

FAITH AND VICTORY

USPS184-660

Church of God Servant



Volume 79, No. 8 79th Year Guthrie, Oklahoma \$3.00 Per Year Nov., 2001

A THANKSGIVING...

By Lucy Larcom



For the wealth of pathless forests,
Whereon no axe may fall;
For the winds that haunt the branches,
The young bird's timid call;
For the red leaves dropped like rubies
Upon the dark green sod;
For the waving of the forests,—
I thank thee, O my God!

For the sound of water gushing
In bubbling beads of light;
For the fleets of snow-white lilies
Firm anchored out of sight;
For the reeds among the eddies,
The crystal on the clod;
For the flowing of the river,—
I thank thee, O my God!

For the rosebud's break of beauty
Along the toiler's way;

For the violet's eye that opens
To bless the new-born day;
For the bare twigs that in summer
Bloom like the prophet's rod;
For the blossoming of flowers,—
I thank thee, O my God!

For the lifting up of mountains,
In brightness and in dread;
For the peaks where snow and sunshine
Alone have dared to tread;
For the dark and silent forests,
Whence mighty cedars nod;
For the majesty of mountains,—
I thank thee, O my God!

For the splendor of the sunsets,
Vast mirrored on the sea;
For the gold-fringed clouds that curtain
Heaven's inner mystery;
For the molten bars of twilight,
Where thought leans glad yet awed;
For the glory of the sunsets,—
I thank thee, O my God!

For the earth and all its beauty,
The sky and all its light;
For the dim and soothing shadows,
That rest the dazzled sight;
For unfading fields and prairies,
Where sense in vain has trod;
For the world's exhaustless beauty,—
I thank thee, O my God!

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For an eye of inward seeing,
 A soul to know and love;
 For these common aspirations,
 That our high heirship prove;
 For the hearts that bless each other
 Beneath thy smile, thy rod;
 For the amaranth saved from Eden,—
 I thank thee, O my God!

For the hidden scroll, o'erwritten,
 With one dear name adored;
 For the heavenly in the human—
 The spirit in the Word;
 For the tokens of thy presence
 Within, above, abroad;
 For thine own great gift of being,—
 I thank thee, O my God!

An Insight into Expressing Gratitude

By Bro. Paul Sorrell



For thousands of years, people in many lands have held fall festivals as their way of expressing gratitude for another year's harvest. Since crops mean food, and food sustains their livelihood, people want to express themselves some way. The United States and Canada both observe a national day of Thanksgiving each year, celebrated with big dinners and joyous family reunions. Many special memories are created.

One of the first Thanksgivings was entirely spiritual. It did not involve feasting. On Dec. 4, 1619, English settlers arrived at Berkeley Plantation near Charles City, VA. The group's charter required that a yearly day of Thanksgiving and gratitude to God be observed. They were to meditate and remember their dangerous voyage coming over and how God had protected and cared for them.

In observing and appreciating people who express gratitude, I have been attracted to a special few who have served others. Some serve by preparing meals for the handicapped, elderly and those who are shut-in. Others remember those who have no immediate family close enough to celebrate with, so they ask them in to share a meal and spend the day. Others choose to serve in a soup kitchen or mission. They express gratitude by giving food to the hungry and clothes to the homeless. They feel so grateful that they have something to give to those less fortunate.

That seems to be what our Lord taught when He said, "But when thou makest a feast, call the poor, the maimed, the lame, the blind: And thou shalt be blessed; for they cannot recompense thee: for thou shalt be recompensed at the resurrection of the just." Luke 14:13-14.

Is there any better way to express gratitude to our Lord than in remembering those who

suffer and are less fortunate? Let Christ answer. "And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me." Matt. 25:40.

This does not prohibit entertaining or celebrating with family or friends, for socializing is healthy for a family. But Jesus said it is more blessed to give than to receive. Whether we have little or much for which to be grateful, let us express our gratitude by seeking out those who are less fortunate. Our reward will be in experiencing the thrill and blessing of giving during this Thanksgiving season.

True Greatness Lies in Helping Others

By Sis. Mary Murphey

Have you ever longed to do something big with your life? Something that would make a tremendous impact on those around you, maybe even around the world? Something so significant that it would carve your name in history as indelibly as those figureheads on Mount Rushmore? Most of us probably nurture an inner desire to make a difference in our lifetime.

Sometimes we get sidetracked into thinking that unless what we do is accompanied by excitement and fanfare, it doesn't really count. We may feel that everyone has to know about it for it to matter. But that philosophy is false.

Think about it. What is a significant accomplishment? What is it that makes us BIG in the world of achievement?

I like the quote which says, "In a thousand years, the world won't care what clothes you wore, or that your house was exquisite, or that

your salary was six figures. But the world will be different because you touched the life of a child (or a fellow human being) and made that difference."

Could it be that big accomplishments are sometimes just small acts of service to those right around us?

I think of the words of Jesus when He said that those who give a cup of cold water in His name will not lose their reward. In fact, if you study the New Testament, you will find it was often the contribution of the insignificant person which was valued most.

Remember the widow who gave just a mite? Jesus said she had given more than those who gave much. And the boy whose basket of fish and bread became the meal for a multitude? Their small gifts became history and are often referred to in churches throughout the land.

I remember an incident when an inconsequential act made an impression on me.

I was attending a public event when a child in the crowd began to cry uncontrollably. The parent made an attempt to quiet it, but his efforts were all in vain. It didn't help that people were turning to stare, or "glare," in curiosity and resentment at the noisy distraction.

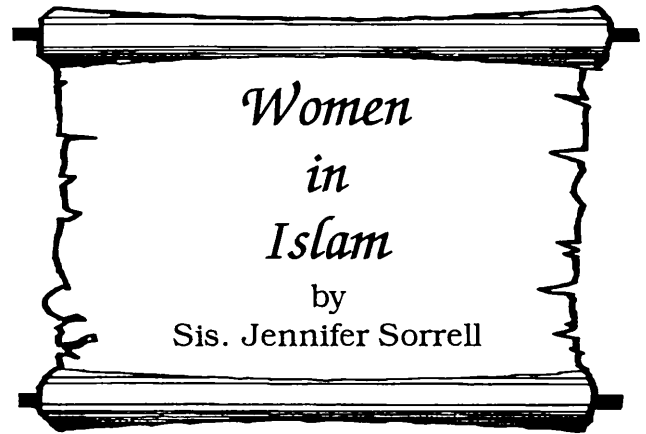
Suddenly a woman rose from her seat and purposefully made her way toward the pair. Gently she offered the child an edible treat, which was eagerly accepted. Everyone relaxed as the crying stopped, and soon the crowd's interest turned elsewhere.

The woman's caring was a simple deed, but it carried its own weight of goodness. Her spirit of kindness made a difference in the world.

Perhaps you could call it a "one person at a time difference." That's the way one writer described it. She said it is the kind of difference made by friends and family who laugh and cry with you through the knocks of life, co-workers who challenge you in positive ways, neighbors whose simple actions—like smiling and waving as they drive past—bring you a measure of joy.

Do you want to be great? Do you want to make a difference? Do you have ambitions for accomplishment? Then remember, little things count, too—like the small courtesies and kindnesses of everyday life.

Someone summed it up this way, "True greatness lies not in trying to be somebody, but in trying to help somebody." Why not do your bit of good today? That will be an achievement in itself.



(Editor's note: This thesis was written last year by Sis. Jennifer Sorrell as a school project. Due to recent world events I feel our readership will find this article enlightening. It should also cause a deep sense of gratitude for the freedom which is found in our nation and in Christ.)

In the book of Genesis we read that God promised Abram more descendants than the stars in heaven. (Gen. 15:5.) At this time, Abram was eighty-five years old and his wife, Sarai, seventy-five. According to nature, it was impossible for Sarai to have a child, so she gave her young Egyptian maidservant to Abram that Hagar might bear him a son. (Gen. 16.)

When Hagar realized she was with child, she acted haughtily toward Sarai, who in turn treated Hagar roughly. This caused Hagar to leave Abram's camp. The angel of the Lord found her by a fountain of water. The angel told her to return to Abram because she would give him a son who would have many children. In Genesis it states that the angel said her son would be "a wild man; his hand will be against every man, and every man's hand against him; and he shall dwell in the presence of all his brethren." Hagar obeyed the angel. She went back and a son was born to her and Abram, whom they named Ishmael, meaning "God shall hear."

Genesis, written by Moses through God's inspiration, tells us that Abram's name was then changed to Abraham because he would be a father of many nations. Ishmael was thirteen years old, Abraham was a hundred, and Sarah ninety, when the two visiting angels promised a son would be born to Sarah and Abraham. It came to pass that Sarah gave birth to Isaac, who was the promised son. (Gen. 21.)

(Continued on page 12.)

FAITH AND VICTORY
16 PAGE HOLINESS MONTHLY

Editorials

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, 4318 S. Division, Guthrie, OK 73044 (USPS184-660).

(Periodical postage paid at Guthrie, OK)

As we approach the Thanksgiving holiday, our thoughts turn to the blessings God has sent our way, and the realization that whatever our situation in life, we can find something for which to be grateful.

In teaching the disciples to pray, Christ said, "Give us this day our daily bread." Matt. 6:11. Provision for the basics of life should not be taken for granted. And when God answers prayer for those needs, which He has promised to do, His goodness should be acknowledged. Many times in the past He has provided, even in miraculous ways.

An incident is recorded which occurred shortly after World War II. A woman entered a grocery store and asked for enough food for a Christmas dinner for her children. When the owner inquired how much she could afford, she answered, "My husband was killed in the war. Truthfully, I have nothing to offer but a little prayer."

The man, an unbeliever, was unmoved by the woman's need, and said sarcastically, "Write your prayer on a piece of paper and you can have its weight in groceries." To his surprise, the woman plucked a folded note out of her pocket and handed it to him. "I already did that during the night while I was watching over my sick child," was her immediate reply.

Without even reading it, the man put it on one side of his old-fashioned scales. "We'll see how much food this is worth," he muttered. To his dismay, nothing happened when he put a loaf of bread on the other side. But he was even more upset when he added other items and still nothing happened. Finally he blurted out, "Well, that's all it will hold anyway. Here's a bag. You'll have to put these things in yourself. I'm busy!" With a tearful "Thank you," the lady went happily on her way.

The grocer later discovered that the scale was out of order. As the years passed, he often wondered if that was just a coincidence. Why did the woman have the prayer already written before he asked for it? Why did she come at exactly the time the mechanism was broken? Whenever he looks at the slip of paper that bears her petition, he is amazed, for it reads, "Please, dear Lord, give us this day our daily bread."

May we have a grateful heart, especially at this Thanksgiving season, and magnify God for every blessing of life He provides.

Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation. Includes fields for publication title, issue frequency, circulation numbers, and publisher information for Faith and Victory.

FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE
P. O. Box 518, 4318 S. Division, Guthrie, OK 73044
Office phone numbers: 405-282-1479, 800-787-1479;
fax number: 405-282-8318; home phone: 405-282-8170.
Internet address: http://www.faithpublishing.com
Postmaster: Please send address corrections to: Faith Publishing House, P. O. Box 518, Guthrie, OK 73044.

We had hoped to have a CD presentation of the Philippine missionary work completed and ready for sale by this time. Due to technical difficulties, it has been delayed. We hope by next month to be able to announce its availability.

Word has been received that God is prospering gospel efforts in the Philippines and that the saints there are encouraged.

One area of special need in the Philippines is in the barrio of Llanera. A sizable congregation, many of whom are young people, are serving God there with zeal. Due to the difficult living conditions in their area, they are unable to afford a chapel. They meet in the open air under the trees when the weather permits. During the rainy season, church services have to be canceled. It would be wonderful if someone would be willing to assist this established congregation by funding the construction of a chapel. The cost of the project would be approximately \$1500.00. A permanent place to worship would surely be a blessing and encouragement to the saints there.

The saints in Ghana have also relayed to us the dire need of a vehicle for transportation in their gospel outreach work. This need has existed for quite some time, and we pray God will soon answer their prayers in regard to this matter.

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Included in this *Faith and Victory* is a partial listing of tracts which we print and sell. We invite everyone to review the titles and encourage you to order those which might be helpful to you or someone you know. If you would like to become better acquainted with the content of the tracts before ordering them, feel free to write and request a free four-ounce sample.

— — — — —

Recently we discovered where we could buy the Bible story book, *Jesus Teaches Love*, authored by Isabel C. Byrum in 1905. The 380 page book, with a colorful hardback binding and a presentation page, makes an excellent gift for a child. The cost of the book is \$15.95, plus \$2.40 for postage and handling.

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From the bottom of our hearts, we thank all who have prayed for and contributed to this gospel work. Words are inadequate to express our deep gratitude for your faithfulness toward this cause. We remember, however, that God has promised that we will reap what we sow,

and our prayer for you is that God blesses you as much as you have blessed others through your loving support.

Sincerely, —Bro. Wayne Murphey



Prayer Requests

MI—"Please pray for me." —Renate Hess

KY—Sis. Mary Hughes desires prayer for her nerves.

IN—"Please pray for my sons."

—Sis. Mary Wilson

WI—"Let us pray for our country. Remember me also."

—John Austin

OR—"Could you include my mother in your prayers? She is near the end and needs salvation."

—Patty Yankey

SC—"Please pray for my second cousin's husband, Brad Brandes. He has been diagnosed with cancer."

—Cheryl Smith

CA—"Please remember my mother in prayer, and also a dear friend, Kristine."

—Bro. Donald Viser

MO—"Remember my son, David. He has a physical problem, but needs salvation most of all."

—Sis. Nelva Stanley

LA—"I have several prayer requests. 1. Alfred DiDio and Catherine DiDio Bhramayana. 2. Co-worker at Cracker Barrel and I-Hop in Shreveport. 3. Unsaved loved ones and children. 4. My children's father, Potong 'Dang' Bhramayana, living in Korea. I have not heard from him in eight months. In the last e-mail Dang said he was having chest pains."

—Sis. Catherine Bhramayana

Correction—In last month's *Faith and Victory* we incorrectly listed the names on a prayer request. It should have read: NM—"We are both afflicted and need much prayer." —Doretha and Clinton Harden

Standing Prayer Requests

Sis. Lydia Bennett

Sis. Alscene Breckenridge

Bro. Jon Busbee

Sis. Mamie Butcher

Bro. Arnett Carver

Bro. Nathan Carver

Sis. Estelene Cramer

Sis. Waneta Creel

Bro. Dale Doolittle

Sis. Elaine Dunn

Sis. Eleanor Fingerle
 Bro. Randall Flynn
 Sis. Pearlene Gerald
 Sis. Esther Gordon
 Bro. Huey Gordon, Jr.
 Bro. Lee Hilton
 Sis. Mary Hughes
 Sis. Daisy Johnson
 Sis. Janice Johnston
 Sis. Earnestine Jordan
 Sis. Betty Lassché
 The Lounds sisters
 Sis. Mattie McIntyre
 Sis. Bertha Miles

Bro. Allan Miller
 Sis. Virginia Myers
 Sis. Dollie O'Neill
 Bro. Charles Pierro
 Bro. O. C. Porter
 Sis. Melba Powell
 Sis. Myrtle Savoie
 Sis. Kay Stover
 The Mitch Taylor family
 Sis. Anna Mae Thompson
 Bro. Preston Vulgamore
 Bro. Curtis Williams, Sr.
 Bro. Max Williamson
 Sis. Esther Wilson

Like to read tracts?

**Write for a free sample which
 includes one each of these titles...**

SALVATION

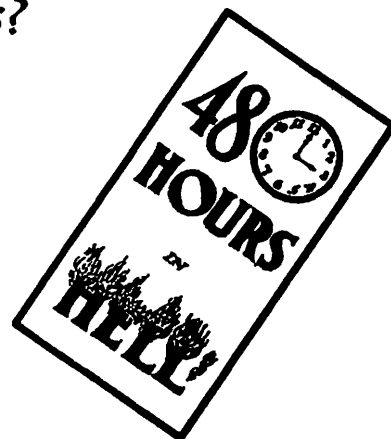
A Prisoner Boy's Last Message
 A Strange Dream
 Am I Really Saved?
 Eternal Bliss vs. Eternal Despair
 Forty-Eight Hours in Hell
 Jesus Saves From Sin
 Memo
 The Last Cool Drink
 The Priest Who Found Christ
 The Realities of Hell
 The Story of a California Miner
 The Worth of a Soul
 Whosoever
 You Can Be Delivered

ENCOURAGEMENT

A Shelter in the Time of Storm
 Accusations
 Cast Thy Burdens on the Lord
 God Does Answer Prayer
 No One Needs Thee More Than I
 Resist the Devil
 Sensible Instruction
 The Measure of Man's Love

DOCTRINAL

A Preacher of the Old School
 A True Experience
 An Exclusive Christ
 An House Not Made With Hands
 Christian Baptism



Church Membership
 Concepts Forbidding Daily Sin
 Did We Evolve?
 That Blessed Hope
 The Christian Confession
 The Millennial Reign
 The Unpardonable Sin
 Water Baptism
 Which Church is Right?

DISCIPLINE

Holy Wisdom in Soul-Saving
 Juvenile Delinquency
 Little Broken Hearts
 My Experiences With a Kleptomaniac
 The Dangers in the Public Schools
 Values Clarification

**Send your request to:
 Faith Publishing House
 P. O. Box 518
 Guthrie, OK 73044**

Meeting Reports and Notices

PAMPA, TX, TENT MEETING REPORT

Dear ones: Truly the Lord's presence was known in every service; in anointing His Word, the singing, prayers, admonitions and testimonies. Our hearts are made glad!

For many years, we have had the desire to have a tent meeting here in Pampa. We praise and thank God for bringing this about! We so lovingly appreciated the presence of the ministers, other saints, family members, along with a few visitors, who made the effort to attend. Words cannot express the gratitude I feel for the labors and outreach for souls by the tent workers while here. May the Lord grant a special blessing to each one who came here and may the Spirit of God follow after each heart who did not respond to these great messages of salvation which were delivered with such divine love.

We appreciate all of the financial and prayer support, and all else that made it possible for us to have a tent meeting here.

Above all, it is my desire for the Lord to bless the tent ministry in many more places and wherever they go. My prayers will be with them. I sincerely hope they will come here again sometime.

Also, never-to-be-forgotten are the other labors here of those who worked hard to winterize my home by placing two new doors and replacing many windows. May their reward be great!

All in all, the love of God was made manifest here in this place!

Lovingly and gratefully in Christ,

—Sis. Jan Wood

WICHITA, KS, MEETING REPORT

Our meeting started five days after the "attack on America." It was a time when encouragement and comfort were needed like you can get during a meeting. Some of the ministers were able to refer to the disaster and tie it in with some of the messages they brought forth.

Sis. Mary Lawson used "turning point," as when the planes were turned from their correct course to be used as weapons of destruction. She referred to different turning points in peoples lives.

Bro. Michael Smith brought a message asking, "Who Will Touch the Leper?" It caused us to

awaken to our duty of reaching out to touch those in deep sin who have done something vile and need a Savior.

Bro. Leslie Busbee preached about Jesus at the right hand of God. It was so descriptive of Christ and the adjectives so fitting and beautiful, that it made you rejoice because you know Jesus.

Bro. Vada McMillian was a blessing in the meeting, and he preached on "Grace." He said it is God's hand reached down to us.

Sis. Lucille Johnson preached a message on humility. We really need to walk humbly before our God in dangerous times like these.

The Lord did bless our souls and we felt refreshed and renewed with courage to face whatever is ahead of us during this time of terrorist invasion. In times like these we truly need to know that our anchor holds and grips the solid rock, Christ Jesus. May God protect His saints and take us through with victory!

—Sis. Shirley Knight

MIAMI, FL, FALL MEETING

There will be a Fall meeting held November 21-25 at the Church of God, located at 235 NW 47th St. in Miami, FL.

The services will be held nightly at 7:30 p.m. with two services on Sunday.

Your prayers and attendance are welcome. If you are unable to attend, please pray that the Lord's presence will be in the meeting.

For more information, please call the pastor, Bro. Robert McIntyre, at (305) 233-2166 or Bro. Charles Clay at (305) 235-4271. The chapel phone number is (305) 687-1860.

LORANGER, LA, ASSEMBLY MEETING

The Loranger, LA, Assembly Meeting is scheduled to begin Wednesday night, November 21st, 7:30 p.m. Services will be 10:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. daily through Sunday, November 25th. Please pray with us that this opportunity will be anointed with God's presence. Come be challenged and blessed.

There is a dormitory for the sisters and one for the brothers. Please bring sheets and linens if possible. 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 Bro. Nelson Doolittle: 51367 Narretto Rd., Loranger, LA 70446. Phone (504) 878-6111. The chapel phone is: (504) 878-2788.

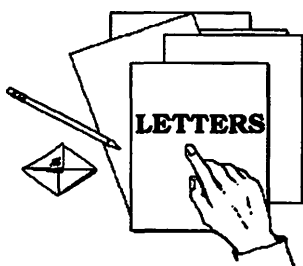


DURHAM, NC, BUILDING PROJECT UPDATE

We want to express our thanks to everyone who gave and supported the building fund. The Health Department Inspector is requiring that we replace our existing septic tank system, so that will delay us in receiving the building permit. Continue to pray for us in this project. When we receive the building permit, we can start construction. We are looking for the Lord to provide. We believe that God will supply our every need according to His riches in glory. We are praying that the Lord will send workers and laborers in His vineyard. Anyone who wants to help in any way, please send all correspondence to: Church of God Building Fund, 6219 Kelvin Dr., Durham, NC 27712.

Prayerfully submitted,

—Bro. Jerry Lennon, Pastor (919) 544-2203



ID—Dear Bro. and Sis. Murphey: Greetings in the precious name of Jesus. He has been so good to us and how we praise Him....

This has been a wonderful year health-wise and we appreciate the blessings of the Lord. Charles fell and has had some difficulty with his back, but had to keep working as the water was to be turned off about a month early. He needed to get the alfalfa seed in and up. He did get a good stand and we hope that it will not winter kill.

There have been lots of ranger fires, but now that it has cooled off and there has been some moisture, I think the fires have about all been put out—at least here in the West.

May the Lord bless and help each one as we continue in this fight for the Lord. He will give

grace and strength, but we will have some trials we have to pass through.

Thank you for the *Faith and Victory*. I surely do enjoy it and look forward to it coming.

Love and prayers,

—Charles and Ruby Harris



LA—Dear Bro. Wayne: Greetings in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

This is just a short letter to let you all know just what Jesus has done for me.

The Friday that the Monark camp meeting started, I got really sick with what looked to be a life-threatening illness, so much so that my wife had to fly back home the next day. This sickness lasted for two weeks before God healed me and I was able to go back to work.

I thank God for healing me, and the saints for their prayers, cards and offerings. As a whole, the illness was a blessing to me. It brought me closer to God.

Pray for us. We want to live for Jesus, do His will and make heaven our home in the end.

Your brother in Christ, —Doyle LaCroix



AR—Dear *Faith and Victory* people: Some time ago I was visiting my daughter in Springfield, MO, on E. Evergreen St. where there is a Church of God. I visited there and picked up a November 1998 *Faith and Victory*. I wonder if it is still published? If so, I would like a year of it.

I have read your publication years ago when a dear old brother, James Merriett, gave it to me. He was my mentor, a blessed old preacher man who loved the Lord Jesus and taught the truth.

I am a widow now, and this year has been long and hard. I have had a broken hip and then a blood clot. Praise the Lord, He led me safely through and I walk without any help now. He is so good.

May God bless your printing work.

—Doris E. Rascoe



MO—Dear precious saints: Greetings in the holy name of Jesus. We certainly thank God for His pure and simple plan of salvation. I am so glad to have a part in such a great plan.

It has been quite awhile since I had the opportunity to write. Life seems to keep a person busy these days. We enjoy receiving the *Faith and Victory*. We receive several "Church of God" publications, but always look forward to the *Faith and Victory*, nearly always sitting down and taking out the time to go through it.

The article, "God's Truth," prompted me to write. I would like to say how much I really enjoyed it. It was food for thought and food for the soul. How my soul was made to rejoice in this simple truth. I believe the gospel is plain and simple in its application, not hard to understand nor demanding and driving. The right perspective of Jesus is One who leads and not drives. After all, He is the great Shepherd of the sheep.

It is good to be free, and how much I desire to remain free. It is sad to see so many in bondage to many strange ideas, or not fully being delivered, as the result of not going all the way with the Word of God.

May God help us to always see clearly the right way. My uppermost desire is to please God and make heaven.

Sincerely, —Bro. Clarence Campbell

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OH—Dear Bro. Murphey: Greetings to you and the workers there at the Print Shop, in the precious name of Jesus. I really appreciate you all and thank the Lord for you. The *Faith and Victory*, *Beautiful Way* and the *Bible Lessons* booklets have been and still are a real blessing to me and so many others. I read them more than once to get the good out of them for my soul to thrive. I really appreciate being a part of the family of God.

The weather here is getting cooler. The highs are in the 50's or 40's, and the lows in the 40's or 30's. The trees are changing colors and shedding their leaves. God's handiwork is just magnificent. I really enjoy all of the seasons.

May God really bless all of the fall revivals which are being planned this autumn. May more souls be born into the kingdom of God.

Thank you so much for sending out the gospel literature to me and my loved ones. Also, I appreciate your prayers for me, all of my loved ones, the congregation here in Akron and the Church of God universally wide, that more people will be born into the kingdom of God.

—Sis. Janice Shaw

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LA—Dear Bro. Wayne and Sis. Mary: Surely I would have loved seeing you when you came to the Oak Grove Church at Loranger, LA. At my "advanced" age of 85 (which I can hardly believe myself), I realize my Lord has, through the years, showered me with blessings and mercies. I still drive my car, but not at night, and decided

some few years ago to go the familiar ways and places. I am facing the "sunset" of my life, but focusing much more now on the "sunrise."

I would like to mention the article in the November 2000, *Faith and Victory* paper, "Waiting Above" which made a lasting impression on me. I had never thought of Jesus longing and yearning for His followers to be received into heaven by Him, although I have surely felt the Spirit of God interceding for me. The Holy Spirit is real to me, and I cannot in my own strength please God without direction from Him. The Spirit of God gives power to keep silent at times, to be still and know that He is God. Then, too, strength is needed other times, especially for a rather shy person, to speak up with only a few words in behalf of the right.

I truly am seeking that "continuing city" referred to in Hebrews 13:13-14. More and more I feel like a stranger here, and I know I must be willing to bear His reproach. I know Jesus gave His life for me, and I must reach out in faith believing I can be of some service while I am yet here.

Another article in the February 2001 paper means a lot to me—the Selected poem, "A Call Back Down the Road." It touches me each time I read it of how real it is in lives here on this earth, and tears come as I envision a person calling for understanding and help. I know of different times when I could only cry unto the Lord, but God did hear my heart cry. Sometimes He has said "Just be patient and trust Me in My timing; it won't always be like this." He has never, never failed me.

I am so thankful you wrote the editorial as you did in the October issue about the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, etc. It was immediately called "America's Wake Up Call." Right away I began thinking of America's great need among all of us who call ourselves Christians and I am searching my own heart and life.

I had a call from New York City from the niece of my husband's aunt, Eva Farrell. This niece was letting our family know one of Aunt Eva's great-nieces who worked in the Trade Center was later than usual getting to work, and the first thing she saw on getting out of the subway were the great billows of smoke. The Lord must have spared her for some reason, and surely the family must be thanking God.

May our heavenly Father be near you to

bless you in your work there. I appreciate prayer.

My Christian love and prayers,
—Gertrude F. Pickett
— — — — —

KS—Dear Bro. Murphey: We are sorry to inform you that Caleb did not make it. The Lord saw fit to take him from us, and we hope to see him again in heaven. Please pray for Bridgett. Pray for understanding and strength for her.

Tell the saints we appreciate their prayers and know that good will result from this decision of the Lord's, for His Word says so. We thank all the saints who came to the hospital and those who cooked food. The Lord is faithful and true. This I stand on. Pray for us continually.
—Bro. E. P. Roberts and family
— — — — —

LA—Dear loved ones everywhere: Thank you so much for the *Faith and Victory* and the sacrifices which are made to provide the "link" needed to save and encourage souls.

Tomorrow will be one month since disaster hit the U.S.A. We have been a blessed nation to have a president who prays for wisdom and clear thinking. My heart was touched yesterday as I looked at a picture of President Bush with his head bowed before his greatest speech.

As I read about the different phone and e-mail messages the victims made to spouses and loved ones right before they died, I marveled at their courage and their hope to see their loved ones again. I thank the Lord for eternal life and a bright hope that takes the sting out of death.

Life here is a major challenge, but by God's grace we will not fail. Please pray for Monika and Melissa who are in college.

Sunday, October 7, 2001, the day the U.S.A. went to war against terrorism, our pastor gave a wonderful testimony of how the Lord led him since he was saved at 17 years of age. Sunday marked ten years of Bro. Melot's pastorship in Shreveport. We are a blessed congregation.

In closing, may the good Lord bless each of you, and may we think like President Bush spoke, "We will not waiver, we will not tire, we will not falter, and we will not fail."

Love and prayers,
—Catherine Bhramayana and family
— — — — —

OK—Dear Bro. Wayne: Greetings of Christian love. I hope all is going well with you and the Publishing work. We are doing pretty well, and are encouraged in our souls for the hope set

before us—the hope which is an anchor to the soul....

Your brother in Christ, —T. V. McMillian
— — — — —

CA—I am not really sure who will receive this message. I just wanted to encourage all who might read this letter that we serve a mighty and powerful God who keeps us in perfect peace. (Isaiah 26:3.)

My heart and prayers go out to any of the saints who have felt the impact of September 11, 2001.

I love you all in Christ,
—Sis. Jennifer George
— — — — —

CA—Dear Bro. Wayne: Greetings in the name of the Lord, Jesus Christ, who when He was ready to leave this world told His disciples that He would send the Comforter. The disciples depended on Jesus for everything. He kept them together. After His departure we see them scatter and going their own ways. He was everything to them, even their Comforter, just as the Holy Spirit is to us today.

The events of September 11, and what has taken place since, are events which try men's souls. We need the Comforter now to help us keep our equilibrium, to remember that Jesus said He would never leave us nor forsake us. Read Isa. 41:10-12, be reassured and fear not.

We need to be in prayer for our country and for the families of those who perished that day. I lost a grand-nephew who worked on the 90th floor of the 2nd tower to be hit. He was 26 years old and had been married for one year.

May God bless all of you there in your labors. In Christian love, —Bro. Bob Mickelson



FOREIGN

MISSION

REPORTS

From Ghana...

September 26, 2001—Dear Bro. Wayne: Greetings to you in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ. I am fine, and all the saints are also fine. Everything is moving all right here.

All of the saints in Ghana felt very sad when they heard that some wicked people destroyed the World Trade Center and Pentagon. We put America on our prayer list.

We extend condolences to the saints in America and all the people in America.

Again, we send a big thanks to all the saints who contributed to help us buy food. May God bless all of you for your interest in the Ghana mission work, and we pray that God will multiply what you have spent in the Ghana work....

Yours in Him, —Bro. Maxwell Nkansah

October 4, 2001—Dear Bro. Michael: Greetings to you in the great name of Jesus Christ, our soon-coming King. My expectations are that you will always be fine and healthy. A tragedy occurred to me at Tanoso.

It happened last Friday, September 28, when I rushed to Akumadan to see those over there and my family. During that time it rained so heavily that I couldn't go to my station at Tanoso. When I went there the following morning, all my belongings and those for the church had been stolen, leaving only my rubber bucket. So I am writing this letter to tell you what has happened to us here. We need your prayers, so pray for us. We are still doing the work of God. Whosoever wants to serve the Lord usually encounters such problems. I will face the challenges squarely and serve my Lord, because I am building my treasures in heaven where thieves cannot break through and steal.

All the best from everybody and bye for now. Thank you.

Your servant in God, —James Badu



Daniel Barkley Davis, Jr. "Danny," the youngest son of Daniel and Hazel Davis was born January 24, 1967, in Bakersfield, CA, where he grew to manhood. Later, because of his deteriorating health, he moved to San Bernardino to be closer to his sisters.

Following in the footsteps of his older siblings, he attended the local schools: Mt. Vernon Elementary, Sierra Junior High and Foothill High School, where his outgoing personality, great sense of humor, mischievous behavior and his generosity won him many friends—many friends that lasted throughout his entire life.

While in high school, during the summers, he was usually employed by the Kern High School District. Soon after completing high school he was employed by Leatherby's Family Creamery. Later he worked for Wholesale Fuel and Pacific Wood, continuing there until be-

coming disabled. Being very industrious and gifted with his hands, Danny was the family's handyman, constructing, repairing, painting or installing anything necessary for home improvement. Even though being limited physically, his zest and enthusiasm for life and his concern for others was not diminished.

Not forgetting his Christian upbringing, he believed in the God of his childhood. He depended upon Him and often cried to Him for help in times of unbearable pain and suffering and sought to gain a personal relationship with God. Danny loved church and its people. He especially enjoyed the saints' singing—his favorite group being the Evening Light Singers. Even though the group no longer exists, their singing ministry continued with Danny's continued use of their tapes and records. Loving to drive, when able, Danny traveled to various meetings, even making several trips to Mexico carrying clothes, food, supplies and other needs to assist in the missionary effort there.

Daniel Barkley Davis, Jr.'s active life has ended, but he leaves many precious, unforgettable memories for his family, saints and friends.

Danny's mother, Hazel Davis, preceded him in death. His surviving relatives include: a father and step-mother, Daniel and Joan Davis of Bakersfield; a brother and sister-in-law, Marvin and Valerie Davis of Georgetown, TX, sister and brother-in-law, Loyce and Derek Davenport of Rialto, CA, sister and brother-in-law, Joyce and Harvey Young of San Bernardino, CA; three aunts; three uncles; five nieces; two nephews

and a host of cousins, saints and many, many friends.

Funeral services were conducted by Bro. Ronald Hattley, assisted by Sis. Lillion Grimes and others on September 15, 2001. Interment was in the Union Cemetery, Bakersfield, CA.

Oretha Ann Faust, 71, retired City of Wichita Community Outreach employee, died Friday, September 28, 2001. Mrs. Faust was a member of the Evening Light Church of God in Wichita, KS.

Oretha Ann Thomas House Faust was born October 20, 1929, in Dover, OK. She was the second born of a set of twins to her parents, Robert Theodore House and Mary Amy Phillips House, and the fourth born to her parents in a sibling group of 11 girls. Mrs. Faust is preceded in death by her husband, Howard Randall Faust, Sr., her parents, four sisters and four children.

From a very early age, there was something very special and daring about Mrs. Faust. She was very industrious and worked in the fields picking cotton and vegetables on the family's land and in the hotel industry in Oklahoma City. In 1947, the family moved to the "bright lights" of Wichita, KS. Mrs. Faust's work outside the home and her community activism oftentimes came at the sacrifice of time spent with her own children. But she was very dedicated to her children and family and encouraged all family members to know their heritage, because "the more a person knows about where he/she comes from, the better that person can determine where he/she is going."

Mrs. Faust's lifetime accomplishments included being the recipient of the Martin Luther King, Jr. award (1989) for her community activism in Wichita. She was the founder of Mother's Organized Movement (MOMS) and the chair and founder of Wichita (welfare) Clients Council (1983).

She leaves to cherish her memory, sons, Howard Randall, Jr., Harold Rhonell, and Brian; daughters, Oletha Goudeau and Gladys Tsimonjela, all of Wichita; sisters, Ardelia McCray Ballard, Virgie Lee Walker Logan, Sonya House, Gaynell Ross and Mary Cooks, all of Wichita, Ora Scruggs of Modesto, CA; 13 grandchildren; three great-grandchildren and a host of other relatives and friends.

Memorial services were held in the New Jerusalem Baptist Church, officiated by Bros. Emmanuel Gracey and Titus Tsimonjela. Inter-

ment was in the Maple Grove Cemetery, Wichita, KS.



Women in Islam

(Continued from page 3.)

At Isaac's weaning, Sarah saw Ishmael making fun of her son, so she told Abraham to send Hagar and Ishmael away, that this son of a bondwoman not be an heir with her son. Abraham grieved about this because he loved Ishmael. However, he did as his wife said and sent his son away with his mother. They nearly died of hunger and thirst, but in the wilderness, "God heard the voice of the lad; and the angel of God called to Hagar out of heaven, and said unto her, What alleth thee, Hagar? fear not; for God hath heard the voice of the lad where he is. Arise, lift up the lad, and hold him in thine hand; for I will make him a great nation. And God opened her eyes, and she saw a well of water; and she went, and filled the bottle with water and gave the lad drink. And God was with the lad; and he grew, and dwelt in the wilderness, and became an archer. And he dwelt in the wilderness of Paran; and his mother took him a wife out of the land of Egypt." (Gen. 21:17-21.) This is nearly all that is mentioned of Ishmael except for when the two brothers came together to bury their father, Abraham. (Gen. 25:9.)

The Hebrew HOLY BIBLE is a history of Isaac's descendants and it tells how they were promised a Messiah who would some day redeem them from their sins. Down through the generations, Ishmael's descendants also remembered the promises given to Abraham. Naturally, they retold how Ishmael was Abraham's first-born and rightful heir of his belongings. Their history, passed down by word of mouth, relates more information about Hagar and Ishmael's suffering in the wilderness, their journey to Becca (today called Mecca), and the promises given them by God. Their history includes the story of how Abraham visited his son at this holy place where Hagar was guided. At Becca, Abraham built an altar using a celestial stone brought to him by an angel. It descended from Paradise whiter than milk, but the sins of the sons of Adam made it black. This black, square-cut stone was built into the eastern corner of the Ka'bah, or sanctuary, and when it was finished, God spoke again to Abraham and the rite of the Pilgrimage to Mecca

was instituted. Even today every good Muslim is expected to make this pilgrimage at least once in his lifetime. So Hagar, the mother of Ishmael, is given a place of honor in Islam.¹

Through Ishmael's descendants came the prophet, Mohammed. He was born in Mecca around 570 A. D.² His complete family lineage is not known but there are many legends surrounding his grandparents and parents. Mohammed wrote the Qur'an or Koran, which is revered as the Holy Book of Islam. Not only did he record the old history accounts of Ishmael, but he also established a law of government based on his communications with Gabriel, God's chosen angel. He wrote many maxims for the Islamic religion which cover a broad range of social conduct, but for this research, we will only emphasize some of the laws concerning women who are in the Islamic religion.

I believe it is important for us to know about Islam because it is a rapidly growing religion in our world today. A lot of people think that most Muslims live in the Middle East. This theory is wrong. What most people don't know is that the largest Muslim populated nation is Indonesia, in Southeast Asia, and that tens of millions of Muslims live in Central Asia, China and India. There are more Muslims in Great Britain than Methodists; France is ten percent Muslim; and there are more Muslims than Episcopalians in the United States. Many people do not realize that Islam is an expanding world religion present on all continents and within many populations.³

There is a difference between the Word of God and the Qur'an. We are given a free will to worship God. God does not force us to live for Him. Dr. Saleem Almahdy, writing in *The Voice of the Martyrs*, said, "The Muslims feel that Allah has commanded them to force every non-Muslim to follow Islam or be killed."⁴ When they come to America or other democratic countries, they ask for freedom of speech and worship and they are granted this request. "The problem is that these worship places can turn to centers of violence (as they have in other countries), training young and old Muslims how to use guns, equipping Muslims to fulfill their dreams of controlling America and other countries. Christians must wake up and be aware of these situations."⁵ We allow Islamic freedom in our country, but they certainly won't allow Chris-

tianity in theirs. Muslims are trying to change the world's perception of violent Islam to a peaceful front. "This is to convince Westerners that Islam is the religion of tolerance, peace and love."⁶ Because of this change, some Western women are deceived and marry Muslim men.

Some Muslims feel that their mission in life is to make all the world Islamic. Through Jihad, or the Holy War, they persecute Christians or anyone else who opposes them. Jihad (Striving) means promoting the Islamic message by force.⁷ This is taking place in Iran and other Middle East countries. Also, Sudan has been heavily targeted, as well as other African countries. The men are forced to learn the Qur'an, the children are being taken as slaves, and women are raped and beaten into subjection.

In countries like Saudi Arabia, that are one hundred percent Muslim, we can see the clear picture of how women in Islamic countries are treated. Females are not allowed to voice their opinions. Women learn to manipulate rather than to confront. Their births and deaths are not recorded. However, the birth of a male child is documented in family or tribal records. The birth of a female is expressed with sorrow or shame.⁸

Many women in Islam are ignored by their fathers, scorned by their brothers, and abused by their husbands. Women are considered to be worthless. A Saudi male has unlimited authority. His wife and children are at his disposal. The young male child is taught at an early age that women have little value. Women are only for comfort and convenience. A Saudi woman said, "The child witnesses the disdain shown his mother and sisters by his father; this open contempt leads to his scorn of all females and makes it impossible for him to enjoy friendship with anyone of the opposite sex."⁹

In Islam, a woman has no choice of whom she will marry. She is married off as a pawn.¹⁰ Her father or brother decides with whom she will spend her life. Many times a husband and wife have never met or seen each other before marriage; so a man doesn't know for sure who he is marrying behind the veil.

According to Islamic law, when the woman gets married, she belongs to that man. The husband pays a dowry for his wife and then has rulership of her. He then stands as the master of his slave, because of the dowry that was

*"There is a difference between the
Word of God and the Qur'an."*

given. In other words, he bought her. She has no control over her person. "She cannot fast except by his permission. She does not leave the house, except by his permission. And he will have the right over her property except up to a third which will belong to her."¹¹ Therefore, the woman is to be absolutely obedient to her husband in all that he asks of her person.

God never intended marriage to be this way. Ephesians 5:25 commands husbands to love their wives as Christ loved the Church and gave His life for it.

The perceived worth of the woman compared to man in Islam, was stated by Mohammad when he said, "Had I ordered anybody to prostrate before anyone, I would have ordered the women to prostrate before their husbands on account of men's rights over the women, ordained by Allah."¹²

A Muslim woman is taught she will make it to Paradise if she is obedient to her husband. If she is disobedient she will go to Hell. "The prophet once said to a woman: Watch how you treat your husband for he is your Paradise and your Hell." (Qur'an 34.) Men are elevated to a divine level.

Muslim men can marry up to four free women and be intimate with an unlimited number of slave girls. "If you fear you cannot treat orphans (girls) with fairness, then you may marry other women who seem good to you: two, three, or four of them. But if you fear that you cannot maintain equality among them, marry only one or any slave girls you may own. This will make it easier for you to avoid injustice." (Qur'an 4:3.)

After marriage, the wife becomes identified with her husband's family. The mother-in-law expects the daughter-in-law to bear her son a male child. This creates a lot of tension during the childbearing years. Saudi customs of the old days demanded the daughter-in-law of the firstborn son to attend to his mother's bidding. The daughter-in-law has to look after his mother and make sure her every need is met.¹³ When a woman is a widow, her firstborn son takes care of her. Women are never left without a man over them.

In the Middle East a woman can be murdered at the slightest transgression of ancient religious law. If a man murders his wife, he will state "valid" reasons for his action, which are accepted by other men without question. His

wife has no protection. The Islamic government will not interfere with the man's treatment of the woman.¹⁴

Perhaps to the common observer, the Islamic religion appears similar to Christianity. One American woman even feels that it is superior. Here is what she had to say, "I would like the American public to realize that Muslim women are not second-class citizens. We don't walk behind our husbands, and we do have inalienable rights. Islam is not an extremist religion. Islam does not believe in extremes. Islam always promoted the middle road. Islam is not an Arab thing or an African-American thing; it is a religion for all peoples of all nationalities, for all times and places. The beauty and antiquity of Islam has no bounds. In summary, Islam is a religion of peace and happiness."¹⁵ Obviously, this woman is not living in Saudi Arabia, but is enjoying the freedom of a Christian country where even an abused Muslim wife would be protected by laws of equity.

Because some people share the view of the woman in the above paragraph, I am concerned that more American women will be caught in a marriage trap that will endanger them and their children. I shudder to think of a complete Muslim world where there would be no haven for mistreated wives to find safety. Also, the immoral, lustful practices of that religion are completely contrary to the teachings of God's HOLY BIBLE which states: "So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself...For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh." (Eph. 5:28, 31.) In Christianity, husbands and wives are taught to be honest, loyal partners and to respect each other as an equal.

We should not be blinded simply by pious attitudes and the practice of dutiful prayers said three times daily. Instead we should look behind the dark veil of the Muslim religion and see it for what it is.

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1 Martin Lings, *Muhammad; his life based on the earliest sources*, (Vermont, Inner Traditions International, 1983), p. 1-3.

2 George W. Braswell, Jr., *Islam*, (Tennessee, Broadman and Holman Publishers, 1996), p. 11-12.

3 Lings, p. 1.

4 Dr. Saleem Almahdy, *In the Name of Freedom, The Voice of the Martyrs*, (April, 1999), p. 14.

5 Saleem, p. 14.

6 Dr. Saleem Almahdy, *A Look Behind the Veil, The Voice of the Martyrs*, (February, 2000), p. 5.

7 William B. Eerdmans, *Eerdmans' Handbook to the World's Religions*, (Michigan, WM. B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1983), p. 409.

8 Jean P. Sasson, *Princess*, (New York, Avon Books, 1992), p. 7.

9 Sasson, p. 6.

10 Sasson, p. 29.

11 P. Newton and M. Rafiqul Haqq, *Women in Islam*, (Kansas, Pioneer Book Company, 1994), p. 38.

12 Newton and Haqq, p. 47.

13 Sasson, p. 135.

14 Sasson, p. 46.

15 Carol L. Anway, *Daughters of Another Path*, (Missouri, Yawná Publications, 1996), p. 168.



**QUESTION AND ANSWER
BY
BRO. OSTIS B. WILSON
Reprint**

QUESTION: Did the blood of Jesus atone for people's sins under the law or in Old Testament times? Give scriptures.

ANSWER: It is my understanding that it did and for the following reasons:

In Revelation 13:8 we read, "...the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world." It is evident that the plan of salvation and redemption was in the mind of God from the beginning of the world. God made a definite promise in Genesis 3:15 that the seed of the woman would bruise the serpent's head. This was a sure promise of redemption and salvation. The plan was formulated in the mind of God from the beginning and He counted it as a thing already done even though it was a few thousand years later that Christ actually came and was slain. But in that period God provided an exact prototype of the New Testament Church and its system of worship and spiritual sacrifice and the blood of Jesus, the great Redeemer, in the Old Testament sanctuary with its system of divine worship and blood sacrifices, etc. Then we read in Hebrews 9:22, "And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission." The context here strongly indicates that the blood of the animal sacrifices which they offered under the law was a type of the blood of Christ which was to be shed for the sins of the people (all people)

in time to come and was accepted in lieu of the blood of Christ in this interim period to make an atonement for the people's sins. Further, Hebrews 9:25-26 makes it more plain. "Nor yet that he should offer himself often, as the high priest entereth into the holy place every year with blood of others; For then must he often have suffered since the foundation of the world: but now once in the end of the world hath he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself." Note that this last verse says, "...Then must he often have suffered since the foundation of the world:..." This strongly indicates that Christ Himself was deeply involved in every sin offering of blood of animals from the foundation of the world clear on through to the time He actually came to the world and shed His own blood for the remission of the sins of the whole world.

Now we will look at Hebrews 9:15, which spells it out in black and white plainly. "And for this cause he is the mediator of the new testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions **that were under the first testament**, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance." This text plainly states that by the death of Christ a redemption was made for the transgressions of people under the first covenant; the Old Testament time or law age. Hebrews 8:4-5 teaches that the gifts and sacrifices which the priests offered according to the law were examples and shadows of heavenly things. Therefore we conclude that every time God saw the blood of an animal sacrifice being offered for sin He said within Himself that this is an example and shadow of heavenly things to come, a kind of installment payment, a kind of credit memorandum which will all be paid off when my Son goes to earth on His redemptive mission to make an atonement for all sin by the sacrifice of Himself and the pouring out of His blood to the last drop. Are there any of us who would presume to say there was no one saved back under the law? Of course not. The Bible abounds with accounts of Old Testament saints and some mighty men of God and champions of faith who accomplished great things for God.

But Peter said in Acts 4:12, "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." Ah, folks this is eternally true. This covers all time past, present and future. All who were saved in Old Testament

times under the law were saved by faith in Christ. All in this gospel age of time who have been saved and are saved today, are saved by faith in Christ. God never has, neither will He ever, recognize anyone in heaven as a Saviour, but His Son Jesus Christ. But if this be a question in your mind as to how this could be that they would or could believe in a Person who had never been born and lived among men on the earth, my answer is this: none of us ever saw Jesus either. We never saw nor handled Him as the Apostle John said he and the other apostles did. We never heard Him speak nor saw His miracles which He did (many of them). We never saw Him crucified, buried and then resurrected. We never saw Him ascend to heaven. But we believe all of this; that Christ was born of the virgin Mary, that He lived here among men, that in due time He died and shed His blood for the salvation of the ungodly, that He was buried and rose again on the third day, that He ascended back to heaven and is there right now at

"...Jesus Christ is the focal point of the history of the world and humankind past, present and future..."

the right hand of the throne of God making intercession for us. We believe all of this because the Scriptures tell us this and the Holy Spirit confirms it in our hearts. Then why should we count it as an incredible thing that the Old Testament saints should believe in the same Son of God, even as ourselves, when the Old Testament abounds throughout with sparkling gems of prophecy concerning Him, His coming, His work and mission and what He would do, etc. It is not incredible and many of them did believe in the promise of a coming Saviour and Redeemer and made their blood of animal sacrifices for sin periodically as a token of their faith in that promise and by virtue of that they were saved.

Bear in mind that Jesus Christ is the focal point of the history of the world and humankind past, present and future, and that the whole plan of salvation for saving humankind was complete in every detail in the mind of God from the beginning. Therefore Christ was a Lamb slain from the foundation of the world. Therefore, God was counting it as a thing already done in His mind from the dawn of the world's history and was extending saving mercy to all of those in Old Testament times who believed the promise of His coming, and embraced it.



**Excerpts Taken From
Nov., 1951
*Faith and Victory***

"Twenty years ago when this writer was fifty years old, he was sick and had become very poor and thin and could hardly eat anything to sustain life in the body. I felt that it would only be a short time until I would die, and I reasoned with the Lord about the matter in prayer, and told Him that I did not want to die. The children were not yet all grown, and it seemed to me that I was just then getting to a place where I could do so much more toward getting the gospel to men by the printed page. One day, while in the kitchen with no appetite to eat, the presence of the Lord came down over me in a special manner, and the words were formulated in my soul in a very impressive manner by His Spirit as follows: 'You have twenty years yet.' That was glad news to me from heaven, and from that hour I began to amend and soon was in normal health.

"I have been telling this to the saints for the past twenty years; for on the 4th of October I was seventy years old. How much longer the Lord intends to let me live, I cannot tell; but this one thing I do know, that my health is good and I work every day in the Lord's Print Shop, and much of the time do a lot of my writing between seven and eleven o'clock at night. From the appearance of things now, He may let me live fifteen or twenty more years, but I have no assurance from Him for that."

—Fred Pruitt
[Fred Pruitt passed away June 6, 1963, at the age of 81.]