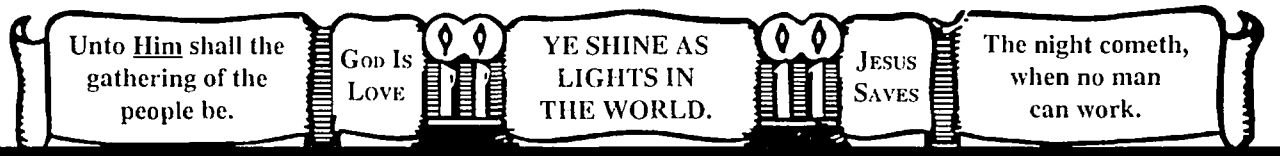


FAITH AND VICTORY

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Church of God Servant



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“TAKE HEED WHAT YE HEAR”

By Bro. Chinwendu B. Nwachukwu

Our Lord Jesus gave this striking warning in Mark 4:24. “And He said unto them, Take heed what ye hear:...” The ear is like the antenna of our being which receives sound signals and passes them on to the heart. It is open at every moment without restrictions to sounds around. Certainly it would appear strange for anyone to fix his fingers in his ears as he walks about the day. Still we are warned to “Take heed.” For Christ to draw our attention to something serious (though common), He would often use the word “Take heed.” This means: Be careful. Watch. Beware! We shall go a step farther in our lesson to the hearing with the ear of the heart.

As there are many sounds that flow into the ear, so are there many voices that speak to the heart. The air is filled with many voices, echoing and whispering, which are not really from God, but from “...the prince of the power of the air....”

Ephesians 2:2. Also it is well symbolized as “spirits like frogs” in Revelation 16:13. The powers of hell are loosed and Jesus said, “Take heed.” Every voice we hear has to be checked. In James 1:19 it says, “Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, and slow to wrath.” This swiftness is in being quick to discern, read, interpret and react wisely. I do not think our Lord Jesus saw the devil physically stand before Him when He was tempted, still He was able to discern his voice and to resist him. Being able to discern when the devil speaks will help us to a great extent in keeping our hearts with all diligence, as the Scripture said, and we shall be blessed to see God.

God has helped us and “...we are not ignorant of his (satan’s) devices.” II Corinthians 2:11. Satan does so many things to try to convince us in his deceit to see reasons with him.

One: He lies. John 8:44 reads: “Ye are of your father the devil, and the lust of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.” Has someone told you lies before? If you did not discern that the words were untrue, you would believe them, but would be very surprised later when you found them to be lies. But there is the “arch-liar”—satan. He told Eve a very big lie: “...Ye shall not surely die.” Apart from the one way in which he speaks through people, he also comes directly in our minds. And there he would begin to propound lies insomuch that if one does not resist him,

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one may believe him. There could be lies about how the future would look, lies about what you could do in a matter, lies about how you could make a living and even lies about the Scriptures!

Two: He ridicules. Luke 9:51-56. In these verses we read how the people of Samaria refused to receive Jesus unto themselves because His face was set towards Jerusalem. The disciples suggested that power be given unto them to send fire down from Heaven as Elijah did. Why? It was because they felt ridiculed and were trying to pass the same thought on to Christ. They perhaps might have said, "Don't these people know that this is our Master, the Christ?" But Jesus ignored all such things and, discerning the voice that was speaking, rebuked them. We may also be faced with a crossed situation in life, and the devil comes quickly to ridicule or intimidate, and would say, "Is it to your person that this thing is done?" If we do not resist him, we may feel ridiculed, and "self" will begin to mount up in us.

Three: He gossips. This may appear surprising. The Scripture calls him "...the accuser of our brethren..." Revelation 12:10. We have perhaps known children or adults who are gossips, and how they betray one to another, cause problems (discord) among friends or brethren, which even the Scripture calls abomination. (Proverbs 6:16,17.) How we are grieved with such characters! But one is responsible for that—the devil, the great gossiper, who sows discord. He is the one responsible for those

actions in the lives of those who yield to him.

Have you been in a congregation that is growing in the love of God? How happy they feel, seeing each other face to face with a single eye! The devil is never happy with such a congregation and he would begin to do the gossiping himself, since no one wants to yield to him. He might begin it with just a slip of eye someone overlooked. And he (the devil) would come personally to you in your mind and say, "Do you know why that brother or sister looked at you like that?" He would begin to expound it and would bring up meanings that seem vivid. In another case, it may be a conversation between brethren, and he (the devil) would come to you and say, "Those brethren are talking about you, and 'this and that' is what they said." Now this is because there is no material medium for him to exhibit this character of gossiping, so he does it himself. He brings a picture or word far from your sight or hearing. This is hurt intending, for you to react negatively. We know that God reveals secrets unto us, but here is the difference: He (God) would, after revealing such things unto us, show or tell us ways to go about it in bringing righteousness among us. The devil does the contrary.

God has commanded us to hear Christ alone. (Matthew 17:5.) While He talks with us through the Spirit, it agrees with the Scriptures and so our hearts are kept purified moment after moment in hope to the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Time Management

By Sis. Charlotte Huskey

"LORD, make me to know mine end, and the measure of my days, what it is; that I may know how frail I am. Behold, thou hast made my days as an handbreadth; and mine age is as nothing before thee: verily every man at his best state is altogether vanity. Selah." Psalms 39:4-5.

Sometimes I want to yell, "Wake up mother! Wake up dad! Your baby will soon be packing his things and moving out." You will be standing on the porch wiping tears, wondering: Is he equipped for the real world? Have I done my duty? You'll be wishing you could have another good talk, pick up another sock, serve another meal or play another game. Parents you have but a "hand-breadth" of time with your children.

I've stood teary eyed on the porch and watched six children leave. I had given my life to do the best for my children yet it was so difficult to see them go. I don't think I could have borne up under it with the added weight of guilt.

James 4:14 reads, "...For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away." When we were children, life seemed endless. I remember thinking that eternal life would be far, far too long. Those years trying to make toddlers obey, I hoped would end before I lost my mind. Then suddenly those toddlers were teens and I started an emotional roller coaster ride that lasted seven years. I'm seventy-one now, still thinking of myself as a middle-aged adult when life is screeching to a halt. It has vanished like a vapor.

Time is one commodity we all have. It is the stuff that life is made of. We may not have an inherited estate to manage but we have inherited time. Some have a lot, long lives, some little. How we use the time God gives is up to us. Paul told us to redeem the time because the days are evil. (Ephesians 5:16.)

I think the only way to redeem time wisely is to eat every day from God's Word. Unless we feed on His Word, our priorities will get distorted. We'll be running endless circles caring for our family, chauffeuring children, fixing meals, cleaning, attending services, teaching Sunday school, trying to maintain good marriages, friendships and family relationships. While striving endlessly to be good parents, we will be starving them of the thing they'll need most in life.

An experiment conducted by the French naturalist Jean-Henri Fabre illustrates this point. The processionary caterpillar tends to march in unison. Fabre lined these caterpillars around the inner edge of a flowerpot and then monitored them carefully as they marched one behind another in a circle around the edge of the pot. At the end of the third day, he placed their favorite food, pine needles, in the center of the pot. But they continued marching in rank four more days. On the seventh day one died. The others continued marching until one by one they each rolled over and died of starvation within inches from their food.

Are we starving our family's spirits while running in a circle? Is our object to get as much of what we want in life, as time will allow? Mealtime is the best time of the day for training. We have a captive audience. During mealtime we train in subtle ways through interesting stories, sharing experiences of the day, giving words of appreciation in front of the whole family, etc. Many families have found it is the best time to have family worship. But we rush through our meals so we can take our children to the batting cages, to Bass-Pro, to fish at the lake. We omit family meals to take the girls shopping, to music lessons, to birthdays and tea parties. The list of good places to take children is endless and so is the circle. One mother told me her two-year-old pleaded, "Mommy can we just stay home today?" We drag our children here and there trying to be good parents when the things they need most are right at home.

I'm sure each one reading this has a desire to use time wisely. We lived on a mission field with extra duties and without normal conveniences for 23 years. This experience helped me to develop some time saving skills. I believe what helped me most in time management was getting up 30 minutes before my family. Those few moments feeding with the Lord and organizing my day, (at least in my mind), saved a lot of time later in the day.

Second to that was to act as if I was going out of the home to work. It was usual to have someone at our home at bedtime and early every morning. I dressed, made my bed and straightened the bedroom before leaving it. I usually never found time to enter again until bedtime that evening. A stay-at-home Mom's work day starts when her family gets out of bed. Be dressed, prayed up and at your job. Take it seriously as if you had a boss who would pay you at the end of the week for you do have a boss, Jesus, and He will pay better than any other.

Christians want to be used of God. But using our minutes carelessly hinders us from being available. Every housekeeper has many duties. Organization and routines can minimize time taken for these. A lot of things can be done habitually leaving your mind clear so you can be solving problems or seeking God for spiritual food for your family.

Clean where you are. Clean your bathroom while you are getting the children bathed. Put a load of laundry in right after you bathe the children in the evening, another load the first thing every morning. Clean the bathroom before leaving it. Wipe the washer and dryer, clean up the lint and trash from the laundry room while there. Laundry should never pile-up with automatic washers. Take clothes out of dryer when a little damp and hang so as to minimize ironing. Clean the kitchen as you are cooking. Do dishes quickly before food dries on them. Teach the whole family to help with after meal clean up, then it will take only a few minutes.

Every mother needs an apron with large pockets across the front and a clip on the side for a cleaning cloth. Organize these pockets for different parts of the house. Then pick-up and deposit clutter in the appropriate pocket. When you find yourself in those different areas, put the picked-up objects where they belong. Clean the smudges and dust wherever you are. It will save many steps.

At the end of each day let us look back over our day and see how we have used our precious minutes. Ask yourself, have I used them wisely? Where can I improve? We must have a conviction that this precious gift of time will float away like a vapor. We are just stewards of the time and the children He has given us. At the end we must give account to God of what we have done.

FAITH AND VICTORY 16 PAGE HOLINESS MONTHLY



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

Its motto: Have faith in God. Its object: The glory of God and the salvation of men; the restoration and promulgation of the whole truth to the people in this "evening time" as it was in the morning Church of the first century; the unification of all true believers in one body by the love of God. Its standard: Separation from 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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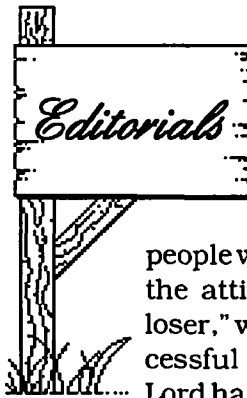
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The world is filled with people who have very similar characteristics to one another and yet they each one have differences that identify them as unique individuals. There are some people who blunder through life with the attitude that they are a "born loser," while others are innately successful in everything they do. The Lord has ways of bringing balance in the lives of people when they come to Him. One may have a very low estimation of their abilities because of their failures while the other may have succeeded financially and be filled with pride that the Lord is not pleased with. The Word of God has help for those who fall in either category. It says, "Let the brother of low degree rejoice in that he is exalted: But the rich, in that he is made low: because as the flower of the grass he shall pass away." James 1:9-10.

The Apostle Paul suffered from a "thorn in the flesh" that was not removed even though he sought the Lord three times to be delivered from it. He said it was given "lest I should be exalted above measure through the abundance of the revelations." When He realized the Lord was not going to deliver him he made this profound statement. "...Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong." II Corinthians 12:9-10.

All of us have battles to face in life that are common to mankind, but when we come to Christ and surrender our life into His hands there are new battles that are peculiar to Christians that we must face. We also are equipped with special grace and power from God to be victorious in those battles. II Peter 1:3 gives us these encouraging words, "According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:" This is a special calling from God.

Virtue is not a characteristic that man can maintain of his own ability for very long for innocence is lost at a young age when children do wrong. Therefore when we accept this heavenly calling many of our battles are going to be

fought against the things that would try to rob us of our virtue. This virtue was purchased and given to us by the blood of Jesus Christ. Peter encourages us to, "...think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you:" I Peter 4:12. These battles are common to Christians because we have been given something that is precious and the enemy of God is determined to steal it from us. So let us be encouraged to watch and pray and hold on to our virtue.

Notice these verses in Revelation 1:5-6, "And from Jesus Christ, *who* is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood, And hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him *be* glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen." What greater glory could one have than to be made a "king" and a "priest." These positions are both the highest one can attain in their respective jurisdictions. The question then comes to mind, "Who do I rule over if I'm a king and to whom do I serve as a priest?" When the carnal man thinks about this question "visions of sugarplums began dancing in their heads" and they start looking around them for their subjects. However, the true subject in this instance is the person looking squarely at you when you are standing before a mirror. Yes, you reign over yourself! Now before you throw down this paper and stomp off in disgust, consider something—this is really great! Through the atonement of Christ and the Holy Spirit living in us, we are no longer ruled by the carnal man, but we are empowered to rule it and also to overcome any imposition of satan that would hinder us from being what God has called us to be.

The sinful lusts that caused us to fall time and time again are brought under control. The addictions and chains of sin that had us bound are broken and we are free to enjoy the rich blessings of life. Anger, bitterness, hatred and malice that kept us in a mood of despair no one could stand has been changed to peace, forgiveness, love and compassion that causes one to be a pleasant companion. The same power Jesus possessed to enable Him to be victorious in every temptation and trial can be ours—living right inside us. Paul said, "But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection:..." I Corinthians 9:27. Unless Christ had made

Paul a "king" he could not have given that testimony.

To be made a priest is another glorious advancement. Each person must have a personal experience with Christ. The preacher has no power to give you this experience. The altar worker cannot pray you into the kingdom of God. Each individual must meet the conditions given in the Word of God and through faith grasp the offered experience. We offer our praise and thanksgiving directly to God. We can go into our closet and shut the door and pour out our heart directly to the Lord in prayer. No intercessor, other than our Savior, is necessary. We offer our worship and adoration directly to the Lord, not to be heard of men, but to delight the ears of our heavenly Father and His beloved Son.

Being a king and a priest does not mean that we should neglect our fellowship with other Christians. The benefits we derive from worshipping with other saints are a great help by enabling us to make righteous judgements in our lives and surely we realize how important it is for a king to judge righteously and justly. If one becomes too independent it is very likely they will begin forming ideas and opinions that are unsound and without scriptural merit that will become a snare to their soul. We must also make sure that we do not lose contact with the Lord for He is our source of power and the victory we enjoy comes directly from Him.

The power of our kingship and priesthood takes us much farther than a Sunday morning worship service. The idea of someone being a "Sunday Christian" is indicative of someone who needs to repent and give their heart to the Lord. We are to reign in this life every day and because of His abiding Spirit we can successfully accomplish this noteworthy goal.

II Peter 1:4 tells us, "Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust." Those who effectively rule their lives will not allow the sinful lusts of the flesh to become a part of them and will escape the wrath of God that will one day be poured out on the wicked. May we take full advantage of the power God has invested in us to fully defeat every foe of the flesh, for one day we will be ushered into the immediate presence of our heavenly Father and our loving Savior, Jesus Christ, to be rewarded for the deeds done in this body.

The Lord blessed us to be able to mail the fourth quarter *Beautiful Way* Sunday school papers and *Bible Lessons* quarterlies during the middle of September. A yearly subscription to each publication is available from this office for \$5.00. A quarterly issue is also available for \$1.50.

The adult lessons for this quarter are entitled: The True Sacrifices Acceptable to God, Love for God's House, A Mortal's Prayer to the Almighty, The Testimony of a Faithful Soul, Unwise Envy Toward the Wicked, An Aged Man's Prayer, The Prayer of a Pilgrim and Stranger, A Prayer With Hope In Time of Trouble, Song of Triumphant Praise, The Reward of Waiting on the Lord, The Great Goodness of God, A Song of Devotion to God, Unto Us a Child is Born and Christ Sitting On David's Throne.

May the Holy Spirit accompany these lessons and cause the people of God to be strengthened and encouraged in studying these blessed Scriptures.

Word has been received from India that the oldest brother of Bro. John Varghese, Matthew Varghese, passed away on September 25. May the Lord be especially near this family in their time of grief.

We have also been recently notified of the passing of Sis. Mary Karewa in Kenya. Sis. Mary had been suffering from breast cancer and the Lord saw fit to take her rather than grant healing to her body. Remember Bro. Ishmael, the children and the saints in Kenya that are mourning their great loss.

The Lord took Sis. Velda Wisner from her bed of affliction. May God comfort her family and the saints who so tenderly cared for her.

It would be good for the saints to pray about writing an article or testimony for this publication. During the winter months there are fewer meeting notices and that gives more space for you to tell what the Lord has done for you. How the Lord has blessed you may be the very blessing some one else needs in a time of sore trial or affliction. Some of our readers in foreign countries who may live under adverse circumstances and would like to tell how the Lord has blessed and helped them in times of great need would also be edifying. May the Lord be the center of your testimony.

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



SC—Please pray for us, my sick husband, Bro. Floyd Crummie, and myself.

—Sis. Rena Crummie

Standing Prayer Requests

Bro. Carlos Arriaga
Sis. Dorothy Burditt
Sis. Mamie Butcher
Sis. Gladys Cashio
Sis. Helen Carson
Joseph Chandler
Sis. Waneta Creel
Sis. Evelyn Fredrickson
Bro. Troy Gentry
Sis. Juliette Lounds
Sis. Marie Mitchell
Sis. Melba Powell
Sis. Anna Severs
Bro. Michael Smith
The Mitch Taylor family

At the Monark Springs Camp Meeting there were a number of names listed on the chalkboard for prayer. Other names were added later but these were the ones I typed into my laptop computer on 7-26-06. I know some of these saints are still in a battle of affliction and would appreciate your prayers for them. Names duplicated in the previous standing prayer list were removed. Those who would like their name published, or removed, in the Standing Prayer Requests column in this paper on a regular basis may notify us of your desire.

Sis. Lori Cole
Sis. Retha Cole
Sis. B. Berkowith
Sis. Edith Lara
Sis. Whittaker and family
Sis. Glenetta Carpenter

Bro. Floyd Crummie
 Sis. Gladys Foster
 Sis. Virgie Logan
 Sis. Ora Scruggs
 Sis. Darlene Knight
 Diego Diaz
 Ronas family
 Bro. James McIntyre
 Sis. Krystal Purvis
 Bro. Gerald Flynn
 Sis. Dorall Forbes
 Sis. Amber Samons
 Bro. Lester Walker
 Sis. McIntyre
 T.L. Scott
 Sis. Nora Reeves



God's Beauty

A number of years ago I was out on errands and was driving through the countryside on the back roads where there were many trees. I cannot express in words the beauty I saw in all the colored foliage. It was simply gorgeous. It looked like God had been busy with His paintbrush. There is no beauty like God's beauty. I have never seen Oklahoma clothed in its beauty like it was that fall.

I have tried to capture that beauty with a camera, but it doesn't do justice. It doesn't capture the color that the eyes see.

God's church blossoms out in its beauty when God reaches down and touches the soul of man and saves him from his sins. The old man is put off and the new man is put on "...which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him." I Colossians 3:10. When each member of the body is working in unison where God places them, the Church shines out in all its glory. (I Corinthians 12-18.) There is no greater beauty!
 —Sis. Imogene Taylor



Through Nature To God

He might have made earth an abode for us here
 And left out the beautiful things—
 The green of the grass, the blue of the sky.
 And the flutter and rustle of wings.

But He chose to give useful and beautiful, too,
 And implant in each true soul a love
 That directs it to look through the beauties of earth
 To their infinite Author above

—A. P. Jarvis

MEETING DATES

Baldy Mesa, CA (Fall Revival)—October 13-15
Okmulgee, OK (Fall Revival)—October 20-22
Sapulpa, OK (Singing, Revival)—Oct. 28-Nov. 1
Fresno, CA (Fall Meeting)—Oct. 29-Nov. 5
Alcoa, TN (Fall Meeting)—November 9-12
Loranger, LA (Assembly)—November 22-26
California State (Pacoima)—December 22-31
Oklahoma State (Guthrie)—December 22-31



MEETING NOTICES

VICTORVILLE/BALDY MESA, CA, FALL REVIVAL

The Church of God at 11515 Baldy Mesa Rd, Baldy Mesa, CA plans, Lord willing, to hold a revival October 13-15. We are coming to the time of the year for a special visitation of the Holy Spirit. We invite all to join with us in entreating God for an outpouring of His blessings in our services and our community.

Services on Friday will be 7:30 p.m., Saturday worship service at 12 noon, youth activity 3-6 p.m and 7:30 p.m for the evening service. Sunday School will begin at 10 a.m., morning worship at 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. afternoon service. Bro. James Bell has a burden to be with us. You may contact us at (760) 956-6330 or email pastorx2@hotmail.com. We would like to hear from you, —Pastors Travis and Alice Johnston.



OKMULGEE, OK, FALL REVIVAL

You are cordially invited to attend revival services at the Church of God in Okmulgee, OK on October 20-22. Services are scheduled for Friday and Saturday evening at 7:30. On Sunday morning regular services will begin at 11:00. An Inspirational singing is planned for Sunday afternoon at 2:00 p.m. Bro. Hayward Cox has a burden for the meeting.

For further information contact Bro. Robert Warren at (405) 396-2839.



SAPULPA, OK, SINGING AND REVIVAL

The Church of God at 8500 Frankoma Road, Sapulpa, OK extends a hearty WELCOME to everyone for a singing Saturday night, October 28, 2006 at 7 p.m. and Revival Services beginning Sunday morning at 10:45 and 6 p.m. on Sunday evening. Services will continue Monday through Wednesday at 7 p.m. Bro. David Hargrave has a burden for these services.

Please come and be with us, we know you will receive a special blessing.

For further information call Bro. James Bell at (918) 724-3673.

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FRESNO, CA, FALL MEETING

The saints in Fresno, CA invite you to attend their fall meeting October 29-November 5, 2006.

Services will be Sunday, 9:30 a.m. Sunday School, 10:30 a.m. morning service, 2:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. Monday through Friday services will be nightly at 7:00 p.m. Saturday at 11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. and the last Sunday of the meeting, 9:30 a.m. Sunday School, 10:30 a.m. morning service and we will end the meeting with the 2:30 p.m. service.

To locate the chapel from 99 north, exit Belmont and turn left. Then go to First St. and turn right. Go to the second block and turn left on Grant. From 99 south, exit Ventura east. Then go to First St. and make a left then go to Grant. Then turn right. The church sits on First and Grant.

For further information call Bro. Eric Carter at (559) 999-5733.



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**LETTERS
 FROM
 OUR
 READERS**

KS—Dear Print Shop Workers and Saints: The dear Lord has been very good to me and I want to give Him praise. He has made me able to walk, unaided, since the last part of August.

As many of you know, I had what I considered an insignificant injury at home that resulted in several months of pain and, ultimately, about four and a half months of needing walking aids. I was told that this kind of injury to the knee area will not heal without surgery, but I thought, "They just don't know the power and love of my God." He has given me a precious touch. I still need to be careful, but am greatly improved, and I am expecting completion of the work.

We returned from the meeting in Spooner, WI, where the Lord sent very good and timely instruction for this Christian life. There were

about sixty people of which twenty-seven were young people. The Lord used the young people in special singing. It was good to see them exercising themselves for the Lord in this way. There was also a pretty good turnout of folks from the local area. We thank the Lord for the spirit of the meeting. Remember the work of the Lord in that place.

May we all keep encouraged, and may we love our Lord more perfectly and more deeply. Your sister in Christ, —Marilyn Eck

— — — — —
 LA—Dear Bro. Willie and Sis. Neta: Greetings of love in our Lord's name! Thank you for your labor of love in the Lord. We pray His presence and grace will daily be with you. I love to try to behold His beauty, but we can never fully know while travelling here below. I do want to encourage all to, "Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." II Timothy 2:15.

Oh, how we do appreciate the truth with all it does for the soul. "O taste and see that the LORD is good: blessed is the man *that* trusteth in him." Psalms 34:8.

Love and prayers, —Sis. Gladys S. Cashio

— — — — —
 Dear Bro. Willie and Sis. Neta: Greetings in the name of Jesus, the name that is so great and means more to me than all other names, and all other things.

The poet has expressed some of the preciousness of His name in the hymn, "Sing it Again."

"We will sing the name of Jesus
 all along the path of life,
 We will sing it, hallelujah,
 'mid the battle and the strife;
 We will sing it all together
 when we meet upon that shore,
 O, we'll sing the name of Jesus,
 blessed name forevermore."

Part of another verse says,
 "In that name we have salvation,
 oh, how precious is the flow!
 Sing, oh, sing the name of Jesus,
 for it makes us white as snow.

The apostle Peter says, "Unto you therefore which believe *he* is precious:..." I Peter 2:7. "Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see *him* not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory:" I Peter 1:8.

Trust the Lord to continue to bless your work of faith and labor of love.

—Bro. T. V. McMillian
— — — — —

CA—Dear Bro. and Sis. Willie Murphey and Staff: Greetings in the Lord from California. Thank the Lord for being saved and sanctified—the most we can attain to in this life—which enables us to do His will.

—Sis. Olive Davenport
— — — — —

AL—Dear Bro. Willie and Sis. Neta: Trust all is well with you. We are fine. The weather is so beautiful it makes you feel good. God blesses us with so many blessings—the birds, the squirrels and all the wild animals.

Recently we had a great experience with a baby deer. It was so sweet and loving. The Lord planned a beautiful world for us to enjoy. We need to take time and enjoy His beautiful works of creation.

Christian love, —Sis. Betty Herron
— — — — —

TX—Greeting to all workers at the Print Shop: Praise the Lord Jesus Christ! I want to thank the Lord for salvation, His love and mercy has been great to me. I love Him today, because He has been so good to me. He gives me strength to go each day.

I desire your prayers that I will be faithful to the end. We enjoy reading the *Faith and Victory* paper very much, especially Bro. McMillian's testimonies.

We have many trials, but the Lord is faithful to deliver us each day. We desire your prayers for some serious physical disabilities that we have.

Christian love, —Bro. Clyde Taylor
— — — — —

From Germany...

September 11, 2006—Dear Brothers and Sisters in the Lord: We are very happy and thankful to our God for giving us a beautiful and healthy daughter, Rahel Laukert. We can not give enough thanks for His mercy and love to us. Praise the Lord!

—Bro. Alen and Sis. Elina Laukert
— — — — —

September 29, 2006—Dear Bro. Willie: My wife and I have prayed together about going to Ghana and some of the brethren here have thought it would be best if I go first for some days or months to prepare things there and see how it works. Then later when the baby is older we

can fly back together. My wife was willing and today I have obtained tickets to fly to Accra, Ghana on October 16, 2006. The return flight is to be before December 18, 2006.

Please pray that God will bless me there and for my family at home. We still pray for you all. God bless you. Your brother in Christ,

—Alen Laukert
— — — — —

From India...

October 1, 2006—Dear Bro. Willie Murphey: Greetings to you in the glorious name of Jesus. My oldest brother, Mathew Varghese, passed away at the age of 75 on September 25, 2006. I officiated at the funeral service on the 27th and the body was buried in our cemetery at Karickom. Please pray for the consolation of the bereaved family. He has a wife, three daughters and five grandchildren.

By the grace of God all of our congregations are doing fine. Youth camp meetings in north and south in September were real good meetings. Bethesda Childrens Home is also moving on fine. Please continue to remember our needs in the prayers of dear saints. Our next General Convention will be held on December 27-31, 2006. All are cordially invited.

Yours in Him, —Bro. John Varghese
— — — — —

From Pakistan...

September 26, 2006—Dear Bro. Willie E. Murphey and Bro. Sorrell: Greetings to all the saints in the blessed name of our Savior, Jesus, from Bro. Shahzad and the Pakistani church. My favorite verse is Psalm 40:8, "I delight to do thy will, O my God: yea, thy law is within my heart."

I want to establish a Church of God in Pakistan for the gospel of Jesus Christ by your prayers. We are run by His grace by the help of God.

We visit a place where there are uneducated and poor people that no one goes and preaches the gospel of Jesus Christ to. As we look on the people we realize they do not know about Jesus and their children are uneducated and they are unable to send them to school. We established a Sunday school in this location and gave the children some copies of small spiritual books and pencils. We arranged for a Sunday School teacher who teaches the children two hours daily.

In another location we started a work at a village that contains about 200 Christian fami-

lies and a small number of Muslim families. There is no church building and no prayer chapel but we have worship services in a home. We also established a Sunday School there. There are 40 children 5-14 years of age. A sister in Christ teaches the children.

I visited some people in another village and preached the gospel of Jesus. They are in an uneducated area where they worship witchcraft and idols. They are called Christian only by name and do not know the truth of the Bible, have not repented from their sins and are not free from the prison of satan. They give offerings at the shrines (tombs) of mortal men. My message to them was from John 1:1 "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." I told them that the Bible is the book of God and teaches us about the great and true God, as many there did not know about the Holy Bible. That He sees, hears, speaks and gives answers. He is a living God. When we study the Bible then we know, God is talking and gives His commands to His prophets and people and does a work in the people. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever. "And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth."

I also used Matthew 1:21, Revelation 21, Luke 19:10, Romans 8:3, II Peter 3:9-10, Hebrews 9:14, 10:14, Acts 4:12, Romans 10:9-10, Genesis 4:7, Revelation 3:20, John 10:9, John 14:6, Acts 3:19, Job 22:23, II Corinthians 6:2. They listened intently to the gospel of Jesus and ten people came to Him for salvation. Praise the Lord! All glory to go on His name. I prayed for them in Jesus name and many were suffering greatly because of sin. They repented of their sins and accepted Jesus into their life. God and His Holy Spirit healed and gave strength to them and strengthened their faith by the Word of God. Thank God! He blessed me with money to buy some Bibles to give the people. I gave them 10 Bibles. There were only five people who had Bibles. I told them the Bible is the Word of God, a true book of God and that it gives true and eternal life to us. I told them to study the Bible every day and to pray.

They were so happy and were saying Thanks Jesus! Thanks Jesus! Hallelujah! My soul rejoiced greatly in God. He is a live God, He sees, hears and speaks. He is Lord of the lords and King of the kings.

I request prayer that the Lord would bless me in His Word, for wisdom and that the Holy Spirit would lead me in the right way to serve our Lord.

Also, pray for our ministry, our adult home school and Sunday Schools.

Pray for people for their salvation.

Pray for Bro. Abid, his left arm was seriously injured in a factory accident. He is a faithful brother.

Pray for Sis. Mariam. She is ill with typhoid.

Pray for peace for our country.

Pray for Mr. Parvaz Mushiriff. He is a good man but religious terrorists are against him.

In Philippians 1:3-5, "I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, Always in every prayer of mine for you all making request with joy, For your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now;"

By God's grace. Yours in the Lord,

—Bro. Shahzad



Glen Berry Inman 66, Peculiar, MO died Sunday September 10, 2006 at his home. Glen was born September 8, 1940 in Prairie Grove, AR the son of Lonzo Berry and Ethel Ledbetter Inman. Glen married Leta Laverne Wall on February 24, 1962 in Arkansas. He moved to Kansas City, MO in 1962 and moved to Peculiar, MO in 1976.

Glen worked for General Motors for 33 years, retiring in 1994. In all those years he only missed work for 2 hours and 45 minutes due to sickness. His work ethic was of utmost importance to him and he taught us "if we wasted one minute of the employers time when one should be working it was the same as taking money from the till."

He was a member of the Church of God, becoming a member through salvation at Monark Springs Camp meeting in 1962. He helped prepare for camp meeting for 45 years. He attended at least a part, if not all, of each camp meeting since then, using his God-given gift of "helps" to bless all he came in contact with. No task was too great or too lowly for him to tackle. His enthusiasm and zest for life was unwaning. Awaiting Glen's homecoming was his son, David Dean, his parents, and his only sibling, Virgil, who died in May 2006.

Mourning this loss is Leta, his wife of 44 years, his sons Charles and wife Teresa, Paul and wife Jody and daughter Glenetta and husband Mark; 7 grandchildren and many others who called him nephew, uncle, cousin, brother-

in-law and friend and extended family, the Paul Cole children and Gertrude Lounds.

Honorary casket bearers were Bill Day, Jim Wall, Ted Bock, Larry Cantrell, Kyle Tremblay, Curtis Williams, J. C. Parson and Garold McMillian.

Casket bearers were David Carpenter, Martin Carpenter, Nick Jacobs, Gary Inman, Earl Lyman, Garen McMillian and Kevin Inman. Services were September 14 at the Atkinson Chapel, Harrisonville, MO with Bro. Larry Abbott, Bro. Ed Wilson, Bro. Clifford Cole and Sis. Marsha Corteway officiating. Music was provided by the Cole Quartet.

Burial was in the Orient Cemetery, Harrisonville, MO under the direction of the Atkinson Funeral Home.

The Conscience

There has been much speculation upon what is the conscience. It is a subject that is understood by very few. In fact none can follow it to any great length without getting beyond his depth. We ought, however, to know something about it, because our happiness in life and welfare in eternity depend upon it. We enter upon this subject cautiously and prayerfully, knowing what ground we are treading upon.

Some have supposed the conscience to be "God in man;" some "the voice of God to man;" and some others, "a ray of divine light." It is none of these. It is a faculty of man and belongs to man as much as any other faculty. Sight and hearing are faculties of the physical being. The conscience is a faculty of the soul. The eye is not a ray of light, but is capable of perceiving light. The conscience is not a ray of divine light, but is a faculty capable, when unimpaired, of perceiving divine light. The sense of hearing is not sound; but it is a faculty by which we may know sound. Wave motions in the air fall upon an arrangement in the ear and sound is produced. There is dissimilarity between the wave motions produced in the air by the firing of a gun and those produced by the ringing of a bell. The ear soon learns these sounds and we come to know whether guns are being fired or a bell is being rung. The conscience is not the voice of God, but is a faculty in man capable of hearing the voice of God. There are many spirits producing air

motions in the spiritual atmosphere, but thank God! We can know whether it is the voice of the Spirit of God or of some other spirit.

The conscience is the highest and most authoritative faculty in man. To follow the moral law written in our hearts under the monitions of a pure conscience is to naturally follow the law of the New Testament. He who follows the dictates of a pure conscience will not transgress the law of the New Testament, and the keeping of God's commandments will never wound a pure and an enlightened conscience.

The apostle Paul, said, "For when the Gentiles, which have not the law, do by nature the things contained in the law, these, having not the law, are a law unto themselves: Which show the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and *their* thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another;" Romans 2:14-15. We understand from this that where there is no written law of God, man's conscience is to be judge of his moral actions. Also that the keeping of the written law of God meets the approval of a Spirit-quickened and enlightened conscience. Therefore those who keep the law of the New Testament are the happiest and holiest people because their enlightened conscience experiences no remorse. This also proves that this faculty is the highest and most authoritative in man.

The conscience was designed for virtue. He who follows the impulses of a pure and Spirit-enlightened conscience will be led into paths of virtue and into the happiest life mortal can live, because he has obeyed the highest impulse of his nature. For the same reason he who disobeys the law of a pure conscience is wretched indeed.

God has called us unto liberty, but He does not give us such liberty of conscience that we can transgress a law of the New Testament. We can follow the dictates of conscience as long as it keeps within the bounds of the Word of God. Since the conscience is the highest faculty, then a pure conscience should always be obeyed, no matter how strong might be the impulse of passion or the lusts of the flesh. The Scripture says that man should eat and drink to the glory of God. A Spirit-quickened and enlightened conscience acts in harmony with the Word of God. Thank God! We have both to guide us aright. How blessed! When a man eats or drinks more than is good for him or eats too fast for the good of his digestion, he is simply obeying the impulse of appetite and does act contrary to the impulse of an enlightened conscience. We do not feel any moral disgust when a horse eats too much, but we do feel a moral disgust when man eats too much, because he has disobeyed the highest impulse of his being and obeyed a lower. The apostle labored to have a conscience void of offense toward God and man including himself.

Again, he said his rejoicing was this the testimony of his conscience, that in simplicity with godly sincerity he had his conduct in the world. See II Corinthians 1:12. But he said he served God with a pure conscience. See II Timothy 1:3. He served God with a pure conscience according to the Word. He kept his body under and brought all the impulses of the lower passions into subjection to the impulse of his conscience.

The conscience can become seared. See I Timothy 4:2. We should be careful how we trifle with a pure and tender conscience. We are getting on dangerous ground when we obey the impulse of the lower passions as far as we possibly can without trampling too rudely upon the conscience. A seared conscience is very deceiving. It justifies us in a wrong. It lets us do things we once could not do, and justifies us in it. When our moral being and conscience is brought into harmony with God and His Word through the quickening power of the Holy Spirit, we are then taught the true Christian life. As we have received the Lord Jesus so let us walk in Him. Be careful how you depart from the good old ways your conscience led you in your happy Christian childhood. God blessed you in those days. Your heart was warm with love, your prayers were fervent, your conscience tender and you were happiest when you were farthest away from all appearance of evil. Let us walk in our Christian childhood simplicity and sincerity.

—C. E. Orr

From *The Gospel Trumpet*, October 4, 1906



Kind and Loving To Each Other

By Sis. Naomi Jennings

I'm so thankful to be saved and happy in the Lord. I have been meditating lately on being kind and loving to everyone I meet. The song in our book, number 253, says, "Let us ever love each other With a heart that's warm and true, Ever doing to our brother As to us we'd have him do." That is my desire, to do to others as I would have them do unto me.

The fourth verse says, "In this world of toil and sorrow Many hearts are full of care; Let us live to serve our Master, And each other's burdens bear." God wants us to bear each other's burdens. In order to do that, we must be like Jesus. He was loving and kind to all.

I thought about Abraham, how he was concerned about Lot. Lot had chosen the best land and his uncle loved him enough to let him have

it. But when Lot got into trouble, Genesis 18:22-23 says, "...but Abraham stood yet before the LORD. And Abraham drew near, and said, Wilt thou also destroy the righteous with the wicked?" His burden was for Lot. He could have said, "It is his fault—let him suffer," but he didn't. He begged for his nephew and family.

God wants us to be kind and loving to all, no matter how they treat us. In Genesis 5:18, Joseph's brothers sold him and covered up their sins. After their father died, they became frightened and fell down before his face saying, "...Behold, we be thy servants. And Joseph said unto them, Fear not: for am I in the place of God? But as for you, ye thought evil against me; but God meant it unto good."

Dear ones, do you know that what God allows to happen to you, He has some good in it for your soul. God wants us to be kind and loving in everything that happens to us. It may be an employer, a companion or friend that treats us evil, says things about us that are not true. God's grace is sufficient for every trial He lets come against us. Oh, yes, we may have to cry sometimes because we are human and humans are frail, but we don't have to give up, because He said, "...I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee."

Here is a lesson we can all learn from if we follow the example of David concerning Saul's grandson, Mephibosheth. Saul had hunted David and ran him from place to place, but after Saul's death David asked, "...Is there not yet any of the house of Saul, that I may show the kindness of God unto him? And Ziba said unto the king, Jonathan hath yet a son, *which is lame on his feet.*" II Samuel 9:3. David then sent for him and when Mephibosheth appeared before the king he fell on his face and did reverence to David. "And David said unto him, Fear not: for I will surely show thee kindness for Jonathan thy father's sake, and will restore thee all the land of Saul thy father; and thou shalt eat bread at my table continually." Oh, what kindness! Oh, Lord, help us with brotherly kindness. We must have the Spirit of God to manifest that kindness.

Song number 177 in the *Evening Light Songs* book says, "Loving Kindness."

"Awake my soul to joyful lays,
And sing thy great Redeemer's praise;
He justly claims a song for me,
His loving kindness, oh, how free!

He saw me ruined in the fall,
Yet loved me, not-withstanding all;
He saved me from my lost estate,
His loving kindness, oh, how great!"

That is what God did for me. My mother said that I was her "good" child. I was easy going until you did something to me. It was hard for me to forgive. So when I was saved, I thought I was good. I would argue to show I was right. The Lord showed me, "You are wrong, wrong to try to show you are right. That is not like Me." Thank the Lord for showing me I was not like Him, because He never tried to fight His battles, He let His Father fight for Him. I'm so happy I learned to let God fight my battles. He is a wonderful Savior. We are forever in school! Pray for me that I will always be kind and loving.

A Little Fellow Follows Me

A careful man I ought to be
A little fellow follows me.
I do not dare to go astray
For fear he'll go the self-same way.

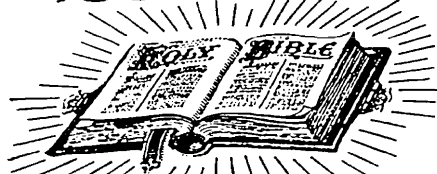
Not once can I escape his eyes;
Whate'er he sees me do he tries.
Like me he says he's going to be,
That little chap who follows me.

He thinks that I am good and fine,
Believes in every word of mine.
The base in me he must not see—
That little chap who follows me.

I must remember as onward I go
Thru summer sun and winter snow;
I am building for the years to be
That little chap who follows me.

—Author Unknown

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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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“THERE’S ROCK AT THE BOTTOM.”

When my Willie was sixteen, he accidentally dropped a valuable watch into the well. His father was absent from home; and without consulting me, he resolved to recover the treasure. Providing himself a long-handled rake, he gave it in charge to his sister Jennie, two years younger, and bidding her lower it to him when he called, he stepped into the bucket, and holding fast by the rope, commenced his descent. The bucket descended more rapidly than Willie expected, and struck heavily against the side of the well; the rope broke, and he was thrown into the water.

“Mother, I shall be drowned,” was his despairing cry; which Jennie reechoed with a wail of anguish. But I knew the depth of the water, and shouted to him as calmly as I could, “Stand upon your feet, Willie; the water isn’t over four feet deep.” “But I shall sink in the mud,” said the poor boy, still striving to keep himself afloat by clinging desperately to the slippery stones. “No, Willie, *there’s rock at the bottom*. Let go of the stones, and stand up.”

The assurance of a hard foundation, and the impossibility of holding much longer to the slimy surface of the stone wall, gave him confidence. He felt for the rocky bottom, placed his feet firmly upon it, and to his great joy found that the water scarcely reached to his shoulders. I sent Jennie to the house for a new strong rope, and fastening one end of it securely, I lowered the other to him to be tied into the bucket, and we drew him safely up. “O Mother,” said the dear boy when he was rescued, “those were precious words to me. *There’s rock at the bottom;* I shall never forget them.”

Two years after, in a commercial panic, my husband’s property was swept away, and we were reduced to poverty. At first I bore bravely up. I did not prize wealth and luxury for my own sake, neither did I covet it for my children. I chiefly mourned for my husband’s disappointment and his crushed hopes, and strove by unflagging cheerfulness to chase away the gloom which settled so heavily upon him. I endeavored to assist him, not only by the utmost economy in household expenses, but by devising plans for the future. Willie and Jennie were old enough to earn their own support, and even to assist in the education of the younger children. I suc-

ceeded in putting them in the way to do this. I felt strong and brave, and almost wondered at my husband’s despondency.

But new reverses came. The bank in which Jennie had deposited her quarter’s salary, which might partially meet our necessities, suddenly failed, and her money was lost. I could bear this too; she would soon be able to replace it. Next, the school in which she taught was disbanded, and Jennie had to take much lower wages; but she still earned a little. I said cheerfully, “We will not murmur; half a loaf is better than no bread.” Next Willie’s hand was disabled by an accident, and he lost his job. My courage began to give way; but rallying myself for one more effort, I resolved to brave the reproaches of friends and the world’s dread laugh, and seek remunerative employment for myself. It sorely tried my womanly delicacy, yet it brought the needful aid, and I battled with my wounded sensitiveness, and again boosted my failing courage. The last blow came—sickness suddenly laid me prostrate. “I shall give up, now; we must all sink together,” was the language of my despairing soul.

“Dear Mother,” said Willie, when he heard my lamentation, “do you remember what you said to me when I was at the bottom of the well? I have often thought of it of late. I know we are in deep waters, but God has promised that they shall not overflow us. And is not His Word a solid foundation? Let us plant our feet upon His promises, and stand firmly. We cannot sink, for *there’s rock at the bottom.*”

I heard, and took the lesson to my heart. I saw that I had been clinging to the slippery stones of human strength and self-dependence; and so, when the providence of God bade me let go my hold, I was in despair. But the bank of Heaven had not failed; God was able to redeem His promises, and though I stood in deep water, it should not overwhelm me, neither should I sink, for “*there’s rock at the bottom.*”

So from the chamber where pain and illness still hold me prisoner, I send to each burdened and weary child of God who is tempted to feel that all is lost, the key-note of my new and grateful psalm. Whatever your sorrow or strait may be, plant your feet trustingly upon the Rock of ages, and with me, “thank God, and take courage.”

—Sketches From Life

The Last Letter

The telegram fluttered to the floor. But the words were indelibly stamped upon Nora's mind as she turned away from the door. Like a sleepwalker she found her way to the sofa and sank down, her hand pressed tightly against her mouth.

"Oh, God," she cried silently, "we trusted You to save Ted. We really trusted You. And now He's gone—our only son. He died a sinner—after all our prayers. Why, God, why?"

It was all over. There was nothing more she or Jim could do for their son. How had they failed the one they loved so dearly? Their attempts to witness to him had only brought embarrassed silence or impatient replies. Once he laughed at his father, though he later apologized in an oddly subdued voice.

Nora and Jim had tried to show him the right way. They had prayed every night that their son might come to know the Savior. The piercing realization that these hours of intercession had been in vain was suddenly unendurable.

On a table across the room was the picture he had sent them—a smiling boy—man in an immaculate uniform. With this he had been quick to try to console them when he learned he must go halfway across the world to battle men he neither knew nor wanted to harm.

"My son, oh, my son!" Strangely no tears would come, though Nora's throat and heart ached almost unbearably. She went to the window and stared out. She must call Jim. From somewhere she must find courage to tell him this awful thing—his son would never speak to him again.

The postman was coming up the walk. Spying Nora at the window he smilingly held up a letter and waved it back and forth. Methodically she went to the door. She forced a smile on her face as the postman handed her the letter and asked how her fine young son was liking the soldier's life.

Nora made some sort of reply. It mattered not what the answer was, for at this very moment her son was lying still and cold.

Against her heart she held the letter with the familiar scrawl. How could she bear to open it—to almost hear his voice speak through these last words he had written?

Teddy, she thought in anguish, your death would be easier for us to accept if *only* we had the assurance you are now seeing Jesus' face.

At last, with trembling, uncertain hands she opened the envelope and began to read

Dear Mom and Dad:

How are you this beautiful day? We are under orders to stick to the post, so I thought it would be a good opportunity to let you know everything is fine.

Things are slowing down so we have more time for relaxation and recreation.

Oh, how could he think so lightly of his soul? Even in the heart of the battlefield, he could think only of his earthly need.

Mom and Dad, I have something to say that might come as a surprise to you. Almost every day I see someone die. It has set me thinking.

First, I'm thankful for Christian parents, for I know you are praying for me every day. Next, I'm thankful for the little Bible you gave me. For a long time it went unopened, but the last day or two I've done some reading, and, yes, Mom, some praying, too.

Exactly 28 hours ago I gave my heart to the Lord and turned my life over to Him. Dad, remember how I laughed when you tried to tell me about God's peace? Well, I know now what you meant. Never in my life have I experienced more peace than in these last 28 hours.

Thank you, Mom and Dad, for having patience when I wouldn't listen, for loving me when I refused to do right, for setting a beautiful example when I pretended not to notice, for praying for me when I was unworthy even to be mentioned to God. Thank you, Mom and Dad, for everything.

Well, we have more orders, I don't know the details yet, but this letter will have to do for now. I'm looking forward to coming home—if not to my earthly home, then to my heavenly one. We can have a grand reunion then, can't we?

Your loving son,

Ted

Clutching the letter in one hand, Nora went blindly to her knees. Tears flooded her eyes and ran down her cheeks. "Oh, God," she whispered fervently, "I'm sorry I doubted. Thank you so much for answering prayer. And thank you, Lord, for this last, wonderful letter."

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