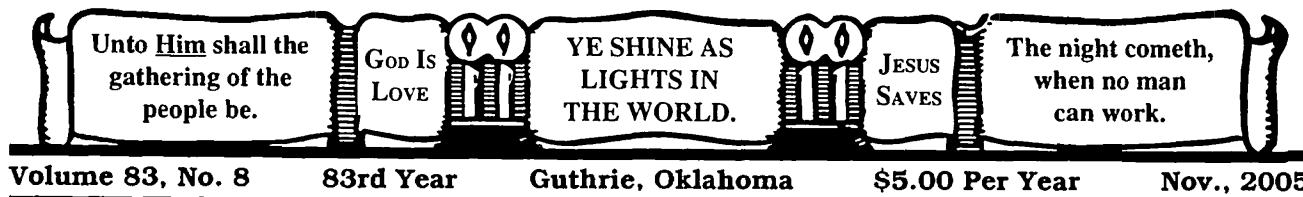


FAITH AND VICTORY

USPS184-660

Church of God Servant



A Grave Mistake

By Sis. Charlotte Huskey

"Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly...." Psalm 1:1.

Do you wonder why that for nearly 200 years God blessed America above all nations? It was the most secure peaceful place to live in all the world. Then suddenly in the late 1960's social satisfaction turned to social resentment, which spawned riots in our cities, violent demonstrations, political figures being assassinated, dishonoring of the presidency and our national flag being burned. What brought about these atrocious upheavals? And what has it to do with child rearing? Perhaps Martin Luther gave the answer when he said, "To educate children without the fear of God is to educate devils."

Brewing in universities all over our country for more than a hundred years were the collective thoughts of humanist thinkers. Men such

as Jean Rousseau, Henry Thoreau, Arnold Gesell, B. F. Skinner, Rudolf Dreikurs and many others pushed hard to revolutionize parenting beliefs. Rousseau was the first in the eighteenth century to seriously attack the Biblical view of a child's sinful nature. It is strange so many other intellectuals accepted his analysis of children, as he had neither child rearing experience nor love for children. The five he fathered by his mistress were disposed of at the *Hospital des Enfants-trouves* that received 3,000 abandoned infants per year. Two out of three died in their first year, and only 14 of the 3,000 lived to maturity.

In the early 1930's a chosen few of our more "open-minded" professors from Columbia University were sent overseas to learn new (and supposedly better) ways of teaching. These intellectuals returned and taught the new "open mindedness" to thousands of public school teachers who in turn taught the children. In this way the humanist way of thinking crept into the children's minds. Sis. Geneva Ray told of her personal experience with the educational system in this time period. She was taught to teach this new way of thinking, only to the children, for adults in the general public were too closed-minded to accept it. My Aunt Mae Hightower also complained of having to return to school to learn new ways and new things to teach.

By the mid-1950's, these students had become parents and were ready to accept the new ideas for parenting that the humanists were pushing. Since our nation's beginning the Judeo/Christian traditions for parenting were

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strongly entrenched in American homes. The Judeo/ Christian parents believe children are born with a natural waywardness and need to be trained in Biblical truths that they may become peaceful, productive adults. The humanists say babies are born good and if left uninhibited will grow into productive adults. Did not the children who were left uninhibited become the leaders of riots, violent demonstrations and flag burning? This godless generation was birthed when parenting ideas were revolutionized. Who wouldn't exchange today's turbulent, unsafe society for that of yesteryear, those years when parents believed and practiced Biblical parenting?

These humanist thinkers have promoted a psychology of parenting that is not Biblical and their changes have done great harm to our society. God's Word states, "Foolishness is bound in the heart of a child; but the rod of correction shall drive it far from him." Proverbs 22:15. Jeremiah 17:9 reads, "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked:..." Jesus said, "For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies." Matthew 15:19. King David said, "The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God...." Psalm 14:1. The foolishness in a child's heart, is not childishness, or being silly, it is that which says, "There is no God; so I have no need to be responsible for my actions." Jesus says that man will give account to God for every sin, even idle words.

Who believes they are responsible to God? Those who have been taught and believe the Scriptures.

We will not be able to train our children right unless we believe what the Bible says about children. It strongly states that every child is born with a tendency toward sin. If we believe our angelic little child is born basically good and that it is only our mistakes which cause his or her bad behavior we shall fail. Every child is born with self-gratifying and self-legislating desires. (This is easily seen. The newborn screams for food or attention, and he wants it pronto!) Without the self-disciplines of life, these two factors can literally kill a child or adult both physically and spiritually. It is our task to teach our children self-control so they will not allow this to happen. This can only be done by following Scriptural principles—not by following the counsels of the ungodly.

A Teacher's Prayer

*I want to teach my children how to live their life on earth,
To face its struggles and its strife and to improve its worth;
Not just the lesson in a book or how the rivers flow,
But how to choose the proper path, wherever they may go;
To understand eternal truth and know the right from wrong,
And gather beauty from each flower and each song.
For if I help a child to grow in wisdom and in grace,
Then I shall know that I've won and that I've filled my place;
And so I ask Your guidance, God, that I may do my part,
For character and confidence and happiness of heart.*

—from a Teacher's Prayer

The Seventh and Last Trumpet

By R. A. Owens

From the April 1968 *Faith and Victory*.

There are various trumpets mentioned in the Scriptures, all having significant meanings when properly applied and understood. In the book of Revelation we find trumpets in prophetic and symbolic language, but in order for us to get a proper understanding of their meaning we must interpret them in the light of the gospels, Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, Acts and the epistles. The truth in the book of Revelation never contradicts other New Testament truth and can only be properly understood when interpreted by the Holy Spirit in the light of the New Testament as a whole.

In I Corinthians 15:52 we read, "In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed." Here we see the last trump is to awaken the dead and resurrect them. In Revelation 11:15, 18 we read, "And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever. And the nations were angry, and thy wrath is come, and the time

of the dead, that they should be judged, and that thou shouldest give reward unto thy servants the prophets, and to the saints, and them that fear thy name, small and great; and shouldest destroy them which destroy the earth." In the above scriptures we see revealed the truth that the seventh angel here is the same as the last trumpet angel of I Corinthians 15:52. The dead are raised at the sounding of the seventh trumpet. All mankind are brought into judgment before God and given eternal rewards.

In the book, "*The Revelation Explained*" by F. G. Smith, we quote his explanation of Revelation 11:15-18, "The seventh angel that here sounded is the third woe angel according to the description before us, and ushers in the general judgment. When the temple of God was opened that this event might take place on earth, there were '...lightnings, and voices, and thunderings, and an earthquake, and great hail.' Wondrous commotions took place in the world, for kingdoms and empires were overthrown, and Jesus Christ was the only King remaining, and His mission was to raise the dead that they might be judged, to give reward to the prophets and saints, and to banish with everlasting destruction those that corrupted the earth. The description itself is too plain to need further comment."

In Revelation 10:7, we read, "But in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he shall begin to sound, the mystery of God should be finished, as he hath declared to his servants the prophets." In the first six verses of this tenth chapter we read of another angel, a mighty one, which came down from heaven, "...clothed with a cloud: and a rainbow *was* upon his head, and his face *was* as it were the sun, and his feet as pillars of fire." This angel is the one who stands upon the sea and upon the earth and declares that "time shall be no longer," **but this is not the seventh angel of verse seven.** This mighty angel, clothed with the cloud, and a rainbow upon his head is symbolical of the messengers throughout the world in these very days, who are crying that time is drawing to an end and that Christ is soon to bring the whole world into judgment. Quoting the words of the song written by W. G. Schell, as recorded by F. G. Smith, with his comments:

"Lo, the angel now is standing
On the sea and on the land;
How his voice the air is rending
As to God he lifts his hand!
What an awful, awful message!
Help us, Lord, this truth to see:
When the seventh trumpet thunders,
Then shall time no longer be.

One more trumpet yet to summon
Us before the judgment seat;
Then the time of our frail planet
Will be said to be complete.
How the wicked will be wailing,
And the righteous overjoyed,
When with fire the heav'ns are burning
And the earth shall be destroyed."

In I Thessalonians 4:16 is the answer and explanation to the last trumpet messenger, "For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:" This agrees with 1 Corinthians 15:24-25. "Then *cometh* the end, when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when he shall have put down all rule and all authority and power. For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet." This scripture explains and agrees with Revelation 11:15, 18 where all nations and kingdoms were made subject unto Christ and brought into judgment before God. Also we read in Matthew 25:31, 46 where all nations will be brought before Christ to be judged. These and other truths explain the seventh angel of Revelation, chapters 10 and 11.

The seventh and last trumpet is not being blown yet, as some teach, and think it is. Christ is yet to come with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God to raise all the dead, and to separate the goats from the sheep and to give everyone his eternal reward.

Many false interpretations of scriptures are going out these days concerning prophecies and Revelation which contradict the New Testament truths which do not confuse, nor bring us into bondage to set dates, nor fixed boundaries. The Lord Jesus Christ said, "Ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." The book of Revelation is a wonderful book, but it is being used these days by many false advocates of pet doctrines which have no foundation of

(Continued on page 12.)

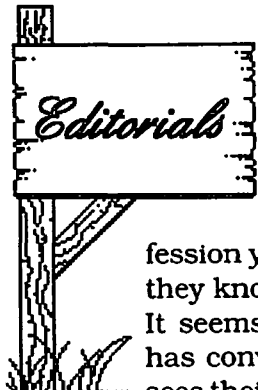
FAITH AND VICTORY
16 PAGE HOLINESS MONTHLY

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)

Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation

Form with multiple sections: 1. Publication Title (FAITH AND VICTORY), 2. Issue Frequency (MONTHLY), 3. Number of Issues Published Annually (11), 4. Annual Subscription Price (\$5.00/YEAR), 5. Complete Mailing Address of Publisher (4318 S DIVISION - GUTHRIE OK 73044), 6. Full Names and Complete Mailing Addresses of Publisher, Editor, and Managing Editor, 7. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office, 8. Full Names and Complete Mailing Addresses of Publisher, Editor, and Managing Editor, 9. Names and Complete Mailing Addresses of Owners, 10. Names and Complete Mailing Addresses of Stockholders, 11. Names and Complete Mailing Addresses of Bondholders, 12. Tax Status (THIS IS A NON-STOCK, NON-PROFIT, RELIGIOUS AND CHARITABLE CORPORATION), 13. Publication Title (FAITH AND VICTORY), 14. Issue Frequency (MONTHLY), 15. Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months, 16. Total Number of Copies (Print and Digital), 17. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner (Willie E. Murphey, Publisher).



"And the children of Israel did secretly those things that were not right against the LORD their God..." II Kings 17:9. There are many people today who have a high Christian profession yet secretly are doing things they know God is not pleased with. It seems the enemy of their souls has convinced them that if no one sees their transgression then it is all

right, but if one of their sins becomes exposed they seem to feel real badly about it and make a great effort to correct it. Yet, as long as their sin is concealed, no effort is made to get it out of their life. When this condition prevails, it testifies of the true condition existing in their heart.

Proverbs 15:3 says, "The eyes of the LORD are in every place, beholding the evil and the good." While this verse is a comfort to the righteous man, it should strike fear in the heart of those who are doing evil, either openly or in secret. Notice that this verse says His eyes "are in every place." While things may be concealed from other people, there is no place that is darkened from the sight of the Lord. Those who indulge in secret sins and still maintain a Christian profession need to repent with godly sorrow and be delivered from the kingdom of darkness. They are under the spirit of deception and their heart is blackened with the sins they have committed. If they could only see what a reproach and hindrance they are to the gospel of Christ while carrying on such a high profession, surely they would make more effort to be cleansed from their wickedness.

II Corinthians 4:2 describes the way God expects His children to live. It says, "But have renounced the hidden things of dishonesty, not walking in craftiness, nor handling the word of God deceitfully; but by manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God." The words, dishonest, crafty and deceitful describe the way the devil works on people to bring them under his control and it also describes the way people begin to live after he has control of them. Often he uses half-truths to make people believe his lie. When people yield to the enemy they always lose something very valuable—their innocence, their relationship with God, their peace, their freedom, their joy and ultimately they will lose

The Faith and Victory (USPS184-660) is published monthly, except August, for \$5.00 per year by:

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

(Periodical postage paid at Guthrie, OK.)

Postmaster: Send address changes to: Faith and Victory, P. O. Box 518, Guthrie, OK 73044.

everything, including their soul. These blessings that the enemy is trying to steal away from people can only come from God and once they are stolen they can only be replaced or restored by Him. How we should value and guard the precious things God has given us!

Man may try, to the best of his ability, to keep his sins hidden. We know that he cannot be successful in hiding them from God and many times he fails to keep them concealed from others. However, the Word shows us the right way to dispose of our sin. In Zechariah 13:1 it foretells God's perfect plan of redemption. It says, "In that day there shall be a fountain opened to the house of David and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem for sin and for uncleanness." This glorious fountain was opened to mankind when our Savior gave His life and shed His blood for our sins. Those who have taken advantage of this cleansing may rejoice in the comfort of these words recorded in Hebrews 10:16-17, "This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them; And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more." How can we pass up an offer that removes our sins so completely. It can only be accomplished by following God's perfect plan.

May God send genuine Bible conviction on those who are perilously close to losing everything. Salvation is real and it makes real changes in the heart and life of those who obtain it. One cannot be a member of God's church without it. Salvation will bring deliverance and victory over the works of the flesh. Let no one be deceived into accepting anything less than what Jesus gave His life for. Too many organizations of man are teaching that you cannot live above sin. But please don't make the mistake of believing that these organizations of man are the Church of God. They are dwelling far below the lofty mountain of His holiness and have not come nigh unto the courts of our God. Many of these organizations of man launch great campaigns to "save the lost" and yet they have little more to offer the lost than a collection plate and social activities. Their own members are sinning just like the "lost" they are trying to save. But God has so much more to offer those who come to Him.

Let the Word of God challenge each one to flee from the courts of the wicked and the city of

destruction and find eternal life and redemption in Zion. II Corinthians 7:10 says, "For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of:..." Finding forgiveness from your sins and obtaining salvation will bring much joy and gladness in this life but in the world to come there are untold glories awaiting for eternity. You will never be sorry for giving your heart and life to God.

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



OH—Would you please be so kind to pray for my grandson? He is twelve and has spiritual and physical needs. I know Jesus knows every detail and is more than able. I've read over and over about your prayers, healings and miracles. So please remember Brian to the Lord. Thank you, Lovingly and sincerely, —Sis. Millie Cotton

KS—My younger brother, Alfred, has had blood clots. They seem to be gone, or almost gone, but please remember him in prayer. David, another brother, has lung disease thought to be from bird disease. He also needs prayer. We are so thankful for the times the Lord has answered prayer and led us through the wilderness. Christian love, —Sis. Naomi Hiebert

OK—Dear Bro. Willie and Sis. Neta: Special greetings to all. I am still saved and very much encouraged. I am reading over in Psalms. I enjoy repeating the 23 chapter several times a day. My sister, Darlene Adams, has heart trouble. I trust all will pray for her and me too. I am still praying for those who were in the hurricanes in Louisiana and Mississippi. It was so sad. I still love all of the saints as never before. With Christian love, —Sis. Mary O. Jones

AR—We thank you for your prayers for us in the time of loss of our dear companion. We do

not count it a loss, but gain for her. Thank the dear Lord we have the victory and joy in her going. We are now waiting for our going when the Lord sees best for us. Amen! With love in Jesus our Lord,

—Bro. Roy Harmon

KY—Remember my daughter, Lucinda, in prayer. She has been suffering from heavy depression and needs the Lord. Pray that God will save her soul and bring healing to her mind. We are thankful that the Lord intervened and spared her life recently. My Grandson, Michael, who some time ago caught his arm in the rollers of a machine and crushed and broke several bones in his hand and arm, is now doing much better and we give God the glory and thank the saints for their prayers on his behalf.

—Sis. Kay Griffitt

LA—Remember Sis. Purvis in prayer. She has been having severe pain in her head.

Kenya—Reports are still coming in for the saints that are suffering in the famine-struck areas of Kenya. Pray that God will intervene in their behalf. There are also reports of similar conditions existing in Malawi. May He show each of us what He would have us to do.

Perhaps the prayer request column is not the usual place to continue an editorial but this is a matter we need to pray about. There is an instance reported by Bro. Noah Byrum that occurred in May 1897 at the Gospel Trumpet printing offices then located in Grand Junction, MI. Bro. W. G. Schell became burdened about the famine that was then occurring in India and wrote a very passionate article for *The Gospel Trumpet* which was accompanied by a very pitiful picture. It was published Thursday, May 13, 1897. On the following Monday evening the Trumpet Family held their weekly meeting. Bro. E. E. Byrum spoke of the recent appeal and wondered what could be done. After several others had spoken about the matter Gideon Detweiler arose and said, "It is not going to be possible for this group to contribute much money, since everyone gives his work freely and no one is paid a salary. So I am going to offer a suggestion for what it is worth. Since we cannot give money, why not make some slight sacrifice in which all can participate. I am suggesting that we deny ourselves the use of sugar on the table, and save this small amount and send the money to those needy ones in India." This sacrifice was unanimously agreed to by the Gospel Trumpet Family and the next morning there were no sugar bowls on the tables and the

workers gladly ate their cereal without sugar to help those in need. May God help us to also have a burden to do His will, to help those in need and help spread the Truth of His Word. It is my fear that the superfluities and extravagances we indulge in are causing us to be weak spiritually. We see so few interested in the Truth in this country and we attribute it to their enchantment to professional entertainers, sports, etc. While this may have some merit perhaps there is another factor the enemy would have us be oblivious to. Could it be possible that there is a corresponding lack of consecration and dedication to really do the Lord's will on our part? Please make this a serious matter of prayer.

Quite some time ago while in an electronics retail store that had large screen TVs flashing, a feeling of hopelessness seemed to settle over me as the thought was presented that we were trying to compete with all this modern entertainment media. Then the Lord helped me understand that all of this entertainment still leaves a void in the hearts and lives of people when God is left out. It became clear that we have an important job to do to continue publishing the gospel and the good news that Jesus can fill the void people have. Let us never allow our consecration to His worthy cause become secondary in our lives. His power is still the same today to satisfy the deep cravings of the human heart with His love.

May the Lord help us to make complete consecrations to His will and then with courage move forward in His holy name. It will take great effort on our part to make a perfect consecration but it will be anointed by the presence of His Holy Spirit. When Jesus began His ministry and was baptized by John and the Holy Spirit, like a dove, descended upon Him, it was immediately after this that He was led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil. It is quite likely that a similar experience will befall anyone who really makes a perfect consecration. Yet, we know that the power of God will help us be overcomers in those times of testing and bring us through them with victory and power.

These thoughts are humbly submitted with a deep desire to see the Church of God stand united in the power of the Holy Spirit and push forward against the tremendous obstacles the enemy has laid in our pathway to hinder the cause of Christ. Pray for me.

—Bro. Willie E. Murphey

Standing Prayer Requests

Bro. Carlos Arriaga
 Sis. Mamie Butcher
 Sis. Helen Carson
 Sis. Waneta Creel
 Sis. Charlotte Dilliner
 Sis. Evelyn Fredrickson
 Bro. Troy Gentry
 Bro. Robert Hetland
 Bro. Doyle LaCroix
 The Lounds Sisters
 Sis. Marie Mitchell
 Sis. Melba Powell
 Sis. Anna Severs
 Sis. Catherine Shaffer
 The Mitch Taylor family
 Sis. Velda Wisner



Humble Our Hearts

*Humble our hearts at Thy feet, loving Lord
 Help us to stand uncondemned by Thy Word;
 Search us and try us and prove us, indeed,
 To ev'ry command help us all to give heed.*

*Humble our hearts till Thy truths in us shine
 Bright as the "morning" in this "evening time;"
 Sink us so low that Thy power and grace
 Will hold us in line with Thy Word, ev'ry place.*

*Humble our hearts till Thy power will fall
 On us in showers, whenever we call;
 Healing the deaf and the dumb and the blind,
 The lame, sick and suffering in body and mind.*

*Humble our hearts until Christ shall be seen
 In us each day, like a tree ever green;
 Bearing the fruit of His Spirit we prove—
 Thus our life preaching—that Jesus we love.*

*Humble our hearts till Thy presence, we know,
 Is our protection wherever we go;
 Till by Thy impulse each move shall be made,
 Then there is nothing to make us afraid.*

*Humble our hearts until self is ruled out,
 Till great assurance excludes ev'ry doubt;
 With our life hid—only Jesus we see,
 Conquering monarch forever is He.*

—B. E. Warren

MEETING DATES

Loranger, LA (Assembly)—November 23-27
Oklahoma State (Guthrie)—Dec. 23-Jan. 1



MEETING NOTICES

LORANGER, LA, ASSEMBLY MEETING

Lord willing, this meeting will begin Wednesday evening at 7:30 p.m. November 23rd, with services daily through Sunday, November 27th. Come for a blessing and please support this meeting with your prayers. There is a dormitory for the sisters and one for the brothers. Please bring your own sheets and linens if possible. Power and water hook-ups 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 (985) 878-6111. The chapel phone is (985) 878-2788.



OKLAHOMA STATE ASSEMBLY MEETING

The Oklahoma State Assembly Meeting of the Church of God will be held at Guthrie, OK, from December 23 to January 1. A hearty welcome is extended to all to attend this annual gathering of God's people in the central area of the U.S. The first service will be held Friday evening, December 23, at 7:30 p.m. Daily worship services throughout the remainder of the meeting will start at 10:30 a.m., 2:00 p.m., and 7:30 p.m. There will also be morning prayer services and youth services, the time of which will be announced at the meeting.

The campgrounds are located east off of Sooner Road on Lake View Road, which is a little over four-tenths of a mile south of the intersection of South Division and Sooner Road. All who come will be cared for. The expenses of the meeting will be met by freewill offerings.

We especially urge the saints in Oklahoma and the surrounding states to attend this meeting. Come praying with a burden for the unsaved and for all those who need help in soul and body.

Please send all contributions for the coming State Assembly Meeting directly to the State Treasurer, Sister Brenda Wilkins, 1023 E. Prairie Grove Rd., Guthrie, OK 73044.

To obtain further information about the meeting, contact the pastor, Bro. Stanley Dickson (405) 260-8822.

SPECIAL NOTICES

SAINTS DESIRING TO PURCHASE A CHAPEL IN SPRINGFIELD, OH

The Church of God in Springfield, OH has been without a chapel for over two years and has been worshiping in our homes. There is an outreach here and some outside interest but our homes are not big enough to accommodate a larger gathering.

We have found a chapel that would be quite sufficient but we lack near enough funds to purchase it. We have had a building fund for some time and we do sincerely thank those that have already sent an offering.

For anyone willing to help with this purchase we would be very grateful. Contributions may be addressed to, Church of God Building Fund, c/o Rick & Dianna Cox, 2341 Shrine Rd., Springfield, OH 45502.

THANKSGIVING NOTICE

WICHITA CHAPEL PAID FOR

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. The Wichita, KS saints are happy to report that the last payment has been made on their chapel. We express heartfelt thanks and appreciation to each individual and every congregation that helped us pay for it. We are just thrilled. We really appreciate all of the space and we have had a funeral and a wedding in it. We have been in the building for a year now and we give God all the praise. —The Saints in Wichita



LETTERS FROM OUR READERS

LA—On behalf of all the saints impacted by the hurricanes here in Louisiana, we want to

thank each one for your prayers and support. We felt overwhelmed at times by the tasks ahead of us. In turn, we have felt overwhelmed by the love shown to us in such tangible ways.

Once again, we express heartfelt gratitude to the brethren who came south to help with the clean up after Hurricane Katrina. The first crew came for a weekend and helped us cut and pile the tree debris around the chapel. The clean up went so quickly with so many hands helping. In addition, they brought with them fuel, grocery items and financial support. (The dining hall looked like a small store with the items spread out on the tables.) A second crew came later and worked several days in the area. They came with the intent to help clean up at homes in the Loranger community—reaching out in the name of the local congregation. How undeserving we feel! We feel such gratitude to all of you, and it is the cause of much thanksgiving to God.

Many others have sent such liberal financial support. We trust that God will reward you as only He can—that He will “make all grace abound toward you” II Corinthians 9:8.

Please pray for us that we will discover God in all of our circumstances. We have already seen doors opened into the lives of neighbors and acquaintances. Pray that we may know how to keep these “doors” open.

Even though God has lifted His hand of protection a little, we can see in so many ways that His hand was still with us directing every detail of the storm. Many people around us acknowledge the mercy of God in their individual experiences.

—The Oak Grove Congregation
Loranger, LA

OK—Dear Bro. Willie and Sis. Neta: Greetings of Christian love. Trust you are both receiving the blessings of God for both soul and body. I have been much inspired with the thought of the Lord having need of us. If we are willing just to be a vessel, an empty vessel, that He can use and fill with His grace, then He has need of us. II Timothy 2:21 says, “If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master’s use, and prepared unto every good work.” Isaiah 52:11 says, “...be ye clean, that bear the vessels of the LORD.”

The Lord wants to fill our vessel with the fruits of righteousness. Philippians 1:11 says,

"Being filled with the fruits of righteousness, which are by Jesus Christ, unto the glory and praise of God." He is interested in us bearing good fruit. (Galatians 5:22-23.) One main fruit He wants is the Divine fruit of love. He gave Himself for us and He tells us to be followers of God. Ephesians 5:1-2 says, "Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children; And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling savour."

When we are filled with all these great things (the fruit of the Spirit), then God is well pleased with us and then He has need of us and can use us to carry on His good work in the earth. If Christ is in us, we can bear the same fruit that He bore. In the 15th chapter of John, Jesus instructs us how we can bear this good fruit by abiding in the vine. He gave His life for us that we bear this fruit and the result of this is eternal life in the end, both to us and to those we have influenced. (Romans 6:22-23.) John 4:36 says, "And he that reapeth receiveth wages, and gathereth fruit unto life eternal: that both he that soweth and he that reapeth may rejoice together."

Your saved brother, —T. V. McMillian

MO—Dear Bro. Willie and Sis. Neta: Greetings to you in the great love of our dear Lord and Savior. We have been graced with five messages recently on *The Love of God* and how my heart has been stirred to a greater understanding of the magnitude of that love.

Some of the thoughts that have meant so much are that love often puts us in unpleasant situations. It can make us sad, cry and carry a great burden. It is not always a peaceful, pleasant feeling but often demands sacrifice. For love to be complete, it must be responded to with like actions. Refusing to accept God's love and to give it the proper response it deserves ultimately has great consequences. But to respond to that love brings happiness, contentment and great joy. My mind has certainly been awakened to a depth that I have not understood before. May I be faithful to this awakening and respond to that wonderful love that has been extended to me. May I be able to love those around us as Jesus loved and gave all that He might win their love.

Christian love and prayers,

—Sis. La Verna Probst

OK—Dear Saints—I want to thank each one for your prayers, love, offerings and all the cards! It means so much to me to know you all are carrying such a burden for me.

God has been so good to me. By His help (and the help of His people) I raised six children, trusting Him to heal in time of sickness and in afflictions. He never failed us. How could I doubt Him now! I feel like He will heal me, but if not I want to be like Bro. Bob Sallee, "Live or die, don't be afraid to trust God."

At the first sign of this affliction God gave me the scripture, "There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear:..." Please continue to pray for me that my faith fail not.

Christian love, —Sis. Velda Wisner

MO—Dear saints of God: I want to thank the Lord for what He has done for me. The last several months I have had some health problems. I would get so weak and dizzy I could hardly be up. Sometimes it seemed I would almost pass out.

The Lord was so near to me. I could feel His presence and knew that He was looking down and watching over me. Sometimes He would speak to me through a song or Scripture. One day I was reading daily devotions and the verse for that day was Isaiah 41:10. "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." That verse seemed to be written just for me and I began to weep and thank the Lord for His Promises.

In September I felt I should be anointed and prayed for and praise His name, the Lord gave me a definite touch. I've felt so much better since then. I thank and praise God often for the health He gives me each day. I know it is a gift from God also. Thanks to all the saints who prayed for me. When we would call for prayer, some would call others and get under a burden for me. I can't tell you how much I appreciate your love and concern. What would we do without one another?

I want to live worthy of the saint's prayers and of the blessings God bestows on us. Continue to pray for me.

Christian love, —Sis. Carol Sorrell

OK—Dear saints: Recently I received such a blessing from God that I must share it with you. For a couple of weeks my back pain had given

me much suffering. We believe it to be a sciatic nerve. It was sometimes brought on by too much lifting, etc. Well, I had been going through another problem with this. My birthday was coming up on Thursday and my family had some plans for me. I wanted to feel well on my birthday. Also the next day, Friday, there were a few ladies coming to our house for lunch. If God didn't heal me, I thought I would have to call and cancel the luncheon. Oh! I just didn't want to do that. I was inviting different ones to show my love to them. So I began praying that God would please have mercy on me and heal me for my birthday. Praise God for answering prayer! Praise His holy name!

Remember, the luncheon was planned on Friday at my house. So I had the table all set up for six in the dining room. On one of the name cards I had left it blank—I had felt impressed to do so. Someone later canceled leaving another vacant place at the table all set with a place setting. I thought about putting the dishes away, yet I felt like I shouldn't. So I prayed, "Jesus, you be my guest. Lord, that will be where You sit. You will be our secret guest or visitor." Every time I looked at it I would think about it. The Lord will be our secret guest, "That's Your place!"

Well, on Thursday, the day before my company was to arrive, I awoke free of pain. It was wonderful! My daughter, Rhonda, and I went to downtown Guthrie. There is a small store on the corner named, *The Willows*. T. J., the lady that owns and operates the store, lost her husband this year. Some time ago I was in her store visiting with her and she began to share with me, through her tears, her sorrow over the loss of her husband. I tried to comfort her and I told her I would pray for her. So I felt impressed to invite her to my home. The following day, she closed her store for lunch and came to my home. She was the secret visitor that the Lord chose to be my guest. It just thrilled me to see how the Lord works when we pray for others. God works with us all in different ways to minister to hurting people. May God help us to let Him have His way with our lives.

I was testifying about this experience to another lady who is my neighbor. She told me that it used to be a custom to set a vacant place for Christ at your table. Matthew 25:40 says, "...Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the

least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me." Also Hebrews 13:2 says, "Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares." Praise God!

I have been so blessed by this recent experience, I hope it blesses you. We all need to think about the special unseen guest in our homes.

Your sister in Christ, —Marsha Corteway

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From the Philippines...

October 11, 2005—Dear Bro. Murphey: Greetings of Christian love in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Thank you so much for the September issue of the *Faith and Victory*. With God's help and guidance we are moving forward with the gospel to surrounding provinces, towns and cities. I have received reports from the pastors of different congregations. In the town of Natividad the pastor reported 14 souls immersed in water baptism. We have just finished their chapel and had a dedication service last September. Their numbers as well as their spiritual life is growing. I visited the province of Aurora last week to see their situation. The temporary place where they meet for worship can no longer accommodate their number and they were requesting a church building. Several people are coming from the barrios to come to the town to worship on Sunday. Bro. Harlito, my son, and Bro. Edwin Andrada are now staying there to preach. The road to this place is very hard and dangerous. It is muddy and slippery going up and down the Sierra Madre Mountain. Aurora province is a plain along the Pacific Ocean. A principal of an Elementary School was so thankful that we are concerned for their salvation. She said, "I thought the Roman Catholic Church was the true Church, but I was wondering why they have so many teachings that are not in harmony with the Bible." She was the leader of the parish church in their community. After two weeks of home Bible studies with Bro. Harlito and Bro. Edwin she said she found the true Savior and true salvation. She requested water baptism with her husband and two daughters. Now they are so happy with their new life in Christ. Many of their relatives, friends and neighbors became interested in studying the Bible because of the great change they saw in their conduct and holy living. This has made Bro. Harlito and Bro. Edwin very busy because of the many appointments of home

Bible studies and community group Bible studies. Nine precious souls were baptized again last Saturday and added to their number.

There are also requests for Bible studies from the neighboring towns of Maria. There is also a good report of six persons baptized in the province of Pangasinan. This is in the town of San Quintin where Bro. Jimmy Manalato is the pastor. They are now extending their gospel work to the towns of Umingan and Lupao.

Two pastors of the so-called "Born Again" group came to me in San Jose. They said that they heard about the Church of God and they came to learn about it and to study the Bible with me. I told them that the Church of God is not a denomination, neither composed of denominations. It is the church promised by our Lord Jesus Christ in Matthew 16:18 that He will establish. It was established during the time of the Apostles and it is the only church recorded in the New Testament. Salvation is the only way to be a member. They have some questions about the millennium, speaking in unknown tongues and salvation by faith only. They have several congregations in the province of Pangasinan and in Nueva Ecija. They made a schedule for their baptism in Lupao River this coming Saturday, October 15. They said they will teach the Truth to their congregations and they were asking me to assist them.

We have also started the gospel work in the big city of Cabanatuan. Daniel, my grandson, is the pastor there. I rented an apartment for him and his family to stay in and to meet temporarily for worship. They have many schedules of Bible studies in the city. They have also a problem about their place of worship because they have

a very small room. They put some chairs outside the room for some visitors to attend.

I heard that my sister, Nellie, was sick, so I went to Muntinlupa City to see her. We prayed for her and we saw a miracle of healing. Before we went home she went with us around the city showing some church lots for sale. The price of lots in their area are very high, it depends upon the location.

I am so thankful for all of you dear ones abroad for your concern and vision for the mission work in the Philippines. May the good heavenly Father reward you for your care to precious souls in the world. We don't know how long we will live in this world but the things we have done for God and for people will remain forever. We cannot forget your sacrifices for us in the Philippines, especially the camp meeting grounds. This will remain to be a monument of your love to us. We will have a young people fellowship at the campground on October 29-31. We hope for a large crowd of young people to acquaint each other as brothers and sisters in Christ, to study the Word of God and to worship. Sis. Ruth compiled selected songs of Ilocano, Tagalog and English. English was taken from *The Evening Light Songs*. We took them to a commercial print shop and paid 70,000 peso, that is equivalent to around \$1,300 US dollars for 1000 copies. The brothers and sisters were so happy practicing from the new songbook.

May I say again, thank you for your unending love to us and for the gospel work in the Philippines. Hope you will meet the Filipino brothers and sisters in the pearly gates of heaven someday.

Your brother in the gospel field,

—Matias S. Tangunan and family

God Bottles Our Tears

By Sis. Lori Cole

This morning, while I was praying, I got a vision of our tears in a bottle in heaven. The Bible says in Psalm 56:8, "Thou tellest my wanderings: put thou my tears into thy bottle: *are they not in thy book?*" I had been struggling the past few days not feeling well, having difficulty breathing and seemingly getting worse. I had been feeling so well for the past few months, and it was such a letdown to me. When I am home alone and feeling the need to pray and seek God earnestly, I just talk to Him aloud like He's right in the room with me, so that's what I

began to do. I was praying and crying and just letting the Lord know exactly how I felt. I was telling Him that I didn't have any eloquent words to say, but was asking Him to please help me have the grace to bear what He saw fit to come my way, and if it could be His will, to not let me get really bad sick this time. Sometimes I feel like I pray the same prayers over and over, and wish I could find just the right words to say to get the results I want. But this verse doesn't say that He stores all our eloquent words and "just right" prayers, but our *TEARS*.

Tears are unsightly, and oftentimes are considered a sign of weakness. But that is what God keeps, our signs of human weakness. I could just almost see all the bottles lined up along a shelf, some small, some medium size, and some very large ones (mine would be one of those!). He knows which belongs to each one of us, and He knows exactly the reason behind each tear.

If we had a bottle of tears here on earth, it would just look like a bottle of water, but in heaven I believe that we will see each tear individually and know why each one was cried. We will be able to look at our bottle and say, "Those were the tears I cried as a child when I skinned my knee," and "those are the ones I cried when I was burdened for a lost soul," and "these here are the ones I cried when I was hurting and no one understood but Jesus," and "those are the tears I cried when I was suffering with a great affliction." And the thing that then came to my mind was this: we will be able to look at our bottles and say, "Wasn't it worth it ALL to make it to heaven! How hard those things seemed at the time, but how glad I am that I endured!"

I am so thankful to have Jesus to go to during the difficulties that come our way in this life. I am still looking to Him for complete healing in my body, and I desire your prayers that I will be faithful until that time comes. I want to endure this affliction with grace and patience so that I can look back one day and truly know that it was worth it all!



The Seventh and Last Trumpet

(continued from page 3.)

sound truth in the Word of God, but are built on supposition.

Among the very last words in the book of Revelation the Lord warns us against adding to or taking from the words of the prophecy of this book. "If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book; And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book." Many writers and preachers of what they call Revelation, today are violating the truths just quoted above.

Trying to measure this gospel day by seven church ages is a fair sample of the delusion. The Gospels and Epistles make it clear that Christ built only one church that would withstand all the forces of hell during the gospel day. He has only one church, of which He is the Head, the Door, the Governor, Priest and King; and yet writers and preachers mutilate His Body based on their false doctrines of seven church ages, and each one ruling a certain number of years. Such is adding to and taking from the plain teaching of Christ and the Apostles. The book of Revelation harmonizes perfectly with the teaching of Christ and the Apostles when rightly divided. The prophets had a rule to judge false teaching in their day. It is "To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because *there is no light in them.*" Isaiah 8:20. The same rule can be applied today. Thus, to Christ and the apostles : if they speak not according to their word, it is because there is no light in them.

According to Paul and the Revelation, we find that the seventh trumpet is the last trumpet. See I Thessalonians 4:16, I Corinthians 15:52 and Revelation 11:15, 18. This trumpet is to be sounded at the coming of Jesus Christ. Now He said, "But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only." Matthew 24:36. Now, if no man knows, not the angels of heaven, neither Christ Himself knows when His coming will be, how, and where is any man's authority to say that we are now living under the seventh trumpet, when that trumpet is not to sound until Christ rends the heavens with a shout? (See I Thessalonians 4:16.)

The poet said, "The sixth trumpet now is sounding to prepare His holy bride." And that is confirmed by Matthew 24:31. Now all His people are not gathered out yet, and His Bride will not be made ready until all have been gathered out, purified and cleansed by the preaching of the Word (Ephesians 5:26-27). So according to God's plan the sixth trumpet will continue to sound till His bride is ready, and then He will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, the seventh and last trumpet of God, to judge the world, and take His Church home to be forever with Him. To say that we are now living under the seventh trumpet is to deny the teaching of Christ, and the divine inspiration of the apostle Paul.

Who Is a Saint?

I once read of a woman in Paris who had tortured and undergone painful afflictions of her body that she might become a saint and that the Pope at Rome had received her or recorded her name as one worthy to be known as a saint.

Many people have subjected their bodies to awful torture by lying upon beds of spikes and various other ways of painful tortures that they might be justified before God and be known as a holy or saintly person.

The Bible, the inspired Word of God, the only authentic source of knowledge on this subject, plainly gives us a definition of a saint and also a sinner, for it defines only two classes; saved and unsaved.

A saint is one who has been redeemed from sin; a holy, sanctified or dedicated one who has been transformed or born again, and who lives and experiences active, positive, spiritual life, or a new creature.

A Protestant once asked a Catholic what was a saint? The reply was: they were noted ones who lived a long while ago and were never known to do anything wrong. Then we presume they thought or were told that they were so kind and good as to have nothing to repent to God for. A moral life of self-righteousness has no eternal reward and those who hold this view are ignoring the truth of God that all mankind are sinners and none are righteous until they confess and repent of actual transgressions and receive heart purity. I once heard a minister remark at the funeral of one of his members that the deceased was a loyal and faithful man who had gone to his eternal rest, but that he was not a saint. Shame upon such a statement from a man who by his training or profession should have plainly read in the sacred Word of God that if the deceased was not a saint, he was a sinner lost without hope of God in the world to come.

The apostle Paul in Romans 12:1 defines a saint as one who has presented his body a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which means to forsake, sacrifice or die to all carnal desires, selfishness, sinful habits or worldliness—a crucifixion to every unholy thing.

All praise be unto God through His beloved Son who has given His people light or interpretation of the principles of godliness that leads His followers out of darkness, superstition and ignorance, revealing to everyone the possibility

of a Holy Spirit filled life that makes God real and precious to His saints.

Before his conversion, Paul, in persecuting the followers of Christ, refers to them as saints and they were known by this name until first being called Christians at Antioch in 41 A.D. After his conversion he speaks of ministering to the saints when he was in Corinth and at Ephesus concerning the work of the ministry relating to the saints as edifying the body of Christ which was and is still the only true church.

Multitudes of professed church members of the various sects are in gross deception and blindly led by those whom God has never called or baptized with the Holy Spirit to preach the everlasting gospel.

They appear to regard a saint as an extraordinary zealous and righteous person, and it never occurs to them that they can ever hope to come anywhere near to that high pinnacle of godliness as to be a saint.

No creed of man or any human agency, regardless of who it is or what be his title, can make anyone a saint, for such is positively the work of the Spirit of the Lord God, for anything that conflicts with the truth of pure gospel teaching, God will reject.

The Almighty requires that a saint worship Him in spirit and in truth constantly, for there is no special or set apart so-called holy days that call for a more holy and dedicated life than other days. There is no scriptural authority for such traditions, for a saintly life calls for a loyal, holy and faithful service every day alike, for how could you regard a servant of yours who would render to you loyal and faithful service on certain set apart days, and then be careless, unconcerned or indifferent the rest of the time?

Provisions have been made by God through the great plan of man's redemption by Jesus Christ our Lord for everyone, poor or rich, learned or unlearned, regardless of race or color, to become known by God as a saint on conditions that they obey the gospel and meet the terms and conditions of definite and positive heartfelt and soul-experienced salvation as is prescribed by authority of God.

The unsaved must be downright earnest or sincere about this and feel sure that it is godly sorrow melting down their heart to a state of genuine confession and repentance, then pardon will come to their soul. —Selected

A Cake Not Turned

By Emil Kreutz

From *The Gospel Trumpet*, November 3, 1905.

There is such a thing as being one-sided. There are some individuals who are today a good deal like it is said of Ephriam, "...a cake not turned." Hosea 7:8. Why was Ephriam thus? Perhaps he was one-sided in his views and manner of life. He saw things from only one standpoint. A cake baked only on one side is not relishable.

David says, "My foot standeth in an even place:..." Psalm 26:12. A good testimony. He was not up one day and down another. His life was evenly balanced. He was like Paul who said at one time that he could do all things through Christ who strengthened him. He knew how to be abased, and he knew how to abound, and he could keep the victory under all circumstances. For he had learned the lesson in whatsoever state he was therewith to be content. (Philippians 4:11-13.) A precious lesson, and one that all must learn in order to make a success in the Christian life.

Jesus is spoken of as being a lamb, also a lion. (Revelation 14:1; 5:5.) There is a wonderful contrast between the natures of these two animals; yet both the lamb-like and lion-like dispositions of mind were perfectly blended in Christ. He could manifest Himself as being meek and submissive as a lamb in time of suffering and He could be as majestic and terrifying as a lion in executing the judgments of God on sin and hypocrisy. The same two natures are to be blended in us. "Mercy and truth are met together; righteousness and peace have kissed *each other*. Truth shall spring out of the earth; and righteousness shall look down from heaven. Yea, the LORD shall give *that which is good*; and our land shall yield her increase. Righteousness shall go before him; and shall set *us* in the way of his steps." Psalm 85:10-13. Blessed steps! Let us walk in them.

We find some individuals who naturally are full of mercy and kindness. They are benevolent and easy going. Others again are just the opposite. They are stiff, definite and radical for the truth and righteousness; they will not give or budge an inch, so to speak, and they cannot make any allowance for the weakness of others. The other class will do and suffer most anything for the sake of peace. Let both those individuals get saved and come together. At first there is liable to be a clash in their methods of work, etc, until they, by the grace of God, become perfectly adjusted to and understand each other, which the grace of God will accomplish in the course of time. Perhaps there will need to be a melting up of both hearts, the one who is too easy will have to move up and become more definite, and the other perhaps will need a little more leniency. I believe a great many of the difficulties and differences that have arisen between brethren originate and exist right here. They fail to see and understand the natural dispositions and motives of each other.

Now it also sometimes happens that when an individual who has been too easy and lenient sees their failure on that line, they go to the extreme in the opposite direction and vice versa. Here is where the expression of the text comes in, "a cake not turned." We need to be baked on both sides, so to speak, that our lives may be evenly balanced. Amen. May God help us.

Again there are those when they see the truth on one line can scarcely see anything else and they go to the extreme and make a hobby out of it. This is not good. We want the truth on all lines and we should consider all sides of a truth. The Word commands us to "prove all things," and "hold fast that which is good." If we do this we shall do well. Let us not be like Ephriam—a cake not turned.

The Bag Of Beans

On a summer Sunday evening, many years ago, a young man walked the streets of London, downcast and weary. He had been living a fast life, with the usual result of a tarnished character and an emptied purse. He was to sail for New York the following morning, and a Christian

friend, who had vainly sought to arrest him in his downward course, pleaded with him to spend his last night in England hearing Rowland Hill preach.

Surrey Chapel was filled that evening with an eager crowd, brought together to hear the

faithful preaching of that earnest man. It may have been curiosity that led the young man there, but at any rate he found himself seated in the congregation. Mr. Hill's text was: "We are not ignorant of his devices." After reading it, he abruptly proceeded.

"I was walking along the street the other day, and saw a drove of pigs following a man. This excited my curiosity, for, as you all know, pigs are uncommonly difficult animals to drive, and if you want them to go one way they invariably take another. But this man seemed to have no difficulty; the pigs followed jostling and grunting after him as eager as possible. I followed on, and to my surprise I found they were going to the slaughter-house. They went in and the door closed behind them. I waited till the man came out and asked him how he had managed to lead them so easily. The man laughed and said, 'Maybe you did not see the bag of beans under my arm. I knew I would have a pretty morning's work taking them there if I didn't humor them a bit, so I got some beans, which they are particularly fond of, and dropped them along the road. And you saw how they scampered along picking up the beans, never thinking they were going to the slaughter.'"

"And this is the way," continued the preacher, raising his voice and turning his penetrating glance right on the pew where the young prodigal sat, "that the devil is leading some of you captives, at his will, down to hell. He knows full well how to please and lead you on. He drops his beans right along the road, and very soon for you the last bean will be picked up; then the gates of hell will close behind you."

The young man was arrested on the spot. The story of the beans, with its striking application to the wiles and devices of the devil in ruining souls, by scattering the world's follies in their path, carried the arrow of conviction to his soul. Next day he sailed for New York, and anxiously his friend waited for news of his arrival, and at last it came. With joyful surprise he read, "I am glad to tell you I am a converted man. The words of that earnest man, especially the opening words about the devil's beans, arrested and awakened me. I saw where I was going, how satan was luring me on, and what my doom and destiny must be. By the grace of God I am saved, to follow a better leader and walk in a new path. I shall ever thank God for that good man's words, which arrested me, and

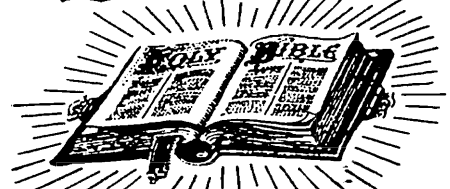
for the words of further help from one on board the ship, by which I was led to the Savior, just before I lost my soul forever."

Reader, are you being led on to death and hell by the devil's beans? The "pleasures of sin," often very palatable, you will taste for the last time one day. Then the agonies of hell, the closing of hell's door behind you, the doom of the damned, will be your portion forever. Today a God of love yearns over your soul, and wants to save you. Christ is able, ready and willing. "...Turn ye, turn ye from your evil ways; for why will ye die?..."

"But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them." II Corinthians 4:3-4.

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3:16. —Selected

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"Beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, we are CHANGED . . ." II Cor. 3:18

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*Why should I seek for earthly wealth
Of gold or jewels of evil stealth,
When I such treasures have and own,
The priceless gems of worth unknown?*

*I seek not worldly vanity
Of vain possessions soon to flee,
For I have sweetest, rarest gold
To love, enjoy; to have and hold.*

*Oh, yes, I need a little fare,
My needs to meet, to help, to care,
To pay my bills, food to supply,
And bury me when time to die.*

*But these are funds but temporal,
To be forgotten after all;
I have abundant riches fine,
That I'm rejoicing to call mine:*

*A lovely wife, a faithful friend,
Vowed to stay with me to the end;
To love and comfort and uphold:
Ah, yes, she's worth her weight in gold!*

*And then I have sweet saintly friends,
Whose fellowship with Heaven blends,
So closely girded to my heart,
Real joy and gladness to impart.*

*I have my children godly, grown,
Apart with fam'lies of their own,
And sweet grandchildren to delight,
My heart with pleasures pure and bright.*

*Above it all, my Saviour Friend,
Who saved me from an awful end;
He lives above and intercedes
With God to answer all my needs.*

*What wealth to go to Him in pray'r
And find a refuge in His care,
To guide me, teach me, and attend,
His Spirit to my heart to send!*

*So you can see why I don't crave,
Nor for this fleeting world to rave:
The circus, concert, lottery,
The races or the old T. V.*

*For I have found more to suffice
In Christ the Pearl of greatest price,
The holy love of saints so pure,
And peace forever to endure.*

—Bro. Leslie Busbee

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