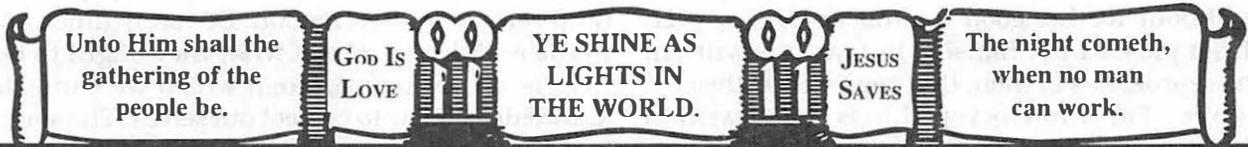


FAITH AND VICTORY

USPS184-560

Church of God Servant



Volume 75, No. 11 75th Year Guthrie, Oklahoma \$3.00 Per Year Feb., 1998

The Holy Scriptures



There is a rich inheritance
 Passed from the days of yore
 To us, our spirits to enhance,
 And life and health restore.

Preserved through ages down the line,
 A royal heritage;
 It is the scriptures true that shine
 Upon the sacred page.

The Holy Bible, wealthy gem
 Of knowledge so divine!
 The sacred writings sent from Him
 Who did our souls design.

The Old and the New Testament
 Round out this Volume quaint,
 A mine of wealth of purest mint
 To feed and bless the saint!

How precious are the truths contained
 In this, sweet Heaven's Book,
 Revealing to our souls unstained
 Our Saviour's holy look!

Oh, let us ope' this treasure chest
 And daily it pursue,
 Oh, let us search it for the best
 It holds for me and you.

There's so much error, lies, deceit
 In this dark world of sin;
 The Holy Word will keep our feet
 From all its awful din.

Pray much for Holy Spirit pow'r
 To understanding give
 And loose its meaning ev'ry hour
 That we may see and live.

And when in doubt of what to do,
 Turn to this Book divine,
 There is an answer there for you
 To turn your life out fine!

—Leslie C. Busbee



The Treasure Of The Holy Scriptures

By Bro. Leslie Busbee

We have within our reach a treasure that very few people realize and enjoy. While so many are reaching for the vain, empty treasures of earth they are neglecting the richer things that are beneficial for the eternal part of us, things sweet and profitable. On the pages of the Holy Bible are found treasures rich and helpful to us in the more important matters of life: How to be

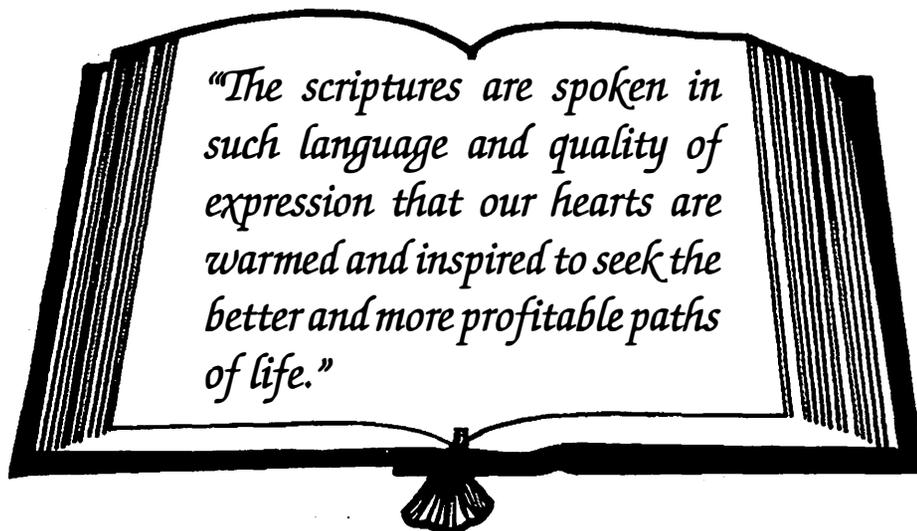
Contents

Editorials	4
Prayer Requests	5
Meeting Notices	5
Letters	6
Foreign Mission Reports	9
In Memoriam	11
A Tribute	13
The Long Voyage	13
Steady as You Go	14
An Insight	14
Windows to the Past	15

saved, how to be sanctified, how to live holy, how to overcome temptation and trouble, and how to be ready to die. These benefits, gained through the light and knowledge contained in the sacred scriptures, make them by far the most valuable assets one can possibly own.

Let us notice what the apostle Paul said in Romans 15:1-4: "We then that are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak, and not to please ourselves. Let every one of us please his neighbour for his good to edification. For even Christ pleased not himself; but, as it is written, The reproaches of them that reproached thee fell on me. For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope." In instructing us concerning the proper Christian attitude toward others Paul

Christ Jesus." Paul went on to say concerning the scriptures: "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works." Can we not see the value and esteem that the apostle Paul placed on the scriptures? They can make a person wise unto salvation. That is the only wisdom worth having. Every one of us needs to be taught. We need reproof and correction. So many times our words and deeds are not what they ought to be. Here is the avenue through which we can gain knowledge of how to correct ourselves. The scriptures are spoken in such language and quality of expression that our hearts are warmed and inspired to seek the better and more profitable paths of life. Oh, how we need so much instruc-



quotes from Psalm 69:9: "For the zeal of thine house hath eaten me up; and the reproaches of them that reproached thee are fallen upon me." Christ's disciples remembered the first part of this scripture when Christ drove the moneychangers and their equipment out of the temple as recorded in John 2:13-17. Here Paul quotes the latter part of this scripture as showing the true Spirit of humility and love for others that Christ had. Paul received light and knowledge through the avenue of the scriptures. As he said here, he knew that what was recorded in the scriptures was to enlighten us and that through the patience that the scriptures inspired and the comfort the scriptures gave, we can live a life soothed and brightened by hope.

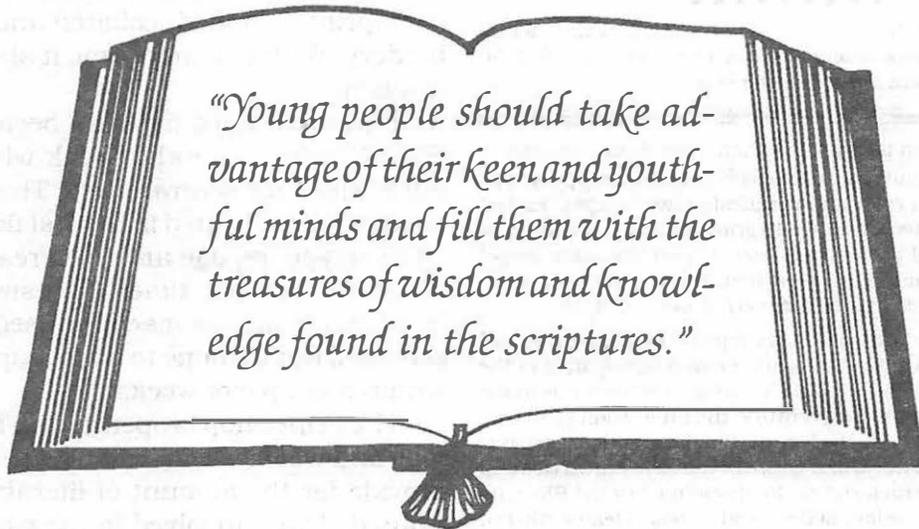
Paul commended his son, Timothy, in the faith, saying, "...From a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in

tion in the way of righteousness! Less stumbling and failures would be made if we were more attentive to what is spoken in the scriptures. God wants us to be perfect, that is, mature and fully developed Christians. So many professed Christians live on a plane so far below the standard of God's holiness. We are so often caught lacking in the qualities of life and character that please God. If we were more attentive to what is recorded in the scriptures we would be farther up the road to success and spiritual prosperity than what we generally are.

When Paul came to Thessalonica he found a synagogue of the Jews there, and, "...as his manner was, went in unto them, and three sabbath days reasoned with them out of the scriptures, Opening and alleging, that Christ must needs have suffered, and risen again from the dead; and that this Jesus, whom I preach unto you, is Christ." Paul opened up and ex-

pounded the truth that was in the scriptures. He presented its doctrines and prophecies and showed how they were to be applied to Christ and to us. Some of the people there believed and began to associate with the brethren. But Paul found a more interested and concerned people when he came to Berea and began to teach in the synagogue. It says: "These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so." Acts 17:1-4, 10-12. Here in Berea many believed because they applied their hearts to open-mindedness and diligent study of the scriptures. It is wise for us today to search the scriptures and acquaint ourselves with what "thus saith the Lord" about things. There is so much lightness and unconcern about what the Bible teaches. So

in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts: Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost." Christ came to fulfill the scriptures. He confirmed their truth and proved their surety and worth of our trust and confidence. We would do well to give diligent heed to the scriptures, for through them the light will shine into the darkness of our hearts and will bring the dawn of eternal day with the Sun of righteousness arising in our hearts. The Greek text says, "No prophecy of the scripture is of its own loosing." The scriptures can only be properly understood and applied through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit that dictated them. The Holy Spirit moved the holy men of God to



many other vain and empty volumes are read and pursued while the scriptures are for the most part neglected.

Jesus spoke to the Jews in John 5:39-40: "Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me. And ye will not come to me, that ye might have life." The Greek text says, "Ye search the scriptures." It is one thing to search the scriptures and know what they say. But it is another thing to be enlightened by the Spirit of God as to their real meaning. These Jews searched and studied the scriptures, but they were not aware that it was Jesus of Nazareth that they were speaking of. The scriptures were testifying of Christ, but they refused to come to Him to be saved.

Peter said in II Peter 1:19-21: "We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth

write, and only through the means of the enlightenment of the Holy Spirit can we lay hold of their wonderful meaning.

May the Lord help us all to feast more and more on the gracious treasures found in the holy scriptures. Let us not waste our time on things of no profit. I know there are many interesting books on life, nature, history, geography and the various sciences and arts. And a knowledge of these things can be useful and beneficial. But nothing compares with the spiritual blessing, comfort and inspiration for the inner man that is found in reading, study and meditation on the precious truths of the Bible. Young people should take advantage of their keen and youthful minds and fill them with the treasures of wisdom and knowledge found in the scriptures. It will make us wise unto salvation and equip us to face life with its challenges and difficulties and be successful in the Lord.

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.



By God's great kindness towards this printing work, we are able again to greet you. The month of January has been full of activity around the Print Shop. After the Oklahoma State Assembly meeting closed on January 4th, the work here resumed in earnest.

The book, *What the Bible Teaches*, which has been out of stock for quite some time, has been printed, folded, collated and taken to the bindery. Within a short time it should again be available.

Extensive work has also been put forth on *Bible Readings*, another book which has been out of stock for several years. The negatives for this book were ruined in the last flood, requiring us to retype, repage and proofread the book.

At the present time, extensive repairs are being made on the machine used to fold book sections, but we hope to have it up and running within a couple of weeks.

The Print Shop is operated on free-will offerings and we have learned to lean on the Lord to provide for the amount of literature He wants printed. Those involved in the work here do so because of a burden for souls. Laboring on a full time basis are Sis. Janie Woodruff, who does the accounting; Bro. Bob Sallee, who is in charge of the subscription department; my daughter-in-law, Raleah Murphey, who does most of the typesetting for our publications, and Bro. Ken Elwell, who runs the offset printing press which is used in the printing of books. My daughter, Patina, currently assists with darkroom work.

All of these workers do their share of proof-reading, working in the bindery department, etc. There are several who help with preparing copy for printing, including my wife, Mary, Bro. Leslie Busbee, Sis. Connie Sorrell, Sis. Nelda Sorrell and Sis. Charlotte Huskey. Sis. Rosie Gellenbeck and Sis. Joanna Booher offer their services to do the art work for the *Beautiful Way* paper. My son, Jason, still does the upkeep on our Internet Web Page.

The dedication of these workers, backed by

SUBSCRIPTION RATES



Single copy, one year \$3.00
Package of 5 papers to one address, one year \$12.00
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.

the support of many saints, is what makes it possible to bring the gospel into the homes of thousands of people.



The date of July 11 has been set to host a former workers' reunion. By faith we are making plans to hold the reunion in the new Print Shop building. Although we will not be operating there on a daily basis by that time, we are trusting enough will be completed to be adequate for the reunion.

We plan to dedicate the September *Faith and Victory* as a special tribute to 75 years of publishing the gospel. Although this February edition is the actual completion of our 75th year of printing, we want to produce the commemorative edition after the workers' reunion so we can include photos of those in attendance. It will also be in this September *Faith and Victory* that we will print the memories of former workers. Although this is still several months away, I urge each of you to send in what you have written as soon as possible.



On January 14, the Church lost a dedicated minister. Bro. Mart Samons completed his earthly life, and went home to rest from many years of evangelistic labor.

An admonition of his ministry which will linger in the memories of many, was the message God gave him for the church on "Steady as You Go." This counsel is more pertinent to the Church today than ever before, and I am sure it would still be his advice to those who so keenly feel the loss of his presence. Our sympathy goes out to his family, who will feel the loss most acutely.

Elsewhere in this paper is printed a poem written several years ago by Bro. Leslie Busbee. In it he tells the story of the inspiration behind Bro. Mart's message of "Steady as You Go."



Another stalwart soldier who completed his earthly journey was Bro. Ralph Beisly of Coffeyville, KS. Much of his work for God was done behind the scenes, but undoubtedly his rest and reward is very sweet. Our condolences are extended to his family also.



We are pleased at the response we are still getting from the special *Faith and Victory* subscription offer which was made two months ago. Keep sending in the names!

Some of our readers will soon be planning their vacations to coincide with different camp meetings. Therefore we plan to print as complete of a list of meeting dates as possible in the March *Faith and Victory*.

If you would like your camp meeting to be on this list, please send the necessary information to this office by the 20th of February.

May God bless each of you!

—Wayne Murphey



IL—Sis. Lavena Cole has an unspoken request for which she desires prayer.

AR—"Pray for Sis. Nellie West and myself."

—Sis. Dorothy Critcher

MO—Sis. Carrie McMillian needs prayer. She has a cough which makes it hard for her to rest at night. Also, her heart bothers her at times. Bro. Vada is also in need of prayer. He is having complications due to the flu.

OH—"Remember me in prayer. Thank you."

—Aaron Evans

NE—"My wife, Shelly, and our oldest boy, Zachary, have laryngitis. Zach also has a rash, with spells of vomiting. I would like you to be upholding them before the Lord."

—Bro. Stanley Farrar II

LA—Dean Flynn has been diagnosed with two brain aneurysms and needs much prayer.

LA—"I would like prayer for my dear brother, Carroll Forbes. He spent 16 hours on the floor of his bedroom before he was found. He is now in a nursing home."

—Sis. Audrey Carver

MN—Bro. Lee Hilton has asked the saints to pray for relief from asthma.



MEETING NOTICES BAKERSFIELD, CA REVIVAL

A sincere invitation is extended to saints everywhere to join with us in our battle against sin.

Lord willing, our annual Holy Ghost filled revival will be Feb. 11-15. On Wednesday through Friday there will be two services daily at 12:00

noon and 7:00 p.m. On Saturday, the services will be at 10:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. On Sunday there will be Sunday School at 9:30 a.m., morning worship at 10:30 a.m. and an afternoon service at 2:30 p.m.

We are expecting God to save sinners, sanctify believers, heal, restore, edify and encourage. Come and join us if you can. If you can't come, please pray for the meeting, that God will be glorified.

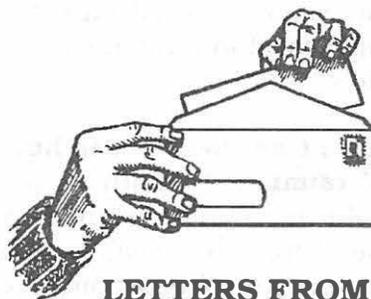
For more information, please contact Bro. Archie Sherman at (805) 871-1636 or Bro. Hayward Cox at (805) 366-4718.

--Sis. Janice Herring

MIAMI, FL CAMP MEETING

The saints in South Florida will be having a camp meeting on April 5-12. There will be services nightly at 7:30 p.m. There will be two services on Sunday, 11:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Weekday services will be announced. Come praying for a blessing.

For further information contact the pastor, Bro. Robert McIntyre at (305) 233-2166 or Bro. Clay at (305) 235-4271, chapel phone (305) 758-0160. Church address: 235 NW 47th St., Miami, FL.



LETTERS FROM OUR READERS

WV--Dear brothers and sisters at the Print Shop: Greetings in Jesus' name. I thank you for your prayers. I haven't had any more strokes. God has been so good to me. I am past 87 years old and in a wheelchair, but I can still do my cooking and mopping, for which I thank the Lord.

Please pray for my unsaved children....
With the love of God,

--Sis. Queen Luzader

OR--Dear Bro. Wayne and all at the Print Shop: Greetings in the name of Jesus. We pray this will find everyone there well and happy in the Lord. Each day we ask the Lord to bless and guide you in your labors for Him.

We are doing well and are thankful to the Lord for all of His many blessings we receive each day. He is so good to provide for all of our needs and He gives us strength to do what is necessary....

With Christian love,
--Bro. Bill and Sis. Ruby Busch

KS--Dear Bro. Wayne Murphey: My wife of almost 55 years was called to her heavenly home the 12th of December, 1997. She had been in poor health for many years--cancer, heart attack, stroke, etc. The last seven years we prayed, and God gave us one day at a time. She was an invalid during the last years, and I cared for her myself. We continued to pray for God to help us with our burden. She wanted God to take her home.... My grief is great. I pray for God's help.

As I read the *Faith and Victory* I see that we were not alone in our suffering. Many of the saints have suffered as we did. I praise the Lord for keeping us close during this trial. I know she is with the Lord and not suffering anymore.

--Bro. W. V. Reddout

FL--Dear Bro. and Sis. Wayne Murphey: I was 85 years old on December 18, 1997 and I



Now available on cassette is a singing tape of congregational and special singing, as well as sermon tapes, from the 1997 Oklahoma State Assembly Meeting.

The cost is \$1.50 each, which includes the cost of postage.

For a list of the sermon tapes, and to order the singing tape, please write to: **Mike Woodruff, 924 W. Mansur, Ave., Guthrie, OK 73044.**

"We cannot change yesterday that is quite clear
Nor begin on tomorrow until it is here
So all that is left for you and for me
Is to make today as sweet as can be."
--Selected

am doing very well, for which I am thankful.

I truly love my Lord. He is my Keeper and Teacher, and whatever I can do, by His help, I will do.

I was sorry to hear about Bro. Samon's death. He was a wonderful brother, and he also had a very sweet wife.

Please remember me in prayer.

—Sis. Kathleen Williams



CA—Greetings in our Lord and Savior's name—Jesus: We both are thankful for all of the Lord's blessings to us daily.

I have had a scripture on my mind which is found in Joshua 24:15. "...Choose you this day whom ye will serve;...but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." That is the direction in life for both of us also....

In Christian love,

—Bro. Hubert and Sis. Elizabeth Corteway



OR—Dear Bro. Wayne: I send greetings of Christian love this evening in the name of our blessed Lord. I am so glad and thankful for His wonderful love and mercy to me. When I get a little glimpse of how pure and holy He is, and then begin to compare that to me, I can't help but shake my head in amazement and wonder what He saw in me that was worth the awful price paid for my salvation....

I have heard good reports of the assembly meeting back there and Bro. Bob Wilson says they had a real good meeting in California. We are surely thankful for our Lord's faithfulness to His trusting children.

Please remember us in prayer.

With Christian love and prayers,

—Bro. Clifford Wilson



MO—Dear Ones: Greetings of love in the Lord. I am truly glad for the chastisement of the Lord. When my husband passed away, I felt so alone, and I said, "Lord, why didn't You take me instead?" The Lord spoke so plainly, "You weren't ready."

Oh, dear saints, it pays to be ready, and not with just an empty profession. The Lord started showing me things I had done and hadn't done. I fell on my knees and began to cry out to God and confess my wrong doings. The Lord was so good to forgive me.

I know the Lord has been with me in these lonely hours. I couldn't stay alone for some time, but the Lord gave me grace and I live alone.

But, as I tell people, "I am not alone, for God is here with me." God cares for me and supplies my needs.

Not long ago I fell and hurt my hip. When I saw I was falling, I said, "Oh Lord, don't let me break a bone." I called Sis. Opal Kelly and Bro. Carl and Sis. Rebecca Shaffer for prayer. The Lord helped, and has taken all of the pain away. Thank the Lord!...

Yours for the Lord,

—Norma Allen



LA—Dear ones: As you know, the Coronation Day for my precious husband, Lynn Carver, was Thanksgiving Day, November 27, 1997. We had such a nice day on Wednesday getting my drivers' license, taking scriptures to several nursing homes, and just being together as we enjoyed the day. Then he peacefully left in his sleep the next morning. I thank the Lord he did not linger and suffer; but, oh, the heartache!

As ripples reach across the water when a stone is dropped into it, so Lynn's life lived for Christ has left behind an influence for good that has touched the lives of many others. Our pastor, Bro. Melvin Doolittle, said at service last Sunday, "We have lost a dear, faithful soldier." Several times in service and at home Lynn would burst triumphantly into song, "I mean to go right on until the crown is won." And he did!

When my first husband, Steve Henry (son of Sis. Dott Henry and nephew of Sis. Vera Forbes), was ill and left me 25 years ago, the verse from Philippians 4:13, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me" became my verse. Again I am trusting in God's help as He tells me, "...I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee." Hebrews 13:5. I have been very blessed in having two wonderful, loving, Christian husbands!

We have been overwhelmed by so many demonstrations of love, concern, cards, phone calls, prayers and kindness shown to us. We wish to thank everyone.

Continue to pray for us. I, too, intend to "go right on until the crown is won."

Prayerfully,

—Audrey Carver



IL—Dear Bro. Wayne and Sis. Mary: Greetings of love in the most wonderful name of Jesus! What a dear Savior He is!

It will be two years in April since I last saw any of the saints in Shawnee and other parts of Oklahoma.

At present my trips are very limited. I had a

mild heart attack a year ago. I trusted in the gracious and loving Lord who has blessed me since I gave my heart to Him at 18 years of age. He was watching over me even before I knew Him. What a great God our Heavenly Father is.

I was able to go back to work at McDonald's after a few weeks. I am a hostess there. I love meeting so many people. Many have become dear friends, and the Lord blesses me so I can witness for Him. What a privilege!...

I have been remembering each of the saints there, and everywhere. I pray the Lord to bless you and the work you are doing in the Print Shop.

In Christian love, —Ruby Blanchard

CA—I would just like to encourage the young people out there to stay encouraged, and to always look to the Lord.

I just found your Web Page and I am glad that I did.

I want to request prayer for my family, and for myself as well.

Keep encouraged. —Ryan McClendon

CA—Hello, I have been receiving the *Faith and Victory* for awhile now. I am happy to say that I am saved. I just got onto your Web Page after a struggle, and I would like to request prayer for my family and me.

—Jeremy Pierro

CA—Dear Bro. Wayne: May the peace of the Lord be upon you and all those who receive the Prince of Peace into their hearts. The Prince of Peace knocks at the door of our hearts seeking to come in. He longs to be a deep part of our lives. He wants to fill our hearts with peace that surpasses our understanding. His kingdom is a kingdom of peace to those that are a part of it. Yet, there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth to those who refuse Him as their King and Lord. He says, if our ways please Him, He will make even our enemies to be at peace with us.

At times there seems to be a darkness that makes the days seem grim, but the Light of the Lord always outshines the darkness. I thank the Lord for shedding light on me and clearing the clouds. May He help me never to lose faith even in the dark when it seems like I can't see Him. He has promised to be with me.

I must say that I'm glad to hear that the Print Shop is expanding. The Lord will cause it to

prosper in your hands as you continue to do with it as He guides you. Be faithful to the Lord and let His truth go forth to the hearts of people everywhere. Hearts are receptive to truth. At times truth may be a little hard to swallow. It may taste a little bitter, but the Lord will not allow it to come back void. It will accomplish that which He sends it to do. Be strong and faithful and let the Lord give the increase.

In His love, —Marvin Moles, Jr.

KS—Dear saints everywhere: Greetings with divine love in our hearts for everyone. My husband and I are very thankful to see another new year. We are also thankful to be able to report victories over Satan.

We are thankful for what God has done for us in both soul and body. We know it is the goodness of our dear Savior. We can say, like the song, number 154 in the Evening Light song book, "Jesus has been so good to me, No other friend so kind could be; Safely keeps me ev'ry day Free from sin and in the way. Ne'er can I such love repay, He's so good to me."

I, Clara, would like to tell of another miraculous healing God did in my body. I had been having constant pains in my left side, under and around my heart. Sometimes they were so severe that I couldn't sleep on my left side. Then I noticed a small growth on that side. I was anointed and prayed for. The pain didn't stop at once, but we continued to pray, and I can report another victory. The pain and the growth are both gone. Thank God, I have a well body today. God is so good to all of His dear, trusting children.

May God bless all of the saints through our prayers for each other.

Yours in Christ Jesus,
—Bro. Paul and Sis. Clara Phillips

MO—Dear Bro. Wayne and workers at the Print Shop: Greetings in Jesus' precious name. I received the *Faith and Victory* paper yesterday. I enjoyed it so much. I especially enjoyed the testimonies.

I still need prayer. Please remember my loved ones also.

May God bless you in your work for the Lord.
Christian love, —Mamie Butcher

OR—Dear Bro. Murphey: Greetings in Jesus' dear name. I am happy to report I have been healed of two injuries and one kidney problem.

I have been having a problem with my left arm; bursitis in it, I guess. I would like the saints everywhere to pray for the healing of it. It bothers my sleep at night and also hurts during the day.

Christian love, —Wilma Juanita Jenkins
— — — — —

LA—Dear saints: We thank God for salvation and for His love in caring for us; and especially for care over my son, Nelson Doolittle and Bro. Ferlin Palmer, when the tornado skipped over their work place. We thank God....

May God bless for the new year.
—Patsy Doolittle Turner
— — — — —

WI—Greetings of love. We surely want to give God the praise for His goodness to our family. He has been a refuge and present help in time of trouble.

With much thankfulness and praise, we want to say that we appreciate the great family of God as they have been very dear to us in the time of our need. We appreciate all who pray, call and send cards. It has been an encouragement and strength.

It is with love that we extend a special invitation to all who desire to come our way and be with us here. Pray for us that we will be faithful to the end.

—Ron and Martha Zacharias and family
■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■

FOREIGN MISSION REPORTS

From Nigeria...

December 22, 1997—Dear Bro. Wayne Murphey: Greetings of sincere Christian love in the powerful name of Jesus. Devils tremble whenever this name is mentioned, while Christians take cover under the name. Praise God....

We praise the Lord for the growth of His work at Kwale. Kwale is the largest congregation of the Church of God in Nigeria. Its young people are dynamic and powerful preachers.

We are planning on assembling all of the ministers of the Church of God congregations in Nigeria, at Kwale, by Easter of 1998, for a ministers' meeting. We should unite for pursuit of the Lord's work on a national level....

Yours in Him, —Bro. Titus U. E. Enu
— — — — —

January 7, 1998—Greetings to you and all the co-workers at the Lord's Print Shop. We send you best wishes again in this new year of 1998, which the Lord has graciously given us to

further serve him selflessly. All glory belongs to Him alone.

It is regrettable to let you know that our beloved brother, Bro. F. Naths-Igbanibo, and his dear wife, Sis. Dorcas, were painfully bereaved, following the accidental death of their 13 year old son on Monday, December 22, 1997. Please pray for their consolation. The deceased was their 4th child and their only son. The accidental fall, death and interment of the boy, all took place at Port Harcourt where they are living.

My dear wife and I earnestly request the saints there to please assist us in praying for the salvation of two of our daughters, who have foolishly chosen to befriend the world. The one is named Balafama, and the other, Owanate. Both of them have completed their educational career at the post primary school level.

The eleven room residential bungalow on the church premises at Port Harcourt has been completely roofed to the glory of God. Please join us to thank the Lord for His leadings with regard to this house project. Also, keep praying for its entire completion in the near future. Thank you all.

The Bible says in Psalm 68:11, that "the Lord gave the word: great was the company of those that published it." This statement remains functional so long as the world lasts. And to actualize this, recently God used some youths in our midst, and several elders, to go to Bukuma village, our nearest neighbors, and preach the gospel. Though the village's response was poor, their paramount, traditional ruler was prayed for in his palace for the restoration of his eyesight. Also, a young man who is an indigent there was possessed of a vagabond and destructive spirit. When we prayed for him and rebuked the evil spirit, in Jesus' name, the young man exclaimed himself healed, and some of us gladly accompanied him to his residence. We hope to visit Bukuma as often as possible so that the church shall soon be established there. We solicit your prayers in this respect....

Your fellow servant of Christ,
—Bro. Onimite B. Alalibo
— — — — —

From Ghana...

December 22, 1997—Dear Bro. Murphey: I send my greetings to you all in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Let us magnify and glorify Jesus Christ for emerging victorious for His church. The Lord is

wonderful so my faith grows more and more, and not mine alone, but the whole congregation's.



I am enclosing a picture of our new church building, which we started five months ago. We are building the church house in front of the mission house, as you can see in the picture. The mission house is on the left. The congregation has contributed towards this building.

The building has encouraged many souls here, both church members and other people, so our numbers are always increasing. We thank God for that, and are looking to the Lord for funds to complete this nice church house for the Lord within a short time.

The brethren and sisters in Ghana send greetings to you all. May God bless you.

—Pastor Maxwell Mkansah

— — — — —

India Report...

January 26, 1998—Dear saints: Greetings of holy Christian love in the mighty name of the Redeemer. Roberta and I greatly appreciate the financial support, and even more the prayers, that have made possible our recent trip to India with Bro. Clifford and Sis. Patsy Smith, where we were privileged to attend the 33rd General Convention with the people of God at Kottarakara. I am quite certain the experience has forever changed our lives.

It was heartening to see the large attendance and lively interest at worship services, sometimes in excess of 700 people. We were told that many of these were visitors, and numbers of them made commitments to worship and believe with the church there. Some of them were Hindus before conversion. Having now seen the idols and images of Hindu religion, I marvel at the life-changes necessary for someone raised and indoctrinated in that practice to accept

Christ. Surely the ministers and gospel workers there need wisdom from God to understand how to help precious souls in that spiritually dark land, where 80% of the population are Hindu.

We found that religion is far more important to the average Indian than to the average person in the U. S. Religious icons are everywhere, and people seemed quite committed to their beliefs. One young minister we met is carrying out a work for God in north India, which is more Hindu than where we were, and we understand he often is at peril of his life.

We enjoyed participating (by interpreter) in several of the worship services. In particular, Roberta and Sis. Patsy taught a sisters' meeting (Bro. Cliff and I slipped in to listen, too, and found to our pleasure that quite a number of the brothers had the same idea). The Lord blessed that meeting, so that many sisters were moved to make deeper commitments before God to fulfilling the role of holy wives and mothers. Also, Bro. Cliff gave a discourse in one service with some very compelling thoughts which he ended by speaking a few phrases to the congregation in their native Malayalam, a special touch that endeared him to them all. His warm, loving ways opened hearts and made our acceptance among them to seem natural and easy, both to them and us.

We were impressed to see the dedication of Bro. John Varghese and other ministers to publish a paper there. It is done with lots of hand labor, because the press they have is ancient, and type must all be set by hand. Although the evidence of grinding poverty is everywhere, so that the standard of living of poor people in this country would seem luxurious to most of them, the requests for help we heard were not for personal advantage but for printing equipment and other important aid in spreading the gospel.

Surely there has been a bond of love formed between us and those dear people, and we will pray and look forward to an opportunity to be together again.

—Bro. Ed and Sis. Roberta Wilson

— — — — —

From Malawi . . .

January 2, 1998—Dear Bro. Bob: Greetings in the name of Jesus; we are well here.

The purpose of this letter is to report on the churches at Mozambique and Malawi. Bro. Daimon (a minister of the Church of God in the country of Mozambique) and I have gotten the

churches registered in Mozambique. (A requirement by law in that country.) They have given us permission to go there and work among the people. Since then we have opened different churches in Mozambique; about five. We have so many people there. Some are going there to care for these new congregations. In Malawi the number of congregations is also increasing. God is blessing our churches.

Lastly, God's blessing everywhere and also on your family. —Bro. Failos Namaozongo

— — — — —

(In conversation by phone with a Brother in Malawi on January 27, we learned that many people in the country are still in need of food. Food is available for purchase, but most people have no money to purchase it with. Since we were there in July of last year, the money exchange rate has risen from 15:1, to 21:1. This high rate of inflation has caused the price of maize to go from 1.85 kwacha in July to the current price of 2.5 kwacha per kilogram. It also seems to be contributing to an increase in violent crime related to thievery.

The maize crop which provides the staple food for the country failed last year due to excessive rains. This has left many, many people without their primary food reserve to carry them through the year until the next crop is harvested. There is very little cash flow among the people, so it is very difficult for them to purchase needed food.

Through the gracious giving of different ones to the Malawi fund maintained here at the Publishing House, we are sending money for the church leaders there to buy maize and distribute to the people in their congregations. We appreciate those who have contributed to this humanitarian need. Please continue to pray for the people of Malawi and Mozambique. They seem to be very open to gospel evangelism. We desire to see them established in the Truth while there is an open door.)

—Bro. Bob Sallee

■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■

"It is always better to help others to criticize themselves than it is to criticize them. They will believe themselves; they are not likely to believe you. The way to bring about this healthy and helpful condition of self-criticism, with its accompanying desire for improvement, is to show by our lives, silently, the better way, while resolutely refraining from urging upon others.

—Selected



Kenneth A. Pickett died December 5, 1997 at 5:00 a.m. at the age of 83 years. He was born November 24, 1914 in Fort Wayne, Indiana to Clarence Milton and Susana Farrell Pickett. He graduated from Central High School, and had already been employed by The Fort Wayne Journal Gazette.

In the summer of 1938, Ken was on vacation from The Gazette and heading for New York City just to see the sights. At the urging of a friend, he decided to stop at a camp meeting in the hills of Pennsylvania before going on. There was something about the people there and the spirit surrounding the place that caused him to stay, and he became serious about his life and about studying the Bible, never going on to New York. He bowed at an altar of prayer where God forgave him of his sins. It was then that his values began changing and he began his long journey in the Christian life as he understood it. There he met Gertrude Forbes of Hammond, LA. Two years later, June 2, 1940, they were married in the home of her parents in Hammond, LA, returning to Fort Wayne, IN to live.

On December 17, 1944, a little daughter, Nancy Sue, was born to them. A few years later, after Ken's newspaper work took him to Detroit, MI, they adopted a little four year old boy, Michael Philip, in November of 1953.

Ken is survived by his wife of 57 years; a daughter and son-in-law, Nancy Sue and Ronald Plank, of Denham Springs, LA; a son and daughter-in-law, Michael and Sandy Pickett, of Wyandotte, MI; a brother, Raymond Pickett, Dearborn, MI; seven grandchildren, Christopher, Gregory, Steven and Julie Plank, all of the Baton Rouge, LA area; Nichole, Thomas and Sarah Pickett of Wyandotte, MI; and six great-grandchildren, Shaun, Brittany, Madison, Brooke, Austin and Danny.

On Sunday afternoon, December 7th, funeral services were held in the Seale's Funeral Home Chapel, with Bro. Russell Whitener officiating. Burial was in Oak Grove Cemetery, Loranger, LA. A recording of Bro. Bob Forbes reading II Peter 3:1-14 was played, along with Bob and Dorall Forbes singing, "Thank You, Lord."

TO THE READERS OF THE PAPER

Let us thank each and every one of you for your cards and letters, but most of all for your love and prayers. Ken's long journey homeward was made so much easier because of the many prayers, and his going was a real victory.

—The Family of Kenneth Pickett
— — — — —

Authorine Cook was born on March 30, 1930 in Reform, AL to Willie and Levonia Cook. She was the second of twelve children. Her parents and four of her siblings preceded her in death.

She attended and graduated from Picking County High School. Authorine moved to Oklahoma City in 1953. She attended 3rd Street Church of God under Pastor H. D. Kelley. She later attended the Church of God in Spencer, OK under Bro. Charles Chandler.

She met and married Mr. Wilbert Watson and to that union eight children were born. Her husband and two children preceded her in death.

She leaves to cherish her memory, six children, Clyde Cook-Watson and Author Watson of Oklahoma City, OK, Teressa Rideau, Vanessa Henderson, Kathy Watson and Wilma Watson, all of Spencer, OK; four sisters, Katherine Laskey of Oklahoma City, OK, Bertha M. Cook of St. Louis, MO, Lillie R. Cook and Sphia A. Macon of Wilmington, DE; two brothers, Willie L. Cook of AL, and Johnny L. Cook of Oklahoma City, OK; twenty-seven grandchildren, four great grandchildren; and a host of other nieces, nephews, cousins, saints and friends.

Interment was at the Hillcrest Memory Gardens, Spencer, OK, with Bro. Charles Chandler officiating.

Note of Appreciation

The family and the Green Pastures, OK, congregation extend our deepest thanks to all of you far and near who prayed for our dear Sis. Authorine Watson during her extended illness, and for all your prayers for the family since her

homegoing. Sis. Authorine fought a long, hard battle but ended with great peace and happiness. During the last weeks of her life, she clung to the songs, "Hope" and "Blessed Assurance." We ask that you continue to pray for the family. May God bless and reward each of you for your love and prayers. —Sis. Frances Chandler
— — — — —

Martin Samons, Jr., age 74, of Green Bank, WV, died January 14, 1998, at his home in Green Bank. Bro. Samons was born in Thelma, KY, on February 14, 1923, the son of the late Martin Sr. and Hilda Price Samons.

On October 7, 1949, he was united in marriage to Verna Mae Estep. To this union were born three sons; Stoney, Toney and John.

In November of 1957, Bro. Mart was miraculously saved from a life of alcoholism, and God healed his wasted physical body. For 40 years, Bro. Samons never ceased to praise God and testify of God's delivering power.

Bro. Mart and Sis. Verna spent countless hours traveling to congregations to hold revivals. The two of them also had a great burden for outreach and helped start new congregations in Junction City, KY and Green Bank, WV. Their labors have had great reward.

Bro. Mart will be remembered for his straightforward, yet loving way of challenging souls to total consecration to God.

The Samons traveled to see many hurting, sick and isolated people also. From coast to coast they were remembered because they would travel hundreds of miles at a moment's notice to aid a needy person.

The Church was benefited greatly by the extreme concern Bro. Samons carried for the unity of God's people and his wise counsel and godly example. All of us have been blessed by his passing through this life and touching us.

Bro. Mart was probably best known for his motto, "Steady as you go." This was his advice, as a Navy veteran, to anyone discouraged or in need. His calm spirit had a soothing effect on anyone in his presence.

We bid farewell to our dear Dad, Grandfather, friend and brother in the Lord. He has arrived safely in that Great Port and bids us all to be "Steady as you go!"

Sis. Verna preceded him in death seven years ago.

Included in those who are left to mourn the passing of Bro. Samons, are his three sons and their families, Stoney and Dottie of Mayfield,

KY, their son, Jeremy and wife, Teresa, of Chicago, IL and son Todd of the home; Toney and Jeanie of Green Bank, WV, their three daughters, Shana, Lenee and Andrea, all of the home, and their son Chad and wife, Beth, of Green Bank, WV; John and Rose of Sheridan, AR, and their four children, Julie, Josh, John and Jared, all of the home. Also surviving are three sisters, Edna Price, of Paintsville, KY, Nancy Sparks, of Thelma, KY and Mary Ruth of Columbus, OH.

Bro. Mart had three brothers, one of which preceded him in death, and Edsel Samons of Sanibel, FL and John P. of Marysville, CA.

He also leaves behind many friends and brethren of the Church. He had spiritual sons and daughters in many states across the country.

Interment was in the Arbovale Cemetery in Arbovale, WV. Services were conducted by Bros.

Ed Wilson of Guthrie, OK, Keith Fuller of Akron, OH and Marty Clevenger of Green Bank, WV. Tributes were given by many other ministers as well.

Note of Thanks

We thank all our friends and brethren in the Lord for their loving support of us during the recent passing of our father and grandfather.

Bro. Mart Samons was as dear as any Dad or Grandpa could be to us, but we know he had scores of sons and daughters in Christ who mourn him, also. He had endeared himself to all of you.

We deeply appreciate all the flowers, cards, food and gifts of money given. We also cherish the memory of those who put forth special effort to attend the funeral services. We love you all and Thank You!

—The family of Bro. Mart Samons

A Tribute

A man once stood in sin so lost,
He could not see or pray.
He searched around for light to shine
Upon his cluttered way.

He found his peace with God one night
When life was so, so low;
And from then on his motto was,
"Keep steady as you go."

Mile upon mile he traveled far
To help a troubled soul;
So weary, tired, but still he'd say,
"Keep steady as you go."

As time moved on, the days and years
Kept passing right on cue.
"I can't slow down," he'd often say,
"There's still so much to do."

Lives were touched and souls were saved,
His weariness started to show;
But still he pressed on with a smile,
"Keep steady as you go."

There comes a day when all must rest.
His call came right on time.
God looking down, said, "Rest my child,
It's time to come on home.

"There's one more battle you must fight,
No sting of death will show.
I'll be right there beside you, child,
To steady you as you go."

So, friends and family, remember this,
No matter where we go,
Grandpa left behind these words,
"Keep steady as you go." —Chad Samons



The Long Voyage

The Captain stood upon the deck
The storm was dark and long
The sailors cried, "This is the end!"
The Captain said, "Be strong."

The rocky shores were closing in
The sailors cried in woe
The Captain lifted eyes to heaven
Saying, "Steady as you go."

The enemy came and threw their fire
The sailors saw their end
But the Captain called to them, "Full sails,"
The Breath of God was their wind.

They searched so long for their home
The place The Promised Land
The sailors saw many shores
But the Captain did not feel His hand.

Through the journey long and cold
Some were called away.
Left behind, the rest kept on
"Steady" ...till judgment day.

—Jeremy Scott Samons

"Steady As You Go"



While ploughing through the stormy deep
 Upon a ship of massive size
 A youthful sailor strove to keep
 Upon the helm his weary eyes.

The instruments in keen array,
 The veer to left, the pull to right
 Held his attention while the fray
 Of dashing winds increased their might.

Rocked then the gallant cutter's form
 Above the turbid water's grasp
 Against the raging of the storm
 Sustained by his unwavering clasp.

Fear mounted, panic sought to lay
 Upon his mind its icy woe
 Until he heard his Captain say:
 "Now steady, steady as you go!"

From his command post over all
 The Captain spoke these words sublime,
 No doubt his mem'ry did recall
 The weathered storms of previous time.

Yes, through the storm they rode that night
 Until its fury ebbed away
 And in the east a tinge of light
 Well meant the dawning of the day.

The years have passed, another sea
 Now foams and dashes all around;
 He sails toward eternity
 Where everlasting joys are found.

He's living now the Christian life,
 Embarked upon a course so true;
 The waves of sorrow and of strife
 Seek to prevent him going through.

But as before so earnestly
 He rides the ocean's angry flow,
 For Christ, his Captain, tenderly
 Says, "Steady, steady as you go!"

—Leslie C. Busbee

AN INSIGHT

By
 Bro. Paul Sorrell

The Incarnate Christ

Jesus is the Savior of the world, and to fully appreciate Him in that role we must be able to see Him as an incarnate Savior. Incarnate means: "Invested with flesh or bodily nature and form."

Christ was our Creator and that same love which fashioned us also drew Him down to the low state of humanity. He was a helpless embryo in the beginning of this mission. And being called Emmanuel, or God with us (Matt. 1:23), He traversed the stages of childhood. He fully experienced every human development, and the difficulty of being misunderstood while learning the things of life during adolescence. (Luke 2:40.)

As a young adult, Christ felt the heaviness of responsibility. In this stage He proved that the fleshly body could overcome the strongest temptation when filled and yielded to the Spirit of God. (Matt. 4:1-11, Luke 22:40-46.)

It is entirely possible that His human flesh could have failed. Yet, "...God is love" (I John 4:8), and love never faileth. (I Cor. 13:8.) It was divine love which compelled Jesus to give His human body as a sacrifice for all mankind. He was the guiltless dying for the guilty.

Is it possible to see Christ in a human form and still perceive Him as being equal with God? Can we perceive Him descending to be a servant, and then ascending by the power of the resurrection to be our interceding Savior. Yes! He did accomplish that very thing. This is such a mystery that we don't understand the intricacies of it, but because of it we stand in awe, and are drawn to serve, worship and love Him. Oh, what a Savior—our Incarnate Christ!



**Excerpts Taken From
Feb., 1948 *Faith and Victory***

EXPERIENCES OF WESLEY TRIMBLE

"I just dearly love to serve the Lord, and my chief delight is in doing His blessed will in everything. I will not be able to thank Him enough in this life, and I know I will be spending a big part of eternity praising and thanking Him for this great gift He has bestowed upon me.

"I was deep down in terrible sin when He so mercifully reached down and brought me up out of that horrible pit and set my feet upon the rock. Bless His name! I was in the terrible clutches of liquor and tobacco for over forty years and started using both before I reached my tenth year. I used to pick up pint whiskey bottles to sell, and always there was a small amount in each one which I would tip up and drain.. At the same time I was picking up cigarette butts and smoking them, and that awful habit fastened itself on my later life as well.

"About 1900, my folks moved into Oklahoma and I got into a hard drinking crowd of young fellows there. When the state went dry about 1906, I started bootlegging, but drank up all the profit and got into trouble besides; so I drifted west on a bridge gang in Colorado and Wyoming. It was the same wherever I would go—just drinking and more drinking....

"In 1911, I came to the west coast with another hard drinking young fellow and we drifted from lumber camp to harvest field in Washington state, always deep in sin of nearly all kinds, beating our way on railroads, even putting up in a hobo's 'jungle.' We drifted

south to Imperial Valley, CA and in 1912, I took up plastering, which proved to be another move toward drink, as they as a whole are a hard drinking set of men. I moved up to Los Angeles that same year, and in 1914 I married and tried to settle down. It did settle me in most ways and helped as far as steady drinking was concerned, but I still kept at it now and then. During the days of home brew, I got back into it as bad as ever. In 1939, we moved onto our little 5 1/2 acre ranch near Pomona, and I made a special effort to stop drinking. I went three whole months without taking a drink of any kind of alcohol and then weakened and started again.

"It seemed like that was a turning point, for I grew worse steadily and during those last few years was drunk almost every night. I used to send my wife and little girl to a show and would get drunk.... Once I was out of wine and I broke my baby's bank and stole what I needed. Another time I was out of money in pocket and tore out the whole side of an overstuffed chair to get 25 cents I knew had slipped out of my pocket previously. Once I was known to have an almost iron will, but that was gone and in its place a terrible sense of defeat.

"We had been sending our little girl (she is ten now) to Sunday School by a fine couple named Meyer. Wife and I cared nothing about our own souls, but we wanted her to have a chance anyway....

"On the night of May 17, 1945 I was sitting by the silent radio smoking and...something in the region of my heart seemed to move and the blessed Lord put these words into my mind and heart: 'You had better pray, the Lord will help you; you had better pray, the Lord will help you.' I put my cigarette up in the ashtray and before I hardly knew it I had bowed my head right where I sat and uttered the first prayer I had made since saying my 'Now I lay me down to sleep...' prayer at my dear praying mother's knee. Oh, how I do thank God now for a praying mother. These are almost the words I said that wonderful night: 'Lord, in the name of Jesus PLEASE deliver me from these sins, drinking, smoking and swearing. Amen.' As soon as I said amen, I KNEW, bless God, I knew by the witness He gave me inside that I would never have to do those things again.... Praise the good Lord, from the instant I said amen I

