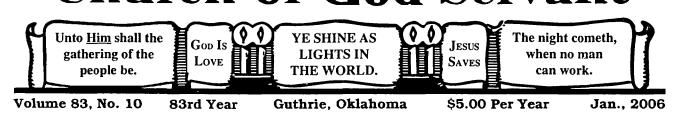
# FAITHAND ICTORY Church of God Servant



## SELF-MADE BARRIERS

By C. W. Naylor

It seems strange that anyone should build barriers in his own way and lay hindrances in his own path, but that is just what many people are doing. They wish to accomplish something; they desire to do something for the Lord, but some way they find themselves always hindered. They look back upon their lives and see that they have done very little. How many times they have desired to be as useful as others! But someway, somehow, they were not.

The greatest hindrances to our success are often found within ourselves. We build up walls between ourselves and usefulness and then lament because we cannot surmount them. We look over the wall and long to be there, while all the time we are placing new stones upon the wall and building it higher and higher.

One of the greatest of these barriers is "I can't." How many people have built up this wall

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before themselves! They see work to be done, they see plenty of opportunities for doing effective service, but they distrust their ability. Or sometimes they are not willing to do their duty, and they begin at once to build a barrier of "I can't" between themselves and their opportunity. Oh yes, it ought to be done, and they would like to do it, but there is that wall in the way. They would gladly do the work if they were over the wall, but it is too high so the work must remain undone. This barrier is very easy to build but hard to surmount. The reason it is hard to surmount is because the person is not willing to try.

No one knows what he can do until he tries. "I can't" shuts out God's help completely. It leaves no room for operation of faith; it increases weakness. The more you say, "I can't," the weaker you will feel, and the weaker you feel, the less courage you will have to attempt anything. It is certain that we cannot do anything if we do not try. It is certain that we can succeed in doing whatever God wants us to do. He has said, "My grace is sufficient;" has He spoken truly? He says, "I will help thee;" does He mean it? If He does, you will not fail if you do your part. The trouble is you do not give Him a chance to help. When the opportunity comes and the Spirit moves you to act, you draw back behind the wall of "I can't" and do nothing. Have you not had many chastisements because of doing thus? Have you not missed many blessings? Has not work gone undone, and have not opportunities remained unused?

Paul had no place for this barrier in his life. He was a man who did things. He believed that God would help him in all he undertook. "I can't" had no place in his life. He said, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." What you need is to quit saying, "I can't" and begin believing God. Throw down this self-made barrier, quit looking at your weakness, look at God's strength. Dare to do, dare to act and you will succeed beyond your expectations.

"I am afraid" is almost as common a barrier as "I can't." How may people shrink from duty saying, "I am afraid I will make a mistake. I am afraid I shall not do it right." They let this fear become a great wall before them, they pile fear upon fear, and as they look at them, their fears constantly grow greater. Soon they come to a place where these fears hedge them in till they dare not attempt anything. Do you remember the man who said. "I was afraid." and went and hid his lord's talent in the earth? Read his story in Matthew 25:24-30. See what his lord said to him and note the result of his conduct. Are you doing the same thing? If so, what will be the result in your case? Fear will tie your hands if you allow it; it will make you a profitless servant.

"I don't know how" is a third barrier. Have you hidden from duty behind this wall? Is this your answer to God when He tells you to do something? The Bible says, "Christ is made unto us wisdom." Again it says, "If any man lack wisdom, let him ask of God." If God gives you a task to perform, He will give you the wisdom to do it as He wishes to have it done. Possibly you do not know how, but God knows, and if you try, understanding will be given you. If you seek wisdom from Him, He will not fail to give it. If we always knew how to do things, we should not need God's help to show us, but as it is, we must often dare to undertake what He wants us to do in His wisdom and in His strength, no matter whether we can see the outcome or not. God wants us to rely on Him and to go ahead in His strength.

"I am not sure" is another barrier. It is well to know God's will definitely, but many times people want to be so very sure that God has no way of making them feel sure. They do not take the assurance that He gives; they want something more. Reason and good judgment tell them to go ahead but they build up the barrier, "I am not sure," and hide from duty behind it. We ought not to decide hastily or rashly, but we ought to decide and then act upon our decision. One may cultivate the habit of indecision until his usefulness is greatly hindered, and he is

constantly tortured wondering what he ought to do. It would be better to make a few mistakes than to let indecision hold us back from everything.

"They will think" is still another self-made barrier. The fear of being misunderstood or having remarks made about them is some people's greatest hindrance. "They will think I want to push myself ahead;" "they will think someone else ought to do it;" "they will think this, or they will think that," and so fear of what people will say closes the mouth and ties the hands, rendering life fruitless. The thing that ought to concern us is, "What will God think if we do not do it?" It is to Him we must give account. It is His approval we should seek. If He approves, what others think is a small matter. Are we not willing to be misunderstood for Jesus' sake?

Let us cease to build these barriers before us. Let us throw down what we have built. Let us decide we will not be held back from duty by our fears. Let us go forward in the strength that God will give. Let us trust more in God and be confident that He will not fail us. Have you not read that the "man of God" was to be thoroughly furnished unto every good work? If you would pay more heed to getting your furnishings than you do to your fears you might become far more fruitful. Thus you would be happier here and reap a greater reward hereafter.



## **New Year**

Dear Master, For this coming year
Just one request I bring;
I do not pray for happiness,
Or any earthly thing—
I do not ask to understand
The way Thou leadest me,
But this I ask, "Teach me to do
The thing that pleaseth Thee."

I want to know Thy guiding voice,
To walk with Thee each day.

Dear Master, Make me swift to hear
And ready to obey.

And thus the year I now begin
A happy year will be—

If I am seeking just to do
The thing that pleaseth Thee

—Author unknown
—Submitted by Sis. Betty Herron

## "Create in me a clean heart, O Lord..."

By Sis. Charlotte Huskey

Every child comes into this world with a clean, empty heart. His tiny mind is like a video camera recording and storing what he or she feels, hears and sees. We cannot be too careful about protecting our child's heart. (We condemn using the video and television for a baby sitter because the child would be learning things he should not learn.) If you are a stay-at-home mom, almost all of what fills your child's heart in those first four years is what you have taught either by intent or by neglect.

A scientific study shows that 50 percent of a child's intelligence (his ability to understand and reason) is acquired by age four. What an awesome opportunity! We can help our children to understand God's ways and to reason like God by filling his or her heart with good biblical principles! As you work and play together keep introducing them to God's love and commandments. This is done through the normal activities of the day. (While washing dishes say how thankful you are for water, or for the food without which there would be no dirty dishes and for such a good helper.) Teaching is a part of all child-parent activities for training is not only done when we sit down and have special Bible studies or family worship. Deuteronomy 6:7 says, "And thou shalt teach them (God's laws) diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up." That covers the entire day.

Jesus said our words and behavior originate in the heart. "For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies." Matthew 15:19. Proverbs 4:23 says, "Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life." Now consider, if we have filled our child's heart with godly morals that is what will come out of their life. On the other hand, if we neglect this awesome opportunity, the heart will fill itself with other things. The intelligence (the ability to understand and reason) will be greatly frustrated by the actions of a neglectful, inconsistent parent. Such actions are often the cause of parents not being able to reason with their children when the child is a teenager.

Reasoning with another person takes selfcontrol. One must sit, listen, think, sift through his or her feelings and then express thoughts. Sitting still and listening should be mastered the first few years of a child's life. It will be a great benefit in school and on the job and is a safeguard throughout life.

The same study showed that 80 percent of a child's intelligence is acquired by age eight. So, his ability to reason is almost completely developed during the years he or she is under our care. He or she can then reason about salvation. God said, "Come now, and let us reason together,...though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow." Isaiah 1:18. If the child has been taught through those first eight years the eternal love and the eternal commandments of God, he will likely submit his life to Christ. If his training has been neglected, frustrated by inconsistency or by poor parental example, he may not be able to make that good decision.

God grant us wisdom to fill our children's minds with good, positive memories of their childhood. May we stay under the shadow of the Almighty and receive from Him the wisdom and graces that are necessary.

## Clay

I took a piece of plastic clay
And idly fashioned it one day.
And as my fingers pressed it still,
It moved and yielded at my will.
I came again when days were passed,
The bit of clay was hard at last.
The form I gave it still it bore,
But I could change that form no more.

I took a piece of living clay
And gently fashioned it day by day.
And molded with my power and art,
A young child's soft and yielding heart
I came again when years were gone,
It was a man I looked upon.
The form I gave him still he bore,
But I could change that form no more.
—Author unknown

Let us pray, "God grant me wisdom that I may wisely fashion my child each day, from early morn till late at night. Help me to guide each in Thy light, to stamp God's love upon each heart that they will never from it part. And then when I am old and gray, I will thank God for them each day."

# FAITH AND VICTORY 16 PAGE HOLINESS MONTHLY

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#### **SUBSCRIPTION RATES**

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.

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With the season of winter being upon us, the grass has turned brown and dry and from all outward appearance would seem to be dead. The trees have dropped their leaves and

their branches are starkly defined against the sky. We know that when spring comes there will be great changes showing up in the plants that are now dormant. Consider

these questions, How can these plants and trees survive the temperature extremes they are subjected to? After the onset of cold weather and they become so brown and dry, how can they again become so green and flourish with blossoms and foliage in the spring? Perhaps the exact mechanisms of each plant may vary, but it is easily understood that their root systems play a very important role in their ability to survive the severe cold of winter. The root system is also necessary to obtain water, nutrition and provide support for the plant. If the tree becomes separated from its life-giving root system it is likely going to die.

Notice this scripture in Isaiah 37:31, "And the remnant that is escaped of the house of Judah shall again take root downward, and bear fruit upward." If the people of God intend to bear spiritual fruit in their lives, it is necessary that they first take root downward. Their heart must reach toward the spiritual food that is vital to their growth. "As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby:" I Peter 2:2. The Word of God contains milk for the weak as well as strong meat for those who are more mature in their growth and need something to sustain them in the hard trials of life. God has provided the nutrition if we will reach for it. Just as a plant extends the filaments of its root structure into the soil, seeking moisture and nutrition, our soul should be reaching into the Word of God and finding sustenance for our spiritual life.

Prayer is also important for our growth. Jesus taught us to pray for the Lord to give us our daily bread. Our daily bread is more than the literal food that we eat. According to the words of our Savior, it more importantly includes "...every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God." Our prayer should be that God would speak those words of life to us and open

the eyes of our understanding so that we can discern His will for our lives each moment of the day.

Most of us who live in the Midwest are familiar with tumbleweeds. In the fall of the year these bushy plants dry up and break loose from their roots and are carried across the fields by the wind. They roll and bounce across the plains in whatever way the wind is blowing, often catching on the fences or collecting in the ditches of the roadway. Ephesians 4:14-15 says, "That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ." A firm grip on the Word of God and a healthy prayer life is the perfect cure to keep one from becoming a tumbleweed.

When Jesus told the parable of the sower. one of the illustrations He gave was of the grain that fell on stony ground. This grain had a measure of soil and began to grow but the root structure of this plant did not develop normally. Jesus said in Matthew 13: 6 "And when the sun was up, they were scorched; and because they had no root, they withered away." In verse 21 He further explained this malnourished plant, "Yet hath he not root in himself, but dureth for a while: for when tribulation or persecution ariseth because of the word, by and by he is offended." It is sad that so many start for heaven but, because they are not diligent in obtaining food for their spiritual development, they become another casualty along the road of life.

The strength that we draw from the Lord is often obtained in the privacy of our personal lives-hid from the view of those around us. There are tremendous battles with the enemy that take place in our minds and as we search and reach out to God, He, through His Word or through His Spirit, supplies the longing of our heart and gives us the victory. While these victories are won in private they become evident in our dealings with those around us. When a soul has sought for and obtained the victory over sin and evil in their heart they naturally begin bearing the fruits of the Spirit which are manifested plainly for all to see. It also becomes evident when one, in the privacy of their heart, begins listening and feeding on something that

is not pure and holy. These people often become snappy and irritable in their dealings with others. These early warning signals should cause one to reach after the Lord more diligently for the victory their heart is craving and turn away from what is bringing the unrest to their spirit.

Jesus said in Matthew 6:6, "But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly." This communication with the Father causes Him to draw nigh us in our difficult times and when He answers our prayers our faith is strengthened and He becomes more real and precious to us. As our roots reach into the rich graces and love of God, the joyous fruit of righteousness will issue from our life blessing those we associate with. Our life, made stable by the grace of God, will become a way mark for others who are searching for the paths of righteousness.

When reverses and hard trials come our way it causes us to earnestly seek the Lord. The death of a loved one may plunge us into the depths of grief and sorrow, however, God can be found in those dark places of our life. His grace, love and mercy is available to those who seek for it. When the heartbroken seeker finds the sweet, comforting spirit of the Lord in those distressing times and the "balm of Gilead" flows over their wounds they find healing, strength and courage to fight on the battles of life and obtain victory and everlasting life. When one continues to follow the Lord through those dark valleys, they will eventually reach a place where their vision is much greater, their hope is brighter, their Savior is more precious and their life is filled with the joy that can only come from the Lord.

As this New Year begins to unfold may we give all diligence to reach after God and make a special effort to incorporate into our lives those things that are pure and holy. As we focus our heart on the noble virtues of our Creator let us lay aside what we know is defiling and evil. By so doing, we will find that we are growing spiritually and God's smile of approval will bless our lives. We will be strengthened by a power the world does not see and our joy will be from a source that man cannot destroy. For that source will be issuing from the throne of God and is fresh, living water drawn directly from the fountain of life.

The Beautiful Way primary and junior class Sunday school papers were mailed December 14 and the Bible Lessons followed on December 19. The lesson titles for the first quarter of 2006 include: Righteous Abel and Wicked Cain; Enoch, Who Walked With God; Loving, Wise and Faithful Joseph; Moses, Faithful In all God's House; The Faith of Rahab; The Sacrifice of Ruth and Her Reward; Hannah's Sacrifice and Praise; Our Eternal Inheritance In Christ; David, The Sweet Psalmist of Israel; Faithful Daniel; Lowly Mary Highly Favored; Jesus Christ Made Perfect Through Sufferings and Paul, Who Preached the Faith He once Destroyed.

If you would like a copy of either the Beautiful Way papers or the Bible Lessons quarterly they are available for only \$1.50 each. Shipping charges apply for mailed copies. A year subscription is available for \$5.00. It is our prayer that these materials will bless and encourage the saints and their children to draw closer to God and incorporate the priceless virtues of the faithful into their own lives.

On December 20, my wife, Neta, accompanied me on a trip to northeastern Indiana to pick up a piece of machinery for the Lord's Print Shop. We returned home with the machine on December 22. This machine, a vertical mill, will help us fabricate parts that are still needed for our Kolbus casemaker. The money we saved on one vital part needed for the casemaker, that we manufactured with the machine we picked up in Indiana, has paid for its purchase. The casemaker still has some major work needing to be done to bring it into operation and we are looking to the Lord to give us wisdom and understanding to accomplish this worthwhile project for His glory.

Last month it was noted that we printed the book, Bible Readings for Bible Students which was bound in a heavy paper cover. We also printed some extra copies of this book to begin working through our hardback binding machinery. At this time the first step of that multistep process has been completed. The machine used to tip, or glue, the endsheets to the first and last sections of the book has been brought into operation. The next step will be to sew the sections together and we hope to report progress on that step in the near future. There are many adjustments that must be made to actually use these machines and we are still learning what some of them are and how to make them. We are looking forward to the future with excitement.

The Oklahoma State Assembly Meeting began on December 23 and continued through January 1. It was a blessing to be in the congregation of the saints for this meeting and enjoy the glorious songs of Zion and feel the burning of the Spirit of the Lord speaking to us through His servants with messages of hope and cheer. The Lord sent a variety of truth that witnessed to the needs of the ones in attendance. Several, realizing needs in their life, knelt at an altar of prayer and God was faithful to extend the virtues of His shed blood to those who sought it. We are truly thankful for this visitation of His Spirit.

The date for the Oklahoma State Camp Meeting was set for May 26-June 4, 2006. We would invite you to make plans to attend this meeting.

The cornerstone on the chapel here in Guthrie, where the saints used to worship at sixth and West Warner carries the date of 1905. It was chartered in 1906 while Oklahoma was still Oklahoma Territory. Bro. George Winn was the first pastor of the congregation. We give thanks to God for allowing this glorious truth of the Church of God to be passed down to us through the intervening 100 years and we appreciate the sacrifices that have been made by those who have denied themselves and followed Christ all the way. May we also be faithful to deliver the truth of Jesus Christ without compromise to those who follow us. For one day there will be a grand reunion in glory where the redeemed of all ages will be gathered and we certainly do not want the link of truth to be broken by our unfaithfulness.

On the last day of the Assembly Meeting there were multiple grass fires that broke out around Guthrie. It has been extremely dry here and on that day high winds fanned the blazes making them difficult to control. The homes of several saints were threatened, but God in His mercy spared them. The fire came very close to the home of Sis. Nelda Sorrell. From her driveway you can see the charred remains of a house that was destroyed. Another fire burned onto the place where Bro. Efrain Huerta lives and it likewise came close, but the Lord spared his home also. We give thanks to God for His loving -Bro. Willie E. Murphey mercies. wemurphey@yahoo.com



SC—Dear Saints: Thank God for salvation. Please pray for my family and I. Also, that the Lord will send us a pastor at Holly Hill, if it's His will.

—Sis. Lillie Russell

WA—Please pray for my husband (Dave) who has gout. Also please pray for me, I have an unspoken request and a lot of souls on my heart. Your sister in Christ,

—Sis. Claudia M. Jerome SC—I would like to request earnest prayer for my granddaughter, Sommer Pratt. I am so concerned and burdened for her safety and especially her little soul. I want to see her raised in the fear and admonition of the Lord. I would like you to pray that God will allow us to have permanent custody of Sommer so we can raise her in a Christian environment and know that she is safe in a loving home. My husband and I are both willing to do this and we would earnestly appreciate your prayers regarding it. In Christ, — Sis. Beverly Pratt

## **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
The Lounds Sisters
Sis. Marie Mitchell
Sis. Melba Powell
Sis. Anna Severs
Sis. Catherine Shaffer
The Mitch Taylor family
Sis. Velda Wisner

#### **MEETING DATES**

General Ministers' Meeting (Guthrie, OK)—March 2-4

#### **MEETING NOTICES**

#### GENERAL MINISTERS' MEETING

A general ministers' meeting of the Church of God has been planned for March, 2006 in Guthrie, OK. The purpose of the meeting is for prayer, teaching and edification of the ministers and their spouses.

The dates of the meeting will be March 2-4, 2006. These dates are a Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

On Thursday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>, the day will begin at 9:00 a.m. The last session will be ending around noon on Saturday, March 4<sup>th</sup>.

On Wednesday, March 1, 2006, there will be a noon prayer service at the chapel in Guthrie for the success of the ministers' meeting. If you are able to come a day early to the meeting please plan on attending the noon prayer service.

It is requested for all of the congregations and the saints to set aside Wednesday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, for special prayer and fasting for the ministers' meeting.

Bro. Keith Fuller has expressed a burden to coordinate and assist in the flow of the meeting. If you have questions or if you have a burden for a topic for discussion during the ministers' meeting, please contact Bro. Keith Fuller, 244 Storer Ave., Akron, OH 44302. Phone (330) 864-1128.

It is certainly hoped all ministers and their spouses will plan to attend this meeting. Accommodations will be provided at the Guthrie chapel and in the homes of some of the saints here in Guthrie.

So that we may plan the menus and secure accommodations, please let us know if you plan to attend. Also, please let us know if you will be making your own accommodations.

Expenses for the meeting will be met on a freewill basis. Sis. Brenda Wilkins, the Oklahoma State Treasurer, has agreed to help with securing accommodations for those in attendance. Please let her know at your earliest convenience if you plan on attending.

Offerings for the meeting may be sent to Sis. Brenda Wilkins, 1023 E. Prairie Grove, Guthrie, OK 73044. Phone (405) 282-0566. Pastor's phone (405) 260-8822. —Bro. Stanley Dickson



## LETTERS FROM OUR PEADERS

MO—Dear Bro. Willie & Sis. Neta: Greetings! Trust all are well and encouraged in the Lord. I'm doing fair for my age and I thank my dear Lord for all His blessings to me. He is so good and precious to me. It seems very plain that the Lord is pushing things towards the end of time. There are so many things being fulfilled of the prophecies in Matthew 24, Mark 13, Luke 21, Daniel and Revelation. So I feel it behooves us all to be watchful and keep looking up for our redemption may be nearer than we think.

God bless your effort. Love and prayers,

-Sis. Natalie Allen

FL—Dear Willie and Neta: I want to thank you for all you've done for me. Most of all I covet your prayers that I will know the will of God as I travel this way. My desire is to please God and live holy every day and not choose my own way. I've done that and paid for bad choices. I'm trusting in the One who makes no mistakes and though I do not want to live alone, I know God has a plan for me. Thank you for introducing me to Sis. Genevieve Carver via the telephone. She is a treasure and I speak to her often. I do love her and all the saints. My only time with sinners is to share the gospel, I have no fellowship with the world. I miss the love of my life. His very presence and love for the truth lingers in my soul. My love for him was bound by the truth we both loved. Sincerely in love,

-Sis. Sarah Monkman

OK—Dear Bro. Willie and Sis. Neta: Greetings of Christian love. We are very much encouraged in the Lord. The weight of glory in our souls keeps us encouraged and serves as a ballast as we face the storms of life. We received so much good from the last Faith and Victory and the articles it contained. But the article, "Spiritual Ballast," really hit a special note in my heart. It mentioned about the ship needing a heavy weight in the bottom to hold it steady in the storm. I thought how that gold is said to be one of the heaviest of things. The Scriptures tell

us of things more precious than gold. Psalm 19:9-10 says, "The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring for ever: the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether. More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb." And Psalm 119:72 says, "The law of thy mouth is better unto me than thousands of gold and silver." Jesus says, "I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich;..." Revelation 3:18. If we have His commandments. His judgements and His Word hid in our hearts, this will serve as a ballast for us. The pleasure of the world fades away compared to the gold in our hearts. The storms can't move us because of this weight of glory in our souls.

-Bro. T. V. McMillian

Ontario, Canada—Dear Bro. and Sis. Murphey and all the workers in the Print Shop, The Lord our God bless you. Wife and I are very thankful every day that we can get up in the morning and praise our Lord Jesus. The year 2005 is almost gone and what a good year it was. The joy of the Lord is our strength. We still need your prayer for body and soul. We feel to send an offering to you in the Faith Publishing House, use it for whatever is needed in the work of the Lord our God. May the Lord help you to move forward to get the Gospel out in the world.

—Bro. George and Sis. Gertrude Schroeder (This card and testimony was dated December 5. Bro. Schroeder passed to his eternal reward on December 13. Remember Sis. Schroeder and the family in your prayers that God will continue to sustain them in the loss of their dear loved one. W.E.M.)

KY—Dear Brethren: Greetings in the precious name of Jesus. I trust all are encouraged. I wanted to write in for the honor and praise of God. Those holding on for healing, no matter from what, stay encouraged. The Lord has healed my body of an affliction that I have had for over a year and a half. Praise God! I appreciate God's blessings to me! God is truly good to us all. In the atonement He supplied our needs for everything. During my affliction the Lord gave me many Scriptures and songs to stand on and they were a comfort to me. I have had to stand on them at different times. They are John 6:37, Hebrews 11:6, James 5:16, Matthew 27:43-53, Philippians 1:20, Acts 3:6 and Matthew

21:22. The last song the Lord gave me was "Jesus Heals" number 306 in the *Evening Light Songs* book. Maybe if you are going through afflictions and trials they will be a comfort to you as well.

I praise God for healing me and for His faithful dealings with me for the needs of my soul. I desire to lay aside every weight that would hinder me from running the Christian race. (Hebrews 12:1.) I want to be faithful to my Lord and please Him! I want to go with Him all the way. Pray for me that I'll do and be what He desires so He can use me wherever He wants me. He died for me and anything that He desires of us is worth it. Keep me in your prayers. I appreciate all my brothers and sisters in Christ. Thank you all for your support. I love you all. Keep encouraged, Love and prayers,

—Sis. Sarah C. Howard

MO—I believe this has been the most hectic year of my entire life! I decided last spring to go ahead with the house-building plan I had been dreaming of for so long. I had been living in a 12x60 mobile home for 22 years and was more than ready for a change! It was so poorly insulated I couldn't afford to heat it in the winter unless I heated it with wood. Last year I had a spell with my back again which left it in such a weakened condition I wasn't able to cut wood for the winter. Therefore, I had to move my bed into my recording studio building and stay in it for the winter. I turned the electric heat down in the mobile home to a temperature just enough to keep water pipes from freezing, etc. and only used the bathroom and kitchen in it through the winter months. It was a rather inconvenient situation.

Through the winter months I kept thinking how nice it would be to have a house connected to the front of the studio building where everything would be right together and convenient. The more I thought about it the more earnestly I desired it and prayed that the Lord would somehow work it out, if it were His will. I already had my house plan drawn.

In the late spring things began to materialize and fall into place. First of all, there was the job of rerouting the electricity to the studio building, as the existing electric line was buried in front of the studio where the footing and foundation for the new house had to be poured. Around the first week of June the footing for the

new house structure was poured and then a concrete slab. After that the construction of the new house began. What an exciting summer! The looks of the place I've been living for 22 years took on a completely different aspect! I hired a carpenter from the West Plains area to do the building and much of it went up while I was working on my job. It was quite exciting to come in at night and see how different things were looking around here, especially after the second story of the house went up. I remember driving in that first night after the walls had been put up on the second story and I thought, "This is awesome!" I had no idea the house was going to look that big. The floor plans were 26 ft. X32 ft. for both levels and when I had measured off the area before the building started I didn't think it seemed very big. But when it went up into the air it began to look so much bigger than I had expected. My father came up and looked at it and stood back in amazement and said. "This is quite a house!" I don't think he expected it to look that big either.

I'll have to say that this experience has been exciting as well as both sweet and bitter. The bitter part was when the carpenter I had hired walked away from the job and left me with it, leaving many things unfinished that I had already paid him to complete. Then, after he walked away, I discovered that he had also cheated me in certain phases of the building process, through overcharges, etc. This was quite a blow! I didn't know what to do. I couldn't afford to hire somebody else to come in and pick up where he left off, because he had my money. I was advised by several friends and co-workers on my job to take the matter to court. I gave it some consideration, but my main concern was that I not step outside the will of God in the matter.

As I prayed and sought the Lord earnestly about it, He paid me a very special visit one night and talked to my heart. First of all, He dealt with me about myself! I was so upset about the situation and also struggling with feelings of anger and resentment toward this man for what he had done to me. I had been treated so unfairly! Wouldn't I be justified in taking him to court to try to get compensation for what he had taken from me? Human reasoning cried, "Yes, yes, yes!" But as God says in Isaiah 55:8-9, "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the

heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts." The Lord began to talk to me that night about some of His thoughts. One of them was, "Why not pray and trust Me, instead of taking things into your own hands?" My heart simply melted before my Maker. I answered, "Yes, Lord." As I humbled myself before His feet, He overwhelmed me with His presence through the Holy Spirit, and the Holy Spirit began to shed such love abroad in my heart (Romans 5:5) that all my anger and resentment toward this man just melted like a snowball in the hot sunlight! My spirit and inner man felt so pure and cleansed from all its human dross when God got through with me that night!

The days and weeks that followed that night were a spiritual love affair for my soul! I hadn't felt the presence of the Lord so real and so sweet in a long time. God talked to my heart day after day about "love." Oh, so many precious scriptures about "love" and following in Jesus' footsteps! Just to mention a few: "Let all your things be done with charity." I Corinthians 16:14. "Be ve 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." Ephesians 5:1. I thought of Christ, who would have been justified in calling twelve legions of angels, sparing Himself the death of the cross and destroying His enemies, but He didn't do it because of "love." He loved even His enemies and gave Himself an offering for their sins! Even when He was dying such a horrible and agonizing death at their hands, He prayed, "... Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do...." Luke 23:34. He taught, "...Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you,..." Matthew 5:44.

I tell you, by the time the Lord got through talking with me, I didn't have any hard feelings toward the man who did me wrong. God simply consumed them by His love, as I absorbed it into my heart. This is the wonderful thing about that "unspeakable gift" that God sent to the world 2000 years ago. If we will receive it, we can each one have Him (Christ) so abiding and working in our own hearts that He will do in us and for us what we cannot do in and for ourselves. His love

will cause us to forgive when we could not forgive otherwise. He does it for us as we humble our hearts before Him.

"Oh, wonders of redemption!
We gaze in silent awe
Upon the new creation,
Where love is freedom's law.
O love! supreme affection!
We bow low at thy shrine,
Love is our great salvation;
O love divine!"

-D. S. Warner,

Evening Light Songs number 272.

"And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him." I John 4:16.

In Deuteronomy 32:13, a part of Moses' song says, "...He made him to suck honey out of the rock,..." This indicates that we can draw some real sweet experiences out of the hard places in our lives. I can truly say that the Lord has given me some "honey" out of this "rock," or hard place I've been through in the last few months. Although I hope I never have to go through one like it again, I can say it has been good for me spiritually.

I must say the Lord has been faithful to work things out, although the process has seemed so slow. He blessed me with three weeks off work in the month of October in which I was able to get many things done on the house myself—things which the carpenter had left undone. Then it always worked out in time that someone was available to help with what I couldn't do by myself.

I owe special thanks to my father who helped me much with the finishing of the sheetrock and other things; Bro. Dallas Campbell of Springfield, MO, who heard of my situation and drove down here on two different weekends to finish the taping and mudding; my Uncle Clifford and Uncle Fred and Aunt Merry who have helped with the texturing of the walls, window and door trim, installation of cabinets, flooring, etc. and to all who prayed for me during my trying time. And to the dear Lord, for the grace, strength and help He has given through this most hectic year of my life! I am sure that as I enjoy the blessings and benefits of this new house in the future, all the downside of this building process will be forgotten for the joy of what I have. I want to make it a home of hospitality and you can be

sure that it will be open to visitors and guests when the camp meeting times roll around.

As of this writing, it isn't quite finished inside, but is nearing completion. Hopefully, in just a few more weeks, it will be ready to move my furniture into. I have moved out of the mobile home and am staying in the recording studio right now. The bathrooms in the house are usable and the water and septic lines are hooked up. By the way, my mobile home just sold today (12-8-05) so it will soon be moved out and away, opening up the beautiful hillside view of the house. Love,

—Bro. Harlan Sorrell

#### From India...

January 2, 2006—Dear Bro. Willie Murphey and dear saints in America. We wish a happy New Year to each of the dear saints all over the world. May God supply us new strength and new graces in this new year. Thank you for your letter dated Dec. 19 and the enclosures were noted with much appreciation. We are now busy with the preparations for our 41st General Convention which starts on the 11th of January 2006 for 5 days. We are glad to know that Bro. Ed Wilson and some others from the U.S.A. are planning to attend our convention this year. By the grace of God our spiritual activities are going on fine. Please continue to remember our outreach work and its needs. Let us exchange our prayers every day. Yours in Him,

-Bro. John Varghese

#### MEETING REPORTS

#### POLITILLY, HONDURAS, MEETING REPORT

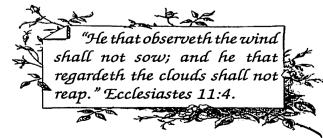
December 9, 2005—This is a report about the recent camp meeting in Honduras and a report on the current building project. The meeting began on October 2nd and ended on the 9th. There were several in attendance from the states. The meeting was well attended, and many remarked that it was larger than the meeting last year. By personal estimation, I would say on occasion there were 200 or more in attendance in the evening. Several came from communities around Politilly where we had set up the tent. Noteworthy were the numbers of children in attendance. Services were held nightly with Bro. David Hargrave serving as the evangelist in the evening. Bro. Keith Fuller finished out the meeting on the weekend. Several came to the altars at various times throughout the meeting. On Saturday, we had an ordinance service during the day. The Lord blessed this activity with His presence. The meeting ended on Sunday night with several testimonies and songs and then an exhortation to the unsaved to seek the Lord.

After the meeting ended, Bro. Doug Wall and local brethren, with the assistance of several brothers coming from the states including Brothers Ted Bock, Jim Wall, Joseph, Michael and Matthew Gellenbeck, began working to complete the addition on the chapel. This addition will increase the size of the school and the chapel by at least a third and provides much needed storage space. When we left the island, significant progress had been made. The project is ongoing and can be completed as the support comes in.

My personal observation of the work in Honduras is that it is growing. This I witnessed as we were in meeting during the week. So many children attended our last Sunday service. It brought tears to my eyes as I thought that these children are where God wants to invest His burden. The school, which is another outreach effort, is also growing and that is one of the reasons for the building expansion. Sis. Judy and Sis. Lenita are giving their time to keep the schools going. The outreach effort with the public school system came to a stand still when we found out that they needed our learning center as part of their expansion. We are now waiting to see if we can expand into another school. Meanwhile, Sis. Lenita is able to go in on a personal basis and bring English lessons.

Finally, the need is great for workers in the opportunity that God has opened; however, it is even more important that we come with a burden from God. The Lord of the harvest, who sees this opportunity, is certainly looking for those whom He would send. Let us be available when He says, "Follow Me."

In the Master's service, —Bro. Keith Fuller





Virginia Lorraine Luehring, was born June 25, 1923 in St. John, KS, the only daughter of nine children, to Samuel and Anna (Graf) Morford. She moved to Brownsville, OR at the age of 14. After her marriage to Ernest Luehring on August 5, 1941 and Ernest's return from WWII, she lived for 60 years in the same home she and Ernest built on their farm in the Lebanon, OR area.

Virginia passed from this life November 23, 2005. She experienced a fall in her home and upon being examined for broken bones was told that she had recently experienced two serious heart attacks and needed aggressive treatment. Her testimony to the doctors, nurses, her family, etc. was that she did not want any treatment, that if God willed, she was "ready to go." A short time later she suffered a major heart attack and went "home" to God. Thank God for giving her the assurance that she was "ready to go." She had been one to question how she could know if she was really ready. She died with a smile and a look of peace on her face. As she left her house, she made the statement "see you in the sweet by and by." She attended the Church of God in Jefferson, OR and greatly enjoyed the sermons of her last pastor, Bro. Bob Wilson.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Ernest on February 14, 1996, by her sons, Harvey and Steven, three grandsons, one greatgrandson, her parents and eight brothers.

She is survived by daughters Patricia McAndrew of Jonesboro, AR, Geraldine and Jim Linch, Anneta Williamson, Wanda and John Gibson and Karen and Stan Dickson, all of Guthrie, OK, LaVeta and Darrell Wilkins of Lyons, OR, Loretta Luehring of Shawnee, OK and sons David Luehring, and Michael and

Cynthia Luehring of Lebanon, OR; 20 grand-children and 18 great-grandchildren.

The funeral service was held at the Jefferson Church of God chapel, conducted by Bro. Bob Wilson, with a private burial at the I.O.O.F. cemetery, Lebanon, OR.

**Donald Lee Probst,** was born March 12 1936 in Springfield, IL, to Herbert and Eva Probst and departed this life November 27, 2005 at his home in Sand Springs, OK.

Donald graduated from West Rockford High in 1954. On April 1, 1961 he married Juanita Eileen Albaugh. To this union three children were born, Mark, Alan and Judy.

Donald lived most of his adult life in California. He worked in a supervisory position in a machine shop there before moving to Oklahoma. He retired in 2000 from Zebco in Tulsa.

While Don lived in California, he enjoyed outdoor activities in the mountains and desert with his family. After he retired, he had more time to enjoy camping, fishing, sightseeing and visiting family and friends around the country. He compiled extensive family genealogy and was adept at managing pictures and documents on the computer. He was knowledgeable of the stars and enjoyed gazing with his telescope. He attended the Church of God on Frankhoma Road in Sapulpa, OK.

Don was preceded in death by his wife, Eileen, his parents, Herbert and Eva Probst, and his brother, Maurice. He leaves to mourn his passing his children Mark Probst of NY, Alan and Anna Probst of CA and Judy and Tommy Forbes of Sand Springs, OK; four grandchildren, Arielle, Angelica and Alan of CA and Kaia Mae of Sand Springs, OK. He also leaves three brothers, Kenneth of McMinnville, OR, Dale of Edmond, OK and Marvin of Sapulpa and one sister, Janice, of Sapulpa, OK.

Funeral services were conducted November 30, 2005 at Green Hill Funeral Home in Sapulpa, OK with Bro. James Bell and Bro. Curtis R. Williams officiating.

George Wilhelm Schroeder, was born September 10, 1923 in Germany and peacefully passed away on Tuesday, December 13, 2005, in Ontario, Canada. He was the loving husband of Gertrude for 57 years. He is lovingly remembered by seven children: Hannelore, Margaret, Norbert, Ron, George, Peter, Walter and all their

spouses. George was also the loving "Opa" to 14 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren. He will be fondly missed by many nieces and nephews.

The funeral service was held on December 16 at the Gilbert McIntyre and Son Funeral Home in Guelph, Ontario, Canada. Interment was at memory Gardens, Breslau. Bro. Toney Samons officiated at the services.

Bro. George was born into the Church of God in his early adult life while serving in the military during World War II. He came from Germany to Canada in the 1950's where he was patriarch to his family; an example of dedication to God and integrity in his daily living

among his fellowman. He was a hard worker, helping to build the home where he and Sis. Schroeder have resided for many years. He loved to travel to camp meetings and revivals and has left loving memories in the hearts of many of the friends he made during these travels.

Bro Schroeder will be remembered for his forthright approach to life and the truth of God's Word. Nothing deterred him from his pursuit of righteousness while living in this world. We are assured he was ready and anxiously awaiting his call from the Master to come home. He will be missed by his family and acquaintances in Germany, Canada and the United States.



#### A BRIGHTER CONCEPTION OF CHRIST

Taken from Christian Triumph, January 1923.

Once to me the Lord was an external Savior, but now He is within. Once I tried to live the life of Christ, but now I know I must die daily, and let Christ live. Once the cross was my greatest foe, but now it is my greatest friend.

Once I tried to work for Christ, but now I give God a chance to work through me. Once I would believe when I saw the thing was done, but now while I ask I believe it is done.

Once I coveted the gift of miracles, but now I love just to obey, filling the water pots up to the brim and leaving the miracle to Him.

Formerly, when we had asked of the Father in Jesus' name and the thing we asked for came to pass right away, I thought surely that is great faith; but now I learn when we ask, and ask again, yet to the natural eyes conditions remain unchanged, but without wavering we firmly believe that what the Lord has promised He is

able to perform, and we teach our anxious heart to wait, that is much greater faith.

Once I thought my cross was an obstacle, but now I see it is a necessity. Once I saw human hands spreading thorns all along my way, but now I see another Hand making the thorns a blessing.

Once I gave thanks to God when He delivered me from going into the heated furnaces, but now I learn to praise Him more when He goes with me into the fiery flames.

Once the dear Lord was quite a lonely guest sitting in my heart, but now He is better entertained as I learn how to think of Him and talk with Him more.

O dear beloved ones, be not afraid of a full course in the Lord's school, it will truly do your soul much good and be a still greater blessing to poor perishing souls.

—Lorenzo Shaw

## A Refuge for the Oppressed

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Taken from The Gospel Trumpet, December 21, 1905.

"The LORD also will be a refuge for the oppressed, a refuge in times of trouble." Psalm 9:9. "For thou hast been a strength to the poor, a strength to the needy in his distress, a refuge from the storm, a shadow from the heat, when the blast of the terrible ones is as a storm against the wall." Isaiah 25:4. "And a man shall be as an hiding place from the wind, and a covert from the tempest; as rivers of water in a dry place, as the shadow of a great rock in a weary land." Isaiah 32:2. "For thou hast been a

shelter for me, and a strong tower from the enemy. I will abide in thy tabernacle for ever: I will trust in the covert of thy wings. Selah." Psalm 61:3-4. "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." Matthew 11:28-30.

There are thousands of men and women today who are seeking pleasure and rest, but are not satisfied. Why? Because God made us for Himself, and nothing but God can satisfy our souls. Dear reader, are you seeking rest? Jesus says, "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." All the unsaved people in the world can appropriate the above promise, if they will. The writer went along a number of years craving this soul rest, but did not know how to get it, but now is enjoying that sweet communion with God, which is worth more than all the world. Praise God forever! "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest," said Jesus, and in issuing that invitation He spoke to the world's deepest need. For the majority of mankind were weary and heavy laden and rest was what they most earnestly craved. That is still the need of the world today.

On a superficial view the wants of men seem to be as many and as various as the men themselves. But if we could only pierce beneath the surface, we should discover that all are wanting the same thing and in different ways are seeking the same thing—Rest! When Christ offered rest, He spoke to the universal need, for the world is full of men and women bearing burdens—burdens of care and sorrow and sin. Every heart is at one time or another a weary heart and the gift we desire with vehement and unutterable longing is just this gift of "rest."

I will mention some of the burdens that press upon the heart, from which, if we come to Jesus we shall find full and perfect release. There is, first of all, the burden of unsatisfied desire. Just as men and women who have no great and serious business in life find time hangs heavy on their hands and suffer from that most distressing form of weariness, ennui, so the heart that has no satisfying object for its love and devotion is a weary heart. That is the form of weariness that Jesus had especially in mind, perhaps, when He first uttered this beautiful promise. He saw before Him men with heavy hearts because they were giving their lives to the service of self and sin. They were seeking to satisfy their souls with money and the pleasures of life and the result was a weary and restless heart. "Come unto Me," cried Jesus. "Take My yoke upon you. Enter My service. Cease to be the servants of self and sin; become the servants of God and you shall find rest unto your souls." And that is the secret of much heart weariness in this age. Men are trying to satisfy

their souls with the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes and the vainglory of life. But it is as futile to attempt to satisfy the soul with these things as it was for the prodigal to satisfy his hunger with the husks that the swine did eat. The soul cries out for the living God, and nothing but God will meet its needs. Jesus calls out to this age of ours, so keen for gold, so eager for pleasure and so restless and unhappy and weary with it all, "Come unto Me. Take My yoke upon you, and ye shall find rest." Yes, there is satisfaction in Christ. There is joy and rest for the heart in His blessed service.

Then there is the burden of care, the weariness that comes from the fretting anxieties and worries of life. Family cares, business anxieties, financial troubles, sickness in the home—how they tire and weary the heart! But Jesus can give us rest in the midst of these. He shows us that we, and our affairs, are in Father's hands. He teaches us that love orders our path and our lying down. He whispers to us that "whom the Lord loveth He chasteneth." And as we sit and learn of Him we begin to realize that "all things work together for good to them that love God." And so there comes into our hearts, even while the storm lies heavily upon us, the peace of God which passeth understanding.

And then there is the burden of sin. Bunyan, in his immortal allegory, pictures a man carrying a great burden, a burden so great and terrible that he cared not what danger he met in the way so long as he could find a place where he could get release from his burden. Pilgrim, in Bunyan's dream, stands for every awakened and as yet unsaved person in the world and that great burden is the burden of sin. There is no peace or rest for the heart so long as that burden rests upon it. How and where shall men get release from this burden? They must come to Jesus Christ. Pilgrim got rid of his burden when he came to the cross. Then it was loosed from his shoulders and rolled into the sepulcher and he never saw it again. Men still get rid of their burdens at the same place—the cross and nowhere else. Come to the crucified Savior with your burden of guilt and shame and He will take it away and bid you go in peace and sin no more. "Thy sins are forgiven thee," He said to one who was a sinner, "go in peace." First the forgiveness of sin and then the peace; first the removal of the burden of guilt and then the "rest." He offers the same rest to this weary, sin-stricken world

today. There is salvation for the souls and healing for the bodies of all today. "The LORD is good, a strong hold in the day of trouble; and he knoweth them that trust in him." Nahum 1:7. "Cast thy burden upon the LORD, and he shall sustain thee: he shall never suffer the righteous to be moved." Psalm 55:22. "Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you." I Peter 5:7.

How sweet to trust in Jesus!

To know no trust beside;
To find in Him a refuge,

Our weary souls to hide;
To lean on love eternal,

And in the love abide.

-J. F. Carter

## **Worth Trying**

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She was a woman whose life had been lived in difficult places; sickness, disaster, loneliness, poverty—she knew them well. Yet there was no shadow in face or voice, only gladness in the gift of life and a beautiful and self-forgetting sympathy for the joys and sorrows of others. One day a friend asked her about it.

"How do you keep so bright? I have not half so hard a life as yours yet I am fighting the blues all the time. You must have a happy temperament to help you."

The woman with the "happy temperament" smiled. "On the contrary," she said, "I was born with a very unhappy temperament, and all through my childhood was discontented and miserable. Finally, the day I was ten years old, mother had a long talk with me. She told me that unless I cured myself of my gloominess, I should ruin my whole life, not only growing constantly more wretched myself, but making all those about me miserable, and in time destroying my health. Then she made me promise that every morning as long as I lived, I would spend ten minutes thanking God for blessings He had given me. It was hard at first, very hard, but mother helped me, and after awhile it grew into a habit. I began to look forward to my early thanksgiving, and before I knew it the blessings far overbrimmed the ten minutes: and nowwhy, I should no more think of missing my morning thanksgiving than of going without my breakfast. Sometimes I think that promise to my mother when I was ten years old was the most important thing in my life." —Selected

### **Supernatural Power**

An ungodly woman, living just across the street from a Christian lady made her boast that she was going to make the Christian lady lose her religion. One day, the Christian lady, after putting her washing on the line, stepped over to see a sick woman. While there she saw her irreligious neighbor cross the street and cut her clothes line, letting her washing down into the dirt. Upon her returning home a few moments later she began gathering up her clothes singing, "Jesus is all the world to me."

The next day this ungodly woman put out her washing. Just as she was putting the last piece on the line it broke and down came her washing in the dust. The Christian woman seeing this hurried over, helping her mend her line, rinse the clothes again and hang them on the line. The wicked woman said, "There must be some supernatural power that enables this woman to live as she does and I want such power in my life."

—C. E. Orr

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## THY WILL BE DONE

Father, I know that all my life
Is portion'd out for me,
And the changes that are sure to come
I do not fear to see;
But I ask Thee for a present mind,
Intent on pleasing Thee.

I ask Thee for a thoughtful love,
Through constant watching wise,
To meet the glad with joyful smiles,
And wipe the weeping eyes;
And a heart at leisure from itself,
To soothe and sympathize.

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FAITH AND VICTORY FAITH AND VICTORY

I would not have the restless will
That hurries to and fro;
Seeking for some great thing to do,
Or secret thing to know:
I would be treated as a child,
And guided where I go.

Wherever in the world I am,
In whatsoe'er estate,
I have a fellowship with hearts
To keep and cultivate,
And a work of lowly love to do,
For the Lord on whom I wait.

So I ask Thee for the daily strength
To none that ask denied,
And a mind to blend with outward life.
While keeping at Thy side;
Content to fill a little space,
If Thou be glorified.

And if some things I do not ask
In my cup of blessing be,
I would have my spirit fill'd the more
With grateful love to Thee;
More careful, not to serve Thee much,
But to please Thee perfectly.

There are briers besetting every path,

That call for patient care;

There is a cross in every lot,

And an earnest need for prayer;

But a lowly heart, that leans on Thee,

Is happy anywhere.

In a service which Thy will appoints
There are no bonds for me;
For my inmost heart is taught the Truth
That makes Thy children free;
And a life of self-renouncing love
Is a life of liberty.

---Anna Waring