, Lord, that I have strength to rise. There are many who are bedfast.

Even though the first hour of my day is hectic—socks are lost, toast is burned, and things are annoying—thank you, Lord, for my family. There are many who are lonely.

Even though our breakfast table never looks like those in the ladies' magazines and the menu is sometimes unbalanced, thank you, Lord, for the food we have. There are many who are hungry.

Even though school is often monotonous, thank you, Lord, for the opportunity to learn. There are many who are uneducated.

Even though I chafe from day to day and wish my circumstances were not quite so modest, thank you, Lord, for the gift of life!

—Selected



Your Account

How are your funds? Have you ever earned a paycheck with your name on it? Do you have a checking account? If your deposits are infrequent you may receive an "overdrawn" notice!

Are you working for **The Master** or a taskmaster? Did you forever close out your account with sin?

Have you opened a personal account with Jesus? It will be profitable to make deposits in your account. Morning prayer can be a lingering anointment for the day. The Bible is worthy of your investment. Look for Scriptures that you understand. One that has real meaning to you will become a private lifetime counselor. Choose friends who are choosing Christ! Go search for profit-bearing, fruitful possessions in your own Canaan land. "There is adventure in the service of the Lord." Financial accounts have features to suit your needs. Salvation offers confidence (Isa. 30:15), challenge, responsibility, maturity, peaceableness, favor with God and man (Luke 2:52), and lasting joy. Your Bible is your map and patience is your metal detector for the hidden treasures.

Willingly give the Lord space on your "authorized signature card." Let Him control, direct and be a confident partner with you and all the assets in your account.

—Nelson Doolittle

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 Wayne Murphey, and other consecrated workers at the FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE, 920 W. Mansur, Guthrie, OK 73044 (USPS 184-660).

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Notice to subscribers: Whenever you move or change your address, please write us at once, giving your old and new address, and include your zip code number. The post office now charges 30¢ to notify us of each change of address.

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES



Single copy, one year\$1.00
 Package of 4 papers to one address, one year\$3.00
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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 Ex. 25:2; I Chron. 29:9; II Cor. 9:7; and Luke 6:38.

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

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

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

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Editorials

"The Lord is my strength and song, and he is become my salvation." Exodus 15:2. This portion of song was composed by Moses after God delivered the children of Israel from the hand of Pharaoh by taking them through the Red Sea on dry land. The Israelites certainly had something to rejoice about, and though our lives may not be as dramatic, all who serve Christ can give forth the same song of testimony and praise.

This is the month in which Thanksgiving is observed, and if anyone has cause to celebrate, it is the child of God. Everyone who has served Him for any length of time should be able to look back and see the kindness and gentleness by which the Good Shepherd has led them. It doesn't mean we totally understand His leadings, but we can recognize the trueness of them.

What brought about the great triumph for the Israelites was their obedience and knowledge of knowing when to be still and when to move. This is something every Christian should strive to understand concerning each situation they meet. When this secret is learned and adopted, great blessings are ahead. Generally, the being still comes before the action. Mankind is very prone to speak and act when the first hint of trouble looms on the horizon. Then we wonder why we are experiencing so much opposition and the trouble is not dissolving and going away.

Difficulties have a way of blinding our eyes as to who the pilot of our frail existence is. It is told that once Stonewall Jackson and his sister-in-law were crossing the boiling current just below the American Falls at Niagara. They were in a flimsy boat manned by two oarsman, and the water swirled so about the boat that the woman became terrified, believing they were going to the bottom. Jackson seized her by the arms and turning to one of the men said, "How often have you crossed here?" "I have been rowing people across, sir, for twelve years." "Did you ever meet with an accident?" "Never, sir." "Never was capsized, never lost a life?" "Nothing of the kind, sir." Then turning, in a somewhat peremptory tone, he said to the lady, "You hear what the boatman says, and unless you think you can take the oars and row better than he does, sit still and trust him as I do."

God has no problem taking an honest soul through this troublesome life and into the portals of heaven as long as that one stays in the way of His promptings. There is an inspirational picture in which the artist portrayed a large boat laden with cattle that were being ferried across an angry swollen river in time of storm. The threatening clouds were dark and there was jagged lightning

playing across the sky. An observer of the picture would quickly conclude that the poor cattle were doomed to destruction. But the title of the picture is simply, "Changing Pastures."

There are also times when we must go forward. When God has gone before us, our efforts will reap great spiritual blessings if in no other way, to our own soul. We will never feel fulfilled in our Christian experience until we are willing to act as God opens the door of opportunity and impresses our heart.

If at this Thanksgiving season you do not have a song of rejoicing and cannot say that God is your strength and salvation, as the next year unfolds, let us be less motivated by our own feelings and more sensitive to God's leadings.

On October 24 Sis. Agathe Friesen, who had recently come to help in the office work, returned home to assist her mother, Sis. Elizabeth Friesen, who has been unwell for several weeks. Remember Sis. Elizabeth in your prayers.

We now have in stock and ready for sale 1991 wall calendars. The calendar has a colorful nature scene for each month, measures 7 1/4 X 13 1/2 inches, and sells for \$2.00 each. This includes postage and handling.

Once again God has faithfully provided for this work. The offerings have come in so that we are able to meet the expense of the recently received shipment of paper. It was gratifying to hear from some with whom we have had no previous correspondence, and to know that there are many who have an appreciation for the gospel and are willing to support it. We pray God's richest blessings upon each of you.

Prayer Requests

AR—"I have some unspoken requests I would like remembered." —Sis. Vera Dotson

CA—"I really need the saints to pray for me." —Anthony Parrish

WV—Continue to keep Sis. Verna Samons in your prayers.

MO—Sis. Thelma Halbrook still desires the saints' prayers for some unspoken requests.

WV—Sis. Gladys Morgan is very sick and requests that prayer be offered on her behalf.

CA—Sis. Doris Pihaylic needs prayer.

MD—"Please put me on your prayer list."

—Sis. Lina Toyer

AR—"I am asking all of you to pray for our son

and his wife. He needs prayer for his body, and his wife has a real bad hurting in her chest."

—Esther Null

IL—"Please pray for my granddaughter; she needs to be delivered from sin and a very terrible panic disorder." —Sis. Ruby Blanchard

IN—"I would like to request prayer for the healing of my serious neck condition."

—Sis. Betty Baker

MEETING REPORTS AND NOTICES

WICHITA, KS MEETING REPORT

We are thanking the Lord for His continual love for His people. He is faithful to send His Word to help us on our Christian journey. We were encouraged to hold fast and be victorious and keep going for God in our recent meeting. We were told how to build on the rock Christ Jesus and how to strive for unity and how beautiful it is. We were told that we must put God first and were reminded of His goodness, as well of His severity.

On the last day of the meeting a soul went forward to get saved, even before the preaching. He is the son of one of the older saints who has been gone for a number of years. We trust he will put his all in Jesus and go all the way with Him. Truly in times like these we all need a Saviour. We give all glory, praise and honor to God.

—Sis. Shirley Knight

HOLLY HILL, SC MEETING REPORT

Dear saints: We want you to know that we do appreciate your prayers for our meeting, because the dear Lord did show His mercy strong. The Holy Spirit came down and blessed our souls. We had three at the altar and I believe they did get help. We had 10 days of real gospel preaching.

—Bro. Utson Platt

LORANGER, LA ASSEMBLY MEETING

The prayers and interest of the saints are solicited for the planned assembly meeting. The meeting's purpose is for the spiritual good of all, to establish, strengthen and settle the faith of believers, and to extend salvation to sinners. Let every effort be expended to rescue the perishing.

Services will be held daily from Sunday, Nov. 18 through Sunday Nov. 25. You are invited to come. There is a dormitory for the sisters and one for the brothers. Power and water hookups are available for those with campers. Meals will be served and expenses met by freewill offerings.

From Loranger, go two miles south and 3 1/2 miles east on Hwy. 40. For those traveling I-55, the grounds are about 10 miles east of the Tickfaw exit (take Hwy. 442 east which runs into Hwy. 40).

For more information write Nelson Doolittle, Rt. 1, Box 192, Loranger, LA 70446. The chapel phone is (504) 878-2788.

GUTHRIE, OK ASSEMBLY MEETING

The 84th Annual Oklahoma State Assembly Meeting will, Lord willing, be held Dec. 21-30. Watch for a more complete announcement in the December *Faith and Victory*.

PROGRESS OF SPANISH LITERATURE PREPARATION

Dear saints: We send greetings of Christian love to all in Jesus' dear and holy name. We are thankful to God for the precious gift of His Son to us. We feel unworthy of His love and mercy. This love constrains us, so that henceforth we do not live unto ourselves, but unto Him who died for us, and rose again. (II Cor. 5:14-15).

With the Lord's help, we are able to continue with the preparation of Spanish literature for printing. Orders are being received and filled for Spanish literature and tapes, as the Lord blesses.

There is much that can be done for the Lord through this work in the behalf of souls, and we are depending on Him to guide us and be our helper along the way. We also depend on your prayers for us and your continued support for this channel of the work of God, that it may prosper and be a blessing to Spanish-speaking souls everywhere.

Anyone desiring to contribute to this phase of the work of the Lord, may address their contribution to: Judy Trepagnier, 1112 Cambridge #B, LaPlace, LA 70068.

Christian love, —Sis. Judy Trepagnier

GUTHRIE CHAPEL PROGRESS REPORT

By the help of the Lord construction is still going forward on the new chapel and dining hall at the campground relocation site on the south side of Guthrie. While there have been some delays during the past several months, we are thankful for each step of progress that has been made.

During the spring and summer months the windows and exterior doors were installed, insulation and vapor barrier material were applied to the exterior walls, and then the building was

bricked. This was finished in good order by the end of the summer. During a two-week period in October the interior walls were laid out, then framed in and some of the building main frame columns were sheetrocked. The baptistry was also delivered and installed. It is possible now for people to tour the building and see the size and location of the sanctuary, kitchen, dining rooms, and various other rooms throughout the building.

The next phase of the construction process will involve three areas and considerable expense. These include the installation of heat and air systems, installation of the electrical distribution system and the stubbing out of drain lines and water supply lines for all of the plumbing fixtures in the building. At present we have incurred no indebtedness on the building but do not have a sufficient balance on hand to contract for the completion of the three areas of work aforementioned. We plan to move forward with these jobs as soon as the Lord supplies sufficient funds to get started.

The trustees continue to meet monthly to plan and make decisions on the myriad of details involved in the completion of such a project. They need your prayers as the responsibility they feel weighs heavily upon them. It is an especially heavy load for those who have the direct oversight of the construction since they have family duties and a regular work load as well.

The saints' prayers are earnestly solicited for the continued progress of this project. If you have a burden for this project and feel the Lord would have you help out financially it will be greatly appreciated. Correspondence may be addressed to: Church of God, c/o Brenda Wilkins, Rt. 6, Box 797, Guthrie, OK 73044.

—Bro. Bob Sallee for the Campground Relocation Committee

From The Mailbox . . .



CA—Dear Bro. Wayne: Our fall weather is starting and it is getting cooler. I enjoy fall. . . .

We played a tape after Sunday school last Sunday of a sermon by Bro. Ostis Wilson. It sure was food for my soul. I get so hungry to hear God's Word preached from our pulpit. Pray with us that God will send us a pastor.

Also continue to pray that God will heal my eyes. I am holding tight to His promise.

We are serving a very precious heavenly Father. I truly want to be in that number when the saints go marching in.

Christian love and prayers for each of you,
—Letha Reece

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CA—Dear Bro. Murphey and all workers: I greatly appreciate your paper. It is one of the best, and I always look forward to receiving it each month.

I shall try to send another donation next month, as I'm in a summer slump too. We had an unusually hot summer, but just this week it is beginning to cool and it's so welcome.

I have sent in a prayer request before for Jackie Shelton, and I thank each one who prayed. She is still not saved, and has lung and throat cancer in the last stages.

Thank you for all your prayers. I pray for you every day.

Sincerely, —Mildred Vaught

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CA—Dear saints: Greetings in Jesus' name this beautiful morning.

I surely thank God for being in a free country where we still have freedom, but for how long, only He knows. It sure looks bad all over the world. People have forgotten our Saviour. I feel we are in a waiting period. People surely need to be ready to meet Him.

The Devil is trying hard in these last days to destroy the Church of God, but Jesus tells us many things concerning these things, and one is that the gates of hell will not prevail against it.

There are a lot of saints we haven't met here on earth, but up there we shall meet them. Many of our dear friends have gone on.

I will close this letter with love and prayers for the saints everywhere. Faith will bring us through the fire.

Pray for us and our children. We also have some unspoken requests.

Christian love, —Lois and Harold Underwood

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KY—To the Faith Publishing House: I want to thank you and tell you how I appreciate the *Faith and Victory*. I have been getting it from you good people for a long way back. I can't recall how long. I am an older lady, 82 years of age. . . . Please keep them coming to me.

A sister in Jesus, —Gleadie Burton

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LA—Dear saints and readers of the *Faith and Victory*: Warm greetings of love to all, in the most precious name of Jesus! We so appreciate the people of God and all the love and consideration

that has been shown to us in these five months of Bro. Goldberry's illness. We want to take this means to thank everyone who contributed to the love offering that was taken for us at the Monark Springs Camp Meeting, and for all the prayers, calls, letters, phone calls, and visits, and for the two who came and stayed in our home to help us.

Words fail us to express the deep gratitude and appreciation in our hearts. Only God knows what a great blessing and help you have been to us. The saints have done everything possible to show their love and to help us spiritually and physically. May the Lord bless and reward everyone. "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me." (Matt. 25:40). So a very hearty "Thank you!" to every one.

The Lord is blessing us and keeping us encouraged.

Please continue to hold us up in prayer. Bro. Goldsberry suffers much pain and discomfort and gets little rest.

Your fellow servants in the Lord,

—Bro. and Sis. Ben Goldsberry

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NC—Dear Brother Wayne Murphey and all the wonderful people at the Print Shop, plus the saints everywhere: Greetings to you all. I am still enjoying the *Faith and Victory* magazine, as usual.

I thank God for victory over the deceivable opposer of our Lord, Jesus Christ. The visible evidence of the anti-Christ spirit, "deceiving and being deceived" cannot be denied nor ignored. But praise God, Jesus said He would send us a Comforter, and He's here and doing just what He said He would for those who are willing to meet the requirements. The requirements are simple: Self must be crucified completely.

Let's pray much, one for the other.

Sincerely, —Leila Lewis

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NC—Dearest saints: I have been enjoying the *Faith and Victory* paper for over 30 years. I am still enjoying it each month. I have been healed through the prayers of the saints there so many times.

I have an itching problem that is very uncomfortable. I need your prayers very much. . . .

Your sister in Christ, —Bunice Hope

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LA—Dear brothers and sisters in Christ: We are glad we are all well in body, except our daughter-in-law. Please pray for her.

Also remember the unsaved here. We still have Sunday school here. Please pray for a special request.

We are praying for the Faith Publishing House work.

Your brother in Christ, —N. P. Futch

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LA—Dear Bro. Wayne: Greetings of love to you and the workers at the Print Shop. . . .

Time does bring great changes. I know the greatest change any human can experience is out ahead of all of us: the passing from time to eternity. I know for the older ones, such as I, that great change isn't too far ahead. Oh, I'm so thankful through our dear Saviour shedding His innocent blood for a lost world, that all can be prepared for that time. I am striving each day to keep my record clear so that I'll be ready to go when my life is ended here.

We are blessed with the contents of the *Faith and Victory* paper each month, and thank the Lord for the sacrifice the workers are making to get the gospel out to a lost world. . . .

In Christian love, —Sis. Alta Flynn

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Testimonies and Answers to Prayer

OK—Dear Brother Wayne and *Faith and Victory* staff and all saints throughout this great country: We send greetings in the love of God and in the name of His Son, Jesus Christ, who is the King of kings, the Prince of the kings of the earth, the King of saints, the Prince of peace, the blessed and only potentate, and blessed forevermore. He has all power in heaven and earth and can do any thing and every thing we need. He delights to bless His children and it does not impoverish Him to give, and give, and give again, and again and again.

He says in His Word to declare His doings among the people, and we felt we wanted to do that in regard to a couple of special things He has done for us, one for myself and one for my wife, Evelyn. First I will relate what God did for my wife in answer to the prayers of the saints.

Several months ago something struck her in one of her legs, and that knee and leg became quite sore and painful. She just hobbled around when she tried to walk, and when she went to sit down in a chair she just dropped into it because she could not bend that knee without severe pain. She could not get on her knees to pray so she just sat on her seat in church services during prayer and in her chair during our family worship and prayer sessions at home. This went on for three or four months, getting no better.

At the Monark Springs Camp Meeting last July, she was anointed and prayed for. The Lord

touched and healed her of that condition, and soon after she was able to get on her knees to pray and get up and down and walk without pain, and she still is. We surely appreciate the mercies of the Lord to us in this matter and often thank Him for it. I often mention to the Lord in my prayers how thankful I am to see my wife on her knees when praying. And we surely thank all the saints who prayed for her during this time.

In my own case, on the twenty-first of last August I was conducting a few services with the saints in Gladstone, OR, in Bro. Charles Elwell's congregation. Near the close of my message that night I was stricken with something that I know not what. I became weak and sick and told the saints to please pray for me and I needed it now. I started to go on with my message but became sicker and weaker and told them I was sick and was going to have to stop and sit down. I stepped down off of the platform and two or three of the brethren ran up to meet me and help me to my seat. I sat down and broke out in a profuse perspiration. They laid hands on me and prayed and the Lord heard and answered quickly. The service was closed in just a few minutes after that and I was able to stand for the dismissal, and remained standing and walked around among them and visited among them. When about all were gone I went back to Bro. Elwell's home which "joined hard to the synagogue" and talked a little, then climbed the stairs, went to bed, and slept well all night. The next morning I got up feeling well and able to take my regular walk. That night I was able to preach with my usual vigor for nearly an hour. The next day I traveled about 100 miles to the home of Evelyn's son, Jim Linch, spent that night and the next day there, and in the evening caught the train in Eugene, OR and traveled all that night, the next day arriving at Los Angeles in the evening. The camp meeting in Pacoima was in progress and the next morning (Sunday) I went to service and continued in the meeting three services each day throughout the week without missing any, except one evening when we went to visit our children, have dinner and spend the evening with them. I was able to preach a few times during the meeting. I felt as well and strong as usual with no ill effects at all from that attack I had in Gladstone. The Lord just quickly removed that trouble and overruled all the effects of it until I was not hampered from anything I wanted to do the entire remainder of our trip.

For both these healings and many, many more we magnify and praise the God of heaven, and give all the glory to Him.

Brethren, pray for us as we do for you.

—Bro. Ostis B. and Sis. Evelyn Wilson

OR—Dear Bro. Wayne and staff: I want to write and tell you how the Lord has blessed me and cared for me for the last three weeks.

On Sept. 15, I spilled some boiling water on my foot and got a bad burn over the whole top of it. I ran to the cold water faucet and put cold water on it as quickly as I could, but the top of my foot was covered by blisters. But in less than a half-hour all the pain was gone. I fully expected those burns, as deep as they were, to hurt for hours, and maybe for days. But in less than the half-hour the pain had stopped and I can truthfully say there has been very little pain in it since. It is still in the process of healing, but is healing much faster than I expected it to. I give God all the credit and thanks for the way He has helped me. Praise Him for it all.

—Sis. Hilda Nielson

LA—Dear saints: We desire to thank the Lord once more for all He's done for us. He has blessed us once more with a normal, happy, healthy child. This was a special blessing to us after all the trouble I had the last time. The Lord was so good to give Scriptures to stand on and to encourage us.

One of the most special things to me was how the Lord caused someone to be willing to take my case, as I was considered a high-risk patient. It wasn't until three months before Stephen was born that a midwife agreed to take us. I still thank the Lord that the day he was born, instead of having none, we had four attendants.

We know the Lord blessed and worked for us the whole way and we thank and praise Him for it. "They that know thy name will put their trust in thee." (Ps. 9:10).

We also want to thank Him for healing our son Alan's foot. He had a sore on the bottom of it that was infected with red streaks going up each side of his foot. We kept it clean and bandaged and trusted the Lord to touch it, and He did. You can still see where it was, but otherwise it's normal again. We do love the Lord and thank Him for all He does for us.

Love and prayers, —Bobby and Janet Forbes

OK—Dear saints at the Printing Shop: Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ, our Saviour. I am saved and encouraged to live for the Lord.

I want to tell the saints of the goodness of the Lord to us, how He has blessed us this year with a house. The Lord made a way for us to get a house and we moved into it in June. I do thank the Lord for hearing and answering prayer. I had been praying for a way to get a house, so the Lord answered my prayer.

I want to thank the Lord for the good camp meeting we had at Boley, OK this year. It was refreshing to the soul.

I also thank the Lord for how He blessed me with health this year.

Yours in Christ,

—Mary I. Mustin

OK—Dear saints: We want to tell what the Lord has done for us, in order to glorify Him and encourage others to trust in Him.

My husband, Jim, had an infection settle in his foot. Being a diabetic he had no feeling in his feet. His foot would swell a lot when he was on his feet and it came to the point where he just couldn't go to work. A large place swelled on the outside edge of his foot. It looked like it needed to be lanced, so we went to a clinic to have them lance it. When they learned Jim was a diabetic, they wouldn't touch it. The doctor and a surgeon who was there tried to explain what a bad condition Jim was in and that he needed surgery immediately. They said he would probably lose his little toe and most likely his whole foot, and emphasized that putting the operation off was life-threatening. We have always trusted in God, but this was a lot of pressure from someone who knew what he was talking about. Jim told the doctor he wanted to go home and think it over. The doctor felt he was a very foolish man to go home instead of to the hospital.

We went home and went right to prayer. I felt it was a battle that Jim had to settle for himself. When we got up from prayer, Jim asked me if I would stand by him no matter if he got worse. I said, "Yes, I would." That day Jim was anointed and prayed for and there was a real assurance that the Lord also was going to stand by us.

As days came and went, it seemed to get worse. One day as I was dressing the area, my heart was pouring out to God. A voice came to me so sweetly, "I am bigger than this foot." Oh, that was so encouraging. Through tears I told Jim that God said He was bigger than this foot. Praise God! From then on there was a process of healing. In two months time it was completely healed up. There is just a scar now.

Jim had to have a doctor's permission to return to work, so we went back to the same doctor. He was very amazed and said, "I can see you are a praying people and God has done something wonderful for you."

We do thank God and all the saints for often sending our names to the throne of God.

After Jim started to get better, but was still unable to return to work, we made a trip to see our son and his family in Washington. The biggest part

of the driving fell to me. I had been having some heart problems and suffered quite a bit when I got overly tired, but I didn't tell Jim anything about it as I wanted to go so badly. I suffered some on the way, but I would rest and get better. Our son wanted to take us to Vancouver Island. The night before, after Jim and I went to our cabin, I had a bad attack. Jim and I prayed and prayed. I didn't want to alarm the children, so we didn't call them. It seemed to ease up some so we went to bed. Then it grabbed me all the harder. I called on God to myself, begging Him for mercy. I cried and pleaded for just one drop of blood from His pierced side. God gave me a vision of one drop of blood coming down and going to my heart. At the instant the blood touched me the pain stopped immediately. Praise God! I went off to sleep and awoke the next morning feeling fine. I haven't had any symptoms since, and I have had a lot of stress and long working hours. Just one drop of Jesus' blood made me whole.

Coming back from our son's in Washington to the Monark Camp Meeting, I became awfully sick with a pain in my side and back. We called for prayer to the saints at the camp meeting and the Lord touched me immediately. Praise God again!

Oh, we have much to praise God for!

Your sister and brother in Christ,

—Esther and Jim Hightower

KY—Dear Bro. Wayne, co-workers, and saints everywhere: We send greetings of love in Jesus' precious name. It has been a long time since we have sent in our testimony. We have been much encouraged by the Lord's dealings. This has been the best year we have seen in the work of the Lord for several years. The meeting at Monark Springs, MO this year was outstanding. The Holy Spirit did a wonderful work through the meeting. The unity of the Church was on display. We rejoiced to see the good altar work. The altars were lined, over and over again, all through the meeting. Praise God for His convicting and saving power.

The meetings in general all year long have been outstanding.

A year ago this past camp meeting at Monark Springs, I had a large sore on my back. It gave me a lot of discomfort. I was anointed and prayed for at the meeting, but for several months it got worse instead of better. I told the Lord if He would heal the place I would send in a testimony to give Him the praise. Praise God, the place is gone. It is completely healed. We feel the need of giving God praise for the little things He does for us, as well as the big things. David said in Psalm 103:2-3, "Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits:

Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases;" Yes, "Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the Lord delivereth him out of them all." Praise God.

We are at Holly Hill, SC at this time in a 10-day revival meeting. The Lord is working. One woman got saved last night, and the Lord is dealing with a number of others in this meeting. We are encouraged with the good attendance in the meeting; it is the best we have seen here in several years.

God's Church is marching on. She is robed in white, which is the righteousness of saints. O Lord, I want to be in that number when the saints go marching in.

Our prayer is that God will send a rich blessing to all of you everywhere.

Saints, keep encouraged. Keep up the good work, for you will soon reap your reward. Heaven will be worth it all. Hold us up in your prayers. We are praying for you.

With much Christian love,

—Bro. and Sis. Curtis Williams



FOREIGN MISSION REPORTS

From India . . .

Sept. 18—Dear Brother Wayne Murphey and others in the Print Shop, and the dear saints of God everywhere in America: Greetings to you all again in the sweetest name of Jesus Christ.

Last week I was in the northern region of Kerala State to visit the congregations and to encourage the saints there. The new congregation at Trichur City is very active now. They are praying for a place of their own to assemble for services. As of now they assemble in a rented building.

The Kuwait problem has broken down the financial set-up of India in a large scale. Thousands of people from India were working in Kuwait, which was the main income of living for many families in India. Now they have all lost their jobs and all their earnings, and come back home quite disappointed. India was already under the curse of unemployment problems. Now this problem in Kuwait has made that curse worse. The nation as a whole is sick. Very urgent healing is essential. The Word of God says, "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land." II Chron. 7:14.

One miracle happened in my locality this week. A young man, who was a rowdy and was under the bondage of alcohol and other drugs for long years, got saved. I got a chance to talk to him

about the joy and peace of salvation through the blood of Jesus. He obeyed, went and repented and accepted Jesus in his heart. He was a headache to his home and to the whole society. Now the whole village is happy. Last Sunday he and his wife attended our service and testified of Jesus. Pray for him.

We have the desire to buy a public address system for our outdoor meetings. Please pray for this need.

Our prayers are for you all in America.

Yours in Him, —John Varghese

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From the Philippines . . .

Oct. 8—Dear Brother and Sister Murphey: Greetings of Christian love in the precious name of our Lord Jesus. Please forgive me for being late to answer your letter. I went to Manila because my brother was stabbed in the chest by some drug addicts. With our Lord's mercy, he is now recovering.

It seems my time is not enough because of much work. Our brothers from the barrios are always requesting me to go to their places for services and Bible studies. They say the people are anxious to hear me preach and teach the Bible. Every time they see me they flock to the chapels and in the homes to hear the message. I am so happy and encouraged to see people hungry for the Word of God, and I am thankful for my opportunity to serve my Lord who loves me so much.

I am writing different tracts in Tagalog, our Filipino language. I have already finished three subjects and they are ready to be printed. It is expensive to pay the printer, but it is very much needed.

My radio program still continues, but the schedule has been changed. It is now on 4:00-5:00 p.m. every Sunday.

We have many Bible studies in Cabanatuan, and another group of college students are requesting me to teach them in their boarding house. We shall start this coming Wednesday evening if the Lord is willing.

I have given up the house we were renting in Cabanatuan because it was too expensive, so I often go home to San Jose since I do not have a permanent place to stay there.

May we ask you dear saints to continue to pray for us. Our Lord's second coming is very near and we must do all that we can to save the lost.

Yours in the harvest field,

—Bro. Matias S. Tanguan

From Bendel State, Nigeria . . .

Sept. 25—Dear Bro. Wayne Murphey and all of the holy city: Greetings in the all-prevailing power of the Lord Jesus, the founder of the Church of the living God.

The Lord is greatly to be praised. He is in our midst in a big way. The work He assigned to us is given our best attention, knowing that we are not laboring in vain. He is worthy again to be given thanks immensely for sanctifying His people to live a holy life, which has brought to pass a rise above this world of pollution, to a height of His will for us in holiness. We are enjoying a quiet talk with Him and dwelling with Him in supernal realm. His saints are possessing the Kingdom, even with its silver and gold. Amen.

The church at Kwale financed the young people of both Kwale and Obetim-Une congregations who travelled out in a chartered bus to camp at Umuachi-Afor for three days of evangelistic meetings from August 17 to 19. It is a matter of much interest to report that some of the good seeds sown sprang up immediately by the power of our indefatigable Christ, and were added to the Church. Feeders are regularly sent from Kwale to Umuachi-Afor to supply the members with food of divine approval.

In no area are we idle. The secondary occupation of most of us is farming and is being given keen attention that we might earn an independent living while preaching the gospel. Paul makes significant mention of the fact that Barnabas, who had willingly impoverished himself in the interest of the Church, was found laboring with his own hands to support himself on his missionary journeys. We are anxious that others should know the spring of spiritual joy and share the blessing we so highly prize.

Yours devotedly, —Bro. Titus U. E. Enu

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From Rivers State, Nigeria . . .

Oct. 8—Dear Brother in Christ: Greetings of love once again in the most highly exalted name of our Redeemer, Jesus Christ, who is the blessed and only potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords. To Him be glory now and forever.

Words cannot express my thanks and appreciation to the God of our salvation for the soul covering He has provided for us through the shed precious blood of His only begotten Son. I hope this finds you and the co-workers there spiritually and physically covered and healthy.

Our third quarterly revival meeting for this year was recently concluded with the keeping of the Lord's Supper and Feet Washing ordinances.

During these services, a middle-aged brother, who has been backslidden, became convicted of his awful state. The church prayed a prayer of forgiveness on his behalf, and so with an assurance of peace restored in his soul, he partook in the Lord's Supper communion. Brother Sunday has an affliction in his body for which we are praying. Please help pray for his recovery.

Since we learned of the civil crises in Liberia we have been praying to God for the restoration of peace and harmony in that country, especially for the sake of the saints there. We are confident that God will hear and answer the prevailing prayers of His children concerning the Liberian crises. The Liberian brethren should please take heart and hope in God's own salvation.

Owing to the continued presence of the peace-keeping police unit in Tombia and in Bukuma, the fighting between the two communities has not recurred. We still solicit prayers, as normal business transactions between the two communities are yet to resume. Traditional rulers in the Kalabari clan have begun investigations into the dispute with a view to reallocating a permanent boundary on the disputed land. We are optimistic that God will eventually have a cause to be glorified with regard to this dispute.

God bless all of you, —Bro. Onimite B. Alalibo

In Memoriam

Lucille (Elliott) (Trimble) Peterson, daughter of Fred and Sadie (Stover) Gatke, was born in Los Angeles, CA on Nov. 4, 1910. Sis. Lucille gained what she had so desired and labored for many years as she departed this world from The Golden Rule Home in Shawnee, on Aug. 23, 1990, at the age of 79 years, 9 months, and 19 days.

She repented for her sins and became a member of the Church of God by the new birth very young in life and enjoyed a faithful walk with God and served Him, living a life of sacrifice and caring more for others' well-being than her own pleasure. She was an example of a true Christ-like life, which left testimonials of leading others to Jesus. Much more could be said about Sis. Lucille. If others would follow her example the Kingdom of God would be blessed. We can rejoice with Sis. Lucille that she gained the reward she has labored so faithfully for.

She was married to Floyd Elliott, then to Jess Trimble, and on Sept. 21, 1987 to Bro. Alfred

Peterson. She and Bro. Peterson were very happy and made precious examples of love for God and others. Bro. Peterson preceded her in death in August, 1989. She leaves behind five step-sons and six step-daughters, a beloved sister-in-law, Helen Gatke of Sanora, CA, a number of nieces, nephews and cousins, including Bro. Bob Stover of Tulsa, OK, as well as a host of other saints and friends.

The services were conducted by Bro. Merrill D. Smith at the Church of God chapel in Shawnee, OK. Burial was at Bethel Cemetery near The Golden Rule Home, Inc.

Edna (DeBruler) Davis was born Jan. 22, 1895 at Winslow, IN, to Oliver Perry and Viola Cordella DeBruler. Sis. Davis spent her girlhood days in Winslow, IN, getting saved at a very young age. At age 19 she took a business course and worked for a short time, then went to Anderson, IN and worked at the Gospel Trumpet Co. for a while. She attended the Church of God in Indianapolis, IN and married Mr. Elmer Davis, a widower with five children, ages 3-11. These step-children speak highly of their godly step-mother, and said when their father brought this beautiful lady home and said, "This is your new mother," the youngest one said she has never forgotten the hug and kiss she got that moment.

Sister Edna suffered many heartaches, persecutions, and trials, but she stayed true to God and lived a beautiful Christ-like life. She came to The Golden Rule Home apartments in October, 1978 and has been a great blessing to our congregation here.

She departed this life to be with the Lord from The Golden Rule Home on Aug. 30, 1990, and leaves behind three step-sons, James Lee Davis and Elmer Paul Davis, Indianapolis, IN, and Charles William Davis, Winchester, KY; two step-daughters, Mary Katherine Nelson, Indianapolis, IN, and Betty Jane Garner, Waelder, TX; a niece, two nephews, and a host of other friends, relatives, and saints.

Services were conducted by Bro. Merrill D. Smith at the Church of God chapel in Shawnee, OK. Burial was at Bethel Cemetery near The Golden Rule Home, Inc.

Ada Clarene (Fritz) Scanlon was born Dec. 25, 1900 in Gridley, IL, to Eustace and Kate (Mosimay) Fritz. Sis. Scanlon became a member of the Church of God through full and complete salvation many years ago. She was instrumental in leading her husband, John Edward Scanlon, and her father to the Lord in her life. Sis. Scanlon

served the Lord in the life of much prayer and love for the mission fields the world over. Her labors in the mission fields by means of letter writing, sending lots of Bibles, gospel literature, clothing, etc., undoubtedly has and will yield a harvest that only eternity will reveal.

Sis. Scanlon departed this life from The Golden Rule Home for her new home in heaven on Aug. 31, 1990. She came to The Golden Rule Home apartments 19 years ago and was certainly an asset to the congregation here. She loved The Golden Rule Home and was so thankful God permitted her to be here.

Sis. Scanlon earnestly prayed for her sister and family while they were living. She leaves behind a niece, Gloria Johnson of St. Charles, MO, one nephew, Gerald Brown of St. Louis, MO, and a host of other relatives, saints, and friends.

Services were conducted by Bro. Merrill D. Smith at the Church of God chapel in Shawnee, OK, on Sept. 4. Burial was at Bethel Cemetery near The Golden Rule Home, Inc.



Wanita Pearl Stice DiDio was born July 22, 1921 at Sheldon, MO, to Lester Leroy and Ethel May Stice and departed this life on Sept. 15, 1990.

On March 24, 1949 she was married to Bro. Salvatore DiDio. They are parents of five children: Nijel, an infant daughter who preceded her in death, Carmelina Waite, and Catherine Bhramayana of New Sarpy, LA, Olene Whiddon of Mandeville, LA, and Alford DiDio of Hammond, LA. The DiDios made their home in Hammond, LA for some 35 years before moving to New Sarpy about five years ago. Sis. DiDio is also grandmother to six grandchildren, as well as having many other relatives and friends.

Sis. DiDio had the report that she loved the Lord with all her heart and served Him from her youth. She was a blessing to her mother, brother, and sisters by working hard and contributing her funds to the family needs during her early adult years when her parents lived in Webb City, MO. She has been a faithful wife and mother. She devoted her later years to helping her children and caring for her grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Bros. Ed Wilson and Bob Forbes.

NOTE OF THANKS

The passing of my dear wife has made a change; in that we miss Sister Wanita being part of us. She was a faithful wife and a praying mother. She has gone to join an invisible choir of saints and angels singing songs of "Home, Sweet Home." But for the consolation of the Hope of Glory, and the

many compassionate friends who communicated with us, and their prayers, we would not have held up as well as we all did. In this writing we want to thank all who participated in caring for wife, and for the many get-well cards and kindly offerings.

—Bro. Salvatore DiDio

Gone, But Not Forgotten

Our hearts in deepest sympathy
Go out to you today
To hear how death's unsought decree
Of late has come your way.

Your precious wife and mother dear
Is gone, how can it be?
And yet we know for us down here
Appointed all are we.

To leave this world and take our flight
To God from whence we came
And Christ has come to give us light
And hope, Oh, praise His name!

Your precious loved one trusted Him
Who died to set her free,
She followed through the shadows dim
His faith and victory!

And now she's gone to ever share
The bliss of joys above
Where Christ and all His saints are there
In perfect holy love.

For just a little while are we
Who tarry yet below
From them to separated be
To face life's weal and woe.

But let us be steadfast and true,
With courage press along,
And make the best in all we do
Of life and let's be strong.

For that's what she would have us be
And someday we shall meet
In that bright home eternally
Where all is joy complete.

—Bro. Leslie Busbee



A young man who lay dying said, "I want you to bury my influence with me." Alas, such cannot be done!

The son of a wealthy man was scratching upon a show window with the diamond in his ring. A ragged newsboy said to him, "Don't do that." The rich boy replied, "I guess I have a right to do as I please." "Yes," answered the newsboy, "but you can't rub it out." And so it is. The life we live cannot be erased. Jesus can forgive, but the evil influence that was started flows on.

—C. E. Orr

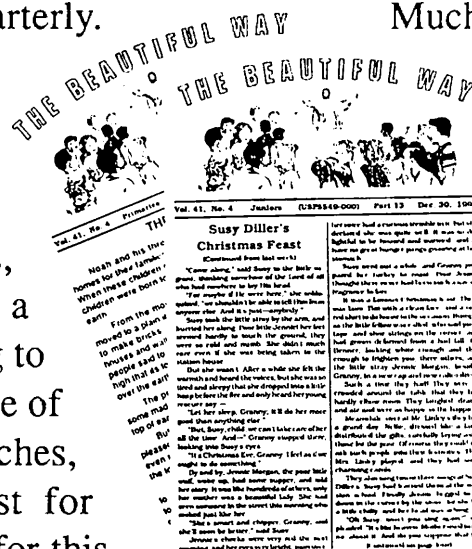
HELP CHILDREN TO FOLLOW

The Beautiful Way

The Beautiful Way is a weekly religious paper for primaries and juniors. It has been published since 1948 by **Faith Publishing House**. The editor, Sis. Charlotte Huskey, is much encouraged with the response she has received from Sunday school teachers who are using these materials. They comment that teachers and parents appreciate the lessons quoting from the King James Version of the Bible, also that the continued stories motivate students to attend each class while emphasizing God's Word as being the highest authority. Letters of appreciation from Africa for the bundles that are sent to native pastors free of charge are also being received. *The Beautiful Way* lessons are not only ideal to be used in church Sunday school classes, but have many other uses. We believe that if more people knew of the availability and of the satisfaction expressed by those who use *The Beautiful Way*, more would subscribe to this quarterly.

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Question and Answer by Ostis B. Wilson

Question: Please, will you discuss and explain the following Scriptures: Hebrews 4:4-5, Exodus 20:8; and 31:12-17?

Answer: All of these Scriptures are related and combine together in the same topic; namely, the rest of the people of God. So we will unite them together in the discussion. Hebrews 4:4-5 says, "For he spake in a certain place of the seventh day on this wise, And God did rest the seventh day from all his works. And in this place again, If they shall enter into my rest."

These verses fall in the middle of a passage which continues from the first verse through the eleventh verse. The first verse says, "Let us therefore fear, lest, a promise being left us of entering into his rest, any of you should seem to come short of it." Verses 9-11 conclude the passage and they say, "There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God. For he that is entered into his rest, he also hath ceased from his own works, as God did from his. Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief." All of this passage refers to the rest to the people of God, but the fourth verse injects the idea that the seventh day and the Old Testament seventh day sabbath had some connection with it, so we will go back now and pick up a few references pertaining to it and see if we can confirm this relationship in the Scriptures.

In Exodus 16:23 we find mention of "the rest of the holy sabbath unto the Lord." This is the first reference in the Scriptures to the sabbath and it was made 1400 years after God had completed the work of creation. So it would seem evident that no one before Moses, including Enoch who walked with God and had the testimony that he pleased God, or Noah who found favor with God through which he and his house were saved from the destruction of the flood, or Abraham who believed God and it was counted to him for righteousness and through his faith became the father of all those who believe, nor any of the patriarchs knew anything of, nor observed any sabbath. It was reserved for a special people, the chosen people of God (Israel), and was given them at Sinai when the law was given for a special specific purpose. Note: This text refers to the "rest of the holy sabbath" and indicates that the holiness of the day consisted in total rest from physical labor on that day. This thought is prominent in every reference to the sabbath, or nearly so, throughout the Old Testa-

ment Scriptures. This is important to the discussion and the meaning of the sabbath.

In Exodus 20:8-11 we have this: "Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: But the seventh day is the sabbath of the Lord thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work. . . . For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it." Again the idea of ceasing from all physical labor on that day is related to the holiness of the day. They were commanded to keep the day holy and in the very next verse they were forbidden to do any work on that day, and the next verse just emphasizes and confirms that command.

Exodus 31:12-17 is one of the passages included in the question and it comes right in line here with the overall discussion. Verse 14 says, "Ye shall keep the sabbath thereof; for it is holy unto you: every one that defileth it shall surely be put to death: for whosoever doeth any work therein, that soul shall be cut off from among his people." We see here again that doing any work on the sabbath constituted a defiling of the day and the penalty was death. We have a specific case recorded in Numbers 15:32-36 where a man was found picking up sticks on the sabbath day. They brought him to Moses and Aaron and they put him in ward until they could inquire of the Lord concerning him. The Lord said the man should surely die, so the congregation stoned him and he died there. This may sound very severe to us, but God had said in Exodus 35:3, "Ye shall kindle no fire throughout your habitations upon the sabbath day." He required strict obedience to this command.

In the face of all this background of Scriptures regarding the Old Testament and with knowledge that it has a direct connection with the passage in the fourth chapter of Hebrews, verses 1-11 (verses 4-5), let us see how these two sets of Scriptures dovetail. In Colossians 2:16-17 we read, "Let no man therefore judge you in meat or in drink, or in respect of an holyday, or of the new moon, or of the **sabbath days**: Which are a shadow of things to come; but the body is of Christ." We see here that the Old Testament sabbath and all of its provisions was a shadow or type of the New Testament Christians' rest to the soul through faith in Christ. The holiness of that Old Testament sabbath consisting in refraining from all physical labor on that day was a type of the child of God abandoning and forsaking all of his own works, and casting himself wholly and without reservation on the Lord for Him to work His works in him.

Hebrews 4:10 says, "For he that is entered into his rest, he also hath ceased from his own works, as God did from his." I consider this text to refer to all of our own works, righteous or wicked, and just allowing God to work His works in us according to His own pleasure. In Romans 10:3, Paul spoke of a class of people who were going about to establish their own righteousness but had not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God. All such works and efforts of our own to establish our own righteousness must be laid aside and our trust must be fully in Christ and the atonement He made for our righteousness if we are to find this rest in Him. According to Exodus 31:14, any work done on the sabbath constituted a defiling of the day. Just so, any works we do outside of Christ working in us constitutes a defiling of our sabbath, which is Christ. Paul said in Romans 15:18, "For I will not dare to speak of any of those things which Christ hath not wrought by me,..." In I Corinthians 15:10 Paul referred to his abundant labors but hastened on to add, "Yet not I, but the **grace of God** which was with me." Just as any work constituted a defiling of the sabbath and the penalty was death, so any of our works and efforts in the Kingdom of God which do not fall in the category of being anointed, inspired, and energized by the Spirit of God, will constitute a defiling of our sabbath (Christ), and if persisted in will produce spiritual death to our souls.



We thank you dear God, and Father above,
For all of your greatness, compassion and love;
We thank you God for trials you send;
They're never meant to hurt or offend.

We thank you dear God, for keeping our soul,
Everyday while the moments roll;
Without your love we'd be enslaved,
And go down, down to a hopeless grave.

Lest we forget, we thank you God for daily bread;
And also for the roof over our heads;
For breath and health we're thankful too;
And as each day passes we keep heaven in view.

We thank you for the victory over all our foes;
The Devil's defeated in all of his woes;
God will help us with His power,
And with His grace He'll greatly shower.

The greatest blessings that we can behold;
Are because you made the sacrifice for our soul;
And fixed a place for us to dwell;
When we bid this old dark world farewell.

—Maxine Browne



Excerpts Taken From

November, 1940 *Faith and Victory*

Report of Evangelistic Company

"When we arrived at Clovis, [NM] we found the little flock there wondering at our delay. But God's care attended us all the way, praise His dear name. Bro. and Sis. D. Gibson were there before us, but the meeting had just nicely gotten started when a message came that Sister Gibson's brother, Paul Davis, had suddenly passed from time and timely things, leaving a dear little brokenhearted wife with three little girls, some sisters and two brothers to mourn their loss. But dear ones, when your loss is their gain, all is well. . . . Bro. and Sis. Gibson went to the funeral while we continued with the meeting, God blessing.

"The day the meeting was to close, dear Bro. Marvin, Sister Nola, and Zetta Mae Porter arrived on their way from CA to their home in MO. As all wanted to hear Sister Porter preach, the meeting was announced for the next night. Our dear sister brought a precious message from God's Word, laid down her Bible, had a heart attack, and 'she was not for God took her.' "

—By Mrs. G. E. Harmon