

# FAITH<sup>AND</sup>VICTORY

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## Church of God Servant



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### Angels, Roll the Rock Away!

Angels, roll the rock away;  
Death, yield up the mighty prey!  
See! the Saviour quits the tomb,  
Glowing with immortal bloom.  
Hallelujah hallelujah!  
Christ the Lord is risen to-day.

Shout, ye seraphs! angels, raise  
Your eternal song of praise!  
Let the earth's remotest bound  
Echo to the blissful sound!  
Hallelujah! hallelujah!  
Christ the Lord is risen to-day.

Holy Father, Holy Son,  
Holy Spirit, Three in One,  
Glory as of old to thee,  
Now and evermore, shall be!  
Hallelujah! hallelujah!  
Christ the Lord is risen to-day.  
—Thomas Scott

### The Seeking Heart

by Carol Cole

When God created man, He put something of Himself into him—a living soul. "And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul." Gen. 2:7.

An allegory of this would be the joy of a mother and father as they look upon the face of their newborn child. They see another part of themselves. How their hearts yearn toward this little helpless being that is their very own. They do everything within their power to nurture and care for their child.

So it is with our Heavenly Father. "God is love," would best define how He feels toward us and cares for us.

However, there is also a very evil spirit in the world. Our adversary, the Devil, is full of hatred toward God and mankind. Since the beginning of time he has tried to thwart and ruin God's purpose for creating man.

God made us because He yearned for a very close tie of communion. This was designed to work by man's own free will or matter of choice based on love and obedience to God; but the Devil was very jealous of the close fellowship, and used strong temptation to overcome Adam and Eve.

No doubt the forbidden fruit they partook of tasted as good as it looked. The tempter had also said it would make them wise. Instead, they experienced a terrible guilt, and great fear came upon them when they heard the voice of God calling for them. When Adam was questioned he answered, "... The woman whom thou gavest to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat.

And the Lord God said unto the woman, What is this that thou hast done? And the woman said, The serpent beguiled me, and I did eat." Gen. 3:12-13. Then they were driven out of the beautiful garden that had been so lovingly created for them.

What pain and grief God's great heart of love endured! He knew that mankind would be condemned to die without a Saviour—but God had a plan.

How can we ever doubt the love of God? His redemption plan was even greater than all the wonderful marvels of creation. God's only Son, Jesus, was willing to do the will of His Father. Thus, "in the fulness of time" Jesus came to save us from our sins. In order to redeem us, He died in agony upon the cross of Calvary. However, His real torture was not only from the physical pain, but from the realization that many, many precious souls He was seeking to save would reject His tender love, mercy, and forgiveness. In His dying moments His broken heart cried out to God, "Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do." (Luke 23:34).

Truly Jesus is "the seeking heart." Jesus has not only given His life's blood, but also His broken heart to seek and save our lost and dying immortal souls.

Thus these words spoken by Jesus have come to pass. "I am the door, by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture."

The next words spoken by our Saviour are a warning, and perfectly describe our mortal enemy. "The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy." Jesus further explained that by the giving of His own life, we could have eternal life. "I am come that they might have life and that they might have it more abundantly. I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep." (John 10:10-11).

On the first Easter morning Jesus arose triumphant from the tomb. Death, hell, and the grave had been conquered! He is alive now and for evermore!

As this Easter season draws nigh, consider "the seeking heart" of Jesus. Oh, how He loves us and wants to save and keep us safe from the tempter's power.

Nevertheless, the thief of our soul is even more cunning than ever. He uses any means to foil "the seeking heart" of Jesus. One of his most cruel methods is to accuse and abuse us. He will never fail to point out a short-coming or failing,

and completely blow it out of proportion in our minds in such a manner that we feel crushed and hopeless about ourselves. If the Devil can keep all these thoughts churning in our mind, he will "steal" our salvation, "kill" our desire to live for God, and in the end "destroy" our precious soul.

Another brutal attack the Devil has that can affect so many lives is to compare yourself with others. "But they measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves, are not wise." (II Cor. 10:12). How does God want us to feel or react to some among us whom we feel are not measured up to all God would have us be? The first thing to do is pray for a special love for that person or persons. God who is "love," will gladly give us more love for them. Generally, God will tell us that it isn't necessary to say anything to them, that His Spirit will gently woo and work with them. Did not Jesus say it was needful for Him to go away so He could send the Comforter? "But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, . . ." John 14:26.

The only time it would be necessary to say something about a need to someone would be if the Holy Spirit deeply impressed you to do so. Seeing a lack is not nearly enough reason to deal with a precious soul. Only when the Spirit is definitely leading should this be done. ". . . Ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself lest thou also be tempted." (Gal. 6:1).

Jesus said these very words, ". . . It is impossible but that offences will come: but woe unto him, through whom they come! It were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and he cast into the sea, than that he should offend one of these little ones." Luke 17:1-2.

The best approach is to get our eyes off people or circumstances and fix them on **Jesus**. When we have the real true love of Christ in our hearts, we will have a burning desire to share that love with others. We want them to experience the same wonderful salvation that we are enjoying. With this attitude, we are not going to be looking for their faults, we are going to love them and pray for their needs.

Consider the life of Christ when He came to this sin-sick world. He came to seek and save and deliver us from all sin. If He had not loved us so much, He would never have chosen to die

for us in our stead. Surely it behooves us to manifest this same Christ-like spirit of His "seeking heart" to our fellowman.

Christian love,

—Carol Cole

# DELIVERED

## Jesus Can Work it Out

My name is Andrew Joseph Jr. I am an inmate at the Louisiana State Penitentiary, Angola, LA. I have been incarcerated here 11 years on mandatory life because of first degree murder. I was found guilty in 1979 in the month of March. The crime was a very sad thing in my life. Everyone in lock-up always says they are innocent. I won't even get into this. I am still going through the judicial process for relief.

In 1979 when I was arrested for this crime I was a drug addict and an alcoholic in a very real sense. However, I would be remiss if I didn't share with you my life as best I can in this limited space. I am very concerned about our young people who think it is so cool to get high and make money through that process. I am also concerned about society and where it is heading. The world is in a bad way, and many of God's people are not standing for righteousness as they are themselves involved in so much worldly and sensuous pleasures. Maybe this episode as I share with you will help detour you from a life that seems great, but the end results are a life of misery and incarceration, if you are fortunate enough not to get killed.

When I was nine years old, I rebelled against the teachings of my parents. My mother was dead and I was living with my grandmother, while my four brothers and sisters were with my father who was a good man. My character should have been great by the standards I was raised by, but somewhere in my mind I was rebellious because I wanted to run my own life at that early age, so I rebelled against everything that was right and good for me. I hated to go to church and when I was sent to Sunday school, I would take a long way there so I could be late or not show up at all.

The money I had for church collection I would keep and spend on something that was

worthless. I guess if Grandmother would have taken me to church, life would be a little different, but people do send their children to church instead of taking them. Anyway, by the time I was twelve years old, I had already been introduced to marijuana and sex. I thought that was cool until I tried drinking on top of that and doing stronger drugs. Consequently it led to my first incarceration at age thirteen in a juvenile home. It was a mistake for a naive boy to be thrown into an environment like that. It was there I learned a way of life that was, but for the grace of God, a destruction that has cost me all my life. I am not making an excuse to justify my life of criminality. It may well be that this is the best thing that happened to me, considering the way I lived. I am one of the few who has lived long enough to show the saving power of God.

Let's talk about money. I made great deals of money; I lived the life that is afforded one with blood money. I had it made so far as money was concerned. I traveled all over the world in lear jets; the whole spectrum. I probably made more money in one day than the average person made in one year. I had jewelry, fame, clothes, cars, and lived high on the hog. I was a criminal in the highest sense of the word.

When I was arrested for this crime, something happened to me that changed everything for which I stood. While looking out the cell window, I felt lost and without any help or anybody in the world. I had a family, but deep inside of me I knew I could not depend on them any more. This I said was just too much. Then I turned my head toward heaven and said, "God, if there is a chance for me to live, I want your help, and whatever you want me to do, you have it. I am willing to serve you as I can." At that moment the Lord gave me such a peace that from that moment on I knew I would be a different person. I also knew I would be gone a long time, but that in time the Lord would deliver me. I've been waiting all these years for this, but I believe when I am finished with my work here, He will deliver me.

After my conversion I stayed in jail a year and seven months before leaving for Angola, and it was then that the Lord trusted me with the preaching of the gospel. When I arrived at Angola it took the Lord a very short time before I was pastoring a congregation of my peers. I have served in this capacity for 11 years, and thank God for the power of the Holy Spirit. It

(Continued on page 16)

## FAITH AND VICTORY

### 16 PAGE HOLINESS MONTHLY



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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



During World War II, on the British front, a big push was in progress. The Germans were in retreat. The great tanks made nothing of the houses, flattening them and moving on over the debris. But one tank had stopped. It wasn't disabled. It had no casualties among its crew. There was plenty of ammunition, yet it stopped dead in its tracks. An officer came up and demanded why the huge iron beast should halt, when the job was far from finished. The tank men understood his impatience, but still the monster rested, "The trouble is, Sir," said one of the crew, "we've got to the edge of our map."

This story portrays to me the age old and still true adage from Proverbs 29:18, that where there is no vision, the people perish. There is much in God's vineyard to be accomplished, and no professed Christian should be blind to some work that needs supported and accomplished. The Bible has mapped out how we should occupy right up until the Lord returns, and as we look around we can see the verity of the conditions described by Christ in the congealing of the end time. The injunction of Christ in Mark 16:15 "... Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature," can easily be translated into an active venture fitting our present society. As the Church moves forward, we can see there are buildings to be built, pastors to be supported, widows to be visited, children to be taught, foreign mission fields to be gained, hungry to be fed, abused to be helped, congregations to be established, and above all, right living to be exemplified and prayers to be prayed.

These needs are present in a very real way and can be seen by simple scrutiny. I realize there are many problems that exist which need help of which none of us are cognizant, and it is to our mental well being that we aren't. God is not calling one person to transform the world, but the injunction is to the Church. And as the Church exercises responsibility in relieving the problems at hand, God will open up new areas. A study of history shows that God opens up opportunities only as much as the dedication of His people will encompass and their vision will encircle.

Bro. James Bell recently preached a message in which he made a statement that we will be able to help others just as much as we feel comfortable in doing so. This can only be done

by getting a new and inspired vision and obtaining experience by getting in the trenches where the work of helping others is being carried out.

No matter where God has placed you in His grand scheme of vineyard reaping, just be sure you never come to the edge of the map or life will cease to be life, and living will simply be living.

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Bro. Josiah Pah, from Monrovia, Liberia, has had a real desire to come to the States this summer in order to attend some camp meetings. We have corresponded with Bro. Pah for several years and he has manifested a true likeness with us in belief, and now wishes to experience the fellowship of the saints. Bro. Pah has the oversight of a number of congregations in Liberia and I feel it would solidify the Church of God in that country if He could see the workings of the saints in person. In order to accomplish this trip, the funds for it must be realized soon so that the government papers required can be obtained. We have set the end of this month (April) as the deadline to know whether to begin the process of paperwork, so we would appreciate hearing from anyone burdened to help before that time. If enough funds are received, we would also consider sponsoring Bro. Pah's wife to come with him.

There has also been discussion about helping Bro. John Varghese with air fare to attend this summer's camp meetings. In the past, when he has had the opportunity of being here, he has added a needed dimension to our services. Any contribution for this project can be sent to this office.

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We gladly welcomed Sis. Janie Woodruff of Shell Lake, Wisconsin to the Print Shop staff. She arrived in Guthrie on March 15 and has quickly acclimated to the work here. Her daughter, Sis. Tracie, who has been helping in the *Path of Life* School this term, is staying with her and Sis. Licha Lara in the Print Shop house east of the shop. We desire God's blessings upon them as they give of their talents and time to His work.

—Wayne Murphey



## Prayer Requests

NC—"Please pray for a nephew who has a mental condition." —Anna Hypes

IL—"Please pray for my adopted daughter who is on drugs and alcohol." —Lillian Beed

NC—"Please remember me in prayer for the

shortness of breath I'm experiencing since I had bronchitis last year." —Sis. Angela Taylor

OK—Sis. Bessie Patton has heart trouble and would appreciate prayer.

OK—"Please remember my sister and me in prayer. I also have a special unspoken request, and I am going through a trial."

—Juliette Lounds

UT—"Pray for my husband who is ill."

—Martha East

IN—"Please pray for me." —Earl Bliss

LA—"Please remember several serious needs concerning myself and family."

—Gladys Harper

WV—"I need your prayers that God will heal me so I can walk again." —Queen Lazader



## Meeting Reports and Notices

### Camp Meetings '92

Goulds, FL—April 5-12

Myrtle, MO—May 13-17

Oklahoma State at Guthrie, OK—May 22-31

Tulsa, OK—June 5-14

Jefferson, OR—June 12-21

Green Bank, WV—June 12-21

Loranger, LA—June 26-July 5

Fresno, CA—July 3-12

National (Monark Springs, MO)—July 17-26

Duncannon, PA—August 9-16

Boley, OK—August 23-30

California State at Pacoima, CA—Aug. 28-Sept. 6



### WICHITA, KS SPRING MEETING

We plan to have our spring meeting April 17-26, Monday through Saturday we hope to have a day service at 11:00 a.m. and a night service at 7:30. On the two Sundays we plan to have three services and dinner at the chapel.

We are standing in need of special blessings from our Father above and will have good appetites, waiting and ready to be fed sumptuously from the Master's table. Our God is always faithful, so we know He will send what is needed and whom He pleases to bring the feast to us. We desire the prayers of all who feel burdened to pray that God will have His way and bless abundantly. We need warriors to come with a mind to fight in the battle and help win the victory.

The chapel address is 1701 N. Ash, Wichita, KS 67214, phone—(316) 267-9582.

**BOLEY, OK SPRING MEETING**

Lord willing, the Boley Spring Meeting will convene April 30-May 3, 1992.

We extend a warm welcome to all nations to attend this meeting. "Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: . . ." Isa. 1:18.

We are looking to the Lord to send ministers and workers of His own choice. Come praying the Lord will bless with a Holy Spirit meeting, remembering the Lord's request: "Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth labourers into his harvest." (Luke 10:2).

There will be services nightly at 7:30 and all-day services on Sunday at 10:45 a.m., 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

For further information contact, Sis. Anna May Thompson, Rt. 1, Box 71-A, Boley, OK 74829, phone (918) 667-3648, or Sis. Katherine Williams, 905 N. E. 15th St., Oklahoma City, OK 73104, phone (405) 235-2270.

Prayerfully submitted,

—Sis. Katherine Williams

**MISSOURI STATE CAMP MEETING**

The Missouri State Camp Meeting held at Myrtle, MO, will begin, Lord willing, on Wednesday, May 13, and continue through Sunday, May 17, 1992.

We, the Myrtle congregation, extend a cordial invitation to all to attend. The campground facilities will accommodate a large crowd, which we are expecting, and we are sure that all who come hungering and thirsting after righteousness will find a bountiful supply at Father's table. There will be three services daily. Come praying for the success of the meeting and the salvation of souls.

Bring bedding, if convenient, and please come prepared for possible cool weather. The campground phone number is (417) 938-4682.

—Harlan Sorrell

**NORTHPORT, AL REVIVAL**

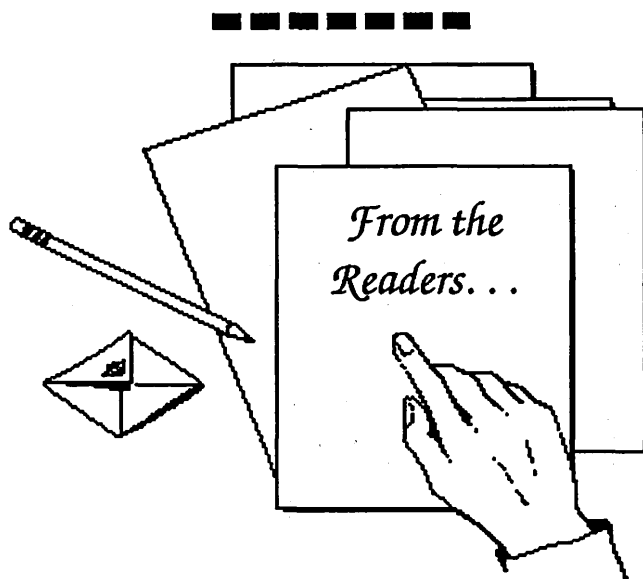
The saints of God in Northport, AL wish to announce a revival meeting to be held on June 21-28. We extend a warm welcome to each and every one of you who wish to attend. We are also looking to the Lord to send ministers and workers of His own choice. Come praying that the Lord will save souls. There will be some home accommodations and there are motels within walking distance. Meals will be served in the dining hall.

For more information contact Bro. Henry Effinger at 2801 Short 16th St. Tuscaloosa, AL 35405, phone (205) 345-7854; Sis. Jessie B. Shelton, 3940 28th Avenue, Northport, AL 35476, phone (205) 339-3026; or Sis. Bernice Petty, 2207 4th St. East, Tuscaloosa, AL 35404, phone (205) 553-4450.

**HOLLY HILL, SC SPRING MEETING**

Lord willing, Holly Hill will have a spring meeting May 1-10. We are looking and praying for a good meeting wrought by the prayers of the dear saints. A hearty welcome is extended to all who will come. We do pray that God will find those who are burdened for the meeting.

For more information, contact Bro. Utson Platt, Rt. 1, Box 194, Holly Hill, SC 29059.



WA—Dear friends at the Lord's Print Shop: We are thankful to the Lord for His mercy to us. He recently healed me of an affliction on my body. I surely thank Him for His healing power. Christian love, —Sister Violet Thomas

LA—Dear ones: Greetings of love in Jesus' sweet name. I want to take another opportunity to thank and praise the Lord for what He has done for us.

In February we were told and shown that our unborn child had water surrounding the brain. We understood that the chances would be rare for this to change, once detected. But, knowing that we serve a higher power, the King of kings, and Lord of lords, we took our petition before God and called for prayer. God's presence was so real throughout the ordeal. At times when it looked dark and hopeless, He would

sweep down and carry me on the wings of His love. Two weeks later I went back for further testing. The doctor came in the room all smiles and said, "Someone has been doing a lot of praying here." We were full of emotion and thanksgiving to God immediately all together. The doctor and nurse exclaimed over the miracle that had happened.

I'm thankful to be serving a God who reigns over all. He has never lost any power and never will. He is just the same today and can heal and work as He did in the early reformation times.

We want to live in such a way that God will always answer our prayers, and raise our family to love and serve Him. —Linda and Ben Rabel

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MO—Dear Bro. Wayne Murphey: Greetings in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ. I am learning more how to trust in Jesus for what I need. He knows what I need before I ask Him. A long while back I had sugar diabetes, but God healed me of it. I don't have it any more. . . . God can do anything. He is all I need.

Keep me and my loved ones on your prayer list. I will pray for you. —Sister Eathel Hill

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MI—Dear Bro. Wayne: Greetings to all of you dear ones in the precious name of Jesus. I pray you are all doing fine. I praise God for all of you dear workers who help to get His Word to all the lost souls who are in darkness. As you sow the seed, the reaping will come soon.

Thank God for His precious Son and His blessed Word which is our guide for life. "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path." Ps. 119:105. "Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee." Ps. 119:11. I'm so glad we can lean on His promise. He is so good to us and blesses us each day of our life. What could we do without our dear Lord?

I thank all of you for your prayers. May God bless each and every one of you richly in body and soul. —Sis. Olive Gettersen

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AL—Greetings once again in Jesus' name: Continue to pray for the Goulds' congregation. We are still suffering from the place left vacant by our pastor, Bro. Herschell Hargrave. Pray that the Lord will continue to keep us in the straight and narrow way. Pray for these families: Clay's, Cox's, Edwards', Riley's, Hargrave's, McIntyre's, Bennette's, Radcliffe's, Simpson's, Hickman's, Baxter's, Stranchan's, Gaines',

Reese's, Evans', Sis. Glenda, and any others I may have forgotten. Pray for both the Miami and the Goulds' congregations.

Yours in Christ, —Florine Edwards

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MO—Dear Bro. Wayne: Greetings to you in Jesus' holy name. Hope all is going well with you and all the workers there at the Lord's Print Shop. I enjoy the *Faith and Victory* very much. The good articles that it contains are very encouraging. The saints of God have the very best of everything this side of heaven and also have the hope of it. I have been thinking much here of late about the riches of Christ and how He has promised to supply all our needs according to His riches in glory. If I understand right, He has all the riches in heaven and in earth at His disposal. Of course, He can only give us what we need and what our faith takes in, but it is still encouraging to know that He has them in His hand. However, I realize our greatest need is spiritual, but the other is still encouraging.

—Bro. T. V. McMillian

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MS—Dear Brother Wayne: I sure do appreciate the saints at Loranger, LA, since I have been living in Prentiss, MS. Some of the saints have come to see me. Whenever the saints come and leave, it makes me feel so good to think someone cared about me. . . .

I have been trying to live for God since I left Hammond in June of 1990. Please remember me in your prayers.

Christian love, —LaFairy Mooney

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LA—Dear saints: I hope this letter finds you all rejoicing in the Lord and enjoying all His many blessings.

As you may know, we at Jena, LA recently had a singing on February 22, and I am still rejoicing in the Lord.

A number of saints were in attendance from different parts of the country. I hope they were as blessed as they were a blessing. The singing was divine and what sweet fellowship there was among the saints.

The Sunday following the singing, we had a service followed by dinner on the grounds.

The Lord brought a message through Bro. Stanley Dickson on not giving place to the Devil. He used Ephesians 4:27 for his Scripture text.

When the services were over I left feeling renewed, uplifted, and more determined to press the battle on.

I would like to thank all the saints who had a part in this meeting; those who came from afar, as well as the local saints. Most of all I would like to thank the Lord for blessing in such a marked way.

I have two prayer requests I have been holding before the Lord. I now feel the complete assurance that prayer has been answered and that God's will is going to be done in these matters. So I would like to thank the Lord for answering prayer, and also thank the saints for praying for me.

I love my God and all of His blood-bought saints with all my heart. As the Holy Spirit moves on your heart, remember me in your prayers. I want to make heaven and I want to bring as many with me as I can. . . .

Yours in Christ, —Jim Bowman

OH—Dear friends and co-laborers of Jesus, our Saviour: Just a line to tell you how much I appreciate the *Faith and Victory*. I really and truly enjoy this little monthly blessing from God. There are so many good things to pass along to others.

I have been saved for 41 years. My health has not been very good, but I still do what I can. . . .

I am reigning with Christ now on this earth to the glory of God. —Ralph Price

IA—Dear brothers and sisters: Greetings in Jesus' dear name. I am thankful for what He has done for me. My wife is in a nursing home right now. Her desire is that the will of God be done. She is ready to go home.

Let's pray for one another.

With Christian love,

—Bro. Charles W. Mason

MI—Dear ones in Christ: I felt it's time I wrote you a line and told you how much we do enjoy our paper. My husband loves to read it. He will be 90 next month and has a good mind. He does love the old time doctrines of the church. I am also a Christian. I will be 84, May 25. . . .

We both have arthritis in our knees, which is very painful, but we don't let that keep us from working for God.

God bless you one and all, and if we never meet here in this life, then at Jesus' feet is our prayer.

Yours in His service,

—Bro. and Sis. Merrill Burd

OH—Dear Bro. Wayne Murphey, and workers at the Print Shop: Greetings in Jesus' dear name.

I have some urgent requests for prayer for myself and my loved ones.

I thank the Lord that He made it possible that I passed my eye test and got my driver's license.

I love the dear Lord and want to please Him with my life and be ready when He calls me.

—Sis. Essie Abbott

OK—As the first songs of praise began to roll forth at the minister's meeting held Mar. 5-7, 1992, I sat back in my seat and drank in the richness of God's blessings and the fellowship of His Church. The Sapulpa Church of God chapel was charged by the presence of the Holy Spirit and, as it was mentioned, it seemed the Devil was afraid to even come around.

Ministers were present from California and Oregon to West Virginia and Florida; from Wisconsin and Ohio to Texas and Louisiana; besides, several middle states in between. Bro. P. D. Mathunni was there from South India. In the assembly there was a large scale of ages represented with some in their early twenties up to Sis. Hazel Clark, who is 91 years old and still going for the Lord.

We missed Bro. Herschell Hargrave, but the presence of Sis. Mary Hargrave reminded me that nothing can separate us from the love of God. Whether tribulation, or distress, famine, peril, or sword come our way, we know that we are more than conquerors through Him that loved us (Rom. 8:35-39), because we have a hope of a mansion Jesus prepared for us to live in throughout eternity. (John 14:2).

"Wherefore, seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses," we realize the Church today is a power unit able to move mountains. Throughout the three days of services, testimonies of healing were shared. The Lord has recently healed Sis. Katherine Williams of a badly swollen hand and arm, and a lame foot. Sis. Fern Stubblefield felt that the Lord's healing power put her back into place, and the list could go on and on, as Saturday was nearly completely devoted to testimonies of God's goodness and healing power. Yes, Jesus is just the same today!

Together the saints rejoiced over spiritual victories recently won. We were happy with Bro. Louis Kimble about the salvation of his wife.



Others had good reports concerning their saved children, who desire to serve the Lord in their youth. These testimonies were inspiring!

As it was explained in the services, it is left to the parents to choose whether to home school their children, send them to a Christian school, or let them attend public schools. Schools and their personnel are only to assist parents in rearing their children. Therefore, it is wise to become acquainted with those who spend some 30 hours each school week with your child. The major key in raising children for the Lord is how well the home operates under biblical principles and how the parents live the Christian life before their children. (Deut 6:7; Eph. 5:22-33; 6:1-4).

A missionary fact sheet was compiled and distributed so that everyone would be aware of the current work in eight foreign countries. Bro. James Bell, Bro. Louis Kimble, Bro. Keith Fuller, and Bro. Toney Samons each expressed their burden to see more missions opened and more congregations started. This burden is mutually felt by all of God's ministers. Bro. Wayne Murphey illustrated the need by the words Isaac spoke to Abraham concerning the sacrifice: "My Father, behold the fire and the wood: but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" (Gen. 22:7). Today the need is great for more consecrated workers to sacrifice their lives unto the Lord. In our own United States, our inner cities need works developed in them to reach the wrecked humanity there. There are qualified ministers to start these works, but there is a need for dedicated help.

Bro. Richard Madden shared some of his experiences working with prisoners in state penitentiaries. At the time of the meeting, there were two men on death row at the Oklahoma State Penitentiary whom he knew personally and was concerned about. On Mar. 10th Parks, and on the 13th, Robison, were executed by lethal injection. Bro. Richard felt one of the men, Robison, had found heart-changing repentance with His final Judge.

Senior ministers expounded wise counsel to younger ministers. Bro. Mart Samons exposed ten temptations that the Devil would like to use to trap young ministers. Jesus said: "Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." Matt. 26:41. Watch and pray for yourself, and influence those about you to do likewise.

Bro. Ostis Wilson exhorted us to continue

building on the same foundation that the apostles began. (Eph. 2:20). Not one stake in Zion should be removed (Isa. 33:20), and he proceeded to list seven "stakes" that the Devil wants to tamper with. On the Word of God, the Church will stand intact and nothing shall prevail against her.

Bro. Woodrow Warren let us know that there is no restraint on God. He brought out how Jonathan and his armourbearer, together with God, fought a battle and whipped the enemy. (I Sam. 14). Together, the battles can be won. Trust and fear don't go together; neither do faith and worry. Apostle Paul had his time of trials, but he told King Agrippa that he was happy to speak before him. (Acts 26). Trials will come with no return address, but always the Lord will send help to "push" us along the way. Together, we will find there is no restraint on God.

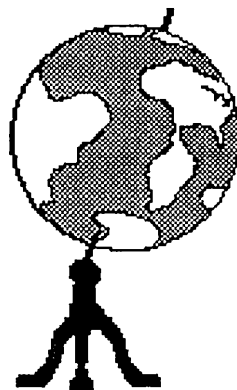
—Sis. Connie Sorrell



## FOREIGN MISSION REPORTS

**From Rivers State,  
Nigeria . . .**

Feb. 14—Dear Bro. Murphey: Greetings to you, yours, and the dear Faith Publishing House family: I hope this finds you all pressing on and toiling for the Lord in His vineyard.



The overcoming grace of the Lord is upon us, otherwise we would have fainted due to attacks from the enemy. We thank God for sustaining us in the faith. We just have to fight in the strength of the Lord to qualify for the crown of righteousness at last, according to our Lord's promise.

I trust the Lord is blessing you with wisdom and strength, providing all that is needed for the publishing work for the benefit of souls. The Faith Publishing work is so dear to us that we never forget it in our prayers. It is not possible to count all the blessings we have derived from this work. May God bless you more.

The work of the Lord is still going on through the grace and means He supplies. We hope to continue and do more if He tarries. Things have been very difficult with us, particularly with me,

yet we find real joy serving the Lord. We hope to engage in more revival works, Lord willing. So please remember these plans in your prayers.

The Lord afforded me a great privilege in attending a convention organized by Bro. Alphonsus Oknosha and six other Church of God congregations in Ndokna, area of Delta State (formerly part of Bendel State). It was a very profitable meeting where God poured out blessings to souls. I saw old and young working with zeal to the glory of God. That impressed me greatly. A brother came from the far north of Nigeria. Many trekked distances between five to ten miles with loads on their heads to the meeting which lasted four days. They need much material help such as the *Faith and Victory* paper, *Bible Lessons*, tracts and booklets for sound knowledge of the truth.

I shall tell you more about them in my subsequent writing.

Meanwhile, nothing has been done on our building project, due to insufficient funds. Besides, the government has yet to approve our application for permanent occupancy of the land. We are still praying about it. We request you to kindly take this issue too along with you to the Lord.

May the Lord bless all your efforts in the interest of souls all over the world.

Yours in Christ, —F. Naths-Igbanibo

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**From India . . .**

Feb. 20—Dear Bro. Wayne Murphey, and dear saints in America: Our loving greetings to you all, dear ones, again in the marvelous name of Jesus.

After our General Convention, local conventions are being held in different congregations. The convention at Kothamangalam will start next week. It is a hill area where special attention is needed for the spiritual progress of the newborn believers. We need to buy Bibles for free distribution there. They need a well for drinking water and also a chapel for their assembling.

Please continue to pray for us. Lord willing, a Christian library will be opened (Evening Light Christian Library) here at Karikkom very soon. We have a good collection of Malayalam and English books. Our prayers are for you always.

Yours in Him, —John Varghese

Mar. 18—Dear Wayne, and co-workers: Greetings to all of you dear ones in the precious

name of Jesus, our Lord. I write this letter to thank you all for your earnest prayers and loving concern extended in different ways for my missionary work in India.

I arrived safely in Sapulpa, OK on February 27, even though I had to face certain problems in New York. I do praise the Lord for His mighty protection from all such problems, especially from the threat of a wicked and greedy taxi driver. Really I was sick when I started from India, but I feel better now by His grace.

We have done a number of gospel campaigns in different places among Roman Catholic people and Hindus during the months of January and February, 1992. All were very encouraging.

Three sisters and one brother from Roman Catholic background took baptism on January 19. They are continuing in the fellowship with the church at Trichur, my hometown. A few more are now ready for baptism. Your prayers are requested for them to see that they are living as they should, following the truth, obeying God's command.

I was in Meenangadi (Wynad, a hill area in the northeast part of Kerala) on request from a special group of ministers and their congregations. They asked me to give a doctrinal class for the ministers and the representatives of the churches. I spent two days with them teaching the truth that we practice. It was a great blessing. They have requested me to continue my teaching ministry among them. I will do as God directs. There are about 16 ministers in that group.

I will be in America for a few months, if it is His will. I have a sincere desire in my heart, wherever He leads me, to challenge the people to stand and to work for the Lord. Since May 1962 (about 30 years) I have obtained His great mercy to serve the Lord in different circumstances and in different experiences, holding His command as a great responsibility. All these years the Lord has been good to me. Please pray for me that I may be a useful instrument in the mighty hand of God, to glorify His name in the rest of my life.

Yours in His service, —P. D. Mathunni

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**Honduras Report**

Greetings in the name of Jesus. This is another update on the Honduras Missionary Work. At this time we are planning, Lord willing, for two groups to go to Honduras this spring. One group is comprised of 14 individuals and

the other group of 13. These numbers are tentative.

The first group will be going over on April 24. The second group's trip will be from May 1-10. The visits overlap one weekend; one group will be coming in on the weekend of May 1 and the other will be going out May 4.

Bro. Toney Samons and his family will be accompanying the first group. In the fall of the year, his family and he may be returning to remain for several months. They are needing funds to make the trip in April. If anyone feels impressed to help the funding of the family, please send your contribution in care of the Honduras Missionary Work to Bro. Toney Samons, P. O. Box 73835, Metairie, LA 70033.

In conclusion, pray that the Lord's blessings will rest upon both missionary companies. The groups will be conducting evangelistic meetings on the island while hopefully groundwork is laid for the proposed building. Also, the need for transportation still exists. As mentioned previously, if anyone knows of a diesel van or truck which might be used for the work, please inform us.

Thank you,

—The Honduras Missionary Group

### **Russian Report**

We are encouraged to work for the Lord. God has a great field and He needs many qualified workers right now in Russia. The burden for the Church should be for the Lord to raise up workers for His vineyard. We feel very needy of the saints' prayers at this time for this work.

Lord willing, James will be flying to Kaghasan in June to meet with a Russian worker who has inquired to the Faith Publishing House for anyone who still lives the truths taught by D. S. Warner and others. Please pray that James will find a Christian interpreter to accompany him, because they know only German and Russian in this congregation. Pray that the Lord will make it possible for them to make contact.

Since the 15th of November to the 15th of March, the total amount given to the Russian fund is \$4,597.39. The expenditures so far have been \$649 for Russian Bibles and \$300 for the purchase of *Egermeier's Bible Story Book* for children, also in the Russian language. We have spent \$140.10 on postage to mail these items to Russia. The telephone expense related to ordering and shipping literature, including three

calls to Russia, totaled \$119.09. This leaves a balance of \$3,389.20. The foreseen expenses for the trip in May, including the Bibles in Russian and English literature will be approximately \$1,300.00.

We have had several contacts by letter and phone since we returned from Moscow. The brethren who have written us from the house church refer to our visit in October as a special heavenly arrangement which they will never forget. James plans to visit them again, Lord willing, on this next trip. We have met some Russian refugees who have been in our area for about a year. They have a sweet spirit and have attended our meetings quite often. They have taught us many things about the culture and the language. Lord willing, in the near future another Russian refugee family of three from the Ukraine will be coming to live with us for a month or two. They tell us that life is very hard and the Christian people continue to suffer persecution.

More than anything else we desire prayer for Holy Spirit leadership in all that we do. We have definitely felt the burden to blaze a path for the Church of God to have greater opportunities to spread the truth in Russia, to encourage the saints who have been true down through the years and to teach the new generation of children the Bible.

The attainment of visas is not simple. Transportation inside the country is a problem and the need for a male Christian interpreter is great. Therefore, please pray, believing that God will supply for these needs.

Yours in the work for Jesus,

—Bro. James and Sis. Tricia Bell

### **LOOK!**

#### **The Fields are White to Harvest**

By Vesta-Nadine Severs

Saints, we must sacrifice more for the gospel.

In the past two years the world has changed with a swiftness which has world leaders reeling with dizziness. They are worried and bewildered and uncertain which pathway to pursue and what direction to steer their nations.

The Church of God must snatch up the flaming torch and press forward. May this generation's battle cry always be: "Forward! Forward!"

Russia's walls, so stoutly built, have

crumbled. The mortar of atheism could not bind and unite the souls of her great people. At this writing, there are only two countries which still espouse communism: Cuba and Korea. One in each hemisphere. But as rotten apples spoil others in the barrel, these two nations have great influences.

About the time World War II drew to a close someone in the United States translated *Egermeier's Bible Stories* into Russian. Russia spent 70 years under the heavy hands of her dictators and there was no hope in spreading the gospel among her youth. The Russian manuscript was pushed back into a desk drawer to await its proper season and appearance on the scene. That time has now come. A small congregation in Oklahoma City found the manuscript and they have published a few numbers of those books. Another man heard about it and approached the congregation about delivering those books to Russia. The congregation was depleted of the Russian translation. They are at present publishing a second edition.

Last year, James and Tricia Bell were privileged to go to Russia. The desperation of the people there for spiritual truths touched their hearts. Tricia said that since their marriage they have endeavored to live simple lives so if God should call them to a specific field of work, they could quickly convert their energies to the new field. They have done this. They were able to purchase a couple of these *Egermeier's Bible Stories* and their intentions are to purchase 200 more copies in June.

Saints, do you realize that 200 copies would not even provide one copy per family in one Russian school? We hear reports that when one child brought a Bible to school, the rest of the class gathered around to hear him read from the Book. Sometimes people tear the pages out of the Bible and pass them to the crowd so everyone has at least **one page of God's Holy Bible**.

How we need to sacrifice more for the gospel.

"The kingdom of heaven is likened unto a man which sowed good seed in his field: But while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat, and went his way. But when the blade was sprung up, and brought forth fruit, then appeared the tares also." Matthew 13:24-26.

As soon as Russia's great wall of separation fell the enemy rushed in like Noah's flood filling a vacuum bringing the filth and dregs of cults, witchcraft, pornography and false doctrine. The

Russian Church still needs to be strengthened and upheld by prayers and fastings.

Because God has laid this burden on Brother and Sister Bell, let us uphold them and provide whatever is necessary for their entrance into the mission field.



## In Memoriam

On April 16, 1915, to Charlie Henry Roach and Rosa Bell Roach, a daughter, Geneva, was born in rural Georgia. She finished her course and ascended into the presence of the Heavenly Father on the evening of Dec. 10, 1991, at the age of 76 years, seven months, and 14 days.

Growing up as the eldest, she was a most precious and dear child who helped care for her younger brother and sisters. She attended elementary school in Oklahoma. Thereafter, she attended Bristow High School with her future husband, Jefferson Pierro, until they both completed the tenth and were promoted to the eleventh grade. They were married at the Sunny Slope School near Welty, OK on Oct. 28, 1934. To this union the Lord added 16 children. In late December, 1938, they moved their young family to Leavenworth, KS, until Jan. 31, 1939. Searching for the truth, they finally moved their family to Bakersfield, CA. There they remained until the latter part of January, 1953, when they moved to Allensworth, CA, where Bro. Jefferson and Sis. Geneva Pierro spent their final years.

Sis. Geneva's meekness, love, faith, and integrity glorified Christ Jesus as He guided her life. While some live by the rule: "Do as I say, not as I do," Bro. Jefferson and Sis. Geneva taught their children by example, not merely by lofty words. They emphasized self-sufficiency, grounded in the Lord. Neither were they given over to self-pity in adversity. With the Lord's help they undertook and overcame great obstacles to establish a home and provide for their family, shielding their children from many harmful influences.

In late 1979 to early 1980 she, her husband Jefferson, and daughter Jefferlene all journeyed to Nigeria, West Africa to visit the saints there. Their visit so inspired and pleased the saints there, according to Bro. Titus U. E. Enu, that the Nigerian saints established the Jefferson Pierro Gardens, a 100' by 300' missionary com-

pound for the use of dedicated saints arriving from America.

In her latter years she came to love a certain song, "It Will Matter But Little At Last"; she often sang it as her testimony.

Sister Geneva was preceded in death by her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Roach, by a brother, Render Lee, by a daughter, Rosa Etta Tompkin-Wilson, and by her husband, Bro. Jefferson Pierro.

She leaves cherished memories for her descendants who rejoice at her graduation from the earthly to her heavenly home with Almighty God; her 15 children, Jefferlene, James, Edward, Pauline, David, Alfred, Josephine, Charles, Bertha, Sheila, Gloria, Samuel, Ralph, Isaac, and Jeryl; three sisters, Annie Ruth Dailey, Magnolia Roach, and Izor Harris; 32 grandchildren, five great-grandchildren, a host of in-laws, nephews, cousins, saints, friends, and acquaintances.

Funeral services were conducted by Bro. Eddie R. Johnson, and Bro. Archie Sherman.

#### NOTE OF THANKS

Each family member thanks each one for their kindness and condolence at their time of great loss.

—The family of Geneva Pierro  
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**Ethel Clark Lowery**, born May 7, 1905 in Jones County, MS, near Laurel, was called to her eternal reward Jan. 12, 1992 at the age of 86 years. She had lived in the Laurel, MS area all her life, except for a short time before her death, where she was in the home with her son and daughter-in-law when she passed away.

Sis. Lowery was united in marriage to Cluis F. Lowery on Dec. 24, 1929, with whom she lived 62 years. She was preceded in death by her parents, Cynthia Jane and George Edward Clark, and leaves behind to mourn her passing, her husband, one son, Douglas Lowery and daughter-in-law Francis, of Geautier, MS; four grandchildren; five great grandchildren, many relatives and friends.

Sis. Lowery was saved in her young adult life and lived for the Lord with her faith and trust in God as her Heavenly Father and Jesus as her Saviour, amid many trials of life and physical afflictions, until her death.

Funeral services were conducted by Bro. Bob Forbes with interment in the Clark Family Cemetery, near Laurel, MS.

**Margie Laverne Moles**, the eldest of six children, was born to Bro. Harvey and Sis. Hazel Cones, June 3, 1928, in Worland, WY. Our Heavenly Father saw fit to call His dear child home to rest from her labors on Monday evening, Jan. 13, 1992, at the age of 63 years, six months, and ten days.

Both her parents and a sister, Betty June, preceded her in death.

When Sis. Laverne was a small child her father moved the family to Norwood, MO, where she graduated from high school and later met her future husband, Bro. Ernest Moles. The couple was united in holy matrimony on Nov. 28, 1948, in the little town of Seymour, MO, at the family home. To this union, 15 children were born. A baby girl, Pamela, preceded her mother in death.

Bro. Moles took his new wife to Davenport, IA. After their first child was born, the couple moved to West Plains, MO.

Early in her young adult life, Sis. Moles gave her heart to the Lord, after beholding her mother's example and being in touch with Bro. and Sis. Earl Sorrell, who both greatly encouraged her in the ways of the Lord. Sis. Moles and her husband were isolated for a time but would rejoice for the privilege to meet with the saints and to go to camp meeting as often as they could. After a number of years in West Plains, the couple moved to Fresno, CA.

While here in Fresno, CA, under the leadership of Bro. E. J. Trotter, Sis. Moles served the Lord dutifully. Some of her duties included teaching the teens and young adult Sunday school class, which she taught for almost 20 years; serving as church secretary, and teaching in our Mid Valley Christian School. She served faithfully in these capacities.

Sis. Moles had a heart of love and tenderness for all children, and carried a special burden for her own children and grandchildren, praying through for them on frequent occasions. She had a special listening ear to all mothers, and an outstretched arm to the sick, and to anyone who needed help. We fondly remember her special love for babies and how she treated each one as if it were her own. Her place in the congregation will be greatly missed.

She leaves to cherish her memory: her husband, Bro. Ernest Moles, who cared for her faithfully during her illness; nine sons, Calvin, Marvin, Ray, Bruce, Mike, Larry, Roger, and Ronald, all of the Fresno area, and Allen of

Granby, MO; five daughters, Brenda White, of Clovis, CA, Veronica Moles, Janelle Keller, Cheryl Moles, and Rhonda Moles, of Fresno, CA; two brothers, Carl Cones of Lebanon, MO, and Clyde Cones of Clovis, CA; two sisters, Lois Greene of Oakhurst, CA and Louise Nelson of Fresno, CA; nine grandchildren, one great grandson, and many special nieces, nephews, and a host of other relatives, saints, and friends.

#### NOTE OF THANKS

A note of special thanks to all who acknowledged by phone, telegrams, cards, and verbally to our family. We all were very proud and grateful to know that mother had touched so many lives. She will be remembered for many years to come for her contribution to her family and especially for instilling a firm foundation in those who knew and loved her. People pass away, but God's Word and love, that she was not ashamed to teach, will forever remain in our hearts as long as we live. Pray for the family members who are serving the Lord, that they will be faithful, and remember every other heart who needs Him.

—Sis. Brenda White and the Moles family

**Ernest D. Luzader**, 86, of Parkview Nursing Home, Parkersburg, died Feb. 20, 1992, after an extended illness.

He was born in Gilmer County, a son of the late Grandville Marcella and Sarah Melvina Greenleaf Luzader. He was a coal miner in the Gilmer County area for 54 years.

He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Queen Esther Spaur Luzader; two sons, Ernest Luzader Jr. of Tallmadge, OH, and Vernon Luzader of Parkersburg; one adopted son, Gilbert Simmons; six grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; one sister, Mary Ellen Ball of Davis, WV; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by seven brothers, and two sisters.

Burial was in Riverview Cemetery, Williamstown, WV.

**Hettie Mae Clements**, daughter of the late John and Martha (Harris) Perry, was born May 20, 1908 at Lecomma, MO. Sis. Hettie departed this life on Feb. 24, 1992 in Rolla, MO at the age of 83 years.

A lifelong resident of the area, Hettie was united in marriage to Irving (Shorty) Clements on July 7, 1926. He preceded her in death on

Feb. 13, 1984. To this union two sons were born. One son, John, has also preceded her in death.

Sis. Hettie will be deeply missed by her son, Benny and his wife, Verna, of Leesburg, FL; daughter-in-law, Ruth Clements of Orangeburg, SC; a brother, Clarence Perry of Rolla, MO; seven grandchildren, other relatives, and a host of friends.

Funeral services were conducted by Bro. Gordon Humphrey. Interment was in the Ozark Memorial Gardens, Rolla, MO.

**Sis. Nyda N. Hall** was born Mar. 13, 1927, near Louin, MS, and wed to Bro. Douglas Hall on Sept. 9, 1944. They are parents of JoBeth, who died in childhood, Alice, and James, who with his wife Brenda, had her two grandchildren, Jim and Jodie. Besides these, Sis. Hall is survived by Sis. Clarice Harmon and Sis. Joan DePhillips. Interment was in the Oak Grove Church of God cemetery at Loranger, LA, near her home since 1947.

When Sis. Hall realized her illness, she resolutely and faithfully made provision for her soul. She openly confessed her shortcomings in the saints' meeting, then sincerely and humbly asked any and all for forgiveness for wrong she may have done, and entreated anyone who might have cause to come to her personally for whatever forgiveness she may have needed to seek. Throughout her illness she remained constant in faith toward God, with fasting and tears, seeking His face. In gracious recognition of her soul's effort, our Saviour kindly spared her the suffering naturally associated with her illness, seeming to carry her in His arms as He gently lowered her mortal frame through the steps of delivering her from it to a glorious heavenly body. Surely the grief of her family, the saints, and friends is comforted and courage lent us to face our own future by this wonderful spectacle of the mercy and love of our Lord Jesus Christ! The family gratefully appreciates the prayers of the church on her and their behalf.

“When Stephen was going through the severe test of being stoned, and as his life was ebbing away, he looked upon heaven's scenes and saw Jesus standing on the right hand of God. What a comfort to know that we have a faithful High Priest who can be touched with the feeling of our infirmities.” —M. F. Williamson

**Question and Answer**  
by  
**Ostis B. Wilson**

This is article 8 in an ongoing series on the subject of sin and a full and free deliverance from it—salvation and sanctification.

It is the ultimate aim and objective of God's perfect plan of salvation to completely eradicate sin, both committed and inherited (the inherent depravity which all of us received from Adam) and to totally restore mankind to the likeness and image of God in which man was originally created, by the infilling of the Holy Spirit. There is an old, old song which in the first verse says: "All of self and none of God." This is the way of life of unsaved, unregenerate mankind. Then the second verse says, "Some of self and some of God." The third verse says, "Less of self and more of God." Then the last verse says, "None of self and all of God." Ah, folks, this is the ultimate; let us move on to it, for God has provided it for us. One of the songs which we sing often says:

"If thou wouldst have the dear Saviour from  
heaven

Walk by thy side from the morn till the even,  
There is a rule that each day you must follow:  
*Humble thyself to walk with God.*

"Just as the Lord in the world's early ages  
Walked and communed with the prophets  
and sages,  
He will come now if you meet the conditions:  
*Humble thyself to walk with God.*

"Just as the stream finds a bed that is lowly,  
So Jesus walks with the pure and the holy;  
Cast out thy pride, and in heartfelt contrition  
*Humble thyself to walk with God."*

Paul's first question to the disciples at Ephesus was, "Have you received the Holy Ghost since you believed? (Acts 19:1-2). When the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the Word of God by the preaching of Philip, they sent Peter and John unto them to see to it that they received the Holy Ghost. (Acts 8:14-17).

Surely that is the next thing in order after one is saved, and the sooner the better and

easier it is. When one is just in his first love and in possession of a brand new experience with God and relationship with Christ, the burden of sin, guilt and condemnation has just been lifted off him and he is bubbling with zeal and spiritual energy and feels well able to "run through a troop and jump over a wall," it would be real easy at that time to present his body a living sacrifice and complete his experience of salvation by receiving the Holy Ghost. Much of the difficulty in obtaining this experience and much of the confusion surrounding the doctrine comes from folks who have halted too long in a justified state until they have had some ups and downs, their zeal has kind of cooled off, their love has kind of waned and they actually needed a renewal of their experience. Knowing they needed something, they decided it was sanctification they needed and they put in for that, when it was actually a renewing of their justified experience and covenant with God they needed. When such people have received a blessing upon their souls from God, they call it sanctification, when really it was just a renewing of their justification, then when it does not do for them all they thought it should, they become confused and begin to flounder around and sometimes never get really established.

Now let us return to the thought that man in his unregenerate state is two steps below the state of moral purity and holiness in which he was created. Then it must be evident unto all that there are just as many steps in a flight of stairs going up as there are coming down. Also that the last step coming down the stairs will be the first step going up, and that one can not take the second step until he has taken the first one. And when one has taken the first step, it puts him in a natural position to take the second one in stride.

In this case the first step down is the fallen, depraved nature which we all partake of from Adam, and the second step is the actual sins committed in the life of the individual after he comes to the age of accountability before God which produces guilt and condemnation in his soul.

Since man is two steps below the plane of holiness and purity in which he was created, it must naturally be understood that there must be two steps to his redemption or restoration—two successive steps in bringing him back to the primitive state of purity and holiness in God's image and likeness—and he can not be reck-



oned to be completely restored, to be perfect in purity and holiness, until both steps have been taken.

This thought has been objectionable to some on the grounds that they feel that the God whom they serve just does not do any half-way work. I agree to that point without reservation. But what I am talking about here is not any half-way work. It is two complete entire works. When God saves a person from their sins and forgives their transgressions, He saves him from **all** sin and forgives him and **all** his transgressions—no half-way work here. It is the same when He sanctifies a person. He sanctifies him wholly, entirely, through and through—no half-way work here—and fills him full of the Holy Ghost and thoroughly purges his nature from all impurities.

But, it is sometimes argued, our God is not so puny that He has to take two efforts at anything to accomplish it and certainly not with our salvation. I readily agree with this point that there is no weakness in God and that from God's end it would be very easy for Him to accomplish the entire thing in one operation. But the difficulty here lies in man's weakness and inability; not in any weakness or insufficiency on God's part. The reason is evident. Sin exists in two forms—inherent and acquired; native depravity and actual transgressions—and must therefore be dealt with in two different ways. But man is an intelligent free-acting agent, possessing freedom of will so that he can of his own volition decide his course of conduct. God never violates this right of man to exercise his will freely and an act of one's will is involved in all of God's dealings with his soul. "Whosoever *will*, let him take the water of life freely." In order to be saved, one must of his own free will choose to repent of sin, forsake it, choose to cast his lot with God and meet all conditions in order to obtain forgiveness for his sins—actual transgressions. But this does not touch that depraved nature within him because this is not dealt with through repentance but through consecration. There must also be a volitional act of one's will in recognizing this inherent depravity of nature, renouncing and rejecting it, appealing to God for a purging of it and a willful yielding of one's body and complete consecration of his life to God before God could be justified in performing this operation within him to purify his nature and fill him with the Holy Ghost.

But since one's will is involved in this part of

his salvation, as well as in being saved, it is evident that he must recognize the existence of the thing before his will can act toward God for its cleansing, but it is not possible that we could recognize this depravity of nature within us, which within itself is not productive of guilt, hence produces no condemnation, so long as our actual committed sins are crowding our conscience with condemnation. One is never conscious of it and could not be conscious of it until he actually forsakes sin and begins to live a holy life, and then he is brought face to face with the reality of it. Paul spoke of it in Romans 7:23 as a law in his members warring against the law of his mind. When he purposed to do good, he found himself being contested by this thing which he never knew anything about until he began to live a holy life free from sin; he came face to face with something within him warring against him in doing the thing he desired to do. It is in the special efforts of any justified person to live this holy life that he becomes painfully conscious of that depraved nature within him conflicting with his efforts to maintain that holy life, and his soul begins to cry out to God for an experience of heart purity. But God will never deal with this until we recognize it and become willing for Him to deal with it



### God Can Work it Out

(Continued from page 3)

hasn't been easy to lead men who are in for a lesser crime than you are, but when men are saved it doesn't make much of a difference where they are, the Spirit is the same. Since coming to Angola, I have traveled on speaking trips to many areas of the State. My goal is to reach as many youth as possible through every opportunity the Lord affords.

Since coming to Angola, I have been the president of the Main Prison Lifers Association, representing all Lifers in that area. I am presently housed at Camp H. This is where I have the pleasure to be under the teaching of Bros. Bob Forbes and Ed Wilson, two great men of God.

I am trusting the Lord for my deliverance from this incarceration, but if I am not delivered, I will continue to stay on the wall and preach the love of God to as many as will hear. There's much more to my testimony, but I pray the information contained in this space will be a blessing to all its readers and those concerned people. Pray for me and the brothers here.