

FAITH^{AND}VICTORY

USPS184-660

Church of God Servant

Unto Him shall the
gathering of the
people be.

GOD IS
LOVE

YE SHINE AS
LIGHTS IN
THE WORLD.

JESUS
SAVES

The night cometh,
when no man
can work.

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Called To Be A Witness

By Sis. Connie Sorrell

"The Lord did not call you to be His attorney," someone said. "He called you to be His witness." What a powerful thought! The role of an attorney and witness are entirely different. An attorney is supposed to defend what he thinks is true, but a witness tells what he saw, felt, heard, tasted and believes to be true. The attorney may not have been near the occurrence, but the witness was involved or closely associated with the event for him to tell about it.

Do we need to defend "Truth" and explain what we believe to be true, in order to protect the Lord's Word? Does Jesus Christ need us for His attorney?

When God called Moses to go before Pharaoh, was Moses an attorney? At the burning bush when God spoke to Moses, He said, "...I AM THAT I AM..." Exodus 3:14. He commanded Moses to obey Him, which Moses did. Then Moses, Aaron, Israel and all of Egypt witnessed the power of the great I AM as He sent 12 plagues upon the land and people. Moses wrote about it in the book of Exodus because he knew first hand what God had done.

When David stood before Goliath, he did not defend God, he said, "This day will the Lord deliver thee into mine hand..." I Samuel 17:46. David had witnessed the power of God working through him when he previously killed the lion and bear, so he boldly proclaimed that God would conquer Goliath also.

The prophet, Elijah, stood before 450 or more false prophets and challenged them to show the power of their gods. (I Kings 18:21-40.) He mocked them and their gods, but it is not recorded that he bragged on God. He simply obeyed God, then offered a simple, humble prayer stating: "...that I am thy servant, and that I have done all these things at thy word..." Then Elijah and all of Israel witnessed the consuming fire of God and they all knew that God was the only true God.

In our simple human way, we may attempt to verbally defend God, but is our majestic Creator more pleased with our defense or with a holy life of praise and worship? Past examples witness to us that "...the prayer of the upright is his delight." Proverbs 15:8. (Psalm 91:14-16.)

The bold preacher in the wilderness, John the Baptist, was sent from God "The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all men through him might believe." John 1:7. His message was of repentance and a warning to prepare for the judgment of God. He made no apologies for his message that God was angry with the sins in their lives. (Luke 3:4-14.) He bore witness that Jesus Christ was the Lamb of God. (John 1:36.) Later, Jesus spoke about the witness of John saying, "He was a burning and

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a shining light:...but I have a greater witness than that of John: for the works which the Father hath given me to finish, the same works that I do, bear witness of me, that the Father hath sent me. And the Father himself, which hath sent me, hath borne witness of me...." John 5:35-37.

So when the Father answered the prayers of Jesus, He was witnessing that Jesus was His beloved Son. Jesus testified through His works and holy life that His Father loved Him. When Jesus came before the stone tomb where Lazarus lay, cold and dead, Jesus lifted up His eyes, and said, "...Father, I thank thee that thou hast heard me. And I knew that thou hearest me always: but because of the people which stand by I said it, that they may believe that thou hast sent me. And when he thus had spoken, he cried with a loud voice, Lazarus, come forth." Lazarus obeyed and his return to life was such a testimony of God's approval on Jesus Christ that immediately the Pharisees sought to kill both Lazarus and Jesus. (John 11:53, 12:10) It was not a verbal defense that testified of God's power, but it was the holy life of prayer.

When Jesus witnessed to Saul on the road to Damascus, it changed his life, which magnified the power of God to him. (Acts 9.) Apostle Paul (Saul) testified of his conversion many times, never forgetting the difference Jesus Christ made in his life. Later he testified to the angry mob about his conversion, saying, "...The God of our fathers hath chosen thee, that thou shouldest know his will, and see that Just One, and shouldest hear the voice of his mouth. For thou shalt be his witness unto all men of what thou hast seen and heard." Acts 22:14-15. Though Paul was condemned by authorities, beaten, stoned and forsaken by me, he still clung to the witness that Jesus Christ saved his

soul from the wrong road of sin, and Jesus could do the same for others.

We have the New Testament today because the apostles told what they witnessed and lived by their testimony. Jesus said, "...Thus, it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations,...And ye are witnesses of these things." Luke 24:46-48. Thank God, the apostles were faithful unto death.

It is a blessed consolation to know that God is the One who defends His children. Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego, Daniel, and millions of others who have trusted Him have witnessed His power to defend and deliver. God is the great I AM, the powerful El Shaddai, or God Almighty, (Genesis 17:1.) the mighty Deliverer (Isaiah 31:5.) who defends the poor and humble in heart.

We may attempt to defend the Truth, Jesus Christ or God, but it is our life that really testifies of God's power. Have you witnessed the change the blood of Jesus made in your life? Your family and friends will see this miracle. Have you heard the Holy Spirit talking to your heart to change an attitude? If you obeyed, you felt the blessing of grace flood your soul. Have you prayed over an affliction and God healed it? Praise the Lord! Has the Lord ever answered a financial need? Honor Him for it. Have you ever watched a saved loved one go Home? Thank Jesus Christ for preparing an eternal mansion for us. Has the Lord ever spared you in/from a traffic accident? Tell about it.

When the Lord moves upon the scene and answers prayer, you have witnessed the love of God. Keep that witness, testify of it and glorify the Lord. Tell what He has done for you—others may need Him too!

AFRICA MISSION REPORT

Kenya, Tanzania, Malawi and Mozambique.

On June 24th of 2008, Bro. Doug and Sis. Lenita Wall, Bro. Matthew Gellenbeck, and I (Michael Smith) arrived home safely from an intensive month-long missionary endeavor in Africa. We thank the Lord for His blessings, presence and anointing on this recent trip. God proved Himself faithful time and time again.

On Wednesday, May 28, we departed from the Oklahoma City airport and arrived in Nairobi, Kenya the following Friday. We were met at the

airport by Bro. Peter, who accompanied us for most our stay in Kenya and Tanzania. Over the course of our stay, we visited different contacts and held services in various locations. As our time was limited, we were unable to fulfill all of the requests we received from different congregations to come and share the Gospel with them.

On Sunday, we attended services in one of the congregations in Nairobi. We traveled 7-8 hours on Monday to arrive at Bro. Peter's home.

That evening, we visited another brother with whom we have corresponded. He asked many doctrinal questions and seemed to be very sincere. While we had many sessions of teaching and preaching on this trip, much good was accomplished by the individual contact we had with inquiring people before and after services. Many evenings were spent visiting about the truth with people that came with questions.

We had opportunity to visit the school that Bro. Peter is overseeing for the orphans in his congregation. The orphans live with various Saint families and then are schooled and provided for through the efforts of the congregation. There are now over 100 orphans in this one location who are in need of temporal and spiritual support. Many of the congregations we visited have numerous orphans for whom they are caring. We were very impressed with the efforts we saw. Bro. Peter is currently preparing to build a structure to provide sleeping quarters for the children. With the help of the orphans and members of the congregation, they have made 10,000 bricks. They will sell some and use the rest to construct the building.

We held services throughout the day and much seed was sown. There were ministers from the surrounding area that came and heard the Gospel. Since our visit, people have been coming back to Bro. Peter's with more questions about the truth. Some left the meeting and began making changes in their lives immediately.

We visited Bro. Joseph's congregation where they are also doing a very good work for the orphans. Services were followed by a baptismal service. That evening, Bro. Doug and I got very sick. An unsaved person in the compound where we stayed said that we were going to die. They told someone that if we didn't go to the hospital, they would call the witch doctor. The Lord undertook and we were feeling well enough the following day to continue our journey.

On our journey through Kenya, we saw burned out buildings and broken storefronts that were a result of the violence in Kenya. Bro. Peter and his family had to flee to a nearby mountain for about six weeks during the worst of the violence. An elderly neighbor was beaten to death by the mob when they broke into his hut.

We traveled to Tanzania and ministered in two different towns. People from different faiths and congregations in the local areas were present. God poured out His anointing in the

teaching and preaching, and honest souls were blessed. There was much doctrinal teaching done in Kenya and Tanzania, as that was the focus of many of the questions. There has been a large Pentecostal influence in these areas. Hence, the subject of the Holy Spirit was dealt with repeatedly. Over the course of this part of the trip, we distributed over 90 Bibles.

On Wednesday, June 11, we flew from Kenya to Malawi. Bro. Failos and Bro. Master met us in the city and we traveled back to the village. As we approached the village, we were met by a large crowd of people singing and rejoicing at our arrival. We were warmly welcomed and received. For the next five days, we traveled over rough roads and footpaths to visit 25 of the 60 congregations in Malawi and Mozambique. We would hold a short service and then drive to another congregation. We were met with singing and rejoicing in almost every place we went. The people would present us with gifts of live chickens, eggs, rice, and soda. Some congregations waited all day long for us to arrive. Unfortunately, there were some congregations that waited, and we were not able to get there that day. All of the preaching was done with the use of a translator. In the villages, it is a rarity to find someone who speaks English.

In one location, we were about to leave after a service when an elderly woman approached. She wanted to be delivered from chewing tobacco. We had her dump her pouch of tobacco out, and then prayed for her deliverance. A number of women followed her example and dumped out their tobacco. They prayed for forgiveness and then we prayed over all of them.

We held a three-day ministers meeting in which 35-50 ministers were in attendance from Malawi and Mozambique. We had numerous teaching sessions each day and covered many Biblical topics. One day, following teaching on the Holy Spirit, over half the ministers came forward to receive the Holy Spirit into their lives. There was also particular interest in the teaching on 'Marriage' and on the 'End of Time.' We distributed 120 Bibles in their native language.

People walked for long distances to be in service. It was observed that one person rode his bicycle with flat tires. It is always moving to see the sacrifice that is made to hear the Gospel.

On the last Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning, general preaching services were held. There were hundreds of people in attendance. The chapel we built a few years ago was not large enough to hold all the people, so the service was

(Continued on page 11.)

FAITH AND VICTORY

12 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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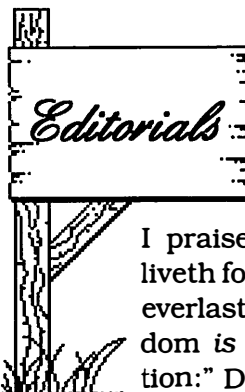
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"And at the end of the days I Nebuchadnezzar lifted up mine eyes unto heaven, and mine understanding returned unto me, and I blessed the most High, and

I praised and honoured him that liveth for ever, whose dominion is an everlasting dominion, and his kingdom is from generation to generation:" Daniel 4:34.

God gave Nebuchadnezzar a great kingdom. His power, strength and glory were handsomely displayed in his capital city of Babylon. In the dream that Daniel interpreted for the king, recorded in the second chapter of Daniel, Nebuchadnezzar's kingdom was represented as the head of gold. It was far superior to those kingdoms that would follow until the time came for God to establish His kingdom in the earth. While living in this affluence his heart was lifted up in pride. God sent a dream to warn him of his sins, and Daniel counseled him to break off his sins and iniquities by showing mercy to the poor, but the king failed to give heed to the message from God and the counsel of His servant, Daniel. The king's arrogant behavior continued until the Lord humbled him to the level of a wild beast, and he was driven from his luxurious palace to dwell in the fields. No longer was he dining on dainty meats, but he began to fill his belly with the coarsed diet of wild grass like the oxen. According to the Word of the Lord, His understanding was taken from him for a period of seven years. After this period of debilitation we have the above verse, a personal testimony of the king recorded from Daniel 4:34.

Notice the event that preceded the return of his understanding—"...I Nebuchadnezzar lifted up mine eyes unto heaven...." I don't know how this actually occurred, whether he was grubbing around for grass and roots and for some reason rolled over on his back and began to look up, or if he was standing and a deep longing within his heart compelled him to lift his stupefied eyes to a higher plain of view. Whatever the reason, according to his personal testimony, this was an action on his part and God rewarded that action by allowing his understanding to return. This new sense of understanding was enhanced with a keen awareness of the presence of God Who rules over the kingdoms of

men, and Nebuchadnezzar worshiped and praised Him. Adam Clarke states, "It is very probable that Nebuchadnezzar was a true convert; that he relapsed no more into idolatry, and died in the faith of the God of Israel." Wow! Doesn't that speak of the love and mercy of the Lord. The gruesome ordeal he endured for seven years that wrought humility in his heart was a gateway to a bright eternity with God. The Lord knew exactly how long to cause the king to be in this condition to bring about the change of heart he needed. Then the door of his understanding swung open when his eyes were lifted unto heaven.

"For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace." Romans 8:6 The world is filled with intelligent men and women today who are making wrong decisions in their lives. While they may have much earthly wisdom, their spiritual understanding is seriously lacking. They feel they are quite capable of governing their own destiny without the assistance of God or His Word. This attitude often prevails in young people and then it all too often continues into later years of adulthood. Their life becomes one long series of egregious errors, and they will one day reflect upon their past and woefully proclaim, "wasted years, oh, how foolish."

When people are successful financially it is easy for them to translate the resulting feeling of security to include a sense of spiritual well-being. The Scriptures identifies this concept as those who are, "...supposing that gain is godliness...." This deception becomes a serious hazard to their soul and no doubt many have been eternally lost for this very reason.

The Lord in His mercy will allow things to touch people's lives that should cause them to think about the mistakes they are making and realize how incapable they are in directing their own steps. Many times their suffering is a direct result of their own poor judgment, and the individual may feel they are simply being punished for their misdeeds. While that may be true they should also be aware that God has a more noble reason for permitting these distresses to come their way. He has a better plan for their life that will only begin to unfold when they, like Nebuchadnezzar, lift their eyes toward Heaven and God infuses their heart with spiritual understanding.

To touch the throne of God and find the help that our soul needs we must take some action. We cannot afford to be passive while our soul rushes toward destruction. James 4:8 tells us to, "Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you...." Appropriate action, that will bring God nigh, should include cleansing our hands, purifying our hearts and in all seriousness humbling ourselves before the Lord. Notice a few other key words from the Scriptures that we should act upon if we expect to receive His favor and blessing—ask, seek, knock, call, search, study, pray, cry, come, repent and forgive. God is not willing that any should perish for He does love His creation and is glad when people call on Him for mercy.

"But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him." Hebrews 11:6. It is important when we come to the Lord with a petition that we believe in His ability to answer and have faith in His willingness to meet the need. Sometimes He withholds the answer to our petition to prove our earnestness and in those times we should continue to seek Him, even when those around us disapprove and try to discourage our efforts to reach God. When blind Bartimaeus sat by the side of the road begging and he heard that Jesus was passing by he began to cry, "Jesus, thou son of David, have mercy on me." Mark 10:48 says, "And many charged him that he should hold his peace: but he cried the more a great deal, Thou son of David, have mercy on me." The many voices of opposition he received were unable to quell the urgent need he had for Jesus, and his cry touched the heart of our Savior. Bartimaeus received his sight by persevering against the opposition for it demonstrated his faith in Jesus.

May each needy soul be encouraged to lift up their eyes, humble their hearts and avail themselves of the spiritual and physical blessings that God has for them, for His bountiful storehouse will never be depleted. It is truly wonderful that those benefits given from His hand will not cause someone else to be left out, but they will instead be a mutual blessing to all.

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The Lord has blessed us to be able to publish a new book by Bro. Toney and Sis. Jeanie Samons entitled, *The Family That Prays*, containing much valuable information on the responsible role of parents and how to develop a

strong Christian family relationship. This 112 page book is bound in a heavy paper cover and is available from this office for \$4.00 plus standard shipping charges of \$1.30.

Several years ago Bro. Toney and Sis. Jeanie compiled some of this information into a series of family studies which they presented to a number of Church of God congregations across the country. Later they revised and printed some of those thoughts through a monthly column in this paper. Now we are delighted to present this material in book form and trust it will be a blessing to many families as they apply these godly principles to their lives and homes.

Notice some of the chapter titles: Family is a Priority; Man's Role as a Leader; Biblical Submission for Women; Emotional Needs of Men; Emotional Needs of Women; Temptation: Common to Man; Who Can Find A Virtuous Woman; Moderation for Men; Modesty for Women; Lo, Children Are an Heritage; Training our Children; Control in Child Training; Correction in Child Training; Church Manners; Adolescence; "Dating;" Engagement and Early Marriage; and To the Hurting.

We are also thrilled that God has enabled us to replenish our stock of the book, The Holy Spirit and Other Spirits by D. O. Teasley. This 192 page book has been bound in a newly designed, full color paper cover. It is available from this office for \$5.00 plus standard shipping charges of \$1.40.

This book has been dedicated to all who seek a closer walk with God, a better understanding of the Scriptures, and clearer leadings of the Holy Spirit; and to those who desire to escape the wiles of evil spirits and shun the deceptive pitfalls of sin.

If you would like either of these books or some of the many other volumes we print, be sure to let us know. You may call our toll free number, 1-800-767-1479, or write the Faith Publishing House, P.O. Box 518, Guthrie, OK 73044. You may also send your order by email.

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

Happy is the man that findeth wisdom, and the man that getteth understanding. For the merchandise of it is better than the merchandise of silver, and the gain thereof than fine gold. Proverbs 3:13-14.



MO—Remember me in your prayers, soul and body. Christian love, —Sis. Nelda Stanley

WV—Please keep me in your prayers.

—Sis. Melba Powell

SC—Please earnestly remember my mother, Sis. Helen Underdown, in prayer. She has some serious physical needs. —Sis. Cheryl Smith

Standing Prayer Requests

Bro. Carlos Arriaga

Sis. Gladys Cashio

Sis. Helen Carson

Sis. Elizabeth Corteway

Sis. Waneta Creel

Sis. Patsy Doolittle

Sis. Dorall Forbes

Bro. Troy Gentry

Bro. Lee Hilton

Jaden Howard

Sis. Karoline Kessler

Bro. Mark and Sis. Darlene Knight

Sis. Melba Powell

Bro. Jerry Quave

Sis. Marilyn Rendall

Bro. Vernon Robinson

Sis. Ruth Shehee

Sis. Cheryl Smith

Bro. Michael Smith

Bro. Rodney Sorrell

Bro. Edward and Sis. Gloria Taylor

The Mitch Taylor family

Sis. Norma Tiller

Bro. Delmar Wilkins

Sis. Annetta Williamson

SPECIAL NOTICES

CD's of the messages from the Monark Springs camp meeting are available from Bro. Justin Sorrell for \$2.00 each. He also has two CD's available of special singing.

You may contact Bro. Justin Sorrell at 447 Twilight Dr., Crane, MO 65633, (417) 844-7560, jusangela@yahoo.com.

LA—Dear Saints of God, I am sending a request for a need I have—that of some single woman or widow who would want to share living with me in my home. I am a widow who is lonely and desires companionship and fellowship. Other than sharing utilities and food expenses there would be no charge for housing. I would like for whoever may respond to this to be someone I have shared fellowship with among the Saints in prior years.

—Sis. Genevive Carver
(318) 918-7118

MEETING NOTICES

POLITILLY BIGHT, ROATAN, HONDURAS, FALL MEETING

The Church of God in Politilly Bight, Roatan, will be holding their annual meeting Sunday, September 21, through Sunday, September 28. This meeting is greatly anticipated by the congregation each year and is well attended by visitors from Politilly and other parts of the island. Now that the chapel has been enlarged, we will be able to have the meeting in the chapel this year rather than in the tent. The Saints from outside Honduras are also welcomed to this meeting. Your presence means much to the local congregation. Please pray for the success of the meeting.

For information on travel or accommodations, please contact Bro. Toney Samons (Kentucky) toneysamons@yahoo.com, (816) 738-3203 or Bro. Doug Wall (Honduras) dw@churchofgodmission.com

AKRON, OH, FALL MEETING

The Akron Fall Meeting date has been set for Thursday, October 2, at 7:00 p.m. through Sunday October 5.

Come for a blessing and please support the meeting with prayers.

Bro. Jerry Melot has a burden to minister in the meeting.

For more information contact Bro. David and Sis. Krista Hargrave, (330) 682-0342, (330) 845-1971 cell, or Bro. Keith Fuller, Sr. (330) 864-1128.

MEETING DATES

Politilly Bight, Honduras

(Fall Meeting)—September 21-28

Akron, OH (Fall Meeting)—October 2-5

Myrtle, MO (Fall Singing)—October 4

Dallas, TX (Annual Meeting)—October 8-12

Holly Hill, SC (Fall Meeting)—October 8-12

Okmulgee, OK (Fall Revival)—October 16-19

Baldy Mesa, CA (Fall Revival)—October 17-19

Fresno, CA (Revival)—October 26-November 2

Loranger, LA (General Southern)—

November 26-30

MYRTLE, MO, FALL SINGING

Lord willing, our annual autumn singing will be held at 7:00 p.m., Saturday, October 4th, at the Church of God chapel, Myrtle, MO. There will also be a regular service at 10:00 a.m. Sunday morning, October 5th, with dinner following in the dining hall. Everyone is invited to come be with us on this special weekend.

—Bro. Harlan Sorrell

DALLAS, TX, ANNUAL MEETING

The Dallas, TX Church of God congregation cordially invites you to attend our Annual Meeting to be held, Lord willing, October 8-12.

The schedule for the services will be as follows: evening services Wednesday-Saturday at 7:00 p.m., Saturday will also include a morning service at 11:00 a.m., Sunday services will begin with Sunday School at 10:00 a.m., morning service at 11:00 a.m. and afternoon service at 2:00 p.m.

The chapel is located at 11501 Rylicrest Drive, Balch Springs, TX 75180, the chapel phone number is, (972) 557-1591.

For additional information you may contact: Bro. Calvin Frentrup, (972) 237-1538 or Sis. Linda Montgomery, (972) 286-6239.

HOLLY HILL, SC, FALL MEETING

We would like to extend a warm invitation to all to come to our fall meeting at Holly Hill, SC. Lord willing, it will be held from Wednesday, October 8 through Sunday October 12. There will be one service daily at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday-Saturday. On Sunday, there will be two services held—one at 10:00 a.m. and the second

service (and last service of the meeting) at 7:00 p.m. Accommodations will be made for all who can attend. ALL are welcome! Please come if you can, and if you cannot be here, please agree in prayer with us that the Spirit of God will meet with us and not be hindered in any way.

Please contact Sis. Beverly Pratt at (803) 496-3057 or Bro. Kevin and Sis. Cheryl Smith at (803) 492-7975 (or you may email us at romans828@embarqmail.com) as early as possible if you are planning to come, so preparations can be made for you. We surely look forward to seeing all who are able to come.

In the love of Jesus,

—The Holly Hill, SC Congregation

BALDY MESA FALL REVIVAL

It is fall harvest time and our burden for souls continues. The Church of God at Baldy Mesa, CA look forward, Lord willing, to our weekend meeting for October 17-19.

The Church of God Congregation entreat you for your presence and your prayers. Services will begin Friday at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday 12 p.m., 7 p.m.; Sunday School 10 a.m., morning worship 11 a.m. and afternoon worship 2:30 p.m.

The chapel is located at 11515 Baldy Mesa Rd., Victorville, CA 92392.

For further information you may contact us at P.O. Box 290681, Phelan, CA 92329, pastorx2@hotmail.com, or (760) 868-5753.

In His Service,

—Bro. Travis and Sis. Alice Johnson

OKMULGEE, OK, FALL REVIVAL

The church of God congregation at Okmulgee, OK cordially invite you to attend our Fall Revival, October 16-18. Services will be nightly at 7:30. On Sunday, October 19, we plan to have an inspirational singing in the afternoon. Bro. Hayward Cox has a burden for the services. The chapel is located at 1515 East First St. Okmulgee, OK.

For further information you may contact Sis. Patricia Jameson at (918) 756-6516.

FRESNO, CA, REVIVAL MEETING

Fresno Revival Meeting will be held October 26 to November 2. Services will be as follows:

Sunday: October 26 at 9:30 Sunday school, 10:30 morning worship, 2:30 afternoon Service, 7:00 night service; Monday – Friday: October 27-31 at 7:00 Nightly; Saturday: November 1 at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.

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

For further information call Sis. Gwen Robinson at (559) 233-2492

GENERAL SOUTHERN CAMP MEETING

Lord willing, the Loranger, Louisiana Assembly Meeting will begin Wednesday evening November 26, with morning and evening services daily through Sunday, November 30. If you can join us, come praying for a blessing.

There is a dormitory for the sisters and one for the brothers. Electrical and water hookups are available for those with campers. Meals are provided and expenses met by freewill offerings.

From Loranger, go two miles south and about three and one-half miles east on Hwy. 40.

For those traveling I-55, the grounds are about 10 miles east of the Tickfaw exit. (At the exit, take Hwy. 442 which runs into Hwy. 40.)

For more information, contact Carlos Doolittle at (985) 878-8122. The chapel phone is (985) 878-2788. Please do support this meeting with your prayers.



LETTERS
FROM
OUR
READERS

LA—Dear Ones: I want to thank God for blessing me. I was able to attend the Monark Meeting for the first weekend and returned home on Tuesday. We intended to leave Thursday morning to visit our son and family in Connecticut. On Wednesday, in the early morning hours, I woke up with a bad dizzy spell, and the dizziness lingered all day. I felt so weak that

I didn't know if I would be able to make the trip the following day. My husband said there was no way that I could get on a plane unless I made a change. However, through prayer I knew the Lord could make a change.

While I was feeling so badly, I spoke with Sis. Genevive Carver and Sis. Melba Campbell over the telephone and asked them to pray for me to be able to make the trip. I began making preparations and by that evening, I felt better. On Thursday morning, we were to leave the house at 4 a.m.; I was feeling fine. I do thank God for touching me, and I felt well for the duration of the trip.

We returned home on the following Tuesday and as I was unlocking the door of our house, that same weak feeling came over me again. I said, "I feel bad all over like I did before we left." I immediately realized that God was reminding me about how He had touched me the previous week. That feeling soon left and I do thank Him so much for doing that for me. I never want to forget what He does for us.

We are also thankful and feel so blessed to have Bro. Rodney Smith and family to minister to us in the Jena congregation. We thank God for allowing us to have them in our services and fellowship.

Our love and prayers to each one,
—Sis. Virginia Mitchell

OK—To the Print Shop workers: I am still saved and encouraged to follow the Lord all the way home. I am doing pretty well, but continue to pray for me. From your Christian worker in prayer,
—Sis. Mary O. Jones

KS—Dear Bro. Willie: I am still happy, redeemed and free and thankful for God's blessings to me. Sincerely,
—Sis. Shirley Knight

OK—Dear Bro. Willie and Sis. Neta: Greetings in the lovely name of Jesus. I am glad that He loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood and promised to be our Lord and Savior while here and then take us to ever live with Him. I trust the Lord is blessing you as you live and labor for the Lord, sending the Gospel to the people by the printed page. Truly there is no other work so important as the Gospel work. I trust the Lord to bless you in every way.

—Bro. T. V. McMillian



Felix Francisco was born in Boley, Oklahoma, on April 14, 1924. He went to his eternal home on February 5, 2008. Felix was the sixth of thirteen children born to Zedore Francisco and Gertrude Dyer Francisco. The family of eight boys and five girls included three sets of twins.

Felix attended school to the eighth grade when he withdrew to work and earn much needed income for the family after The Great Depression. He returned to school, as an adult, however, and earned his high school diploma from Bakersfield High School, in 1967.

As a youth, growing up in Bakersfield, Felix was a talented entrepreneur. During his teenage years, he successfully opened and operated a bicycle repair shop. This early business venture was a sign of things to come. He successfully owned and operated a thriving trucking company in Kern County later in life. During this time he also began to invest in real estate—buying, repairing, and renting houses.

In 1943, at the age of 18, Felix was drafted into the U.S. Army. While in the military, Felix married Ida Lucille Johnson and they were blessed with seven children. Felix and his family accepted the Lord early in life and were involved in the Church of God. Felix, Lucille and the children often sang together both during church services and at home.

The family spent nearly twenty years in Bakersfield and in 1963, moved to Fontana, CA. Felix accepted employment with the San Bernardino City Schools in various maintenance trades, while continuing to successfully invest in real estate. Felix is remembered by his family and friends as a frugal, but generous man. Many stories are recalled of him being aggressive with opportunities to conserve his resources.

There are also many stories of his unbridled generosity and kindness toward those who requested his help.

His children fondly remember their father sharing funny stories and giving harmonica concerts for their enjoyment. He also continued to play the harmonica and eat his favorite foods, especially chocolate, in the last months of his life. Felix spoke fluent Spanish and was lovingly called 'Frank' by his Spanish-speaking friends. He was known by all as a kind and gentle soul, blessed with many talents and abilities. Many will recall the occasions when he quietly gave, without being asked, and provided support simply because it was needed or was the right thing to do.

Felix is survived by his daughters, Elaine Francisco and Melva Williams (Jasper), his sons Felix Jr. and Kenneth Francisco and Damien Culverson, two brothers, Nathaniel and Mackey Francisco, eleven grand children, twenty-one great grandchildren, and one great-great grandchild, and a host of nieces, nephews and extended family.

There are many of us, and there was only one Felix Francisco. He touched each of us in a special way. We will cherish and repect his memory and look forward to joining him in the Eternal Hereafter.

Memorial services were conducted by Bro. Mackey Francisco and Bro. Hayward Cox. His body was laid to rest in the Union Cemetery, Bakersfield, CA.

Acknowledgement

The Felix Francisco family sincerely appreciates all the prayers and other acts of kindness expressed in so many different ways during this time of transition. The outpouring of love and support lifted our spirits and caused us to reflect on more joyous times. We are humbled by your love and are truly grateful for every act of kindness large and small.

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Leta Laverne Inman, 70, Peculiar, MO, died Monday, June 2, 2008, at her daughter's home. Funeral services were held 11:00 a.m. Friday, June 6, 2008, at Atkinson Chapel, Harrisonville, MO. The services were officiated by Bro. Larry Abbott, Bro. Curtis Williams and Sis. LaDawna Adams. Visitation was Thursday, June 5 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. at the chapel. Music was provided by the Cole Family. Honorary

casket bearers were Kevin Inman, Earl Lyman, Larry Cantrell, Ted Bock, J. C. Parson, Dr. Larry Snider, and Kyle Trembly. Casket bearers were David Carpenter, Martin Carpenter, Nick Jacobs, Garen McMillian, Gerold McMillian and Gary Inman. Burial was in Orient Cemetery, Harrisonville, MO.

Leta was born July 24, 1937, near Kingston, Arkansas, the daughter of Oscar and Margie (Slaven) Wall. Leta began first grade at age five and graduated just before turning 17 in 1954. She played basketball for the Kingston Yellowjackets and kept her friendships with her school chums alive throughout her life.

Leta met the love of her life, Glen, just before she turned 25. Glen and Leta were married on February 24, 1962 in Huntsville, AR at Judge Watson's home and they shared a wonderful life together for 44 years before his passing in 2006. They enjoyed farming and going to the sale barn, fishing, traveling and visiting. They loved every moment spent with their children and grandchildren.

Leta and Glen had four children—three little Glens—Charles Glen, Glenetta Lynn, Paul Glyndon, and David Dean. David, a remarkable son and precious gift from God, preceded his parents in death in 1982. Leta is survived by, one son-in-law, Mark Carpenter; daughters-in-law, Jody and Theresa Inman; grandsons, David and Martin Carpenter, Kevin Inman and Nick Jacobs; granddaughters, Lynnetta and Karyn Carpenter and Amber Inman. It was an immeasurable joy to Leta and Glen to have their children and grandchildren nearby to watch them grow and mature in remarkable ways.

In addition to her children and grandchildren, Leta is survived by a brother, Dean Wall and wife, Wanda, Cameron, MO; two sisters, Vonda McMillian, Vinita, Oklahoma and Marilyn McMillian and her husband, Jim, Petersburg, Texas; sisters-in-law, Louise Wall, Escondido, California and Verma Lee Inman, Huntsville, Arkansas; Aunt Ova and Uncle Jess Carter, Union Gap, Washington; nieces, nephews, cousins and good friends, JC and Esther Parson. Her brother and pal, James Paul, awaits her homecoming.

Leta was a member of the Church of God and had many friends across the country. She kept connected to all her friends and acquaintances and always had an entertaining story to tell. We who remain will miss her hot rolls, her smile, and her interest in our lives.



Ministers who attended the Ministers' Meeting in Malawi.

Africa Mission Report

(Continued from page 3.)

held outside under a brush arbor that had been constructed. The work in Malawi and Mozambique continues to grow. Our prayer is that the truth will take root and that their understanding will be opened in a greater way.

Although very impoverished, they are a happy, friendly people. The nights were cold and many children go without blankets or a warm place to sleep. We purchased more blankets for the orphans in Malawi and Mozambique. During the times of hunger, the orphans who live with relatives suffer even more as there is not enough food to go around. The humanitarian needs are great in these countries, especially with the orphans and elderly.

We appreciate so much the prayers of the saints. God blessed spiritually and physically on the trip and much good was accomplished. It was a privilege to travel together in a group to be a strength and help to one another as we collectively ministered to people of other lands. The needs are very great and there is much work to be done in Africa. Please continue to pray that the Lord will meet every need and that these various efforts will prosper. The saints in Africa send their greetings to the saints in America.

—Bro. Michael Smith

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Sunday morning service in Malawi.

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