

FAITH^{AND}VICTORY

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Light Shining Out of Darkness

God moves in a mysterious way,
His wonders to perform;
He plants his footsteps in the sea,
And rides upon the storm.

Deep in unfathomable mines
Of never failing skill,
He treasures up his bright designs,
And works his sovereign will.

Ye fearful saints, fresh courage take;
The clouds ye so much dread
Are big with mercy, and shall break
In blessings on your head.

Judge not the Lord by feeble sense,
But trust Him for his grace;
Behind a frowning providence,
He hides a smiling face.

His purposes will ripen fast,
Unfolding every hour;
The bud may have a bitter taste,
But sweet will be the flower.

Blind unbelief is sure to err,
And scan his work in vain;
God is his own interpreter,
And He will make it plain.

—William Cowper

The Core Motive to Victory

By Sis. Connie Sorrell

Being very tired one evening, a Christian sat down and began to ponder the past. There were days of climbing mountain tops to view God's handiwork. Then there were the evenings in the valleys of affliction when it seemed impossible to ever climb another mountain again. On bended knees the victories were gained and other mountain tops were reached.

The Christian remembered times when given a bouquet of fragrant flowers to enjoy or when given a crown of thorns to bear. The thorns had tried to erase the memory of the flowers but through songs of patience the sweetness of the flowers had come drifting by and had put new courage in the heart.

The Christian had seen mornings of sunshine when the future looked bright and clear, followed by nights of rain and thunder with its bogging mud. Reading God's Unchanging Word, the Christian had found a foot path through the mud and into another sunshiny morning. Ah, some 'tomorrow' will never be followed by a stormy night because one morning the Christian will awake in that land where there is no darkness—and no sun, because the Lamb of God is the light. Beautiful flowers bloom on those green hills of home, waiting for more of the faithful to come sing praises from their lofty tops.

"I can make it—I know I can!" exclaimed the Christian, not feeling very tired any more. "My

Attend National Camp Meeting, July 17-26, Monark Springs, MO.

faith in God's promises has been renewed. I know life on earth is but a vapor soon to dissolve into eternity. I will go through every valley with faith. I will endure every thorn with patience and love. I will gain more strength and grace through every dark night. Heaven will be worth it all!"

The Christian is right. Let us press forward by faith, nothing wavering, that we will endure unto the end. Our human emotions will carry us up and down, but faith is a steady compass pointing straight toward Heaven. Trials and tests will come our way as long as this flesh is our tabernacle. When we leave this flesh and enter the gates of heaven, only then are we completely 'saved' from the enemy of our souls. In the EVENING LIGHT SONGS, #289 reads:

"Following Jesus from day to day,
Gently he leads me along the way;
E'er will I trust him, all foes despite,
By faith and not by sight.

Walking with Jesus till we shall meet,
When in his likeness I stand complete,
Where with the ransomed in heaven's light,
My faith is lost in sight."

Right now while on earth, we are saved by faith, (Rom. 5:1-9) and faith will open our eyes to the sight of heaven.

The body feels the weariness, the mind fights the battle, but if the heart glows with faith in the Lord and His Word, that steady light of faith will guide the soul to victory. Faith separates the spiritual from the unspiritual, giving the spiritual an insight into the eternal life beyond the grave. (Heb. 11:1) Life has a deeper, richer meaning when believing there is a God to please who knows everything about each one's life. He offers eternal life to those who believe and obey Him, letting each person choose heaven or hell. (Rev. 22:17).

By faith we see prayers answered according to God's will. (Jas. 1:6) Faith does not give us the power to order God around, but it gives us the privilege to ask that we may receive. (Mat. 21:22) God is concerned with every aspect of our life and He answers prayer for every need. In our human weakness, we must acknowledge His omnipotent wisdom that His answers will satisfy the need we brought before Him. Some answers are green lights of go and do. Some are red lights to refine us and teach us patience. Some things are worked out slowly with caution

and carefulness. Answers are given to prayers of faith and a wise Christian knows that they are working together for his good.

No matter what the test or trial in life, no matter what the answer to prayer, faith will march right on with victory and lead the faithful Christian home to Glory.



Music in the Church

By Bro. Clifford Wilson
(Continued from last month.)

It is impossible to so exploit the potential of a musical instrument until it will pour out heart-felt praise and honor to an intelligent God. The instrument has no thinking ability, it has no soul, it possesses no volition, and without skilled manipulation, it is capable of nothing. At the best, its product reflects the talent and capability of the performer. What we are actually doing when we substitute mechanical performance for worship is asking God to accept our works as worship in lieu of our devotion. Were He to do that, we would be quick to recognize the transposition and would immediately begin to demand from our fellows spiritual recognition for our performances. Our reasoning will be, if our performance is acceptable with God, there is no legitimate reason why it is not good enough for our fellow man. Thus, the individual will begin to heap credit upon himself for what he feels is commendable performance. If physical dexterity is acceptable in the field of music for spirituality, then there is no valid reason why physical effort is not satisfactory in any other field of endeavor as well. We would perhaps be reluctant to accept the man who felt his ability to repair automobiles should win him spiritual acclaim, yet his cause is just as valid as the musicians. Both reflect nothing more than the result of human skill. Neither could hope to better his spiritual condition by increasing the volume of his effort or improving the quality of his work. Spirituality is not won by this kind of activity.

We have considered a few of the benefits and advantages that music is able to make to a gospel service. We have also observed some of the possible disadvantages that music might present. May we spend a few moments in consideration of music as an entity within itself. Musical arrangement and composition, the establishment and defining of fundamental pattern and continuity is not "wrong" nor unac-

ceptable with God. Psalm 40:3 says, "He hath put a new song in my mouth; even praise unto our God." Obviously God is equipped with musical ability, else He could not bestow it upon His subjects. The text declares the effort an acceptable medium of devotion to God who gave the song. It is not wrong for those who are talented in the field of music to explore in the field and search out the treasures our Lord has hidden there any more than it is wrong to inquire into mechanics or chemistry or biology, or any other field. When the basic rudiments of music have been established so that prescribed form and pattern can be recognized and followed by all, it is not wrong to apply them in a worship service so long as we do not override the requirement of the Word. Spiritual songs that blend in harmony and sentiment, as we have observed, are beneficial and useful in a worship service. Men are not forbidden the study of music nor the development of instrumental skill and they have reached a very high degree of refinement in this area but the Word has said that physical performance alone is not to be considered as an act of worship. It would be totally in order and proper, for those who are musically qualified in the church, to teach and assist those who are less skilled and talented in musical understanding so that a song service would be as acceptable as possible even though it is confined to vocal presentation. However, our musical efforts as well as every other facet of our lives should never run toward any form of self exaltation. The prime intent of music and words alike in a worship service should be the worship of our God.

Music, like all other activity in the church, when it is used for any other purpose or intent but to magnify and glorify the Lord and His cause, is unacceptable. God's glory is the paramount purpose the Church is appointed to fulfill in the earth, therefore instrumental music which has no ability to convey spiritual sentiment would seem out of place in a worship setting.

These are but a few of the things that come to mind in the matter of music in the church. Without doubt there is much more that could be used and depths to the matter which are left untouched. We would hope and pray that the Master would lead someone into them for the benefit and profit of honest, truth-seeking souls. The Master himself realized that no explanation of these kind of things would satisfy the unsaved

mind. Jesus said, "Except a man be born again he cannot see the Kingdom of God." John 3:3. These thoughts may be accepted or rejected. Whichever the case may be, they still seem of sufficient merit to warrant some satisfactory explanation before the Lord. May the dear Lord guide us into divine understanding. We do not worship to please ourselves, we worship to please our Lord. Without any question, God, through His Holy Spirit, is the only One who could accurately assess and evaluate the earnestness and true intent of all human worship. Luke 18:9-14.



Man's Worship To God

By

Wayne Murphey

One person, acutely acquainted with and involved in music, wrote, "I am conscious of a power in music which I want words to describe. It touches chords, reaches depths in the soul, which lie beyond all other influences. It extends my consciousness, and nothing in my experience is more mysterious. An instinct has always led me to transfer it to heaven; and I suspect the Christian under its power has often attained to a singular consciousness of his immortality." Singing plays a very important role in our link with God. As attested to by the previous quote, there is great power in song. It is inbred in the very soul of man and when properly exercised reaches the very throne of God. A look into history proves that every divinely inspired reformation was accompanied by a renewal of song.

Since singing is such an integral part in our worship to God, we wish to do it in a way that will accomplish its desired effect. In this writing I would like to consider the use of the musical instrument as it relates to this subject.

God created man to worship Him. The angels in heaven were profuse in their chanting of praise, but God desired something more. He wanted a volitional worship. In thinking of a perfect type of worship, consider the times that God set aside to come down into the Garden of Eden to commune with Adam and Eve. Their hearts were pure and it is within reason to think that Adam and Eve expressed their admiration and gratitude for the things they were given to enjoy. It did not require an outward demonstration to bring God to them, but it was the purity

(Continued on page 10.)

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 (USPS184-660).

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES



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 Larger quantities are figured at the same rate.

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 summer season and camp meeting is upon us and getting in full swing. It is a time of varied activities for many, including the Print Shop. The following are some highlights of events.

The last of May marked the end of our fiscal year in which a complete inventory of our books, tracts and paper stock was taken. The finished list of this accounting confirmed that we are either low or completely out of several items that are of utmost necessity to have on hand for sale. Soon we also will have to make an order for more paper so that we can get back in stock what needs reprinted. We would be very appreciative if each one would make this burden a part of your prayers, and if the Lord lays it on your heart to assist in this need, your support will be thankfully received.

On June 19, Bro. Josiah Pah from Liberia arrived in Guthrie. His arrival was the culmination of much effort and expense, and we trust the beginning of a mutually profitable time for him and the saints here. Lord willing, he will attend several camp meetings during June and July, including the Monark Springs National Camp Meeting, before returning to Monrovia. He has expressed that he does not want to be away from the Churches which he has the oversight of for too long.

Sis. Bunnie Craddock, who diligently labored here at the Print Shop for almost eleven years, helped us get the third quarter "Beautiful Way" and "Bible Lessons" in the mail before turning her full attention to a job she was accepted for as an instructor of offset printing at a vocational school in Choctaw, OK. This made it necessary to redefine some job descriptions in which Sis. Licha Lara took on the responsibilities of preparing mail orders, a job to which Sis. Linda Craddock previously dedicated her time. Sis. Janie Woodruff is adapting to operating the small printing press, and Sis. Raleah Campbell of Granby, MO arrived in Guthrie on June 21 to help in the Lord's work. She has typeset a sizeable amount of the copy that is in this issue.

Due to Sis. Bunnie's leaving, we will be temporarily discontinuing the *Lamp of Youth* paper. As God leads for recommencing publication, the same address list will be used.

According to our usual custom, we will not be printing an August edition of the *Faith and Victory*. This will allow a break in our work pace

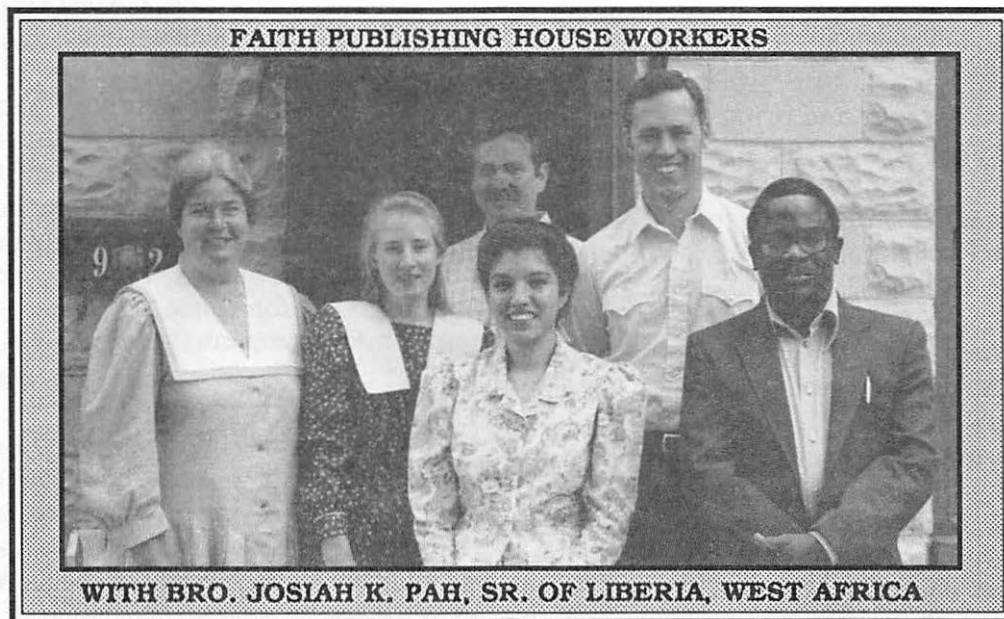
in which other summer activities can be pursued by the workers. The shop will be kept open during its normal hours so that mail orders can be processed and other business carried on.

According to plans, the book store on the Monark Springs Camp Grounds will be operated during the National Camp Meeting. We give a cordial invitation to all who attend the meet-

ing, to come in and acquaint yourself with the literature in stock.

In all your comings and goings over the summer, be sure to keep the light of God shining brightly in your life, and we would be grateful if you would remember this Printing work and its workers in your prayers.

—Wayne Murphey



Front row, left to right: Sis. Janie Woodruff, Raleah Campbell, Licha Lara and Bro. Josiah Pah, Sr.
Back row, left to right: Bros. Wayne Murphey and Robert Sallee

Prayer Requests

France—Earl McCoy has requested the prayers of the saints for a friend who has had a brain hemorrhage. He would also appreciate prayer for himself.

OH—Sis. Essie Abbott is in need of physical help from God.

FL—"Please pray for me. I am having lots of trouble with my eyes, ears and both feet."

—Effie Clark

CA—"Please print a prayer request for me in this month's 'Faith & Victory,' about my eyes."

—Hattie Singleton

LA—"Please pray for me and all my family."

—Etta Averett

VA—"Please place me on the prayer list. My sight is failing."

—Margreed Withers

Zambia—"I have a special prayer request. I have a problem in my stomach."

—Kenneth Mutemba

TN—"Pray for me that I will soon be relieved of pain in my side and back."—Helen Derrick

CA—Bro. James Pierro has suffered a foot injury that isn't healing.

Meeting Reports and Notices

Camp Meetings '92

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

Ensenada, Mexico—August 2-9

Bakersfield, CA—August 7-16

Duncannon, PA—August 9-16

Boley, OK—August 23-30

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

HOLLY HILL, SC REVIVAL REPORT

Greetings to all the Print Shop in Jesus' name. I am still working for the Lord and He is so wonderful.

God did bless in our revival meeting from May 1-10. We had a good spiritual meeting. We had two people baptized on May 10. There were

four that went to the altar for prayer, and it seemed they got the help they desired. May we all remember them in prayer that they will hold out for God.

With love, —Bro. Utson Platt

55TH NATIONAL CAMP MEETING MONARK SPRINGS, MO

The National Camp Meeting of the Church of God will be held, Lord willing, at Neosho (Monark Springs), MO, July 17-26, 1992. All are cordially invited to come and bring others to enjoy the blessings that we are expecting from the Lord.

The Monark Springs Campground is located approximately five miles east of Neosho, MO. It is one mile east and 3/4 mile south of the intersection of Highways 86 and 71 Alternate.

If you travel to Neosho by bus, you may telephone the campground (472-6427, Granby, MO) for transportation.

The camp meeting is conducted on a freewill offering basis. There is no charge for meals or lodging on the campground. You are welcome to come and enjoy the meeting. We are confident that God will supply every need. Meals will be served in the dining hall. Dormitory space, tents, and trailer spots are available on the campground on a first-come, first-serve basis. Trailer spots include electricity, water, and sewer hook-ups. Motels are available nearby, but reservations should be made in advance.

All correspondence about tents and dormitory spaces should be addressed to Sis. DeLoris Bradley, Rt. 1, Bartlett, KS 67332, phone (316) 226-3390. She will be coordinating requests for sleeping quarters on the campground.

—Business managers: Randel Bradley, (above address), or Ed Johnston, Rt. 2, Box 2180, Seymour, MO 65746, phone (417) 935-2520.

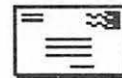
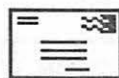
DUNCANNON, PA TENT MEETING

A tent meeting is planned for August 9-16 with the help of the Lord, on the grounds of the Church of God chapel, located 5 1/2 miles west from Duncannon on Rt. 849. Services are scheduled for 10:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. daily. If enough interest is shown, a service will be held on Saturday night, August 8 at 7:30 p.m.

Lodging and meals will be provided by free-will offerings. There are limited hook-ups for campers. For more information, call Bro. or Sis.

Stanley Huss (717) 834-4490, or Sis. Virginia Myers (717) 567-6988.

We are looking for the Lord to send the workers and ministers of His choosing. Please pray for the Lord's Spirit to work, even if you cannot come.



"Please pray with me for my husband that he will continue to eat and gain weight and strength. Also that in September I will be able to bring him back home and be able to get the help I need to care for him. My daughter needs prayer for an infection and I have a thyroid condition. I am trusting God for these requests. I enjoy your paper and appreciate your prayers."

—Name withheld

OR—Dear Bro. Wayne and All at the Print Shop: Greetings in Jesus' name. This is just a short note to let you know we are still trusting in the Lord for all of our needs, and are thankful we can rely on the promises in His Word as long as we abide in Jesus!

We constantly pray for all there, and ask for a special blessing on the work you do.

Pray for us, and especially for Doris who is having spells of muscle spasms.

With Christian love, —Bill and Doris Busch

CA—Dear Bro. Murphey: You and all the Saints are in my prayers.

There's illness in my family. Please keep us, my sons and me, in your prayers.

My grandson had an accident on his bicycle and was in a coma for three days. He had a head injury, and was found at the side of the street unconscious. He is doing better now. He doesn't remember how the accident happened. He is 12 years old. While his parents were sitting with him at the hospital, someone broke into their home and took most of their valuables. It seems there's an awful lot of crime these days.

May our Lord bless you, your family, and all the Saints.

—Sis. Helen Carson

GA—Dear Brother Murphey and the workers at the Print Shop: Greetings in the name of the Lord whom I am trusting for all my needs. I mean to go all the way with the Lord in His service.

My health is very poorly, but as my days are, so shall my strength be. My brother is also ill and he needs prayer for both soul and body.

I still enjoy reading the *Faith and Victory*. Please continue to send it to me.

—Sister Mary Johnson
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MI—Greetings in the blessed name of Jesus, to all of you dear ones. I praise God for all His rich blessings to us. He is such a wonderful God we can cast all our burdens upon Him and He never fails us. We can always rest in the Lord.

I want to thank the dear Lord for helping me. I had a touch of the flu and it made me very dizzy and tired. I called upon the Lord and He heard my cry. When you are so dizzy that you have to hang on to things so you don't fall, it's an awful feeling. But thank God, He is always there. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

I pray you all will be happy in the Lord and His work. Thank you all for your prayers for me. It helps to know of the saint's prayers.

—Sis. Olive Getterson
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LA—Dear Saints: I feel like I should write this testimony to tell of the Lord's protection to us.

In April, while travelling home from Steinbach, Manitoba, we unexpectedly hit a sheet of ice which caused us to start sliding. We were pulling a luggage trailer at the time, and couldn't seem to gain control of the vehicle. We started going down the road sideways and eventually hit the ditch and rolled over on our side and then our top. We crawled out of the wreck praising the Lord that no one had been seriously hurt or killed.

We then started praying that the Lord would send us some help in this time of need. Thank the Lord He did! About 30 minutes later, in answer to prayer He sent some saints along who helped us to get home safely. I thank the Lord for the scripture, "The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous, and His ears are open unto their cry." (Psalm 34:15). I have proved it to be so!

I thank the Lord to be saved and sanctified. Please pray for me that I will hold out to the end.

Your sister in the Lord, —Desireé Kinchen
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CA—Dear Bro. Murphey and Saints: Greetings in the precious name of Jesus, our blessed Saviour and Healer. I am still thanking and praising Him for saving me and placing me in

His Holy Family. I thank the Lord for the messages and testimonies in the *Faith and Victory* paper. It is so encouraging to my soul. I am still trying to get the tracts and papers out everywhere the Lord leads me. It is getting more difficult as the years pass, but I am determined to keep it up as long as He gives me the strength. I will be 85 in July, and He is blessing me in many wonderful ways.

I am always praying for my unsaved loved ones and others that I have an opportunity to witness to. He answers our prayers and we must have patience to wait on Him, and say "Amen" to His will. Pray for me and my family. I am always praying for you and the Lord's work there.

Sincerely in Christian love,

—Sis. Ruth Donnelly
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MO—Dear saints: Greetings to you in the love of Jesus, our dearest friend. I don't know how I could ever get along without Him, and I do not intend to try living without Him who has done so much for me. My desire is to always please Him and for His will to be my will at all times.

I got a real blessing from Bro. John Varghese's writing in the last issue of *Faith and Victory*, on 'working with a wound in your heart'. Sometimes our greatest blessings come from the deepest wounds to our hearts. . . .

I desire to be always remembered in your prayers, and let us ever press on and upward.

—Sis. Zella Dollins
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TX—Dear Bro. Wayne and all the Print Shop Workers: Greetings in the precious name of Jesus Christ. I appreciate the *Faith and Victory* paper. We must have faith to have the victory. Faith is no good without victory.

May the good Lord keep you all in the center of His will.

Christian love and prayers, —Nellie Lovell
— — — — —

NC—Dear Bro. Murphey: Thank you for the continued prayers. God has wonderfully blessed my body. The prayer request I made awhile ago, has been answered.

May you and yours continue on in the Lord. Yours in Christ, —Sis. Angela Taylor
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MO—Dear Bro. Murphey: Greetings in the name of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. I want to tell you what God has done for me. I got

up with a severe pain in my chest. I began to cry out to God for help. He stopped the pain at once. I am so glad He hears and answers our prayers when we call on Him.

May God bless each one at the Print Shop is my prayer. Please keep me and my loved ones on your prayer list and I will pray for you all.

—Sister Eathel Hill

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MO—Dear Saints: "Oh that men would praise the Lord for his goodness and for his wonderful works to the children of men." Psalms 107 repeats this phrase four times. God longs for the proper praise due Him from all mankind; therefore, I want to do my part so others can praise Him too for how the Lord has seen us through.

This winter I had been reading a little book on prayer. The Lord had been dealing with me and blessing me as I took more time aside for Him. At the peak of this time our oldest girl came down with the croup. The first night she got so bad, that at one point, she couldn't get enough breath to talk. We had been through it before and we felt the Lord's closeness, so we were not really fearful.

However, with the workload of a sick child plus a 2 1/2 month old baby, my devotion time was cut and I was not experiencing that solitude in prayer. On Tuesday, to the end of Ranelle's illness, I decided to go a few blocks to a store to get something to help pass Ranelle's confinement. It seemed to be an extra busy day with duties calling here and there. I kept feeling the Lord's call to come aside. My intentions were good, but I kept putting it off; mentally telling myself, "as soon as I change the baby . . ." then I would forget until I was in the middle of doing something else. The devil worked it so that I walked out of the door without kneeling for prayer.

The Lord knew that I needed that time and so did the devil. I was home no more than five minutes when our baby went into a gagging fit. It greatly concerned me and I called for prayer. It was over in a few minutes with no apparent problems. When Clifford got home an hour later I told him how I had gotten overly anxious about Alyssa.

Well, the problem reoccurred, and by evening, any time we would try to feed her, she would start coughing and choking. We had a sick little baby. We made two phone calls and the love of the saints overwhelmed us. It was 1:00 a.m. by this time, but we later found out that saints all

over had risen from their rest to fall to their knees in prayer for our needs.

During this the Lord blessed Clifford and me. I was a lot more fearful; she seemed so tiny and helpless. However, when I took my Bible, the Lord reminded me of our discussion the night before about the Israelites and how forgetful they were of the Lord's goodness. I felt like the verse I was reading in Psalms 77:2 ". . . my soul refused to be comforted." It seemed that I couldn't be comforted because I knew that if the Lord didn't undertake we wouldn't have our precious little one by morning. Psalms 77:8,9, "Is his mercy clean gone . . . Hath God forgotten to be gracious?" Verse 11 brought me back, "I will remember the works of the Lord: surely I will remember thy wonders of old." He had just blessed us with Ranelle, so I started praising God for the victory even though we were in the heat of the battle.

Alyssa seemed to get better, but Friday afternoon she got a low grade fever, was fairly lifeless, and would not open her eyes even though she was not sleeping. I had to hold her most of the time and she remained that way through Saturday afternoon when she finally opened her eyes for a good length of time.

Sunday morning we had some battles with her in a different way. Starting around 1:00 a.m., she had a coughing fit. At 6:45 a.m., we called for prayer again. The good Lord gave her a definite touch from then on. By that afternoon she was able to lie down and sleep on her stomach for the first time since the illness. Oh, how we thank Him for His greatness.

The Lord has also worked a miracle in Clifford and me. We moved to another home on March the 21st. The 28th, I started having fairly serious back problems. I was not expecting the instant healing with no side effects that the Lord gave me. The same day Clifford got his right index finger flattened between two pieces of steel. The pain was so severe at first that he almost passed out. That night he could not sleep for the pain. As flat as the finger was, we were fairly certain that it had crushed the bone in the tip. The Lord faithfully undertook again, and we do praise Him! His mercies are truly never ending.

Rejoicing in the Lord,

—Clifford and Vonda Cole

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Subscribe to this paper, 1 year for \$1.00.

FOREIGN MISSION REPORTS



From Liberia . . .

June 21—Greetings in the wonderful name of Christ, our soon coming King: The Lord brought me to America on June 18, 1992. Due to the delay of my flight, I spent a night in Memphis, Tennessee. We again departed the Memphis airport at 9:20 a.m., and arrived in Oklahoma City at 10:45 a.m., where I was met upon arrival by Bro. Wayne.

Due to the closure of our International Airports, I passed through Europe, and made a change of flight four times. This journey is 18 hours in the air from start to ending. This being my very first experience, I thereby began to suffer from headache and fever. By the Lord's grace, I am feeling much better now.

Since my arrival in America, I have been enjoying the fellowship and love of the saints. On Sunday, June 20, I worshipped with the saints of Enid, OK, where Bro. Leslie Busbee is the pastor.

The reason for me coming to America is to attend several camp meetings of the Church of God, to share the deep experiences of the saints, and some pioneer ministers.

Also, this trip will enable me to share with the saints the result of the Liberian Civil War, as well as some of the burdens and urgent needs of the Church of God in Liberia.

The saints in Liberia are very much happy about my visit to the U.S.A. The church in Liberia is growing and progressing.

Our Church of God mission school has opened and enrollment is very good. There are six volunteer teachers, and the school is from kindergarten to grade six.

The Lord willing, I shall return to Liberia the early part of August, as there are many things there to be done. I thank all the saints in the U.S.A. who contributed to my air ticket. I very much appreciate your love for me and the mission work in Liberia. God bless you all.

Sincerely in Christ, —Josiah K. Pah, Sr.

From Nigeria . . .

June 3—Dear Bro. Wayne Murphey and Saints everywhere: Greetings in the precious

name of Jesus, our great Redeemer of soul and body. God's love is indescribably great. The peace and joy He planted in our heart has grown to fullness, enabling us to accept anything that comes to us. We are defending the faith. Our stand has eventually purchased for the Church a high regard. Never can the true and false doctrine be placed on the same table. They are forever incompatible.

The Kwale congregation on March 27, 1992, in two chartered buses, left Kwale for Obodo-Ugwa for open air evangelistic meetings of three days duration. Obodo-Ugwa is controlled by Satan. All of the town glories in wickedness. All obstructions mounted against the Church to prevent our evangelism of the town proved a failure. Obodo-Ugwa has fallen into our hands to possess. Amen.

We are labouring and relying on God for the necessities of life. All being well, with weather alternating to suit, we shall expect a good harvest this year by November. All the planted crops are growing promisingly. Immense thanks go to the saints in the U.S. for their support of the Lord's work in Africa; financially, prayerfully, and morally. Let none be weary in well doing. Come over to Macedonia and help us.

Truly Yours in Him, —Titus U. E. Enu

Honduras, C.A. Report

June 22—On April 24, Bro. Toney Samons and family, Bro. Ed Johnston and family, Bro. Keith Fuller and Bro. Mart Samons, left New Orleans, LA, by plane, to fly to the island of Roatan, Honduras. They were met by another group of brethren who flew from the U.S.A. on May 1st. Included in that group were Bro. Louis Kimble, Bro. Wayman Parmer, Bro. Les Brown, Bro. Roy Brown, Sis. Dorothy Scott and Sis. Judy Trepagnier. Bro. McIntyre from FL joined the group later. This second group remained another week while the first group returned to the States on May 4. Sis. Bennett from Miami, who was already on the island with Sis. Saunders, helped both groups with interpreting and assisting in any way she could.

Meetings were held in several places on the island, and several souls were saved or received help. Some definite, immediate instances of healing also took place to the glory of God. The trip was certainly a success.

During the second week of the trip the second group of brethren flew to the mainland

of Honduras. They held services with some saints they had never met before in the city of La Ciba. The fellowship was the sweet fellowship of the Spirit. They also ministered in the city of Teba, and on another little island of Utila.

The plan to build a chapel on the island of Roatan is already in progress. Bro. Toney Samons and family plan to return in September to stay on the island for a few months to help with the completion of this project. Pray that the Lord will give guidance for this effort.

There are also plans to send a vehicle over to the island for transportation. This is needed very much because public transportation is expensive. Plans are to send a truck and some furniture for the Samon's house to the island during the month of August.

Please pray for the work in Honduras. The Lord is working, but so is the enemy. Your prayers and support are necessary for this work to progress. Your support in the past has been appreciated very much, and we do thank everyone for your help. Anyone who wishes to contribute to these projects may send them to The Church of God Missionary, P.O. Box 73835, Metairie, LA 70033.

For the Honduras missionary company,

—Bro. Toney Samons

From Ghana . . .

June 10—Dear Bro. Murphey and Saints: I send greetings of love in Jesus' name once again to all the dear ones that render service in the Lord's printing business. May our God reward each of you for a job well done. . . .

We make a full determination for Friday fasting and prayers, that the Lord will touch one of your hearts to come to Ghana, without delay. Ghana is a free country. There are many foreign missionaries in Ghana, so don't let anything stop your coming. The time is faithful and the Kingdom of God is at hand. The time has come to us that we must spread the gospel to every corner of the nation. Pray for us and that the work that Sis. Dorothy [Keiser] did will not be in vain.

We pray constantly for the work you are doing.

—Williams Kusi

"One might as well rush into battle unarmed because he had no time to secure his weapons, as to go forth to the experiences of any day without taking time to pray." —Selected

IN MEMORIAM

Roy Thomas White, son of Francis Marion and Lula White was born in Cleveland, Cass County, MO, February 2, 1901 and departed this life in Guthrie, OK on June 3, 1992 at the age of 91 years.

Roy was united in marriage to Leola Britt on September 1, 1921, in Guthrie, OK. To this union, two daughters were born, Cledith and Beulah Mae.

Roy came with his parents, brothers and sisters to Oklahoma from Missouri by covered wagon in 1919 where the family settled in Guthrie, OK.

His occupation included construction on the Masonic temple in Guthrie and he worked for the City of Guthrie in the Sanitation Department several years before retiring. His wife, Leola, preceded him in death in 1974 and his daughter, Beulah Mae, in 1976. He was also preceded in death by his parents, four brothers, two sisters and a half-sister.

Roy attended the local congregation of the Church of God Chapel in Guthrie until prevented by failing health. Since October 1982, his home has been the Senior Citizen/Colonial Estates Nursing Home, in Guthrie. He left a testimony that he had made peace with God.

He is survived by one daughter and son-in-law, Cledith and Cleo Ochs of Guthrie; four grandchildren; Dwayne and Twila Beth Flynn, Tulsa, OK, Cindy (Flynn) and Bill Barham, Tulsa, OK, Lawanda (Flynn) and Byce Brannon, Bixby, OK, Phyllis (Flynn) and Carl Knoblock, Adamstown, PA; five great grandchildren; one sister and brother-in-law, Mary (White) and Raymond Reece, Fresno, CA; lots of nieces, nephews and friends.

Graveside services were held at the Summit View cemetery in Guthrie, OK by Bro. Richard Madden.

Man's Worship to God

(Continued from page 3.)

and sincerity of heart that drew Him. This was God's perfect plan and it remained that way until sin entered the picture.

Sin has greatly hindered God's relationship with man from that time on. God did find certain men who were doing their utmost to serve Him

and He communicated with them in special ways. However, in general, His presence was greatly restricted by the effect of sin. In order to make an appeasement for sin and establish a plan that would lead back to the relationship that existed initially, God instituted a ceremonial law worship. This was delivered to Moses in minute detail and as long as it was followed, God could find some satisfaction in His people. All of the law was an outward ritual and we find that musical instruments were included by the Jews in the performance of it.

One instance of a particular significance is recorded in II Chronicles 5:13. "It came even to pass, as the trumpeters and singers were as one, to make one sound to be heard in praising and thanking the Lord; and when they lifted up their voice with the trumpets and cymbals and instruments of musick, and praised the Lord, saying, For he is good; for his mercy endureth for ever: that then the house was filled with a cloud, even the house of the Lord." Musical instruments were of benefit to them here. These were people who had hatred, jealousy, malice and all other kinds of evil in their hearts. They were so wicked and adverse to each other that God had to institute cities of refuge for their survival. Can you imagine these kind of people getting together in one accord without something outwardly dynamic taking place? Anyone who has played musical instruments with others or participated in group singing can understand the feeling of togetherness that is shared. When the Israelites were concentrating on blowing the trumpets and playing the other musical instruments in harmony and rhythm, they had no facility unoccupied with which to be thinking ill of another. Under the law system, a person, by believing in God and keeping the law, could be justified in God's sight, but they did not possess the indwelling Holy Spirit which unifies the heart. Hence, their unity had to come from an outward source.

God wanted man to have the Holy Spirit and more than just an outward worship. Even the pagans could rival the Israelites in the use of musical instruments. (Daniel 3:5). God began to work through the prophets and give them

messages by which to usher in a new and better dispensation. In Amos 5:23, God called for the ceremonial music to stop. Amos 6:5 shows that they were doing the same thing that David had done, but God was growing weary of the fallacies of the system that had existed from Moses' time till then. (Amos 5:25, 26).

Jesus ushered in this change. "But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth." John 4:23, 24. Jesus did not pass an edict for His believers not to use musical instruments in worshipping God, but He set an example before them of the true and proper way to worship the living God and it had little to do with outward ceremonies.

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At the Last Supper it is recorded that, "And when they had sung an hymn, they went out into the mount of Olives." Mark 14:26. Noting the various backgrounds of the disciples, their singing might not have been the most melodious, yet doubtless they felt a spiritual significance in it.

The Apostle Paul says, "Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord. . . ." Ephesians 5:19.

Paul understood that being filled with the Spirit could cause a person to worship from the heart. Some feel that "psalm" derives from the playing of a stringed instrument and is what is meant here. The dictionary, after stating its origin, simply says, "A sacred song or poem. To sing or extol in psalms." This would seem to be more in the tenor of the scriptural meaning, for James says, "Is any among you afflicted? let him pray. Is any merry? let him sing psalms." James 5:13.

History verifies that the early morning Church did not use musical instruments. F. L. Humphreys, in the book, *The Evolution of Church Music*, states, "One of the features which distinguishes the Christian religion from almost all others is its quietness. . . . The early Christians discouraged all outward signs of excitement, and from the very beginning, in the music they used, reproduced the spirit of their religion, an

inward quietude. All the music employed in their early services was vocal." Doesn't this take your mind back to the quiet fellowship in the Garden of Eden?

"Dr. Frederic Louis Ritter, in *History of Music*, writes, 'We have no real knowledge of the exact character of the music which formed a part of the religious devotion of the first Christian congregation. It was, however, purely vocal.' "

Dr. Frederic Louis Ritter in *History of Music* writes, "We have no real knowledge of the exact character of the music which formed a part of the religious devotion of the first Christian congregation. It was, however, purely vocal."

Not being acquainted with church history, some would think that it is out of sync with the established Christian religion to fail to use musical instruments. However, it was not until the 5th century before it is recorded that musical instruments were used in church worship. "Instrumental music was introduced into the Spanish Catholic worship in the 5th century, and in the English Catholics' services in the 8th century. French Calvinists, called Huguenots, admitted no instruments of music in the worship services except the sober union of congregational singing." -*Encyclopedia Americana*

It was not until the 16th century that it made any inroad into the church. "Though old Greek, Roman and Hebrew authors are lavish in their praise of the astonishing effects of instrumental music, as used in their several temple services, yet it was not till the latter part of the sixteenth century that a really artistic signification was attached to the cultivation of instrumental music. To judge from the construction and nature of the sacred instruments known to the old Greeks, Hebrews and Romans, these instruments, for the most part, must have been only used for dynamic effects, to enliven and mark the rhythm of the sacred dances and the triumphal marches, or to regulate, in Greek tragedy, the motion of the chorus. The Christians, though at first averse to the musical instruments of the heathens, accepted many of the heathen customs by degrees, as also their instruments; for we know, that, even in some churches in the Orient, instrumental music was finally introduced."—*History of Music*.

As late as the 17 and 1800's many of the noteworthy Christian leaders held out against it. This included such men as John Wesley, Charles Spurgeon, Adam Clarke, John Calvin, Alexander Campbell and others.

Some do not understand the difference in

using musical instruments in worship and having them in the home. It must be understood that there is nothing morally wrong with musical instru-

ments. It is good to have an appreciation of music, but it must stay in its proper place. Jesus ran into problems with the Jews over the washing of hands. There is nothing morally wrong with doing so before eating, but to do it in the name of religion puts it in a totally different perspective. One writer, in commenting on this subject, gave these comparisons. "It is morally right to eat ham and eggs, but it is wrong to do it as a religious rite, as an act of worship. It is morally right to apply water to an infant's body for the purpose of bathing it, but wrong to do so as a religious rite." We do many things for enjoyment, which is well, but when we meet to worship God, we do not do so for recreation or to pass the time in entertainment.

Psalm 87:5-7 has provided much discussion along the line of music. "And of Zion it shall be said, This and that man was born in her: and the highest himself shall establish her. The Lord shall count, when he writeth up the people, that this man was born there. Selah. As well the singers as the players on instruments shall be there: all my springs are in thee." "When he writeth up the people" is speaking of a particular time. It is not referring to writing people's names in the Book of Life as they are saved, but the judgment scene when the Church of God will be completed and presented as a pure and spotless bride. We know that at that time those redeemed under the old law will be just as much a part of Zion, the "New Jerusalem," as those saved under the dispensation of grace. Since the Psalmist made a distinction between the singers and the players on instruments, we cannot but conclude that his meaning was that the players on instruments were those under the ceremonial law. The fact that he listed the singers before the players on instruments does not discount this thought, for the context of the chapter shows he was looking to the future, not from a chronological order.

Another line of controversy is the fact that in John the Revelator's vision, he saw harps used by the four and twenty elders (Revelation 5:8) as well as the redeemed. (Revelation 14:2; 15:2).

Winston E. Dagogo addressed this subject when he wrote, "Harps in the Revelation do not symbolize harps, but something else, for then shall it cease to be a symbol if it represents itself. The harp is an instrument of strings which produces the one harmonious sound when played. This then might be the reason for it symbolizing how the believer lives his life in harmony with the righteousness of God, showing that they are indeed the apostle of Christ." This thought is in accordance with what F. G. Smith expresses in his book, *The Revelation Explained*. He simply states, "They stand upon the 'sea of glass, having the harps of God'-a symbol of melody and praise. . . ."

Charles Wesley penned the words, "O for a thousand tongues to sing, Blessed be the name of the Lord!" This is a feeling of the soul and can only be vented from the heart. It is a desire, when properly expressed, that will bring God into our presence and satisfy our inner longings.



HOME LIFE

Wives and Husbands

(Taken from the *Gospel Trumpet*, 1906)

Author Unknown

"Likewise, ye wives, be in subjection to your own husbands; that, if any obey not the word, they also may without the word be won by the conversation of the wives; While they behold your chaste conversation coupled with fear. Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel; But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price. For after this manner in the old time the holy women also, who trusted in God, adorned themselves, being in subjection unto their own husbands: Even as Sara obeyed Abraham, calling him lord; whose daughters ye are, as long as ye do well, and are not afraid with any amazement. Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving honor unto the wife as unto the weaker vessel; and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered." I Peter 3:1-7.

The above scripture, without any comment, is a good lesson to any wife or husband. I will call your attention to the seventh verse which is directly addressed to husbands. "Likewise, ye

husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving honor unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered." "Dwell with them according to knowledge." Husbands need knowledge. In looking over the world today we would conclude that but few husbands were in possession of knowledge sufficient to dwell with a wife "according to knowledge." Some really seem to be ignorant, and perhaps they love to have it so, but certainly there must be some exceptions, hence a few that desire teaching. For these who are willingly ignorant of the knowledge they ought to possess, there is no help; trouble alone awaits them. If there were more good examples in the married state, there would be less occasion for ignorance, as an example goes a long way toward the enlightenment of others.

The key of knowledge and the underlying principles of success are in the inner or secret life, and hid from view. It takes searching as for hidden treasure to get in possession of the knowledge and wisdom of God pertaining to wedded life. The bent of man toward sin and selfishness takes away the "key of knowledge" and keeps him from proving the things that are "excellent." For the spiritually minded, the Scriptures afford the best instruction to husbands and wives; but that part of the Scriptures is not so carefully and diligently searched as it ought to be for the good of those that profess to be Christians.

No one ought to enter into the married state without first acquainting themselves thoroughly on the subject of marriage in all its phases. There is never an effect without a cause. If we know the causes that lead to success and follow them diligently, success will be ours. If we meet with failure, it is because we have pursued the way and participated in the causes which produce failure. The comprehensive mind will do well to study the examples of success and failure that come under their observation and their corresponding causes. Mismatching is not the cause of all the domestic troubles. Mismatching is usually due to ignorance and lack of knowledge on the subject. Saved people have a better chance of getting those best suited to them, as God will direct in this matter if He is faithfully counselled in due time. Death alone dissolves the marriage bond; (Rom. 7:2, 3) hence those that are scripturally married "are no more twain, but one flesh" and will have to make the best of it by the help and grace of God, who is able to solve all problems. Husband, it is your privilege and duty to dwell with your wife according to knowledge from now on.

Even if you entered into this state somewhat ignorantly, you must not remain ignorant. "Be not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is." You can begin at once to acquire knowledge and live up to all you know as fast as you can learn what is expedient and wise.

The all-wise Creator knew better than to create them male and female and turn them loose like He did the beasts of earth. Man is capable of something better than beasts, and God planned that which was best for man. "He which made them at the beginning made them male and female, and said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: And they twain shall be one flesh. Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put assunder." God instituted marriage for the perpetuation of the race, the constitution of homes, and to afford domestic happiness. God did not intend life to be a burden while filling the purpose and object of creation. While life is filled with duties, cares, and responsibilities, it is also crowned with blessings, joys and triumphs, cheered by hope and fond expectation. Why not live for and obtain the best results possible? It may be yours if you only count it so, and live to glorify God.

"THEY TWO SHALL BE ONE FLESH"

"You are no more twain but one flesh." You are two in one: selfishness is ended if you live as you should. There is a law of assimilation, a law which governs the blending of husband and wife into a oneness of cooperation in life and purpose. It is important that this be understood. General opinion is wrong on the subject, as expressed by a newly wedded man who addressed his wife as follows, "We are one, and I am that one." Assimilation is not all on the part of the wife: this would take away individuality. She will need her individuality if she becomes a real helpmate for her husband. The individual of each will need to be modified or changed from independence to that of maturity.

Both will need to sacrifice their own likes and dislikes to please one another until differences are disposed of. This is a short route in assimilation, and "the only way." The husband "careth for the things of the world how he may please his wife," likewise the wife "careth for the things of the world how she may please her husband." You will both have to comply with this if you ever make a success. The husband cannot run the thing to suit himself: he is to please his wife. The wife is not to usurp the authority "which belongs to her husband, and try to run things her

way; she is to please her husband." Whence comes these little jars, discords, disagreements, misunderstandings, etc.? From a lack of complying with the law of assimilation and mutuality. Since you are two in one, why not live that way? "He that loveth his wife loveth himself," she is part of him—commonly called "the better half." Let each esteem the other better than himself (or herself). If you let your love sour and quit trying to please one another, unity, home, and happiness are all spoiled. The more you become wrapped up in loving, cherishing, esteeming, and serving each other to the glory of God, the more pleasant will be your journey through life, and the better example will you be to others. As a man "nourisheth and cherisheth his own flesh" so is he to treat his wife, for she is "bone of his bone and flesh of his flesh."

The husband ought to consider the physical, mental and social interests of his wife as much as, even more than, he does his own. If he dwell with her according to knowledge, he will. The woman is more tender, delicate, sensitive, and refined than the man. She needs to be; and if he assimilates correspondingly, he will be a better man, more refined, considerate, affectionate, tender, etc.

GIVING HONOR UNTO THE WIFE

Selfish people cannot understand this: but giving her "honor" is more than to simply speak in her praise. Some men do not even do that. Husbands, have you been looking at the good qualities of your wives, or have you been finding fault with them? Do you still admire your wife as much as you did before you were married? You used to tell her how you loved her; you saw her good qualities then. She is the same woman now, or you have caused a change to come over her, and the quicker you see this, the better for you both. You ought to love her more now than when you were first married, and you ought to tell her so. You ought not be so bashful, as you were the first time you ventured to say, "I love you dear." If you have honored her as God wanted you to, she will appreciate to have you speak as affectionately to her as you ever did. Do you not remember when love first began—how tender you were towards her, and how you wanted to be so polite and wait on her and help her at every turn? Why did you quit? Just because you were married?

Does marriage destroy love, kindness, courtesy, gentility, politeness, etc.? If not, why then do most married people soon depart from these good qualities? If these belong only to courtship, it is a pity that courtship should ever end. If you give the honor to your wife that is due her, you will not be

inclined to give more honor to any other woman—no not nearly so much. Some men try to honor their wives in company, where others are showing courtesy, etc., but a true husband will honor his wife when they are alone just as well.

It is the duty of the husband to provide for his wife and family. She is to be a "helpmeet" to be sure; but to simply provide a home and finances is not sufficient under all circumstances. It is not beneath the dignity of a gentleman to help his wife do any work that she is compelled to do. In fact it is commendable in any man to be capable of doing any kind of work common to the fair sex, and to assist his wife when she needs assistance. A man does not know how to honor his wife until he is thoughtful enough to see when she needs help, and cheerful and willing enough to share with her in any duty, burden, or care of life.

Husband, if you honor your wife as you should, you will be found carrying the heavy end of the load, you will not go along holding the short end of the stick while your wife holds up the long end with the greater portion of the burden. The wife is "the weaker vessel." And to "give honor unto her as unto the weaker vessel" means not to overburden, overwork, misuse or abuse her in any way. She is a joint-heir with you of the grace of life; she is just as worthy of its good things as you are.

A failure on the part of husbands to obey the scriptural instruction of I Pet. 3:7 is the chief cause of a great portion of misery and unhappiness in the domestic circle. Therefore too much stress cannot be laid on husbands' having proper knowledge and wisdom to dwell with their wives according to knowledge in all these things so vitally important.



God's Love is Forever

By

Sis. Carol Cole

The gift of life is such a precious possession. It is God's will that we carefully guard it at all times from the destroyer of our souls who is determined to break our communion with God.

After man's shameful downfall, God could have left mankind to their certain doom of eternal death. Instead, He sent His beloved Son to die in our place that we might live.

Oh, how the Devil has twisted the truth in men's hearts and caused them to blame God for the troubles and problems they have encountered in life. We no doubt have heard these questions and comments from disheartened and hopeless individuals: "Does God really care?

Why are there so many problems and perplexities? Life just isn't worth living. I wish I had never been born."

It is so tragic that the world is nearly overcome with the problems and sorrows of life. The solutions could be so simple if we chose to let God take over in our lives. The first step is to let go and let God have His way, but the Devil tries his best to make it so complicated. Thus we need to really understand how God and our adversary work. God is a Spirit, so we cannot see Him with our natural eyes; only through the eyes of faith. God chooses for us to exercise faith by waiting and trusting and loving Him in order for Him to work out our problems. Meanwhile, the Devil (who is an evil spirit) will be busy trying to lure us his way. He knows we don't like to wait on the Lord to work out our problems, so he presents confusion and discouragement to the mind.

However, we do need to understand that sometimes God will use adverse circumstances or the loss of something cherished to draw us closer to Himself. God's ways are so much higher than our ways, because He has foresight. He knows exactly what trials will accomplish His purpose and plans for our lives. Let us be challenged to focus our vision on God and His promises rather than our problems. When we do this, we find the very things that can cast us down and crush us will be our stepping stones into heaven—the home of the soul.

God is going to work and deal with our souls if we permit Him to, in order to get us to heaven. However, the Devil is determined to undermine all God's dealings with us to bring us down to eternal damnation to be forever with him in torment.

We need to get a true vision of God's love for us. The dark and hopeless situations we face are not God forsaking us, as the Devil tries to put in our minds, they are allowed for our growth and strength in God. The Devil has to receive a real rebuke from us, or else he will strive to cloud our view of God's love, and clamor to confuse and dull our minds of God's eternal love for us. We have to command our soul to "be still" before God. We have to shut out all the discouraging and depressing thoughts that the Devil tries so hard to flood our minds with. "Be still, and know that I am God." (Ps. 46:10). Here is encouragement for the downcast soul. Right in the midst of your battle is where you can meet God face to face if you will get your soul still

before God. To be face to face with your Creator is the most blessed experience you can have. It will change your life and make it worth the living.

Let the words of this song speak to your heart and bring comfort and peace that passeth all understanding to your heart, soul, and mind.

BE STILL

Oh, be still, thou soul of mine,
Thou art not forsaken;
Tho' the pow'rs of sin may rage,
Thou shalt be unshaken.
He who gave His life for thee,
Thus permits that thou shouldst be—
For thy good, as thou shalt see—
Tempted for a season.

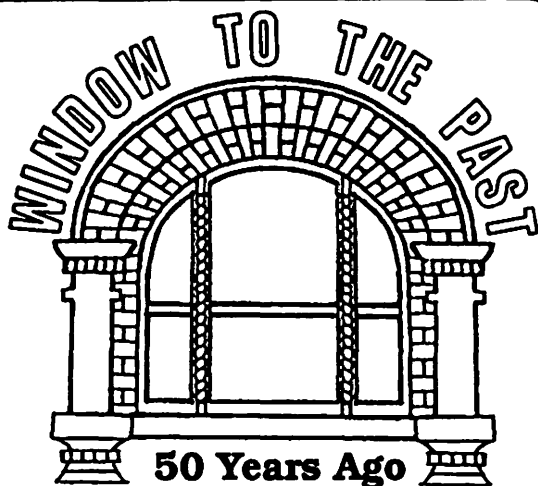
Yes, dear Lord, I will be still,
I will trust thee ever;
I'll submit to all thy will,
Cling to thee forever.
Lord, thou knowest what is best,
Confident in this I'll rest,
Till I dwell with all the blest,
And with thee in heaven.

A heart that has learned to be still has developed a wonderful relationship with God. A trusting heart will cease to try to understand life's complicated situations. It has learned that a doubting heart will limit God. A heart that gets a true vision of God's never-ending love will learn to trust Him unerringly. To get this vision of God's everlasting love and care for us, ponder the depths of His love when He sent His well-beloved Son. Consider also the depths of Jesus' love for our souls. He wasn't merely submissive to the will of His Father, but "love drew Him down from heaven, to seek and save the lost."

We don't have to let the destroyer of our souls cheat us out of eternal life. There is complete victory and power in the shed blood of Jesus. If we claim the precious blood of Jesus for our souls, all the powers of hell cannot stand against us. Instead, we can have peace which passeth understanding, because of the heart knowledge that God's love is forever; it is Divine.



"God gets no glory out of the soul who dies in sin, but the living soul who lives a holy life so others can see Jesus, brings glory to God."
—Selected



Excerpts Taken From July, 1942 Faith and Victory

"Bro. Willie C. Murphey and Frances Edna Pruitt were united in marriage on June 6, 1942 in our home here in Guthrie near the Faith Pub. House. The ceremony was performed by Elder O. B. Wilson, Jr. of Anthony, Kans. in the presence of thirty-five or forty invited guests, after which ice cream and cake was served. . . Bro. Murphey has made his home in Guthrie for seven years or more and is loved and respected by all who know him. At present, he is Linotype operator for a printing company here in Guthrie. The Lord has called him to the ministry and evangelistic work.

"Frances is the youngest child of your editor and wife and has been saved for many years and working here in the Lord's Print Shop. We shall miss her in the work and in the home very much, but rejoice to know that she will continue in the service of the Lord."

—Fred Pruitt

The Pearl Harbor Disaster

"Clarence E. Mason Jr. wrote an article by this title. It appeared in the April 18, 1942 issue of The Sunday School Times. After calling attention to the fact that the United States 'has been basically righteous in fulfilling her treaty obligations to every nation, including Japan,' and that we have 'not committed any act of aggression,' and that 'we can now do no other than defend ourselves,' Mr. Mason calls attention to national sins which have already been punished, in part, by national calamities, such as the crash of 1929 and the depression years that followed. But instead of repentance, he says, 'our country went on to greater sin.'"