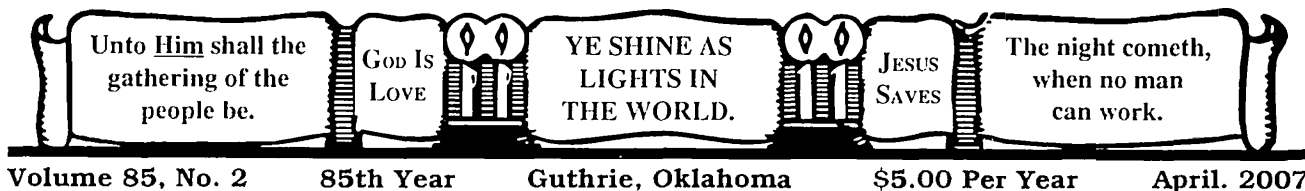


FAITH AND VICTORY

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Church of God Servant



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ONENESS

By Sis. Dena Porter

"Can two walk together, except they be agreed?" Amos 3:3. What about three? Or six? Or 20? How would that be, trying to get along? Several people trying to work together with oneness. Oneness is, "The quality or state or fact of being one. Singleness; unity."

Do you like living in a home where there is no unity? What about at work? Does that grind on you? Or in a congregation? Is it peaceful there? We live in a stressful environment and much of it is because of a lack of unity. *Unity* is: "The quality or state of not being multiple. Oneness. A condition of harmony."

I dare say that all of us love unity. Harmony between us and others brings peace. The opposite brings strife, jealousy, heartache, and a lot of stress to our weary mind.

Psalm 133:1-3 says, "Behold, how good and how pleasant *it is* for brethren to dwell together in unity! *It is* like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, *even* Aaron's beard: that went down to the skirts of his garments; As the dew of Hermon, *and as the dew* that descended upon the mountains of Zion: for there the LORD commanded the blessing, *even* life for evermore."

"On the other hand, disunion is bad and hateful. The former is from heaven, the latter from hell."—Adam Clarke.

The holy anointing oil was a sweet cinnamon and the odor of this must have been very agreeable. This metaphor illustrates the exquisite excellence of brotherly love. It was poured on the head and ran down to reach every limb. The dew of Hermon was so copious it was as if it rained all night. Where this blessed unity exists the Lord pours out His blessings and gives a long and happy life, even everlasting life.

Look again at that first verse. "How good and how pleasant." Surely it is a rare and wonderful testimony to have, that the brethren "dwell together in unity." What can be more precious than unity in the home, on the job and in the congregation? If there is oneness, the devil has no place to work. Ephesians 4:27 says, "Neither give place to the devil."

Let's look at Ephesians 4:1-13. We will just hit the highlights of these verses, but study them in detail. "...Walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called." We are called to be

Contents	
Oneness	1
Fatal Flaws—An Awful Dream	3
Editorials	4
Prayer Requests	6
Meeting Dates and Notices	7
Letters from the Readers	9
Needy Children	10
Living Water	11
Faith: Answers and Results	15
I Will Praise Him	16
Answered Prayers	16

saints. That is a high calling and a worthy vocation. But, do we deserve to be called saints? Does the world and the congregation see us as a saint?

"With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love; Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace." We cannot have unity if we are not lowly and meek. We must be willing to suffer long and be merciful with each other. Jesus is our example, and He said, "...for I am meek and lowly in heart:..."

"There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; One Lord, one faith, one baptism, One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all." **One**, not multiple choices. If we want to go to Heaven, there is **one** way to get there. We must come God's way. Lay our ideas down. If there is friction in the home, job or congregation, be meek and humble. Seek forgiveness. There is only **one** Church—not a lot of factions going to Heaven. In verse seven the writer says, "But unto every one of us is given grace..." Grace for what? To get along. To be **one**.

Verse 11 shows God's plan for the Church, "And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers." And He expects them to "dwell together in unity." It is possible to be in oneness.

Now to sum this portion of Scripture, the writer tells us why God "...set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him." "For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ."

In Jesus' prayer recorded in John 17:11, 21-22, He prays to His and Our Father, "...Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are." And again "That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me. And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one:" Jesus knew that through the years of time there was the need of being One. One in our ambitions to serve the Lord with nothing between us that could separate us. If there is no unity, the world

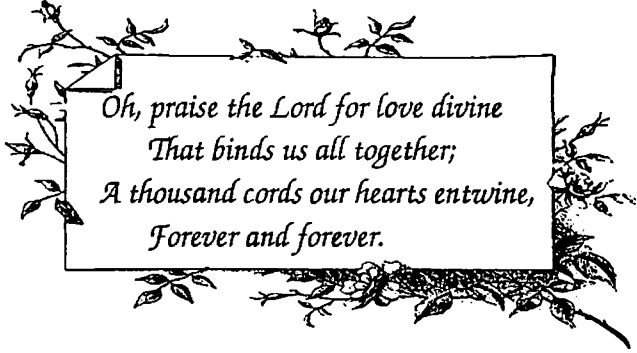
gets a warped picture of salvation and sees the people as hypocrites.

Galatians 3:28 says, "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus." I believe that is what Jesus would tell each of us today if He walked in our midst and saw schisms, rifts and divisions.

How do we bring about a oneness, unity and harmony? On our knees, in humility to one another, forgiving one another as Christ has forgiven us. 1 Peter 5:5-6 tells us, "...Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble. Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time." No big "I's" and little "U's". We are to be completely covered with humility. Not a false humility, but genuine, heart-felt humility. Not like the parent that tells the child to say "I'm sorry," and he says, "I'm sorry," but only because he had to say it. Forgiveness must be sought with real contrition, and the other party must be just as contrite in accepting the apology. We don't want to be "resisted by God," but we want His grace.

Matthew 5:23-24 tells us, "Therefore if thou bring thy gift to the altar, and there rememberest that thy brother hath ought against thee; Leave there thy gift before the altar, and go thy way; first be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift." We have a duty to keep ourselves clear with one another. Only then can there be oneness, unity and harmony.

Continue to study this subject. What does the Bible say about divisions and schisms? Also, look at the words of the songs in our *Evening Light Songs* hymnal. #9, "The Bond Of Perfectness;" #230, "One In Christ" and #509, "We Need Each Other, Brethren." There are many more songs that point us to God's beautiful plan of unity.



Oh, praise the Lord for love divine
That binds us all together;
A thousand cords our hearts entwine,
Forever and forever.

FATAL FLAWS

The law of heredity and environment are the two master forces in the organic world. The transmission from parent to child of physical, intellectual, and moral likenesses, or characteristics, has been believed in for centuries; but only of late has the subject been understood and so methodized as to embody any substantial benefit to students who would seek to uplift the human race. It has been proved beyond successful refutation, that children may inherit moral defects from their parents as well as those of a physical nature. Without going into a scientific analysis of the subject, we wish to give a few examples of the awful effects of the law of heredity upon certain individuals, which we trust will cause parents to stop and think seriously before they give consent to acts against their nature which may produce fatal flaws in their offspring.

An Awful Dream

Two boys were born of drunken parents and they both inherited the appetite for strong drink. Both became drunkards, for they could not control that awful thirst for intoxicants. After a few years, one of the brothers came in touch with better influences and finally was led to Christ, and the power of sin was broken. He became a free man, and was called of God to preach the gospel of freedom from every form of habitual and besetting sin. The other one, however, continued on and, finally, dissipated and broken in spirit, was lying upon his death-bed. Kind friends immediately sent for his brother who was a minister, and he arrived the night before the poor man's death. The brother minister, in relating what occurred that night, said that after giving up all hopes of his brother's getting saved, being tired, he relaxed and tried to rest in an easy chair.

It was about two o'clock, and all was still except for the occasional barking of the watchdog or the hoot of the great horned owl, wafting its love-song to its mate. He dropped asleep, and in a dream he saw in the distance a procession of dark-looking objects, which, when they drew nearer, were found to be devils. He watched their maneuvers, and they circled, like a lot of buzzards, over the house where his brother lay

dying. By and by they stopped and appeared to hold a consultation. One of them approached the house, and then returned and made some kind of a report. The minister dreamed that he watched his brother die and saw his soul slowly come out of the body of clay and, seemingly fearing danger, go outside and hide in a coal-shed. Suddenly the devils waiting in the air above swooped down and surrounded the house. One of them came into the bedroom and, finding the spirit of the man departed, went out and gave the signal to the rest to be on the watch as evidently the soul of the man was hiding somewhere near by. All started hunting for his poor brother's soul. Soon one devil scented the soul in the coal-shed. The poor soul, finding itself discovered, took to flight with a thousand devils in swift pursuit. He saw them slowly disappearing, when suddenly the nearest devil pounced upon his brother's soul. As it sank its talons deep, the soul uttered a piercing shriek, and they all sank into a darkness that was blacker than midnight.

The dream was so real that it awakened the sleeper, and he jumped from his chair. The lamp had gone out and the room was in darkness. Procuring another light, he found his brother lying dead, with mouth and eyes wide open and a look of awful agony upon his face. It is hard to convince the minister that what he saw was a dream, and he still believes that actual devils came for his poor lost brother's soul. I believe it was only a dream; but since the Bible teaches that angels of Heaven carry the souls of our departing loved ones who die saved, it is only fair to conclude that devils come to claim their own to carry them away into the darkness of that bottomless pit. Language, however, would be inadequate to describe the anguish and awful feelings of remorse of a man in his dying hour who, by reason of willful rejection or careless neglect, closes his earthly life in sin and rebellion against the throne of God. Reader, if you were to die tonight, where would you go and by what kind of angels would you be carried away? Think over this matter seriously, and if not prepared for such an eventuality, begin *now* to prepare to meet thy God. The Lord never turned a deaf ear to a cry for mercy. Call upon Him today and be saved. Do not wait, for tomorrow may never come. —J. Grant Anderson

Taken from *Problems of Eternal Moment*.

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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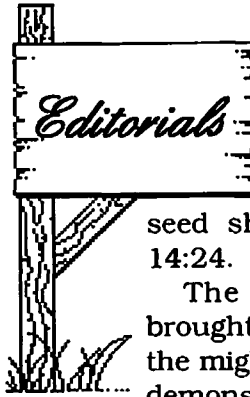
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"But my servant Caleb, because he had another spirit with him, and hath followed me fully, him will I bring into the land whereinto he went; and his seed shall possess it." Numbers 14:24.

The children of Israel were brought out of Egyptian bondage by the mighty hand of the Lord. Many demonstrations of His wonderful power accompanied them on their journey to the border of the land that was promised to their father, Abraham. Ahead of them lay a fertile land that was described as "flowing with milk and honey" and it was the intention of the Lord to give them this desirable country as an inheritance. However, when the people who were being led by Moses encountered difficult times, they began to complain. This unseemly behavior became a habit that illustrated their unbelief in God and deeply grieved His heart. Time after time He came to their rescue and gave them water, manna, meat and deliverance from their enemies, yet, their pattern of unbelief continued in spite of His tender mercies. He reproved them and gave them His Law that they might know how to please Him, but their hearts were not willing to follow Him fully. When the twelve spies returned from the Canaan land and reported the giants that inhabited it, the hearts of the people were gripped with fear and they balked at the leadings of the Lord. They were so filled with unbelief that they wanted to stone Joshua and Caleb who encouraged them not to be fearful of the inhabitants for the Lord was with His people. Because of their unwillingness to trust the Lord they were left to wander in the wilderness for forty years until the older people all died except for Joshua and Caleb.

This brings us to an important question to consider. If one will not fully follow the Lord then how will they be able to inherit His promises? In Hebrews 4:9 it says, "There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God." To enter into this promised rest, people will need to closely follow Him and not draw back in unbelief when obstructions and hindrances beset them. When those around us are complaining and giving vent to their faithless state of mind then we may be influenced to fall into the same condition and displease the Lord. In these times of temptation

let us remember how Caleb “had another spirit with him” and likewise resist the cloud of darkness that would hide from our memory the faithfulness of God.

One can only follow the Lord fully by serving Him with their whole heart each day. Obtaining victory in our daily trials has greater significance than we may realize, for they prepare us for what is ahead. Had the children of Israel made it a daily practice of trusting God in the smaller issues of life, they would not have failed when the time finally arrived to enter the land of Canaan.

It is not hard for others to tell when one is following the Lord with all of their heart. Such a person has made their own interests secondary to His will and those things that are sinful are totally laid aside. Their experience with Him is not up one day and down the next, but their resolve to serve Him is steady. I Corinthians 15:58 encourages God’s people to be “steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord.” The writer then gives the encouragement that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.

It is impossible to follow the Lord without knowing His will. Therefore it requires an effort on our part to seek His will. That knowledge comes from reading, studying and meditating upon His Word, paying attention to the messages that He gives His ministry and sensitively listening to the still small voice of His precious Holy Spirit.

Discerning the voice of the Shepherd is also essential. There are many voices today that are saying, “Lo, here,” or “Lo, there,” and they are making grand promises of sublime pleasure, eternal security, physical health, financial prosperity or earthly renown. When these voices are examined in the light of God’s Word it becomes clear that they do not emanate from the Chief Shepherd. They are false, deceptive voices that must be cleared from our minds for they lead to destruction and bondage.

Once we know the voice of the Master, there is another important step to take. That giant step is being willing to obey. The enemy of our soul will present an array of excuses for not being obedient. He will tell us “The way is too hard,” “An easier path is just as good,” “Others are not doing it,” “The Lord is too loving to require that,” “You deserve better than this,” “It is not worth the effort,” “It is going to hurt too

much,” “You are going to fail anyway”—anything to keep us from obeying. Isaiah 1:19 says, “If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land.” Satan knows that if we are not obedient we will miss out on the blessings, and he has devoted himself to causing us to disobey. Dear reader, resist these voices! They will destroy you. Summon all of your energy, will power and determination, and take that giant step of obedience. God will meet you in mid-stride and usher you to glorious victory.

Our heavenly Father desires to build a beautiful, holy temple in your heart, and fill it with the sacred treasures deposited by the Holy Spirit. This gorgeous dwelling place of the Most High must be built exactly to His specifications in order to accommodate His glory. By yielding ourselves completely into the Master’s hands this miraculous transformation can take place and be a showpiece of Divine glory. When David was gathering things to build the temple at Jerusalem he said in I Chronicles 29:2, “Now I have prepared with all my might for the house of my God...” and in the ninth verse it spoke of the people saying, “Then the people rejoiced, for that they offered willingly, because with perfect heart they offered willingly to the LORD: and David the king also rejoiced with great joy.” Those who fully give themselves to create in their hearts the holy temple of the Lord will likewise rejoice with great joy, for a priceless creation has been wrought. “How wonderful that he would take This poor abode of sin, And wash me in his precious blood, And now abide within!”

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We appreciate the mercies of the Lord enabling us to print another edition of the *Beautiful Way* papers and the *Bible Lessons* adult and young people’s quarterly. They were mailed March 13 and 15. During the printing of the *Bible Lessons*, a weld came loose on a part of the press that had been previously repaired. While the press lost some minor functions, the Lord helped the part to stay together long enough for our pressman, Bro. Lyndall Sorrell, to finish the printing. We thank the Lord for His goodness. Since that time a new part has been machined that we believe exceeds the original in strength.

The lessons in this quarterly are taken from the book of Hebrews and the titles are: God Speaks to Mankind Through His Son; All Things Put Under Christ, But Not Yet; Jesus Christ,

The Faithful Son Over His Own House; Beware of an Evil Heart of Unbelief; Entering Into the Rest of Faith; Jesus Christ Our Great High Priest; Laying Hold on the Hope Set Before Us; Jesus Christ Our High Priest Forever; Christ Entering Into the Holy of Holies; Jesus Makes One Sacrifice for Sins Forever; Faith and Patience to Inherit the Promise; What We Are Come To in Christ; and Bearing Christ's Re- proach for that City to Come.

The *Beautiful Way* children's papers and the *Bible Lessons* are available from this office for a yearly subscription of \$5.00 each. A single copy of the quarterly is available for \$1.50. You may place an order for them by calling us at 1-800-767-1479.

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Between March 18-21 we went to Enid, OK to take care of some work needed on the property that we own. Upon our return we discovered that our Macintosh computer had quit working. The computer was used for many of the varied duties in my office and this down time has caused us to fall behind in some of these tasks. We do thank the Lord that the hard drives were not injured and the data was not lost.

The symptoms seemed to indicate that the power supply was possibly the problem, but after replacing it the computer still would not operate. After talking to a technician we decided to purchase a replacement, a Power Mac G5.

We located a used one that had been returned from a company lease program and were able to purchase it at about half the price of a new one. There have been several issues to face regarding the compatibility of the advanced operating system the replacement computer uses and how it interfaces with the printer and programs that we have been using. However, the Lord has been good to us and these things have been, or are currently being resolved.

It is comforting to know that in the midst of the changes and trials of life our heavenly Father is watching over us, and in the good times, as well as the hard times, His grace is available to keep and sustain our soul. The song, *He Is With Me Still* has often been a source of strength and blessing. "...But whatever may betide, He is walking by my side...In the sunshine or the shadow, He is with me still." Thank the Lord for the love He has for His children!

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



WV—Remember Sis. Melba Powell in prayer, she fell and injured her leg earlier in the year and is still having trouble with it.

MO—Please pray for my burdens that God will lead, guide and help me leave them all in His hand. Christian love, —Sis. Nelva Stanley

SC—Please pray for me, my unsaved children and loved ones. I love the Lord and long to draw close to Him. Your Sister in Christ,

—Lillie J. Russell

WA—Remember Sis. Olene Rector in prayer. She is painfully afflicted with arthritis and has other physical needs. My niece, Rachelle Green has been very sick. Also please pray for me, I am having problems with my legs and have recently found out that I have diabetes.

—Sis. Claudia Jerome

OH—Rachael Ashby is in need of prayer, she has cancer. I desire prayer for a problem with my feet.

—Bro. Eugene Burford

Standing Prayer Requests

- Bro. Carlos Arriaga
Sis. Mamie Butcher
Sis. Gladys Cashio
Sis. Helen Carson
Sis. Waneta Creel
Sis. Dorall Forbes
Sis. Evelyn Fredrickson
Bro. Troy Gentry
Bro. Lee Hilton
Bro. Mark and Sis. Darlene Knight
Sis. Juliette Lounds
Sis. Melba Powell
Sis. Olene Rector
Sis. Anna Severs
Sis. Cheryl Smith
Bro. Michael Smith
Bro. Edward and Sis. Gloria Taylor
The Mitch Taylor family
Sis. Anneta Williamson
Sis. Lula Williamson

SPECIAL NOTICES

BUILDING PROJECT, NEOSHO, MO

The Saints of the Neosho congregation have been truly blessed by the donation of a plot of ground for the purpose of building a larger chapel. The Lord truly has been gracious to us and has seen our needs. Do pray with us that the old chapel will be sold and the means provided to build the new one. We know God is able to supply all our needs.

Do pray with us, and if the Lord lays it on your heart to help manually or with a donation, we would give God all the glory. Our pastor is Bro. Ed Wilson; Bro. Mike Hightower, chairman of the board of trustees, (417) 451-3636 and Bro. Paul Cole, treasurer, 14190 Newt Dr., Neosho, MO 64850. —Sis. Esther Hightower

FOUR CORNERS (BLUEJACKET, OK) ALL-DAY MEETING

The congregation at Four Corners (Bluejacket, OK) would like to announce All-Day Meetings on the second Sunday of each month. We extend to each one a special invitation. How wonderful it is to be with the Family of God and worship the Lord together. It would be such a blessing to us to have visitors!

Sunday School starts at 10:00 a.m. with the regular service following. We will serve dinner and then begin our afternoon service around 2:00 p.m.

If anyone would like to come on Saturday and spend the night, our homes are open and waiting! Welcome! Just call Bro. Ivan Eck (620) 922-3327 or Bro. Randal Bradley (620) 226-3329 to make arrangements.

EFFECTIVE CHILD EVANGELISM, SAPULPA, OK

OK—Dear Saints: I would like for all those who have a heart to evangelize children to come together to learn and share more effective ways to teach them. I want to invite young people also and everyone who wants to be more involved in reaching children for the Lord in our camp meetings, our communities, Sunday School classes, and Bible schools.

The place will be the dining room at the Church of God Chapel in Sapulpa, OK from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Saturday, May 12. Please call (918) 247-4579 and let us know if you will be coming. Remember the worth of souls is great in the sight of God. —Sis. Tricia Bell

MEETING DATES

Wichita, KS (Spring Meeting)—April 15-22
Oklahoma City, OK (Revival Meeting)—April 25-29
Webb City, MO (Singing-Revival)—April 22-25
Sapulpa, OK (Child Evangelism)—May 12
Vanceburg, KY (Spring Meeting)—May 18-20
Oklahoma State (Guthrie)—May 25-June 3
Holly Hill, SC (Camp Meeting)—June 3-10
Tulsa, OK (Camp Meeting)—June 10-17
Green Bank, WV (Camp Meeting)—June 15-21
Jefferson, OR (Camp Meeting)—June 15-24
Alcoa, TN (Sisters' Retreat)—June 22-23
Fresno, CA (Camp Meeting)—July 1-8
National (Monark Springs, MO)—July 20-29
Myrtle, MO (Camp Meeting)—August 3-8

MEETING NOTICES

WICHITA, KS, SPRING MEETING

The Wichita Spring meeting for 2007 will be held April 15-22. We are putting it in God's hands and expecting Him to send ministers and workers as He so chooses. All are welcome and encouraged to attend if possible. We desire to see people saved, sanctified, edified and blessed. Some are in great need of healing, also. Please pray for the success of the meeting.

On Sundays, we will have 11:00 a.m., 2:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. services. Monday through Saturday, we will have 11:00 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. services. The chapel address is: 2500 N. Grove. If coming from the South on I-35, you take Exit 42 (for I-35 and 235). You follow past 24th St.; the chapel is the second building in that 2500 block.

If you need to contact someone, you may call Bro. Emmanuel Gracey at (316) 778-1848 or Bro. Theodore McCray at (316) 682-5132.

OKLAHOMA CITY, OK, REVIVAL MEETING

Lord willing, the 23rd Street Church of God, located at 5900 N.E. 23rd St, Oklahoma City, OK, plans to hold revival services April 25-29. Bro. Larry Abbott has a burden for the meeting. The services will begin nightly at 7:00 p.m. On April 29, Sunday School will begin at 9:45 a.m., Morning Worship at 10:45 a.m. and afternoon service at 2:00 p.m. Dinner will be served following the morning worship service.

All are invited to come be with us, and we look forward to the rich blessings of the Lord anointing the services and causing this to be a precious time of refreshing.

For further information contact Bro. Loren Busbee, (405) 478-3860 or Bro. Galen Kelly, (405) 424-8400. The chapel phone is (405) 427-1223.

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WEBB CITY, MO, SINGING

The congregation at Webb City would like to announce a singing on Saturday, April 21, at 7:00 p.m. We also plan to have a revival Sunday, April 22, until Wednesday, April 25. We are praying that the Lord will send the minister/ministers of His choosing. Services will be 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Sunday, and 7:00 p.m. Monday through Wednesday. Contact information is (417) 237-0010 home, (417) 793-6329 cell, or (417) 793-1700 cell, e-mail danandanita@earthlink.net

Please pray that the Lord will bless this effort for the good of the neighborhood and the congregation.

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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 Ruggles Campground in Tollesboro, KY. 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. RV and camper hook-ups will be available. For more information, contact Bro. or Sis. Dallas Cooper at (606) 796-3645 or (606) 202-1572 cell, or the chapel at (606) 796-0882 and leave a message. All are welcome.

—Vanceburg, KY congregation

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OKLAHOMA STATE CAMP MEETING

The annual Oklahoma State Camp Meeting of the Church of God will be held May 25-June 3, at the campground located east off of Sooner Road on Lake View Road. This is a little over four-tenths of a mile south of the intersection of South Division and Sooner Road.

As is customary, the first service will be held Friday evening, May 25, at 7:30, with three services daily thereafter. Early morning prayer services and youth meetings will be held as announced.

An invitation to attend is extended to everyone. Your presence will be appreciated. Provisions will be made for those attending.

The meeting will be operated by freewill offerings. If you would like to make a contribution, you may do so by sending it directly to the state treasurer, Sis. Brenda Wilkins, 1023 E. Prairie Grove Rd., Guthrie, OK 73044.

For further information, contact the pastor, Bro. Stanley Dickson, (405) 260-8822.

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HOLLY HILL, SC, CAMP MEETING

We give a cordial invitation to all to attend the 2007 Holly Hill, SC Camp Meeting beginning on Sunday, June 3rd, and continuing through Sunday, June 10th, Lord willing. All are welcome, and we will make accommodations for as many as possible. Anyone planning to attend who needs accommodations should contact Bro. Kevin and Sis. Cheryl Smith at (803) 492-7975 or Sis. Beverly Pratt at (803) 496-3057, so arrangements can be made. Please come, if you can, and if you cannot be here, please pray for God to bless our services.

In Christ's love,

—The Holly Hill, SC Congregation

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GREEN BANK, WV, CAMP MEETING

The annual Green Bank Camp Meeting is scheduled to begin on Friday evening, June 15 and continue through Thursday evening, June 21, Lord willing.

Services will be held daily at 11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. Two meals will be served daily, with breakfast at 9:00 a.m. and the noon meal immediately following morning service. There are no afternoon services scheduled.

All are welcome to attend this meeting. Dorm spaces are available for the young people, as well as rooms and private homes for others. Please bring your own bedding and towels. Come prepared for cool weather. You may want to bring a heater or fan as we have unpredictable weather in June. It would be good if you could call ahead so we can better arrange accommodations. Please provide as much of the following information as possible: name and phone number, date of arrival and departure, number of adults and children in party. However, if you decide to suddenly drop by, you will be welcome. Accommodations will be provided.

The campground is located off Route 28 and 92 in Arbovale. Signs will be posted to direct you to the grounds. Camper hook-ups are also available.

For further information, call Bro. Mike Carpenter at (304) 456-3250 or Bro. Jim White at (304) 456-4192.

Come praying that the Holy Spirit will have full reign in this meeting.

JEFFERSON, OR, CAMP MEETING

Everyone is invited to attend the annual camp meeting in Jefferson, OR. The meeting will start the Friday evening of June 15 and end on Sunday morning, June 24. Service times will be at 10:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m., and a 2:00 p.m. service on the first weekend and last Saturday. For accommodations or directions, you can reach Bro. Bob Wilson at (541) 327-3621 or Bro. Clifford Smith at (503) 581-4575. Your presence would be a great encouragement to the saints here in Oregon.

ALCOA, TN, SISTERS' RETREAT

The 2007 Sisters' Retreat will convene, Lord willing, June 22-23 at the Church of God Chapel located at 322 Lindsey Street, Alcoa, Tennessee 37701.

There will be two full days of sessions. The theme for this year is "Following Those Godly Recipes." The retreat will be supported by free-will offerings. All donations can be sent to the above address.

Accommodations will be provided; however, there are nearby hotels. Please pray that the Lord will have His way and bless this retreat.

For further information, please contact Sis. Mary McDonald (865) 977-6997 or Sis. Carrie Porter (865) 984-2348.



**LETTERS
 FROM
 OUR
 READERS**

KS—Dear Sister: We are happy to say we are saved and contented in the dear Lord Jesus. I sure love the Truth. God bless each one and I do hope all are well. Remember me in prayer.

In Jesus' love, —Sis. Gertrude Haven

 OK—Dear Bro. Willie & Sis. Neta: Greetings of Christian love in the name of Jesus, the One

that loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood. (Revelation 1:5.) I think of the scripture were Jesus said, "Say not ye, There are yet four months, and *then* cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest. And he that reapeth receiveth wages, and gathereth fruit unto life eternal: that both he that soweth and he that reapeth may rejoice together. And herein is that saying true, One soweth, and another reapeth. I sent you to reap that whereon ye bestowed no labour: other men laboured, and ye are entered into their labours." John 4:35-38

I began reading the *Faith and Victory* papers in the year 1941. Someone had it sent to my mother. Many of my loved ones have been blessed by reading it down through the years. Its contents have helped gather much fruit unto life eternal. Many of my loved ones that were blessed by reading it have already passed on to their reward, and many more are still being blessed by the same. I realize this is just one branch of the work of the true Church of God, but it is an effectual one. Christ is the head and as we humbly fill our little place we can be workers together with Him. (II Corinthians 6:1.)

I received much good from the last issue of the *Faith and Victory*. The article about "Nothing" was encouraging. Jesus said, "...for without me ye can do nothing." John 15:5. But with God, "...all things are possible." Mark 10:27. We can be made new creatures and be in the numbers that John was able to see in Revelation 7:9-17. There we will be able to offer the sacrifice of Praise to God forever. This will be fruit unto eternal life.

Your Brother in Christ, —T. V. McMillian

 MO—Dear Bro. Willie and Sis. Neta: We had a wonderful praise service Sunday morning. (3-18-07) The Spirit of the Lord was felt among us. There wasn't a sermon, but many sermons of praise. We just ran out of time for all to give their praise because the chapel was full.

I want to give my praise to the Lord and tell how the Lord wonderfully healed me at the Guthrie Assembly Meeting this past December. Often we see the saints go up to be anointed for healing but never hear the results. So, I don't want to keep this to myself.

When I was a child, six or seven, I fell on my head and sustained a bad concussion. Mother

and Daddy told me later that they thought they were going to lose me, but the Lord brought me out. When I was 15 years old, I started having many spells of numbness on one side or the other of my whole body. My thinking was numbed also and my vision was blurry. The spells would last around 15 minutes, more or less. I would be weak for awhile and have a headache. I asked a school nurse about it and she said it was from the concussion I had earlier in life. There were blood clots and when they broke, it would cause a mini stroke. During my early adult life I would have them just every once in a while. I became used to them and knew I would come out of it all right. But, as I became older, I seemed to have them more often—every week or two and sometimes twice a week. Also, it seemed to be affecting my memory more and more.

I voiced my fears to my daughter, Christi. She reminded me of how the Lord had healed me of many different things. She said, "It may seem after I have studied nursing and what the doctors can do that I would be weaker in faith, but I have seen their limitations and I know

what God can do. I have witnessed too many healings in our family and others to lose my faith in God." She told me she would pray for me and call her brothers to be praying and she wanted me to go to the Guthrie Assembly Meeting and be anointed and prayed for and she knew the Lord would heal me.

I had never thought of being anointed and prayed for, for this condition, but I felt I sure needed to go to the Assembly Meeting because of her faith. I had to get re-scheduled at work to be able to go. It all worked out. I went to be prayed for and explained to the ministers the situation and about Christi's faith, although she is in nursing school to be an RN. They laid hands on me and prayed. I felt like the Lord had heard and answered prayer. I wanted to wait so I would have evidence. Saints, it has been three months and I haven't had one spell since then. I feel well and my memory seems normal now. I do thank and praise my Lord for healing me of that condition. Oh, it is so precious to trust in Him. Saints, keep the faith!

Your sister in Christ, —Esther Hightower

Needy Children

By Sis. Charlotte Huskey

"...Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God." Mark 10:14.

As our plane lifted off the runway at the airport in Culiacan, Mexico, last November, I looked out over the city and wondered how many thousands of people living there did not know God's saving grace. The little church was full every night of the four-day meeting, but that was such a few in comparison to the city's inhabitants. I wiped tears as I thought of where they might spend eternity.

About 40 children attended daily. How eagerly they sang, and when the preaching started they hurried out to listen to their Bible Lesson. I knew there were hundreds more children in that area who were spiritually hungry. According to Child Evangelism Fellowship, three-fourths of the world's children are without knowledge of Christ, and the February 2002, Newsletter from World Vision said, "One-third of the world's population is younger than 15. They estimate that more than 80% of the world's young people, totaling 1.4 billion, are growing

up in non-Christian settings or non-Christian homes. Approximately 1 million children are estimated to work in the Asian sex trade." What heaviness; thousands may never hear about Jesus. We know that innocent children belong to God. However, I cannot imagine how sad life will be for some of them without having Jesus as their helper. Moreover, what will happen when they become accountable?

Nicolasa was raised in a non-Christian home. She knows it is important for children to understand the message of salvation. Although she teaches 41 second graders every day from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., when there is worship at the church she cheerfully takes the children up on the open air, second story of the chapel for a Bible lesson on their level. In addition, every Friday she and others from the congregation go to a suburb and have children's meeting in a vacant lot. Several children and one young man have been saved. The young man was baptized while we were there in November.

One time when I was in Sinaloa, I visited the tomato ranch with Sis. Minerva. We had to park

on the road beside the irrigation ditch and walk almost a mile into where the workers lived. On one side of a gray-water ditch were beautiful acres of *invernaderos*, (green houses) ultra modern, and perfect for producing strong healthy plants. On the other side of the ditch were rows and rows of long low cement buildings that housed the 2,000 plus migratory workers. In each 10ft.x15ft. stall lived one entire family. The stall was one room with a door and one porch the same size, nothing more. The sun beating on the tin roofs made the heat inside unbearable so the porch served as bedroom, kitchen and sitting room. There was a central bathhouse and a place to get water. Among this extreme poverty, bright-faced happy children came running to meet us. Sis. Minerva has been having service at this ranch for about four years with good success.

Each year workers return to their homes in other states and some never come back to Sinaloa, however they carry the truth with them. It is hard to imagine the kind of lives these children will live, but one thing we know; it will be easier with Jesus by their side. Although they know very little doctrine, they know to call on Jesus when they need help.

Before we arrived home from Culiacan, I promised by faith to send \$200.00 each month to Minerva. She is a widow who has two children at home. Her son works and she and the daughter sell in the flea market four days a week to add to his earnings for their living. Throughout the 15 years we have known Sis. Minerva she has consistently worked in bringing people to Christ. We are hoping this offering will help her have more time to teach others about Jesus.

Lionell Hunt in *Handbook of Children's Evangelism* said that 85% of all Christians are saved between the ages of 4-14. It is true that some who get saved will not remain faithful, however, remembering the blessing felt in childhood has caused many to come back to the Lord. A recent study by the Barna Research Group, showed "the probability for young people from ages 14-18 to be saved is 4%, while adults (ages 19 till death) is 6%." Therefore, it is very important to introduce children to Jesus, for few are saved at a later age.

Another report stated, "There were over 72 million children in the United States, including 23 million preschoolers and 48 million school age children." All these children belong to the

Lord while they are innocent, but the following report shows what is happening to children who are not saved in their tender years.

"Every Day in America, 180 children are arrested for violent crimes, 367 children are arrested for drug abuse, 1,328 babies are born to teen mothers, 4,248 children are arrested, 7,883 children are reported abused or neglected." This information was taken from the Children's Defense Fund, October 30, 2002. What shocking statistics—and it may be worse today. What are we doing to help stay the hand of these grim conditions? Are we helping children around our homes? They are God's little people.

Jesus said, "Take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones; for I say unto you, That in heaven their angels do always behold the face of my Father which is in heaven. For the Son of man is come to save that which was lost. How think ye? if a man have an hundred sheep, and one of them be gone astray, doth he not leave the ninety and nine, and goeth into the mountains, and seeketh that which is gone astray? And if so be that he find it, verily I say unto you, he rejoiceth more of that *sheep*, than of the ninety and nine which went not astray. Even so it is not the will of your Father which is in heaven, that one of these little ones should perish." Matthew 18:10-14. What are we doing about not letting "one of these little ones perish?" And are we teaching our sons and daughters their duty to the lost children?

Romans 14:7, 11 says, "For none of us liveth to himself, and no man dieth to himself....As I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God." Will there be some children who we could reach for Jesus that will not bow to Him until the Day of Judgment, when it is too late?

Do we believe that "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned." Mark 16:16. If so, what are we doing to help others believe in Him? Are we obeying Christ's last commandment "...Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature?"

Do not wait! Begin now to help the children around you. Sis. Vera Forbes evangelized children in the apartment complexes. She would stand at intersections where many children passed on their way home from school and gave

out portions of Scripture and character building stories, and then offered to have a Bible class in the children's yard or home. Soon she was having a Bible class once a week in each of five different neighborhoods. The Sunday school at Pacoima, California, where she attended doubled, then tripled in size and kept growing. The church bought a large bus in which to bring the many children to Sunday school.

I believe we could each one invite the neighbor children into our home and bless them with

our love and time while telling them about Jesus, and helping them to memorize Scripture. Eternity alone will manifest the good from these little efforts that we can do.

Daniel Webster said, "If we work upon marble, it will perish; if on brass, time will efface it; if we build temples, they will crumble into dust; but if we work upon immortal souls, and infuse them with principles, with the fear of God and love for others, we engrave on those tablets something that will brighten eternity."



LIVING WATER

By Sis. Connie Sorrell

The Importance of Natural Water

Water is essential to life as we know it on the earth. The simple compound of two hydrogen molecules combined with one oxygen molecule, H₂O, was created by God on the first day of creation. Every living thing—plants, animals and man—must have water to live.

In fact, every living thing has water in it. Your body is about two-thirds, or 65 percent water. A mouse is 65 percent water, too, and an elephant is about 70 percent water. An ear of corn is 70 percent water, a potato is 80 percent, and a tomato is 95 percent. So the list could go on and on, proving that God used water to create life for "All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made." John 1:3.

The Garden of Eden was located by the head of four rivers, which are listed in Genesis 2:11-14, as Pison, Gihon, Hiddekel, and Euphrates. Adam Clarke's Commentary states that today the Pison could have been the Phasis River flowing to the Black Sea and that the Gihon could be the Araxes River that flows into the Caspian Sea. Archeologists agree that the Hiddekel River is the Tigris River and the Euphrates River is called the same today.

The fertile ground between the Euphrates and Tigris Rivers is called the Cradle of Civilization. The city of Ur, which Abraham left behind, was near the Euphrates River. The Tower of Babel (Babylon) was near the Euphrates, and Nineveh, where Jonah went to preach, was by the Tigris River. All these cities are in the country of Iraq today.

Big cities were built by rivers for three major reasons: (1) water supply for mankind, domes-

tic animals and crops; (2) water transportation for boats and ships to trade with neighboring cities; (3) fish and other food products come from water. Large trading centers grew by oceans or seas, but the salty water of oceans cannot be used for crops or for drinking. People have found ways to desalinate ocean water, but processing adequate amounts for public use requires a lot of energy, which can be expensive.

For a supply of fresh water, mankind has depended on two major sources since the beginning of time. Already mentioned were rivers and lakes, but the second source is underground water veins.

Usually, underground water is pure because the soil makes a good filter. If surface water drains into a well, or if water passes through limestone without filtering properly, then the water may not be useable. In America, there are strict laws and regulations about sewage drains and cesspools to prevent contamination of fresh underground water.

Natural water is just as important to mankind today as it has been since the beginning of time. Scientists claim that we use the same water that was used thousands of years ago because water is recycled over and over again because of the atmosphere and gravity surrounding the Earth. Psalm 135:6-7 states it very well: "Whatsoever the LORD pleased, *that* did he in heaven, and in earth, in the seas, and all deep places. He causeth the vapours to ascend from the ends of the earth; he maketh lightnings for the rain; he bringeth the wind out of his treasuries." Let us praise the Lord for His wisdom in creating the cycle of water for without it we would not have physical life.

Important Biblical Wells and Waters

Today's Dictionary of the Bible states that water is the most frequently mentioned natural resource in the Bible. Important meetings were made at well sites. Abraham's servant met Isaac's wife-to-be near a well and asked for a drink. Rebekah then watered his camels and found favor with Abraham's servant, with Isaac and with God. (Genesis 24:10-28.)

Later, Isaac had his servants dig out wells that had been his father's wells. Two times the Philistines claimed his wells, and Isaac peacefully gave them to the Philistines. The third well they dug, the Philistines left them alone. Realizing that Isaac was a blessed man of God, the Philistine leader, Abimelech, came to Isaac and wanted to make an oath of peace between them. Isaac had a feast prepared for his enemies near the third well, which they had not taken. (Genesis 26:18-33.)

When Jacob fled from his brother's anger, he went toward Haran which was 400 some miles northeast of Canaan. Tired from his journey, Jacob was visiting with some herdsmen near a well when a lovely young woman came to water her father's sheep at the well. When Jacob heard that she was his uncle's daughter, he quickly rolled the heavy stone from the top of the well, and let her water the sheep. Jacob fell in love with Rachel and she must have liked him for she ran to tell her father, Aunt Rebekah's son needed a place to stay. Thus began a love story told down through hundreds of generations and it all began at a well of water. (Genesis 29:1-14.)

Reading the life of Moses, we learn that he met his wife-to-be at a well. After fleeing from Egypt, Moses was near a well in Midian when seven young women came to water their father's sheep. Rude herdsmen drove the girls away, but Moses defended them and helped them water their flocks. Arriving home early, they told their father that a young Egyptian had helped them at the well. Moses was then invited to stay at Reuel's tent, and in time Zipporah, one of his daughters, became the wife of Moses. (Exodus 2:15-22.)

One time when the town of Bethlehem was captured and controlled by the Philistines, David and his men were camped in the caves of the hills nearby. "And David longed, and said, Oh that one would give me drink of the water of the well of Bethlehem, which is by the gate! And the three mighty men brake through the host of the Philistines, and drew water out of the well of

Bethlehem, that was by the gate, and took it, and brought it to David: nevertheless he would not drink thereof, but poured it out unto the LORD. And he said, Be it far from me, O LORD, that I should do this: is not this the blood of the men that went in jeopardy of their lives? therefore he would not drink it...." II Samuel 23:15-17.

The well of Bethlehem and Jacob's well are still important land marks today, and still have water in them. Jacob's well is about 75 feet deep and widens as it goes down into the soft limestone base. Through A.D. centuries, monuments and chapels have been built and destroyed over these wells so that archeologists can't find the original circular stone tops. The opening of Jacob's well is now about fifteen steps below the surface of the earth, but the structured shaft is still intact. (*The New International Dictionary of Biblical Archaeology*)

It was at Jacob's well that Jesus met the woman of Samaria and asked for a drink (John 4:1-26) Remember what she said to Jesus when he told her he would give her a drink? "The woman saith unto him, Sir, thou hast nothing to draw with, and the well is deep: from whence then hast thou that living water? Art thou greater than our father Jacob, which gave us the well, and drank thereof himself, and his children, and his cattle?" From this passage we know that the well is ancient, still in service, and very deep. The refreshing water from this well was part of the blessing inherited with the land given to the children of Israel. Though modern technology has improved the methods for digging wells and the way they are used, they continue to be very important to the survival of life in Israel today.

Spiritual Water

When Jacob was fleeing from Esau, he laid down one night using a stone for his pillow. He had a dream about angels ascending and descending on a ladder suspended between Heaven and earth. God spoke to him and blessed him and his promised descendants. It was such an encouragement to Jacob that after he woke up, he took his pillow stone, made it an altar, and poured oil on it. Around 20 years later, Jacob with his family visited this same place he had named Bethel. Again God renewed his covenant with Jacob, changing his name to Israel. "And Jacob set up a pillar in the place where he talked with him, even a pillar of stone: and he poured

a drink offering thereon, and he poured oil thereon." Genesis 35:14. It does not say specifically what the drink offering was, but *Adam Clarke's Commentary* states that it was water, a precious economy in the wilderness. Later, Moses instituted the drink offering as wine, the fruit of the vine. (Exodus 29:40; Leviticus 23:13.) As mentioned previously, King David poured out a drink offering of water to the Lord like his forefather, Israel.

This was a shadow of the living water that Jesus spoke about to the woman at Jacob's well. Jesus was soon to give His body as an offering for sin. On the cross, when the soldier pierced the side of Jesus, blood and water poured out. (John 19:34.) This signified two facts: That the physical body of Jesus was dead; and that spiritually "Out of his belly flowed rivers of living water." (John. 7:37-39.) Through this flow of blood and water comes the cleansing from sin to everyone who believes and purifies his heart. It was prophesied by Ezekiel (47:1) and Zechariah who proclaimed "And it shall be in that day, *that* living waters shall go out from Jerusalem; half of them toward the former sea, and half of them toward the hinder sea: in summer and in winter shall it be." Zechariah 14:8. This is to say that the plan of salvation shall be preached in every country where people do not know about Jesus and where people are thirsty for more Truth. The flow of salvation will not stop in times of prosperity nor during persecution. From generation to generation, whosoever is thirsty for God can come, wash and drink at this fountain flowing from Emanuel's veins. (Matthew 5:6.)

Not only does this river of living water cleanse, but it also heals. As a saved believer, one can trust in God for physical and emotional healing. In I Peter 2:24 it is written "...by whose stripes ye were healed." The power of the blood of Jesus will minister to the whole person if their heart will trust Him. There is no limit to this living water that has never stopped flowing for 2000 years. We still enjoy the peace, love and joy that it brings just like those who are now enjoying the pleasures of Heaven.

However, let us recall what Jesus said about Hell, which is the other eternal destination. He said: "**There was** a certain rich man, which was clothed in purple and fine linen, and fared sumptuously every day: And **there was** a certain beggar named Lazarus,... And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by

the angels into Abraham's bosom: the rich man also died, and was buried; And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments,..." Remember what the rich man wanted? "And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame." Luke 16:19-24. Was it possible for the rich man to get a touch of water? No, he is still thirsty today, for Jesus made it clear that was part of the torment—continual burning and thirst without any satisfaction. Remember that life on earth needs water to live, but in Hell there will be no life, just an existence and conscious awareness of no hope. We can't imagine the awfulness of Hell because we supply our bodies with water when it demands a drink, and we can go to Jesus when our soul craves the Living Water that brings peace with God.

Just as life must have water, so our souls should daily drink from the Word of God, and communicate with Him in prayer. The more we drink from His Fountain of Life, the less we want of the world. Trials and tests will only make a child of God thirst more for His love. Someday we will rejoice with the faithful saints, for in Revelation 7:17, we read, "For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters; and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes." Laughter will replace crying for there won't be any shedding of tears where Jesus is. In Revelation 22:17, the invitation is given: "And the Spirit and the bride say, Come....And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely." The Water of Life is the only thing that will truly satisfy the thirsting of the human soul.



This well of water is also termed a "river of water of life." It flows from God and must flow back to God. It is a circulation like unto the blood of life of the human body. It is the heart that propels the blood through the body. The heart not only has a propelling power, but has also a suction power—drawing the blood back to it, and the blood, by its thus constantly flowing through the heart, is kept pure. If any artery be opened and the blood be allowed to flow out and waste upon the earth, there will soon cease to be any inward flow. The river of life and peace flows from God, and must flow back to Him in prayer and praise and good deeds to our fellow-man: thus our souls are kept pure.

—C. E. Orr

FAITH: ANSWERS AND RESULTS.

The Leper—"...Lord, if thou wilt, thou canst make me clean."

Jesus—"...I will; be thou clean...."

Result—"...And immediately his leprosy was cleansed."

The Woman—"...If I may touch but his clothes, I shall be whole."

Jesus—"...Daughter, thy faith hath made thee whole; go in peace, and be whole of thy plague."

Result—"And straightway the fountain of her blood was dried up; and she felt in her body that she was healed of that plague."

Centurion—"...Lord, my servant lieth at home sick of the palsy, grievously tormented."

Jesus—"...I will come and heal him."

Result—"...And his servant was healed in the selfsame hour."

Gentile Woman—"...Have mercy on me, O Lord, thou son of David; my daughter is grievously vexed with a devil." "...Lord, help me."

Jesus—"...It is not meet to take the children's bread, and cast it to dogs."

The Woman—"...Truth, Lord: yet the dogs eat of the crumbs which fall from their masters' table."

Jesus—"...O woman, great is thy faith: be it unto thee even as thou wilt...."

Result—"...And her daughter was made whole from that very hour."

Faith—"And when the men of that place had knowledge of him, they sent out into all that country round about, and brought unto him all that were diseased;"

Result—"...as many as touched were made perfectly whole."

The Beggar—"...Thou son of David, have mercy on me."

Jesus—"...Go thy way; thy faith hath made thee whole...."

Result—"...And immediately he received his sight...."

The Nobleman—"...Sir, come down ere my child die."

Jesus—"...Go thy way; thy son liveth...."

Faith—"...And the man believed the word that Jesus had spoken unto him, and he went his way."

Result—"And as he was now going down, his servants met him, and told *him*, saying, Thy son liveth. Then inquired he of them the hour when he began to amend. And they said unto him, Yesterday at the seventh hour the fever left him. So the father knew that *it was* at the same hour, in the which Jesus said unto him, Thy son liveth: and himself believed, and his whole house."

Faith—"...Aeneas, Jesus Christ maketh thee whole: arise, and make thy bed...."


Result—"...And he arose immediately."

Faith—A man who had never walked.—"... The same heard Paul speak: who stedfastly beholding him, and perceiving that he had faith to be healed, Said with a loud voice, Stand upright on thy feet...."

Result—"...And he leaped and walked."

—J. W. Byers

Bible Lessons



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

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4/07

I Will Praise Him

When I saw the cleansing fountain
 Open wide for all my sin,
 I obeyed the Spirit's wooing
 When He said, "Wilt thou be clean?"

Tho' the way seemed straight and narrow,
 All I claimed was swept away;
 My ambitions, plans and wishes,
 At my feet in ashes lay.

Then God's fire upon the altar
 Of my heart was set aflame;
 I shall never cease to praise Him,
 Glory! Glory! To His name.

Blessed be the name of Jesus!
 I'm so glad He took me in;
 He's forgiven my transgressions,
 He has cleansed my heart from sin.

—Margaret J. Harris

Answered Prayers

I asked for bread; God gave a stone instead,
 Yet while I pillowed there my weary head,
 The angels made a ladder to my dreams,
 Which upward to celestial mountains led,
 And when I woke beneath the morning's beams,
 Around my resting place fresh manna lay,
 And, praising God, I went upon my way,
 For I was fed.

I asked for strength; for with the noontide heat
 I fainted, while the reapers, singing sweet,
 Went forward with the sheaves I could not bear,
 Then came the Master with His blood-stained feet,
 And lifted me with sympathetic care,
 Then on His arms I leaned till all was done;
 And I stood with the rest at set of sun,
 My task complete.

I asked for light; around me closed the night,
 Nor guiding star met my bewildered sight,
 For storm-clouds gathered in a tempest near
 Yet in the lightning's blazing, roaring flight,
 I saw the way before me, straight and clear,
 What though His leading pillar was of fire,
 And not the sunbeam of my heart's desire,
 My path was bright.

God answers prayer; sometimes when hearts are weak,
 He gives the very gifts believers seek,
 But often faith must learn a deeper rest,
 And trust God's silence when He does not speak;
 For He, Whose name is Love, will send the best,
 Stars may burn out, nor mountain walls endure
 But God is true, His promises are sure,
 To those who seek

—Anonymous

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