

FAITH^{AND}VICTORY

USPS184-660

Church of God Servant

Unto Him shall the
gathering of the
people be.

God Is
LOVE

YE SHINE AS
LIGHTS IN
THE WORLD.

JESUS
SAVES

The night cometh,
when no man
can work.

Volume 81, No. 6

81st Year

Guthrie, Oklahoma

\$3.00 Per Year

Sept., 2003

BAPTISM

By Sis. Marsha Corteway

Baptism is an ordinance that we must observe after we are saved from sin. The Lord Jesus Christ left us an example as He was baptized Himself. In Matthew 3:13 we find the example of Jesus being baptized by John the Baptist. "Then cometh Jesus from Galilee to Jordan unto John, to be baptized of him." In verse 16-17 it says, "And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him: And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."

There is a special blessing in following on and observing this ordinance of baptism. We cannot neglect to follow this and please God. God has a special reason for all that He teaches in His Word for us to obey. This is the next step

after we are saved from sin. It signifies to the world that we have died to the sinful way of life and are buried with our Lord in this grave of water and risen a new creature. The water does not save us from our sins. We know the blood of Jesus has already done that when we truly repented, turned our back on sin and gave our lives to God. The Lord is using the water for an example of what has taken place in our hearts. It is a witness to the world and a special witness to our own lives that we are now following the Lord.

In the eighth chapter of Acts we have recorded the event between Philip and the eunuch. Philip preached to him that day and explained the scriptures as they rode along in the chariot, and then in verses 36-38 it says, "And as they went on *their* way, they came unto a certain water: and the eunuch said, See, *here* is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized? And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him."

You may notice the words "down into the water;" we need to be fully immersed down into the water and covered. We must do more than just have our bodies sprinkled with a few drops of water. If we want to obey the Word and please God then let us observe this ordinance of baptism and the Lord will bless our lives for God.

Contents

"Is it true that every sickness may be laid at Jesus feet?"	2
Steps To Victory	3
Editorials	4
Prayer Requests	6
Meeting Reports and Notices	7
Letters from the Readers	8
Foreign Mission Report	10
Obituaries	14
Called	16

“Is it true that every sickness may be laid at Jesus’ feet?”

By Sis. Patricia Rhodes

Ever since I was involved in a serious car accident last fall, I have had difficulty driving, especially in heavy traffic. (My testimony was published in the *Faith and Victory*, Dec., 2002.) While the Lord has been healing me physically, it has taken longer for my emotions to heal. Many times since the accident I have had flashbacks. Then almost 6 months to the day of the first accident, I was hit from behind again! Although this accident was minor, my nerves were really rattled. These traumatic experiences have caused me to take out-of-the-way routes to get to my destination. I was a miserable soul. I did not want to live like this as I knew that the Lord had deliverance for me. I felt the need to be anointed during our camp meeting healing service in Tulsa.

A minister quoted the following scripture to me: “Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.” Isaiah 41:10. That scripture has been a sustaining source for me to combat satan’s constant impositions. That is why I am thankful that I was able to drive to Monark to attend the camp meeting. This was the first “big” trip I have driven since the accidents. The Lord blessed me and I did not have any fear of driving. I am trusting the Lord for complete emotional healing.

There are many people, men, women, boys and girls, who have a need for emotional healing. There may have been traumatic events in their lives in which they have had no control. These emotions run deep.

In the song, “Rescue the Perishing,” the 3rd verse says, “Down in the human heart, crushed by the tempter, feelings lie buried that grace can restore; Touched by a loving heart, wakened by kindness, chords that were broken will vibrate once more.” When children experience abuse, or have parents who do not show love, or who have been hurt physically or emotionally, those experiences go into their innermost minds and hearts and are lodged there. If those traumas are not addressed, if they are not resolved, if

these souls are not delivered through prayer and counseling from the ministers, there is subject to be problems that may sprout up anytime throughout their lives—problems when interacting with others, in their marriage, in the workplace, in submitting to authority, etc.

When our body receives a wound, it may leave a bruise. The wound heals but the bruise remains. That bruise reminds us of what occurred in the past. Emotional bruises can cause one to continue to look into the past. But Jesus said, “The Spirit of the Lord...hath anointed me...to heal the brokenhearted,...to set at liberty them that are bruised.” Luke 4:18. Yesterday has passed forever. We cannot erase or undo what has occurred. Paul says, “...this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark,...” Phil. 3:13-14.

The Lord is concerned about every aspect of our being: our body, mind, spirit, emotions, feelings, intellect, heart, will, soul, etc. He created us and knows when we are hurting. He knows how deeply the wounds go and He truly is touched by the feeling of our infirmities. He loves us unconditionally. He loves us with an everlasting love.

“He is Just the Same Today.” The third verse says, “Is it true that every sickness may be laid at Jesus’ feet? All my trouble, care and sorrow and I rest in joy complete? Yes, my brother, every sadness, if by faith to Him you pray. He’ll remove with tender mercy, for He’s just the same today.” I am convinced that when Jesus died on the cross for our sins, He also died for the healing of our entire being. Every burden, every problem, every hurt and every trial can be laid at Jesus’ feet. There is deliverance. There is available a special healing, to “soothe the pain in my heart, is a balm for my wounds, bringing comfort and peace unto me.” If you are that one who needs this healing, seek the Lord for it. Call upon Him, for He will and can deliver you. He is just the same yesterday, today and forever.

Steps To Victory

By Sis. Anita Adams

The Lord really blessed the Sunday school lesson at Springfield, MO recently and I would like to share what the Lord gave me.

II Chronicles 20:1-30 was read. After the reading we began looking at the steps Jehoshaphat took when he was facing a great multitude wanting to battle.

1. Verse three tells us that Jehoshaphat feared. I believe he was afraid just like we are afraid sometimes in our battles. But did he panic? No, he set himself to seek the Lord and proclaimed a fast throughout all Judah. What do we do when the enemy of our soul comes at us with fears or discouragement? Do we try to work out the problems ourselves or do we seek to know the mind of the Lord? Finding the mind of the Lord was the way to victory for Jehoshaphat.

2. In verses 5-12 we find him gathered with all the congregation and he reminded the Lord of who He really was, of past victories He had given Israel and of the promise that He had made to Solomon at the dedication of the temple—that no matter what trouble Israel was in if they would turn toward Jerusalem and cry for help, God would hear them. Many times in our battles the devil paints dark pictures and endeavors to tell us that the promises are not ours. Do we believe him or do we encourage ourselves in the Lord? Jehoshaphat built altars of remembrance and promise.

3. After the altars were built the Spirit of the Lord came upon a Levite who was in the midst of the congregation. A beautiful picture came to my mind. The Levite was just one of the crowd, one person in the congregation that the Lord could speak through. He was concerned about the forces of the enemy and had joined in prayer and the Lord was able to use him to give courage and tell them to let the Lord fight this battle. He said, "Do not be dismayed; tomorrow go out against them." Oh, are we where the Lord can use us? Are we just one of the crowd, nothing important, yet our hearts are concerned about the wiles of the devil and open to the Spirit of the Lord?

4. In verse 18 Jehoshaphat bowed his head with his face to the ground and all Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem fell before the Lord. When the Lord gives direction for the battle, do we humble ourselves and accept it or

do we reason in our mind how we think the battle should or shouldn't be fought? The victory is snatched away many times because we do not humble ourselves before the Lord in the midst of the battle.

5. Verse 19 says, "And the Levites, of the children of the Kohathites, and of the children of the Korhites, stood up to praise the LORD God of Israel with a loud voice on high." Do we praise God before the victory comes or do we hold off until we are sure God has done the work? May we learn how to praise Him more.

6. The next morning as they went forth to battle, Jehoshaphat stood and said, "Hear me, O Judah,...believe in the Lord your God, so shall ye be established; believe His prophets, so shall ye prosper." Do we really believe? Lord, help our unbelief.

7. Once again the singers did their part. They went before the army praising the Beauty of Holiness and praising God for His mercy. Do we see God's holiness as beautiful? Or have we allowed the devil to obscure our vision of His holiness? Praising God for the beauty of holiness wrought a great victory that day, for God made the enemy to begin fighting among themselves. The victory was so great that it required three days to carry away the spoils.

8. Do we carry away the spoils of battle laying them up for a future battle or do we say, "The enemy is dead; let's leave it alone?" The Lord has joy, strength and wisdom that can be taken from every battle. Let us make sure we gather the spoils from our battle.

9. After the battle was over they assembled together and blessed the Lord. Do we bless the Lord with a testimony of His greatness or do we take some of the glory for ourselves? As my Grandfather used to exhort us, "Tell what He has done for you...Others may need Him too."

Verse 29-30 says, "And the fear of God was on all the kingdoms of those countries,...So the realm of Jehoshaphat was quiet: for his God gave him rest round about." When God fights the battle the victory is complete. Had Jehoshaphat gone in his own strength and won the battle, the enemy would have gathered a few more forces together and regrouped for another fight. But when God destroyed them, others knew they couldn't stand before the army of the Lord.

Let us take these steps today as we face our battles. Remember, "Be not afraid nor dismayed by reason of the great multitude; for the battle is not yours, but God's."

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 Willie Murphey, and other consecrated workers at the FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE, 4318 S. Division, Guthrie, OK 73044 (USPS184-660).

(Periodical postage paid at Guthrie, OK)

Notice to subscribers: When you move or change your address, please write us at once, giving your old and new address, and include your zip code number. The post office now charges 60¢ to notify us of each change of address.

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

SUBSCRIPTION RATES



Single copy, one year \$3.00
 Package of 5 papers to one address, one year \$12.00
 Larger quantities are figured at the same rate.

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

Its motto: Have faith in God. Its object: The glory of God and the salvation of men; the restoration and promulgation of the whole truth to the people in this "evening time" as it was in the morning Church of the first century; the unification of all true believers in one body by the love of God. Its standard: Separation from sin 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 Oklahoma laws as a non-profit religious work, the Faith Publishing House is incorporated thereunder.

FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE

P. O. Box 518, 4318 S. Division, Guthrie, OK 73044
 Office phone numbers: 405-282-1479, 800-767-1479;
 fax number: 405-282-6318.

Internet address: <http://www.faithpublishing.com>

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



In the 73rd Psalm the writer tells of how his steps had nearly slipped. He had become envious of the foolish when he saw the prosperity of the wicked. They are not troubled or plagued like other men. They have no bands in their death. They are filled with pride and violence. They are corrupt and speak wickedly and loftily, even against the heavens, and yet they have more than heart could wish. In the 12th verse he describes them as being the ungodly who prosper in the world and they increase in riches. Then he considered himself. "Verily I have cleansed my heart in vain, and washed my hands in innocency. For all the day long have I been plagued, and chastened every morning." He had to be careful how he spoke because he didn't want to offend. When he considered these things it was too much for him.

Then in the 17th verse a remarkable understanding enlightened his mind. It says, "Until I went into the sanctuary of God; then understood I their end." When we put forth the effort to go into the sanctuary of God we will understand things differently. If we will be willing to listen to the counsel of God and His Word we will become aware that there is an end to these earthly things and there is destruction, desolation and terror in store for the wicked.

The righteous man is sensitive to the counsel and instruction of the Lord. Verse 24 says, "Thou shalt guide me with thy counsel, and afterward receive me to glory." There is great blessing in seeking the counsel of the Lord and actually allowing it to guide the way we conduct our life. Job 12:13 in speaking of the Lord says, "With him is wisdom and strength, he hath counsel and understanding." The counsel of the Lord and the understanding of the truth go hand in hand. It will spare us from falling into the snare of the enemy and from many hurtful disappointments.

In Psalm 106:13 it was speaking about the wonderful deliverance the Lord gave the children of Israel out of Egyptian bondage and then it said, "They soon forgot his works; they waited not for his counsel." Many people today have experienced great blessings from the hand of the Lord and yet in their rush of daily living they fail to wait for His counsel and they quickly

forget His blessings. This is a dangerous way to live. Joshua 9 tells about a serious mistake that the children of Israel made because they "asked not counsel at the mouth of the Lord."

In Jeremiah 7:24 it says, "But they hearkened not, nor inclined their ear, but walked in the counsels *and* in the imagination of their evil heart, and went backward, and not forward." Walking in the counsel of our own heart will have us going the wrong way very quickly. We find this condition is very prevalent in the world today. People have elevated their heart to the status of God. What they think and want is all that matters to them. They are selfish and proud. They boast of great understanding but in reality they are lost and wandering in darkness. They will readily give you advice on how you should live and how you should do things but their advice is not sound and it comes from a heart that is deceived and blinded by sin.

II Chronicles 22:3-4 in speaking about Ahaziah becoming the king of Judah says, "He also walked in the ways of the house of Ahab: for his mother was his counsellor to do wickedly. Wherefore he did evil in the sight of the LORD like the house of Ahab: for they were his counsellors after the death of his father to his destruction." Parents have a tremendous influence on their children and they have a great responsibility to see that their children are taught right. They need to be taking, not dropping off, their children to Sunday school and church and teaching them at home by the Bible and by example how they should live to please God. What a sad thing it is to see children suffer because their mother and father are wicked. God's wrath is kindled against parents who abuse their children and shirk their duty in training them in the way of Godliness.

Psalms 107:11-12 says; "Because they rebelled against the words of God, and contemned the counsel of the most High: Therefore he brought down their heart with labour; they fell down, and *there was none to help.*" We see this happening in the world we live in. The word translated *contemned* means to scorn; abhor; blaspheme; despise; provoke. There is an element of people in our world today that are in this very condition. They despise everything that has to do with God or His Word. They want to remove every vestige of Christianity from our society, our schools and our public places. Romans 1:28 says, "And even as they did not

like to retain God in *their* knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient." The verses before and after this accurately describe the abominations that are occurring in this present world. A great push is on to make the sin of Sodom and Gomorrah acceptable in our society. It is not a coincidence that these issues are occurring in unison. They are a chorus of evil that is chanting a march to destruction. Pray that God will have mercy on us.

The remainder of Psalm 107:13-15 says, "Then they cried unto the LORD in their trouble, *and* he saved them out of their distresses. He brought them out of darkness and the shadow of death, and brake their bands in sunder. Oh that *men* would praise the LORD *for* his goodness, and *for* his wonderful works to the children of men!" How precious to know that the door of mercy is still open to those who will repent and turn away from sin. The cleansing power in Jesus' blood will wash every sin away and bring freedom and deliverance. Psalm 119:24 says, "Thy testimonies also *are* my delight *and* my counsellors." Living for the Lord is an exciting delightful life. Living in the light of His counsel will bring joy and peace and a brilliant hope that will flood your heart and cause you to sing with the Psalmist, "Praise the Lord for His goodness, and for His wonderful works to the children of men!"

— — — — —

The Lord wonderfully blessed the saints of God as they gathered at Monark Springs, MO from far and near to worship the Lord in Spirit and Truth. Saints came with rejoicing from Canada, Mexico, Germany and many places between. The presence of the Lord came near and moved and worked among the congregation, convicting and delivering sinners, reasoning with each heart in His soft, gentle way. The messages opened the way of life more clearly and were of great benefit to those present. The songs and special songs were sung enthusiastically from the heart and inspired joyful praise to the Lord for His love for mankind. There was no place better to be on earth that week than with the saints of God and in the presence of the Lord. The Lord sent a cool, refreshing shower the first part of the week and cooled the weather, making the temperatures very pleasant. Thank the Lord for blessing His people. May the victories gained in this meeting last into eternity.

We have sold out of two more of our hardback books. The *Evening Light Songs* and *What the Bible Teaches*. We do not have the equipment in our shop to put the hardback binding on these books and the cost to have them done is very substantial. I am praying that the Lord would provide us with the equipment to do this. Even though the cost of the equipment is expensive, I believe that the bindery costs for one printing of the hardback books that are currently out of stock would nearly recover the cost of the equipment if it were purchased wisely. Other hardback books that we are currently out of are *Birth of a Reformation* and *The Cleansing of the Sanctuary*. I believe all of these books should be in stock. The value of the truths they teach far outweigh the cost of production. It will only be at the Judgement of God that it will be revealed how important these books have been in instructing and encouraging those who are searching for God. Would you pray for me that God would show me how to manage the work here at the Lord's Print Shop so that it will be the greatest benefit to the Church of God?

— — — — —

We are now accepting orders for the *Evening Light Songs Concordance*. This is a complete word index to the hymns in the *Evening Light Songs* book. If you have ever thought of a phrase of a song and couldn't think of the title, then this is the book you have been waiting for. It also has a song writer and composer index that alphabetically lists all of the songs that are included in our hymnal that an individual authored or composed. Bro. Clifford and Sis. Patsy Smith, as well as other saints, have spent untold hours in compiling and preparing this exhaustive resource. We are happy to present to the people of God this 431 page volume bound in a heavy paper binding. This limited edition will sell for \$18.00. Shipping charges of \$2.70 will apply for mailed copies. We plan to begin shipping the orders in October.

— — — — —

We have sent our spare form rollers for the Harris offset press to a company that will replace their rubber covering. This press is used for printing our books and the *Faith and Victory*. They should be returned to us this month. This should help us improve the quality of printing that is done on this press

—Bro. Willie E. Murphey
wemurphey@yahoo.com



KS—Dear ones: For the last several weeks I have had a lot of problems and pain from osteoporosis. Now the pain is much less and I praise the Lord for all His blessings. I can get around much better.

—Sis. Naomi Dickerson Hiebert

CA—Remember my family in prayer.

—Sis. Opal Davis

IN—I have an urgent request for prayer.

—Sis. Ruby Blanchard

OK—I have a request for Porter Burris. He has cancer.

—Sis. Mary O. Jones

LA—Please continue to remember Bro. Manuel and Sis. Marie Mitchell. They are in need of help from the Lord.

—Sis. Velma Mancil

LA—Remember Bro. Doyle LaCroix. He has been afflicted with a diabetic condition and has been having trouble with his feet.

MO—Would you please put our name on the standing prayer request list.

—Sis. Marie Christian

OK—Please put The Mitch Taylor family on the standing prayer request list.

Standing Prayer Requests

Bro. Jon Busbee

Sis. Mamie Butcher

Bro. David & Sis. Marie Christian and family

Bro. Hubert Corteway

Sis. Waneta Creel

Sis. Elaine Dunn

Sis. Evelyn Fredrickson

Bro. Troy Gentry

Bro. Jeff Gutwein

Bro. Lee Hilton

Bro. Doyle LaCroix

The Lounds Sisters

Sis. Ruth McMakin

Sis. Melba Powell

Sis. Anna Severs

Sis. Catherine Shaffer

The Mitch Taylor family

MEETING DATES

Wichita, KS (Fall Meeting)—Sept. 14-21
Webb City, MO (Singing)—Sept. 27
Bakersfield, CA (Meeting)—Sept. 27-28
Holly Hill, SC (Revival)—Oct. 5-12
Pomona-Baldy Mesa, CA (Revival)—Oct. 16-19
Myrtle, MO (Singing)—Oct. 4-5



MEETING NOTICES

WICHITA, KS, FALL MEETING

Lord willing, the fall meeting in Wichita, KS will be held Sept. 14-21. On the two Sundays we will have three services. Monday through Saturday we will have two services daily: 11:00 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. Everyone is invited and if the Lord tells you to come you will be expected to be here. We are looking for the Holy Spirit to be in charge and to direct in all things. Please pray for the meeting.

The chapel address is 1701 North Ash St. and the phone number is (316) 267-9582. If you need further information, contact Bro. Emmanuel Gracey at (316) 778-1848 or Bro. Theodore McCray at (316) 682-5132.

—Sis. Shirley Knight



40th ANNIVERSARY SINGING AT WEBB CITY, MO

In 1963 Bro. Murphy Allen was inspired to have an inspirational singing. The saints at Webb City responded to this suggestion and the first singing was held on Sept 27, 1963. This was the beginning of the blessings of many singings among the saints. To commemorate this fortieth year, the saints at Webb City would like to invite you to another special singing on the anniversary of the same date, Sept. 27, 2003, at 7:00 p.m. The chapel is located at the corner of Devon and Tracy streets in Webb City, MO (two blocks east of the water tower.) For further information call (417) 472-6427.

—Bro. Ed Johnston



BAKERSFIELD MEETING/DEDICATION

Our annual September weekend meeting will be held on the 27th and 28th. It will be in our new chapel at 100 Oswell St. We glorify God for the completion and ask the blessing of His presence in our midst. Saturday will begin with a victory brunch at 9:00 a.m. which is a time for singing and sharing testimonies of God's good-

ness. At 12:00, noon, there will be a dedication service for the new chapel. At 7:00 p.m. there will be a worship service with an extended time for inspirational singing. Sunday morning there will be Sunday school at 9:45, morning worship at 11:00 a.m. and an afternoon time for reflection, remarks and blessings at 2:30 p.m. For further information contact our pastor, Bro. Hayward Cox (661) 836-3877.



HOLLY HILL, SC, REVIVAL

As the Lord leads, a revival meeting is planned in Holly Hill from October 5th-12th, 2003. The revival will begin Sunday morning October 5th and end after Sunday morning October 12th, 2003. Services will be nightly at 7:30 p.m. We are looking to the Lord to send the ministers of His choosing. Pray with us that the Lord will have His way and will bless us with His precious presence; that He will save the sinners, heal the sick, teach and uplift the saints here.

The chapel is located on Bayview Street between Camden Road and Eutaw Road, Holly Hill, SC. We give a hearty invitation for you to come and be with us. For more information, contact the pastor, Bro. Carl Shaffer (803) 492-3256, Bro. Floyd Crummie (803) 496-5768, or Bro. Alvoid Pratt (803) 492-3366



POMONA-BALDY MESA, CA, FALL REVIVAL

It is time again for our Fall Revival 2003 and this year will be our 90th Anniversary for the Pomona-Baldy Mesa Congregation. We are encouraged to share the blessings of God.

Welcome to our Fall Revival 2003 and the commemoration of our 90th year of worship. Our meeting will be from Thursday, October 16, 2003 to Sunday, October 19, 2003. Services will be held nightly Thursday through Saturday at 7:30 p.m. Saturday at 11:00 a.m. there will also be a commemorative service with dinner and activities following. Sunday school will begin at 10:00 a.m. Morning Worship is at 11:00 a.m. Dinner will follow this service as well. Afternoon worship will be the closing service at 2:30 p.m.

A very special invitation is extended to anyone who formerly attended Pomona/Baldy Mesa congregation.

Please pray for us and come if you can.

—Pastors, Travis and Alice Johnson

Phone: (760) 956-6330

Phone: (760) 261-2564

SPECIAL SINGING, MYRTLE, MO

Lord willing, there will be a special service of singing on Saturday night, October 4, at 7:00 p.m. at the Church of God chapel, Myrtle, MO. We invite everyone to come be with us. There will also be special services on Sunday morning, October 5, at 10:00 a.m. Cabins and dormitories are available. We are looking forward to a weekend of special blessings from the Lord.

—Bro. Harlan Sorrell

SPECIAL NOTICES**DURHAM, NC, BUILDING REPORT**

We want to thank the Lord for His blessings that He bestowed upon us. Praise His holy name. We would also like to personally thank those who have supported this building project. May God richly bless you. The chapel construction is coming along fine. Due to rain, in the last few weeks, progress was slow. But thank the Lord we are having beautiful weather now. Currently the basement walls are up, and now we are looking for the Lord to bless us in purchasing the material for the floor system. We must purchase steel bar joists, decking and pour a concrete slab. We are looking for the Lord to provide. We are building by faith, step by step. If the Lord leads you to support us in this work, it would be greatly appreciated. Thank you in advance. Our address is: Church of God-Building Fund, 6219 Kelvin Dr., Durham NC, 27712. Church: (919) 471-1613. Home: (919) 544-2203. Cell: (919) 740-3748.

—Bro. Jerry Lennon and Congregation
email: jclennon@aol.com

TAPES AVAILABLE

Cassette tapes and/or CD's are available of the congregational and special singing from the Monark Springs camp meeting, July 2003. There are two tapes/CD's of congregational singing and one tape/CD of special singing. Also, I have edited one tape/CD of the choicest of the congregational recordings titled, *Songs of Heavenly Joy*. I recommend it for those who want to order only one congregational tape or CD. It contains the most heavenly and inspired singing of the entire meeting.

Cassette tapes are also available of the messages preached throughout the Monark camp meeting and the Myrtle camp meeting. If interested, write to me for a complete listing.

All tapes and CD's are priced at \$3.00 and that price includes postage. Contact Harlan Sorrell, Rt. 1 Box 118A, Myrtle, MO 65778 or hsorrell@ortrackm.missouri.org.

**LETTERS
FROM
OUR
READERS**

OK—Dear Bro. Willie: Greetings in the name of Jesus our blessed Lord. I have been thinking a little about the scripture in I Timothy 1:11 where it mentions about the glorious gospel of the blessed God. I thought, what a glorious gospel it is and what a great price was paid that we might be able to be partakers of it.

It is glorious because it is everlasting, it meets all the needs of mankind, it flows from the heart of an all wise, all powerful, loving heavenly Father, it reveals all the glorious attributes of God and it is in reach of all mankind throughout all ages and generations. If believed and obeyed it prepares man's heart and helps him to live to the glory of God while here in this present world and gives him a blessed hope of the world to come where we can live forever with the Author and Finisher of our salvation.

In Psalm 89:15 David said, "Blessed is the people that know the joyful sound: they shall walk, O Lord, in the light of thy countenance."

I trust all is going well with you as you labor there to get the good news to others.

Your saved brother, washed in the blood of the One that loved us. —T.V. McMillian

LA—Greetings of Christian love to you and all the workers at the office laboring to put the pure Gospel out to a lost world. Oh, if only all would love and accept it. It would make them able to meet the Lord in peace when they come to the end of life, but alas, Jesus said, "Few there be that find it." Thank the Lord for the few that have sought for and found it.

I'm thinking of the warning your dear Grandfather gave us the last time he was here at our camp meeting in 1962. His warning was, "Saints, none of us are in heaven yet and the devil is very much alive in the world today." Now 41 years later, the enemy hasn't weakened or grown

weary but is working so very hard to overthrow anyone he can and cause us to loose our soul in the end.

If only all who started out would have been faithful there would be many more in heaven than there is. And if all that are on the way now will be faithful, it would be wonderful. "...be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.

I tell folks, "We have to start out to ever get there, but how we end up is what matters." I think often that no matter how strong or great a man may feel, when he takes that last breath, he will be as helpless as when he was born a little babe into the world. Oh, if poor human beings could only think seriously about the last breath that is ahead of all of us. What a serious time it is going to be. Thank the Lord we don't have to leave here with guilt and sin on our soul but we can be prepared to take our "upward flight" to a world of peace and rest forever with Jesus.

The Lord is so very good to me at 92 years of age. My hearing is much impaired and I only have partial vision in one eye, but the Lord keeps me going with strength enough to be up some each day and to see well enough to read and write. Christian love, —Sis. Alta Flynn

LA—Special greetings to Bro. Willie and co-workers: Our Loranger, LA camp meeting was truly blessed with good attendance. Thank the Lord for all who came. Although the bad weather hindered some, we still had a real good meeting.

As the years roll on the older saints are slipping off of the stage of action just as it has always been. But our prayer is that the full gospel will continue to be preached and lived by all who come after. I do carry a burden for our youth. Let us keep our lights burning bright.

With sincere love and prayers for all,

—Sis. Gladys S. Cashio

KS—Dear Bro. Willie: I was glad, as always, to go to the National Camp Meeting. We do thank the Lord that we were able to attend and mean to profit by the messages we heard. Praise God for His faithfulness and goodness to us all. May He continue to bless all of the workers at the Publishing House. —Sis. Shirley Knight

OR—Dear Bro. Willie: It was with tears in my eyes and joy in my heart that I read the testimo-

nies of all the young people in the June *Faith and Victory*. I am earnestly praying that God will "lead them not into temptation, but deliver them from evil." Praise God! With Christian love and prayers, —Bro. Bill Busch

PA—Dear Bro. Murphey: We received very good instruction by Bro. Larry Abbott in our spring revival here in Duncannon and were privileged to attend the Green Bank camp meeting to receive much more.

We were so blessed to learn of the young people who got saved and blessed in your meeting and in the one in Green Bank. Our prayer is that they hit the Rock and become attached! May the Lord help us all in these troubled times.

God bless you all, —Sis. Barbara Campbell

SC—Dear Saints: It is with very grateful hearts that we send our thanks to those who have prayed for us, sent cards of encouragement and helped us financially. Each kindness has meant more to us than we can express. Since our last letter, my husband, Andy, has had two additional back surgeries. On July 23 he underwent an operation that involved fusion with screws being inserted into his back.

After we got home, he was experiencing severe numbness and problems with his leg. After an examination, the doctor found that one of the screws was pressing on a nerve, so he had to have yet another operation on August 4 to have the screw repositioned. The last operation has really impaired his health, and he has suffered worse from it than he did from the first two surgeries. He is still having dizziness and numbness in his leg. Needless to say, he is still out of work, and we do not know when or if he will ever be able to return to work. The doctor stated that it could take from three to five months to recover from this last operation.

Please continue to remember us in earnest prayer that God will continue to have mercy upon us and supply our needs. We are so thankful to God for all He has done for us. He has been so good and faithful to take care of us this far, and we know He can continue to carry us through this difficult time. Again, thank you for everything you have done, each time you have prayed and had us on your hearts and minds. May God bless you as you continue to remember us. In Christ's Love,

—Sis. Marie Weatherford and Family

HONDURAS RETREAT REPORT...

July 30, 2003—Dear Saints: Greetings in the precious name of our Lord and Savior. What a wonderful Savior we have! Gold, silver, diamonds and pearls could not buy Him because He is worth more than all of them put together. He is all of those things, bless His holy name! We love the Lord so much and we love all of His people.

The Lord wonderfully blessed the trip we made to Honduras in May for the purpose of feeding the children and giving them a special time of retreat. The children from the English school, some of their friends and other children in the community attended. When we saw the great multitude of people (over one hundred) we wondered if we would have enough food to feed all of them and transportation to get them to the retreat. The Lord worked a miracle just as He did when He fed the multitude long ago. The Lord enabled us to have sufficient food and transportation for everyone. He also provided the perfect place for the event. One of the brethren works for an American man who owns a stretch of beach not far from where we were. He was kind enough to allow us to have our retreat there, free of cost. The place was perfect in every way for the occasion, thank the Lord. The children said it was the best time they had ever had.

We had the opportunity before this event to speak to the children at the English school during one of their opening exercises. We read a scripture and spoke about it. While we were speaking, the Lord impressed us to ask how many of them were saved. It is sad to say only a few of them were saved. So we began to deal with them in earnest about their souls. We had them all kneel and pray and all but two children professed to give their hearts to the Lord. Thank the Lord for those who attended church regularly. There were a few who were encouraged to get up and sing special songs. Please pray that the Lord will keep their hearts encouraged.

On this trip we were also able to visit two prisons. We spoke to the prisoners about their souls and had prayer with them. Some of them professed to give their hearts to the Lord. We also prepared food and drinks for them and gave out soap, toothpaste and a few other things. We did not have enough for everyone but we are thankful for the little we were able to do. We want to thank all of you for your support and prayers. We appreciate the love offerings which

helped make all of this possible. Please continue to pray for us. Our desire is to do this again next year, Lord willing. (The children want us to do it twice a year!) If you would like to help this effort in giving the children a retreat and visiting the prisoners, please write to: Sis Lydia Bennett, 14650 NW 13 RD, Miami, FL 33161

— — — — —

FROM INDIA...

July 5, 2003—Dear Bro. Willie Murphey and dear saints in the USA and abroad: Greetings to all of you dear ones again in the marvelous name of Jesus Christ. Thank God for the good news about the blessed camp meetings this year. May God bless the remaining camp meetings also.

Monsoon rain started here though not strong as usual. Schools and colleges reopened in June. Children in our congregations need assistance to purchase essential school materials. If some of the saints feel a burden to support the poor children here, it will be highly appreciated.

The work on the tabernacle building is going on. We are seeking the Lord to supply the means necessary to continue its progress....

July 16, 2003—A kind of dangerous fever is spreading in our state. About 170 people died of this disease though none from the church. We invite your prayers.

With prayers and thanks. Yours in Him,

—Bro. John Varghese

— — — — —

FROM NIGERIA...

July 26, 2003—Dear Bro Willie Murphey: Greetings in Jesus' excellent name. We appreciate His kindness in responding to our prayers. With reference to my prayer requests made on behalf of Sis. Waite Karibo, as published in the April and May, 2001 issues of the *Faith and Victory* magazine, we consider it necessary to let all the saints at home and abroad know about God's marvelous work of healing the sister. She was severely tormented by the devil for over three years thereby subjecting her faith to serious trial. She was restless, could not eat for many days and passed many sleepless nights. Just as the Lord allowed Job to suffer physically and mentally in the hands of the devil, but had his soul secured, so the Lord secured Sis. Waite's soul while in the furnace of the devil. But after the severe trial the Lord deemed it necessary to heal her and has since restored her to normalcy in response to the collective prayers of the saints.

June 8th 2003 was a day of joy and glorification to God as Sis. Waite, whose faith remained anchored in the Lord, gave a moving testimony of God's wonderful healing. Amidst tears of joy, brethren, her children, relations and friends who responded to her invitation offered thanks to God for the great work of delivering her from the powers of the devil. It is our desire that you all join in our joy and offer thanks to God for His wonderful work.

Continue to remember us in your prayers for our soul and physical well-being as we also have been praying for the saints abroad, especially those whose requests are published in the magazine. God bless you all.

Yours to His glory, —Bro. F. Naths-Igbonibo
— — — — —

July 29, 2003—Dear Bro. Willie: Love and greetings in Jesus' dear name from me to you. I thank God for this opportunity to write you. I know that you and the saints in the Lord's Print Shop are doing well. We are doing quite well here in the Lord. I have been a little bit busy in the past month travelling from one end of Nigeria to the other. I do pray that all the effort made will be fruitful. Do pray for me and the work of God in Nigeria. We are trusting God for greater exploits.

By now the National Camp Meeting is over. I really missed it. I longed to be there this year but was constrained by circumstances beyond my control. My travelling Visa was ready but I was unable to make the trip. I enjoyed the last one I attended and would really love to make it a yearly affair.

We are praying and trying to open a new congregation in Uyo, the Akwa Ibom State capital. We need prayers as we are planning to organize a crusade soon to begin. We really need God's direction on this. The revival meeting that started on July 24th, 2003 in Asana ended on Sunday, July 27th, 2003. We thank God for the success of the meeting.

We are praying for you and the work. I do believe that the Lord will prosper and provide for the work. Meanwhile share my love with all that love the Lord.

Yours in His service —Bro. Anietie Essien
— — — — —

July 25, 2003—Dear Bro. Willie Murphey: Greetings of charity to you and all the faithful workers in the Lord's Print Shop there, in the sanctifying name of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

I have the pleasure to testify, that in answer to our earnest prayers our heavenly Father did

grant us favorable weather in this winter season. And meanwhile His Spirit also enabled us to have effectively embarked on outreach gospel activities for five consecutive days, precisely last June 20-24, here in the Tombia community. In fact, the above mentioned was our second quarterly revival activities in this year.

Two brothers and six sisters of Port Harcourt congregation came and participated profitably in the revival activities which culminated with our observing the Lord's supper and feet washing ordinances. Indeed all of us who participated were edified and encouraged to keep serving God even with more devotion despite the unbelieving attitude we observed from members of the public. Only one student was converted and has since been baptized. Two others have shown interest in attending our fellowships, but they have not requested baptism as yet. We are sure that the faithful God, Who has approved of our sowing His Word, will also grant it's germination in answer to our prayers.

Please agree with us in your prayers that more souls will be saved in Tombia. We also pray for you as often as we should. Remain always encouraged.

The recent increase in the prices of petroleum products has grossly aggravated our living conditions. We sincerely do solicit your prayers for the stability of Nigeria's economy.

Yours in the indivisible body of Christ,

—Bro. Onimite B. Alalibo
— — — — —

FROM THE PHILIPPINES...

July 9, 2003—Dear Bro. Murphey: Greetings in the name of Jesus. Thank you so much for the *Faith and Victory* which we are longing to receive every month. It gives us information about the different congregations in the USA and some mission works. Surely we are always anxious to hear about brothers and sisters in the family of God. We are so happy for the inspiring messages that strengthen our souls. I appreciate those people of God who support the publication ministry. It is so important for the growth of the church and to bind the saints in love and unity.

Thank the Lord for your prayers for the mission work in the Philippines. With God's help and guidance the gospel work is moving forward to different places. We have opened new congregations in other provinces. Bro. Daniel baptized four precious souls last Saturday and he said he is preparing six other souls that may

be baptized this coming Saturday. Bro. Daniel also has a 30 minute religious broadcast entitled, "The Lamp of Life." He is requesting me to help him increase the time to one hour because 30 minutes is too short for the message, answering questions from telephone calls from listeners, reading letters and giving greetings to brothers and sisters and correspondents. He has many appointments for Bible studies by special request from the listeners. Thank the Lord for this young man; he is dedicating himself to the service of God.

Again permit me to say thank you for your loving support for the mission work in the Philippines.

Your brother in Christ, —Matias Tangunan
— — — — —

Aug. 24, 2003—Dear Bro. Willie: Warm greetings of love and appreciation for your continuous care for the saints here in Muntinlupa City, Metro Manila. The *Bible Lessons* that you sent quarterly are so helpful in our Bible Study. I really love to share the inspiring messages from the *Faith and Victory* paper with the brethren during our mid-week services. We have already completed the second quarter *Bible Lesson* and I am now waiting for the 3rd quarter copy. Your labors, dear saints, continue to encourage us to reach more souls. It is true there are times in my life that I almost faint, but when I ponder all of God's blessings in my life I find the courage and strength to go on and look forward to that day when He will say "My child, this is the end."

Bro. Willie, this is the fifth week that I have struggled to regain my health. Since my heart attack, the third week of July, I have felt very bad and I have had difficulty breathing. Because of this I have had a time of self-examination and I have been drawn closer and more dependent on Him. I believe God allowed such a time so that I could see that He is faithfully by my side. The progress of my recovery has been slowed because that after several days I had another heart attack, though these last ones were mild. With all these situations I saw my children dedicating to God's work. Jon and Arlene volunteered to deliver God's message when I was unable. The brethren arranged things at the worship hall so that when I arrived I could feel better. I appreciated those who volunteered to lead the songs. This is a time that we can see all things are working together for good to them that love the Lord.

Thank you for your prayers for my son, Jon.

He is now working for a Japanese company. Every time his manager has told him to work on Sundays he would say, "Yes, sir" but when he arrived home we both prayed that God would make a way for him not to miss Sunday fellowship, and God answered our prayers. Before going home on Saturday evening, he'll ask his manager if he will still have to work the following day. The answer has been, "Not anymore, you have done it all." We always thank God for His wonderful works. We really can't see His wonderful ways until we experience them.

Bro. Willie and to all the dear saints, may I put a special prayer request for my husband. He wants to come home now, but the company where he works in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia has not paid their wages since May. His coming home to the Philippines is still under negotiation. The administrators of his company have allowed my husband to go home and promised to send his wages and benefits, but my husband didn't agree. He said that he needs to take that money home because we need to pay our debts. Until now there has been no decision. He called this afternoon and was feeling quite desperate because the management told him that they didn't have enough money to pay him. Please include my husband, Arthur, in your prayers.

Again, thank you for your love and prayers, especially your concern for the Muntinlupa Church of God. May God's richest blessings be upon you all!

With grateful heart, —Sis. Nellie Tibayan
— — — — —

MOZAMBIQUE...

Aug. 28, 2003—Many of the congregations in Mozambique are situated in mountainous areas. This is their winter season and the nights get very cool. I was very thankful for the warmth of my sleeping bag, but my heart was touched at the plight of the hundreds of impoverished children who had no blankets to keep them warm at night.

Although my primary burden is for the propagation of the gospel, I was moved by the humanitarian need of these children. There is opportunity here to minister to these temporal needs. A blanket can be purchased for five dollars in Mozambique. I have established a fund and have made arrangements for the distribution of blankets to the children.

If you feel a burden for this need, you may address your correspondence to the Church of God, c/o Michael Smith, 1017 Apollo Circle, Edmond OK 73003. —Bro. Michael Smith



Chapel dedication at Msikita Village, Malawi, July 20, 2003.

MALAWI...

Aug. 28, 2003—I thank God for a spiritually beneficial mission trip to Malawi and Mozambique last month. The Lord blessed every step of the way. I visited a number of congregations in southern Malawi accompanied by Brother Failos and Brother Master, my translator.

For the first time I was able to cross over into Mozambique and spend a few days traveling through the bush over rough roads visiting some of the congregations in that country. The people greeted me with much joy and received the Word with open hearts. On many occasions, they would surround our car and escort us to their chapel with singing and much rejoicing. Last year in Malawi arrangements were made for a chapel to be built. The saints proved to be very trustworthy with the funds left in their care, and I was very pleased with the well-constructed building.

The last weekend we had a minister's meeting and a dedication service to open the new chapel. There are currently 23 congregations in Malawi and 18 congregations in Mozambique. Over 30 ministers from these two countries attended the minister's meeting. They came eager to learn and were receptive to the teaching on numerous biblical doctrines. We had a lengthy question and answer session and I am thankful for the growing spiritual understanding that I witnessed.

On Sunday the chapel was packed with over 500 people in attendance from Malawi and Mozambique. In the past, communication has been a difficulty, but this year the Lord especially anointed the translation. Sunday morning it was as though a window in heaven was opened and the power and anointing of God filled our assembly. We witnessed the presence of God that morning as the Spirit ministered to all of us. We give God glory and thanks.

There is a continual need for Bibles in Africa. On this trip 100 Bibles were purchased from our Africa Missions Fund as well as two bicycles for the use of the ministers. I thank each of you for your prayerful and financial support. I am very encouraged with what God is doing in Africa. Please continue to pray for this work.

Ecclesiastes 11:6 states, "In the morning sow thy seed, and in the evening withhold not thine hand: for thou knowest not whether shall prosper, either this or that, or whether they both shall be alike good." Truly we are living in the evening time and spiritual darkness is pervading society in general across the world. Although we may at times feel our spiritual efforts in outreach and witness are in vain, we must not give in to these sentiments. We must continue to sow the seed and leave the results with the Lord. His Word will not return unto Him void and the job of the people of God is to be faithful, despite feelings and results, and continue to sow the seed of truth.

—Bro. Michael Smith



Albert D. Eck was born to Daniel and Ida (Becker) Eck, on October 21, 1908, in a small two-story frame house west of Meno, OK. They had just buried a baby in August, so it was with joy and concern that this little boy would make it. He lived 94 years, 8 months, and 17 days. He passed away on July 8, 2003 at 8:17 p.m. at the Chetopa Manor Nursing Home, Chetopa, KS where he had been a resident since September, 2002.

Albert was the fourth child in a large family of seventeen children. Five died in infancy. He was the oldest brother to live to adulthood, with only one older sister, Eva, living to adulthood. He loved his little brothers and sisters. They were a family that worked hard but took time to play games, especially croquet.

The family was very musically inclined and they had their own family orchestra. His family remembers Albert playing the guitar, banjo and harmonica. He attended the Cozy Palace School. Due to World War I he received persecution because of his German last name. He quickly told them he was Dutch and even after his grandchildren came along he referred to himself as Dutch not German.

Albert's mother had a dream about a man holding a revival meeting. Later Albert's parents attended a gospel meeting in their community. When his mother walked in and saw the minister she recognized him as being the man in her dream. This was their introduction to the Church of God. They rejoiced in the truth. Later Bros. Fred Pruitt, Robert Johnson and Sam Barton went to that area for a gospel meeting, and the Eck family traveled to Oklahoma City for camp meetings. This was how Albert got acquainted with Margaret Johnson.

Albert asked Margaret to be his cook and they were united in marriage on February 9,

1930 at Guthrie, OK. They remained true to each other over 64 years. Nine years ago this August, God took his wife and cook. Four children were born to this union—Donald, Lavera, Laverna, and DeLoris.

For 12 years Albert and Margaret lived in the little house that Albert was born in. Then they bought a farm southwest of Bartlett, KS and moved there with Donald and Laverna in 1942. He was a farmer and dairyman. Albert loved his cows. Margaret would tease him that he spent more time with his cows than he did with her.

Albert helped build the chapel in Chetopa and then in Coffeyville, KS where they pastored. Also during this time the national campground at Monark Springs, MO was built. He devoted his time to all of these projects because he had a desire to see the work of God prosper and the kingdom of God increased in the hearts of men and women. He served as a trustee at the Monark Springs Church of God campground for approximately 25 years.

They felt the call from God to leave the farm in Kansas in 1963. From that time on they pastored at Grubbs, AR and Myrtle, MO. Albert taught the adult Sunday school class at each place they pastored.

The last move they made was to the Bluejacket, OK area where again Albert helped build this chapel at Four Corners. He began to lose his eyesight in the mid 1980's but kept busy even after he was blind—building bird houses and pruning his grapes. He lived a full and useful life, leaving a rich heritage to those left behind to follow.

He was preceded in death by his parents and five brothers, Joseph, Wilbert, Clifford, Adam, and Waldo Eck; six sisters, Melinda Eck, Susanna Eck, Rutha Mae Eck, Eva Penner, Inez Beisley and Carolina Chrisman; one daughter, Lavera Eck; one son, Donald and a great granddaughter.

He leaves to cherish his memories and rejoice in his victory, two daughters, Laverna Probst, Bluejacket, OK; DeLoris and husband, Randel Bradley, Bartlett, KS; one daughter-in-law, Marilyn (Beisly) Eck Bartlett, KS; nine grandchildren, 29 great-grandchildren and three great, great-grandchildren, two brothers: Edwin Eck, Goltry, OK and Paul Eck, Meno, OK; three sisters: Clara Wahl, Enid, OK; Ruey Tucker, Henryetta, OK and Ella May Jarvis, El Dorado, KS and a host of nieces and nephews, other relatives and friends.

Grandpa had a real ability to make something out of almost nothing. He could devise some very interesting things with scrap lumber, an old inner tube, bailing wire or some other stiff wire. Children received what he called beanie flips, (sling shots) adults were given birdhouses. He built his improved version of a mousetrap and even an automatic fish catching device from these types of materials.

His most outstanding characteristic and the one that causes us today to hold him in high regard is his desire and devotion in life to be pleasing to God almighty.

Note of Appreciation

To all of the dear friends and saints that have shown such love to us by phone calls, cards, flowers, food or prayers we want to express our appreciation and gratitude. Daddy loved the people of God and your love to our parents down through the years has meant so much.

—The Albert Eck family

— — — — —

Ida Belle McMillian was born July 7, 1924 to John Marion Whitson and Sarah Adeline Whitson in Tuscaloosa County, Alabama. She passed away at her home in Neosho, Missouri after a brief illness on July 12th, 2003 at the age of 79. Mother attended various public schools in northwestern Alabama in her childhood and teen years. As a young girl she attended Bible study at the home of Cora McMillian, her future mother-in-law. There she embraced the Christian faith which was reflected throughout her life.

On August 3rd, 1940 she married Harley Austin McMillian. She gave birth to her first child in May of 1941. She dedicated her life to caring for her husband and six children, twenty-four grandchildren, twenty great-grandchildren and members of her extended family. She was a strong person and tireless worker; this enabled her to help countless other people while meeting the daily needs of her own large family. Her great joy in life was partnering with her husband in his itinerant ministry to the sick and needy, and to numerous small congregations over a wide area around southwest Missouri.

She loved gardening and sewing and created beautiful, useful gifts in abundance. She traveled widely and counted many hundreds of people among her enduring friends. She lived at various locations in Alabama and in Michigan until 1964 when she moved to Neosho, MO,

where she lived the rest of her life.

The death of her husband, Bro. Austin McMillian, in May of 2001 was the most difficult challenge of her life and this loss tested her sorely. She met this challenge and continued her efforts on behalf of those she loved until her final illness. She is survived by one son, Harlon McMillian of Bay City, MI and five daughters, Camilla Watkins of Phoenix, AZ; Carolyn Rhame of Rogers, AR; Marilyn Cole and Emily Cole of Granby, MO and Deborah Wesche of Ann Arbor, MI; two brothers, James Edward Whitson of Cordova, AL and Lloyd Whitson of Birmingham, AL; and two sisters, Eunice Vuncannon of Berry, AL and Samilea Seaton of Pell City, AL; 24 grandchildren and 20 great-grandchildren cherish the memories of Grandma and Grandma Mac.

Funeral services were held in the Clark Funeral home near Granby, MO with Bro. Ed Wilson officiating and Sandra Melot giving a eulogy. Various members of the congregation also recounted special memories of Sis. Ida Belle's life. Interment was in the Brown Cemetery also near Granby with Bro. Vada McMillian officiating.

Note of Thanks

The family extends gratitude to all those who attended the services, sent flowers and cards and called during the time of her illness and death. Each message and remembrance helped to encourage her while she lived and brought solace to our hearts after her passing. A heartfelt "Thank you" to each one who took the time to remember us in these kinds of ways and in your prayers during these difficult days.

— — — — —

Robert Mickelson was born to Ida Krasnow-Mickelson and Charles Mickelson Sept. 15, 1916. He passed from this life Aug. 2, 2003.

Robert married Esther Sussie in 1950. To this union was born three children.

He is survived by his two sons, Eddie and Neil; one daughter, Gilda; three grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren by his daughters marriage, and his youngest brother.

Robert has been an inspiration to all who made his acquaintance. He has been faithful to his family and church family. He will be greatly missed.

Funeral services were officiated by Bro. Adriel Bowman August 6, 2003. Interment was at Forest Lawn cemetery, Cypress, CA.

Brother, here is the secret of success on every line in Christian service. "At thy word I will." This defines faith in God. It is taking God at His word without looking at signs and circumstances. Faith brushes aside circumstances, surroundings, discouragement, past failures, oppression and confidently looks up into the face of One who cannot lie and says, "Speak the word only, Lord." Such is great faith. G.T. July 16, 1903.—H. M. Riggle