

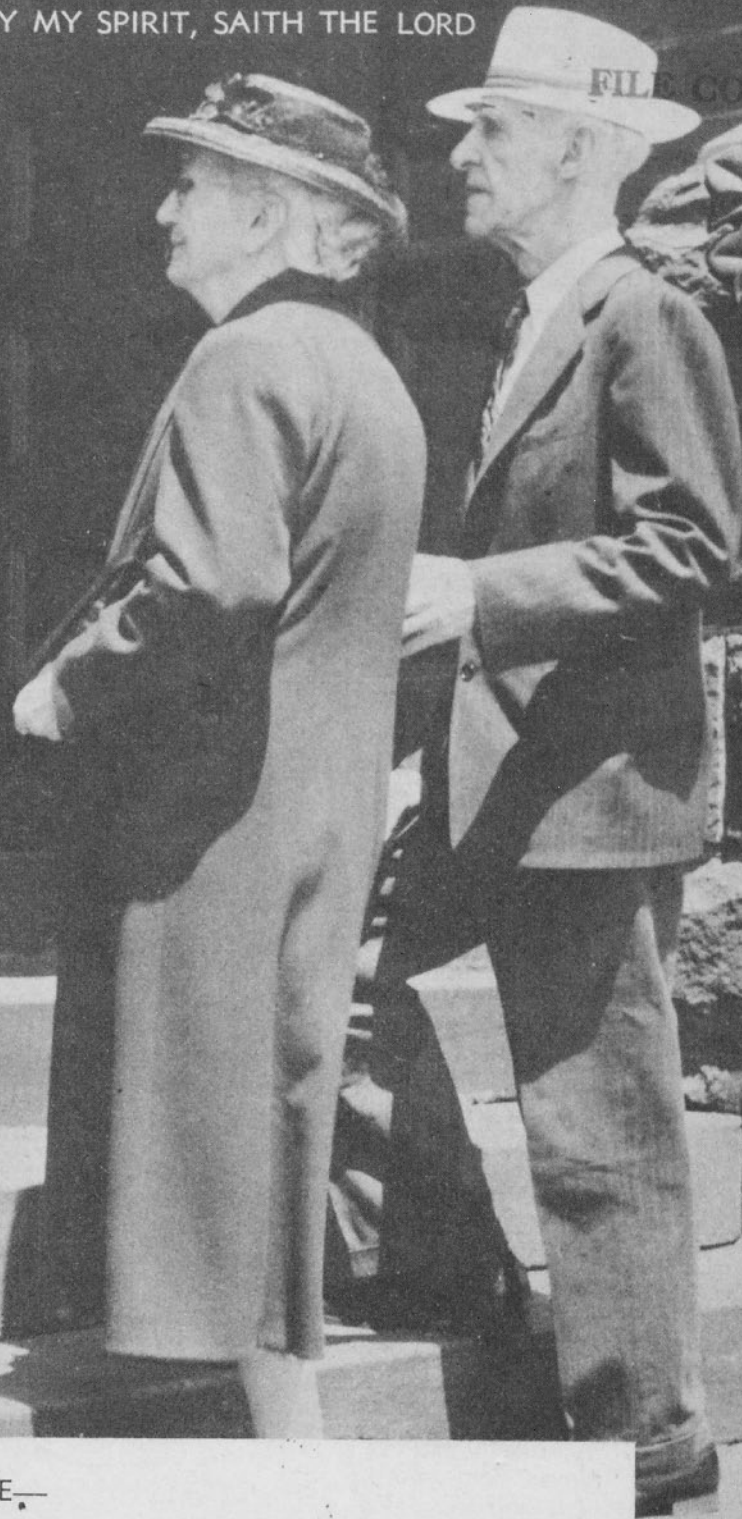
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The Pentecostal EVANGEL

MARCH 18, 1956

FIVE CENTS

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



READ IN THIS ISSUE—

“An Old Disciple”

and other articles for the aged.

Preparing for the Future

We lovingly dedicate this issue of the EVANGEL to those honored members of our fellowship who have lived a little longer than the rest of us. In so doing, we are reminded that all of us are growing older every day. The future is rushing toward us; we must get ready to meet it.

Those who are wise will make some financial preparations for the "unproductive years." At present there are fourteen million people in the U. S. who are sixty-five and over. A study made by the Twentieth Century Fund reveals that nearly three-fourths of these either have no income of their own or get less than \$1,000 a year. The fourteen million are divided into five groups, as follows: 30 per cent are still working; 20 per cent receive public assistance; 33 per cent receive social security or pension benefits; 12 per cent have income from personal savings and investments; 5 per cent are in public homes or institutions.

The same study shows that since 1900 the number of persons over sixty-five has increased twice as fast as the total population. The American population is aging. Fewer people die young. The average life expectancy is now 69.8 years, very near the Biblical "three score years and ten" (Psalm 90:10). The average life span is constantly lengthening and it is becoming more and more important that people in their "productive years" make financial provision for the time when, for one reason or another, they will be unable to continue to earn a living.

The age of sixty-five is generally looked upon as the age of retirement. Actually, however, the average person can look forward to many active years beyond that age, and happy is that person if he has developed a useful hobby or side interest to which he can devote his time and strength after he "retires."

Two things to be dreaded in later years are loneliness and idleness. These need not be problems to the Christian. If he has developed a friendly attitude, he will not lack for friends. As for idleness, much depends on a person's spirit. If he is industrious through life he will not be at a loss for odd jobs in later years. There are always some chores to be done, letters to be written, sick calls to be made. May the Lord help us to be awake to all our opportunities to do good.

Our attitude is all-important, and the time to form proper attitudes is in early life. Jesus taught that there is more happiness in giving than in receiving; there is more satisfaction in looking out for the well-being of others than in pampering ourselves. We need to prepare for the future by developing a Christlike attitude now. Form good spiritual habits. Spend time in prayer. Cultivate a hunger for God and His Bible. Make it your motto to think of others rather than yourself. Your reward will be an abundance of genuine Christian happiness in your later years.

A good prayer for us all is found in Psalm 90:12—"So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom." And the ultimate of wisdom is to prepare for that which naturally follows old age. "The young may die, but the old must die." And death does not end all.

God has prepared for our future. He has prepared a great salvation, through His beloved Son, and we may be saved by repenting for our sin and accepting Him as our personal Saviour. He has also prepared a glorious heavenly home. "I go to prepare a place for you," Jesus said; "and if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself, that where I am there ye may be also." Heaven is a prepared place for a prepared people. Are you prepared for it?

THE PENTECOSTAL EVANGEL

THE WEEKLY VOICE OF THE ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

MARCH 18, 1956

NUMBER 2184

ROBERT C. CUNNINGHAM, Editor

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Published weekly by the Gospel Publishing House,
434 West Pacific Street, Springfield 1, Mo., U.S.A.
J. O. HARRELL, General Manager

ADDRESSES IN U.S. AND U.S. POSSESSIONS:

SINGLE SUBSCRIPTION—\$1.00 for twenty weeks—\$2.50 for one year—\$4.75 for two years—\$7.00 for three years. BUNDLES of 4 or more copies to a single address—5 cents a copy—65 cents for 13 weeks—\$2.25 for a year.

CANADIAN ADDRESSES:

SINGLE SUBSCRIPTION—\$3.00 for one year—\$5.75 for two years—\$8.50 for three years. BUNDLES of 4 or more copies to a single address—6 cents a copy—78 cents for 13 weeks—\$2.75 for a year.

FOREIGN LANDS (except Canada):

SINGLE SUBSCRIPTION—\$4.25 for one year—\$8.25 for two years—\$12.25 for three years. BUNDLES of 4 or more to a single address—7 cents a copy—91 cents for 13 weeks—\$4.00 for a year.

Entered as second-class matter June 25, 1918, at the Post Office in 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, 1918. PRINTED IN THE U.S.A.

... *we believe* the Bible to be the inspired and only infallible and authoritative Word of God. WE BELIEVE that there is one God, eternally existent in three persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost. WE BELIEVE in the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, in His virgin birth, in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His vicarious and atoning death, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father, and in His personal future return to this earth in power and glory to rule over the nations. WE BELIEVE that the only means of being cleansed from sin is through faith in the precious blood of Christ.

WE BELIEVE that regeneration by the Holy Spirit is absolutely essential for personal salvation. WE BELIEVE that the redemptive work of Christ on the cross provides healing of the human body in answer to believing prayer. WE BELIEVE that the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, according to Acts 2:4, is given to believers who ask for it. WE BELIEVE in the present ministry of the Holy Spirit by whose indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a godly life. WE BELIEVE in the resurrection of both the saved and the lost, the one to everlasting life and the other to everlasting damnation.

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"AS IT IS WRITTEN, EYE HATH NOT SEEN, NOR EAR HEARD, NEITHER HAVE ENTERED INTO THE HEART OF MAN, THE THINGS WHICH GOD HATH PREPARED FOR THEM THAT LOVE HIM." — I COR. 2:9

Beyond the Sunset

At 82 years of age, the author looks beyond the sunset of earthly life and joyfully contemplates the dawn of Eternal Day.

THIS WORLD IS NOT OUR ABIDING PLACE. We are strangers here; we are pilgrims, as the patriarchs were. Our home is yonder. Yes, yonder, where there is neither sickness nor sorrow, neither failure nor famine, neither death nor darkness.

In that beautiful country, the light of which shall never fade, and the glory of which shall never depart, there are delights of a spiritual nature, the delicate and delicious character of which it is impossible for us in our present state to comprehend. A few of God's choice saints, as the hour of departure from this world was drawing near, or had already come, have been permitted to catch a glimpse of that heavenly world and to hear a few strains of the music that has floated down from the celestial choirs.

I sat one day by the side of a devout Christian woman as she was about to pass across the fields Elysian. Her eyes were becoming glassy. She had been giving me instructions as to what to say to the people at her funeral. She wanted me to tell them that it pays to serve Christ—pays in life and pays in death—and that "godliness is profitable unto all things, having the promise of the life which now is, and of that which is to come." Suddenly she said, "Do you hear the music? Oh, listen! It is wonderful!"

I said, "I hear no music."

She replied, "That seems strange, for the room is full of music; and I never

heard such music in all my life." Then she added, "Do you see them? Do you see the angels?"

I told her I saw no angels. She said, "I can't see you, but I can see the angels. Oh, they have come, a whole host of them, and they are going to take me home. They have come for me." Her soul was ecstatic.

Her brother-in-law, an unsaved man, came in and she told him that the angels had come for her, and that the room was full of angels. She said that they were all so happy, and that she was happy too. She made him promise that he would meet her in the better land. And in a little while she was gone. The angels had taken her.

Oh, heaven is a reality, a greater reality than the earth is, for here many things that seem to be real are unreal, whereas there is no unreality in heaven. The nearer we draw to its portals the more real heaven appears. The only reason why it seems unreal to many is because they are so far away from it.

I was reading the other day about John Quincy Adams. At the age of eighty he met a friend upon a Boston street, and the friend said, "Good morning, and how is John Quincy Adams today?"

The ex-president replied: "John Quincy Adams is quite well, quite well, I thank you. But the house in which he lives at present is becoming dilapidated. It is

tottering upon its foundation. Time and the seasons have nearly destroyed it. Its roof is pretty well worn out. Its walls are much shattered, and it trembles with every wind. The old tenement is becoming uninhabitable, and I think John Quincy Adams will have to move out of it soon. But he himself is quite well, quite well."

I have reached the eighty-second milestone in my pilgrimage to that better land. It may be that the time is not far distant when I, too, shall have to move out of the house I have been living in for the past eighty-two years.

I look back over the years and at times, in my imagination, I live over some of the experiences in the past. The other night I seemed to be sitting by the side of my father as he was breathing his last away yonder on the west coast of Africa. And my eyes, in imagination, followed the men (Liberian traders) as the afternoon after my father's death they carried the rude coffin that contained the vacated tenement down to its resting place a short distance from the foot of the hill on which our Mission House stood. I was only fourteen years of age at the time. What a lot of things have taken place in this old world since that day!

And what a lot of things have happened to me! Or, have they just hap-

(Continued on next page)

pened? Is it not true that the God who is ordering all things after the counsel of His own will, and is causing all things to work together for the good of His children, has shaped my life thus far? The Master said that not even a sparrow falls to the ground unrelated to our Heavenly Father. I am confident that all the joys and sorrows, the ups and downs, the victories and defeats, have been used by God as means toward a definite objective, and that objective is to conform me to the image of His Son. The objective has not yet been reached, but I know that "He which hath begun a good work in me will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ" (Philippians 1:6).

Some, as they have drawn near to the end of life in this world, have expressed the desire that they might have their

lives to live over again. My life, as a whole, has been very happy and I have no such desire. I am not indulging either in useless regrets or in hopeless wishes. I look forward to the glory which lies beyond. I have a longing to see my Father's face, and the face of Him who died and rose for me, that I might die unto sin and live unto God, and be made "meet for the inheritance of the saints in light."

Dr. Adam Clarke, a short time before his death, wrote these lines in a young lady's album:

"I have enjoyed the spring of life—I have endured the toils of its summers—I have culled the fruits of its autumn—I am now passing through the rigors of its winter; and am neither forsaken of God nor abandoned by man. I see at no great distance the dawn of a new day, the first of a spring that shall be eternal! It is advancing to meet me! I run to embrace

it! Welcome! welcome! eternal spring! Hallelujah!"

Over fifty years ago I wrote these verses which were published at that time in a local paper, and they are more true today than they were then:

Soon you and I must leave this vale,
And pass beyond the shadows dim;
Our eyes shall misty grow, and fail,
And we shall meet the monster grim;
Our hearts shall cease to beat, and we
Shall lie in chilly Death's embrace;
The world will have its time of glee,
The grave will be our resting place.

Then why should man devote his time,
His precious time, to self alone,
And live not for that brighter clime
To which so many souls have flown?
This earth is not our resting place;
We cannot hope to linger here:
Our home's above, if saved by grace,
Where death can bring no grief nor fear.

NO REASON TO RETIRE

by FLOY CROSBY SMITH

THE CHILDREN ARE NO LONGER TIED TO your apron strings. The busy years are gone—the lighthearted years of youth which were filled with a thousand varying interests; the noon-time of life when you bent every effort to carry on with the tasks assigned to you, to earn a living and to educate the young people and prepare them to take their places in a busy world—that is all behind you.

Now you sit alone facing life's afternoon and you find yourself wondering, "What next?" You worked long and faithfully to advance God's kingdom in every way you could, but now you can no longer keep pace with the workers in that harvest field. Dear Comrades of the Afternoon, do not think for a moment that you are no longer needed. God would not have guided you through to the afternoon unless he had some special work for you to do now.

One thing you can do, perhaps even better now than in the busy years. Our Father has assigned to you the ministry of prayer. Are there people who will carry through life the memory of your kneeling in prayer for them personally? The knowledge that you still remember to ask the Father's guidance for them will help them to face life's battles bravely. If we do not pray for our own loved ones, who will?

Have you prayed name by name for the friends who still carry on His special work and for the pastor who sometimes falters in human frailty? God can touch



his lips and give him a message that will reach the hearts of men, if you pray.

Did you hear of the young mother just taken to the hospital? You may not know her, but the Father does. Talk it over with Him.

When you dropped those letters into the mailbox this morning, did you silently lift your heart to the Father and ask that His blessing go with each one?

Perhaps you have found the radio and newspaper reports of world conditions rather appalling. There seems little that you can do to set things right, but you can lift your voice to heaven and plead for wisdom and understanding for those who are facing those problems. They need your prayers. Don't fail them.

Look around you and think of the people who are discouraged, sick, thoughtless, overlooked, tempted, and the youngsters who think they can throw aside all "old-fashioned" moral restraints. You know what they need, so ask the Father

to grant it. If you don't pray for them, who will?

Do you know of people around you who, like yourself, are lonely and perhaps a bit homesick for Father's house? Pray for them, and then do all in your power to make them happy and cheerful.

Dear Comrades of the Afternoon, your advancing years will not be useless, tiresome, unglorified so long as you have a part in the ministry of intercession. You may wield a power beyond all measure. God alone can know how mighty and far-reaching your prayers will be. He has promised to hear and answer you. Have you done your part? No one else can rightly do the work assigned to you. It is your personal task. If you don't do it, who will?

As the days advance and the sunset approaches, you can meet it with a smiling face. Pray on earnestly and trustingly, knowing that whatever love and good-will has gone out from your heart to bless others will come back abundantly to bless your own life as the afternoon shadows lengthen. Perhaps there are people around you for whom no one has ever prayed. Don't forget to pray for them.

If you continue faithfully to "pray without ceasing" and watch for God's answer, the results may be greater than you ever dreamed. Perhaps He will send to you some of the people for whom you have prayed, and you will be able to lead them into a fuller knowledge of

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*“ . . . one Mnason of Cyprus,
an old disciple, with whom
we should lodge.” (Acts 21:16.)*

An Old DISCIPLE

by W. E. EMANUEL, Durant, Florida



FEW MEN WHOSE NAMES OCCUR IN THE New Testament have so little said about them as Mnason. His name appears only once. The Word merely says that he was “an old disciple” and that he was from Cyprus. Less could hardly have been said.

But wait! What is said is very significant, for it suggests, among other things, continuation and contentment. After Mnason became a disciple, he remained a disciple. Mnason was an old man, but he was facing the sunset of life with peace and contentment in his heart.

The statement about Mnason also suggests proximity. When Moses, after the long journey through the wilderness, stood on Mount Nebo, he was standing on his last mountain in close proximity to the land of promise. Even though he never actually entered Canaan, it would have been hard for him to be nearer without doing so. Mnason, too, even though he is old, frail, and weary, now stands on his last mountain facing homeward, very near the heavenly Canaan—just waiting for the summons to enter.

The names of many persons occur in the Bible in connection with heroic achievements: Adino, Shammah, Benaiah—these men were all national heroes. One of them slew eight hundred enemy troops with his spear in one encounter. Another defended a field of lentils against the Philistines and slew many of them, winning a great victory single-handed. Still another slew a lion in a pit during a snowstorm. There are others, too, whose names are associated with special acts of courage. They stand out for what they did. But Mnason is not distinguished for heroics, or for anything he did. He stands out for what he was.

Mnason was not a great preacher like Paul, nor was he eloquent like Apollos, nor famous like Peter. He was simply

an “old disciple.” The passage suggests that he had become a disciple when he was young. But even though many others had done the same, Mnason was different from some because he “endured to the end.” Demas, Phygellus, Hermogenes, Hymenaeus, and Alexander—these men had all been disciples at one time. But some had deserted the cause, some had made “shipwreck” of the faith. They grew old, all right—but they were old backsliders, not old disciples.

If we could view Mnason’s life in retrospect, we would doubtless discover that there had been fierce battles, for such occur in the lives of all God’s children. There had been milestones in Mnason’s life—like Jacob’s—some bright with blessing; others dark with testing.

Moreover, the text suggests that Mnason had been faithful, for no believer attains the status of an “old disciple” if he has not been faithful. In the sight of God, faithfulness is more precious than rubies and its reward is a crown of life. Even though a Christian may not possess outstanding abilities, he can be faithful.

Antipas is another disciple about whom little is said in the Bible. He was a “faithful martyr” and died for his religion—because he had a religion worth dying for. Antipas proved that a man can live for God and be faithful even if the devil lives in the next block (see Revelation 2:13).

Mnason was an example of God’s sustaining grace also. Moffat says he was a “disciple of old standing.” Therefore he must have been quite young when he became a disciple—perhaps he was one of the early disciples of Jesus. The grace of God had sustained him through the temptations of his youth and the trials and discouragements of his later years. He remained a disciple—not because God removed the difficulties from his

path, but in spite of them. His perseverance should serve as an encouragement to every young person entering the path of Christian service.

Mnason was now old, but he was honored. In his declining years he was still a blessing to the church and a gracious host, beloved by all the brethren. The greatest preacher of the day, Paul, came to the home of Mnason to refresh himself and rest for the night. A man’s character often is reflected in the character of the men who associate with him.

In Oklahoma years ago there lived two old saints—husband and wife. They were so eager to attend revival services being held on the opposite side of the Cimarron River from where they lived that they would wade the river. It was too far for them to walk around by the bridge, and the river was shallow at that season, but the water was ice cold. One bitterly cold night, as they were wading across, the wife called out, “John, we are getting too old to be wading in this cold water.”

Her husband called back encouragingly, “Come on, Dear. We’ll soon be to shore.”

His statement was actually prophetic, for shortly thereafter they had both “crossed over” to meet their Saviour. No physical hardship, inconvenience, or sacrifice was too much to keep these old Christians from the house of God. This is a happy advantage that old disciples have—they have traveled so far on their heavenly pilgrimage that it isn’t far to

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There are golden opportunities in the golden years. Don't let your talent lie buried as you grow older. It is the key to your own happiness as well as the happiness of others.

DIG UP YOUR TALENT

by JULIA R. DAVIS



AS MANY PEOPLE ARRIVE AT THE TIME of life when they must retire from their strenuous activities, they are at a loss to know how to occupy their idle days. This is the time when, more than ever, they should cultivate their God-given talents.

Some individual may say, "I have no talent at all"—and there are more of these people than we might think. But actually there are no untalented people. We all come into the world with some gift—our talent. If we say we have none, we need to look carefully for the place we have buried it.

People of advanced age and those who are shut-ins should remember Jesus' words, "For he that hath, to him shall be given" (Mark 4:25). One small talent put into circulation will go a long way.

Can you write a cheerful, interesting letter? There are many lonely people to whom a good letter is like a gift from heaven. Search your list of acquaintances and you will find many such individuals. If you need more names, your pastor will furnish you names of people who are sick in their homes or hospitals—people who would appreciate a few cheery

lines. That one talent of letter writing will grow and will return unexpected blessings to you.

One lady decided to keep what she called her "friendly hour." She set aside an hour in her daily schedule for visiting shut-ins, neighbors, or for having someone in her home. Each day during that time she accomplished something definite, something which was an uplift to others. Her minister and his wife informed her when members of the congregation were ill. She visited them or sent some message so that they would know someone was thinking of them. Occupants of a nearby orphanage and an old folks' home were also greatly benefited by her "friendly hour."

Another woman grieved because she could no longer give liberally to good causes, until she began looking for her talent. She was almost ready to think that she had none, when she remembered the pot holders which she had often

made and given away. They had been admired for their beauty and durability.

"It is a poor talent," she thought, but she decided to do the best she could with this thing she liked to do. She made several of the pot holders and was surprised and delighted that they were accepted when she offered them for sale. She was given orders for more, and she soon had a lucrative business. This was something she could do at home, and it provided her with money to share with worthy charities.

A man of advanced years, who had always loved gardening, kept what he called his "gift garden." Here he grew vegetables and flowers for gifts. His little boxes of fresh garden vegetables were carried to friends by a member of the family who went into the city each day. Every summer this man gave away thousands of roses. Even though he had come into the community as a stranger, everybody knew him in a few years.

It was not long until that stream of blessings he sent out made its circuit and came back to him bearing gifts. Friends from the city drove out to visit him. He was invited to their homes. The neighbors were always bringing him a pan of rolls or a special dessert. People came to take him for drives to interesting places nearby. His comment about it all was, "Neighbors are so kind."

Yes, people are kind if we use our talent to bring them close to us. One talent in use seems to multiply faster than the two talents or the five talents. Use your talents to bring happiness to others. As you put your talent to use, you will find happiness for yourself as well. There is more blessing in giving than in receiving.

ACHIEVEMENTS IN OLD AGE

After years of preparation, Moses began the principal phase of his life work at 80. Caleb was 85 when he began his conquest. The decade between the ages of 60 and 70 contained 35% of the world's greatest achievements; between 70 and 80 years, 23%; and after 80, 8%. That makes two-thirds of the world's greatest achievements come after 60 years of age! God's servants should keep on working

and accomplishing for Him in old age.

Titian, between 70 and 90, did his best painting; Michaelangelo did his best work after he was 60; Tennyson at 83 wrote "Crossing the Bar." Goethe wrote his "Faust" at 80.

No one has ever been able to make better violins than Antonio Stradivari who lived 250 years ago. He produced over 1,000 violins, and was past 60 when he made his first one.

God's

TENDER CARE

WHEN MY HUSBAND RETIRED, WE WERE faced with a difficult decision: should we remain in the place where we had lived for many years, but which was many miles from the homes of our children and grandchildren—or would it be better to move to the city where one of our daughters lived, and make new friends and find new places of service?

For us this problem was serious. If we were ever to be uprooted, we must be transplanted now before it was too late for our roots to take hold in new ground. But would we be able to make new friends at our age? Could we find places of service in a new church? And how would we find a house? On the other hand, there were advantages in moving. If we were sick, certainly it would be easier for the children if we were near. Then, too, like all grandparents, we longed to be near that little grandson who was such a joy to us.

In ourselves we did not know what decision to make, but we knew that God was able to guide us. Had He not led the patriarchs in their later years? Had He not promised, "At evening time it shall be light" (Zech. 14:7)?

As we asked God for guidance, it gradually became clear that we should move. And as we proceeded to do so we felt a consciousness of being in His perfect will.

During our visits to the children we found a church that was true to the faith—a live, missionary-minded church. But the prospects of finding a home were not so bright. We were people of small means, and retirement would mean an even smaller income. But we put the selection of a suitable house in the Lord's hands, asking our son-in-law and daughter to search for us.

About two months after this they called to say they had found a place which they thought we would like. Relying on their judgment and being pleased with their description, we told them to close the deal. The price was greater than we had expected to pay, but we were able to manage it. Soon we were packing and saying good-by to old friends.

From the very first glimpse of our new home, we loved it. It was a small house, surrounded by lovely plantings and guarded by tall pines, and it seemed just made for us. As the van was unloaded, every piece of furniture fitted into its new location as well as it had in the old, and we knew that God had guided us.

From those days when we were getting settled until the present there have been uncounted instances of the Lord's gracious provision. There have been problems. We have had sickness. There has been sorrow. But always God's love has been manifested in a remarkable way. Though our means are small and we have to plan carefully, God has always supplied our needs. We were never extravagant, but it is surprising how one can reduce expenses when necessary. Since our income is smaller, the tithes and offerings that we give are proportionately smaller, but the remaining nine-tenths go far. Prayer that God will cause others to give must often take the place of gifts we would like so much to give.

In the church we quickly made friends and found new places of service. When I hear of people who attend a new church and have difficulty in getting acquainted, I wonder if they have given the church a fair chance. If one attends only the Sunday morning service, it may not be easy

to make friends. But the person who attends Sunday School, the Sunday evening services, and the prayer meeting as well will certainly have no difficulty in getting acquainted—especially in a Bible-believing, Christ-honoring church such as ours. We are thankful that in such a church we have been entrusted with responsibilities, even at our time of life.

We have proved God's promise, "And even to your old age I am he; and even to hoar hairs will I carry you: I have made, and I will bear; even I will carry, and will deliver you" (Isa. 46:4).

—E.S.H.

GARMENT OF HUMILITY

"Be clothed with humility" (1 Peter 5:5).

"Humility," wrote William Law, "does not consist in having a worse opinion of ourselves than we deserve, or in abasing ourselves lower than we really are." Some feel so sinful and unworthy that they refrain from doing anything for Christ. Luther in writing to Melancthon, a man who felt himself too sinful to serve God, said, "You are kept in bondage by a false humility."

That great soul-winner, George Whitefield, said: "How often have I been kept from speaking and acting for God by a sight of my own unworthiness. But now I see the more unworthy I am, the more fit to work for Jesus, because He will get much more glory in working by such mean instruments; and the more He has forgiven me, the more I ought to love and serve Him."

It was a favorite expression of Whitefield's that "nothing sets a person so much out of the devil's reach as humility." "Those," he said on one occasion, "that have been most humbled, make the most solid, useful Christians. It stands to reason, the more a man is emptied of himself, the more room is there made for the Spirit of God to dwell in him."

—Selected.

TEMPTATIONS IN OLD AGE

Noah fell into pitiful sensuality after years of faithful walk with God in self-restraint and purity (Gen. 6:9; 9:21). Abraham, the "Friend of God," resorted to carnality at 85 years of age (Gen. 16:3). Moses, the meek, rigorously schooled in self-mastery for over one hundred years, at last allowed himself to be "provoked" into an outburst of "anger" (Psa. 106:32, 33; Num. 11:1). Samuel, the man of

prayer, allowed family interests to come ahead of loyalty to God (Psa. 99:6; 1 Sam. 8:1-7). David, "the beloved," nearing the end of his activities, yielded to unholy lusts and fell into terrible sins (1 Kings 15:5); and Solomon, the "lover of the Lord" (1 Kings 3:3; also 2 Sam. 12:25) "when he was old . . . turned away . . . after the abominations of the heathen" (1 Kings 11:4-9).

Ministry to the



DEAF

REPORTS OF PROGRESS AND God's blessings continue to come from our Assemblies of God workers among the Deaf. As these soldiers of the cross have put forth extra evangelistic effort during the past few months, manifestations of God's Spirit have been present in marked fashion. Outstanding among the fruits of their labors is the fact that several fine consecrated deaf young people stand ready to enter Bible Schools as doors open for them. It is a notable trend that the Spirit of God is raising up volunteers and workers from among the Deaf themselves.

COLORADO

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hurt report victories from their work in Denver, Colorado. The chilly blasts of winter have in no way hindered the fervor of either pastor or members of the group. Beginning with the first Sunday of January, 1956, the group began holding services in a building rented from the Denver Hearing Society. God has miraculously opened the way for this move, as a central location was necessary for easy accessibility. The present hall has a seating capacity of 125 as well as ample room for Sunday School classes and other church activities.

Brother and Sister Hurt, in addition to their secular employment, conduct a highly intensified program of visitation, personal contacts and other ministries necessary to winning the Deaf to Christ. Long hours of labor and effort have been expended to win even one soul for the Kingdom. How sweet and glorious the victories, though, as deaf men and women discover for themselves the reality of a born-again experience. During a recent revival meeting which Brother Hurt interpreted for his group, two of the deaf folk accepted Christ and two more were reclaimed. Several are fervently seeking God to be filled with the Holy Spirit.

CALIFORNIA

The Los Angeles Church for the Deaf pastored by Mrs. Essie Haigwood is en-

ergetically seeking to win the thousands of Deaf in that city. Services have been held for the last several months in a chapel at the Greek Branch Assemblies of God Church in the southern section of the city. In recent months several Spirit-filled young people have been assisting Sister Haigwood in her work. One of these, the wife of a deaf man, is a talented children's worker and has begun



WHAT YOU CAN DO

*If you cannot cross the ocean
And the heathen lands explore,
You can find the heathen near you,
You can help them at your door.*

*If you cannot give your thousands,
You can give the widow's mite;
And the least you do for Jesus
Will be precious in His sight.*

*With your prayers and your boun-
ties
You can do what God demands;
You can be a faithful Aaron
Holding up the prophet's hands.*

—Selected



a Sunday School class for the children of deaf parents in the church. Another young lady whose mother is deaf has begun teaching a class for deaf young people. Together with their pastor, all of these fine young people are conducting an intensive visitation program within that great city. Twelve thousand deaf people live in the Los Angeles area. How great is the challenge before us!

Mrs. Haigwood writes: "I have served as chauffeur, interpreter, lawyer, and in many other capacities during this past year. The help, blessing, and presence of the Lord have been real in every attempt to glorify His name."

NEW YORK—NEW JERSEY

A recent report from Frederick H. Huber, Chairman of the Committee for Ministry to the Deaf in New York and New Jersey, states: "Our reports show that the work in this needy field is progressing under the leadership of our missionaries, Brother and Sister Croft Pentz. The committee feels that every effort should be made to further this work and earnestly hopes that more churches will fit it into their missionary budget each month. At present meetings are being held in six different cities, and God is granting salvation to many of our deaf friends."

The work among the Deaf in these two states is spearheaded by a committee of ministers and conducted by their appointed missionaries, Mr. and Mrs. Croft Pentz. In their desire to reach the lost Deaf of this area, these fine workers have travelled over 30,000 miles in the past year. They have seen thirty-four souls saved and seven baptized in water. They have distributed over 2000 tracts to the Deaf, sent 850 letters and made 320 personal calls. In addition to teaching a class in sign language at Eastern Bible Institute, they have held 171 services for the Deaf and conducted 102 Sunday School sessions.

* * *

PRAY DILIGENTLY for each of our workers among the Deaf, that the strength and blessing of our Lord will anoint them in a special way as they "GO TO THE LOST."

Your offerings for our work among the Deaf should be so designated and sent to—

HOME MISSIONS DEPARTMENT
434 West Pacific Street
Springfield 1, Missouri

MANY OLDER MARRIED COUPLES TODAY are unhappy. Quite a number have come to me as a minister to ask advice. Very few seem to be perfectly satisfied.

I believe that the most perfect relationship in life is the one of husband and wife. God Himself ordained it so—one woman for one man and one man for one woman. Children become the expression of that relationship. Love is the bond that unites the members into a happy family.

After the children have left home, love is still the bond that unites husband and wife. If there is love, then happiness is found even in poverty and adversity. Without love there is no happiness even in riches and prosperity.

When you are fifty, you need your husband or wife more than ever before. When you are sixty, you will need your companion still more. When you are sixty-five, your mate will be indispensable. Don't let love die. Don't grow cold just when he or she needs you most. Do all you can to meet each other's needs.

Don't take old age for granted and use it as an excuse for losing interest and becoming indifferent. Read carefully Paul's admonition in 1 Corinthians 7:1-5. Read it several times, using different translations if possible. Notice especially verse 5: "Defraud ye not one the other [of normal, marital relations] except it be with consent for a time, that ye may [both] give yourselves to fasting and

After the Children Have Gone

by OSWALD J. SMITH

prayer; and come together again, that Satan tempt you not for incontinency."

Don't overlook this scripture. It may be the solution to your problems. God says that your body is not your own. Did you think it was? Have you withheld it when you should have given it? Husband and wife are one. The body of the wife belongs to the husband, and the body of the husband belongs to the wife, so both have privileges that neither has the right to deny.

You say you are too busy, too weary, too old. Too tired for love? Too busy to express affection? Too old to yield yourself to the one who loves to hold you in his arms? Too cold to appreciate the touch of your lover's hand and to

express a little of the affection that is in your heart?

The woman is indispensable to the man. He cannot get along without her. There may be a few so-called "career" women who can get along without a man, but there is no man who can get along and be his best without a woman. It is the woman who inspires, encourages, comforts, and satisfies. The wife helps him accomplish things. She holds the key to his happiness.

Wife, you married him "for better or for worse." Accept your husband for what he is. Don't expect to change him—let God do that. Don't keep nagging him about his faults. Complaining, criticizing, and finding fault will only drive him from you. Instead, be glad that he loves you and has provided a home for you. Be content with what you have. Go to your husband often to express your affection. Make love to him, even if he is old. Be so indispensable that he will never think of anyone else.

Old age can be happy. Married life can be a heaven on earth—if both will play the game. This game takes two to win, and it can be won only when it is played together, for it is the game of life.

Take time to have communion and fellowship together. Enjoy each other's company. God will solve your problems as you pray and live together. The twilight years can be the best. Now that the children have left, you should be all in all to each other.

"As through the land at eve we went,
And plucked the ripened ears,
We two fell out, my wife and I,
Oh, we fell out, I know not why,
And kissed again with tears.
And blessings on the falling out
That all the more endears,
When we fall out with those we love
And kiss again with tears."

—Tennyson



From Venezuela comes news of

Revival

by CLARENCE OLLSON



Part of crowd attending Revival

FOR ALMOST THREE MONTHS, EFFORT had been made to obtain the necessary permits for Luis M. Ortiz to come to Venezuela to hold salvation-healing campaigns. At times it seemed hopeless; but at last the permit was granted, and, after more delay, Mr. Ortiz and his wife, Rebecca de Ortiz, arrived.

Beginning at Valencia, they were to go to several cities where Assemblies of God churches are established. Prayer chains had been formed. Some of the Christians were fasting and believing God to do mighty works among His people. During the nine nights of campaign in the city of Valencia, several hundred

people attended each service, some having come from other towns and villages. One of the first statements the evangelist made was that he did not come just to see the Lord accompany His Holy Word with signs



Healed of blindness

and wonders. God did not fail his expectations: Many were saved and many were healed.

Mr. Ortiz was emphatic in presenting the need of salvation first, healing second. He dealt as much (or more) with salvation as with healing. God honored this method by bestowing definite healings which made everyone present marvel at the wonderful power of God.

One Christian lady from another town had suffered an accident which had left her so blind that it was necessary for her to be led by the hand from place to place. Some friends and relatives brought her to the service in that condition. She received complete healing at once. One month later I was in the city where she lives and saw her in the service there. Her healing was still perfect. She could read the Bible and other books, something which she could not do during her blindness.

A little boy had suffered from asthma for several years. Every night he found it difficult to sleep due to congestion in his chest. His mother had no hopes of seeing him healed until a neighbor who is a member of the church in Valencia told her that she had been healed instantly of a tumor the night before and that, if she would take her sick boy to the services, the Lord would heal him too. She went. Her little boy was healed that very night. The next night she returned and testified that her boy had slept without difficulty and had eaten more than he had in any day during all the years of his sickness. She had given her heart to the Lord the night before and continues to attend the services regularly. Her boy is gaining weight and shows no signs of asthma nor any other sickness. The week the campaign ended, the mother took her son to the same doctor who had attended him from time to time during the several years of his sickness. When the doctor found no more symptoms of asthma, he asked the mother what remedy she had given her son, and then passed him on to another doctor to examine him. The second one declared also that he found nothing wrong with the boy.

Four nights before the campaign was to end, a man who had been afflicted for many years received one of the leaflets announcing the special meetings. He resolved to go that very night. He attended with his mother-in-law. For two nights they were merely observing. During this time, however, his faith increased, as did hers also. Prayer was offered for them and they were both healed. The

man reports that he had spent approximately \$5,000 trying to get healing from other sources, including visits to the "brujo" or witch doctor, all of which was to no avail. Both he and his mother-in-law are now saved, healed and attend the services regularly. They are members of the Adult Bible Class. He says that God did in two nights what could not be done either by money or by foolish and heathenish ceremonies during the many years he was sick.

These are only a few of the many definite healings in Valencia. The Lord healed people in other cities also. Perhaps the most outstanding meetings held by the Ortizes were in the city of Maracaibo, where it is reported that more than 8,000 people attended the campaign.

There is great need of a larger church building in Valencia. Even before the salvation-healing campaign, the building was too small for the number of seeking souls that attend from time to time. In order for the work to continue growing, something will have to be done very soon. If you can send an offering to the Foreign Missions Department for this need, it may enable us to buy the house and lot adjoining the church. Then we could tear down the church wall on that side and extend the church building, thus tripling our seating space. The building and lot to the side will cost \$6,000. Your offering will make a good investment. The city of Valencia was recently referred to in TIME magazine as the "Akron of Venezuela," due to the fact that several of the well-known tire manufacturers from the U.S. have built factories in or near Valencia. The population of Valencia is given as 124,000. Please pray for us as we strive to reach these needy souls with the gospel of Christ. Send your contributions to Foreign Missions Department, (Valencia, Venezuela Project), 434 W. Pacific Street, Springfield 1, Missouri.

Send Foreign Missionary offerings to
NOEL PERKIN, SECRETARY
FOREIGN MISSIONS
DEPARTMENT

434 W. Pacific St., Springfield 1, Mo.

EVANGELIZING IN CHILE

by LOWELL DOWDY, Valdivia

IT WAS OUR PRIVILEGE TO HAVE EVERETT Devine with us for two months as director of a night Bible School for our young folk at Valdivia. The Lord put His seal of approval on this special effort and the graduation was a night that will be long remembered. Twenty-six young people received diplomas for having finished at least one of the courses given. Since then we have noted that they have a new desire to do personal work and win souls for God.

When the night school closed, I went to Buenos Aires, Argentina, to minister at the annual conference of the Union of the Assemblies of God in their newly purchased revival center. To see the mighty hand of God moving was a blessing to my soul. God is blessing the efforts of the brethren there and the gospel is being preached with renewed vigor and liberty.

During my absence the Valdivia folk had nightly prayer meetings; then upon my return we began special meetings with two boys from Vina del Mar who were formerly with another denomination but are now filled with the Holy Spirit. They have been a real blessing to us and especially to our young people. Each night, souls have been at the altar for salvation, and we know that many of these found the peace which passes all understanding.

A month ago two new outstations were started by the brethren here. To date, we have not had an opportunity to visit them but they already have an attendance of 57 and 68 in their Sunday Schools. Two of the brethren go to Niebla and

two to Corral each Saturday afternoon. They conduct services at night and Sunday Schools on Sunday morning, then return for our evening service.

Corral is the home town of an ex-prisoner who was soundly converted in the Valdivia jail. Before he was released, we visited his home and his wife and children were doubtful about his conversion. They only said, 'Vamos a ver' (we shall see). After he had been at home for two months, they heartily agreed that God had done something remarkable for him. Formerly he had been a cruel husband and father; neighbors often thought he would surely kill some members of the family in one of his drunken fits; but now they are amazed to see he is kind and thoughtful. He is the talk of the neighborhood when he goes up the hill carrying a hundred-pound sack of flour on his shoulder—food for his family!

The Sunday before Christmas, ten men, women and children launched their little boat in Niebla at daybreak to attend the Valdivia Sunday School for the first time. En route, as the men took turns rowing, the women served breakfast, bread and *matte* (a native drink), heated on their charcoal fire in a tin can. Five hours later they arrived for the opening exercises. That day there were 695 in Sunday School. At four o'clock in the afternoon we accompanied these ten folk back to the river and bade them good-bye as they climbed in their boat for the homeward voyage. How many Americans would row a boat ten hours

to have the privilege of attending Sunday School?

Plans are now being made for our summer itinerary—baptismal service here, one in Pucon, one in Rio Bueno and La Union, and then we will visit Corral, Niebla, and other places where we have invitations to preach the glorious gospel. Plans are in progress to begin building on the property we purchased in El Matadero. A special note of thanks to you who have sent money for this building fund. You will be rewarded when the redeemed from southern Chile "go marching in"!

MONTHLY REPORT

Foreign Missions Department

January, 1956

CONTRIBUTIONS

Alabama	\$ 2,027.69	Northwest	17,506.83
Appalachian	374.35	Ohio	10,407.40
Arizona	942.14	Oklahoma	17,111.25
Arkansas	2,356.37	Oregon	9,811.15
Eastern	10,441.94	Potomac	4,974.88
Georgia	1,322.97	Rocky Mtn.	3,990.64
German Br.	886.23	Russian Br.	29.23
Greek Br.	102.16	S. Calif.	34,421.56
Hungarian Br.	84.85	South Carolina ..	328.53
Illinois	7,771.89	South Dakota ..	2,087.66
Indiana	3,585.82	South Florida ..	4,414.56
Italian Br.	270.00	South Idaho	94.68
Kansas	7,346.98	S. Missouri	6,689.46
Kentucky	532.57	South Texas	6,668.47
Lat. Amer. Br.	518.23	Tennessee	3,510.92
Louisiana	1,648.38	Texas	11,367.42
Michigan	11,439.10	Ukrainian Br.	29.58
Minnesota	8,823.62	West Central	4,631.18
Mississippi	846.95	West Florida	1,896.71
Montana	3,777.18	West Texas	2,530.66
Nebraska	2,807.08	Wis.-N. Mich.	4,364.81
New England	2,378.50	Wyoming	1,386.39
New Jersey	3,837.30	Alaska	68.57
New Mexico	1,418.22	Canada	1,039.00
New York	7,515.74	Hawaii	306.73
N. Calif.-Nev.	12,450.30	Foreign	39.61
North Carolina	640.02	Miscellaneous	60.00
North Dakota	1,438.00	Legacies	2,314.94

Total Amount Reported	\$249,667.40
District Funds	\$12,318.18
National Home Missions	2,984.28
Office Expense	4,032.11
Given Direct to Missionaries	38,938.02 58,272.59

Received for Council Missionaries	\$191,394.81
Received for Non-Council Missionaries	6,400.40
Missionary Offerings not Allocated to any State	25,268.21

Total Receipts

DISBURSEMENTS

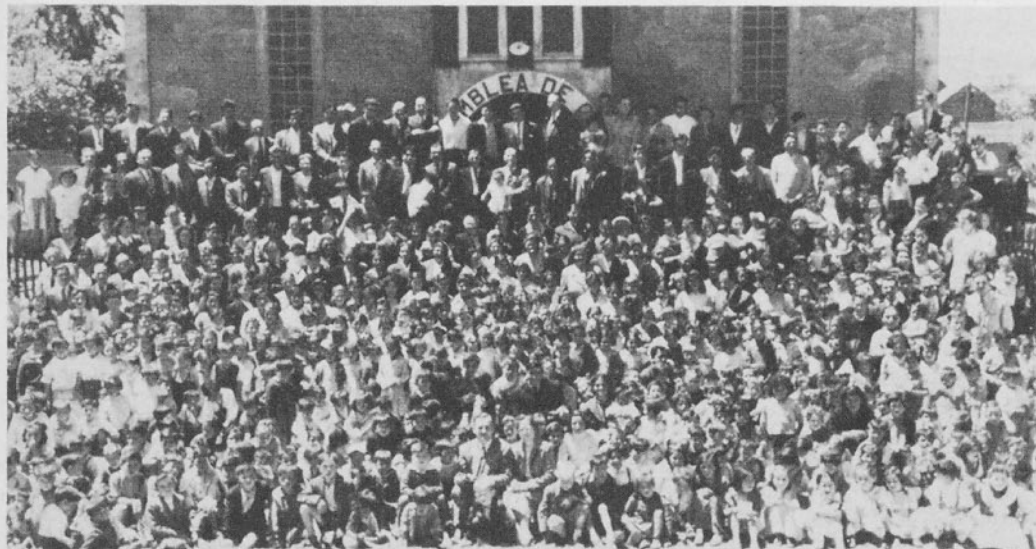
Support of Missionary Personnel	\$109,285.75
Missionary Equipment	36,878.77
Missionary Work	61,724.96
National Workers Abroad	10,134.79
Buildings in Foreign Lands	31,870.91
Missionary Transportation	33,339.37

Total Disbursements

Disbursed from "Hold" Accounts

Total Receipts

The congregation in front of the church in Valdivia, Chile





THIS PRESENT WORLD . . . NEWS AND NOTES ON OUR TIMES

New January Record Set for Church Construction

Church construction, which set a record of \$736,000,000 in 1955, got off to a good start in January with \$58,000,000 worth of new churches begun. This was a new high for the month of January, topping last year's figure by \$3,000,000.

More Publications Needed for the Blind

Publication of more religious records and Braille magazines for the blind was urged by Dr. Dwight C. Smith, general secretary of the John Milton Society. "Our blind population is increasing more rapidly than the general rate of population increase," he said.

Evangelicals to Hold World Conference in U.S.

There will be a world conference of evangelicals at the Providence-Barrington Bible College in Providence, Rhode Island, August 27-31. Dr. J. Elwin Wright, secretary of the World Evangelical Fellowship, said that delegates will be present from many countries. A score of countries now have national evangelical fellowships. Lt. Gen. Sir Arthur Smith of London is international president.

Pennsylvania Legislators Request Prayer

Democratic and Republican leaders in the State Senate joined in appealing to the people of Pennsylvania to "offer prayers in church" to aid them in balancing the budget. For more than a year the Republican-controlled Senate and the Democrat-controlled House have been unable to agree on a solution to the budget problem; so, as one Senator put it, they decided there was need to "call on a Higher Power" for help.

Back-to-the-Country Trend Seen by Baptists

America is headed for the biggest back-to-the-country trend in history, the first rural conference for Oklahoma Baptists was told. An official of the Southern Baptist Convention said that "more and more people are moving to the farms and suburban areas because they have found that the souls of men cannot hear where there is too much noise."

He said that although fewer people will be earning their living from the farm, it is the opinion of rural leaders that more and more will select the country as the place to live and rear their families. That is why the Baptists are launching a 25-year plan of rural church development.

Moslem Missionaries Active in America

The people of Chicago were reminded last month that while American missionaries are busy preaching Christ in Mohammedan lands, there are Moslem missionaries busily propagating their doctrines right here in America. A four-column advertisement appeared in the Chicago Daily News advertising a three-day Moslem convention. It appealed especially to Negroes and all who are interested in the so-called Negro problem. It said, "The followers of Muhammad will arrive from at least fifteen of his temples in North America."

* It is not enough to send missionaries to foreign lands. We need to evangelize every segment of the population in America, as well.

Trappist Monastery Planned in Colorado

A 3,000-acre ranch in the mountains of central Colorado has been acquired as the site of a Trappist monastery, the first in Colorado. It will be called Our Lady of Colorado.

Unusual Names Given to New Churches

Two new churches in Kettering, a community near Dayton, Ohio, have been given unusual names. A Lutheran congregation has named their church the "Mighty Fortress" Lutheran Church. The Church of the Brethren has selected the name "Prince of Peace" for its new church.

Legislature Upholds Capital Punishment

A bill to suspend capital punishment for a five-year experimental period was rejected 179-50 by the House of Representatives at Boston. Abolishment of capital punishment had been recommended by the chaplains in the State Penitentiary.

Garbed Nuns Teaching in Public Schools

It is reported that more than 80 Roman Catholic sisters are teaching in the public schools of Kentucky, half of them in Marion County, and school buildings are being rented from the Roman Catholic Church for use as public schools.

A retired Protestant minister entered a court suit to change this situation, and particularly to stop the sisters from wearing their religious garb while teaching in the public schools. When he failed to get satisfaction from the local courts he appealed to the Kentucky Court of Appeals, but met with no more success there. In a 6-1 decision the State Court of Appeals ruled that garbed nuns may teach in the public schools of that state, and that school boards may rent buildings from the Roman Catholic Church in which to conduct public schools if they wish. Kentucky's highest tribunal also said that the sisters may donate their teaching salaries to their Church if they so desire.

Youth Called to Crusade Against Delinquency

Robert A. Cook, president of Youth for Christ, called on hundreds of high-school students in the city council chambers at Chicago, Illinois, to "get that crusading spirit if you expect to lick this juvenile delinquency mess." Cook and John Robertson, a seminary student from Dallas, were the main speakers in a symposium on juvenile welfare last month.

The youth leader said the fight against juvenile delinquency is a losing battle unless you have someone on your side who is bigger than you are. "The only way to fight a bully," he explained, "is to get a bigger fellow who can knock him down. The only way to fight the devil is to get someone bigger—Christ."

As newspaper reporters made notes and cameras flashed, Cook added that "You can't account for the present delinquency problem merely on the basis of slum conditions and broken homes. These are unfortunate and it is a rough world in which we live. But, hear me now, there IS a thing called sin."

The high schoolers adopted a resolution asking President Eisenhower to call a national day of prayer concerning delinquency.

Scholars Debate the Value of Dead Sea Scrolls

Scholars of the Hebrew University at Jerusalem have succeeded in unrolling and partly deciphering the so-called Lamech scroll—the last of the seven Dead Sea scrolls to be studied. They found it was not the Book of Lamech, as they had supposed, but an Aramaic version of parts of the Book of Genesis, interwoven with stories and legends about the lives of the patriarchs.

The famous scrolls were discovered by Arab shepherds in 1947 in a remote cave near the Dead Sea. Scholars made radiocarbon tests at that time and decided they were at least 1900 years old, which would make them the oldest known Biblical manuscripts in existence. But some scholars reserved an opinion on the age of the scrolls, and now a Jewish scholar in Philadelphia claims they were written in the Middle Ages.

Another Jewish authority, a Cincinnati theologian, says that the Dead Sea Scrolls add relatively little to the knowledge of Christianity or Judaism. They change nothing and clarify nothing, he says.

But scholars of all faiths will go on studying and deciphering the scrolls for years to come, and the true worth of the documents will eventually be known.

Missionaries Threatened in the Sudan

The new-born Sudanese Republic in Africa is off to a tumultuous start. Some 100 death sentences were carried out in the first few days after the British garrisons left, and foreign correspondents as well as missionaries were barred from the South Sudan by the Moslem rulers at Khartoum, Northern capital. All schools and churches were closed in the South. The tall, black-skinned natives were bent on bloody revolt when missionary teachers, doctors, and Christian leaders were blamed for 450 killings (in which, of course, they had no part). The South Sudanese hate the repressive rule of their Northern neighbors.

Religion and State to be Separate in Sudan

Mobarrak Zarrouk, Foreign Minister of Sudan, says that Islam will not be the official religion of the new African republic, even though the majority of its people are Moslems.

At a news conference in Cairo, Mr. Zarrouk said political leaders had agreed that Islam would not be declared the State religion in the country's new constitution, to be prepared by a constituent assembly. He added that it would be possible for a Christian to become President of Sudan.

(There is division among the people of Sudan. The northern part, with six million people, is predominately Moslem, while the south, with about three million people, is largely Christian.)

Important Discovery Made in 2,000-Year-Old Tomb

Scientists digging in Israel in search of clues to ancient history made an important discovery recently. They came upon a family tomb that dates back to the first century B. C. It is the first tomb of the Hasmonean period ever to be found fully intact in Jerusalem and archaeologists became quite excited about the discovery. Orthodox rabbis, however, raised strong objections to the excavation of a Jewish tomb, saying that it constitutes profanation of the dead. The Israeli government yielded to the demands of the rabbis and issued an order to halt the excavation work. Scientists fear that the action may jeopardize the future of archeological excavations in Israel.

Missionary Work in Israel to Be Investigated

Premier David Ben Gurion announced that his government is setting up a special committee to investigate the entire scope of missionary activities in Israel. Special attention will be given to Christian mission schools in which many Jewish children are enrolled. Orthodox Jewish leaders in Israel have shown bitter opposition to these schools in the past.

Plight of Arab Refugees to Be Studied

Representatives of many Protestant denominations will meet at Beirut, Lebanon, May 21-25 to study the plight of the 900,000 Arab refugees from Palestine and to determine how the churches may aid them.

Artist Changes His Mind Over Atheistic Inscription

The management of Mexico City's Hotel Del Prado can now draw back the curtain from a huge mural which it has kept hidden for eight years. The mural was done by the Communist painter, Diego Rivera, who added the inscription, "God does not exist."

When the hotel was opened, the mural was unveiled, and critics hailed it as a masterpiece, but the Mexican public was shocked by the atheistic inscription. There was a near riot at the hotel. As a result, the painting was veiled and it has remained hidden in disgrace for eight years. Now the 73-year-old artist, honeymooning in Russia with his fourth wife, has evidently recanted. He has sent a message to the hotel management asking that the offensive inscription be removed.

Some of his friends said that the rabidly communistic artist may have been frightened into recanting. He still believes he is dying of cancer, despite recent reports that Russian surgeons had "cured" him with radioactive cobalt treatments. If this is true, Rivera is not the first atheist to entertain more sober thoughts upon coming face to face with death.

Billy Graham Preaches to Huge Crowds in Asia

More than 30,000 persons packed Rizal Memorial Stadium at Manila, P. I., to hear the American evangelist, Billy Graham. His Philippine visit followed three weeks of meetings in India where he preached to 600,000 people and saw 16,000 make "decisions for Christ."

From Manila the evangelist went to Hong Kong, where he preached to 30,000 in a packed stadium. It was reported that 1,500 made "decisions for Christ." The next stop on his Asiatic tour was at Taipei, Formosa, where he preached to a great crowd of armed forces personnel. Mme. Chiang Kai-Shek, wife of the Chinese Nationalist President, was on the platform and joined in the hymn singing.

From Formosa the evangelist went to Tokyo for an eight-day crusade. Twenty thousand persons packed the International Stadium to hear his sermon, and an overflow crowd of 3,000 outside heard him over loud speakers. Twelve hundred were reported to have made "decisions."

The Tokyo meeting was believed to be the largest Christian gathering in Japan's history. In the audience was Ichiro Hatoyama, 72-year-old Christian Prime Minister of Japan. The evangelist prayed for the aging statesman's health and for the prosperity of the nation.

Pray for the Missionaries to Formosa

This is a day of amazing opportunity in Formosa, and God's people ought to concentrate prayer on the gospel work in that place. One missionary calls it "The challenge of the century."

He says that the Generalissimo and Madame Chiang Kai Shek have given Formosa a religious liberty known in very few lands. There is freedom to preach Christ in any barracks, hospital, or school. This you cannot do even in America. If the government is not Christian, it is certainly pro-Christian, with many Christians in leadership.

"The three million Mandarin-speaking refugees from the Communist mainland who temporarily live on Formosa present the challenge of the century to missions. These are the educational, military, and political leaders of China. They are desperate, disillusioned, and hungry for God. If we can evangelize these three million this year, I believe God will give them the opportunity to go back to China as ambassadors of Jesus Christ to every village and hamlet, to do what no other missionary force could ever do. This is God's hour on the Island of Formosa. It is the missionary opportunity of a thousand years!"



Pastor Im

The Story of a courageous Korean Christian

HIS NAME WAS PASTOR IM. BEFORE THE Korean war he had been pastor of a small church on the outskirts of the North Korean city of Pyongyang. The Communists seized Pyongyang and made it the capital of North Korea, but in spite of this, Pastor Im kept on teaching the saving gospel of Jesus Christ. So the Communists threw him into prison.

He was a prisoner of the Communists for two years, during which time, surrounded by filth, hunger and despair, he was stricken with tuberculosis. He received no news of his family in all that two years and did not have any idea where they were or if they were still living.

Then the day came when the surging UN forces drove northwest to Pyongyang and Pastor Im stumbled out of his prison cell into freedom. His first thought was to find some trace of his family—and in his desperate search, he entered the combat zone. After two years in jail his ragged clothes and uncut hair and beard gave him the appearance of a fugitive. An American patrol stopped him for questioning and asked him to wait by the roadside. Soon an army truck arrived that was gathering all North Korean stragglers, and now he was *taken prisoner by the UN forces!*

Poor Pastor Im. He was in the midst of thousands of prisoners who hated the very faith that kept him alive. What could he do, one man, to make an impression for Christ among the 21,000 Communist prisoners? An idea came to him. It came quietly at first and then gradually took hold of his heart.

Securing permission from the guards, he gathered a few other prisoners whom he knew to be Christians and told them of his plan.

One night in that cold month of December, the sullen faces of the prisoners lifted in amazement. The GI guards halted in surprise. From a little group in the center of the compound came the sound of singing! They were Christmas hymns with Korean words. Pastor Im had no idea how the thousands of Communist prisoners would react to their singing. A sudden uprising of hatred could snuff out their lives before the guards reached them.

The prisoners closed in around the singers. Thousands of men crowded in around them. But not a hand was lifted to harm them. Instead, in the reverent hush that filled the prison yard, the other prisoners, one by one, began to join the little group in the songs until there was a swelling chorus of 4,000 voices! When the group dispersed that night they had heard Pastor Im tell the story of Christ, the Saviour of men.

That impromptu service in the bleak prison compound didn't end there. It was the beginning of an amazing work for God that flourished behind the barbed wire. The meetings became more frequent, and thousands of the prisoners began attending the meetings.

A missionary, Harold Voelkel, heard of the spiritual awakenings and begged to be assigned as Chaplain of Prisoner of War camps. His request was finally granted and the work spread rapidly in the huge Chinese compound. At Chaplain Voelkel's invitation, Bob Pierce participated in a series of evangelistic meetings

for men behind the barbed wire. From nine to twelve thousand Chinese Red Army troops learned to sing the new song of salvation. The men sat by the hour listening to the Word of God.

He addressed 308 Chinese prisoners who were graduating from an intensive five-month Bible study course. There were twelve Bible Institutes in operation with over fifteen thousand students enrolled. Three hundred Chinese Communist officers raised their hands for prayer that they might know the Saviour.

All of this . . . because Pastor Im, one lone man, dared to lift his voice to sing a hymn, praising his Saviour and Lord, while he was surrounded by thousands of Communist prisoners. His testimony resulted in one of the most miraculous evidences of God's power in modern missions.

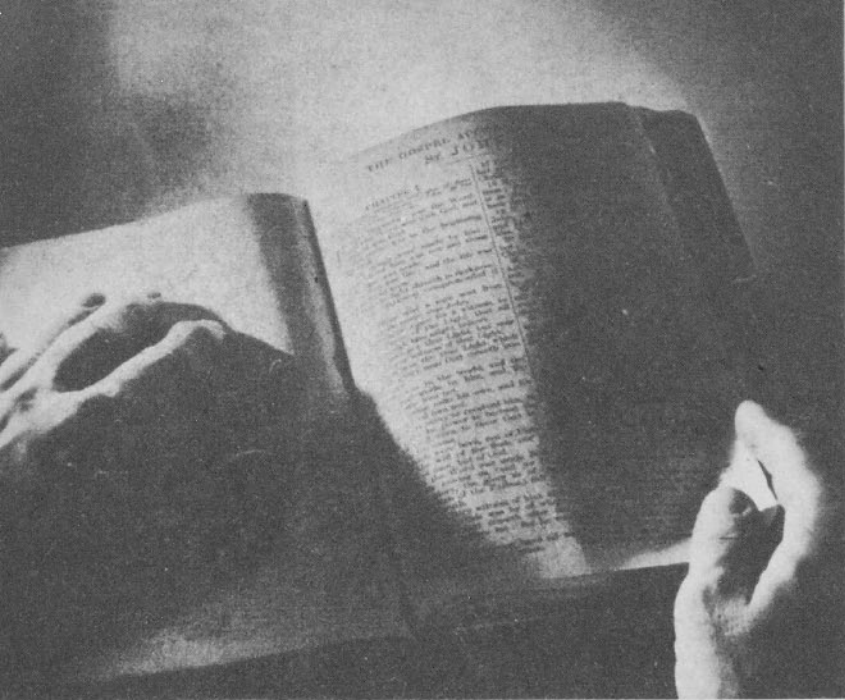
MISSIONARY CHRISTIANS

Forget not that your first and principal business as a disciple of Christ is to give the gospel to those who have it not. He who is not a missionary Christian will be a missing Christian when the great day comes for bestowing the rewards of service. I warn you that it will go hard with you when your Lord comes to reckon with you, if He finds your wealth-hoarded up in needless accumulations instead of being sacredly devoted to giving the gospel to the lost.

—A. J. Gordon

Love's secret is to be always doing things for God, and not to mind because they are such very little ones.

—F. W. Faber



The outlook for the world is bleak, but the future for the Christian is bright

Precious Promises for

End-time Saints

GAY G. BENSON

FOR MANY YEARS NOW WE HAVE preached the doctrine of Christ's soon return, and we still believe in it with all our hearts. Inspired by promises in God's Word, we have burning within us the power of that "living hope." Surely the end of this age is upon us, and Christ is coming sooner than most people think.

This hour is filled with many dangers, however. Visible and invisible perils beset our pathway. We face trying and difficult times. It is a day when evil men and seducers wax worse and worse; when nations struggle with nations for dominion and advantage; when coldness and decline are prevalent in the church. The Bible forecasts a continuing state of moral decay, political unrest, and spiritual deterioration.

The outlook for the world is bleak, but the future for the Christian is "as bright as the promises of God." For those who are dedicated to do God's will in these troubled times, precious promises in the Word of God offer immeasurable comfort. They shine like stars on a horizon filled with darkness and despair.

First, end-time Christians have the promise of His grace. In Romans 5:20 we read, "But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound." Literally translated, the statement is, "Where sin abounded, grace overabounded." Thus Paul was emphasizing the abundance of grace to cope with the abundance of sin. Grace is the victory which God's love

provides over sin for all who love Him and do His will.

Noah, the "preacher of righteousness," availed himself of this grace 2,400 years before Christ came. The record reveals that "Noah was a just man and perfect in his generations, and Noah walked with God" (Genesis 6:9). The reason for this is found in the preceding verse—"Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord." Noah lived in a generation that was smeared, stained, and steeped in sin, yet because of God's grace he was just and perfect and at home in God's presence. Sin abounded, but grace overabounded. Here is the reason for Noah's faithfulness, his fearlessness, and his subsequent preservation—he tapped that mighty stream of victory over sin made possible by God's love. The bitter denunciations and the sneers of the onlookers never phased Noah. He found grace!

That same victory through grace is available for us now. The Master mentioned that the end-time would be like Noah's day; and since we see the abundance of sin, we may avail ourselves of the super-abundance of grace. Victory over sin comes only from God through Christ. We have no hope, no freedom, no deliverance in our own strength. We are hopeless slaves to sin. But God, through Christ, has conquered sin, and His victory is available to us as by faith we do His will and live for His glory.

As a result of His grace we become, like Noah, just, perfect, and pleasing to God. Therefore, we are not victims of this evil age, but victors over its iniquity; for the abundance of sin prompts the super-abundance of His grace. While this

generation flounders in its murky, muddled mess, we live in peace, free from sin's power. We walk with God because grace works in our lives every day.

End-time Christians also have the precious promise of His presence. After commanding His disciples to take the gospel to all nations, Jesus gave them the wonderful promise, "And, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world." His statement in Matthew 28:20 is made more forceful by the free translation, "And lo, I am with you all the days, until the age is finished entirely."

The blessing of the Lord's presence with His people is beyond the power of words to describe. God relieved Moses of his fears by assuring him, "My presence shall go with thee, and I will give thee rest" (Exodus 33:14). He sent His angel to stand by Daniel in the den of lions, and to rob the fierce beasts of a luscious meal. His presence quenched the heat of the fire for the three Hebrew children, and preserved them because of their integrity and courage. He strengthened Paul in Corinth by saying, "Be not afraid, but speak, and hold not thy peace" (Acts 18:9).

If we could hear the testimony of myriads of His followers, they would all say, "Not once has He denied us the peace, the power, the strength His presence gives." For all eternity His people will acknowledge that He has never failed them; He has always been with them.

Christians today must know His presence too, for these are times of tremendous tides of temptation and storms against the soul. We must seek Him

(Continued on page 23)

Brother Benson is pastor of the First Pentecostal Tabernacle, Assemblies of God, Petersburg, Virginia.



Special Features at the Regional World Missions

By the time this reaches you, seven of the eight regional World Missions Conventions will have become history. The eighth and final convention in the series will be at Fort Worth, Texas (Will Rogers Memorial Auditorium) on March 20-22.

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST

A special feature at each convention was a breakfast meeting for men only. Hundreds of pastors and laymen participated in these gatherings. They enjoyed good

spiritual fellowship and heard a challenging message from Willard Cantelon, who brought first-hand reports on conditions in Europe and Asia.

The above photo was taken at Fresno. Attendance at the men's breakfast in Portland was even larger. Many men testified that their hearts were set aflame with a new zeal for World Missions at these great regional conventions, and they were amazed to learn the vast scope of the missionary program of the Assemblies of God.

WMC LUNCHEON

Representatives of the Women's Missionary Council met for a luncheon at each of the regional conventions. The above photo shows some of the women who met at Fresno, including District WMC Presidents, Sectional Representatives, Missionaries, and members of the National WMC staff at Springfield, Mo.

Members of the WMC played a prominent part in each regional convention. They took charge of the ushering and the hundreds of usherettes performed their

Scriptural Revivals

If a revival does not produce certain results it is not a work of God

ALL BIBLICAL REVIVALS HAVE THE SAME nature and produce the same results. The first four parts of the "Lord's Prayer" intimate the nature of Christian revivals. These may be summed up in four pertinent phrases: supreme reverence for God; carefulness to honor and glorify His name in the church and among men; advancement of His Kingdom; and repentance and full conformity to the will of God.

(1) *Biblical revivals produce supreme reverence for God.*

In His high-priestly prayer in John 17, our Lord asked the Father to glorify Himself in His Church. Anything less is unworthy of the name "revival." Revivals that seek to make a name for men grieve the Spirit of God. True servants of Christ seek to magnify the name of

the Lord, and to "glorify" the Father which is in heaven (Matthew 5:16). Revivals of the Biblical kind honor God, who is glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, marvelous in works. Biblical revivals produce reverence for God.

(2) *Biblical revivals glorify God's name.*

In true revivals the name of the incarnate Son of God is as fragrant ointment poured forth. People repent of taking that name in vain. They confess and call upon that name. They render service in Jesus' name, pray in His name, ask for signs and wonders to be done in the name of the Holy Child Jesus. True revivals lead Christians to fear His name, sing unto His name, glorify His name. True revivals honor the name of the Lord Jesus Christ above every other name.



ns Conventions

duties with the utmost precision. The men had to admit they could not have done a better job themselves!

As many as six hundred women gathered for a WMC workshop session which was a feature of each convention. At the workshop they picked up many ideas and bits of information that will help them in their missionary work at the home church. Some of the workshop subjects were as follows:

Missionettes. This is the new missionary club for teen-age girls. Assemblies

across the nation have asked for a missionary program which would enlist the interest and talents of teen-age girls for missionary service. The answer is being placed in the hands of pastors and WMC leaders in the form of the Missionette Manual. In addition, the Missionette Memos offer quarterly programs, devotional and study material.

Materials. A review of helps, source materials and services available from the National WMC Department was given.

Buzz and Quizz. The large conference broke into small groups at this point, to discuss a question or subject of their own selection. Leaders of the various groups then reported to the entire meeting their answers and findings. From these "buzz sessions" emerged many valuable ideas.

What Others Are Doing. This feature was visualized by a local WMC group in each region. One group demonstrated "the right and wrong way to have a WMC meeting." At another convention a local WMC group demonstrated "what a sack can do." The women worked with common feed sacks, in assembly-line fashion, first ripping the material, shaking it, and washing it, then dyeing the cloth to colorful hues, and turning it into useful articles so needed by the missionaries and for relief work.

Records. The importance of keeping accurate records was emphasized, and the WMC members were shown how to make record-keeping a pleasure.

"The Roving Mike" was another WMC feature at each convention. The audience was thrilled as various missionaries were interviewed and told of the benefits they are receiving from the Women's Missionary Council.

Convention Echoes

A Delegate Tells How World Missions Convention Stirred His Entire Church

I am indeed grateful to the Assembly at Aberdeen, Idaho, for sending me to the World Missions Convention at Denver; for it was at that meeting that my eyes were opened to the need of Missions.

It was stated there that many missionaries were on the waiting list but there was not enough money to send them. It was also stated that China is now a closed door and that all our money could not send a missionary there now. Furthermore, other doors may close any day, and what we do we must do quickly.

I was so stirred that I came home and preached in my church on Missions, and then took up an offering for Missions which amounted to \$322.11.

My wife and I always wanted to go to the mission field; but if we cannot go we would like to be responsible for sending a substitute. Our church would like to keep at least one missionary on the field.

Some churches have been behind financially, but as soon as they started giving liberally to Missions, God helped them meet their obligations. God will prosper any missionary-giving person or church in order that the Gospel may be preached in all the world.

"God so loved the world" that He gave Jesus, and He became a foreign missionary. Let us so love the world that we will send missionaries into every land with our finances.

—Peter C. Petersen

(3) *Biblical revivals advance the kingdom of God.*

Revivals of the Biblical kind major on spreading the kingdom of God. Christians become supremely interested in, and passionately zealous for the kingdom, and they pray, "Thy kingdom come." They "seek . . . first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness." They seek to win sinners to Christ, that they may be translated into the kingdom of God and become children and heirs of it. A Biblical revival is not a campaign to sell religious excursion tickets to people who want to return to the same dock. A Christian revival is a work of the Spirit through godly agents who seek to dispose of immigrant tickets to people who want to escape from the bondage of sin and Satan and enter the kingdom of God

for permanent residence. Unless this effect follows revival efforts, the revival is one of man, by man, and for man. Paul described the work of a real revival—"To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me" (Acts 26:18). "That ye would walk worthy of God, who hath called you unto his kingdom and glory" (1 Thessalonians 2:12). If a "revival" does not produce these results it is not a real work of God; it is the fruitage of the flesh, and is vain.

(4) *Biblical revivals produce repentance, and result in life conformity to the will of God.*

All revivals in the Book of Acts showed

these effects. The revivals under Philip and Peter and Paul produced these results. Biblical revivals bring lives into conformity with the will of God. The early Christians in Thessalonica, Philippi, and Ephesus showed this work of the Spirit. The Lord's messages to the seven churches in Revelation 2 and 3 called upon His erring people to repent and to do the "first works" that denote repentance. Anything else is unworthy of the name "revival." True Biblical revivals all conform to the pattern seen in the Early Church.

—Great Commission Prayer League

Out of the will of God there can be no success. In the will of God there can be no failure.



Fagots From the Torch of Evangelism

Compiled by the Department of Evangelism, 434 West Pacific St., Springfield, Mo.

EL CAMPO, TEX.—A very successful revival meeting was recently held here with Evangelist and Mrs. Bob McCutcheon of Austin, Tex. Their ministry was a great blessing and a real source of encouragement to increased faith among the people.

—Inez Lee, Pastor

MILTON, PA.—Attendance was good throughout the two-week revival conducted by Evangelist and Mrs. Clarence Pansler of Centerburg, Ohio. Four backsliders were reclaimed. A real revival spirit is being manifested in the church with souls being drawn closer to God.

—Oscar C. Bird, Pastor

NEW ORLEANS, LA.—The Arabi Assembly recently enjoyed a profitable meeting with Evangelist and Mrs. E. T. Quanabush. The power of God was manifested in the salvation of souls, the filling of believers with the Holy Spirit, and definite healings. The entire church was edified.

—C. E. Peak, Pastor

SHREVEPORT, LA.—Jewella Assembly rejoices over a wonderful two-week revival held recently with Evangelist and Mrs. LeRoy Fleck of Houston, Tex. There was a great manifestation of the power of God in the services as the Word of God went forth. Some were healed, 10 were saved, and six received the Baptism of the Holy Ghost.

—R. C. Ayers, Pastor

OLIVEHURST, CALIF.—In spite of the threat of floods, the meetings at First Assembly were well attended during a three-week revival conducted by Evangelist Velma Lackey of Modesto, Calif. The anointing of God was evident upon the preaching of the Word. About 15 souls were saved and 15 received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

—Searl W. Stover, Pastor

McKINNEY, TEX.—Two weeks of glorious revival services have just been concluded with Evangelist E. R. (Pete) Winter of Deming, N. Mex. The church rejoices over the spiritual awakening which has resulted in the humbling and consecrating of lives to God. Night after night the hearts of the people were melted and mellowed as God's Word went forth under the anointing of the Holy Spirit.

—Earl J. Rogers, Pastor

PHENIX CITY, ALA.—The blessing of the Lord rested upon each service of the revival meetings recently conducted at the Girard Assembly by Evangelist and Mrs. A. Alan Alaimo of Brooklyn, N. Y. The soul-stirring messages, like the special music and singing, were a source of great blessing to the entire church.

—Emory Andrews, Pastor

ALTON, N. Y.—There was a real stir among the young people at Alton Gospel Tabernacle during services conducted by Evangelist and Mrs. David Howe and Jannet. The presence of the Lord was manifested from the very start, and hearts were stirred to seek God. Seventeen young people accepted Christ as Saviour. The meetings were well attended.

—Stanton Virts, Pastor

FORT WALTON BEACH, FLA.—One of the greatest revival meetings in the history of Evangelistic Centre was held recently with Evangelist and Mrs. W. W. Blakely of Houston, Tex. The messages were dynamic, soul-stirring, and divinely inspired by the Holy Spirit. Despite unfavorable weather conditions the attendance was excellent throughout the entire campaign. Numbers were saved and filled with the Holy Spirit, and many were healed by the power of God. Of special interest and inspiration were the chalk drawings presented each evening by Sister Blakely.

—R. A. Turton, Pastor

DUFUR, ORE.—A most wonderful old-fashioned revival has been in progress at the Dufur Assembly of God for the past month in meetings conducted by Evangelist Johnny Hoskins of Prineville, Ore. Old-time conviction stirred the entire audience as God's Word went forth in the power and anointing of the Holy Ghost. One woman had a vision of Christ and saw the blood flow from His nail-pierced hands. The altar was continually lined with the unsaved, and the majority of the sinners who attended the services accepted Christ as Saviour. Believers were filled with the Holy Ghost, and many miracles of healing were witnessed. In a number of instances, those healed were folk from other denominations and they received instantaneous healing. Attendance was very good and continued to increase throughout the services.

—W. Glenn Wakefield, Pastor

SEBASTOPOL, CALIF.—More than 20 souls found Christ as Saviour and six received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit in services conducted here by Evangelist and Mrs. Al Wyrick of Covelo, Calif. Originally scheduled for two weeks, the meetings were extended another two weeks as the Spirit of God moved upon the people. Many of the Christians were revived and refilled, and there were some definite healings. Towards the close of the meetings 21 were baptized in water. The whole church was blessed, and revival fires burn on as souls continue to accept Christ.

—P. R. Ford, Pastor

MIFFLINBURG, PA.—The folk in the pioneer work here were greatly encouraged by the wonderful moving of the Spirit of God in a five-day revival conducted by Evangelist William Caldwell. Over 30 responded to the salvation appeal. Healings too numerous to mention in their entirety were wrought through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. To mention some of the outstanding cases, there were deliverances from deafness, blindness, hernias, nervous disorders, heart conditions, and a host of other illnesses. A little polio victim wearing braces was brought to the services by her father who was attending for the first time. As prayer was made in her behalf, the child was healed. This special visitation of God has been a boon to this new church, which is scarcely more than a year old. As a result of a special effort, Sunday School attendance increased from a usual 47 to 113.

—Howard Garman, Pastor

CONSECRATION MEANS ALL

Christian, get this matter settled at once. Remember God's rule: all for all. Give Him all; He will give you all. Consecration avails nothing unless it means presenting yourself as a living sacrifice, to do nothing but the will of God. The vow of entire obedience is the entrance fee for him who would be enrolled by no assistant teacher, but by Christ Himself, in the school of obedience.

—Andrew Murray

There is a danger of being consecrated to service, rather than to God Himself.

—Robt. Lee

If you have — or know — a youngster between 1 and 17, this will interest you!



Ready for COLLEGE?

— and is the College ready for him?

Two good questions! Let's take them one at a time. It's not unusual for wise parents to start planning for their children's college days before the youngsters have learned to walk. College education is becoming a necessary part of preparation for life. It is no longer a luxury. Modern parents accept their responsibility and plan ahead, for there is no need to overload the budget for four years when the cost of education can be spread over a longer period. Often when a fund is begun, the grandparents, as well as the child, like to help. Yes, even a two-year-old can be ready for college!

But how about the college—will it be ready for your child or grandchild? There are many good colleges—crowded perhaps, but still available. Is *just any* college enough, though? As Pentecostal parents you expect your children to be more than educated men and women. You expect them to maintain and develop spiritual experience.

A Pentecostal college can give them education *plus*. We are now able to say, "Yes! the college—a Pentecostal college—is ready for your child!" A chain of miracles made it possible for Evangel College to open this past September. *God gave us our start*, but we must do our share to keep it going.

The costs of a new school are very high. The capital investment in equipment must be made now, even though the useful life of the equipment

extends for many years. The return from tuitions is limited the first three years until a full student body is developed. These are unavoidable problems.

Generous contributions from friends all over the nation have helped and will continue to help. However, to meet immediate needs we offer the plan outlined in the adjoining announcement. As you read the announcement, remember that an investment made today will work two ways to guarantee your child's education in the future. You can answer both questions by including Evangel College Certificates in your savings program.

EVANGEL COLLEGE

4 1/2 %

Certificates of Indebtedness

\$200,000 in denominations of \$50, \$100, \$250, \$500, and \$1,000, 4 1/2% interest paid semiannually, principal payable within ten years from issue date. Maturities begin June 30, 1960. The Union National Bank of Springfield, Missouri, will act as Trustee. A prospectus is available from the College.

Please send me complete information on the Evangel College 4 1/2 % certificates of indebtedness.

Name

Address

City State

This announcement is neither an offer to sell nor a solicitation of an offer to buy any of these securities. The offering is made only by the Prospectus.

EVANGEL COLLEGE
SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI



BIBLE READINGS BASED ON NEXT WEEK'S SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

DAILY DEVOTIONS

MONDAY, March 19

CHRIST'S PRAYER FOR OTHERS—John 17:1-11, 15-21

Christ in His high-priestly prayer clearly outlined the believer's position with regard to the world.

The believer in Christ is the personal object of Christ's intercession in the world: "I pray not for the world, but for them which thou hast given me" (v. 9). He is a new person, a new creation, unrelated to the world: "They are not of the world" (v. 14). He is an active person, not a solitary recluse: "I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world" (v. 15). The believer is to be separated from the defilement of the world: "I pray . . . that thou shouldest keep them from the evil" (v. 15). He has a job to do in the world: "As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world" (v. 18). He is the personal proof to the world of Christ's God-ordained mission: "That the world may believe that thou hast sent me" (v. 21).

Surely the believer in Christ is a new creation, a new personality. We must not allow our garments to become spotted with the filth of this world, but retain our pilgrim character and pursue our assigned task until Jesus comes for us.

—W. RALPH HORNBY

TUESDAY, March 20

SHARING HIS GLORY—John 17:12-14, 22-26

What is glory? We might say that glory is the essence in which God dwells, and yet it is indescribable in earthly terms. We hardly have words to define it. It may be dazzling light, which we can feel as well as see. Jesus experienced it on the Mount of Transfiguration when "his face did shine as the sun, and his raiment was white as the light."

The Son of God shared great glory with the Father before the world was—the effulgent glory upon which no man can look and live. Adam shared this glory as garments of light (Psa. 104:2), before sin came into his life. But when he sinned, he lost the glory and became naked.

Men have sometimes come so near to God that they have shared this glory, but only for a short period of time. Moses was with God for forty days and came down to the people with a shining face. Then we read that as Stephen was witnessing for Jesus before he became a martyr, his face was as the face of an angel.

In our resurrection we shall share this glory with Jesus. Our new bodies will be "raised in glory," and we will be capable of seeing God and sharing His glory. That will indeed be wonderful.

Paul teaches that there will be varying degrees of glory in the resurrection, just as one star differs from another star in brightness. Daniel says, "They that turn many to righteousness [shall shine] as the stars for ever and ever." The degree of

glory we then will share depends upon the degree of our present faithfulness to God.

—FRANK J. LINDQUIST

WEDNESDAY, March 21

CHRIST INTERCEDES FOR US TODAY—Hebrews 7:23-28

When we read the Scriptures it is inspiring to know that now and always we have an Intercessor in the presence of the Father, Jesus Christ, who loved us even unto death. We are told in 2 Timothy 2:13 that He abides faithful. And for those who are distressed, heavy of heart, there is rest in the presence of our Intercessor (Matt. 11:28).

Christ's qualifications as our Intercessor are presented in verses 23 to 28. 1—"Because he continueth ever, [he] hath an unchangeable priesthood" (v. 24). 2—"He ever liveth to make intercession" (v. 25). 3—He is "holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens" (v. 26). 4—He has offered Himself once as a sacrifice for sin, thus eliminating the need for any further sacrifice (v. 27). 5—He is our Priest and Intercessor by reason of God's oath in Psalm 110:4, "Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek." There are seven references to this oath in the Book of Hebrews (5:6, 10; 6:20; 7:11, 15, 17, 21).

The intercession of Christ is the proof of the magnitude of His salvation. "Wherefore he is able to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them."

—WALLACE S. BRAGG

THURSDAY, March 22

MOSES' INTERCESSORY PRAYER—Exodus 32:29-35

While Moses the mediator was on the mount with God, Israel turned the camp of God into an abominable place by worshiping a golden calf. What a terrible scene of revelry, orgy, dancing, and unbridled lust! They had forsaken God, substituting visible things for invisible, earthly things for heavenly. The fierce anger of God broke out and threatened to exterminate the camp.

When Moses descended from the mount where he had been enjoying God's presence, he broke the tables of stone (for the people had already broken God's law), smashed the golden calf, rebuked Aaron, and poured out his heart to God in intercession for the people. In his prayer he put himself in the place of execration for Israel's sake, saying, "Yet now, if thou wilt forgive their sin—; and if not, blot me, I pray thee, out of thy book which thou hast written."

Intensely Moses felt the failure of God's redeemed people. He called for a new consecration. The whole tribe of Levi responded, even taking the sword against their own flesh. They took sides with God against nature. The Levite hands were filled for God—for that is the meaning of consecration. They were dedicated to God's service. God grant that we shall intercede and take our own stand for God in the evil day.

—T. J. JONES

FRIDAY, March 23

DANIEL PRAYS FOR HIS PEOPLE—Daniel 9:3-19

Here is a model Old Testament prayer. Humility and a sense of guilt possessed the intercessor. "We have sinned . . ." (v. 5). How hard it is to acknowledge one's faults! But Daniel repeatedly confessed the many ways Israel had sinned against God. Fasting, sackcloth, and ashes were the outward signs of his inner attitude which made his prayer acceptable. The former is valueless if the latter is absent!

Daniel acknowledged God as just in His punishments for Israel's transgressions (vv. 7, 8). Far fewer crimes would be committed, and few penal institutions would be needed, if our lawmakers always regarded God as righteous in the kind of punishment He demanded for offenders, and if parents

considered Him loving and unerring in His instructions regarding child discipline.

Daniel revered God's holy name (vv. 18, 19). There was no whining over the people's justly deserved calamity. His soul was exercised with the reproach which their exile had brought upon His name, and upon the people and the city called by His name. Daniel implored forgiveness for His great name's sake. The sins of God's people always bring reproach upon God's cause, but holy lives bring glory to His name.

—J. J. MUELLER

SATURDAY, March 24

UNFRUITFUL INTERCESSION—1 Samuel 15:10-23

As the delicate fingers of dawn reached up to draw away the shroud of another night, the gray morning revealed two men bent on such urgent missions that they had forgone the necessity of sleep. A triumphant but disobedient King Saul pushed on toward home with the spoils of battle. The king and the cattle of Amalek were his captives—but Saul had sinned. The other man was the prophet Samuel, Saul's best friend, who had prayed all night for the king, not that he would win the battle over the Amalekites, but that he would win the battle over his own greed and arrogance.

When Saul was little in his own sight, God gave him the kingdom. Now that he had hardened his heart in pride, he no longer fitted into the divine plan. Through Samuel's intercession the king was given another chance, but there was no true repentance on Saul's part. God therefore turned to David for an obedient ruler over His people Israel.

The most fervent prayers on our behalf will avail nothing unless we empty our hearts of greed and arrogant pride. If we have sinned and hindered God's plan for our lives, He will forgive if we truly repent.

—D. LEROY SANDERS

A Hindu woman was converted by hearing the Word of God read. But her husband not only refused the Word; he bitterly persecuted her for the stand she had taken.

One day a missionary asked her, "When your husband mistreats you so, what do you do?"

She replied: "When he mistreats me, I cook his food better. When he complains, I sweep the floor cleaner. When he speaks unkindly, I answer him mildly. I try to show him that when I became a Christian I became a better wife."

The consequence of all this was that, although the husband could withstand all the preaching of the missionary, he could not hold out against the Christlike daily life of his wife, and at length he accepted her Saviour as his Saviour too.



REVIVALTIME mail brings many letters. Some contain urgent prayer requests for serious needs, and others contain testimonies of great victories which God has wrought. Some tell of family problems, while others give the glorious news of families being re-united.

Among the most joyful of all letters that reach REVIVALTIME are those that tell of souls being born into the Kingdom of God. We know that you too would enjoy reading letters like these:

SPARTANBURG, SOUTH CAROLINA—"When I first started listening to REVIVALTIME, I was not a Christian and did not understand very much of what they were talking about; but, praise God, today I know all about it. I have been saved and have received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit."

HARDIN, MISSOURI—"Some time back, I wrote to you requesting prayer for my husband that he would come back to the Lord. Now he has come back. God has answered prayer and I am so thankful for it."

BUCKROE BEACH, VIRGINIA—"I heard your message last night on REVIVALTIME. It truly blessed my husband and myself. We both really felt our 'oil' had leaked out, but got down and prayed through again."

ROXBURY, MASSACHUSETTS—"I have been discouraged and losing out with God, but He spoke to me through your broadcast and I am back taking my stand as a Christian."

SKANDIA, MICHIGAN—"I want to thank you for leading me back to God. I was a lost backslider but now I am saved by grace and happy in the Lord again."

McKEESPORT, PENNSYLVANIA—"It was seven months ago that I was saved through your ministry, and I hope to keep on witnessing for the Lord and helping others to find Him. I never forget to pray for your spiritual, physical, and financial needs. God bless you."

BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT—"Last Sunday as we were listening to your sermon on REVIVALTIME, I told my husband I was going to be prayed for and healed. My husband started smoking while listening to your sermon. Tears came to his eyes as to mine. It was the most welcome sermon we've heard in a long time. Then when you said, 'Someone is in great need tonight,' Brother Ward, I felt we were those people. Our house was in disorder and my husband a backslider. I prayed and God was answering right then. As you prayed for the sick, my husband felt something go through him. Before you finished he said to me, 'You are healed,' and, praise God, I was. It was at that moment he threw his cigarettes away. For two hours we prayed together, giving God the glory. He hadn't prayed with me in years. Now that he has experienced God's power, he is testifying all over and it has strengthened many people who have no faith."

* * *

We urge you to continue praying that souls will be saved through REVIVALTIME. Unless someone prays, the message could be in vain. But as we pray, the Holy Spirit will convict. And when the invitation is given each week on REVIVALTIME, listeners will make that important decision to give their hearts to Christ.

REVIVALTIME—P. O. Box 70-Springfield, Missouri



*Which way is right?
God's Word helps us decide
by giving us these*

PRINCIPLES OF CHOICE

by FRANK B. RICE, JR., Batesville, Ark.

termed the principle of SAFETY FIRST. It states that when an action is questionable it should be avoided. "Abstain from all appearance of evil" (1 Thessalonians 5:22). "Whatsoever is not of faith is sin" (Romans 14:23). Only a very foolish person would drive swiftly to the edge of a cliff and slam on his brakes at the last second. It is even more dangerous to rush headlong into questionable indulgences hoping to stop just short of eternal destruction.

Equally useful along this line is the principle of EDIFICATION. This has to do with the direction in which a thing leads. The apostle Paul, in speaking of eating foods that had been offered to idols, said, "All things are lawful for me, but all things are not expedient: all things are lawful for me, but all things edify not" (1 Corinthians 10:23). The eating of the meats was harmless in itself, for an idol is an inanimate object without power either to bless or to curse. Yet Paul urged the Corinthians to refrain from doing so lest they be led into unwholesome fellowship with idolators. The lesson for us is this: Choose those things which are edifying (constructive). Avoid those things which might have a destructive effect on another's faith. Things which seem harmless may lead us into greater excesses. Indeed, even good things should be avoided if they keep us from better things!

An important principle to be considered in this day of damaging excesses is that of the SANCTITY OF THE HUMAN BODY. "Know ye not that ye are the temple of God? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are" (1 Corinthians 3:16, 17). Belshazzar was destroyed for using the sacred vessels from the temple as common drinking vessels. God will hold him no less guilty who makes his body common through promiscuous petting and sinful indulgences, or destroys it through

intemperate habits such as smoking, drinking, gluttony, and the like. Christians should obey the rules of health, for what weakens the body will inhibit one's ability to work for God.

A final consideration is the principle of BROTHERLY LOVE. Paul states it thus in 1 Corinthians 8:13: "If meat make my brother to offend, I will eat no flesh while the world standeth." The question to be considered here is not, "Will my conscience be violated?" but rather, "Will it cause my brother to override his conscience?" Your motives may indeed be pure, but how will others judge your actions? Will your motives be equally clear to them? "(Let) no man put a stumblingblock or an occasion to fall in his brother's way" (Rom. 14:13). Concern only for one's own feelings does not show a spirit of love.

With these considerations in mind let us "prove all things: hold fast that which is good."

AFRAID OF NOTHING BUT SIN

When the Emperor of Constantinople arrested Chrysostom and tried to make him recant, Chrysostom slowly shook his head. The Emperor said to his attendants, "Put him in prison."

"No," said one of them. "He will be glad to go, for he delights in the presence of his God in quiet."

"Well, then, let us execute him," said the Emperor.

"He will be glad to die," said the attendant, "for he wants to go to heaven; I heard him say so the other day. There is only one thing that can give Chrysostom pain, and that is to make him sin; he said he was afraid of nothing but sin. If you can make him sin, you will make him unhappy."

Oh, that God would make us like Chrysostom, rather die than sin!

THE BIBLE MAKES NO EFFORT TO CATALOG all the sins of the human race. Indeed it would be a well-nigh impossible task because (1) space would not permit, and (2) sin reveals itself in new dress and is called by new names in each generation. Since this is true, many persons feel that it is impossible to determine from the Bible whether a thing is good or bad. This is a mistake, for the Bible does provide principles of choice which apply equally to all situations. Let us consider some of these principles.

First, there is the principle of CONSCIENCE. If an act violates one's conscience it becomes a sin to him. This is true regardless of another's feeling in the matter. John states it this way: "If our heart condemn us, God is greater than our heart, and knoweth all things" (1 John 3:20). The implication is plain. If we, who are inclined to excuse our actions, are condemned in the courtroom of our own conscience, how much more will God, who tries the hearts, detect and condemn our wrong actions.

Conscience alone, however, is not a sufficient measure since it has the property of being educated and can become seared through being repeatedly overridden (1 Timothy 4:2). A clock is useful only as it is set to sun time. Conscience is useful only as it is attuned to Scripture.

A second principle might well be

Precious Promises

(Continued from page 15)

constantly until a sense of His presence breaks across the threshold of our consciousness. We must not be satisfied with just the promise of His presence; we must actually *realize* His presence in our daily lives. If we will take time for faith-building Bible study, soul-searching prayer, and deliberate waiting on God, we will enjoy His presence and our lives will shine with His glory.

In addition to the blessing of His grace, and the assurance of His presence, the Lord has promised His Spirit to those who ask Him. This undoubtedly is one of the brightest promises in the whole prophetic firmament. "And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh" (Acts 2:17). To be filled with all the fullness of God surpasses the value of a million worlds.

We can, we may, we must be filled with His Spirit! All may be filled, for the promise embraces "all flesh." On the Day of Pentecost "all" the waiting Christians were filled with the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:4). Furthermore, Peter declared that this same experience is available "to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call" (Acts 2:29)—and that includes believers in this generation.

We must be filled with the Spirit, for Christ declared this experience to be indispensable. In Acts 1:4 we read, "And, being assembled together with them, [he] commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me." In the language of Christ, being filled with the Spirit is an inescapable obligation. To willfully refuse the baptism of the Holy Spirit is to refuse God's will for our lives, and such an attitude may mean spiritual defeat and dismay.

The advantages of being filled with the Spirit are manifold. The Spirit-filled Christian is "endued with power from on high" (Luke 24:49). His understanding of Christ is enhanced immeasurably as He is revealed to the heart by the Spirit (John 16:14, 15). The Pentecostal Christian is provided an inward fortitude to face the challenge of this hour (Isaiah 59:19). He lives in God's favor as a result of the sanctifying power of the Holy Spirit (Romans 15:16). He partakes of divine joy (Romans 14:17). He abounds in joy, peace, faith, and hope through the power of the Holy Spirit (Romans 15:13). He is guided into all truth by the greatest Teacher of all, the Spirit of Truth (John 16:13).

As a child of God surrenders to the



NEW CHURCH IN FORT WORTH TO BE DEDICATED TODAY

In an exclusive area of Fort Worth, Texas, which was previously closed to churches, there stands the beautiful new buff-brick structure shown above. Zion Temple Assembly of God is being dedicated today, March 18.

In 1954, with no building, only five families, and \$40 in cash, B. R. Griffith (inset) started this work of faith for God. The group was able to secure an excellent site at 109 Roberts Cut-Off So.—5200 White Settlement Rd.—valued at \$10,000. In 60 days the lots were paid for in a miraculous way.

The new building is 46 by 116 feet. All of the construction work was done by the pastor and the men of the church, to save labor costs. The interior features mahogany

paneling, rose carpeting, a Hammond concert organ, indirect lighting, and air conditioning for summer comfort. The main auditorium seats 325, the C. A. chapel has a seating capacity of 100, and there are attractive Sunday School rooms for all ages. The value of the property, building, and equipment, as estimated by a local contractor, is \$70,000. The indebtedness after two years is only \$3,000.

Under the capable leadership of Brother Griffith, the church is still enjoying consistent progress, both spiritually and materially. As many as twelve souls have been saved in a regular Sunday service. Plans are already under way for enlarging the building to accommodate the growing Sunday School.

Spirit, he manifests the fruit of the Spirit; thus he is able to exhibit characteristics that magnify the Christ who dwells within (Galatians 5:22, 25). The divinely indwelt life becomes a vehicle for the Spirit to produce the manifestations outlined in 1 Corinthians 12 and 14.

To minimize the dangers that fill this age would be to ignore the warnings that are given in the Word of Life. Over and above these difficulties, however, are the precious promises God has given to fortify and encourage us. For abounding sin there is overabounding grace. For vile and demonic influences there is the mighty power of His presence. For evil tides that threaten to thwart the work of God, there is the mighty river of the Holy Spirit.

There is no need, then, for Christians to be weak and defeated. The difficulties of the end-time afford ample opportunity for God to exhibit the glory of His salvation in our lives. "If God be for us, who can be against us?" The need of this hour is for Christian lives to be pervaded with His grace, His presence, and His power!

If each Christian realizes himself as a temple of the living God, an instrument possessed and governed and used by the Almighty, there is no place for discouragement. Before Him, the hard, dry rock shall be turned into a pool, the flint into a fountain of water (Psa. 114:8).—

—Hudson Taylor.

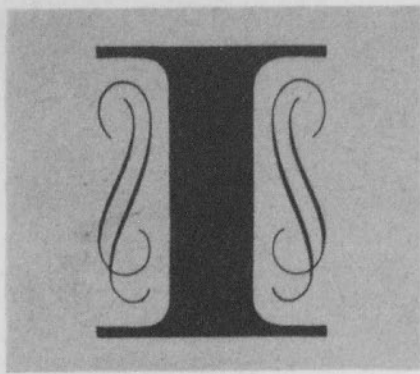
Hear C. M. Ward on REVIVALTIME ...

ARE YOU ALIVE (1 Thess. 4:16, 17)

SERMON SUBJECT FOR MARCH 18

SUNDAY 10:30 P.M. ABC NETWORK





Another thought-provoking article

by Ethel L. Tenney

Must

decrease

HIS IMAGE

"A block of marble stood
Before the sculptor; where he would
He smote with hand well skilled;
And thus with blow on blow fulfilled
The vision of his mind.

"At first, with chisel coarse and stroke
Unspared, the corners off he broke,
And soon the form appeared;
And then with finer tools he wrought,
And finer yet, until he brought
The perfect image forth.

"So with unerring skillfulness,
With cunning hand and sure,
'TIS AS THE MARBLE GROWETH
LESS
THE LIKENESS GROWETH MORE;
So God divinely works with those
He in the eternal ages chose
To show His work of grace,
And thus with blow on blow to trace
The image of His Son.

"How blest to know that He who holds
His tools before His eye, beholds
His own beloved one;
The cares and sorrows day by day,
The troubles that o'ershade the way,
Together work for good;
And nothing e'er by chance befalls
The one whom God in purpose calls,
In whom His love is found.

"And when we have the glory gained,
And Christ's full image have attained,
We'll praise His sovereign grace,
And bless the hand that dealt each blow
Upon the marble here below
In working out His will."

* * *

A number of years ago I ran across these lines of poetry. The name of the author was not given, but God has made the poet's message a means of enriching my spiritual life.

I was impressed with those lines, "Tis as the marble groweth less, the likeness groweth more," and as I knelt before the Lord I prayed that this truth might be wrought out in me, until the very image and likeness of Christ should be manifested in this earthen vessel for His glory.

My thoughts went immediately to John the Baptist and his ministry. I read again that Scripture found in the Gospel of John, the last of that third chapter. And the scene was made real to my heart: the disciples coming to John to tell him that Jesus was also baptizing and that all the people were going to Him. I imagine they expected John to resent this. Baptism in water had been his special ministry. But, oh! the meek and lowly spirit of this great prophet! He was immediately overwhelmed with a sense of his own nothingness. He was simply a voice. He had come in weakness to prepare the way for the great One. He was but clay in the Workman's hand.

I recalled this quotation on the life of Dr. H. A. Ironside, "He lived from hand to mouth—the hand being God's." And it was God's hand that led John the Baptist. He was sent from God, and he knew that all he had ever accomplished was God-given. So he answered these questioning disciples, "A man can receive nothing except it be given him from heaven. Ye yourselves bear me witness, that I said, 'I am not the Christ, but that I am sent before him'... He must increase, but I must decrease." That's the message on my heart today. "The marble must grow less that the likeness (to Christ) may grow more."

This afternoon I reread the story of Gideon and his three hundred. In every man's hand was an empty pitcher, and "lamps within the pitchers." But there was no victory, nor any shining forth of those lamps, until the pitchers were broken. And it seems to me that in every man's hand today there is an empty pitcher. To every Christian there is a Light inside the pitcher—the earthen pitcher given to Jesus now contains a

Lamp. But there must be a breaking of the pitcher before the world sees the divine Life and Light within. Paul said he always bore about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life of Jesus might be manifested. And the Word of God clearly teaches that there must be a dying to sin before there is a living unto God—a losing to find gain, an abasement that precedes exaltation, a decreasing in the self-life that there may be an increase of the divine life—the life that is Christ.

I must decrease. We want it to be so. Deep in the heart of every honest Christian is the desire to be Christlike. And God wills it. He has various methods of bringing about this very thing. Again we refer to the poem, "The sculptor... smote with hand well skilled; and thus with blow on blow fulfilled the vision of his mind." Beloved, God is the great Sculptor and He has a vision, a plan for every life. He plans that every child of God be conformed to the image of His Son. We sing—

*"To be like Jesus, to be like Jesus,
All I ask to be like Him..."*

and after singing this from our hearts we may find ourselves faced with a test, a disappointment. Something hurts us deeply and we can't understand. Sometimes we rebel; but it is God working in us both to will and to do of His good pleasure. It is God working with clay, fashioning a vessel as seemeth good to Him. It may not be a joyous experience, but someone has said, "Out of the presses of pain cometh the soul's best wine." It has been said, "All the dealings of God with the soul of the believer are in order to bring it into oneness with Himself, that the prayer of our Lord may be fulfilled, 'That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us'."

Surely, His dealings are wise and just and good, and are to the end that self may decrease, and that He Himself may be exalted and shine forth, as the earthen pitchers are broken, as the marble groweth less, as we bear about in our bodies

His dying. What was His dying? It was a giving up of His glory, His highly exalted place, all that He had. He emptied Himself for others. Is that the spirit we bear about day by day? Are we showing forth that kind of death? Paul said, "I do it for a purpose"—that the wonderful radiant, victorious life of Jesus may be revealed. But first we must reckon that self is not to be considered. We must decrease. This is not the day for us to be seen. Our life is hid with Christ in God. But there is coming a day when He who is our life shall appear; then shall we also appear with Him in glory. Then those who have humbled themselves shall know that holy exaltation of being made like Him. All the exceeding and eternal weight of that glory does not yet appear, but we shall be like Him! Oh, blessed hope, and exceeding great reward! Today, the cross, the humbling and dying. Tomorrow, the crown, and the inheritance that is incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away!

Oh, to be like Jesus! If I would be like Him in His humility and His holiness, and some glad morning be like Him in His eternal glory, I first must decrease!

*"Tis as the marble groweth less
The likeness groweth more."*

An Old Disciple

(Continued from page five)

the other shore. One wonders if many believers today would be willing to walk two miles in freezing weather and wade a river of ice-cold water in order to hear the Word of God.

I think the text suggests that Mnason had the victory. No one is an "old disciple" unless he is victorious. What difference will it make, when we have finished our course, whether we were rich or poor, learned or unlearned, well-known or unknown? The question at that time will be whether or not we have been true disciples of Jesus—humble, faithful, and completely consecrated to God. Paul said of the saints of his day, "For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called" (1 Corinthians 1:26).

If some stranger shall pass our abode when our earthly race is almost run and ask, "Who dwells there?" will some brother be able to say, "I cannot call his name just now, but it is the home of an 'old disciple'?" If he can, that will be tribute enough. Come to think of it, an appropriate epitaph for an old saint's gravestone would be just this: "Here rests an old disciple."



A Christian Ruler in Nigeria

"I Wish to Reign With Christ at His Coming," he said.

I was on my way to interview the Olubadan, natural ruler of the world's largest "black" city. Staff photographer Vester Dick was along to make it a photographic interview. As we entered the reception room, the Olubadan was bidding farewell to his last visitor, who had prostrated himself flat on the floor in the age-old traditional manner. Turning to us, the Olubadan was just as much at ease as he welcomed us with a Western handshake.

There in that predominately Moslem city of half a million souls, I listened to the 73-year-old Chief tell of his love for God's Word. His parents were among the first Christians in Ibadan. He himself was not converted until the age of 43, but he has since tried to make up time by witnessing to his people, preaching nearly every Sunday at local churches. His recent election as Olubadan is remarkable in view of the fact that seven of the ten "kingmakers" are Moslems. They knew that he lived righteously and would reign righteously. Today he is,

to his knowledge, the only chief in Western Nigeria to have only one wife.

"Assist me in your earnest prayer," the Olubadan said, "for God's guidance in the joint work of politics and religion. I need prayer. I am ready at any time to put off whatever will tamper with my religious convictions, because I wish to reign with Christ at His coming for the millennium. Perhaps He will let me be Olubadan at that time! I would prefer that to any reign now!"

The Olubadan is a marked man as he stands aloof from the many Moslem festivities, usually led by the chief of a town. There is a pagan element too; last month the masked leaders of a fetish cult, supposed to be returned spirits, danced before his house and "prayed" for him. Politicians also are watching his every step; one political party tried to install their own Olubadan in opposition to him. In everything, Chief Akinyele humbly looks to his Lord for protection.

—Harold Fuller (editor) in
African Challenge.

MORNING MEDITATIONS NO. 1

AGE

Among God's people as well as the world it seems to be an accepted fact that age is something to be dreaded, to be avoided as far as possible. Youth by them is exalted and pursued. The appearance of gray hairs is cause for great concern, and to imply that a friend is actually growing old is regarded almost as great an offense as to curse him.

This view can be easily overlooked in the children of this world, but the child of God who is of this thought has missed out greatly somewhere in his Christian experience. Is not salvation life—eternal life, even God's own life? Does not life mean growth, increase, a greater abundance? Does not each added year mean a greater measure of this life, and of Him, our blessed Lord and Saviour? Does not each added year mean less of the flesh, our only enemy? Does not each added year mean more wisdom, greater knowledge of Him, more victories won? This is truth!

Can gray hairs or bald head, wrinkles, false teeth, flabby muscles, physical weakness, bind that Spirit of God that is in me? Verily, **never!** Rather is it true that the less I have of this life, the more I have of His.

I do rejoice continually that God has so led me that age does not mean "getting old," but adding years—and with the years, multiplying within my heart those things that were only starting when I was "young."

Happy is the saint to whom God has added many years, and who with the years has matured to that ripeness and sweetness in eternal things that years alone can bring. Perfect poise, perfect freedom, perfect rest, perfect peace, perfect love—these are the things that charm me and inspire me to press on. Hallelujah! My heart is full of song.

—Kathryn Parker Knudson

SUNDAY'S LESSON



CHRIST'S PRAYER FOR OTHERS

Sunday School Lesson for March 25, 1956

John 17:1-11, 15-21

Christ was pre-eminently a man of prayer. His prayer life was filled with such richness and power that His disciples earnestly asked Him to teach them to pray as they had heard Him pray (Luke 11:1). Here in John 17 we go with our great High Priest into the Holy of Holies as He intercedes. Melancthon, Martin Luther's helper, said of this chapter, "Nothing more dignified, nothing more holy, nothing more fruitful has ever been heard in heaven or earth than this prayer of the very Son of God."

The scene of Christ engaged in prayer is pictured for us again and again in the Gospels. In the Sermon on the Mount, the Lord Jesus taught His disciples to pray (Matthew 6:9). At the grave of Lazarus He prayed (John 11:41). His supplication in the Garden is given in detail by Luke (Luke 22:39). Add to these His prayers as He hung on the cross. (Luke 23:34). One of the most fruitful, soul-stirring studies for the Bible student is the careful examination of the passages which speak of Christ's prayer life. Note when He prayed, how He prayed, and for whom He prayed. From such studies the Holy Spirit will bring a new depth and a new power into your own prayer life.

This chapter is truly *the Lord's prayer!* The prayer we commonly call "The Lord's Prayer" is actually a prayer He taught His disciples to pray. In it He set forth what the disciples should desire for themselves. In this prayer He brings to the Father His requests for His disciples.

The seventeenth chapter of John divides into three parts: the first five verses contain Christ's request for Himself; the next fourteen, Christ's request for His disciples; and the last seven verses, Christ's prayer for the entire Church.

"FATHER, GLORIFY THY SON" (vv. 1-5)

The Lord Jesus prayed first of all for Himself; but His prayer was not in the least tainted with selfishness. He requested the Father to glorify Him in order that He might glorify His Father, that He might give eternal life to His followers (John 17:1, 2).

"Father, the hour is come!" Christ prayed with the consciousness that the hour toward which His life and ministry had been directed was now come. All through the Gospel of John repeated reference is made concerning "the hour." In the second chapter of John He replied to His mother at Cana, "Mine hour is not yet come" (John 2:4). And again in John 7:30; 8:20 He said that "the hour was not yet come." Now He said, "Father, the hour is come." He had looked forward to this hour from the beginning. He prepared for it in all that He did and taught. The shadow of the cross had been ever present in His life. At His birth Herod sought to destroy Him in the Slaughter of the Innocents. Artists have pictured the infant Jesus in Egypt, taking His first steps toward Mary. The outstretched arms of the little child cast the shadow of the cross before Him. As a young man He is portrayed as rising wearily from His carpenter's bench, gazing through the open window at the last rays of the setting sun, stretching His arms to relax them. As he does so, the shadow of the cross is formed on the wall behind Him. These works of art

may represent artistic license, but the thought they teach is absolutely true. The shadow of the cross had been present in our Saviour's life from the beginning. Now the hour of culmination, the hour of fulfillment, had come.

"I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do" (John 17:4). Carefully study the work which the Lord Jesus did. It may amaze you to realize that He never traveled more than fifty miles from the place of His birth. His ministry was confined to a span of slightly more than three years. Of those three years of ministry we have the record of a few people He healed, of a few lives He transformed, and the fragments of a few sermons He preached. Out of the thousands that came to hear Him, He secured eleven apostles and a handful of disciples. He had not written a single book, nor had He formed an organization! And yet He said, "I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do!"

The glory for which He now prayed was the glory of the Cross, the Resurrection, and the Ascension. His work on the earthly level was finished (John 17:4). From the heavenly vantage of the Ascension He would continue His work by the power of the Holy Spirit, working through His consecrated servants.

"I PRAY FOR THEM" (vv. 6-19)

The Lord Jesus now turned from Himself to entreat the Father on behalf of His immediate disciples. Note some of the outstanding things about His prayer. First of all, note the words He used to describe His disciples—"the men which thou gavest me out of the world" (vv. 6, 9, 12); men who belong to God (vv. 6, 9); men who were still "in the world" (v. 11); but men who were "not of the world" (vv. 14, 16). He spoke of them as men who had kept the word of God (v. 6), who had received the words which Christ gave them; men in whom Christ was glorified (v. 10); men who knew that Christ came from God. In the second place, notice the work that Christ accomplished for them. He manifested God's

IN THE HOLLOW OF HIS HAND



FOR IF, WHEN WE WERE ENEMIES, WE WERE RECONCILED TO GOD BY THE DEATH OF HIS SON, MUCH MORE, BEING RECONCILED, WE SHALL BE SAVED BY HIS LIFE.

Romans 5:10

name to them (v. 6); He gave God's Word to them (vv. 8, 14); and He kept them in God's name, (v. 12). Third, note the petitions He made for His disciples. He asked the Father to keep them (vv. 11, 15); that He would sanctify them (v. 17); "that they might be one" (v. 11); and that Christ's joy might fill them (v. 13). And finally, Christ commissioned His disciples. "As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world" (John 17:18).

Christ was possessed with three great desires for His own: "Keep [them] through thy name... that they may be one, as we are"; "Keep them from the evil"; "Sanctify them through thy truth." The last two requests reveal how the first request is to be accomplished. Kept from evil, and sanctified through the truth, the disciples will abide in His name and in His unity.

The Scriptures unfold in full detail how the work of sanctification is made real in our lives. We are sanctified by the Blood, by the Word, and by the Holy Spirit. The Word of God reveals the light in which God would have us walk; the blood of Christ cleanses, that we might maintain unbroken fellowship with Him in the light; and the Holy Spirit ministers with gifts and graces, that Christlikeness may be produced in us, and an effective witness for Christ may be accomplished through us.

"... FOR THEM ALSO WHICH SHALL BELIEVE" (vv. 20-26)

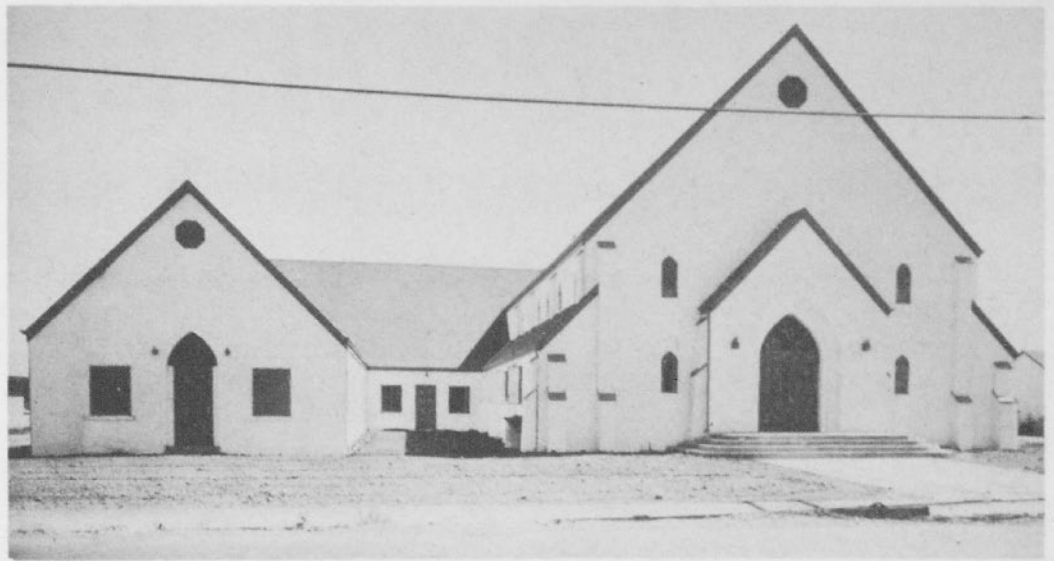
Having prayed for Himself and His disciples, Jesus now prayed for the entire Church which would yet come into being. He prayed "that they all may be one."

In these closing chapters of John's Gospel, what a remarkable revelation Christ gave to His disciples of the Cross, Pentecost, and the subsequent Church age! He clearly told them of His death, the coming of the Holy Spirit, and the worldwide reach of the gospel. (John 12:24, 32; 16:7). Now He definitely prayed for those converts-to-be who would be won by His disciples.

Jesus was deeply concerned about the converts who would be born in the generations which followed Calvary and Pentecost. He prayed "that they all may be one." By this He did not mean the "church unity" or "the united Christendom" for which some men contend today. He clarified His request by adding the words, "as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be in us." This is a vital, spiritual relationship.

Christ literally prayed that all believers of the future might enter into a spiritual union so real and so wonderful that when they witnessed to the world round about them, their testimony would have convicting, converting power (John 17:21).

—Emil A. Balliet



NEW HOME OF THE ASSEMBLY OF GOD IN MERCED, CALIF.

The church pictured above is the new home of the Assembly of God in Merced, Calif. In June 1952 John C. Snyder was called to pastor this church. At that time the people were worshipping in a small, inadequate tabernacle in an undesirable location. Former pastors had been promoting a building program; Brother Snyder immediately went to work raising more funds and hunting a new building site. In May 1953 construction began on a new church, and it was dedicated for worship in July 1954.

This fine new building has a main auditorium 50 by 90 feet and a spacious educa-

tional annex. The total floor space is over 8,000 square feet. The auditorium seats 500, and the annex includes 13 Sunday School classrooms. The building also contains two prayer rooms, a large nursery, two offices, and rest rooms. The building and furnishings are valued at \$150,000, but the actual cost was much less because of volunteer labor. It is estimated that the people of Merced donated labor to the value of \$40,000.

Because of ill health Brother Snyder resigned the church and is now employed at Bethany Bible College in Santa Cruz, Calif. Earl Gould is the present pastor.

No Reason to Retire

(Continued from page 4)

Him. Could you imagine any greater service for the Master?

Last week a gentleman from a distant State called to see me. For a moment I did not remember him; then my thoughts went back over the years to the time when someone brought into our Sunday School an under-privileged lad of seventeen—motherless, homeless, out of work, and a stranger. How eagerly he absorbed the lessons. He told the teacher that he had never before even heard the story of Jesus. A few of the elderly people agreed to pray for him until God sent him an answer. The answer came quickly and definitely. Now he tells me, "Your prayers brought me to Christ. Whenever I have been perplexed or tempted I have felt that you were still praying for me. God has had His hand upon me through all these eighteen years, and I will serve Him as long as I live." What if we had failed to pray?

Oh, Golden Afternoon of Life! What magnificent vistas open up before you!

What golden opportunities for bringing God's blessing to needy humanity everywhere and winning the commendation, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant." —Selected

THE ANT AND THE STRAW

A biologist told how he watched an ant carrying a piece of straw which seemed a big burden for it. The ant came to a crack in the earth which was too wide for it to cross. It stood for a time, as though pondering the situation, then put the straw across the crack and walked over upon it.

What a lesson for us! The burden can become a bridge for progress, if we endeavor by God's help to live the overcoming life.

Why do not more Christians gladly leave all and follow Christ in rescuing the perishing at any possible cost? Is it not because many of us, while looking forward to the future coming of His kingdom, forget His present right to reign in the hearts of His own, and are unmindful of the blessed fact that all power is now given to Him, in heaven and in earth? —Hudson Taylor

SERMONS AND BOOKLETS

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These sermons have been printed directly from the radio scripts of REVIVALTIME. Each sermon and booklet is encouraging and informative and will prove to be a blessing and an aid to you in your Christian walk.

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In this message you will find a counter weapon to use against the devilish enemies of the mind, fear and worry.

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THE TRAGEDY OF MIXED MARRIAGE

The material for this book has been gathered through Bro. Ward's twenty-five years of ministry. A duplicate of the paper a non-Catholic must sign before marrying a Catholic is contained in this book with other valuable questions one must consider before he anticipates marriage to a Catholic.

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\$15.00 for 100

IS GOD TOO GOOD TO SEND ANYONE TO HELL AND TOO JUST TO KEEP ANYONE THERE FOREVER?

Millions are crying, "There is no everlasting punishment" or "Ultimately everybody will be saved" or "The wicked dead will be annihilated." This sermon plainly and scripturally denounces these and other false statements. Every Christian will find this booklet an excellent aid for personal work.

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HOW MEAN WAS DAVID'S SIN?

How Far Can a Child of God Drift and Yet Be Brought Back?

How far will God follow a man? What power will God exercise to bring him back? You will find the answers to these and other questions in this sermon which highlights the true dimensions of the "length and breadth and depth of the Love of God."

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What Must I Do To Be Saved? How Can I Know I Am Saved?

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Read of the many miraculous answers to prayer in our present day. The faith of others will encourage your faith to soar to a peak never before attained. Doubters will be made believers when they lay this book down.

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Timely! Challenging! This straight-forward prophetic message by Bro. Ward will bring you face to face with your need and your country's need of a closer walk with God.

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This present-day, much debated question is given a sane, safe and scriptural treatment. You will also find the answer to many more of your questions about healing in the other two sermons contained in this book: "Healed While Going" and "Questions and Answers About Healing."

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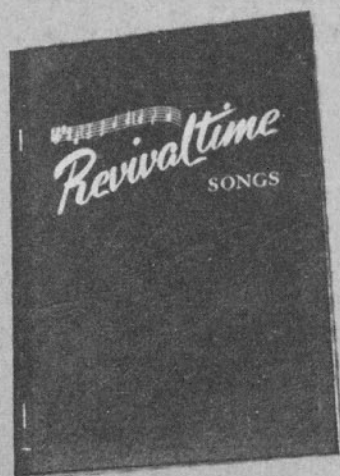
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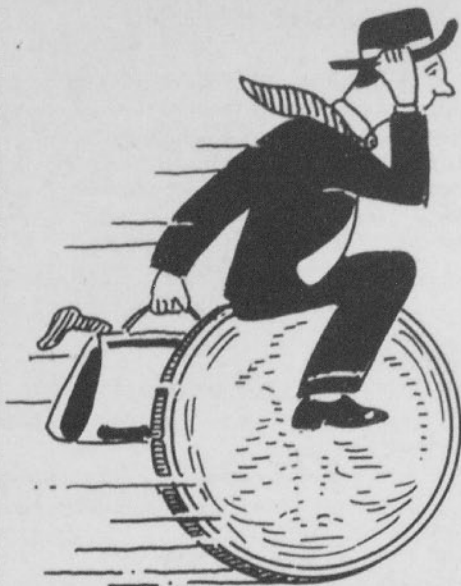
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COMING MEETINGS

Notices should reach us a full month in advance, due to the fact that the Evangel is made up 23 days before the date which appears upon it.

GLENDIVE, MONT.—Begins Mar. 13 with Evangelist Dale V. Helle. (Dean A. Rohner is Pastor.)

QUITMAN, TEX.—Mar. 27-Apr. 8 with Evangelist Ivor H. Hugh, Jacksonville, Fla. (W. L. Jones is Pastor.)

PORUM, OKLA.—Begins Mar. 25 with N. B. Rayburn, Henryetta, Okla. (Doyle Davis is Pastor.)

WILLITS, CALIF.—Begins Mar. 27 at First Assembly of God, 70 San Francisco Ave.; Singing Wyricks.—by Don Morrow, Pastor.

KEOKUK, IOWA—Began Mar. 11 at Faith Temple Assembly of God; Evangelist J. E. Snyder.—by W. J. Lewis, Pastor.

NORTH KANSAS CITY, MO.—Mar. 18-Apr. 1 at First Assembly of God; Evangelist and Mrs. F. R. McAdams.—by R. A. McClure, Pastor.

BAD AXE, MICH.—Workers Training Course, Mar. 12-16; Everett D. Cooley, District S. S. Director, instructor.—by Howard M. Burk, Pastor.

WASCO, CALIF.—Mar. 18-Apr. 1 at First Assembly of God; Evangelist and Mrs. Jerry Fry.—by Houston R. Baker, Pastor.

OSNABROCK, N. DAK.—Mar. 27-Apr. 8 at Assembly of God; Evangelist H. L. Moody, Minneapolis, Minn. (Clifford Huwe is Pastor.)

ALLIANCE, OHIO—Began Mar. 6 at First Assembly of God; Evangelist Eddie Roush. (I. A. Shank is Pastor.)

BUTLER, MO.—Began Mar. 4 at First Assembly of God; Evangelist W. O. Cox, De Soto, Mo.—by Clyde A. Davis, Pastor.

SHELBYVILLE, IND.—Begins Mar. 18 with Evangelist Jimmie Hearn, Columbus, Ga. (O. W. Koble is Pastor.)

CHEYENNE, WYO.—Full Gospel Assembly, Mar. 28-Apr. 8; Evangelist Bennie R. Harris, Bennett, Colo. (George Alber is Pastor.)

STURGEON BAY, WIS.—Mar. 18-Apr. 15 with Evangelist and Mrs. G. R. Conrow, Spencer Lake Bible Camp, Waupaca, Wis. (Adam Biffert is Pastor.)

**WORDS OF ADVICE FROM
ONE OLDER PERSON TO ANOTHER**

INFIRMITIES IN OLD AGE

There is a difference between infirmities and inconsistencies. We older people will readily admit that we have certain infirmities, but it is hard to confess to inconsistencies. Many times the former leads to the latter, however, just as faults become sins when we defend, rather than deplore them. Let us notice a few infirmities:

1. Being careless in eating, and soiling the linen at the table.
2. Being untidy in dress. It does not cost much to keep clean teeth, fingernails, and collars. Spots on clothes and run-over heels should be avoided.
3. Being queer about little things, such as sitting in a certain corner, or having a certain cup or place at the table.

4. Being too talkative and especially drawing attention to self, where you have been and what you have done. "Let another man praise thee, and not thine own mouth" (Proverbs 27:2).

5. Being stingy! In early life it was necessary to practice strict economy, and this became a habit. But now it is sad to see the same person go underfed, wear shabby clothes, and give less to worthy causes than he should. He is soon to pass away and leave his hard-earned money to ungodly relatives and dishonest lawyers. What a pity!

6. Being easily frustrated! We read about a grasshopper becoming a burden

(Ecclesiastes 12:5). The inference is that trifles annoy and loom up as mountains. It may be a small thing that could be disposed of in a few minutes, but suddenly it assumes proportions beyond your ability. O dear one, you have come through great conflicts in the past, and God still lives to answer prayer. Worry does not help. Feverish haste does not help! Everything that comes is either sent or permitted by God. If sent, in due time you will see that it was the best thing that could have happened. If permitted, He can rule and overrule and, in the end, work it out for your good and for His glory.

"Rest in the Lord, and wait patiently for him" (Psalm 37:7).

—E. E. Shelhamer

**INSTANT RELIEF FROM
NERVOUS TENSION**

After the birth of my second child on November 17, 1955, I suffered from serious nervous strain. Due to the nervous tension I was unable to relax and sleep, and I lost my appetite.

When my baby was a month old I took her to church and dedicated her to God. All during that Sunday afternoon I felt impressed of God to be prayed for, so after the Sunday night service I went to the altar for prayer. Brother Cockman

anointed me according to the Bible (James 5:14) and he and those around the altar prayed for me.

Praise God, I was instantly healed. For the first time in a month I was able to relax and and sleep, and my appetite returned.

Also two years ago the Lord healed me instantly of sinus trouble, and that healing still holds good today. I praise God for my healing. It has drawn me closer to Him.—Mrs. Dorothy Payne, 948 Catalpa, St. Louis 12, Mo.

(Endorsed by James D. Cockman, Pastor, Berea Temple, St. Louis, Mo.)

SAN ANGELO, TEX.—Begins Mar. 18 at First Assembly of God; George Gospel Team, Hobbs, N. Mex. (M. J. Dickson is Pastor.)

PILLAGER, MINN.—Mar. 18-Apr. 1 with Evangelist and Mrs. Oliver Johnson, Powers Lake, N. Dak.—by Norman Levang, Pastor.

GENEVA, ALA.—Begins Mar. 25 with Evangelists Bessie L. Fisher and Nell G. Check, Memphis, Tenn. (Shelbern Roberts is Pastor.)

PEORIA, ILL.—Mar. 20-Apr. 1 at First Assembly of God; Evangelist and Mrs. Paul Hild, Minneapolis, Minn.—by Lloyd Shoemaker, Pastor.

TOPPENISH, WASH.—Mar. 13-Apr. 1 at Assembly of God; Evangelist Ferdie C. Jay, Wenatchee, Wash.—by Warren D. Combs, Pastor.

ATMORE, ALA.—Mar. 18-Apr. 1 at Assembly of God; Evangelist and Mrs. Billy Jones, Dallas, Tex. (T. D. Rachels is Pastor.)

MANNFORD, OKLA.—Begins Mar. 18 at Assembly of God; Evangelist and Mrs. John Broxson of Florida.—by George E. Smith, Pastor.

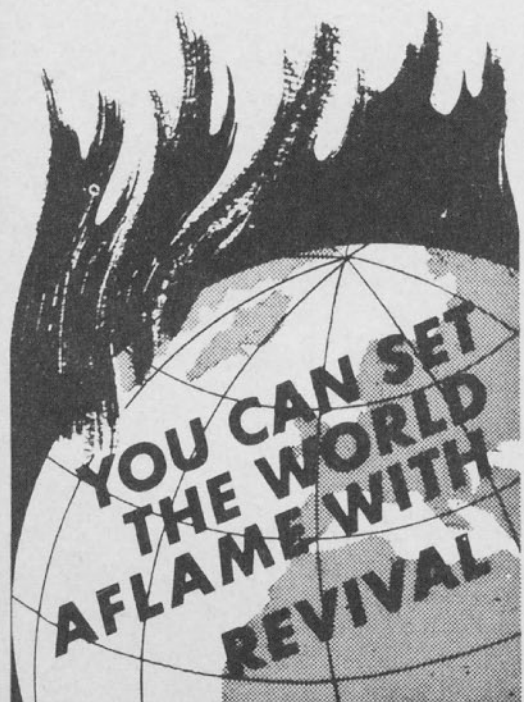
CLINTON, IOWA.—Began Feb. 26 at Clinton Tabernacle, 1st Ave. and 5th St.; Evangelist J. E. Stiles.—by C. E. Thompson, Pastor.

BUCKLIN, KANS.—Began Mar. 11 at Assembly of God; Evangelist Bud Lawrence, Alpena, Ark.—by Basil Olinger, Pastor.

FORT WORTH, TEX.—Began Mar. 4 at Calvary Assembly of God; Evangelist Lois Ann Cockerell.—by W. T. Miller, Pastor.

ROSWELL, N. MEX.—Mar. 18-Apr. 1 at First Assembly of God, E. 4th and Garden; Evangelist Velmer Gardner. Sunday night services in City Auditorium. (G. W. Risner, Jr. is Pastor.)

KANSAS CITY, MO.—Mar. 18-Apr. 1 at Paseo Assembly of God, 3238 The Paseo; Evangelist Willa J. Sturgis (formerly Willa J. Short), Kansas City, Mo.—by L. R. Sturgis, Pastor.



JOIN IN THIS
MINISTRY OF PRAYER

South Central Regional

Prayer Sunday

MARCH 18

Pray for World-Wide Revival Now!

SIKESTON, MO.—Mar. 14-25 at First Assembly of God; Evangelist A. R. Vanderploeg.—by Loren Wooten, Pastor.

NORTH PARAMOUNT, CALIF.—Begins Mar. 25 at Assembly of God, 13444 Bixler Ave.; Evangelists Paul and Leona Daugherty, Carthage, Mo. (Phillip Tiger is Pastor.)

CLEVELAND, OHIO—Mar. 27-Apr. 8 at Calvary Assembly of God, Euclid and E. 214th St.; Tanner Evangelistic Team, Willmar, Minn.—by Howard R. Davidson, Pastor.

HOMER, ALASKA—Area-wide meeting at Homer Gospel Tabernacle, Mar. 11-Apr. 1; Evangelist Billy Wolfe, Davenport, Iowa. (Arthur Nichols is Pastor.)

SALEM, OREG.—Began Feb. 28 at Evangelistic Temple, Park and Market; Evangelist William L. Devereaux, Los Angeles, Calif. (Levi A. Larson is Pastor.)

BIRMINGHAM, ALA.—Youth Services and Children's Hour at Norwood Assembly of God, Mar. 18-Apr. 1; Mr. and Mrs. Charles R. Shuss, Flushing, N. Y.—by D. Herbert Browne, Pastor.

BAKERSFIELD, CALIF.—Mar. 20-Apr. 1 at Glad Tidings Assembly of God, 1900 Potomac; Evangelist and Mrs. Carl W. Oney, Pleasant Hill, Mo. (Vernon H. Ragsdale is Pastor.)

RICHMOND, CALIF.—Children's revival at Central Assembly of God; Mar. 28-Apr. 1; Evangelists Virgil and Edythe Warens. (Russell E. Griffin is Pastor.)

GARDEN CITY, KANS.—Revivaltime Rally for all churches in Western Kansas, at Faith Tabernacle, Mar. 23. C. M. Ward speaking.—by Richard W. Dortch, Pastor.

BARABOO, WIS.—Mar. 27-Apr. 8 at Gospel Tabernacle Assembly of God, 219 First St.; Evangelist and Mrs. Joel R. Palmer, Beaverton, Ala. (V. N. Hillestad is Pastor.)

CHARLESTON, S. C.—Monthly Fellowship Meeting for Charleston-Georgetown Section at First Assembly of God, Mar. 23. Services at 3 and 7 p.m. Curtis Grant, main speaker.—by A. T. Hickman, Presbyter.

SCRANTON, PA.—Mar. 28-Apr. 15 at Pentecostal Assembly of God, 825 Green Ridge St.; Busse Evangelistic Team, New York, N. Y. (Kenneth W. Wilkerson is Pastor.)

NORTH CAROLINA DISTRICT COUNCIL—Apr. 24-26 at Revival Center, 308 E. Main St.; Durham, N. C. (J. O. Savell, Springfield, Mo., guest speaker.) H. M. Harrison is host pastor.—by Andrew Stirling, District Superintendent.

N.A.E. CONVENTION—The 14th annual convention of the National Association of Evangelicals will meet in Cleveland, Ohio, April 10-12. For information write N.A.E. Headquarters, 108 North Main St., Wheaton, Illinois.

FOND DU LAC, WIS.—Workers Training Course at Assembly of God, Cor. 3rd and Marr Sts., Mar. 26-30. Rosaltha Fisher, instructor; and Helen Chaffee, co-worker. Apr. 1-8, revival and children's meetings conducted by Misses Fisher and Chaffee.—O. W. Apple, Pastor.

NEBRASKA DISTRICT COUNCIL—Apr. 3-5 at Assembly of God, 9th and Missouri Sts., Alliance, Nebr. Ralph M. Riggs, General Superintendent, guest speaker. C. A. Rally on Monday evening, Apr. 2.—by Lester W. Dickinson, District Superintendent.

SOUTHERN IDAHO DISTRICT COUNCIL—Mar. 26-29 at Assembly of God, 703 Locust St., Buhl, Idaho. J. Robert Ashcroft, Springfield, Mo., guest speakers. C. A. Rally Monday evening; Missionary Rally and communion service Thursday afternoon; and ordination service Thursday evening. For accommodations write Host Pastor, Woodrow Clay, 701 Locust St., Buhl, Idaho.—by Homer B. Walkup, District Secretary.

FORT WORTH, TEX.—Dedication of new Zion Temple Assembly of God, 109 Roberts Cut-Off S. at 5200 White Settlement Rd., Mar. 18. N. B. Netzel, Texas District Superintendent, morning speaker; Gayle Lewis, Assistant General Superintendent, officiating at the dedication at 2:30 p.m. and speaking at 7:45 p.m.; Raymond T. Richey, guest speaker. Monday, Mar. 19, at 7:45 p.m.—By B. R. Griffith, Pastor.

JUST LIKE A TREE

I shall not be moved!"

It isn't easy to move a tree—if it's well grounded. It shouldn't be easy to move a Christian from his faith. He should be steadfast, unmovable.

You can be "well grounded." Attend Sunday School every week of the Loyalty Campaign and receive inspiration for steadfast living.

The theme of this year's campaign is "Therefore, BE YE STEADFAST, unmovable." During the Loyalty Campaign you will be given scriptural reasons for being steadfast in Doctrine, Fellowship, Communion, Prayer, Faith, Hope, and Spirit. You won't want to miss one of these inspiring Sunday School lessons. They are planned to help you be STEADFAST.

Make sure you attend on Enlistment Day Easter Sunday—and every week following.

BE YE STEADFAST...

MISCELLANEOUS

CONTACTS WANTED—We are beginning a new Assembly in Boonton, N. J. If you have friends in this area, kindly send us their names and addresses.—Herbert R. Jones, General Delivery, Boonton, N. J.

WANTED—Back-dated literature for English-speaking church in South America. Can use Sunday School papers for all ages, quarterlies, Evangels, etc. Mail postpaid to J. B. E. Chow, P. O. Box 610, Georgetown, British Guiana, South America.

WITH CHRIST

MRS. MINA L. M. PECK, 83, San Diego, Calif. went to be with the Lord February 6, 1956. Sister Peck was ordained in 1917 and worked as an evangelist.

THOMAS F. SHIRES, 64, Houston, Tex., went to his heavenly reward February 19, 1956. Brother Shires was ordained in 1938 and he was active in pastoral and evangelistic work.

DAVID LEIGH, 72, Hawthorne, N. J., went to be with the Lord February 20, 1956. Brother Leigh was ordained in 1915 with the Assemblies of God in Great Britain and transferred to the Assemblies of God (U. S.) in 1928. served as a missionary in China for some time and pastored the church in Paterson, N. J., for several years.

“Green Thumb”



Philip Gendreau, N. Y.

The first few warm days of spring have an almost magical effect upon most people. Spring means an evolution from the winter “seed catalog” stage of existence to the actual thrill of planting a garden.

With many, however, enthusiasm does not ensure success. The greenest and best garden of the neighborhood usually belongs to the person with the “green thumb.”

The “green” of course is only figurative, for most thumbs used in gardening take on a different hue. A person with a “green thumb” is one who, somehow, can apparently make anything grow.

Those of us without “green thumbs” stand awed at the success of the people who have them and wish that we could be as they. But what we usually forget is that behind a “green thumb” is a great perseverance, a knowledge of the “ways” of plants—when and how to plant, under what conditions the plants will thrive best—along with a careful concern for the tender flower, fruits, or vegetables.

There are those who seem to have a “green thumb” in Christian service and living, too. Serving Christ seems to be “second nature” to them. Many stand back and wish they could be like that—but they don’t have a “green thumb.”

Success in Christian living and work does not come by accident, nor is it inherited. Behind every successful Christian life is a knowledge of God’s great seed catalog, the Bible, and an application of its principles, along with a love and concern for the work of the Lord, and a persistence in the face of difficulties. These things should be “second nature” to every Christian, for we are “new creatures” in Christ Jesus.

There are no short cuts to spiritual growth. Success in Christian living and service comes only to those who completely surrender themselves to the great Giver of all life.

—R. G. Champion