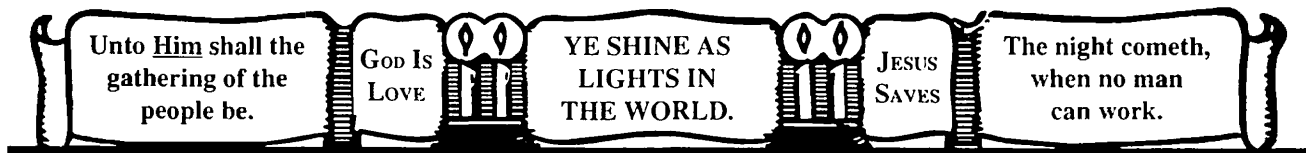


FAITH AND VICTORY

USPS184-660

Church of God Servant



Volume 86, No. 7 86th Year Guthrie, Oklahoma \$5.00 Per Year Nov., 2008

The Transfiguration

Whatever is said of human souls who may have been or will be taken to glory without dying, is true of those whose bodies have been laid in the grave. Moses, no less than Elias, appeared to the disciples with Jesus in glory. What may we infer is the present Heaven of departed souls?

They are consciously alive. These two had not ceased to exist. They were not asleep in unconsciousness. They were conversing with Jesus. We sometimes speak of the dead as if no longer alive in any sense. They are "no more," they are "in the grave," they lie in yonder churchyard. When we hear their last sigh, and the dear hand no longer responds to our grasp, and the light of the eye is quenched, it is natural to think our beloved one has ceased to be. But the life they had in Christ, like his own life, remains—they are more alive than ever. If we had been

with Elijah when he was caught up to Heaven, we should not have gone home grieving, drawing down the curtains, and abandoning ourselves to woe as if we had forever lost our friend. Neither shall we consider those whom Christ has taken to himself as dead. They, sharing death with Moses, share also continued life with Elias.

Both "appeared in glory." There are higher degrees of glory, ever advancing with everlasting existence. But there is a glory immediately following death—the glory of the calm after storm, of rest after toil, of crown after conflict. Death does not deprive of this, but rather is the instrument of conferring it.

The two glorified visitants were together. They could not have been while they were alive. Then five hundred years divided them. God had different works for different servants, in different ages and in distant places. We sometimes wish we could grasp the hands of Saints of other days and countries—of whom we read, whose hymns we sing. In Heaven no barriers of time or place separate the children of God. Abel and Stephen, Abraham and Paul, David and Peter, hold sweet communion yonder. And this will commence with the new life we call death, even as Moses was in the company of Elijah.

Of course there is recognition. These two were not unnamed generic representatives of Heaven, but absolutely two individuals, with their distinctive names and personalities. All have one likeness to Christ, but all have their peculiar varieties of feature and character. What joy will it be when we shall greet again those we loved here, to enjoy the perfect communion of

Contents

The Transfiguration	1
Fountain Opened	2
Editorials	4
Nearing the Goal	6
Prayer Requests	7
Meeting Reports and Notices	7
Letters from the Readers	8
Obituaries	10
We Choose Our Destiny	10
Sometime, Somewhere	12

the Saints made perfect! We wish we had been with the three disciples to enjoy the company of the two Saints even for so brief an hour. We also shall meet Moses and Elias. And what will at first yield still greater bliss, we shall join the beloved ones known during the present life. We shall greet them, be greeted by them.

Best of all, Moses, the buried one, equally with Elijah, the translated one, was with Jesus. This is the climax of the believer's hope. "Absent from the body, present with the Lord."

"We shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is." They at whose grave we weep are not down there in the dark and damp cavern of clay, but in the immediate presence of the Lord of glory. We may weep for ourselves for awhile, because deprived of their visible presence, but we should rejoice for them as much as if they had been translated like Elijah. They are still alive, are conscious, in glory, together with dear ones gone before, with all the Saints, with Jesus Himself, which is far better, sharing with Moses the Heaven of Elijah.

But how to get there? Fitness pervades the universe—plants for the soil, animals for the element in which they live. Likeness and sympathy are needed for enjoyment of society. We must be made "meet" for their inheritance if we would share with the "Saints in light." We may not share the lofty endowments of Moses and Elijah, but we must resemble them in the dominant feature of their character—absolute surrender to God.

We may think of these two in another aspect. They represent the Old Testament. This was

designated as "The law and the prophets." Moses represented the Law, Elijah the Prophets. Christ was Himself, the New Testament. He was charged with opposing the former dispensation. But His presence in friendly converse with them was emphatic testimony of the harmony between Law and Gospel. Draw near and listen to their conversation. Was it all about recent events in Heaven, or about the grand reception awaiting His return to His throne? No; it was concerning the death He was about to die! Strange that the glory of Tabor should suggest the gloom of Calvary—the presence of those raptured Saints, the hateful mobs of murderers! Yet there was no theme so attractive to the three. It was the event to which by type and prediction the lawgiver and the prophets had borne constant witness. It was the act of atoning sacrifice to which they owed the ages of bliss they had enjoyed. What other theme so near their hearts? And with Christ—was not His death at Jerusalem the great sacrifice He had come to offer? This was constantly before Him. Of this He often spoke.

Here our second question is answered; How to get to Heaven, which is so near? By acceptance of that atonement. Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved. With this as our ground of acceptance with God, our title of admission, and the renewal of our hearts by the Holy Ghost as our certificate of fitness we may have confidence to enter the gate of Heaven when we die, and "not be ashamed before Christ at His coming."

—*The Gospel Trumpet*, August 2, 1900.

Fountain Opened

By Mrs. Jennie Carey

"In that day there shall be a fountain opened to the house of David and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem for sin and for uncleanness." Zechariah 13:1. "The prophet's keen vision transpiercing the ages," saw this glorious time when the fountain should be opened for sin and for uncleanness. He looked to the time when the glad tidings were borne by the angelic host to the shepherds that night Christ the Lord was born in Bethlehem. And there was a multitude of angels praising God and saying, "peace, good will toward men." And we read of him again in the first chapter of Matthew; "And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name Jesus: for he shall save his people from their sins." The great God in His mercy has provided this way to redeem man from the bondage of sin.

I would to God that people might see their privilege in this glorious evening time, for His precious Word says, "At evening time it shall be light." The enemy of all righteousness has so blinded their eyes that they might not see, like the children of Israel when they came to the sea, who had not faith to believe that God would fulfill His promise, and were left to wander and die in the wilderness. "And they are ensamples to us if we believe not God." But on the other hand see the two servants that followed the Lord. (Joshua 14:8.) They went over and espied the beautiful land of Canaan and said they were well able to take the land. This literal land of Canaan is a beautiful type of the spiritual land we inherit through the fountain opened for sin and for uncleanness, but if we are fearful and

faint-hearted and get our eyes off the Lord, we will not be able to go over and take our inheritance. Our God, Who foreknew all things, saw that the only way man could inherit the spiritual land, which is the sanctified rest of the soul, was by the death of His Son. And while suspended between Heaven and earth on that rugged cross, He cried, "It is finished"—the great plan of man's redemption. "The veil of the temple was rent in twain." Then could the guilty souls plunge into the fountain and be cleansed from all sin. Now we can understand the beautiful words of the poet where he says,

"There is a fountain filled with blood,
Drawn from Emmanuel's veins,
And sinners plunge beneath that flood
Lose all their guilty stains."

But alas, even now they fail to enter in because of unbelief, and fail to see the power in the crimson flow. But if in the face of the precious Word of God that is so true, and then to think of the instance back in the garden of Gethsemane where the sweat came from the Savior's noble brow as great drops of blood, and then see Him arraigned before the judges and Pilate, and afterward taken to Calvary and His innocent hands and feet nailed to the cross and His side pierced—after all this they deny Him, and say that He did not accomplish what He intended? Ah! Surely He did. Verily this was to redeem man from sin. "Wherefore Jesus also, that he might sanctify the people with his own blood, suffered without the gate." Hebrews 13:12.

Then you dear hungry souls that are trying to satisfy yourselves with the transitory things of this world, which will soon pass away, plunge into the fountain that is opened for you, and be made free from your sins. The church of God must be pure without spot or wrinkle, and the only remedy whereby we may be made pure is by the fountain that never loses its power. The deepest dye of sin can be made like wool; and though our sins be red like crimson, they shall be as snow.

But without this blood being applied to our hearts we will never be able to stand before the great bar of God. Our name signed to some card, or recorded on some earthly class-book will never eradicate the sins from our hearts. "Nay, verily, without the shedding of blood there is no remission of sin." O God, help the ministering servants to let down the hammer of God's eternal truth more and more on the deceptions of the devil, and help dear souls for whom Christ died "to awake to righteousness and sin not,"

and to see the awful opiates the devil is feeding them. Their hungry souls are crying out for something that will give peace and assurance and that will last when this old world is consumed—when we hear the last trump sound that will call us to stand before the bar of God to give an account "of the deeds done in the body." Oh, see to it, dear ones that you have been to the fountain, for this is the dressing room for eternity. If found without the wedding garment you will be cast into outer darkness where there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Jesus is standing with outstretched arms pleading for you to come, offering His mercies without money and without price. Will you refuse His offered mercy and choose your own way to hell? You are your own free moral agent. You can choose life or death. He says in His Word, "...Choose you this day whom ye will serve..." Joshua 24:15. God is "...not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." II Peter 3:9.

And while He has made the plan of redemption complete, He has also provided a way for the healing of our bodies of all manner of diseases; for we read in Malachi 3:6, "For I am the Lord, I change not...." Then He says He is the same yesterday, today, and forever. He healed when He was here among men, and gave the apostles power to heal when He left them. Oh, that we could find such faith as the poor woman that had an issue of blood twelve years. "For she said within herself, If I may but touch his garment, I shall be whole." Matthew 9:21-22. And we hear Him say, "...Daughter, be of good comfort, thy faith hath made thee whole." We must have faith, for it is impossible to please God without it. Says one, I can have faith for the saving of my soul or the reception of the Holy Spirit, but I cannot have faith for the healing of my body. Oh, what an insult to fling in the face of God. For He says, "Whether is it easier to say,...Thy sins be forgiven thee; or to say, Arise, take up thy bed and walk?" Mark 2:9. There is not a disease He cannot cure. He can cool the raging fever as easily as He stopped the raging waves of Galilee. Let each one that speaks the name of Jesus move out on the promises and prove God. He has never been known to forsake one that has real faith in Him. We should lay claim to the land our Father has willed us, and I am sure your faith will begin to mount up like the eagle, and you will be made to "run and not be weary, and walk and not faint." The fountain lies open and "whosoever will may come."

—*The Gospel Trumpet*, September 6, 1900.

FAITH AND VICTORY 12 PAGE HOLINESS MONTHLY



This non-sectarian paper is edited and published in the interest of the universal CHURCH OF GOD each month (except August of each year, and we omit an issue that month to attend camp meetings), by Willie Murphey, and other consecrated workers at the FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE, 4318 S. Division, Guthrie, OK 73044.

Notice to subscribers: When you move or change your address, please write us at once, giving your old and new address, and include your zip code number.

Dated copy for publication must be received by the 18th of the month prior to the month of issue.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES



Single copy, one year \$5.00
 Package of 5 papers to one address, one year \$20.00
 Larger quantities are figured at the same rate.

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.

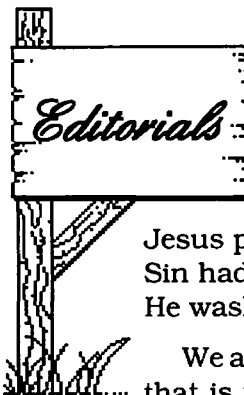
In order to comply with Oklahoma laws as a non-profit religious work, the Faith Publishing House is incorporated thereunder.

The *Faith and Victory* is published monthly, except August, for \$5.00 per year by:

FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE

P. O. Box 518, 4318 S. Division, Guthrie, OK 73044
 Office phone numbers: 405-282-1479, 800-767-1479;
 fax number: 405-282-6318.
 Internet address: <http://www.faithpublishing.com>

Postmaster: Send address changes to: *Faith and Victory*, P. O. Box 518, Guthrie, OK 73044.



"I hear the Savior say,
 Thy strength indeed
 is small,
 Child of weakness
 watch and pray,
 Find in Me thine all in all."

Jesus paid it all, All to Him I owe.
 Sin had left a crimson stain,
 He washed it white as snow."

We are entering a time of the year that is filled with many duties and obligations that place demands on our time. The extra activities that people often become involved with can also bring with them an additional load of stress that has the potential to negatively impact one's emotional and spiritual joy. It would be good for each one to evaluate the importance of those extra activities with the thought of eliminating the ones that are not really edifying and necessary. Sometimes our lives become cluttered with trivial matters that cause us more trouble than they are worth. If we had the foresight to avoid them, we would save ourselves much trouble. However there are things that come to us that we are unable to avoid and in these things we must find grace and strength from the Lord to be overcomers. There may be times that the load becomes so heavy that we feel unable to carry on. To those who are in such circumstances, may God reveal to you additional sources of strength through the love of our Savior that will bear you up and keep you from falling.

All of us understand the value of prayer, and the child of God knows how vital it is to take advantage of this valuable avenue to obtain the needed help in times of stress and trouble. However, there may be times of such stress that the verse encouraging us to "pray without ceasing" seems like an impossible "Thou shalt" that adds an even greater burden to our already heavy heart. Should this ever happen to you, please take note of the words of our Savior in Luke 18:1. "And he spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint." The Lord does not want us to faint, therefore He has so graciously offered us a way to draw strength from Him. Notice what Jesus said after ministering to the people from a mountain near the sea of Galilee "Then Jesus called his disciples unto him, and said, I have

compassion on the multitude, because they continue with me now three days, and have nothing to eat: and I will not send them away fasting, lest they faint in the way." Matthew 15:32. If we will continue to commune with the Lord, be assured that He will also provide grace, strength, wisdom and spiritual food to keep us nourished so that we do not "faint in the way" even if it becomes necessary that He perform a miracle to fulfill His love to us.

There may be times that you feel the Lord has deserted you. You feel your prayers are not heard, God seems far away and the enemy surrounds you. As the poet said, "In times like these, you need an anchor." Our faith in God is that anchor, and we must hold to Him in spite of the raging sea of trouble that surrounds us. Job experienced the winds of adversity that destroyed his possessions and sorely afflicted his body, but his faith in God kept him from heeding the advice of his foolish wife to curse God and die. His faith kept him from acting in a rash way that would have destroyed his soul. God rewarded Job's faith by restoring much more than he lost. When in trying times such as this, actively bolster your faith and pursue the Lord. We are told in Acts 17:27 to, "...Seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after him, and find him, though he be not far from every one of us:" David prayed for the Lord to be near him in Psalm 38:21-22 he said, "Forsake me not, O LORD: O my God, be not far from me. Make haste to help me, O Lord my salvation." David believed the Lord and found that His rod and staff were a comfort as he walked through the valley of the shadow of death, for God delivered him from evil time and time again. David's testimonies of God's deliverance are an encouragement to us even today. Our Heavenly Father is not far from His children, we are precious to Him. "For thus saith the LORD of hosts...for he that toucheth you toucheth the apple of his eye." Zechariah 2:8.

To keep from fainting by the way, our soul must learn to have patience and how to wait on God. Those who are ruled by passion will never succeed in the Christian race. It is not always easy to wait. In fact, it is probably one of the hardest lessons a child of God must learn. When we have a trial or affliction we want the Lord to answer immediately, and when He doesn't we are in a quandary. Instead of becoming all

worked up over the delay, we should just calm down and wait for Him to work His perfect will in our lives. Patience must be learned by the trial of your faith. Isaiah 40:31 clues us in to this powerful secret to success and spiritual strength. "But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew *their* strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; *and* they shall walk, and not faint." Never allow your fears and unbelief to motivate you to do things you will later regret. Wait for your deliverance that will come from the Lord. You will be so glad and thankful that you did. "Wait on the LORD: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the LORD." Psalms 27:14. A real secret to peace comes when we learn Psalm 37:7, "Rest in the LORD, and wait patiently for him..." If we can rest in Him while we wait, our soul will find refreshment.

A true child of God wants to bear righteous fruit in their life, therefore they must be willing to submit to the purging and chastisements of the Lord. It is necessary that those things that will defile us be removed from our life, for they will be a hindrance to others as well as our own spiritual growth. Sometimes His dealings with us seem terribly harsh to the flesh, but if we will humbly submit to Him He will bring forth a work of beautiful art that reflects His image. "...My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him: For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth." Hebrews 12:5-6. "Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every *branch* that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit." John 15:2. Let not the Lord's dealings cause you to faint for they are carefully balanced and judicially applied in love for your good. If you will respond properly, your joy and intimacy with God will be wonderfully improved. Wisdom will teach you to submit quickly to the Lord; bear His dealings patiently and soon you will be able to rejoice with the Psalmist who wrote, "Sing unto the LORD, O ye saints of his, and give thanks at the remembrance of his holiness. For his anger *endureth but* a moment; in his favour *is* life: weeping may endure for a night, but joy *cometh* in the morning." Psalms 30:4-5.

Often when one comes near the point of exhaustion, the cause can be traced to the focal

point of their heart and mind. If we are drawn to the things of this earth we will find our spiritual strength grows weak. If we focus on our precious Savior and meditate on Heavenly things, our strength will be refreshed. There are many things around us that will try to crowd into our mind and displace our focus; events, people, ambitions, entertainment, wealth, real estate, fashion and education are only a few of the host of earthly pursuits that can leave a soul starving for God. Jesus gave the parable of the sower in the thirteenth chapter of Matthew, which clearly illustrates this principle. "He also that received seed among the thorns is he that heareth the word; and the care of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, choke the word, and he becometh unfruitful." Matthew 13:22. Seek the aid of the Lord in helping you know how to remove the thorns from your life that will choke you and leave you gasping for God and His words of life.

May we never allow satan to obscure from our minds the love and compassion that God has toward the struggles of His children. For the Scriptures tell us that God is love. All of His dealings with us are in love. A precious verse in Jeremiah 29:11 says, "For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end." When one fully comprehends the truth of this verse, they will find a source of power that can transform the dark clouds of the evil one into blissful sunshine. As the familiar passage in John 3:16 states, "For God so loved the world that he gave..." What did He give? His dearly beloved Son. Such great love, manifested in giving so much, should convince our soul that surely He will help His children when they call on Him. When we submit ourselves into His tender care, He will enable us to succeed in the trials of this terrestrial journey and one glorious day we will victoriously obtain the crown of life.

On October 14, our mother-in-law, Sis. Lillian Eck, who is being cared for here at the Print Shop, fell in her room and sprained her back. Her back has improved but on November 7, she suffered a stroke that has disabled her right arm and leg. We are thankful that her speech has not been severely affected. She loves the Lord and appreciates the prayers of the Saints in her behalf. Please continue to remember her in prayer.

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

Nearing the Goal

*A strange, sweet vision fills my soul,
A glimpse of glory and of God;
Am I not near life's final goal?
My feet scarce touch this mortal sod.*

*The zephyrs blow divinely sweet.
With fragrance fill the balmy air;
Are Heaven and earth about to meet?
Who can this vision bright declare?*

*I hear the notes of seraph song,
The rustle of an angel's wing;
Do signs like these to earth belong?
Do men and angels meet to sing?*

*Life's journey seems about complete;
I con it well, yet know not why.
My heart with longings is replete,
And yet I do not long to die.*

*A holy calm my bosom fills,
And silence like the hush of morn;
Such joy through all my being thrills
As swept men's hearts when Christ was born.*

*Amid the crowds I look around
To see who bear love's fragrant flower;
I fain would walk on holy ground
Made sacred by the Spirit's power.*

*God has the keeping of my ways,
His laws I reverence and obey;
My prayers seem almost turned to praise,
And yet I can not cease to pray.*

*If this is death, I do not dread
To lay me down in peace to die—
To be with all the sainted dead,
Far, far beyond the arching sky.*

—Selected



OH—Please remember me in prayer that I will be able to walk again. I have trouble in my back and knees. Also remember my daughter, Rachael Ashby, who has cancer.

—Bro. Eugene Burford

CA—I have prayer requests for Ellen and Cynthia who are having trouble with their knees, Dave who has prostate cancer and Sue who has cervical cancer. Also pray for my wife that she could find employment.

—Bro. Don Viser



Standing Prayer Requests

Bro. Carlos Arriaga
 Sis. Gladys Cashio
 Sis. Helen Carson
 Sis. Genevive Carver
 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. Elsie M. Offerman
 Sis. Melba Powell
 Sis. Marilyn Rendall
 Bro. Vernon Robinson
 Sis. Ruth Shehee
 Sis. Cheryl Smith
 Bro. Michael Smith
 Bro. Rodney Sorrell
 Bro. Edward and Sis. Gloria Taylor
 Sis. Imogene Taylor
 The Mitch Taylor family
 Sis. Norma Tiller
 Bro. Delmar Wilkins
 Sis. Anneta Williamson

MEETING DATES

California State (Pacoima)—

December 26-January 4

Oklahoma State (Guthrie)—

December 26-January 4



MEETING NOTICES

CALIFORNIA STATE ASSEMBLY MEETING

The California State Assembly Meeting will be held, Lord willing, from December 26, 2008 to January 4, 2009. The address of the campground is: 12312 Osborne Place, Pacoima, CA 91331. The first service will begin at 7:30 p.m. Friday, December 26, with three services daily thereafter.

For more information contact either the Sunset Guest Home at (818) 899-2022, Bro. Paul Phillips at (661) 251-6956, or Bro. Herbert Clay at (818) 897-1396.

We welcome everyone to come expecting a special blessing from the Lord.

OKLAHOMA STATE ASSEMBLY MEETING

The Oklahoma State Assembly Meeting of the Church of God will be held at Guthrie, OK, from December 26 to January 4. A hearty welcome is extended to all to attend this annual gathering of God's people in the central area of the U.S. The first service will be held Friday evening, December 26, at 7:30 p.m. Daily worship services throughout the remainder of the meeting will start at 10:30 a.m., 2:00 p.m., and 7:30 p.m. There will also be morning prayer services and youth services, the times of which will be announced at the meeting.

The campgrounds are located east off of Sooner Road on Lakeview Road, which is a little over four-tenths of a mile south of the intersection of South Division and Sooner Road. All who come will be cared for. The expenses of the meeting will be met by freewill offerings.

We especially urge the saints in Oklahoma and the surrounding states to attend this meeting. Come praying with a burden for the unsaved and for all those who need help in soul and body. Please send all contributions for the coming State Assembly Meeting directly to the State Treasurer, Sis. Brenda Wilkins, 807 W Lake Rd, Guthrie, OK 73044.

To obtain further information about the meeting, contact the pastor, Bro. Stanley Dickson (405) 260-8822.



LETTERS FROM OUR READERS

LA—Dear Family of God: Greetings in Jesus Dear name. Truly I can say with the psalmist, "Bless the Lord O my soul..., Bless the Lord O my soul and forget not all his benefits...." I want to thank you for the prayers for me. The Lord has touched me and blessed me so much spiritually and physically. I am much more mobile and able to help care for myself. I do praise the Lord! Yours in Christ, —Sis. Dorall Forbes



LA—Greetings to all in our Lord's name. Praise our eternal heavenly Father for all He is and all He means to us who know His love and mercy. As we follow on, He will teach us more of His wondrous ways. Our Captain never lost a battle...!!!

He is working out His purpose, Fear not. Only trust Him, He knows how and when. Hold fast and doubt not, it is time now for a great awakening. The dictionary says: a religious awakening.

A quote from former President Ronald Reagan, "If we ever forget that we are one nation under God, then we will be a nation gone under."

Food for thought to all. With love and prayers, —Sis. Gladys S. Cashio



OK—Dear Bro. Willie and Sis. Neta: Greetings in the lovely and mighty name of Jesus our Lord. I have been blessed with the thought of Jesus bearing our sins on the cross, and in so doing He was bearing the image of the Father. Hebrews 1:3 says He was the "express image" of the Father. Everything He did while here was bearing witness of the Father. In this we can see how much the Father loved us. He loved us and washed us from our sins that we might be fit to live with Him in eternity.

He says He is able to make all grace abound toward you. It is said that Jesus endured the cross for the joy that was set before Him. That joy was our salvation. So we too can endure for the joy that is set before us. We are joint-heirs with Christ. (Romans 8:17.)

Thank you for your prayers. Wife is some better.

Your brother in Christ, —T. V. McMillian



KS—Hello Bro. Willie: God has blessed us so much! We don't know why He allowed the water pipe to come loose in our house while we were away (42,000 gal.), but His grace has been in rich supply, and we are getting things back in order. We lost very little, as most of the water drained outside before getting very high.

We love to serve Him.

—Bro. Herschel and Sis. Jeanne Eck



MO—Dear Ones: Just a few lines to let all of you know that I am so glad for my brothers and sisters in the Lord. I don't know how to thank you all enough for what you have done. The Lord heard your prayers and helped me this far. I don't think I would be here without all the prayers. I do want to thank you all for the love offerings that were given to me, the prayers, cards, letters and phone calls. May the Lord bless you all. It doesn't seem like I can write to each one like I should, but the Lord knows my heart is full of love for all of you.

I have congestive heart failure. On about September 5, I came home and was so weak I had trouble getting into the house. I have not been out of the house since then. I can walk a little bit without my walker but during the night I use it. Five or six times I have been dizzy. Twice I felt like I was upside-down and one time my wife held my arm so I didn't fall off the chair. I have much swelling in my body and draining sores on both legs. The sores are drying up, I am losing weight and my blood pressure was normal today. Thank the Lord!!

I rest a lot better in the lift-chair the Saints got for me. I am unable to lie down to sleep so I sit in the chair to do my sleeping.

I love you as brothers and sisters in the Lord. With Christian love, —Bro. Clayton Gaines



TX— Bro. Willie and Sis. Neta: Greetings in the name of Jesus, we are thankful for the

blessings of God. We have special thanksgiving for the protecting mercy unto our niece. On September 3rd, our niece disappeared from our home (Texas) while I was at work. Many Saints united in prayer across the states for her location and safety. We are thankful God spared her life, she was found about a week later in Georgia, thank the Lord. Please continue to remember her soul, mind and body.

We are also thankful we were able to be by our mother's bedside before she passed. She, Sis. Olive Davenport, left us a spiritual legacy. I am more determined than ever to gain my eternal crown. Praise the Lord!

—Sis. Lois Johnson
— — — — —

WV—Dear Bro. Willie and Sis. Neta: Greetings in Jesus' holy name. I am encouraged to have a wonderful Savior that saved us from our sins.

I want to thank each one for the cards sent on my eightieth birthday. May the Lord's blessings be upon all. I'll remember all in my prayers. Love,

—Bro. Donald Sharp, Sr.
— — — — —

MO—Dear Saints and praying friends: I feel that I must send out this email this evening to let you know about the wonderful VICTORY the Lord has given us today, so that you can rejoice with us. As many of you know, my dad (Bro. Thurman Sorrell) has been in a very serious battle with heart trouble for about the past 6 weeks. There was only about one day out of the past 6 weeks that he didn't have at least one light attack. This week his attacks became much more severe. He had a severe one Monday, then yesterday afternoon he had a **very severe one**. He thought it was going to be his time to go. My mother called me to come. I went up there and Dad was sitting on the side of the bed, very pale, and Mom was wiping his face with a washcloth. He really looked bad. He was having a very severe heart attack, one that even caused him to try to vomit. He was in such misery in his chest he didn't feel he could last much longer. I joined in with Mom in prayer and we called earnestly on the Lord to have mercy. After about 5 or 10 minutes he began to get relief. He was able to lie down and rest. I stayed with him for quite awhile, then had to leave to go back home and do some things. Around 2 hours

later he began having another attack. My brother, Dennis, came and told me I needed to come back up there. He said, "I'm afraid he's getting close to the end." I hurried back, but by the time I got there Dad was feeling better.

We had called or contacted some of you for prayer yesterday afternoon and evening, and we were earnestly begging the Lord to have mercy and spare Dad if it could be His will. He had a very bad night last night. He felt that he wasn't going to make it, so he got a tablet and began writing out things we needed to know to do with the livestock after he was gone. For some reason, I woke up around 4:00 a.m. and couldn't go back to sleep. I lay on my bed praying for Dad. Little did I know that he also got up around that same time. Evidently he was doing some soul-searching. He was sitting in his recliner in the living room battling with thoughts of whether or not he should put himself totally in the Lord's hands or go to the hospital and see if the doctors could do something. He said the Lord began talking to him. Finally he made a consecration to die for the Lord's sake, if that was what the Lord wanted.

I can't tell this quite like Dad tells it, but after he made that consecration, something happened! He said he felt a warm feeling of some kind begin going through his chest. He said it started on the left side and went all the way across his chest. He said he never felt anything like it in all his life. After it got finished all the pain and discomfort in his chest was gone! He felt perfectly normal again! As of 6:40 p.m. this evening he has not had another attack and has felt fine all day. He feels the Lord has healed him. Praise the Lord! He has been rejoicing and calling people all day and telling them about his wonderful experience. We've all been rejoicing and shedding a lot of tears of joy. We just want to let you all know so you can rejoice with us. "Praise ye the LORD. O give thanks unto the LORD; for *he is good*: for his mercy *endureth* for ever. Who can utter the mighty acts of the LORD? *who* can show forth all his praise?... Remember me, O LORD, with the favour *that thou bearest* unto thy people: O visit me with thy salvation; That I may see the good of thy chosen, that I may rejoice in the gladness of thy nation, that I may glory with thine inheritance." Psalm 106:1-2,4-5.

—Bro. Harlan Sorrell



Jerry Lee Quave was born, April 27, 1933, to Frank and Rubye Quave in Madisonville, Louisiana, and passed from this life, November 26, 2008, at his home in Guthrie, OK. His maternal grandparents were natives of Kingston, Jamaica, British West Indies. His father passed away when Jerry was eight years of age, and for a short time afterwards he lived in an orphanage.

Bro. Jerry's family was introduced to the Church of God Evening Light Saints in Hammond, Louisiana. For a time in his youth, Jerry lived with Bro. Ernest and Sis. Eva Mitchell of Jena, Louisiana. He spent several years there, attending school and worship services. Their influence helped to mold his young life and helped create in him a strong desire for the things of God. He was saved as a young man and began his life of service to the Lord. Later he traveled with Bro. Charles Smith and Sis. Katherine Key, who were ministers in the Church, assisting them in the Gospel work.

Jerry was a great prayer warrior. As anyone knows who has ever heard him pray, he seemed to have such a personal contact with God as he spoke to the Lord. He was a man who had, and exhibited, great faith. He received many miracles in his life and witnessed many other miraculous instances in the lives of others.

In 1965 Jerry married the love of his life, Sharon Eileen Flynn. Bro. Jerry and Sis. Sharon's home and life was blessed by the birth of their daughter, Deborah Eileen.

Jerry was preceded in death by his parents; two sisters, Betty and Teresa; and two brothers, Victor and Frank.

He is survived by his wife Sharon of their home in Guthrie; one daughter Deborah Shaffer and husband, Craig, of Guthrie; two grandchil-

dren, Tiffany Sheree and Corey Devon of Guthrie; one brother, Roger Quave of Ponchatoula, Louisiana; three sisters, Joyce Griffin of Baker, Louisiana, Patsy Chestnut of Vine Grove, Kentucky, and Ruth Quave of Snow-Camp, North Carolina, as well as a host of saints and dear friends.

Funeral services were conducted at Smith-Gallo Funeral Home in Guthrie, OK, officiated by Brothers Ed Wilson, Stanley Dickson and Carl Shaffer, with interment at Summit View Cemetery in Guthrie.



WE CHOOSE OUR DESTINY

Man is not a mere machine, the creature of uncertain destiny. He has a will and can choose the right or wrong. When responsible years come upon us, we choose the road we travel, either the broad way of sin or the narrow way of righteousness. I am what I am today, not by a sovereign eternal decree independent of my own will, but by a personal choice of my own. Through Jesus Christ, God made such a choice possible, and I selected the way of life. If I am faithful until death, I shall receive a crown of life. It is up to me to make good. If through unfaithfulness I forfeit my crown, who but myself is responsible?

"I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live." Deuteronomy 30:19. Whatsoever else this meant to Israel, it shows that they were responsible. "...Choose you this day whom ye will serve....as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." Joshua 24:15. "I have *chosen* the way of truth..." Psalm 119:30. "...Refuse the evil, and *choose* the good." Isaiah 7:15. "...Mary hath *chosen* that good part..." Luke 10:42. Life, then, is the result of a choice, and we ourselves make it.

But suppose people reject the good and choose the evil. Will not certain punishment fall upon them? Here is the Bible answer: "Therefore will I number you to the sword, and ye shall all bow down to the slaughter: because when I called, ye did not answer; when I spake, ye did not hear; but did evil before mine eyes, and did *choose* that wherein I delighted not." Isaiah 65:12. They brought judgment upon their own heads. "How long, ye simple ones, will ye love simplicity? and the scorners delight in their scorning, and fools hate knowledge? Turn you at my reproof: behold, I will pour out my spirit

unto you, I will make known my words unto you. Because I have called, and ye refused; I have stretched out my hand, and no man regarded; but ye have set at nought all my counsel, and would none of my reproof: I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when your fear cometh; When your fear cometh as desolation, and your destruction cometh as a whirlwind; when distress and anguish cometh upon you. Then shall they call upon me, but I will not answer; they shall seek me early, but they shall not find me: for that they hated knowledge, and did not choose the fear of the LORD: They would none of my counsel: they despised all my reproof. Therefore shall they eat of the fruit of their own way, and be filled with their own devices." Proverbs 1:22-31. Comment could not make stronger the fact expressed in this scripture that we choose our destiny, and when unmitigated wrath and judgment fall in awful severity we are simply eating the fruits of OUR OWN WAY. It is our selection, the result of our own devices.

"...Judas by transgression fell, that he might go to his own place." Acts 1:25. *First.*—Every person has his own place here and hereafter. There is a place that God intends us all to fill, and there is room for all, room and place in the covenant of promise, in the great plan of salvation, in the provisions of divine grace, in the Kingdom of Heaven, in the church of God, in the great harvest-field of work and endeavor, and at the Lord's rich table. We differ in talents and opportunities yet all can find a place of usefulness and efficiency. There is a place of responsibility in every home, community, and in the world at large. No one can fill *our* place, so we should be satisfied and faithfully fill it. But many, like Judas Iscariot, forfeit their place, and deliberately choose another.

Second.—Every person really makes his own place here and hereafter. Ours is a self-made destiny. Men, by hard work, self-sacrificing, and sterling character have created for themselves a place in government, in inventive and commercial fields, and in the religious realm. It is in the power of every one of us to make a place for himself among the noble and pure, or among the low, vile, and wicked—to be a real success, or a miserable failure. And just as truly, we are making our own destiny in Heaven or Hell.

Third.—Every person finds his place here and hereafter. You will notice some rushing to the race-course, the card table, the gambling dens, the red-light district, the loafers' corner, the dance, and the theater. They are simply

finding their place. Others go to the place of honest business, the library, the study-room, the family circle, and the church. *Question.*—Where may those who know you best most reasonably expect to find you? The answer is an index to your character. The place does not make the man; he just finds his proper place, that is all, the place best suited to him.

Some people's place in the local, visible church seems to be that of grumblers, pickers, fault-finders, and retarders of spiritual progress. Such individuals easily and quickly find their company—folks just like them. And the deeply spiritual, devoted, and hard workers among the Lord's people naturally flow together. Judas felt more at home with a band of murderers that night than with Jesus and His true disciples. "He went out quickly, and it was dark." This will be true hereafter. Judas committed suicide and died in disgrace, "that he might go to his own place," a place best suited and fitted for one who betrayed and sold his Christ. At death he found "his place." "...He which is filthy [here], let him be filthy STILL... [in the eternal world.]" Revelation 22:11. Righteous Noah and the wicked antediluvians could not go to the same place. Neither Lot and the Sodomites, King Saul and David, Judas Iscariot and the beloved disciple John, Herod and James, nor Nero and Paul. It is the law of spiritual gravitation.

Fourth.—Every person will feel that it is his place when he gets there. This is true now. A gambler or sensualist feels perfectly at home in the company of like characters, and such people certainly feel out of place in a red-hot, Holy Ghost religious service. And a devout saint of God feels at home in a spiritual meeting and enjoys spiritual work. Such a one feels clear out of place in a modern dance hall or red-light district. In such a place and with such company he is like a bird in the water or a fish in the tree-top, clear out of his element, away from his true environment. Thus we all *make* our place, *find* our place, and feel at home when we get there. This will be true also in eternity. Judas went to "his own place." He feels it is his place, the abode he deserves. He could not feel at home in Heaven with Christ and the faithful apostles. At death, Lazarus was carried by the angels to his place—paradise—where he is "comforted." The rich man who lifted up his eyes in hell and was tormented knew it was his place. He was concerned that the rest of his folks on earth be warned not to come to that awful place of torment. —Taken from *Beyond the Tomb*.

Sometime, Somewhere

*Unanswered yet? The prayer your lips have pleaded
In agony of heart these many years?
Does faith begin to fail? Is hope departing?
And think you all in vain those falling tears?
Say not the Father hath not heard your prayer;
You shall have your desire, sometime, somewhere.*

*Unanswered yet? Though when you first presented
This one petition at the Father's throne,
It seemed you could not wait the time of asking,
So urgent was your heart to make it known.
Though years have passed since then, do not despair;
The Lord will answer you sometime, somewhere.*

*Unanswered yet? Nay, do not say ungranted,
Perhaps your part is not wholly done;
The work began when first your prayer was uttered,
And God will finish what He has begun.
If you will keep the incense burning there,
His glory you shall see, sometime, somewhere.*

*Unanswered yet? Faith cannot be unanswered;
Her feet are firmly planted on the rock,
Amid the wildest storms she stands undaunted,
Nor quails before the loudest thunder shock,
She knows Omnipotence hath heard her prayer,
And cries, "It shall be done, sometime, somewhere."*

Faith Publishing House
P.O. Box 518
Guthrie, OK 73044