

FAITH^{AND}VICTORY

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New Year's Warning—1993

Time marches onward! Lo, we see
A New Year drawing near,
Approaching long eternity:
Let's pause in godly fear.

Where are we on life's weary road?
'Tis Nineteen Ninety-Three;
And heavier seems the awful load
That falls on you and me.

We look around as, one by one,
Our fellow mortals pass:
Death comes, life goes; their work is done,
And yet for some, alas!

For out into the great beyond,
Our hearts to leave bereft
Of any hope, they've sadly gone,
And there is nothing left.

Let us take heed, amend our ways,
And seek for things above:
For things all worthy of God's praise,
Exalting His great love.

The New Year's toll will take its fill,
As all that's gone before;
Our final Judge (more solemn still)
Stands now before the door.

The end of time is drawing near:
A laden world of sin
Will soon before the Lord appear
To give account to Him.

Take heed, O fleeting man, seek now
His favor offered thee;
Before His presence humbly bow,
Submissive to Him be.

And should this coming New Year mark
Your call from earth away,
Take not a leap into the dark,
But hail a brighter day!

—Leslie C. Busbee



Things to Remember

By Wayne Murphey

How often it was when you were young, preparing to go somewhere without your parents, that you heard the words, "Remember to be good." Perhaps you are young and still hear it. If so, take courage and don't be peeved at its frequency, for parents are sincere in this admonition. Having been young once, they realize it is easy to become so involved in companions

and activities, that consequences are far from the mind. Even well-intentioned children can slide into this predicament.

By time's decree, we are stepping into the new year of 1993, and perhaps it would be good for us to have some things brought before our attention to remember. The enemy is sly in entrapping even honest-hearted people, so we will do well to keep certain things before us at all times.

When the Israelites came to the formidable foe of the Jordan River, the commandment was given, "...When ye see the ark of the covenant of the Lord your God, and the priests the Levites bearing it, then ye shall remove from your place, and go after it. Yet there shall be a space between you and it, about two thousand cubits by measure: come not near unto it, that ye may know the way by which ye must go: for ye have not passed this way heretofore." Joshua 3:3, 4. Here was uncharted ground for the Israelites, yet God provided a sure way to victory, as long as they remembered how to keep their place. I am sure that all of us desire victory in 1993, and there is a sure way to have it, as long as we keep ourselves in remembrance of the things of God. I would like to point out some of the very basic elements of living the Christian life. Try to do something to keep these things before you throughout the new year.

Don't forget the awfulness of sin. Sin will always have the same polluting effect, working death in the soul of man. When you see things which are forbidden by the word of God, abhor them. It has been said, "The greatest security against sin is to be shocked at its presence." The Apostle Paul wrote to the Ephesian church, "Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath: Neither give place to the devil." Ephesians 4:26, 27. If we are angry at something, we will avoid it. We should not let wrath against sin leave us. When we are in constant contact with sin, it can lose its repugnance and become common place. Jesus was very plain in declaring that sin was of the devil, (John 8:44) and "...Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin." John 8:34.

Remember the love that God would have us show to others. The world is starving for love. One story tells of a man and his wife who were at an orphanage where they hoped to adopt a child. A certain boy appealed to them in particular. After they explained to the small child the many things that would be given him

and how much he would be grateful for, he said: "If you have nothing to offer except a good home, clothes, toys, and the other things most children have—why, then, I would just as soon stay here." "What on earth do you want besides those things that you mention?" the woman asked. The little boy replied: "I want someone to love me." In trying to be of help to those who have never heard the gospel, I have been impressed by the need they have for just a touch of caring from those they have confidence in. This is because of the hunger for love.

When you feel burdened down with your trials, see if the load isn't because you are focusing on yourself too much. Showing love to others will bring joy to your heart. One woman wrote in explanation of her suicide, "I am killing myself because I have never sincerely loved any human being in all my life."

Christ even said that we should extend this love to our enemies. "But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you." One way to become embroiled, embittered and defeated, is to hold grudges.

Remember the importance of prayer. We are to pray without ceasing. (I Thess. 5:17.) We should have an attitude of prayer that continues daily throughout the whole year.

The need for prayer at the beginning of the day was once illustrated by a comparison to watch winding. "When do you wind your watch?" a jeweler asked a man who complained that his watch was not keeping accurate time. "At night, of course, as everyone else does." "No," said the jeweler, "most people may wind their watches at night, but not jewelers; for one who knows the mechanism of a watch knows that it is best to begin the day on a full spring." I cannot vouch for the validity of the watch, but starting a day with fresh strength is advisable.

All of us have our own regiment of daily activities, and we cannot all be the same in times and ways that we pray. What works for one person may not be possible for another, but whatever your schedule is comprised of, don't forget to pray. This is where the heart is unloaded of its needs, and grace from heaven is obtained.

Remember to be a good steward. God has shown great confidence in us by entrusting us with salvation, life and earthly goods. We should make the most of our time, talents and money.

If we fail to be good stewards, it is inevitable that we will end the year poorer in the things of God.

In 1876, Thomas Huxley, the English scientist, visited America especially to speak at the new Johns Hopkins University, and this was his message: "I cannot say that I am in the slightest degree impressed by your bigness, or your material resources, as such. Size is not grandeur; territory does not make a nation. The great issue, about which hangs a true sublimity and the terror of overhanging fate, is, what are you going to do with all these things?"

Don't forget to witness as God gives opportunity. Always be ready to give a word in season. Jesus said, "And the lord said unto the servant, Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled." Luke 14:23. As the kingdom of God grows because of your influence, so also will your heart and spirit grow.

Don't underestimate the power of the imparted Word of a crucified and resurrected Savior. In the book, *A Plain Man Looks at the Cross*, Bishop Selwyn's experience of evangelizing cannibals in New Zealand is told. "I am in the midst of a sinful people, who have been accustomed to sin uncontrolled from their youth. If I speak to a native on murder, infanticide, cannibalism, and adultery, they laugh in my face and tell me I may think these acts are bad, but they are very good for a native, and they cannot conceive any harm in them. But on the contrary, when I tell them that these and other sins brought the Son of God, the great Creator of the universe, from His eternal glory to this world, to be incarnate and to be made a curse and to die, then they open their eyes and ears and mouths, and wish to hear more, and presently they acknowledge themselves sinners, and say they will leave off their sins."

Always keep heaven foremost in your mind. Much of what we see and hear going on about us is discouraging. It is a breath of fresh air to be able to think of something pure and holy, where no sin will enter, where there will be no tears, and where we can be in the presence of God. To think on these things lifts us a level above the turmoil of this world. It provides a siesta to the weary soul. The anchor that stabilizes the soul is fixed within the throne room where God dwells, and is our anticipated destination. The person who takes a trip and doesn't keep in mind his destination will fall upon

frustrating times. We can keep our mind upon that desired haven by being sure that our treasures are being laid up there. (Matt. 6:20). The more we have upon that shore, the sweeter it is to ponder, and the more determined we become to go there.

Don't forget God's promise to return. "And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also." John 14:3. "And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ." I Thess. 5:23. "For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first." I Thess. 4:16. None of us would want to be caught unaware as were the five foolish virgins. The best way to guard against it is to keep in mind that the Lord may return at any time.



ON THE EDGE OF TIME

At the very edge of times brink—Eternity looms ahead.

Mark 13:37 "And what I say unto you I say unto all, watch."

Rev. 22:12 "And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be."

—Bro. Nelson Doolittle



A New Year's Prayer

Dear Master, for the coming year,
Just one request I bring
I do not pray for happiness
Or any earthly thing,
I do not ask to understand
The way Thou leadest me.
But this I ask, teach me to do
The thing that pleases thee.

I want to know thy guiding voice,
To walk with thee each day.
Dear Master, make me swift to hear,
And ready to obey.
And then the year I now begin,
A happy year will be,
If I am seeking just to do
The thing that pleases thee.

—Author unknown

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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Single copy, one year\$1.00
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This publication teaches salvation from all sin, sanctification for believers, unity and oneness for which Jesus prayed as recorded in John 17:21, and manifested by the apostles and believers after Pentecost. By God's grace we teach, preach, and practice the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ—the same gospel that Peter, John, and Paul preached, taught, and practiced, including divine healing for the body. James 5:14-15.

Its motto: Have faith in God. Its object: The glory of God and the salvation of men; the restoration and promulgation of the whole truth to the people in this "evening time" as it was in the morning Church of the first century; the unification of all true believers in one body by the love of God. Its standard: separation from the sinful world and entire devotion to the service and will of God. Its characteristics: No discipline but the Bible, no bond of union but the love of God, and no test of fellowship but the indwelling Spirit of Christ.

Through the Free Literature Fund thousands of gospel tracts are published and sent out free of charge as the Lord supplies. Cooperation of our readers is solicited, and will be appreciated in any way as the Bible and the Holy Spirit teach you to do or stir your heart. "Freely ye have received, freely give." Read Ex. 25:2; I Chron. 29:9; II Cor. 9:7; and Luke 6:38.

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

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

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Editorials

"If ever this free people—if this government itself is ever utterly demoralized, it will come from this incessant human wriggle and struggle for office, which is but a way to live without work." This quotation by Abraham Lincoln pretty much sums up the tenor that many observant people in this country are feeling. It is evident that even in Abraham Lincoln's day, chivalry was an exception and not a part of the political system. It seems to be more so today, and when a gentlemanly, responsible act is manifested by a campaigner, it is something to be admired.

Most importantly, this quotation is about the thought of a country being demoralized by the political process. It seems that life itself fades into the background when the cost of a vote is counted. An example of this is clearly seen concerning abortion. Dean Inge, at one time the Dean of Westminster, is credited as having said, "We shall have to fight the politician, who remembers only that the unborn have no votes and that since posterity has done nothing for us we need do nothing for posterity." When life is cheapened, the moral fabric of the country will die along with it. God is the giver of life and knowledge, and unless we love life, then we will find ourselves on the opposite side of God, and abide in darkness and ignorance.

The question is, what, where and how should the Christian's stand in the swirling mass of ideas, theories and political agendas be? It is basic that our stand and convictions should be on the pure Word of God. That is what being a Christian is all about. Our main focus should be on things that are eternal. **The love of God should be foremost in our feelings, for even if we are successful in a cause, and lose our love in the process, we only have a law and not the grace of God to share with those we would have obey it.** We hence come to the conclusion that more than a political impact, we must seek a social change. This is not to say we should be unconcerned about righteous laws; we should give informed support to such, for laws are the teacher for what is right. But laws are of no avail unless social morality can be the soul that gives life to the body.

Gay rights are an issue coming more and more to the forefront with every election. In the light of this, I was recently considering and evaluating what our feelings should be toward people of this lifestyle. When we consider how

weak the flesh is; how that except for the grace of God all of us would be facing the consequences and ravages of sin, then we find the will to give of ourselves, and of God, to those in need, but on issues we must take a Bible stand. Feelings of abhorrence are justified and proper when sin is lobbied to be accepted. When people in general accept sin as "normal," then we can expect the consequences of God's wrath and judgment. Sometimes we wonder why God doesn't differentiate to a finer degree in putting judgment on wickedness, for we greatly sympathize with the innocent who also pay the penalty of another's sin, but it has always been that the innocent have suffered with the wicked. Perhaps it is so that the righteous will be motivated to stand against what is wrong. Here too we must keep our feelings in line with righteousness. In a way it is understandable why Jonah was disappointed when God didn't destroy Nineveh. He had been through much mental and physical stress because of the sin of the inhabitants of this city. He wasn't really wanting to see them destroyed because of the wickedness they were committing, but because he wanted to be avenged for his own unexpected and undesired side-trip in the belly of a fish.

What, where and how should the Christian stand? The Psalmist David asked a similar question, and the answer is worthy of our consideration. "Lord, who shall abide in thy tabernacle? who shall dwell in thy holy hill? He that walketh uprightly, and worketh righteousness, and speaketh the truth in his heart. He that backbiteth not with his tongue, nor doeth evil to his neighbour, nor taketh up a reproach against his neighbour. In whose eyes a vile person is contemned; but he honoureth them that fear the Lord. He that sweareth to his own hurt, and changeth not. He that putteth not out his money to usury, nor taketh reward against the innocent. He that doeth these things shall never be moved." Ps. 15:1-5.

We still have in stock a supply of 1993 wall calendars. The calendars measure 7 1/4 X 13 1/2, and have a colorful nature scene with a Bible verse for each month. They sell for \$3.00 each, which includes the postage and handling charge.

We also have ready for sale, bound volumes of the 11 issues of the *Faith and Victory* paper for the year of 1992. The price is \$1.00 per book,

plus \$1.25 for postage and handling. Also in stock are 1992 *Beautiful Way* books for Juniors (52 papers for the year) at \$1.00 each, plus 90¢ for postage and handling. There is a limited supply of these books and they will be sold on a first come basis.

Since our last report of conditions in Liberia in the December *Faith and Victory*, I am sure that many are wondering about late developments. I would like to say that the concern shown has been reassuring and gratifying. We have not had any further correspondence from Bro. Pah, but other information conveyed to us has been quite disturbing. It seems that Satan is working in every way possible to hinder the work there. From what limited knowledge we have, it seems the church has been scattered, and we question Bro. Pah's position in the matter. We have made a decision to discontinue any monetary help until things are made clearer that aid would be of profit in God's work. There have been some donations sent to us for Liberia which will be returned to the donors. Pray that God will work on hearts, and that His will for this country may be clear and definite.

We were privileged to be at the wedding of our nephew, Rodney Smith, on December 19. He was married to Kathy Kelly, in her hometown of Fairview, OK. This marked the third generation in our family that Bro. Ostis Wilson has officiated in marriages. It was in 1942 that he performed the marriage of my parents, Willie and Frances Murphey. In 1968 he officiated at my sister, Patsy's, wedding, Rodney's mother, to Clifford Smith.

Rodney and Kathy will be making their home in Portland, OR. We wish them every success and God's continued blessings upon them.

We want to thank everyone who made this Christmas season an enjoyable one for all of us here at the Print Shop. Although we haven't personally been able to acknowledge each one, all the Christmas cards sent were appreciated.

On December 17, Sis. Licha Lara flew back home to California to spend several weeks with her family. Things have been arranged so that others of the Print Shop staff could have some personal time off before Christmas. The month of December generally holds a full schedule for the workers, ending with the Oklahoma State

Camp Meeting here at Guthrie and the printing of the January *Faith and Victory*.

Lord willing, we will all be back in the normal routine of work the first of January, ready to be of service in whatever capacity needed. We look to 1993 with healthy anticipation, expecting the work of God to move forward by His leadership.

—Wayne Murphey



Partial List of Items Available

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Heart Talks by C. W. Naylor. Consists of 59 chapters with a different subject treated in each chapter. It contains 280 pages in a heavy paper cover. Price, \$3.00.

Man, His Present and Future by H. M. Riggle. It deals with man in his present state, between death and the judgment and beyond the resurrection in the eternal world. It would be invaluable as a research book or for use in group studies. It contains 206 pages with a heavy paper cover and sells for \$2.50.

The Battle of Armageddon by O. B. Wilson. A clear exposition of this much misunderstood subject. Price, 50¢.

The Church of God by D. S. Warner. 24 pages in heavy paper binding. 50¢.

The Watchman on the Wall by Wayne Murphey. An illustrated, 32-page book, which is an allegorical story relating problems which Redeemed experienced in fulfilling his job as a watchman. It is bound in a heavy paper cover. Price, 50¢.

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young girl who went to live with her uncle who was opposed to even the mention of God. Bound in a heavy paper cover. Price, \$2.50.

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Prayer Requests

MI—"Please pray for me." —Albert Hess

IL—"Remember me in prayer. I'm having physical problems." —Sis. Nina Champion

IN—"Please remember us in prayer, especially my wife, and my brother in Ohio; ages 83 and 76 respectively." —Charles Williams

WY—"Pray for me. I have an illness.

—Roberta Reese

GA—"Please pray for my brother and his wife. They are real sick. I also have a growth on the back of my head." —Beatrice Rogers

MO—"Please pray for my health and my two unsaved sons and their families."

—Laura Jarvis

AR—Sis. Mary Foster needs prayer for high blood pressure.

KS—"My wife and I need your prayers for our health." —Lee Prichard

IL—Mrs. Johnnie Miterrell writes of seven

specific prayer requests which she desires the Lord to work out.

CA—"I have an urgent request I wish you would pray with me about, please."

—Verlene Williams

IL—"Please remember Ms. Billie Joe Powell in very special, urgent prayer." —Johnnie Terrell (Billie Joe is a young girl on trial for killing her father, stemming from child abuse.)



Quotes from Ministers at the Loranger, LA Assembly Meeting November, 1992

Richard Madden—"To be bitter is to waste precious moments of a life that's too short already."

Mart Samons—"If I stumble, there's a way to get up and go on."

Vada McMillian—"If Christ wants to speak comforting words to you and me, there is no power than can keep Him from it."

Emmett Gerald—"There are many things you can do out there that might not be sin, but they'll make your soul lean."

Louis Kimble—"The Lord told me, 'Your job is just to preach it, and my job is to get them up to it.'"

Mart Samons (Ordinance service)—"I'm down here at your feet trying to impress you that I need something special from you...I need your prayers, I need your love, I need you."

Jerry Melot—"Unclean spirits are so bad even the swine couldn't live with them."



FROM THE READERS

OK—Dear saints and readers: I feel like this testimony is past due. I want to glorify God for His love, mercy and healing power. He is everything to me. I think of the song, "Oh How I Love Jesus."

Early in the summer I got a sore throat. I really didn't think much about it for 2 or 3 weeks, as there had been a lot of throat trouble going around with different folks. But after 2 or 3 months I began to pray more earnestly; my throat was so raw and infected, more serious than I had thought. James 5:13 says, "Is any among you afflicted? let him pray." Well, this was a real affliction, so others and I were

praying, and praise the Lord, He healed my throat. I do give honor and glory to God.

I want to be faithful to Him who has done so much for me. It is a real privilege to be in the family of God. I just want to be one of His little ones. May we all keep encouraged and keep pressing on.

Christian love, —Mabel Melot

CA—Dear Bro. Murphey and saints: Greetings in Jesus' holy name. I am still saved and enjoying salvation, and very encouraged in the Lord. I promised the Lord I would tell what He has done for me, if He would take me through the great tribulation I was in. In February, 1989, a severe trial befell me, more than I had ever had before. I was alone, and fainted for a short while, but soon regained strength. I did not know what to do, or who to go to for help. I went to the Lord Jesus Christ. The Lord directed me from then on. As long as I stayed under His wing, He protected me, and directed me, but if I let my eyes wander on anything of myself, I was in trouble.

I had much fear of going to court before the judges and lawyers. I thought by me not contesting it would be better, so I told the lawyer that whatever was written or said against me I would not contest, but I would love to be treated fairly if it was possible. I was suffering in many ways. I would pray day and night for the Lord to help me.

The night before the first court trial I prayed until I could not say any more words. I became overcome by weeping. Later, as I was in bed, I looked up at the ceiling and saw what I believed to be an angel, very large, with wings spread out over the whole ceiling of my bedroom. It stayed there for some time. A peace came over me which I can not describe in words. This was a blessed happening. The glory of the Lord's presence was felt in my room and stayed with me all night and from then on; even the next day in court.

I was looking for everything to be over that day, not knowing I had three more years of agonies and woes. God knew I was not able to stand without His special help. As long as I would keep my eyes on Jesus and His will, everything would be alright, but if for one moment I looked otherwise I would be in great trouble.

What I had to endure here on earth is a small price to pay for life eternal (Mark 13:13; St. John

17). The evil that came against me, God made it good for me (Gen 50:20). It had brought me closer to the Lord. He is the dearest friend I have ever had. I have greater love for salvation than ever before; more joy and peace. I am truly happy in the Lord, with victory.

Your sister in the Lord,

—Geneva K. Norling

MO—Dear Bro. Wayne: Greetings of Christian love in Jesus' name. I hope all is going well with you and the work there. We are doing well for which I am grateful.

I was privileged to attend the Jefferson, OR assembly meeting. It was good to see and be in meeting with the saints there. I heard some good sermons and received much help from them....

With Christian love, —Bro. T. V. McMillian

MS—Dear Bro. Murphey: Greetings in Jesus' sweet name. I pray you all are well and encouraged in the Lord. The paper and the "Bible Lessons" mean so much to me.

I'm not doing good at all. I will soon be 84 years old. I walk with a walker. I was saved when I was 18. The Lord has been real to me.... Please pray for me and my family.

Christian love and prayers,

—Sis. Novella Pugh

TX—Dear "Faith and Victory" publishers and readers: On November 2, 1992, our loving mother, Sister Myrtle Souder, passed away in the Golden Rule Home at Shawnee, Oklahoma.

I want to say a special thank you to all the ones who visited her and prayed for her. She had a terrible illness that robbed her of any ability to move, and for the last few months, the ability to speak. Yet her eyes communicated often her ability to love those who came to see her. Only God knows what her thoughts and feelings were those last months of her journey on earth.

Although we all wished that she could have been allowed to stay in her own home until the end, even that was to be denied. The day before we took her to Shawnee, her main concern was for Dad, and knowing that she needed to help us get him there, she went willingly. It must be extremely difficult to give up your home knowing that you will never return there again to the things that, over the years, make up that home. However, through making this decision, a new

realization of the value of earthly treasures began to emerge. Upon arriving at the Golden Rule Home, a new beginning was discovered by the tremendous love and caring that was given to us by Derrill Smith, his family, Karen Luehring and the nursing staff, and by the many residents of the home. Without their compassion and tremendous ability to give of themselves, this experience would have been much more difficult.

I hang on to the words that I was taught as a child - "May God's will be done." Through all this I still believe that we must be willing for God to have His way. What we have been through has not been easy, and it is not over, but yet we have received many blessings through it all. It has changed our lives forever for the better.

I want to urge everyone to not fear going to the Golden Rule Home, but to rather recognize that it is a place of love, care, and ability that often can not be found at home. I was asked about a memorial fund in Myrtle Souder's name where the money would be given to the church in some way. I would much rather that if anyone wants to do something to remember my mother, then let them take an hour or two a month out of their busy lives and go see someone who is old and unable to care for themselves. Listen to their troubles, hear about their pains, and if they are unable to talk, tell them about your life. I believe that God will bless you for it.

Please remember my dad in your prayers, for he will miss her most of all. He also lost his dear sister, Edith Thompson, only eight days after he lost his loving wife. I truly believe that they are now both singing with the angels in heaven, and I am sure that Mother is running once again, for she seldom walked—she was always in a hurry doing for others with never enough hours to get it all done.

Thank you with love,

—Barbara Souder Busbee

CA—Dear Bro. Wayne: We are yet saved and encouraged to live for the Lord. Bro. Matthews is 83 years old. Sis. Matthews is 80 years old. Remember our family in prayer.

Love to the saints,

—Bro. and Sis. John D. Matthews

CO—Dear Bro. and Sis. in Christ Jesus our Lord: I am writing you all for special prayer. I have unsaved children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. One son has sugar diabetes and

congestive heart failure. I don't know if he is saved or not. He will be 55 years old November 7. Please pray for him, and another son who is backslidden and has so many problems.

I am 75 years old and in bad health. I live alone and don't have much to live on, so do pray for my needs to be met, and health for my body.

Yours in Christ Jesus, —Leona Carey

CA—Dear Print Shop: I am a college student and I enjoy the "Faith and Victory" so much. It is such a blessing to me every time I read it. It is something how the anointed, printed word is enlightening to people of all ages and geographic locations. It is refreshing to get the pure explanation of the gospel in a world that is filled with humanistic excuses for all of its evils. I am more desirous than ever before to let the Lord have His way, so that I can gain an eternal crown in the heavens. I thank God for that desire. I know that a desire such as that one is the greatest gift mankind can ever have.

May God bless you in all of your endeavors.

—Lisa Pierro

KS—Dear ones in Christ: Greetings in the love of Jesus; our great Redeemer. I am so thankful He set us free from the powers of sin and Satan.

We want to share some of the victories the Lord has helped us to gain. The first of July the renter we had moved out, leaving us a very torn up, dirty, trashy, and bug infested house. When I went to see it, needless to say, it was very trying. Much work awaited us to get it back in shape.

The Monark camp meeting was soon to begin, and I wondered if that would keep me from enjoying the camp meeting. Then the Lord spoke to me. "You ought to be thankful that you were taught to be clean, careful and not destructive." As I thought upon it, my heart went up in thanksgiving, and the Lord lifted the load. I enjoyed the camp meeting.

When we returned home and began cleaning and repairing, the Lord gave me the scripture, "Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God." I Cor. 10:31. I wasn't very well, but the Lord gave me strength and courage; and to think I could scrub and clean that house to the glory of God.

We put it up for sale at 2:00 o'clock one day. One and a half hours later, a man called and wanted to see the house. I went and showed it

to him, and he bought it. We thank the Lord for sending us a buyer.

It pays to serve Jesus who can help us with all the problems of life. I was amazed at the strength He gave us both. This has been such a blessing that we like to share it with others.

May the Lord bless each of God's dear children. Keep your eyes on Jesus. He has a heaven to take us to.

Christian love,

—Bro. Ralph and Sis. Inez Beisly

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LA—Greetings in Jesus' dear name: May the Lord help you in your good work....

Will you please pray for me? I got hurt and am having to use a walker. I believe it is the Lord's will to heal me. I have other afflictions to be healed of. The Lord knows about it all....

—Sis. Lou Little

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KS—Dear Bro. Wayne and saints: The days are short, and so is time. I have no idea how much longer God will tarry, but the world has become more wicked at such a rapid pace the last 30 years or so, that I feel time is swiftly winding down. It certainly pays for people to be ready to meet the Lord since He plans to come quickly when not expected. We as saints need to be up and doing and trying to convince as many souls as we can that they need to get in a hurry about their souls, and get into the Ship of Zion as soon as possible. Oh, if we could only persuade more people that it is emergency time, and they must flee for their lives.

I am encouraged and feel the urgency to keep ready at all times. May God help us all.

Christian love, —Sis. Shirley Knight

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OK—Dear readers of *Faith and Victory*: I am so indebted to the Lord and the saints. I want to be faithful to pray for you as you have for me. The Lord surely has been good and merciful. I had a call to jury duty for November 16, a week before I took shingles. On the 13th I called and was told to call back on Monday and give my doctor's phone number. My niece, Beth Bock, knew a doctor she had worked with, so she and my daughter, Jeanie Bock, went with me at 11:00 on November 16. The doctor said it was the worst case of shingles he had seen in all his 17 years of practice. I told him I did not want a prescription and my daughter told him I prayed and trusted God. Beth told him I just needed an excuse from jury duty. He said something about

He's the one that does the healing anyway, meaning the Lord. He was very nice. He asked if I hurt every time I breathed, and I told him really I didn't, so I knew the Lord surely was blessing me.

I wish to thank each one for their prayers and concern while I was down in my back. The Lord blessed in so many ways. Dear Sis. Emma Dille has been so faithful to call and pray for me over the phone. One day I was so sick, and my sister Alta was also sick. She prayed earnestly that the Lord would send someone to be with me, and the Lord did. It was such an encouragement to us. Again, I want to be faithful and diligent about praying for those I hear are in a battle. God is able! He does hear and answer prayer. Oh, how I love Him and the nearness I feel. I was resting so well a couple of days ago and the song, "Under His Wings" came to my mind. It was precious!

Love and prayers,

—Frances Perkins

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SC—Hi, dear loved ones at the printing shop: Thank you so very much for the paper. What a blessing it is to get it.

The Lord is good to me. He has blessed me with health and my needs. If we only have faith in Him and pray, He is always there. Although we can not see Him, we feel His spirit.

Pray for everyone here. There is a lot of sickness in the Holly Hill, SC congregation.

My sister is still not well. She fell and broke a bone in her thigh. We thank God for what He has done for her.

Keep us on your prayer list.

Yours in Christ,

—Nettie Harbeson

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CA—Dear Bro. Wayne and workers: I hope this finds all there at the Print Shop well and encouraged to do the Lord's will.

Another year is almost gone. It seems as though time is flying on and eternity is just around the corner.

I believe in these last days we need to be searching our hearts to make sure we are doing the Lord's will, not man's. I need your prayers for some unspoken requests, also for my unsaved family.

Love and prayers,

—Sis. Doris Pihaylic

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TX—Greetings in the precious name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior: I am thankful we can cast all our burdens on God, and He supplies our needs. I am thankful to everyone who

prayed for me. The Lord saw fit to heal the cancer between my fingers. It has been so long since I could use my hand to do very much of anything. I can use it, thanks to the good Lord....

May God bless and keep you in the center of His will.

Christian love and prayers, —Nellie Lovell
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Nigeria—I appreciate your continuous feeding of my soul through your "Faith and Victory." It has greatly helped me and some of my converts to clear away confusion on Biblical issues that seem controversial. —John Edemekah
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CA—Dear Bro. Wayne: I greet you and the rest of the saints in the name of the Lord. This is my first time writing you. I have been reading the "Faith and Victory." I just love to read it. Continue to send it.

Pray for me. I am not so well, but the Lord knows the problem. Pray for my condition.

Yours in Christ, —Lillian Burnham
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GA—Greetings in the name of Christ Jesus: We have much cause to love and adore the name of Christ, especially at this time of year when we celebrate His birth. My heart is encouraged to press on the upward way. I am nearing my 89th birthday and have been getting the "Faith and Victory" since 1934....

Yours in the name of Christ,
—Mary M. Dorsey
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CA—Dear Bro. Wayne and dear ones at the Print Shop: May God bless each one as you put out the gospel literature. I have enjoyed and been blessed reading the "Faith and Victory" paper over many years.

I am saved and sanctified, living to please God. My Savior is precious to me, also taking care of my life. It's been one year since I lost my dear Elmer. I am not grieving over my loss now, but I miss him and am lonely at times.

I am living alone now, but I am not really alone, for Jesus promised not to leave me nor forsake me. (Heb. 13:5). God's Holy Spirit dwells within me, and my body is the temple of the Lord. God doesn't sleep and I can phone Him day or night.

I have good health; all but arthritis in my knees. Please pray for me that Jesus will heal them. Jesus said, by my stripes you **were** healed. (1 Peter 2:24).

I had my 89th birthday in November. I have as many blessings to be thankful for.

I am thankful to have a dear, loving Christian daughter, Betty, and her husband, Jack, who live in Visalia. It is a six-hour drive to Hallbrook. They come down often to spend several days helping me. We read the Bible, pray and sing hymns, and have a special time with the Lord together. It is so special to me.

I love all you saints. —Sis. Lucille S. Allen
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WA—Dear Bro. Wayne: I hope that this letter finds you prospering in soul and body. As I may have told you, I am serving three life sentences for three murders I committed in 1975. I repented of my sins in 1976 and in 1977 I wrote a letter to a policeman I knew and admitted that I had committed three murders. No one knew I had killed these men, but after I was saved I felt burdened to admit to the crimes. It says in Psalms 38:18, "For I will declare mine iniquity; I will be sorry for my sin." I wanted to make my election sure, and harboring all the guilt was too much for me. I finally gave myself up. That was 16 years ago. I feel in my heart that I am forgiven, but the authorities don't see it that way. They want me to live all my life in prison. Please pray for me, that God will help release me from prison.

Yours in Christ, —Phillip B. Hausken
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AL—Dear Bro. Wayne and all: I trust all are well out your way. Emmett and I have both had real bad colds, or flu, since we came back from the Loranger meeting. We took the virus while we were there and were real bad, but the dear Lord is helping us. We both were bedfast 2 or 3 days. Do remember us in prayer.

Much love and prayers,

—Bro. Emmett and Sis. Pearlene Gerald
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LA—To all "enlistees": Our testimony is, "I've enlisted in His service 'til I die." As the song says, "I am fighting in the army of the Lord, and tho' dangers thickly round my pathway lie, I shall never faint or fear, for my Jesus is so near; I've enlisted in the service 'til I die."

Thanks to all who have prayed for my dear husband's foot. The diabetic ulcer has almost healed. It was the size of a silver dollar the first of October. God is so good to us! We could never tell all His blessings. He is so great and we are so small. Sometimes we wonder how He can care for us at all, but, praise the Lord, He does!

May 1993 find us all striving to live more Christ-like lives. Pray for God's "few" in Baton Rouge.

Christian love, —Audrey and Lynn Carver
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FL—Dear Sir: I enjoy reading your paper. It is very helpful and inspiring. I want to ask you to have special prayer for me. I am 86 years old and have several ailments. I am a Christian and believe in prayer. I know God is able to touch and heal me.

A sister in Florida, —Effie Clark
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LA—Dear Bro. Wayne: Greetings of Christian love to you and the workers there at the print shop who labor together in putting out the gospel in the interest of precious souls. May many hear the wonderful story of salvation through its pages and be saved. Oh, if people could only realize what it will mean to accept it, and what it will mean to reject it.

Our assembly meeting has come and gone, but it was so different with me from any of the camp meetings and assembly meetings since I was a teenage girl. I always attended at least part of them on the old camp ground in Hammond and here at Loranger, as well as the years we lived in California. I never got to go to any of the services this last meeting.

I was stricken very severely in my back, at the bottom of my spine, the 5th of November. With the help of the Lord, I managed, with my daughter, Ruth, helping me along, to make it across the driveway to her house where she could care for me. I went right to bed and was there most of the time for nearly four weeks. Folks thought a disk ruptured which happens quite often to older folks. It was so painful to get up and down. Well, the good Lord didn't see best to make me able to be up and go to the meeting. I was disappointed, but resigned to His will and was blessed there on the bed with singing, praying, and meditating on many scriptures that came to my mind. I had plenty of time to pray for the meeting and other great needs. I was so very thankful to be able to be free from pain while lying still.

I walked slowly home in about four weeks. My back was still very fragile and I had to be down a lot, but I am very thankful for what the Lord has done, and I am trusting Him for more help, which I badly need....

We will be praying for a good assembly meeting there.

In Christian love and appreciation of your labors for the Lord. —Alta Flynn
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OR—Dear Bro. Wayne and all at the Print Shop: Greetings in Jesus' name. Thanks be to God and our Savior for the indwelling peace that is only available to those who have repented and are abiding in Jesus. We constantly pray that the God of mercy and peace is keeping all there well and fulfilling His purpose in your lives each day. Jesus said that without Him we could do nothing, and in a spiritual sense we know that is true. Paul said that in Him we have our life and being, and that applies to all mankind, and I believe, everything on this earth that has life. Praise be to His holy name.

We desire your prayers, that when in the trials and afflictions that He permits us to endure, through faith we can have the assurance that all is being done for our good. May we have an attitude like Job who said, "Though he slay me, yet will I trust in him." His word says, "...no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly," so our part is to commit our life and all of our needs into His care. In Ephesians 3:20, we read that He is able to do "...exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think." This assurance should greatly increase our faith....

Each day we agree in prayer with each request made according to His will, and that each one who asks will have the faith needed to receive what they need.

With Christian love, —Bill and Doris Busch
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FOREIGN MISSION REPORTS



From India...

November 18—Dear Bro. Wayne Murphey and the saints of God in America: Greeting to you all dear ones again in the precious name of Jesus.

South India is under the curse of a terrible storm and flood again, a second time after an interval of two weeks. Many houses and acres of land are still under water. This flood is worse than the first one.

All of our twenty-two congregations are going on fine. We will have local conventions at Kodali, Nayarangadi and Nadukkunnu in December. Our twenty-eighth general convention will be held the first week of January, 1993.

The printing of our "Evening Light" song book in Malayalam is progressing. They will be ready to use before January.

I have been visiting all of our congregations in the south and north, giving instructions, directions and counselling for the edification of the congregations.

Please continue to remember our efforts and labors in this country in your prayers. Our prayers are for the saints in America, and for the progress of the congregations there.

Yours in Him, —John Varghese

From Nigeria...

November 6—Dear Bro. Wayne Murphey: Greetings in the victorious name of Jesus. None but He can satisfy, and there is no other name. Enemies will continually be put to flight in His name....

We have accepted presidential election of your country as the will of God. But internationally, President George Bush did perform creditably. In his tenure of office, Communism, the greatest enemy of the Gospel, crumbled and totally dismantled, and the Gulf War was successfully prosecuted. In fact, Mr. George Bush and his Secretary of State, James Baker, should be held in high esteem for projecting the personality of the U.S. above the expectation internationally in every area. He could have failed at home....

The twentieth anniversary of the Church of God in Kwale will be celebrated jubilantly in January, 1993. We shall communicate the date of celebration to you when fixed. The population of souls in Kwale congregation is wonderfully great. Praise God.

Yours in Him, —Bro. Titus U.E. Enu

From the Philippines...

December 12—Dear Bro. Wayne Murphey, and all the saints elsewhere: Greetings in the sweetest name of Jesus. He has been so good to me, and how I do thank and praise Him. I am still thanking Him and praising Him for saving me and placing me in His holy family.

God's grace to me presses me on to the progress of the work of the Lord. I have the strength to travel to the places of the unsaved soul. I know the Lord is always at my side. I am trusting all my needs and problems to the Lord. I mean to go all the way with the Lord in His service. We must have faith to have the victory, for faith is nothing without victory.

Time has come to us that we must try our best to spread the gospel in every corner of the world, for the kingdom of God is at hand.

Thanks for the *Faith and Victory* paper. It is very nice reading material.

I am praying you all will be happy in the Lord and His work. —Bro. Nonilon Capuyan



IN MEMORIAM

Lee Edward McMillan was born in Aurora, Colorado on March 15, 1964, to Virgel and Twyla Gayle McMillan. He was married to Grace Lassche on February 2, 1985. To this union two children were born to bless their lives and comfort their hearts. Bro. Lee ended his physical life at his home, in Oklahoma City, at about 7:45, on Saturday morning, November 28, 1992. He was always a very sincere and tender-hearted person. Those who knew his life are confident and assured that he is in a better land where all tears are wiped away. His words to us would be not to cry for him, but to rejoice in his great victory. His labors for the Lord consisted of preaching the Word and bearing a burden for the young people of the Church. He was their Sunday School teacher in Guthrie until his physical condition would no longer allow him to carry on these duties.

On Saturday morning, November 28, 1992, at 7:30 by Bro. Lee's watch, his alarm went off somewhere in the room. He had had it set many weeks before for that time, and somehow it had never been changed. Well, that watch had been misplaced and on Saturday morning, at 7:30, as was its custom, the alarm rang, softly alerting everyone in the room that it was time for Bro. Lee to be getting off work now, and go home. And that's what he did: peacefully and gently slowing his breathing, punching his last time clock and going home. He had finished his work conscientiously and dutifully, and was clear to go. We are confident he has already heard the words: "Well done, thou good and faithful servant."

Bro. Lee was 28 years old when he died. He leaves to mourn his passing, his wife of seven and a half years, Grace; two small children, Deanna and Bradley, all of Oklahoma City; his parents, Virgel and Twyla Gayle McMillan, of Bossier City, Louisiana; four brothers, Stanley,

Timothy, Malcolm and Virgel; one sister, Elizabeth McMillan; and his paternal grandmother, Sarah McMillan. He was loved and respected by many saints, friends, relatives and co-workers.

The funeral was held on Wednesday, December 2, 1992 in the Guthrie, OK, Church of God chapel with Bros. Charles Elwell and Ed Wilson officiating. Burial was at Summit View Cemetery in Guthrie, OK.

NOTE OF THANKS

There is no way I can personally acknowledge and thank everyone for their prayers, support, cards, flowers, kind words of encouragement and offerings, so I would like to thank you this way. Words can't express the love and appreciation I feel for the saints and friends who have so graciously helped us through this trial. Prayers all over the country have been offered up for us, and I thank you for every one of them. We are leaning hard upon the prayers of the saints at this time, and the Lord has been faithful to comfort and sustain us. I feel closer to the family of God than ever before, and trust that the Lord will reward each one. Thank you!

—Grace, Deanna and Bradley McMillan

On February 3, 1909 a baby girl was born to Gus and Bello Leveritt. They named her **Mayetta**. She spent her childhood in Silver City, Oklahoma.

She was married to Harry Pettifort.

Mayetta was born into the Church of God. She loved the singing and was a faithful worker and a cheerful giver.

She married Willis West on August 6, 1966. They shared 26 years together.

She was preceded in death by her first husband, Harry, her father, mother and three brothers.

Mayetta departed this life on December 3, 1992.

She leaves to cherish her memory; her husband, Willis West; two sons, Willis Jr., of Washington, D.C., and Leron of Tulsa, OK; three daughters, Julia Ann Burton, of Tulsa, OK, Bobbie Black, of Des Moines, IA and Mildred Manning, of Austin, TX; many, many grandchildren, other relatives, saints and friends.

Ronald V. Carson, born September 19, 1954, passed away November 15, 1992, at the age of 38. He leaves to mourn; his mother, M. Helen Carson; and two brothers, John J. Carson,

West Covina, CA and J. Wayne Bowman, Oklahoma City, OK. Burial was at Forest Lawn, Covina, CA. Pastor Howard Davis of Chino, CA officiated at a private graveside service.



Marriage/Divorce/Adultery

By Jim Broker

"But God came to Abimelech in a dream by night, and said to him, Behold, thou art but a dead man, for the woman which thou hast taken; for she is a man's wife." Genesis 20:3.

Now the world today largely depreciates the thought presented here; that adultery is a very serious offense indeed, both against God and against the spouse of the offender.

I have had married people try to explain it away by logic or justify it by the thought that no one was really hurt by their act. They could see that robbery or murder was wrong, but profess that no one was actually injured by their unfaithfulness to the marriage vows.

But let's go back and consider the first sin, the one that plunged the world into this nightmare of sin and suffering! What was logically wrong with Eve eating some fruit from a certain tree? Of course the answer is that it wasn't logically wrong, EXCEPT FOR THE FACT THAT GOD FORBADE IT! Let's not forget that God is God, and as such His word is law.

In our text, God himself appeared to Abimelech, in a dream, and told him he "was a dead man," because he had taken another man's wife.

You see God has given a commandment, the 7th to be exact, (Exodus 20:14) stating, "Thou shalt not commit adultery." And further, he has also levied the death penalty against this sin, because it is so wrong in His eyes.

"And the man that committeth adultery with another man's wife, even he that committeth adultery with his neighbor's wife, the adulterer and the adulteress shall surely be put to death." Leviticus 20:10.

Now you're probably wanting to ask, "But what about the woman taken in adultery?" (John 8). The Pharisees wanted to use this law against her, and put her to death, but Jesus didn't allow it, because He believes in love!

Yes, that's true-but you're missing an awful important point right here! Jesus did and does teach love as the primary commandment, however we are unbalanced in our viewpoint if we

can't see that he laid equal importance on obedience to God; both by teaching and by example.

Remember His prayer in the garden-"not my will, but thine be done." Our Lord was very consistent in both teaching and practicing obedience to the laws of God.

To reconcile this to His treatment of the woman taken in adultery, one has to remember that Christ brought in a period of grace. That means that, in this age, judgment will not be executed speedily against an offense.

The offender (sinner) will be granted a space of time (grace) to consider and repent of his/her sin.

Listen to the words of our Lord through His prophet Jeremiah. "And of them shall be taken up a curse by all the captivity of Judah which are in Babylon, saying, The Lord make thee like Zedekiah and like Ahab, whom the king of Babylon roasted in the fire; Because they have committed villany in Israel, and have committed adultery with their neighbours' wives." Jer. 29:22-23.

Is it any wonder then that Jesus listed this commandment first when the rich, young ruler came running and asked Him, "What shall I do that I may inherit eternal life?" Notice that Jesus gave this commandment against adultery even before those against murder and robbery!

I want you to notice another important point in our text. This man Abimelech DIDN'T KNOW THAT THE WOMAN WAS MARRIED, but THE DEATH PENALTY WAS BEING ENFORCED ANYWAY!

It had already been set into motion. (Gen. 20:17-18) Even though Abimelech had been deceived into thinking Sarah was still single it was no defense!

However, God, being just, did take into consideration the fact that Abimelech had been deceived. That is why He appeared unto him in a dream and warned him of approaching death and destruction, that he might have a chance to avoid it!

Notice in verse 7 of our text, that God also commanded him to return the woman to her rightful husband, and warned him, in no uncertain terms, of what would follow if he failed to do so immediately! "...and if thou restore her not, know thou that thou shalt surely die, thou, and all that are thine."

Oh how people today need to take warning from this story and turn from their adulterous

thoughts and ways, before the judgments of God fall upon them.

This story of Abimelech reminds me of another king whom God also warned, through his prophet John the Baptist. However King Herod did not repent, as did Abimelech, and the Scriptures record that he "added yet this above all, that he shut up John in prison." Luke 3:20.

Now let's look at this story a bit. It is found in Matthew 14:3-4. "For Herod had laid hold on John, and bound him, and put him in prison for Herodias' sake, his brother Philip's wife. For John said unto him, It is not lawful for thee to have her."

Herod and Herodias had fallen for each other; she had divorced his brother Philip, and she and Herod had been legally married. (Mark 6:17) That is legal, and socially acceptable, in much of today's world, but in the eyes of God it is still sin!

Consider this: You can get married by a minister of the Gospel, through the Word of God, but you can't get divorced that way! Preachers have the power to marry you, but not to divorce you! Why is that? There must be a conflict here between the law of God and the law of men.

Let us go back to our story about the rich young ruler found in Mark 10. Perhaps one reason Jesus listed adultery first on His list of commandments was because He had just been teaching about it. Listen to the words of the Master:

"And he saith unto them, Whosoever shall put away his wife, and marry another, committeth adultery against her. And if a woman shall put away her husband, and be married to another, she committeth adultery." Mark 10:11-12.

In Matt. 19:7-9 Jesus' disciples were shocked that God bound the marriage vows so tightly and remarked, "If the case of the man be so with his wife, it is not good to marry."

You are probably wanting to ask, as did the Pharisees in this same chapter, if divorce and remarriage is wrong, why was it allowed in the Old Testament?

Jesus had a good answer for that, "Moses because of the hardness of your hearts suffered you to put away your wives: but from the beginning it was not so." It was allowed them because the people had become so sin-hardened and strayed so far away from God, but God never did like it.

Now listen to the words of Paul. "And unto the married I command, yet not I, but the LORD, Let not the wife depart from her husband: But and if she depart, let her remain unmarried, or be reconciled to her husband: and let not the husband put away his wife.... Art thou bound unto a wife? seek not to be loosed. Art thou loosed from a wife? seek not a wife.... The wife is bound by the law as long as her husband liveth; but if her husband be dead, she is at liberty to be married to whom she will; only in the Lord." 1 Cor. 7:10,11,27,39.

This is the Word of God, and as Jesus was fond of saying, "Let him that hath an ear hear!"



Recently the Lord challenged my heart as I read the ninth chapter of Ezra. By God's help, I would like to pass the thoughts on to you. As a background, it should be mentioned that Ezra, by commission of Artaxerxes, had arrived in Jerusalem with approximately 4.5 million dollars to aid in the rebuilding of Jerusalem.

When Ezra arrived, the princes told him that the people of Israel, the priests and the Levites, had not kept themselves pure unto God, but had entered into marriages with the idolatrous people of the land. When Ezra heard this, he rent his garments and plucked off his hair, and sat down dismayed until the evening sacrifice.

As we pass through life, the devil will gladly entice us into marriage with unbelievers. If we allow our affections to go out to the world, Satan has a foothold in which to work.

When we find ourselves in a condition where our affections are not totally centered on God, let us do as Ezra did. "And at the evening sacrifice I arose...I fell upon my knees and spread out my hands unto the Lord my God, And said, O my God, I am ashamed and blush to lift up my face to thee.... Ezra 9:5-6a. Notice there was no self-justification in his prayer. "And now, O our God, what shall we say after this? for we have forsaken thy commandments." Ezra 9:10. When we get into spiritual trouble, we must humble ourselves and realize the fault is ours. Many people try to blame God or the saints, but "Let God be true and every man a liar."

Dear saints, if we would pass this truth, pure and holy, to the next generation, we can not mingle God's truth with a falsehood. And not only is the next generation at stake, but "my soul is continually in my hand." May God challenge you and me to a closer walk with Him.

—Bro. Herschel Eck



**Excerpts Taken From
January, 1943 Faith and Victory**

"While out in the timber one day in prayer, I saw by vision of mind or somehow, the two bodies of Christ as they moved on to their last and final steps in earth: that is, the natural body of Jesus and the spiritual body.

"The natural body of Jesus went on until weary and tired, scoffed at, brought before rulers, betrayed, forsaken, and all. Then I saw the spiritual body of Christ pressing on until it was weary, tired, scoffed at, and being brought before rulers, betrayed and forsaken by all. As those who were not sanctified in Jesus' time could not follow His body all the way but fell asleep and forsook Him; so it will be in the time of His spiritual body. That Judas spirit that worked in the time of Jesus' natural body is working in the time of His spiritual body. Right at the end of Jesus' natural body, they were going to give it a blow that would break it (His bones), but before they carried out their plans, Jesus had left for paradise. So right at the end, they will try to give this body we are now in a blow that would break it or part it, but just before their plans are carried out, we will be caught up to meet the Lord in the air and shall forever be with the Lord.

"As I looked upon the scene, it made me weak to think how close we are to our final end and how people are moving on so unconcerned about their destiny. It encouraged our hearts to sing No. 403 in the *Select Hymns*. [*He Answered Never a Word*] How meek and kind Jesus was, and He answered never a word...." —D. A. Gibson