

The Pentecostal

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EVANGEL

June 2, 1957

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



If There Were No Children . . .

SEE PAGE TEN

Perils of Parenthood

Of all the unsung heroes in the land, none is braver than the Christian couples who dare to bring boys and girls into the world at such a time as this.

We live in perilous times. Men and women are lovers of their own selves, covetous, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, as the Scriptures foretold. It takes courage and faith to launch tender lives in the face of the gales of temptation and tides of iniquity that are blowing and flowing today.

And yet, every generation has faced its own particular problems in relation to parenthood. Noah lived in a very wicked age. The human race had become so vile that God decided to destroy it and make a new start. As progenitor of that new race He chose Noah, a man who remained upright and decent when all his neighbors were deep in sin. There was a woman also who remained pure when all about her were polluted. Noah married that woman, and together they dared to bring three sons into the world. They had faith that God would keep their boys clean and righteous in the midst of a wicked and adulterous generation, just as He had kept them. They prayed for them, instilled God's truth in them, and set such a godly example before them that all those boys followed in their father's footsteps and sought out God-fearing girls to be their wives.

The fact that God spared Noah and his wife, their three sons and three daughters-in-law, when He destroyed the wicked, ought to give every Christian parent a firm assurance in God's willingness to answer prayer and save the children. There is a wonderful promise in Isaiah 49:25 that all fathers and mothers can claim. Though spoken to Israel, it is God's Word to all who will believe it. The Lord said, "I will contend with him that contendeth with thee, and I will save thy children." Do you believe that? If you do, you can face the perils of parenthood unafraid and triumph over them.

The Bible tells of a mother and father who *by faith* refused to be intimidated by the conditions of the society in which they lived. They faced the contender's challenge—and won. Satan wanted to destroy their child Moses, but *by faith* they saved his life. The fashion of the age tried to ensnare him, but he "chose rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season."

Parent, are you saying, "I *hope* my child turns out all right—I *hope* he makes the right decisions in life"? You must do *more* than hope. You must trust in God and pray for your child. You must ask the Lord to work in his life and you must give the Lord something to work with by bringing him up in the nurture and admonition of Christ. The Psalmist asked, "Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way?" Then he answered his own question—"By taking heed thereto according to Thy Word." In a day when liquor, lust, and lawlessness are sucking young people down toward hell you must inculcate in your children a love for God, so that they can say, "Thy Word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against Thee."

Perils of parenthood? Yes, there are perils—but by faith in God's promise you can face them and win.

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Heaven at Last!

BY WALTER B. KNIGHT

A FATHER AND MOTHER LOST THREE young children in one week by diphtheria. Only the little three-year-old girl escaped. The following Sunday morning the parents were in Sunday School. The father was the superintendent.

It was Easter, and the father led the Sunday School in worship; then he read the Easter message from the Bible without a break in his voice. Many in the place were weeping, but the faces of the father and mother remained serene and calm.

"How can they do it?" men and women asked each other as they left the church.

A fifteen-year-old boy, walking home with his father, said, "Dad, I guess the superintendent and his wife *really believe it*, don't they?"

"Believe what?" asked the father.

"The whole big thing, all of it—*Easter*—you know!"

"Of course," answered the father; "all Christians believe it."

"Not the way *they* believe it," said the boy, and he began to whistle.

How fear-allaying, sorrow-dispelling and hope-bringing are these triumphant words of the death-conquering Saviour: "I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, *I am alive forevermore*" (Revelation 1:18). The night of death would be dark indeed but for the Saviour's triumph over it; but because He lives we too may live radiantly and victoriously in the present life, without fear of the future.

It is the custom of some native African Christians to refer to their

dead who "die in the Lord," not as having *departed*, but as having *arrived*. To them, death means to be "absent from the body—at home with the Lord" (2 Corinthians 5:8).

On the jasper threshold standing,
Like a pilgrim safely landing,
See the strange, bright scenes expanding;
Ah! 'Tis heaven at last!

What a city, what a glory,
Far beyond the fairest story
Of the ages, old and hoary;
Ah! 'Tis heaven at last!

Christ Himself the living splendor,
Christ the sunshine, mild and tender;
Praises to the Lamb we render—
Ah! 'Tis heaven at last!

An old Indian chief was told of the Saviour. The missionary tried to persuade the chief to accept Christ as his only hope of eternal life, but the old chief answered, "The Jesus road is good, but I have followed the Indian road all my life, and I will follow 'it to the end!" And he did. A year later, the old chief stood on the borderline of death. As he was seeking a pathway through the darkness, he said to the missionary, "I wish I had walked the Jesus road. My road stops here. It has no path through the valley!"

In contrast to this was the dying hour of one of God's servants. His mother said to him tenderly, "Is Jesus with you in the dark valley?"

The Christian replied, "Dark valley! It's not dark! It's getting brighter and brighter, Mother. Oh," he murmured, "it's so bright now that I have to shut my eyes!"

Bright indeed is the future for God's

children, as the Bible says: "Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love Him" (1 Corinthians 2:9). Many of God's precious promises to us concern our victory over death and our entrance into heaven. Let us meditate upon three blessed joys which await us at life's setting sun:

WE WILL SEE THE KING

Whether we go to be with the Lord in death, or whether the Lord comes while we yet live, the promise is sure: "Thine eyes shall behold the King in his beauty" (Isaiah 33:17). What unspeakable joy will be ours when we awaken with His likeness and see Him as He is!

A little boy was born blind. A skilled surgeon performed a delicate operation on the boy's eyes. For days and weeks his eyes were covered with bandages. As the time drew near when the bandages would be removed, the nurse said, "My boy, tomorrow we are going to remove the bandages from your eyes. When the bandages are removed, whom do you want to see **FIRST**?" Without a moment's hesitation the lad exclaimed, "I want to see the doctor who gave me my sight!"

We want to see **FIRST** the One who gave us our spiritual sight!

Till we behold the King in His beauty, let it be our fixed purpose to be like Him **NOW** in word and in deed. As we, by faith, fix our spiritual

(Continued on page twenty-four)

The General Superintendent Speaks



The Duty of CHRISTIAN PARENTS

TO BE A CHRISTIAN MEANS NOT only to be born again and to nourish that new spiritual life by constant attendance upon worship, at home and at church, but it means to manifest godliness in all the relationships of life. One of the most fundamental and important of life's relationships is that of parent to child, and the Bible not only recognized this but carefully prescribes what that relationship should be.

One of the reasons why God in His Bible dwells at some length upon what a father should be and do toward his child is that He has ordained that this relationship should stand as a constant illustration of the Heavenly Father's relation to His earthly children. "If ye, then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask Him?" Now if we, being human, utterly pervert and abuse our relationship and responsibility toward our children, should we not thereby entirely misrepresent God's relationship to His children and thus spoil His intended illustration?

The home is one of the great institutions upon which rests the whole structure of modern civilization. Many of the wiser heads of the present day are gravely concerned about the future of our country because of the rapid disintegration of the home and home life. God is concerned about the peace and prosperity of all men, and for this reason He too gives solemn instruction in His Bible about home relationships.

It is also to be observed that these

children who have had the advantage of wholesome home discipline and Christian love make far better individual Christians and members of churches than those who have not had these advantages. In other words, those people who in their childhood have learned to obey and respect their parents because they trusted in their love and superior wisdom, find it far easier to obey and respect the laws of God, trusting in His love and superior wisdom, than do those people who were constantly allowed to disobey their parents when they were children. Thus, in order to have good, obedient children in His great family, God instructs that all children shall take their proper place in their own families.

What the Bible instructs concerning the duty of parents to children may be divided into two sections; namely, their duty to teach them and to train them. "And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart; and thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up" (Deut. 6:6-7; 11:19-21). It was also a custom of the Israelites to gather men, women, and children together that the Word of the Lord might be read and explained unto them (Deut. 31:12-13; Neh. 8:1-3). The children were not forgotten in this public teaching of God's Word. It is thus the parents' duty and God-given commission carefully to instruct their children in the truths of the Bible.

"When thou liest down and when

thou risest up" suggests to us that beautiful practice of evening and morning family prayers. Father and mother call the children together. A portion of Scripture is read and possibly explained. And all engage in reverent prayer. Many a Christian minister and Christian worker today can thank that loving spiritual environment of the daily family altar in his childhood for the present-day devotion of time and talents to Christian service. A daily teaching of the Word of God from the loving lips of a godly life of a

A Mother's Prayer

Dear Lord, I bring to Thee my son
Whose tender years have scarce begun;
In this wee frame I know full well
A living soul has come to dwell
Who needs Thee now at Childhood's gate,
Ere he shall grow to man's estate;

I covenant through hours apart
To pray for him with fervent heart,
To teach Thy Word with winsome voice
By day and night until his choice
Be but Thy blood for sins' deep stain;
And my small son is born again;

Then onward shall I pray the more
And teach Thy precepts o'er and o'er
That he may grow, each boyhood hour
By Thine indwelling risen power.

Lord, some small boys with none to care
Will never hear a mother's prayer;
Prepare my son with love aflame
To reach them with Thy saving name;
And make him, Lord, a polished tool,
A learner in Thy highest school.

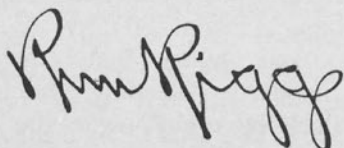
A mother's part seems, oh, so frail!
But Thy strong arm can never fail;
To teach, to pray, to stand are mine;
The miracles must all be Thine;
Expectantly, I yield to Thee
The little boy Thou gavest me.

—Louise B. Eavey.

Christian father and mother sows the little minds and hearts full of gospel seeds which are sure to spring up and bear fruit unto eternal life.

And the Bible says: "Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old, he will not depart from it" (Prov. 22:6). Here is not only a promise that children can be molded for life but a command thus to mold and shape children's lives. No matter how godly parents themselves may be or how far back their ancestral line of respectability may run, it will be eternally true that all children left to themselves will bring their parents to shame (Prov. 29:15). "Foolishness is bound in the heart of a child, but the rod of correction shall drive it far from him" (Prov. 22:15). It is absolutely necessary therefore that firm measures be taken to hold children in the straight path of obedience, respect for age, and for sacred things, and of all things that bespeak good manners and breeding. The weak young sprig of a tree is bound fast to a straight rod that it might grow straight and upright, and the weak young sprig of a human life also needs at least occasional contact with a rod that it too might grow straight and upright. The prescription "Spare the rod and spoil the child" is not only old-fashioned but it is based squarely upon the perennially up-to-date Word of God (Prov. 13:24; 19:18; 23:13-14; 29:15-17).

"Fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord" (Eph. 6:4). "Nurture" speaks of nourishment and culture; and "admonition," of course, means faithful warning. Here is the parents' spiritual duty toward their children. Of Abraham God said: "I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the Lord" (Gen. 18:19). And this was why He took him into His confidence. Eli lost his birthright, his high priesthood, and his very life because he honored his sons above the Lord and allowed them to make themselves exceedingly vile (1 Sam. 2:12-36). And today God is still choosing Abrahams and rejecting Elis.



Your Questions

ANSWERED BY ERNEST S. WILLIAMS

Would it be right for one to marry his cousin?

Before the giving of the Law there seems to have been no restriction against such a marriage. However, when God established the commonwealth of Israel such marriages were forbidden. "None of you shall approach to any that is near of kin to him..." (Leviticus 18:6-17).

* * *

First Corinthians 7:14 speaks about the unbelieving husband being sanctified by the wife, "else were your children unclean." Does this mean that children of unsaved parents are lost if they die in infancy?

Dr. Lightfoot makes this comment, "The Jews considered a child born 'out of holiness' whose parents were not proselytes. On the other hand, they considered the children of heathen born 'in holiness' provided the parents became proselytes 'before' the birth. All the children of the heathen were reputed 'unclean' by the Jews; and all their own children holy."

Adam Clarke quotes from Tertullian, one of the early Church fathers, who set forth that a child of heathen parents "was dedicated from its conception to the idols and demons which the parents worshiped." Then Adam Clarke says, "As the parents were converted to the Christian faith, the child comes into the world without these impure and unhallowed rites; and is from its infancy consecrated to the true God."

Some have sought to teach from this scripture that all children of unbelieving parents are damned if they die in infancy. We believe this entirely incorrect, for "where there is no law, there is no transgression."

* * *

Is it the young man who is engaged to be married whom Paul is instructing in 1 Corinthians 7:36?

It is probably the father of the maiden, and not the prospective husband, to whom Paul is speaking, for in verse 38 he refers to the individual as "he that giveth her in marriage." The Williams translation reads, "Now

if a father thinks that he is not doing the proper thing regarding his single daughter, if she is past the bloom of her youth... let him do what she desires; he commits no sin. Let the daughter and her suitor marry." There is some difference on this point, but several modern versions give readings similar to the one I have quoted.

* * *

Does the Bible forbid a person of one race to marry into another race; for example, for an American to marry a Japanese?

Because of the idolatry of the Canaanite people, God forbade the Israelites to intermarry with them. But except for this I know of no scripture condemning marriage between people of different nations or races.

A Japanese woman might make an American a desirable wife. However, there might be times of embarrassment for him when he introduced her to other Americans who do not look with favor on such a marriage. Again, one should consider the children who would be born. Their foreign features might prove a serious social handicap through life.

* * *

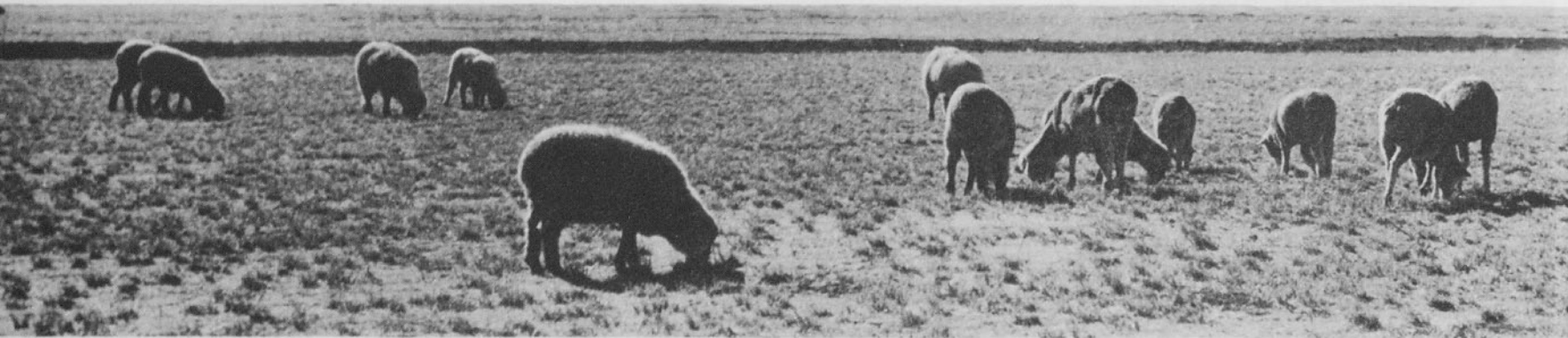
Why were men allowed more than one wife in the Old Testament, while polygamy was prohibited in the New Testament?

My only answer is that God permitted polygamy in the Old Testament because of the hardness of their hearts. When Jesus set forth the principles for the New Testament dispensation, He passed by Moses and went right back to the original plan of God in creating man. "From the beginning it was not so," He said. Then He approved marriage on the same basis on which God instituted it in the beginning: that is, every man should have but one wife, and each partner should show the proper love and fidelity toward the other.

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 (if you send a stamped self-addressed envelope).



That Great Shepherd of the Sheep



H. Armstrong Roberts

God surely knew all about men when He called them "sheep." He knew they needed a shepherd.

BY VIOLET SCHOONMAKER

ABEL WAS A SHEPHERD. SO WERE Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Joseph and his brothers were shepherds. David was taken "from following the sheep" to be ruler over Israel.

The word "shepherd" is looked upon as a synonym for "loyalty." Shepherding is said to be the "hardest, most harrowing work on earth." Stories are told of the sacrifices made by herders in the west to keep their flocks intact. I read in the *Reader's Digest* of a herder who accidentally shot himself. He could have reached the ranch in an hour's time if he had deserted his sheep. Instead, he drove them in and arrived at the ranch four hours later on the verge of collapse from loss of blood. He left a crimson ribbon on the snow along the trail where he had been, and completed the trek only by crawling on his hands and knees.

A sheep is perhaps the most stupid,

helpless, defenseless creature on earth. It must be cared for day and night, led, and defended. It is not able, like other animals, to recognize poisonous weeds, and the shepherd must jump ahead of it and turn it in another direction. If left alone the sheep becomes lost and cannot find its way home. When frightened, sheep will pile up until hundreds of them suffocate in a few minutes. If one sheep jumps over a precipice, the others will follow. If sheep are attacked, they have no way of defending themselves.

God surely knew all about men when He called them "sheep." He knew that they needed a shepherd. But the tragedy was that man did not want to be shepherded. He turned to his own way, went astray, and lost himself on the mountains of sin, becoming a prey to wild beasts.

There were shepherds in Israel who pretended to look after God's sheep

but they were false shepherds, feeding themselves and not the flock. A description of these hirelings is found in Ezekiel 34:4, "The diseased have ye not strengthened, neither have ye healed that which was sick, neither have ye bound up that which was broken, neither have ye brought again that which was driven away, neither have ye sought that which was lost; but with force and with cruelty have ye ruled them." God pronounced a woe on these hirelings and told them that He Himself would "Search the sheep, and seek them out." In the twenty-third verse of this chapter He said, "I will set up one shepherd over them, and he shall feed them, even my servant David; he shall feed them, and he shall be their shepherd." God was not speaking of David, the shepherd boy, for David had been dead many years before this prophecy was given. He was speaking of "the shepherd, the stone of Israel," promised Joseph in Genesis 49:24, the Shepherd who dwells between the cherubims (Psalm 80:1).

And when that Shepherd came, shepherds "keeping watch over their flock by night" were the first to wel-

come Him. When He grew to manhood He told men that He would be their Shepherd, and explained just what kind of Shepherd He would be—a “good shepherd” who knows His sheep and is known by them. He told them about the Shepherd who left the ninety and nine and went after one little sheep who had gone astray until he found it. He had come to “seek and to save that which was lost.” He would not leave them as the hireling who flees when he sees the wolf coming, but He would lay down His life for them that they might have life “more abundantly.”

But men did not understand Him. They smote the shepherd, and the sheep were scattered (Zechariah 13:7). However, the “God of peace... brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep” (Hebrews 13:20). And He lives today.

Reader, is this great Shepherd yours? Can you say, “The Lord is *my* shepherd” (Psalm 23:1)? The one who wrote this psalm was sure of his Shepherd. Are you?

John MacNeil, the great Scottish preacher, wrote of this psalm as being a harp of six strings, each verse a string making hearts not only believing but also tuneful. He wrote, “If this Shepherd is not yours, you are like ownerless dogs prowling over the world’s garbage heaps. What a life, when you might be one of God’s sheep, provided for and kept securely in the Eternal Fold! David knew now that all he had ever needed as a shepherd boy on the hills, as a wanderer, as a warrior, as a king, as a poor sinner with the wolf at his throat, was found in his faithful Shepherd, and he exclaims, ‘I shall not want.’ This is a big word to say in a world like this and in a body like ours. But we can truly say it if the Lord is our Shepherd.”

Little flocks of God’s sheep are scattered all over the world today. They are among wolves that do not spare them. But the great Shepherd is with them whispering, “Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom” (Luke 12:32). Stupid, helpless, defenseless sheep are to inherit the kingdom, sit with Him on His throne, and reign with Him—and all through the matchless grace of the “great Shepherd” who loved them and gave

Himself for them. To Him be glory forever and ever.

*“Wherever He may guide me,
No want shall turn me back,
My Shepherd is beside me
And nothing can I lack.
His wisdom ever waketh,
His sight is never dim;
He knows the way He taketh
And I will walk with Him.”*

“Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever” (Hebrews 13:20, 21). ◀◀

A Shepherd Is King

*When God sought a king for His people of old,
He went to the fields to find him;
A shepherd was he, with his crook and his lute,
And a following flock behind him.*

*Oh love of the sheep, oh joy of the lute,
And the sling and the stone for the battle!
A shepherd was king, and the giant was naught,
And the enemy driven like cattle.*

*When God looked to tell of His good will to men,
And the Shepherd-king’s Son whom He gave them,
To shepherds made meek a-caring for sheep
He told of a Christ sent to save them.*

*Oh love of the sheep, oh watch in the night,
And the glory, the message, the choir!
’Twas shepherds who saw their King in the straw,
And returned with their hearts all on fire.*

*When Christ thought to tell of His love to the world,
He said to the throng before Him:
“The Good Shepherd giveth His life for the sheep”
—And away to the cross they bore Him.*

*Oh love of the sheep, oh blood-sweat of prayer,
Oh man on the cross, God-forsaken!
A Shepherd has gone to defend all alone
The sheepfold by death overtaken.*

*When God sought a King for His people for aye,
He went to the grave to find Him;
And a Shepherd came back, Death dead in His grasp,
And a following flock behind Him.*

*Oh love of the sheep, oh life from the dead,
Oh strength of the faint and the fearing!
A Shepherd is King, and His kingdom will come,
And the day of His coming is nearing.*

—Alliance Weekly

Children Everywhere Are Reached

BOYS AND GIRLS ARE EVERYWHERE. THEY FILL A VITAL place all over the world, and they have great spiritual needs. Wherever we find them, we find souls coming into the age of accountability, needing salvation. Wherever they are, at church, at school, on vacation, or spending idle hours at home, their need is the same. The gospel story of salvation must be given to children everywhere through Child Evangelism.

Since children can be found nearly anywhere, they are easy to contact. This is one of the factors which may account for the fact that Child Evangelism in the Assemblies of God is the fastest growing evangelistic area.

Child Evangelism reaches the boys and girl in Sunday School. The Assemblies had an estimated enrollment last Sunday School year of over 300,000 youth under thirteen years of age. How glad we are to have trained teachers and well-equipped Sunday Schools that minister to them each Sunday. These are privileged children because the Sunday School is the greatest potential for Child Evangelism. This is shown by the 73,580 souls that were saved last year in Assemblies of God Sunday Schools (according to the Check-up reports).

Child Evangelism can reach the often-neglected children from unchurched homes who attend adult worship services. These spiritually-starved children need the age-level challenge of a Children's Church. Many churches testify of the salvation of children who might never have had the opportunity had they not received it in Children's church.

It is encouraging to hear of many children inside the church being reached for the Lord, but of grave concern to us should be the 28 million boys and girls in America who attend no church. The Great Commission includes them. Each of the 385,000 children brought before the courts of our land every year need to be reached by Child Evangelism. This can be done by taking the gospel to them wherever they are.

What can be done for the youngsters in our public schools where two out of three attend no church? Here is good news! Child Evangelism can reach them through Released-time religious classes in most states.

A Released-time class is a class set up by churches for which the attending pupils are excused from public school one period a week to receive religious education. Children in public schools are being taught the Word of God through Released-time classes in three thousand communities throughout our land. The Lord has promised that His Word shall not return unto Him void, and it could hardly have a better place to work than in the public school pupils. Eighty-five per cent of those who attended New England Released-time classes confessed they attended no Sunday School at all.

Even after schools dismiss for summer vacations, the children are being reached through Vacation Bible Schools.

There were 180,645 boys and girls last year who were happy to spend a portion of their vacations in Assemblies of God Vacation Bible Schools. Teachers and officers who spent part of their summer in this productive ministry numbered 24,516. The Lord crowned their efforts with 13,167 children accepting Him as Saviour. This leaves no doubt that Child Evangelism reaches the child even on vacation.

Vacation Bible School is only one of twin summer endeavors to win the young. Child Evangelism wins souls in Boys and Girls Camps also. Records tell a thrilling story of progress in this work among the districts. In just three years, the number of Boys and Girls Camps has increased from twenty-seven to fifty-one.

The grand report came last summer that 7,543 campers benefited from the Christian teaching given out by 1,335 camp workers. This news was even better when it was learned that while many of the nation's children were idle and delinquent, there were 1,211 led to the Lord in our summer camps.



atched With Child Evangelism

In addition to these encouraging figures, the camp directors reported a growing realization on the part of laymen that summer camp is a place of ministry for them. Not only is there a need for Bible teachers and recreation leaders, but a vast field of service is open in camp counseling. Most of the decisions reported in the camps were confirmed by a personal interview with a consecrated counselor. They proved again that Child Evangelism reaches children on vacations.

Children may be found in vacant lots and side streets playing baseball and marbles nearly any afternoon or Saturday the weather permits. Their evenings are taken up with hours of viewing television. But even during these times, Child Evangelism can reach them.

Children's revivals and evangelistic rallies are being held on Saturdays, after school, and at night. These services usually are conducted by Bible school students and full-time children's evangelists. However, because more churches are awakening to the need of this channel of Child Evangelism, there is a dearth of workers. This emergency is being met as more local churches are conducting their own services. They reason that if they have enough workers to hold Sunday School, they have enough workers to participate in a well-planned children's service. Hence the idle hours of the children are snatched from the devil's use.

Neighborhood play is recessed in thousands of areas once a week for Home Bible Clubs. These Bible story hours give to many their only Christian training. Dedicated teachers have stated often that this is the work to which they feel divinely called—that of taking the gospel to children with no other opportunity for salvation.

Christian Cadet clubs are springing up rapidly to encourage the salvation and Christian development of Pentecostal boys and girls.

Yes, children are everywhere. Their spiritual needs are being met as Child Evangelism reaches them wherever they are.

—by Maxine Mitchell



1. Evangelist Paul Glover conducts a typical Children's Rally.
2. R. P. Woodruff (with 1,335 other Assemblies of God Boys and Girls Camp workers) taught 7,543 children last summer. Records show that 1,211 were saved in the one camp season.
3. Children eagerly receive the Word of God in Children's Church.
4. James Brown of Bismark, Missouri, directs local Christian Cadets.
5. A portion of the 180,645 children who attended 2,170 Assemblies of God Vacation Bible Schools in 1956 (13,167 were reported saved).
6. Two out of three children in public schools attend no church. Child Evangelism reaches them through Released Time classes.





—by D. V. Hurst

Assistant National Sunday School Secretary



D. V. Hurst

If There Were NO CHILDREN...

YOU HEAR IT SAID, "THE CHILD owes much to the parent;" but isn't it also true that *the parent owes much to the child?* For if there were no children there would be no cry of "Dad" to welcome a man home from work. Mother love would be gone from the world, and the meaning of *home* would soon be lost. Belief in tomorrow and hope for the future would dissipate into an empty promise, because tomorrow would die with the old.

Many "firsts" would never appear—the first step, the first word, the first job. There would actually be few things new in the world, because men would cling to the past—if there were no children.

Yes, if there were no children the whole complexion of life would be changed. Most tragic of all, we would lose the tenderness of childhood in its response to the gospel. In childhood, the human will is pliable. Character can be moulded. The "twig" can be bent Godward.

It's comparatively easy to win the child, for the Bible says, concerning the commandment learned at an early age, "When thou goest, it shall lead thee; when thou sleepest, it shall keep thee; and when thou awakest, it shall talk with thee. For the commandment is a lamp; and the law is light; and reproofs of instruction are the way of life" (Proverbs 6:22, 23). Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them" (Luke 18:16, Revised). Wisdom says, "Those that seek me *early* shall find me" (Proverbs 8:17).

But some who stress various forms of evangelism fail to see the possibilities of childhood, and consequently never reap the rewards of Child Evangelism. We need to remind our-

selves that the following facts are clearly evident:

► 1. *The "little ones" can be lost.* In discussing children, Jesus said, "Even so it is not the will of your Father which is in heaven, that one of these little ones should perish" (Matthew 18:14). In so saying, He inferred that they could be lost. And Paul declared that, "All have sinned, and come short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23).

But Jesus said He had come to "save that which was lost" (Matthew 18:11). Therefore—

► 2. *The "little ones" can be saved.* Jesus warned, "Take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones" (Matthew 18:10). And again when they brought little children to Him to be blessed He said, "Let the children come to me, do not hinder them; for to such belongs the kingdom of God" (Mark 10:14, Revised). He also said, "Him that cometh unto me I will in no wise cast out" (John 6:37).

Now it might be argued that the child cannot grasp the meaning and purpose of the gospel. But Paul addressed himself to children on several occasions showing he expected them to understand spiritual things. In writing both the Epistle to the Colossians and the one to the Ephesians he appealed to the children to obey their parents "in the Lord." It is even possible that he considered the children as saints, for he opened the address to the "saints" at Colosse and Philippi, and then in almost the same breath he addressed the children.

D. L. Moody said, "Some of the happiest nights I ever had were in children's prayer meetings. Some people don't believe in early conversion. . . . Well, that is not my experience. Some of the most active men that I had to

help me were little barefooted boys picked up in the lanes and byways whom I had in my children's meetings."

Others argue that the child should not be asked to decide until his more mature years. They say he should be permitted to grow up "unbiased." This, of course, is impossible since the many appealing voices of the world attempt to indoctrinate him and influence him away from church all through his growing years. It is therefore essential that the voice of the gospel should also be heard, and that the child be given a chance to choose early.

And if he is given that chance, those early years can provide a sturdy foundation for a godly adult life. Of King Josiah, who began to reign in his eighth year, it is said, "And he did that which was right in the sight of the Lord, and walked in all the ways of David his father, and turned not aside to the right hand or to the left" (2 Kings 22:2). Evidently King Josiah was given an early chance to decide, and godly principle was built into his life during the formative years.

As a final argument in the matter, the words of Jesus are evidence. He prayed, "I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes" (Matthew 11:25). And He also said, "Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings thou hast perfected praise" (Matthew 21:16). In warning against offending the "little ones" He spoke of the "ones which *believe* in me," showing conclusively the power of a child's faith. Spurgeon once said, "A child of five, if properly instructed, can as truly believe and be regenerated as any adult."

► 3. *God desires that every effort be*

expended to win the "little ones." As has already been cited, it is not His desire that any be lost.

Through Moses the Lord commanded the children of Israel, "These words . . . shall be in thine heart: and thou shalt teach them diligently into thy children" (Deuteronomy 6:6, 7). Here the children were distinctly included in the Old Testament evangelism command.

In giving the New Testament evangelism command, Jesus mentioned no age limits but spoke of "all nations" (Matthew 28:19, 20). All ages can be included in the all nations! Based on this command is a variety of New Testament evangelism commands. It can be safely said they all include the children because it is God's desire that all be saved. And worthy of note is the occasion in which Jesus told Peter to "feed my lambs" (John 12:15).

► 4. *To win a "little one" is to win a soul and a life.* The soul of the child is equal in value to the soul of the adult; but the life of the child has yet to unfold its influence. Who can tell how far-reaching it will be? Jesus placed great value on the child when He said, "Whoso shall receive one such little child in my name receiveth me" (Matthew 18:5).

Yes, the adult owes much to the child, and the greatest share of that debt rests in a knowledge of the Word of God and salvation. How shall the adult pay his debt to the child? How shall the church obey the Lord in bringing the "little ones" to Him? The answer is quite simple—we must seize every opportunity to reach and win every child to Christ. We must employ every child evangelism method known, and devise new ones. We must:

Build the Sunday School—because it serves as the great teaching arm of the church, as well as an evangelistic arm in its own right. It ministers to every age level, especially the child.

Conduct a Vacation Bible School—because it doubles the teaching time!

Employ "released time"—because it affords opportunity for variety in teaching content, and adds to the time spent in religious education.

Sponsor Home Bible Clubs—because they take the gospel to the neighborhoods where the children are.

Participate in Boys and Girls Camps and Youth Camps and send every child possible—because here is a highly concentrated time of study and recreation in an isolated situation where youth is eager to respond to the teaching.

Testimony concerning the spiritual results is replete and heart warming.

Have a Children's Church—because it affords opportunity for worship at the child's level when he might otherwise be overlooked.

Hold Children's Revivals—because they afford opportunity to reach children that would otherwise not be contacted, and to pinpoint the matter of decision and accepting Christ. It's not inconceivable that children should have "revivals" just as adults have them!

These and other means of Child

Evangelism must be exploited to full advantage if we would obey the command and bring the "little ones" to Christ.

We must not neglect evangelism's most opportune time, childhood, the time when a little influence goes a long way because the life is pliable and easily shaped.

One-third of the nation is young. We must be bold and aggressive in our efforts to bring that third to Christ. *As a church we dare not act as if there were no children.*

Healing Testimonies

Bone Infection Healed

I thank the Lord for a wonderful healing in my family. Last July Sister Velma Lackey held a revival at our church, Glad Tidings Assembly in San Bernardino. During the meetings she prayed for my little six-year-old daughter, and Jesus healed her instantly.

For seven months she had suffered with her left leg. She had turned her ankle while playing with high heels, and had fractured a bone. The injury resulted in osteomyelitis, an inflammation of the marrow of the bone. The doctor thought for a while they might have to amputate the leg, but prayer from our home church prevented that.

She was given several kinds of antibiotics to counteract the disease. She was in and out of the hospital during these seven months and constantly under medical treatment. She was confined to her bed ten weeks, and then had to walk on crutches for many weeks. For short periods she would try to walk without crutches but her leg would become inflamed and she would have to stay off it for a while. Finally, she had to use the crutches all the time, until the night when the Lord healed her. That night she handed me her crutches and has never used them again.

Later we returned to the doctor for her checkup and he looked at her and said, "It doesn't look like there's any osteomyelitis here." That was

nine months ago, and she hasn't had any trouble since.

This disease is usually a chronic one and can linger on for years, usually resulting in a series of operations. Many times it cripples one for life. Praise the dear Lord for healing my little girl!—Mrs. C. Lebert, Los Angeles 23, California.

(Endorsed by Troy Pope, Pastor, Glad Tidings Assembly, San Bernardino, California.)

HEALED OF NERVOUS AFFLICTION

I want to praise and thank my Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ for healing me of a nervous affliction. On March 25, 1957, the Lord visited me while I was in prayer and healed me. He told me that the more I would testify of this and give Him the glory, the more He would manifest Himself to me.

On April 10 I was filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke in a new tongue. This happened while I was at a revival meeting in Hempstead, New York where L. K. Dodge was preaching.

I can never praise God enough for His wonderful kindness and His mercy to me.—Mrs. Frank Gerbino, 112 Attamont Avenue, Sea Cliff, New York.

(Endorsed by Pastor Eugene Rockman, Port Washington, New York.)



THIS PRESENT WORLD

Smoking Shortens Life Span

According to *The Lookout*, the average age of death of nonsmokers is 67.7 years; average smokers, 65.5 years; heavy smokers, 57.7 years.

Experts Point Up Smoking-Cancer Link

A seven-man study group, set up by the National Cancer Institute, the National Heart Institute, the American Cancer Society, and the American Heart Association, has released a report pointing up the effects of smoking on the lungs and the heart. The report, as presented in *Time* magazine, concluded that cigarette smoking is a major cause of lung cancer. The risk increases with the amount smoked. (Smoking is not the only cause of lung cancer, however. Air pollution is another.)

The seven experts stated: "The smoking of tobacco, particularly in the form of cigarettes, is an important health hazard. The evidence of a cause-effect relationship [with lung cancer] is adequate for considering the initiation of public health measures." The experts also reported that most of today's filters, widely advertised by the cigarette industry, are ineffective in removing substances that cause cancers.

The report stated that no conclusive evidence has been found as yet to link smoking with heart disease.

Church Holds Easter Balloon Lift

First Assembly of God, Joliet, Illinois, had a balloon lift as part of its Easter Sunday activities. Each person attending the Sunday School and morning worship was given a helium-filled balloon to be released in a colorful spectacle at the conclusion of the service. Attached to every balloon was a postcard inviting visitors for Sunday School, and bearing the name of the individual releasing it. The person finding the balloon and mailing the card from the greatest distance was to receive a gift from the church.

Catholics Further Develop Public Relations Program

A new public relations pattern is in process of development by the Roman Catholic Church in the U.S., according to a recent report in *Editor and Publisher*. Bureaus of Information are being established throughout the country to handle contacts with the mass communications media. Twenty such bureaus have already been established.

These bureaus issue regular news and feature releases to newspapers and other publications, and plan to publish a weekly news bulletin to be sent to all media. They are also a source of information on Catholic questions.

One reason why so much news of Catholic activities appears in the secular press is their persistence in presenting it. Editors are looking for well-written stories and for good pictures of interest to their readers. Quite often the Catholics are the only ones who submit such. Perhaps we could learn a lesson from them here.

Mobs Burn 46th Protestant Church in Colombia

A mob of fanatics burned the new Evangelical Alliance Mission chapel in the country district of Palmira, Colombia, according to *United Brethren*. The building, soon to be dedicated, was the forty-sixth Protestant church or chapel destroyed in Colombia since 1948.

Delinquent Juveniles Must Report to Church

Young offenders will henceforth report weekly to their churches in Allentown, Pennsylvania, rather than to police headquarters. The youngster's parents will be asked to take him to church. Police Chief James L. Christine is convinced that religious training is the surest cure for delinquency.

Three Lutheran Bodies to Merge in May, 1960

A new Lutheran body of more than two million members will be constituted at a convention in May, 1960. The new body, to be known as The American Lutheran Church, will unite the present American Evangelical and United Evangelical Lutheran Churches. The timetable for the merger was set at a joint union committee of the three groups when they met in Minneapolis a month ago.

Gallup Compares Influence of Church in America, Britain

George Gallup's pollsters, fresh from beating paths across the U.S. and Britain, have come up with some interesting (and alarming) statistics on the influence of religion and the church in the U. S. and Britain.

The pollsters found that church attendance (a Sunday in April) was 51 per cent for the U. S., but only 14 per cent for Britain. Only once had Gallup reported a higher church attendance for the U. S. (59 per cent on Easter Sunday, 1955).

The wide disparity in attendance between Americans and Britons may be the result of their attitudes toward religion. Most Americans (69 per cent) felt the influence of religion was increasing, but 52 per cent of the Britons felt it was decreasing. Can religion answer "most of today's problems"? 81 per cent of the Americans polled thought so, but only 46 per cent of the Britons were of that opinion, while 27 per cent of the Britons passed religion off as "old-fashioned" (as did 7 per cent of the Americans).

Gallup's pollsters found that a great majority of Americans and Britons believed that Christ was the Son of God (90 per cent in the U. S., 71 per cent in Britain). Almost twice as many Americans as Britons (61 per cent compared with 34 per cent) believed in the Devil. Belief in life after death was held by 74 per cent in the U. S., 54 per cent in Britain.

To the pollster's question, "Can a person be a Christian and not believe every word in the New Testament?" 66 per cent in the U. S. answered yes and 24 per cent said no; in Britain 79 per cent thought so; 11 per cent didn't.

No statistics are available on how many of the people knew what a Christian really is.

Delaware Legislature Approves Bingo Amendment

A constitutional amendment legalizing bingo on a county-option basis for religious, charitable, and civic groups was approved by the Delaware legislature. The measure will now be submitted to the voters in a statewide referendum during the 1958 general elections.

Protestant church groups opposed the amendment on the grounds that it would teach people to gamble under the guise of religion and charity. Roman Catholic groups, which hold that gambling is evil only when indulged in to excess, have been largely responsible for promoting the amendment.

Certainly giving by gambling—giving because there is the hope of a quick gain—is not the Biblical method of church finance.

Legalized Bingo Is a Wedge for Professional Gamblers

A recent study of legalized bingo in New Jersey revealed, according to *Aero* magazine, that 75 per cent of the income derived from the games went for expenses incidental to running the games; only 25 per cent went to the church or charity sponsoring the event. The study also indicated that family money was being diverted from paying the bills, and that bingo created an insatiable appetite for more gambling. An official who helped conduct the study termed legalized bingo an opening wedge for professional gamblers.

Magazine Publishers Act to Reduce Obscenity

A spokesman for the major magazine publishers and distributors in this country announced that the industry has launched a self-policing campaign against obscene publications on the nation's newsstands. The chairman of the regulating committee of the Bureau of Independent Publishers and Distributors made the announcement in a letter to all members of the organization. This includes 16 publishers, 850 wholesalers, and 110,000 retailers. He said the campaign will continue indefinitely—"until there are no further complaints about objectionable material"—but conceded that the situation has worsened within the past year. He estimated there are "about 50" objectionable publications on newsstands and "the great majority of these" are not distributed by his organization.

Juvenile Crime Increase Prompts Miami Curfew

A midnight curfew for youngsters under seventeen has been adopted by the City Commission of Miami, Florida. The rapid increase of juvenile delinquency was the prime factor in adopting the curfew. Miami authorities reported 7,250 juvenile crimes during 1956.

The City Commission asked the State Legislature to hike the minimum age for drivers' licenses to 18 and consider the possibilities of a county-wide curfew.

75% of NYC Delinquents Come from 1% of the City's Homes

Statistics released by the New York City Youth Board indicate that three-fourths of that city's delinquents come from 20,000 of the city's two million families. According to the executive director of the board, these homes which are the "core" of the delinquency problem are characterized by severe marital discord, alcoholism, drug addiction, physical and mental illness, broken homes, and many other related problems.

These figures indicate that much of New York City's delinquency problem is parental as well as juvenile. Only Christ is the true answer to these problems.



YC NAMES OFFICERS—Recently chosen officers for the Youth Commission of the National Sunday School Association are (standing, left to right): Dick Fulmer, Gunnar Høglund, Joy Mackay, and Tom Oschwaid. Shown with them are (seated, left to right): Dr. George Ford, executive director of the National Association of Evangelicals, and Dr. Clate Risley, president of the NSSA.

FULMER NAMED VICE-PRESIDENT OF NSSA'S YOUTH COMMISSION

Gunnar Høglund of Chicago was re-elected chairman of the Youth Commission of the National Sunday School Association at the annual meeting in Buffalo. The other officers of the unit which seek to correlate the work of evangelically-inclined youth organizations are Dick Fulmer, National Secretary of the Assemblies of God Christ's Ambassadors organization, Springfield, Missouri, vice-president; Tom Oschwaid, Winona Lake, Indiana, treasurer; and Miss Joy Mackay, Chicago, secretary.

The commission announced the launching of a study to evaluate the effectiveness of the programs that denominational and interdenominational youth groups are carrying on in the U.S. In addition, it has prepared a manual entitled, "Scouting in Evangelical Churches." The booklet is published in co-operation with the Boy Scouts of America and may be obtained for 35c from NSSA, 542 S. Dearborn, Chicago.

Another objective of the commission is to encourage observance of Youth Week in all Protestant churches from January 26 to February 2, 1958.

The National Sunday School Association with which the commission is affiliated is the Christian education arm of the National Association of Evangelicals.

Crime Rate Set Record in 1956

J. Edgar Hoover, director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, reported that 1956 was the worst year on record for crime. In the FBI's annual *Uniform Crime Report* he disclosed that offenses known to the police numbered 2,563,000 last year. This was a 13.3 per cent increase, the largest ever recorded in a single year. It brought the crime rate to 43 per cent higher than 1950.

Mr. Hoover also pointed out another significant fact: nearly half of the crimes were committed by persons eighteen years of age or younger.

Juvenile delinquency increased nearly 20 per cent in 1956 over the previous year, Mr. Hoover reported. He said 1956 was the worst year on record for juvenile crime, with 234,474 youths under 18 arrested. There were nearly 39,000 more arrests last year than in 1955. Of the juveniles who came in contact with the police, more than 40 per cent had not yet reached their 15th birthday. Crimes ranged from murder to petty larceny.

Thou and Thy House

BY BERNICE FLYNN

ARE YOU CONCERNED FOR THE SALVATION of a sister, brother, father, mother, wife, husband, son, daughter, aunt, uncle or some other member of your household? You are not alone. Many outstanding Christian leaders have had loved ones who did not know the Lord.

Even in Bible times, there was deep concern over and prayer for loved ones. Abraham interceded for the righteous in Sodom, thinking chiefly of Lot and his family. The rich man in Hades begged, "Send Lazarus to my father's house for I have five brothers. Let him testify to them lest they come to this place of torment."

God wishes not only individuals to become Christians but also whole families. A recurring phrase in Scripture is "thou and thy house." Although it is true that each individual has to be born again, the other members are brought into right relationship with Christ by

faithful living and earnest prayer.

To Noah, God said, "Come thou and all thy house into the ark" (Genesis 7:1). It would seem here that all the family was saved because of Noah's righteousness, "for thee have I seen righteous." One saved member of the family can do much to win the rest for Christ.

When the angel warned Lot of Sodom's destruction, he told him to bring his wife and daughters with him (Genesis 19:15).

When Joshua captured and destroyed Jericho, Rahab and her house were saved. She had her family come into the house with the red cord. Her faith led them to the step of faith.

When the nobleman's son was healed, he believed on Christ together with all his house.

When Peter was directed to Cornelius' home to preach, Cornelius gathered all his household. They heard, believed and were baptized.

In Achaia, Stephanas and household believed (1 Corinthians 16:15; 1:16).

In Corinth, Crispus, chief ruler of the synagogue, believed on the Lord with all his house (Acts 18:8).

And, of course, Paul said to the Philippian jailer, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house" (Acts 16:31).

It is right to claim our loved ones for Christ. We must not be discouraged even though we do not see them saved in our lifetime. Remember, Jesus did not win His brothers and sisters until after His death (Acts 1:14).

Paul Rader said, "Before my father died, he turned his face heavenward with the happiest, most beautiful smile.



TAKE TIME

Take time to hear their prayers at night
And cuddle them a bit.
Tell them a story now and then
And steal a little time to sit
And listen to their childish talk,
Or take them for a walk.

We little know it now—but soon
They will be gone (the years are swift)
For life just marches on and on
And Heaven holds no sweeter gift
Than shouting boys with tousled hair,
Who leave their toys just anywhere.

Take time to laugh and sing and play,
To really cherish and enjoy
A little girl with flaxen curls
And the small wonder of a boy.
They ask so little when they're small,
Just love and tenderness—that's all.

—Norman Lewis in "Luz"

Someone leaned over on the bed and asked, 'Dr. Rader, how can you smile when there is not one of your children serving the Lord?'

"He smiled back, as he answered, 'That doesn't matter a bit. It was settled long ago. I brought them up as He commanded me to do. They will everyone be brought in. They are a strong-headed group, but God will lead them. He will bring them in.'

"And," added Rader, "every last one of them is in tonight—yes, every one!"

—Christian Life

Our prayers often resemble the mischievous tricks of children, who knock at their neighbors' houses and then run away. We often knock at heaven's door and then run off into the spirit of the world, instead of waiting for entrance and answer. We act as if we were afraid of having our prayers answered.

—Williams



A Burning Focus

How can we love Christ more?

Spend time alone in contemplating what He has done for you, and what He is, as the "chiefest among ten thousand" and the "altogether lovely." Stir the inner fire by means of memory, and let hope pile on it the fuel of promise till it begins to blaze.

Cultivate the habit of speaking aloud to Him, when alone, or on a lonely walk, until He be interlaced in the tiniest episodes of existence. Open your heart to the entrance of the Holy Spirit, shedding abroad the love of God in the heart, and gathering the rays of that love into a burning focus, so that you may love God back with love which has come from His heart into yours.

And, very specially, accustom yourself to do, for the sake of His dear love, many things which cost you self-sacrifice and effort. As we show love to others we understand His love to us. "Every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love" (1 John 4:7, 8).

The key to the knowledge of the love of Jesus is not in singing rapturous hymns, nor in seeking to arouse intense emotion, but in quietly doing daily deeds of self-denial for His sake.

And surely this is the way to sow ourselves as corns of wheat in the ground, while He measures the least act of love, not by the magnitude of the deed itself, but by the strength of the love which prompts it. It is astonishing how quickly we graduate in the school of love, when we begin to put in practice all we know.

—F. B. Meyer

For the Junior Reader

BIBLE HALL OF FAME

Below is a list of famous persons in the Old Testament. At the right is a list of items or characteristics often associated with these men. Can you match the item in the column at the right with the name of the man in the column at the left? Use each item only once.

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. David | a. wisdom |
| 2. Gideon | b. ark |
| 3. Noah | c. sorrow |
| 4. Samson | d. Ten Commandments |
| 5. Solomon | e. long hair |
| 6. Absalom | f. harp |
| 7. Moses | g. folly |
| 8. Joseph | h. strength |
| 9. Rehoboam | i. trumpets and
pitchers |
| 10. Jeremiah | j. 20 pieces of silver |

* * *

ANSWERS
1-f (1 Sam. 16:23); 2-i (Judges 7:16); 3-b (Gen. 6:13, 14); 4-h (Judges 16:6); 5-a (1 Kings 4:29-34); 6-e (2 Sam. 14:25; 26); 7-d (Ex. 34:27, 28); 8-j (Gen. 37: 28); 9-g (2 Chron. 10); 10-c (2 Chron. 35:25)



Our Family Altar

Monday, June 3

Read: Joshua 11

Learn: "The Lord your God, he it is that fighteth for you, as he hath promised you" (Joshua 23:10).

For the Parent: This chapter records the final conquest of Canaan by Joshua and Israel. Point out (1) it was God who brought victory to Israel; (2) Israel was careful to obey the commands of God fully. If we expect God to give us victory, we must learn to obey Him.

Question Time: What encouragement did God give Joshua when a number of kings came to battle against him? (v. 6) What was the outcome of the battle? (v. 8) What do you think is the important lesson of this chapter?

Tuesday, June 4

Read: Joshua 14:5-15

Learn: "The Lord shall reward thee" (Prov. 25:22).

For the Parent: Review the story of the spies Moses sent into Canaan (Numbers 13), pointing out (1) Caleb's and Joshua's faith in God; (2) God's promise of a reward to Caleb—Numbers 14:24. Show how this promise was fulfilled, stressing the courage and faith of Caleb. Faith and courage will not go unrewarded.

Question Time: What did Caleb do when he was 40 years old? (v. 7) Why was he promised a special reward? (vv. 8, 9) How did he get this reward? (vv. 12-14)

Wednesday, June 5

Read: Joshua 20

Learn: "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble" (Psa. 46:1).

For the Parent: (Background material on the cities of refuge will be found in Numbers 35.) Point out (1) the purpose of the cities of refuge; (2) the fulfilling of the command to set aside these cities. Also show that sinners, to escape eternal death, must seek refuge in Christ. If we leave our place of safety, we are in danger. Only by remaining in Christ do we have true security.

Question Time: What was the purpose of the cities of refuge? (v. 3) Of what do you think they are a type? Where is the only true security for the Christian? (see above) Why is this so?

Thursday, June 6

Read: Acts 2:1-18, 32-41

Learn: "Whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved" (v. 21).

For the Parent: (Additional material on "Peter and Pentecost" will be found on Sunday's Lesson page.) Review the account of the infilling of the Spirit received by the disciples on the Day of Pentecost, stressing particularly its effect on Peter and the sermon he preached. This same power is available to all Christians today—vv. 38, 39.

Question Time: What special anniversary do we celebrate next Sunday? (Day of Pentecost) What does it commemorate? (The events of Acts 2) Why do you think it is important?

Friday, June 7

Read: Luke 7:11-23; 4:18 (Sunday's Lesson for Juniors)

Learn: "And when the Lord saw her, he had compassion on her, and said unto her, Weep not" (Luke 7:13).

For the Parent: Review the story of how Jesus raised from the dead the son of the widow of Nain, stressing how Jesus had compassion on her. Jesus will comfort us in our sorrow if we learn to take our sorrows to Him.

Question Time: What did Jesus say to the mother of the boy who had died? (v. 13) What did Jesus do? (vv. 14, 15) How do we know Jesus can comfort us? (Luke 4:18)

Saturday, June 8

Read: Exodus 34:1-11, 27-35 (Sunday's Lesson for Primaries)

Learn: "Keep my commandments" (Ex. 20:6).

For the Parent: Review the Ten Commandments (Ex. 20:1-17) and the reason the original stone tablets bearing them were destroyed (Ex. 32). Point out how God gave them over again, and how Moses spent forty days and nights on the mountain with God. Show also the result of this (vv. 29-35).

Question Time: How many of the Ten Commandments can you recall? How long was Moses on the mountain with God (v. 28) What happened to his physical appearance? (v. 29) What was the reaction of Israel? (v. 30)



Stripped of property and belongings, Jews expelled from Egypt step ashore at Haifa, safe at last from persecution.

REPORT ON ISRAEL

BY LESTER F. SUMRALL

South Bend, Indiana

MAY 14, 1948, HAS BECOME A HISTORIC date. On that day the world's newspapers headlined the news: "Jewish State Proclaimed." "Israel Is Born." Radio commentators grew eloquent as they broadcast the news of the creation of the new state at 4:00 p.m., Israel time. America recognized the new nation during the first hour of its existence.

Next year (1958) the state of Israel will be ten years old. It has endured continual trouble with over 1,200 Fedayeen raids coming out of Egypt, Jordan, Syria, and Lebanon against her civilians. She has fought two wars and won. Israel has proved to the world that she is here to stay.

ISRAEL PROPHETICALLY

It is said that Frederick the Great once asked his courtiers, "Gentlemen, give me a proof of the inspiration of the Bible."

General Zuitung gave a famous answer: "The Jew, your Majesty."

The continued existence of the Jew is a miracle, and so is the survival

of the state of Israel. The prophet said, "Hear the Word of the Lord, O ye nations, and declare it in the isles afar off, and say, He that scattered Israel will gather him, and keep him, as a shepherd doth his flock" (Jeremiah 31:10). Prophecy is being fulfilled. God is gathering His ancient people in their ancient homeland.

I have just returned from Jerusalem, having spent the past six months in the land of Israel. This was my fourth visit to this new state. Our interest in it is intense because the Bible has predicted:

1. The rebirth of the land.
2. The rebirth of the nation.
3. The spiritual rebirth of the people.

We have personally witnessed the rebirth of the land. On our first visit we found Beersheba only a small village. Today it is a flourishing city—the metropolis of the Negev.

Seven years ago this area was mostly sand dunes. Today it is thriving farmland.

ISRAEL SOCIALLY

From a social standpoint we found Israel charming. It reminded us very much of what the United States must have been like in its beginnings. Jews from seventy-two lands have come to Israel and are seeking to integrate themselves into one community. There are the Jews from Germany with culture, education, and refinement; and there are the Jews from Yemen who formerly lived in barren desert country, a thousand years behind the times. These Yemenite Jews had never seen an automobile nor any part of modern civilization. When war broke out between the Arabs and the Jews, these people were thrust out of Yemen. They wandered across the Arabian desert and were picked up by great four-motored airplanes which carried them to Israel. These Yemenite Jews had followed the Law very carefully and had looked for the Messiah. They knew the Scripture in Exodus 19:4 which says, "I bare you on eagles' wings, and brought you unto myself." They were sure that God had sent the big planes to carry them to Israel in fulfilment of this Scripture. Upon arriving in Israel, some of them kissed the ground and then asked, "Where is He? Where is He?" When asked what they meant, they said, "The Messiah must be here—we have come on eagles' wings."

These primitive people, and others from Africa, are gradually being blended into the new nation. All young men have compulsory military training.



Tears and delight mingle in the faces of relatives of expelled Egyptian Jews as they anxiously look for loved ones in Haifa Port.

and so the young man who is a doctor's son and the young man who is a primitive Yemenite have to live together in the same barracks.

It is not only the young men who are drafted for military training. The girls also, when they become eighteen years of age, must serve two years in the Israel army. No girl is exempt from this military service unless she claims to be very religious. The Jews told us that this was determined by the way a girl dressed, and whether she used make-up, or went to dances, etc. If a girl who had claimed exemption from military service on religious grounds is found wearing slacks, or using make-up, or attending a dance, or going to a tavern with other young people, she is picked up that very moment and placed in the barracks to serve her two years.

One of the most interesting segments of social life in Israel are the kibbutzim. A kibbutz is a communal settlement where a number of families have banded together to live under a socialistic economy. The state owns the land and the people build their houses, plant their farms, eat at a common table, and receive no payment for their labor except their clothing and other necessities. The women work as well as the men, and the children are kept in a kindergarten. The children even live in separate houses. The parents are permitted to see their children between 4:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.

At the same time, the capitalistic system of free enterprise is working successfully in Israel. Many people own and operate a private business exactly as they did before they came to Israel.

There are approximately 200,000 Arabs living happily and securely in Israel. They move about at will and engage in their own business. We met them as we travelled and we had them in our preaching services. We found no discrimination being practiced against them by the Jews.

The people were very friendly. When we boarded a train we found almost everyone willing to assist us in any way possible. Wherever we went in Israel we found an absence of any hostile feeling toward foreigners.

ISRAEL RELIGIOUSLY

Religion has always been the very basis of existence for the people of Israel. They came into existence re-

ligiously—through Abraham's obedience to God. When their religion was pure and their devotion to God was sincere, they thrived politically, economically, and in every other way; but when there was a declension of religious life Israel always suffered in every aspect of life.

The entire Christian world recognizes the fact that when the Jewish leaders nineteen hundred years ago rejected the Lord Jesus Christ and cried, "His blood be upon us and upon our children," they brought the holy indignation of Jehovah upon the heads of all the people. This is evident, in that, from that very hour—

1. The Jewish nation has had no further revelation from heaven.
2. The Jews have had no divinely-inspired prophets for nineteen centuries.
3. The Jews have been persecuted from that day to this.

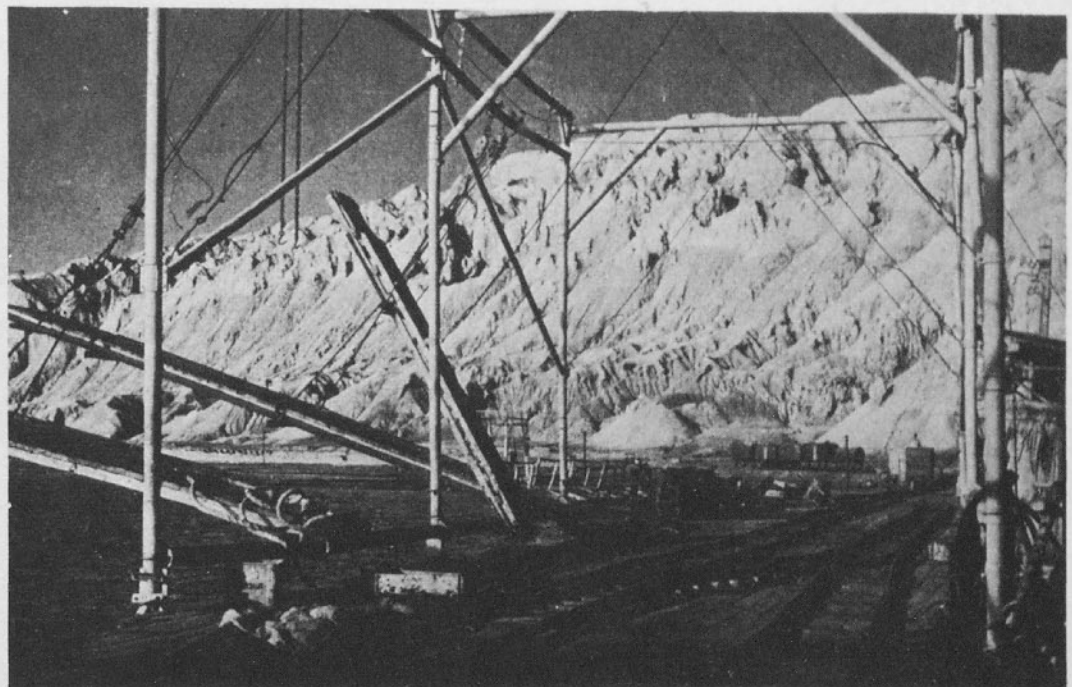
Among the Jews in Israel there are two distinct types. There are the zealots, who seek to bring Israel back to the strict standards of the Old Testament, and there are the materialists who came to Israel not for religious reasons but simply to find a place to live. I would estimate that ninety per cent of the people are of the latter type. They were persecuted in other lands and they came to Israel to find a refuge. They are determined to build up the nation economically and politically, but they have only a nominal interest in religion.

The zealots, though a small minority, are very active in promoting their views. They are determined to bring the rest of the nation back into the ancient way of worship. Their greatest concern at present is the keeping of the Sabbath. In Jerusalem, if a Jew drives an automobile on the Sabbath in the part of the city where the zealots live, they will stone the car and possibly turn it over in the street. While we were there, many stones were thrown at the police who tried to keep order between the opposing factions. It is quite an experience for an American to be in Jerusalem on the Sabbath!

MY MISTAKE

One Sabbath afternoon I visited a small synagogue where the Jews made me feel welcome. They were having a special service to initiate a young man into full-fledged manhood. They passed out cakes, and, of course, I had cake too. When I was ready to leave I noticed a box on the wall where money could be placed. I had several large coins in my pocket and proceeded to drop these into the box. The sound of the coins was heard all over the synagogue, and I noticed that everything stopped at the sound. I wondered why everyone was looking at me. Later I learned that on the Sabbath a person should not even carry a handkerchief in your pocket, much less money; and I had broken the rules by carrying money and by depositing it in the synagogue on the Sabbath.

(Continued on next page)



Dead Sea potash works at Sdom where great wealth is contained

Christian places of worship, both Protestant and Catholic, are given full liberty. There is religious freedom for all who wish to worship inside their own churches, but open-air services are not permitted in Israel at the present time. It is still very difficult for a person who gives up Judaism and becomes a Christian to remain in his family and in his place of employment.

We enjoyed some very good meetings in several places in Israel and saw a number make a firm decision to accept the Lord Jesus Christ and follow Him. We believe there is a real spiritual awakening in store for Israel. Every Christian should pray for the people of Israel today.

ISRAEL GEOGRAPHICALLY

When God called Abraham to leave Ur of the Chaldees and go to this land, He said it would be his forever. The amazing thing about this promised land is that as long as the Jewish people are there, the land lavishes its blessings upon them; but when the people of Israel leave the land it dies. It lies in a tomb—the land refuses to bring forth its fruit, and its gardens become deserts. Then when the people of the land return there is a miraculous restoration—the land blossoms out as the garden of God.

We were thrilled with the fruitfulness of the land. We found trees planted along both sides of all the highways. Forests are being planted on the hillsides. Where we saw only desert five years ago, we now found orange groves, vegetable gardens, trees growing, villages springing up.

Israel lies in the sub-tropic zone. In December and January its golden oranges are exported by the millions to America, Russia, Germany, Scandinavia, and other countries. Its hills and valleys remind one of a storybook. The beautiful Sea of Galilee sparkles like a diamond; it is one of the most impressive sights to be found anywhere.

The land still has its former and latter rain. The former rain begins the first part of November. The latter rain comes in April, after which there is no more rain until November.

ISRAEL HISTORICALLY

There is more history in the small compass of Israel, especially around the city of Jerusalem, than in any equal area in the world. There are the historical spots that never change, such as the Sea of Galilee, where Jesus walked on the tempestuous waves, and the Mount of Olives, from which He ascended to heaven. There is the plain of Sharon, and the coastland of the Mediterranean. The cities of old are buried with the dust of the centuries. Some have been excavated. The ruins of Caesarea were of great interest to us. It was here that Peter preached to Cornelius and the Holy Spirit came upon the Gentiles. It lies on the coast between Tel Aviv and Haifa.

There are historical spots of which we are not sure, such as the actual place where Christ was born, the actual house where He lived in Nazareth, and the actual place where He was crucified. But to me these sites are not important. The important thing is

that this is the same land in which God revealed Himself to mankind, and this is the same people who have come back to this land to begin again.

ISRAEL ECONOMICALLY

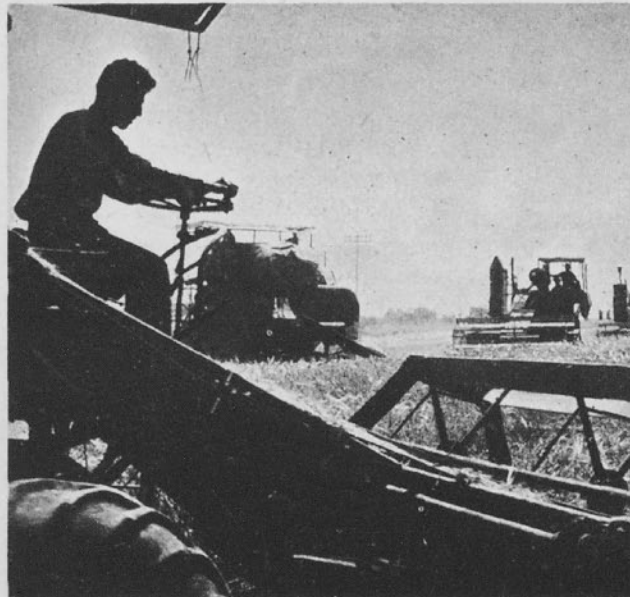
Were it not for financial assistance from Jews in the U. S. and throughout the world, probably Israel could not survive. The Jews of America have given over a hundred million dollars per year to rehabilitate the land of their fathers. Even so, economic life in Israel is hard. In most cases both husband and wife are working, and their remuneration is just enough to provide the necessities of life. Eggs are still rationed, and meat is rationed to one portion per week.

The nation is fighting to balance its budget. It is increasing its exports in every way possible. Last year Israel exported over forty million dollars' worth of fruit. It hopes to exceed this next season.

However, a hard economic life no doubt is good for a nation. The people who are only interested in luxury leave Israel and find easier places to live, while those who remain are the kind who will build a nation. Nowhere in the world have we seen a building program so amazing as that which we saw in Israel. Homes are going up everywhere, literally by the thousands. Villages are springing up on hillsides and plains. Industry is expanding. Of a truth, the desert is rejoicing and blossoming as the rose. Bible prophecy is being fulfilled in Israel today. ◀◀



Women soldiers in military parade



Flax harvest in the Judean plain



Peter and Pentecost

Sunday School Lesson for June 9, 1957

Acts 2:14-18, 32-41

The second chapter of Acts has been especially reserved for next Lord's Day, which is Pentecost Sunday the day on which the ascended Christ poured out upon His waiting disciples the promised Holy Spirit. May God help each of us not only to study about the power of Pentecost but to experience that power afresh in our lives!

AN EXPLANATION (Acts 2:14-21)

1. *The meaning of the outpouring.* "These are not drunken, as ye suppose . . . But this is that." Times have not changed. People still misunderstand the Pentecostal phenomena. Peter assured his questioners that his brethren were not drunk, since it was only nine o'clock in the morning—and no Jew, unless an apostate, would eat or drink anything before noon on the feast day of Pentecost. Peter then pointed out that what they were witnessing was the actual fulfillment of Joel's prophecy (Joel 2:28-32), with which his audience was familiar.

2. *The universality of the outpouring.* In Old Testament times the Holy Spirit came only upon certain individuals, only upon special occasions, and only in order to enable them to accomplish a specific but temporary mission. From this day on, the full blessing of the Spirit would be available to "all flesh," irrespective of age, race, sex, or social standing.

3. *The duration of the outpouring.* Verses 19 to 21 make it clear that the outpouring of the Spirit shall continue until Christ's second coming to earth. Both Joel and Peter connect the outpouring with certain signs which manifestly do not take place until Christ returns from heaven. We have here then the strongest kind of proof that we may expect mighty Holy Ghost revival right up until the Millennium!

AN ARGUMENTATION (Acts 2:22-36)

Peter's sermon is a masterpiece of Spirit-inspired wisdom, logic, and argumentation. He makes a tactful beginning so as not to antagonize his hearers, reminding them that at least Jesus was a "man approved of God among you by miracles and wonders and signs, which God did by him in the midst of you." This they could not deny, for thousands of Jews did agree that Jesus was a prophet sent from God.

Peter next declares the fact of the resurrection and charges them with having put Him to death. He explains, however, that Christ's death was not an unforeseen tragedy, but a necessary part of God's foreordained plan.

Next, Peter points out that David, whom they highly revered, predicted the resurrection of Christ (cf. vv. 24-31 with Psalm 16:10). Finally Peter declares that the resurrection was proved by the outpouring of the Spirit. The

manifestation of the Spirit which they beheld was tangible and undeniable proof that Jesus was alive in heaven (vv. 32-33)! Having proved his point, Peter then drives home the inescapable conclusion, "God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ."

APPLICATION (Acts 2:37-39)

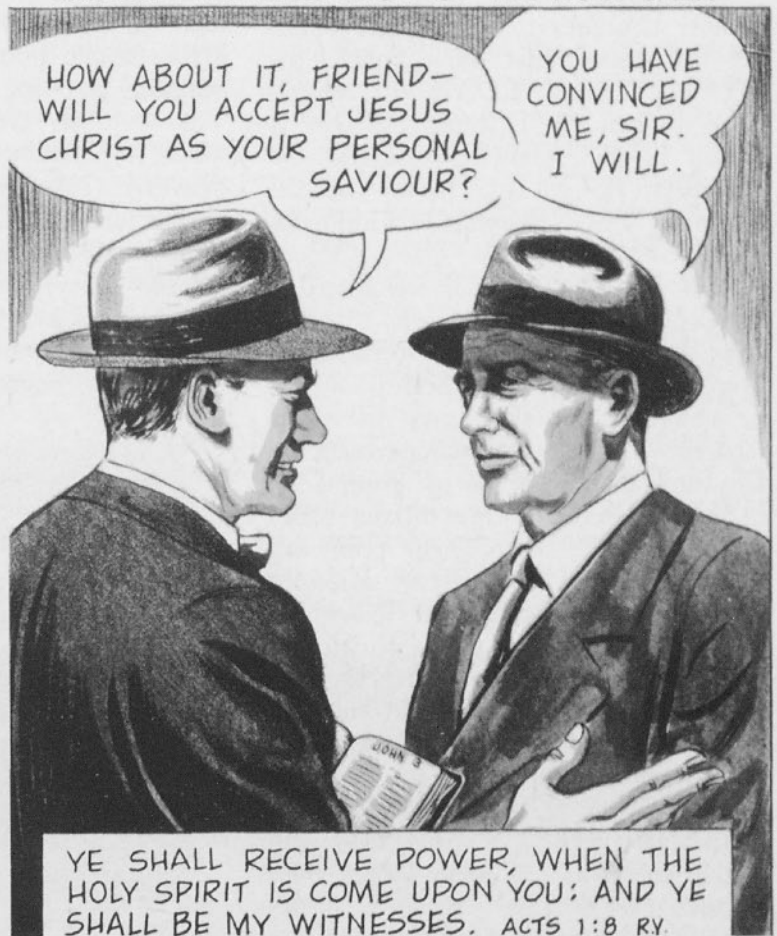
Conviction (v. 37). Pointed preaching, accompanied by the Spirit's anointing, brings pungent conviction! Peter's hearers were alarmed, and desired to know what they could do to remove the guilt of their sin and to come under the blessing of God.

Instruction (v. 38). "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost." Repentance—which is godly sorrow for sin, followed by a complete about face, a change of attitude toward sin and toward God—was (and still is) essential to salvation and its attendant blessings.

The term "gift of the Holy Ghost" includes both salvation and the baptism in the Spirit, since both are, in a sense, gifts of the Spirit. They are distinct and separate experiences but they may be received simultaneously. See Acts 19:4-7 and 10:44.

Response. "And the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls." What an increase! Wherein lies the secret of such an ingathering of souls? It was not due merely to the logic of the sermon, nor to the preaching ability of Peter, but to the measure of God's power which was moving in the body of believers as a whole! And what we need today is not better sermons or new truth, but a greater measure of the working of the power of the Holy Spirit among Christians everywhere!—*J. Bashford Bishop*

GREATEST MANIFESTATION OF THE HOLY SPIRIT





A Share Plan loan made the down payment on this former Lutheran church in Wapakoneta, Ohio, now a growing Assemblies of God church.

What the Share Plan Is Doing

BY ELVA JOHNSON

IN FEBRUARY, 1955, THE NATIONAL Home Missions Department began the SHARE PLAN REVOLVING LOAN FUND with offerings received in simultaneous sectional "Mission U.S.A." Rallies across the nation. The "Mission U.S.A." rallies are now conducted annually, and several thousand dollars are received each year for the fund. Other offerings come in from interested individuals during the year.

The purpose of the fund is to help pioneer churches to begin their building programs. Just how much the SHARE PLAN LOAN FUND is doing to help these young churches is shown by the following examples.

Robert L. Jordan, pastor of the Assembly at Norwalk, California, writes:

"On January 9, 1955, we rented a store building in downtown Norwalk and began to seek God to send in people to help us. He began to send in complete families, and in seven months we made a down payment on two and a half acres of ground on a main boulevard. Our district office loaned us \$500.00 to help pour our foundation, and the Home Missions Department in Springfield loaned us \$1,000.00. This enabled us to acquire more material for the construction. . . .

"I am looking forward to the day when our finances will permit us to make regular contributions to the SHARE PLAN REVOLVING LOAN FUND. We trust God will enable your office to make larger loans for these purposes."

In 1955, Alta Culpepper and Rose-

mary Shultz began a work at Wapakoneta, Ohio. This city of 8,500 was predominately Catholic and without a full gospel church. The workers began with prayer meetings in a home and later rented the Lutheran Church for some services. They moved to a store building in order to have Sunday morning services and a weekly prayer meeting. The Lutheran Church, seating 275, completely furnished, with a full basement and pipe organ, was put up for sale. The pioneers bid \$8,000.00 and their bid was accepted, with a \$1,000.00 down payment required.

The National Home Missions Department made the \$1,000.00 loan from the Revolving Loan Fund and the church was purchased. The work is progressing. The church believes in World Missions and practices it, and they are faithfully repaying the loan.

In October, 1955, James T. Burkett went to Hustburg Community near Waverly, Tennessee, and found a few people who had been reached with the Pentecostal message a number of years before. They were without a pastor and services had been held in a rented house. They moved into a tent and the Sunday School reached an attend-

ance of 76. Later the attendance went down as a result of cold weather. Pastor Burkett requested the Home Missions Department to send help in order that they might begin building. However, at that time the loan fund was depleted and no help could be given. With \$100.75 in the building fund, they poured the foundation. Nearby pastors donated blocks and windows. Then, just when it seemed they could go no further, the loan from the Revolving Loan Fund came through. Because of this, the building is going on to completion.

Pastor Burkett says, "Not only did we have need of such help, but there are many other pioneer workers who are burdened for souls that could be reached with this kind of help."

A basement church, now known as Calvary Assembly of God, in Knoxville, Tennessee, was originally started by another denomination. It was purchased from them in late July, 1955. The payment of \$3500.00 was due May 1, 1956. The young church was able to raise only \$1500.00 of this amount. They applied to the Home Missions Department for a loan of \$2,000.00. This loan was made and



The new congregation at Norwalk, California, was able to continue construction on this building through a Share Plan loan.

the new church is rapidly repaying the loan. They now plan to build the superstructure and will use the basement for Sunday School rooms.

Pioneer Billy J. Tims of Kannapolis, North Carolina, writes, "God is blessing our work and our new church building is going up. You can imagine our joy when we learned that our requested loan of \$1500.00 from the Home Missions Department had come through. This help from the Home Missions Department means a great deal to us. *We are a long way from Springfield, but when things like this happen it seems that headquarters is right next door!*"

Andrew Stirling, superintendent of the North Carolina District, sums up the feeling of that district concerning the SHARE PLAN LOAN FUND, as follows:

"Loans from the National Home Missions Department often determine whether a new effort in North Carolina will survive or collapse. You can imagine the plight of a pioneer in this state in an area where the Assemblies are unknown. People are somewhat skeptical; banks and building and loan associations are hesitant to make any investment in an untried venture. The district is unable to be of much help. If it were not for the National Home Missions Department loans some projects would have stopped.

"Not only do the loans solve the financial problems but they also give a moral boost to the pioneer and the new congregation. Many of them feel that there should be a denominational interest and investment in the pioneer effort."



A Home Missions loan enabled a new congregation at Knoxville, Tennessee, to purchase this basement church.

The SHARE PLAN REVOLVING LOAN FUND can help a few churches, but it is still too small to meet every request for help. Due to the fact that hundreds of new Assemblies are being started each year, and the number of requests for loans is increasing, we must build this loan fund up to at least \$500,000.00 if it is to meet the need.

Recently the National Home Missions Department has had several inquiries as to how the SHARE PLAN REVOLVING LOAN FUND can be remembered in wills and bequests. Perhaps there are others who wish to perpetuate their contributions to the

kingdom of God in this manner. Please write the National Home Missions Department for information if this is your desire. Offerings, large and small, are needed if the SHARE PLAN REVOLVING LOAN FUND for pioneer churches is to meet the need. Remember, SHARE PLAN DOLLARS NEVER DIE. They just keep on working, over and over again, till Jesus comes.

Offerings for this fund should be sent to the

HOME MISSIONS DEPARTMENT
434 W. PACIFIC STREET
Springfield 1, Missouri



EVEN THE ANCIENTS HAD THEM

ANNUITY AGREEMENTS HAVE A LONG RECORD OF SERVICE

► Historians and archeologists have discovered that even in early times a transaction known as the "annuity" was practiced. The annuity developed many forms through the centuries, and was used for many purposes. Among the nobility of Europe it was often used as a means of bequest. Certain ancients, whose religion or personal convictions forbade usury or interest, often substituted annuities as a form of investment.

With the development of modern life insurance, the principles of annuities were applied in reverse. The returns of both annuities and life insurance are based on carefully calculated tables of life expectancy. Today such tables are remarkably accurate, being based upon years of experience. With life insurance, the older you are, the more you must pay to get a desired return. With annuities the reverse is true. The older you are, the less you pay for the same return.

Annuities are an increasingly popular form of investment. For example,

annuities owned in the U.S. increased almost 200% in a recent ten-year period.

Annuities are particularly adapted to the needs of Christian people and gospel organizations, because these people are happy to have any remnant of their estate go into God's work. The Assemblies of God has offered Annuity Agreements for many years. They have proved a service both to the purchasers and to the work of the Lord.

The purchaser of an Assemblies of God Annuity Agreement (sold in denominations of \$100 or more) receives the guarantee of a regular income for the rest of his life—the amount depending on the size of the Agreement and the age of the purchaser. Returns paid to older annuitants are much higher than those paid by most other forms of investment.

If you are interested in reading more about Annuity Agreements, write to the Treasurer, 434 West Pacific St., Springfield, Mo. for the free booklet which describes the benefits of Assemblies of God Annuity Agreements.



Lorenzo Ramachini (left), an ex-priest, translated "Here's How." Anthony Piraino (right) explained the Scriptures to Enrico Ruscito (right) just before he disrobed.

Enrico Ruscito Finds Peace

BY ANTHONY PIRAINO, FIELD SECRETARY FOR ITALY

"NEVER UNDERESTIMATE THE power of a pamphlet!" is a phrase which should awaken us to the unlimited power of the Written Word. The Communists are fully aware of this potential—and without counting the cost they are flooding the world with

newspapers, pamphlets, booklets, magazines and books of the highest quality. It would be superfluous for me to dwell at length on this for we have heard it over and over again. The Jehovah's Witnesses have made thousands of converts through their extensive literature program.



Anthony Piraino and Enrico Ruscito looking at booklet that led this ex-priest to salvation.

We in Italy have caught the vision of the power of the printed page and have set out, with the help of the Lord, to literally flood Italy with gospel literature. Does it pay? Almost daily we receive letters telling us of those who have found Christ through the literature we have printed, financed by our friends in North America. (The Christian Church of North America, the Italian Branch of the Assemblies of God in the U.S.A., and the Italian Pentecostal Churches of Canada have all made contributions to the work in Italy.) Surely we praise God for the young people who, through their Speed-the-Light giving, have made it possible for us to print millions of pieces of Christian literature.



Millions of these tracts have been distributed. Part were printed on the Speed-the-Light press.

I am thinking particularly of Enrico Ruscito, who but a short time ago was a Catholic priest. Today he is serving the Lord Jesus Christ, leaving behind his priestly robes. How did this come about? For many years he had tried to find rest for his weary

soul; had even build a church about sixty miles from Rome, but this did not satisfy the hunger of his soul. Here was a man who languished in spiritual torment, shackled by the chains of sin, without God, without hope, but who now enjoys the reality of salvation. I wonder if you fully realize the importance of such a conversion. Let me quote from his own pen.

"All uncertainties and doubts vanished on the night of October 15, 1956, when I came across a booklet ECCO LA VIA (Here's the Way). For more than ten years I had tried to find the truth, but in vain. Of one thing I can assure you, my soul was enveloped in the darkness of error and superstition from which I could not escape. I see that my conviction of sin and error was brought about by the mercy of God who does not desire that the sinner die in his sins but that he might be converted and live. I was surrounded by false piety and I could not make a decision. It seemed impossible to overcome the last indecision, and thus I was bound to an existence which humiliated my innermost being and made me miserable. But God does not forsake the individual who really desires to love and adore Him with all the heart.

"The night of October 15, 1956, I took from the hands of the person, who sought to destroy it, a booklet entitled, ECCO LA VIA. Upon returning home I shut myself in my study that had known all my heartaches and my struggles. I began to read, and soon the simple and curious reading turned to reflection. This soon changed to throbbings that seemed to lift my soul. My innermost being, that had been so long in turmoil, seemed to find the long-sought-for peace. God was before me; I felt Him moving in my heart and He was a tender and merciful Father. For the first time, I understood the greatness of the gift of God to all humanity—giving His Son to die for man. My intelligence, for the first time, was assured of having found the truth. The way to heaven seemed to shine brightly before me and the road to reach it, without fear of error, is the gospel.

"As the pages unfolded before my eyes, the words—God, Father, Christ, Redeemer, Holy Spirit and Light were made clear to me. At that mo-

ment I understood that Jesus was really the Way, the Truth and the Life. That night, after many years, I had the strength to pray to God in truth. It was a new prayer which I felt generated light and peace to my troubled soul. I experienced a new joy and an internal uplift that really brought life.

"When I arose from my desk, I went down on my knees and prayed to God while tears bathed my face. Now I knew that to follow the old way of deceit would mean denying God. Fleeing from the splendor of His grace would mean loving darkness more than light. In faith I surrendered my heart to God, who freely forgives. I was sure that my sins were forgiven for now I was justified in Christ Jesus. Reading ECCO LA VIA eliminated all doubts

which had me bound to the old life.

"The day I was saved and convinced of the truth, I made a promise that with the help of the Lord, I would do my best, through mouth, pen and deed to tell everyone that Jesus Christ, besides being my personal Saviour, is the Saviour of the world. To this end I am dedicating my life."

How thrilling it is to see this "babe in Christ" grow in grace day after day. And with each passing day his desire to serve the Lord and serve humanity grows stronger. May the Lord strengthen him and prepare him for a mighty ministry.

I am happy to state that hundreds of souls are being saved as a direct result of this booklet and other literature which is being partly printed on our Speed-the-Light presses. It was my pleasure to visit, recently, a church

in Corleone in Sicily that has had the joy of seeing twelve souls added to its membership as a result of an aggressive literature campaign.

"Life Messengers" of Seattle have sponsored the Italian edition of "Here's How." God has richly blessed this ministry and scores have been saved all over Italy. Their present address is "Life Messengers," P.O. Box 515, Seattle, Washington. Anyone desiring copies of the English edition can have it by writing to the above address.

This is just the beginning! Our goal is to place a gospel tract, booklet, or a Gospel in every home in Italy. It is a great undertaking but we have a great God and "all things are possible to him that believeth." Believe and pray with us that we shall see many thousands of Italians turn to Christ! ◀ ◀

MISSIONARY News Notes



Mr. and Mrs. D. L. Hasch have recently returned on furlough from Liberia. Their address is 1915 Kenneth Road, Glendale 1, California.

* * *

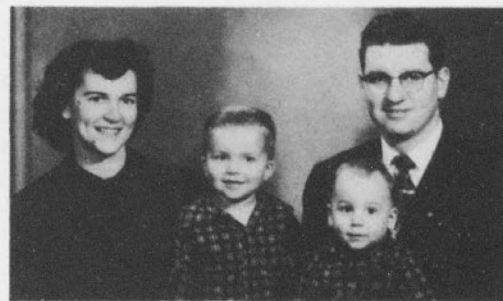
Richard L. Johnson and family are now working in Korea and their address is: Assembly of God Mission, Box 5, Seo Dai Mun Post Office, Seoul, Korea. The Johnstons spent their first term on the field working in Japan.

* * *

Mr. and Mrs. John Andresen sailed for Chile, South America, on April 30. They are new recruits and would appreciate our prayers.



Mr. and Mrs. John Andresen and family



Mr. and Mrs. L. P. Emory and family

Mr. and Mrs. L. P. Emory, recently appointed to Paraguay, left for Costa Rica on April 29.

* * *

Minnie Ecklund and Lillian Bach have just returned to the States from Nigeria. Miss Ecklund is making her home at 1530 E. Sandison St., Wilmington, California, and Miss Bach at 4550 18th N.E., Seattle 5, Wash.

* * *

Mr. and Mrs. D. T. Scott of Peru have a new daughter, Judith Anne, born April 11.

* * *

Mr. and Mrs. E. P. Sjoberg of the Philippines welcome a new daughter, Audrey Ann, born April 13.

Send Foreign Missionary offerings to
NOEL PERKIN, SECRETARY
FOREIGN MISSIONS
DEPARTMENT
434 W. Pacific St., Springfield 1, Mo.

MONTHLY REPORT

Foreign Missions Department

March 1957

CONTRIBUTIONS

Alabama	\$ 1,844.24	N. Texas	8,736.40
Appalachian	575.67	Northwest	18,765.76
Arizona	1,256.59	Ohio	9,887.69
Arkansas	3,062.52	Oklahoma	14,033.35
Eastern	11,314.87	Oregon	10,132.25
Georgia	5,994.11	Polish Br.	15.00
German Br.	1,690.20	Potomac	7,570.04
Greek Br.	105.00	Rocky Mtn.	4,857.85
Hungarian Br.	42.00	Russian Br.	29.13
Illinois	15,205.78	S. Carolina	483.52
Indiana	4,045.08	S. Dakota	1,378.38
Italian Br.	646.67	S. Florida	4,428.39
Kansas	6,932.61	S. Texas	8,341.75
Kentucky	575.50	S. California ..	34,045.29
Lat. Amer. Br. ..	1,293.16	S. Idaho	183.71
Louisiana	1,851.83	S. Missouri	8,915.83
Michigan	12,001.85	Tennessee	1,852.72
Minnesota	9,133.69	Ukrainian Br.	102.23
Mississippi	988.85	W. Central	5,433.00
Montana	3,028.05	W. Florida	1,183.68
Nebraska	2,594.87	W. Texas	2,367.29
New England	2,727.42	Wisc.-N. Mich. ..	5,012.89
New Jersey	4,834.62	Wyoming	50.76
New Mexico	1,367.41	Alaska	402.59
New York	9,156.55	Canada	308.90
N. Carolina	1,158.20	Hawaii	59.81
N. Dakota	2,067.76	Foreign	65.00
N. Calif.-Nev. ..	16,890.13	Miscellaneous ..	275.00

Total Amount Reported	\$272,352.44
District Funds	\$12,479.84
National Home Missions	3,023.10
Office Expense	3,861.62
Given Direct to Missions	36,502.93
	55,867.49

Received for Council Missionaries	\$216,484.95
Received for Non-Council Missionaries	3,155.21
Offerings not Allocated to any State	66,577.86

Total Receipts	\$286,218.02
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DISBURSEMENTS

Support of Missionary Personnel	\$119,829.89
Missionary Equipment	34,921.53
Missionary Work	53,010.06
National Workers Abroad	9,075.58
Buildings in Foreign Lands	30,604.55
Missionary Transportation	64,593.39

Transferred from "Hold" Accounts	\$312,628.00
	26,409.98

\$286,218.02

Heaven at Last!

(Continued from page three)

gaze upon Him, we become like Him. "We all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord" (2 Corinthians 3:18). Observe that it is the vision of the glorified, risen Christ, the Saviour at God's right hand with limitless power in heaven and on earth, which changes us from glory to glory. It was the glorified Christ whom Stephen saw. It was the Lord "high and lifted up" whom Isaiah saw. It was the living, exalted Christ whom Paul saw.

In speaking of His triumph over death, we should do it with joy and certainty.

Reichel was conducting the final rehearsal of his great choir to render "The Messiah." The choir sang through to the point where the soprano soloist takes up the refrain, "I know that my Redeemer liveth." The soloist's technique was perfect. She had faultless breathing, accurate note placement, flawless enunciation. After the final note, all eyes were fixed on Reichel to catch his look of approval. Instead, he silenced the orchestra, walked over to the singer, and asked sorrowfully, "My daughter, do you *really* know that your Redeemer liveth? Do you?"

"Why, yes," she answered, flushing, "I think I do."

"Then sing it!" cried Reichel. "Tell it to me, so that I will *know*, and so that all who hear you will *know* that you *know* the joy and power of it!" Then he motioned the orchestra to play again. This time the soloist sang the truth as she *knew* it and had *experienced* it in her own soul. The old master approached her with tear-dimmed eyes, and said, "*You do know, for you have told me!*"

WE WILL SEE OUR LOVED ONES

Some of us have more loved ones on the other side of the river of life than on this side. The separation, however, is only temporary. We ardently believe that, before long, "the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven... and the dead in Christ shall rise first: then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them" (1 Thessalonians 4:16, 17). We will

not only see them, but we also will know them. David's heart was comforted in knowing that he would see his child again in Glory. Said he, "I shall go to him, but he shall not return to me" (2 Samuel 12:23). Peter, James, and John *knew* Moses and Elijah on the Mount of Transfiguration without the formality of an introduction!

Dr. F. B. Myer, when he knew that his earthly pilgrimage was almost over, called for a pencil and paper, and wrote the following note to his wife: "To my surprise, I have just been told that my days and hours are numbered. It may be that before this reaches you, I shall have gone into the Palace of the King! Do not trouble to write. *We shall meet in the morning.*"

When Christ comes and resurrects the bodies of God's children "who sleep in the dust of the earth," we shall be with our loved ones again! "The bright and cloudless morning, when the dead in Christ shall rise," is sure to come. Of that blessed day the Lord Jesus said, "The hour is coming in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, and shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life" (John 5:28-29).

Robert G. Ingersoll, the atheist, told this story: "I was never nonplused but once. I was lecturing one night and took occasion to show that the resurrection of Lazarus was probably a planned affair to bolster the waning fortunes of Jesus. Lazarus was to take sick and die. The girls were to bury him and send for Jesus. Lazarus was to feign death till Jesus should come and say, 'Lazarus, come forth!' To emphasize the situation, I said, 'Can anyone here tell me why Jesus said, 'Lazarus, come forth?'"

"Down by the door, a pale-faced white-haired man arose and, with a shrill voice, said, 'Yes, sir, I can tell you! If my Lord had not said, 'Lazarus,' the whole graveyard at Bethany would have come forth!'"

WE WILL REST FROM LABOR

Of the righteous dead, the Bible says, "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from henceforth: yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors; and their works do follow them"

(Revelation 14:13). Of this future rest, the Bible says, "There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God" (Hebrews 4:9).

God's servants oftentimes become weary *in* His work, but not weary *of* His work. As they "bear one another's burdens" making the sorrows of others their own, they, like the Saviour, become weary and exhausted. Of Him it is written, "Jesus... being wearied with his journey, sat thus on the well" (John 4:6). Of the rest which remaineth for the people of God, Isaiah said, "His rest shall be glorious" (Isaiah 11:10).

Till we enter into this future rest, let us accept the Saviour's gracious words of invitation, "Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest" (Matthew 11:28). There is an inner rest that we can enjoy, here and now, even though our bodies grow weary.

Until He comes again for His own, let us set our "affection on things above, not on things on the earth." Let us "lay up treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal." Let us daily talk of His wondrous love and care, and do our best to bring the lost ones to His feet!

Soon the day of God's grace will be finished. Then will come the "day of vengeance of our God!"

It is later than we think. As we scan the world horizon through the telescope of the "sure word of prophecy," we are convinced that "the coming of the Lord draweth nigh."

Are you ready to meet Him in death? Are you ready to meet Him when He comes for His own? While His coming will bring eternal bliss for the Christians, it will bring eternal damnation for the unconverted.

Be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not, the Son of man cometh! ◀ ◀

1957 LOYALTY CAMPAIGN

**BUILD WITH
LOYALTY**

**JUNE 9 - ACHIEVEMENT
DAY IN SUNDAY SCHOOL**



to the editor



A Question About Philip

Is there not an error in the very first statement on Sunday's Lesson (issue of April 28)? Speaking of Philip the Evangelist, it says: "Philip was not an apostle, but one of the six deacons chosen in Acts 6 to serve the Church."

Matthew 10:2 includes Philip as an apostle.

VIDA AHRENKIEL
Boring, Oregon

● Yes, there is a typographical error in this statement. Philip was one of the **seven** deacons (not six). But this was not the same Philip who is mentioned in Matthew 10:2. Had he been one of the twelve apostles he would not have been chosen to be a deacon, for the purpose in choosing deacons was to relieve the apostles of business responsibilities so that they might give themselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the Word.

Grateful for "Our Family Altar"

I wish I had words to express how much I enjoy the EVANGEL. We get a copy at our church nearly every week, and I love every issue. I preserve the copies and give them to friends, to folk who are ill, etc.

We especially enjoy the weekly feature called "Our Family Altar." We have three boys and a little girl. Every morning we have family devotions and they enjoy the questions we read from the EVANGEL. They lead into most interesting discussions at times, and give opportunities to teach the wonderful truths of God's Word.

Our children enjoy the quizzes which appear from time to time, also. One week when I missed my copy I attempted to gather material for family devotions on my own, and the boys got after me. They said, "Mom, be sure and get the EVANGEL next week." It is a wonderful way to get the children to study the Sunday School lesson.

Thank you for every wonderful page.

MRS. ROBERT BUNDY
Muncie, Indiana

Unrepentant Absalom

I have been reading the EVANGEL for a good many years, and have enjoyed the Scripture expositions and other articles very much. They have helped me in my Pentecostal experiences and Christian development. I have also greatly appreciated the strict adherence of the articles to the Scripture itself, so that no doubt existed in my mind as to their true application.

From my past experiences, it was therefore quite a shock to me when I read the article entitled "An Unclaimed Fortune," by

Evangelist Edna Goodwin (issue of March 24, 1957), and saw the manner in which the true character of Absalom was warped to make an otherwise worthwhile point. Absalom cannot be likened to the prodigal son in the New Testament. There is no sign whatever of repentance in Absalom. When he was allowed by the king to return, through the intercession of Joab, it was under conditions of isolation from the king. When he finally forced Joab to take him to the king there was a show of affection on the part of the king, but Absalom immediately began to plot the king's overthrow.

At no time is there an intimation that Absalom might have felt "unworthy," or was in "fear" of the king, or that he was "indifferent," or simply "ignorant," or "timid."

I cannot help but feel that the author is succumbing to a frequently noted tendency on the part of evangelists and other preachers, to take a certain scripture or Bible story and use it as a "point of departure" in order to develop an otherwise worthwhile message, regardless of its inappropriateness. This has the effect of confusing those who are not well grounded in the Word, and of disturbing those who have a sounder understanding of the Scriptures.

In order to keep the EVANGEL thoroughly sound in its teachings, may I suggest that scripts be more thoroughly edited, and that those not meeting the usually high standards of the magazine be rejected.

E. E. BULLARD
Long Beach, California

From a Salvation Army Officer

I am a retired Salvation Army officer and have been a missionary in South America for nineteen years. While visiting Peru I came in contact with your missionaries, and I was privileged to have two meetings in the Bible Institute. I do think the Assemblies of God are doing a wonderful work for the Lord.

Just yesterday I was reading your EVANGEL, and now I am writing because I would like to subscribe to it.

I am very interested in your mission, and I do believe that everyone of us should be Pentecostal.

A SALVATION ARMY COLONEL
(Name Withheld by Editor)

Was a Blessing Overseas

I enjoyed the EVANGEL very much and receive many blessings from it. The magazines were a real comfort to me while I was overseas in Germany.

GLEN ENLOWE

Writer of Psalm 73

In the article "Sanctuary Blessings" appearing in the March 17 issue of The Pentecostal Evangel, the author stated that David was the writer of the 73rd Psalm from which his text was taken. I believe he will find that Asaph was the writer. David appointed three choirmasters for worship in the Tabernacle (1 Chronicles 15:19) and Asaph was one of these musicians.

This error does not in any way detract from the beauty of the article "Sanctuary Blessings," nor does it lessen its spiritual value and the blessed hope of the believer.

LEON H. BELL (layman)
Niceville, Florida

DIVINE HEALING

Internal Disorder Healed



I had been sick for several years, being bothered with an upset stomach and severe headaches, accompanied with dizzy spells and severe pains in my abdomen. I had been prayed for time and time again, and God always touched me; but every time I got sick the pains were worse, so I finally went to see a doctor. He said it could possibly be my gall bladder or something in my stomach, and that he would make arrangements for me to have X rays taken without entering the hospital. I was rather upset about it, because I had had three operations previously and didn't want another.

About this time our church was commencing special meetings, the evangelists being Al Reid and his son Tommy. On Wednesday night the old devil tried to keep me from attending church. I got a bad cold and was feeling miserable, but I felt I had to go to church that night. After his message Brother Reid came down from the platform to pray for the sick. I was sitting in the back row, and I just bowed my head and prayed, "Lord, have Thine own way." The Lord spoke to me, "Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit." The power of God came on me, and I could feel my stomach shaking; I began to cry. When we went up for the altar call the tears just rolled down, and a warm feeling came over me. I felt so calm. I knew I was healed.

God has wonderfully restored my appetite and changed my whole outlook on life. Day by day I feel myself getting stronger in body. The Lord's presence seems so real, and I do love Him who died on Calvary for our salvation and healing.—Mrs. Stanley Siwek, 106 Beatrice, West Haven, Connecticut.

(Endorsed by D. Paul Longstreth,
Pastor, Gospel Tabernacle, New Haven,
Connecticut.)



Fagots From the Torch of Evangelism

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

► **PATERSON, N. J.**—Bethany Church has just closed a very successful revival meeting with Evangelist Byron Wright and Musician Paul Meyers. An outpouring of the Spirit of God was experienced from the very first service. Over 20 received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, and about 30 came forward for salvation. There were many reports of healing, and the Christians were greatly revived. The ministry of the evangelist among the young people in behalf of the Sunday School was greatly appreciated. —*Ernest V. Berquist, Pastor*

► **FRISCO, TEX.**—The church here just concluded a combination Workers Training course and evangelistic campaign. The Lake Dallas church also co-operated in the training course. There were 51 enrolled, and 47 certificates were issued. The meetings were conducted by Evangelist and Mrs. Clarence G. Mitchell. Under the God-anointed messages the church was made to realize its weakness and began to seek God in sincerity. —*M. L. Milton, Pastor*

► **ALBANY, TEX.**—Evangelist Ruth Branham and Pauline Steele of Fayetteville, Ark. just concluded an old-fashioned revival here. A large number came for salvation, and also a goodly number were filled with the Holy Spirit. It was a thrill to see the healing power of God manifested from time to time. The church was greatly revived, and is still feasting on the results of the meeting. —*Tommie Hughes, Pastor*

► **CARLSBAD, CALIF.**—The Gospel Tabernacle has just closed an excellent meeting with Evangelist Harry J. Steil of Cleveland, Ohio. Brother Steil's ministry was very solid, and combined in a marked way the qualities of strong evangelism and helpful teaching. The meeting was extended to three weeks instead of two because of the marked way in which it benefited the church. Several were definitely saved, and all were strengthened in the Lord. —*P. A. Zimmerman, Pastor*

► **PARIS, ILL.**—The Stone Church Assembly of God enjoyed two weeks of meeting with Evangelist D. C. Ogden of Tulsa, Okla. The attendance of new people reached a new record of 312. The church was encouraged, and much was done to reach the outsiders. Brother Ogden's ministry was appreciated by all. His radio ministry reached many folk for Pentecost for the first time. The Sunday School has continued to grow since the meeting, and the town is still talking about it. —*R. L. Farquhar, Pastor*

► **VALDOSTA, GA.**—The East Magnolia Assembly recently concluded one of the most successful meetings in the history of the church, with Evangelist and Mrs. L. G. Gilstrap of Atlanta, Ga. About 30 came forward for salvation in the two-week

meeting. Most of them were adults and teen-agers. The whole church was blessed through the sermons and songs of these young people. —*A. P. Addleton, Pastor*

► **CROWLEY, LA.**—The church here just concluded three weeks of revival with Evangelist O. M. Montgomery, former pastor of the First Assembly of God in El Dorado, Ark. The Holy Spirit moved in each service in a great way saving, baptizing, and healing many. The entire church was blessed. On the concluding Sunday there were 176 in Sunday School. —*M. E. Gorman, Pastor*

► **HAYWARD, CALIF.**—Evangelist Christian Hild recently concluded a 10-day crusade for souls here. It was one of the finest meetings for several years in Bethel Assembly. The strong evangelistic approach of Brother Hild made a special appeal to the outsiders. Many new people came to the meetings and new contacts were made for the church. In one service over 40 came to the altar. —*James Swanson, Pastor*

► **RICHMOND, IND.**—The Tanner Team of Willmar, Minn. just concluded a three-week revival here in the First Assembly of God. A number responded to the call for salvation, and four of the young people received the baptism of the Holy Spirit. Many visitors attended the services, and the entire church profited from the ministry of the Word as well as the music. —*William Van Winkle, Pastor*

► **LINDSAY, CALIF.**—Eighteen were saved, six were baptized in water, and there were many healings during the recent meetings here with Evangelist B. D. Bennett of Lomita, Calif. One lady was saved on Sunday night, received the baptism of the Holy Spirit on Thursday night and was baptized in water the following Sunday. One woman who had recently undergone surgery for choking spells without improvement was recently healed by the power of God. One who suffered with a heart attack in the service, received a wonderful touch from the Lord. The church enjoyed the anointed preaching of Brother Bennett and the fine singing of his granddaughter, Linda. Many of the people say that this was the most fruitful revival in many years. —*H. R. Grams, Pastor*

► **GAINESVILLE, TEX.**—The First Assembly of God recently concluded a four week revival with Evangelist and Mrs. J. E. Winstead of Winter Garden, Fla. Several came for salvation, and a goodly number were refilled with the Spirit. The church as a whole was deeply stirred. One of the most impressive services was on the final Sunday morning when the Winsteds presented a tithing skit. The effects of the meeting continue to be a blessing to the church. —*Elmer W. Barnes, Pastor*

► **HELENA, ARK.**—Evangelist Charles Mattox just concluded a very successful revival at the First Assembly of God here. There were a number at the altar seeking God, and the church was blessed in a great way. —*Thomas Genung, Pastor*

► **KEY WEST, FLA.**—Evangelist and Mrs. L. G. Gilstrap of Atlanta, Ga. have just concluded a successful revival meeting here. A number came forward for salvation, and for the baptism of the Holy Spirit. All previous Sunday School records were broken, with 202 in attendance. —*L. Wayne Pitts, Pastor*

► **SELBYVILLE, DEL.**—Evangelist Richard Owens of Wilmington, Del. recently conducted two very profitable weeks of revival in the church here. Nine accepted Christ as their personal Saviour. The attendance was good in spite of the fact that there was little time to advertise the meetings. The young people in the church were especially stirred. Many testified to bodily healing. Recently 15 children were saved in the Sunday School classes. —*Jack Kyler, Pastor*

► **HOBBS, NEW MEX.**—The George revival Team just concluded their second revival in the Glad Tidings Assembly. Their ministry and song was a great benefit and inspiration to all the church. Souls were saved and filled with the Holy Spirit, and there were definite healings. At present a new church auditorium is being constructed. —*Roy F. George, Pastor*

► **AUSTIN, TEX.**—The Glad Tidings Assembly of God has just concluded a very successful three-week revival with Evangelist John McDuff of Texas City, Tex. The presence of the Spirit of God characterized each night's meeting, and the church was stirred and challenged to win souls. Several came forward for salvation. —*Marlin Maddoux, Pastor*

► **CORPUS CHRISTI, TEX.**—Sixteen came forward for salvation, and several received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, in the recent meetings in the Hillcrest Assembly conducted by Evangelist Ernie Maxwell. The anointed preaching of Brother Maxwell and his music on the guitar proved to be a blessing. There was an outstanding move of God among the young people. The Sunday School attendance went to 223. —*J. W. Nash, Pastor*

► **OCEAN SPRINGS, MISS.**—Evangelists Iva Harris and Thelma Denney of Shawnee, Okla., recently closed a two-week revival in the Latimer Assembly of God. A number were saved, some reclaimed, and several received the Baptism of the Holy Ghost. The last night of the revival seven souls came forward for salvation. One week prior to the revival a record Sunday School attendance of 100 was attained, and every effort is being made to break that record again. —*Travis Freeman, Pastor*

► **DENVER, COLO.**—Evangelist Robert Wood recently conducted a successful teachers training course in the Full Gospel Tabernacle here, basing his teaching upon the book, "The Spirit Himself." Twenty-five certificates were issued. God has really been moving in the church in recent weeks, with souls being saved and filled and bodies being healed in the regular church services. The Sunday School is also on the increase. The average attendance for last year was 121. Thus far this year, it is 145. Two hundred and thirty-five were in attendance on Easter Sunday. —*L. A. Duke, Pastor*

► **MIAMI, OKLA.**—The Easter revival at the First Assembly of God was conducted by Evangelist Don Brankel and family of Texarkana, Ark. Some were saved and two were baptized in water. One of the greatest results was in the stirring that came to those who had grown indifferent and unconcerned. The church enjoyed not only the outstanding ministry of Brother Brankel, but also the singing of his wife and two small daughters. A new record Sunday School attendance was set at 693. —*L. J. Choate, Pastor*

► **HENRYETTA, OKLA.**—The First Assembly of God just closed a very profitable revival with Evangelist D. C. Ogden. A number of backsliders and sinners prayed through in the old-fashioned way. Many consecrations were renewed, and there were some refillings. The ministry of Brother Ogden stirred the people to a fresh love for the church and one another. Since the revival the Wednesday night prayer meetings have been as well attended as the Sunday night services. —*H. A. Strange, Pastor*

► **HEALTON, OKLA.**—The Assembly here has enjoyed and profited by the ministry of two good evangelists since the first of the year. In January, Evangelist Bobby Ray of Denver, Colo. was the speaker. A number of people were saved in the meeting, and the church was greatly helped by the timely messages. In April, Evangelist and Mrs. Melvin Boatright of Kilgore, Tex. came for meetings. New people were reached for the church and brought into the Pentecostal blessing. In addition, the Sunday School broke the all-time attendance record with 137 and also set a new monthly average of 112. —*Robert Ireton, Pastor*

► **DUMAS, ARK.**—The First Assembly of God here just closed a revival with Evangelist Carles C. Mattox of El Dorado, Ark. There were 32 saved in the meeting, and nine received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit. God worked in wondrous ways. One girl had a dream at 3 a.m. which caused her to give her heart to God. —*G. A. Stubbs, Pastor*

► **LENNOX, CALIF.**—Evangelists Nell Ariail and Ruth Schott of Norwalk, Calif. recently conducted special meetings in the Glad Tidings Assembly here. Two were saved, three backsliders got back to God, and one was refilled with the Holy Ghost. Many others were stirred, and prayed through to real victory. —*Burton D. Lancaster, Pastor*

► **PANAMA CITY, FLA.**—The First Assembly of God recently concluded a revival with Evangelist Lolita Thompson of Springfield, Mo. The illustrated sermons and gospel songs were a great blessing and inspiration to the church. Approximately 25 came forward for salvation during the two weeks of meetings. —*J. B. Davis, Pastor*

NEWS OF EVANGELISTS

Evangelist and Mrs. ALAN ALAIMO are the proud parents of a daughter, Brenda Lee. . . . CHARLES REED was recently united in marriage to LELA PETTET of Bolivar, Mo. . . . Evangelist and Mrs. EDDIE ROUSH also have a new baby—a son. . . . RUTH SPECTER will not be holding meetings for a few months while she is writing a book, "The Tabernacle-Pentecostal Flavor!" . . . E. T. QUANABUSH leaves in June for meetings in Italy, Germany, and Denmark. . . . HAROLD FUQUA recently returned from several campaigns in Nigeria.

HARVEY McALISTER, a pioneer in overseas evangelism, recently left for his third trip around the world, and will be gone one year. Meetings are planned for Hawaii, Fiji Islands, New Zealand, Australia, Indonesia, Singapore, Philippines, Formosa, Hong Kong, Thailand, India, Pakistan, Egypt, Jordan, Israel, Lebanon, Turkey, Greece, and Italy. On previous

trips one half of his time was spent in churches that were not Pentecostal but who wanted to hear about the Pentecostal experience. Special emphasis will be laid on that experience this time also.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA DISTRICT CREATES NEW OFFICE

PASADENA, CALIF.—The office of Assistant Superintendent was created at the recent Southern California District Council. L. E. Halvorson, former Secretary-Treasurer, was elected to this position. W. H. Robertson was elected to fill the unexpired term of Secretary-Treasurer. F. C. Woodworth is District Superintendent.

OVER \$1,600 RAISED FOR SPEED-THE-LIGHT

CLIFTON, COLO., May 2—Kenneth Short, National Field Representative for Speed-the-Light, was guest speaker at a special service held in conjunction with a sectional fellowship meeting here at the Assembly of God recently. At the conclusion of his message, over \$1,600 was raised in cash and pledges.

Forty-five certificates were awarded at the Teachers' Training Course conducted here during the month of March.

The Sunday School record was broken again Easter Sunday with 401 persons being present.—by J. E. Austell, pastor.

EVANGELISTIC CAMPAIGN CALENDAR

STATE	CITY	ASSEMBLY	DATE	EVANGELIST	PASTOR
Ala.	Ariton	Bethel	June 4-16	Stanley MacPherson	John Caperton
Ark.	Ft. Smith	First	June 4-30	Jimmy D. Brown	B. Owen Oslin
Calif.	Cloverdale	A of G	June 2-16	N. B. Rayburn	J. L. Jeffrey
	Dinuba	First	June 9-23	R. Alan Davis	J. S. Murrell
	Duarte	A of G	June 2—	W. J. (Billy) Lewis	C. G. Eigenhuis
	Modesto	Pentecostal	June 6-24	Sunshine Party	J. S. McMullen
	San Diego	First	June 9-23	Watson Argue	Elton G. Hill
Ill.	Rock Island	Bethesda	June 4-16	Joel Palmer & wife	F. H. Toliver
Ind.	Gary	West Side	June 9-30	A. F. DiMusto Party	B. E. Hillman
	Linton	A of G	June 2-16	Lawrence E. Mundt	Harry Vibbert
Minn.	Rochester	A of G	June 9-23	Busse Evang. Team	O. E. Carter
Mo.	St. Clair	A of G	June 4-16	R. D. Hastie & wife	Marvin Nichols
Nebr.	Fremont	Bethel	May 19-June 2	Magnes S. Andersen	Allen Wine
N. J.	Paterson	Bethany	June 4—	E. T. Quanabush	E. V. Berquist
Ohio	Centerburg	A of G	June 3-16	John Hammack	Kenneth Wireman
	Cuyahoga Falls	A of G	June 4-9	Arnold Segesman & wife	A. T. Calvinico
	Piqua	First	May 28—	Eddie Roush & wife	John Imler
Okla.	Henryetta	First	June 9—	James Brankel	H. A. Strange
	Jenks	First	June 9-23	John Everett & wife	James Bright
Pa.	Barnesboro	North End Tab.	May 29-June 9	Watters Gospel Team	James W. Long
	Wilkes-Barre	Christian	June 4-9	John Briner Party	Angelo Nesta
S. Dak.	Rapid City	A of G	June 9-30	Bonetta Rabe	Bernard Ridings
Tenn.	Memphis	First	June 2—	Eskelin Family	James Hamill
Tex.	Ft. Worth	Faith Temple	June 2—	Glen Shinn & wife	J. C. Thompson
	League City	A of G	June 2-16	Edward Willis & wife	J. B. Laughlin
	Sherman	Calvary First	June 9—	C. A. McBride & wife	Rayburn Horner
Wash.	Amanda Park	Lake Quinault	June 9-23	Wesley W. Fleming	Daniel Sinner
	*Naselle	A of G	June 4-9	Virgil Warens & wife	F. W. Ridout
W. Va.	** Berkley	A of G	May 25-June 4	Gladys Voight	Tommy Waldron
Wis.	Milwaukee	Full Gospel	June 5-23	Joseph DeGrado	Marc D. Conley
Wyo.	Laramie	Glad Tidings	June 5-16	Christian Hild	Clarence Brotzman
Canada	Timmins, Ont.	Pentecostal Tab.	June 9—	C. S. Tubby	Earl D. Bergman

** Children's & Youth Revival

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.

The Future of Egypt

BY JAMES H. HUNTER

AT THE TIME THESE WORDS ARE being written Israel is in process of moving her forces from Gaza to comply with the urgent exhortations of the UN. At the same time Egypt is hailing this as a great victory over Israel and the United Nations. This is the perfect illustration of what is classically called a "Pyrrhic victory." Pyrrhus was king of Epirus three hundred years before Christ was born. After a victory over the Romans at Asculum he is alleged to have said, "Another such victory and we are lost." Mr. Nasser might remember this as he contemplates, in his saner moments, what befell his army in the last brief encounter with Israel.

It should be apparent to any casual observer of events in the Middle East that this vexing question is far from being solved by the present withdrawal of Israel from Gaza. The state is only being prepared for the inevitable war that must come there. It is more than just interesting today to read the prophecies in the Bible concerning the future of the Middle East, and to watch the pattern of events unfold against the prophetic background. If this Word is true, as we believe it is, and the future of the world and many of the individual nations in this part of the earth is set forth there by Divine pre-

science, there is a new and solemn significance added to these things today. Take Egypt as an example. Prophecies made concerning her were most meticulously fulfilled in the past. This nation and its cities are the subject in the Old Testament of many predictions of judgment upon them. The great city of Memphis (or No, as it was called) was the subject of specific denouncing prophecies in Jeremiah and Ezekiel, all of which were meticulously fulfilled. But here is something concerning Egypt that still awaits fulfilment, and to which her leaders who have expelled Christian missionaries and the Word of God would do well to take heed, for they may be assured that not one jot or tittle shall pass from that prophetic Word till all be fulfilled.

God said: "I will make the land of Egypt utterly waste and desolate... No foot of man shall pass through it, neither shall it be inhabited forty years... Yet thus saith the Lord, at the end of forty years will I gather the Egyptians from the people whither they were scattered, and I will bring again the captivity of Egypt, and will cause them to return into the land of their habitation; and they shall be there a base (*lowly*) kingdom. It shall be the *lowliest* of kingdoms;... for I will diminish them, that they shall no more rule over the nations... but they shall know that I am the Lord God" (Ezekiel 29:10-16)! Egypt therefore will be fearfully smitten, but the Hand that has smitten shall also heal it. God will finally say to it, "Blessed be *Egypt* My people! and *Assyria* the

work of My hands, and *Israel* Mine inheritance" (Isaiah 19:25)!

The solution of all the problems of the Middle East, as the solution of all problems affecting this sin-cursed world, is to be found in the one place where the UN will never look, and that is in the Scriptures of truth. Surely God is saying in these latter days to all the nations, "O earth, earth, earth, hear the word of the Lord." If the nations continue to refuse to listen, then the strange work of judgment may even now have begun.

(Copr. ERA, 1957)



Grant Wacker

Accepts Position at Evangel College

SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI — Grant Wacker, former promotion director of the Assemblies of God Christ's Ambassadors Department, has been named public relations director of Evangel College.

In his new capacity Brother Wacker will direct financial efforts of the liberal arts college and supervise field activities. He will also serve as executive secretary of the college's Advisory Council, a group of businessmen interested in development of the school.

A former chaplain in the U.S. Army, Brother Wacker has had wide experience in the field of promotion as well as in pastoral and servicemen's work. He served with the Armed Forces in Europe from 1944 until 1946.

He is a native of South Dakota where he attended public schools. Following high school he attended the University of Denver and later studied at Central Bible Institute. He also attended chaplain's school at Harvard University.

During the time he served in the Armed Forces, Brother Wacker reached the rank of captain. In his work with servicemen he traveled in England, Scotland, France, Germany, Luxembourg, Austria, and other parts of Europe.

He pastored in Britton, S. Dak., from 1940 until 1944; and in Watertown, S. Dak., from 1946 until 1953. He was ordained in the South Dakota District of the Assemblies of God in 1942.

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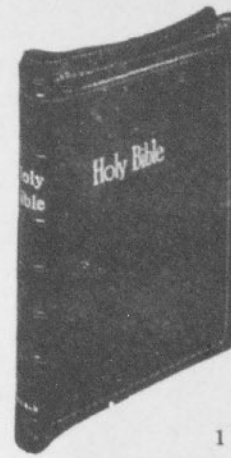
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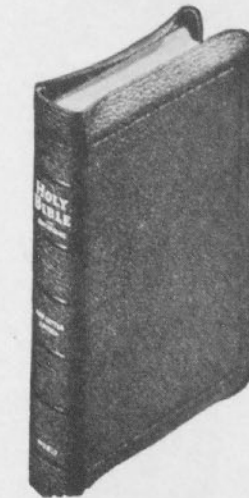
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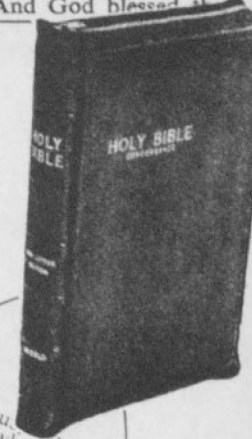
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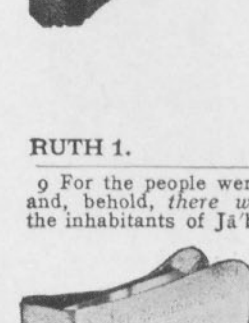
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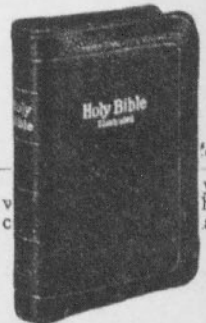
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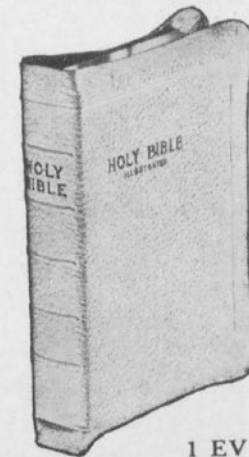


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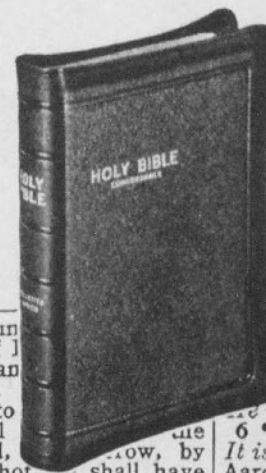


RUTH 1.

9 For the people were numbered, and, behold, there were none of the inhabitants of Ja'besh-gil'e-ad



1 EV 324



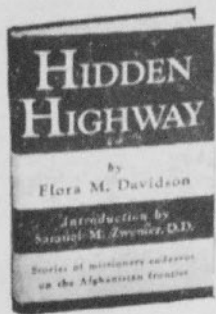
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8 And when he num Bezek, the children of hundred thousand, and Judah thirty thousand. 9 And they said unto that came, Thus shall men of Jabesh-gilead, that time the sun be hot, shall have

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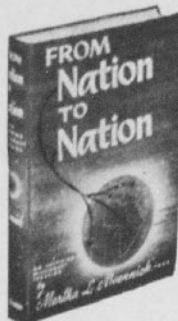
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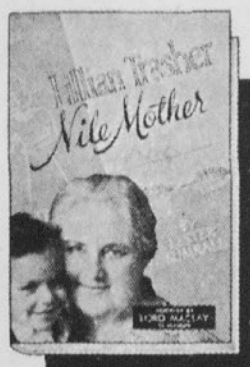
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Healed As He Went

BY RAYMOND L. COX

AMERICA'S GREAT REVIVAL CHURCH of pioneer days had entered a period of fearful ferment. The slavery issue threatened to tear the work apart. Revival fires began to smoulder when radicals from both the North and the South became bent on splitting the church. And although they ultimately succeeded in their divisive project, they were withstood heroically for a season by the frontier's most famous circuit rider, Peter Cartwright, a nineteenth-century "son of thunder" whose prowess in producing prayers from penitents gained for him reputation as a man who "could make even the *devil* pray."

In the fall of 1844 Cartwright was driving his wagon in the direction of Nashville, where the annual district conference of his church would convene. Momentous decisions would be debated in the conclave, and Cartwright's presence was sorely needed to rally the forces committed to preserving the denominational unity.

As his wagon rumbled across a large, extensive prairie, the circuit rider was stricken with an attack of malarial fever. Chills shook his frame so violently that he could not sit in his conveyance. He alighted from the wagon and lay shivering in the grass, thirsting miserably for unavailable water.

After two hours Cartwright's chills abated somewhat and he was able to proceed to Alton City, where he found lodging. But the prostrating succession of fever and chills confined the circuit rider to bed and sapped his strength. He seemed to grow daily weaker.

The conference was scheduled to commence on Wednesday. A physician informed Cartwright that he could not possibly attend.

By Friday the feeling of frustration which seized his soul goaded him toward desperation. "If I don't appear in Nashville," he thought, "the radicals may carry the day. Why can't God give me strength and health to attend?"

Peter Cartwright tumbled out of bed

and commenced to petition the Lord for strength and healing. As he prayed he felt what he called "a strong impression" that God would enable him to reach Nashville. So he arose from his knees and, after summoning his host, announced the intention of leaving at once for the remainder of the conference.

The man protested in horror, "Mr. Cartwright, you'll never arrive alive!"

"Arrive alive? Maybe not. But God is leading me to try," replied the obstinate preacher, "and I will go if I die in the first mile!"

Cartwright stumbled weakly out to the stable where, with help from his host, he hitched his horse to the wagon and began the trip. Describing his journey later, the circuit rider declared, "I mended every mile," and reached the conference on Sunday morning."

Cartwright's recovery was so complete by the time he reached Nashville that he was able to attend every remaining session of the conference. He even influenced the delegates to accept his point of view!

For Every Day

SUNDAY

Lord, speak to me, that I may speak
In living echoes of Thy tone;
As Thou hast sought, so let me seek
Thy erring children lost and lone.

MONDAY

O lead me, Lord, that I may lead
The wandering and the wavering feet;
O feed me, Lord, that I may feed
Thy hungering ones with manna sweet.

TUESDAY

O strengthen me, that while I stand
Firm on the Rock, and strong in Thee,
I may stretch out a loving hand
To wrestlers with the troubled sea.

WEDNESDAY

O teach me, Lord, that I may teach
The precious things Thou dost impart;
And wing my words that they may reach
The hidden depths of many a heart.

THURSDAY

O give Thine own sweet rest to me,
That I may speak with soothing power
A word in season, as from Thee,
To weary ones in needful hour.

FRIDAY

O fill me with Thy fullness, Lord,
Until my very heart o'erflow
In kindling thought and glowing word,
Thy love to tell, Thy praise to show.

SATURDAY

O use me, Lord, use even me,
Just as Thou wilt, and when, and where,
Until Thy blessed face I see—
Thy rest, Thy joy, Thy glory share!

—Frances Ridley Havergal



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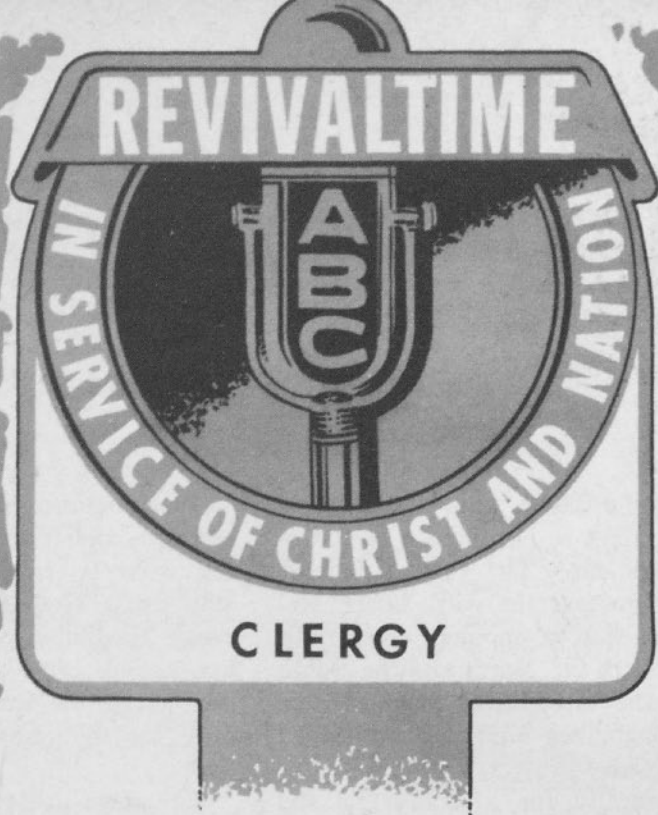
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The past few weeks have brought further proof of God's manifold blessing upon the REVIVALTIME ministry. Even though some stations have been dropped from the radio log, the mail has held steady. There has been an added interest on the part of our pastors and churches across the country. Since the first of the year there has been an increase of approximately 18 per cent in the number of churches giving. Approximately 1,400 churches are sending regular offerings this year, as compared with 1,200 in 1955 and 1956. Pastors are telling us how REVIVALTIME is stirring their towns. REVIVALTIME is producing results in their communities.

With the summer months just ahead we are finding many open doors for this radio broadcast. Our goal is 2,400 churches contributing regularly to the support of this cause. Here is an opportunity for you and your church to make a pledge, by faith, to become a regular supporter. Join hundreds of other churches in supporting the radio ministry with regular offerings, be they large or small. The amount is not important. The goal is to see every church taking part and sharing the responsibilities and blessings of this great work. So we hope you will fill in the coupon and mail it to us immediately indicating that you want your pastor to have one of these clergy emblems on his car.

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