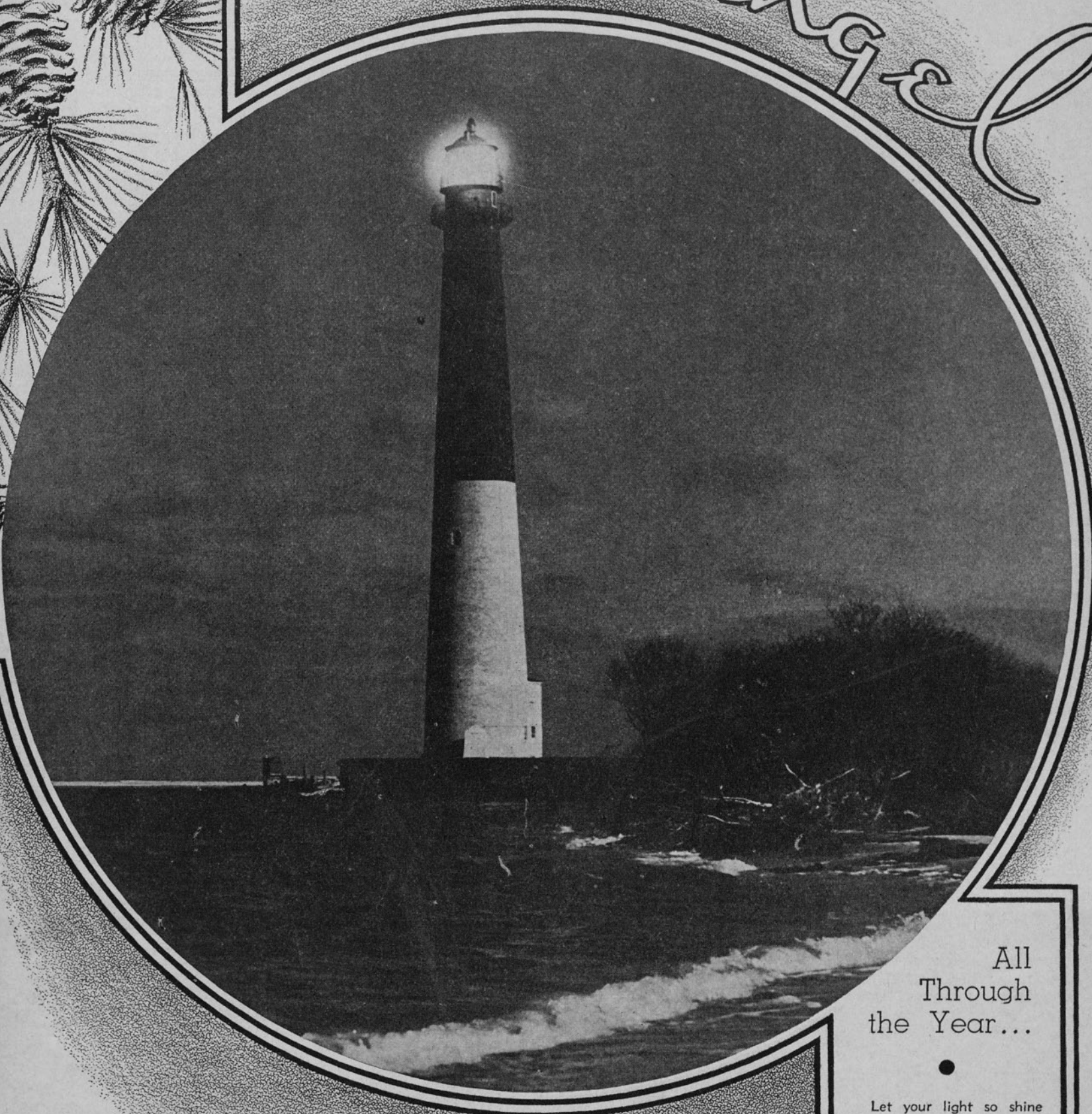
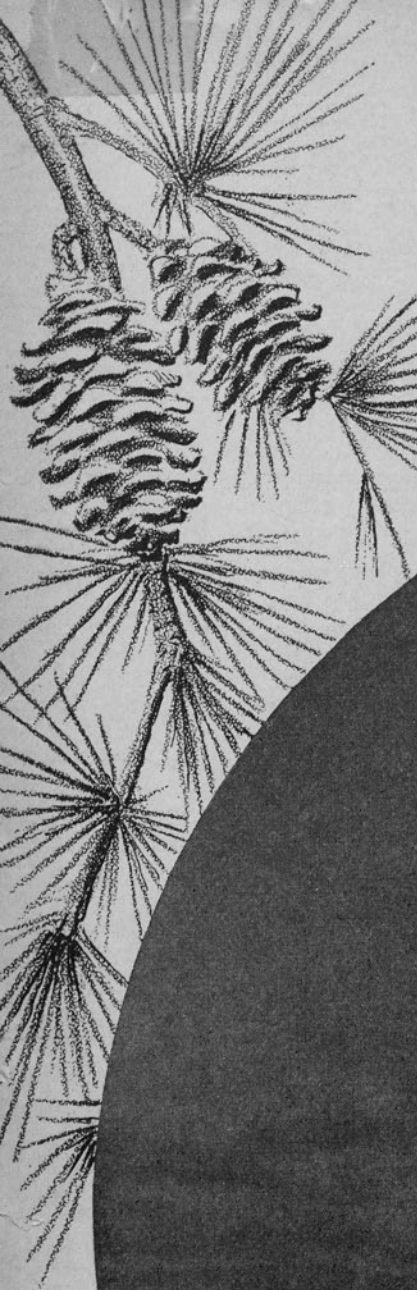


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# The PENTECOSTAL Evangelist



All  
Through  
the Year...

●  
Let your light so shine  
before men, that they may  
see your good works, and  
glorify your Father which is  
in heaven. Matt. 5:16.



## Seek Ye the Lord

Ernest S. Williams

**J**OEL predicted a very serious time for Israel. An invader was to come into their land bringing desolation. The sound of war should be heard and the earth should quake. It was a warning of terrible sorrows.

As the prophet sounded his warning he also revealed why the invasion was to be permitted. He called to the drunkards to awake and weep, to the virgins to lament, to the ministers to gird themselves, lament, clothe themselves with sackcloth and howl. The sad picture shows the desolations and sorrows that can come to those who spurn the mercies of the Lord and do despite to the Spirit of grace.

Then in the midst of the description of coming desolations the prophet reveals what could save the nation from the horrors predicted. Only in true repentance was hope to be found. "Sanctify ye a fast, call a solemn assembly, gather the elders and all the inhabitants of the land into the house of the Lord your God, and cry unto the Lord." "Turn ye even to Me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning; and rend your hearts and not your garments, and turn unto the Lord your God." This was a call to national repentance.

For many years faithful ministers have warned the nations that judgment would come. On every side is the evidence of indifference if not of actual opposition to God. The warnings that have been given have been unheeded by the many. Beginning with the seeds of unbelief sown by those who considered themselves capable of criticizing the Bible, infidelity and lack of the fear of God has spread until the world stands now almost entirely apostate. The land is sown with writings of those who make light of such beliefs as life after death, a heaven to gain and a hell to shun. We frequently read after those who point to the old-fashioned meetings when sinners came under conviction and wept their way to God, as expressions of weakness and lack of proper intelligence and learning. To them the fear of God and of the future has lost its restraint on their march of iniquity.

Now, without doubt, God is visiting the nations. Humanity tries to settle the dispute through the battlefields of war. Would that God would help the people to see that returning to God would be more effective than many armies. Hear the promise of the Lord to those who would repent: "Then will the Lord be jealous for His land, and pity His people. Yea the Lord will answer and say unto His people, Behold, I will send you corn, and wine and oil, and ye

shall be satisfied therewith. Fear not O land, be glad and rejoice."

There are without doubt times when a nation must fight. Even in the days of David Israel had war. How different was it when they had the Lord on their side than when His wrath was provoked against them. When He was with them, they came off in triumph, when they apostatized He let them suffer even to captivity.

If there is to be a returning to God the Church must lead the way. It is time for the true children of God to take the needed step of repentance for indifference, and in some other instances other things which grieve the Spirit and provoke the Lord's displeasure. The priests, the ministers of the Lord were called upon to lead Israel back to God. The ministers should lead the way at present to the throne of grace.

The first week of the New Year has been set apart as a time to seek the Lord. May it be a time of earnest seeking that God will, first of all spare His spiritual heritage, the Church from reproach, then that He may spare the nations the misery to which they seem hastening. If revivals of returning to God with all the heart can be secured, God will intervene in behalf of those who seek Him. He will not respond to vain prayers which spring from unholy lips and hearts.

What a force may the united prayers of the people of God become. In almost all parts of the civilized world earnest prayer will be offered in behalf of present needs. The world is in a crisis. The eternal Sovereign by the Holy Spirit can accomplish great things for us. May we lay aside every weight and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and unite before God that He may

reveal Himself in the midst of His people, and in the affairs that so much concern us all.

Hear the exhortation of Hosea: "Oh Israel return unto the Lord thy God; For thou hast fallen by thine iniquity. Take with you words and turn to the Lord: Say unto Him, Take away all iniquity, and receive us graciously." Hear the response of Jehovah, "I will heal their backslidings, I will love them freely: For mine anger is turned away from him. I will be as the dew unto Israel: He shall grow as the lily, and cast forth his roots as Lebanon." "Who is wise, and he shall understand these things? Prudent and he shall know them? For the ways of the Lord are right, and the just shall walk in them."

May the New Year bring us nearer to God and be a time of great seeking for the Lord and His mercy.

### Intercession

Mr. Finney states that in the revivals of his day people would pray "whole nights, and until their bodily strength was quite exhausted, for the conversion of souls around them." He says of himself: "I felt that I would stagger under the burden that was on my mind, and I struggled and groaned and agonized. I could not present the case of God in words, but only in groans and tears."

If we are disciples of Christ, each one of us must seek to have as much of His Spirit as can be. If we are to be led by Him in the new and living way, to live with Him in the Holiest of All, we must, like Him, live here as pilgrims and strangers. —Andrew Murray

### He Knew How to Pray

A Highlander in the British army, during the war of the Revolution was caught one evening creeping out of a thicket just beyond the lines, evidently returning from some secret errand. The American outposts along the Hudson were then quite near those of the British, and being concealed in the forest, their exact number and distance were always uncertain. Under the circumstances, the Highlander was suspected of being in communication with the enemy. It was shortly after the execution of the Major Andre, and the enraged British were in no state to let a man go who was accused of sympathy with the Americans. The soldier was taken before his colonel and the witnesses of his presumed guilt told their story.

"What have you to say for yourself?" demanded the colonel, with a threatening frown.

"Only this, sir: I got away quietly from my comrades to pray a bit while in the bush, and was coming back when the soldiers took me."

"Are you in the habit of praying?" demanded the officer.

"Yes, sir."

"Then pray now. You never needed it more in your life." And the colonel took out his watch. Fully believing that he had but a few minutes to live, the Christian soldier knelt and poured out his soul in such language as only a friend of God could use. All who heard it were astonished, the commander himself among the rest.

"Go," said he, "you have told the truth. If you had not been often to drill, you could not have done so well at review."—Fred Hornshuh.

## Grandma Hu's

## Healing

A TRUE STORY FROM CHINA



**The Lord is my strength,  
and He will make my  
feet like hinds' feet, and  
He will make me to walk  
upon mine high places.**

Hab. 3:19

**A**N OLD Granny, known as Mother Hu, had heard of Jesus once in her life. Her married daughter had told her mother about Him when she came home for a visit in the New Year. However, all the old woman "took in" was that "Jesus can save people's souls." When she lay a-dying, literally starving to death before the eyes of her family by reason of a cancerous affection in her throat that prevented her from swallowing because of the pain it caused, she recalled that phrase.

"No hope now for this old *body*," she whispered to those around her. "But they tell me there is a Jesus. He can save a person's soul—so they say. Perhaps there is yet hope for *my* soul." Take me to Jesus, will you? I want to try."

There was a Chinese Church four miles away, so her family, presuming that Jesus lived there, decided to gratify their mother's dying wish by taking her to the place.

The Chinese elder was in the middle of his sermon when they arrived. Thinking the pulpit was likely the most efficacious spot, they pushed through the assembled worshippers and placed the old woman on a mat as near to it as they could. After the meeting closed, the elder and some other Christian men and women gathered round the pathetic little heap before the pulpit. When they discovered who the family was and the reason for coming, the elder told them the "old, old story of Jesus and His love." He explained it as he would to a little child.

"Do you understand?" he asked.

Mrs. Hu nodded slowly.

"Now," the elder continued, "the Lord Jesus is able, not only to save your soul as you put your trust in the blood shed for your sins, but, if it be His will, He is able to save your poor sick body as well. He wants you to know that He is the God who gave you your life in the first place, and that He is the God who can restore to you that life if He so wills. Oh, He differs so from those paper-and-clay gods in your home. Are you willing to be finished with those things for ever?"

Mrs. Hu thought for a moment, then said: "Yes, I am."

"All right, we'll pray for you." Laying his hands on her head, the elder lifted his voice to God in prayer for old Mother Hu: "Open Thou her heart that she may understand that she is a poor sinner and that Thou hast died for her sins—and, O Lord, show this whole family that Thou art a *living* God. Stretch forth Thy loving hand and heal this old mother of her sickness. Amen."

Expecting God to answer, one of the Christian women brought Mrs. Hu a bowl of hot broth to drink. Knowing the agony it would cause her, and yet not wishing to appear ungrateful to these new friends, Mrs. Hu received the bowl with both hands, and then, to her own and her family's

amazement, drank all the broth without the least discomfort.

"How are you feeling, Mother?"

"Why . . . just ordinary . . . so far, only . . . hungry." Soon two small, freshly-steamed loaves were placed before her. Accompanied by gasps of astonishment from her children—all grown-up men and women—and a chorus of "Praise the Lord" from the Christians, Mrs. Hu ate the loaves as painlessly and joyfully as any half-starved person would have done!

Before many months had passed she had regained her old vigor, a marvel to herself and to her entire village. Being illiterate, she could not search the Scriptures for herself; and since neither the evangelists nor those of us who were missionaries in that district could "fit in" her village with the many other needy centers that required our regular assistance, Mrs. Hu grew very hungry for a knowledge of the Lord. Nearing threescore and ten, she resolved she must learn to read. She was taught the Chinese phonetic alphabet. After three months she was able slowly to read the New Testament. Before we left the province she had read it through almost twelve times.

In her crowded little home she has fixed up a small chapel. On Sundays, when no one goes to lead the meeting, she herself stands up to tell those who gather what the Lord has taught her out of His Book. The Lord is teaching her. One is surprised at such spiritual maturity in one so new in the Faith.—From *Fruitful in Affliction*.

## Prayer Notes

John Taylor Smith

Who intercedes for his fellow men must not only live near, but draw near.

"And he said, Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak yet but this once: Peradventure ten shall be found there." Gen. 18:32.

Why did Abraham not ask on? God stopped when he stopped. When God answers prayer, let us go on and enrich those He brings to us.

"And it came to pass, when Moses held up his hand, that Israel prevailed: and when he let down his hand, Amalek prevailed." Exod. 17:11.

Prayer is not so much words as an attitude. The edge of Moses' prayer is sharper than young Joshua's sword.

"As his part is that goeth down to the battle, so shall his part be that tarrieth by the stuff: they shall part alike." 1 Sam. 30:24.

Both the one who prays and the one who fights shall share in the glory.

"And king Solomon gave unto the queen of Sheba all her desire." 1 Kings 10:13.

What a type of what Christ gives us when we visit Him in prayer.

"Son of man, I have made thee a watchman unto the house of Israel." Ezek. 3:17.

An important position. The safety of a city may depend on us. Let us give no uncertain cry.

"He (Daniel) kneeled upon his knees three times a day, and prayed, and gave thanks before his God, as he did aforetime." Dan. 6:10.

To cease to pray is to rob God of tribute and ourselves of comfort. It is a good thing to have fixed hours for prayer even if very busy.

"If ye abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you." John 15:7.

This promise is very wide; nothing is too small and nothing is too great to ask.

"But we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the word." Acts 6:4.

Prayer one half, first half, best half.

"Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving." Col. 4:2.

Prayer is a work demanding thought, care and preparation. Words without thought never to Heaven go.

"I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men." 1 Tim. 2:1.

Prayer gives a holy boldness and humble familiarity with God to all who use it. It is like a key whereby we may open God's treasury and take out plentiful mercy for ourselves and others.

"Without ceasing I have remembrance of thee in my prayers night and day." 2 Tim. 1:3.

May I pray like this for my converts and sons in the Lord Jesus.

## Importunate Prayer

In importunity there are various elements. Of these the chief are perseverance, determination, intensity. It begins with the refusal to at once accept a denial. It grows to the determination to persevere, to spare no time or trouble, till an answer comes. It raises to the intensity in which the whole being is given to God in supplication, and the boldness comes to lay hold of God's strength. At one time it is quiet and restful; at another passionate and bold. Now it takes time and is patient; then again it claims at once what it desires. In whatever different shape, it always means and knows: God hears prayer: I must be heard.

# "Keep Calm, Be Quiet, Fear Not"

A WORD FOR THE NEW YEAR

**W**HILE the world is filled with fear and forebodings, those who read the Scriptures have comfort, consolation and hope. A study of the 7th chapter of Isaiah, in the days of war, will bring to our hearts faith and courage.

The land of Judea had been ravaged by Rezin the king of Syria, and Pekah the king of Israel. When the men of Judah learned of the Syrians' confederacy with the children of Israel, who had separated from them, they were moved with intense fear. The trembling knees of the people were likened unto the trembling leaves of a tree.

In this hour of national crisis the Lord instructed the prophet Isaiah, "Go forth now to meet Ahaz (the king), thou, and Shearjashub thy son." Why was he to take his son with him? The reason is clear to us when we read the prophet's word in the following chapter, "I and the children whom the Lord hath given me are for signs and for wonders in Israel from the Lord of hosts." The name Shearjashub, as we see from the margin of our Bible, means "The remnant shall return." Because of their apostasy and sin Isaiah told them, "The Lord will carry thee away with a mighty captivity." But the promise was that a few, a remnant, a little flock of separated ones, would return to the land of blessing.

Every time the people saw Isaiah's son Shearjashub they were reminded of the judgment that would surely come to them, and also of the promise of God's mercy in days to come, when He would bring back a remnant to inherit the kingdom.

Turning to Heb. 2:13 we learn that the word given to Isaiah, "Behold I and the children which God hath given me," applies also to a greater prophet than Isaiah, even the Lord Jesus Christ.

The children God has given Him are also to be signs and wonders. Signs point in a certain direction, and every child of God is a sign who should point in the direction of the Lamb of God. Wonders draw attention, and because of the grace of God each saint should be able to say with David, "I am a wonder unto many."

The children of God today are to make known not only by their words but by their lives of watchfulness and prayer that they believe what is declared so clearly in the Holy Writ, that God will surely come forth in the last days to punish the world for its wickedness. But the message to the Lord's children who are signs and wonders is also,

"A remnant shall return." His meek ones shall return to inherit the earth when the Son of God shall reign over all the nations. When He comes back to have dominion from sea to sea, this remnant of holy ones will return to reign with Him.

In that hour of crisis in Judea, when fear was in every heart, Isaiah brought a word from the Lord (we quote from the Hebrew Masoretic text), "Be calm . . . be quiet, fear not, neither let thy heart faint because of these two tails (or stubs) of smoking firebrands." Judgment from the Lord was assuredly coming upon these wicked kings and the nations they represented.

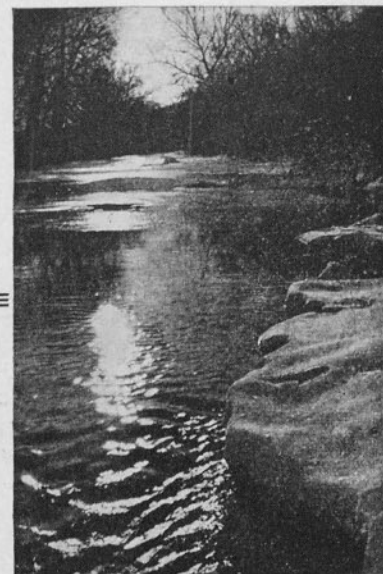
The prophet added a warning to Ahaz, "If ye will not believe (or if ye will not have faith), surely ye shall not be established." It is the old message which comes again with new power to us, "The just shall live by faith: but if any man draw back, My soul shall have no pleasure in him." Heb. 10:38.

Surely this word to Ahaz is a personal word to us these days, "Keep calm . . . be quiet, fear not." It is a call to enter into the secret place of the most High. Here, as a hen gathereth her brood under her wings, our Lord would cover us with His feathers. Under His sheltering wings we find a sure refuge, a safe place of trust. In this secret place we hear His still small voice declaring, "Because thou hast made the Lord, which is my refuge, even the most High, thy habitation; there shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling. For He shall give His angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways."

The Lord will invite His children: "Come, My people, enter thou into thy chambers, and shut thy doors about thee; hide thyself as it were for a little moment, until the indignation be overpast. For, behold, the Lord cometh out of His place to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity." Isa. 26:20, 21.

As for the smoking firebrands that we are seeing these days, their stubs will soon burn out. Judgment will come upon the nations that delight in war, and that unrighteously invade countries that are at peace with them. David assures us, "the Lord is in His holy temple, the Lord's throne is in heaven; His eyes behold, His eyelids try, the children of men. The Lord trieth the righteous, but the wicked and him that loveth violence His soul hateth. Upon the wicked He shall rain snares, fire and brimstone, and an horrible tempest: this shall be the portion of their cup." Psalm 11:4-6.

Isaiah had a further word for Ahaz. He



took him beyond the temporal to the eternal. The king was assured of the coming of the eternal Son of God, born of a virgin, who would be none other than Immanuel—God with us. It is this coming One who speaks to us today through His own eternal Word, "To Me belongeth vengeance, and recompense." Concerning the nations that forget God He says, "Their foot shall slide in due time: for the day of their calamity is at hand, and the things that shall come upon them make haste. . . . For I lift up My hand to heaven, and say, I live for ever. If I whet My glittering sword, and Mine hand take hold on judgment; I will render vengeance to Mine enemies, and will reward them that hate Me." Deut. 32:35, 40, 41.

But to those who put their trust in the Lord there is a different word, "The eternal God is thy refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms; and He shall thrust out the enemy from before thee." Deut. 33:27. In so safe a refuge our sighing is turned to song.

So in these days of war, and the days of distress that are surely ahead, remember the Word of the Lord, "Be calm, be quiet, fear not." Immanuel is coming, this time in flaming fire, to render vengeance on the wicked. But He, the Good Shepherd, will preserve His own little flock, and with Him they shall possess the kingdom. He shall have dominion from sea to sea, and unto the ends of the earth, and He will share His kingdom with His own.

The last reported words of Moses tell of the blessing reserved for the remnant of Israel, and for all the children of God who have come into covenant relationship with the God of Israel: "He shall thrust out the enemy from before thee; and shall say, Destroy them. Israel then shall dwell in safety alone: the fountain of Jacob shall be upon a land of corn and wine; also His heavens shall drop down dew. Happy art thou, O Israel: who is like unto thee, O people saved by the Lord, the shield of thy



THE PENTECOSTAL EVANGEL

Entered as second-class matter June 25, 1918, at post office at Springfield, Mo., under Act of March 3, 1879. Accepted for mailing at special rate provided in Sec. 1103, of Oct. 3, 1917, authorized July 3, 1913.

help, and who is the sword of thy excellency! and thine enemies shall be found liars unto thee, and thou shalt tread upon their high places." Deut. 33:27-29.

So keep calm, be quiet, fear not.—S. H. F.

### Prevailing Prayer

I will mention some things that a person must do in order to prevail in prayer.

1. He must pray for a definite object. He must have an object distinctly before his mind. Instead of having anything definite to say, many people pray for just what comes into their minds, the floatings of their imaginations. This is not effectual prayer.

2. Prayer, to be effectual, must be in accordance with the revealed will of God. There are three ways in which God reveals His will to men for guidance in prayer: (a) By His promises, (b) By His providences, and (c) By His Spirit.

3. Effectual prayer implies a desire for its object on an equal with its importance. If the desire for an object is strong, and is a benevolent desire, not contrary to the will and providence of God, the presumption is that it will be granted.

4. Prayer to be effectual must not be selfish, but dictated by a supreme regard for the glory of God. The temptation to selfish motives is so strong that there is reason to fear that a great many parental prayers never rise above the yearnings of parental tenderness. They do not think how such amiable and lovely children are dishonoring God by their sins. And that is the reason why so many prayers are not heard, and why so many pious, praying parents have ungodly children.

5. If you mean to pray effectually, you must pray a great deal. It is said of the Apostle James that after he was dead it was found that his knees were calloused like a camel's.

6. You must pray in faith. You need not look for an answer if you pray without any expectation of obtaining it.

7. Finally, prevailing prayer must be persevering prayer. Do not think you are prepared to offer effectual prayer, if your feelings will let you pray once for an object and then leave it. Most Christians come up to prevailing prayer by a protracted process. Their minds gradually become filled with anxiety about an object, so that they will even go about their business, sighing out their heart desires to God. Prayer is not effectual unless it is offered with an agony of desire. The Apostle Paul speaks of it as a travail of the soul. I have known persons to pray till the blood started from the nose; others till they were all wet with perspiration in the coldest of winter weather; others till their strength was all exhausted with the agony of their minds. Such prayers prevail with God.—Charles G. Finney.

### That Blessed Sameness

When Spurgeon was criticized for a sameness in his messages, he admitted, "Perhaps they are right. It is true that no matter where I take my text, whether it be in the Old Testament or the New, I immediately hit across country to Jesus Christ, and preach Him and His saving grace."

# The Week of Prayer

SUNDAY, JANUARY 4, TO SUNDAY, JANUARY 11, 1942

Sunday, January 4, to Sunday, January 11, 1942

**W**E ARE encouraged to learn of many in all parts of the world who purpose to give themselves to prayer during the first week of January.

One writes to recommend that during this week of prayer, at certain hours different leaders should be appointed. In some cases this may be practical. The responsibility of having to take charge for an hour and the necessity of being much in prayer for the Lord's leading, may prove a blessing to some.

When Andrew Murray, at the beginning of the century, sent out a call for a worldwide week of prayer, he offered some practical suggestions for each day. Believing that many ministers and saints will find something of this character helpful, we too are making a few suggestions.

### SUNDAY, JANUARY 4

**SCRIPTURE READING.** When conducting prayer services, we always recommend that the saints bring their Bibles to prayer meeting. May we suggest that those who lead draw attention to the following six scriptures: John 4:35; John 17:21; John 21:15-17; Acts 1:8; 1 Cor. 15:58; Rev. 3:2.

**THANKSGIVING.** "Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise: be thankful unto Him, and bless His name." Let us take time to worship and adore the Lord, to praise Him for His goodness, for His wonderful works to the children of men, for His daily load of benefits, His mercies new every morning, and His great faithfulness.

**CONFESSION.** Let each one confess to the Lord his own shortcomings and sins, and bring such under the blood of the Cross. Let us make humble confession to God that as a church and as individuals we have failed, and ask His forgiveness for the strife, the contention and the divisions that have marred our work.

**PRAYER.** For all men, including the 1,377,000,000 heathen and Mohammedans (1 Tim. 2:4), more than 30,000,000 of whom are dying each year. For all rulers. Pray for the life of our President. Pray for America and Canada.

### MONDAY, JANUARY 5

**SCRIPTURE READING.** Heb. 4:14-16; Isaiah 61:1-3; Psalm 93.

**THANKSGIVING.** For the liberty wherewith Christ has made us free, for liberty to worship the Lord according to the dictates of our own conscience, for an open Bible, and for the gift of the Holy Ghost.

**CONFESSION.** Of our failure as witnesses. That some of us have been building with hay, wood, and stubble instead of with gold, silver, and precious stones.

**PRAYER.** For vision, for courage, for a meek and quiet spirit. For all the work of the Lord and the workers. For missionaries who labor under trying circumstances.

For all the saints in war-ridden lands. Especially for all evangelical work in Europe.

### TUESDAY, JANUARY 6

**SCRIPTURE READING.** Rev. 21:2-6; Isaiah 62:6-9; John 17:20-26.

**THANKSGIVING.** For forgiveness, healing, redemption, crowning mercies, and complete satisfaction in Christ.

**CONFESSION.** Our lack of faith, failure in brotherly love, our pride, our prayerlessness and praiselessness.

**PRAYER.** For the Spirit to come down as rain upon the mown grass (all flesh is as grass). For Pentecost plus Pentecost. That the true church of God may come behind in no gift and may be abounding in the fruit of the Spirit. Pray for Africa.

### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7

**SCRIPTURE READING.** Psalm 133; 1 Cor. 3:3-8; 1 Cor. 13.

**THANKSGIVING.** For all that God is accomplishing through faithful witnesses. For the marvelous circulation of the Scriptures in our day. For the revivals we have seen in this century.

**CONFESSION AND HUMILIATION.** Our lack of unity, our failure as a church to evangelize our nation and the world, our lack of love and self-sacrifice in giving to missionary work, and our not praying for the missionary work as we should. Hag. 1:1-11; Mal. 3:10; Phil. 2:21.

**PRAYER.** That we may be one with Christ and with all His people. That we may by love-constrained service bring many to Christ in our day. For deliverance from all carnality, from exalting man, that the Lord alone be magnified. Pray that the Spirit may convict of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment. That when God's judgments are in the earth many may learn righteousness. Pray for Australia, New Zealand, and all the isles of the sea.

### THURSDAY, JANUARY 8

**SCRIPTURE READING.** Gen. 22:15-18; Psalm 79:8-13; Rev. 7:9-17.

**THANKSGIVING.** For all God's promises, and for our glorious hope.

**CONFESSION.** Our lack of full surrender, our lukewarmness, our indifference to Christ's call to service and sacrifice, our failure to go the way of the Cross.

**PRAYER.** For God's blessing on the work of the Sunday Schools throughout the whole world. For the work of child evangelism. For all our boys and girls in grammar schools, high schools, colleges, and universities. For all youth movements. For the work among the soldiers, sailors, air men, etc. For all evangelical efforts. For all prisoners of war. For those in jails and penitentiaries. For the circulation of the Scriptures, and that men and women may be constrained to read and heed the Word of God.

(Continued on Page Seven)

# Back to the Spot or Bethabara

Lee Krupnick

"Once more they tried to arrest Him, but He escaped their hands and went across the Jordan, BACK TO THE SPOT where John had baptized at first. THERE He stayed . . . And many believed in Him there." John 10:39-42, Moffatt's Translation.

THEY had tried by force to make Him their king. They had tried with stones to make Him their slave. Both dangers He had escaped. But His spirit was weary. The crisis could not long be averted. How was the future to be faced? He went away again, beyond the Jordan, BACK TO THE SPOT where John had baptized at first.

I remember on one occasion, a few years ago, when another reporter and I were assigned to cover the "Pretty Boy Floyd" case. "Pretty Boy Floyd" was the nation's number one convict, and the G-men were trying to capture him dead or alive. He was spotted hiding out in the Cookson hills. The law enforcement officers would not permit us to go with them. In these little, untraveled hills we were trying to find Pretty Boy's hideout, and as there were few guiding landmarks, we did not want to lose our way.

Suddenly, we came upon a bullet-riddled, battered and shelled shack. At this spot Pretty Boy, before he escaped, killed a deputy sheriff. The reporter said to me, "THAT will be our starting point, in case we lose our way." We passed the ruins of what had been the desperado's hideout. All that remained was the base of the shack.

The statement my companion made, "THAT will be our starting point," reminds me at this time of something that Matthew Arnold said in his writings about those fixed and constant halting places to which we can always resort for a fresh start, if our taste has become warped or vitiated, or if we have lost our way. There are certain classical passages in literature, there are certain outstanding events in history, where, by common consent, the spirit of man has scaled the highest peaks. There they shine, eternal and sublime; and it is always open to us to repair to them and take our bearings afresh, and measure ourselves and our achievements and our present line of conduct alongside of them.

The remark that my friend made several years ago, brings to my mind the hidden beauty of the Church of Christ, that it, indeed, fulfills that very function for all. Battered and shelled and razed very nearly to the ground by the ceaseless tide of warfare ebbing and flowing about her, she still remains one of those fixed and inviolable spots to which a wandering and benighted soul can repair to get his bearings and make a fresh start. Is there not something to which, or someone to whom, you can go back and be steadied?

This is what our Lord is doing here.

Everything seems to be going wrong; every avenue seems to be blocked; everything He says and does seems to be misunderstood. Life has become tangled and out of joint. He "went across the Jordan, BACK TO THE SPOT where John had baptized at first." There was nothing for Him in that hour of perplexity and discomfiture, but to go back to the very spot of His early vows and early experiences. Back He must go to Bethabara, back to renew the old contacts on the old hallowed ground,

where once the heavens had opened above Him, and the Holy Ghost had descended in bodily shape like a dove upon Him. Luke 3:21, 22.

What though the friend of His boyhood was dead and gone, the man who had baptized Him in water? There would be healing, in the remembrance of that day. Where the waters lapped and the reeds

sighed in the shaking wind, there would He be enabled to look upon His mission with serene eyes and restored soul. BACK TO THE SPOT where John had baptized in the old days! That, at any rate, was a memory and an experience which nothing could efface, the value of which no subsequent failure could lessen.

Where is our Bethabara (John 1:28), the place where once the heavens opened above our bowed heads, where we beheld a vision of life's purpose, where we came out of the waters, after we had had our sins blotted out in the blood of the Lamb?

Sometimes we come to places in life where we are so hard beset that there is nothing to do but get back posthaste to the scene of our early vows, where once we fought the battle out and obtained the "great peace." "BACK TO THE SPOT" where you gave your heart in full surrender to God; back to the memory of your first communion; back to the time when God so marvelously filled you with the precious Holy Spirit.

Ask yourself, dispassionately, if you ever touched a higher watermark than that in all your subsequent wanderings. You are a little wiser, perhaps, today. Wealthier, maybe; more traveled, more famous, more successful as the world imagines. But away over Jordan there is a SPOT, a little Bethabara, where the really big things were afoot in youth's fresh morning, long ago. Has earth been offering you its kingly crowns? Has fickle fortune been slinging its stones? Has life hurt and disappointed you? GET AWAY, BACK TO BETHABARA, "BACK TO THE SPOT," as your Lord and Master went.

But not in a moment of passing senti-

ment. That was a great resolution which arose in the homesick heart of the prodigal son, making him cry aloud, "I will arise and go to my father." Luke 15:18. Harlots and hogs and husks have made many a prodigal turn a longing eye to a beautiful and gracious and faraway past. And the very memory has been the bitterest portion of the cup of bitterness. "And he arose, and came to his father." It was not his longing thoughts but his trudging feet that brought him salvation.

And what is true of those impulses which lead to salvation for the sinner is equally true of those imperious summonses which call us back in our subsequent life to the place of dedication and consecration. In that hour when the forces of evil were massing against Him to thwart the pure intention of His soul, our Lord went away, back to the spot where once He had seen His life's vision and accepted His life's commission. God had been in that; of that He was quite sure. So was His friend John. There, at any rate, was a fixed point. Because of that, He set his face like a flint.

We read what the writer, moved by the Holy Ghost, says. He "went across the Jordan, back to the spot where John had baptized at first. There He stayed."

Sometimes we must do just that in grim desperation, determined that no power on earth or in hell shall budge us. "If I have to go down fighting, I will take my stand in this little ditch." Back to that spot, like a cony to the rocks, there to abide until it is safe to sally forth again. There Christ abode until the hour came when He went forth to carry the flag of the world's salvation to plant it upon a green hill.

"He . . . went across the Jordan, BACK TO THE SPOT where John had baptized at first." People will watch where you naturally go in life's dark hours. They will want to know where you shelter, for their own dark hour will be upon them before they know where they are. They will look to see if you have a Bethabara beyond Jordan where the hurling stones and the tinsel crowns alike can never come to mar your peace.

So did they watch our Lord. They watched Him go. They saw Him settle in Bethabara. They remembered all that they had heard the great Baptist preacher say about this Man. And the sequel is here, and it is very gracious. "BACK TO THE SPOT where John had baptized at first. THERE He stayed; and many came to Him, saying, 'John did not perform any sign, but all he ever said about this Man was true.' And many believed in Him there."

Many believed in Him there! It had come at last. They refused to believe when He spoke as never man spoke. They remained hardened even while they saw Him

The writer of this article is a Christian layman. For 20 years he has served as staff photographer for the Tulsa World. When Benjamin Disraeli, the Jew who became Prime Minister of Great Britain, was converted to the Christian faith, he did not call himself a converted but "a completed" Jew. Like Disraeli, Lee Krupnick is a converted sinner and "a completed Jew."

heal the sick and raise the dead. But when they saw Him fighting His own lone fight; when they saw Him repairing to that spot of consecration, where neither the kingly crowns offered by the fickle mob nor the hurtling stones flung by His enemies could affect Him, "many," we read, "believed in Him there."

They will. They may have been unimpressed by the words, and unmoved by the acts; but when they saw Him fighting His own fight, they came to Him, and, looking on Him once again "as He walked," they said, "Yes, John was right. He didn't put it a whit too strong, when he said that He was the Lamb of God."

"Many came to Him." They always will. It is one of the wonderful and gracious experiences of life that often we seem better able to attract and succor others in our times of weakness than in our hours of triumph and success. Faith is a shy bird. It mistrusts the shouts of certainty. John did no miracle. Well, what of it? He knew a good Man when he saw Him. He could tell when God was walking on this earth.

You may or may not believe what John the Baptist says about this Jesus. You may reserve your own judgment upon the teachings of the Church, as these men of long ago seem to have done. But the day will come when you will be forced to say, "Yes, the preacher was right." And in that hour you will come to Him too.

You may not be able to understand in what sense there are three Persons in the Godhead; you may not be able to understand how Christ, being the Son of God, could become Man, with a humanity complete and similar to our own. Phil. 2:7. But you will feel that nothing that has been said of Him is too high to be true, when you find Him facing the battles of life as you have to face them, and fighting them with the same kind of weapons which you yourself must employ. Heb. 4:15; Matt. 4:1. You will come to feel that this Man has mastered life, and that nothing in nature or life can defeat Him.

Language which, used by another, would seem extravagant, when applied to Him seems natural. Claims which, if made for another, would be rank blasphemy, about Him are just the bare and meager truth. The most stupendous claims that ever have been made for Him seem somehow justified. You will feel that somehow, beyond the power of words to utter or the ability of man to comprehend, God was indeed in Him, bearing away the sin of the world.

Life has a way of driving us all back to our Bethabaras beyond Jordan. And if those first and early loves were for "whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report" (Phil. 4:8), you will not be left comfortless. Where the Son of God sheltered and succored His soul, and found strength to go on and face all that lay before Him, you too will find grace to renew your vows of youth. You will see that the seeming defeats and disappointments you have met are not unconnected with the victory which shall yet be yours. 1 John 3:1, 2; 2 Tim. 4:8; 1 Peter 1:4. Dear ones, you will pray for faithfulness to the vision which once you saw.

## Triumphing Over Enemies

God asks a question in the second Psalm, "Why do the heathen (or nations) rage, and the people imagine a vain thing?" Later, we read, "The Lord shall have them in derision." Then He makes the declaration, "Yet have I set My King upon my holy hill of Zion."

In the council of God, Christ is there. You must have the eye of faith to see where God has placed Him. In the natural eye you see Him despised, set aside, rejected. But the eye of faith sees Him seated in power and authority, ruling as King on the hill of Zion where God has placed Him.

Have you seated Him as King in your heart? Is He *in* your Zion, or in the outer court of your temple? If you have not placed Him high enough, give Him the highest position today. God declares, "Yet have I set my king upon my holy hill of Zion." Trust Him to put Jesus on the *highest* pinnacle of your life, and when so placed He will reign, and control the lower parts of your nature. He will not let the enemy defile any part of your nature against your will.

You have nothing to fear from the rage or the imaginations of your spiritual enemies. God says He will hold them in derision. Those enemies who have been worrying you, God recognizes as *His* enemies. Instead of their mocking you, the time

will come when He will mock them. Prov. 1:26. In Joshua's day, the children of Israel put their foot on the neck of the kings who opposed them, so Jesus Christ will tread on the neck of every kingly enemy, and deliver you from them.

Saul, through disobedience, spared Agag, the king of the Amalekites, when the command was given to utterly destroy all. But Samuel came along, and hewed Agag in pieces before the Lord. The natural man wants to spare King Agag and the *best*. Have you not also spared your spiritual enemies through disobedience. Hand over your enemy to your Samuel, who will "slay utterly" with the sword of His mouth.

Jesus said to those who were accusing the woman who had been taken in the act of adultery, "He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her." Convicted by conscience, they went out one by one, from the eldest, even to the youngest. Then Jesus asked the woman, "Where are those thine accusers?" And He spoke comfortingly to her. Let *your* spiritual enemies be *His* enemies. How can you do it? By recognizing your tormentors as God's enemies.

God has set His Son upon His holy hill of Zion, and you have a right to be seated together with Him in the heavenly places. When God's King is with you, you can defy all enemies. This is your heritage.

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Keep me from turning back!  
My hand is on the plough, my faltering hand;  
But all in front of me is untilled land,  
The wilderness and solitary place,  
The lonely desert with its interspace.  
What harvest have I? But this paltry grain,  
These dwindling husks, a handful of dry corn,  
These poor lean stalks! My courage is outworn.

Keep me from turning back!  
The handles of my plough with tears are wet;  
The shares with rust are spoiled—and yet—  
and yet—  
Keep me, my God, keep me from turning back.

### The Week of Prayer

(Continued from Page Five)

#### FRIDAY, JANUARY 9

SCRIPTURE READING. Psalm 25; Psalm 128; Isaiah 55:6-13.

CONFESSION. Our failure in the home life, our neglect in bringing up our children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. The sins of our nation. Read Dan. 9:3-19; Neh. 9:4-38.

PRAYER. For abundance of grace, boldness in witnessing. For healings, for signs and wonders. For great power. For floods upon the dry ground. That we may be able to send many laborers to Latin America, that great awakenings may come to Central and South America among the Latins in these countries and in Mexico.

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#### SATURDAY, JANUARY 10

SCRIPTURE READING. Ezek. 39:21-26; Rom. 9:1-5; 2 Tim. 4:1-5; Mark 16:14-20.

THANKSGIVING. For all Christ has done. For all He is. For all He yet will do.

CONFESSION. The sins of our silence, our cowardice, our compromising.

PRAYER. For all Jewry. For the Arabs. For the people in India, China, Japan, and other nations of Asia.

#### SUNDAY, JANUARY 11

SCRIPTURE READING. Psalm 143; Joel 2:12-32; Jude 20-25.

THANKSGIVING. For all the blessings we take as a matter of course.

CONSECRATION. Let us make a new surrender to God.

PRAYER. That the Lord will do a new thing, and that now it shall spring forth. Isaiah 43:19. That we may always do the things pleasing to God. That we may not fail in the seeking of souls for Him. Pray for His Spirit to be poured out upon all flesh. Joel 2:28; Acts 2:17.

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Our Lord Jesus is Priest over the house of God, the place where God dwells: we are His house too. And as surely as He ministers in the sanctuary above, He moment by moment ministers in the sanctuary within.

# THE REGIONS BEYOND

SEND ALL OFFERINGS TO NOEL PERKIN ... 336 WEST PACIFIC ST. ... SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI

## Urgent Prayer Requests

In view of the war situation we are at least temporarily cut off from direct communication with a number of our missionaries who are in axis-controlled territory. Many of these have some reserve funds on hand, but others may be in real need.

We request prayer for the following in North China: Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Hansen, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Hindle, Mr. and Mrs. Martin Kvamme, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Baltau, Mr. and Mrs. George Slager, Mr. G. K. Johansen, Miss Marie Stephany, Miss Henrietta Tieleman, Miss Alice Steward and Miss Anna Ziese.

We also urge that our missionaries in Hong Kong be remembered: Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Park, Mr. and Mrs. A. Walker Hall, Miss Lula Bell Hough and Mr. J. E. Perdue.

In Japan Miss Jessie Wengler alone remains. She has not been at all well, and we do not know what her present circumstances may be. Mr. and Mrs. Plymire and family may be

out of the direct war area, but undoubtedly war conditions will have a serious effect upon them and their work.

We would also request prayer for the missionaries in Southwest China since, although they are in what is known as Free China, and we can still contact them, they may be involved in difficulties because of the war at any time.

Special prayer is requested for Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence McKinney and Miss Lula Ashmore in Singapore and for Mr. and Mrs. Leland Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Tangen, and Misses Blanche Appleby, Rena Baldwin, Elizabeth Galley, Doris Carlson and Gladys Knowles in the Philippines. Fortunately we are able to reach the missionaries in the Philippine Islands, although no word has been received from them since the outbreak of the war.

The rest of our missionary force in Africa, India, South America and innumerable smaller countries are still able to carry on, and we trust God to help us in continuing to send forth the good news of salvation.

Just how much they received from the Lord, we can not say, but it was a start towards the goal and makes it much easier to continue on the way until real salvation is obtained. It is here that the prayers of others count materially and undoubtedly will reap much for Him.

### MINING GOLD AND SOULS

Doris Carlson

Recently we had the privilege of visiting the largest gold mine in the Philippines where we were taken on a tour of the mill and saw the refining processes. There we saw the rough ore as it was carried in cars and dumped into a crusher where it was ground as fine as flour. It was then poured into huge tanks of cyanide solution and kept agitated so that the gold would dissolve in the chemical. The dirt and pulverized rock that remained were separated from the gold solution by filtration. The amount of waste was amazing. We were told that the gold cyanide solution was worth a dollar a ton. Zinc was then added which combined with the cyanide and set the gold free in the form of a black sludge which was then placed in the furnace to be refined.

### Making Gold Bricks

We were fortunate to see the gold poured, for it is done only once in ten days. The air was full of expectancy and excitement as we entered the furnace room. Red-hot iron molds were being taken out of a furnace, and often the men's gloves caught fire as they stacked them up. The crucible was then tilted and a sample of gold taken out, the remainder was then poured into a ladle carried by two men to the molds where a third man held it as they carefully poured out what looked like liquid fire. When the molds were full, they were set aside to cool. Later the gold bricks were stamped, wrapped, and sent to the mint in Washington.

### The Dynamite of the Gospel

All the while we were watching, my uppermost thought was the striking similarity between this mining and mining for souls. Much of the work in mining for souls is unseen by man. "His ways are past finding out." The dynamite used to blast souls out of the horrible pit is the gospel of Jesus Christ. "It is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth." Romans 1:16. It is a dangerous thing to use dynamite. Some of our Filipino brethren have been stoned for preaching the gospel.

### The Crushing Process

We should not wonder that God needs to use the crushing process on His own when we see how completely the ore is pulverized to extract the gold, nor should we question when we are placed in circumstances which cause us to smart and hurt, for the same thing is done to the ore when it is put into the chemical. The black sludge that is taken out does not look much like gold. When we see ourselves after God has dealt with us, we moan and say like the bride in Song of Solomon, "I am black." But the Lord tenderly whispers back, "But comely," for He sees what we shall be for "When we see Him, we shall be like Him."

### Refined

It is love that constrains Him to put us in the furnace.

"The flame shall not hurt thee; I only design Thy dross to consume and thy gold to refine."

## Our Interest in the Philippines

Considerable concern is naturally felt for the welfare of our nine General Council missionaries in the Philippine Islands, all located in the city of Baguio, as well as the Filipino brethren, many of whom have attended our Bible Schools in the United States. Five of the missionaries are new workers studying Chinese in the language school in Baguio. These are Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Tangen, Elizabeth Galley, Doris Carlson and Gladys Knowles.

The other four—Mr. and Mrs. Leland Johnson, Blanche Appleby and Rena Baldwin—are engaged in the recently established Bible School.

Thus far there has been no word from our missionaries since the outbreak of the war up to the time of this writing. The following bits were received from two of the new missionaries before the trouble in the Pacific began.

### OLD FRIENDS IN NEW SURROUNDINGS

Robert Tangen

We are glad that we had occasion to renew our friendship with Brother Esperanza when we visited his village recently. For two years he was our fellow-student at Northwest Bible Institute in Seattle. At present he is in Pozorrubio, where we found a hearty welcome upon our arrival by a multitude of children who were anxious to get a good look at the "Americano."

That night a new house was to be dedicated, and as the Filipino custom is, friends were invited to come and share in the festivity. This presented a golden opportunity to bring the Gospel to many who would not ordinarily attend church. We were glad that at the close of the little service, five men came forward and knelt before their friends, testifying that they wanted to serve the Christ.

### "An Enemy Has Become a Friend"

Another night we walked four miles to a village and were again greeted by the children who hurried to the place where the "Americanos" were to have a service. In a short time we had nearly 200 adults and children

gathered under the canopy of heaven to worship God and hear His Word. With Brother Esperanza interpreting, the Word went forth and the Lord blessed. Best of all, the first one to come forward when the invitation was given, was one of the toughest characters in the village. Ten followed his example. He was well known for his gambling and carousing and only a few months before he had drawn a gun and threatened to kill one of our workers. But thanks be unto God, the Lord intervened and prevented any harm from coming near His own! And now we find that the Lord Himself "Got the draw" on him, and an enemy has become a friend!

### Pray for Hungry Souls

Brother Esperanza reporting on a service held several nights later said that this man got up and testified that although he was not yet saved, a great change had taken place in his life. We trust that our friends will remember him in prayer that the Lord will grant him a definite work of grace, and also, that the others who came forward shall find Him definitely. We know it takes a long time for folk who have had no Christian teaching at all to make such a revolutionary change, thus fervent, effectual prayer is requested in behalf of these hungry souls of the Philippines that they may be freed from superstition and fear.

### Superseding a Jazz Band

Another night we had a very unique service at a birthday celebration. A little boy was observing his birthday at the home of his father, who had hired the village orchestra to entertain. We, too, had been asked to hold a service, but upon hearing the jazz we told the father that it would have to stop or we could not hold a service. He promised, so we marched into the camp of the enemy, so to speak, and declared His precious Truth. The little nipa hut was crowded with at least two hundred people, including the jazz orchestra. At the conclusion of the service five came forward for prayer, and among them was the father of the little boy whose birthday it was.



When I saw how tense and eager everyone was to see the gold poured, I thought that God, too, must be eagerly watching His own in the furnace of affliction, waiting expectantly until He can remove us, for He also is anxious to see the gold and will not have us in the fire one minute too long. What a glad day it will be for Him as well as for us when we are taken out of this world of trial and transported to the heavenly mint where there is no rust or corruption!

#### More Proof that Missions Pay

The thing that impressed me most was that such a large amount of equipment was used and such a tremendous quantity of waste was removed to produce such a small amount of gold. At least a dozen large power engines had been brought from the United States and carried up the steep mountain roads. There were huge tanks, machine shops and laboratories that had been set up at great expense. Besides these, were all the workers and their families who made a community of ten thousand souls to be provided for. I wondered when I saw all this if it paid the company to operate when one ton of ore yielded only enough gold to put under a fingernail. But evidently it paid, for they seemed to be prospering. Sometimes people wonder if missions pay when the cost of fare and outfit and mission buildings is so great and when the returns often are so meager, but if a gold company finds that mining pays in spite of such expense, surely missions pay, for one soul is more precious to God than all the gold in the world.

### Last Days in Liberia

Lois Shelton and Anna Stafsholt  
Enroute to U. S. A.

Soon after the fall term of the Men's Bible School opened, during two days of special prayer, of heart searching, of seeking after a holy God, eight students were filled to overflowing with the Holy Spirit while others were refilled or received a deeper consciousness of being sons of God. Such revelations of the love of God, of the price of redemption, of the need for holiness, of the call for reapers!

One, recently Spirit-filled, cried over and over again, "I was bound, bound, but He set me free! I had nothing to pay for my redemption, but He did not demand money. He redeemed me freely! I can see the blood streaming down from His side, His hands, His feet. For me! All for me! Oh! friends, help me to praise the Lord. Let us exalt His name together!" We missionaries could only bow at the feet of Jesus and weep and learn of Him through these so recently redeemed from the darkness of heathenism.

#### Power!

Power to witness! "And they went everywhere preaching the word." And they returned from their appointments to tell of increased interest, of souls seeking God, of victories won, of joy in their souls in giving forth the Word.

With happy hearts we have done our labor of love in the Bible School, yet realizing we were becoming very weary we had prayed that the way would be opened for us to return home early next year. With sorrow we learned that passage had been obtained for us to go earlier than we expected, but as we prayed and earnestly sought God's will, it seemed best to accept.

#### Getting Ready to Leave

There followed ten days of frantic packing, checking of supplies, making explanatory records for our successors, balancing books, visiting with the native Christians and heathen, giving parting admonitions. In the farewell service in the church, the Christians solemnly vowed to pray for us until they learned we

had reached home, and then to keep on praying until we were back in Liberia.

Came the morning when we should begin the two days' trek to the motor road. Long before day we were up, but it was impossible to get away early. Tears, handclasps, final good-bys as the crowd of natives trooped after us across the compound, down the road to the river, over the uncertain bridge. Far along the way the three Christian widows living with us were waiting for an affectionate farewell, and to sing in native tongue, between sobs, "Then my soul shall fear no ill, Let Him lead me where He will."

#### Sacrifice Forgotten in the Joy of Service

We had tried so hard to maintain our composure, but the tears that had persisted in sneaking out before, now came like a cloudburst. Do you pity the poor missionaries who leave all to go to a foreign land? You need not pity us! The thought of sacrifice has long been forgotten in the joy of service.

Thirty students carried us and our loads to the motor road. They would hardly let us put our feet on the ground. "No, we want to carry you" was the answer to our offers to walk while they rested a bit. It was a sober crowd without the usual singing and laughter on the way. They realized that traveling in war time is dangerous, also that many missionaries are hindered from returning to their fields of labor. Yet, we comfort ourselves with the thought that He who said there should be wars, also said to go preach the Gospel to every creature.

#### Blankets Bring Real Joy

What a happy surprise was the big box of blankets for the school that we found when we reached Cape Palmas. A warm blanket is a comfort, the nights being damp and cool, yet many students had been unable to provide these for themselves. When one boy saw them, he said, "This is what some of us have been praying for, for a long time." And without saying one word to those at home, the need had been met. We could not have the pleasure of witnessing the distribution, but we can well imagine the broad smiles, shining eyes, snapping fingers, the "ohs" and "ahs" and expressions of "Praise the Lord," the wrapping up in them right on the spot to prove their warmth.

#### Continue to Uphold!

We are happy to leave the school in the capable and consecrated hands of Brother and Sister Simmons and Brother and Sister Hixen-

baugh. Will those who have stood with the two of us in prayer and finances continue to uphold the other workers. Offerings may be sent to them or to us, through the Foreign Missions Department, and every cent will go into the training of laborers for this field that is already white unto harvest.

### Good News From China

Lula Bell Hough

I want to sound a note of praise for the way the Lord continues to bless the work here at Fan Ling. On August 10, we had our second baptismal service at which time nineteen were baptized. This now makes thirty-one in all within three months. Since still others are asking to be baptized, we hope within another month or so we can hold the third baptismal service.

Brother Harland Park has been coming out one Sunday each month from Hong Kong, speaking in the morning service and administering the Lord's Supper. He has been a real blessing to the people.

During the last of July and first of August we were fortunate in getting Brother Elmor Morrison to hold a revival for us while he was down from up-country. These meetings were well attended and every night several accepted Christ. On the last night nineteen came forward.

#### A Child Healed

One day one of the women of the church came running in requesting prayer for her little girl who was having convulsions. At that time a prayer meeting was in session so the people took the matter to the Lord immediately. When they finished, the mother still asked that the Bible woman go with her to pray for the child. The Bible woman replied, "No, I have the witness that your child is healed. Go home and she will be all right." That night when the mother came back to service, she was so happy she could not wait to testify. She told us that upon her return home the little one who had been so ill was down on the floor playing with the other children and was as well as could be.

#### Our Sunday School Continues to Grow

until now the seating capacity is a real problem. Last Sunday was our record attendance when 205 came out. We hope to enlarge our chapel by boarding over our baptistry and making it into a platform, then we can open the two Sunday School rooms on either side, and thus seat about a hundred more.



Trophies of His grace—these nineteen were baptized in water last August. Lula Bell Hough is the missionary near the right in the picture. The young Chinese lady in front of her is Miss Ko, her Bible woman at Fan Ling.

# THE DYING WORLD AND THE LIVING WORD

## JEWES IN BRITAIN

According to *The Prophetic Word*, Jewish conversions are more numerous in Great Britain, proportionately, than in any other country. The British have given more attention to Jewish evangelization than other nations.

## SCRIPTURES FOR OUR SOLDIERS

The American Bible Society has given 214,126 Bibles and Testaments and 133,370 Gospels to our Army and Navy chaplains for distribution among our soldiers and sailors, and the chaplains continue to ask for many more. Requests have been received for Scriptures in the Philippine languages for Filipino soldiers, now a part of the U. S. forces. The Society relies upon donations from the public for funds to carry on this splendid work.

## PALESTINE'S PROGRESS

Palestine's industrial production is growing by leaps and bounds. *The Advent Herald* quotes Palestine papers as stating that in the first four months of 1941 Palestine executed military orders for four million dollars, which is about equal to the total of orders received during the whole of 1940. Israel, like every other nation, is beating its "plowshares into swords" and its "pruning-hooks into spears" for the battle ahead. Joel 3:10.

## THE DUTCH EAST INDIES

The rapidly growing churches of the Dutch East Indies have a membership of some 1,500,000 Christians, speaking over a score of languages. Since the fall of The Netherlands, The Netherlands Bible Society has been unable to correspond with or send funds to the Indies, and the American Bible Society has taken over the supervision and part of the support of the latter's important work of Bible distribution and printing there. With the outbreak of war in southeastern Asia, missionary work and Bible work in all these islands is menaced.

## INSIDE GERMANY

"Nazi leaders are waging war against Christianity," said a speaker at a Lutheran conference in Germany last month. According to *Time*, he was Bishop Theophil Wurm of Wurttemberg, a Lutheran. "I should like to ask for unconditional confidence in our leadership," said the Bishop, "but it is not possible. The facts are against them. When we glance at the newspapers we are often overcome with the number of deaths registered once more in our families. We are about to enter the third winter of the war, and we all have the feeling that our people are not sufficiently united to fulfill the tasks that bind us all."

No doubt many in Germany are suffering in numerous ways. They need our prayers, especially those in that land who are our fellow Christians. Don't forget to pray for them daily.

## THE BIBLE IN JAPAN

Some of the best work done by Bible colporteurs anywhere has been done in Japan during the past four years of war, according to Dr. Stiffer of the American Bible Society. In 1938 there were twenty colporteurs working in the northern islands of the Japanese Empire. Together they traveled a total of 43,000 miles, and together they sold 490,000 volumes of the Scriptures.

One of these workers was permitted to enter a soldiers' hospital in Japan. A soldier said to him: "We are so glad you came. We are fed up with entertainment of various sorts. When the programs are over, we are more weary than ever. While funny and amusing for the time, they leave in our hearts nothing of assurance and comfort. Absolute restful joy is what we crave." The colporteur found these soldiers eager to have the little Gospels handed them. Of all the literature supplied at their bedsides, nothing is read like the Word of God—so the nurses report.

## METHODISTS ALARMED

At a recent meeting of the Methodist Board it was reported that in the past twenty years 3,300,000 church members had been dropped from the rolls of Methodist churches because of inactivity. According to *Herald of Holiness*, an effort is being made to regain these members by home visitation. A Home Visitation Evangelism Campaign is planned, the aim being to enroll one million new members in the next two years.

## MISSIONARIES AND JAPAN

War caught only 90 American Protestant missionaries in Japan, where there were 640 in 1940, reports *Time*. "This was one good result of Japan's action last year in setting up an independent United Japanese Christian Church and barring all foreigners from executive church positions. Over 2,000 other American Protestant missionaries are still stationed in occupied China. Their likely fate: internment."

One of these 90 in Japan is an Assemblies of God missionary, Miss Jessie Wengler. Our other Assemblies of God missionaries left Japan some time ago but Sister Wengler was sick and had to remain behind. Let us pray much for her and for all messengers of the Cross, both foreign and native, who are caught in the Far Eastern war zone.

## CHURCHILL AND THE JEWS

The London *Jewish Chronicle* recently celebrated its 100th anniversary and among those who sent congratulations was Prime Minister Winston Churchill. After greeting the publication, Mr. Churchill stated:

"None has suffered more cruelly than the Jew the unspeakable evils wrought on the bodies and spirit of men by Hitler and his vile regime. The Jew bore the brunt of the Nazi's first onslaught on the citadels of freedom and human dignity. He has borne and continues to bear a burden which might have seemed beyond endurance. He has not allowed it to break his spirit; he has never lost the will to resist.

"Assuredly, on the day of victory, the Jew's suffering and his part in the struggle will not be forgotten. Once again, at the appointed time, he will see vindicated those principles of righteousness which it was the glory of his fathers to proclaim to the world. Once again it will be shown that 'though the mills of God grind slowly yet they grind exceedingly small.'"

## AMERICAN IMMORALITY

We read of an account in *The New York Times* not long ago about a so-called socially important marriage which had just taken place in one of Manhattan's largest churches. It seems that this was the third marriage for both the bride and the groom. The bride, the daughter of divorced parents, each of whom were themselves married a second time, had as her first husband one who also was the child of divorced parents. Her second husband divorced his second wife to marry her, but that also ended in Reno. And now there was a glorious occasion as the bride took her third husband. The groom, on the other hand, had only one step-parent, for after his father and mother were divorced, only the mother married a second time. The groom's two former marriages had also come to grief, ending in the divorce courts. Both of his former wives, now married again, were present at this wedding to felicitate him!

The fact that divorce is legal according to certain laws of man does not alter the fact that it is clearly forbidden by the Word of God. Christ plainly said, "Whosoever putteth away his wife, and marrieth another, committeth adultery: and whosoever marrieth her that is put away from her husband committeth adultery." Luke 16:18. Let us not be ashamed of Him and of His words in this adulterous and sinful generation!

## THE EVANGEL IN UNIFORM

The concentration of masses of young men in army camps represents a unique evangelistic opportunity. There they are, the cream of America's manhood, men who will be the fathers of a new generation. Removed from restraints of community and home life they are subjected to the temptations peculiar to military life.

They need spiritual safeguards. It is our responsibility as Spirit-baptized people to meet this challenging need by sowing camps with vital gospel literature. For this purpose we have put out a new army paper, REVEILLE. The style and approach may at first appear strange to us, but remember that this paper is the EVANGEL in uniform, so to speak. It is our General Council "chaplain"—and chaplains wear a uniform in order to be in harmony with their surroundings.

We already have been encouraged by the response. Chaplain Clarence P. Smales, one of our own brethren, writes: "I believe it is the best paper for distribution among the soldiers that we have found anywhere."

We are looking forward in faith to a second edition which will be an all-service number, devoted to soldiers, sailors and marines.

This is what YOU can do for the evangelization of our soldiers.

1. Send copies to unconverted soldiers of your acquaintance.
2. Send quantities to born-again soldiers who desire to witness in the camps. REVEILLE will give them a point of contact with the most "hardboiled" of their companions. An aggressive stand for Christ is their best defense against backsliding.
3. Send quantities to spiritual chaplains.
4. Copies may be placed in railroad depots and in soldiers' centers.
5. The paper will have an appeal to the boys in the CCC camps, which represent a semi-military organization.
6. Do you have an AMERICAN LEGION post in your town? We believe that the paper will have an appeal to the veterans, who cherish memories of their army life.

The actual cost price of the paper (together with postage) is 85 cents per 100, or \$7.50 per 1,000. Those who can afford to pay for the same may remit the actual cost. However, should someone who will faithfully distribute them lack the means, we shall be glad to send free copies. This offer is especially extended to converted soldiers in our camps.

Have you sent for a FREE 1941-42 Catalog? —G. P. H.

Coming  
Soon

?

Sunday School  
Department

# THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

## Hindrances and Encouragements

Lesson for January 11. Lesson Text:  
Ezra 4, 5, and 6.

Of one thing every true Christian can always be sure—every effort put forth in the will of God and for the glory of God is bound to meet opposition. And yet, there is no opposition, however great, that can prevent that work from being done, if that Christian will patiently and perseveringly press forward in the strength of his Lord.

A faithful and courageous company of Jews returned from captivity in Babylon to their own land to rebuild their temple and renew their worship of the true God. Immediately they were opposed. Their work was temporarily interrupted. But He "who had begun a good work" in them, was faithful, caused the opposition to be swept aside, and enabled them to complete the work which He Himself had given them to do.

### I. THE WORK ON THE TEMPLE OPPOSED

1. *A Tempting Request.* Ezra 4:1, 2. "Now when the adversaries of Judah and Benjamin heard that the children of captivity builded the temple unto the Lord God of Israel; then they came to Zerubbabel, and to the chief of the fathers, and said unto them, Let us build with you." Who were these men who wished to lend a hand in the restoring of the temple? Compare the above verses with 2 Kings 17:24-41. When the ten northern tribes of Israel had been taken into Assyrian captivity, the Assyrian king had sent men from his own country to inhabit the land vacated by the ten tribes. These men, of course, were idolaters and heathen. However, when they settled in Samaria, they imbibed Jewish teaching and intermarried with the Israelites. The result was a mixed race—part Hebrew and part Assyrian, and a religion which was a mixture of Judaism and idolatry.

Though these men posed as friends, they are called "adversaries." Though they represented themselves as wishing to help the Jews, secretly, they wished to hinder them.

2. *A Firm Refusal.* Ezra 4:3. Why did Governor Zerubbabel refuse the help of the Samaritans? He was a wise man and knew that the very existence of the remnant of Judah depended upon their keeping completely separated from surrounding people and religions. He realized that to admit these men into fellowship would mean that eventually they would pollute Judah with their idolatrous worship. Here again is taught the old lesson of the necessity of separation. "Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?" 2 Cor. 6:14-18. There may be times when it would appear advantageous to our individual lives and to the life and work of our Assemblies to welcome help from, and fellowship with those who are worldly. But such appearances are deceitful. "A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump." Individuals and churches need to keep "unspotted from the world." Our spiritual growth is in strict accord with our separation from all that is sinful and worldly.

3. *A Vindictive Reaction.* Ezra 4:4-24. As a result of their uncompromising stand for the right, the Jews incurred the wrath of the Samaritans. In consequence, they wrote a letter to the new king of Persia in which they (1) represented themselves as very loyal to his government, and mightily concerned for its honor and interests;

(2) represented the Jews as disloyal, and dangerous to the government; (3) represented Jerusalem as a "rebellious and bad city," and that these Jews had come back to Jerusalem for the purpose of fortifying themselves against Babylonian power and authority; (4) dishonestly stated that the Jews had already set up the walls and finished them, when, as a matter of fact, the walls had only been begun.

Several lessons are here: (a) There are often times in our Christian lives when to be loyal to God's will results in incurring the displeasure not only of the world, but also of those closely associated with us; (b) Human nature always seeks to retaliate and fight back when it has been offended. And how sad it is to see Christians stoop to such methods when they have been dis-

pleasure was to put first things first and to resume the work God wished them to do in rebuilding the temple. See Haggai 1. Then the people, encouraged by the preaching of the Word of God, and under the leadership of Zerubbabel, resumed their work on the temple.

Lessons: (1) God's work ought not be dropped because of opposition. (2) Failure to "seek first the kingdom of God" will result in our suffering a lack of "all these things" which are necessary for a full and complete life. Matt. 6:33. If we attend to God's business, He will take care of ours. (3) Though the Jews had neglected God's work, God had not forsaken them, but sent His Spirit-inspired prophets to stir them to renewed spiritual life and activity. In like manner, God has not left us to our own devices. When we are inclined to sag spiritually or grow cold and indifferent concerning His work, He keeps after us, sending His Spirit to stir us up. Sometimes through the written Word, sometimes through the anointed preaching of faithful ministers, and again, through the printed page, God stirs our hearts, and we arise to more abundant spiritual life and service for the Kingdom.

2. *The Opposing of the Renewed Work.* Ezra 5:3-17. Again the adversaries of Judah opposed their work. They challenged the Jews' right to resume the work on the temple and when told that Cyrus had given them authority to rebuild the temple, they wrote another letter to Darius, who then ruled, asking him if this were really true.

Note, every time a Christian makes a new consecration or gains new spiritual territory, he can depend upon it that the enemy of his soul will contend with him bitterly and seek to push him back and out of his newly acquired position. And what is the Christian to do in such cases? "Neither give place to the devil . . . resist the devil and he will flee from you." Acts 4:27; James 4:7.

3. *The Upholding and Completion of the Renewed Work.* Ezra 6. The prophets Haggai and Zechariah had reminded the Jews that "the eye of their God" (5:7) was upon them. They undoubtedly made it very clear that with God on their side opposition meant nothing. Nor was their teaching in vain, for Darius soon discovered in "the house of the rolls" the decree of Cyrus, and at once sent a letter to Judah's adversaries saying, "Let the work of the house of God alone." Not only so, but he decreed that money out of his own revenue be given to assist the Jews in their work, that supplies be given the Jews for their temple service and sacrifices, and that any who dared to hinder the work or disobey his decree should be hung on a scaffold made of the timbers of his own house! Thus the purposes of Satan and his tools were overruled! "And the elders of the Jews builded, and they prospered through the prophesying of Haggai . . . and Zechariah . . . and the house was finished . . . in the sixth year of the reign of Darius the king."

"Let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap if we faint not." The remedy for feeble knees and hands that hang down is the realization that we are doing God's work, that He will bring to pass His purpose of grace in our lives. He giveth power to the faint and to them that have no might He increaseth strength!—J. Bashford Bishop.

Martandam, India—Pray for the new converts who are going through terrible persecution in their homes.—Mary Lindberg.

Bettiah, India—One of the workers for whom prayer was requested has received the Baptism in the Holy Spirit. Pray for the others who are seeking the Baptism. Remember our monthly day of prayer when you pray.—Grace L. Walther.



pleased! (c) Great damage is done by a cruel, deceitful tongue! Psalm 120:2-4.

The king, on receiving the deceitful letter, made search and found that Jerusalem actually had "made insurrection against kings" in times past; and because he feared a similar occurrence, he took it for granted that the accusations were true and commanded that the work on the temple cease.

### II. THE WORK ON THE TEMPLE RESUMED

1. *The Cause of the Renewed Work.* Ezra 5:1, 2. "Then the prophets Haggai . . . and Zechariah prophesied unto the Jews . . . in the name of the God of Israel." For sixteen years the work on the temple was at a stand. This had not been God's will. God's people are not to cease God's work simply because of opposition. The early apostles had been commanded to preach no more of Jesus; but they paid no attention to the command realizing that it was more needful to obey God than man. See Acts 4 and 5.

Because the work on the temple had been neglected, God had punished the people by sending years of depression. But now Haggai and Zechariah rose to the occasion and began preaching to the people showing them that the way out of



AMARILLO, TEXAS—Mid-Winter Prayer Conference, Jan. 19-22. Munday night, Fellowship Meeting. Five-district meeting—Texas, West Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, and New Mexico. Three full days of prayer, consecration, and spiritual refreshing. For further information write Pastor E. R. Foster, 900 N. Pierce St., Amarillo, Texas. H. Paul Holdridge, Secretary-Treasurer, West Texas District.

TYLER, TEXAS—Sectional Fellowship Meeting, Jan. 1. Day service conducted by Presbyter Chas. Lonsford, and C. A. Rally at 7:30 conducted by C. G. Owen, C. A. President. Ministers of near-by sections invited to make this a great day. Meeting will be held in Assembly of God unless crowds are too great. In that case use of City Auditorium has been granted.—Lester P. Summers, Sectional Secretary.

KANSAS CITY, MO.—Full Gospel Tabernacle, 3100 E. 31st St. The Sectional Fellowship Meeting will be combined with Great Dedicatory Service of our new Tabernacle on New Year's Day, at 10:30 a. m. Ralph M. Riggs, District Superintendent, Speaker. We extend an invitation to all pastors and churches to be with us. For further information write Pastor A. A. Wilson.

MICHIGAN C. A. NEW YEAR'S-DAY RALLIES

Eastern Section: Trinity Tabernacle, Holtzlander Ave. and N. Saginaw, Flint, Mich. Services 10:30, 2:30, and 7:30. A. L. Parker and J. O. Savell, Speakers.

Western Section: Church of the Four Fold Gospel, 303 Capitol Ave. N. E., Battle Creek, Mich. Services 10:30, 2:30, and 7:30. Herbert E. Eicher and Cordas Burnett, Speakers.

Northern Section: Assembly of God, East Tawas, 2:30 and 7:30. Speakers to be announced later.

Special Junior C. A. Meeting at each of these Sectional Rallies, 6:30 p. m.—Bertie Doss, Secretary, 2212 Lyman St., Flint, Mich.

OPEN FOR CALLS

Evangelistic and Bible Teaching

W. B. McCafferty, 1212 Denver Ave., Ft. Worth, Texas—"After a long time off the field because of injury suffered in car wreck, I am now open for calls to evangelistic work, Bible teaching, and camp meetings."

MISSIONARY CONTRIBUTIONS

December 10-16 Inclusive

Table listing contributions from various churches and individuals in Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming.

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# GOOD NEWS

## FULL FORGIVENESS

A man who had a house surrounded by beautiful grounds, was looking from his window one evening, when he saw a boy come across the lawn, evidently bent on mischief. He was trampling on the flowers, and pulling down the branches from some of the trees.

The man went down the steps, across the lawn, and, before the boy had seen his approach, he had placed his hand firmly on his shoulder.

The boy struggled violently to escape, but his attempts were useless; a strong hand had secured him.

"Now, my boy," said the man, "answer me one question. Which is the best flower in this garden?"

The boy still struggled, but finding there was no escape from the quiet eye and firm grasp of one he had sought to injure, he looked around, and after a few minutes' pause he answered, "That rose is the best," pointing to a beautiful standard rose just bursting into bloom.

The man, still keeping one hand on the boy's shoulder, reached out with the other, and plucking the rose in all its beauty, gave it to him, releasing him as he did it, and said, "There, take it, my boy."

The boy was so amazed that he looked into the face of his benefactor and said, "Ain't you going to have me punished sir?"

"No," was the reply, "I am giving you the best flower of my garden. You will never come and trample down my flower beds again, will you?"

"Never, sir, as long as I live!" was the emphatic reply; "but, please, sir, ain't there some little errand I could do for you?"

Full and free forgiveness and a token of love had won the boy's heart! From that hour he was the willing servant of his friend. Many a time the boy would be seen, cap in hand, standing at the man's gate, with the loving petition on his lips, "Please, sir, is there any little job I could do for you?" You may be sure the request was not refused.

Have not we all, as sinners, trampled down God's holy laws, and grieved Him many, many times? But how has God treated us? He gave His beloved Son, the choicest gift of all, and offers Him now to YOU. Will you not then thankfully accept Him as your Saviour and Lord, and live to please Him for the rest of your days?

"His love in times past  
Forbids me to think  
He'll leave me at last  
In troubles to sink."

## MISSIONARY PRAYER REQUESTS

Ajmer, India—Please pray for an outpouring of God's Spirit.—N. C. Moffat.

Nawabganj, India—At one of the outstations there is much interest and conviction. Several have expressed their desire to become Christians. Pray that they may take a definite stand for God. Also pray for our evangelistic campaign during the Christmas season.—Esther Harvey.

Singapore, Straits Settlements—Please pray for us and for the work in Malaya.—L. O. McKinney.

Chinese Work, Chicago, Illinois—Pray that God's blessing will be upon this work and that many will come to Christ.—Ethel Perdue.

Latin American Bible Institute—Pray for the students who have not received the Baptism. Pray that the students will be drawn closer to God.—Laura Kritz.

## "THAT'S ME!"

Sitting down in the orphanage grounds upon one of the seats, I was talking with one of our brother trustees, when a little fellow, we should think about eight years of age, left the other boys

who were playing around us, and came deliberately up to us.

He opened fire upon us thus, "Please, Mister Spurgeon, I want to come and sit down on that seat between you two gentlemen."

"Come along, Bob, and tell us what you want."

"Please, Mr. Spurgeon, suppose there was a little boy who had no father, who lived in an orphanage with a lot of other little boys who had no fathers, and suppose those little boys had mothers and aunts who came once a month and brought them apples and oranges, and gave them pennies, and suppose this little boy had no mother and no aunts and so nobody never come to bring him nice things, don't you think somebody ought to give him a penny? 'Cause, Mr. Spurgeon, that's me."

Somebody felt something wet in his eyes, and Bob got twelve cents, and went off in a great state of delight. Poor little soul, he had seized the opportunity to pour out a bitterness which had rankled in his little heart, and made him miserable when the monthly visiting day came round, and, as he said, "Nobody never come to bring him nice things."

Turning the tables, we think some grown-up persons, who were once little Bobs and Harrys, might say, "Suppose there was a poor sinner who deserved to be sent to hell, but was forgiven all his sins by sovereign grace, and made a child of God, don't you think he ought to help on the Saviour's cause? 'Cause, Mr. Spurgeon, that's me."—Spurgeon.

## PERFECT TRUSTING

I cannot understand  
The why and wherefore of a thousand things;  
The crosses, the annoyances, the daily stings,  
I cannot understand;  
But I can trust,  
For perfect trusting, perfect comfort brings.

I cannot see the end,  
The hidden meaning of each trial sent,  
The pattern into which each tangled thread is blent,  
I cannot see the end;  
But I can trust,  
And in God's changeless love I am content.

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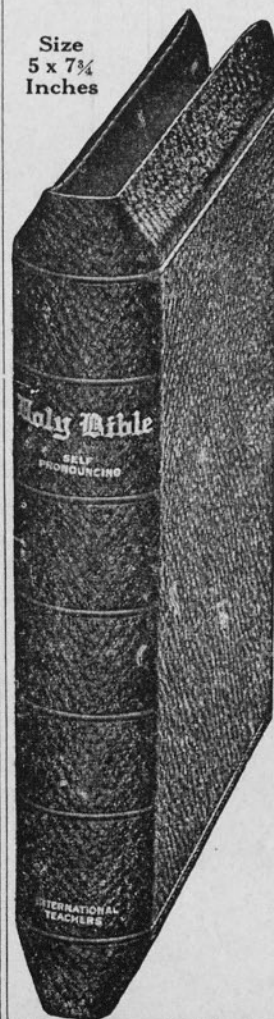
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**T**HEN A-gríp'pá said unto Paul, Deut. 18. 15. a  
Thou art permitted to speak for 2 Sam. 7. 12.  
thyself. Then Paul stretched forth Ps. 132. 11.  
the hand, and answered for himself: Isa. 4. 2. a  
Ezek. 21. 7. a  
Dan. 9. 24. a  
Mal. 3. 1. a  
2 I think myself happy, king A-gríp'-

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