FAITHAND ICTORY Church of God Servant

Unto <u>Him</u> shall the gathering of the people be.

God Is Love

YE SHINE AS LIGHTS IN THE WORLD. Jesus Saves

The night cometh, when no man can work.

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Our Triumph In Christ

By Bro. Leslie Busbee

The apostle Paul in II Corinthians 2:14 rejoiced: "Now thanks be unto God, which always causeth us to triumph in Christ...."
Oh, how glad we are that in Christ we can be triumphant and can have the victory in every scene of life. We can overcome every foe we face along life's journey. When we set ourselves to live for God we are going to have Satan arrayed against us. But let us not draw back or be dismayed when we see our way opposed. Christ will give us victory as we hold fast our faith and keep moving on for Him.

Paul triumphantly declares in I Corinthians 15:57, "But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." This means victory over everything. We can have victory over sin, death, and the grave. We can change our lives to be like He wants us to be. There is no evil habit or way of life that Christ cannot help us to overcome. There is no temptation that Christ cannot help us to resist. He will let us be tempted, but we are to resist the devil and hold fast to that which is right in God's sight.

I remember different things that I have met along the way. It seemed that the devil tried different things on me to get me down. I did not realize at first that it was the devil, but I soon learned about his tactics and learned to resist him, and the Lord helped me. Sometimes conflicts and problems would come up concerning

other people, and the devil would try to get me to be resentful and unkind. But, thank the Lord, as I looked earnestly to God in prayer and kept resisting those thoughts, the Lord finally gave me the victory! He will give us all the victory if we will hold fast to faith and integrity, and resist the devil.

I have had battles that raged for weeks. Perhaps if I had had a better understanding how to resist and overcome, I might have gotten the victory sooner. But I finally came out on top. The Lord helped me. I got under a strain about another person at one stage of my life. Everything that person said and did seemed to be against me. Oh, I had a terrible battle! Finally I saw that it was just the devil. I was in a place and this person got up and was speaking along a certain line. It sounded good to me for a little while, and then, suddenly, I felt the whole thing give a big twist in my mind! "Yes, he is throwing that all at you!" I said in my mind, "Aha, devil, I caught you!" And I began to resist the devil with all the powers of my soul and I got the victory right there and then.

I John 5:4 says, "...Whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith." Jesus, in the book of Revelation, promises many good and wonderful blessings to them that overcome. We are promised victory in Christ. There is no need of us not having

victory over everything. When we have the victory over something, it does not bother or prevail over us. We have it under our feet. Paul said in Romans 8:37 that "...in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us." Oh, the message of the Word of God is a message of victory!

But Satan wants to keep us from believing in the victory. I read about in the 2nd World War how the Germans swept through the various nations with such speed and force that it quelled any resistance or hope of victory in the minds of the conquered people. It was pressed into their minds that they were whipped and defeated and that they might as well give up any hope of doing anything about it. But there were those who would not accept this sort of propaganda. They began to organize resistance to help the people to take courage and not stay down in defeat. They began to raise the letter everywhere, "V" for Victory. And it caught on. The Germans tried to stop it and began raising the letter "V" to mean something for them. But it was too late. The fervor of "V" for Victory began to spread and the people began to take courage and hope again.

Satan works like that. He is a big talker and the biggest propagandist of all time. He has many people believing his lies. They do not believe that they can have victory. But, oh, let us not listen to the devil. God has victory for us. Let us take our stand and fight in faith and obedience to God. He will give us the victory!

If there is anyone reading this who feels they do not have victory, let me encourage you to seek God and know that victory is for you! You can have the victory over everything that comes against you in life. You can have victory over people and their hurtful ways. You can have victory over a bad temper and anger. You can have victory over depression and gloom. You can have victory over talkativeness. You can have victory over circumstances and adversity. You can have victory in losses, afflictions, sufferings and whatever comes your way. Daniel had the victory when he went to the lion's den. He was a triumphant soul for God. We can be that way, too. Let us be encouraged. God has victory for all of us. Let us move forward and triumph in Christ over all the powers of the enemy.

Victory

"Now thanks be unto God, which always causeth us to triumph in Christ,..."

II Cor. 2:14.

When you are forgotten or purposely set at naught, and you smile inwardly, glorying in the oversight—that is victory.

When your good is evil spoken of, when your wishes are crossed, your taste offended, your advice disregarded, your opinions ridiculed, and you take it all in patient loving silence—that is victory.

When you are content with any food, any raiment, any climate, any society, any solitude, any interruption by the will of God—that is victory.

When you can lovingly and patiently deal with any disorder, any irregularity, any unpunctuality or any annoyance—that is victory.

When you never care to refer to yourself in conversation or to record your own good works or to itch after commendation; when you can truly love to be unknown—that is victory.

When you can stand face to face with waste, folly, extravagance, spiritual insensibility, and endure it as Jesus endured it—that is victory.

When like Paul, you can throw all your suffering on Jesus, thus converting it into a means of knowing His overcoming grace, and can say with a surrendered heart, "Most gladly therefore do I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake"—that is victory. (See II Cor. 12:7-10.)

When death and life are both alike to you through Christ, and to do His perfect will, you delight no more in one than the other—that is victory; for through Him you may be able to say, "...Christ shall be magnified in my body, whether it be by life, or by death." Phil. 1:20.

The perfect victory is to "put on the Lord Jesus Christ" and thus to triumph over self. (Rom. 13:14.) "In all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us." Rom. 8:37.

—Selected

A Little Parable for Mothers

The young mother set her foot on the path of life. "Is the way long?" she asked. And her guide said, "Yes, and the way is hard and you will be old before you reach the end of it. But the end will be better than the beginning."

The young mother was happy and she would not believe that anything would be better than these years. She played with her children, gathered flowers for them along the way, bathed with them in the clear streams, and the sun shone on them and life was good; and the young mother cried, "Nothing will ever be lovelier than this."

Then night came, and a storm, and the path was dark and the children shook with fear and cold. The mother drew them close and covered them with her mantle, and the children said, "Oh, Mother, we are not afraid, for you are near and no harm can come." And the mother said. "This is better than the brightness of day, for I have taught my children courage."

The morning came, and there was a hill ahead and the children climbed and grew weary, and the mother was weary, but at all times she said to the children, "A little patience and we are there." So the children climbed, and when they reached the top they said, "We could not have done it without you, Mother." And the mother, when she lay down that night, looked up at the stars and said, "This is a better day than the last, for my children have learned fortitude in the face of hardness. Yesterday I gave them courage; today I have given them strength."

The next day came with strange clouds which darkened the earth-clouds of war and hate and evil, and the children groped and stumbled, and the mother said, "Look up. Lift your eyes to the light," and the children looked and saw above the clouds an Everlasting Glory and it guided them and brought them beyond the darkness. That night the mother said, "This is the best day of all, for I have shown my children God."

The days went on, and the weeks and the months and the years, and the mother grewold. She was little and bent but her children were tall and strong, and walked with courage. When the way was hard, they helped their mother; and when the way was rough they lifted her, for she was as light as a feather. At last they came

to a hill and beyond the hill they could see a shining road and golden gates flung wide.

The mother said, "I have reached the end of my journey. Now I know that the end is better than the beginning, for my children can walk alone, and their children after them." The children said, "You will always walk with us, Mother, even when you have gone through the gates." They stood and watched her as she went on alone, and the gates closed after her, and they said, "We cannot see her, but she is with us still. A mother like ours is more than a memory. She is a Living Presence." -Selected

Behold My Mother

By Sis. Fern Stubblefield

While he yet talked to the people, behold, his mother and his brethren stood without, desiring to speak with him. Then one said unto him, Behold, thy mother and thy brethren stand without,... But he answered and said... Who is my mother? and who are my brethren? And he stretched forth his hand toward his disciples, and said, Behold my mother and my brethren! For whosoever shall do the will of my Father which is in heaven, the same is my brother, and sister, and mother." Matthew 12:46-50.

There are some precious and important truths contained in these words of Jesus. His mother, Mary, was the virgin that the Father had chosen to become the mother of His only begotten Son. When the angel, Gabriel, was sent to her to disclose God's plan for her life, she had fully submitted herself. She said, "...Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word...." Luke 1:38.

She had cared for Him in babyhood and as He had grown into manhood. Now as He was ministering the Word of God to the people around Him, His mother and brothers had come, desiring to speak with Him. Jesus loved and respected His mother, I believe, but the time had come to reveal a precious and important truth. When it came to the matter of the eternal salvation of Mary's soul, she had no priority over anyone else. Her salvation was to come through the shedding of Jesus' blood on the cross for her sins.

As Jesus was hanging on the cross, His mother was standing near. As Simeon had prophesied, a sword was piercing through her

(Continued on page 11.)

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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Notice to subscribers: Whenever you move or change your address, please write us at once, giving your old and new address, and include your zip code number. The post office now charges 35¢ to notify us of each change of address.

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES

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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; Il 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

We send Christian greetings to all the readers of the Faith and Victory publication. We especially want to welcome the new subscribers who recently responded to advertising in a card packet sent to home-school families and other Christian organizations. We trust the material printed in this publication will be an inspiration to you, and if you feel we can in any way be of service, we would welcome your correspondence.

It seems our world is becoming more and more involved in turmoil in several different continents. According to news reports, and since we printed the last Faith and Victory, thousands of souls have gone out into eternity due to tribal warfare. Our president and the United Nations are currently perplexed with the problem of how to bring about a peace in wartorn Bosnia. These are heavy subjects to delve into, and probably above our capacity to fathom, as they take many varied and ugly turns. Since these burdens are not on our shoulders to solve, to some extent we are relieved of any obligation other than that which was enjoined upon Timothy by the apostle Paul in 1 Timothy 2:1. "I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men."

Before you settle back in your chair with a sigh of relief, putting world affairs out of your mind, take note that the same devil who is causing problems on the world scene is striving to stir up strife in the life of every man, woman, boy and girl. Although we do not have the responsibility on our shoulders to solve world problems, we are admonished to "Follow after the things which make for peace." Rom. 14:19. It is one thing to clearly see how wrong it is for one tribe to kill another tribe, or one ethnic group to attempt to exterminate another, and a different matter to be able to see in our own lives ways in which we should make for peace with those around us.

Contention and disharmony is caused by the fact that the participants do not have common goals. Bro. Ed Wilson has often said, "I am desperate to go to heaven." If every member of a particular setting were to say that, think of the peace that this common goal would achieve. Yet it starts with each individual person. I read of an incident in which a man visited a farm where a number of leghorn hens, enclosed in a wire coop, began to fight. The farmer took in the situation at a glance. Picking up a spading fork, he stepped inside the enclosure and turned over a few forkfuls of earth—revealing the succulent worms and grubs that chickens enjoy. The fighting suddenly stopped. What do we feed on? Do we accept everything the devil has to offer? To follow after peace we must be feeding upon God's word. It begins with each of

"For ye are yet carnal:... there is among you envying, and strife, and divisions,..." I Cor. 3:3. This is caused by the fomenting of cliques and groups. In the apostle Paul's day it was happening right among the church. Perhaps we can visualize the distaste God has in looking down upon world violence, but do we know of the repugnance it is to God for even two individuals to be carnal? There are people who want their own way and are very persuasive in forming a following. If you are like that, it is no tribute that people follow you. It is only a reflection of their lack of spiritual perception. It has been said that there are enough naive folks in the world to follow almost anyone. Peace, harmony and togetherness is brought about when people want peace. Peace is precipitated when those involved have a hungering for God and a touch of His divine hand upon their hearts.

Again, it is one thing to pray for men everywhere, and another to get out of our easy chair and pursue after peace in our own lives. Prayer only is not a substitute for endeavoring to live a holy life. Pursuing peace takes work, and the annihilation of self.

In a book by Robert Cook, he relates a childhood experience which illustrates this principle. He said, "When I was a boy, my father arranged for me to have two lessons a week on the violin. I practiced two hours a day—not voluntarily, I can assure you. When I was about seven years old, some thoughtful person in the church handed me a piece of sheet music.

"'Here, Robert,' she said, 'this might interest you. Perhaps you can learn to play it.' I thanked the lady very much, went home to put the music in the bottom drawer of a clothes chest that was my private domain, and promptly forgot about it.

"One day several months later the lady said to me, 'Have you finished learning that music yet?'

- "'Well,' I said, 'I'm not quite through.'
- "'Perhaps you should return it to me,' she replied.

"I went home and opened the bottom drawer. Sure enough, the music was there. But mice had been there too and one whole corner of the sheet was chewed up. I was absolutely aghast, for I had been brought up to treat others' property with care and respect.

"So I said to myself, 'I'll pray about it.' Holding that gnawed piece of paper in my hands, I closed my eyes tightly and said earnestly, 'O Lord, fix this!'

"When I cautiously opened my eyes and saw that nothing had changed, I knew I was reduced to the embarrassing expedient of returning the lady's property and explaining both my carelessness and lack of truth."

The next time the news media contains stories of world disturbances, pray for men everywhere, and also make sure you are pursuing peace yourself. There is nothing to compare with the approval of God upon a life so directed.

As we reported in last month's issue, the reprint of the book, What the Bible Teaches, is currently at the book bindery in Dallas, TX: We are hoping to have them back and ready for distribution by the end of April or first part of May.

Work has already begun on the reprint of the Evening Light Hymnal. Due to the size of the book, and the quantity being printed, it will still be several months before it is back in stock.

It was a real pleasure to be in revival with the saints at Sapulpa, OK the middle of April. It was an encouragement to see the dedication and to feel the warmth of the saints. It was especially inspiring to have Bro. Richard Madden able to attend most of the services. His courage in the midst of affliction was a testimony of God's grace.

Plans are currently underway to take the bus, owned by the *Print Shop*, to the Jefferson, OR camp meeting, which runs from June 10-19. The date of departure from Guthrie has not been finalized, but if you think you might be interested, contact me for further information. This trip should be especially interesting to young people, but open to all. —Wayne Murphey

Prayer Requests

TX—"Please pray for the healing of Margie Bunkehalter."

OR—"Please pray for me. I have handed out tracts for the past 8 or 9 years. It is a very fruitful ministry. Pray for my financial increase."

-Betty Culp

IL—"Please remember my husband, also me in prayer." —Lavena Cole

AR—"Earnest prayer is needed for Dana Bowerman. He has muscular-dystrophy, and needs to be able to provide for his family."

-Mary Foster



Myrtle, MO—May 11-15
Guthrie, OK—May 27-June 5
Jefferson, OR—June 10-19
Green Bank, WV—June 10-19
Tulsa, OK—June 10-19
Loranger, LA—June 26-July 3
Fresno, CA—July 1-10
National (Monark Springs, MO)—July 15-24
Ensenada, Mexico—July 31-August 7

MEETING REPORTS AND NOTICES

GREEN PASTURES. OK MEETING REPORT

We are so grateful to the Lord for blessing us with another glorious revival meeting. The ministers, Bro. Keith Fuller, Bro. Austin Bruner and Bro. Louis Kimble, were a real blessing to us as they expounded the Word of God under the anointing of the Holy Spirit. The attendance was very good and many sought help from God. We pray that souls will continue to be blessed through the Word.

This congregation wants to thank everyone who came and supported us with your prayers, offerings and all the support. Even though you

may not have been able to come, but remembered us in any way, we say thank you. Continue to pray for the work in Green Pastures.

—Sis. Frances Chandler

SHAWNEE, OK REVIVAL REPORT

We, of the Shawnee congregation, wish to thank all of you from the various congregations for your support of attendance, as well as monetary support, during our revival that Bro. Steve Elwell held for us. We pray the Lord will give you all a special blessing for your support.

Our heavenly Father certainly had the table spread through Bro. Steve and Sis. Jane Elwell. We are still basking in our Saviour's love and encouraged to continue on toward the final reward that we have laid up for us. Oh the joy and peace that passeth understanding; if the world only knew, our altars would be full. Folks, it looks like the end of time is near. I recommend that all of us to be ready and stay ready for that final day.

Again, thank you all and we certainly thank our Lord for the good meeting we had.

You are all in our prayers. Pray for us. Your brother in Christ, —Bill McMakin

GRAND JUNCTION, KY REVIVAL

Bro. Leslie Busbee, of Enid, OK, is scheduled to hold a revival at Grand Junction, KY May 6-11.

The chapel is located near the intersection of highways 127 and 300. An invitation is extended to everyone to come and hear the gospel. For more information you may call the pastor, Sis. Angela Gellenbeck, (606) 792-6749.

MISSOURI STATE CAMP MEETING

The Missouri State Camp Meeting, held at Myrtle, MO, will begin, Lord willing, on Wednesday, May 11, and continue through Sunday, May 15, 1994. Everyone is invited and urged to attend. Come praying for a special outpouring of God's Spirit upon this meeting and the salvation of souls. Three services are scheduled daily.

Please come prepared for possibly cool and rainy weather, and bring bedding, if convenient. Accommodations will be made to care for all who come. The campground phone number is (417) 938-4682. For further information, contact Sis. Carol Sorrell at (417) 938-4493, or Bro. Harlan Sorrell at (417) 938-4336.

—Bro. Harlan Sorrell

JEFFERSON, OR CAMP MEETING

The annual camp meeting of the Church of God at Jefferson, OR, will be held June 10-19. Lord willing, the first service will be Friday evening at 7:30. A hardy invitation is extended to all to attend this meeting. The Lord has blessed our camp meeting each year in a special way, and we look forward to another Spirit-filled meeting. There are ample sleeping accommodations on the grounds, including RV hook-up facilities for those with campers and trailers.

For further information or directions to the camp meeting contact Bro. Clifford Smith, (503) 581-4575.

TULSA, OK CAMP MEETING

The time is drawing near when the camp meeting, Lord willing, will be held at Tulsa, OK, 1102 E. Pine Pl. The dates are June 10-19.

All are invited to attend these services. Please come praying that souls will be saved, baptized and sanctified, also that bodies will be healed.

There will be morning and night services, Monday through Saturday, as well as afternoon services on both Sundays.

For further information contact Bro. Charles Lowe at (918) 584-6838, or Bro. Charles Rhodes, (918) 272-9682. The chapel number is: (918) 584-8438.

—Bro. Charles Lowe

NORTHPORT, AL REVIVAL

Lord willing, the saints in Northport, AL, wish to have a revival meeting June 19-26, 1994. Services will be nightly at 7:30 p.m. We pray that the Lord will send ministers of His choice. There will be some home accommodations, and there are motels near the chapel. Meals will be served daily in the dining hall. Please pray for the meeting.

For more information you may contact Sis. Bernice Petty, (205) 553-4450, Bro. Henry Effinger, (205) 345-7854, or Sis. Jessie Shelton, (205) 339-3026.

GENERAL SOUTHERN LORANGER, LA CAMP MEETING

Correction: The 1994 Loranger Camp Meeting will not begin on Friday. The meeting will begin on Sunday, June 26th.

Come praying and expecting the Spirit of the Lord to anoint the Word and fellowship. The Lord is coming shortly! Now is time and opportunity. "Let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God." II Cor. 7:1.

There is a dormitory for the sisters and one for the brothers. Power and water hookups are provided for those with campers. Meals will be served and expenses met by freewill offerings. From Loranger, go two miles south and about three and one-half miles east on Hwy. 40.

For those travelling I-55, the grounds are about 10 miles east of the Tickfaw exit. (Take Hwy. 442 east which runs into Hwy. 40.)

For more information write Nelson Doolittle, Rt. 1, Box 192, Loranger, LA 70446. Phone: (504) 878-6111. The chapel phone is: (504) 878-2788.

57TH NATIONAL CAMP MEETING MONARK SPRINGS, MO

The National Camp Meeting of the Church of God will be held, Lord willing, at Neosho (Monark Springs), MO, July 1994. All are cordially invited to come and bring others to enjoy the blessings that we are expecting from the Lord.

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

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

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

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

Our scheduled work days are July 2 and July 9. We will be looking forward to working together.

—Business managers: Randel Bradley (above address), or Ed Johnston, 1019 Old Mitchellsburg Rd., Parksville, KY 40464. Phone (606) 332-4244.

CALIFORNIA STATE CAMP MEETING

Lord willing, the California State Camp Meeting at Pacoima, CA, will be held August 26—September 4.

Come, do come, please come! Come praying to be a blessing and to receive a blessing. We are confident that all who come expecting a blessing will not be disappointed. Make a special effort to attend this meeting. Everyone is invited. Accommodations will be provided for all who attend. The expenses of the meeting will be met by freewill offering.

For further information contact the Sunset Guest Home, (818) 899-2022, or Bro. Robert Sherman, (818) 896-7593. The chapel number is: (818) 899-9021.

CHAPEL BUILDING PROJECT

We send greetings of love in the most precious name of Jesus. We trust that all there are enjoying the blessings of the Lord.

We have been wanting to get started on the project of building a new chapel here in New Orleans for sometime, but now the "wanting" is becoming a reality. Saints from different places have wanted us to let them know when we get started, so we thought the best way would be to notify them by way of the Faith and Victory paper.

Our present chapel is actually a small building which is in such a bad condition that nothing from it can be salvaged, so we are going to start from scratch. We have set June 1, 1994 as the beginning date for this work. We are also endeavoring to reach a goal of \$5,000.00 before we get started. We are not yet sure of what the total cost of this project will be, however, we are estimating somewhere between \$35,000—45,000. We trust the Lord that by the prayers and support of the saints, we will be able to complete this project within a reasonable amount of time. After June 1st we will be worshipping in our homes until the building is finished.

We, the congregation, and Bro. Louis Kimble, the pastor, would like to thank the saints for their past prayers and support for the work here. The congregation here is small in number. We love the Lord and are endeavoring to keep the faith. Any correspondence may be addressed to: The Church of God, P. O. Box 73529, Metairie, LA. 70033. Phone: (504) 486-3125.

Yours in Christ, -Bro. John Clement

LETTERS FROM THE READERS



OR—Dear Bro. Wayne and all at the Print Shop: Greetings in Jesus' name. Praise God from whom is every good and every perfect gift. We pray this

finds all there well and growing in divine grace. We feel that God has given us both a touch

in our bodies. Even though we still have some pretty bad days, we expect even more improvement in His own time....

We ask for your prayers that, when Jesus appears our faith will be 'found unto praise and honor and glory' to Him. He is deserving of all the love and praise that we are capable of giving Him.

With Christian love,

-Bro. Bill and Sis. Doris Busch

NC—Dear saints: I want to give a testimony to God's healing power. I had experienced a stiff and sore neck for over two years. On the last day of the Monark Springs, MO, meeting, the last service of the day, I was anointed for my neck. I felt that God heard prayer, but felt no change. Four months later, in November, I realized God had taken the pain away completely and loosened my stiff neck. I am still rejoicing in a complete healing touch.

We also want to give thanks to God for healing an abscess our son, Josef, had in his gums. It was infected for quite some time after he had broken his front tooth in a fall. We had him anointed at the Guthrie, OK, Assembly Meeting. We took him back to the dentist in the next week and he told us there was no trace of infection. We had to just cry and thank the Lord. God is so good! We have other requests. Please pray for us.

—Lynne Millis

CA—Bro. Wayne: Greetings to you and all the dear saints of the most high God scattered abroad. "Who forgiveth all thine iniquities: who healeth all thy diseases." I thank and praise the Lord for healing me. It is error that says healing stopped with the disciples. It is truth that says, "Yes, He healed in Galilee, set the suffering captives free, and He's just the same today!" Let us praise His name forevermore for this wonderful gift to His believing children.

Your sister in Christ. —Melia Viser

LA—Dear Bro. Wayne: May the Lord bless all you dear ones who labor there faithfully as the years go by, putting out the pure Word of God to a lost world. The world is in such turmoil and strife, but thank the Lord for the rest and peace He has for those who will turn to Him and have all their sins put under the precious blood of Jesus. I thank the Lord for the gift of His dear Son. Not many will open their heart and let Him in, but the invitation is still, "Whosoever will...."

In Christian love, ——Alta Flynn

IL—To whom it may concern: I enjoy your tracts and so do others who are helping me pass them on.

West Point is a town with a population of 250. We hear the city is thinking of allowing a beer joint to open here, and would like you all to help us pray that God won't let it happen. We already have trouble with drinking parties and dope, when they go out of town to get it. We don't need any place here for them to buy it.

Thank you, —Mary Lowary

CA—Dear Bro. Wayne, sisters and brothers of the Print Shop, saints and friends: I feel like my time will not be long in this old world, however, my blessings have been wonderful from my Lord. Again, I'll repeat, I'm 93 years old, yet my "Doctor" for this body has been "my blessed Lord." Praise His precious name.

I have had illnesses of the body such as a tumor of the brain. Three doctors pronounced it fatal without an operation. My Lord took the case, and today I am alive. My heavenly Father healed me instantly.

Now my eyes are giving me trouble. Please pray for me.

Thank you, —Sis. Hazel Clark

OR—Dear Bro. Wayne, staff and saints: I have often thought of sending in a testimony to the Faith and Victory.

As I was growing up I never knew anything about God or the Bible. When I finished the eighth grade, in a country school, my father took me and my youngest brother to live in town where he worked in a butcher shop, so I could go to high school.

A neighbor girl, on the farm—who was also starting high school, came and asked me to go with her to the Church of God which was just starting Sunday school and church services there in town. Her mother had gone to the

Church of God in Illinois so she knew about it. We went together to Sunday school and church regularly. Bro. E. C. Amandson was the minister who had started it.

The next spring they had a revival with Hans Nielsen as the evangelist. It continued for three weeks. During the first two weeks no one went to the altar to be saved, but the last week there were about thirty-five that were saved. When I went to the altar I made up my mind I would live for the Lord all my life, and I have lived for Him the best I know how.

Three years later I married Bro. Nielsen. We lived on a farm 28 miles from town, so we couldn't go to town for church as we only had horses by which to travel. We still lovedthe Lord and raised our family to know about the Lord, too.

At the time of my husband's death, our childen were all married and gone. We were alone and one night when he failed to come in for supper I drove our car out 1 1/2 miles to see what had happened. As I drove, the words kept going through my mind, "Fear not, oh child of mine I am thy God and I will take care of you." Truly the Lord has taken care of me through the 38 years since his death. I have had exceptionally good health and strength to do my work. I can truly say that the Lord takes care of me. I have passed my 91st birthday and the Lord has led me along step by step all the way. Where there didn't seem to be a way, He opened the way He wanted me to go.

—Sis. Hilda Nielsen

CA—Dear saints: Greetings in Jesus' name: I thank the Lord today for being saved and sanctified, and very encouraged in the Lord. I also thank the Lord for giving me daily a strong determination to live for Him, and to be on my guard at all times. I realize that, at the most, my time is short. Years ago I heard some small children singing a song. It has stayed with me and helped me through many hard trials. I do not remember the exact words, but I have always remembered what it means to me. When in the greatest of tribulations, I would say or sing these words: "I am determined, I've made up my mind, I will serve the Lord."

The main thing is to have a made up mind. Jesus is always there to help us and see us through. He will let nothing come upon us more than we can ably bear. The Lord strengthens me amidst troubles, and makes me a valiant overcomer. The harder my crosses, the greater my

determination, and the more I pray, the stronger I will be in the Lord. I am truly enjoying salvation. Please pray for me.

Your sister in Christ, -Geneva K. Norling

OR—Dear Bro. Wayne: Greetings to you and all your workers there. Here it is a new month already. It will soon be three weeks since my arthritis has been severe. My left hand swelled so much I have had very little use of it. I have suffered a lot. I hope you will all continue to hold me up in prayer....

May the Lord bless and keep you. I feel your prayers, and I need them. —Sis. Grace Jones

KY—Dear workers at the Print Shop: How comforting it is to know we have a God in Heaven that loves and cares for us. How wonderful it is to know He hears and answers prayer.

There is seldom a day that goes by that I miss calling upon our Lord for answers to my prayers. Without Him I would be so miserable. I really don't know how anyone could go through a day without our loving God. When I am miserable I call upon God for help. When I am happy I thank God for His blessings.

I thank God for giving me Christian parents that left no doubt in my mind that there is a loving Father in heaven. My mother and father's prayers were like rain from heaven on a dry, parched land. Their example has left a very deep imprint on me, and I intend to set a good example before my children just as my parents did for me. I want my children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, family and friends to see Christ in me.

My great-grandson, Taylor, who is only 15 months old has to have surgery. I'm asking you folks at Faith Publishing House to pray for their baby. The Lord touched Taylor for his bad breathing problem, and I know God can touch and heal him of this problem so he won't have to have surgery.

May God richly bless you folks.

A sister in Christ, —Wilma Horsley

MI—Dear Bro. Wayne and all you dear workers: Greetings in the love of Jesus, our Redeemer, who died on the cross for us. I pray all is going well with all of you dear ones: I thank all of you for your prayers. I am still praying the Lord will soon lift me up out of this trial I am going through.

I praise and thank the Lord Jesus for all His

blessings, and for saving my soul from sin. How great is our God.

My love and prayers -Sis. Olive Getterson

MO—Dear Bro. Wayne: Greetings to you in Jesus' name. I hope all is going well with you and yours. Wife and I are pretty well for which we are grateful.

Bro. Norman Allen needs prayer. He doesn't seem to be able to gain his strength back. Sis. Rhenda, his wife, needs prayer also.

We were pleased to have Bro. Emmet Gerald here for a few nights meeting. The Word was good and edifying. We were also privileged to attend the meeting at Coffeeville, where Bro. Gerald was preaching. The Lord blessed him in bringing the Word. We saw where we could move up. I trust the Word will continue to bring forth fruit in the lives of those that hear it.

We desire your prayers that we might be faithful on all lines.

Your Brother in Christ, —T.V. McMillian

MISSIONARY REPORTS

From the Philippines...

April 15, 1994—Dear Bro. Wayne Murphey: Greetings in the precious

name of our Lord Jesus, whom I love and want to serve the rest of my life.

I thank and praise our Lord for His blessings of love, mercy, and joy which we are enjoying in fine health in this very hot summer in the Philippines.

I am thanking our Lord that God's work here is moving forward in spite of some obstacles.

I am also sending my thanks to the Print Shop for keeping the *Faith and Victory* reading material going out to be read by the saints. Thank you for your labor, and may God bless you. Your brother,

-Nonilon Capuyan

From India...

April 10, 1994—Dear Brother Wayne Murphey and all the saints of God: Greetings to you all in the ever glorious name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

We are very thankful for what the Lord is doing among His people, for the solid Word of God and ministers who preach it and live it without any compromise.

We had a wonderful spiritual awakening in the fellowship meeting of the saints held on Friday, April 1st, 1994 in Challissery. We had church representations with their pastors from Trivandrum, Cochin, Thrissur, Mayannor, Kondazhi, Meppady, Vadakketheruvu, Meenangadi, Sulthan Bethery, Odappallam, Cheeral and Pulppally. We had to appreciate all these dear saints gathered in from so many far places, especially from the Wynad hills, for their tedious journey through ghat roads for the holy fellowship. It was the largest meeting of this type. About 200 people attended, including 16 ministers. This meeting was blessed and owned of God. All were challenged by the Holy Spirit. Once more all are dedicated for the truth and have decided to spread this great truth to the surrounding places where we are.

This month, again, we have another special outreach ministry in Parannur and Kalloor, with a desire to give Scriptural teaching for the reformation in family life. It will be for all types of people, and we try to get them in an auditorium for three days. It requires a lot of time, energy, and money to meet them with their family problems.

We need your sincere encouragement and earnest prayers for the success of the great missionary work in which we try to carry on for Jesus and His church.

Yours for His service, —P. D. Mathunni

March 20, 1994—Dear Bro. Wayne Murphey and dear saints in America: Greetings to all you dear ones again in the all-knowing name of Jesus Christ.

The convention at Atlanta was a real blessed one. Several got saved. Meetings in other congregations are going on. All the congregations are moving on fine without many hindrances.

We were sorry to note the departure of our dear brother Archie Souder. I met him first in 1974 and since that meeting he has been a supporter of the work in India. We send our condolences to the bereaved family.

Please continue to remember the needs of our new station. We appreciate your prayers for us.

Yours in Christ, —John Varghese

IN MEMORIAM

On May 3, 1916 in Bristow, OK, **Clifford Mason** was born to Lula and Tilman Mason. He departed this life January 28th, 1994.

Clifford was one of ten children. He grew up and attended schools at Morning Star and Lincoln High, Bristow, OK.

He met and married Elretha Bell. To this union 11 children were born. Later he married Katie Cole. They were blessed with one son.

He was preceded in death by one son, Richard; mother, father; three sisters, Pearl, Helen and Sharon; two brothers, Lonell and Tillie Jr.

Clifford professed a hope in Christ at an early age. Several years ago he became a member of the Church of God at Boley, OK. He was faithful until death.

He was special to his family, church, and community. He was a devoted husband and father and a kind man.

Clifford's memory will be cherished by his beloved wife, Katie, of the home; five sons, Clifford Jr., Billy Wayne, and Stan, of Tulsa, OK, Duncan of Fayetteville, NC; six daughters, Olevis, of Los Angeles, CA, Linda, Judy, Beverly, Ethelyn, and Rochelle of Tulsa, OK; four sisters, Henryetta Johnson of Tulsa, OK, Viola Williams and Earnestine Snells of Wichita, KS, and Berneice Jackson of Bristow, OK; one aunt, Nettie Carey, of Tulsa, OK; 47 grandchildren, 29 great-grandchildren, a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives and friends.

Clifford will be missed, but his family and friends may find comfort in knowing that now he is at rest and peace with our Lord.

Behold My Mother

(Continued from page 3.)

soul. "When Jesus therefore saw his mother, and the disciple standing by, whom he loved, he saith unto his mother, Woman, behold thy son! Then saith he to the disciple, Behold thy mother! And from that hour that disciple took her unto his own home." John 19:26-27. Jesus knew that she needed strong spiritual support in that great grief of seeing her innocent son suffering such an awful death.

After Jesus was resurrected from the dead and had ascended back to the Father, we find recorded in Acts 1:12-14 that the disciples

returned to Jerusalem and went into an upper room. Verse 14 discloses, "These all continued in prayer and supplication, with one accord with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brethren." They were tarrying, waiting for the promise of the Father.

"And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.... And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost..." Acts 2:1, 4. Mary was a believer and she needed to be filled with the Holy Ghost as well as the brethren. It was the Father's will.

Oh what a precious privilege we have yet today. By doing the will of God we are brothers and sisters and mothers of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Saw Jesus Today

With a bar of soap I wrote it on the mirror, so that everytime I glanced that way, it would serve as a reminder. It was an abbreviated form of the



question, "Did you make someone feel good today?" I remember returning from a job one day, frustrated and weary because things had just not gone well. After expressing my state of mind, someone calmly inquired, "Did you make anyone feel good today?" That inquiry totally altered my perspective. I began to consider how I had treated others that day, rather than how I had fared at their hands.

I recall the story of the king who woke one bright morning. While dressing for the day he dropped an item and as he bent to retrieve it, he bumped his head soundly. Frustrated and in pain, he scolded his wife unnecessarily, who in turn snapped at the maid. The maid, feeling indignation over her ill-treatment, chided the cook, who boxed the ears of the yard boy. And ultimately, the yard boy kicked the cat!

What a chain of events one action may begin, for good or ill! A kindness shown brings warmth and comfort each time it returns to one's remembrance, and rudeness or a hateful word carries a poison which may taint a relationship for years.

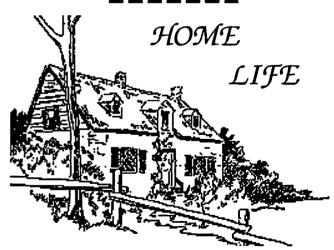
I recall one preacher who spoke of "balcony people" and "basement people." The balcony people in your life are those who cheer you on, encourage you, and put something positive into your existence. The basement people are just the opposite. They attempt to pull you down to their own dissatisfied level. Their input into your life is negative.

We can be basement or balcony people too. We have the potential of making or breaking someone's day. We are not responsible for other people's actions, but we will be held accountable for our own.

Did you make anyone feel good today? Did you put something positive into someone's life? Was your attitude a help or hindrance today? Look for opportunities to make as many people as happy as you can each day, and in you a divine spark of the spirit of Jesus will shine through.

—Mary Murphey

(Editor's note: If you have witnessed ore experienced an incident that would fit this column, we would appreciate you writing it down and sending it to us.)



The Problem of Getting Along With Other People

A great many of the perplexities and difficulties in youth's growing adjustments come out of the simple question of getting along with other people. Stop a moment and recall your recent contacts with youth and their problems and see how many of them come under this general heading. The question is of primary social importance, for to be most influential one must be

"...The crowd is not always right, and

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is lost in the mass of mediocrity."

accepted and understood at least by some of his fellow beings.

But the truth is that finding favor in the sight of everybody is not always possible. There are times when one must differ from the crowd and stand for principle. Differences make for unpopularity. "Her parents shouldn't have taught her that way," was the comment of one high school girl of another. "It makes her different from the crowd and above all things don't make anybody different." But the crowd is not always right, and a far more excellent charm can be attained by the character that breaks for the right than the conformist who is lost in the mass of mediocrity.

If we could find a simple rule by which we could tell youth that they could always get along with other people and not violate any of their fine ideals, we would like to make use of it. "If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men" (Romans 12:18), is an ideal well worth attempting.

On the subject of getting along with other people the Bible presents us with a multitude of helps. Axioms, proverbs, platitudes, exhortations, commandments, inferences, and illustra-

tions crowd the pages of both the Old and New Testament. A complete study of the Bible would most probably find an answer either direct or indirect to every situation of human relationship. There is no end to the resources of the Word of God on this problem.

But out of the vast maze of teaching and application there emerges one master verse. It was written first in the book of Leviticus (19:18) and re-circulated and immortalized by the public teachings of Jesus: "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself." (Matt. 22:39.) This is a great summing up verse that Jesus taught on which, with the one immediately before, about the love of God, "the whole law hangeth, and the prophets."

Make a list of the personal reactions of Jesus or His directions to His disciples when confronted with some of the common problems of getting along with other people and study these with your boys and girls. Here are a few for example.

When an unjust demand was made on Him.

(Matt. 17:24-27.) This is the story of the tribute money. Jesus' answer showed that His interest was not on His own personal rights but on the other people's state of mind: "Lest we should offend them." He actually loved the soul value within these government officials. They must not see in Him a lack of love and willingness to do the right thing. Therefore, He led Peter to join Him in going the second mile with them in paying the demand.

When someone refused His friendship as in the rebuff from the Samaritan village. (Luke 9:51-56). No wrath was brought down on them as his disciples urged Him to do. Jesus just moved on to another village. Love caused Him to give them time. Later they might come to understand His mission. Time told that this was a wise dealing, for after Pentecost "the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God." It is significant that they sent unto them Peter and John "Who,

when they were come down, prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Ghost" (Acts 8:14-15). John, you remember, was one of the disciples who had been most angered by the former rebuff.

When an insolent army officer struck Him with his hand (John 18:22-23). Jesus met him with a challenge for the truth. What was there wrong in Him that this Roman soldier should despise? Then He put the penetrating question, "Why smitest thou me?" These were almost the same words that halted the persecutor, Saul, on the road to Damascus. Such patience with a would-be hater came from love of the man's soul underneath. Perhaps it was the same centurion who later at the cross declared, "Truly this was the Son of God" (Matt. 27:54).

When one offends and does not apologize (Matt. 18:15-17). Jesus' thought was to go to him privately. One must make an effort to clear up the feeling as quickly as possible. Use also Matt. 5:25, "Agree with thine adversary quickly, whiles thou art in the way with him."

When one offends and apologizes, but offends again. (Matt. 18:21-22). Jesus' application of love admits no malice held. "Forgive and be willing to forget so you can forgive again," He seems to say.

Paul's analysis—Taking up the one principle of love, the Apostle Paul gives us a detailed analysis in I Corinthians 13. Between verses 3 and 8 there are not many problems of social relationships that fail to find their answers. Snobbery, which begins in youth and is one of the most offensive sins to God, gets its death knell in verse 4; selfish aggressiveness and ambition are tabooed in verse 5. Patience, considerateness, disinterestedness, forgiveness, faith, and endurance are some of the other fruits of love mentioned there while envy, rudeness, sensitiveness, brooding, gossip or faintheartedness are forbidden, by inference at least, in this terse teaching. With this single principle of love in view the Apostle Paul engages to meet

a multitude of situations and give the reaction to be expected by the child of God. Study carefully with the youth in your home the priceless verses in this great chapter:

"And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, but have not charity, it profiteth me nothing. Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh not evil; Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth; Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things. Charity never faileth."

-By Martha Leavell

Born Twice

By Robert L. Longley (Taken from February, 1971 Faith and Victory.)

How can this be? The question is not new. It was first asked over nineteen centuries ago. It would be interesting to know how many times it has been asked since that memorable night when Nicodemus came to interview our Lord. He was a man of letters and high learning of his day—a Pharisee, a man, we might say, himself a consultant and a ruler among his people. Jesus was not elated by the traditional "pat on the back" that Nicodemus used to open the conversation. He immediately got to the vital point: "Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." An amazing statement indeed! The master of Israel countered with: "How can a man be born when he is old?" And later: "How can these things be?"

In St. John 3:7-8, Jesus said: "Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again. The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit." Perhaps no two people receive this wonderful experience exactly alike, and there is no set formula by which it comes. Our Savior says: "Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me." We see there must be an awakening and opening of the heart's door. If there is no

response, this visitor of visitors may seemingly step away for a while, but will return again and again—for how long, I do not know.

I would like to relate in condensed form how this experience came to my life. I was born (first) of wonderful, devout parents. I could always go to my precious, patient and loving mother to soothe my hurts and answer my many questions. About the age of five, there arose a big question in my awakened and inquisitive mind. Kneeling at my mother's knee, I looked up into her wonderful face and asked, "Mother, where did God come from, and who made Him?" "Robert," she said, "God has always been; He has always existed." "No, Mother, I mean way, way, way back before anything we see was made, who made Him?" In her wisdom, Mother put her hand upon my head and told me there were many mysteries that we little human beings could not know, but that God had always existed.

My first school was at a one room country structure where some of the "boys" were as large and as old as the teacher. I am ashamed to say that I soon took up some of the habits of the older ones, and, among other things, I began to take the name of God in vain. One bad thing led to many more.

My brothers and sisters were Christians, but that could not suffice for me. Our oldest brother had gone from the farm to the city to

Half-Baked Christians

By John Varghese

Hosea describes Ephraim as "a cake unturned as it was baked." Hos. 7:8. Ephraim is a type of the half-baked Christian. Portions of their lives are given to God, and portions are held back—half-baked. The emotional side is developed; the volitional side is undeveloped. The receptive side is baked, but the sharing side is unbaked. The law side may be strong, but the love side weak. There is a paralysis of the nerve that

leads from the brain to the hip socket; the purse is not converted. The conscious mind has been converted, but the subconscious mind has not.

The half-Christian becomes the center of problems to himself and others. A half-Christian is more of a problem than a power. They don't belong wholly to the kingdom of God, and they don't belong to the world; they are a halfway house trying

to be a home, and no one can rest in halfwayness. We can only rest in full commitment, for that is what we are made for.

As a result of this half-baked condition, decay sets in in Ephraim. "Foreigners eat away his strength." (Verse 9.) We are made for the kingdom; it is our native land.

Coming into the kingdom brings a sense of coming home. We are naturalized there. But if we allow it, alien ways of life will eat our strength. Love is natural and builds us up; but

if we turn to resentments, which are alien, they will eat our strength.

The process of decay is so slow that it is scarcely noticed—"unknown to him." Many a person has decayed so gradually that they can not tell when they cross the line from honesty to dishonesty, from purity to impurity, and from being a Christian to being a pagan.

prepare for a business career. He was converted, and wrote such wonderful letters to us at home that I knew he had something that I needed badly, but did not have. When he came home for a visit I could see he had been wonderfully changed. He became a traveling salesman. In 1912 there was an epidemic of spinal meningitis in our state. We urged him to remain at home until this epidemic had lifted, but he felt there was not much danger to him. However, this struck him suddenly where he had registered in a hotel. My father went to his aid, but this brother passed away, and had to be buried in that area.

This is how I was awakened to my need of being "born again." Another brother, a sister and I had remained on the farm to take care of the chores. No phones or cars were in our area in those days. We were not aware that our brother had passed away until about nightfall when someone drove to the farm by horse and buggy to break the sad news to us. We were indeed grief-stricken. In our old farm home was a large hallway, a reclining cot, and on the wall our large family clock. As I lay

sorrowing on the cot, there was a hushed stillness. My thoughts were troubling me. The ticking of the clock sounded as loud to me as if a hammer were pounding on the wall. Suddenly the clock stopped ticking. It seemed an inward voice spoke to me and said, "Young man, your heart will stop beating someday, just as the clock stopped ticking, and you are not ready for this." At that moment I was possessed with a strong desire to become ready for this final event of this earthly life. I responded in my heart or conscience and promised that if only my life would be spared and I was shown how to become ready, I would do this.

The Apostle Paul, who witnessed and sanctioned the stoning to death of Stephen, our Lord's first martyr, was awakened and astonished by His voice on the road to Damascus. Three days and nights of praying and fasting followed the event which brought to him the marvelous experience of being made a new person—"born again."

The gentle, yet firm and solid words of awakening of that night kept ringing within me. In a couple of days I took down with measles and was in bed for the next two weeks. I had time to think and reflect on my past. My intense hunger and thirst for God became more fervent. There was now no question as to who made Him and where He came from. I just wanted Him in my life. There is a scripture (which I did not know then, as I had never read the Bible) in Hebrews 11:6 which says: "...He that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him." In a very crude and perhaps awkward way, I began to talk to God, or pray, and this brought great blessing and satisfaction to me. My dear thoughtful mother

gave me the Bible that was in my deceased brother's possessions. I began, fortunately, to read in the New Testament, I was completely captivated by the wonderful words and miracles of our Lord. In a comparatively short time, one morning as I was kneeling beside my bed, God gave me the assurance that I was His child, "born again," made a "new creature." What a thrill, as peace, love.

and devotion filled my being! Romans 8:16— "The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God."

Both Jesus and John the Baptist, in their preaching, exhorted the people to repent and bring forth fruits meet or worthy of repentance. Our dear Savior let me know that it was my sin that had caused Him in love to me and all of the human race, to be nailed to the cross and shed His innocent blood to save me. During the two weeks I was in bed my heart and conscience were greatly sorrowful for my sinful life and my neglect of His offered mercy. This brought deep repentance, followed by a sweet sense of forgiveness. The Holy Spirit witnessed to my spirit that I was God's child.

I would like to relate one of several incidents which occurred before I was saved. In our community there was a general store with a room in the rear with tables where customers could eat a cold lunch—canned meats, etc. Three of my companions and I went back to this room to eat. The proprietor was busy in the front and told us to take what we wanted and when we finished he would come to see what the cost was. We ate quite heartily, resulting in several empty cans. The thought came to us—Why should we pay for all? We pitched some of the cans out of the window. When the proprietor came, we asked what we owed him for the cans on the table. He figured the cost and we paid him, thinking we had pulled a good one on him.

"In our old farm home was a large hallway, a reclining cot, and on the wall our large family clock. As I lay sorrowing on the cot, there was a hushed stillness. My thoughts were troubling me. The ticking of the clock sounded as loud to me as if a hammer were pounding on the wall. Suddenly the clock stopped ticking. It seemed an inward voice spoke to me and said: 'Young man, your heart will stop beating some day, just as the clock stopped ticking, and you are not ready for this.' "

of the window. This took a lot of courage and grace, which was furnished by my newly-found Friend.

When I went to Mr. S.—, whom I had known from my early boyhood days, I told him of the wonderful experience that had come to my life—of how our Lord had completely changed me, and he was somewhat surprised. He grasped my hand and said, "Robert, stick with it!" He was reluctant to take the money. However, I followed the example recorded in the Bible of Zacchaeus who said to our Lord: "If I have taken anything from any man...I restore him fourfold." Twenty years passed before I saw this man again. As we grasped hands, his first words were: "Is it still sticking?" My answer was, "Yes, and becoming more wonderful as the days come and goapproaching that final, great and notable Day."

This incident had been completely dismissed from my mind until brought so vividly back during the siege of measles. This greatly troubled my conscience. I could not shake it off. This wonderful "inner voice" told me in order to have a clear conscience "before God and man" I must go to this storekeeper, acknowledge my wrong and pay for the cans thrown out