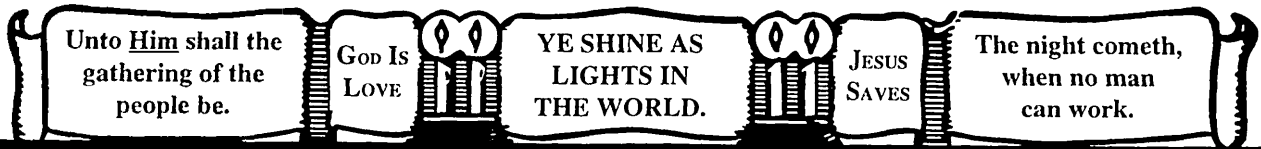


FAITH AND VICTORY

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God's Hornets

By
Bro. Harlan Sorrell



And I will send hornets before thee, which shall drive out the Hivite, the Canaanite, and the Hittite, from before thee. I will not drive them out from before thee in one year; lest the land become desolate, and the beast of the field multiply against thee. By little and little I will drive them out from before thee, until thou be increased, and inherit the land. And I will set thy bounds from the Red sea even unto the sea of the Philistines, and from the desert unto the river: for I will deliver the inhabitants of the land into your hand; and thou shalt drive them out before thee. Thou shalt make no covenant with them, nor with their gods. They shall not dwell in thy land, lest they make thee sin against me: for if thou serve their gods, it will surely be a snare unto thee. Exodus 23:28-33.

This was God's command to ancient Israel concerning their inheritance in the land of Canaan and the manner in which they would possess it. This is a "type" of our inheritance today in the spiritual land of Canaan, or the sanctified life.

Let us take special notice of the manner in which God said He would drive out the Canaanites. He said He would "send hornets." (See also Deut. 7:20.) Cruden's concordance describes hornets as "the large species of wasp, whose sting is very severe." Imagine the natives of ancient Canaan, hiding in fear, perhaps, from the armies of Israel. Then God sends a swarm of hornets upon them. I know of few things that will make people move like a sting! Few people could remain quiet and hidden when under an attack of hornets. If anything would bring the enemy out of his hiding place, surely this would! Now these Canaanites represent those things in us or about us, after we have been sanctified, that have to be driven out in order that we may fully inherit this good land.

God works in the lives of His sanctified children relative to their inheriting the fullness of the spiritual land of Canaan just like this. He sends the hornets, those things that severely sting, into our lives. This brings all of those hidden enemies of our untempered self-life out of those places where they are lurking, of which we are totally unaware. The initial

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experience of sanctification and infilling of the Spirit is an instantaneous work. It cleanses our carnal nature and thoroughly purges our hearts. The Holy Spirit then comes in to abide and work in us. But He does not instantaneously temper either the natural or acquired traits of our humanity. The tempering of our humanity is a progressive work; a continual and ongoing process as long as we remain "in the body." We sing the song which says, "More like Christ, my heart is praying, More like Christ from day to day. All His graces rich displaying, While I tread my pilgrim way." If we truly mean what we sing, then we are inviting the Holy Spirit to do a tempering work upon our humanity. Sometimes this will involve some painful experiences. We are told in the Scriptures that Jesus, the Captain of our salvation, was made perfect through sufferings and that, though He were a Son, yet learned He obedience through the things that He suffered. (See Hebrews 2:10; 5:8.) Then Peter tells us in I Peter 4:1, "Forasmuch then as Christ hath suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves likewise with the same mind." We are called into the fellowship of Christ's sufferings and self-denial that we also might be perfected.

One of the most important things for a newly sanctified soul to understand is this—that even though it is now perfectly cleansed, so far as the heart and affections are concerned, there are still a lot of things regarding the natural human traits, thought pat-

"The effects of the fall passed down to us from Adam are far more intricate than many people realize."

terns, personality, temperament and just the human make-up in general, which will need a lot of adjustment via the tempering work of the Holy Spirit. These things are not necessarily relative to sin, but can be very deep-rooted into the self-life, many times even beyond the point of our own awareness. These things are sometimes inherited or acquired through family backgrounds or personal experiences, etc. They are just a part of us as humans. Yet, they need adjustments in order for us to be truly molded into Christ's image in all things. The effects of the fall passed down to us from Adam are far more intricate than many people realize. They go far beyond our understanding and comprehension in many ways, and in many areas of our lives. Therefore, the plan of salvation through "sanctification of the Spirit" (II Thessalonians 2:13-14) includes not only the purification of our hearts from a depraved nature but also a healing process for our humanity. This process can only be performed by our continual yielding to the Holy Spirit's dealings with us regarding ourselves—making adjustments in those areas He illuminates where adjustments need to be made, destroying

and doing away with those things in us, or about us, which need to be destroyed and done away with. He comes to live within us, gives us a perfect heart, and then He goes to work to perfect those things concerning us. (see Psalm 138:8; also *Evening Light Songs* #195, verse 2.) Sanctification is an experience of the heart and soul which fully opens the door to the Holy Spirit, giving Him full access and right-of-way to begin this lifetime process. But it is an experience that is contingent upon us keeping ourselves as fully yielded as we were the moment we received it.

God said that He would not drive out the Canaanites in "one year," but little by little He would "drive them out from before thee, until thou be increased, and inherit the land." This reveals the progressive phase of the Holy Spirit's work in the sanctified life. We do not possess the fullness of all that sanctification provides the day we get sanctified. It then becomes ours for the taking, yes, but we must go forward in cooperation with our Guide, the Holy Spirit, in the great quest of "taking the land." This does not mean that we become more and more sanctified as we go along, but it means our experience in God becomes deeper, broader, richer and more fruitful. We possess more of this good land that is ours in the Holy Spirit whom God has given us as we learn to identify self, how to deny it and let the Spirit take control of those areas of our humanity where self reigned.

In verses 32-33 of Exodus 23, we find that the children of Israel were to "make no covenant" with the inhabitants of the land nor allow them to "dwell in the land." Why? "Lest they make thee sin against me" or "be a snare unto thee." This is a very important thought. These inhabitants of the land represent (traits, characteristics, etc.) deeply rooted and perhaps hidden within the humanity of sanctified people. These are not sins, but are things that can become a "snare" and cause sin. These inhabitants of our land are our enemies. But how are we going to recognize them? God will send His hornets—those things that will sting "self." You can be sure that the hornets will bring self out of its hiding place! As we identify self in those areas of our humanity where it may be hiding, we can pursue it, overcome it and bring our humanity into the moderation of the Holy Spirit. We must make no covenant with self-interest. We must not allow it to dwell in our land. When God sends His hornets and reveals to us those things deeply rooted within our humanity that are related to the self-life, then we must conquer them and drive them out. There may be many yet hiding within our human make-ups, personalities and temperaments that the hornets haven't brought out yet, but when they do, make no covenant with them, but destroy them. This is all a part of God's process of perfecting that which concerneth us and enabling us to fully inherit the land which is rightfully ours—this Canaan of full salvation.

Did you ever wonder how someone who you knew had an experience of sanctifica-

tion, and was living victoriously for awhile, ended up backslidden or under some kind of false spirit? Well, in many cases, this was how it happened. God's hornets brought some enemy relative to that individual's self-life out of its hiding place. But, instead of pursuing it, overcoming it, and slaying it, the individual made a covenant with it and permitted it to dwell in their land, that is, within his or her humanity. The result was, the soul was snared and ultimately fell back into sin.

We received the baptism of the Holy Spirit by giving Him permission to take full control of all aspects of our lives—by making a consecration of ourselves and all that pertains to us, both now and in the future. But, if at some future time we fail to fully cooperate and allow Him the complete right-of-way concerning us for any reason, we can grieve Him out of our hearts and make ourselves vulnerable to "other spirits." We can grieve Him in various ways. It can be through unwillingness to submit our ideas and opinions when He leads us into areas where those ideas and opinions con-

flict with those of some of our brethren. It can be through unwillingness to surrender our position for fear of humiliation and the affect on our image in the minds of our peers. It can be through the attitudes we take toward circumstances and people God allows to vex and try us along life's way. We could list many ways that sanctified people can grieve the Holy Spirit in various situations and circumstances they encounter along their life-long journey to heaven. And, if they grieve Him to a certain point (that point is only known to God) He will withdraw and leave them, and other spirits will rush in to fill up the vacuum. And, many times, these spirits are not what most people would recognize as unclean or evil spirits, but they are religious spirits—spirits of a higher order, specially designed by Satan to counterfeit the Holy Spirit Himself. These spirits move in, then, and begin to act as Holy Spirit to the soul, leaving it blinded to its real unperfected, untempered and immoderate condition due to self not having been slain. The heart and soul are then defiled and no longer pure before the Lord, although they may yet be very pious, and even consider themselves more holy than others.

Let us remember that the hornet stings God sends our way in life are needful and are sent to help us locate our enemy—"self." When God's hornets locate him, let us slay him lest he become a snare unto us and cause us to sin.

"When God sends His hornets and reveals to us those things deeply rooted within our humanity that are related to the self-life, then we must conquer them and drive them out."

FAITH AND VICTORY 16 PAGE HOLINESS MONTHLY



This non-sectarian paper is edited and published in the interest of the universal CHURCH OF GOD each month (except August of each year, and we omit an issue that month to attend camp meetings), by Wayne Murphey, and other consecrated workers at the FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE, 920 W. Mansur, Guthrie, OK 73044 (USPS 184-660).

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES



Single copy, one year \$3.00
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This publication teaches salvation from all sin, sanctification for believers, unity and oneness for which Jesus prayed as recorded in John 17:21, and manifested by the apostles and believers after Pentecost. By God's grace we teach, preach, and practice the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ—the same gospel that Peter, John, and Paul preached, taught, and practiced, including divine healing for the body. James 5:14-15.

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

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

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

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

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

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Editorials

We read a touching story in the 28th chapter of Matthew about two women named Mary who came to the sepulchre. They were intent on seeking Jesus. Instead, they were met by an angel. This great and holy angel, who had frightened the guards so much that they fell down as dead, did not deter the women. They persevered, saying, "Sir, we would see Jesus."

One lesson we learn from this story is that those with a true love for Christ will not be satisfied with angels alone. Nothing will appease the searching heart, but to have God Himself a witness to it.

Fellow believers who can help, encourage and point us to the Word of God are good to have, yet in order to face God in peace on the judgment day we must have had a personal revelation from Him.

Paul wrote to the Galatian church, "But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed." Galatians 1:8.

We esteem others for their works' sake, (I Thessalonians 5:13) but the guidance and convictions of our heart come from God Himself. It is easy to have someone tell us exactly how to live and what to believe. However, to do so is to make our souls vulnerable.

Recently, Bro. Phillip Gellenbeck brought a Sunday School lesson in Guthrie about our struggle to live for God and how it can be strengthening to us. He related the story of a man who watched a moth struggle mightily to come through a small hole in its cocoon. After accomplishing the task, the moth flew off. The man thought he would assist the next moth, so he cut the cocoon open for it. But the moth could not fly. The reason was that by failing to struggle through the small hole, the moth had not exercised itself or pushed blood into its wings, enabling it to fly.

I encourage you not to rely on others to see Christ for you, even if such a one should appear to be an angel. We are living in a lazy age, when many are satisfied to let others do for them what each should do for himself. We can't afford this luxury with things of eternal value

and consequence. Don't be fearful of asking questions which will lead you to forming God-given convictions. Don't be discouraged in your struggles to know God's will. We are told to work out our own salvation. (Phillippians 2:12). Struggles will make us strong. And God will meet us just as He did the two women.

During the month of May, three saints who labored at the Print Shop in years past went to be with the Lord.

My mother's brother, Andrew Pruitt, who was a part of the Print Shop family at its inception, and who worked here as a small boy, passed from this life on May 10, at the age of 90.

We are very grateful that we had the opportunity to see Uncle Andrew last July 11, 1998, when he traveled to the 75th Anniversary 'Workers' Reunion from his home in Oregon, to reminisce about happenings of long ago.

In 1968, Bro. Byron Wittenborn and his wife, Sis. Virginia, moved to the Guthrie area from California. Previously they had labored in the Mexico mission field. For several years they proofread, helped with Spanish translation, and did other tasks to assist the Print Shop work.

Bro. Byron certainly earned the reward which he now enjoys. We extend our sympathy to his family, especially Sis. Alberta, the daughter of Bro. Sam and Sis. Armilda Abbott, whom he married after his first wife's death.

If you would like to offer your condolences to Sis. Alberta and family, mail your correspondence to 201 East Forest Dr., Apt. 1, Payson, AZ 85541.

Another saint who will be missed is Sis. Lois Sharp. Her life was one given to God, a part of which included working at the Print Shop and laboring with her husband, Bro. Donald Sharp, in the ministry.

Our prayers are for God's sustaining grace to be with Bro. Donald and his loved ones in the days ahead. His address is 38801 Hardesty Rd., Apt. 7, Shawnee, OK 74801.

The flood we had in June of 1995 destroyed the printing negatives for the book Bible Readings for Bible Students by L. L. Speck and H. M. Riggle. It has been a long process to reset the book and reprint it, but it is now available. The present edition is bound in a heavy paper cover and priced at \$6.00. For shipping and handling, add \$1.00 for the first dollar of your total order, and 10¢ for each additional dollar.

We thank God for every accomplishment made in printing the Gospel. It is gratifying to see Christian literature printed and put into the mail. Through God's provision, and those who love His Word, we continue to send the news of Christ to many parts of the world.

We are still looking for greater ways to serve our Master, and we thank each of you who have submitted articles and testimonies for publication, and those who have stood with us in our work for the Lord. May God bless each one.

With love in Christ,

—Wayne Murphey

Prayer Requests



CA—Velma Paschal has had a stroke and has other afflictions.

KY—"Pray for me, please. I need help."

—Name Withheld

MO—"I still need prayer for arthritis."

—Sis. Zelda Dollins

Standing Prayer Requests

Sis. Lydia Bennett
 Bro. Jon Busbee
 Sis. Mamie Butcher
 Bro. Nathan Carver
 Sis. Tammy Clevenger
 Bro. Daniel Davis, Jr.
 Sis. Emma Dilley
 Bro. Dale Doolittle
 Sis. Elaine Dunn
 Sis. Olive Getterson
 Bro. Ben Harrison
 Sis. Janice Johnston
 Bro. Louis Kimble
 Sis. Helen Lambright
 Sis. Betty Lassché
 The Lounds sisters
 Sis. Mattie McIntyre
 Sis. Dollie O'Neal
 Sis. Rose Samons
 Sis. Kay Stover
 Sis. Marie Weatherford
 Bro. Curtis Williams, Sr.
 Bro. Max Williamson



CAMP MEETING DATES

Tulsa, OK—June 6-13
Jefferson, OR—June 11-20
Green Bank, WV—June 11-17
Loranger, LA—June 27-July 4
Fresno, CA—July 2-11
National (Monark Springs, MO)—July 16-25
Myrtle, MO—July 28-August 1
Ensenada, Mexico—August 4-8
Bakersfield, CA—August 11-15
California State (Pacoima)—Aug. 27-Sept. 5

WICHITA, KS, MEETING REPORT

The Lord truly did bless our meeting in an abundant way. We had visiting ministers for every service—all eight days. In all, fourteen ministers attended the meeting.

The messages were stirring and there was altar work. Three people were saved. One of the outstanding happenings was that the daughter of the late Sis. Willa Jane Williams, (from Hennessey, OK), Velma Tutt, got saved. She is 85 and felt it was time for her to get right with God and use what time she has left living for Him. She is happy and encouraged and means to go all the way with the Lord. She is my mother, and I have surely been made to rejoice over her becoming a part of God's family. Praise God!! Sis. Clara Barnett Phillips' son, Donald, also got saved, as well as Sis. Bonnie Riley's daughter, Nellie. We urge each of them to hold fast to the Savior.

The saints were blessed, edified and encouraged in the meeting, and we give God the glory. Our thanks go to everyone who came to help us in the meeting.

—Submitted by Sis. Shirley Knight

TULSA, OK, CAMP MEETING

The Tulsa, OK, camp meeting, Lord willing, will begin on Sunday, June 6, and end on Sunday, June 13, 1999.

There will be morning and night services Monday through Saturday at 10:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m., with afternoon services on both Sundays.

All are invited to attend these services. Please pray that every soul will get the help that they need.

The church address is 1102 E. Pine Pl. (The nearest main intersection is Pine and Peoria.)

For further information contact the pastor, Bro. Charles Lowe, (918) 584-6838 or Bro. Charles Rhodes, (918) 272-9682. The church telephone number is (918) 585-2442.

REVIVAL OUTREACH SERVICES ALCOA-MARYVILLE, TN

Lord willing, the congregation here plans a revival outreach meeting June 9-13, 1999.

Services will be held nightly at 7:00 p.m. Friday and Saturday nights will be for outreach in a park setting.

Accommodations are limited, but nearby motels are available. Comfort Suite, (800) 228-

5150, Fairfield Inn, (800) 228-2800, Ramada Inn, (800) 272-6232.

Pray that God will send gospel workers of His choosing and that He will have His way in this meeting.

For more information contact Sis. Mary McDonald (423) 977-6997 or Bro. and Sis. Dwight Porter (423) 984-2348. The chapel phone number is (423) 681-6838.

GREEN BANK, WV, CAMP MEETING

The Green Bank, WV, camp meeting will begin Friday night, June 11, and will end Thursday night, June 17. There will be two services daily, 11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. There are lodging facilities on the campgrounds. The nights are cool, so bring jackets and extra cover.

If you are coming from the north, take 250-219 out of Elkins, follow 250 until you come to 28-92 South. There will be signs when you get to Green Bank. Coming from the south take 92 out of White Sulphur Springs to Green Bank, then follow the signs.

Friday, the 18th, there will be a group leaving the campgrounds to go to Washington, D.C., for an outreach. We will be staying overnight in the area.

Please pray for the meeting, that it will be a blessing to the saints in this area and that souls will be reached.

For more information concerning the meeting, lodging, or the Washington, D.C. outreach, please call (304) 456-3017, (304) 456-3242 or (304) 456-4671.

TUSCALOOSA, AL

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. We, the saints in Alabama, wish to announce, Lord willing and conditions permitting, an old-fashioned tent meeting June 16-20th. We extend a warm welcome to all to come and worship with us. Come praying that the Lord will give us a Holy Spirit-filled meeting which will meet the needs of every soul present. Such a meeting cannot be worked up, but must be prayed down. We desire to see sinners saved, believers sanctified, the sick healed and the saints edified. We are trusting the Lord to send ministers of His choosing to labor in this meeting.

Services will be held nightly at 7:30 p.m., with day services to be announced. The meeting expenses will be met by free-will offerings. Any

contributions for the support of this meeting should be sent to Sis. Bernice Petty, 2207 4th St. East, Tuscaloosa, AL 35404. "Come now, and let us reason together." Isaiah 1:18.

For more information contact Bro. Louis Kimble (504) 467-9039, Bro. John Clement (504) 536-3767 or Sis. Jessie Shelton (205) 339-3026.

Yours in Christ, —Bernice Petty

GENERAL SOUTHERN CAMP MEETING LORANGER, LA

You are invited to be a part of the camp meeting here. This will be an 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 held Sunday, June 27th, through Sunday, July 4th, with services daily. Come prepared for a blessing. We would like to invite the ministers and gospel workers to come a little early Friday, June 25, and Saturday, June 26, for a special time of prayer and sharing of burdens for the Lord's work and His people. 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.

NATIONAL CAMP MEETING MONARK SPRINGS

The national camp meeting of the Church of God will be held, Lord willing, at Neosho (Monark Springs), MO, July 16-25, 1999. All are cordially invited to come and bring others to enjoy the blessings we are expecting from the Lord.

The Monark Springs campground is located approximately five miles east of Neosho, MO. It is one mile east and 3/4 mile South of the intersection of Highways 86 and 59.

If you travel to Neosho by bus, you may

telephone the campground, (417) 472-6427, or Bro. Mike Hightower, (417) 451-3636, for transportation.

The camp meeting is conducted on a freewill offering basis. There is no charge for meals or lodging on the campgrounds. You are welcome to come and enjoy the meeting. We are confident that God will supply every need. Meals will be served in the dining hall. Dormitory space and trailer spots are available on a first-come basis. Family units are also available.

All correspondence about dormitory space and family units should be addressed to Sis. DeLoris Bradley, 1540 2000 Rd., Bartlett, KS 67332. Phone, (316) 226-3390.

The business managers are Randel Bradley (above address), and Mike Hightower, 13974 Newt Dr., Neosho, MO 64850. Phone, (417) 451-3636.

BAKERSFIELD, CA, CAMP MEETING

Greetings from Bakersfield, CA. All of us here are extending a hearty invitation for you to join with us in our annual camp meeting which is being held August 11-15. There will be two services daily, 12:00 noon and 7:00 p.m. We are praying and expecting a special visitation from God with inspirational, spirit-filled messages. Come and be with us if you can. If you can't

come, join us in prayers and expectations of great blessings from the Lord. For more information, contact our pastor, Bro. Hayward Cox, (661) 366-4718.

50th ANNIVERSARY! CAMP MEETING Come and Worship The Lord

Where: Church of God Campgrounds
12312 Osborne Place
Pacoima, CA 91331
(818) 899-2022

When: Aug. 27—Sept. 5, 1999

Services: 10:30 a.m., 2:30 p.m.
and 7:30 p.m.

Breakfast, lunch and dinner
will be served

We especially want all people to come who have ever been touched by and associated with the saints. Let us share some sweet memories and look at old pictures. Bring yours—Saturday 28th from 4-7 p.m. Let's eat supper together.



LETTERS



MI—Dear Bro. Wayne: I send you greetings in the name of Jesus Christ.

I thank God for His full salvation which He purchased on the cross of Calvary. Jesus did a perfect work there, and He has been everything to me that He promised to be.

I am encouraged that God is working in the hearts of mankind everywhere. I hear people talking, and I know that God has visited them. My prayer, and I know the prayer of all God's children, is that people will take time to let God reason with their hearts and bring them to salvation....

In the love of Christ,

— Bro. Milford Parsons

KS—Dear ones at *Faith and Victory*: Just a note this morning to thank you for the prayers on Leo Hiebert's behalf. He had cancer, but now it is in remission. We thank the Lord for His healing touch, and we pray and believe that He will continue His work with Leo until he is completely healed and saved.

Thank you again for all of your prayers, and for your outreach to so many people in so many ways.
—Sis. Naomi Dickerson Hiebert

LA—Dear loved ones: Thanks to Jesus, a miracle was wrought in Uncle Arlda Stice's life. He was saved at the last hour. We appreciate all your prayers for his salvation.

Aunt Ila Woodhull and Aunt May Forbes were able to care for him until he passed on to glory.

Ezekiel 34 was a text used at the memorial service, which encouraged the ones that have been saddened. Jesus gives us hope. Praise the good Lord.

Love,

—Sis. Catherine Bhramayana

OK—Bro. Wayne: I would like to let folks know how things are going with me. It seems like I have been on your prayer list for years. I have had muscular dystrophy about all my life, and according to the ones that keep track of this, I should have been dead many years ago. But God in His mercy has spared me and I have had a good life. I am now 68 years old, and that is not bad for even a well person.

As our children came along my prayer was that God would spare me to be able to help raise them, and He did. Now we have 29 grandchildren and some of them have married and have children (we have 4 great-grands). Isn't that amazing?

Several weeks ago I noticed a weakness in my lungs. It seemed like my breathing just kept getting a little more shallow every few days. About two weeks ago the breathing became very shallow and my lungs seemed to be filling with fluid. I didn't have it checked, but I know it was serious. The saints were so good to pray for me and to come by and encourage me. It got to where I couldn't sleep in the bed, and I got so weary and weak. For a few days it just seemed like the end was near.

One night especially, it seemed like each breath might be the last. I realized that the saints are so dear and will do all they can, but there comes the time and the place where we will have to walk the last few steps alone and meet God for ourselves. Not even our dearest companion will be by our side at that time. We can't blame someone else if we haven't lived right because we will face the Lord for ourselves. I wondered if it just might be my time, but soon the Lord had mercy and gave relief. I got a special touch. I believe the Lord has spared me again and is raising me up.

I thank the Lord for His touch and the saints for their prayers and support.

We are so thankful for the strength God has given to Dora. Even with all her aches and pains from arthritis, she has still been able to take care of things and household duties.

We certainly do appreciate you and your work there. May the Lord bless abundantly.

Christian love, —Bro. Dale Doolittle

LA—Dear ones: We have thanksgiving and praise to God for all that He has done for our youngest son, Terrell, who was very sick. It is very good to see him out riding his bike and playing—thank the Lord! We do appreciate the

prayers of the saints in his behalf. Continue to remember us in your prayers.

—Bro. Ferlin and Sis. Kathy Palmer

OK—Dear Bro. Wayne: Greetings to you in the lovely name of Jesus, our Lord. I am glad that I know Him.

One scripture says, "Israel shall be saved in the Lord with an everlasting salvation: ye shall not be ashamed nor confounded world without end." Isaiah 45:17. Contrariwise, we shall have fullness of joy forevermore. I want to strive for that crown that awaits us.

Wife and I are contented with our new move to Shawnee. We have more opportunity of doing good. We want to be faithful and do what we can.

We desire your prayers. Neither one of us is very strong in body.

With Christian love,

—Bro. and Sis. T. V. McMillian

MO—Dear *Faith and Victory* personnel: I am happy to have received your publication. I am reluctant to cut the order blank out of this edition of your paper, because of the message on the other side. So I took one from an older edition.

I enjoy the testimonies of God's children and the "Window To The Past."

My husband's mother's family originated from Oklahoma, and I notice that Oklahoma seems to be the starting point for a lot of your articles, such as the prayer requests and other statements....

I sincerely desire your prayers for my husband, Wright Louis Pullen, and myself, Ethel M. Pullen. I am 79 years old and he is soon going to be 82 years of age. We need your prayers for health problems. I have diabetes, with other serious health conditions. My husband has osteoarthritis and other problems.

I appreciate your *Faith and Victory* publication and your prayers for our health and a closer walk with our most precious Savior. Pray for our loved ones to draw near to Him.

Sincerely, —Sis. Ethel Pullen

Canada—Dear Bro. Wayne, all of the saints in Guthrie and wherever you may be: Greetings in the lovely name of our Lord Jesus. I praise God for still hearing and answering prayer. Prayer was a great help for our very sick son, Ron. Slowly but surely he is getting some better. More prayer is still needed.

Wife and I are planning to take part in the Guthrie, OK, and Green Bank, WV, camp meetings. We trust our Lord Jesus will make it all possible, and He will if we only have good faith. We are not the healthiest in body, but the Lord is taking that into consideration. We have always trusted Him for everything and the Lord will undertake this time also. Please pray for us, as it will be a big undertaking. We have asked the Lord to let us go to Guthrie and to take part in the meeting one more time.

We love you all.

—Bro. George and Sis. Gertrude Schroeder



From India:

May 1, 1999—Dear Bro. Wayne Murphey: Greetings to you and the dear saints in America, and other parts of the world.

We had a wonderful five days Vacation Bible School during the second week of April. Two hundred children attended and there were 18 teachers to teach them.

The convention at Koottervila was also a blessed one. The attendance was good and those who gathered were blessed with very anointed messages. All other church activities are going on fine.

May God bless your labors in the Print Shop. Our prayers are for the spiritual progress of the saints everywhere.

Yours in Him, —Bro. John Varghese



From Rivers State, Nigeria:

April 10, 1999—Dear Bro. Murphey: Holy greetings to you and the entire Print Shop family in Jesus' name. We do pray for you always, so please keep encouraged. We also solicit your prayers always, as we can't succeed without prayer....

Last Sunday a relation of mine in my paternal family was baptized as a believer here in Tombia. It has also been arranged that tomor-

row another convert who seeks baptism shall be baptized. We earnestly join the heavenly host in rejoicing over them and others who have truly repented. Whoever believes in Jesus and is baptized shall be saved!

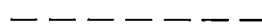
We are very thankful to our heavenly Father for the spread of the evening light truth to Ogu, the hometown of Bro. Israel Darick. This town is a local government seat in Rivers State. Bro. Israel was baptized in his town in September of last year, during a three-day evangelistic outreach. Last month several of our born-again youths visited the brother at Ogu, and they brought a progress report that is encouraging. Church meetings are now being held there in a rented room. Your prayers are solicited on behalf of that work. Thanks.

Our national economy requires fervent prayers of the saints. The healing of any nation's economy is for God to perform through the earnest prayers of His faithful children. Therefore there is still hope for improvement in the Nigerian mismanaged economy.

Last month I lost two close relatives who were younger than myself. One was my father's daughter, and the other belonged to my maternal family. My deep sorrow has been expressed regarding their unsaved souls.

May the Lord be with you all to the fast approaching end.

—Bro. Onimite B. Alalibo

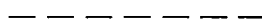


From Ghana:

April 18, 1999—Dear Bro. Wayne: I send greetings to you and all the saints abroad. We thank God that He has been doing wonderful things here. The work is still moving on. Lord willing, we will have one week of workers' meeting during the last week of April, 1999. This meeting will help renew the strength of the workers in the Church of God in Ghana.

We now have a branch at a town called Tanoso, and another one at a town called Nkeukasu. The church at Akumadan takes care of these branches. Pray for us that God may assist us to take good care of them....

Yours for Christ, —Maxwell Nkausah



Missions Update by Bro. Michael Smith:

Dear Saints: In a recent letter from Bro. Maxwell in Ghana, he stated, "By the grace of God all are doing well here in Ghana and the Lord is doing wonderful things in our midst—restitution, forsaking all, and power to over-

come sin through the blood of Jesus Christ. Not only is the church increasing in numbers, but records in the Book of Life."

We thank the Lord for how He has been blessing the work in Ghana. Funds were recently sent to help the saints complete the structure of the chapel building. It has been a great blessing not only to the saints, but to the townspeople in Akumadan.

The ministers have been reaching out to surrounding towns and have a great burden to spread the gospel. An amplifier and microphones were recently purchased to help in the outreach ministry. Lord willing, there will be a campmeeting for the first time in years in Ghana.

The saints have a special request for one of the Sunday school children. The child, Atta Boateng, has a hernia and is severely afflicted. The mother has sacrificed many of her belongings for the care of her child, and it is a great burden to the congregation. Please remember this child in prayer.

The saints in Malawi and Mozambique are still pressing on for the Lord. There have been a number of meetings held. In the past, we have visited the congregations in Malawi but not Mozambique. The need is great and the saints are desiring a visit to those congregations.

I am burdened to make a couple of trips to Africa this year as the Lord leads. Please pray that I will be able to obtain the necessary visas and that God will bless in this effort.

There are many spiritual, physical and financial needs in the work of God at large that we should continue to pray about. The work is great, so may the Lord help us each one to do our part.



The Words of Daniel Webster

If religious books are not widely circulated among the masses in this country, I do not know what is going to become of us as a nation. If truth be not diffused, error will be; if God and His word are not known and received, the devil and his works will gain the ascendancy: if the evangelical volume does not reach every hamlet, the pages of a corrupt and licentious literature will: if the power of the gospel is not felt throughout the length and breadth of the land, anarchy and misrule, degradation and misery, corruption and darkness, will reign without mitigation or end.

—In 1823 by former Secretary of State



Lois J. Sharp was born February 11, 1929, to Lloyd and Lula (Burtnett) Whipple in Forrest City, MO, and passed from this life May 13, at the age of 70.

Sis. Lois gave her heart to the Lord at a young age and kept her faith in the Lord until her death. At the age of 20 she went to work at Faith Publishing House, and gave four and one-half years of service in publishing the gospel.

On April 13, 1957, she became the bride of Bro. Donald Sharp. When the Lord called Bro. Donald into the ministry, Sis. Lois was a faithful helper as they labored in different congregations. Together they reared four children.

Two years ago Bro. Donald and Sis. Lois moved to an apartment at the Golden Rule Home. Sis. Lois was a resident of the nursing home when the Lord called her home.

Survivors include her husband, Donald Sharp of Shawnee, OK; three daughters, LaVonda Wattenbarger, of Vancouver, WA, Wanda Wattenbarger and Ramona Sharp, of Shawnee, OK; one son, Donald Sharp, Jr., of Huber Heights, OH; three sisters, Florence Schaeffer and Violet Sinkhorn, of Fairfax, MO, and Mary Sharp, of Columbus, OH; one brother, Robert Whipple, of Lubbock, TX; nine grandchildren and many other relatives, friends and saints.

She was preceded in death by her parents and three sisters.

Funeral services were held in the Shawnee, OK, Church of God, conducted by Bros. Michael Smith and Stanley Dickson.

Note of Thanks and Appreciation

We want to express our deep appreciation for the ones who prayed often and visited Lois

during her illness. We also thank everyone who sent get well cards and letters which brightened her life. All of the offerings and beautiful flowers after her death have helped cheer us up in this difficult time of change and adjustment.

May God reward each one with many spiritual blessings.

Much love and prayers,

—Bro. Donald Sharp and family



QUESTION AND ANSWER

BY

BRO. OSTIS B. WILSON

Reprint

QUESTION: Where is the Scriptural proof that the tabernacle of Moses was a shadow or type of the New Testament Church and the steps by which one enters into it?

ANSWER: In the 9th chapter of Hebrews, the first eight verses give a detailed description of the Old Testament Sanctuary with its altars, furnishings and all the appurtenances thereto. Then in verse 9 it says, “Which was a FIGURE for the time then present.” This makes it clear that the tabernacle of the First Covenant was a figure of something. But what? In Hebrews 9:24 it says, “...the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the TRUE;...” In the 8th chapter of Hebrews, the 1st verse speaks of the High Priesthood of Jesus, and then verse two, describing this further, says, “A minister of the sanctuary, and of the TRUE tabernacle, which the Lord pitched, and not man.” Further, Hebrews 9:11, “But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building.” In Matthew 16:18 we see clearly what the greater and more perfect tabernacle was which the Lord pitched and not man and which was not made with hands. Here Jesus says, “...upon this rock I will BUILD my church;...” Then it is clear that the tabernacle which the Lord pitched (built) is His church. You may ask: “Is the church referred to

in the New Testament as a tabernacle?” It certainly is in a number of places. However, we must remember that the tabernacle was set up during the Israelites’ wanderings in the wilderness and was of necessity a portable structure. When they became settled in the promised land and were permanently established, then the portable structure (tabernacle) was replaced by a permanent structure (the temple) which was identical with the tabernacle in its arrangements and served the same purpose in the exact same way. In the New Testament, the church is more generally referred to as a TEMPLE rather than a TABERNACLE. See Ephesians 2:19-22 and II Corinthians 6:16. However, it is also referred to as a TABERNACLE in Hebrews 8:2; Hebrews 9:11; and Revelation 21:3.

The steps by which we enter the tabernacle or temple of the Lord—His New Testament Church—are clearly typified in the Old Testament Tabernacle also. In the 38th chapter of Exodus, verses 1-20, is described the court surrounding the tabernacle, the brazen altar of sin, burnt offerings and the laver; all of which were outside the tabernacle proper, but necessary appurtenances to it; consequently typifying necessary steps to enter into the tabernacle or church. Into the court came the sinning Israelite with his sin offering to be offered on the altar of burnt offering. The court would typify the state of the convicted sinner. Just as this court was an enclosure separated from the outside world and general activities of the people into which the Israelite entered to make his offering unto God for his sins, so the convicted sinner stricken with remorse and godly sorrow today becomes withdrawn from the world and reckless, sinful living. His state is described in II Corinthians 7:9-11 where it describes the person stricken with godly sorrow as having a great carefulness wrought in him—not sinning recklessly and with a high hand as before. Also, it speaks of him clearing himself and having a strong indignation against

sin and wrong that has ruined his life. Also, he has a vehement desire to be delivered and set free and a strong feeling for revenge against the works of the devil that have brought him to this ruined state.

Then as he follows these strong urges and impulses in his soul and approaches unto the altar of sin offering, which typifies Christ Himself (see Hebrews 13:10-12 and 16, together with I Peter 2:5, which presents Christ as our altar), and in deep penitence and humbleness of heart offers himself dead in trespasses and sins on the altar of Christ (His mercy and love manifested at Calvary), putting his faith in the merits of the shed blood of the son of God and that only for his pardon and forgiveness of sins, his sins are forgiven him for Jesus' sake.

Then he approaches the laver which stood just before the door of the tabernacle and was always filled with water in which the priests were required to wash their hands and feet before entering the tabernacle (this water typified the Word of God—John 15:3 and Ephesians 5:26 and I Peter 1:22, and the blood of Jesus, Revelation 1:5 and I John 1:7), and is washed from his sins and enters into the tabernacle of the Lord through Christ, the Door. (John 10:9.)



Our Heavenly Father Careth For You

By Sis. Connie Sorrell

Once a boy fell and hurt his knee. His mother saw his fall and she gathered him into her arms, kissing his wet cheeks and whispering words of love into his ear. She comforted him and patched his injury.

"Help me!" cried a little girl to her father as her feet struggled to catch the runaway pedals on her bicycle. Quickly, her father raced after the bicycle and stopped both bike and daughter from falling. He rescued his child and she was thankful.

One time a mother came to Jesus and asked that He heal her daughter of a bad spirit. Jesus denied her request of assistance. Then Jesus commended the mother and said her faith had

set her daughter free. (Matt. 15:21-28.)

In each of these incidents loving parents were concerned about their children's well-being. A child is a part of his parents and very precious to them. Jesus said His Father's love was like unto the love of good parents.

"What man is there of you, whom if his son ask bread, will he give him a stone? Or if he ask a fish, will he give him a serpent? If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him?" Matt. 7:9-11. The Lord wants us to keep faith in Him just as a child believes in his parents to supply his basic needs.

When that mother saw her child fall, she picked him up and loved him. So the father rescued his daughter before she was hurt. Our heavenly Father cares about our needs in just this way, and even more so because we never outgrow His arms or ability to help us. No problem is ever too big for our Father.

Notice how Jesus honored the mother who kept insisting on His help? She was not discouraged when Jesus refused to help her daughter, but she humbled herself and asked until she received. We need to follow her example and humbly bring our needs to our heavenly Father. He asks that we do so. (John 15:16.) He knows about our needs and troubles before we even ask, but He wants us to communicate with Him. (Matt. 6:5-8.) He is a loving parent and He wants a close relationship with His children. Let us not be discouraged in bringing our troubles and sorrows to Him. He may test our faith as He did this mother's, but He does care.

Are you wounded so deeply inside that words cannot express the hurt? Your heavenly Father already knows about it and He can ease the pain. (Rom. 8:27.)

Have you fallen and injured yourself? Your heavenly Father still loves you and He can lift you up. (Isaiah 55:7.)

Perhaps you are weary and laboring under heavy responsibilities. Our Lord says, "Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." Mat. 11:28. Don't let the cares of life keep you from talking to your heavenly Father.

Do you have a burden or a concern for a loved one? Take it to the Lord in prayer. "Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you." I Peter 5:7.

Our heavenly Father is concerned about everything that touches our hearts. He has said that a mother may forget her child, but He will not forget His, because "Behold, I have graven thee upon the palms of my hands." Isa. 49:16. His children are a precious part of Him and He will not forsake us. As we draw nigh to God, He will draw closer to us. (James 4:8.) "Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need." Heb. 4:16.



Parents, Have You Tried Prayer?

"Lane has been making trouble again. I dislike to tell you, but what can we do with him?" Mrs. Houston stood by the gate with the tears running down her cheeks, as her husband drove up to his house.

"What is it now?" he asked, with a dark, discouraged look upon his face.

"Oh, that poor boy has sold his watch to procure one of those little revolvers that are so temptingly advertised in our papers. He got angry at his sisters this morning, and I heard him say, 'Take care there, or I will draw my gun on you!' I entered the room to find him standing with a loaded revolver pointing at the girls' heads. I commanded him as calmly as I could to go to his room, but the scene gave my nerves such a shock that I have been in a tremble ever since!"

"He obeyed you, did he not?"

"He refused to give up the weapon, but left the living room for his bedroom, saying that he had the best of the family now, and would bring them all to terms before he got through. I have been momentarily expecting that he would shoot himself, or some one of the family, and have listened for the report of the revolver till I am quite unnerved."

"We shall have to send him to the Reform School," said Mr. Houston decidedly. "His offences heretofore have been grave enough to send him to a worse place. I will have lunch, and then immediately start for M—. Oh, it is hard; it is humiliating beyond measure to be obliged to acknowledge to the world that I have a son whose conduct is such as to bring him within the statutory provisions concerning commitments to the Reform School."

Mr. Houston returned from his mournful errand just in time for the six o'clock dinner. When he went to his room to freshen up his wife

followed him. "What is the result of your journey?" she asked as soon as they were alone. Her husband looked so distressed that she began to tremble again, and when he attempted to reply it was some moments before he could command his voice, or find words to make himself intelligible.

"The superintendent of the school, a very pleasant, agreeable man, and a Christian, to whom I had confided, some time since, my anxiety in regard to Lane, listened to this new trouble with a grave sympathy which quite won my heart. When I had finished speaking, he said, 'Yes, Mr. Houston, you must have him sent here now by all means. He needs the discipline of this institution. But before arrangements are made, I want to ask you one question: you say he has always been a hard case to manage; that you have tried every way to effect his reformation; that love, fear and force have all been employed in the premises; and that you have even tried to hire him to alter his behavior, paying him a certain sum of money per day so long as he should commit no misdeed; but all these measures have failed. Now I want to know whether you have tried praying with him.'

"'No,' said I, very much taken by surprise. 'I have never thought of doing that'

"'Well,' said the superintendent, 'you must go home and pray with him. I don't feel as if I could receive him or have anything to do with the case until the power of prayer at his home, and that in his presence, has been tried.'

"'I cannot pray before my family,' I said.

"'What! You, a church member, do not have family prayer?'

"'No, sir,' was my answer, very deeply humiliated by the confession.

"'Go home and set up a family altar tonight', he said.

"'I cannot,' I pleaded. 'I have not the courage to broach the matter, even to my wife. We never speak upon the subject of religion.'

"'It is high time you take up this cross, if a cross it is,' he urged. 'How can you expect that son to submit his will to yours when you do not submit your will to the Master? Tonight at nine o'clock call your family together. Read a chapter of the Word of God, and lead in prayer. At that time my wife and I will go into our closets and pray for you all, and especially for Lane. Let us now take the Lord Jesus Christ into our council.'

"Dear husband," replied Mrs. Houston, sob-

bing, "I have been thinking for a long time that we are shirking our duty in this direction. Do not have any more misgivings about it; do not hesitate another moment. I will arrange everything this evening—never fear. The Lord will pardon us, let us hope, and give us strength when the hour arrives."

"Has Lane been downstairs since?" asked the father, himself moved to tears. "No, and he has had nothing to eat, and no one has spoken to him since breakfast."

"What if he should start to go downtown to spend the evening?"

"I have a plan which I think will keep him at home tonight."

On his way downstairs Mr. Houston went to his son's door and called in a pleasant voice, "Come, my son, dinner is waiting." Lane quickly opened the door, with his hair freshly combed and neatly attired. He had dressed for dinner, although expecting, should he try the door, to find it still locked upon the outside, and not doubting that he was again to be put upon a protracted diet of bread and water.

He came downstairs, wondering, on the way, if it were possible that his father in this controversy had espoused his cause against his mother; or whether, as it seemed most likely to him, the possession of the vicious little firearm had not indeed brought them all to terms.

Lane was given to stealing out of the house in the evenings, and frequenting questionable resorts in company with boys who were nearly as wayward as himself; but tonight Mrs. Houston forestalled any such course by saying as soon as dinner was over, "I wish, children, you would make two or three pans full of popcorn balls to carry to the charity festival tomorrow. The materials are all ready, and, Lane, you must superintend the popping of the corn and the preparation of the molasses and sugar."

This was one of the lad's favorite pastimes, and he went about the business in hand with alacrity, his brothers and sisters obeying his many orders, glad to have this new outbreak blow over without developing into a regular warfare between him and his father.

When eight thirty came, Mrs. Houston was called out into the kitchen to see the result of the evening's labor.

"Thank you, my good children," she said. "They are as nice and white and round as any that could be made by the confectioners themselves. Now wash up so as to be in the living

room when the clock strikes nine; there is something else pleasant in store for you."

The young people obeyed, wondering and eager. At nine o'clock precisely their mother folded up the day's newspapers and brought a large Bible and placed it upon the reading table.

Mr. Houston's voice trembled a little as he said, "It has been brought very forcibly to my mind today that I have been shamefully neglecting my duty and the highest welfare of you, my children, in not joining with you in the study of this blessed Word and in family prayer. Tonight we will begin a different course, and see whether we shall not all be made happier and better by following it." He now read a chapter, and then knelt down. His wife and children followed his example, all except Lane. He sat bolt upright with a stern, pale face, and perturbed air, now and then casting quick glances toward the door as if meditating an escape.

The poor father at first could find no words to express his conflicting thoughts and deep prayerful desires; but as he called to mind the superintendent and his wife on their knees in prayer for him at that very moment, his stammering tongue was unloosed, and his burdened soul found a wonderful freedom at the throne of grace. As he was closing a most tender and pathetic appeal in behalf of his erring son and that all might submit their rebellious wills to Christ's loving sovereignty, Lane arose from his chair, crossed the room, and kneeling by his father's side, threw his arm around his neck, sobbing: "Pray on, father! pray on! I have tried to ask God to cleanse my wicked heart, but I could not seem to reach Him by myself. I know He will hear me now, when you are all willing to pray with me."

The whole family arose from their knees with melted hearts and tearful faces. It came out that the eldest two daughters had been in the habit of praying in secret, and they declared this to be the happiest hour of their lives.

Lane was completely subdued. The leaven of repentance and faith toward God had worked entire reformation and healing. He stepped up to the table and laid the loaded revolver upon it near his father's side. "It is I who have been brought to terms," he said. "I don't think you'll have any more trouble with me. Forgive, oh forgive me, my father and mother, and brothers and sisters, as I hope in the forgiveness of Jesus Christ!"

(This story is available in tract form.)

*Father's Day
June 20*

When a little boy said an ugly word, he looked sheepishly at a man who stood nearby. The man told the boy that the use of the word wouldn't hurt him and that he should learn to say whatever he wished. The little boy was puzzled for a moment and then said, "If you were my father, you would not say that."

A famous and busy member of the English House of Lords is reported to have met his small son playing in Hyde Park and said, "Child, I have seen you before somewhere!"



**Excerpts Taken From
June, 1949 Faith and Victory**

"Do you believe that hell is the place of torment that the Bible says it is? Do you believe it is a place of eternal torment? Do you believe there are many round about you that are treading the broad road down to this place of eternal wretchedness? Do you act like you believe all this?"

What if you should see a man working in his garden and nearby were some children who were approaching a dangerous precipice over which they would soon fall if not given warning? You ask him if he does not see them. He replies that he does, but the weeds are growing so fast in his garden that he has no time to rescue the children. It does seem that there are many today who are so busy with the things of this world that they have no time to rescue souls from the miseries that are awaiting the lost. How sad to hear those say they are on the way to heaven who are putting forth a far greater effort to get a few things of time than they are to gain souls for Christ and eternal glory. If you knew that a murderer was lying in wait to murder your neighbor, you would hurry to give him warning, but you see the devil scheming to get his soul and you never say a word. Is your love stronger for the temporal things than for the souls of men? What answer does your life give?"

—C. E. Orr

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