

FAITH^{AND}VICTORY

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Church of God Servant

Unto Him 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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Guthrie, Oklahoma

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TRUST

By Sis. Marilyn Cole

Trust: to commit or place in one's care or keeping; to permit to stay or go or to do something without fear or misgiving; to rely on the truthfulness or accuracy of; to place confidence in; to hope or expect confidently.

Trust is a word that is found often in the Bible. It seems to be a key to our ability to serve God in a pleasing way. Often we are encouraged to trust in the Lord and discouraged to trust in our own thoughts or reasoning. One song says, "Trust in the Lord, how sweet the experience!"

Truly this is so. It is so sweet to be able to place our confidence in One who has blessed man from the beginning of time when He created the generous earth, who gave His Son for our salvation, and who has invited us to walk and trust in the protection of His love.

David was said to be a man after God's own heart. His life was pleasing in God's eyes, and

God trusted him. We will often find that as we increase in our trust in God, He will place more trust in us. How did David develop this great confidence that God could be counted on to protect and care for him? David had spent many hours alone in the fields with little protection from the dangers that were there. When we begin to read of him, he was a youth who had already been victorious over the lion and the bear. But what about when David first was sent out to keep his father's sheep? Suppose he was sent out at a young age of seven or eight. Most children of that age are capable of greater things than they expect, but are often intimidated by fears. Do you suppose David spent some nights when his heart was beating loudly and he could hardly close his eyes for fear that when he opened them some wild creature would be looking down into his eyes? He was probably given this responsibility before he was fully worthy of it. His father showed his trust in David by sending him out. I believe he was not only trusting in David, but in God's care over his young son. David learned to live up to his father's trust in him. He probably had to spend some weeks in the fields before he could sleep well at night. **Not only did his father trust that God would take care of David, but he trusted that David and God together would take care of the flocks.**

David often speaks in his Psalms of not fearing, which indicates it was a thing he had

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had to overcome. "What time I am afraid, I will trust in thee." Psalm 56:3. Later in life, David's enemies were often close behind him with great evil in their hearts. Armies led by King Saul desired to have his life. Yet David's trust in God was so great that when the sleeping King was right before him, he refused to harm or to allow his men to harm him. His trust was in God. He was confident that God could take care of Saul without his interference. It is well that he did, for it kept his conscience clean. David, it seems, valued a clean conscience more than he did his life. His many Psalms prove how much he loved God, how much he trusted in God, and that he wanted to keep all his relationships right in God's eyes so that he could continue to call on Him when he needed help. David trusted God more than he trusted himself.

This deep trust in God, deeper than our trust in our own selves, is rare in today's world. The enemy has nearly wiped it off the face of the earth. The teachings of the day emphasize utilizing all that is within us to meet the challenges of life. It would please God if we would grow more and more trusting in Him, and less dependent on our own intellect and wisdom. God can counsel the honest heart when it gets quiet before Him, and what a blessing it is to have that sweet knowledge of His love for us. David was convinced that God had a plan for his life, and though it must have appeared pretty improbable that he would live to be made king, he still put his trust in

God. This great trust was one of the criteria for David being a man after God's own heart.

Go with me, if you will, to the passage in Matthew where the disciples were questioning Jesus about what the kingdom of heaven would be like. Jesus looked about, saw a little child, beckoned him to Himself and set the child in the middle of His disciples. Have you ever observed the trust of little children? They have to be taught to be cautious of strangers who might harm them. No mention is made of that child withdrawing or distrusting Jesus in any way. I can imagine that he may

"Christ did not accept the gift just because the sinner woman honored Him, but because He saw a broken and contrite heart bowed in trusting submission before Him."

have been a bit dusty and disheveled, as children will so often become, but he apparently came readily and trustingly to the Master. This trust is one of the things that made the child such a clear example of the kingdom of God.

There are other examples of this precious trust in Jesus. Jesus was a trusting Savior. He has a keen ability to look inside people around Him and see beyond the exterior. Surely that was a divine quality, but I believe we can ask Him to give us a portion of His discernment today, if we want to cultivate more trust. Think about some of the ones He trusted. He accepted the gift of that

sinner woman who came to anoint and bathe His feet, though His host thought His acceptance of her proved He was not a prophet. I think Jesus knew that woman's history even better than His host did, but He was able to look through the sins and see the goodness inside. He did not accept the gift just because she honored Him, but because He saw a broken and contrite heart bowed in trusting submission before Him.

Let's compare Zaccheus and the rich young ruler. Both had great riches, though we aren't told the significance of their holdings. It was an identifying mark for both. Zaccheus was very desirous to see Jesus, but had no confidence that he was worthy of Jesus' attention. Perhaps he was hoping that Jesus would not notice him, as his sins seemed to be right before his eyes. When Jesus looked up into that tree and bade him come down, Zaccheus made haste and came down. Zaccheus began to confess his sins and promise restitution. He was not in a position that was looked upon with respect among men. But the thing that came before him was not what others would say, nor a comparison of his sins to the others he knew. He trusted that Jesus could do something for him, and he meant business with God. He wasn't trusting in his riches nor his self-righteousness to redeem himself.

By putting the stories from the Gospels together, we get a picture of a rich young ruler who also came running and fell on his knees before

Jesus. He came asking what he must do to be saved. When Jesus told him to obey all the commandments, he answered that he had always practiced those things since childhood. However, when Jesus told him to sell all his goods and bestow them on the poor, the young man just couldn't accept it. He felt his

"However, when Jesus told the rich young ruler to sell all his goods and bestow them on the poor, the young man just couldn't accept it. He felt his goodness should be enough."

goodness should be enough. Had he indeed loved his neighbor as himself if he had great wealth and there were the poor and needy around him? No doubt he had at times come short of the commandments of God, but he was not used to looking at that. He was only accustomed to looking at all the good he had done, and had blinded himself to his presumptuous sins. He was trusting in himself. What a difference in these men. And what a difference in what they got from Jesus. To Zaccheus He said, "This day is salvation come to this house." Even though Jesus looked on the rich young ruler and loved him, he went away without receiving the gift that Jesus could have given him. His trust was in his riches and his own goodness.

Two main things interfere with our development of trust. One is guilt. We can be freely forgiven by God, but if

we are not willing to turn from our wrongs, they will ever cloud our trust of Jesus. We must acknowledge our sins, and God's great ability to forgive sins. The devil tries very hard to get us to look at our sins over and over. Sometimes, he tries to get us to love them enough that we cannot give them up. Sometimes we hate them, but don't accept God's ability to forgive us. Sometimes, we know the thoughts of our hearts, and suspicion everyone else of harboring the same evil we possess. (Cain slew Abel because of the unrighteousness in his own heart rather than any wrong doing on Abel's part.) He also tries to make us think we have to do something great to merit this precious trust in God. It is not gained by anything we can do other than to turn our entire lives—past, present and future, over into His hands. We can put everything into God's hands, and thus defeat the enemy who would keep us worried and fretting.

The second hindrance to growth in the trust God is so attracted to is self-confidence. We become accustomed to our own strength, our own wisdom, our own ability, and we just trust no one else. Some folks are so confident in their ability to do everything that they can't trust anyone to be as right as they are. They tolerate the bumbling attempts of their fellow man, and every mistake is a real trial to them. Why? They just aren't able to see their own ability to fail. They don't recognize their own mistakes, and aren't willing for anyone else to make any either. This is a

really self-centered attitude, and is poisonous to all relationships. They have a hard time trusting God as He desires to be trusted, as they are so used to doing it themselves. The rich young ruler didn't remember any sins in his life, so he didn't think he needed a savior badly enough to give up his riches. If Jesus had asked those who lived and worked with this young man what his faults were, He might have gotten quite a different reply. He was trusting in himself and his own riches. How sad.

God wants us to be trusting of our fellow man as far as we can. He trusted many that were known throughout their communities to be openly sinful. His disciples and others often thought He wasn't very wise in accepting the honors of these people, but He often responded, "The son of man is come to seek and save that which is lost." Do you not think He wants

"When it came to a confrontation between the adulterous woman and the Pharisees, Christ trusted the openly sinful woman more than He trusted the men professing to be religious leaders."

us to look with discerning eyes into the world of hurting people, with trust that there are some sinners who want the rest and love He can give them? He reached out to the woman at the well who had five husbands. He trusted Zaccheus, whose record for honest collections was far

(Continued on page 13.)

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 (USPS 184-660).

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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 50¢ to notify us of each change of address.

Dated copy for publication must be received by the 18th of the month prior to the month of issue.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES



Single copy, one year \$1.00
Package of 4 papers to one address, one year \$3.00
Larger quantities are figured at the same rate.

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

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

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

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

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

In order to comply with the Oklahoma laws as a non-profit religious work, the Faith Publishing House is incorporated thereunder.

FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE

P. O. Box 518, 920 W. Mansur, Guthrie, OK 73044
Office phone numbers: 405-282-1479, 800-767-1479;
fax number: 405-282-6318; home phone: 405-282-6170.
Internet address: <http://www.theshop.net/faithpub>

Postmaster: Please send address corrections to: Faith Publishing House, P. O. Box 518, Guthrie, OK 73044.

Beginning our 75th YEAR of publication!!

With this March issue of the *Faith and Victory*, we begin our 75th year of publication. This is a long time for any organization to remain in operation, and it is through the provision of God that we have.

In March of 1923, my grandfather, Fred Pruitt, along with the help of several other dedicated individuals, published the first issue of the *Faith and Victory* here at Guthrie. The printing plant at that time was located at 611 W. Mansur. In 1927, the Print Shop was moved to 920 W. Mansur, which is its current location.

Many workers have come and gone over the years, and God has preserved His work amid change and various storms and trials. At times we have wondered how we would be able to continue, but thanks to our Lord, through Faith, each Victory was won.

It is our desire that God will preserve this work as long as it fulfills His purpose. We would like to continue sending forth the gracious gospel of Christ until He returns for His Church.

From the time that God placed in my oversight the editorship of **Faith Publishing House**, I have felt a strong conviction to publish only that which would be in the context of the example Jesus left us in His earthly ministry. Fulfilling this conviction has required much prayer and seeking the will of God. My aim has been to know how to print that which would be presented in the spirit of Christ. Like Paul, we have determined not to know, or teach anything among the people to whom this paper is a ministry, save Jesus Christ, and Him crucified. (I Cor. 2:2.)

I would like to thank the saints who have supported this type of effort by your understanding and appreciation. We continually are grateful for your interest in this work.



Bro. Ken Elwell, our new pressman, is proving to be a very efficient worker. His vision and concern to benefit souls through the printed

page is certainly appreciated and will not go unrewarded by our Lord.

We have ordered 70,000 sheets of 23" x 35" paper and Bro. Ken has begun reprinting 4,000 *Evening Light* song books. This is a time-consuming and expensive undertaking, and we ask for your prayers that we will be able to complete the task in a short time.

Also, during the month of February, my son, Jason, printed a special order of 18,000 tracts which will be sent to India. It is rewarding to see every piece of literature sent on its way from this shop, to search out hearts seeking the hope found in Christ.

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Circumstances have dictated that we update the price of books we sell, effective March 1. A current price list can be received free of charge by calling or writing to request it.

Beginning April 1, we will also implement a price increase for the *Faith and Victory* and *Bible Lesson* books. A subscription to the *Faith and Victory* will cost \$3.00 per year, or five copies for \$12.00. The new price for the *Bible Lesson* books will be \$4.00 per year, or \$1.00 per quarter.

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Work is still progressing on the new Print Shop building as the weather and time permits. Bros. Ron, Dan and Larry Doolittle have pretty well completed the installation of the heating and air conditioning units. We have also been priming the interior walls and hope to soon be able to paint them.

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On February 11, the Lord called Bro. Emmett Gerald from his labors on this earth to be with Him. Bro. Emmett put himself wholeheartedly into working for God and his zeal was a challenge to us. He would order tracts from the Print Shop by the hundreds, and faithfully place them in tract racks in business places. Is there anyone willing to take up this torch?

If you wish to send condolences to his wife, Sis. Pearlene Gerald, who is not well in body, you may do so by addressing your correspondence in care of her son, Bro. Marshall Whitson, 140 Whitson-Cotes Dr., Hayden, AL 35079.

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The month of March turns our minds to Easter and the resurrection of our Lord. Every Christian should be inspired by the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. It was an ignoble punishment to be crucified by the Romans, for

that is what they did to men who had no honor. But the children of God have no cause to hang their heads at the death their Master died, for He defeated death and came forth to be seen by many.

Without inhibition, Paul, in preaching to the Jewish leaders in the synagogue at Antioch, declared, "But God raised him from the dead." Acts. 13:30. This was rather startling dogma for the apostle's hearers, but if Paul could not have spoken with inspiration and conviction on the actuality of Christ's resurrection, there would have been very little left to say in regard to the gospel.

It is through the resurrection that we are commissioned and given something to say and do. In the armed forces, many wear the title of "non-commissioned officers." These are men who have an office, but not a commission. There are none of these in Christ's kingdom. "...And let him that heareth say, Come...." Rev. 22:17. If you, by faith, have beheld the empty tomb, as did Peter and John (John 20:4-8), then you should be eager to invite others to share that experience. If you, in spirit, have heard Him speak your name as did Mary (John 20:16), then you should be desirous that others undergo that same thrill.

Christ is worthy of honor on Easter Sunday, March 30, as well as every single day of our lives. May you be blessed with a renewal of immeasurable resurrection joy! —Wayne Murphey



MO—"Please pray for Jim Hodnett. He has been in a coma for almost a year. His wife cares for him, and believes God will heal him. He is a young man suffering from a stroke."

—Mrs. Harry Hansen

IL—Sis. Lavena Cole has an unspoken request, and also desires prayer for a friend who has an inflammation.

WV—Sis. Tammy Clevenger is still in a trial of severe affliction.



Oklahoma State (Guthrie)—May 23-June 1
Holly Hill, SC—May 30-June 8
Jefferson, OR—June 13-22
Green Bank, WV—June 13-19
Loranger, LA—June 29-July 6
National (Monark Springs, MO)—July 18-27
Myrtle, MO—July 30-August 3

NOTE: If the dates of your camp meeting are not listed, please send them to us so that they can be in next month's list.



WICHITA, KS MEETING NOTICE

Lord willing, the Wichita, KS, Spring Meeting will be held April 18-27, 1997. We are looking for the Lord to bless in every way. We want to see people saved, sanctified, reconsecrating, blessed and healed. We need prayer that the Spirit of the Lord will have the right-of-way and that the devil will be completely rebuked.

All are invited to attend the meeting and all saints who can come, please bring your weapons (swords and prayer). There will be services nightly at 7:30. Starting on Monday the 21st, and continuing through the remainder of the meeting, we will have a day service at 11:00 a.m.

The Church is located at 1701 North Ash St. If you need to contact someone concerning the meeting, you may call Bro. Emmanuel Gracey at (316) 778-1848, or Bro. Paul Phillips, Jr. at (316) 721-9557.

NOWATA, OK REVIVAL

Bro. Gordon Humphrey feels led of the Lord to hold a revival at the Church of God chapel,

127 S. Cedar, Nowata, OK, March 26-30. We would appreciate your prayers for this effort.

For further information, contact Bro. Humphrey at (918) 273-1615.

GOULDS, FL REVIVAL

The Goulds, FL congregation is planning on hosting a revival March 30-April 6. On Monday through Saturday there will be a 7:30 evening service, with two services scheduled for Sunday.

The chapel address is: 235 N.W. 47th St. For more information you may contact one of the following: Bro. Robert McIntyre (305) 233-2166, or Bro. Charles Clay (305) 235-4271. The chapel telephone number is: (305) 758-0160.

SPRING SINGING IN ALABAMA

The congregation near Warrior, AL, would like to announce a weekend meeting for April 19th and 20th. Lord willing, the activities will begin on Saturday morning with a Bible session and a singing that evening at 6:30. All-day services will be held on Sunday. Everyone is welcome.

Some accommodations will be available in homes. Motels are also located in Cullman: The Holiday Inn Express (205-734-2691) or Ramada Inn (205-734-8484.)

The Church of God chapel in the Enterprise community is two miles west of Interstate 65 at Exit 289. The chapel is 1/8 mile off Empire Road, on the right on Acton Bend Circle.

Please contact Roy Herron (205-647-7869) or Marshall Whitson (205-647-6325) for further information, accommodations or to inform us of your plans to attend.

BAKERSFIELD, CA BUILDING PROJECT

In an effort to further the gospel and make a greater impact on our community, the congregation in Bakersfield, CA, has felt inspired to expand and improve our facilities. This project will include a new sanctuary, needed classrooms and baptistry. The estimated cost of construction is \$175,000.00. The Lord has blessed us to receive over half of this. We desire your prayers in this effort. Anyone who would like to support us in this effort can send offerings to, The Church of God Building Project, PO Box 70701, Bakersfield, CA, 93387, or contact Bro. Hayward Cox at (805) 366-4718.

"Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching." Heb. 10:25.

This is the way the church sometimes looks to the
pastor when he goes into the pulpit.
No pastor cares to preach to empty pews. There
is no inspiration in vacant pews!

THIS IS THE WAY IT OUGHT TO LOOK AT EVERY SERVICE AND IT WILL IF EACH ONE DOES HIS
PART BY COMING HIMSELF AND BRINGING A FRIEND OR RELATIVE THE BEST POSSIBLE WAY
TO HELP THE PREACHER IS TO HIDE EMPTY BENCHES WITH PEOPLE! TRY THIS OUT.

EXCERPTS FROM MESSAGES OF BRO. ED WILSON

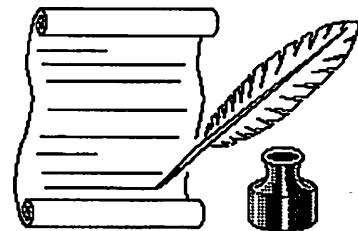
Must Not Strive

"And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient." II Timothy 2:24. We must never get too close to each other, but leave room to live together for years. To be gentle is to listen and respect other's feelings and emotions as well as the truth. "In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves,..." II Timothy 2:25. This means to carry a demeanor about you that attracts others. When we leave a shady trail of business dealings, criticisms, etc., we deny ourselves the true example. To be harsh, criticize or scold every time we see the unsaved, only makes the way harder for them to get saved. This teaches us to pray for those we love."

"The apostle (Paul) says to Timothy, and so he says to every preacher, '...Give attendance to reading,...' I Timothy 4:13. The man who never reads will never be read; he who never quotes will never be quoted; he who will not use the thoughts of other men's brains, proves that he has no brains of his own. Brethren, what is true of ministers is true of all our people—you need to read."

—Charles H. Spurgeon

The devotionals I have received from the saints for the book we are compiling, are very inspiring! However, I still need more to finish our desired total of 365. If you have not done so already, please write down a scripture that has blessed you and write a brief reason. Send it to: **Connie Sorrell, 320 N. 2nd, Guthrie, OK 73044.** Thank you!



Letters from the readers...

MO—Dear Ones: Hello! We trust you all are enjoying the good blessings from God. He is so good to each of us. We have needed Him so much the last few months, and He has been near and dear. God has faithfully answered prayer day by day. I was thinking yesterday how I love the Lord more than ever, and the reason is because I know Him better now, since I have had to lean on Him so much the last few months....

Our love, —Randy and Tammy Sorrell

OK—Dear Wayne and Mary: I am rejoicing in the Lord because of His goodness to me in a recent illness I had. I took a cold around last Christmas, and I couldn't get over it. I kept having relapses until it went into pneumonia. My blood pressure went so low I passed out. When I came to, my daughter was on the phone trying to get help as well as working to bring me back.

The Lord forcefully brought to my mind the song, "God Will Take Care of You." It has been a constant reminder of God's faithfulness. I have had to lean heavily on Him at times, but He gave me a promise I can stand on.

My family has been wonderful to come in and help take care of me. My strength is slowly coming back, and I can truly say, "God has taken good care of me."

Love, ————— —Sis. Pauline Patterson

AL—Dear Bro. Wayne and co-workers: We greet you in the name of Jesus. We trust everyone out that way is well. We are both still praising the Lord that we can still see, walk and talk. We do still need prayer for our eyes. Emmett still needs prayer for his nerves. Keep us on your prayer list.

We are praying for each one of you out that way....

Much Christian love,

—Bro. Emmett and Sis. Pearlene Gerald
(This letter was written February 3, before Bro. Emmett's sudden passing on February 11.)

—————
KY—Dear workers at the Print Shop: I am so thankful that we serve a God who loves us.

I am much better from a sinus infection and cold. One night my throat and neck hurt me so badly that I didn't know if I could stand it through the night. I began to pray and beg the Lord to give me some relief. It wasn't long before the pain began to ease. I went to sleep and rested through the night. God hears and answers prayer.

There are some people who think miracles are in the past, but as for me, I know God is the same yesterday, today and forever. He cured the sick and crippled and saved the sinners that came to Him. I know He is the same today. I put my trust in the Lord because I know what He can do. I wouldn't want to live one moment without Him.

Too many people call on the Lord only when they want something. They don't pray and thank Him for all He has done. How can we expect God to be our Friend if we are His enemy? I thank God real often for what He has done for me and my family.

Keep up your good work and may God richly bless you every one.

Your sister in Christ, ————— —Wilma Horsley

MI—Dear Bro. Wayne and all you dear ones

in the Lord's work: Greetings in the wonderful name of Jesus. I pray you are all well and happy. I praise God for all the rich blessings He gives us each day of our lives.

I pray the year of 1997 will be a happy one for all of us as we trust in our dear Lord. He is our only hope in this world. How great it will be when we all get to heaven to live with Him forever....

I will close for now. I love you all and may God bless each one of you richly in body and soul.
————— —Sis. Olive Gettersson

FL—Dear Bro. Wayne: I am very thankful for life and a reasonable portion of health, and a sure foundation in God. I am glad I counted the cost and I have a hope that is brighter than the perfect day.

Please keep me in prayer before the Lord. Remember my eyes for a healing touch, also my sister's eyes.
————— —Kathleen Williams

SC—Dear Ones in Christ: Greetings in the name of Jesus. I would like to thank the Lord for His blessings on me. The Lord is our Savior and Master. Pray for me that I will stay faithful until He calls me home. If it wasn't for the Lord, I could do nothing, and it is only by the grace of God that I live and breathe.

The saints here in Holly Hill, SC, very much enjoyed the few nights of meeting that Bro. Mart Samons held for us. The Lord blessed us with the understanding that we are what we are by the grace of God. Thank the Lord....

May God bless you, —Sis. Judie Crummie

—————
KS—Dear saints: I just want to say "Praise the Lord" for His blessings unto me. I am encouraged and very grateful for everything He has done for me in this life. I thank Him for giving me the privilege to be saved and experience abundant life. There is nothing so wonderful as serving my Lord and learning how to trust Him and please Him. Truly there is so much to learn, and I fear I shall never really know as much as I ought to, but I am willing to keep on learning and experiencing the glorious things that God has for us in His kingdom. I want to get closer to God and do better about spending precious time with Him to absorb more of His divinity and beauty. It has truly been an exciting journey and I want to keep on going onward and upward that I may reach my eternal home when God says it is time. I just want to press the battle

on until the victory is won at the very end. Praise God forevermore.

It will be a real blessing when the new Print Shop is finished and occupied. May the Lord bless.

Christian love, —Sis. Shirley Knight
— — — — —

Canada—Brother Wayne: I hope you are doing well. I believe you are, praise the Lord. I wanted to write and let you know how things are going with me. I haven't been very successful in finding employment, and this has given me lots of time to consider my spiritual state. To be honest, I found that I was not doing good at all, so I found a place of repentance, and thank the Lord, found forgiveness. Looking back, it seems that all along I have had an up and down experience, but many times thought that much head knowledge would carry me through. Now I am convinced that although study and doctrines are important, they ought not to usurp the place of refuge; a consistent prayer life. Also, the Lord has helped me in my mind and heart to have an attitude of preferring obedience and not resting in my own strength. I am realizing more and more, by the grace of God, that each new day brings a new consecration and a dependence on our Savior. In this I am finding peace with God. Another pitfall, that by His grace I want to avoid, is planning my own salvation. I realize that may sound strange, but I believe I found myself organizing what I thought should be happening. Now I want to just sit still and learn the voice of God and let Him direct. I believe the Lord has been drawing my attention to these things over and over to help me be firmly established in the present truth. Although I am anxious to be sanctified, I realize that it is He that sanctifies and it will be accomplished in His timing....

I still miss all of the saint's, and especially the services where one has liberty to testify and feels confident that the service is being ordered of the Lord.

Yours in Jesus, —Brother Dan Gallant
— — — — —

CA—Dear Bro Wayne: We greet you in the name of our precious Lord. He has done so much for all of us, just recently as well as all down through the years of our lives....

This year has been hard, but I wonder what it would have been like were it not for the prayers of others and God holding us up. We still miss Israel very much.

Sometimes we don't feel so very good, and neither Paulino nor myself can drive at night, especially in Mexico where the roads are not well marked. The last time we went was about two weeks ago. We were able to visit in several homes. Among the visits, we were in the home of some folks who used to always come to church with us. Their oldest son and family were in a bad automobile accident. The son's wife's mother was killed instantly and the wife was completely crushed. They said that all of her ribs were broken. She had gotten home from the hospital the day before we went. She was very weak and couldn't walk at all. She is grateful to be alive, and said the doctors told her she was a living miracle. All four children had broken arms, legs, etc. I felt the Lord blessed our trip. We hope to go down again this week.

We appreciate all of your help and prayers down through the years and trust the Lord has blessed each one who has sacrificed to help. We do want to be faithful and obedient to be led of the Lord.

May God bless each of you, —Edith Lara
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OK—Dear Bro. Murphey and workers at the Print Shop: Greetings of love to all. May God bless your labors of love for Him and us all. I am very much encouraged, and feel so blessed to still have active use of my limbs and to have my right mind. Please remember, these are blessings not to be taken lightly. The older I get the more I can appreciate the goodness of God....

Keep us in your prayers,

—Sis. Theresa Gaines
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OR—Dear Bro. Wayne: Greetings of Christian love to you and all your faithful workers. How I do enjoy your paper each month and I try to pass it on to others here....

Sis. Evalee Stice, who also lives in Salem, takes me to church at Jefferson on Sunday morning, which I enjoy. Also, Sis. Wanda Wattenbarger takes me some. So I get to church most of the time.

I need your prayers. I still have a lot of arthritis pain. Now and then I am pretty lame....

May God bless in the work there and in building the new office. I will try to help when I can.

—Sis. Grace Jones
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CA—Dear Bro. Wayne and everyone: I just came from a birthday party. It was the first one I have attended without my companion for

forty-nine years. Although, maybe he was looking down! I guess we will never know until we get to heaven.

The main reason for writing this letter is to thank each and everyone for the prayers and support I received during my husband's illness and death. I have sat down several times to thank everyone, but I just couldn't do it! Now, after 10 months, I am trying. It has been so hard! I would write a few words and then have to quit. Please forgive me and accept this letter instead.

Many of you know that Wally was on his deathbed for ten long months. They were long to him, but yet very short for us. He had two cardiac arrests on April 22, 1995. He accepted Christ after a vision he had when he was being revived in the hospital.

When he was being transferred from the Antelope Valley Hospital in Lancaster to Kaiser Hospital in Panorama City, a doctor told him that medical science can do great things but they cannot do what had happened to him. This doctor told him that there had to be a Higher Power to send him back. He had been dead!!

Wally came home for nine more months. He was visited by saints from Pacoima, Bakersfield, Fresno and San Bernardino, plus many others. Slowly he improved. He was able to walk around a lot. He even walked a half-mile to the store several times, but would have to be pushed back in his wheel chair.

He attended church every Sunday, even though we had to drive 140 miles round trip. He didn't miss one service. He seemed very much encouraged.

The last Sunday of the Bakersfield revival in February, 1996, Sis. Carol Gerwe brought him to morning meeting. This was the last meeting he attended....

Please accept this as my apology for not writing earlier, for your kindness and prayers, along with the financial help, flowers, plants, etc.

With love,

—Zelda E. Telford, also Sis. Carol Gerwe and Bro. Randy

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Dear Brothers and Sisters: It is so wonderful to know that Jesus died for us, and that we may now serve and love Him. He is our best Friend and Helper and is with us daily.

It is also wonderful to know that there are many saints all over the world. We enjoy reading

the *Faith and Victory*. We also have the hymn book, *Little People Sing Unto The Lord*, and enjoy singing the special songs in this book. Our children especially enjoy the songs.

May God bless you in the work you are doing for Him.

—Linda and Willy Reisdorf

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AZ—Dear saints: Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior.

I am very encouraged in the Lord. I want to give all the saints my thanks for their prayers for me. The infection I had in my body is cleared up.

I thank the Lord for His healing power. He will never leave us nor forsake us.

May God bless you all.

My love and prayers always, —Dana Bonner

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MO—Dear Bro. Wayne: Greetings in Jesus' name. I trust all is going well with you and the workers there. We do appreciate the good work that is going on there and trust the Lord to bless.

I have recently been thinking of the time when Elisha and his servant were compassed about with the great host of the Syrian army. His servant became fearful, but brave Elisha prayed that the Lord would open his eyes. He told his servant that there were more with them than were with the Syrians. After his eyes were opened, he saw the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire around about. God wonderfully delivered them. "...If God be for us who can be against us?" Romans 8:31.

We have had a pretty cold winter this year, but I am glad for a place to stay warm. I will be glad to see Spring....

Your Brother in Christ, —T. V. McMillian

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From Ghana...

January 3, 1997—Dear Bro. Wayne: Greetings to you all in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

In Ghana there is peace. By the grace of the almighty God, we Ghanaians have finished our free election in a peaceful and fair way. We give a big thank you to our God. Our former Presi-

dent is still in office. If one of you from the U. S. will come to Ghana, there is peace.

In the Church everything is moving alright. God's hand is still on the Church. Souls are still learning Church doctrines. In fact, Sunday school is still moving on. We need tracts or any materials which can help us to train the children in the Church.

We still have a burden for the work at Accra and Wench. From Akumadan to Accra is very far, and we hope God will provide our transportation.

May God bless you all.

Yours in Him, —Pastor Maxwell Nkausah

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From India...

February 14, 1997—Dear Bro. Wayne Murphey and dear saints in America: Greetings to you all dear ones again in the mighty name of Jesus Christ, who is our El-Shaddai. He is all-sufficient, and we can testify of the "enoughness" of our God.

God blessed our convention at Kothamangalam during the last week of January. We will have some more conventions this year in different congregations. Fasting and prayer meetings, all-day services, cottage meetings, etc., are going on fine.

Wickedness has increased beyond limit and control. This world is not our resting place. He that is unjust and filthy, let him be unjust and filthy still, and he that is righteous and holy, let him be righteous and holy still. (Revelation 22:11.)

We need your earnest prayers and supports for the progress of our efforts here. Our prayers are for you.

Yours in Him, —John Varghese

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Dear Bro. Wayne Murphey and dear saints in the U.S.A.: Christian love and greetings to each one of you. The good Lord brought me back to the U.S.A. after a year. If it is His will, I will be in the U.S.A. for two or three months.

I want to give thanks and praise to the Lord for His manifold blessings on us, and the mighty protection from the enemy during these days. The work of the Lord is very progressive and encouraging. At the same time, the adversary is very cunning and cruel toward us to stop our ministries.

We have had a number of blessed meetings in various places during the past few months. A special camp meeting for the pastors, ministers

and evangelists was a great encouragement. There were teachings and discussions on "How to help others." It was a wonderful challenge for those who are in the missionary field. The aim of our lives is to preach the gospel in the needy places and plant churches. We are working hard to fulfill the commandment of the Lord, "...Woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel!" I Corinthians 9:16.

We are in the effort of making chapel buildings in Thrissur, Greater Cochin and Kondazhi. We need your strong cooperation and earnest prayers. May the Lord keep us all under His mighty wings.

Your Brother in Christ, —P. D. Mathunni

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From Nigeria...

January 28, 1997—Dear Bro. Wayne Murphey and the saints of the most high God: Greetings in the praise-worthy name of the Lord Jesus, who died a substitutionary death on the cross of Calvary to deliver us from the pangs of spiritual death! His shed blood performed the wonders of purification and virtual cleansing of our heart to make an acceptable abode for the Holy Spirit. Praise Him forever!

We praise the Lord for our crossing over to the year of 1997. We are targeting Ashaka as our first place for a new work to be started. Over and over in the Bible it is stressed that Christianity is a religion of work. "And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?" Luke 6:46. "...Why stand ye here all the day idle?" Matthew 20:6. These two words, "standing, idle," convey depressing thoughts. A field standing idle produces no grain—only briars, weeds and thistles. A church standing idle saves no soul. Everyone must work to sustain spiritual life. The seed of the gospel has come our way, and what becomes of this seed is strictly up to us. If we will allow the gospel to plow deep and break up the fallow ground of our hearts, (Jeremiah 4:3), keep the weeds and thorns out, and pick up the stones, we will bring forth fruit worthy of commendation. One of the most pathetic texts in the Bible is: "The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved." Jeremiah 8:20. Our golden opportunity is NOW.

Yours in His service, —Titus U. E. Enu

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From Mexico...

February 17, 1997—Dear Bro. Wayne and saints: Greetings and praise from Mexico. We are thankful for the effective co-workers that

came to Baja in December, ministering in message, song and testimony. There are many good results of that effort.

I have received a letter from Bro. Adelfo Gonzales which I feel should be shared with the saints.

Culiacan, Sinaloa, Mexico, January 29, 1997

"Dear Bro. James: Our family and the family of the living God here in Culiacan are well and overcoming many things. 'God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.' Psalm 46:1. We have strength to live for Him because He lives in us. '...I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me:...' Galatians 2:20. Yes, we count it a privilege to suffer for the gospel's sake, and we say with Paul: 'Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.' Romans 8:37.

"We read with much joy and love the lessons we have just received from you. Oh, how we did rejoice for the goodness of God and for our brothers and sisters that have a love for the work of God in Culiacan, Sinaloa. God will raise up a large work in Sinaloa by your prayers and offerings of love, along with our dedication and the efforts of the saints in our congregation.

"We were much blessed to make the trip to be with you all and the group that came from Oklahoma in December. The Lord helped us to return with much courage to our post of duty, arriving about noon the first day of 1997. That evening we had a special service of humiliation and renewal with the congregation. The message was, 'If my people,...shall humble themselves, and pray and seek my face,...' II Chronicles 7:14. We can expect God to hear us when we turn from all evil. The brethren renewed their vows to live for the Lord and to serve in evangelizing others.

"On the 19th of January we had a special all-day meeting under a heavy rain. We took cover in the tar-paper storage shed and the rain motivated us to pray again for a chapel roof. (The chapel walls were built last year.) The activity started at 10:00 a.m. with singing and preaching, a meal together, and concluded at 4:00 p.m. with singing and praying.

"There are many needy children, some living in the street, in this city. We are establishing a base of guidelines in order to develop an effective plan to help some of these children...."

The Lord wonderfully supplied for the masonry walls and the congregation at Culiacan

has been meeting there without a roof over their heads. I believe the Lord will bless our efforts, and that now is the time to go to Culiacan to finish this building. I will leave from Ensenada the 15th of March in my pickup. Please call if you are interested in being a part of this effort. From the U.S. call, 011-52-61-77-5228.

Yours in Him,

—James Huskey



Emmett Richard Gerald, one of Thomas and Eunice Gerald's six children, was born May 8, 1926 in Centerville, MS.

In 1947, he married Clarice Cay, his wife of 39 years, and moved to the Jonesville, LA area. To this union were born three children: Velda Wisner, Richard Gerald and Brenda Ballard. Clarice preceded him in death in 1986. Bro. Emmett was a U.S. Army veteran of World War II. In his working career he was chief cook on an oil rig in the Gulf of Mexico.

On August 31, 1986, Bro. Emmett and Sis. Pearlene Whitson were wed, and he moved to her home in Jasper, AL, where he enthusiastically undertook the role of stepfather to Betty Herron, Charles Whitson, James Whitson, Sandra Melot and Marshall Whitson.

When Bro. Emmett was 46, he gave his life to the Lord, and the experience changed him profoundly. He became a gentle, enthusiastic witness for Christ. He developed a widespread tract and visitation ministry leavened with such kindness as won him deepest love and appreciation from those he touched, whether in hospitals, laundromats or nursing homes. Before long he began preaching. He had served as an assistant pastor of a congregation in Jonesville, LA, and following his marriage, as pastor of the Enterprise Church of God congregation in Blount County, AL. He and Sis. Pearlene were lively participants in any worship service they at-

tended. He was straightforward in his preaching, very burdened for sinners, and in his homespun manner, often joyfully said things like, "O for the wings of a dove to fly away and be with my Lord and Savior!"

On February 11, 1997, at the age of 70 years, God graciously granted him this request. His presence and testimony will be sadly missed by his family, loved ones and saints.

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Iris Kaye Watson McDonald was born November 26, 1964, and entered into eternal rest on January 4, 1997, to be with her Lord and Savior. Iris became a part of the Evening Light Church of God in 1985. She gave her heart to God, having a love for the truth.

She leaves behind her son, Terrance Watson, of the home; her mother, Mrs. Mary Rush Watson; three brothers, Herman, Wilbert and Clifford Watson; three sisters, Myra Shaw, Patricia and Yolanda Watson; her godmother, Mrs. Madge Harry and a host of other relatives and friends.

Many remembered her smiles and many words of encouragement. Her passing is a great loss to her community, family, friends and mostly her congregation. Sister Iris will forever be remembered and greatly missed.

Funeral services were conducted by Bro. Jerry Lennon. Burial was in the Glenview Memorial Park, Durham, NC.

Acknowledgment

We, the family, gratefully acknowledge and deeply appreciate the many acts of kindness you extended to our family during the convalescence and bereavement of our loved one. May God bless each of you and keep you in His loving care.

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Kenneth Eldon Flynn was born October 5, 1928 to Bro. Dallas and Sis. Mamie Flynn, at Loranger, LA, and went to be with Jesus, December 3, 1996. He was the middle of three

brothers: Delbert, who preceded him in death, and Herbert, also of Loranger. On June 14, 1964, he was wed to Sis. Virgie Marler. They are parents of one son, Kevin. Kevin and his wife, Regina, delighted Bro. Kenneth and Sis. Virgie with a grandchild, Heather, who was sunshine to their spirits. Bro. Kenneth is survived by Sis. Virgie, Bro. Herbert, Kevin, Regina and Heather.

Bro. Kenneth was a quiet, diligent, conscientious and scrupulously honest person. He treasured the example of saints he had known and gave great effort to follow in all the Bible teachings. His gentle, humble spirit won him the respect and confidence of all who knew him. He was sensitive to any check of the spirit of God. He sincerely tried to make a saved and sanctified life his primary goal. Although his steady friendship and helpful ways will be sadly missed by us he has left behind, it's impossible not to rejoice with him for the enjoyment of the home and crown he has now gone to claim.

Interment was at Oak Grove Church of God cemetery in Loranger, LA.

On February 5, 1997, Christina Rice, daughter of Larry and Debbie Eck, and her three children, Zachery, Brian and Tabatha, perished in the attic apartment of a rental house in Enid, OK which caught fire. These deaths have touched the hearts of many people. If you would like to send your condolences to Larry and Debbie, their address is: 11150 Hunt Lane, Guthrie, OK 73044.

Whate'er my God ordains is right;
 Here will I take my stand,
 Tho' sorrow, need or death make earth
 For me a desert land.
 My Father's care
 Is round me there,
 He holds me that I shall not fall;
 And so to Him I leave it all.
 —Samuel Rodigast

TRUST

(Continued from page 3.)

from clear. When it came to a confrontation between the adulterous woman and the Pharisees, He trusted the openly sinful woman more than He trusted the men

professing to be religious leaders. He trusted His disciples, though they were not perfect. They had weaknesses, and often showed them. Most of all, He trusted

us. He offers you and me His great Salvation though we are so unworthy of His favors. Our hearts should open to those around us with tender, God-like mercy. James 3:17

says, "...The wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, FULL OF MERCY and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy." Does that sound like you and me? Are we able to see what God has saved us from, and that He can save and guide others as well?

It is not always easy to trust our fellow man. There are deep and small hurts that we have experienced, and we are tempted to become suspicious of all people. We aren't able to open our hearts. But there is healing for that pain. With sufficient trust in God, we can know that any pain that we fear can either be defeated by His mighty hand, or be made to count for good to us. Forgiveness that God gives is great and can heal us through and through. Though hurt makes us tend to close up to avoid further pain, He can minister to our pain and wounds so thoroughly that we can give out still more love. If we close ourselves to hurt, we are also closed to joy, peace and goodness that we might receive from others and God. We do not have to suspicion everyone we meet and fear that they are going to harm us. Jesus had been mocked, insulted, beaten, humiliated and was enduring crucifixion, but He was able to forgive those men, for He said they didn't understand what they were doing. He knew they were acting as they did because of the spirits that controlled them, and that it was necessary for Him to go

through such pain to bring about victory for us.

How do we look to Christ? Does He see us in our close and casual relationships reacting with suspicion, with an attitude that we must tolerate the blunders of those incompetent folks we live around, with hearts closed so tightly to further hurt that we can't let go of past pain nor receive or give love? Can we look at our children and see that their faults may be influenced by our own tendencies or our insufficient training for them? Can we look at the short comings of our husband or wife, and ask ourselves if we are filling all their needs? Can we look at our fellow workers and think they will do their best to do the job right? When someone hurts us, can we leave room to think they really would like to recall that hasty comment, or that they really had no intent to hurt us? Perhaps your parents weren't perfect and you still cling to injustices you felt in childhood. Did you stop to think that few of us are perfect parents, and that they may have overcome many hurts of their own to be as good of a parent as they were.

Trust in God reaches into all our relationships. The scriptures in James 3:9-10, speaking of the tongue, says, "Therewith bless we God, even the Father; and therewith curse we men, which are made after the similitude of God. Out of the same mouth proceedeth blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not so to be."

We need to look on our fellow

travelers as beloved creations of God. He extended trust to us by giving His Son while we were yet sinners. I feel sure He has forgiven my blunders far more than seven times seventy. I am praying that He will go on trusting me and letting me try again to help someone. Trust is belief after forgiveness. It is never deserved on our part, as we have never done anything to make God believe in us. He trusts us because of who He is, not because of our worthiness. Another scripture tells us, "Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world." I John 4:17. We are to be like Him. Though we seem so far below Him that such a comparison should be impossible, yet He is able to heal us, fill us, and guide us until we are in this world "as He is."

Let us pray for a greater measure of Jesus' love, compassion, peace, mercy, trust and discernment. Let us ask Him to remind us where we were or where we could have been if He hadn't stooped to pick us up out of our selfish, willful ways. Let us pray that He will show us if we are trusting in ourselves and not in Him. Surely the world is full of hearts that are broken and torn. Some of these can hardly believe they could be loved by anyone, especially one so holy as Jesus. Let us see the damaged soul inside the sinner and not forget the rescued sinner inside ourselves. Let us thank God daily for His wonderful gift to all.



"Trust in God reaches into all our relationships."



One evening, a few years ago, I drove home from a baby's funeral. Physically tired and emotionally weary, I took our two daughters to an appointment and then came toward our house from the south direction. Our street has always been a one-way block for northbound traffic only. Since I was so exhausted, I suddenly decided to go to our house the back way. Quickly I turned our car onto our street and drove by the "Do Not Enter" and "One-Way" signs.

"Mama! There are flashing red lights behind us!" hollered our three young sons.

By the time I had the car stopped (right in front of our house), the boys had jumped out of the car to greet this young police officer. He and the boys exchanged friendly greetings while I sat shaking behind the wheel.

"Ma'am, may I see your driver's license?" he asked. I fumbled around looking for the proper card in my purse, then shuffled through the papers in the glove compartment looking for the insurance verification card. My head was pounding out thoughts like, "I didn't see this officer by that corner! I hardly ever do this and now to get caught! I wish I hadn't tried to take a short cut! All the neighbors are watching! I was almost home!"

The boys were telling the officer how the youngest had fallen out of a shopping cart that day and had received an ugly blackish-blue bump on his forehead—another reason why I had such a headache. I gave the boys the house key and sent them home. I didn't think this officer needed to hear all the family news.

The officer looked up from his clipboard. "Ma'am, you do know this is a One-Way street?"

I nodded.

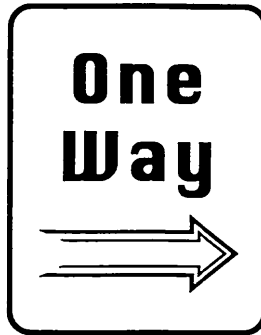
"You did realize you were going the wrong way?"

I nodded.

He gave me a ticket.

When I appeared in court two weeks later, I noticed that the judge often asked the defendant, "How often do you travel on this road? Do you not notice the street signs that are posted for drivers on this road?" If the person traveled that road frequently, the judge frowned and gave a heavier fine. When it came my turn, I knew I was in trouble. I hoped he wouldn't ask me how often I traveled this road but he didn't need to. My address told him how often.

We were both polite to each other but I left



By



**Connie
Sorrell**



determined to never again go down this street the wrong way!

Since then, whenever I see a car heading south on this northbound street, I have sudden flashbacks of red lights and a siren. I feel this need to call out, "You're going the wrong way! Turn around! It's expensive to go the wrong way down this street!"

Even more urgently, I feel the need to call out to the lost souls traveling the wrong way down life's road. There is only ONE WAY to heaven. Do not go away from the cross instead of towards it. Turn around. Listen to Jesus, "...Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me." Mark 8:34. The flesh wants the easy way out. The devil causes the wrong way to look easier and appealing to the flesh. Is it profitable? "For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?" Mark 8:36.

No, there is only heartache, sorrow and guilt. "...The way of transgressors is hard."

Proverbs 13:15. One song says, "The wages of sin is death and woe, and bitter remorse; I've found it so. Bitter...bitter...Bitter remorse and woe." (#390 *Evening Light Songs*.) Sin on earth brings bitterness but after death it is eternal separation from God and all that is good. Several times Jesus spoke about the judgment and that "there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth." (Matthew 13:42, 50.)

Jesus has shown us the way. "I am the way, the truth, and the life, no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.... If ye love me, keep my commandments...the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you." (John 14:4-26.) The Lord's way often takes more time and patience, more effort, and grinds against the flesh, but His way leads to eternal life.

We only travel down life's road one time. When we are obedient to the Law of God, there is no guilt, shame, nor fear in our hearts. The eternal cost for a soul to travel the wrong way is fatal destruction.

48 Hours in Hell

(Continued from last month.)

"After we had gone some distance, a huge mountain seemed to rise up before us. The part facing us seemed perpendicular, just as if the mountain had been cut in two and one part of it had been taken away.

"On this perpendicular wall, I could read distinctly the words, 'This is Hell.'

My guide approached this perpendicular wall and with his spear handle gave three loud raps. A large massive door swung back and we passed in. I was then conducted on through what appeared to be a passage through this mountain.

"For some time we traveled in total darkness. I could hear the heavy footsteps of my guide, and thus could follow him. All the way I could hear deep groans, as of someone dying. Farther on these groans increased and



I could distinctly hear the cry: 'Water! Water! Water!' Coming down to another gateway and passing through, I could hear, it seemed, a million voices in the distance, and the cry was 'Water! Water!'

"Presently, another door opened at the knock of my guide, and I found that we had passed through the mountain and now a broad plain lay before us.

"At this place my guide left me to direct other lost spirits to the same destination.

"I had remained in this open plain for some time, when a being similar to the first one came to me; but instead of a spear, he had a large sword. He came to tell me of my future doom.

"He spoke with a voice that struck terror to my soul. 'You are in hell,' he said, 'for you, all hope is fled. As you passed through the moun-

tain on your journey hither, you heard the groans and shrieks of the lost as they called for water to cool their parched tongues. Along that passage there is a door that opens into the lake of fire. This is soon to be your doom. Before you are conducted to this place of torment, never more to emerge—there is no hope for those who enter there—you shall be permitted to remain in this open plain where it is granted to all the lost to behold what they might have enjoyed.'

"With this, I was left alone. I then became stupefied. My strength departed from me. Overcome, I now sank down, a helpless mass. Drowsiness now took control of me. Half awake, half asleep, I seemed to dream.

"Far above me and in the distance, I saw the beautiful city of which we read in the Bible. How wonderfully beautiful were its walls of jasper. Out in the distance I saw vast plains covered with beautiful flowers. I also beheld the river of life and the sea of glass. Vast multitudes of angels would pass in and out through the gates of the city, singing such beautiful songs. Among the number, I saw my old mother who had died a few years ago of a broken heart because of my wickedness. She looked towards me and seemed to beckon me to her, but I could not move.

(To be continued next month.)

Jesus My Friend

Jesus, my Friend, He saved my soul.
Jesus, my Friend, He made me whole.
Since being made whole I'm free indeed,
and God and Christ abide in me.

His Holy Spirit guides me true
and tells me daily what to do.
He gives me only what I can bear.
Never does Jesus treat me unfair.

I call on Him both night and day,
He hears me and He's on His way.
There's not a thing my Lord can't do
His power's unfailing, His promises true.

He makes a way when there is no other,
Sticks closer to me than sister or brother.
So I'm in love with my best Friend.
I'll stay with Jesus to the end.

To you who listen, He loves you too.
What He's done for others, He will do for you.
He'll save your soul if you only relent,
and forgive your sins, as you come and repent.

—Bro. Ernest Moles