

*The Pentecostal*

5¢

# EVANGEL

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

DECEMBER 2, 1956

FILE COPY



*In the Light of His Soon Coming*

In the light of His soon coming  
Earthly things so trifling seem;  
Little place for anxious worry,  
Or for vain and foolish dream.  
Ev'ry hope, and plan, and action  
View in heaven's eternal light,  
As we run the race with patience,  
Looking for His glory bright.

In the light of His soon coming  
All our days with service fill;  
Soon the night shall overtake us,  
When the reaper's song is still.  
But a few short hours for gleaning  
Golden grain of wealth untold;  
Just a few more days to gather  
Precious lambs into the fold.

In the light of His soon coming  
Separations lose their sting;  
Severed now, but what reunion  
At the coming of the King.  
Clothed in His celestial glory,  
Made to shine like stars above,  
All together we shall greet Him—  
One eternal feast of love.

—Alice Reynolds Flower

## God's Plan for Palestine

The conflict between Israel and the Arab nations has become a major world problem. The Arabs seem to hate the Jews with a "perpetual hatred," as the Bible puts it (Ezekiel 35:5). It is reported that they have vowed to destroy the nation of Israel and make the Jews of Palestine a minority group. These threats remind us of Psalm 83, which is both history and prophecy: "They have said, Come and let us cut them off from being a nation; that the name of Israel may be no more in remembrance" (verse 4).

Statesmen are wondering how it will all turn out. Will the forty million Arabs eventually triumph over the million and a half Jews, or will the little nation of Israel survive? Without entering into politics and without approving the tactics used by either side, it is possible for the Christian to look ahead and see the final outcome. The Bible says that God has a plan for Palestine. In His own good time, His program will be carried out.

God announced His program thousands of years ago when He said the land of Canaan would be given to Abraham and his descendants for their possession. The promise was not based upon the merits of the Jewish people; it was based upon God's love for Abraham, His friend. In the days of Moses the Lord drove the heathen out of the land and gave it to the twelve tribes of Israel as their inheritance. He warned them, however, that if they turned their hearts away from Him they would be driven out of the promised land (Deuteronomy 28). But He also said that if, when exiled, they would turn back to Him and obey His voice, He would bring them back from exile and restore their homeland to them again (Deuteronomy 30).

There was a time when, for centuries, the Jews were banished from the promised land. The people of Mount Seir (that is, the Arabs, descendants of Esau) looked at the unoccupied and undefended lands of Samaria and Judah and said, "Let us take them." Then the word of the Lord came to the prophet Ezekiel, saying, "Because thou hast said, These two nations and these two countries shall be mine, and we will possess it; *whereas the Lord was there*: therefore, as I live, saith the Lord God . . . thou shalt be desolate, O mount Seir" (Ezekiel 35:10, 15). In other words, *the Lord was there*, even if the Jews were not, and the Arabs were charged with trespassing. Today the Arabs are charging that the Jews are trespassing on land that has been Arab for centuries. Is it not more correct to say that the Arabs for centuries have been trespassing on land that God gave to the Jews millenniums ago!

Not only does the Bible say that God has given "the land of Canaan" to Israel (Psalm 105:11). It mentions two specific areas that are now in question. It says the people of Israel shall possess the land of the Philistines (Obadiah 19) and this refers to the Gaza strip. It also says the Israelis "shall possess the cities of the south" (Obadiah 20) and here the Hebrew reads "the cities of the Negev."

When all these promises shall be fulfilled we cannot tell. We only know that Israel's national repentance and salvation has yet to come. Peace will come to the promised land when the people have made their peace with God. The Lord's plan for Palestine is a spiritual rebirth that will bring Israel into a proper relationship with Himself and with her neighbors also. Our mission is to work and pray for the conversion of Israelis and Arabs alike.

# THE PENTECOSTAL EVANGEL

THE WEEKLY VOICE OF THE ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

DECEMBER 2, 1956

NUMBER 2221

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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.

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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 and PUAS countries\*)

SINGLE SUBSCRIPTIONS—\$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—\$3.50 for a year.

\*PUAS—U.S. rates apply to all countries in the Postal Union of the Americas and Spain.

Entered as second-class matter June 25, 1918, at the Post Office in Springfield, Mo., under the 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.

# WORLD CRISIS AND COMING EVENTS

MEN ARE ASKING, "WHAT WILL HAPPEN NEXT?" THE BIBLE  
GIVES A THREEFOLD ANSWER—FOR IT  
DIVIDES ALL HUMANITY INTO THREE DISTINCT GROUPS.



BY CHARLES W. H. SCOTT

Michigan District Superintendent

A FEW YEARS AGO STUDENTS OF BIBLE prophecy talked much about coming world events and the crisis which would result from them. The world shrugged its shoulders and ridiculed what they called fantastic interpretations and pessimistic outlooks. Today our unbelieving world has taken up the theme which the preachers of a few years ago proclaimed, and testifies that we are now in an hour of dire crisis. President Eisenhower himself describes this as an age of peril, while other leaders talk soberly about an eclipse of civilization and the destruction of humanity.

Contemporary writers in the fields of science, economics, politics, agriculture and letters, all sound the same warning and speak of the world crisis at hand.

Professor Sorokin of the Department of Sociology of Harvard University said, "We live in one of the greatest crises in human history. Not only war, famine, pestilence and revolution are attacking our age, but a legion of other calamities are also rampant over the whole world. All values are unsettled, all norms are broken. Humanity has become a distorted image of itself. The crisis is omnipresent, and involves the whole culture and society from top to bottom."

World crisis was precipitated with new impact when Hitler marched his thundering legions into Poland in 1939, and launched his blitzkrieg on Europe. The ensuing action has changed the course of world trends and altered the balance of power among the nations. Further crisis was created when the Communistic armies crossed the 38th parallel in Korea. Cold war crisis

has been imposed upon the world by the arrogant belligerence of the Kremlin in its dealings with the family of nations. New international crises seem to develop in different parts of the world in rapid succession, the current one resulting in the present Suez problem.

## THREE GROUPS

In 1 Corinthians 10:32 Paul described three divisions of the human family which are effected by these crises when he said, "Give no offence, neither to the Jews nor the Gentiles, nor the church of God."

The Scriptures reveal the origin of these three groups and show that the Gentiles are the sons of Adam through the seed of Cain, the offspring of Japheth and Ham. The Jews are the descendants of Shem, of the seed of Abram, the Syrian of Ur of the Chaldees, whose children became the forebears of the Jewish nation. The Church or the *ecclesia*, the called-out ones, have come from the wounded side of Jesus, as Eve came out of the side of Adam. In that Fountain opened in the house of David for sin and uncleanness both Jews and Gentiles have washed their sins away to become members of the body of Christ, the Church.

That something is coming which effects these three classes is very evident. A foreboding of coming events fills the very atmosphere with a tenseness, furtiveness, and uncertainty, as men's hearts are failing them for fear. "What next?" is the question being asked by many today. "The more sure word of prophecy" shows that in the last days there will come a falling away of many, a catching away of those who are His, and a sweeping away of all that is vile

and abominable which belongs to Satan's kingdom.

Considering briefly the history of these three classes, we find that the Jews still remain the miracle of the nations. They have been hounded, hated, persecuted, oppressed, and decimated by world rulers; in accordance with Old Testament Scripture, the Jewish nation has become an astonishment. They have been a proverb and a byword, without a national home, wanderers on the face of the earth. Other nations subjected to such treatment would have been annihilated or absorbed, but not the Jews. Their history was determined when the Jewish mob cried to Pilate regarding Jesus Christ, "His blood be upon us and our children." Since then they have endured suffering which has brought them death in the ghettos of Europe, and in more recent decades the concentration camps of Poland, and the extermination camps of Germany. A total of five and three-quarter millions of Jews were destroyed between 1939 and 1947. But the indomitable, indestructible Jew has survived.

## I

The present circumstances, while definitely troubled, have a bright outlook for Israel. In May of 1948, out of the confusion and strife of the United Nations, a nation was born and Palestine became the national home of Israel. The small armies of the infant nation battled the opposing forces to a standstill, and the Jews have made a home for themselves in the same land which

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ILLUSTRATED BY  
L. N. PEARSALL

# WHEN GOD DEFEATS COMMUNISTIC RUSSIA

BY EVANGELIST L. B. ("BILL") LEWIS

Wilmington, California

**W**ILL RUSSIA INVADE ISRAEL? THAT is the question in the minds of many. To answer it, I would like to point you to Ezekiel 38:8, where the Lord, in referring to Gog, Magog, Meshech, and Tubal, says that "in the latter years thou shalt come into the land that is brought back from the sword, and is gathered out of many people, against the mountains of Israel." This verse certainly indicates an invasion of Israel by Gog, Magog, Meshech, and Tubal, with their allies.

But who are these nations? Frank Boyd, an eminent Bible teacher of the Assemblies of God, had this to say about these countries: "If you will refer back to Genesis 10:2, you will find among others the names of Gomer, Magog, Tubal, and Meshech, all sons of Japheth, son of Noah, born after the Flood. Students of ethnology (the science of the origin of nations) say that the descendants of Magog, Meshech, and Tubal were the ancient Cythians who occupied the region around the Black and Caspian Seas, and were the forefathers of the present Russian people."

Are you aware of the fact that just before World War II Russia is reported to have shipped a large quantity of lead pencils to Great Britain with the names

"Gog" and "Magog" imprinted on them?

In 1930 Russia issued a postage stamp showing four horsemen coming from the north, where Russia is located. A map depicts them as riding toward Palestine—to the State of Israel. The Russians little realized how precisely they were fulfilling Bible prophecy!

How will Russia invade Israel? Ezekiel 38:9 seems to give an indication of the attack: "Thou shalt ascend and come like a storm, thou shalt be like a cloud to cover the land, thou, and all thy bands, and many people with thee."

Most of you undoubtedly remember Hitler's infamous blitzkriegs in the beginning of World War II. He put his planes into the air in such numbers that they almost blacked out the sun. With great rapidity these planes, loaded with men and equipment, would swoop down upon a nation by surprise. Often within a matter of hours the nation would fall under the impact of a blitzkrieg.

The verse we have quoted seems to indicate something like that. Russia will come down with its mighty air force against Israel. In verses 15 and 16 of the same chapter we find a further description of the invasion: "And thou shalt come from thy place out of the

north parts [isn't that exactly where Russia is located geographically], thou, and many people with thee, all of them riding upon horses, a great company, and a mighty army: and thou shalt come up against my people Israel as a cloud to cover the land." Here we have a picture of Russia's cavalry. Military strategists recognize that there is some terrain on which a battle can best be waged with cavalry. Russia is known to be a believer in this type of warfare and to possess the largest cavalry force in the world!

The last part of verse 15 says there will be cavalry "and a mighty army." Recently I read a newspaper account which claimed that Russia is now able to field six million men almost immediately in the event of World War III. If she is able to put six million men into combat almost overnight, then certainly she possesses "a mighty army."

When will all this take place? Verse 16 identifies it as "in the latter days"—the closing days of this age. Even scientists and world leaders are saying that these are the "last days."

Also in verse 16 God says, "I will bring thee against my land." God is going to be the Instigator of this battle. Why? For a number of years, especially recently, Jewish people have been returning in great numbers to Israel. But they're not going back because they love Christ—it's because something deep within them is drawing them back to

their homeland. God is causing them to return. The pathetic thing is that they are going back in unbelief and atheism. Therefore, God will instigate this battle "that the heathen may know me, when I shall be sanctified in thee, O Gog, before their eyes." God will permit this battle to drive Israel to her knees, to cause her to get back to Him.

Someone might well raise the question: "Why would Russia want to attack the Holy Land?" I talked to Pastor Robert Carrington, Turlock, California, about his recent trip to Israel. He said that "just for natural reasons alone, Russia might be enticed to attack Israel because of the great oil pipeline from Iran to the port of Haifa. Russia must have oil. Now she has to go through the Suez Canal and around Arabia to get it—a 6,000-mile trip each way. But if she could just go down to Haifa and get her oil there through this great pipeline, she would have to travel only 600 or 700 miles." Certainly that would be a great enticement to Russia. And if the Suez Canal should be blown up during the present unrest, Russia might well try to force Israel to open that pipeline to them and let them take on oil at Haifa.

Yes, there are enticements in Israel for Russia. Verse 12 of this chapter indicates they will come to "take a spoil, and to take a prey." In verse 13 we read that they will come to "carry away silver and gold, to take away cattle and goods, to take a great spoil."

Great wealth is going into Israel. America and European nations are pouring millions of dollars into the infant state. Well-known Jews are raising millions more for developing their

# Israel and Armagedden

By Frank M. Boyd

Is the battle of Armageddon (Rev. 16:13-16; 19:11-21) the same as that described in Ezekiel 38 and 39?

This question is engaging the thinking of many Christians these days. A careful examination will reveal decided contrasts between the Old Testament and New Testament passages cited.

The battle of Armageddon is the final onslaught of *the armies of the nations* against Jerusalem (see Zech. 14:1-3; Joel 3:9-17) and the blasphemous effort of the Beast-king of the last days to overthrow Christ at the time of His revelation from heaven, when He comes to the rescue of Israel (Rev. 19:19; Zech. 14:3). This futile, unequal conflict eventuates in the defeat and eternal doom of "the beast," with his "false prophet," and the destruction of his armies, followed by the setting up of the millennial kingdom.

Ezekiel 38 and 39 describe the premillennial assault against Palestine of *a specific nation* from "the north parts" ("uttermost north," literally), with its satellites. This group of nations is generally believed to consist of Russia and her allies—Persia, Eastern Germany (Gomer), and other European nations now behind the Iron Curtain.

This conflict eventuates in the destruction of these hordes "upon the mountains of Israel." Israel will be seven months disposing of the bodies of their slain enemies.

This event is one phase of the series of events that mark the ending of the present age, for it brings about Israel's re-establishment as a prominent nation. That the "heathen" (*nations*, Hebrew "Goyim") are to have, in the destruction of "Gog," an object lesson of what it means to oppose God and His people and to incur His wrath—"Behold I am against thee" (Ezek. 38:3; 39:1)—is seen in Ezek. 39:21

History has already had such an object lesson in the supernatural destruction of the cruel, sadistic, haughty Assyrians, who were bent upon annihilating Judah. They had captured "all the defenced cities of Judah" and Jerusalem seemed right in their grasp, when "the angel of the Lord" slew 185,000 of them in one night. See Isaiah 37:35-38.

That a similar event could take place modernly as evidence to living nations that God is "against" the cruel, atheistic, blasphemous rulers of modern Russia is not difficult to comprehend.

land. Then, too, Israel has fabulous wealth within its borders—for instance, the chemical deposits in the Dead Sea which are estimated as being worth one-and-one-quarter trillion dollars! Chemicals are vital to nations in both peace and war. Last year Israel's first producing oil well came in; since then there have been others. Some are predicting that Israel may become one of the world's great oil and gas producers. *There is "great spoil" for the Russians in Israel.*

How will God intervene? How will God defeat Russia? Bible students believe that Ezekiel 38:13 refers to a western bloc nations. Tarshish is

known to be an ancient name for the British Isles. The "young lions thereof" (Britain's symbol is the lion) would therefore speak of England's "children"—Canada, the United States (once an English colony), and other English-speaking nations. These nations would withstand the invasion of Israel by Russia and come to Israel's aid.

In verse 22 we find exactly how God will defeat Russia. God says, "I will plead against him with pestilence." Germ warfare? It could be. God may permit the use of bacteriological warfare or He may send pestilence and plague without the aid of man.

(Continued on page twenty-two)



The Russians issued the above postage stamp in 1930, and shipped the pencils to England just before World War II. Bible students who understand Russia's place in prophecy considered both these items very significant.

The Lord knoweth how to  
deliver His people when His  
wrath is poured upon the wicked

## The General Superintendent Speaks



# GOD IS STILL ON THE THRONE

**V**ERSES FOUR TO NINE IN SECOND Peter, chapter two, can be outlined as follows:

### THE LORD KNOWETH HOW

- A. *To reserve the ungodly to be punished*
1. He spared not the angels that sinned
  2. He spared not the old world
  3. He condemned Sodom and Gomorrah with an overthrow
- B. *To deliver the godly out of temptation*
1. He saved Noah
  2. He delivered Lot

That "the Lord knoweth how" is doubly reassuring in these days of trouble. God gives us the definite statement to this effect in His Word, and He also gives us examples and proof of its truthfulness. "That by two immutable things, we might have a strong consolation" (Hebrews 6:18).

The Lord's power and authority extends to angels. There are certain angels so powerful and dangerous that the Lord has had them bound in chains. Four such angels are mentioned in Revelation 9:14-19. These four are to be loosed during the Tribulation and they will then kill "the third part of men," approximately 600,000,000 people. But even they are not too powerful for God to control and to punish. Praise God for His might, His almighty power. There is no respect of persons. Even the angels in heaven must be subject to His laws, or suffer the consequences.

A whole world rose up in rebellion against Him. "The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence" (Genesis 6:11). And He destroyed man whom He had

created from the face of the earth: both man and beast, and the creeping thing, and the fowls of the air. "He doeth according to His will in the army of heaven and among the inhabitants of the earth: and none can stay his hand, or say unto Him, What doest thou?" (Daniel 4:35). Simple rain was His weapon with which to destroy a world!

The sin of certain cities had become very grievous. The cry of Sodom and Gomorrah was very great. He sent angels to investigate and to destroy—"the Lord rained upon Sodom and Gomorrah brimstone and fire from the Lord out of heaven" (Genesis 19:24). This time it was fire from His presence. If He can destroy two cities with fire, He can destroy a world with fire. "The heavens and the earth which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire and the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men" (2 Peter 3:7). "The hour of his judgment is come; worship him that made heaven and earth and the sea and the fountains of waters" (Revelation 14:7). All the elements are His and are at His command, for blessing or for judgment.

"Hast thou entered into the treasures of the snow? or hast thou seen the treasures of the hail, which I have reserved against the time of trouble, against the day of battle and war?" (Job 38:22, 23). God used snow to turn back the armies of Napoleon in his thrust into Russia years ago. He used hail to destroy the armies of the allied kings who resisted Joshua (Joshua 10:11). He will use huge hailstones in the battle of Armageddon, as recorded in Revelation 16:14-21.

He also uses kings and nations to do His will. The Lord raised up the spirit of the kings of the Medes, and said, "Thou art my battle ax and weapons of war" (Jeremiah 51:11, 20). Of the king of Babylon He declared, "I shall put my sword into the hand of the king of Babylon, and he shall stretch it out upon the land of Egypt" (Ezekiel 30:25). Who knows but that His sword was also in the hand of Hitler, Mussolini and Stalin, terrible though the thought may be? "Surely the wrath of man shall praise thee: the remainder of wrath shalt thou restrain" (Psalm 77:10).

And today? The wrath of man seems to be unleashed. Who can tell in which direction and to what extent it will be vented! There is One who knows and who controls. Of Him it is written, "When thy judgments are in the earth, the inhabitants of the world will learn righteousness" (Isaiah 26:9). "I will overturn, overturn, overturn it, . . . until He come whose right it is, and I will give it Him" (Ezekiel 21:27). There is no need for the Christian to fear. God is on His throne and He will dispense judgment. Remember—*the Lord knoweth how.*

Of particular and personal interest to the Christian is the fact that the Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptation. The word "temptation" in this instance, as shown clearly by the context, is "trial" or "tribulation" or "judgment." It was a time of universal judgment when the world was punished for its sin, and Noah was spared. It was a time of judgment and destruction for Sodom and Gomorrah, when Lot was delivered. On a certain day "were all the fountains of the great deep

broken up, and the windows of heaven were opened." "In the *selfsame* day entered Noah . . . into the ark" (Genesis 7:11-13). The Lord said, "Haste thee, escape thither: for I *cannot do anything* till thou be come thither."

It is true that all who will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution. It is also true that there have been thousands of Christian martyrs throughout the ages who have not been delivered in the time of suffering and death. These times of personal persecution and testing for the Christians have borne testimony to all the world of the wonderful keeping power of the Christ which extends down to and even through death for Him. But a time of universal punishment of the wicked is something altogether different. Christians do not belong there, for they are not among the wicked. The punishment being meted out to the wicked is not deserved by Christians. Christians are not going to hell, for they do not belong there. Christians are not going to be punished on earth along with the wicked. God in times past has taken them out miraculously, and spared them completely, and we can expect Him to do it again. In the land of Goshen, the Israelites were safe while the Lord was punishing the Egyptians.

"Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man" (Luke 21:36). "For God hath not appointed us to wrath but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Thess. 5:9). And how? *The Lord knoweth how.* Not by a wooden ark to float above the waters. Not by angels to lead us to a cave in the mountains. That was how He delivered Noah and Lot, but the Lord has another method of delivering us. For it is written, "The Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first. Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air; and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words" (1 Thess. 4:16-18). Oh, thank God, He knoweth how!

# Christian Conduct in View of Christ's Coming

BY J. BASHFORD BISHOP

**I**N THE CONCLUDING VERSES OF THE fourth chapter of First Thessalonians we find the great doctrinal facts of the coming of the Lord. Very logically, the apostolic writer follows with practical exhortations as to the Christian's conduct in view of these facts, as recorded in the fifth chapter.

The apostle bids us watch for Christ's coming. "But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you," he says. Any guesses as to the time of Jesus' coming are both uncertain and unnecessary. The date of His coming is not so important, but readiness for His coming is vitally important. Therefore, we are to—

## WATCH EXPECTANTLY

"The day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night." A thief gives no warning of his approach. He carefully conceals his designs, and his mischief is discovered too late. Likewise, the coming of Jesus will take the world by surprise, and for those who are caught unprepared the aftermath will be terrible—"sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape."

"But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief" (verse 4). The darkness of which the apostle Paul speaks here is twofold: the darkness of sin and the darkness of ignorance concerning the truth of the Lord's coming. He says, "Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness." Therefore, he bids us to

## KEEP AWAKE

"Let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober" (verse 6).

Being ready for the coming of Jesus requires constant wakefulness, unending vigilance. There are many questions concerning which men say, "I would like to sleep over it." But *this* question is not one to sleep over! A motorist was driving down the Pacific coast at three o'clock in the morning. When he was about thirty miles north of Los Angeles he passed a young man afoot. He stopped and said, "May I give you a lift?" The young man replied, "No, thank you." But the man said, "Why, it's more than thirty miles to Los Angeles. It will take you hours to walk it. You are welcome to a seat in my car." But the young fellow thanked the motorist again, and answered, "I have a reason for walking. I am training myself to keep awake. I have an experience ahead of me that will require many hours of staying awake. It will test me to the limit, and I have to practice for it."

By this time the motorist was keenly interested and he asked, "What is your name?" The young man replied, "My name is Charles Lindbergh." A few days later the motorist learned that Lindbergh was training himself for a transatlantic flight, the flight that made him famous. There were many hours and a journey of thousands of miles during which he dared not sleep for a moment. Christian friends, a great flight awaits us. It is essential that we fight off all lethargy and keep wide awake, ready for the takeoff!

## BE COURAGEOUS

"Let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of

(Continued on next page)

# Keep Your Eyes on PALESTINE...

BY DALLAS M. TARKENTON

salvation" (verse 8). Here Paul uses the language of war, and wisely so! The Christian life is a warfare. Satan, our adversary, seeks our lives to destroy them. The breastplate and helmet protect two vital parts of the body, the heart and the head. If we keep our heads from error and our hearts from sin, we shall be safe. The best guard against both these dangers are the three cardinal virtues—faith, hope, and love.

We can take courage in the promise that "God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ" (verse 9). The saint does not waste his time dreading the Great Tribulation. Instead, he looks forward expectantly to the Rapture by which Christ will save us from divine wrath.

## REJOICE EVERMORE

In view of the blessed hope that is ours, we are bidden to comfort one another and edify one another (verse 11). Then the apostle gives us several short exhortations which are of tremendous scope. One of these is verse 16: "Rejoice evermore." As one writer says, "The one man in the world who has the best right to be happy, even under the most adverse circumstances, is the Christian." In fact, there is no circumstance of life under which he is justified in losing his joy—"for all things work together for good to them that love God." The Lord loves us. His way is perfect. Anyone who believes this will always rejoice!

## PRAY WITHOUT CEASING

When verse 17 says, "Pray without ceasing," does it mean we must live on our knees? Not at all. Prayer is not a matter of one's posture. It is an attitude of one's heart. Martin Luther's salutation when meeting his friends was, "Do I meet you praying?"

Regardless of how we are occupied with earthly tasks, our hearts may be *preoccupied* with our Lord. As we are thus engaged, we shall *always* be ready for His return, and we shall find it easy to fulfill all of the remaining exhortations of the chapter: "In every thing give thanks. . . . Quench not the Spirit. Despise not prophesyings. Prove all things; hold fast that which is good. Abstain from all appearance of evil."

*"I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ."*

WITH EAGER EYES STATESMEN, MILITARY men, Bible students, and the general public have their sights beamed on Palestine. And, it is well that they do.

Even before the recent drive into the Sinai peninsula, Dr. John A. Huffman wrote: "A war of far greater significance than World War number 1, World War number 2, or the Battle of the Pacific . . . is still in progress in Palestine."

The armed truce between the Arabs and the Jews has continued to flare into violent skirmishes, bringing death and destruction, until the present crisis. The riddle of the Middle East remains unsolved.

Palestine is a strategic country geographically. It is the bridge from the East to the West. It borders the richest oil reservoir in the world. It lies at the point of intersection of three continents—Europe, Asia, and Africa.

So, it might be well to keep your eyes on Palestine. In view of this need, we have undertaken some research on this subject and we would like to share the information with you.

## HISTORY

Historic Palestine runs roughly 160 miles north and south, extends 23 miles wide in the north, and broadens to an 80-mile width in the south, giving it an area of about 9,000 square miles (excluding Transjordan). It stretches through about two degrees of latitude.

The little country lies strategically between the Mediterranean Sea and Arabia. It connects historic Egypt on the southwest, and Syria and Iraq on the north, and Iran (Persia) on the east. The history of Palestine reads like a romance—reaching to the summits of success and diving to the depths of heart-breaking defeat. It dates back to the beginning of time—to Adam and Abram. The saga of patriarchal times dips to the days of famine and the migration to Egypt of Jacob's sons. Then follows closely the subsequent

story of the Egyptian slavery of the Hebrews for several generations.

But the Exodus, followed by the 38-year wanderings in the Sinaitic Peninsula, led to the reconquest of the promised land under the leadership of Joshua.

Following a period of chaos lasting about 400 years, this land became world-famous under the consolidated reign of King David and the expansive rule of King Solomon about 1000 B.C. This was the golden era of the Hebrew nation.

After Solomon's time the kingdom divided. The Northern Division (Israel), after having nineteen kings and nine dynasties, was destroyed in 721 B.C. by the Assyrians. The northern tribes were dispersed and never known afterward as a nation.

The Southern Kingdom (Judah), after being ruled by nineteen kings and one dynasty, was conquered in 586 B.C. by Babylon. This kingdom was re-established after a 70-year captivity. Under the Persians a Jewish community was restored in Jerusalem by Zerubabel, Ezra, and Nehemiah.

The world-conquering hunger of Alexander the Great led him to Palestine in the fourth century B.C. A sub-



Rejoicing in the streets of Israel on Independence Day (State of Israel Photo)





Young Israelis celebrate their national independence (State of Israel Photo)

sequent effort was made by the Greek to impose Hellenism; but under the leadership of the Maccabees the Jews revolted and in 141 B.C. a new Jewish state was established that ruled Palestine for seventy years.

### HOLY LAND

At the time of Christ, Palestine was under the rule of the Herods—puppet kings of Rome. Again, in A.D. 66 the Jews sought to break the iron yoke of Rome, but the revolt ended in an awful siege. Titus, the Roman general, destroyed the temple in A.D. 70 and drove the Jews from Judea. This brought an end to the stubborn resistance of the Jews who had withstood the battering siege of Titus' Roman legions for five months.

These hard-pressed people fought back in another revolt in A.D. 132, but it, too, was brutally suppressed.

Following the scorched-earth policy of Titus in Jerusalem, Palestine languished under the control of the Moslems until the ninth century A.D.—the Fatimite rulers of Egypt who had destroyed the Church of the Holy Sepulchre and thus brought on the Crusades. In 1516 the Ottoman Turks conquered the country, and further decay set in. European Jewish colonization began in 1870.

In 1917 the Balfour Declaration marked Palestine for a Jewish national

home. For thirty years strife raged between the Jews and Arabs. The British Civil Administration was established under the League of Nations mandate.

In 1936-37 a British Royal Commission proposed partition of Palestine into Jewish and Arab territories, but the proposal was never carried out. The British issued a White Paper in 1937 announcing their intention to create a predominantly Arab independent Palestine, and limiting Jewish immigration to 1,500 persons per month, but cutting it off entirely by 1944.

The end of World War II brought Jewish demands for greater immigration. This the British refused. That action led to a swollen stream of illegal Jewish immigrants, as well as strife and bloodshed between the British troops and the Haganah (Jewish Defense Army). This little war produced an Anglo-American Commission of Inquiry (1946-1947), and that led to the recommendation by the United Nations General Assembly (November 29, 1947) that independent Jewish and Arab states be established in Palestine.

On May 14, 1948, the British authorities withdrew and immediately the State of Israel was proclaimed.

This new nation was bounded on the southwest by the Sinai Peninsula of Egypt and the Egyptian-held Gaza strip, on the east by Jordan, on the northeast by Syria, and on the north by Lebanon. Israel touches the Gulf of Aqaba of the Red Sea at Elath. It has an area of about 8,050 square miles and a population of 1,607,000. Jerusalem is the capital, but Tel Aviv is the largest city. Jaffa and Haifa are also principal cities. The country has a coastline of about 115 miles along the Mediterranean Sea.

Thus it can be seen that what is now Israel is an area running along the coast of the Mediterranean for over 100 miles, and it pushes inland to the hill country.

Jordan (officially known as the Hashemite Kingdom of the Jordan) was formerly known as Trans-Jordan or Transjordan. It lies astride the Jordan River and includes most of the highlands of Samaria and Judea, with the Old City section of Jerusalem.

What was Trans-Jordan (literally, "land beyond Jordan") occupies the Biblical land of Gilead, Edom, Moab, and Ammon. It has an area of 37,291 square miles and a population of

1,372,000. The capital is at Ammon.

*Kibbutz Galuyat* is a phrase of Biblical prophecy meaning "the ingathering of the exiles." And indeed there is an ingathering of the exiles. The Jews have been returning to Palestine in huge numbers. It is a fantastic trek that has carried nearly a million Jews fleeing the Nazi gas chambers and hate furnaces of unbridled persecutions elsewhere into war-riddled Palestine.

But Palestine is their home. Prophecy declares they will return to it. Once again it is bloody persecution that drove the Jews out of Europe only to meet a blood-drenched reception on the eastern shores of the Mediterranean. But they are still returning to Palestine. And they will continue to go.

In July 1948 the Jews and Arabs finally agreed to a United Nations-proposed ceasefire. In 1949 Egypt signed an armistice treaty. In 1952 Syria signed an agreement. In 1953 the Lebanese signed an agreement. In 1953 Egypt signed a pact for peaceful relations.

Yet, despite all these armistices, agreements, and pacts, there have been repeated outbreaks of violence in and around Palestine. Palestine is an armed camp. It is a land of barbed wire, tension, excitement, hate, and war-fever.

At the same time, Palestine is a land where reconstruction goes on. Science teams are coming up with amazing discoveries at the Dead Sea area; agriculture is making strides with the modern means of farming; fruit groves are beginning to make their appearance; modern irrigation is turning barren waste lands into fruitful and productive areas; beautiful and modern cities, like Tel Aviv, are beginning to rise; oil, which means fabulous wealth, has been discovered in Israel's desert.

Students of ancient history said of Palestine, "Due to its strategic location on the coastal route between Egypt, Mesopotamia, and Persia, Palestine was the sought-after prize of whichever empire was ascendent in the Eastern Mediterranean."

Because of the strategic position of this little country in modern times, because of its internal conditions, and because of prophecy, *keep your eyes on Palestine*. World-shaking events are taking place there now, and will continue to occur.

—*The Pentecostal Holiness Advocate*



# THIS PRESENT WORLD

## Missionary Memorized Entire Bible in Prison

The United Press reported that an Illinois woman memorized the entire Bible while she was held captive in Red China. Miss Dorothy Middleton says she memorized the whole Bible during her four and one-half years in a Communist prison.

In so doing she found great peace, for the Bible promises, "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee."

## Oldest Living Things

Pine trees more than 4,000 years old have been found growing in the upper timber line of the mountains in eastern California. Their great age, determined by their tree rings, makes them the oldest known living things, about 900 years older than the giant sequoias of California. Their age would indicate they were growing on earth in the time of Abraham and Isaac!

## If the Earth's Axis Were Tilted 16 Degrees . . .

The recent Presidential campaign, with its charges and counter-charges, brought from one candidate the statement that "a concussion of H-bombs is . . . sufficient to blow the earth off its axis 16 degrees which would affect the seasons."



While scientists hastened to refute the statement that such a thing could happen because of H-bomb tests, they nevertheless were in strong agreement with the last part of the statement: a shift in the axis of the earth would definitely change the seasons.

*Newsweek* magazine, in its science pages, said, "If the earth's axis were tilted 16 degrees toward the vertical (from its God given inclination of  $23\frac{1}{2}$  degrees), the seasons as man knows them would disappear. The days and nights would always be about twelve hours long. Weather and climate would become interchangeable with an eternal vapid spring."

On the other hand, the magazine continued, "If the earth's axis were tilted 16 degrees in the other direction, lining up the poles more directly with the sun, the seasons would change far more violently than they do today. Winters would be far colder, summers far hotter, far brighter. Daily weather would probably be continuously catastrophic."

So say the scientists. Could it not be that the Edenic conditions which the Bible leads us to believe will exist during the millennium, will be brought about by God moving the earth's axis back toward the vertical?

## Liquor Expenditures Up One Billion Dollars

The Department of Commerce reports that over nine billion dollars was spent on liquor in 1955, a billion more than in 1954.

## 200,000 Teen-Age Alcoholics in France

An official report from France declares that more than 200,000 teen-agers in that country are being treated in government hospitals for alcoholism, according to *Gospel Minister*.

## Americans Drink One-Third of World's Beer

According to latest reports, Americans consumed approximately one-third of the world's total beer consumption last year—a total of 2,167,000,000 gallons.

## Ministers Serving on Liquor Board

The Bigbee, Alabama, Baptist Association says two clergymen employed by the Alabama Alcoholic Beverage Control Board will have to resign or else quit the ministry. The two are employed in temperance training work, as provided by the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board Law, but the Baptist Association feels that the association of clergymen with liquor drinking gives it an undeserved respectability.

## Moslems Send Missionaries to Scandinavia

One of the numerous missionary sects of Islam is reported to have initiated a missions venture in Sweden that is aimed at winning converts in all the Northern Countries (i.e., Sweden, Denmark, Norway, and Finland).

## Unsaved Members in the Church

Speaking to some 200 Presbyterian ministers in St. Paul, Minnesota, Dr. Walter Barlow said, "For too long we have diluted the Christian witness by permitting people to come into our churches with the feeling that they only have to be decent people and do not have to believe anything."

Church membership does not change a sinner into a Christian—only God's Spirit and Christ's Blood can do that!

## ASSEMBLIES OF GOD SUNDAY SCHOOLS CONTINUE TO INCREASE

Sunday School attendance and enrollment figures from every district of the Assemblies of God in the United States were totaled on Sunday afternoon, October 28, to make possible a nationwide Sunday School attendance report over "Revival-time" that night.

The attendance for the day was 634,814, with an enrollment of 807,164 pupils.

The report was compiled through a relay system of phone calls which climaxed with each district director calling the National Office to report his total. The first district call reached Springfield at 1:44 p.m. from South Carolina. When the last call was made at 6:20 p.m., all districts had reported.

Assemblies of God Sunday Schools are beginning the second year of their Five-Year Plan of Sunday School Advance. A part of the plan is to have a million enrolled in Sunday School by 1960.

## Younger Protestant Groups Lead Anti-Liquor Fight

Some 100 Methodist leaders from a 12-state area were told that the "relatively young" Protestant denominations are leading the fight against alcoholic beverages. Dr. Caradine R. Hooton, general secretary of the Methodist Board of Temperance, made the statement at the opening session of a four-day School of Alcoholic Studies in Buck Hill Falls, Pennsylvania. "One cannot escape the fact that denominations whose philosophies have been formulated within the last 300 or 400 years are unanimously of the conviction that total abstinence is the wiser and more nearly Christian way for moderns," Dr. Hooton said.

## North Carolina Churches Launch Anti-Liquor Drive

Churches in North Carolina have launched a campaign to prohibit the manufacture and sale of alcoholic beverages in that state. Their goal is to obtain one million signatures by December 1 on petitions asking the state legislature to call a state-wide referendum on prohibition.

R. M. Hauss, executive director of the Allied Church League, which is sponsoring the drive, said most major denominations in the state are participating in the effort. He said that such a drive has never been tried before on a state-wide level. Previously there have been only local petitions. This time, Mr. Hauss says, they plan to ring doorbells in every county of North Carolina in order to get the needed signatures and convince the state legislature that a referendum should be held. He added that churches are also using commitment cards pledging personal abstinence from alcoholic beverages.

## Study Jet Streams for Air Travel

Since the discovery of "jet streams" by high altitude bombers during World War II, scientists have studied them for their effect upon the weather. Now the U.S. Air Force is also making systematic studies of the jet streams for the purpose of utilizing them for high-level flight.

Jet streams are concentrated wind currents located between 20,00 and 30,000 feet above ground level with an air speed of from 150 to more than 200 miles per hour. Tests show that an aircraft traveling the jet stream at the rate of 280 miles per hour could maintain an actual ground speed of 350 miles an hour. Travel by jet stream, of course, will represent quite a savings in both time and fuel.

The first jet stream discovered flowed from west to east. Later jet fighters found another strong wind current flowing from east to west. Scientists have found that these winds play a direct role in determining the earth's weather. Because they change the pattern of air movements, these jet streams are responsible for droughts or rain, fair weather or storms and cyclones.

G. R. Beirnes, writing in *The Midnight Cry*, says that someday, in harmony with the Bible, men will discover a jet stream flowing from the north and another from the south. These, he says, are the four winds of heaven which control the weather, controlled by four angels who withhold or cause the winds to blow upon the earth at the command of the Lord (Rev. 7:1-3).

When the great trumpet is blown for the gathering of Israel (Isa. 27:13), it may be that they will be transported to Jerusalem on the wings of these four winds as recorded in Matthew 24:31. Since men are even now riding the jet streams, it certainly does not seem incredible that the children of Israel should be literally gathered out of the four winds of heaven.

1956 SPEED THE LIGHT TOUR		
GOAL <del>\$5,000</del> \$38,098.91		
SECTION & CHURCH		
WESTERN		6,349.50
JAMESTOWN	200.00	602.00
BUFFALO-RIVERSIDE	300.00	1,400.00
NIAGARA FALLS	100.00	3,747.50
BATAVA	100.00	600.00
WEST CENTRAL		2,456.25
ROCHESTER-G.TIDINGS	300.00	12,648.85
ALTON	200.00	691.44
MORNEILL	200.00	500.00
NORTH CENTRAL		3,444.00
SYRACUSE	200.00	1,036.00
UTICA	50.00	1,008.00
WATERTOWN	200.00	1,900.00
SOUTH CENTRAL		4,875.50
JHACA	200.00	1,206.35
ONEONTA	125.00	808.00
BINGHAMTON	100.00	81.83
EASTERN		2,538.00
GLENS FALLS	150.00	2,017.00
ALBANY	125.00	519.00
SOUTHERN		3,264.25
POUGHKEEPSIE	200.00	1,764.25
NEW ROCHELLE	150.00	1,505.00
SOUTH EASTERN		4,664.30
BETHPAGE	300.00	2,124.00
FLUSHING	150.00	2,540.30
NEW YORK CITY-G.TIDINGS	200.00	6,044.64
JAMAICA	100.00	1,679.26

BREAKING ALL RECORDS!—Kenneth Short (right), National Field Representative for Speed-the-Light, recently toured the New York District of the Assemblies of God with the District C. A. President, Leon Miles (left). A goal of \$5,000 had been set for Speed-the-Light. This was a step of faith since it was far more than had ever been received in New York previously in a similar tour. But the Spirit of God moved upon the hearts of His people night after night in the rallies until at the end of the tour a total of \$38,098.91 had been given in cash and 60-day pledges! This is the greatest tour Brother Short has had since he began his ministry with the National C. A. Office more than a year ago. It indicates that Assemblies of God young people are more and more aware of the lateness of the hour and the urgency of speeding the gospel to those that are still in the darkness of sin.

## Legion Plans Billboards to Promote Religion

Residents of and visitors to Tennessee will soon be seeing along that state's highways billboards which will emphasize the value of religion in life. The Outdoor Advertising Association has agreed to furnish the space for 150 to 200 billboards; the Tennessee American Legion will furnish the signs.

## Layman Promotes Religious Sign Project

Signs—thousands of them along the highways in many sections of the country—offer ample evidence that J. N. Golding of Miami, Florida, does not spend the years of his retirement in idleness, according to *The United Brethren* magazine. The 63-year old former banana dealer has made or paid for and erected more than 10,000 gospel signs in the past 15 years.

With such messages as "Jesus Saves," the signs are displayed in church yards, on fences, trees, or along roads.

Mr. Golding says that he has been an active Christian for 50 years, but it was in 1941, after recovering from a serious illness, that he re-dedicated his life to the Lord and began erecting his religious messages.

Mr. Golding doesn't take any money for the signs he erects, but finances his business by dealing in real estate and mortgages.

## Pentecostal Group Urges Its Ministers to Shun TV

The United Pentecostal Church struck a blow at the quality of television programs, by urging its ministers not to have sets in their homes. The recommendation was approved by a majority of some 2,500 delegates attending the denomination's annual general conference at Memphis, Tennessee. The Church has its headquarters in St. Louis.

## The Light of Bible Prophecy Falls on

# The Suez Situation

BY EVANGELIST INEZ STURGEON, BERLIN, GERMANY

**E**GYPT'S COLONEL GAMAL ABDUL Nasser more than rocked the world when he seized the Suez Canal. It was the stiffest jolt in many a day. The eyes of all governments are painfully and apprehensively focused upon this man and the tiny ribbon of water which winds its way through the sands of the Egyptian desert.

This "man-made ditch," as it is termed, is the lifeline of the oil-hungry economies of practically all the nations that make up our modern civilization.

Great Britain and France consider the Suez so vital they were willing to risk the possibility of another world war to keep it open.

This situation and the circumstances surrounding it is of utmost interest to those who know Biblical prophecy. Situated in the Near East in close proximity to Israel, which is God's vortex of "last day" developments, the Canal lies in the area where the decisive economic and military action of the "end time" will center. Also, the main actors in this drama for supremacy and control are from nations which, according to the Bible, will engage in the great final battle of this age.

It is significant that the division of the world powers in their alliances in this matter is almost a perfect parallel to the line-up of the nations as described in Ezekiel, chapter 38.

Of tremendous interest to Bible students were the remarks of Mr. Lennox-Boyd, Colonial Secretary of Great Britain, in a radio broadcast on September 22. According to the report in the London *Daily Telegraph*, Mr. Lennox-Boyd posed the possibility of a "defense" move (let us keep that word in mind)

*The author, Mrs. F. A. Sturgeon, has been ministering in Europe since the first of May. She and her husband recently conducted meetings in Berlin for six weeks.*

which we know will be made soon or later because of the minutely descriptive prophecy of Isaiah, chapter 19. In the light of this prophecy, let me quote from the Secretary's remarks:

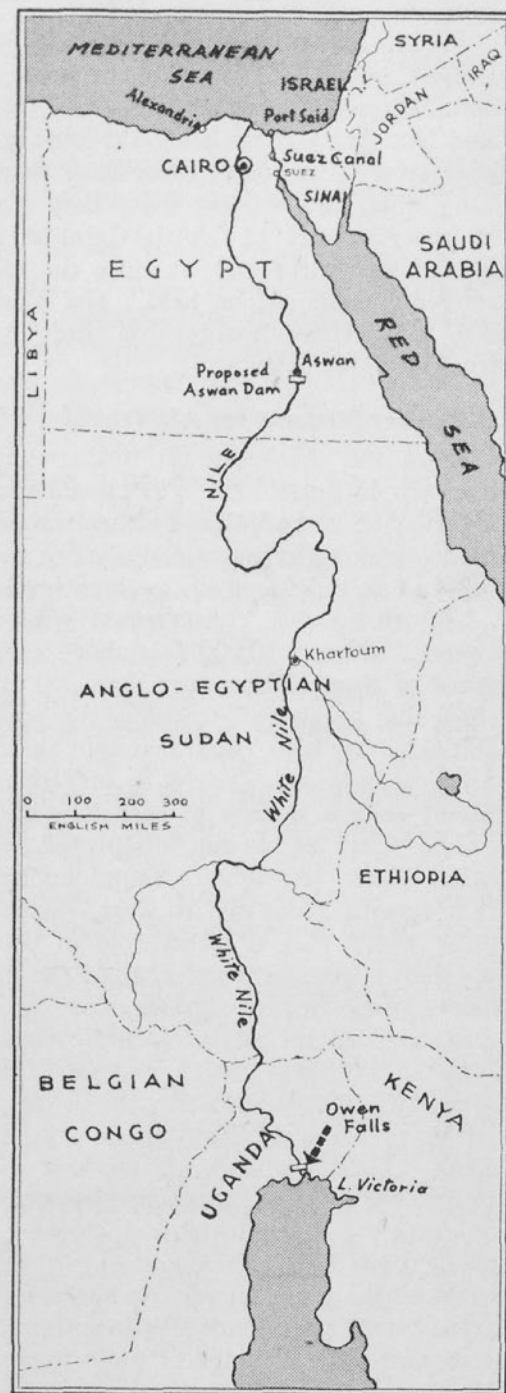
"A reminder to Colonel Nasser that the White Nile, source of much of Egypt's water supplies (particularly the Nile River, without which Egypt would be a sterile desert) is in British-protected territory. . . .

"Egyptian engineers, stationed by agreement at the British dam in Uganda, could within certain limits control the volume of water reaching Egypt through the Owen Falls dam. *What would happen to Nasser's vital interests if we were to tear up this agreement on the grounds that it infringed on our sovereignty?*

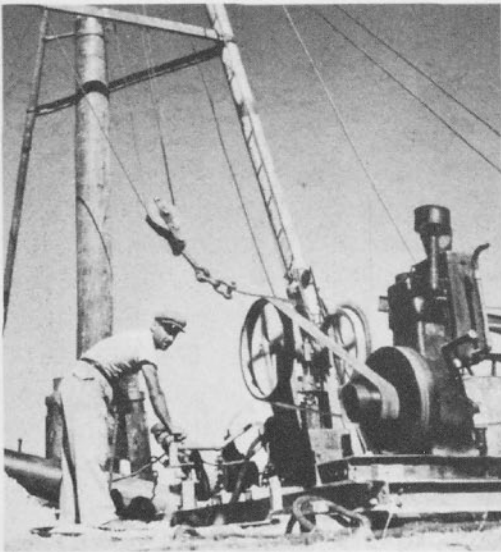
"By the 1929 Nile Waters agreement between Britain and Egypt, Egyptian officials were given the right to cooperate in measuring the distribution of Nile water and its regulation by dam.

"Britain could cut off or diminish the flow of the Nile at the Owen Falls dam at the outflow from Lake Victoria. This was demonstrated in 1954 when the sluice gates were closed and, for a short time, the White Nile ceased to flow. The Queen, inaugurating the Owen Falls hydro-electric scheme, then opened the gates and the Nile resumed its flow toward Cairo and the sea."

It would almost seem that Mr. Lennox-Boyd were quoting from God's Word, which says: "Behold, the Lord . . . shall come into Egypt . . . and the waters shall fail from the sea, and the river (the Nile) shall be wasted and dried up. And they shall TURN THE RIVERS FAR AWAY, and the brooks of DEFENSE shall be emptied and dried up: the reeds and flags shall wither . . . and everything that is sown by the brooks shall wither, be driven



This map of the Nile Valley shows how the flow of water might be cut off in fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecy.



Pumping water in the Negev to irrigate Israel's desert (Three Lions Photo)

away, and be no more . . . they that cast angle into the brooks shall lament. . . . Moreover they that work in fine flax, and they that weave networks, shall be confounded" (Isaiah 19).

So this is still another sign of the momentous days in which we are privileged to live and to serve the Lord.

Surely Jesus is coming soon. Shortly the cry will be heard, "Behold, the Bridegroom cometh." Let us prepare our hearts to go out to meet Him.

WATCHING?

A handful of Christians had been discussing world problems, unmindful of the presence of their little children. The talk ended with the common remark, "Well, the only hope is in the coming of the Lord."

Shortly afterward, one of the children of the man who made the remark came to him and said excitedly, "I think I hear someone coming on the porch. Do you suppose it is Jesus?"

Oh, for as real an expectation in the hearts of Christians! The child did not know that the Lord will first come in the air to gather His Church to Himself, but she did have in her heart the hope of His imminent and physical return. Are we truly watching, hoping for His return at any moment?

—Selected

# Sunday Schools to Greet 1957 With Workers Training Course

The training of workers is one of the greatest responsibilities of a growing Sunday School. Because it is among the things of first importance in the Sunday School, it has been placed at the beginning of the new year's plans. January is designated as Training Month in Assemblies of God Sunday Schools. All over the nation, Sunday School teachers and officers will prepare themselves for the year ahead by engaging in a time of intensive training.

To help the Sunday Schools in their course of study, a Training Month book selection is made each year. The text for 1957 is "The Spirit Himself," written by Ralph M. Riggs. An instructor's guide and visual aid are also prepared to complement the text. Some churches have five nights of study with two hours of class session each night. Others have ten nights of study with one hour each evening. The Instructor's Guide for this year's book divides the study into ten separate sections.

"The Spirit Himself" presents a study of the personality, office, and ministry of the Holy Spirit. Other books by the author, Ralph M. Riggs, General Superintendent of the Assemblies of God, are, **A Successful Pastor, A Successful Sunday**

**School, The Path of Prophecy, We Believe, and Bible Backbone.**

This year's book is designed to be taught in a general session where the entire group gathers in the main auditorium and one instructor teaches. Many Schools conduct the January course on an area-wide or city-wide basis, where a number of churches join together for the study.

Workers' Training Certificates are awarded to all who complete the course satisfactorily by reading the book and attending not less than 4½ hours of classes.

A Training Month Handbook has been mailed to all churches. Enclosed in the handbook is a convenient order blank for early ordering of Training Month materials.

There is a reason for putting Workers' Training among the first things in Sunday School planning. Reports from training courses all over the nation tell not only of increased efficiency on the part of the teaching staff, but also of persons being saved, filled with the Spirit, rededicated to Christ as direct results of the courses. The motto for Training Month, "Every Christian a Worker and Every Worker Trained," is one which every church in the constituency ought to adopt.

# RUSH...

CHRISTMAS IS JUST AHEAD... and there are only two weeks left for you to send in your gift subscriptions to "The Pentecostal Evangel" at the reduced Christmas rate. **Rush** your order to us right away! (You may include your own renewal or subscription at these Christmas rates. On renewals, your subscription will be extended for one year from its present expiration date.)

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(SEND ADDITIONAL NAMES AND ADDRESSES ON AN ATTACHED SHEET.)

# SUNDAY'S LESSON



## THE MARK OF BIBLE STUDY

*Sunday School Lesson for December 9, 1956*

ACTS 17:2-6, 10-12

Jesus said, "He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me." And in order to have His commandments in our hearts and live out Christ's words, we must read, study, and assimilate the contents of the Bible. Bible study is indeed a distinguishing mark of the normal, healthy, Christian life.

### THE WORD DECLARED (Acts 17:1-3)

*Paul's policy.* He did not stay in Amphipolis or Apollonia, but merely "passed through." There was nothing haphazard in Paul's movements. He was definitely led by the Spirit. His policy seems to have been to settle in large cities, which were strategic points, and to work out from them. Many visitors passed through Thessalonica. Some doubtless heard the gospel and took it back with them to their respective localities. We, too, do well to keep open to the Spirit for His guidance as to where we shall go with the gospel, and to employ Pauline methods.

*Paul's preaching.* Burdened as always for his countrymen Paul sought out the synagogue in order that the gospel might be "to the Jews first." To them, Paul set forth the truth that Jesus of Nazareth was indeed the Son of God, the Christ, the Messiah of the Jews; that His death was necessary in order to atone for man's sin; that God had raised Him from the dead; and that He was alive forevermore. Again, we do well to follow Paul's example. Let us be sure that our preaching and witnessing to others is truly Christ-centered and that it contains in *simplicity* those truths essential to salvation!

### THE WORD REJECTED (Acts 17:4-9)

Paul's preaching won far more converts among the Gentiles than among his own people. Observe:

*The reason for rejection.* "The Jews which believed not, moved with envy. . . ." Unbelief and rejection of God's Word is never the result of pure and honest motives. The rejectors were not moved by a sincere love for right and truth. They were jealous that the preaching of a crucified Messiah should win more converts in a few weeks than they had won in years by preaching Moses. They were furious at losing the respect and reverence, as well as the financial support, of the "chief women" who were saved in Paul's revival!

*The character of the rejectors.* The leaders of the opposition chose as their helpers "certain lewd fellows of the baser sort." These men were the "lowest dregs of the Thessalonian populace." When the character of those who reject God's Word is compared to that of those who love God's Word, one cannot but conclude that the Bible is what it claims to be—the inspired Word of God!

*The testimony of the rejectors:* "These that have turned

the world upside down are come hither also." What a tribute to the power of the gospel from those who despised it! What these men meant was that Paul and his party were stirring men spiritually. Things happened. Men either were saved and healed or they were moved by conviction to persecute and oppose. These evangelists were moving things. So it will be with us, in the measure to which we are filled with the Spirit. Men will either be moved to salvation or be moved to opposition. Let us not be content with indifference on the part of our hearers! The gospel preached in the power of the Spirit will change lives, homes, communities, nations!

### THE WORD BELIEVED (Acts 17:10-12)

The Berean Jews on the whole were of a different type from those of Thessalonica. "They received the word with all readiness of mind." That is, they were unprejudiced, open-minded, teachable. Such an attitude is a blessed one and prerequisite to receiving things from God!

"And searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so." How wise they were in Berea! They were open-minded, but not gullible; unprejudiced, but careful to check the preaching by the Word. How that needs to be done today! All so-called "new light" is not Scriptural. Some of it Paul branded as "doctrines of devils," the work of "seducing spirits." God has exalted His Word above His very name. By the Word we are saved, sanctified, guided, taught, nourished, encouraged, uplifted. By the Word we grow spiritually and overcome the evil one. By the Word we judge all preaching, all prophesying, all experience. Let us search it daily, for we cannot live without it!

—J. Bashford Bishop

### WHERE REVIVAL BEGINS



False prophets have deceived the Church in regard to Christ's second coming, but this fact should not make us doubt our Lord's true word.

# Why We Believe in the Second Advent

BY ROBERT B. LARTER

ONE OF THE MANY THINGS TO BE regretted in certain sections of the Church today is her indifference to the Second Advent of Jesus Christ. If these are the "last days," and we believe they are, surely the importance of the Second Coming of Christ cannot be over-emphasized.

There are three strong reasons why we believe that Jesus is coming again.

## 1. IT IS PREDICTED BY CHRIST HIMSELF

It is impossible for us to read the New Testament without observing what our Lord has to say about His return.

In His parabolic and plain teaching there is a great deal said about His future coming. His parables about "The Lord and his Servant" "The Bridegroom and the Virgins," "The Lord and the Talents," "The Master of the House," "The Nobleman and the Pounds," "The Good Samaritan," all teach us that the Lord is coming again.

But in addition to these parables we have His plain teaching. We may note a few examples: "Your Lord will come." "The Son of man shall come." "When He cometh in the glory of His Father." "They shall see the Son of man coming." "I go to prepare a place for you. 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."

In view of this high authority that we have for the Second Advent it is almost incredible that there are sections in the Church which are indifferent to this important doctrine.

## 2. IT IS TAUGHT BY THE APOSTLES

The Apostles are no less clear and emphatic than the Lord, in their teaching of the Second Advent. We may take a few examples.

We may start with Paul's first Epistle to the Thessalonians which has been termed, "The Book of the Second Coming."

In chapter 1 the Thessalonians are

said to have "turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, and to wait for His Son from heaven."

In chapter 2, at the end, we have the words, "For what is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Are not even ye in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at his coming?"

Chapter 3 concludes with, "To the end He may stablish your hearts unblameable in holiness before God, even our Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all His saints."

In chapter 4 we have a full statement of the Second Advent. Paul declares that "we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent [precede] them which are asleep. For the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord."

In the last chapter Paul says: "And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ."

The writer to the Hebrews says that "Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for Him shall He appear the second time without sin unto salvation."

In the Epistle of James we read, "Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh."

John, in his first Epistle, says, "And now, little children, abide in Him; that, when He shall appear, we may have confidence, and not be ashamed before Him at His coming."

Commenting on the word "coming," Dr. Plummer says: "In the New Testament it is almost a technical term to ex-

press Christ's return to judgment."

Finally, John in the Revelation writes: "Behold He cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see Him, and they also which pierced Him."

## 3. IT IS BELIEVED BY ALL EVANGELICAL CHRISTIANS

The Second Coming of Jesus Christ has been the belief of evangelical Christians of all ages.

Massillon says: "In the day of primitive Christianity it would have been deemed a kind of apostasy not to sigh for the return of the Lord." In the words of Dr. Denny, it "filled exclusively the minds of the first Christians."

That there is unanimity of belief, among evangelicals, in the Second Advent is seen by the place that it is given in the great Formularies of the Church.

The Apostles' Creed says that Christ "ascended into heaven and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead."

The Constantinopolitan Creed says that He "ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of the Father, and shall come again with glory to judge the living and the dead, whose Kingdom shall have no end."

The Te Deum says: "We believe that Thou shalt come again to be our judge."

Believers may differ on certain details about the Lord's Second Coming; but they are all one on the fact that He is coming.

When is He coming? We do not know. God has not revealed this to us. May it not be said that the time of the Second Advent has been hid so as to keep us watching always for it? "The last day is hidden," says Augustine, "that every day may be regarded."

So the Lord says: "Be ye therefore ready: for the Son of man cometh at an hour when ye think not."

May we be given grace that we shall keep "looking for that blessed hope and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ."

—Dawn (London)

# Making Love Endure

BY OLIVER G. WILSON



## Good Table Conversation



Families have good opportunities for conversation at mealtimes. Father and mother should therefore give some thought to keeping the talk in the right channels. This is especially true in a Christian home. These times together can be made occasions for edification, education, and cheerful interchange of thought on personal matters and also events of world-wide interest. Wholesome conundrums and harmless jokes are quite in order, though anything with a taint of uncleanness or irreverence should be taboo. Jokes about Bible characters or passages are dangerous, for

Recently there was an article in *Family Circle* by Margaret Mead under the caption, "Are You Still in Love?" In the article were these words:

"Today most girls work before they are married, and have to learn, not how to live without their mothers over which young brides once wept their hearts out, but how to stay at home alone, instead of falling in step with the smart crowd who goes to work each day.

"Staying home with a small baby can be lonelier than living on the frontier twenty miles from the nearest dwelling, because on the frontier one's husband was there, too."

Very often, before young people are married, they are apt to think of married life in terms of a moonlight stroll by the lake or an evening together with quiet music on the record player. The facts are that very often such ideas are washed out in tears before the first month comes to its close.

Marriage is building two lives into one, two aspirations into one, two ideals into one. The new structure can be a beautiful thing, harmonious and symmetrical. Or it can be a botch of misfits and grotesque dimensions.

Married life is a giving up, but it is also a receiving. There are bonds, but there are also liberties. There is monotony, but there are also thrilling new experiences. There is hard work, toil, and separation, but there is also happiness, fellowship, love, and reunion.

You cannot buy a quart of good will, a pound of love, or a yard of patience. You can only create such values from within yourselves by genuine effort. Your most complicated task will be finding a way to live a simple life of faith and trust.

Back of the light that floods the room

with brightness there is a powerhouse that generates the current. Back of every home there is a powerhouse of right thinking and worthwhile purposes. If you would spread light in the world that has all too much sadness, see to it that your home is a place where understanding love reigns, and where trust and co-operation and good will are taught and practiced. It will not always be easy, but it will ever yield the peaceable fruits of righteousness in them that can stand the discipline.

Make your front step a pulpit from which sound words of cheer and comfort to all who come thereto. Make your kitchen table a communion table, your daily round of duties a walk in the temple of God.

—*The Wesleyan Methodist*

*It is in loving, not in being loved,  
The heart is blessed;  
It is in giving, not in seeking gifts,  
We find our quest.  
Whatever be thy longing or thy need,  
That do thou give.  
So shalt thy soul be fed, and thou, indeed,  
Shalt truly live.*

—M. E. Russell

### Code Message . . . for our junior readers

Here is another important message for you in code. To de-code it, give each number the letter that appears directly after it in the code.

#### CODE

26-A; 25-B; 24-C; 23-D; 22-E; 21-F; 20-G; 19-H; 18-I; 17-J; 16-K; 15-L; 14-M; 13-N; 12-O; 11-P; 10-Q; 9-R; 8-S; 7-T; 6-U; 5-V; 4-W; 3-X; 2-Y; 1-Z.

#### MESSAGE

7-19-2    4-12-9-23    19-26-5-22    18    19-18-23    18-13    14-18-13-22  
19-22-26-9-7,    7-19-26-7    18, 14-18-20-19-7    13-12-7    8-18-13    26-20-26-18-13-8-7  
7-19-22-22.

(To check your answer, look up Psalm 119:11.)



they linger in the memory for a lifetime and intrude themselves when they are not wanted, as in prayer, Bible study, or in a worship service.

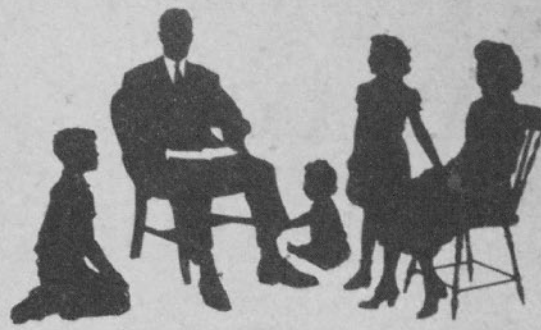
The conversation around a family table does not need to be stiff, restrained, or without colloquialisms; but if it takes on a sullen, morose, and critical strain, it is time to change the subject. Someone may be out of sorts and disgruntled, and then it is best to ignore him or her for a time.

Often questions come up that are directly related to the Bible, or on which the Bible does throw light; therefore it is well to have a Bible and concordance nearby so that someone can see *exactly what the Bible says* on a given point. It is not well, of course, to take up extended Bible study at the table, but the family ought to know whether a text has been rightly quoted or whether the Bible has anything to say on a problem.

Other good reference books to have not too far away are an atlas, to settle geographical questions, and a dictionary to decide questions of spelling, pronunciation, and meaning. Children can be taught the correct meaning and pronunciation of words when they are young much more easily than when they are older, and then they will continue to use them correctly. The ability to express oneself clearly is a great asset in any walk of life.

Another fruitful source of interesting and profitable conversation is nature study, and it is well to have handbooks on birds, trees, flowers, animals, and fish so that correct names, habitat, range, and other points may quickly be found. Children can just as well learn the true facts instead of going on with mistaken ideas. In this way mealtime can be made pleasant and interesting, and troublesome topics can be avoided. If a few simple principles such as these are followed, the family's knowledge of the Bible, the English language, geography, nature study, and other things will steadily increase. They help mother and father, brothers and sisters, and guests at the table to obey such Scriptural injunctions as these: "Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers" (Eph. 4:29); "Let your speech be always with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man" (Col. 4:6).

—*Sunday School Times*



# Our Family Altar

## MONDAY, DECEMBER 3

**SCRIPTURE:** James 5:7-12; 1 Thessalonians 4:14-18

**TODAY'S GEM:** "The coming of the Lord draweth nigh" (James 5:8).

**FOR THE PARENT:** Jesus is coming soon. We have His promise for it (John 14:1-3); the words of two heavenly messengers (Acts 1:11); and many other scriptures. Jesus is coming for those who are ready to meet Him.

**QUESTION TIME:** How do we know that Jesus is coming again? (See above) What will happen to the Christians who have died when Jesus comes? (1 Thess. 4:16) What will happen to the Christians who are alive when Jesus comes? (1 Thess. 4:17) Are you ready?

## TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4

**SCRIPTURE:** James 5:13-16; Psalm 103:1-5

**TODAY'S GEM:** "Bless the Lord . . . who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases" ((Psa. 103:2, 3).

**FOR THE PARENT:** Jesus is able to forgive our sins and also to heal our sicknesses and diseases. Stress (1) the conditions for healing given in James 5:13-16; (2) the fact that God has promised both healing and forgiveness of sins. Psalm 103:3.

**QUESTION TIME:** When a person is sick, what does the Bible say for him to do? (James 5:14) What will happen if he does this? (James 5:15)

**PRAY** for healing for those who need it.

## WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5

**SCRIPTURE:** James 5:16-20

**TODAY'S GEM:** "The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much" (James 5:16).

**FOR THE PARENT:** Review the story of Elias (Elijah) as recorded in 1 Kings 17, 18. Stress that (1) God withheld rain from Israel because the people had disobeyed Him; (2) Elijah, God's servant, was not a superman—he was an ordinary human being; (3) God heard and answered his prayers, just as He hears and answers ours.

**QUESTION TIME:** Who was Elijah? (A prophet) What answers to prayer did he have? (James 5:17, 18) What answers to prayer have you had recently?

## THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6

**SCRIPTURE:** Acts 17:1-12

**TODAY'S GEM:** "His delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night" (Psa. 1:2).

**FOR THE PARENT:** (Additional material on "The Mark of Bible Study" will be found on Sunday's Lesson page.) Stress (1) the reaction of the Jews at Berea to Paul's message—they searched the Bible and compared the message they heard to it; (2) God's Word—it is a guide for us in all things.

**QUESTION TIME:** Why does the Bible say the Jews at Berea were "more noble" than those in Thessalonica? (v. 11) What is one condition for having God's blessing? (Psa. 1:2)

## FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7

**SCRIPTURE:** Matthew 22:8-13; 25:6-13 (Sunday's Lesson for Juniors)

**TODAY'S GEM:** "Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh" (Matt. 25:13).

**FOR THE PARENT:** As emphasized Monday, Jesus is coming for those who are ready. Being ready means (1) accepting Jesus as Saviour, allowing Him to wash away all our sins in His blood; (2) living daily a life of obedience to Him and His Word, the Bible.

**QUESTION TIME:** What two things are necessary for us to be ready for Christ's coming? (See above) When will Jesus come? (Matt. 25:13)

## SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8

**SCRIPTURE:** Genesis 13:12, 13; 14:12-16; 15:1 (Sunday's Lesson for Primaries)

**TODAY'S GEM:** "Be ye kind one to another" (Eph. 4:32).

**FOR THE PARENT:** Lot had cheated Abram previously (Gen. 13:10-13), but when Lot was in trouble, Abram rescued Lot from his enemies. Thus he showed a kind, forgiving spirit. God wants us to be kind and forgiving, too. Ask the group to name ways we can show kindness to those who wrong us.

**QUESTION TIME:** What kind of people lived in Sodom? (Gen. 13:13) What happened to Lot while he lived there? (Gen. 14:11) Who rescued him? (Gen. 14:14-16)

# “STOP! GO AWAY! LEAVE ME ALONE!”

by Calvin and Olive Zeissler, Philippines

“**S**TOP! GO AWAY! LEAVE ME ALONE! I won't go with you ever! I'll suffer all the torments you give me but I'll not go with you.” These were the words of a young woman being oppressed by demons.

We had just arrived home from a short vacation in Iloilo City when our national pastor came to me and told me this experience. Right away I was reminded of the experience we had here in the Philippines a few years ago which became known all over the world as “The Thing.” It was about a girl being tormented and bitten by demons. Lester Sumrall was the one who prayed the prayer of deliverance for her. Now, I was face to face with a like experience.

The next day I went out to the home where she was staying and as soon as I arrived she had another attack. We immediately called on the Name of Jesus and pleaded the precious Blood. This girl began to cry out in pain and throw herself all over the bed. I held her one arm while others tried to hold her down. In a short time she calmed down and appeared set free. Then I began questioning her concerning these demons, and here is what she told me:

It was one week before, while she was waiting to catch a bus to return home, when there appeared a man dressed in a white robe who said his name was Daniel. He had a bouquet of flowers and wanted this girl to take them and to go with him. When she boarded the bus he went along. Of course, she was the only one who could see this demon. He sat beside her in the bus even though there was another passenger sitting in the seat. When she arrived home she told her relatives about it. As her relatives are Baptist Christians they recognized that this was the work of demons.

It is not unusual for experiences like this to happen in the Philippines. At first we laughed about such stories and thought the people merely were superstitious because they referred to this as

“fairies.” But after witnessing and hearing more of these tales, we have come to the conclusion that this is the work of demons in this land of darkness.

Her relatives began to tell her that Jesus could set her free and that she should not yield to this demon or else she would become demon-possessed. Therefore, this girl accepted Christ and was determined not to yield to the demon.

All through the week this demon, called Daniel, would appear and try to entice her to go with him. Whenever she refused he would say that he would come back with others to torment her. The next time he came to her there appeared two other fierce-looking demons with long hair on their arms and terrible countenances. These were the ones inflicting the torments. One carried an iron rod and would beat her with it. The marks we could see on her body afterwards. The other demon would claw her leaving painful scratches. This last phenomenon is what I actually witnessed the first time I went to see her when she had this attack. The demons had scratched her on the stomach and back and I saw the newly inflicted scratches. Of course, my heart went out to this poor girl in sympathy and compassion. I knew only God would help her. She would say that every time we used the Name of Jesus the demons would cover their ears with their hands and say that they didn't want to hear that Name. Thank God for the Name of Jesus!

Her deliverance did not come immediately. The saints of God, whether Baptist or Pentecostal, were storming heaven with prayer. On Sunday, the demon Daniel said that they were going to come back at exactly 9:30 p.m. and take her away by force. Now the Christians really began to pray, and you should have heard these dear Baptist folk pray. At exactly 9:30 p.m. the demons came. They lifted her from the bed and threw her on the floor. The



Delivered from demon oppression!

girl then lost consciousness and in a few minutes was crying out with great pain. This lasted for fifteen minutes. She said afterwards that the prayers of the Christians hindered the demons from fulfilling their desires. They became so violent that one even bit her and I saw the teeth marks on her arm. Finally the demons said they were going and wouldn't come back because there were too many people praying for her. Praise the Lord for the power of prayer.

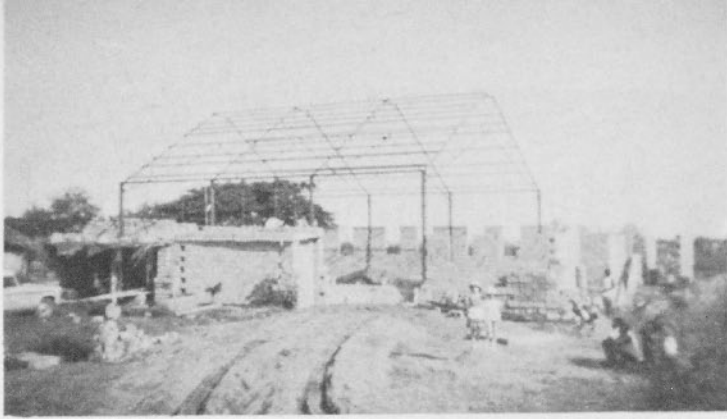
Friends, this may sound fantastic to you but nevertheless it is true. If you could only see how fearful these people are concerning these things they call “fairies” you wouldn't be quick to condemn them. We know from the Word of God that demons are real, and if a person is not clean before God he could be a victim of the devil.

The mother of the girl had a sorcerer come to try to deliver her. This sorcerer was even able to see the demons and to talk with them. He asked the demons not to torment her. But they answered the sorcerer that if he caused them not to torment her they would make her disappear. The girl wasn't willing to let the sorcerer do anything so he had to go.

Yes, my friends, the Philippines have many sorcerers and those who believe in spiritism. If you have never prayed for the Philippines, do so now. May God help us to have more of His power in our lives.

#### ADDRESSOGRAPH WANTED

Used Addressograph needed to help in the distribution of Christian literature. If you have one available, please send description to O. S. Boyer, Rua Obageru, 256 Vila, Cosmos-Penka, Rio de Janeiro, D.F., Brazil.



The church under construction

# MONTHLY REPORT

Foreign Missions Department

September, 1956

## CONTRIBUTIONS

Alabama .....	\$ 2,643.32	N. Dakota .....	3,300.77
Appalachian ..	548.73	N. Texas .....	9,953.21
Arizona .....	1,710.88	Northwest .....	20,312.62
Arkansas .....	2,825.20	Ohio .....	8,493.19
Eastern .....	9,719.66	Oklahoma .....	11,280.46
Georgia .....	1,909.89	Oregon .....	11,336.36
German Br. ....	822.11	Potomac .....	6,157.07
Greek Br. ....	110.49	Rocky Mtn. ....	7,302.52
Hungarian Br. ..	215.00	Russian Br. ....	47.18
Illinois .....	9,015.57	S. California ..	19,634.10
Indiana .....	3,942.04	S. Carolina ..	290.27
Italian Br. ....	1,063.25	S. Dakota .....	1,113.88
Kansas .....	7,333.54	S. Florida .....	4,596.39
Kentucky .....	659.23	S. Idaho .....	1,999.42
Lat. Amer. Br. ..	1,501.29	S. Missouri .....	7,913.39
Louisiana .....	2,597.26	S. Texas .....	5,671.06
Michigan .....	10,609.93	Tennessee .....	1,314.97
Minnesota .....	7,733.95	Ukrainian Br. ..	115.40
Mississippi .....	737.20	W. Central .....	4,567.94
Montana .....	2,694.55	W. Florida .....	3,052.43
Nebraska .....	2,600.33	W. Texas .....	2,025.43
New England .....	3,803.47	Wis.-N. Mich. ..	4,914.53
New Jersey .....	5,082.35	Wyoming .....	533.14
New Mexico .....	1,193.30	Alaska .....	107.40
New York .....	8,243.40	Canada .....	313.50
N. Calif.-Nev. ..	20,562.26	Hawaii .....	95.04
N. Carolina .....	1,222.11	Foreign .....	15.00
		Miscellaneous ..	71.00

Total Amount Reported .....	\$247,647.98
District Funds .....	\$12,999.90
National Home Missions .....	2,968.99
Office Expense .....	3,819.63
Given Direct to Missions .....	36,276.86
Received for Council Missionaries .....	\$ 56,065.38
Received for Non-Council Missionaries .....	\$191,582.60
Missionary Offerings not Allocated to any State .....	2,313.71
	51,690.62

Total Receipts .....

## DISBURSEMENTS

Support of Missionary Personnel .....	\$113,892.98
Missionary Equipment .....	21,934.64
Missionary Work .....	56,526.95
National Workers Abroad .....	7,468.78
Buildings in Foreign Lands .....	30,368.03
Missionary Transportation .....	53,307.31
	\$283,498.69
Transferred from "Hold" Accounts .....	37,911.76
	\$245,586.93

# It Speaketh Better Things

by George and Stella Flattery

French West Africa

AMID THE COOING OF THE DOVES, the crowing of the cocks and the rustling about of the early morning risers going to the fields of work the clang-clang of the old Catholic bell sounds out, calling the early worshipers to Mass.

In another section of the city will be found many worshipers upon their faces bowing toward the east to their god Allah. About them is lying a head-load of articles to be sold or taken to their work, and a small kettle of water with which to wash their hands before bowing and touching their foreheads to the earth. Rising above many other buildings of this rapidly growing city one can see the new mosque built by these followers of Mohammed.

Near the center of the downtown area lies a plot of ground with 100 tons of sand, 75 tons of rock dug out of the earth and nine tons of steel framework hauled in from the coast over 700 miles of hot African road. All of these huge piles of materials speak out to thousands of passersby. Soon we hope to be standing in our new church beckoning in the hungry souls. And the missionary is hoping and praying for a gigantic bell to ring out the call for worship to a true and living God, for this building in preparation is our answer to the need of the people.

We are preparing for a great harvest of souls in Ouagadougou by erecting the church. Rains have left the countryside fresh and green and the inevitable harvest follows. Material harvest brings temporal joy, but spiritual harvest brings eternal joy and that is the harvest we seek. "The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light . . . they joy before thee according to the joy in harvest" (Isaiah 9:2, 3).

Funds are still needed, however—\$5,000 will enable us to finish the building. The Mossi Christians do the best they can but their sacrificial offerings are so small for such a project.

Pray for us, that we may have strength to accomplish our work for the Lord, and if you can help us in this needy project, send your gifts to the Foreign Missions Department, 434 W. Pacific Street, Springfield, Missouri, and designate them for the "Ouagadougou Church Building."

## Christmas Gifts

Have you remembered to send your Christmas Gift offering for the missionaries on the foreign field? It will mean so much to them and will bring great joy to your own heart.

Send this extra offering to: Christmas Gift Fund, Foreign Missions Department, 434 West Pacific Street, Springfield 1, Missouri.

## MISSIONARY News Notes



Rachel Van Meter arrived on furlough from India on October 23. She can be reached at Box 448, Green Lane, Pa.



Mr. and Mrs. Lee Roy Ward and family sailed from New York on October 30 for Liberia to continue their work there.



Palma Ramsborg sailed from San Francisco on October 26 for Formosa.



Mr. and Mrs. R. Morris Devin and children returned to Indonesia on November 1 for another term of service.

I hope you a -  
Merry Christmas.

HOME MISSIONS DEPARTMENT

RECENTLY THE CHILDREN IN OUR three Alaska Children's Homes were given opportunity to write letters for THE PENTECOSTAL EVANGEL on why they like their homes.

Their letters were interesting and their reasons for liking the homes varied. One little fellow wrote, "I am glad I'm in the Children's home because they're nice to me out here, and because I am away from beer and other stuff. I got saved out here. I am nine years old. My name is Harold. . . ."

Harold is only one of approximately sixty children being cared for in our three Alaska homes: The Juneau Children's Home at Juneau, the Children's Farm Home near Palmer, and the Valdez Assemblies of God Children's Home at Valdez.

This year, as always, we want to remember the homes with a special Christmas offering to meet some of the

most urgent needs in each of them.

As you read these letters which were received in the Home Missions Department in the children's own handwriting, we believe you too will be thrilled with this work of salvaging children for Christ in Alaska.

*An Eskimo boy wrote:*

"I like this Children's Home because they give me a nice bed and they give me good food and they love me. Once in a while they scold me and it is good for me because I will turn out to be a good boy. I learned to be a good boy now. But once in a while I forget. So that is why I like the Children's Home."

*A white boy who needed a home wrote:*

"I like the Home because they have been nice to me in all ways and they love me. They feed me and give us a nice bed to sleep in. Once I started to run away—then I felt that they had been too nice to me so I came back.

"And I came here knowing nothing about God. Now I am a Christian and love the Lord. I am doing fine in school because they have been nice to me and

help in school work. I have been a good boy and help them too, at least I hope so."

Here are letters from two older girls in the Juneau Children's Home. *Ruth Marie Wallis writes this testimony:*

"Now as I look back on my short life, I believe the Lord has had His hand on me. Not only because He chose me to serve Him and I chose to serve Jesus, but also because I was put in a Children's Home where I learned to serve and worship Him better.

"I know I wouldn't have been able to accomplish my ambition to be a nurse if I wasn't in a Home where they encouraged you in your ambition to serve Jesus and in your career.

"I was placed in the Juneau Children's Home in January 1950 when I was twelve years old. I came from Fairbanks to Juneau in an airplane all by myself. I remember being very scared and insecure.

"A couple of years after I was in the Juneau Children's Home my two brothers and sister were placed in the Home. We were all very happy about

Gertrude Bishop with a group of girls at the Juneau Home



The family at the Children's Farm Home, Palmer, Alaska



this because we hadn't seen or lived with each other for quite a few years.

"A few of the incidents that stand out clearly in my mind while at the Home are the morning worship service we had EVERY morning after breakfast; the happy Christmases we had which were made possible by the gifts of many interested people, churches, and missionary groups; and the Thanksgiving Days in which we not only had the big dinners but also thanked the Lord for supplying the needs of the Home. Another incident that I am sure stands out in the minds of everyone connected with the Juneau Children's Home was when we had our new dormitory built. We are still thanking the Lord for that building.

"There were many times when the Home was in financial difficulties, but when we all prayed the Lord always heard us. The Home is now drilling a well and we are all praying and believing that the Lord will answer prayer as He has done in the past.

"He has not only supplied the needs of the Juneau Children's Home all these years but He has even had time to answer all my prayers and needs. I believe the Lord is interested in our smallest need and will take time each day to help us along the way if we only call on Him. I know the Lord will always be near me if I continue to serve Him."

*Alberta Aspen says:*

"When I came to the Home about five years ago I was taken in with love and cared for. I have been given the opportunities I would never have

A girl from the Valdez Assemblies of God Children's Home with the gifts she received on a recent Christmas.



Andy Dolchok of the Children's Farm Home, who wrote that he likes the Home "because they love me."

gotten otherwise. I was eleven years old at the time I came and I am now sixteen and in my junior year in high school. All my problems, no matter how large or small they seemed, were met with love and understanding and I was greatly encouraged in my Christian life. When I finish high school I am planning to go to college to study to be a school teacher. I know with the help of the Home I will be able to achieve my goal. The Home has been the only real home I ever knew."

*And one fine boy wrote:*

"I am especially glad for the Christian training I get. Not all children get as good training as I do. I am glad for the good workers.

"I HOPE YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS."

Of course, we hope for all these children, some of whom have known cold and hunger and suffering no child should endure, a very happy Christmas in an Assemblies of God Children's Home.

Our Women's Missionary Council groups are doing a wonderful job of providing gifts for the children, but cash offerings are especially needed at this time.

You can join in making Christmas a time of rejoicing in the Alaska Children's Homes by sending an offering today for the ALASKA CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS FUND. Send your offering to the HOME MISSIONS DEPARTMENT, 434 West Pacific Street, Springfield 1, Missouri.

# World Crisis

(Continued from page three)

God gave to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. A miracle nation came into existence to build a miracle land, when a million of her people trekking back to Palestine in one decade turned a desert wilderness into a veritable garden, fulfilling the prophecy of Isaiah that "the desert shall blossom as a rose." This group of rugged pioneers has revived the the language and customs of antiquity, and has returned to the Levitical laws and the observance of the Sabbath. God has indeed confirmed His word of the fig tree putting forth her leaves, which is a declaration that the coming of the Lord draweth nigh.

The future prospect for Israel, according to current reports, is one of trouble. This coincides with what the Lord Jesus said when He spoke of the time of *Jacob's trouble*, the days of tribulation which Israel suffers when Antichrist breaks his covenant with the Jews and gathers his armies against Jerusalem to battle. The outcome is portrayed for us in Zechariah 13:6 when Messiah returns to His people, "One shall say unto him, What are those wounds in thine hands? Then he shall answer, Those with which I was wounded in the house of my friends." And He, their Messiah, will fight for them, and will smite the people that have gathered against Jerusalem, as described in Zechariah 14:4-12.

The immediate prospect for Israel is trouble, but the ultimate outlook is good, for Romans 11:26, 27 says, "There shall come out of Zion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob: for this is my covenant unto them, when I shall take away their sins."

## II

Turning to the Gentiles, their past is portrayed in the vision of Nebuchadnezzar. The great image he beheld had a head of gold, representing Babylon in its absolute monarchy; shoulders of silver, depicting Medo-Persia with its divided authority; belly and thighs of

(Continued on next page)

# When God Defeats Communistic Russia

(Continued from page five)

Further in the same verse God says, "I will plead against him . . . with blood." This means battles in which lives will be lost—lives of the innocent and the guilty! But there is one consoling point—the nations God uses will be on the winning side! Notice, however, that God will get the credit for defeating Russia (verse 23).

Then He says, "I will rain upon him, and upon his bands, and upon the many people that are with him, an overflowing rain." Military men tell us that in times of torrential rains their military machine is bogged down and the fighting is practically stalemated. God is

going to send a flood against Russia, a flood that will bog down her war machine, probably washing away much of her military equipment and causing the loss of thousands of lives.

Also in fighting against Russia, God will send "great hailstones." What damage hailstones can cause. I've seen thousands of acres of wheat mowed down within a period of fifteen or twenty minutes by hailstones. Newspapers state that within the past few years hailstones as big as five inches in diameter have fallen in various parts of the U.S. Think of it! If God saw fit, He could wipe out the entire Russian army with tre-

mendous hailstones!

God also says He will send "fire" and "brimstone." The fire could refer to lightning or supernatural fire from heaven. The brimstone would choke up the armies, making it hard for them to breathe. Some have associated this prophecy with A-bombs, H-bombs, and other new weapons.

In Ezekiel 39:2 God says He will leave but one-sixth of Russia's army; it will take seven months to bury the dead. Those who have propagated Communism and atheism, who have fought against God and God's people—their bodies, fallen on the field of battle, will provide a banquet for the wild beasts and the vultures.

Why is God going to do all this? "That the heathen may know me"—the sinners, atheists, and ungodly members of all the nations, including Israel. Man will be made to realize that God is a righteous God and that wicked men must repent of their sins and call upon Him for mercy.

## WORLD CRISIS

(Continued from preceding page)

brass, symbolizing the four divisions of the Grecian empire, which finally degenerated into the Roman Empire, as suggested by the legs of iron, and the new form of democracy which resulted from its creation. The last kingdom, which is still future, was pictured in the feet and toes of the image, being composed of iron and clay, suggesting both the strength and the weakness of democracy.

It is noteworthy that the progress of the Gentile world has been marked by a disintegration in values and a degeneration in power. Students of present affairs have stated that civilization is on its deathbed. Two wars in a generation have left Europe prostrate, and bled white, and now Asia is on the march. The great religio-political system of Antichrist is in the making. The unclean spirit of Communism (like its predecessors, Fascism and Nazism) is engulfing our world. Men are lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God. Sensuality and sex glorification is the order of the day. The East is already on fire and Europe is smouldering. Russian armies, planes, submarines and bombs are being made ready to launch destruction upon the world. The atom and the hydrogen bomb together with

bacteriological weapons can deplete the population of our world in a short time, as described in Revelation.

The future of the Gentiles is a looking forward to judgment. Armageddon lies ahead. The angel spoken of in Revelation 14:15 will soon appear with his command to "Thrust in the sickle and reap, for the time has come for the harvest of the earth is ripe."

The smiting stone of Daniel 2:45 is on the way, which will break in pieces the iron and the clay, the brass, the silver and the gold, of the great world empires. The future prospect for the world is dark.

### III

The outlook for the true church is bright and glorious. The church, which has washed its robes in the blood of the Lamb, is getting ready for the Rapture, in accordance with Paul's word to the Thessalonians, "For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God; and the dead in Christ shall rise first: then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air, and so shall we ever be with the Lord (1 Thess. 4:15, 16). The coming of the Lord is indeed drawing nigh. To the church of brotherly love He says, "Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I

also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth" (Rev. 3:10).

Just as God prepared an ark for the salvation of Noah and his family, and just as He raptured Enoch before the flood, so God has prepared a pavilion and a strong tower, a refuge in the time of trouble, for the Church. Isaiah 32:2 states, "A man shall be an hiding place from the wind and a covert from the tempest," and again in the 26th chapter and the 20th verse we read, "Come, my people, enter thou into thy chambers, and shut thy doors about thee: hide thyself as it were for a little moment, until the indignation be overpast. For, behold, the Lord cometh out of his place, to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity."

As we look at the coming events for these three classes of people described in our text, we find that (1) Israel is going through, for out of that nation there shall be a remnant saved. (2) The Gentiles are going down to judgment, but (3) the Church of warm-hearted saints, who have kept themselves unspotted from the world, are going up. God grant that we may so live in this day of world crisis as those who wait for His Son from heaven, and be found occupying when He comes.

It often takes world-wide calamities

to bring people to their senses and cause them to think about God. Down through the years God has permitted wars, natural disasters, depressions, and the like for the purpose of shaking the hearts of sinful men. The unsaved are so steeped in sin and so engrossed in the material side of life that they neglect the welfare of their souls. And God will permit this great conflict with its defeat of Russia to warn the ungodly to flee from His wrath; to turn His people, Israel, back to Himself; and to prepare the way for the events that will lead up to the establishment of Christ's kingdom upon earth.

Christians may or may not still be on the earth when these events take place. It may be that Christ will come for His own before that time, and we shall witness these events from heaven. The message of this prophecy of Ezekiel's to you, unsaved friend, is this: *Great wrath and tribulation are coming to this world. Christ is the only way of escape. Have you accepted Him?*

## Stay If You Will!

*'Twill not be long till Christ shall come  
To catch away His waiting bride;  
'Twill not be long! The storm shall break,  
But I shall be my Lord beside;  
Above the turmoil and the strife,  
Above the anguish and the pain;  
There peace and joy, and boundless life,  
While Antichrist on earth shall reign.*

*Stay, if you will, here in this world,  
And through the tribulation go;  
I much prefer to leave, and be  
Above those scenes of fear and woe;  
I much prefer to see the face  
Of Christ who will His saints transform—  
Stay, if you will—but I, by grace,  
Expect to be above the storm.*

*'Twill not be long! Methinks I see  
Christ rising now from off the throne;  
Down through the skies of azure blue  
He'll come to catch away His own!  
The rapture! Then those fearful days  
When men to die, who can't, will long—  
Oh, happy they who sing God's praise,  
Who then can join redemption's song!*

*Stay, if you will, but Christ hath said  
That we can be translated ere  
Earth dwellers here shall fear and quake,  
And tribulation terrors share;  
And I, for one, expect to go—  
I'm making all my plans that way—  
Stay, if you will, and share the woe,  
But I do not expect to stay!*

—J. Narver Gortner



# Your Questions

ANSWERED BY ERNEST S. WILLIAMS

### How do we inherit Adam's sinful nature?

The Bible indicates plainly that as a result of Adam's disobedience "sin entered into the world, and death by sin" (Romans 5:12). It says that "by the offence of one, judgment came upon all men to condemnation" (v. 18), and that "by one man's disobedience many were made sinners" (v. 19). One of the great proofs that we have inherited a sinful nature is that "death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned" (v. 12). Because of this inbred fallen nature every man sins (Romans 3:32) and therefore becomes guilty before God.

\* \* \*

**There was no law before that given at Sinai, and only Israel received the law at that time. If sin is the transgression of the law, how can God hold the whole world guilty?**

It is true that the law of Moses was not given before Israel came to Sinai. But the spirit of the law was born into man at his creation, and man was given a conscience, that faculty which judges the morality of our actions.

Some say that conscience judges only the will, since it is when the will has consented that sin takes place. The judging of conscience seems, however, to include judging the entire personality of man—his thoughts, feelings, and will. Where there is no thought or desire for evil, conscience is a commending influence, and man feels that "there is no condemnation." When man begins to meditate on evil, feelings of guilt are aroused. Or, again, feelings may arouse evil thoughts. Thoughts lead to decision; the will consents to evil. With the action of the will the full force of guilt falls upon the offender.

Although the world outside Israel did not have the moral law, they did have the law of conscience; and Paul indicates that it will be according to this law that they will be judged who have no other law. "For when the Gentiles, which have not the law, do by nature the things contained in the law, these, having not the law, are a law

unto themselves: which shew the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and their thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another" (Romans 2:15).

\* \* \*

**When and where should the Lord's Supper be received? Ought it to be at night, or may it be observed during the day? Must it be in the church, or might it be observed in the home?**

The communion service is a church service. It commemorates the sacrificial atonement of our Lord Jesus; it also reminds us that we are all members of Him and members of each other. "For we being many are one bread, and one body." See 1 Corinthians 10:16, 17.

We believe it makes little difference whether we observe the Lord's Supper during the day or at night. It is not the time of day that we commemorate; "is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? Is it not the communion of the body of Christ?" (1 Corinthians 10:16). We would not encourage persons to observe the Lord's Supper by themselves if they are able to meet with others; but where sickness or any other difficulty makes it impossible for them to partake with others, God will bless their devoted remembrance of His Son.

\* \* \*

**Did Paul speak with other tongues when he was saved and filled with the Holy Spirit? (Acts 9)**

The Book of Acts is silent concerning any manifestation of the Spirit in the life of Paul at the time of his infilling. We find, however, in 1 Corinthians 14:18, that Paul said, "I thank my God, I speak with tongues more than ye all." From this we may imply that he spoke in tongues when he received the Holy Spirit.

*If you wish Brother Williams to answer a question, send it to "Your Questions," The Pentecostal Evangel, 434 W. Pacific St., Springfield 1, Mo. He will answer either in this column or by personal letter.*

# Epileptic Healed Through Revivaltime

Here are a few healing testimonies taken from letters received at the Revivaltime offices in Springfield.

A LETTER FROM MRS. OLGA NELSON, Brocket, North Dakota, says, "Brother Ward, I am sending you my daughter's picture and testimony of her healing.

"Pauline had epileptic fits since she was six years old. There was no cure. I once turned the radio on and heard you speaking. So I wrote to you and asked you to pray for my daughter's healing. I told my daughter not to be afraid even if she gets a few spells yet, but to just believe and pray.

"My daughter never had one spell after you prayed. This is over two years ago. For years I kept taking her to famous doctors and brain specialists. Twice I had her to Mayo Clinic, but nothing helped. She was a real sick girl. But God heard your prayer and healed her."

Every week, REVIVALTIME has an audience of those who are waiting



Pauline Nelson, age 9, healed of epilepsy

for Brother Ward to pray the prayer of faith for healing of their bodies. And thank God, instant miracles take place as these persons kneel by their radios and reach out by faith and accept healing for their own sick bodies. As a result of this phase of REVIVALTIME'S ministry, scores have been healed of all manner of sicknesses

Another recent testimony was received from Helen Allmendinger, Ann Arbor, Michigan: "It is with a feeling of deep gratitude for your prayer for arthritics that I send you the enclosed five-dollar offering. It was a complete healing— instantaneously. I was happy to give my testimony at Rev. T. Burt Evans' church, Assembly of God, a few weeks ago. One of my friends is a member there."

Also a wonderful testimony came from Mrs. L. H. McQueen, Greenville, South Carolina: "One night my husband's stomach was burning so bad and he was spitting up blood when you asked the sick to raise their hands. He did this and he was healed right there. Oh, praise the Lord, for He is so good!"

Then a letter from Virgil A. Bise in Copley, Ohio, reports this victory: "My mother has been healed of sugar diabetes and I wanted you to know so you can tell others over the air or in your papers. We thank God very much for this, and for the healing of my wife Velma who was healed of cancer. We are grateful to God for services like yours because they help to build up one's faith where he can get things from God through Jesus."

To continue REVIVALTIME'S ministry to these who are looking for special help, your letters and prayers are requested. By writing your letter today, you may help someone else to find Christ a living reality in healing power. Address your correspondence to REVIVALTIME, BOX 70, SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI.

## ATTEND THE WINTER CAMP MEETING!

at the State Fair Grounds—

**Phoenix, Arizona—Jan. 22 to Feb. 1**

(WHERE THE SUNSHINE SPENDS THE WINTER)



C. M. WARD  
REVIVALTIME SPEAKER

**C. M. Ward**  
*Night Speaker*

**D. H. McLaughlin**  
*Morning Speaker*

The State-wide Arizona District Council will convene during the great Winter Camp Meeting. There will also be a Ministers' Institute for all Assemblies of God and visiting ministers. As far as possible, rooms will be provided for our visitors. Come believing God for a mighty outpouring of His Holy Spirit.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION WRITE—

**J. K. GRESSETT—OR—V. E. SHORES**  
**901 NORTH ELEVENTH STREET, PHOENIX, ARIZONA**



D. H. McLAUGHLIN  
EXECUTIVE PRESBYTER





Original etching, showing ancient road that leads into Jerusalem

# The Sign of Directional Powers

BY WILLIAM FARRAND, CEYLON

**S**TUDENTS OF PROPHECY HAVE BEEN watching current events with keen interest for the last half century. Progress in the fields of science and invention during this relatively short period has swamped the average person's imagination. Wars have been fought that make previous conflicts look like child's play. Without the Divine record of the future we dread to think what the next fifty years might hold. With God's Word, however, we face the days ahead guided by the Book that records every event necessary to keep the children of God informed.

It is radical error even to infer that Bible prophecy depends on my man's interpretation of its fulfillment for confirmation. The Bible is God's eternal Word; and if all its interpreters fail to discern even one instance of its fulfillment, events will continue to march on in the unerring pattern laid down in the blessed Book.

The primary purpose of studying fulfilled prophecy in the light of current events is not to make us arm-chair speculators of the day and hour of Christ's return, but to stir us to better service in the Master's vineyard. The striking parallel between the daily news and the prophetic Scriptures is a timely warning that what we are going to do for Christ we must do quickly.

Political and religious developments in the world today show that the days the prophets looked forward to are upon us. The time of the end is here, and if we avoid dangerous details there are some principle fulfillments taking place that are easily recognizable.

Bible students have long predicted a revival of the directional powers of the Grecian Empire. Some have taught that the nation of Greece must become a world power again. This is a little narrow in scope to fit either the prophetic picture of the last great Gentile empire or the present political picture of the world. Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece and Rome were all world powers in their day and God dealt with them as such, but to look for a revival of any nation alone seems to miss the mark. We need only watch for the predicted characteristics of the coming world empire.

The last Gentile world empire, according to the portrait given in the thirteenth chapter of the Book of Revelation, is to be an aggregation of all the Gentile empires that have preceded it. The beast pictured in this passage bears the marks of all its ancestors. The ancestral mark we are primarily interested in is the one that points to the revival of the characteristics of the Grecian Empire. John says, "And the beast I saw was like unto a leopard." This at once takes us back to Daniel's vision of the four beasts, in Daniel 7:6. "After this I beheld, and lo another, like a leopard. . . ." Much of Daniel's prophecy deals with the third Gentile world empire which came into prominence under Alexander the Great. It is depicted as a great rough goat in the eighth chapter of Daniel, and the whole of the eleventh chapter of the Book has to do with developments to take place in the Grecian Empire and in the last world empire.

The outstanding characteristic of the Grecian Empire was its division into four directional powers, one of which produces the last Gentile world ruler. The world today stands ready for the Superman who shall soon come, in the power of Satan, to unify opposing political forces and set up an international government. Before he comes, however, there must be a revival of directional powers as symbolized in the Grecian Empire. We are of the opinion that the revival is taking place at the present time.

Political forces in the world today are definitely falling into directional divisions. No one will question the fact that there is a division called WESTERN POWERS. We are also well acquainted with the NORTHERN ALLIANCE (Communism) which has for many years been a sinister force of prime importance in world affairs. EASTERN POWERS are easily discernible and their conferences of late have shown them to be a solid political force demanding world recognition. In order to identify SOUTHERN POWERS we need only use the key of religion (Islam). Revelation, chapter seventeen, vividly portrays the connection of religion and politics in the last empire and assures us we are on the right track for a key to interpretation. A study of current directional divisions reveals that although they are political on the surface, basically they are religious divisions. In America it is a little difficult to see the place

(Continued on page twenty-eight)



# Fagots From the Torch of Evangelism

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

► CLOVERDALE, CALIF.—The church here enjoyed a week of special meetings recently with Brother Henry McMillin. Since the meetings the spiritual tide has continued to rise.

—J. L. Jeffrey, Pastor

► FRANKFORT, KY—Twenty-four sought God for salvation during the three weeks of revival here conducted by Evangelist Charles Hackett of Lake Village, Ark. Five were filled with the Holy Spirit, and on the closing night of the revival six were baptized in water and three joined the church. The First Assembly of God has greatly enjoyed this wonderful move of the Spirit of God.

—J. C. Ellis, Pastor

► SPOKANE, WASH.—During the late summer Evangelist Clifton O. Erickson conducted a union tent revival here under the auspices of the United Full Gospel Fellowship. There was a divine visitation from God which made a real impact upon the city and the surrounding territory. There were many miraculous healings. It was a faith quickener to see a variety of afflictions and diseases respond to the prayer of faith to the extent that sufferers walked away whole and praising God. The revival was an answer to prayer. Preceding the campaign there had been a prolonged season of prayer during which time God's people prostrated themselves seeking His face for miracles of salvation and healing.

—Wallace S. Bragg, Pastor

► MISSOULA, MONT.—The First Assembly of God enjoyed the powerful ministry of the Word through Evangelist Bennie Harris and family. A number were refilled with the Holy Spirit, and three received their Acts 2:4 experience. The messages brought renewals of consecration and deepening of lives. There were some outstanding healings in response to prayer for the sick.

—Eugene Born, Pastor

► EAST LIVERPOOL, OHIO—A very profitable series of meetings has just been concluded here by Evangelist and Mrs. Steve Bogdan of Philadelphia, Pa. The anointed ministry of this young man brought real refreshing to the people of the church. The character of the special music was an uplift also. One young man received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, and there was a greater hunger instilled in the hearts of the people.

—John E. Horn, Pastor

► SALEM, VA.—Bethel Assembly of God enjoyed a very profitable revival during the first two weeks of October with Evangelist Jesse Ray of Decatur, Ga. Souls were saved, and there were several outstanding healings. The entire church was greatly stirred as backsliders came back to God and believers were filled with the Holy Ghost. The Sunday School also showed a marked increase in attendance. The revival fires are still burning, and people continue to seek God.

—Glenn Strickland, Pastor

► COLORADO CITY, TEX.—Members of the First Assembly of God here were greatly helped by the good preaching of Zeral Amburn of Jacksboro, Tex. Brother Amburn is an excellent evangelist.

—Fred Robertson, Pastor

► MEMPHIS, TENN.—Evangelists Bob Bryson and Kenny Foreman of Beaumont, Tex. conducted a very outstanding revival in the Hollywood Assembly of God in September. More than 60 people came to the altar for salvation, a number experienced the Baptism of the Holy Ghost, and many testified to being healed. The entire church was blessed of the Lord, and there is every evidence that the results will be lasting.

—Melton O. Bruce, Pastor

► WICHITA, KANS.—The Central Assembly of God just closed one of its greatest revival campaigns in the past nine years. Evangelist Watson Argue ministered two weeks, and during that time 45 answered the call for salvation. There were eight filled with the Holy Spirit, and a great number refilled.

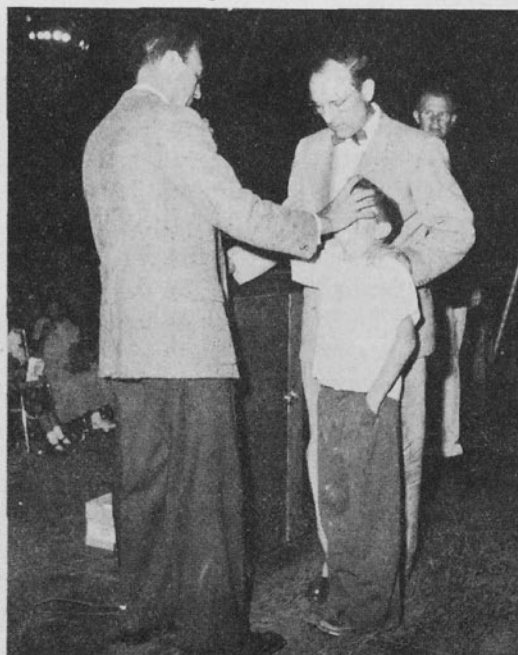
The special time of prayer for the sick was a high point in each of the services and several outstanding healings were reported. Attendance during the week and on Sunday was the best we have known. The spiritual tide ran high throughout the meeting.

—J. Boyd Wolverton, Pastor

A portion of one of the night crowds attending the Erickson evangelistic campaign in Spokane, Washington



Evangelist Clifton Erickson prays for a child during one of the services



## NATIONAL EVANGELISM CONVENTION CANCELED

The Department of Evangelism recently declared that the third National Evangelism Convention has been canceled. The gathering had been announced for Tulsa, Oklahoma, December 18-20, 1956.

The decision not to call a convention this year resulted from the request of the General Presbyters for a sharp curtailment of expenditures in all departments. This is but one step taken by Evangelism and other departments to effect economies in our national program.

► CUSHING, OKLA.—The Spirit of the Lord was manifested nightly during the ministry of Evangelist and Mrs. B. H. Clendennen of Refugio, Tex. A number were saved, and almost everyone who came to receive the Baptism of the Holy Spirit was filled. Sick bodies were healed, and the entire church was revived.

—W. Randall Ball, Pastor

► ULYSSES, KANS.—Sixteen were at the altar for salvation, and 12 received the Baptism of the Holy Ghost, in four weeks of meetings here with Evangelist and Mrs. C. O. Hobson of Webb City, Mo. There were also many healings. One person with a severe back condition of 19 years standing was completely healed. The Sunday School has averaged 130 for the past several weeks, which is 45 above last year's average.

—D. C. Branham, Pastor

► WATERTOWN, N. Y.—This entire area was blessed during the union revival meetings held in the Strand Theatre of this city during the month of September. The evangelistic party was made up of William A. Caldwell and George Butrin. The meetings were sponsored by assemblies in Depauville, Adams, Carthage, and Edwards, besides the Bethel and First Assemblies of Watertown. The evangelists ministered under rich anointing. The presence and blessing of God was apparent in each service resulting in the salvation of scores of souls.

A large number received outstanding physical deliverance. A man, blind in one eye from birth, received sight and with his other eye covered walked unaided from the platform and down the aisle. A lady with a growth in her throat, who had been forced to live on liquids for fifteen months, was healed, and upon returning home ate a beef steak. Many arthritics, some unable to kneel for years, bowed their knees and arose again without pain. A man suffering from a stroke, and with badly swollen feet, left his wheel chair and walked. There were also many other healings. Through this special effort the Assemblies of northern New York have taken on new life and renewed vision. Reported by Sectional Presbyter.

—William H. Dickinson

► OVERLAND PARK, KANS.—The all-time Sunday School record for this church was broken with 159 in attendance during the revival meetings conducted by Evangelist David Sandall from Augusta, Kans. One young boy received a special award for bringing 22 people to the meetings. Others brought nearly that many. More than 80 people came because of the special efforts.

—Gail Howard, Pastor

► TERRE HAUTE, IND.—The Hulman Street Assembly of God has just experienced a mighty Pentecostal revival under the anointed ministry of Evangelist Bruce Thum and the Sunshine Party of Indianapolis, Ind. Night after night many people came to witness the miracle-working power of God. Scores sought Christ for salvation. Many people from other churches received light on the Pentecostal baptism. Over 500 new people passed through the church doors as a direct result of the meeting. The evangelists conducted a daily half-hour radio program and made several television appearances.

One lady was instantly healed of stuttering and palsy which had afflicted her from childhood. A man who was completely deaf was instantly healed and could hear a whisper ten feet away.

Fourteen new members were received into the church, and others are to follow. The regular Sunday School attendance was more than tripled during the campaign. The church, only 27 months old, is in better shape spiritually, numerically, and financially than before.

—Nolan D. Lee, Pastor

► LEXINGTON, MO.—Evangelist Paul W. Wetzel of Columbus, Ga. concluded an outstanding revival in the First Assembly of God here. Seven souls were saved, and the church was greatly blessed. All enjoyed the ministry of the Word and the songs of this young evangelist. Revival fires continue to burn.

—Darrell Massey, Pastor

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORKERS TRAINING COURSE—Dec. 2-7 at Assembly of God, Bartlesville, Okla. L. B. Keener, Springfield, Mo., instructor.

ANNIVERSARY SERVICES—Dec. 9 at Riverside Assembly of God, Maurice and Eagle Dr., Fort Worth, Tex.—by Elbert Wilkinson, Pastor.

DEDICATION OF NEW SCHOOL—The Chicago Christian Academy, a Christian grade school sponsored by Assemblies of God churches, will be dedicated Nov. 26 at 7:45 p.m. The school is located at 5110 W. Diversity and has four classrooms and school office.—by Devore Walterman, Executive Director.

MORTGAGE-BURNING SERVICE—Dec. 2 at First Assembly of God, S. Port Crescent St., Bad Axe, Mich. Mortgage-burning ceremony at 11 a.m. service. Charles W. H. Scott, District Superintendent, speaker. Former pastors and members invited.—by Howard M. Burk, Pastor.

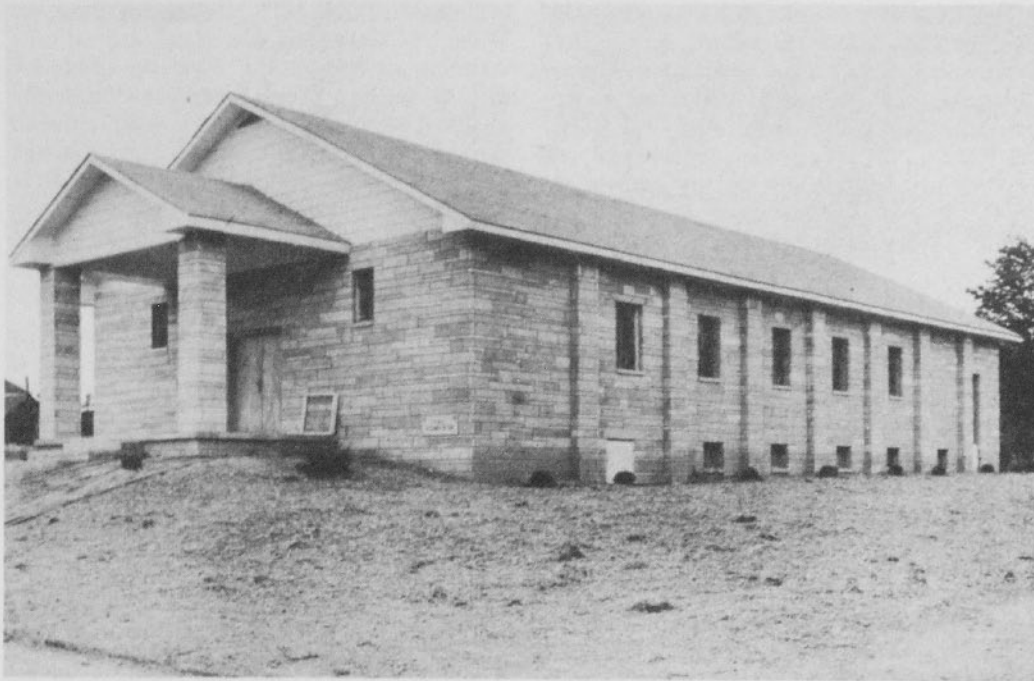
GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY—Dec 7 and 9 at Stone Church, 70th St. and Stewart Ave., Chicago, Ill. Theodore A. Piper, son of the founder, and W. R. Williamson, Superintendent of Illinois District and missionary of our church for many years, will be guest speakers. Three services on Sunday; refreshments served between afternoon and evening services. All former pastors and friends invited.—by Ernest C. Sumrall, Pastor.

## EVANGELISTIC CAMPAIGN CALENDAR

STATE	CITY	CHURCH	DATE	EVANGELIST	PASTOR
Ariz.	Phoenix	Faith	Nov. 25-Dec. 9	Carl & Edna Goodwin	Willis Hirschy
Calif.	Oakland	Revival Tab.	Dec. 2-16	Quentin D. Edwards	Cecil J. Lowry
	San Bruno	A of G	Dec. 9-23	Willard C. Peirce	Edwin L. Cole
	San Luis Obispo	A of G	Nov. 25—	Earla McKinley	Paul L. Ferguson
	Lewes	A of G	Nov. 27-Dec. 16	I. E. Ade	LeRoy W. Wiley
Fla.	Clearwater	First	Nov. 27-Dec. 16	Musical Mathans	A. L. Shell Jr.
	Pinellas Park	A of G	Dec. 4-16	Joel Palmer & wife	Linton G. Creel
Ill.	Quincy	Faith	Dec. 4-16	John C. Poteet	Odis Cooper
Ind.	Jasonville	First	Dec. 4—	G. W. Hardcastle Jr.	H. J. Keener
Iowa	Eldora	A of G	Nov. 25-Dec. 16	Lela Haycook	Leroy Whiteman
Md.	Baltimore	Trinity	Nov. 28-Dec. 9	Musical Vanderploegs	Alex Clattenburg
Mich.	Adrian	Bethany	Dec. 4-16	Paul Hild & wife	Arthur G. Clay
	Detroit	Central	Dec. 2—	Lonnie L. Osborn	Holland Edmundson
Mont.	Glasgow	A of G	Dec. 4—	Billy Murphy & wife	A. H. Miller
N. Y.	Utica	A of G	Dec. 5-23	Bill Caldwell	Wm. H. Douglas
	Watertown	First	Nov. 18-Dec. 2	Ronnie Piedmonte	Donald Veater
	Tipp City	Bethel Tab.	Dec. 4—	Eddie Roush & wife	E. P. Cooper
Pa.	Johnstown	Grace Pent.	Nov. 28-Dec. 16	Busse Evang. Team	E. S. Opdenhoff
Tex.	Amarillo	San Jacinto	Dec. 2—	E. L. Surratt	J. E. Burkhalter
	Garland	Bethany	Dec. 11-23	Stanley P. MacPherson	Wm. A. Edwards
	Marshall	Calvary	Dec. 2-16	Bill Sharp	F. E. Kennedy
	Orange	First	Dec. 2—	Dean Underwood	C. J. Shields
	Seattle	Faith Temple	Dec. 2-16	Oran & Audrey Duncan	C. Ralland Bixler
	* Silverdale	A of G	Dec. 5-16	Carolyn Lindblad	H. Gordon Casteel
Wis.	Marinette	A of G Tab.	Dec. 4-16	Wm. Moorman & wife	Morris Hayes
Canada	Brantford, Ont.	Evangel Pent.	Dec. 4-16	Christian Hild	Don Emmons

\* Music by the Gospel Lights of Seattle

Announcements should reach the Department of Evangelism 30 days in advance, due to the fact that THE PENTECOSTAL EVANGEL is made up 24 days before the date which appears upon it.



## ASSEMBLY IN HARTFORD CITY, INDIANA, DEDICATES NEW BUILDING

Pictured above is the attractive new home of the Assembly of God in Hartford City, Indiana, which was dedicated to the Lord on September 16, 1956. Indiana District Superintendent Roy Wead brought the dedicatory address.

The church, located just two miles from the Indiana state campgrounds, is a 40-foot by 80-foot building with a full basement for Sunday School rooms. The main auditorium will seat 300 people. Less than \$10,000 indebtedness remains on the building.

Three years ago this church was under district supervision, with an average attendance of 35 in the Sunday School. God has blessed the ministry of Pastor J. W. Jordan, and the church has grown until the average attendance in the Sunday School for the past quarter was 139. Brother Jordan and his congregation are expecting God to do even greater things in the future.

## SIGN OF DIRECTIONAL POWERS

(Continued from page twenty-five)

religion is holding in the political circles of the world, but religion is certainly coming into prominence the world over as that which is to be courted and wooed by the politicians for the votes she is able to obtain from the multitudes and tongues and nations (Revelation 17:15).

The WEST is known as the CHRISTIAN world. The NORTH, without a doubt, is quickly identified as the COMMUNIST world. The most aggressive and universal religion of the EAST today is BUDDHISM, which is an offshoot of HINDUISM and is enjoying an enthusiastic and far-reaching revival. (While both Communism and Buddhism claim that they are only philosophies, their teachings trespass on the sacred ground of a man's belief in God and are held accountable as that which is offered in the place of religion). With religion as the key it seems very logical that the MOSLEM world

which has been stirred of late from center to circumference is falling into place as the KING OF THE SOUTH.

The world has long been crying for a Superman to solve its problems, and gospel ministers have been faithfully warning the world that the devil will soon have such an individual in his Antichrist. Isn't it striking to note that the directional divisions from which Antichrist is destined to arise seem to be falling into place in the world today?

The religious leaders of God's chosen people were reprimanded by Jesus for not knowing the signs of the times. The greatest event in the Jewish prophecy slipped up on them; the Messiah came to His own and His own received Him not, because He did not line up with their mental conception of Him and the signs of His coming did not suit their traditional minds.

Thank God, there were those Spirit-

filled believers, even in the Temple, who recognized the Christ Child not as just another babe brought for dedication but as the fulfillment of the promise. May God give us Spirit-filled believers today, also, who can discern the signs of the times, and who will be willing to expend every effort to spread the good news to every land and win as many to Christ as possible before it is too late. May every indication of the soon coming of our Bridegroom and King stir us to holier living and better witnessing.

## FAITH

Faith brings us near to God. Unbelief puts us far from Him.

Faith believes God's Word. It sees more in a promise of God to help, than in all other things to hinder. Unbelief, notwithstanding all of God's promises, says, "How can these things be?"

Faith will help the soul to wait, though God defers to give. Unbelief grows impatient and gives up if God waits and tarries.

Faith will give comfort in the midst of fear. Unbelief causes fear in the midst of comfort.

Faith makes the greatest burdens light. Unbelief makes light ones unbearable and intolerably heavy.

Faith puts a man under grace. Unbelief holds him under wrath.

Faith purifies the heart. Unbelief keeps it polluted and impure.

Faith makes our work acceptable to God through Christ; but whatsoever is of unbelief is sin, for without faith it is impossible to please Him.

Faith gives us peace and comfort in our souls. Unbelief brings trouble and tossing, like the restless waves of the sea.

By faith we enjoy life in its fullness, but by unbelief we starve and pine away.

Let us have faith in God.

--JOHN BUNYAN

\* \* \*

## DELIVERANCE

God could have kept Daniel out of the lions' den. He could have kept Paul and Silas out of jail. He could have kept the three Hebrew children out of the fiery furnace. But God has never promised to keep us out of hard places. What He has promised is to go with us through every hard place, and to bring us through victoriously!

—Driftwood

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# GOD ANSWERED PRAYER

*The house that God built, He also protected.  
The crowd stood in awe as they witnessed the miracle.*

**M**ANY YEARS AGO MY FATHER-IN-LAW, Nelson Bull, of Toronto, Canada, stood watching a sawmill burn to the ground. The mill was directly across from his house, and the flames were leaping high. To make matters worse, the wind was blowing the flames toward his home.

Mr. Bull's mind went back to the time he had built the house—a time when dollars were scarce. He would work all day, and then give every spare minute to building his home. It seemed as if his very life's blood had been built into its frame. God had answered prayer by sending first one, then another, to help with the jobs he could not do himself; a neighbor did the plastering for just a very small sum.

At last the house was built. In reality it was a "house of God," for God had miraculously answered prayer so that it could be built.

Now this house was going to be burned down. It seemed that nothing could stop those hungry, leaping flames. It was useless to try to hose the house. Such a roaring furnace would devour anyone who dared stand in its way. Surely and slowly the flames reached across the road. It seemed a poor end for a house that God had built.

It was then that Mr. Bull prayed. "Father," he said, "this is Your house, and You are able to save it. I can't do anything. If the house is saved, then You must do it."

To those around the mill, this was

BY C. A. HARRIS

a time for action, not prayers. What prayers were strong enough to beat back a wall of flame?

But Mr. Bull prayed on. "Father, I feel that this is Your house, and I'm going to leave it in Your hands." As he prayed, a sweet peace descended upon him—a peace that only God can give in the midst of anxiety and uncertainty.

The flames raged on. Driven by the wind they were pointing right for the home of Mr. Bull. The fire strained across the road to clutch the house in its fiery bosom. The crackling embers seemed to carry the sound of a cackling fiend, impatient to carry out its terrible work of destruction.

The crowd moved back from the rushing heat and stifling fumes. They were tense, waiting for that first little flame to start on Mr. Bull's house—that flame that would soon become a furnace

and burn to the ground the happiness and comfort of years.

Then, without a moment's notice, the wind changed—it was too startling, too sudden to be a natural change. One moment it was blowing the flames towards the home of Mr. Bull; the next moment it was blowing back upon the already doomed mill.

The crowd stood in awe; they realized that they had witnessed a miracle; they had seen prayer answered. The God who created the wind had controlled it for one of His children—and they had watched Him do it!

With eyes big with wonder, a man near Mr. Bull said, "God did that."

"Yes," said Mr. Bull, "I know He did."

Soon Mr. Bull and the rest of his family entered once again into their home—the house that God built. Their first act was to kneel down and give thanks to God for changing the wind and saving their home.

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## Christmas Comes But Once a Year

and frankly, we have sometimes wished for an extra Christmas in July. Because, on Christmas, folk remember the boys and girls at the National Children's Home in Hot Springs, Arkansas. Blue-jeans, underclothing, shirts, pajamas, and socks received at Christmastime adorn our clothesline all year 'round.

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NATIONAL CHILDREN'S HOME  
Box 1017  
Hot Springs, Arkansas

SEND OFFERINGS  
DEPT. OF BENEVOLENCES, N.C.H. Acc't  
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**S**UDDENLY THERE CAME THE THUNDEROUS roar of a jet whooshing through the heavens. Idly casting an eye skyward (for even jets nowadays fail to arouse much curiosity), I completely failed to locate it; and gradually the awesome sound died away in the sky.

As I scanned the blue in search of the ensuing vapor trail I reflected on how man has invaded the atmosphere, and above it the stratosphere, with his inventions, and filled it with noises never before heard until the last fifty years. Truly, this is an era of noise, as if man were trying to drown out the voice of his own conscience or, deeper still, escape from the knowledge of God. The most awful noise is that of the bombs with which man is experimenting today. I remember seeing a film of one of the atomic explosions in the Pacific, and hearing the terrific rumble, as if the world were disintegrating.

But looking up into the blue this morning I found myself thinking of a scripture, according to which the very "heavens shall pass away." This verse refers to the firmament, or the surrounding atmosphere, which actually is part of this planet, inasmuch as no life could survive without it.

In Hebrews 1:10-12 we read: "And thou, Lord, in the beginning hast laid the foundation of the earth; and the heavens are the works of thine hands: they shall perish; but thou remainest; and they all shall wax old as doth a garment; and as a vesture shall thou fold them up, and they shall be changed: but thou art the same, and thy years shall not fail." Here is a reference to both heavens and earth—both are to be folded up and put away, then replaced by a new heaven and a new earth.

Thank God for His Word. Because of it we are not entirely in the dark about future events, although "it is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power."

Again in Revelation 21 we read, "And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea." This verse seems to speak of an entirely new order of things—a new *cosmos*, in other words. And this will be



Jewish children are directed to an air raid shelter at Nirim, Israel (photo courtesy of Israel Office of Information)

## A Sound in the Air

the habitation of the Church, the Bride of Christ, redeemed and glorified humanity, for in the very next verse the writer states: "And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband."

When God formed the first heaven and earth He gave it to man as his home, and gave dominion to man over all the beasts of the field, over all the fowl of the air, and over all the fish of the sea. But through disobedience sin entered the human heart and this whole creation passed under a curse. God is now redeeming out from under this curse a company of men and women who have accepted the blood of Christ as the atoning sacrifice for their sin. With this company of redeemed, regenerated, glorified men and women, boys and girls, God will inhabit the new creation when the time comes.

In 2 Peter 3:10 we read, "But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up." Here again is a scripture dealing with the passing away of this present order of things. It sounds so much like the tremendous explosions that have been taking place during the last few years. Let us note these things. We are living in the last days. The time is rapidly drawing near for the outpouring of the wrath of God upon the world because of its wickedness and its rejection of mercy in His Son, Jesus Christ. Are you ready? Have you fled to Jesus Christ for refuge? You will have no other shelter in that day.