# 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.

Volume 75, No. 2

75th Year

Guthrie, Oklahoma

\$1.00 Per Year

May, 1997

### Keep To The Right

By Joseph Sindelar

"Keep to the right," as the law directs, For such is the rule of the road: Keep to the right, whoever expects Securely to carry life's load.

Keep to the right, with God and His Word; Nor wander, though folly allure; Keep to the right, nor ever be turned From what's faithful and holy and pure.

Keep to the right, within and without,
With stranger and kindred and friend;
Keep to the right, and you need have no doubt,
That all will be well in the end.

Keep to the right in whatever you do,
Nor claim but your own on the way;
Keep to the right, and hold on to the true,
From the morn to the close of life's day.

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### Hands And Feet



By Bro. James Huskey

In times before the Industrial Revolution a person depended very much upon his feet for transportation and his hands for work and to defend himself. The Bible uses many expressions pertaining to hands and feet. Hands mean to have the ability to do or to have power, and feet mean to have the ability to go forth or to conquer.

Let us look at a few Bible passages. "How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation; that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth! ...The Lord hath made bare his holy arm in the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God." Isaiah 52:7, 10.

"O Sing unto the Lord a new song; for he hath done marvelous things: his right hand, and his holy arm, hath gotten him the victory." Psalm 98:1.

"He will keep the feet of his saints, and the wicked shall be silent in darkness; for by strength shall no man prevail." I Samuel 2:9.

"Wherefore lift up the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees; And make straight paths for your feet, lest that which is lame be turned out of the way; but let it rather be healed. Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord: Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God;

(Continued on page 11)

### TESTIMONIES OF THE SAINTS

I enjoy hearing the saints' testimonies so much that I took notes for myself; then I thought maybe they would be worth sharing with others. I love the truth and the saints, and can still hear those gone on before us, as they lived and testified. —Roberta Wilson

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"To an inheritance incomptible, and inheritance some at any cost." not away..." We' re going to have an inheritance some now desire is to make heaven my home at any cost." Ruth Joiner

"When I really prayed through and got saved, I wanted to go back to Alabama and tell my folks. I still do. and hope for salvation for all of them."

-Gladys Cashio

"Salvation is the sweetest thing. What makes it so sweet is that it is extended to me. (Psalm 33.)" -Kenneth Abbott

"I have had a trial with my car's transmission being fixed. It was in the shop for three weeks. The thought came to me that if I can get the Lord

"My old home place was in Holden where it would flood. There were would me vould me Some sheep that would just stay in Holden where it would flood. There are compared to sheep, so surely we need.

Some sheep that would home place was in Holden where it would flood. The months of the months in the are compared to sheep, so surely we need. LaCroix Jump up on a branch or run. We are compared to sheep, so surely we need in the jump up on a branch or run. We are compared to sheep, so surely we need in the high ground. We the Lord. "... the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established in the things of this world and when the enemy comes

top of the mountains..." Isaiah 2:2. There is safety in the high ground We and to keep our head above water. Stay can get wrapped up in the things of this world and when the enemy comes of the driver's seat if you in like a flood, it is all we can do to keep our head above water. Stay on high ground, You can call on God any time."

Harold Purvis stay on high ground. You can call on God any time." Shepherd will search and seek for His sheep. I get homesick for Heaven but Harold Purvis "...until then, my heart will go on singing."

"The sunrise and the sunset is the visible handiwork of God. There is a glory in the comet we are viewing now, but one day the full glory of God will be revealed. The creation around us all points to Him."

—Steve Elston

Suffer, of my see what is there to help me now. I had pain in the in it and see what is the interest of help in it and see what is the interest of help in it and see what is the interest of the interest of

"I have been reading the Beatitudes and there is a lot in them. 'Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.' Matthew 5:4. Mourn in the Greek means drawn

close. So whenever we suffer, that is a means to be drawn closer to God."

-Carlos Doolittle

"I am so thankful for what the Lord did for us." —Joyce Miller

The second of th

## ... IN LORANGER, LOUISIANA

"Someone told Sis. Gladys Cashio that we are in a hard way. I don't find it that way at all. And talk about higher ground—I am looking forward to some real beauty."

-Clift Wascom

"We sang a song with a verse that says, 'My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness.' This way isn't negative but built on the solid Rock. The Lord has been revealed to many of us. We realize that any other type of life is like sinking sand." —Gerald Flynn

"I thank the Lord for being saved. Pray for me." —Dion Doolittle "I have failed on the same line over and over again and it happened again this week. I went to the Lord and said, 'Why, Lord?' He replied, 'You are not watching.' I was praying, but I needed to watch."

-Lois Abbott

"We must be careful not to harbor feelings for revenge. The spirit of the world says to get even; the Lord says to love those that curse you. It's not natural to do this. He who throws mud gets dirty hands. If we strive to get even, it will be an ongoing battle."

—Arlette Elston

"I appreciate hearing the older ones tell how the Lord has helped them out. I also appreciate the minister's preaching, even if it steps on my toes. I need to find things out now. John, in the Bible, had great love and wrote about it. Yet he told it strong when he said, 'Love not the world, neither the things that in the world....' I John 2:15."

-Bobby Forbes

le."

There was an explosion that occurred one half mile from our chemical plant. A fireball lasted 15 minutes or more, but not many were seriously hurt. The shock shook our building like an earthquake and sounded like a sonic boom. I am so thankful to the Lord for sparing lives."

"I am thankful for salvation. That plant that exploded was where our son, Brent, works, but he was gone to New York. He could have been there. We are so thankful for the Lord's protection."

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—Troy Gentry

"It was so good to hear Sis. Ruth's testimony, and Sis. Alta Flynn, her mother, is also sitting here, testifying and still pressing on. If we are not careful, we can take each other for granted. It means everything to see others pressing on for years and years."

-Karen LaCroix

"'The patient in spirit is better than the proud in spirit.' I want to be patient. Pray for me."

—Janet Forbes

"I asked for prayers from some for this past weekend trip, and God helped me more than I could have asked for." —Darin Flynn

"I am a child of God. I am very thankful for God's love to us." —Janell LaCroix

"I had a cough and asked the Lord to help me sleep, and He did. I thank Him."—Derek Palmer

**Editor's note:** If your congregation has inspired testimony services, we would be glad to receive transcribed copies for publication.

## 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).

(Periodical postage paid at Guthrie, OK)

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

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.

#### **EDITORIALS**

"And he hath put a new song in my mouth, even praise unto our God: many shall see it, and fear, and shall trust in the Lord." Psa. 40:3.

It is a real puzzle how that sadness and gloom is often associated with religion, especially since a record of singing is scattered throughout all of the Bible.

For instance, Solomon wrote one thousand and five songs. (I Kings 4:32.) In the temple worship, many of the Levites were set apart for nothing else save the singing of the Lord's song. Even in the book of judgment, Revelation, the quality of joy in salvation is not overlooked, for there are ten songs sung by eight different groups. (Rev. 4:8-11; 5:8-14; 7:9-12.)

The "new song" begins with redemption, (Rev. 14:3) and is enriched when we consecrate ourselves to the Lord. "And Hezekiah commanded to offer the burnt offering upon the altar. And when the burnt offering began, the song of the Lord began also with the trumpets, and with the instruments ordained by David king of Israel." II Chronicles 29:27. The burnt offering was an emblem of consecration. There is no way to describe the feeling of grace which flows through your soul when your longings, dreams and all that you possess are consumed in consecration to God.

Have you ever considered that it is only the small birds that sing? Crows, turkeys, eagles, etc., produce an obnoxious sound that contains not a note of music. Likewise, we must remain small in our own estimation if we are to sing a song that is pleasant to the Lord.

We were blessed to be at the singspiration held at the Shawnee, OK chapel on April 12. A good number of the saints gathered in, and along with the special singing, many inspired impromptu songs were sung. God's name was truly glorified and there was present a real spirit of joy in the Lord.

**Don't let May 11 pass** without considering Mother's Day and being thankful for the positive influence your mother had on you.

How our culture fares depends a great deal on those who fill the role of motherhood well. Those mothers who give their children a strong sense of self-worth and security by taking time to love them and make them feel special, are engaged in a godly calling that is just as valuable as any other pursuit.

April 4 was marked with sadness at the passing of Sis. Cornelia Williams of Wichita, KS. Her humble devotion to the Lord will be greatly missed by the saints. It seemed that she was a link to her husband, Bro. Louis Williams, who went to be with the Lord several years ago, and whose shining countenance brightened the camp of the saints many times. Our condolences are extended to Sis. Cornelia's family.

It is nearing one year since we started building the new Print Shop. On May 21,1996, we poured the footing for the foundation. It is amazing in our eyes what God has enabled to be accomplished in the past 12 months, and it gives us confidence that He will complete what He has begun. In next month's Faith and Victory, we hope to be able to offer the saints an idea of what it will take to finish this project.

We would like to remind our readers that there are hundreds of different books and tracts available at this publishing house. If you are unfamiliar with what we print, please write and request a book and tract list. A free sample of tracts is also available.

Although we mail out many books and tracts, we still carry a burden that more might be done for our Lord. There are many souls who have yet to be challenged by the Word of God. We ask each of you who love the truth to pray with us for God's guidance in our labors and for us to be effective in reaching hungry hearts.

-Wayne Murphey



KY—Sis. Kay Griffith requests prayer for herself. She is down in her back.

IN-"I would like for you to pray for me. I

have heart trouble and at times it is hard for me to get a good breath. I know God can heal."

-Sis. Dessie Wilson

VA—"Please pray for my sister, Vicki Campbell, to be saved, also for the salvation of a man in Elkins, WV. His name is Lewis Ware."

-Warren Roy

Can.—"I desperately need your prayers."

-Gerald Cull

SC—"Please include me in your prayer request list. I have three unspoken requests. Pray that the Lord's will might be done in each of them."

—Sis. Marie Weatherford

WV—"Thank you very much for past prayers, and please pray for my vision, which is getting worse, and for my arthritis. Also, pray for my friend who is suffering from stomach trouble, arthritis and other problems."

—Christine Butters

Others who are facing serious afflictions and need the support of the saints are: Bros. Paul Taylor, Marvin Corteway, Ray Atnip and Sis. Tammy Clevenger.



Oklahoma State (Guthrie)—May 23-June 1
Holly Hill, SC—May 30-June 8
Tulsa, OK—June 8-15
Jefferson, OR—June 13-22
Green Bank, WV—June 13-19
Loranger, LA—June 29-July 6
Fresno, CA—July 4-13
National (Monark Springs, MO)—July 18-27
Myrtle, MO—July 30-August 3
Bakersfield, CA—August 5-10
Boley, OK—August 18-24
California State (Pacoima)—August 27-31

#### **Meeting Reports and Notices**

#### OKLAHOMA STATE CAMP MEETING

The 63rd annual Oklahoma State Camp Meeting of the Church of God will be held May 23-June 1 at the campground located east off of Sooner Road on Lake View Road, which is a little over four tenths of a mile south of the intersection of South Division and Sooner Road.

As is customary, the first service will be held Friday evening, May 23 at 7:30, with three services daily thereafter. There will also be an early morning prayer service and youth meeting as to be announced.

An invitation is herewith extended to everyone. Your presence will be appreciated. Provisions will be made for all attending.

The meeting will be operated by freewill offerings, and if you would like to make a contribution, you may do so by sending it directly to the state treasurer, Sis. Brenda Wilkins, Rt. 6, Box 797, Guthrie, OK 73044. Phone: (405) 282-0566.

#### JEFFERSON, OR CAMP MEETING

The saints at Jefferson, OR send a hearty invitation to attend the annual camp meeting held June 13-22. RV hookups and other sleeping accommodations are available. Meals will be served in the dining hall. Let us know if you plan to come by bus, plane or train so arrangements can be made to pick you up.

For those driving: from Jefferson, go east on Marion Rd. approximately one mile, turn left on Skelton Rd. and go 1/2 mile. The chapel will be on the right. The address is 14810 Skelton Rd. SE, Jefferson, OR. For more information, contact Bro. Bob Wilson, pastor, at (541) 327-3621 or Bro. Clifford Smith at (503) 581-4575.

We are entreating the Lord to send vessels of His choosing, add a few to the fold and sanctify this gathering with His holy presence. Your presence would be a blessing to the saints at Jefferson.

#### GENERAL SOUTHERN CAMP MEETING AT LORANGER, LA

You are invited to be a part of the camp meeting here. This will be the opportunity to receive lessons from God's Word and messages of His will. If we live by His spirit, His righteousness, His grace and faith, we can help one another make Heaven.

The meeting is to be Sunday, June 29th through Sunday, July 6, with services daily. Come preparing for a blessing. If you cannot attend, please pray for the Lord's work here.

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 traveling 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: 51367 Narretto Rd., Loranger, LA 70446. Phone: (504) 878-6111. The chapel phone is (504) 878-2788.

#### CALIFORNIA STATE CAMP MEETING

The annual California State Camp Meeting at 12312 Osborne Place, Pacoima, CA, will convene, Lord willing, from August 22 through August 31, 1997. The first service will be at 7:30 p.m., on August 22. There will be three worship services daily: 10:30 a.m., 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., with the anticipation of God's blessings upon each one. Please pray that souls will be saved, sanctified, re-consecrated and encouraged, and will seek to be healed and blessed to the glory and honor of God. All are invited to attend.

For information or assitance, contact: Sunset Guest Home (818) 899-2022 or Bro. Ed Sorrell (818) 890-2536.

LETTERS FROM THE READERS

OH—Bro. Murphey: I'm back home. I had a nice visit with the children, but it feels good to be home.



I am doing fine. There isn't any place here where I can go to church, so I get cassette tapes and play them. The Lord is taking care of my church at home, and for this I humbly praise Him. I really enjoy my tapes and the Faith and Victory paper.

Time for this world is running short, so may God bless all who are at the Print Shop, and in Guthrie also.

—Mary Vice

FL—Greetings in the precious name of Jesus Christ, our Lord: First of all, I want to thank the Lord for His mercy, grace, love and longsuffering. I thank the Lord for restoring my soul to Him. On March 3, 1997, at 9:00 p.m., the Lord miraculously saved me.

The devil tricked me out of my salvation the last time, but by the grace of the living God, never again. The Lord helped me to understand that I could have lost my precious soul forever, never to be able to repent, but the prayers of the saints are the reason I am still here.

I want to ask forgiveness of all the saints of God, and anyone else that I have offended.

I would like for the saints to continue to pray for me and my family. It is good to be back with the precious Lord. I missed this peace and joy, and the songs of Zion.

Your brother in Christ Jesus, -Jackie Riley

TX—Dear Saints everywhere: Greetings of holy love in the magnificent name of Jesus. I would like to share a testimony for the glory and honor of God.

On March 24, Sis. Heather Reed called and asked us if we would be able to do her a favor. She was on the job, but was in need of a ride home. The Lord had blessed her to get to work, but her car was out of commission after she got there. We took her home and visited with her for a good while before we felt we needed to go home. But we had forgotten to go and get the part that she needed for her car to be fixed. She was going to go to the auto parts store by walking but we told her that we would take her there....

We had left our home about 4:30 p.m. and didn't return until about 7:45 or 8:00 p.m. When we got to our driveway, we noticed that our garage door was wide open. We had been gone over three hours and had left our garage door wide open. There have been some crimes committed in our neighborhood.

We went into our home and walked through it to see if anything was missing. Our door leading to the garage from the house only needs to be pushed and you are in. Our God whom we serve continually had sent His holy angels to watch over and protect our home while we were away.

We know that if we are faithful to Him He will be faithful to us.

Yours in the Kingdom of Peace,

-Sis. Melanie Francisco and children

KS—Dear Bro. Wayne and saints: Just a note to say that I am still pressing on the upward way. It is the only way to go. I am still on the winning side and I am very much encouraged to press the battle on and not sit down

until I have won my crown. Living for God is such a sensible and intelligent way to live, and I wish all men everywhere would live a godly life. The world would certainly be a different place to live in, but alas, the Lord wants us to wish for and long for Heaven, and if it was too good down here we might get too contented with earth. Well, let us keep our eyes on the prize and our hand in the hand of Jesus.—Sis. Shirley Knight

AL—Dear Bro. Wayne and co-workers: I greet you in the name of Jesus Christ, trusting everyone is well and happy.

Although I miss my husband very much, I know he is with Jesus. I want to meet him in Heaven some day.

Pray the Lord will help me to be strong to do and be what He wants me to be.

Remember my eyes in prayer. They are getting worse. I still have pain in my legs and back.

I want to thank everyone who has sent me comforting words of sympathy, called and prayed for me.

I love each one of you.

Yours in Christ, —Sis. Pearlene Gerald

IN—Dear Bro. Murphey and others: Greetings in the name of the Lord. It is so great to be able to serve Him....

I have been through trying times lately, but I have learned one thing—it is best to lay our burdens at the feet of the Lord.

Please pray for me. My left knee has been giving me much trouble.

May you all be blessed.

Yours in Christ, —Christopher Rothbauer

OR—Dear Bro. Wayne and all at the Print Shop: Once again we send you greetings in Jesus' name. We trust all there are well and prospering in your service to the Lord. We receive a blessing each month when we receive the Faith and Victory and pray for all the needs that are expressed in it.

Ruby Fern Johnson and I were married in Martinez, California, on March 10th. We will be living here in Oregon for four or five months more, and then we plan to move to California to the retirement complex where Ruby has been living. We surely thank the dear Lord for His love for us, and the love we have for each other.

We pray God's richest blessings on all there.
—Bro. Bill and Sis. Ruby Busch

OK—Dear Bro. Wayne and workers: Greetings of love to you this beautiful day. I trust all are well and happy in the Lord. What would we do without Him?

On March 25, I fell in the breezeway of my apartment. I had gotten my mail and was coming back in. I opened the screen door when a gust of wind came in from the east, caught the door and took it, and me too, until it got to the end of the chain. It stopped but my hand slipped off the handle and I fell to the concrete floor. The fall cut a gash in my head.

I called for help and a lady heard me and came to my rescue. The lady who lives across the breezeway from me was home and also came out. They picked me up, stood me on my feet and walked me inside. They called my daughter, Audrey. She came right over.

My head had a knot swell up on it as large as my fist. It still has a little swelling, and this is April 3. I certainly am thankful there were no broken bones.

I had my 95th birthday on Easter Sunday. I can't thank the Lord enough for what He means to me. He is my all in all.

Love and prayers, —Sis. Emma Dilley

CA—Dear Bro. Wayne and all others: Just a few lines as I want to get this in the mail. I hope this finds everyone there well and encouraged for the Lord. I surely do appreciate the work you are doing there and I look forward to the Faith and Victory paper every month.

I also appreciate your prayers. It is so nice to be able to call and know that someone cares. Without our brothers and sisters to call on to help us pray, we would surely be in trouble.

I need your prayers always for my unsaved - loved ones, and for myself as I struggle to make Heaven my home.

I also have some other requests for prayer. Please pray for one of my sister's daughter's. Her mother doesn't know where she is....

Thanks again for your love and prayers.
Your sister in the Lord, —Doris Pihaylic

MI—I am sorry I did not renew my Faith and Victory sooner, but I have had a lot of sickness. I have lost my husband.

Please send me five tracts of 48 Hours In Hell. I think it was good you put it in your paper. I am a Christian and love to give out tracts.

I love your paper and also the poems you have in it. I pass my paper on when I am through

with it, and also read the poems in church. I love it

Yours in Christ, —Sis. Louise Burd

KY—Dear family in Christ: I thank God for saving and sanctifying my soul. He surely had great mercy on me as a sinner, for He spared my life for many years before I answered His call. In January, 1992, I sought the Lord with all my heart and asked for an experience that would be real to my soul. Thank God, when I surrendered my all to Him He gave me the assurance of full salvation. (Romans 8:16.) Only a God of love and mercy could have changed me to the new creature that I am in Christ. Praise God! I know I am a child of God! (Galatians 5:17, Ezekiel 36:24-30.)

I am so glad that I can trust Him for all my needs. I must say, He has touched my body many times. Sometimes we must wait on God, for our healing is not always instant, (Matthew 9:22) but He will come through with the right answer for us.

A few weeks ago, I suddenly became very ill. I was in pain and it kept getting worse. It got so bad that I was near to fainting. I was at my mother's home. She and I were the only ones there. We began to call on God for help, and I told mother to call my sister for prayer, who then called some of the saints. It wasn't long until I got enough relief to lie down on the sofa. Just a little later on I was able to get up and walk and it didn't hurt anymore at all! I was able to stay and take care of mother the rest of the day. Praise His holy name! I know He is just the same today. (James 5:14-15, Hebrews 13:8.)

As the song says, "I claim the blood, Jesus shed on Calvary. Those precious bloodstains were made there just for me. For all my needs, my sickness, and my pain; when I need healing, I claim those precious bloodstains."

God again stepped in on my behalf awhile back. I had an incident with our wood burner. While stoking up the coals I came very close to getting on fire. I just couldn't seem to praise God enough as the day went by that I wasn't burned. Each time I refueled the stove, or saw the places where the linoleum and sofa were burned, I would begin thanking God for protecting me. He is my help in time of trouble. (Psalm 46:1.)

My greatest desire is to love God as much as He loves me and never leave nor forsake Him. As I seek to please Him I want to hear Him say, "You are one of my beloved children in whom I am well pleased." Please pray for me until I hear Him say, "Enter in."

"Oh, I want to see Him, look upon His face. There to sing forever of His saving grace. On the streets of glory let me lift my voice. Cares all passed, home at last, ever to rejoice."

Also, please pray for my unsaved family and friends, and my one Christian daughter who is raising her son without a father.

I trust my testimony will be encouraging to all the saints and a help to the unsaved, that they may want to serve such a wonderful Savior.

May God bless you all, -Sis. Kay Griffith

LA—Dear Bro. Wayne: Greetings of Christian love to you and all the workers there at the Lord's Print Shop.

It is quite late, and this 85 year old lady is quite tired, but I want to get a little written and ready to mail in the morning.

It has been quite a space of time since I have written, but I am still in the battle for the Lord. Knowing His leadings and then obeying them is my greatest desire....

The Lord is so very good to me. When one is old, he feels more and more his dependence on the Lord. I know it is true in my experience. As we look to God for all things, it pleases Him, and He is so faithful to stand by us in giving and doing the very best for us. Our heart then swells in praise and thanksgiving to Him for all the daily blessings which He bestows on us. This is such a wonderful way to live with the Father and Son having made their abode with us. (John 14:23.)

May the Lord bless all of you as you labor there in His great work in getting out His Word to a lost world. We pray for all of you often.

In Christian love, —Alta Flynn

WV—Dear Editor: I am an avid reader of your paper, and I enjoy praying for those who need prayer. I thank you for all the sisters and brothers who have prayed for me.

I am 78 years of age, live alone and do not get out often. I spend most of my time praying and composing poetry....

Sincerely, —Christine Butters

Nigeria—Dear brothers and sisters: We are writing to express our deep love and appreciation for the great family of God. We have received many calls, get well cards and anniversary cards, and have felt the effects of all your

prayers.

We are deeply touched with our dear saints that are afflicted, and are praying daily for each one. We greatly miss our dear brothers and sisters in the Lord who have been called home, but rejoice with them that their reward is gained.

I really enjoy the Faith and Victory paper. I read it through as soon as it arrives.

Pray for me that I will continue to stay true and help others to see the way. I feel this is my purpose from now on....

Christian love,

-Bro. lyke, Sis. Comfort and Bro. Chijindu

## MISSIONARY REPORTS



#### From the Philippines...

March 20, 1997—Dear Brother and Sister Murphey: Greetings of Christian love in the precious name of our Lord, Jesus Christ. I hope you are all happy in the service of the Lord. He will soon come and take us home to Heaven where there will be no more pain, sickness, tears, danger, trouble and death. There will be no more sin, which is the root of all sufferings. We shall live with our loved ones, our brothers and sisters, and there will be no more separation. We will live forever in a beautiful and eternal home. I praise our loving God for our Lord, Jesus Christ, our Saviour.

May I ask your kind forgiveness for my failure to write sooner. Since my body is getting older, it seems there are more weaknesses and thorns of the flesh, while the work is expanding encouragingly and more responsibility is increasing. It is a great privilege to sacrifice the little ability that the Lord gave to us.

Yesterday I baptized three precious souls; two women and one young man. The young man was a professional boxer. While we were singing the hymn on the river bank, his tears of joy were flowing down. He said he had been a bad sinner, but he thanked the Lord for His love and kindness to Him to forgive his sins. He promised to leave the world and its pleasures, and will follow the Lord who died for him.

I went to visit my relatives in northern Luzon

which is a 10 hour ride in a bus. I talked with them about their salvation. I asked them to read the Word of God, and they were so happy that they found a Saviour. They want to have regular worship services and I told them I would see what I can do to help them.

A man from a nearby town who has heard about the Church of God, came requesting us to go and preach the Gospel at their place. He wants to be saved, along with his family, relatives and neighbors. He also said that if we can help them to have a worship meeting in their place he desires to build a small church building near his house. Our brothers and sisters from Sibut and Caridad have hired a transportation vehicle and are scheduled to go tomorrow.

I also attended a house blessing of my aunt in a nearby town. After the service a certain denominational preacher challenged me to a debate. He accused me in the presence of many people that I was preaching a falsehood. He said I was not teaching the right worship because we do not observe the Lord's Supper every Sunday. I was a little bit embarrassed because of his insulting remarks, but I answered him gently and asked him to show me a single verse in the Bible where we can read a direct command, or a binding example, that the Lord's Supper must be observed every Sunday or on every first day of the week. He didn't give a direct answer, but tried to argue with his personal opinion. When I insisted he show me the verse that the Lord's Supper must be observed every Sunday, he said there is none. The people laughed at him, but I said to the people, "Let us be patient with him." We continued the Bible study until late afternoon and the preacher became interested about true salvation. Since then I have been visiting him regularly. He has expressed a desire that his whole congregation know the truth and find real salvation. He has invited me to preach in their worship service this coming Sunday.

I am praying much for the Lord to help us to bring the Gospel to many places while there is yet time. Our opportunity to save the lost will soon be closed. May the loving Lord reward you so richly for your care and concern for us in the Philippines.

Please give my loving regards to all the saints of God in the U.S.A. We are all praying for you.

Your brother in the harvest field,

—Matias S. Tangunan and family

#### From Nigeria...

March 17, 1997—Dear Bro. Murphey & coworkers at the Print Shop: Greetings again in the glorious name of our reigning King, Christ Jesus....The peace of God, which passes all human understanding has been adequately sustaining us, His dear children, living here in the hostility-torn Tombia village. Please keep praying for the restoration of a lasting peace and unity in Tombia and Nigeria throughout the democratization process which has begun. We are praying also.

Lord willing, our first quarterly revival activities shall begin this week, and be concluded next week. We do prayerfully anticipate a successful revival. The U. S. camp meetings that will be held this year receive our prayers as usual.

I ought not to fail to let you know of a severe illness that befell me on January 25 of this year. The Lord graciously applied a gradual process to cure me, and I have since been completely healed to further glorify Him here on earth. So please thank the Lord on my behalf. The said illness prevented my attending a ministerial meeting held at Lagos early this month....

May God bless all of you in the precious name of Christ. Amen. —Bro. O. B. Alalibo



Charles Hubert Moore of Sapulpa, OK, died at the age of 90. Bro. Moore was born December 30, 1906, in Bristow, OK and had lived in Sapulpa for the past 21 years, moving there from Bristow. He was a retired grocerer. He was a member of the Frankoma Road Church of God.

Survivors are two sons, Kenneth C. Moore of Sapulpa, OK, and Harold L. Moore of Eucha, OK, four grandchildren, ten great grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

Funeral services were held in the Frankoma Road Church of God chapel with Bros. James Bell and Curtis Williams, Jr. officiating. Interment followed in the 44 Cemetery near Bristow.

Larry and Debbie Eck wish to thank everyone who sent money, cards and condolences during the time of their bereavement in losing their daughter and three grandchildren in a house fire. They desire the continued prayers of the saints.

## Hands and Feet

(Continued from page 1.)

lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled." Hebrews 12:12-15.

"To give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace." Luke 1:79.

"And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; Above all, taking [in your hand] the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit,..." Ephesians 6:15-18.

When I think of hands, I think of those strong, kind and loving persons reaching out to touch the little ones, the sinner, the sick and the poor. God makes His love known in the world today through kind, meek and humble servants.

My mother, Ella Mae, was one of whom it was proper to sing in memory, "Hands that have strengthened the weak and sad, Will be waiting there." ("Heavenly Welcome," *ELS*#376.) What will be appropriate to sing in memory of what our hands are doing?

Although there are wheelchairs, bicycles, motorcycles, automobiles, boats and aircrafts for transportation, feet are still very needful. And the feet of those who bring good tidings and publish peace are as beautiful today as they were in Isaiah's time.

Although not beautiful to the natural eye, feet that carry Gospel messengers are beautiful. Just the sight of Bro. Ira Stover's Pontiac, or Bro. Darius Gibson's old car and homemade

trailer brought cheer to many people as they took the good news far and wide. The mudcovered pickup of Bro. Harlan Smith, loaded with blankets, beans and Bibles, in rough and rugged Baja, Mexico, was a sight that brightened many hearts. The Greyhound buses that carried ministers who had no car were also beautiful.

I remember the time that Bro. Leslie Busbee and I went on mules with a guide to take some Bibles to a small village up in the mountains of southern Mexico. Hearing Bro. Leslie praising the Lord while taking the good tidings to hungry souls made it all so beautiful.

We could fill pages full of names if we listed all those we have known whose feet were beautiful because they carried the Gospel. My heart is humbled as I think of the time God called me to be a messenger of peace and goodwill. It was while I was washing the feet of one of these messengers. Jesus' prayer was "As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world." John 17:18.

From the beginning, people were known by how they used their hands and feet. Jesus' hands and feet were driven through with nails so that the world might have His saving love. His hands and feet proved that He was the resurrected Savior. "Behold my hands and my feet, that it is I myself: handle me, and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see me have." Luke 24:39. What do our hands and feet reveal about us?

Oh, let's pray that God will arouse believers to become Christ-like leaders with humble hearts, strong arms, meek hands and beautiful feet.

QUESTION AND ANSWER
BY
BRO. OSTIS B. WILSON
Reprint

**QUESTION:** Among the many doctrines in the Bible are the two dealing with salvation—the doctrine of election and the doctrine of free will. There are many passages in the Bible on both of these doctrines and many books written, etc. Now my question is simply this—How can we fit these two opposing doctrines together so as to form a reasonable part of the whole? The

entire Bible must somehow fit together as God's whole Word, so there should be some logical answer to this confusing matter. Frankly, I don't see how both of these doctrines can be in the Bible, but they are, and how do we explain them?

**ANSWER:** In the first place, let us recognize and be persuaded that there cannot possibly be two mutually contradictory doctrines in the Bible. For such a case to exist would certainly raise questions in our minds about God Himself and doubts as to the credibility of the Bible as God's Word. Mutually contradictory doctrines may arise, and often do, out of men's interpretations of the Bible, but they never exist in the Bible itself when properly interpreted and understood.

I see the two doctrines as being mutually compatible. blending into each other and each incorporating the other and the doctrine of free will enveloping the doctrine of election. The doctrine of free will is so definitely and so broadly established in the New Testament that it could not possibly be questioned as pertaining to the plan of salvation and the economy of God's grace. We are told in John 3:16 that "...God so loved the world, that he gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3:14-15 says, "And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life." Revelation 22:17 says, "...And whosoever will,

let him take the water of life freely." II Peter 3:9 says, "The Lord is...not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." This would certainly destroy the idea of God's electing (choosing) certain ones to be saved and excluding others from being saved by an act of His own will and sovereignty. This thought is further emphasized in I Timothy 2:1 where we are exhorted to pray for all men, and verse 4 says that God would have all men to be saved. I Timothy 2:6 says that Christ gave Himself a ransom for all. I Timothy 4:10 says that God is the Saviour of all men. Hebrews 2:9 says that Jesus, by the grace of God, tasted death for every man.

I have referred to several scriptures and could go on and on with many more to show that salvation, in its provisions, is universal and available to all men, but in its application it is individual and on a whosoever will basis. Anyone who is saved must be willing to be saved within the scope of the economy of God's grace, to come under the covenant provisions in the terms of the gospel and meet the demands of God's Word. Anyone who will do this will be saved.

Now I have stated that the doctrine of *free will* envelops the doctrine of *election*. But how? The term *Elect* is used a number of times in the Old Testament in reference to ancient Israel, who in that time were the chosen people of God. God had elected (chosen) them as a peculiar people, separated unto Himself from all the other peoples upon the earth, that in them

He might reveal His glory, power and holiness; to whom He could deliver the oracles of God (the law), extend and perpetuate the covenant and promises made to Abraham, the originator of their race, and through them bring Jesus Christ into the world.

Therefore they are referred to as the *elect* in different places throughout the Old Testament. But in the New Testament the term *elect* or *election* is extended beyond the limits of the Jewish nation to include all, both Jews and Gentiles, who are redeemed from sin through faith in the merits of the allatoning blood of Jesus Christ.

In the first four verses of the 11th chapter of Romans, the Apostle Paul argues that God has not cast off His people, Israel, and confirms it with the fact that he himself was an Israelite and had obtained mercy and been saved by faith in Christ. Also, he refers to the time of Elijah when a remnant was reserved unto God in a time of Israel's deep apostasy and idolatry. Then in verse 5 he says, "Even so then at this present time also there is a remnant according to the election of grace." Note on what grounds the election of this remnant was reckoned. It was not by virtue of being the children of Abraham according to the flesh, nor by the keeping of the law, neither by circumcision, nor by any of the conditions on which the election of ancient Israel was predicated. It is on an entirely different ground—"According to the election of grace." But there are only eleven references to "grace" in the Old Testament.

Two of them are prophetic (Zechariah 4:7 and 12:10); one refers to God's mercy in a time of deep trouble (Ezra 9:8); and the Psalmist spoke of grace being given to his lips in prayer (Psalm 45:2). All the others refer to the grace of one person to another, or of the king to individuals, etc. The Old Testament was not an age of grace, but it is said in John 1:17 that "...Grace and truth came by Jesus Christ."

Therefore the election spoken of in Romans 11:5 was not an Old Testament kind of election, but it was the "election of grace" through Christ which only a remnant of the Israelites obtained. John 1:11-13 says, "He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: Which were born....of God." Those among the Jews who received Jesus Christ when He came and believed on His name constitute this "remnant according to the election of grace." Adam Clarke in his comments on Romans 11:5 says, "The election of grace simply signifies God's gracious design in sending the Christian system into the world, saving under it all those who believe in Christ Jesus, and none else. Thus the believers in Christ are chosen to inherit the blessings of the gospel, while those who seek justification through the works of the law are rejected." Again he says in his comments on verse 6, "And this is done according to the election of grace, or rule of

choosing any persons to be the people of God upon the footing of grace, which takes in all that believe in His son, Jesus Christ."

To this the Scriptures bear conclusive evidence, for it is written "...whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely," (Revelation 22:17); and "...whosoever believeth in Him should...have everlasting life." (John 3:16.)

Romans 11:7 says, "...Israel hath not obtained that which he seeketh for;..." They desired to continue as the chosen people of God with all the power and glory of their kingdom which had been in time past. But they did not recognize the Author of eternal salvation when He came, so did not accept Him, but rejected Him, therefore failing to obtain what they desired. This verse says further, "...but the election hath obtained it...." We have seen that the election were those who believed in Jesus Christ and received Him. thus were born of God. and became His children in reality. Therefore they inherited all the blessings of the gospel, entered into the spiritual kingdom of God (righteousness, joy and peace in the Holv Ghost-Romans 14:17), and obtained the fullness of what they sought after.

This group of Israelites, who were elect according to grace received Christ and believed in Him, were born of God, and became children of God in reality. This great majestic company of faith champions survived the complete spiritual collapse and downfall of the Jewish people and came through

with faith and belief in the promises, looking for the Consolation of Israel. This group came through, merged into, and blended with the spiritual body of Christ and entered the spiritual kingdom of God. It was absorbed into a much greater and broader "election" which included all of those from every nation under heaven (both Jews and Gentiles) who believed in Christ and received redemption by faith in His blood.

The term "elect" means chosen, selected. Several translations drop the term elect and insert the term chosen in its stead in all texts where "elect" is mentioned. The Amplifed Bible retains the term elect but in each case inserts in parenthesis the terms chosen, select. Then we read in Ephesians 1:4, "According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love." The choosing or electing here does not refer to particular individuals, but that God had chosen or selected a plan for people (all people) to be saved, and this was through Jesus Christ and Him only, by believing in Him and vielding themselves to Him for salvation. Thus it is said that we (all the people of whatever nation, kindred, tongue or people) are chosen (elected) in Him, or there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved. (Acts 4:12.)

Now let us look at a very important text regarding "election." In II Peter 1:10 we read, "Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to

make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall." This scripture teaches us that we have a part in our election. Someone said a long time ago in regard to the "election," that "God has a vote, the devil has a vote, and I have a vote, and whichever way I vote is the way the election is going."

In Romans 6:16 we are told, "...to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness." Again Romans 6:13 says, "Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God,...and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God." Thus we can see that the yielding of ourselves to one master or the other is in our own hands, subject to our own will and our yielding determines our election one way or the other.

II Peter also teaches us that our election can be lost after it has been gained. "...If ye do these things, ye shall never fall." (II Peter 1:10.) The inference here is that if we fail to do these things and give diligence to this, we will fall.

This is exactly what happened to Israel. They were the elect of God, but they lost their election status and were cut off because of unbelief. (Romans 11:20.) Verse 17 speaks of the Gentiles being grafted in and verse 20 says they stand by faith. Then verse 22 says, "Behold therefore the goodness and severity of God: on them which fell, severity; but toward thee, goodness, if thou continue in his goodness: otherwise thou also shalt be cut off." This all makes it very clear that our election is determined by us and how we yield ourselves, and that our election can be lost after we have obtained it if we do not diligently work out our own salvation with fear and trembling.

#### HOME LIFE



#### Our Children

By Atticus Haygood (Written in 1876)

We must make our homes happy. Fine or luxurious they may not, need not be, but happy they must be at whatever cost. Gold, nor power, nor fame, can buy or command a substitute for this. If home-happiness could be bought like estates, the gold of all the Rothschilds would be a poor price to pay for this blessing. The lack of it is sorrow upon sorrow. The lack of it makes aching hearts that all the pleasures and riches and honors in the world cannot soothe. It is mockery, delusion, shame and madness when husbands and fathers turn from their homes to seek satisfaction in the glitter of gold,

the charms of power, the fascinations of strange and unholy pleasures; when wives and mothers, ignorant of the true glory of their lives, forgetful of the holiest of all duties of womanhood, leave the delights that make every true home a "Paradise Regained," and seek contentment in the whirl of capricious living; when sons and daughters find in the outside world, attractions that outbid the endearments of home.

Passing through the streets of a Southern city one day we saw a poor laboring man lift up his little girl as he passed out of the gate, and kiss her a kind good-bye. That was the best thing in his whole day's work, although he knew it not.

We parents should labor and pray to make the "father's house" the last place our children wish to leave, and the place where they would like to die. Let it be to our children so happy a place that its sweet tones sound in their hearts when they are away at school, or gone out from us into the wide world beyond; that its memories, following them through prosperity or adversity, shall bring them back to us when sorrow has bowed them down,

"There is not too much truth in the Gospel, as there is not too much light and heat in the sun. We can spare none of it, and yet there is enough for every duty, every relation, every condition of life."

or temptation overtaken them. He whose heart is stayed in the love and holy faith of a happy Christian home may have many sorrows and disappointments, but he cannot be wholly crushed by adversity. He may be "troubled on every side," yet he will not "be distressed;" he may be "perplexed," but he will not be "in despair;" he may be "persecuted," yet he cannot be "forsaken;" he may be "cast down," yet he cannot be "destroyed."

Advancing our argument to a higher place, we must make our homes sacred. That they are cultivated and happy is not enough; to be perfect they must be sacred. And a Christian home is sacred, for it is a dwelling place of God. If we dig among the ruins of the dead and buried cities of the ancients, we will find memorials of their household worship. Even they had their household gods-even they had some sort of religion. But we do not want such homes as these, or the modern substitutes which are proposed in the place of true Christian homes. Christianity only, but Christianity fully, meets the highest and deepest wants of our nature. All the evil that is in us, it can take away; all the good we are capable of, it can implant and nurture. The Gospel plan of life is divinely perfect, for it provides for all the wants of our race in this world and in the world to come. And this blessed Gospel of Christ must be the law of life to the family, as well as to the individual. Husbands and wives, parents and children, brothers and sisters, must learn from Christ the duties of their place, and receive from Him grace to discharge them.

All the truth in the world, outside the Word of God, cannot substitute one truth

that is peculiar to the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. There is not too much truth in the Gospel, as there is not too much light and heat in the sun. We can spare none of it, and yet there is enough for every duty, every relation, every condition of life. Every virtue and every grace that can establish and adorn the family life finds its root and support in the Gospel of Christ. The family that would live by another than the law of Christ robs itself of the most exalted privilege possible to humanity. And the home, where Jesus is most truly the Lord of all hearts, and the pattern of all lives, is most like heavenof all places in the world.

If in making our homes happy we also make them sacred, we will have achieved for our households the utmost that is possible to us in this world. We will make them types of the heavenly homes that await the good.

And this feeling, that heaven is home, has its roots deep in our hearts. Our Redeemer sanctions the sentiment, and makes an appeal to our instinctive faith in its truthfulness: "Let not your hearts be troubled; ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself, that where I am there ye may be also."

Thrice happy is that man whose memory of a Christian home quickens his desire for a better, in "Our Father's House" in heaven! In such a case we might say, with a good old German saint when about to go hence, "Blessed are the homesick, for they shall get home!"



In the bitter waves of woe
Beaten and tossed about
By the sullen winds that blow
From the desolate shores of doubt,
Where the anchors that faith has cast
Are dragging in the gale,
I am quietly holding fast
To the things that cannot fail.

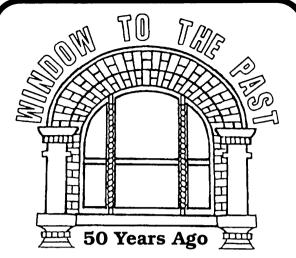
And fierce tho' the fiends may fight,
And long though the angels hide,
I know that truth and right
Have the universe on their side;
And that somewhere beyond the stars
Is a love that is better than fate.
When the night unlocks her bars
I shall see Him — I will wait.
—Washington Gladden



#### **BRO. CHARLES ELWELL**

"We then that are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak,..." Romans 15:1. This verse indicates that there are weak people in the Church as well as strong. Not everyone has the same light and understanding.

"...be strong." I Corinthians 16:13. You don't have to tell people, "I'm spiritual." Just as it is evident with children who grow and increase in size each day, so it will be with you. Don't try to estimate yourself. Consecrate on having more grace and power. People try to be saved in themselves by good works. You must come to God and be saved by grace. We need to come back to this and not rely on good works.



## Excerpts Taken From May, 1947 Faith and Victory

"The saints are erecting a pavilion here at Guthrie to use for the yearly camp meetings. This will be much cooler and nicer in every way than a tent, and having the new two story dining hall here will make the grounds convenient for a camp meeting."

"Easter Sunday was a great day in Zion here at Guthrie, The day was clear and the sun shone brightly. It seemed that God was smiling on all nature. Buds were bursting on the trees; they seemed to be resurrected to life again. Vegetation was bursting through the ground, and many were the manifestations of new life, which reminded us of the newness of a resurrection. Saints came from different places. The meeting house was filled with happy saints. The singing was heavenly. The Lord used Bro. Archie Souders to bring forth a message that was encouraging to the saints....

"In the afternoon the Lord used Bro. Ulysses Phillips of Dover, OK to conduct the ordinance services. Seventy-three joy-filled saints took part in the Lord's supper and feet washing."

—Fred Pruitt

"Prayer makes the darkest cloud withdraw
Prayer climbs the ladder Jacob saw,
Gives exercise to faith and love,
Brings every blessing from above,
Restraining prayer, we cease to fight,
Prayer makes the Christian's armor bright,
And Satan trembles when he sees
The weakest saint upon his knees."