

FAITH^{AND}VICTORY

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Church of God Servant



Consecration

By Sis. Charlotte Huskey

Consecration is a vital part of the plan of salvation. Young people are often urged to consecrate their lives to God. But what does consecration mean? God instructed Moses to consecrate bowls, spoons, etc. to be used in the temple. That meant they were set apart for that use and only that use. They could not be used in someone's home and then brought to the temple to be used in the temple worship. A consecrated person is one who promises his time, talents and everything he has to God and then allows God to do whatever He wishes with those things. We cannot use part of our time for ourselves and part of our time for God. All of our time, talent and everything else we have must be used to the glory of God. This is a foundational principle of man's duty to God.

Maybe you have heard the story of the Indian who wanted to be sanctified. He was told

to consecrate everything on the altar. So he placed his blanket, in which he kept warm each night on the altar. Then he placed his saddle and bridle. He promised God his children and his wife. Still he felt no blessing. Then God said, "Now get on the altar yourself." He jumped on the altar and the blessing fell. Well, as we all know, that is just a story. However, a true consecration includes giving to God everything we love, we own and also ourselves.

Mr. H. Spafford, author of "It is Well With My Soul," is a good example. Mr. Spafford was a Chicago businessman, who suffered financial disaster in the Great Chicago Fire of 1871. When the fire struck, they were still grieving over the death of their only son. Mr. Spafford had bought tickets for his entire family to go to England on the French steamer, *Ville du Havre*, because their friend Dwight L. Moody was going to be preaching in evangelistic campaigns in England at that time. He hoped these meetings would help them to overcome their grief. A few days before they were to sail, the Great Chicago Fire left his lumber business a heap of ashes. He insisted that his wife and four daughters go ahead and he promised to follow a few days later after he salvaged all he could from the fire.

While Mrs. Spafford and the girls were in route to England, violent winds on the Atlantic hurled a huge iron sailing vessel into the steamer's side. It sank within twelve minutes. Two hundred and twenty-six lives were lost—including the Spaffords' four daughters. When the survivors were brought to shore at Cardiff,

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Wales, Mrs. Spafford sent a telegram to her husband. It read, "Saved alone."

Mr. Spafford booked passage on the next ship. As they were crossing the Atlantic, the captain pointed out the approximate place where the *Ville du Havre* had gone down. That night, Spafford penned the words, "When peace like a river attendeth my way, When sorrows like sea billows roll; Whatever my lot Thou hast taught me to say, It is well, it is well with my soul." Amid all those disasters Mr. Spafford said, "It is well." All he had must have truly been consecrated to God.

Frances Ridley Havergal is another saint who consecrated everything to God. Frances was born in France to godly parents, who taught her at home. She learned to read when she was three years old. Before her fifth birthday she learned to write and could read the Bible and some other books the family owned. Soon after she learned to write, she began writing poems. Frances had completed a book of poems by age seven. Often when her mother thought she was out playing, she would be in a corner reading a book, writing a poem or studying French. Her father could speak many languages and taught Frances to read in French, English, German, Hebrew, Latin and Welsh. He also taught her music and helped her put music to one of her poems.

Frances' parents realized she had special gifts from God and prayed often that she would not grow up proud, but that she would use her talents for the glory of God. When Frances was eleven years old, her mother became seriously ill. One day she called Frances to her bedside and said, "Honey, I may leave you soon, but remember that Jesus will always be with you. His blood is the only thing that can make you clean and lovely in God's sight. Please give yourself completely to Jesus and use your talents for His glory." Her mother died soon afterwards.

Three years later, when Frances was fourteen, her father put her in a girls' boarding school. While there she realized she needed that cleansing her mother had spoken about. She committed her life to God. Soon she began teaching a Sunday school class in the church her father pastored. When her father moved the family to Germany, she evangelized the children at the new school she attended.

Frances became a soloist with the Philharmonic Society. She loved music and singing,

and the praise of the crowds who came to hear her. One day she realized her job was taking all her time and thought. Singing had become her idol. "Oh, Jesus," she prayed, "If my singing for the society is not using my gifts for You, please take my singing gift." A short time afterwards, Frances became sick, lost her beautiful voice and her job with the Philharmonic Society.

During this sickness she renewed her consecration to God and entered into a blessedness that she had never enjoyed before. Two months later she went away to visit friends. There were ten in the home. Some were unhappy Christians and others were unsaved. She asked God to save them all while she was there. He did.

That night she was too happy to sleep. She passed most of the night in praise and reviewing her consecration. Later God gave back her beautiful voice. The song "Take My Life and Let It Be" was her consecration. Her song is like a prayer of consecration.

We have many examples of consecrated lives recorded in history. There are also many in the Bible. Abraham consecrated all, his extended family, his home and comfortable life style, even to the point of offering his beloved son, Isaac, in who was vested God's personal promise. Apostle Paul gave up family, fame, education and a comfortable life. He called it all "...dung, that I may win Christ." Philippians 3:8. Job said, "...the LORD gave, and the LORD hath taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD." Job. 1:21. What a consecration to be able to praise God after losing every earthly treasure, ten children, his health and the support of his wife and friends—we think it terrible to lose one child. David, after being anointed Israel's future king, consecrated to God's timing and his severe discipline, becoming a fugitive and vagabond for many years. Jonah, after God's chastisement, consecrated to become a fool for God and preached to Ninevah.

Are we really consecrated as we live, as the prophet said, in our "ceiled houses" and God's house lie waste? (Haggai 1:4.) The work of God has many needs—people-wise and financially.

(The seriousness of Sis. Charlotte's article should not be minimized and shuffled off as easily as turning the page. If we want to see God's work prosper and souls touched by the power of God, then we need that power in our lives today! The reproach is not that we live in "ceiled houses," the reproach is that, in many ways, God's house and work is not properly

tended. Gourmet dining and frivolous Vanity Fair is consuming many dollars that could have reaped an eternal reward. Our time, talents and other assets should not be wasted on fleshly pursuits, but they should likewise be consecrated to God and His service. It is not time to look around at others and think about how much they are wasting. It is time to examine ourselves. Are we the foolish virgins that are asleep without oil in our lamps? God forbid. Let each reader take these thoughts to the Lord in prayer lest the Bridegroom find us lacking the precious oil of the Holy Spirit. You can make a difference in God's kingdom! —W.E.M.)

Take My Life and Let It Be

*Take my life and let it be
Consecrated, Lord, to Thee;
Take my hands, and let them move
At the impulse of Thy love,
At the impulse of Thy love.*

*Take my feet and let them be
Swift and beautiful for Thee;
Take my voice and let me sing
Always, only for my King,
Always, only for my King.*

*Take my lips and let them be
Filled with messages from Thee;
Take my silver and my gold;
Not a mite would I withhold,
Not a mite would I withhold.*

*Take my moments and my days,
Let them flow in endless praise;
Take my intellect and use
Ev'ry pow'r as Thou shalt choose,
Ev'ry pow'r as Thou shalt choose.*

*Take my will and make it Thine;
It shall be no longer mine;
Take my heart, it is Thine own;
It shall be Thy royal throne,
It shall be Thy royal throne.*

*Take my love, my Lord, I pour
At Thy feet its treasure store;
Take myself, and I will be
Ever, only, all for Thee,
Ever, only, all for Thee.*

Like a Tree

By Sis. Connie Sorrell

THE BEAUTY OF NATURAL TREES

Trees are a valuable asset to the cycle of life on our planet Earth. God created trees on the third day of creation when He said, "...Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed, and the fruit tree yielding fruit after his kind, whose seed is in itself, upon the earth: and it was so. And the earth brought forth grass, and herb yielding seed after his kind, and the tree yielding fruit, whose seed was in itself, after his kind: and God saw that it was good." Genesis 1:11-12.

Fruit trees are specifically mentioned because their produce is obvious—an apple tree has apples, a fig tree has figs, an almond tree has almonds and so on. The almond, apple, fig, olive, mulberry and pomegranate trees were cherished for their fruits. In Deuteronomy 20:19, it is stated, "...for the tree of the field is man's life..." and fruit trees were not to be carelessly cut down for use in warfare. The law recorded in Leviticus 19:23 tells the Israelites they were to cultivate young trees for three years and not eat of their fruit. In the fourth year, all the fruit from the young tree was given to the Lord. Then in the fifth and following years the husbandman could eat of the good fruits from his nurtured trees.

When the fruits were harvested at the end of summer (seventh month), the Israelites celebrated the Feast of the Fruits. This is what the Lord told Moses to write, "And ye shall take you on the first day the boughs of goodly trees, branches of palm trees, and the boughs of thick trees, and willows of the brook; and ye shall rejoice before the LORD your God seven days." Leviticus 23:40.

It is interesting to note that when Jesus Christ, God's first fruit of righteousness, rode into Jerusalem for the last time, the people waved and laid palm branches down before His donkey to walk upon. (John 12:12-13.) The palm branch symbolizes praise, worship and thanksgiving.

There are at least 23 varieties of natural trees specifically mentioned throughout the Bible. The gopher wood that Noah built into an ark mentioned in Genesis 6:14, could be cedar or cypress wood. Also, the olive leaf has always symbolized peace because it was an olive leaf that the dove brought to Noah through the window of the ark as the waters were receding. (Genesis 8:11.)

(Continued on page 12.)

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.

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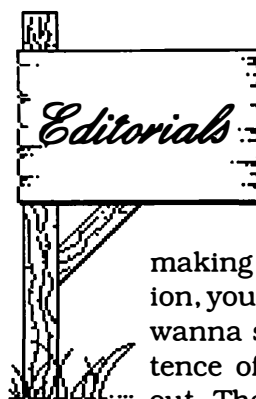
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The roll of film which contained the pictures of that special occasion was picked up from the local photofinisher and while looking through the resulting photos and casually making comments to your companion, your child comes up and says, "I wanna see. Let me see." The insistence of your child generally wins out. They worm their way between your arms and into your lap so they can see too. Perhaps you have to caution them not to grab the photos and smudge them with their fingerprints but their exuberance about the memories and special friends always make the photo viewing experience more exciting.

Oh, that life could always be as exciting, carefree, simple and innocent as it was when we were five years old. However, as one matures into adulthood, we may have found that repetition dulls our excitement, responsibility replaces our carefree mind, complicated involvement with the world and relationships obscure our simplicity and sin mars our innocence. These heavy burdens of life will cause our joy to evaporate, our existence to become drudgery and our spirit to become imprisoned. How sad that so many people are lingering in this condition! Their heart is crushed beneath the load of care that is relentlessly piled upon them and there seems to be no escape. Even their hope of eternity is bleak because of the sin that has ruined their innocence and God seems so far away. The poet expressed the cry of the heart when he penned the words, "Drifting away from Jesus, Helpless and tossed with care, Soon I shall land forever Somewhere, I know not where. Oh, am I lost forever? Lost amid fiendish din? Oh, can there be no lifeboat On the dark ocean of sin."

Sometimes people think that this condition mainly effects those who are poor and have to work hard to make a living, but it happens to those who have an abundance of wealth also. The Scriptures make this statement about a rich man who was on the brink of a great discovery. "And he sought to see Jesus who he was; and could not for the press, because he was little of stature. And he ran before, and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see him: for he was to pass that way." Luke 19:3-4.

Zacchaeus had heard about Jesus and the wonderful things the Master was doing so when Jesus came to his town he had a great desire to see Him. The problem was that many others also wanted to see Jesus and Zacchaeus couldn't see over the crowd because he was a short man. The eagerness of his desire was what motivated him to climb a tree to see above the other people. Just as the eagerness and persistence of a child will generally gain them a position in a parent's lap, when someone puts forth a similar effort to see Jesus then it is very likely that He will also see them above the crowd.

Those who came to see what Jesus looked like went home disappointed, for Isaiah prophesied about Jesus many years earlier saying, "...he hath no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see him, *there is no beauty that we should desire him.*" Isaiah 53:2. Notice what it said about Zacchaeus, "...he sought to see Jesus who he was:..." There is a tremendous difference in seeing the outward form of Jesus and seeing who He really is."

When the Master bid Zacchaeus to make haste and come down, he joyfully received Jesus into his home. While the crowd murmured at Jesus going to the home of a despised tax collector, our Lord saw deeper into this man's heart and recognized the cry of a soul in need of living water. The treasure of earthly wealth lost its glitter in the eyes of Zacchaeus that day when he saw the precious Son of God. Giving half of his goods to the poor and repaying those he had wronged four fold was a small price to pay for obtaining the blessing of salvation.

When one sees who Jesus really is, they also see things about themselves. They see how bad sin is and how it has affected mankind and separated them from God. This separation is what has caused man to be so helplessly imprisoned. Then when responsibilities or physical maladies overwhelm a poor soul, despair sets in and darkness overtakes them. But wait! Have you, like Zacchaeus and many others, seen who Jesus really is? Yes, there is a lifeboat on the dark ocean of sin! Our eternal future does not have to be in question, we can have a blessed assurance in our souls.

In Luke 4:17-21 Jesus identified His mission from the prophetic words of Isaiah written many years earlier. He was anointed to preach the gospel to the poor, to heal the broken-hearted, to preach deliverance to the captives

and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised and to preach the acceptable year of the Lord. This wonderful message of deliverance is for you and me—we can be released from the prison of sin. "Therefore if any man *be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.*" II Corinthians 5:17. It is the plan of our Creator that we walk in newness of life. The innocence of our youth can be restored when we "...Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world." We may still have responsibilities to tend in this physical life and our mortal bodies may be getting old and suffer from afflictions, but our soul can soar in the sunlight of Heaven. Each day can be brighter because of the hope we have found in Christ.

Hebrews 2:9 says, "But we see Jesus...crowned with glory and honour;..." Many sons have been brought unto glory by the Captain of our salvation and thank God, we can be one of those sons. Verse 14 and 15 says, "Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage." The words of Joseph in Genesis 45:7 so directly apply to our Savior that they seem prophetic. "And God sent me before you to preserve you a posterity in the earth, and to save your lives by a great deliverance." Thank the Lord, we have seen Jesus and have beheld, and experienced, His power to deliver! May each one endeavor to keep their eyes focused on the Author and Finisher of our faith for, one glorious day we will be able to see Him face to face.

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The *Faith and Victory* and junior *Beautiful Way* yearbooks for 2006 are now ready to ship to those who desire them. They may be obtained by contacting this office at 1-800-767-1479. The heavy paper bound yearbooks are available for \$5.00 each. Our standard shipping charges apply to mailed copies.

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Bro. Ben and Sis. Karen Goltry have felt led of the Lord to move to Springfield, MO. Bro. Ben has accepted a position in the maintenance department of a major trucking firm. Since May 8, 2006, Sis. Karen has been graciously sharing

hertime and talents with the Faith Publishing House. She has been a great blessing in proof-reading, paging the *Beautiful Way* papers and various books that have been published this last year. Her last day was January 26. We have appreciated her sweet spirit, godly example and dedicated service to the Lord. Her two children, Jessica and Landon, often accompanied her to work and were a source of joy for all of the workers. The fruit of her labors here will continue

to be a blessing to many in the years to come. We pray that God will be with them as they settle into a new work environment and we are sure they will be an encouragement to the congregation in Springfield, MO.

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



Sis. Karen Goltry works on *The Beautiful Way* paper under the watchful eyes of her son, Landon.

pray for all the Saints of the Church of God. Pray for our new believers and Saints. We send love, prayers and best wishes at the celebration of our Savior. Love in Jesus, —Bro. Shahzad

OH—Please pray for my son. He is still seeking the Lord. He is having a hard time right now. Please pray the Lord will encourage his heart.

Thank you for all your prayers for us. They are deeply appreciated. Please pray we'll find the right church to go to. There are no churches here that are the true church of God, that I know of, only in Springfield, OH which is quite a distance from us. Thanks again. —Anonymous

OK—Please remember my sister, Darlene Adam, and myself in prayer.

—Sis. Mary O. Jones

IL—Please pray for me, I have a severe squinting problem with my eyes.

—Sis. Norma Tiller

WA—Please remember John Davis in prayer. he is suffering from bone cancer and also pray for his wife, Rosalie, who is caring for him.

—Sis. Claudia Jerome

WV—I would like to request earnest prayer in behalf of Sis. Beverly Pratt concerning her granddaughter, Sommer. Sommer's mother was incarcerated on January 4th and she is still in confinement. Sis. Beverly is seeking to obtain permanent legal custody of Sommer. She is desiring the Lord to help her not do the wrong thing and that she does not get out of His will in



CA—We are still trusting and praising the Lord. We would like to request prayer from the saints for my sister, Wanda Billingsly, Shawnee, OK. She was diagnosed as having lung cancer. She has refused treatment for this and is waiting for God to heal her or take her home. We don't know if she is ready so please pray for her spiritual well being as well as her physical needs. Thanks so much. God bless you.

—Bro. James and Sis. Lorraine McMakin

Pakistan—Greetings to you in the name of Jesus, our Lord and Savior! We are thankful God is using you in a great way for His glory to bring people into His Kingdom. We love you and

this. Please pray that God's perfect will be done and that the best will be done for little Sommer's soul. Sis. Beverly would also like prayer for Sommer's mother that God will deal with her.

Thank you, —Sis. Cheryl Smith

OK—My mother, Sis. Lula Williamson, would like to thank the Saints for their prayers in her behalf. She is now much improved.

—Sis. Maxine Pruitt

MO—The Monark Springs National campground has sustained much damage to the trees, wiring and some structures. Remember in prayer those who will be working to clean up and repair the damage and that the Lord would supply the financial needs that have been created by this ice storm.

Standing Prayer Requests

Bro. Carlos Arriaga
 Sis. Dorothy Burditt
 Sis. Mamie Butcher
 Sis. Gladys Cashio
 Sis. Helen Carson
 Sis. Waneta Creel
 Sis. Dorall Forbes
 Sis. Evelyn Fredrickson
 Bro. Troy Gentry
 Sis. Juliette Lounds
 Sis. Melba Powell
 Sis. Anna Severs
 Sis. Cheryl Smith
 Bro. Michael Smith
 The Mitch Taylor family
 Sis. Lula Williamson

SPECIAL NOTICES

GOSPEL SINGING CD

We thank God for allowing us to produce a CD for the glory of God! We will be selling the CDs for \$15 each and the proceeds will be used towards the Durham, NC Church of God building project. Those interested in purchasing may do so by sending payment to the Church of God in care of Jerry Lennon, 3203 Hwy 55, Durham, NC 27713. For further information contact Jerry Lennon at (919) 740-3748, in Durham, NC or Colvin Lennon at (661) 810-7368 in Palmdale, CA. Thank you in advance and God Bless.

—Bro. Jerry Lennon

MEETING DATES

Enterprise, AL (Spring Singing)—April 14
Vanceburg, KY (Spring Meeting)—May 18-20
Oklahoma State (Guthrie)—May 25-June 3
National (Monark Springs)—July 20-29

MEETING NOTICES

VANCEBURG, KY, SPRING MEETING

The Vanceburg, KY, Church of God congregation, Lord willing, will be holding a spring meeting May 18-20. There will be morning services at 11:00 and an evening service at 7:00. We encourage all who feel burdened to come and support our meeting. The spring meeting is conducted on a freewill offering basis. There will be meals prepared daily on the campground. We are depending upon the Lord to lead and direct in sending the ministers of His choosing. Accommodations will be provided. Please bring bed linens. For more information, contact Bro. or Sis. Dallas Cooper at (606) 796-3645 or (606) 202-1115 cell, or the chapel at (606) 796-0882 and leave a message. All are welcome.

—Vanceburg, KY congregation



LETTERS
 FROM
 OUR
 READERS

OR—I surely do thank the Lord for being with me when I slipped on ice and fell on the concrete sidewalk. I hurt myself pretty badly but it was an interesting experience. The reason it was interesting was because God was right with me through it all. I crawled back into the house and tried to stand up, but fell down again. So I crawled and got my brother's walker. As I crawled by the cook stove I saw the burner was on but couldn't reach it. There was a yardstick not far away so I was able to turn it off with that. I crawled farther to the closet and the latch was shut, but right beneath it was another yardstick that I used to release the latch. Then I was able to pull the walker through the narrow path

while it was folded. There were also some old canes that I was able to use, along with the walker, to help me get up. These little blessings from the Lord delighted me so much. By the help of the Lord and that walker, I was able to get into bed. I then called for prayer and the trembling and shaking stopped as soon as I called. The Saints prayed for me and checked on me every few hours. I only had pain when I tried to bend or sit and for two days I was not able to do either. I slept most of those two days and each time I woke up I could tell I was better. Today is the 12th day and I was able to drive the car four miles and go into the store. The Lord was with me and helped me so much. —Sis. Evalee Stice

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KS—Dear Bro. Willie and Sis. Neta, Greetings in the New Year of 2007. I am so glad to be able to enter this year still saved and very much encouraged to keep pressing on the upward way. I thank God for the wonderful gift of salvation and praise Him for eternal life. I am truly happy, redeemed and free. Praise His holy name! I wish I could get everyone to see their need of salvation and let Jesus come into their hearts and lives. It would truly be a different world if that would happen. We know it won't as the Bible even lets us know. Heaven is where all will be well and all of its inhabitants right and good. I enjoy living saved and love my Savior and Father and want to be able to live with them forever. Praise God for glory and beauty.

May God bless in every way,

—Sis. Shirley Knight

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LA—Dear Saints, I want to thank the Lord for all of His many blessings to me. This last 13 months have not been easy, but God has been my helper each day and hour. He has also been my healer and I want to especially thank Him for that at this time. In February of 2005 something happened to the muscle of my right arm. It was just slightly sore at first, but became progressively worse as the days went by. Finally, I had to prop it on a pillow at night to be able to relieve the pain. It just hurt whether I was using it or not. After I was anointed and prayed for, the Lord began healing it and it was back to normal by December of that year. I truly thank God for helping me then and other times also.

My mother-in-law, Viva LaCroix Chevallier, died this month, January 17, and that has been hard for me as I had helped care for her for five

and one half years. She lived in a nursing home not far from me. But, I am depending on God to help me again.

I love Him and desire, more than anything else, to make Heaven my home. Please pray for me. I do pray that God will continue to bless the printing work and workers. I appreciate it all very much.

Christian love, —Sis. Cynthia LaCroix

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OK—Dear Bro. Willie and Sis. Neta: Greetings to you in the lovely name of Jesus our Lord Who loved us and gave Himself for us that we might be partakers of His grace and love.

I was glad for the privilege of attending the Guthrie Assembly Meeting during the holiday season. I received many blessings to my soul. I was also glad to see the interest of those that were new among us and for the hunger they have for the truth. Jesus said, "And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." John 8:32. Jesus also said, "...I am the way, the truth, and the life:..." John 14:6. He sets us free from sins here and gives us hope of eternal life with Him and all the redeemed of all ages. Thanks for fellowship with Him and His people. He has great things prepared for them that love Him. (I Corinthians 2:9.)

Your Brother in Christ, —T. V. McMillian

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CA—Dear Bro. and Sis. Murphey: Christian greetings this New Year, 2007. Thank the Lord for His merciful kindness in keeping us saved and encouraged. We attended most of the (Pacoima) Assembly Meeting. It was good!

—Sis. Olive Davenport

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MO—Dear Bro. Willie and Sis. Neta: It is with very grateful hearts that we write to you. As several know, our area was hit with a major ice storm January 12-14. Sunday afternoon our electricity went off and how thankful we were that the Lord had provided a generator for us shortly after we moved over here. By dark though, we were having trouble with the generator throwing breakers, either in the house or out in the shop where it was running. Sometimes it would only run about 15 minutes and throw a breaker. At one point, Danny went out to the shop to reset the breaker, see what was wrong, and refuel the generator. By this time the generator had been running about 4 hours. I knew he would be checking things out, so I was

not concerned about his time out in the shop. When he came in he made the comment that he had almost been overcome (with carbon monoxide) out there and was sick at his stomach. He had windows open but apparently it was not enough ventilation. He laid down on the floor and Trenton rubbed his back and we talked to him. He seemed to be responding alertly and was feeling better. After resting for awhile he got up, but after a short while fainted and would have fallen to the floor if Trenton had not been close and caught him. Thank the Lord, he came to quickly and we had him rest in the recliner. The news the next few days was sprinkled with deaths from carbon monoxide poisoning from generators, propane heaters, etc. One woman's situation sounded very similar to Danny's only she didn't make it out of the building. With every news report of another death from generators, I think a total of six or seven died in Missouri, my heart sent up thanksgiving to God that He had spared Danny's life and helped him get out before he was overcome with the carbon monoxide poisoning.

We also thank the Lord that He showed Danny what was causing the generator to throw breakers and they were able to get it fixed so we could have heat and hot water. God has truly been good to us through this entire storm and we thank Him for it.

Christian love, —Sis. Anita Adams
— — — — —

OK—Dear Saints and Friends: Greetings of Christian love. We have special thanks to the Lord for protecting us from harm in a mishap we had with our pickup on January 17. We had a thick coating of ice from our recent sleet storm and as we were trying to turn into our driveway and get to the place for parking I lost control of the pickup. We slid down our creek bank and slammed into the railing of the bridge that crossed over the creek. We were on the incline of the creek bank and, after we hit the bridge railing, the pickup slowly turned over on the right side and came to rest down on the creek bank. We were not hurt and it was as if the Lord's hand just gently laid the pickup over on its right side. My wife, Sylvia, was down on the side against the ground and I was hung on the seat belt up above. But I soon got loose and lowered myself down to her. We could not get out. Someone must have called for help, for very soon help began to come. The police and fire-

men cut the gasket of the windshield and entirely removed it so we could get out of the pickup. We are thankful that we were not hurt and were able to get out in safety. The pickup was damaged considerably, but we were thankful that the mercies of the Lord kept us from harm. The Lord had been comforting and filling my soul with thoughts from Hebrews 3 and 4 about us entering into His rest, and my soul was so filled with joy and peace and rest that we were not troubled or disturbed at all. We just knew that the Lord had been with us and He permitted it all to happen for the best. There were also some children playing and sliding down the creek bank when we started our skidding and we honked and were thankful that they got out of the way and we did not hit any of them. Thank God for being our refuge and strength and a very present help in that time of trouble. Lovingly yours in Him,

—Bro. Leslie and Sis. Sylvia Busbee
— — — — —

Germany—Dear Bro. Willie and all: We are all very fine here. Alen is doing very well. Praise the Lord! Thank you very, very much for your love and the dear card. Give a special greeting to the Saints from us! We love you all.

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

CA—Dear Saints: During the last several months I have been in the valley of affliction, but Jesus has been so good to me. I had been asking the Lord to see more divine healing miracles among His people. I did not know that He was going to use me. I appear to have congestive heart failure. Sometimes the swelling and pain in my legs have been so severe that it seemed I could not bear it, but each time, through the prayers of His saints, God has sent relief. I have learned many lessons during my illness. Once when the pain was at the peak, the Lord told me to sing. I didn't think I could do it, but as I began to sing, "Oh How I Love Jesus!" the pain ceased and I felt much better than I had in days. I have found you have to be perfectly obedient to the Holy Spirit. We can depend on anything He says.

—Bro. Robert Sherman
— — — — —

From India...

January 26, 2007—Dear Bro. Willie Murphey and dear Saints abroad: Greetings to you dear ones again in the precious name of Jesus. Thank you for your letter dated January 5. May God fill you all with spiritual and temporal blessings in this new year, 2007.

Our 42nd General convention ended with many blessings. The attendance was good, climate was good and the messages were good. Nine people were baptized.

Please continue to pray for and support the growth of your ministry in India. Our prayers are for you. Yours in Him,

—Bro. John Varghese

Photo of converts who entered into the ordinance of baptism at the general convention in India stand beside Bro. Varghese and a fellow minister.



Open Thou Mine Eyes

By Sis. Charlotte Huskey

"If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all *men* liberally, and upbraideth not: and it shall be given him." James 1:5.

There is a verse in Proverbs that parents often quote. It says, "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it." Proverbs 22:6. I suppose we parents find a certain amount of comfort in this verse. We console ourselves thinking we have trained our children in the way they should go so they will stay with it or return if they go away. We have tried to train them right, kept them in church and made them conform to its teachings. There are generation after generation of some families whose children do not depart from the way and some of these parents had unsaved spouses. Through the years I have noticed that quite a few of the saint's children have returned to Him in their elderly years, but numbers of people go away and never return to the Savior.

Why do some stay true, and others go away? What drew those who returned? And what about the multitudes who have departed and never returned? It says "they will not depart from it" if trained in the right way. But many have departed and more are leaving everyday. Isn't the Word of God always true? It is a puzzle why so many supposedly "well-trained" children go astray. I am begging God to show us the missing pieces of this puzzle. According to the Scripture, training is the reason children stay in the right way. How many, many thousands

would be in our ranks if all of the saint's children had stayed "in the way?"

It is our privilege to train them so they will not depart, and to expect them to stay in the right way...Or we can console ourselves with common excuses such as, "You can make them do right but you can't make them be saved." Another is, "Everyone is free to choose to serve God or not to serve God." An old favorite when this topic comes up is, "You can take a horse to water but you can't make it drink." However if a horse is worked all day or kept running for a good while, he will become thirsty. Then he will drink. We need God's wisdom to make our children thirsty. Thirsty for God. He promised to give us that wisdom if we ask.

"If any of you lack wisdom,...let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed." James 1:5-6. Faith is the key in getting the wisdom we need. Emotions are like waves raising and falling. Faith holds steady when emotions are going up and down. On days when all satan's imps seem to be controlling our children, we must keep faith in God. As David said, in Psalm 56:3, "What time I am afraid, I will trust in Thee." Who hasn't been afraid at one time or another that their child was doomed to Hell? In these times, go to God and ask Him to keep you steady to give you wisdom to bring

those children in line. Sometimes we become careless about listening and obeying God's faint whispers. Then we try controlling them with our wisdom, and our faith as well as our emotion wavers. Faith is always connected with a willingness to obey. Our faith increases as we obey nudges of the Holy Spirit.

I knew a mother who prayed much for her boys to be saved. However, judging by the way she spoke she expected them to do evil and when they did wrong she would sigh and say, "I knew you would do that." I wondered why she prayed for them to do right if she expected them to do wrong? I think God expects us to put wings on our prayers by rebuking doubts and trusting Him and our children. Our expectations reveal our faith or lack of it. Although we may fear they will choose to do wrong, we shouldn't verbalize it nor let them know. Her sons did as she expected. They departed from the truth.

"...For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord." James 1:6-7. We have all watched the waves dashing against the shore and tumbling back out. Back and forth the water rolls. Some parents training habits are about as changeable as the waves. Back and forth with no consistent faith. One day Johnny can do nothing right. He is constantly being reprehended for first one thing and another. The next day Mom is feeling great, so Johnny can throw his toys, stomp in the mud puddles and Mom laughs at his cuteness. This kind of training confuses and discourages a child. Even though the child has a desire to do right he or she does not know from one day to the next what is expected. He becomes bewildered and will surely depart from such a hectic life. To train a child in the way he should go, parents must have their emotions under Christ's control. A parent enslaved by emotions is training by example to be in bondage to self. Whoever is in bondage to self wavereth and is not faithful to God. So according to James he will receive nothing from the Lord.

Another thought about "training up a child in the way he should go" is that the literal translation of "Train up a child in the way..." is to bring into a narrow way or a disciplined manner of living. The nature of a child is to be unrestrained. Psalm 2:3 says, "Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us." The cry of every unregenerate child or adult is to live without boundaries, but Jesus said, "take up your cross and follow me."

An undisciplined person cannot be successful in life much less can he be successful in the high places with God. We must teach our children that they must discipline their desires and bring them into subjection to their parent's desires first and then to God's desire. Apostle Paul said, "But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway." 1 Corinthians 9:27. Our children will be cast away unless we help them bring their desires under God's approval. Early in life children must be given the responsibility of their own soul—be taught they are responsible to God, that they will give account to God for every idle word, the way to heaven is narrow and there is a cross for everyone. Every parent needs to have earned enough respect to tighten the reigns on their children in a way that the children will not become bitter. This is another place the wisdom of God is needed.

I did not want children when I married. I was afraid of the responsibility of an eternal soul in my charge. It was a far too serious matter for me. I was afraid I would fail and my children would suffer because of me. But God challenged me with four children within the first six years of marriage. Later He added two more. In those early, fearful years God showed me that I must shepherd my children. I must take them by the hand and lead them away from the low, earthly things into the high fields of God. I realized I should be more careful about nurturing their souls than nourishing their bodies. As I went about my daily duties, I was asking God what I should feed my nestlings. God gave me daily spiritual portions for them. Those spiritual portions He gave were enough to make them thirsty for God.

According to Matthew 18:14, we know, "... it is not the will of your Father which is in heaven, that one of these little ones should perish." In John 12:32, Jesus said, And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all *men* unto me." John 12:32. This was spoken about Jesus being lifted up on the cross. He was lifted up, therefore we know He is drawing all men. He is drawing our children. Praise God! Let us be very careful that careless harsh words or hasty actions do not discourage them and thus keep them from being thirsty for God. Jesus said, when we do it to the least one we have done it unto Him. So as we honor our children and others, we are honoring Christ.

Like A Tree

(Continued from page 3.)

The round, pretty fruit of the pomegranate tree was sewn at the bottom edge of the ephod which was the holy shawl worn by the high priest when he burned incense to the Lord in the most holy place. The blue, purple and scarlet pomegranates were alternated by pure gold bells that jingled. On the hem of the ephod, there was a pomegranate, bell, pomegranate, bell and so forth. (Exodus 28:31-35.)

The cedars of Lebanon were valuable trees for building. Solomon had carpenters use cedar, fir and algum trees from Lebanon to build the first temple to the Lord. (II Chronicles 2:8.) Young willow boughs were used in basket weaving and the palm branches made rooftops on roadside booths. The lovely myrtle trees were cherished for their sweet flowers.

The Lord wanted His people to be good stewards over the many kinds of trees He had created; however, He did not want any tree or trees planted near a holy altar used for sacrifices unto Him. In Deuteronomy 16:21-22, the Lord commanded: "Thou shalt not plant thee a grove of any trees near unto the altar of the LORD thy God, which thou shalt make thee. Neither shalt thou set thee up *any* image; which the LORD thy God hateth."

God did not want the Israelites to follow the evil practices of the Canaanites who planted groves or groups of certain trees on hilltops where they had built an altar to a false god. In these groves, the Canaanites did all manner of immoral acts among themselves which was an abomination to the Lord. (Deuteronomy 7:5; 12:3.) Also, God's chosen people were to put away and destroy any wooden idols, even those overlaid with gold or silver.

In Jeremiah 10:2-4, we learn how God does not want one particular tree cut down and revered as special. Think about how people lift up a Christmas tree and even sing to it, when you read this passage of scripture. "Thus saith the LORD, Learn not the way of the heathen, and be not dismayed at the signs of heaven; for the heathen are dismayed at them. For the customs of the people are vain: for one cutteth a tree out of the forest, the work of the hands of the workman, with the axe. They deck it with silver and with gold; they fasten it with nails and with hammers, that it move not." It is vain to

reverence a tree and lay gifts around it, for the wise men brought gifts to baby Jesus who was God's gift of redemption to sinful mankind. Honor and respect belong to Jesus during the celebration of His birth.

The trees of the earth speak about our great Creator. A song in our *Evening Light Songs* book, #40, is taken from Psalm 148 where it speaks of praising the Lord from the earth, mountains, and all hills, fruitful trees, and all cedars, beasts and all cattle. The beauty of nature praises the Lord Who made each thing special and unique.

From Isaiah 55:12-13 we have a song of praise about the trees clapping their hands with joy. Now, we know that trees do not have hands, but when the wind blows through their branches, often the branches will clatter together and the sound could be called "clapping." When reading this passage of Scripture, one can sense the joy because the sinful thorn shall become a productive fir tree and the wicked brier shall become a fragrant myrtle tree. When a sinner comes to know Jesus Christ as a personal Savior and Friend, the corrupt seed of Adam dies and a life of righteousness and joy springs forth. Let us clap for joy with the trees!

SPIRITUAL TREES AND SHADOWS

In the Garden of Eden, God created two special trees that have not been reproduced. However, one fruit from one of the trees has affected every person born on this earth. This was the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Concerning this tree, God told Adam and Eve: "But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die." Genesis 2:17. In time, Eve was tempted by satan, being in the form of a serpent, to eat from this fruit. She gave Adam some also, and they both knew they had sinned or disobeyed God. The Bible has never named what kind of fruit this was—probably because there never has been another tree or fruit like it.

After God punished Adam, Eve and the serpent for their disobedience, He sent them out of the Garden of Eden. Genesis 3:24 states: "So he drove out the man; and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden Cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life." Disobeying God had put the

curse of death on all mankind so that Adam and Eve could no longer have access to the tree of life whose fruit would cause them to live forever.

Some things have been compared to the value of the tree of life. One reference is in Proverbs 3:18. This passage is talking about wisdom and verse eighteen says: "She (wisdom) is a tree of life to them that lay hold upon her: and happy is *every one* that retaineth her." The beginning of wisdom is the fear of God and keeping this wisdom will lead a person to eternal life. Also, "The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life; and he that winneth souls is wise." Proverbs 11:30. The Lord wants us to produce righteous fruit and bring others to Him.

A Messianic prophecy in Ezekiel 17:22-24 compares the coming Messiah to a "goodly cedar." Verse 23 states: "In the mountain of the height of Israel will I plant it: and it shall bring forth boughs, and bear fruit, and be a goodly cedar: and under it shall dwell all fowl of every wing; in the shadow of the branches thereof shall they dwell." An explanation of this scripture in *Adam Clarke's Commentary of the Holy Bible* reads: "*In the mountain of the height of Israel. He (the Messiah) shall make His appearance at the temple, and found His Church at Jerusalem. Shall bring forth boughs. Apostles, evangelists, and their successors in the gospel ministry. And bear fruit. Multitudes of souls shall be converted by their preaching. And under it shall dwell all fowl of every wing. All the nations of the earth shall receive His gospel. In the shadow of the branches thereof shall they dwell. Trust in Him alone for salvation and be saved in their trusting.*"

This beautiful prophecy branches out to us today. The gospel of Jesus Christ has been preached and is being preached in our nation today. Those who believe on Jesus, ask forgiveness of their sins and convert or change their lives to be Christ-like shall rest under the shadow of this "goodly Cedar," Jesus Christ. During these last days of the Evening Light era, it is blessed to trust in Jesus and find security in His promises.

Zechariah calls the coming Messiah, "The BRANCH." "...Behold the man whose name is The BRANCH; and he shall grow up out of his place, and he shall build the temple of the LORD:...and he shall bear the glory, and shall sit and rule upon his throne; and he shall be a **priest upon his throne: and the counsel of peace**

shall be between them both. Zechariah 6:12-13. Another descriptive prophecy about Jesus is in Isaiah 11:1-10. "And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots: And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him,..." Take time to read these inspiring passages about Jesus Christ. Isaiah and Zechariah refer to the Messiah as a Rod, Root and Branch—all parts of a tree.

TREES IN PARABLES

Jesus said in John 15:1-4 that, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman. Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every *branch* that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit....Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me." Fruit vines are not stout and straight like trees, but their branches produce valuable fruit when they are connected to the main vine.

Have you ever seen a dry tree branch hanging down from a green tree? Perhaps the wind blew too strongly and tore the branch from the tree. Once the branch is torn off, decay sets in and the branch becomes weak and brittle. The leaves dry up and any fruit hanging on the branch will fall off. The branch does not grow any more leaves or fruit but it wastes away, useless. Jesus used this comparison to show how a person who lets go of salvation becomes dead to Truth. The spiritual life of the person decays and soon the conscience wastes away. The fruits of the Spirit are not there and the soul shrivels up for lack of nourishment from the true stem and root of Jesse, Jesus Christ. (Isaiah 11:10.)

However, the branches that abide in Jesus and obey His Word grow and prosper. These spiritual branches produce much fruit because they are disciplined and corrected in love. They do not want to lose the connection with Jesus that gives strength in time of trouble or trial. So they pray without ceasing and sing praises to the Lord in their hearts. (1 Thessalonians 5:17; Ephesians 5:19.) They know and obey His voice because they love Him. (John 10:4.)

It is very important that the growing branches stay in touch with the Lord that they be not deceived by the false prophets. Jesus explained that false prophets are known by the fruits or lives that they live. He tells this in parable form

in Matthew 7:15-20. "Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravaging wolves. Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles? Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them."

This parable of fruits warns us about two evil ways. One is that we should not listen to or follow a leader who claims to know Jesus but does not have the love of Christ, His humility, His peace, His patience, His longsuffering, etc. Do not follow a hypocritical leader because you will stray away and become like him instead of like Christ.

The other evil way is when a person thinks within himself that he can produce good fruit and so he never comes to Jesus for salvation and a change of heart. This person may believe that man is naturally good if he is "put in the right environment." Many new age psychologists and professing atheists think this way. These false prophets appear "wise" and often thoughtful or kind, but their teachings are corrupt. Their philosophies may treat problems for awhile, yet they never change the heart of a person.

When Jesus died upon a tree with the sins of the world upon His shoulders, He opened the only way for mankind to be redeemed to God, healed both soul and body, and able to live righteously. In I Peter 2:24 we read, "Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed."

The transgressions of sinful man can be cleansed when a repentant heart believes in the cleansing blood that flowed down that old wooden cross Jesus hung upon. Though Jesus was cursed that day in hanging on a tree, He arose a victor over sin and death. (Galatians 3:13.)

Victory over sin is for us when we have faith as a grain of mustard seed. Jesus talked about this tiny seed. (Matthew 17:20.) He said if we have faith like a grain of mustard seed, we can say to a mountain "...Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove;..." He wants us to

know that our faith in Him will remove any obstacles that could hinder us from making Heaven.

The mustard seed is also compared to the kingdom of God. "And he said, Whereunto shall we liken the kingdom of God? or with what comparison shall we compare it? *It is like a grain of mustard seed, which, when it is sown in the earth, is less than all the seeds that be in the earth: But when it is sown, it groweth up, and becometh greater than all herbs, and shooteth out great branches; so that the fowls of the air may lodge under the shadow of it.*" Mark 4:30-32.

Thank the Lord for planting, watering, purging, nourishing and multiplying His kingdom into every nation. The fruit from every branch is valuable and needed. Those in God's kingdom who have gone on before are now enjoying the beauties of Heaven. The apostle John wrote a description of God's heavenly kingdom in Revelation 22:1-2. "And he showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb. In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, *was there the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.*" There is no evil fruit from troubles, sorrows, disappointments, etc. for the tree of life heals perfectly. What a wonderful place to live!

Let us feast on the fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22.) and remain faithful to the Lord. Like a tree planted by the rivers of water, let us not move from the truth that we know. (Psalm 1:3.)



Take Advantage of Your Disadvantage

As a young Christian, God used a godly minister to be a very real inspiration and encouragement to my spiritual development.

One day he related the following incident that I have had occasion to remember many times through the years that followed in my life and work for the Lord.

There was a man and family who had purchased an English home and garden. In the center of the garden was a huge boulder. It was an ugly rock that spoiled the beauty of his otherwise lovely garden. He tried to think of the best means of having it removed. It was too

heavy to have it dug out, so he secured some dynamite and tried to blast off at least a corner of it. But all he succeeded in doing was to break all the windows on that side of the house and the great boulder was still there. He finally sought the advice of experts regarding the removal of the huge rock but no one seemed to have any practical solution to his problem.

He did some serious thinking about it and finally decided if he could not remove it he would beautify it. He worked with it diligently, adding smaller rocks here and there until it was somewhat symmetrical. He added some soil and planted vines and flowers. He was so successful with his venture that it became a beauty spot. Thus he was able to transform the ugly boulder into a thing of beauty that it caused his home to be the most distinguished in the community.

God can help us take advantage of the disadvantage in our lives.

Many of us are familiar with the seeming handicap that came into the life of Fanny Crosby. She became blind at six weeks of age. As a young child she had seasons of great despondency about her handicap. But, then, it seemed as though a voice from Heaven spoke to her and said, "I can use you." This brought great encouragement to her.

When she was eight years old she wrote a little rhyme something like this:

*Oh, what a happy child I am, although I cannot see.
I am resolved that in this world contented I will be.
How many blessings I enjoy that other people don't,
So weep or sigh because I'm blind, I cannot and I won't.*

Near the end of her life's journey she was asked how many hymns she had written. She replied she had not counted them all but it was over 5000!

If she had not been blind she likely would not have written some of the hymns that have been so meaningful and precious to all of us, such as—"Rescue the Perishing." "I am Thine, O Lord" or "Safe in the Arms of Jesus."

What had been, as it were, a great boulder in her life became a talent of beauty and spiritual strength that has blessed, and continues to bless, millions around the world.

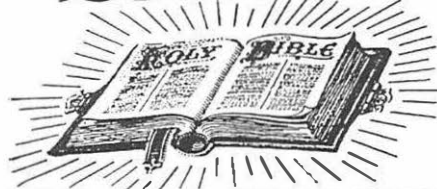
Most of us have some sort of boulder in our lives. If God, our heavenly Father, does not see fit to remove it, let us ask Him for grace, love, patience, and wisdom to beautify it and thus bring great honor and glory to His name.

—Selected

A SUDDEN AWAKENING

The writer some years ago held a revival in the city of Pittsburg, Pa. The Lord was in the meeting in a wonderful way, and deep conviction rested upon the congregation, and souls were being saved at nearly every service. One night about two o'clock, the parents in a certain home heard their twelve-year-old boy sobbing and crying as though his little heart would break. Hurriedly they arose and inquired the meaning of his crying. Thinking that perhaps he was dreaming, or had the earache or some other childish ailment, they forcibly raised him up in bed. In answer to their questions, and between sobs, he said, "If what Mr. Anderson said last night is true, I have sinned against Jesus, my best friend. He told us last night that the One we needed most of all at death we should make our friend in life. Oh papa, pray for me! Mama, pray for me!" and the little boy covered his face and wept aloud. The father and mother were unsaved, hence could not pray a prayer of faith for their troubled boy.

Bible Lessons



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

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My soul has entered into rest
And ceased from selfish strain,
Believing that my Lord knows best:
My frets and fears are vain.

Though oft perplexed of what to do
In all life's toil and tear,
My loving Lord will see me through
And make my pathway clear.

E'er since I started out for Him
He's faithful been and true
To help me through life's shadows dim
To find a pathway through.

He cares for me, He's watching o'er,
He knows the way I take:
Why should I worry or deplore?
He maketh no mistake.

I do not push or pull or shove,
Nor press and make demands;
I know that me He's thinking of
And all is in His hands.

I know that neither life nor death
Can separate from me
The One Who gives me life and breath
And loves me tenderly.

I rest in faith, in hope, in trust:
My God, He is at hand;
I know He'll guide this life of dust
Unto that better land.

O weary soul! this holy rest
Is waiting now for thee:
Why be so strained and so distressed
When Christ can set you free?

Take up His yoke; accept His cross;
Die to this world of care;
Count all but His as worthless loss,
His holy rest to share!

—Bro. Leslie Busbee

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