



NOT BY MIGHT, NOR BY POWER, BUT BY MY SPIRIT, SAITH THE LORD

# PENTECOSTAL EVANGEL

THY TESTIMONIES ALSO ARE MY DELIGHT AND MY COUNSELLORS

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## Calvary's Cross Will Cause the Iron to Swim

Ben Hardin

THE sons of the prophets said unto Elisha, Behold now, the place where we dwell with thee is too strait for us." 2 Kings 6:1-7. Things had narrowed down until there wasn't enough room, and so they decided they would enlarge their borders. They consulted the prophet and suggested going down to the Jordan and building a larger place, and the prophet agreed. They came to the Jordan and cut down wood, and "as one was felling a beam, the axhead fell into the water: and he cried and said, Alas, master! for it was borrowed."

Jordan is a place where some people lose their axhead and others receive it. Jordan is a type of death. It means a dying to our surroundings and our desires. There on the banks of the Jordan this man lost his axhead. He stopped. He could have gone on. He might have said, "Now I will fool the prophet, and make him believe I am still cutting the tree. He will not know the difference."

Today there are some who swing the axhandle and say, "I am not where I ought to be but I will just say 'Amen' and make people believe I am all right." They are like Samson. When he was shorn of his strength, he said, "I will go out and shake myself as at other times," but "he wist not that the Spirit of the Lord had departed from him."

This young man did not swing his axhandle without the ax. He would not pretend. He went right to the man of God. I am glad there is a place to which we can go when in need. The Bible is full of instances where men have lost their axheads and have gone to God for them. I think of David as he walked on the roof, resting at home when he should have been out in the battle. He fell in love with Bathsheba and put Uriah, her husband, in the front of the battle so that he might be killed. After he had sinned he went straight to God and the axhead was restored to him.

The son of the prophet came to Elisha and said, "While I was felling a beam the axhead fell off." "Where did it go?" "Where did you lose your power? Pretty hard to tell just the spot, but I believe the Holy Spirit is a faithful Sentinel. I have heard people say they didn't know where they lost their axhead, but I believe they know exactly where it fell. Have you lost the axhead when the Spirit of God prompted you to witness and you refused? Have you lost the axhead when the offering was being lifted and the Spirit prompted you to give and you did not? God is faithful in showing just where the axhead fell. If you acknowledge where you lost it, it will be a big step toward getting it back.

You say, "I lost it in my prayer life. I used to get up early and pray; everything is in such a rush it seems

there isn't any more time." "I lost it during the Convention. I was house cleaning and didn't have time to go;" "I used to do personal work, speak to people on the train, in the shop, to those who came to my door, but now I never witness for the Lord." There is just the place the axhead was lost and that is the place to find it.

The prophet cut down a stick and threw it in, and the axhead floated on the water. There is a tree, a piece of wood that will make the iron swim, and that is Calvary's cross. How many times when we have lost the axhead we have gone to the cross, poured out our heart to the Son of God and He has by the power of the Holy Ghost caused the axhead to swim!

When the children of Israel went out against the city of Ai, they were smitten, and thirty-six

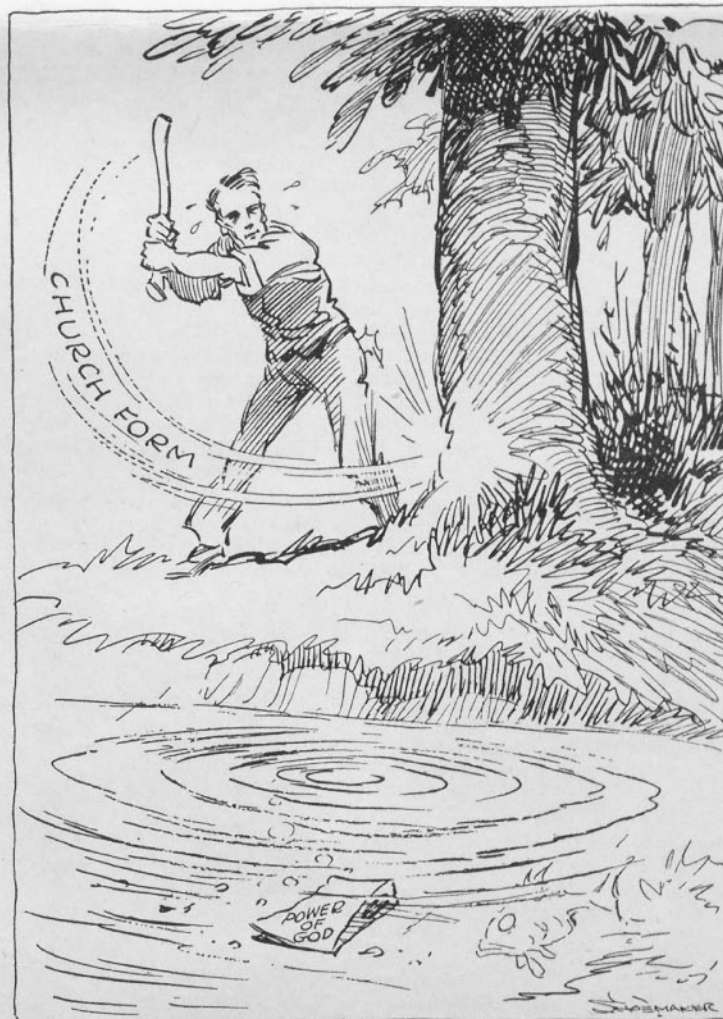
men were killed. Joshua went down to the Jordan and cried, "Oh God, we have lost the axhead!" And God heard his petition, and showed him where it was lost, and when it was sifted down they found where the trouble was. They took Achan, the gold and silver wedge and the goodly Babylonish garment out and dumped them into the valley of Achor, which means trouble. When the trouble was removed they went out against the city of Ai and God gave them victory over the very city in which they had been defeated. But what brought the victory? Joshua is falling on his face before God. When we come to the cross, admit our failure and our sin, when we confess before God that we have lost the axhead, then we are in a good place to have it restored. God will bring the axhead to the top.

I suppose this text would be hard for a Modernist to believe, but I am orthodox enough to believe that the iron did swim. When I was in New York City I went out to Riverside to see that new Six Million dollar church where Dr. Fosdick preaches. Someone told me that Dr. Fosdick said he couldn't believe that the iron floated. I will grant that Dr. Fosdick has a wonderful education, he may have forgotten more than I know, but I am glad that I believe the iron did swim. And I believe that when you are in a hard place and Jesus casts the tree into the water, the iron will swim for you. God will work a miracle, if necessary, to deliver you. Mr. Fosdick also said he could not believe Jesus walked on the water. I am glad that we have a God that does miracles. Of course iron could not swim apart from the miraculous, but I believe every miracle in the Word of God.

A very intelligent-looking young man came to me in New York City and said, "There are so many things that I cannot understand and therefore I cannot believe." I answered him, "I am not here to explain the things you cannot understand. You believe a great many things you do not understand." One of William Jennings Bryan's pet sayings as he lectured was this: "I do not understand how a red cow can eat green grass and give white milk that churns yellow butter, but I eat the butter." There are many things in nature that we do not understand and yet believe. I do not understand the miraculous but I believe it, for I read it in God's Word.

Now the Bible records instances of those who have tried to fell beams with a dull ax. I believe that the reason the axhead fell, was, it was dull. I think of Gehazi with a dull ax trying to restore the Shunammite's son. He took the staff and knelt

### Have You Lost your Ax-Head?



No Building for Eternity without God's Power

(Continued on Page 5)

## Happiness in Christian Service

ERNEST S. WILLIAMS

No one doubts that service is an important part of the Christian life. Jesus constantly taught it in such terms as, "If any man will come after Me, let him deny himself, take up his cross, and follow Me," "Go work in My vineyard," "Labor not for the meat which perisheth, but for that meat which endureth unto everlasting life, which the Son of man shall give unto you: for Him hath God the Father sealed." But there is a right and a wrong way of service. To find the former means a life of Christian happiness, to adopt the latter means a life of chafing bondage and disappointment.

There is a service of debt, "Now to him that worketh is the reward not reckoned of grace, but of debt." This is a service of self; it seeks to lift the creature by its own righteousness or religiousness into a place of favor with God. It was one of the great mistakes of Israel, "For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves to the righteousness of God." And it has become one of the greatest mistakes of the Christian Church. Man is naturally inclined to self-effort, and so long as his religion does not lift him from the natural plane, into his proper spiritual sphere in the Spirit—"But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you"—he will continue to substitute effort for faith, and the flesh for the Holy Ghost.

Disobedience and self-will often go under the name of service. These religious bondmen have never known the beauty of "a broken and contrite heart thou wilt not despise," or if they have, they have lost all sense of it. They spurn all godly advice, neglect clearly defined duties, ignore the whole tenor of the Bible, seek to hide behind some isolated verse, bolt ahead, are likely to bring reproach upon the name of God, determined to have their own way, and then claim it is God who is thus leading them. "From such turn away."

Legal drudgery often masquerades as devoted service of God. How often do we hear, "I must do my duty." The Christian life is to such, bondage. He must observe some certain day, walk in a certain manner, maintain a sanctimonious air, and, in general, his whole life is dry and joyless—a slave to certain religious words and acts. Such souls need the liberating grace of Christ, "For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father."

Then how subtly do fleshly pretensions often assert themselves under the guise of devout service. When the prodigal son was joyfully returned to the comforts of home, the elder brother in anger said, "Lo, these many years do I serve thee, neither transgressed I at any time thy commandment: and yet thou never gavest me a kid, that I might make merry with my friends." What a spirit is here shown—angry, and would not even enter the house where his fallen, now thoroughly repentant brother had been restored to a father's love; extravagant in his blindness and claims to personal righteousness, for who could say, "Neither transgressed I at any time thy commandment"? Amazing is his lack of appropriation when with flocks and herds all about him, and a father's love which assures him, "Son, all that I have is thine," he had never even thought sufficiently of his friends to suggest a feast or of so much as a kid to be bestowed upon their pleasure and comfort. Inconsiderate, self-seeking, he had toiled all those years, cultivating only to build a greater heritage for self.

This same spirit ran through the Pharisaical religion of the days when Jesus was upon the earth, and with what strong terms He rebukes the one who went up into the Temple to pray, and when he prayed said, "God, I thank Thee, that I am not as other men are, extortioners, unjust,

adulterers, or even as this publican. I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess." Did his boasted self-righteousness save him? Beware, my friend, you may even give all your goods to feed the poor, and your body to be burned, but without charity it profiteth you nothing.

Now let us turn to the service of love. The flesh works for self. Love works for Christ. Love service, however self-sacrificing, is never drudgery, but ever a delight. It seeketh not her own, is kind and considerate, labors as unto the Lord, and exhibits the Spirit of our Saviour. As soon as Christian duties begin to chafe us, it is a warning that it is time for us to pause and seek the Lord for a fresh quickening of grace. We have been told to do all things without murmurings and disputings; and whatsoever we do, to do it heartily as unto the Lord and not unto men. Men are often a disappointment; and if we drop back in any degree into self, we are likely to either chide them or chide ourselves. It takes the love of God to serve in the spirit of Paul, "Though the more abundantly I love you, the less I be loved." Nothing but the love of God can enable us to continue to serve those who love us less, and continue to serve in the Spirit of Christ. Here is a real test of Christian character; here the human fails, we must have the divine.

Self seeks place; the Pharisees sought the uppermost seats at feasts, the chief seats in the synagogues, and greetings in the market places. They

would be seen of man. And what had they? "Verily I say unto you, they had their reward." It is not hard for intelligent people to see and resent the distastefulness of self-seeking ambition. And when one is exalted above others, what a sense of self-mortification comes to those who must give place to the more fortunate rival. May we be delivered from seeking such reward.

Acceptance of our service is not according to the place we fill, but as to how we fill it. A widow cast two mites into the treasury of the Lord. Others did not seem to notice her meager gift, but it was seen by the most precious eyes that ever looked upon man, who said, "She hath cast in more than they all." Others gave of their abundance, she of her want gave her all. It was a quiet service; very different from the Pharisee's "I give," for hers came from a full-hearted devotion.

The beauty of service is found in our entire co-operation with our glorified Lord. Our hearts are to be with Christ, "That ye henceforth live not unto yourselves, but unto Him that died and rose again." We are to be busy about all that is of interest to Him. To find ourselves in this place of blessing, there must be an entire consecration to Him of our all—a complete surrender of our lives to His will. The prayer of our hearts must become, "Not my will, but Thine be done." Seeking the channels of His making, even when impressed that certain things would be the fulfillment of His will, there must be submission. We must abide His time and ways, and trust that glory, and open that which redounds to His praise. "Sweet, quiet, yielded life," we long that our wills may be yielded up in His, and that our lives may move in harmony with His love, in His great, eternal purpose.

## "I Am the Lord that Healeth Thee"

SMITH WIGGLESWORTH

*"Is any sick among you? Let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing with oil in the name of the Lord: and the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him."* James 5:14, 15.

We have in the precious word a real basis for the truth of healing. In this scripture God gives very definite instructions to the sick. If you are sick your part is to call for the elders of the church; it is their part to anoint and pray for you in faith, and then the whole situation rests with the Lord. When you have been anointed and prayed for, you can rest assured that the Lord will raise you up. It is the word of God.

We all can see that the church cannot play with this scripture. If any turn away from these clear instructions they are in a place of tremendous danger. Those who refuse to obey, do so to their unspeakable loss.

James tells us in connection with this, "If any of you do err from the truth, and one convert him, let him know, that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his ways shall save a soul from death." Many turn away from the Lord, like King Asa, who sought the physicians in his sickness and consequently died, and I take it that this passage means that if one induces another to turn back to the Lord, he will save such from death and God will forgive a multitude of sins that they have committed. This scripture can also have a large application on the line of salvation. If you turn away from any part of God's truth, the enemy will certainly get an advantage over you.

Does the Lord meet those who look to Him for healing and obey the instructions set forth in James? Most assuredly. Let me tell you a story to show how He will undertake for the most extreme case.

One day I had been visiting the sick, and was with a friend of mine, an architect, when I saw a young man from his office coming down the road in a car holding in his hand a telegram. It contained a very urgent request that we go immediately and pray for a man who was dying. We went off in an auto as fast as possible and in about an hour and a half reached a large house in the country where the man who was dying resided. There were two staircases in that house, and it was extremely convenient, for the doctors could go up and down one, and my friend and I could go up and down the other, and so we had no occasion to meet one another.

I found, on arrival, that it was a case of this sort: The man's body had been broken; he was ruptured and his bowels had been punctured in two places. This discharge from the bowels had formed abscesses and blood poisoning had set in. The man's face had turned green. Two doctors were in attendance, but they saw that the case was beyond their power. They had telegraphed to London for a great specialist and, when we arrived, they were at the railway station awaiting his arrival.

The man was very near death and could not speak. I said to his wife: "If you desire, we will anoint and pray for him." She said, "That is why I sent for you." I anointed him in the name of the Lord and asked the Lord to raise him up. Apparently there was no change. God often hides what He does. From day to day we find that God is doing wonderful things, and we receive reports of healings that have taken place *although we heard nothing about them at the time of our meetings.*

As soon as we had anointed and prayed for this brother we went down the back staircase. As we arrived downstairs, I said to my friend who had come with me, "Friend, let me have hold of your hands." We held each other's hands, and I said

to him, "Look into my face and let us agree together according to Matthew 18:19 that this man should be brought out of this death." We laid the whole matter before God, and said, "Father, we believe."

Then the conflict began. The wife came down to us and said, "The doctors have got all their instruments out and they are about to operate." I cried, "What? Look here, he's your husband, and I tell you this, if those men operate on him, he will die. Go back and tell them you cannot allow it." She went back to the doctors and said, "Give me ten minutes." They said, "We can't afford to, the man is dying and it is your husband's only chance." She said, "I want ten minutes, and you don't touch his body until I have had them."

They went downstairs by one staircase, and we went up by the other. I said to the woman, "This man is your husband, and he cannot speak for himself. It is now the time for you to put your whole trust in God and prove Him wholly true. You must stand with God and for God in this critical hour." After that we came down and the doctors went up. The wife faced those three doctors and said, "You shan't touch this man's body. He is my husband. I am sure that if you operate on him he will die, but he will live if you don't touch him."

Suddenly the man in the bed spoke. "God has done it," he said. They rolled back the bed clothes and the doctors examined him, and the abscesses were broken and away. The nurse cleaned the place where they had been. The doctors could see the bowels still open and they said to the wife, "We know that you have great faith, and we can see that a miracle has taken place. But you must let us unite these broken parts and put in silver tubes and we know that your husband will be all right after that, and it need not interfere with your faith at all." She said to them, "God has done the first thing, and He can do the rest. No man shall touch him now." And God healed the whole thing. Today that man is well and

strong. I can give his name and address to any who want it.

Do you know by what power this was done? I would answer in the words of Peter, "His name, through faith in His name, made this man strong." The anointing as done in the name of the Lord. And it is written, "The Lord shall raise him up." And He provides the double cure; even if sin has been the cause of the sickness, His Word declares, "If he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven."

You ask, "What is faith?" Faith is the principle of the Word of God. The Holy Spirit, who inspired the Word, is called the Spirit of Truth, and, as we receive with meekness the engrafted Word, faith springs up in our hearts—faith in the sacrifice of Calvary: faith in the shed blood of Jesus; faith in the fact that He took our weaknesses upon Himself, has borne our sicknesses and carried our pains, and that He is our life today.

God has chosen us to help one another. We dare not be independent. He brings us to a place where we submit ourselves to one another. If we refuse to do this, we get away from the Word of God and out of the place of faith. I have been in this place once and I trust I shall never be there again.

We have a great God. We have a wonderful Jesus. We have a glorious Comforter. God's canopy is over you at all times preserving you from evil. Under His wings shalt thou trust. The Word of God is living and powerful and in its treasures you will find eternal life. If you dare trust this wonderful Lord of life, you will find in Him everything you need.

So many are resorting to drugs, quacks, pills and plasters. Clear them all out and believe in God. It is sufficient to believe God. You will find that if you dare trust Him He will never fail. "The prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise Him up." Do you trust Him? He is worthy to be trusted.

good would be accomplished.

Then he proceeded to illustrate his point thus: "Two men went a fishing. One took a long, knotty pole, a tow line, and a large hook baited with worms. In throwing out his line he splashed his pole in the water and the fish were all frightened away. But the other took a light, slender pole, a silk line, and a small hook with a bright artificial fly; came cautiously to the water, and played the fly back and forth over the surface. The fish took it, and were caught in abundance."

The preacher listened attentively to what Mr. Chubb had to say, and then proceeded to tell him that he had been brought up on the banks of the Salmon river, one of the tributaries of the majestic St. Lawrence, abounding in fish of various kinds, and that he had learned that fishing for different kinds of fish required different methods.

"If I wanted trout," he said, I moved quietly, but if I wanted *chubb* I splashed in the water, because noise attracted them to the place, and they preferred substantial bait. You can see yourself," he added, "that in these meetings where we have a good deal of noise we have caught quite a string of *chubb*, and we are fishing for them still." A number of the name of *Chubb* had been saved in the meetings, and Mr. Chubb was impressed by the answer he had received.

He told the preacher that he was not aware of the fact that his visitor was an expert in fishing, and that he did not think he could give him any further advice as to how the meetings should be conducted; he stood reproved. Afterwards the man, his wife, and older children, were soundly converted, and received into the church, and they often spoke of the incident, and thanked God that the preacher had known how to catch *chubb*.

Answering a fool according to his folly, in order that he may be wise in his own conceits, is answering him in such a way as to silence him and win him to God. This requires skill; and this skill can be acquired, and cultivated, with the help, and under the supervision of the Holy Spirit.

## Answering a Fool According to His Folly

J. NARVER GORTNER

In the fourth and fifth verses of the twenty-sixth chapter of Proverbs are injunctions that appear at first sight to be out harmony with each other. In verse four we read, "Answer not a fool according to his folly," and in verse five, "Answer a fool according to his folly." How, it may be inquired, is one to obey each of these injunctions?

Sin is folly. The sinner, therefore, in the Scriptural sense of the term, is a fool. He barter eternal life for present gratification; he is like Esau who sold his birthright for a mess of pottage; he lays up his treasures here upon earth, and makes no effort to be "rich toward God." Read the parable in Luke 12:16-21, and mark what God said to a man who was doubtless regarded by his friends and neighbors as a very wise man. God called him a fool, and our Lord who related the parable said, "So is he that layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God." Some believe that we have another picture of this same man in Luke 16:19-31. Sin is folly.

Solomon says, "Answer not a fool according to his folly, lest thou also be like unto him." The meaning evidently is that we are not to descend to his plane, we are not to lower ourselves to his level by indulging in his foolish conversation and thus making ourselves partakers of his silliness. It is so easy to imbibe the spirit of the people with whom we mingle; therefore we should exercise care in the choice of our companions. "Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful." Psalm 1:1.

Solomon says, "Answer a fool according to his folly, lest he be wise in his own conceit." It is

possible for one to do this without lowering himself to the level of the one he addresses. It has been often done, and the folly of the fool has been exposed in such a palpable manner that the fool has recognized the fact and has turned from it.

James Irwin was a Methodist preacher of the early days whose ministry God signally blessed. Many a gracious revival attended his efforts, and in the revivals there was much religious enthusiasm and spiritual fervor. Always when God has graciously manifested His presence and displayed His glory, and saints have shouted the praises of the Lord, and sinners have wept and groaned and cried for mercy, there have been those who have criticized. They have regarded the excitement as altogether uncalled for, as out of place; and the so-called sedate people have felt that much more might be accomplished if people would just restrain themselves.

In a neighborhood that had been largely settled by intelligent farmers God poured out His Spirit, and whole families were saved, and added to the church. There lived in the community a Mr. Chubb—mark his name who had a large and influential family. He attended the meetings, but did not appear to have been benefited by them. Mr. Irwin called on him one morning, and was very kindly received. Mr. Chubb said that he was a believer in religion, but that he was not in sympathy with the manner in which the meetings were being conducted. In view of the minister's youth and his riper years and wider experience and observation, he felt that he could give the preacher some good advice. He stated that if the min-

### AN OBLIGATION AND AN OPPORTUNITY

To study God's Word systematically, diligently and faithfully is an obligation which rests upon all Christians. Because:

By medium of the Word, divine, eternal life comes to our hearts. 1 Peter 1:23.

The Word of God is that food by which Christians grow. 1 Peter 2:2.

Faith, without which it is impossible to please God and with which all things are possible, cometh by the Word of God. Rom. 10:17; Mark 9:23.

The much-needed light on our pathway is shed there sufficiently and fully by the Word of God. Psalm 119:105; 2 Peter 1:19.

The Word of God is a very important piece of the Christian's armor. Eph. 6:17.

This is God's own description of the importance of His Word in the life of a Christian. How foolish, suicidal and disobedient is that individual who rejects or neglects the systematic, diligent and faithful study of the blessed Word of Life.

### CHRIST AND ANTICHRIST

Christ is called the Seed of the Woman. Antichrist is the seed of the Serpent.

Christ is the Son of God. Antichrist is the Son of Perdition.

Christ is called the Man of Sorrows. Antichrist is the Man of Sin.

Christ is called a Lamb. Antichrist is a wild Beast.

Christ is the Holy One. Antichrist is the Wicked One.

Christ is the Prince of Peace. Antichrist is the Lawless, Profane Prince.

Christ is called the Glorious Branch. Antichrist is the Abominable Branch.

Christ is the Good Shepherd. Antichrist is the Idol Shepherd.

Christ has ascended the Throne of the Universe. Antichrist will be cast into the Lake of Fire.

## Distress of Nations

Christ prophesied, "Upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity." Luke 21:25. Did you ever know of a time when there was more perplexity? It is perplexity that will lead to a crisis. Christ also spoke of "men's hearts failing them for fear"—wondering what is coming next.

But there need be no fear in the hearts of His redeemed ones, for Christ says, "When these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh." Luke 21:28.

"Distress of nations, with perplexity." But there are always those who make light of these things, saying, "There's a good time coming. It is better ahead." Alas, they are ignorant, wilfully ignorant of the things declared in the sure Word of prophecy. The words of the Lord Jesus Christ are clear enough and plain enough to take anybody out of the fog. Distress of nations does not mean the salvation of nations.

"The sea and the waves roaring." Have you heard the roar? Some stop their ears because they do not want to hear. And they say, "There is no roaring." The Scriptures themselves clearly indicate the meaning of Christ's words. It is written, "The wicked are like the troubled sea." Isa. 57:20. A sea that is roaring in these days, even though some refuse to hear its roar!

Read the Scripture, make yourself conversant with its warnings, and you will see that no betterment, no improvement, no healing of the wounds of the world is coming from man, it must have the Master hand and the Master mind of Christ. There is no healing save through Him who is the Sun of righteousness who will arise with healing in His wings.

Read the story of the deliverance of the children of Israel from Egypt in the book of Exodus. The ten plagues were a prelude to the exodus, and keen spiritual observers could not fail to see that God was working out a purpose. Judgment came before the exodus, but final judgment came after the exodus. The ten plagues were preliminary to the exodus, to the freedom, to the liberty of God's people Israel, but the staggering blow, the climax came when the cream of the men of Egypt, the vast army led by Pharaoh himself, perished in the Red Sea.

The people of God free, and judgment coming upon the enemy! So today, the spiritual children of God can recognize a part of God's judgments coming prior to the exodus that is foretold in the New Testament, but worse judgments are coming upon the earth after the Church has been caught up to be forever with the Lord. 1 Thess. 4:15-17.

God said to Pharaoh, "Let My people go." The very conditions of uproar and unrest you see round about indicate that once more God will be saying, "Let My people go."

Moses was not sent to deliver the children of Israel until their cry reached the ear of Jehovah. "I . . . have heard their cry . . . I am come down to deliver them." Ex. 3:7, 8. And so today, the cry must be insistent, it must be prolonged, it must be agonizing; then God will send, not Moses, but the One of whom Moses prophesied: "The Lord thy God will raise up unto thee a Prophet from the midst of thee, of thy brethren, like unto me; unto Him ye shall hearken." Deut. 18:15.

Israel was snatched from the hands of Pharaoh, and God will snatch His people from the hands of Satan.

"Let My people go!" When the cry of that Voice is heard, the grave will have to let go; gravitation will have to let go; Satan, the dragon, and his host will have to let go. When the Lord speaks it will be with a shout, and His shout will be reinforced with the voice of the archangel and the trump of God. 1 Thess. 4:16.

The consummation of salvation is the catching away, the translation of the saints. It will be indeed "the redemption of the purchased possession."

The Saviour will be recompensed, the saints will be glorified, and God will be satisfied. The glorification of the saints who are alive from the dead in heaven, will be the vindication of God throughout the universe, before angels and archangels, before demons and fallen angels, and before Satan and all his hosts. God will be vindicated in His Son through His saints. The redeemed will have a part in that vindication.

The blood of the lamb on the doorpost of Egypt and the lamb eaten within the house, linked the Israelites in a wonderful way to the One who

is spoken of as "Christ our passover." 1 Cor. 5:7. So the blood of Christ upon you and Christ within you, links you to God.

The children of Israel going forth in haste left much of their substance in Egypt. Do not put too great a value on temporal things. They will all have to be left. Seek to view all temporal things in the light of eternity. Count even the light afflictions which are but for a moment, as things which are working out for your eternal good, while you look not at the things which are temporal, but at the things which are eternal. The rubbishing things of earth are not worthy to be compared with the glory which Christ has prepared for His own in the heavens.

## A Modern Daniel

A TRUE STORY BY J. C. WENGATZ

THE Angel of the Lord encampeth round about them that fear Him, and delivereth them." Soxi was a voluntary slave of Chief Xa-Muteba. The Bangala tribe have a custom of pawning their children. Owing to need of money, a child is left in servitude for money lent. They are generally redeemed finally, but often only after years of virtual slavery. This happened to the subject of my tale when but a tiny boy. He was a lad of fifteen when the family came to redeem him. Having become attached to his master, he refused to leave him, and thus became from choice a love-slave. Faithful to an unusual degree, he soon became the Eliezer of the chief's household, everything, even to the family idols, being entrusted to his care.

God's first messenger (a native) to this Bangala tribe had been faithfully preaching the Word for six months without much visible fruit. Among those who never missed a service were Soxi and his wife. On a certain Sunday the preacher used the text, "Taste and see that the Lord is good," and challenged the listeners to put God to the test and prove for themselves whether what he had been telling them was the truth or not. As he finished, Soxi came to him. "Mesene," he said, "your words are good to my heart, but I do not understand how I can prove God whom I cannot see." "Just as you would prove me," explained the evangelist. "You know what kind of a man I am in the mission. And to find out whether I am the same outside the mission, you would walk with me on the road a week, and see if I smoke, drink wine, misuse my carriers, etc. If after a week you find me the same, have you not proved me? Walk with God a week and see if He has the power we claim for Him."

The following Sunday Soxi said eagerly, "Mesene, we are doing it, my wife and I. We are proving God and He does have power; but our pipes, they conquer us. We cannot walk with God and keep our tobacco, but what a fight. We throw away our pipes in the morning and hunt them up again at night. Is it we and not God who are failing? What shall we do? He was encouraged to keep on until he won, but the following Sunday again sadly reported failure. He was determined, however, and the third Sunday he came with a beaming face. "Mesene," he cried, "it is true. God has power. This week we have not touched our pipes, now we no longer want tobacco. I am but a child. Teach me, Mesene, now to walk always with God." He brought his idols and definitely gave himself to the Lord, re-

ceived the assurance of his acceptance and went away happy, having told the old chief that he must now care for his own idols, as he was proving God and could have nothing to do with false gods.

The chief and the whole village were not only angry, but thoroughly alarmed. Not only would his departure from the ways of the tribe bring curses upon the village, but who could tell where it would stop. Others might follow him in his mad departure from the tribal customs and worship. He must be stopped at all costs. A palaver of chiefs was called, and Soxi sent for. "You will die," they pleaded. "I am ready to die," he said, "but I am seeking eternal life. Listen to me. I am proving God. If I throw away my idols and trust Ngana Nzambi alone, and I die because of the wrath of your evil spirit, then the rest of you are excused from ever listening to the words of God. But if, without idols and witch doctors, God cares for me, then are the rest of you not obliged to acknowledge that He alone is God and that all these things we have always trusted are false?"

It is not to be wondered at then, that a long and terrible persecution followed for this first Xa-Muteba Christian. He had challenged the wicked witch doctors to prove their power. At first they tried working Soxi almost to death. He would return from one hard trip, carrying for the Portuguese government, to find the chief waiting to send him the same day on another long, hard journey. Never was he allowed to rest until his pastor finally secured his release by paying his taxes for him and giving him permanent work in the mission. On one of these trips his malicious mulatto employer tried to force him to drink wine in the presence of white men who were making sport of black Christians. Soxi refused firmly in spite of kicks and blows, and so angered the man that he determined to turn him over to the government on some false pretext. That would doubtless mean for Soxi contract labor in St. Thome, a place that the African dreads more than death. On the two days' march back to the post, Soxi cried to God. "I'm proving you. You have protected me against my own people. Are you equal to the Portuguese government?"

When they reached the post, all was confusion. The white official had been killed while hunting the day before. No one had any time to give to a native carrier's case. And Soxi, saved again, threw himself full length on the ground to weep out his gratitude to the God who had again proved Himself powerful to care for His trusting child.

Every trick of magic known to the witch doctors was tried out on Soxi while the whole country hourly expected his death. Surprised at first when nothing happened, they were soon utterly astonished and finally filled with dismay and consternation while Soxi continued to rejoice in the God he was proving. In all, thirty witch doctors were paid to try their magic and bring about his

### THE PENTECOSTAL EVANGEL

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death: secretly at first, and then openly as their rage increased. His pastor feared for him. When magic fails, there are other subtle ways, and the reputation of the witch doctor craft was at stake. Once he warned him not to go out hunting alone, fearing trickery. "But, Mesene," replied Soxi, surprised, "am I not proving God? Won't He care for me while I hunt food for my children?" The pastor was rebuked and ashamed of his own lack of faith in his God.

Time after time Soxi and his wife picked up the charms that were left about their home, and brought them to the mission, rejoicing that they were no longer in bondage to fear of these things. Once their two children were near death's door with fever. And the villagers rejoiced, sure at last that their evil spells were taking effect. Soxi brought the children to the pastor for help and went to prayer. "My Father," he said simply, "I'm proving you. All I have is yours. But if my children die now, the witch doctors will think they did it, and will think that God is not true. Let my children get well, and show them again that you are the true God and that these other things have no power at all." The children recovered, Soxi had again proved the faithfulness of his God.

And then suddenly and quite unaccountably the witch doctors ceased to trouble him, and he was free from further persecution. They seemed to have given him up as unkillable, and the pastor had a great curiosity to know the reason why. Meeting the brother of the chief, who had been the chief agent in trying to bewitch Soxi, he asked him if they had at last found that it was useless to try to fight God. I give you his version of their final attempt against Soxi, as he told it and repeated it the second time, in the presence of all the workers at the Peniel Mission Station.

"Mesene," he replied reverently. "It's the truth. Ngana Nzambi is the only God, and our witch doctors have no power at all against Him. We have proved it, and all our chiefs and all our witch doctors know it at last. Listen and I will tell you what happened. When our medicine men failed so utterly, my brother (Chief Xa-Muteba) sent a distance of four days' march to bring doctor 66 (mentioning a witch doctor well known by reputation to all this group of interested African Christians) whose fame you all know and one who never fails. We paid him about \$125.00 in Portuguese money to come, and he was to have a cow when Soxi was dead. He came with all the paraphernalia he had, and when he had put the evil spell on the mission, all of us were afraid to come near it for it might kill any of us. We waited. Nothing happened at all. Then one night we came, the medicine man and I, to see that he died that night in his bed.

"When we reached his house, imagine our terror to see a white man walking back and forth past his door. Who could it be? Canzamba (the pastor) isn't white. Is it the Portuguese officer (the only white man within thirty miles) guarding the mission at night? Impossible! We waited some time, then crept closer. It was the biggest white man we have ever seen, and he shone as one who carries a lantern. Back and forth he walked until we fled in terror to tell our people that it was no use. That mission is not in charge of Canzamba, as we thought, but of white men the like of whom we have never seen before. Since then, no one has dared speak a word against any of the people of God. We cannot fight God, and will never try it again. We made the doctor give us back our money since he was powerless, and four days after he got home he took sick and died. Does that not prove that Ngana Nzambi is God and our doctors nothing?"

God had not only delivered His trusting child, but had indeed broken the hold of the witch doctors over the people in Xa-Muteba. From that time on, they began coming to deliver up their idols and seek the true God. Soxi had proved God and God had manifested His power, so it was no wonder that when we went to Xa-Muteba to hold a revival, we found the people ready; so

ready that we found the chief and seventy of his people converted during the ten days' meetings.

And Soxi? He is without question the most joyous Christian I have ever known, and the simplicity of his faith puts me to shame. When he heard from his pastor the story I have just told you, he said simply: "It is finished. I have been delivered from the lions' den, and from all the power of men and devils. I am no longer Soxi. Call me Daniel." It is as Daniel that he is known today, and no man, not even the old chief himself, commands the respect in the community that Daniel does. His story is known far and wide, and the name of the Lord is magnified among the heathen.

Who did those two agents of the evil one, bent on destroying one of God's own, see that night? Does the Angel of the Lord still encamp round about them that fear Him to deliver them? Does He? Did King Nebuchadnezzar actually see the form of the Fourth walking in the fiery furnace? Was the contest on Mount Carmel real or only imaginary? And is the God of Elijah the same in 1943? Did God's power to deliver those that trust Him fully end with the apostolic age? Who has changed since the days of Peter and Paul—is it God or God's people?

#### A BATTLE PLAN FROM THE BIBLE

In *Saturday Evening Post* there appeared recently the following story by John Hix which tells how the Bible helped the British under General Allenby to win a battle in Palestine in 1918:

"The British, out to capture Jericho, knew they must first eliminate a Turkish garrison at the village of Michmash. A frontal attack was decided upon, despite the heavy casualties it would inevitably entail. What happened after that constitutes one of the most unusual episodes in military annals.

"On February thirteenth, the eve of the attack, the British chief of staff outlined to his officers the plan for taking Michmash by direct assault. One of the officers, Major Petrie, started inwardly. The name of the village was familiar to him. After the meeting Petrie retired to his quarters to try to sleep. But the word 'Michmash' kept running through his brain. Where had he encountered it? Suddenly he had the answer—the book of Samuel, in the Bible. Quickly he located the passages he wanted—1 Samuel 13 and 14. Petrie rushed to the quarters of the commanding officer. Rousing him from sleep, he excitedly announced his find.

"It was the Biblical account of how Jonathan had taken Michmash from the Philistines nearly thirty centuries before. Various landmarks were mentioned: two sharp rocks which indicated a pass; a plot of ground overlooking the town. On a hunch, the commander sent scouts out to look for the landmarks. They returned with the report that they were all there.

"That night Petrie and the commander pored over the Biblical passages and completely changed the British plan of attack. Just before daybreak a small force set out for the plot of ground above Michmash. At dawn they emerged from hiding,

## YOU BE THE JUDGE

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recreational activities

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with loud cries. The Turks pouring from their huts, saw the men on the strategic ledge behind them. Confused and terrorized, they were easily subdued. Michmash was taken with amazingly few casualties, and the door to the Near East opened for a great British victory."

#### CALVARY'S CROSS WILL CAUSE THE IRON TO SWIM

(Continued From Page One)

down, but nothing happened. His axhead was too dull. But when his master came and prayed the boy returned to life. There is the difference whether you are working with a sharp ax or a dull one. Are you sure your axhead is as sharp as it should be? If it is dull you positively will lose it. If you have lost it, come to God and tell Him just why you lost it.

I believe the church lost her axhead in the Dark Ages, and it seemed her power was gone forever, but Martin Luther crawling on his hands and knees, saw the light and cried to God for help. God reached down, and right in the midst of that darkness Luther saw Calvary's tree and his own salvation purchased thereon. When the church gets away from the cross her axhead is gone. But when she takes her place at the cross, from there the power and glory will stream down upon her. I believe with the restoration of Pentecost the axhead has been restored to the church.

The *Christian Herald* came out with the statement one time that the fastest growing denomination of the United States is the Assemblies of God. The Assemblies of God, which represents only about half of the Pentecostal churches, reports a following of 220,000 and I believe there are over the world at least 1,000,000 Pentecostal saints. A little organization is good if we do not have more machinery than we have oil to keep it going. I praise God for the mighty power that caused the iron to swim. When the Lord looked down upon the church and saw she had lost her axhead. He put faith into some of His children to wade out into the Jordan, get hold of the swimming axhead and wield it in power for the upbuilding of His kingdom.

#### DIG DEEPER

Somewhere we have read of a farmer who once dug a well, and to this well he brought his horses and cattle to drink. From it he drew for a long time sufficient for all the needs of his herds, but a drought came one summer and the flow of water diminished in the well and ceased to refresh these herds. Consequently he had to drive them to surrounding springs and brooks to give them the necessary water.

One day a visitor stopped at his home and talked to him about his well. He said, "Why, not dig the well deeper?"

"But," declared the farmer, "the next digging must be done through a layer of rock and flint."

The visitor was persistent and said, "Even so, though it is necessary to go through flint and rock, blast the rock and just a few more feet may give you the most refreshing stream of water you can imagine."

This was done and to the farmer's amazement and joy the blast brought in a gushing stream of water which not only filled the well but overflowed it. It was a veritable goldmine to his homestead.

Is it not true that with many of us there has been a spiritual drought, and there is no water in our well? We have dug as far as the rock, but we have never gone through the rock. Too many Christian lives are after all only superficial. Dig deeper, brethren! Let's blast a few rocks and see if there will not come a stream of water of divine grace that will so fill our hearts and lives with the glory of His grace, that serving Him and doing His will, in fact the whole routine of Christian life and duty, will become a joy and pleasure.

# The GOSPEL in FOREIGN LANDS

## AROUND AN INDIAN CAMPFIRE IN THE HEART OF THE GRAN CHACO

Intently they listened to the words of the White Man who had come from far away to teach them of a real and mighty God.

Albert Widmer, British Assemblies of God missionary who was formerly associated with J. P. Kolenda in the work in Southern Brazil, is now laboring among the Indians in the heart of the Gran Chaco. It is real pioneer missionary work, fraught with danger and sacrifice, but God is rewarding the effort, giving open doors and open hearts to the gospel.

Brother Widmer describes his visit to one of the Indian villages: "I was invited to tell the natives the reason for my coming here, while all their eyes watched my every movement. In order to express myself fully I made use of the Spanish language, and the able chief Munoz interpreted into the tribal tongue. Echoes of approval were heard from all directions. Bye and bye I could see clearly the yellow-brown faces illumined by the camp fire as well as by the newly risen 'Jacy,' or Mother Moon God.

"The Chief had told them that I had come from a white tribe 'far away' to teach his people of a real and mighty God who sent into this world His own Son with the name 'Jesu Cristo.' I then had to continue to tell them how all this happened. They asked if I had also sang to this God, which I could gladly affirm, and so they all wanted to hear the singing.

"The night passed very quickly. Early in the morning I was awakened by the sound of many voices and looked up to find myself surrounded by an enormous crowd. The chief proudly explained that the news of my arrival already had been spread far and wide, and that there were still more tribal people coming from the neighboring 'toldarias.' Indeed, in the evening we counted over 700 gathered and were told that this was not yet half the Indians, as most of them were still on the way.

"Patiently I taught the crowd gospel choruses, accompanied by the singsong of millions of mosquitoes. Of course, I was not only teaching them to sing and explaining God's Word; there were many other things left to be done. I saw the immediate need of getting to work to teach a group of young men so that they could read the Scriptures. Pencils and sheets of paper were handed out, and for weeks I worked to get them to spell the alphabet and to read phrases from the Word of God. Their aptitude was amazing. Soon on their own initiative they began teaching their people to sing the gospel choruses and even the new hymns I taught them.

"I am already at work in six different Indian villages here in the Gran Chaco which is far inland, practically out of the white man's reach. The dangers are many, sacrifices are great, yet these heathen are my inheritance."

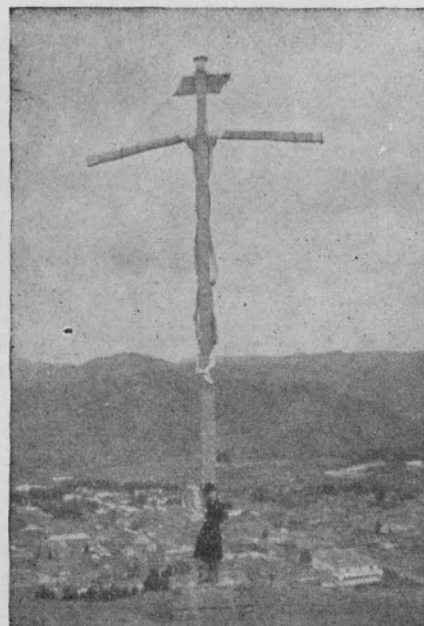
## WITH THE PERUVIAN INDIANS

John Doan tells of a recent trophy of grace at Huancayo, Peru: "The native pastor and myself set out on our bicycles one day to do personal work in some of the small towns near

by. We happened to take a side trail and stopped at a little mud house to buy cactus fruit. The only person there was an old blind lady. The pastor addressed her in the Quechua language, asking if she had heard the gospel, and receiving a reply in the negative he began to unfold the way of salvation. The three of us then knelt in the old corral to pray, and right there that woman accepted the Lord as her Saviour. Before we left, she asked us to come back and tell her more of the Gospel. Praise the Lord! It is a great joy to do personal work and visit these out-of-the-way towns."

Some months ago Mr. and Mrs. Doan had occasion to make a trip by car to Lake Titicaca, at the southeastern extremity of Peru. "We saw many Indians in the south country," says Mrs. Doan in describing the trip. "Some as we passed would cover their faces or turn their backs to us, and if we stopped the car to take a picture, they would run away as fast as possible. The majority of these are probably still untouched by any religion.

"In Cuzco we saw an old, old man, a true descendant of the ancient Incas, kneeling on the stone steps of a beautiful cathedral. His dress was very picturesque, and as he knelt with head bowed, eyes closed, hands folded in supplication, praying there before a great closed door, he made a picture we shall not easily forget. Truly they are a people who, with not enough food to eat or sufficient clothing to keep them warm, live their primitive lives without the slightest conception of the conveniences and comforts of this enlightened age—a people who yet sit in darkness awaiting their first ray of gospel light. Pray that God will raise up native workers and send them forth in apostolic power to meet the need of their own people!"



A cross overlooking the city of Cuzco, Peru. Ernestine Doan may be seen holding up a metal medallion which bears the inscription, "Anyone kissing this cross will be redeemed from 100 years of purgatory."

## RAINS BRING RELIEF—AND OTHER THINGS TOO!

A letter from Rosa Reineker, which has just found its way through, was written last fall at the start of the rainy season in Ceylon. "What a relief it is from the intense heat and the dust!" she exclaims.

"The grass which was all brown and dried up is now green, and everything looks so fresh. However, with the rains come multitudes of other things. There are the millipedes, whose name is very befitting, for they are everywhere, inside and outside the house. Next come the centipedes and scorpions, not so numerous, yet less desirable for their bites and stings are felt very keenly. The frogs' orchestra is in full swing now every evening. We have two kinds of frogs, the ordinary variety which hop all over the place, and another kind that live on the coconut trees. These jump four or five yards at a time. Frequently they drop from the trees and come into the house. Not content to stay on the floor, they jump on to the furniture and the walls; then suddenly they will take a leap and may land right on a person, unless one watches to escape. They really are the most ugly, repulsive looking things. Snakes also will come into the house after the frogs, of which they are fond. We have a certain kind of snake here, very thin and rather short, but extremely poisonous; these have been found in the house several times. One which seemed especially desirous of comfort got up on a cot, between the mattress and the sheet; fortunately it was discovered before anyone slept in the cot. Mosquitoes, too, have put in their appearance in full force, besides multitudes of other insects. They are all over the place, and even have to be fished out of the soup. However, in spite of these things, we do praise the Lord for the rains.

## "I Must Go to Sunday School"

"The other day at Sunday School time the rain was just pouring down. I really didn't expect anyone to turn out, but to my surprise nineteen boys and girls came. As it was difficult to raise one's voice above the noise of the downpour, we spent quite a bit of the time singing. I taught them a new song, and we also changed the order a little, having an illustrated lesson instead of regular classes. This they enjoyed very much. The following day one of the mothers told me she had asked her son not to go out in the terrible rain, but he replied, 'Mother, if I can go to school during the week, surely I can go to Sunday School; I MUST go to Sunday School.' On his way here (as I was told later) he stopped at a friend's house. He was urged to stay there for a sing-song, but again he told them he HAD to go to Sunday School. This boy is about 15 years old. He loves the Lord. Please pray that he may be kept true and that he will make a deeper consecration to God."

## IT'S A GIRL!

Name: Arlene Esther Glaser

Weight: 8 lbs. 6½ oz.

Arrived: February 24, 1943

Congratulations are in order to Mr. and Mrs. Fred Glaser, on furlough from French West Africa, who at present are located in Tangent, Oregon.

# A Modern Miracle

The Healing of Private James P. Sturgeon

James P. Sturgeon was called to the U. S. Army in January, 1942. His reception center was Fort Sill, Oklahoma, where he was kept three days. After receiving his basic training at Camp Wallace, Texas, he was transferred to Fort Bliss, which is located far up the Rio Grande at El Paso, Texas.

On March 20, 1942, with full field pack, James started up Mount Franklin on a routine hike. Suddenly he was overcome with heat. He had a sunstroke which made him unconscious and caused him to fall backwards. The fall cracked his skull and as a result he suffered four paralytic strokes.

He was in a hospital for nearly five months. At the end of that time a number of doctors held a consultation and decided they could do nothing but send him home; so on August 12 he received an honorable discharge.

When discharged the young man was in such bad shape that he had to have an escort from the army camp to his home in Eagle City, Oklahoma. He had no use whatever of his entire right side, and had to drag his right foot around with a single crutch. His head hurt continually—he could hardly stand the pain. His eyesight was becoming poorer and poorer. He wore Size Eighteen glasses and could not read without them. His whole condition was growing worse all the time.

Then he went to Seminole, Oklahoma, where the annual convention of the Oklahoma District Council of the Assemblies of God was in session.

He attended the great public service in the city auditorium on the night of October 7. Being affiliated with the District Council—he had exhorter's papers when he was drafted into the Army—he was carried to the platform, seated, and his crutch was put beneath a piano. No plans had been made to pray for the sick in that service. However, James told the chairman of the meeting that he wanted to be anointed with oil and prayed for. He believed that God would heal him.

The meeting began, and after one song had been sung, the leader announced that this young man had requested prayer. There in the presence of more than two thousand people James Sturgeon was anointed with oil. Two of the ministering brethren laid hands on him, and others gathered around and prayed that God would heal him. As they prayed the young man's right hand, which had been badly drawn, straightened out; then he raised his whole right arm, which had been paralyzed. Like a flash he jumped up from his chair and began leaping for joy and dancing all over the platform. He was completely healed. He needed a crutch no longer. God had performed a wonderful miracle of healing before the eyes of more than two thousand people, and they stood to their feet and for fully twenty minutes shouted and praised the Lord. Without waiting for an invitation, a great many came to the front to be prayed for, and many claimed to have been healed in that service.

The next day the miracle was headlined on the front page of the local newspaper. The whole town was stirred. The young man joyfully told to men and women who had seen him in his crippled state the glorious story of how God had healed him. The manager of the hotel at which he was staying was present at the service and witnessed the healing. He was so impressed that he told James he would pay for the call if he wanted to telephone his parents at Eagle City and inform them of his healing.

Formerly a colored boy who works for the hotel had to help him in and out of bed, because



Private Sturgeon

of his crippled condition. After his healing that was no longer necessary. Someone suggested to the colored boy that he go in and see James. "No sah, boss," he replied, "I ain't goin' neah him on more." He was afraid of him because "something' done happen to him."

When James arrived at home his mother and sisters met with him their hands in the air, shouting for joy. His young brother was crying. His little nephew said, "I never thought this would happen."

Many do not expect such things to happen today, and that is why they don't happen more often. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, and today, and forever, as the Bible says. "I am the Lord; I change not." Malachi 3:6. "I am the Lord that healeth thee." Exodus 15:26.

James is still well and he is using his health and strength to preach the gospel and to tell everyone what God has done for him.—Reprinted from *Christ's Ambassadors Herald*.

## FREE PICTURE CARDS

We are overstocked on Children's Picture Lesson Cards. They are packed in cartons of 65 cards each. You may have them to give to un-reached children, to interest them in your Sunday School. They will be valuable in Vacation Bible Schools. How many boxes can you use?—Gospel Publishing House.

"Where the Lord guides, the Lord provides."—French Proverb.

## Reports from the Reapers

SEBEWAING, MICH.—We recently closed a 3-week meeting, Edna Jean Horn, Evangelist. Brother Horn was present for part of the services. Although the weather was very cold, we had good meetings. We feel that the young people were helped, as well as the older saints. Five received the Baptism in the Holy Spirit, and many came forward for salvation. We surely appreciate the faithful labor and fellowship of Brother and Sister Horn.—Arthur Austin, Pastor.

MINOT, N. DAK.—We just closed a meeting with Bruce Gibson, colored evangelist from Pasadena, Calif. It was a time of blessing, and all our people enjoyed the way Brother Gibson brought forth the scripture each night. Many from other denominations came and enjoyed the meetings. Night after night we were crowded out and had to bring in chairs to accommodate the people. Souls were saved. One Friday night four sought the Lord. The last week we were out at Calvary Chapel and had a fine meeting there. Only one week could be arranged for, and interest was stirred to such an extent that it was hard to close. Altogether it was a fine campaign and we all look for a return visit from Brother Gibson.—P. M. and Rena Cantelon.

## Coming Meetings

TULSA, OKLA.—City-wide C. A. Rally, 5th and Peoria, April 5. S. J. Scott, State President, will be present. This is a preconvention rally.—Paul B. Franklin, Host Pastor.

NEBRASKA DISTRICT COUNCIL  
The Nebraska District Council will convene at Grand Island, Nebr., April 6-8. General Superintendent E. S. Williams, principal speaker.—A. M. Alber, District Superintendent, 831 N. Kansas Ave., Hastings, Nebr.

KANSAS CITY, MO.—Sectional Fellowship Meeting, Independence Ave. and Spruce, April 5. Services 10:30, 2:30 and C. A. Rally 7:45. W. J. George is pastor.—J. L. O'Dell, Sectional Secretary, 3308 E. 13th, Kansas City, Mo.

PLAINVIEW, TEXAS—The West Texas District Council meets April 20-22. Monday night, Fellowship meeting. General Superintendent Ernest S. Williams, Council speaker. For room reservations and further information write H. Paul Holdridge, Secretary-Treasurer and Pastor, Box 10, Plainview Texas.

OKLAHOMA DISTRICT SECTIONAL COUNCIL MEETINGS  
Northwest, Enid, April 12-14; North Central, Fairfax, April 19-21; Panhandle, Woodward, May 10-12; Northeast, Tulsa, Capitol Hill Assembly, May 26-28.—W. S. Bragg, Secretary-Treasurer, Box 128, Okmulgee, Okla.

EASTERN DISTRICT COUNCIL  
The 27th Annual Conference of the Eastern District Council will convene at Maranatha Park, Green Lane, Pa., May 11-13. The credentials committee will meet at this time for the purpose of examining candidates for ordination. For application blanks write Wilfred A. Brown, District Secretary, 445 Main St., Pennsburg, Pa.

ILLINOIS DISTRICT COUNCIL  
The Illinois District Council will convene at Springfield, Ill., April 27-29. General Superintendent E. S. Williams, principal speaker. Credentials Committee will meet April 26, 2:30 p. m., to consider applicants for ordination. Bert Talcott is the local pastor.—W. R. Williamson, District Superintendent, 7131 Norman Blvd., Chicago, Ill.  
VALLEY PARK, MO.—C. A. Rally, St. Louis Section, April 11, 2:30 p. m. N. Cleo Tapp is pastor.—Leater Shockley, President; by E. J. Boettcher, Secretary.  
ST. LOUIS, MO.—Sunday School Rally, St. Louis Section, Page and Marcus Aves., April 18, 2:30 p. m. Fred Lohmann is pastor. R. M. Riggs, speaker.—E. J. Boettcher, Sunday School Secretary, St. Louis Section.

APPALACHIAN DISTRICT COUNCIL  
The 24th session of the Appalachian District Council will convene at North Tazewell, Va., April 22-24. Fellowship meeting, Wednesday, 8:00 p. m. First service, 10:00 a. m., Thursday, C. A.'s will meet Saturday afternoon, in connection with District Council. All our District ministers and delegates urged to attend. Two delegates from each assembly.

For information write Pastor A. H. Morrison, Berwind, W. Va.—M. B. Hampton, District Superintendent.

POTOMAC DISTRICT SPRING CONVENTION  
DUNN, N. C.—Potomac District Spring Convention and Prayer Conference, Gospel Tabernacle, King and Cumberland Sts., April 4-8. Speakers: A. H. Graves, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Shuss, E. W. Welford, Chaplain O. W. Keys, Wallace Heflin, Mrs. Julia Tyler, and others. Morning sessions devoted to prayer, afternoon and night sessions to preaching, teaching, and fellowship. For accommodations, write to Pastor W. D. Swanson, Box 203, Dunn, N. C.—F. M. Staudt, District Superintendent.

TEXAS DISTRICT SPRING CONVENTIONS  
In this group all services begin 7:30 p. m. first day: Yoakum Section, Yoakum, April 6-7; San Angelo Section, Brownwood, April 27-28.

In this group services begin 10:30 a. m., first day: Houston Section, 2701 Jensen Dr., Houston, April 1-2; Waco Section, Fairfield, April 8-9; Wichita Falls Section, Olney, April 13-14; Ft. Worth Section, Cleburne, April 15-16.

All ministers urged to attend, as all licenses must be renewed at Spring conventions. All ordained ministers will renew their fellowship with the District at these conventions. Those desiring to make application for ordination or license will meet the committee at their resident section. For information write the District Office, 2100 Belle Ave., Ft. Worth, Texas.—F. D. Davis, District Superintendent; C. P. Robison, Secretary.

## OPEN FOR CALLS

Evangelistic  
Walter Lane, 3030 S. Harvey, Oklahoma City, Okla.—"Am a young minister. My wife travels with me. Reference: Pastor Robert DeLancey, 1012 N. Phillips, Oklahoma City, Okla."

Evangelistic or Pastoral  
Mr. and Mrs. Fred Patterson, 1919 South Q St., Fort Smith, Ark.—"In fellowship with General Council. Several years' experience in ministry. We are young folks. Best of references."

## MISCELLANEOUS NOTICES

BROADCAST—Radio Chapel, Station KGER, Los Angeles, Calif., Mondays and Thursdays, 3:30-4:00 p. m.; Sundays, 5:05-5:30.—Elmer T. Draper, Pastor, 1250 S. Woods Ave., East Los Angeles, Calif.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS  
P. O. Box 246, Des Moines, Iowa.—Chas. E. Long, Secretary-Treasurer, West Central District.

General Delivery, Independence, Ore. "We are taking charge of the Assembly of God work here."—Wm. H. Reeve.

Box 877, Holliday, Texas. "I have resigned at Seymour and am now pastoring here."—Alvin Hendrix.

1026 Third Ave. S., Great Falls, Mont. "I have resigned the church at Miles City to accept the District Superintendency of the Montana District."—Leonard Palmer.

SERVICE OR DEFENSE WORKERS CONTACTED—Pastor Wm. H. Reeve, General Delivery, Independence, Ore. Near Camp Adair.

# The PASSING and the PERMANENT

## THE "CATACOMBS" AGAIN

Says the *Pathfinder*: "Christian voices still speak from the catacombs of a Europe dominated by the Nazi antichrist and splotted with the blood of the innocents."

## RUNNING TO AND FRO

Pressed by war's necessity, one Pan-American plane shuttled ten times between Brazil and Africa in six days. According to *Glad Tidings*, a regulation B-24 army bomber loaded with military leaders left Washington on a Monday noon, made a 21,000-mile trip across the Pacific, and was back in Washington on Friday. Read Daniel 12:4.

## ONE MILLION EASTER GOSPELS

Brother Harry A. Jaeger has launched a drive for one million Easter Gospels. The Gospels are being printed and funds are being raised to distribute them with an Easter souvenir cover to servicemen in camps across the country this Easter. This will give one million men a copy of the Easter story and an invitation to accept Christ.

## NO LIQUOR ADS IN CANADA

In order to discourage liquor consumption, the Canadian Government has prohibited all advertising of spirituous liquors, beer and wine throughout the Dominion for the duration of the war, after Feb. 1, 1943. An example the American Government well might follow! What a relief it would be to see American periodicals without whiskey, beer and wine ads!

## IN NEW GUINEA JUNGLES

Vern Haugland, American aviator forced down in the jungles of New Guinea, writes: "I often repeated the Psalm, 'The Lord is my Shepherd. Sometimes I would be unable to go one step farther, and then I would remember, 'I shall not want, and sure enough there'd be some berries, or chewable grass, or a creek with good water just ahead.'"

## QUISLING CLERGY POLICE

A report coming out of Stockholm through *Religious News Service* states that "Norway's Quisling-appointed bishops have been invested with police powers, following a series of unsuccessful attempts to gain possession of church properties." Such power makes legal anything these anti-Christian puppets or Quisling may do. They occupy the same relationship to Quisling that the False Prophet will have to the Antichrist.

## WE MUST FORGIVE

An echo of the words of Christ was heard in the words of Madame Chiang Kai-shek when, speaking recently before 20,000 people in Madison Square Garden, she said: "There must be no bitterness in the reconstructed world. No matter what we have undergone and suffered, we must try to forgive those who injured us and remember only the lesson gained thereby." We cannot do this, however, except the love of God be shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost.

## A RABBI LECTURES ON JESUS

A Christian worker visited a certain Jewish organization in New York City. He asked the rabbi, "Have you ever read the New Testament?" The answer was surprising. The rabbi quickly drew from his pocket a copy of the Old Testament Prophecy Edition of the New Testament, and said, "Yes, I have read this book many times. In fact, I am giving a series of lectures on the New Testament to the students here at the Foundation. I am the rabbi here. I find the teachings of Jesus very interesting and well worth one's reading." Will you pray that this rabbi and his Jewish students will come to know Jesus as their Saviour and Messiah?

## A POWERLESS "GENERAL"

The Franco regime is well described in the *Spanish News Letter* as "an assortment of elements—army, landowners, monarchists, clericals, *Requetes*, industrialists, Falangists, and conservatives outside these categories—and they do not all love one another."

Some time ago General Franco issued a decree, conferring on the image of Our Lady of Fuenciscla in Segovia the rank of Captain General of the Spanish Army. The Minister of War, assisted by four bishops and seven generals, invested the statue with the sash that generals wear. Comments *World Dominion*: "In the twentieth century, comment on such superstitious absurdity is surely needless."

## GOVERNMENT CONTROL

Some have been painting glowing pictures of postwar conditions. They talk of the immediate shifting of industry to construction work, with jobs for all who want to work and pension benefits for those unable to work. But others look ahead more realistically and see "tremendous dislocation in production, flooding labor markets, bankruptcy of multitudes of small manufacturers and business men—and the absolute necessity of sharp governmental control to prevent a terrific cataclysm." Certainly peace will only bring us so much nearer to the return of Christ and so much nearer to the rigid government control that the Antichrist will exert. No, the future is not rosy—except to the Christian!

## WHEN BOMBS FALL ON MALTA

There have been very few casualties from air raids in Malta, though the little island has been termed the "most-bombed spot on earth." Lady Dobbie, speaking at a Christian women's meeting in England recently, explained that the reason was because Malta is a huge rock. All the shelters are caves made in the rock. When the sirens sounded, the people ran into the rock shelters and were safe. She told how Sir William Dobbie, the Governor, always mounted the steps to the tower to watch and pray during the raid. She also told how he would stand in the drawing-room every evening after dinner, all the guests in the palace being present, and pray for Malta and her people.

We may not have caves of rock to shelter us from enemy bombs, but like General Dobbie we have One who is almighty to protect us. He is the Rock. In every time of danger and distress, we can say with David, "The Lord is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust." Psalm 18:2.

## THE TIME OF JACOB'S TROUBLE

Secretary of State Cordell E. Hull recently received a delegation of leading American rabbis and assured them that the Jewish race, after the victory of the United Nations, will enjoy "equality and justice." He said that "under the terms of the Atlantic Charter the United Nations will be prepared not only to redeem their hopes of a future world based upon freedom, equality, and justice, but to create a world in which such a tragedy will not again occur."

Though Mr. Hull is a god-fearing and Bible-reading man, we believe he is holding out a false hope. According to Jeremiah 30 a tragedy even worse than the present is to come upon Jewry, if it is true as we believe that the "time of Jacob's trouble" which that chapter foretells and describes is yet to come. "Alas! for that day is great, so that none is like it: it is even the time of Jacob's trouble; but he shall be saved out of it." Jacob (as a nation) shall be saved out of it by the glorious return of Christ. However, the sons of Jacob shall not escape that dreadful day unless they have individually accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as Saviour before its pangs seize upon them.

## A MATCHLESS SACRIFICE

Noble as it may be, the sacrifice of a man's life for his country can by no means be compared with the sacrifice of Christ. Yet some dare to make the comparison. An editor tells of a Protestant minister in his neighborhood who recently administered the Lord's Supper, "in memory of the blood shed by our soldiers on the battlefield." Said this editor, "The supreme blasphemy of that so-called communion service out-paganized the pagans." Christ's death is a matchless Sacrifice, for it was a sinless Sacrifice in atonement for sin. To liken Him to a mere hero or martyr is blasphemy.

## WHO IS TO BLAME?

J. Edgar Hoover, head of the F. B. I., disclosed in February an "alarming breakdown" in the moral standards of juveniles, especially among girls. Arrests of minor girls increased 55.7% in 1942 over 1941. Prostitution and commercialized vice among minor girls increased 64.8%, while those arrested for other sex offenses increased 104.7%. Increases of 29.9% and 69.6% respectively, were registered for drunkenness and disorderly conduct.

Despite the fact that millions of young men are in the armed forces or gainfully employed in war production, Hoover said that the number of youths under 21 arrested for sex offenses, drunkenness, and disorderly conduct was considerably higher in 1942 than in 1941.

Hoover attributed the sharp increase to a deplorable lack of parental guidance and discipline in many homes, together with high wages for youth, and a "sense of wartime abandon."

Recently Judge John J. Sullivan, in sentencing five young rapists, said this of modern home influences: "Many present-day parents don't know where their children are. Half the time one parent (or both) doesn't even know where the other is."

God has given us the power to pray down an old-fashioned spiritual revival that will meet the needs of human hearts in this present crisis. Let's do our duty. Let's not try to shift the blame.

## THE PRESERVATION OF PERSIA

C. C. Dobson

Persia occupies an interesting place in Bible history. She is the only great nation of old times who showed constant kindness to the Jews. Cyrus, the first king of the mighty Medo-Persian Empire, surprised the world after capturing Babylon, by issuing a decree setting the Jews free, and sending them back to Palestine. Later, under Darius Hystaspes, came permission to rebuild the Temple, and Ezra and Zerubbabel led another band to Jerusalem to carry this out. Esther the Jewess became Queen of Persia.

Twice we read of enemy intrigue trying to destroy this friendship with God's people. While the Temple was being rebuilt a usurper for a few months gained the throne, and, influenced by the enemies of Ezra in Palestine, ordered the building to stop. But Darius soon after put down the rebellion and the building was completed. The book of Esther tells of a plot to massacre all Jews, and how God brought it to nought.

Persia gives us a remarkable fulfillment of Bible prophecy. To Abraham and his race was given the promise "I will make of thee a great nation... I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee." Ancient Egypt, Syria, Assyria, Babylon, Greece, the Hittites, Philistines, Moabites, and a host of other great empires and kingdoms have passed away. They all ill-used the race of Abraham. Persia alone has survived right down to the present as an independent Empire, and Persia alone was consistently kind to the Jews.

## COMPLETE SEPARATION

Sanctification means separation; it is negative and positive—separated from all that is contrary to the will of God, and separated unto Him that we may have His indwelling and be an instrument for Him.—W. H. Aldis.