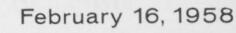
The Pentecostal



FILE COPY



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



Back to the Bible

A rather amusing story was publishing by the United Press some time ago. It seems that a quantity of pamphlets entitled, "Control of Termites," was piled in the mailing room of the University of California at Berkeley. One day some maintenance men discovered termites in the room. In fact, the insects had eaten all the way through a large stack of these very pamphlets!

A person would hardly expect to find termites in a place where so much anti-termite knowledge was stacked up. And yet, that was just the trouble-the information on how to control termites was just stacked up. It had not been put into practice.

We have a Book in our churches and homes that deals with the sin problem, but it needs to be put into practice or the forces of evil will never be defeated. It contains the gospel of Christ, the power of God to save everyone that will believe. It points to the Lamb of God who shed His blood to take away the sin of the whole world. And yet, unless we put that Book to work the power of Satan will remain unchecked and the ranks of the damned will continue to swell.

We need to go back to the Bible and open it so that its mighty power may be turned loose in the world. It is not enough to study about the Bible: we need to study the Bible itself in Sunday School. It is not enough to preach Bible doctrines: our sermons may be Scripturally sound and yet be spiritually weak if they do not contain a large amount of the Bible itself. There is power in quoting the Word of God. The Saviour said, "The words that I speak unto you, they are spirit and they are life." On another occasion He said, "The seed is the Word of God." If we want a spiritual harvest we must plant the Seed itself.

Christians ought to carry their Bibles to church and use them during the service. Bibles are as indispensable as songbooks for a profitable worship service. If people will not bring their own Bibles, there should be copies in the pews. Let the pastor lead the congregation in reading a portion of the Scripture together-and let there be a rustling of leaves all over the church as the shepherd leads his flock through the green pastures of the Word. There is no sweeter music under heaven than the sound of a congregation turning the pages of their Bibles during the sermon.

Someone shipped a consignment of New Testaments in a carton on which was printed in large black letters the words, "Highly explosive -dangerous." The shipper had crossed them out, but the words were more applicable perhaps than he realized. As the late Professor William Lyon Phelps, of Yale, said-the Bible "ought to have written on the cover, 'Highly explosive. Handle with care.' It is the book which by the dynamite of its message has lifted empires off their hinges, and turned the course of human events. It has put down the mighty from their seats, and has exalted men of low degree." But it must be opened and used to be effective.

The Pentecostal VANGE

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DO YOU "LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR STRENGTH, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND"?

7 Love the Lord

dramatic crises constantly in order to

have a reason for loving the Lord.

Every day the Lord gives me life and

health, food and clothing, family and

friends, forgiveness and fellowship.

How marvelously are we surrounded

by the provident, beneficent greatness

- BY MELVIN B. HANSON

District Missionary Secretary Wisconsin-Northern Michigan District

UNE OF THE MOST SIGNIFICANT statements a human being can make is to say honestly, "I love the Lord." This is not a meaningless phrase, but a personal, positive, pointed declaration of man's response to the love of God.

It is true that these words may be thoughtlessly mouthed by those who do not really mean them. But when spoken truthfully, there is scarcely any other declaration, from man's standpoint, that exceeds this grand pronouncement. It is the loftiest of human achievements.

REASONS FOR LOVING

In this, as in other considerations, we meet the law of cause and effect-I love the Lord because....

In Psalm 116:1 the Psalmist states that he loves the Lord because his prayers have been answered. In the succeeding verses he tells something of the predicament he was in and how God delivered him. How many times we have heard testimonies of those who were expressing their love to the Lord for delivering them from some disease or difficulty.

The Psalmist apparently had been delivered from death. "The sorrows of death compassed me," he said. And human nature being what it is, we are . often more impressed with being delivered from death than from being preserved in life. Perhaps that is one reason why the Lord permits His saints to suffer trials and tribulations. Our great battles become occasions for shining victories.

On the other hand, I do not believe it is necessary for us to experience

of our God! If love must have a reason, we are speechlessly overwhelmed ! For the one who has come to realize the awful tragedy of sin in his life, how absorbing is the scene of Calvary where Christ, in His great love, redeemed our souls. "We love him, because he first loved us" (1 John 4:19). THE INSTINCT OF LOVE

God created man in His own imageso we were made to love. The child progressively expands its affection from mother and father to brothers and sisters, then to playmates and friends, until he finds a love partner and a new family is formed. Then the little bundles of life that are sons and



daughters come under the glow of this mysterious spell.

There are many other individuals, causes, and interests which become involved with love in a lifetime. What a wretched life this would be if there were no love to manifest itself in kindness, sympathy, helpfulness, and concern.

THE FOCUS OF LOVE

Love may be likened to a powerful spotlight, directed by the individual to the object of his choice. For instance, from a world full of young ladies which may be legitimate objects of a young man's love, he selects one upon whom he will bestow his ardor and devotion in lifetime vows of faithfulness.

We were all made with an instinctive reaching out after God, but this does not mean that we have to love Him. It is possible to become so involved with the things of this present world that we forget God. "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him" (1 John 2: 15).

So if we would please God, we must exert ourselves and turn toward the One who created us for His glory. The "Great Commandment" reads: "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might" (Deut. 6:5). No amount of external piety, ritualistic ceremony, or religious enthusiasm can substitute for that absolutely essential

(Continued on page twenty-one)

The Compassionate Christ

BY EVANGELIST CLIFTON O. ERICKSON

A TREMENDOUS MULTITUDE WAS FOLlowing the Lord as He came out of Jericho on His way to Jerusalem (Mark 10:46-52). Among the throng were the scribes and Pharisees, who were the religious leaders of that day. The curious were there too—those who did not sense their need; as well as those who were following Him because of their need—the lame, the halt, and the blind.

Envision that vast multitude of people. They are from all walks of life, following the Messiah, the one who, according to prophecy, was to come. Look upon the face of Jesus Christ as He walks toward Jerusalem. His countenance is the very expression of love. Those following Him witness His compassion and loving pity for suffering humanity.

As we mingle with the crowd we become conscious of the great need of the multitude. A mother brings her afflicted child to Him. The Lord commands the multitude to stop and wait while He ministers to the child. A great deliverance is wrought, and the mother goes her way rejoicing.

Others come to Him, and everyone who comes is delivered. They go away shouting, "This is the One we have been awaiting! This is the Son of God! He has come to bring deliverance to humanity and to set the captive free!" The Word of God tells us that He healed all who came to Him. He is no respecter of persons.

Thus God, eternal and omnipotent, through the person of His Son Jesus Christ, revealed His infinite compassion for individuals. Jesus went to Calvary and shed His blood for the propitiation of your sin and mine, ascended to the right hand of God, and now has all power in heaven and earth. This truth is so marvelous to consider that it staggers the imagination.

Jesus looks upon you with eyes of compassion. Regardless of who you are, what your background may be, what your need may be, the Lord Jesus Christ is deeply concerned about your case. He bends low to minister healing to you today. Just as He stopped to minister deliverance to the needy as He walked the dusty road to Jerusalem, He is again ministering in the power of the Holy Spirit to the suffering in our generation. This same Jesus who demonstrated His love, compassion, and power before the disciples, and who gave Himself on Calvary's cross, has broken the power of the enemy. After He was lifted up on the cross to suffer, that His Father's will might be accomplished, He entered the realm of Satan's power in order that we might appropriate the benefits of God's great salvation.

THE UNCHANGING CHRIST

We are living in a day when a falsely represented Christ is lifted up before the people-one who can no longer heal or save; one who has lost His compassion for the suffering multitude; a Christ who has gone away from this world and who cannot be approached; one who cannot be touched with the feelings of our infirmities; one who has left us alone to go to hell, bound by the devil's power. Because of the failure of today's ministers to present Jesus Christ as He really is, the people today are wandering and groping in the darkness of unbelief, not knowing how to approach the Lord and receive His blessings.

The only hope for our generation is for God-anointed ministers to present "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever. He has not forgotten us; He loves us with an everlasting love. He is still the same today! He has the same power! If you will by faith accept what He offers, you can have His deliverance now. He is the great, all-conquering Christ, and He loves you. It is His desire that you open your heart and let Him come in and reveal Himself to you. Jesus Christ, the Son of God, paid a dear price for your deliverance. He now stands before you with outstretched hands, offering to you the benefits of His kingdom.

As we follow Jesus down the Jericho road, we hear someone crying, "Jesus, thou son of David, have mercy on me!" As we draw closer we see a blind beggar, who is stretching forth his hands toward Jesus. He is crying for mercy. The followers of Jesus Christ try to quiet him. "Bartimaeus, you are just a beggar. Who are you to be disturbing the people this way? Don't you know that you are not in a position to be crying after deliverance? You're just an old blind beggar. Be quiet!"

I fail to understand why the followers of the Lord attempted to turn the man away. They were not seeking to heal the suffering. They could follow Christ wherever they desired. They could bask in the sunlight of His marvelous ministry. Yet, when this poor beggar cried out that he, too, might receive deliverance, they said, "Who are you to disturb the people?" That attitude is often expressed by the religionists of our day; they turn away those who come to them for help, saying that deliverance is not for us today. Listen, friend, that is not true. Jesus Christ does love you today. He still has compassion on you.

THE PENTECOSTAL EVANGEL

THE INVITING CHRIST

Consider the plight of this blind man. Put yourself in his place. He longed to enjoy life as others. The man's condition had caused him to be separated from society. He could not live as others lived. He had to sit in darkness, with a lonely heart. He had to sit by the wayside, begging for the portions usually handed to the blind. At night, he had to find his way back home and prepare a meal for himself as best he could. Day after day he sat and begged. The people dodged him; the religionists drew in their cloaks as they passed him by, ostentatiously flipping in a farthing or a mite. They didn't care about him; he was just a blind beggar.

But that man had a precious soul that was crying out for deliverance. He had heard that Jesus of Nazareth, who healed the blind, was passing by. As Jesus came near, he could feel the presence of a power greater than any he had ever known, and he cried out, "Jesus!" From his heart he was crying to the Saviour. "Have mercy on me! I know I am not worthy. I am just a poor, blind beggar. But, Jesus, please don't pass me by. I need deliverance." Our Saviour will never reject such a plea.

This same Jesus is before you at this moment. He is there now in the room with you as you read this message. He is standing by your side. The Lord doesn't look upon you with eyes of condemnation; He looks upon you with love. No matter who you are or where you are from, the Lord Jesus Christ loves you. He wants to reveal Himself to you as your Saviour and your Healer.

What did Jesus do next? The Word of God tells us that He turned toward His followers and told them to bring the blind man to Him. Friend, as this was His command to His followers then, this is also the command of Jesus Christ to His followers today. The call of Jesus Christ to His church is to bring the halt, the lame, and the blind to Him. He commands ministers to bring deliverance to the suffering multitudes today. If they reject His command, they are sinning against the Lord and the people.

THE HEALING CHRIST

As He commanded, they called the blind man, saying, "Be of good comfort, rise; he calleth for thee." Jesus did not go to him; He stood and waited. Now the responsibility was Bartimaeus." If he had remained beside the highway he would not have been healed, even though Jesus waited. Bartimaeus had to act by faith.

The Word of God tells us that "he, casting away his garment, rose, and came to Jesus." He threw off his beggar's robe, leaped to his feet, and stood before the Master. The robe the beggars wore signified their position in life. The robe represented his past life. By faith he said, "I won't need this anymore." He left his past and entered a new future with Christ. This was the act of faith that put his old life behind him. Then, coming to Jesus, he found

"He Careth for You"

Are you troubled, weak and weary, Thro' the lonely hours of night,
Watching for the break of morning, Longing for the dawn of light?
Oh! remember One is near you, Who had lonely nights and days
On the mountain-top of sorrow, And He careth! yes, always!
Have the friends you trusted failed you In your hour of deepest need, And you sit within the gloaming

Thinking o'er each broken reed-Oh! lean hard upon your Saviour,

Who was left alone to die,

When they all forsook and failed Him At the cross of Calvary!

For He careth, oh, He careth With a tenderness so sweet; With a love that passeth knowledge; With a sympathy complete!

Then cast all your care upon Him For He careth night and day!

You have never far to seek Him-He's beside you! yes, alway! —Rose Benn

the contact with God that brought his healing.

Some ask, "If there is such abundant provision for our salvation and healing, why is there so much sin and sickness?" I'll tell you why. You must take a step toward Him. Jesus Christ will not force anyone to come. He is waiting, but you must come to Him. Now is the time to act. His provision for your need is available. The Lord Jesus Christ wants you to take that beggar's robe off. Then He will open your eyes; He will heal your cancer, heart trouble, arthritis, or any other disease.

When Bartimaeus stood before Him, Jesus said, "What wilt thou that I should do unto thee?" He said, "Lord, that I might receive my sight." The Lord commanded the blindness to leave, and immediately the miracle took place: The man was no longer blind, physically or spiritually. He did not put on his beggar's robe, nor return to his former ways. The Bible tells us that he followed Jesus in the way, proclaiming His power.

THE SAVING CHRIST

You may not be a blind beggar like Bartimaeus, but all of us stand in need of the power of Christ. Many spend their lives separated from all that is good, simply because they will not throw away their beggar's garment and surrender to Christ. The only way to have peace, joy, and happiness is to follow Jesus Christ every day of your life.

When the Lord opened Bartimaeus' eyes, he knew he was healed. He did not doubt what had taken place. So it is when you are saved. You know when the Lord opens your eyes spiritually. You know when you pass from darkness to light. Some say, "I go to church. I pay money to the church." That does not save you. To be saved is to know that you are born again. Jesus said, "Ye must be born again." The Lord will break the fetters that bind; He will dispel the darkness from your life; He will deliver you; He will enable you to walk in the light as He is in the light. Why grope in the darkness when you may see clearly, when you may know where you are going?

Bartimaeus had to let the supernatural power of Jesus Christ come into his life. If you could have saved yourself God would not have sent His Son to Calvary. Jesus came because our deliverance had to be a supernatural deliverance. You can be saved only as you open your heart to Jesus and let Him come in. There is no other way. The supernatural work of Christ is all that will change a man's nature completely. "If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature." Christ will take away your old life of sin and you will say, "Behold, all things are become new."

Christ paid the price on Calvary's cross that you might have life for evermore. He is now beckoning you to come to Him. He took the stripes on His back for your healing. You can be healed right now. You can also know that you are saved—you need not go on wondering. Jesus said, "Him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out." He is calling you now!

. . NEWS AND NOTES ON OUR TIMES

THIS PRESENT WORLD

Communists CHRISTIANS IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA CHALLENGE ATHEIST CLAIMS

Christians in Czechoslovakia are reported to be writing newspapers asking atheists to explain how they can live with themselves and be happy without believing in God. One prominent communist has attempted an answer in the organ of the Communist Youth League. He said that one can "enrich his life" by work in mines, factories, co-operatives, or schools. He said that "he who gives most to society gains most."

The communist conceded that belief in an all-powerful benevolent God has its advantages. "It is possible," he said, "to turn to Him and to tell Him one's fears and sins, and ask Him to see that everything turns out all right. You have had a bad time on earth: it will be all the better for you in heaven." But he emphasized that communists reject such ideas.

Meanwhile a communist party paper complained that atheistic propaganda is not making enough headway in Czechoslovakia. "We suffer from a shortage of qualified lecturers," it said. It reported that a film on the origin of religion would be released soon; and also a book entitled "Ways of Overcoming Religion."

TOP ROMANIAN LEADER BURIED WITH RELIGIOUS RITES

For the first time in Communistdominated Eastern Europe, a top government leader was buried with full religious rites. Reports broadcast by the Bucharest Radio said Dr. Petru Groza, Chief of State in Romania, was interred after an 80-minute service conducted by Patriarch Justinian of the Romanian Orthodox Church. The patriarch was assisted by two metropolitans and numerous bishops, priests, and archdeacons.

Premier Groza, who died at 72 after a stomach operation, had served from 1919 to 1927 as a lay deputy in the Synod and Congress of the Romanian Church. Although he espoused the Communist cause, he was never a member of the Communist Party. The Bucharest Radio said several short sermons were preached at the rites in the various languages used in Romania. It said the sermons repeatedly stressed that Dr. Groza "died at peace with his God."

According to the station, the services were attended by the principal Communist leaders and members of the government. The churches must be very strong in Romania or the Communists surely would not make such a concession as that.

EAST GERMAN PASTORS REMAINING WITH THEIR FLOCKS

Bishop Dibelius, head of the Evangelical (Lutheran) Church in Germany, is disturbed over the impression being gained by the public that pastors in the Soviet Zone have moved to the West in wholesale numbers. Actually, he said, only about 100 of a total of 6,000 pastors in the East Zone have gone to the West, with or without permission from their church superiors. At the risk of their own personal safety the overwhelming majority are staying with their flocks, he said, "as is their duty."

Catholics CATHOLICS GAINING IN BRITAIN

According to the 1958 Catholic Directory there were 14,077 adult conversions to Roman Catholicism in England and Wales during 1957, bringing the total number of Catholics in that area to 3,343,000. The Directory estimated there are 757,000 Catholics in Scotland and 476,000 in Northern Ireland, making a total of over $4\frac{1}{2}$ million for all the United Kingdom (out of a total population of some 50 million).

CATHOLICS KNOCK ON 819,000 DOORS IN WISCONSIN CANVASS

A statewide Catholic canvass dubbed "Operation Doorbell" was made in Wisconsin with very good results from the viewpoint of the Roman Catholic hierarchy. Some 31,000 Catholic laymen called on more than 819,000 homes over half of which were non-Catholic. A total of 18,790 non-Catholic families expressed interest in learning more about the Catholic faith. They were invited to attend Inquiry Forums. The "Census and Information Program" in Milwaukee was climaxed with two special services in which 665 adult converts were confirmed the same day.

POAU WARNS AGAINST SECTARIAN POLITICAL PARTIES

The organization known as Protestants and Other Americans United for Separation of Church and State has proposed that potential Roman Catholic candidates for President and Vice President in 1960 be asked to take public stands on controversial issues concerning Church and State relations. The organization issued the statement from its Washington office on the tenth anniversary of its founding.

At the same time, it warned against the formation of "any Catholic or anti-Catholic political party" in the United States. It said that formation of parties or factions based on religious affiliation would inevitably lead to "political manipulation of church affairs."

"We recall with regret those chapters of our history when religious prejudice ran amok in the Know-Nothing movement and the Ku Klux Klan," POAU declared. "We believe, however, that the religion of a candidate for President or Vice President should not be used as a shield to conceal his views on matters of Church-State policy." It suggested that Catholic candidates be asked:

(1) Whether they "personally approve" of the "boycott" of public schools by Catholic parents as embodied in Canon 1374 of Roman Catholic canonical law which requires a special dispensation to send students to non-Catholic schools.

(2) To state whether they would favor the grant of public tax money to parents of children attending parochial schools.

(3) What their policy would be regarding the appointment of an ambassador or special representative to the Vatican.

Television

BIBLE TAUGHT BY TELEVISION

Television viewers in the Capital area can now take a course of Bible studies without leaving their own living rooms. American University, a Methodist institution, is now presenting a weekly series on the Bible over WMAL, Washington, D.C., in co-operation with the National Capital Area Council of Churches.

The first course on "The Message of Jesus in the Gospels" is being taught by a Presbyterian pastor, Dr. George M. Docherty. He has six university students in the studio to represent his class. Viewers do their "homework" by using study outlines which are available in advance upon request.

MEMPHIS CHURCH HAS BUILT-IN TELEVISION STUDIO

Many churches televise their services but Bellevue Baptist Church in Memphis, Tenn., is probably the only one in the country with a built-in TV studio. The church has invested \$52,000 in lights, cameras, generators, and other equipment, and has obtained a license from the Federal Communications Commission. Church members handle the monitors, receivers, control board, cameras, etc. Only the director and engineer are professionals.

Each Sunday morning the entire seventy-minute- service including the sermon by the pastor, Dr. Robert G. Lee, is televised. The transmitter beams a signal from a church studio window to the 1,087-foot-high tower of the commercial station (WHBQ) three blocks away. The \$250.00 a week TV bill is part of the regular budget of the 9,000member church.

Miscellaneous

CHURCH CONSTRUCTION SETS RECORD

The government reports that church construction set an all-time record in 1957 with new buildings worth \$868,000,000 started by America's churches and synagogues. The new record surpassed the old (set in 1956) by exactly \$100,000,000.

HAWAIIAN GIDEONS RECEIVE RECORD BIBLE SHIPMENT

The Gideons at Honolulu received 12,000 copies of the Scriptures recently, the largest shipment in the history of the Islands. The Bibles will be distributed among school children, hospital patients, and American servicemen.

EVANGEL DEADLINE

. . . LATE NEWS AT PRESS TIME

- SENATOR LANGER AND REFRESENTATIVE SILER have introduced bills in Congress which would prohibit the interstate transportation of alcoholic beverage advertising materials. These laws, if passed, would help to eliminate the more offensive liquor ad campaigns, particularly radio and TV commercials for beer, ale and wine.
- SEVERAL BILLS have been introduced to stop the serving of alcoholic beverages on domestic aircraft. There are two bills in the Senate, five in the House of Representatives, all similar. House of Representatives passed this legislation in 1956 but the Senate failed to act before the 84th Congress adjourned. As a result, the debate must be started all over again. There is small likelihood that the legislation will be adopted by both House and Senate unless Christian citizens everywhere write to their Congressmen and urge its passage.
- MISSIONARIES TO THE MIGRANTS have urged President Eisenhower to declare "a state of emergency" in Florida. Some 10,000 unemployed migratory agricultural workers and their families are stranded because of weather-smitten crops.
- A GOOD PRECEDENT-The business men planning the 10,000-home Carol City development project near Miami, Florida, asked the Greater Miami Council of Churches to select a proper number of church sites for the new community. The sites are being sold on a non-profit basis. Some denominations have already made purchases; others are negotiating for property.
- BILLY GRAHAM will be a featured speaker at the annual convention of the National Association of Evangelicals, to be held in Chicago, April 14-18. Other speakers will be Robert G. Lee, J. Wilbur Smith, and Harold J. Ockenga. There will be two nights of prayer, led by Armin Gesswein, chairman of the NAE Spiritual Life Commission.
- THE REVIVALTIME CHOIR is scheduled to be heard on the radio network of the National Broadcasting Company on Sunday, February 16. will provide the opening number on the third of a series of broadcasts that will feature Dr. Harold J. Ockenga of Boston, speaking on behalf of the National Association of Evangelicals.
- THE "ENCYCLOPEDIA OF SOUTHERN BAPTISTS" has just been released by the Broadman Press. More than three years in the making, the two-volume work is a comprehensive guide to the life, work and beliefs of the Southern Baptists.
- GOOD NEWS FOR NURSERY AND HEGINNER TEACHERS-Beginning with the second quarter of 1958, the Gospel Publishing House is offering handwork packets for its Nursery and Beginner courses. The Beginner handwork packet contains the same figures as the patterns in the Sunday School Quarterly. However, the material (12 sheets) is die-cut and the figures are larger than those in the Quarterly. The Nursery handwork packet consists of 12 sheets of vari-colored construction paper. It also is die-cut and contains the same figures as the patterns found in the Nursery Teacher Quarterly. It will be necessary to purchase one packet for each child. Look for these news items on the Second Quarter order blank from the Gospel Publishing House. They will save teachers many hours of time in preparing the handwork for their pupils.



. Home Missions News



Calvary Assembly, which was started in a house, has now moved into this new church on Wells Station Road.

Church Extension in Memphis, Tennessee

When Jesus said, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature," He included the neighborhoods a few miles away, as well as across the seas. The Lord meant personal witnessing by every Christian and also helping build new churches and branch churches.

With that Scripture as the basis, and with the belief that Christ wants as many gospel lighthouses as possible in these closing days, the First Assembly of God in Memphis, Tennessee, is determined to help establish at least one new church this year.

Such a goal will not be new for First Assembly, pastored by James E. Hamill. Rather, it will be the continuation of a program they have followed through the years and which has helped a number of churches in the pioneer stages.

In its folder, "8 Things for '58," First Assembly has listed the establishing of at least one new church this year among its eight definite aims. With the help of God, the people at First Assembly feel certain that this goal will be fulfilled before another new year arrives.

This aim was included in "8 Things for '58," Pastor Hamill explained, to express to the congregation the desire to provide assistance for new churches in Memphis, and to set up in the church

BY EMMETT MAUM

budget some money for such a project. While First Assembly has not taken the full responsibility in the work, the Memphis church has helped three other churches get started in that city, in addition to one at Bolivar, Tennessee. First Assembly has provided help in various ways for the new works, including money, workers, buildings, songbooks, chairs, and Sunday School

literature. First Assembly started by assisting in the establishing of the Rugby Park Assembly of God in Memphis early in 1949. Pioneer Pastor A. B. Adams and his Rugby Park group were furnished with seats, songbooks, and a small amount of money. The church has grown under the leadership of Pastor E. L. Adcock to its present average of 157 in Sunday School and from 125 to 175 in church attendance.

"Let me give you another example," Pastor Hamill said. "Two years ago, when Jethroe Lindsey started Calvary Assembly, he talked to me about the matter. We encouraged him to start the work on Wells Station Road in Memphis, and suggested to some of our people who lived in that immediate area that they might wish to help him."

A number of First Assembly's people

did join Brother Lindsey in starting the church in a converted home. First Assembly provided the new work with a total of almost \$1,000 toward securing the building and gave Pastor Lindsey and his congregation all the moral support possible.

Today Calvary Assembly has a beautiful new church adjacent to the house where the work began. The Sunday School is averaging 76, and church attendance numbers between 70 and 100. Last year Calvary Assembly gained forty per cent in Sunday School over the first year.

First Assembly's role in starting Getwell Assembly at 1666 Getwell Road last year was somewhat similar. Pastor Hamill explained Getwell's start this way:

"When the man who opened Getwell Assembly decided to leave before the church was really established, it was more or less turned over to First Assembly. We provided leadership from our deacon board for six or seven weeks and then secured Pastor and Mrs. S. H. Wilson to come in and carry on the church.

"The Wilsons are the parents of Cameron W. Wilson, our associate pastor and Director of Christian Education.

"We bought Sunday School literature for Getwell Assembly for about nine months. We have paid the \$60-a-month rent on their building, a converted restaurant, for about a year, and we will continue paying this rent for some time yet. Also our church has provided some food for the workers."

Getwell Assembly averages 30 or more in Sunday School and church services.

First Assembly gave around \$400 in the establishing of the Bolivar Church. During several emergencies, the Memphis congregation sent money to Bolivar, where Irby Campbell is pastor. The Bolivar Sunday School averages close to 30, and the church attendance 35 to 45.

This type of home missions work will continue to be a part of First Assembly's program. Pastor Hamill and his congregation realize that the assistance given new churches may make the difference between their merely struggling for existence and their being strong enough really to do something for God.

The program has been quite successful from First Assembly's standpoint, since the new churches grow up to be rather independent of Pastor Hamill's church. That is the idea.

"We do not maintain any control

over their operation," said Pastor Hamill. "We don't actually consider them branch churches, and they govern themselves either through the section or the district until they are set in order."

As for 1958 and further in the future, First Assembly in Memphis has definite plans. Several areas exist where Pastor Hamill believes churches should be established, and he says: "When pastors come along with a sufficient burden and the interest to say that they want to build churches in those areas, we will provide some funds, perhaps personnel, and any other encouragement possible."

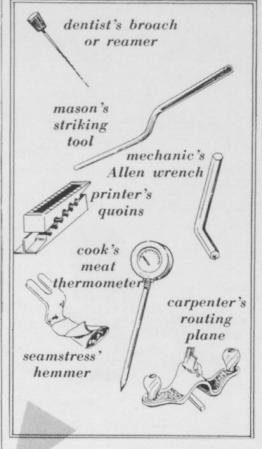
By doing so—and by continuing its strong foreign missions program—First Assembly of God in Memphis seeks to fulfill Christ's commandment to carry the gospel into all the world.

* * *

Write today for your free copy of BRANCH CHURCH EVANGEL-ISM, and learn how your church can join in the great home missions outreach in some nearby community. Address your request to Home Missions Department, 434 W. Pacific St., Springfield 1, Missouri.



James E. Hamill (center), pastor of First Assembly of God in Memphis, discusses plans for the Getwell Assembly with its pastors, the S. H. Wilsons



The world is full of special tools most of us never see—tools that are tailor-made to perform an exact task, or fit a specific set of circumstances. Investments are specialized too. Each kind of investment has particular functions and characteristics which set it apart from all others—make it the right investment for certain people under certain circumstances.

Take the Assemblies of God Annuity Agreement for example. Its distinguishing characteristics are these:

- 1. It provides a lifetime income.
- 2. That income *never varies*, being determined at the time the Agreement is purchased.
- 3. The interest rate is adjusted to favor the *older* investor.
- 4. It requires no supervision. The Agreement is a permanent investment.
- 5. The most important distinguishing characteristic of the Assemblies of God Annuity Agreement, which makes it right for the Christian investor, is that your money serves God's cause while it serves you.

If you have money to invest, or must live on income from invested money, consider Assemblies of God Annuity Agreements. Write to W. B. Netzel, Treasurer, 434 West Pacific Street, Springfield 1, Missouri, for a free booklet.



Front view of the new Ouagadougou Church building

Ouagadougou Church Dedicated

Approximately one thousand people attended the dedication services of this new Upper Volta church

Near the center of the capital city of Upper Volta, West Africa, stands the Assemblies of God church. This attractive structure is ready to serve the people of the capital city and reach them for God.

The first Assemblies of God missionaries to enter Upper Volta came to Ouagadougou in January 1921. They procured land about a mile west of the town and built the mission station and an adobe church. This served well for many years until it was decided that a church near the center could accomplish much more.

In 1945, the Harold Joneses, missionaries to Upper Volta, began to raise funds for this project in the U.S.A. and collected twenty per cent of the amount necessary for the structure. Other missionaries of the field raised seventy-five per cent, and the nationals provided the other five per cent.

The fireproof building is of con-

BY GEORGE W. FLATTERY

crete and steel construction and is roofed with heavy asbestos sheets. The prefabricated steel framework and the roofing were purchased in Takoradi, Ghana, and had to be transported on two semitrailer rigs to Ouagadougou, a distance of 700 miles. Doors are of translucent glass panes in steel frames.

Construction began in May, 1956. The building was erected on the payas-you-go plan and dedicated free of indebtedness. The cost was approximately \$13,000. It would have been twice that much if a local contracting

Send Foreign Missionary offerings to

NOEL PERKIN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOREIGN MISSIONS DEPARTMENT 434 W. Pacific St., Springfield 1, Mo. firm had built it; but I was able to design the building and supervise its construction, thus saving a considerable sum.

Following the completion of the building in October, 1957, services were held with about forty delegates from evangelical missions joining us. These came from various parts of French West Africa and French Togoland. They were in Ouagadougou to attend a convention of the Evangelical Federation and their business sessions were held in the new church. A fitting close to their sessions was a blessed time of fellowship at the Lord's Table.

Dedication ceremonies commenced on November 30 with the unveiling of the grey marble dedication stone with black lettering etched on it. The stone was a gift of the Sheffield Assembly of God, Kansas City, Mo. (C. W. Quattlebaum, Pastor).

Missionary Howard Fox brought a



George Flattery speaking at the dedication service. Left to right: Jean Olle, Andre Brisset, Harold Jones, Pierre Dupret, Lebende Miningou.

sermon at the Sunday morning dedicatory service in the Moré language. Another service followed which was conducted in French. The District Commander and a personal representative of the Governor of Upper Volta attended. The message was given by Andre Brisset of the French Assemblies of God.

The program planning committee asked that I give a resumé of the project in both services. National pastors from all of the major districts of the Assemblies of God work in Upper Volta attended and helped make the time a season of refreshing.

Graduates of the Bible School had their graduation exercises following the dedication. John Hall, the director of the school, conducted the service for the twelve graduates. Harold Jones gave an exhortation to the graduates using Acts 26:19 as his text.

A noticeable increase in attendance has taken place since the new building has been occupied.

British Guiana – An Open Door

BY MARGARET CHOW

British Guiana is a fertile field for the gospel. At a recent Fellowship Meeting at Central Assembly Hall, Georgetown, fifty-three new members ''rere received. This number included fourteen juniors who had received the Baptism in the Holy Spirit.

A Christian Workers' Training Course was conducted a short time ago by Miss Maxine Mitchell of Springfield, Missouri and the afternoon sessions were followed by evangelistic services with Mrs. Pauline Mastries (also of Springfield) as the evangelist. Morning prayer meetings were well attended, the average number being 187.

The Training Course was a new venture in British Guiana. God honored the step of faith. Eleven other denominational churches co-operated and two representatives from the Hindu Temple took the course. The two Hindus completed the prescribed work and received certificates. They expressed enjoyment in the studies and



Altar service during evangelistic meeting

stated they had received much enlightenment. There were 123 certificates issued for completion of the Course.

A oneness in Christ was apparent among the other denominational students and our own, during the classes. The results of these studies are being felt now and will be more apparent when our Revival and Training Center is opened.

MISSIONARY NEWS NOTES





Mrs. Edna Devin

Ruby Johnson

Mrs. Edna Devin returned to Indonesia on January 11 for another term of service.

Ruby Johnson sailed from New York for Ghana, West Africa, on January 15. Miss Johnson will be taking over the work at the Saboba Clinic and would appreciate our prayers.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Merian of India have a new son, Robert Lee, born December 28.

Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Clement wish to inform their friends of their new address which is 322 West 77, Seattle, Washington.

The Lord called to her reward one of our veteran missionaries, Edna Wagenknecht, who went Home peacefully in her sleep Sunday evening, January 12. Miss Wagenknecht was a graduate of Central Bible Institute and first went to India in 1926. During her first term she worked at the Bettiah Orphanage and School. In January, 1934, after her furlough, she returned to India to join Marguerite Flint at the Bible School in Hardoi. She was active at the school until she was compelled to return in September, 1957, because of illness.

Miss Wagenknecht served on the Executive Committee of the North India District Council for many years.

She is survived by one sister, Hilda, who is a missionary in India in charge of the Bettiah Orphanage and School.

The evangelistic services conducted at the time of the Training Course had to be held in the Town Hall which was crowded each night. Over 220 decided for Christ and many testified to being healed of various sicknesses. Three were baptized in the Holy Spirit.

Our hearts are greatly encouraged in the work here. We covet your prayers for continued blessing.



Grandmothers.. Mothers..Daughters.. SERVING!

"I call to remembrance the unfeigned faith that is in thee, which dwelt first in thy grandmother, Lois and thy mother, Eunice; and I am persuaded that in thee also." (2 Timothy 1:5)

There is an old hymn by Harry Dixon Loes with the significant chorus,

"There is a place for everyone, In the service of the King; There is work that must be done If the world to Christ we bring. Be your talents one or ten,

Keep a heart that's brave and true; There's a place for everyone— There's a place for you."

Infinitely wonderful are the plans and purposes of God. When Christ commissioned His disciples with the task of carrying the gospel "into all the world," He had every one of us in mind. He foresaw all the kinds of work that the commission would require in the changing decades from then until

* The entire song is found in "Tabernacle Hymns No. 5." Copyright. Quoted by permission of Hope Publishing Company, owner.



James Kofahl Pastor, First Assembly of God Granite City, Illinois

His second coming. Accordingly He has distributed talents and abilities. If every Christian would consecrate and employ the gifts bestowed upon him, God's work would go on according to the divine blueprint.

For women of the church the Women's Missionary Council provides opportunity and guidance. Also provided is study material to give a better understanding of the fields of labor and how best to serve.

"Yes," says one, "there is a WMC in our church, but I am much younger than the women who belong to it, and I would feel out of place."

Another objects, "Our WMC group meets in the daytime, and I have to work."

"The WMC's in our church do nothing but sew," declares another, "and I just can't sew."

In the final analysis the sad truth in many of our churches is that only a small percentage of the women are really actively working for God. This has become a matter of great concern to some pastors and local WMC leaders, and many of them have reorganized their WMC work, grouping the women into circles and chapters according to age groups, types of ministry, and convenient time of meeting.

Pastor James Kofahl of the First Assembly of God in Granite City, Illinois, writes, "Having had the senior WMC chapter for years, we were quick to realize the advantages of having a Missionette Club. Now we have spanned the gap between these two groups by adding a WMC chapter



Senior WMC Group (Nola Heiney, President; Blanche Butler, Vice-President; Edna Honeycomb, Sec.-Treas.)

called 'Kings Daughters,' ages 18 to 35, and another, the 'Bethany Circle,' 36 to 50.

"This program has met with unusual success and serves a very practical purpose in our local church, as well as for home and foreign missions and benevolences."

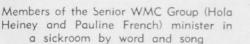
The Senior WMC Group in Brother Kofahl's church comprises the women who are over 50 years of age. They are women of mature Christian experience with a burden for souls. Every Wednesday they meet at 10:00 in the morning and spend the entire day in their WMC work. Always the first order of the day is devotions. The entire morning is given to Bible and mission study and intercessory prayer. At noon they enjoy pot luck luncheon before taking up their projects. Every Wednesday finds at least one or two visitors enjoying the warmth of fellowship and spiritual help that this allday meeting affords.

There are two major categories of activity for the afternoon. Those who are able and gifted in ministering to others, go out to conduct services for shut-ins and others in need of spiritual help. The rest of the group stays in the WMC workroom to sew, quilt, and work at various other projects for the missionaries and the needy.

The "Bethany Circle" and the "King's Daughters" are women who cannot attend the daytime meeting because they are employed or have small children at home. Though they do not have as much time to give as do the women of the Senior group, they sincerely desire to have a part in the work of the Lord. Each of these groups meets one evening each month.

These groups, too, spend the first part of their service in devotions, and then work at their projects. Each of







Blanche Butler and Jewel Filby serve Christ in the workroom, sewing clothes for the needy and other missionary projects



them has adopted a missionary child whom they partially support, besides the many other endeavors in which they are engaged.

The "King's Daughters" have adopted Ephesians 6:7 as their scripture verse: "With good will doing service, as to the Lord, and not to men."

And to complete the ranks of the Women's Missionary Council in this missionary church are the Missionettes, 12 to 17. Sponsored by the Women's Missionary Council, many of them are taking their first steps in objective work for the Lord. Not only are they supplementing the missionary work of their mothers and receiving factual knowledge concerning missions, but they are also seeking the Lord together and giving Him an opportunity to direct their lives.

When Brother Kofahl gave this report, he was able to say concerning the Missionettes, "All members at the present time are saved, and are working for new members and new converts for the future."

"We can list many benefits of our WMC program to the local church," says pastor Kofahl, "but we will take one particular benefit for emphasis. It has emabled us to assimilate individuals who would otherwise have remained on the outer perimeter of the church. We are quick to note the benefit of breaking up the fallow ground. The organization of any program is not the end, but rather the beginning, and we feel that our greatest field of accomplishments lies ahead of us."

Pastor Kofahl sees his Women's Missionary Council is a vital part of the missionary program of his church. When recently the church had a threeday missionary convention, one day was observed as a sectional WMC convention with the district WMC president and a representative from the National WMC Office as speakers. "By this means," he says, "we were able to give the local church an insight into WMC plans and programs, not only in our district, but throughout the whole nation."

Across the nation, February 23 will be observed as WMC Day. May God bless the services of the day as the women of our churches present the theme of "Serving" the missionary cause.



Missionettes (Mabel Lowell, Leader)



King's Daughters (Evelyn Bringer, President; Delores Boston, Vice-President; Rena James, Sec.-Treas.)



"Grandma" Arnold

"Grandma" (Mrs. Mary) Arnold is a 92-year-old member of the Women's Missionary Council in the Assembly of God, DeQueen, Arkansas. She represents those WMC workers who have had to relinquish the "work" to younger members but who still exert a powerful ministry. Prayer and influence! What more potent factors than these can be found among the gift God has given!

Saved at an early age, and healed of numerous diseases (including malignancy and sleeping sickness of long duration), Grandma Arnold is regarded as a tower of spiritual strength in her church.

"She never misses a service except under bad weather conditions," writes WMC correspondent, Mrs. Jewell Bush, "and we feel we are richer in God for having a 92-year-old mother in our membership."

BY HUBERT MITCHELL Chicago, Illinois

Seeking the Lost

THE MORE WE SEEK THE LORD, THE more we'll seek the lost. The Lord and the lost are very closely identified. "The Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost" (Luke 19:10). Jesus was a true Seeker, a Shepherd of lost sheep. He was constantly on the move, mostly by foot, going, seeking, finding, bringing—the lost ones. "Other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring," He said (John 10:16).

No human in history dare accuse Christ of being a "professional" Shepherd and Soul-winner. He loved His sheep whether they were in the fold or lost in the howling wilderness. He prayed for sinners because He loved them. He sought them because He loved them. How many of us have actually made intercession for the transgressors?

That mighty prophet, Isaialt, pulled back the curtains, as it were, and let us look into the travailing heart of God. The fifty-third chapter throbs and pulsates with holy and vicarious sacrifice. Christ's complete identification with the sinner ought to drive us to our knees in supplication and travail for the lost. How dare we call ourselves Christians when we will not go deep into this shaft of humiliation and suffering with our Lord? There is no easy way to soulwinning, no short-cut. "Bearing His reproach outside of the camp," where the sinners are—this is our task.

We American Christians hunt and search for the easy and quick way to do things. We're quick to invent some new gadget to get the job done. We do all we can to promote, program, and feed people into the Kingdom. Ah, my friend, there are better ways than these! Let's get back to the old paths and patterns of God's saintly stalwarts. Fastings, strong-cryings and tears, nights of prayer with genuine travailing and supplication, THIS will break our hearts and melt the hearts of the lost.

Strong-cryings and tears will tear down those awful barricades of pride and melt our hearts right into the stream of human suffering. Mature and adult prayer blasts away at the fear in our hearts—the fear of people, the fear of circumstances and conditions, the fear of the devil—and leaves us only with the fear of God permeating the whole of our beings.

The more we are on our knees be-



-Courtesy Standard Publishing Foundation

fore the Lord, the more we'll be on our toes for the lost. Going out into the highways and byways, searching—from office to office, from store to store, from house to house—going everywhere preaching and proclaiming the unsearchable riches of Christ.

I challenge you today to let God ignite your heart with holy fire! Should not our hearts burn within us!

The situation in America and the world constitutes a tremendous call to the people of God to day-and-night prayer. Let us open our churches to day-and-night prayer for a great soul-saving, nation-saving revival of moral righteousness.

Hannah – A PICTURE OF THE CHURCH PRAYING

T WAS A DARK TIME WHEN HANnah prayed that prayer (1 Samuel 1). It was a time of virtual anarchy, for "every man did that which was right in his own eyes." You have only to read the Book of Judges to see the degradation to which men will go when they follow their own ideas of right without regard to the law of God.

"The word of the Lord was precious in those days; there was no open vision." Of course, there were copies of the Law, but the living, anointed Word from God was scarce. God had no man through whom He could stir the people and send a moving of the Spirit.

There was contention among the

members of Hannah's household. Perhaps they did not mean for it to be, but it was there—members of the household provoking one another and fretting, when there should have been love, sympathy, and mutual help!

They had the form; they religiously followed the calendar when it called for new moons, solemn assemblies, Sabbaths, and feast days. They offered their fat beasts, burnt offerings, and loud songs until Jehovah was weary of it all. Someone has said that empty observance of ritual causes one to be innoculated with a mild form of religion —just enough to keep from getting the *real thing*! Prayer had so lost its reality that when Hannah prayed in genuine earnestness of soul, Eli—the most religious man in the nation—misunderstood her and accused her of being drunk!

There was corruption among leaders. The unscrupulous deeds of the young priests, the sons of Eli, were a crimson stain on the honor and integrity of the priesthood. The people had no one to show them the way out of the darkness.

It was a time of national danger. The Philistines, armed for war, paraded the borders of the country; they whetted their swords at the very gates, ready to pour into Israel with great destruction. Fear and dread hovered over the people.

Israel was getting ripe for judgment. God was soon to reckon with her by turning her over to her enemies for chastening!

It was during this dark time that *Hannah prayed*! She was under great pressure to pray. Her spirit was sorrowful. She wanted a child—a man child.

Hannah wanted this child, not for what he would do for her, but for what she could do for him and for the Lord God. Adoption agencies have to know why childless couples want a baby before one is given to them. If the child is to be used to cure a jealous or neurotic wife or to keep a marriage from going on the rocks, reliable agencies will not let the child go. The arrangement must be for the child, not for the parents; they must have something to offer him.

More often than not, natural parenthood takes care of this risk. Something about the burden and pain of bearing a child makes him so precious that a mother will rarely exploit her own child. It is so with the Church. God will not give us converts merely to swell the ranks of our church or to bolster the reputation of the preacher. He does not give us converts as paying customers to put us out of debt and increase the offerings. The spirit of competition must not enter in hereit is a precinct too sacred and holy for such motives. God gives us converts when we long for them for His glory-apart from the agitating numbers on the wall register. We do not get converts the way a salesman gets prospects. "As soon as Zion travailed, she brought forth her children." Real revivals, lasting revivals, have always been born in the agonies of intercessory soul travail.

What can one person do? Hannah a woman who lived in a dark, dangerous, corrupt, and restless time—could pray a prevailing prayer. She could couple a vow of consecration with her pleadings. She could go away and possess her miracle—a man child who would turn the nation back to God and bring peace to the land of Israel in his time. In doing so, she found happiness and peace for her own heart and household.

America is in desperate need of men of Samuel's caliber. Only the Church can produce them. And this will be done through intercessory prayer, as it was for Hannah.



DAILY BIBLE READINGS BY R. G. CHAMPION

Monday, February 17

Read: Psalm 100

Learn: "Serve the Lord with gladness: come before his presence with singing" (Psalm 100:2).

For the Parent: God wants us to serve Him gladly. Discuss how we sometimes serve God grudgingly, giving Him only what happens to be left of our time, talents, etc. Discuss also how we sometimes give God what we are supposed to, but do so only because we feel we have to or that it is expected of us. Contrast this with the type of glad service that God wants from us.

Question Time: What do you think the theme of this psalm is? Why should we serve the Lord gladly? (v. 5) What New Testament passage carries the same message as v. 3? (John 10)

Tuesday, February 18

Read: Psalm 101

Learn: "I will walk within my house with a perfect heart" (Psalm 101:2).

For the Parent: Our true Christian life is probably shown more readily at home than in any other place. Emphasize the importance of living a consistent Christian life in the home, pointing out: (1) have a time of devotion, v. 1; (2) remember to be a real Christian in the home, v. 2; (3) avoid evil and don't be associated with evildoers, vv. 3-8.

Question Time: Why is it harder to be a true Christian at home than it is in other places? How can verse 7 be applied to our lives today? Why do you think a time of devotion is important?

Wednesday, February 19

Read: Psalm 102:12-22

Learn: "But thou, O Lord, shalt endure for ever" (Psalm 102:12).

For the Parent: God is eternal. The Bible tells us He has always been and always will be. Remind the group that there is a life beyond this present life. All people will live in that life, but whether our abode is heaven or hell depends on whether or not we accept Christ as our Saviour. Stress the importance of making this decision now and accepting Christ. Only thus can we be assured of a home in heaven.

Question Time: What important truth does this passage teach about God? (v. 12) How does this affect us? (See above)

Thursday, February 20

Read: Luke 14:7-11; 18:10-14

Learn: "He that humbleth himself shall be exalted" (Luke 18:14).

For the Parent: . (Additional material on "Christ Teaches Humility" will be found on Sunday's Lesson page.) Review the illustrations of humility which Christ gave; pointing out the important lesson of each: humility toward others and humility in the presence of God. Discuss also how the examples of Jesus' life teach us humility. Question Time: What is true of the man who exalts himself? (Luke 14:11) of the one who humbles himself? (Luke 14:11) In the parable of the Pharisee and the publican, which one received help from God? Why?

Friday, February 21

Read: Luke 9:18-36 (Sunday's Lesson for Juniors)

Learn: "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God" (Matthew 16:16).

For the Parent: From this passage point out: (1) Peter's confession of Christ as the Son of God, vv. 18-21; (2) the test of the discipleship of those who confess and accept Christ, vv. 23-27; (3) the transfiguration of Christ and God's confirmation of Peter's confession, vv. 28-36. Emphasize that Jesus is God's Son, and that He is God. We must reverence and obey Him. Question Time: What did Peter say in answer to Christ's question in v. 18? (v. 20) How did God confirm this? (v. 35)

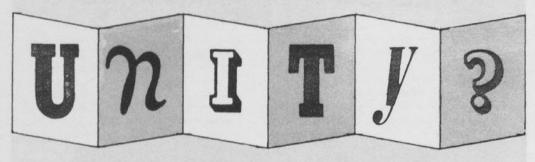
Saturday, February 22

Read: 1 Kings 19:19-21; 2 Kings 2:1-12 (Sunday's Lesson for Primaries)

Learn: "Blessed are they that do his commandments" (Revelation 22:14).

For the Parent: Review the story of the call of Elisha to God's service, pointing out his willingness to leave all to serve God. For some years Elisha was with Elijah, until God took Elijah to heaven. During those years of training, Elisha had learned to obey God, and now was ready to serve as a prophet himself. Stress the importance of learning obedience in all things. Question Time: How was Elisha called into God's service? (1 Kings 19:19-21) How did Elijah go to heaven? (2 Kings 2:11) What request had Elisha made of Elijah? (2 Kings 2:9) What condition must Elisha meet to gain this? (v. 10)

UNIFORMITY -or-



BY LLOYD CHRISTIANSEN Milwaukee, Wisconsin

UNITY IS ONE OF THE PRIME REQUISITES FOR SUCCESS IN THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST. "UNITED WE STAND" IS NO OUTWORN SLOGAN, BUT A LIVING FACT.

EVERY GOSPEL WORKER WHO DESIRES maximum success realizes the value of unity. The lack of this important quality has meant defeat, no doubt, to many a worthy project. A sense of responsibility on the part of every believer will mean much toward the realization of the ideal of true Christian unity.

To clarify our thinking, we must distinguish between unity, union and uniformity. It is possible for persons or groups to organize into a *union* and still not effect unity. Also, it is possible to impose *uniform practices* on people and still fail to achieve unity. Unity is a virtue that is superior to both union and uniformity.

Of this virtue of unity David exclaimed in Psalm 133—"Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity! It is like the precious ointment upon the bead, that ran down upon the beard, even Aaron's beard: that went down to the skirts of his garments; as the dew of Hermon, and as the dew that descended upon the mountain's of Zion: for there the Lord commanded the blessing, even life for evermore."

This Psalm is short, but it contains much important truth. The first verse indicates it is "brethren" who are responsible for unity. Unity is a condition enjoyed only by those who are bound to God. Those who are outside the pale of salvation have no conception of this spiritual quality of unity. It is the Holy Spirit who communicates this blessed condition to our hearts. Of course, the co-operation of our wills is necessary if we are to maintain the unity of the Spirit.

To help us appreciate the grace of unity, the Psalmist compares it to "precious ointment" and to "the dew of Hermon." The perfumed oil that was poured upon Aaron's head had a lovely fragrance. This illustrates the thought of *pleasantness*, mentioned in the first verse of this Psalm. Unity is a most pleasant condition in a church.

We are told that the dew descended copiously from Hermon. In the mornings this dew was almost torrential as it ran down the slopes the mountain. It made the land in the foothills fertile and prepared the ground for fruitful vegetation. Thus, as stated in verse one, it is "good" or profitable for brethren to dwell together in unity. Unity is both pleasant and profitable.

What are the conditions for true unity? There must be *association*. People may reduce visible friction by separating themselves from each other, but no unity is achieved in this way. There must be a mingling of persons and activities to validate the condition of unity.

Also there must be variety. Truth itself cannot be modified. It must be held inviolate, but true unity consists of a harmonizing of different people and different talents. Each national group has its unique customs, but believers everywhere are conscious of a basic, spiritual unity among themselves in spite of differences in national customs. Uniformity is not essential to unity.

Then there must be *liberty*. The prohibition of disagreement is no guarantee of unity. Legislation can never produce unity; there must be a voluntary desire on the part of believers for this ideal.

Again, there must be *life*. There is no strife in a graveyard; dead men do not quarrel. A dead church is peaceful enough, but true unity is a vibrant and pulsating reality.

Also, there must be *intelligence*. The so-called unity that is produced by witchcraft and superstition is not unity. There must be a recognition of God's will and purpose if we are to have unity. Ignorance is an infertile soil for unity.

The Lord always rewards the condition of unity. As David said. "For there the Lord commanded the blessing, even life for evermore" (v. 3). Commanded is a strong word, especially when applied to God. The omnipotent, sovereign Lord of glory will order every resource, agent, and instrument to converge on the condition of unity for blessing. Isn't that wonderful? Think of it! When the time arrives that God commands revival, there is nothing that can stop it. Oh, that we may meet scriptural conditions and so have Godcommanded revivals. Unity will bring the rich blessings of God.

The first word of this Psalm, "Behold," suggests the best method of presenting the ideal of unity. John the Baptist knew the effective way of presenting Christ to his congregation; he said, "Behold the Lamb of God." That's the best way to preach Christ. If we will lift up Christ, present Him, get people to look at Him, they will be won to Him.

So it is with unity. We will never get unity by means of coercion, legislation, sarcasm, condemnation, or begging. It is much better to demonstrate it so that we can point at it and say, "Behold this unity; isn't it pleasant and good?" A visible manifestation of unity is the crying need of our day. May we who name the name of Christ be exemplars of this blessed virtue.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MISSIONARY CONVENTION—Feb. 20-23 at Assembly of God, Bellflower, Calif. Speakers: Vernon Pettenger, Florence Christie, and Orville Hopkins.—by David D. Pearce, Pastor.

DISTRICT FELLOWSHIP MEETING AND HOME MISSIONS RALLY—Feb. 24 at Assembly of God, Auburn, Wash. Services at 3, 6:30, and 7:30 p.m. Lyle Spradley, District Secretary-Treasurer, speaker.—by Everette Ewing, Presbyter.

What Is Faith?

Faith is the *eye* by which we look to Jesus. A dimsighted eye is still an eye, a weeping eye is still an eye.

Faith is the *hand* with which we lay hold of Jesus. A trembling hand is still a hand. And he is a believer whose heart within him trembles when he touches the hem of the Saviour's garment that he may be healed.

Faith is the *tongue* by which we taste how good the Lord is. A feverish tongue is nevertheless a tongue. And even then we may believe, when we are without the smallest portion of comfort; for our faith is founded not upon feelings, but upon the promise of God.

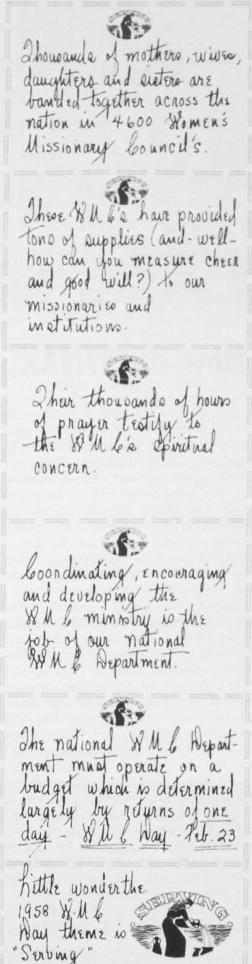
Faith is the *foot* by which we go to Jesus. A lame foot is still a foot. He who comes slowly, nevertheless comes. —George Muller

EVANGELISTIC CAMPAIGN CALENDAR

EVANGELIST PASTOR ASSEMBLY STATE CITY DATE S. A. Weddle Feb. 9-Bird H. Campbell Ariz. Tucson Northside John J. Paproski Feb. 23-Mar. 9 Hildreth Ethridge Ark. Malvern First Feb. 23-Mar. 16 Carl & Edna Goodwin J. C. Browning Citrus Heights Calif. A of G L. Jeffrey Feb. 11---Gene Riggs I. Cloverdale A of G Feb. 9-23 F. Doyle Brown H. Ralph Love Manhattan Beach Bethany C. J. Lowry Revival Tab. Feb. 9-24 R. Alan Davis Oakland T. G. Sutton Feb. 4-16 Wendell Reed & wife San Jose * Bethel Milton Newman Colo. Feb. 23-Mar. 9 James Pearson Colorado Springs First Feb. 9-23 H. A. Christopher Charles Eyler Del. Wilmington Calvary Pent. Fred McIntosh Feb. 20-Mar. 2 Ada E. Lear Fla. A of G Branford Carnell Bruce Feb. 21-Mar. 2 H. Syvelle Phillips Eagle Lake First Edwin L. Black Feb. 20-Mar. 9 Busse Evang. Team Ft. Lauderdale Bethel R. W. Hastie & wife Max Johnson Feb. 18-Mar. 2 Iowa Oskaloosa First David Richards A of G Feb. 23-Mar. 9 E. C. Lagmay & wife Kans. Pratt G. C. Kirksey Bill Scott La. Tallulah A of G Feb. 16-Albert R. Ark Feb. 19-Mar. 9 Alvin Kyle & wife Md. Cedarville Full Gospel Norwood Seymour & wife N. D. Birdwell Feb. 16-Mich. Flint Calvary C. E. Dewitt Feb. 5-Leona Newberry Mo. El Dorado Springs A of G Feb. 19-Warren Spalding Smith-Rasmussen Kansas City Centropolis R. A. McClure Feb. 12-23 Tanner Team N. Kansas City First J. G. Garland Feb. 16-Blair-Garland Moberly First O. D. Persons J. Ward Campbell St. Louis Trinity Tab. Feb. 23-J. D. Brown Fiscus-Peak Feb. 17-Nebr. Alma A of G Paul C. Taylor A of G Feb. 18-23 Arnold Segesman & wife Ohio Bellevue V. H. Shumway Feb. 25-R. Royal Fairchild Okla. Oklahoma City Evangel Tab. Fred Versolenko Fred & Sarah Byers Oreg. Feb. 16-Salem Central Wm. J. Farrell Andrew Basell & wife Rohlers Pent. Tab. Feb. 18-Mar. 2 Pa. Dover L. T. Stewart Jan. 29-Feb. 16 Fisher-Cheek Salisbury A of G Feb. 9-Ken George J. F. Robertson Tex. Colorado City First Magnolia Park Feb. 23-Mar. 9 L. R. & Willa Sturgis E. M. Yeats Houston S. W. Williams Hilton Sutton Houston Oaklawn Feb. 6-J. R. Goodwin Feb. 19-Mar. 2 Chas. H. E. Duncombe Pasadena First J. P. Billingsly Ernest Maxwell Feb. 11-San Antonio Highlands Paul E. Little Feb. 9-23 H. W. Pittsinger Van Alstvne A of G Johnny Hoskins James Nicholson Feb. 18-Wash. Richland A of G Leonard Philip Christian Hild Walla Walla Feb. 11-16 First Feb. 18-Mar. 2 Oran & Audrey Duncan L. R. White Wenatchee A of G P. C. Walcher Mead Ave. GT E. S. Martin & wife Feb. 4-16 Yakima Arthur Nichols Oscar Butterfield Feb. 2-23 Alaska Kodiak A of G Trinity Pent. Feb. 24-Mar. 2 Watson Argue J. Gatyas Hawaii Wailuku * Dedication Revival

Announcements should reach the Department of Evangelism 30 days in advance, due to the fact that THE PENTECOSTAL EVANGEL is made up 25 days before the date which appears upon it.

NOTES FOR YOU TO CLIP OUT AND READ OCCASIONALLY BE-TWEEN NOW AND FEB. 23—JUST REMINDERS....





Now on WNAX, Yankton, S. Dak.

On Sunday morning, January 26, REVIVALTIME went on one of the largest radio stations in the midwest WNAX, Yankton, South Dakota. This was another great forward step in blanketing the United States with the REVIVAL-TIME Full Gospel message by way of radio. The REVIVALTIME staff had been hoping for several years for the opportunity to get on this great station, but it was only recently that this opportunity was granted.

Station WNAX has one of the greatest coverages of all the stations in the entire Midwest. It receives mail regularly from listeners of no less than twelve states, as well as Canada, and it is reported that the station coverage reaches a population of at least 2,215,000. This radio station has had a steady growth since its beginning in 1922. In 1943 it built the tallest AM tower in the country—927 feet high —and the power was increased to 5,000 watts.

Its unusually good dial position (570), plus favorable land contours and high soil conductivity, besides its skyscraping tower, gives WNAX an unhampered and complete blanket of 175 counties in a five-State area.

With no unusually large metropolitan areas in this part of the country,

WNAX reaches a tremendous farming area. With a large portion of these farmers a great distance from the influence of any church, what a great challenge is offered by way of radio! In areas such as these, the radio is the people's nearest contact. This is one of the greatest opportunities for reaching souls for the Lord that RE-VIVALTIME has had in a long time. Indeed, this has been the doing of the Lord.

However, opportunities are useless unless taken advantage of. Even though REVIVALTIME has gone on this great station, this Full Gospel ministry could be of no effect unless people pray. With thousands of our EVANGEL readers backing this REVIVALTIME release with special prayer, the broadcast could win hundreds for the Lord in a short time.

With prayer, Satan's stronghold could be broken down in many lives and this great population could be reached with a Full Gospel message. REVIVALTIME has a message for this hour. Help us send this message to those who are waiting for light and deliverance.

> REVIVALTIME Box 70 Springfield, Missouri

Healed of Spinal Meningitis

During the night of February 2, 1955, I awoke with a severe earache. I went to work the next morning, but my condition grew steadily worse and I was brought home with a high temperature, earache, headache, and chills.

My wife, being an R.N., recognized the seriousness of my condition. She first called the pastor for prayer, and then called the doctor. For five days I ran a temperature of 105 degrees. Periodically I would have violent attacks, and between these I was in a stupor.

On the fifth day my neck stiffened and arched. I was hospitalized, and upon my arrival at the hospital I immediately went into a coma. The doctor said later he would not have given a thin dime for my chances of recovery.

Tests were made, and it was determined that I had severe spinal meningitis, besides pneumonia and high blood pressure. I had special nurses around the clock, and my wife rarely left my side.

My heart was pounding so hard it shook the bed. My breathing could be heard all through the hall. My temperature was 106.

My body had turned blue. There was a rattling in my throat. My kidneys were not functioning properly. My left foot was paralyzed. I was in isolation —but my pastor visited me as often as they would let him, and he prayed constantly for my healing.

On the seventh morning I began to vomit old blood, pans of it. I also began to regain consciousness, but my personality was changed. When I went into the coma I was unsaved. What happened I can't tell or explain, but when I came back to consciousness I was "a new creature."

Six days later I was home, and ten days later I went to church. I was so weak I could hardly make it to the altar, but God filled me with the blessed Holy Spirit. He also restored my hearing, which had been impaired through my illness. To Him be all the glory.

I am working every day, and attending First Assembly in Yuma.—Leroy H. Wilson, P. O. Box 521, Winterhaven, Calif.

(Endorsed by O. W. Killingsworth, Pastor, First Assembly of God, Yuma, Ariz. who states: "Brother Wilson is now the secretary of the church. This is the most outstanding case of healing and salvation I have known in my ministry."

REVIVALTIME SPEAKER'S ENGAGEMENTS

The REVIVALTIME speaker, C. M. Ward, can be heard in person in the following cities:

FEBRUARY 16-23—SPRINGFIELD, MO.; Southside Assembly, Broadway at Elm, Revival meetings.

FEBRUARY 25-26 — ALTOONA, PA.; Pleasant Valley Full Gospel Church, 801 Pleasant Valley Blvd., Revivaltime Rally. MARCH 11-14—CLEARWATER, FLA.; First Assembly of God, 1739 So. Greenwood Ave., Missionary Convention.

MARCH 19-23—BAKERSFIELD, CALIF.; Full Gospel Tabernacle, 17th and O, Rally. MARCH 25-27—ST. PETERSBURG, FLA.; Glad Tidings, 532 33rd St. South, Missionary Convention.



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MISCELLANEOUS

COLOR POSTERS for Church Bulletin Boards. Ask for Free Miniature. National Religious Art Program Company, 4120-150 Street, Flushing 55, New York.



Is it scriptural for a pastor to invite lay members to lay hands on the sick with him when he prays for the sick?

I see no reason why it would not be, and I think it an expression of a pastor's confidence in his people when he does this. Operations of the Spirit are not for the professional ministry only. Jesus said, "These signs shall follow them that *believe*," and one of the signs is, "They shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover" (Mark 16:17, 18). This promise is not restricted to pastors.

* * *

Is it right to claim the promises of God by faith and testify to such things as healings, when it is evident that we are not healed?

The Bible approved Abraham for calling "those things which be not as though they were" (Romans 4:17). Abraham believed God for Isaac without any evidence.

It is usually best, though, if a person does not make a *public* claim to healing until healing takes place. Such a declaration might be made to those "of kindred faith" who might understand that a person was taking a position in faith, but not to others.

"Hast thou faith? have it to thyself before God" (Romans 14:22). We can not imagine Abraham going before the people of the land declaring, "I have a son," when no son was there. His faith was between him and God, until God gave him the evidence in the birth of Isaac. Faith is good, but "let not then your good be evil spoken of" (Romans 14:16).

* *

Is it possible for persons not right with God to work miracles in the name of Jesus? How will God deal with such people at the Judgment?

It is possible that real works are done in the name of the Lord Jesus for purposes other than to glorify Christ, in which case the soul of the worker might be lost. Paul realized that he might preach the gospel to others and see people saved, yet himself be cast away. We need to watch over our hearts lest we undertake divine works to advance ourselves rather than to glorify the Lord Jesus.

No doubt there have been and will be those who bring forth startling signs through the power of Satan (2 Thessalonians 2:8-10). What the nature of these signs will be I cannot say. See Revelation 13:13. Evidently the magicians of Egypt were able to perform several of the same kinds of miraculous signs as were wrought by the power of God through Moses. It is well for us to ask this question: Is the person made prominent, or is Jesus given first place?

If Jesus made provision for the healing of our bodies is it not a sin for any of us to be sick?

*

It is evident that Jesus made provision for our healing, since He healed all who came to Him, that the Scripture might be fulfilled (Matthew 8:16, 17; Isaiah 53:5). However, we do not yet have the redemption of our bodies (Romans 8:23). We are still mortals and are subject to sickness and death (1 Corinthians 15:42, 43, 53).

Paul left Trophimus at Miletum sick (2 Timothy 4:20). Epaphroditus was sick and near death, yet Paul was unable to pray the prayer of faith for him (Philippians 2:25-27). And when Epaphroditus was able to go again, Paul was very careful lest his friend suffer a setback (v. 28).

Not until Jesus changes us from mortality into immortality will we become immune to sickness and death. Epaphroditus and Trophimus were men of God; it is no reflection on a person's spiritual life that sickness overtakes him.

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).

Sunday's Lesson

CHRIST TEACHES HUMILITY

Sunday School Lesson for February 23, 1958 LUKE 14:7-11; 18:10-14

The Assemblies of God is a fast-growing movement. Its adherents profess to having received a most sacred and wonderful experience, the baptism in the Holy Spirit. These facts may become a snare and the occasion of carnal pride. In the judgment of the writer, there is nothing we need more, as a safeguard and as a means of perpetuating what we have, than a new baptism of real Christlike humility.

I. THE PRINCIPLE OF HUMILITY (Luke 14:7-11).

When Jesus saw people proudly choosing places of high honor He suggested that the disciples begin with the lowest place. In this parable of the ambitious guests He taught us that it is better to take a low place and be moved up than to take a high place and be moved down. The proud man's position is precarious, but the humble man has nothing to lose. In the spiritual realm the way up is always down!

H. THE CURSE OF PRIDE (Luke 18:10-12).

"And he spake this parable unto certain which trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others." To whom did Jesus address this parable? Certainly not to the Pharisees, who would see nothing at all out of order in the prayer of the Pharisee in the parable! It was to His own followers, in whom He detected symptoms of smug complacency, self-exaltation, and spiritual pride. Note the Pharisee's mistakes:

(1) He had a wrong opinion of himself. "God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men are. . . I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all I possess." Paul has a verse which covers the case of anyone who errs as this man did —"If a man think himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself" (Galatians 6:3). True humility means recognizing one's own nothingness, as far as any personal merit is concerned.

Naturally, however, we cannot be blind or oblivious to certain natural advantages or talents we possess. There is a mock humility, which is as proud as conceit, and it is forever belittling one's own natural endowments. So Paul does not mean to say that if we are truly humble we shall be entirely ignorant of any natural ability we possess. What he does condemn is glorying in our talents or attainments as if we were entirely responsible for them. "And what hast thou that thou didst not receive? now if thou didst receive it, why dost thou glory . . ?" (1 Corinthians 4:7). We may paraphrase Paul's argument as follows: "Have you a brilliant mind? a beautiful voice? speaking ability? Don't boast about it, because it is nothing to your credit; it was given you by God."

(2) He had a wrong conception of others. "God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican." The Pharisee thought himself a good deal better than he was, and others

a good deal worse than they were. He looked around for a dark background wherewith to set off the jewel of his own professed piety. But how could he judge himself better than the publican, into whose heart he could not look? What do the Scriptures say to all who do the same thing? "Therefore thou art inexcusable, O man, whosoever thou art that judgest: for wherein thou judgest another, thou condemnest thyself; for thou that judgest doest the same things" (Romans 2:1). The force of this law is inescapable! How often have we found ourselves doing things we had first condemned in another. And why? Because the potentiality for every sin is within us all, apart from the grace of God. And when we take the "Pharisee attitude" we remove ourselves from that Grace which keeps us from falling.

(3) He had a wrong conception of prayer. The Pharisee was not really praying at all. His eye was not upon God, but upon a glorified image of himself, and his prayer was to that image. His words, instead of being a prayer, were a soliloquy, a meditation upon his own virtues.

III. THE BLESSING OF HUMILITY (Luke 18:13, 14).

The publican, with deep contrition and grief, said, "God be merciful to me a sinner." And Christ said of him, "I tell you, this man went down to his house justified [accepted of God as righteous] rather than the other." Here is the reward for humility. But humility is a prerequisite not only for salvation but for all the blessings of God! Its absence is surely one reason why we often fail to receive all of those things which are part of our inheritance in Christ. In view of these things, let us "be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble" (1 Peter 1:5, 6).

-J Bashford Bishop

TREASURES BENEATH THE SEA



THE PENTECOSTAL EVANGEL

Official School Directory to Be Published

The Education Department of the Assemblies of God is interested in communicating with all those who are now conducting nursery, primary, secondary, undergraduate or graduate programs of weekday education. A directory of endorsed Assemblies of God schools will be published. For information write to J. Robert Ashcroft, 434 West Pacific, Springfield 1, Missouri.

"I Love the Lord"

(Continued from page three)

love toward God that comes from our innermost beings. Each of us is able to focus his feeble affection on the majestic, infinite, and eternal God. The great question is, Are we doing it?

THE PROOF OF LOVE

While love is spiritual and cannot be analyzed by scientific methods, yet there are means by which its true quality and quantity may be accurately gauged. Jesus said, "If ye love me, keep my commandments" (John 14:15). And in 1 John 5:3 we read: "For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous."

The Psalmist, thankful for God's deliverance, boldly declares, "I will walk before the Lord in the land of the living" (Psa. 116:9). True love will most certainly prove itself in continual, consistent living for the One we love. Each word and deed will show something of the sweetness and assurance of the happy relationship the soul has with its Lover. True love will find pleasure in working, in giving, in going, in suffering-for Him! It will leave no room for the selfishness, materialism, and shallowness which seem to characterize so much of religious profession today. Let us not be content with mere superficiality. The costs of a great love are far outweighed by its many rewards.

Defying the world, the flesh, and the devil, let us each day, by the grace of God, declare by our words and deeds, "I love the Lord."

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Sound advice and Christian counsel of a high order fill the pages of this remarkable book. The author renders a genuine service to all who aspire to the ideal of Christlikeness. Each message is a mirror in which the earnest reader may clearly see his own shortcomings, yet feel the challenge to try again.

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HEALING TESTIMONIES

Instantly Healed of Rheumatic Fever

Four years ago my wife was severely afflicted with rheumatic fever. Her skin was discolored and her feet and legs were swollen to an abnormal size. Many ministers and Christian friends came to visit and pray for her; entire groups of people unitedly interceded with God in behalf of her healing.

She had temporary relief on several occasions but there was no permanent deliverance, and as the days passed she became very weak and was completely bedfast. It was an exceedingly discouraging trial of faith. The outlook was quite dark, with the prospect of our three little children losing their mother.

Then came that unforgettable Sunday evening when I was reading to my wife from the Word of God. I came to Psalm 27, and the words of the first verse proved to be the message of life: "The Lord is the strength of my life." As those words were made so real to me I turned to my wife and said, "Honey, did you hear that? The Lord is the strength of your life!"

Immediately the Spirit made this scripture vivid to her heart, and she exclaimed, "Yes, I see it! The Lord is the strength of my life!"

I jumped up and shouted, "Honey, if the Lord is the strength of your life, then you don't have to lie there in that bed of sickness and weakness. In Jesus' name you can get up and walk !"

As my wife began to raise herself from the bed, she was boldly making this declaration: "The Lord is the strength of my life. The Lord is the strength of my life!" Readily I could see that the pain was as much present as ever, and her feet were still swollen as they touched the floor. But now she was not looking to her symptoms or her feelings. She was relying only upon the mighty, infallible, eternal Word of God.

She began to walk across that bedroom and continued without wavering,









EVEN

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saying, "The Lord is the strength of my life! The Lord is the strength of my life!" I was right behind her with my hands raised, praising Jesus with all of my heart. By exercising faith in the Author of this verse she *did* receive His strength. The pain left, the swelling instantly receded, and the discoloring departed. She was completely healed of the rheumatic fever by His strength. This has been fully confirmed by two doctors.

Four years have passed since this miracle of grace was wrought in my wife's life, but how very much this scripture has continued to mean to us! Daily our lips in faith give witness that He is the strength of our lives—spiritually, physically, and mentally.—Evangelist Don E. Gossett, 352 Mize Road, Salem, Oreg.

Broken Neck Healed

On May 25, 1957, I was badly hurt in a car accident. I had a broken neck, a broken jaw, and a compound fracture above my knee. The doctors fitted a brace for my neck, as the bones would not heal, and I was supposed to wear it for at least six months.

Then Rena E. Piatt, whose husband is President of the Christian Hospital Fellowship, came to the hospital and told me of Jesus' power to heal today. She gave me some copies of the EVANGEL to read, and these greatly strengthened my faith. Later she brought along a prayer handkerchief from Evangelist Dale Holford. She also prayed with me, and that was when I knew that I was healed. I intend to keep the cloth as a reminder of the time God healed my neck.

My jaw was healed, and my leg is almost well, too. I am now taking care of my family (a husband and five children) and feeling fine. I am so happy. God did a wonderful work in my body, and to Him be all the glory. I am grateful for the prayers of the people of Lisabeula Assembly of God (which Sister Piatt attends), Rt. 2, Burton, Wash. Orville O. Forrest is the pastor.—Mrs. Viola Maron, Rt. 6, Box 271, Port Orchard, Washington.

(Endorsed by Rena E. Piatt who states, "The Evangel is the paper most liked of all those we give to hospital patients, and I cannot tell you how many we use every week. We beg them from anyone who might have them both churches and individuals.")

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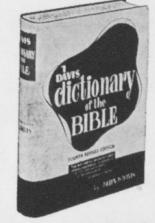


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Your Marvelous MIND

BY ARNOLD B. CHEYNEY

"Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 2:5).

As CHRISTIANS WE SHOULD SEEK CONTINUALLY TO HAVE the mind of Christ in us. This has to do with our spiritual outlook on life. However, when we consider the human mind itself, most of us are left at a loss. We think of it as a mass of nerves under our skulls. But the Lord has given us a lesson in the physical make-up of the brain that is marvelous in its spiritual implications.

The human brain is composed of three parts: the medulla oblongata, the cerebrum, and the cerebellum. Each of these is, in itself, a functioning agent, but each is dependent on the others—a beautiful picture of the Godhead.

The cerebrum is unique in that it is in two sections. These two sections lie directly under the scalp and make up the largest part of the brain. These "cerebral hemispheres," as they are called, are connected by white nerve fibers.

The two sections of the cerebrum remind us of Christ who was both human and divine. He was "God . . . manifest in the flesh" (1 Tim. 3:16). He was both human and divine; He was God and man. These two natures could co-exist only because they were pure. Remember that the cerebrum is in two sections, connected by nerve fibers which are white (signifying purity).

As we study the cerebrum more closely, we find that growth is greatest in this section. The apostle Peter exhorts us to "grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ" (2 Peter 3:18). Let us grow in Him!

A strange fact, however, is that intelligence is not based on the weight or size of the brain. One of the largest human brains was found in an idiot! How true this also is in the spiritual realm—so many people only know *about* God. Their minds are puffed up with this knowledge, but they do not really *know* God, for to know Him is to love Him and serve Him.

The cerebellum, which we will compare to the Holy



Photo by Philip Gendreau

Spirit, has the function of controlling our muscles so we can walk, stand, and move without collapsing. Its processes are automatic in nature and do not require conscious thought.

Jesus sent the Comforter, who is the Holy Spirit, to keep us from falling and to strengthen us against the powers of evil. We do not have to stop and invite the Spirit to come to our aid; He is with us at all times.

The medulla, which we can liken to God the Father, has the important function of keeping the heart beating, the lungs breathing, and other vital organs working. Just as we are dependent upon the medulla for the continuation of physical life, so also are we dependent upon God our Creator for both physical and spiritual life.

It is interesting to note that the mind has a number of cranial nerves extending from it. These nerves send and receive messages to and from the eyes, ears, mouth, etc. How many of these messenger nerves are there? Not two or six or ten—but twelve.

God has only human witnesses to carry His message of love and salvation. Jesus Himself chose *twelve* men to be instruments through which the gospel should be preached; and their commission has been passed on to all believers. We are His messengers.

In the beginning God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness." And since that day of creation, man has carried the likeness of the Trinity—a constant reminder of the Creator and of our relationship to Him.