

# FAITH<sup>AND</sup>VICTORY

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## Church of God Servant



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### Who Wrote the Pentateuch?

By Joyce McIntyre

The first five books of the Old Testament are called the Pentateuch or Torah, which is the Hebrew word for "Law." These five introductory books trace the origin of both earth and mankind, and develop the course of God's chosen people. The Pentateuch tells of God's relationship with Israel that allows them to experience a relationship with Him. The Pentateuch exposes the origin and development of the Jewish nation as they train and prepare to worship God and to enter the Promised Land. In the past two centuries, a number of scholars have disputed the Mosaic authorship of these books, although the Jews and orthodox Christians have always asserted that Moses wrote them. Whenever the authenticity of the Pentateuch is questioned, it casts aspersions upon the integrity of the entire Bible. For it is the Bible where the recurring theme of God's redemption of man originates.

The first book, Genesis, tells of man's fall from God's grace (the unmerited favor of God) through disobedience and God's redemption of man. Genesis also describes Abraham's call to righteousness and the covenant God makes with Abraham concerning becoming the father of many nations. It traces the lineage of God's chosen people through the descendants of Abraham's son, Isaac, until the entire clan leaves Canaan and migrates to Egypt.

The other four books consisting of Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy primarily deal with the Israelites' enslavement in Egypt, their deliverance, and their rebellions and subsequent punishments. Exodus through Deuteronomy emphasize the life of Moses from his birth to his death, telling of his triumphs and failures. Moses was the man God had selected to lead the Jewish nation. He was chosen to lead the Israelites from bondage in Egypt to a land of freedom in Canaan. This land which was called the Promise Land had been promised to Abraham's descendants. Included in these four books are the laws that God gave to Moses for the Hebrew nation. These laws were not only for the Israelites to live by, but also to lead them to redemption.

The Pentateuch is the origin of a recurring theme that flows throughout the entire Bible. This theme centers on man's sinful state, his disobedience to God, and his restoration to Him through

### The Genesis Theme

I have evidence, that proves without doubt,  
What God and creation are all about.  
The designs of nature cannot be explained  
By the cycle and order of their domain.

Theories of science are only just that.  
The conclusions are limited for want of a fact.  
Confusion results from theorems and tests  
Accepted as truth from hyperbolic quests.

They refute the story of the Genesis Theme,  
As they search for a reason to support their  
claim.

Thoughtless and bigoted, they impose their  
ways

On unwary innocents in their formative days.

My evidence, too, is supported by faith.  
Theory of theories—the theology of grace.  
Believe what you will, but give me the right  
To sit down beside you and share my insight.

—J. W. Riley Phillippe

faith. It reiterates the fact that there is only one God, who is called Elohim which means "God." He is also called Yawheh, which means "Lord" or "Jehovah." This theme graphically displays God's plan of redemption for mankind from Genesis through Revelation.

There have always been men and women who, because of unbelief, unwillingness, disobedience and pride or self exaltation, refuse to accept the sovereignty of God and the necessity for obedience to His laws. There have been various stratagems to justify their rebellion or refusal to accept God's supremacy and to convince others to join them. In ancient times, idolatry was the favorite method of refusal. In the last few centuries and even today, the favorite method has been to attempt to discredit the Bible. In the early days of Christianity, the Nazarenes, who were strong adherents of the law, and the Gnostics, whose very name means knowledge, were two groups that disputed the Mosaic authorship. Since that time the integrity of the Bible has been attacked by so many scholars that it is difficult to keep track of their various theories. Many of these intellectuals have disguised their unbelief under the auspices of doing a "critical analysis of the Bible" for scholarly research (*The Pentateuch in its Cultural Environment*, Herbert G. Livingston.)

Some of the most widely used methods of attacking the authenticity of any document or work are by questioning the authorship, the accuracy, the chronology, the culture that produced it, and then comparing it with others from the same period. A great number of these scholars have advanced theories about the authorship and accuracy of the Pentateuch. One of the popular theories developed by modern criticism is that writing was unknown in the days of Moses; therefore, the Pentateuch could not have been written until much later. This theory contends that the events recorded in it could only have been legends passed down through oral traditions, although this is in direct opposition to these scriptures:

And the Lord said unto Moses, Write this for a memorial in a book, and rehearse it in the ears of Joshua: for I will utterly put out the remembrance of Amalek from under heaven. (Exodus 17:14)

"And the Lord said unto Moses, Write thou these words: for after the tenor of these words I have made a covenant with thee and with Israel. (Exodus 34:27.)

Another group of theories espoused by the liberal critics has been given various names. This viewpoint has been called the "Developmental Hypothesis," the "Documentary Theory," the "Modified Document Hypothesis," the "Critical Hypothesis" or the "New Critical School." It also is commonly referred to as the "JEDP theory." This theory states that the Pentateuch is a composite of four or more ancient documents. These documents were said to have been composed during the kingdom and exilic periods and were blended into the present five books around 400-450 B.C. Julius Wellhausen was a German scholar and professor who made his name famous by his critical investigations into Old Testament history. In the 1880's Wellhausen popularized the "JEDP theory" which dominated Old Testament studies in both Europe and America until the 1930's. This theory not only completely rules out Moses as the author of the Pentateuch, it also rules out a living God and expresses a humanistic approach. Liberal scholars believe that God has never spoken to individuals and never performed any miracles that interfere with natural law; therefore, the majority of miracles recorded in the Bible are nothing but figments of the imagination of the various writers (*Exploring the Old Testament*, W. T. Purkhiser.).

The JEDP theory was formulated by a number of German scholars and lost its popularity after Germany lost World War I, Adolph Hitler's rise to power and the advent of World War II. Although the JEDP theory was the dominating factor in the studies of the Old Testament for over 75 years, its inherent weaknesses and fallacies were quickly realized when its popularity was directly proportional to the world's opinion of Germany; therefore, it was nothing but intellectual gobbledey-gook.

There have been numerous archaeological discoveries of Pre-Flood writings on clay tablets, which means man was writing long before the time of Noah. Thousands of books have been found in the cities of Babylonia which were written before the days of Abraham. It has been a tradition among the Arabs and the Jews that Enoch invented the art of writing and left a number of books. Thus, written records of important events have been made known since the dawn of history, (*Halley's Bible Handbook*, Henry H. Halley.).

There has never been a valid reason to dispute the Mosaic authorship of the Pentateuch.

Jewish tradition has always stated that Moses was the author of the Torah. The Pentateuch is in direct agreement with other records originating before the Israelite monarchy. The Scriptures uphold it, and even Jesus attributes the authorship of the Pentateuch to Moses. "... Have ye not read in the book of Moses, how in the bush God spake unto him, saying, I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob?" (Mark 12:26). Thus, anyone denying the Mosaic authorship of the Pentateuch is denying not only the integrity of the Bible, but also the veracity of Jesus Christ the Son of God.

It is ironic that no one is too dumb to be saved, but many are too smart to accept God and His word in its entirety.

"Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men; and the weakness of God is stronger than men. For ye see your calling, brethren, how that many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called: But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty." 1 Cor. 1:25-27.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■

# DELIVERED

By Belinda Simon

I'm thankful to the Father, Son and Holy Spirit for their wondrous working power in my life; bringing a oneness and completeness in my life. Jesus has delivered my soul from the power of sin and shame. I was sinking deep in sin, not realizing how the devil was seeking to deceive and destroy my mind, soul, and body. I was brought up in church, with a profession not a possession, not knowing that you could and must turn from sin. But our loving and precious Saviour extended mercy to my soul. My soul was looking for love, joy and peace, and I never found it going to clubs, dancing, smoking, drugs and all the other sins that go along with this kind of life. It is a shame to write this for others to read, but I feel it needs to be written so that if someone is on this road, and feels there's no way out, you can see through this testimony that there is deliverance.

Tears come to my eyes to think that Jesus loved a wretch like me, and He loves you too. I can truly say with the song writer, "Sin will take you farther than you want to go, and sin will cost you far more than you want to pay." I had some respect and fear of God in my heart, and I believe God saw this and extended a little more mercy, because there are times and places I could have been killed or destroyed. "You're doomed now for aye," I heard Satan shout; But Jesus reached down and lifted me out. He lifted me out of the deep miry clay; He settled my feet in the strait, narrow way; He lifted me up to a heavenly place, And floodeth my soul each day with his grace." Praise the Lord forever!

The church I was going to said, "Sin you must, sin you can't help it. God will forgive you seventy times seven because He knows your flesh is weak. We can't live perfect." Dear friend, it pays you to read God's word for yourself. I went on and on until one day things weren't going right. I was depressed and miserable with the way I was living. Nothing seemed to help me. I got the Bible and read in Psalms, I can't remember where, but I remember praying, "Lord, I want the peace and praise that I'm reading about. Show me the true way to go. I don't want to be lost. Help me Lord, please help me." I got up, not knowing if God heard me or even cared, but shortly after this prayer, in June, 1979, God sent one of His servants, Sister Lizzie Jordan, my way. As I was walking to the store she called to me and gave me some tracts, and told me to think of where my soul would spend eternity. She told me about a camp meeting that was going on, and that I should come. I told her I would. We were on the corner right where the church building was, and she pointed it out to me, and told me the times of the services. I went to the store, then back home, and put the tracts on the television. My sister and her boyfriend came and picked me and my little girl up, and told me they had some good cocaine that I should try. I told them I didn't know how, but of course, they showed me. I took too much and started crying. They said, "Don't cry, let's party." They turned up the music, but I didn't want that kind of feeling, so they took me home. I started crying out in prayer again "Lord, please let me come down. I promise I will never take any more of that." I went to sleep, and you are not supposed to go to sleep when you are on that stuff. But God once again came with love and help.

(Continued on page 13.)

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### 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.

### FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE

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## Editorials

It has been two months since we have had the opportunity of corresponding through this column, and we can testify of God's goodness to us through this intervening time. We are humbled and made to behold God with reverence as we are continually made recipients of His blessings. We enjoy one blessing after another. There is no end to the divine pipeline that reaches from the throne of God to the common life being lived upon this earth. "The blessing of the Lord, it maketh rich, and he addeth no sorrow with it." Proverbs 10:22.

At this time our country is discussing who will be the president for the next four years. One of the questions being pushed to the forefront during this campaign is: "Are you any better off now than you were four years ago?" or "What kind of record does the president have to run on?" Recognizing that as saints we are subjects of the King of Glory, we have a rich past to convince us, without hesitation, to ask God to continue His reign in our hearts. We are better off than we were yesterday, because "...the goodness of God endureth continually." Psalms 52:1.

Plutarch, the Greek historian, tells a story to this effect. An ancient king once gave a present of a large sum of money to a personal friend and was taken gently to task for his generosity. "What!" was the astonished exclamation, "Would you not have me be liberal? Let the world know that when the king gives, he gives generously, like a king." Upon this, he made a second present of equal value. Our God gives gifts far exceeding the ability of any mortal being to give, both in affection and in worth. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son."



We want to use this means to let our gratitude be known for those who took advantage of the literature that was offered in the book store during the Monark Springs Camp Meeting. There were perhaps more saints who patronized it this year than in recent years.



In the July *Faith & Victory*, mention was made of the need to order paper. Ten thousand pounds is on its way to us from the paper mill. This will allow us to continue on for some months in printing the news of salvation. We thank each one who had a part in donating toward this expense.

In the company of several young people, I was privileged to leave Guthrie on Aug. 1, to attend the Ensenada, Mexico Camp Meeting, where Bro. Mayarino Escobar is the pastor. Arriving by van on Aug. 3, we were with them in services through Aug. 9. A 30' x 30' tent, loaned by Bro. L. D. Chrisman, was pitched by Bro. James Huskey in which to hold the services. Along with several from the States who attended the meeting, the Mexican people of that area pretty well filled the tent for each evening service. Sis. Panchita, Bro. Escobar's wife, has been doing some work in the local vegetable fields, and had the opportunity to invite other workers to attend the meeting. Some did so, and found the joy of salvation. On the last Saturday evening, Bro. James Bell baptized several brethren in the Pacific Ocean. The saints of the congregation were an encouragement to all, and worked hard to meet the needs of everyone.

There is an expanding work to be done in this part of Mexico. The congregation at Ensenada has established itself in the truth, yet has experienced problems and setbacks that are germane to a young and growing work. At this time they have three lots that are not far from the ocean side, and close to a tourist camp. They have constructed a small wood frame structure for their worship services which they utilized as a dining hall during the camp meeting. They also have a room in the building where Bro. Lupe, his wife, Esperanza, and family live. Bro. Lupe is a minister that has been laboring with Bro. Escobar for more than a year. Also helping in the ministry is a young native Indian, Bro. Lucas. He has a moving testimony of how he was called of God to the ministry and of the severe persecution he has received in giving out the Word.

Bro. James Huskey has moved a double wide mobile home onto one of the lots of the church property, and this fall he and Sis. Charlotte, along with their son, Bennie, will take up residence there.

The immediate need the congregation has at this time, is to erect a larger and more permanent church building. They do have running water on the church lots, but it may be some time before electricity is available to that area. Also, several of the congregation are living in poverty conditions, and steps are being taken to relieve the most immediate needs. I know they would all appreciate an interest in your prayers, as well as an extended hand of assistance.

Word has been received that the saints in Goulds, FL received much property damage from hurricane Andrew. At this time it is not possible to communicate by phone with the saints, but Sis. Crystal Hargrave managed to get word out that the roof of their house was caved in, the front porch blown away, windows broken and the house flooded. Others of the saint's homes were similarly damaged. There are no reports of any physical harm.

—Wayne Murphey



## Prayer Requests

CA—"I still need prayer. Also my friend, Velma Paschall."

—Ruby Fern Johnson

OH—"Remember Lou Pierce who has bone cancer."

—Sis. Juanita Blankenship

IN—"I would be glad for you all to remember me in prayer. Pray for my unsaved loved ones."

—Dessie Wilson

LA—"I am still in a lot of pain. Please keep praying for me."

—Ivey C. Brooks

CA—"Please remember my two sons in prayer."

—Sis. Helen Carson

AL—"We have a special unspoken request."

—Bro. and Sis. Emmett Gerald

OH—"Please pray for me and all of my loved ones."

—Sis. Janice Shaw

LA—"Please pray for all of our family."

—Lane Futch family

FL—Pray for Willard Underdown who has pneumonia and a heart condition.

IL—Sis. Nina Champion has an unspoken request.

CO—"Please pray for my wife. She is still in a nursing home."

—Peter Wiens



## Monark Springs Camp Meeting Singing Tapes

Two cassette tapes of stereo recorded congregational singing from the Monark Springs Camp Meeting, and one tape of special singing from both the Monark Springs and Myrtle Camp Meetings, are now available for \$2.00 each. Order from: "Songs of the Evening Light," c/o Harlan Sorrell, Rt. 1 Box 118, Myrtle, MO 65778.



## Monark Springs Camp Meeting Message Tapes

Messages on cassettes, recorded at Monark Springs, are now available for \$3.00 each. This covers the price of the cassette and postage. You may send for a list of the titles of the messages.

Address correspondence to: Doris Halladay,  
1406 S. Pine, Guthrie, OK 73044.

### Singing Tape Notice

The Lord has blessed us to get a Gospel tape made. The name of the tape is, "HOPE," and it is by the "Gospel Acappella Harmonizers." This tape is known to be a God-Sent inspiration, lifting the spirit of the hopeless and down trodden, comforting the heart and giving strength to the weak.

They sell for \$8.00. Please include \$.90 for postage and handling.

Mail orders to: Church of God, c/o Naomi L. Ludd, 4712 Moorpark Way, Sacramento, CA 95842.

## Meeting Reports, and Notices

### TULSA, OK CAMP MEETING REPORT

The Lord blessed us here in Tulsa with another good camp meeting, and sent ministers of His own choosing, as He has done before.

There were none to go down in a watery grave of baptism, but many were helped in their souls, and on the last day a number of children went to Sister Katherine and knelt at an altar of prayer for Salvation. We thank the Lord for the children.

We were also blessed to have the two brethren from India with us, Bro. John Varghese and Bro. P. D. Mathunni. —Sister Eva Hardman

### OAK GROVE, LA CAMP MEETING REPORT

We are thankful to report a wonderful and effectual camp meeting at Loranger, LA. The songs, services, and altar work were anointed and special. The Lord met with us! The coming in of all the saints was appreciated and a blessing.

The gospel is an up-to-date, state-of-the-art plan God designed for the dire needs of this age. Heaven and earth shall pass away, and yet God's Word will not vary. Let us live holy, be fruitful and work for Jesus. —Nelson Doolittle

### Camp Meeting Quotes

"God's creative work is all done by taking nothing and making something out of it."

—S. DiDio

"Why are we so busy? Because we take on more than we can do. Therefore, we're always behind, we never catch up." —M. Samons

"We'll give up, because we think, 'This is too hard, I can't go through this', when what we really mean is, 'I'm not about to put up with it.'"

—P. Phillips

"You know, some people worship their wives. They say, 'Honey, I love you, I worship you; if you don't go to meeting this morning, I won't go.'"

—J. Pah

"People today feel, 'If you hurt me I'm going to get back at you. That's not a sanctified life.'"

—G. Humphrey

"I tell you, I don't have much education, but I've got a lot of God in my bosom. He used a little old rooster one time to preach His gospel, and if He can do that, He can use me." —E. Gerald

"I must not strive to develop a following to myself. Don't develop your own following."

—H. Cox

"A three-fold cord can never be broken. A three-fold cord is husband, wife and Jesus."

—J. Varghese

"Many people will gather where one turkey is to be given away, but it's sad to see the line of those who are putting in for eternal life."

—R. Madden

"God has a big x-ray machine, and He goes way down inside us."

—M. Corteway

"He who has a good conscience has a brazen wall to defend him."

—P. Mathunni

### MUSKOGEE, OK ALL-DAY SERVICE

We are planning an all-day service on Sunday, September 6, 1992. We will have regular morning worship starting at 11:00. The afternoon service will be a singing service. We welcome all. Dinner will be served at the chapel, 301 N. 15th, here in Muskogee. For more information call Leo Johnson, (918) 687-4564.

With Christian love, —Sister Lucille Johnson

### WICHITA, KS MEETING REPORT

The Wichita fall meeting has been set for September 18-27. We are looking to God to bless, help and deliver. Many souls are in "bondage" and need to let the redemptive power of Jesus' blood redeem them and set them free and grant them real life. May blinded eyes be opened and people run for their lives. Eternity is looming in sight for sure and there is not much time

left. May the Church do what she can and work while it is day for night is coming fast.

We desire prayer for our meeting and we are looking for God to have full control and lead and work in every way He sees fit.

On Sundays we will have three services. Monday through Saturday we will have an 11:00 day service, and a 7:30 night service. The chapel address is 1701 N. Ash. Phone, (316) 267-9582. If you need to contact anyone for further information, you may call Bro. Raymond Johnson at: (316) 264-5803, or Bro. Emanuel Gracey at (316) 778-1747. —Shirley Knight

### MISSOURI STATE ASSEMBLY MEETING

The annual Missouri State Assembly Meeting of the Church of God will begin this year, Lord willing, on Wednesday, September 30, and continue through Sunday, October 4. We extend a hearty invitation to all to come.

Please come praying for the success of the meeting and the salvation of precious souls. We look forward to a time of refreshing from the presence of the Lord, and hope to see you here. The campground phone number is: (417) 938-4682. For further information contact the undersigned at (417) 938-4336.

—Bro. Harlan Sorrell

### HOLLY HILL, SC MEETING

Dear Bro. Murphey: Greetings in Jesus' dear name. I am sending in my meeting notice for October 7th through the 16th. This invitation is for all that wish to come. Pray for the meeting that it will be a prosperous one, and that God will send the ministers of His choice.

We are doing a little work on the chapel, and would be grateful for any help the Lord might lay on the hearts of the saints to give.

Yours in Christian love, —Utson Platt, Rt. 1, Box 194, Holly Hill, SC 29059.



## LETTERS



CA—Dear Bro. Wayne and workers: I'll try and write a few lines this evening. I surely hope this finds everyone there encouraged to do our Lord's work. I certainly do appreciate what you dear Saints are doing there at the Print Shop. I enjoy the paper very much.

I desire your prayers for some very important unspoken requests. Also please continue

to pray for my unsaved family, and for me, that I will stand true and do His will in all things.

We need your prayers also for a minister of the Lord's choosing to come and be with us. The good Lord has seen fit to pull my prop out from under me in the passing of Sister Letha Reece, as I called on her for prayer; and when I just needed to talk to someone. She was a precious Saint, and stood true right up to the end. I was with her the night before until her passing the next day. One of her last prayers was asking the Lord not to let His work die in Orland. We truly need your prayers on this matter.

—Sis. Doris Pihaylic

OH—Dear Bro. Murphey: Please still remember me in prayer. I would like to have a good Christian lady to come and stay with me in my home, . . .

Christian love,

—Essie Abbott

(If there is anyone who is interested in staying with Sis. Abbott, call this office at 1-800-767-1479, and we will give you Sis. Abbott's phone number and address.)

AL—Dear Ones: We are reminded of the words to the song, "He Is Worthy," when we try to express our thanks to God for His many blessings to us. He is worthy to be praised, honored, trusted, and the list goes on and on.

The Lord gave us traveling mercy over many miles this summer. Also, he healed our daughter, Monica, of what seemed to be an infection. We appreciate how He daily loadeth us with benefits. (Psa. 68:19)

Thank all of you workers there for your dedication to the Lord's work! It was good to see you all at Monark.

Love and prayers,

—Marshall and Melonie Whitson

MO—Dear Bro. Murphey: Greetings in the holy name of Jesus. This is just a few lines to let you know what God has done for me. I wrote you for prayer for my stomach. I am feeling much better, for which I do give God all the praise, and thank you for your prayers . . .

With Christian love, —Sister Eathel Hill

NC—Dear Bro. Wayne: All glory and praise be unto the God of my salvation. I thank God, that we have been redeemed by His blood. I have no desire for the world, only to live holy and free from sin the rest of our days here on earth.



May the Lord bless each one for their labor of faith and love. You are in my prayers.

In Christian love, —Sister Julia Holt  
— — — — —

CA—Dear Bro. Murphey and saints: "This is the day which the Lord hath made, we will rejoice and be glad in it." Psalms 118:24.

I was recently reading, "God's Gracious Dealings," by Bro. Fred Pruitt. My mother gave the book to me years ago. In thinking of all the hardship they went through at the Faith Publishing House, I was led by the Holy Spirit to send you a check. You still need help to put out the good news to all of us. I enjoy the little paper and the "Bible Lessons."

I am getting along well, by the Lord's help, in my sorrow and loneliness for my dear Elmer. Jesus is so dear to me, and I am drawing closer to Him every day.

Thanks for all your prayers for me, and God bless you all for your labors of love.

—Sister Lucille S. Allen  
— — — — —

LA—Dear Bro. Wayne: Greetings to you and all the workers there in the name of our dear Savior, who died that we might have eternal life.

May the Lord bless and reward each of you as you labor in behalf of lost souls. Oh, may there be many, through the printed page put out there, who will hear the wonderful story of salvation and will reach out for it, seeing Jesus with out-stretched arms bidding the lost everywhere to come to Him and be saved.

When we **know** our sins are forgiven, and that there is nothing between our soul and the dear Savior, the rest and peace is truly glorious. It is something the poor lost world knows nothing of . . .

Christian love, —Alta Flynn  
— — — — —

OR—Dear Bro. Wayne and all at the print shop: Greetings in Jesus' name. I trust this finds all there well and enjoying the peace that Jesus promised. Other than a few light afflictions, we are well, and we are determined to continue our trust in the one who redeemed us from our sins. We desire your prayers that we will be able to withstand all the wiles of the enemy and be found without fault in the day of judgment. We will continue to remember all there in our prayers.

A couple of Sundays ago, in Bro. Clifford Wilson's message, it was brought out that all iniquity will receive deserved punishment and

no one will be able to say that God is unjust. As he was bringing out this thought, different ones came to my mind that I know have a need to repent of their deeds, and then also came the thought that I should be looking at my own life for shortcomings and trust God to convince others of their sins. I wonder if Satan does not cause many to fail to receive instruction that would be beneficial to them by bringing the faults of others to their mind when the gospel is preached. Truly I perceive that it is much easier to see the mote in my brother's eye than it is to see the beam that is in my own . . .

With Christian love, —Bill and Doris Busch  
— — — — —

CA—Dear Bro. Wayne Murphey and workers at the print shop of our God, greetings of love: This is a short note to inform you all there, and others elsewhere, that the Lord has given me orders to move from Los Angeles. My new address will be, c/o the "Sunset Rest Home." By the help of my Lord I am still able to care for myself, even at 91 years of age.

Sincerely, —Sis. Hazel A. Clark  
— — — — —

OR—Dear Bro. Wayne: Greetings in Jesus' name! I am slowly recuperating at this time from a fall I took on June 28. At that time I injured my rib area and slowly the Lord has removed the worst pain. Continue to pray for my complete recovery. I am still looking to Him.

Christian love, —Mary Kroker  
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OH—Dear friends in Christ: I have done tract work for many years, and I wish I could still be really active with it like I used to be. I am 76 years old, and not well, but I still enclose tracts, and I write to prisoners.

Send me just a few of the tract, *Last Call America*. That one should stir any heart. It is so true, our nation is gone spiritually.

If you have a prayer list, include my name. I just found out this week that my liver is bad. I am a Christian ready to meet my Lord. Pray for my dear children and grandchildren who aren't saved. May God bless all of you there in your work for the Lord.

—Clara Kinser  
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MI—Dear Bro. Wayne and all you dear workers: Greetings in the beautiful name of Jesus, the sweetest name I know. Thank you for the good "Faith and Victory" paper, with all of its rich blessings. I love to read all the nice things of what the dear Lord does for those that trust



Him. God is so good to me and I thank Him for it every day. He is my best friend and master, and I love Him.

I thank you for your prayers for me, which I need so much. May God bless you all richly.

My love and prayers, —Sis. Olive Getterson

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OH—Love to all: We are sorry we have taken so long to write. We want to thank you for your prayers in Rachel's behalf.

We are so thankful for the family of God. We love each one and may God bless you all.

Christian love,

—Rick, Dianna, Rachel and Amy Cox

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WI—Greetings: Just a few lines. We are well and encouraged to press on for our Lord; as heaven will surely be worth it all . . .

Pray for us that we will be in God's will, as it's our desire to reach out to souls. The needs are so great, and our time so short. Our desire is to redeem the time and use it wisely.

Come see us as we always look forward to outside saints and ministers coming to be with us. Keep pressing on!

—Ron and Martha Zacharias and family

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LA—Dear Bro. Wayne: May God bless you and the workers there. We do appreciate getting the *Faith and Victory* paper, and all the other publications you print. May you each one be greatly rewarded.

Max and I are still pressing on in the service of the Lord. He does bless us with many blessings, both spiritual and temporal. Sometimes these old bodies get kind of slow, and hard to get about, but we really have no complaints because the Lord is with us and sees us through each day. We love Him this morning and mean to keep pressing on.

Pray for us as you think of us, and God bless all.

—Sis. Lula and Bro. Max

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MO—Dear saints at the print shop and everywhere: Greetings in the precious name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. We thank the Lord for His great love and mercy to us.

Oh, what a blessing the *Faith and Victory* paper is to us each time that it comes with the pure Word of God. We rejoice and praise the Lord for the wonderful testimonies.

We thank the Lord for all the prayers of the saints. I am praying for you every day, and for all people all over the world. People everywhere

need to come to the Lord and be saved before it is too late. I pray that Jesus will open peoples' eyes and hearts so that they will know they are lost and need the shed blood of Christ applied to their lives. I thank Him for the blood He shed for each one of us, and for His great love and mercy to me and to all people. He is my ever present helper.

Time is getting short, and we all need to be a living sermon for our Lord and Savior. It is the only sermon some people will ever see or hear.

My heart's desire is to live for Him and please Him in all that I do and say. What a blessing it is to know the Lord as our Savior, and know He will help us through our trials and in every need.

I want to be faithful to Him and bear fruit in my old age . . . Remember me in prayer that God's will may be done in my life.

With Christian love and prayers,

—Lena Bowman

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AR—Dear Brother Wayne and all the dedicated ones working so faithfully to get the paper out to those who anxiously wait for their issue: I thank God for all who help make the paper a source of spiritual uplift. Thank God for every home or individual who has the paper available.

The Monark camp meeting was so precious. The young people were so kind and sweet, and the children were attentive and obedient. It seemed to have ended too soon, but I thank God for what I got to take in. It brought a blessing to my heart that is lasting.

My desire is to make heaven, and for my life to be an example and help that someone might find the way. The harvest truly is white and there is no time to be idle.

I have a burden for our lost; those that one time knew our Lord and have slipped aside. May God help us to ward off any sneaking device the devil confronts us with. Let us watch and pray and always be honest, obedient and humble.

I am rejoicing for what the Lord has done for me. I don't get around too well and am limited on walking, but our Lord is a prayer answering God, and to Him be the glory.

It is so wonderful to be in God's family. Our love one to another is perfect and complete. And we can always say: "What a mighty God we serve!"

Christian love,

—Sister Lou Bray

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KS—Dear Bro. Wayne and fellow workers: Praise God from whom all blessings flow. I am so

glad to be able to say that "I am saved today." These are really some perilous and troublesome times, and I am so glad to be in the ark of safety. Truly God is our refuge and our strength, and I would not trade being one of God's children for anything else in the world. I am one of those that is looking for a city that is beyond this world. Praise God for the hope that we have, and for having an anchor that holds and grips the solid rock. I am determined by the grace of God to go through and be faithful to such a wonderful and faithful God. I do appreciate His great love that causes Him to suffer long with man and give us the chance to serve Him and return His love, and then go live in His heaven if we remain faithful. My theme song is, "I mean to go right on until the crown is won."

I have really received some great blessings in the meetings that I have attended this summer, and want to profit by them. I want to make progress and just get closer to God and be more like Jesus. I thank God for the great privilege just to love and live for the great and magnificent God of the universe.

Christian love, —Shirley Knight

MI—Dear Bro. Wayne: We send you greetings in the holy name of Jesus. May the Lord bless you and all the faithful workers with you there.

We continue to thank God for His many blessings to us. He is faithful in all He has promised. Surely His blessings, love and mercies are renewed each moment of our lives. He is an unchanging God and He never fails.

Thank you for being faithful to print and send us the *Faith and Victory* paper. We enjoy reading its timely and good messages . . .

Remember us in your prayers that we be faithful to the Lord.

Your Bro. and Sis. in Christ,  
—Milford and Dorothy Parsons

CA—Dear Bro. Murphey and saints: Greetings in the precious name of Jesus, our wonderful savior and healer. I am praising the Lord for salvation and for sanctifying my soul. He is blessing me every day, giving me joy and peace in this world of sin and sorrow.

I thank God for the *Faith and Victory* paper. May He bless you is my prayer for all the dear workers that are so faithful in sending these encouraging messages and testimonies.

Please pray for our little congregation here

in Los Angeles. So many have moved away and we are still praying for the Lord to send us a pastor . . .

In Christian love, —Sis. Ruth S. Donnelly

## FOREIGN MISSION REPORTS



### Honduras, C.A. Report

Greetings in Jesus' name. We want to update you on the progress being made in the Honduras Missionary work.

On September 4th, a group of ten will be leaving New Orleans, LA, to fly to La Ceiba, Honduras, which is located on the mainland. There we will have services Friday through Sunday with the saints that some of the brethren met last spring.

On Monday Bro. Louis Kimble and Bro. Wayman Parmer will return home. Bro. Toney Samons and family, and Bro. Jim and Sis. Anecia Wall will fly on to the Island of Roatan. There they plan to remain for an extended time to work on the building project that is in progress.

Bro. Tim Huskey has been working to complete a van to be sent over for transportation on the island. We do appreciate his dedication to the project.

We desire your prayers while we are gone. Do pray the Lord's will may be accomplished.

The total expense for the trip, van and building project is about \$10,000.00. Any donations to support this cause will be appreciated by the workers. All of the ticket money has not been provided as of this writing, neither the funds for the building and van projects.

The mission fund address is: Church of God Missionary, P.O. Box 73835, Metairie, LA 70033.

Money sent to this address can also be specified and received by workers while living in Roatan.

—For the Honduras Missionary Company,  
Bro. Toney Samons

### From India . . .

August 13—Dear Bro. Wayne Murphey and dear saints everywhere in America: Greetings to you all again in the precious name of Jesus.

By the grace of God I reached home safely on the 9th of August. God protected me all the way of my journey. Thank you for your prayers.

The fellowship of the saints for the last three months while I stayed in America was real good. The camp meetings were a blessing to my soul.

Special meetings are being arranged in the south and north of Kerala State this week and next week. Please continue to pray for the good results from our efforts in India. "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord." I Cor. 15:58.

With many prayers, —John Varghese

From Liberia . . .

August 7—Dear Bro. Wayne and saints: Greetings to you all in the precious and holy name of Christ! My return trip home to Liberia was a good one. My flight from America to Liberia was without any disturbance. The Lord's blessings were upon the trip.

I write to thank all the dear saints who demonstrated their love to me by means of gifts, love offerings, and sweet spirit of fellowship. My visitation with the saints in America strengthened and encouraged me in the faith.

Let us all pray that the Church of God at large will lift up its spiritual eyes and see new visions for souls and missions. The church today has a mission, and let us all know this, and therefore act accordingly . . .

Yours in Christ, —Josiah K. Pah, Sr.



## IN MEMORIAM

**Heber Shaffer**, age 78, of Guthrie, OK, passed away after a short illness. He was born February 18, 1914 in Caddo County, OK. He was united in marriage, October 16, 1948, to Catherine Shoemaker of Louin, MS. He attended services at the Guthrie Church of God chapel for about the last seven years. We believe he was at peace with God when passing from this life on June 23, 1992, at the age of 78 years, four months, five days.

Services were held in Oklahoma City by Bro. Richard Madden, Bro. Leslie Busbee and Bro. James Huskey. He planned his own funeral with songs, scriptures and ministers before his passing.

He is survived by his wife, Catherine, of the home; sons and daughters-in-law, Carl Ray and Rebecca Shaffer of Oklahoma City, OK, Craig

Heber and Deborah Shaffer of Guthrie, OK; three daughters; Kimberly Saundra Shaffer of Guthrie, OK, Karolyn Jeanette Shaffer, of the home, Kathleen Annette Atnip and husband, Raymond Atnip, of Allen, TX; five sisters; two brothers; three grandchildren; and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives, saints and friends. He will be missed by all who knew him and loved him.

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**Gerald Keith Marsh** was born December 11, 1941, to James Thomas and Rachel Ruth Marsh in Coldwater, KS.

On Monday, June 28, our dear beloved father and husband entered into eternal life with his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

He grew up in a farm community and attended public school in Wellmore, KS. He graduated from Wichita State University, with a B.S. Degree in Mechanical Engineering, June 1964. He was employed by KG & E for 28 years as plant engineering supervisor. He continued working until shortly before his passing.

He was united in marriage to Janet Louise White, August 4, 1962. Their marriage was blessed with four loving children: Lori Ann, Renee' Lynette, Gerald (Gerry) Keith, and Chad Eugene.

Keith realized his need of a personal acquaintance with Jesus and joined himself to God through salvation, thereby becoming a member of the Church of God. He professed his call to the ministry, and was faithful to many through his personal attention to their spiritual needs. He was always willing to help when he saw a need.

Keith had a great love of the outdoors. He enjoyed hunting and fishing. His hobbies were photography and flying.

He was preceded in death by an infant sister, Anita Jean, and a younger brother, James Thomas, Jr.

He leaves in God's loving care to cherish his memories: a devoted wife and four children; his parents; aunts and uncles; cousins; nieces and nephews and many friends.

Funeral services were conducted at the Hillside Funeral Home Chapel in Wichita, KS, by Bros. Wayne Murphey, Emanuel Gracey and Calvin Hobbs.

Interment was in the Crown Hill Cemetery, Coldwater, KS, with Bro. Leslie Busbee officiating.

**Letha Mildred Reece** was born March 4, 1907, in Iola, KS. She passed away June 16, 1992, in her home.

Letha and her husband, Earl Reece, came to Orland in 1936. Before her retirement she worked as a nurse at the Glenn General Hospital in Willows, CA. She was a very active member of the Church of God at Orland, CA; serving on the board of trustees and holding the office of secretary-treasurer.

Sister Reece was predeceased by her husband, Earl Reece, in 1976. She is survived by a son, William, of Carmichael, CA; a daughter, Anna Marie Terry of Anacortes, WA; a sister, Minnie Mae Terry of Chico, CA; seven grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren.

Burial was in the Oddfellows Cemetery at Orland, CA. She will be missed much by the town of Orland, her relatives, adopted relatives, saints and friends.

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**Harley E. Vice**, died Friday, June 26, in Oxford, OH, after an extended illness.

Harley was a native of Salt Lick, KY, and moved to Preble County, OH, in 1948. He was a Gasper Township farmer. He retired in 1972 from the Rigger Shop of Armco Steel Corp. in Middletown, OH.

Survivors include his wife of 56 years, Mary E. Medley Vice; three sons, Gerald Vice of Houston, MS, Harley David Vice of Eaton, OH, and Michael Ray Vice of Hamilton, OH; three daughters, Velma June Flynn of Loranger, LA, Wilma Jean Crouse of Somerville, OH, and Wanda Sue Pheanis of South Bend, IN; one brother, Raymond Vice of CA; three sisters, Wyonnia Goad of CA, Ruby Weimer of MI, and Ruth Medley of Middletown, OH; 19 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by four brothers, Fred, Everett, Charles and Randolph Vice.

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

This is article number eleven in an ongoing series of articles on full salvation—justification and sanctification.

At the close of article ten we had just arrived at the subject of justification. By the help of God

we shall proceed with an in-depth discussion of that doctrine. Justification is the legal aspect of our salvation and signifies an absolving from guilt. Man has a responsibility to God's law, and when guilty of a transgression of that law, possesses no power to free himself from that law's just claims. But Christ stepped in between an offended God and offending man, and gave Himself as a ransom for sinners. Thus, He paid a sufficient satisfaction to God's justice, and on that basis, when our sins are confessed in the Bible way, they are laid upon Him, and His righteousness becomes ours. Guilt and condemnation are removed from us and we stand acquitted, pardoned and entirely innocent before God through faith in the merits of the sacrifice that Jesus Christ made in our behalf, and the efficacy of His shed blood to make a suitable and sufficient atonement for our sins when He went to Calvary and offered Himself without spot to God for that specific purpose. The following scriptures confirm this to be so. "For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him." II Cor. 5:21. "Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ." Rom. 5:1. "For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ. Therefore as by the offence of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life. For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous." Rom. 5:17-19. "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God; To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus. Where is boasting then? It is excluded. By what law? of works? Nay: but by the law of faith. Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law." Rom. 3:23-28.

This experience is also termed in the scriptures as "conversion." In Matt. 18:3 Jesus said, "... Except ye be converted, and become as little

children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven." In Acts 3:19 Peter said, "Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, . . ." Conversion, in it's general sense, refers to a change from one state to another state. In scripture, and as it pertains to our salvation, it refers to a real change in heart and life from an evil state to a righteous state. Acts 26:18 says, "To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, . . ."

This experience is also referred to as being "born again." In John 1:11-13 we read, "He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God." Jesus said in John 3:3, ". . . Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." Again in John 3:5 He said, ". . . Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God." In I John 5:1 we read, "Who-soever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born of God: . . ." I John 3:9 says, "Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God." I Peter 1:23 says, "Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever." I John 2:29 says, "If ye know that he is righteous, ye know that every one that doeth righteousness is born of him." And finally, Rom. 8:16 says, "The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God."

The prominent idea connected with birth is life. In I John 3:14 we read, "We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death." And again in John 5:24, ". . . He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life."

This birth is of the spirit and is from above. (John 3:3,5.) But birth is connected with new life, not a mature life. In this experience a new spiritual life (the life of Christ) is imparted to the soul. In I John 5:11-12 we read, "And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God

hath not life." I John 4:9 says, "In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him." Col. 3:4 says, "When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory." Note, this text states Christ to be our life. In John 6:51-58 we read of our eating of Christ's flesh and drinking of His blood and that by doing so we have life and if we do not do this we have no life in us. Verse 57 says if we eat of Him we shall live by Him. This scripture shows Christ to be received into the soul in a spiritual sense, in a manner comparable to food being received into the body in a literal sense. It is the food that we take into our body which sustains our life and replenishes the cells of the body. That food becomes assimilated by means of the "built in" facilities of digestion, and is absorbed into our bodies until it becomes inseparable from our bodies, and actually becomes, in a very real sense, our bodies. The title of a book on diet and health is, "You Are What You Eat." This is actually true. When one is born of God and receives Christ into his soul, he receives Him in the very same manner, and Christ becomes absorbed into our life until He, in a very real sense, becomes our very life and being.

Lord willing, in the next article we will draw a comparison between Old Testament justification and New Testament justification, which may be helpful to some in the proper understanding of this whole study and discussion.



## DELIVERED

(Continued from page 3.)

As soon as I woke up, Sister Jordan and those tracts came to my mind. I got them and read them. One was, "A Week Too Late," and the other was "The Last Cool Drink." That caused me to want to be saved. I got dressed and went to the church. Conviction met me there. I opened the door and was amazed at the holiness and simplicity. I was going to sit with Sister Jordan, but she was way up in front. The way I was dressed I felt I shouldn't go up there. I sat in the back and looked and listened. I could hear Jesus calling me. The singing was so soul searching, something I had never experienced. That night God used Sister Beverly Reed, and she preached just where I was living. I thought she had talked to my mother or somebody about what I was doing. She spoke on sin and how

there was deliverance through our precious Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. "I was bound when I knelt at that old altar, but they said Jesus would meet every need. And when this prisoner finally touched Jesus, He set me free, yes, free indeed. Touching Jesus is all that really matters, then your life will never be the same. There is only one way to touch Him, and that is believe when you call on His name."

I have touched Jesus and I give Him all the glory, honor and praise. I love Him with all my heart, soul and mind. You can be delivered too, if you give up all the world and its ways, and surrender all to Jesus. He will make you a brand new creature, old things will pass away, behold all things become new. (II Cor. 5:17.) I have found it so. And what Jesus does for others, He'll do for you.

I have found you can live free from sin because Jesus gives you power over sin. The blood of Jesus has power to save to the uttermost and give you the second work of grace that will cause you to be more than a conqueror.

I have also found there is healing in Jesus. There's a balm for each pain, and the heart that's been broken can be made whole again. Praise the Lord forever!

Yours in Christ, —Sister Belinda Ann Simon



## Home Life



## A Great Woman

by

Vesta-Nadine Severs

She could have been the daughter of a prince or nobleman. She could have been quite rich, this woman of Shunem. But the unknown writer, probably a temple scribe, simply states that she was a great woman. That leaves us to

draw our own conclusions about her greatness.

Shunem was a town in Issachar. Issachar was one of the sons of Jacob and Leah. The tribe's inheritance, once the Hebrews attained the Land of Canaan, was in the northern part. There were sixteen cities with their villages according to Joshua 19:22. The tribe of Issachar was bounded on the east by Gad, on the west and south by Manasseh and the north by Zebulun. The valley of Jezreel was in Issachar.

The first virtue of this great woman that we see is how she constrained Elisha to eat bread at her house. She used a "compelling moral force" (which is the definition of constrain) to get him to stop at their house.

Elisha was on his way to Shunem, and had he come from his home on Mt. Carmel he was going east. This Shunammite's property was before Elisha reached the city limits of Shunem. The royal reception which awaited him in their house was so warm that from that day forward he always stopped at their home for refreshment and a rest before continuing his journey on foot. No doubt, it was a welcome relief for him to find a shady spot, good fresh water, warm food, and a smile. By always welcoming a stranger, the Hebrews knew they might be entertaining angels without their knowing it. It was a matter of high honor that they bestow a warm welcome to the stranger.

And so, in this manner, after a few visits, the woman told her husband, "I perceive this man to be a holy man of God." She was convinced that Elisha lived in such a way that he was deserving of any gift they might give him. So she continued, "Let us build a little chamber on the wall for his comfort. It doesn't need to be very large, just enough space for a bed, a stool and a table. We'll make it a little home away from home for him. He can come in, night or day, without bothering us, and rest and eat." Thus, her second virtue, one which is so necessary today but seems to be lacking, was discernment.

And her third virtue was that she was good at planning, organizing and executing whatever came to her hand and mind. It also showed that she was economical and with what means she had she accomplished what she planned with a minimum of fuss. The next time Elisha came, he found to his surprise, just such a place for him. He made many visits to their home and finally decided he'd like to do something in return for

their kindness and hospitality to him and his servant.

Elisha was willing to do a number of things for her. He offered to speak to the king, nearly everyone wanted a favor from the king. But she demurred. Or surely the captain of the army could provide them with some needed protection, there were still Canaanites in the country. The good woman also declined any outside help.

Her virtuous answer showed total simplicity and contentment: "I dwell among mine own people." She was not tempted with the glitter of the worldly court. She did not seek power over others through the strong arm of the soldiers. In other words, she had found her niche in life and lived there to the best of her ability. Although it might not have fit anyone else's taste, it suited her and she was comfortable where she was.

Elisha's servant, Gehazi, ferreted out a bit of information which he thought Elisha might be interested in. He learned this young woman was childless and her husband was getting up in age. In their society, it was not uncommon for the husband to be quite a bit older than his wife. Many times the men had to care for aged parents, or they wanted to "make their fortune" before acquiring a wife and family. But to be childless was not a blessing, rather almost a curse, as the parents would not have anyone to look after them when they became old and feeble. Life would become quite miserable for them.

When Elisha promised her "thou shalt embrace a son," she was hesitant to believe it possible. The appointed time came and she did embrace a son. Since he was an only child, both parents had many hopes bound in that little bundle of sunshine. As the child grew, he delighted in being with his father in the fields. During one harvest season, the boy became ill while he was in the field. The father was quite busy, so he told a servant's older child to carry him to his mother.

His mother rocked him until noon, when he died. All this time she probably feared the worst, and when it happened she had a plan of action. The child was a child of promise from the man of God and so the man of God must be told. She carried the child to the prophet's room, shut the door (which must have taken great courage) and

proceeded to tell her husband very calmly that she was going to the prophet's home.

He thought it strange she'd go at this particular time, and evidently thought their son was okay or she wouldn't be leaving. After all these years of marriage, he still did not hinder her in whatever she wanted to do. Their marriage was a good strong one, he didn't need to be overbearing nor belittling. He trusted her judgment. Besides, she assured him that all would be well.

The distance from her home to Mt. Carmel was at the least 35 miles and could have been 100 miles considering the mountains or hills which lay between Shunem and Mt. Carmel. When Elisha finally arrived at the Shunammite's home it was probably early evening, nearing the time for the evening sacrifice,

maybe even later. Here we have the first recorded resurrection. This was the last mentioned virtue of this great woman—her great faith. A faith, it seems, equal to Abraham's. His son didn't die, but it was also through an act of faith that he received him; but her son was dead for six to eight hours before resur-

**"...she had found  
her niche in life  
and lived there to  
the best of her  
ability."**

rected by Elisha.

"We act in faith, and miracles occur," one writer stated and we cannot permit miracles to become more important than our faith.

One more time we find this Shunammite woman mentioned, it is in II Kings 8:1-6. No doubt the woman's husband was deceased by this time as he is not mentioned. Elisha knew God planned to send a famine which was to last seven years. Elisha's friendship with this family ran so deep that he felt he wanted to prevent their suffering during the famine. He tells the woman to take her household and "go live wherever you can." She chose to live in the land of the Philistines. At the end of the seven years, she returned and went to court to beg the restoration of her land and property.

The king of Israel, Jehoram, was talking with Gehazi concerning all of the miracles of Elisha. As Gehazi told about the resurrected child, he noticed the woman in the king's court. She was as great as before, still wanting to live among her own people. Everything was restored to her. Her good deeds toward the man of God yielded many rewards throughout her life.



## Judgment Day is Coming

By Gladys Cashio

The judgment day is surely coming. It is coming for you and me. We will be judged on that morning for all eternity. "Some will go into heaven, Others will be denied. Will you be in that number, standing outside?" Time is flying while the world is lulled to sleep. My soul cries for a lost world. There are so many to pray for, I simply pray from the deep of my inmost being, "Lord, save everybody!" Not one soul do I want to see lost. Please, dear people, before the world is on fire, awake! It isn't what one believes that counts, it is God's Word. "He that turneth away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer shall be abomination." Prov. 28:9 "All the ways of man are clean in his own eyes, but the Lord weigheth the spirits." Prov. 16:2. "God is sweeping through the nations, With an awful searching eye; Every spot of imperfection Must be purged, or hope must die." God is calling, sounding loud the trumpet. Can you face the solemn day? All selfishness and self justification will be unacceptable on that day. I want to go to heaven and I want you to go with me. Will you go?



## "Where Will I Spend Eternity?"

The word "eternity" means a continuance without end; the endless time after death. The very fact that eternity is without end should arouse the mind of human beings to the point they could not eat or sleep until they were sure they had made everything right between their soul and their God.

For God loved man whom He created in His own image, so much, that He made a way of escape from hell. There is such a vast difference with the choice a soul has to make between heaven and hell. One should be very much ill at ease to dare taking the risk of going to a place called hell—where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth without end, in the presence of the Devil and all the demons. It will be your choice to be there, separated from God and all the beauty of heaven, where all the people of God and angels will reign forever without end. In hell you will hear fathers, mothers, and children screaming and accusing one another, saying, "I wouldn't be here if you only had prayed for me and showed me the right way. Instead, you gave me all the wrong directions. You didn't have time to take me to church, read the Word of God

to me and teach me there was a real heaven and real hell so that I could make my own choice. By neglecting me, I am here with you in these flames that I can not bear, and I can't find an exit from this tormented place. If time could be recalled, oh, how I would make my way to church on Sunday to worship God and serve Him. I would be out on the street in every city crying out, 'Fire! Fire! Fire!' hoping someone would say, 'What fire?' Then I would tell them there is a real burning hell."

Don't go there. It's filled with all the dirty filth of all races of people who killed each other, lived a life in the flesh and fulfilled every fleshly desire the Devil has offered them; adulterers, fornicators, homosexuals, liars, men stealers, drunkards, murderers, unfaithful husbands and wives, child abusers, etc. In hell people will wonder how they could have ever been so stupid as to listen to the Devil and all his lies.

Dear reader, please read God's Holy Word. Believe what it says. Every word is true that teaches a burning hell is real. Don't put off your salvation, for before you draw another breath you could be burning in the flames of a real burning hell. Tell yourself you can't afford to put off salvation. You can't go to hell. Eternity is without end. These words terrify my mind. Please take your Bible in your hands and read the following Scriptures referring to hell: Ps. 9:17; Prov. 15:24; Matt. 13:41-42; 25:41-46; Luke 16:23-26; II Thess. 1:8-9; Rev. 20:12-14.

Die to yourself and be alive to God.

—Ivy C. Brooks



Sometimes folks talk about loving the sinner and hating the sin. But it requires something like superhuman power to separate the sinner from his sin. Ofttimes brethren get stirred at one another because of some differences and they go against their brother, preaching and saying hard things and insinuate that he is a compromiser or a fanatic, yet claiming to love the man but hating the sin. This is a close place and I am fearing that in many instances there is a feeling against the man by Satan prompting a lot of the things said or done. The Gospel Club is used under the cloak of hating the sin when in reality, hidden selfish motives are at work. Under existing conditions we need to obey the Scriptures where it teaches to "Keep thine heart with all diligence, for out of it are the issues of life."

—L. D. Pruitt