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## EXECUTIVE PRESBYTERS OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL OF THE ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

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turn to this earth in power and glory to rule over the nations. WE BELIEVE that the only means of being cleansed from $\sin$ is through repentance and faith in the precious blood of Christ.

WE BELIEVE that regeneration by the Holy Spirit is absolutely essential for personal salvation.
WE BELIEVE that the redemptive work of Christ WE BELIEVE that the redemptive work of Christ on the cross provides healing of the human body in answer to believing prayer. WE BELIEVE that the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, according to Acts $2: 4$ is given to believers who ask for it. WE BE-
LIEVE in the sanctifying power of the Holy Spirit LIEVE in the sanctifying power of the Holy Spirit by whose indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a holy life. WE BELIEVE in the resurrection of
both the saved and the lost, the one to everlasting life and the other to everlasting damnation.
$\binom{$ Average paid circulation in February }{171,359 copies weekly }

## Will the U.S. Survive?

Many years ago a wise philosopher came to this country seeking to know where the greatness and genius of America lay. This was his answer:
"I sought for the greatness and genius of America in her commodious harbors and her ample rivers-and it was not there.
"I sought for the greatness and genius of America in her rich mines and vast world commerce-and it was not there.
"I sought for the greatness and genius of America in her democratic Congress and her matchless Constitution-and it was not there.
"Not until I went into the churches of America and heard her pulpits flame with righteousness did I understand the secret of her genius and power. America is great because America is good-and if America ever ceases to be good, America will cease to be great."

Has that day arrived? How good is America today ; or, to use a very similar but more specific word, how godly is America today? Is America the kind of nation God can exalt or have we become so soft, selfish, and sinful that we are a reproach in His sight? The Word declares that "righteousness exalteth a nation: but $\sin$ is a reproach to any people." America must repent or perish.
Paul Harvey, in his newspaper column, recently put his finger on the situation when he wrote:
"America is not a way of worship, but a place of worship. Americans, when they were obedient to the laws of God, led the world. Now look who's leading.
"Lacking any dynamic purpose, we are outdistanced by heathen hordes who have nothing but purpose. We have the strongest guns: they have the strongest goals.
"In a lifetime, a third of the world has been conquered because what we have in our hands is no match for what they have in their hearts. That's why I'm not sure the United States will survive. It could. But it would have to get back on the track. . . ."
Mr. Harvey showed that freedom can become an idol. "Nations are used by God as long as they serve His purpose," he said. "When they turn from Him to worship other gods, He lets them.
"Americans, mouthing platitudes about 'freedom,' have obscured the meaning of America. Men came here in the first place not to be free to do what they want, but to be free to do what they ought. There's an important difference.
"Their leader was God. They sought first the Kingdom of Heaven. They prayed, 'Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth.' They bound themselves to His will and all the rest of this was added unto them. We, instead, demanded to be free. So we are free. We are free as a drifting balloon, free as a driverless car, free as a train without a track. We have no idea where we're going, but we are free."
To get us back on the right track, he said, "we need a powerful priesthood of the laity; men who know where they are going; men who are examples worth following. With such men to show the way, God will again lead America, and America will again lead the world to new heights. All other directions are down."

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SOUL WINNING IS THE GREATEST work in God's universe. In the prophecy of Daniel we have arrayed before us the great kings and their powers, along with the pomp and glory of the great nations of the earth, and one of the last statements of this remarkable book is this: "And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever" (Daniel 12:3).

The pomp and glory of this world will pass away, and the wise men of the earth will pass into eternity; but they that turn many to righteousness shall shine as the stars forever and ever. The wise in God's sight shall shine as the brightness of the firmament. God's proverb says, "He that winneth souls is wise."

In the sight of God, the wise are those seeking to pull men and women out of the eternal burning (Jude 23) and make them children of the Great King. It is a far grander thing to win a soul to Christ than to be president of the United Nations. It is a far wiser thing to win a soul to Christ than to amass a fortune on this earth. It is a far greater thing to win a soul to Christ than to launch a new star into space, for when the stars are dim that soul will continue to shine forever and ever.
We may judge the importance of this great work of soul winning by the following considerations:

## THE PLACE OF SOUL WINNING IN THE MIND OF GOD

The whole operation of redemption was set in motion by the living God for the purpose of saving a lost and fallen humanity.

His name indicates its importance. Seven times the Old Testament declares that God is the Saviour of His people. See Psalm 106:21; Isaiah $43: 3$; 45 : 15,$21 ; 49: 26 ; 60: 16$; and $63: 8$. Let me quote part of one of these verses: "I the Lord am thy Saviour and thy Redeemer, the mighty One of Jacob" (Isaiah $60: 16$ ). The same name is applied to God in the New Testament, as the following scriptures reveal: Luke $1: 47 ; 1$ Timothy $1: 1 ; 4: 10$; Titus $1: 3$; 2:10; Jude 25. Again let me quote one of these: "To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen" (Jude 25).

His heart desires to redeem the lost. The heart cry of God toward the poor sinner is revealed in these words: "O that they were wise, that they understood this, that they would consider their latter end!" (Deuteronomy 32: 29). "Say unto them, As I live, saith the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked turn from his way, and live: turn ye, turn ye from your evil ways; for why will ye die, O house of Israel?" (Ezekiel 33:11).

Please also prayerfully ponder Ezekiel $18: 23,32$; Hosea $11: 8 ; 1$ Timothy $2: 4 ; 2$ Peter $3: 9$.

The Father sent Christ to be the Saviour. In Genesis $3: 15$ we have the protoevangelion; that is, we have the fountainhead of all prophecies concerning God's glorious plan of salvation. The verse reads as follows, "And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel." God promised
that from the seed of the woman He would raise up the Emancipator and Deliverer to destroy the works of Satan. John $3: 16$, therefore, is the fulfillment of Genesis $3: 15$. "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." See also Hebrews 2 : 14; 1 John 4:14; Acts 3:26; Galatians 4:4.

FOR GOD, the Lord of earth and heaven, SO LOVED, and longed to see forgiven, THE WORLD in $\sin$ and pleasure mad, THAT HE GAVE the greatest gift He had-
HIS ONLY SON-to take our place, THAT WHOSOEVER-Oh, what grace :-
BELIEVETH, placing simple trust IN HIM, the righteous and the just, SHOULD NOT PERISH, lost in sin, BUT HAVE ETERNAL LIFE in Him. -Barbara C. Ryberg

## THE PLACE OF SOUL WINNING

 IN THE MINISTRY OF THE SON OF GODHis name indicates the place of soul winning in Christ's ministry. "Thou shalt call his name Jesus, for he shall save his people from their sins" (Matthew $1: 21$ ). "Our Saviour Jesus Christ" (2 Timothy $1: 10$ ). See also Luke 2:11; John 4:42; Acts $5: 31 ; 13$ : 23; Philippians $3: 20$; Titus $1: 4 ; 2: 13$; $3: 6 ; 2$ Peter $1: 11 ; 2: 20 ; 3: 2,18$; and 1 John 4:14.

His earthly ministry illustrates its importance. The scriptures read, "For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost" (Luke 19:10). These words could be written over the entire ministry of our blessed Lord here on earth. The Son of God spoke these words after He sought the (Continued on page twenty)

# Entire Bible Now Translated Into Mossi Langulage 

After thirty-five years of tedious labor and research a translation of the Bible has been completed in Mossi, the language of Mossiland, Upper Volta, West Africa.

Through the diligent work of John F. Hall and four other Assemblies of God missionaries, Mossi has been reduced to writing and translations made. All but six books of the Old Testament are already in use. The remaining books are now being printed and prepared for shipment to West Africa.

Brother Hall, currently on furlough in the United States, recently completed
revision and layout for the books of Nehemiah, Jeremiah, Numbers, Job, Song of Solomon, and Ecclesiastes. Offset printing is being done in Springfield, Missouri, and money for shipping the literature to Africa is being provided by BGMC (Boys and Girls Missionary Crusade).

The major portion of the translation work has been accomplished in the last fifteen years. The task was promoted by a committee of missionaries named by the Foreign Missions Department of the Assemblies of God. Eva Radanovsky was chairman of the committee
and the members were Howard Fox, Raymond Zents, and Mr. and Mrs. Hall.

Brother Hall, a missionary to West Africa for over thirty years, explains that before the Bible could be used in Mossiland the people had to be taught to read and write. First he taught numbers of nationals; then he gave them the job of teaching others.

The missionary developed a system by which he could teach an intelligent African to print words in a month and to write within three months. "The American system is too slow," he declares.

To begin with, of course, the spoken language of the Mossi people had to be reduced to a written language. This task was made extra difficult by the fact that the orthography has been changed five times since the translation work began. The most recent was produced by the French government.

He made it again another vessel, as seemed good to the potter
Jeremiah 18:4

IHAVE GIVEN MUCH THOUGHT TO the narrative in Jeremiah 18 where we read that the Lord told Jeremiah to go to the potter's house to learn a lesson concerning His dealings with Is-

## JOHN HALL

 PERUSES PARTS OF NEWmossi bible
rael. The Scripture says he saw how "the vessel that he made of clay was marred in the potter's hands so he made it again another vessel, as seemed good to the potter to make it."

The general application of this, through the years, has been that sometimes we resist the Lord in His dealings with us personally, and that in God's great love He makes us over again into another vessel. That is, we miss God's original purpose, but nevertheless He in matchless grace gives us the opportunity to serve Him in some other capacity instead.

Sentimentally this appeals to all of us who may resist the Lord's call and miss what we think must have been a better way; but theologically I have questioned this interpretation. I have wondered how an omniscient God, who knew our names even before the foundation of the world, could really fit
into that picture (Exodus $32: 32$; Luke $10: 20$; Ephesians $1: 4 ; 1$ Peter $1: 2$; Revelation $13: 8 ; 17: 8$ ). Although I am not a strict Calvinist, nor a fatalist, I hardly saw how this application of remaking a marred vessel could be the intended purpose for us in the lesson which Jeremiah learned at the potter's.

During the time I was re-typing the manuscripts of my translation of Jeremiah in the Mossi language, I was on my knees praying and the Lord spoke to my heart a lesson from this passage.

Clearly enough I could see the Lord making "the first Adam" from clay and breathing into him the breath of life. He had been shaped and was beginning his life as a perfect vessel for voluntary partnership and companionship with a God of love, but sin came in and marred that "vessel." So the Lord took the same marred clay-fallen man-and made it another "vessel" for His own Son, "the Last Adam" (1 Corinthians $15: 45$ ).

Because of cultural differences, Biblical illustrations had to be adapted to convey proper meaning to the Mossi. These people have no comprehension of an anchor; therefore Hebrews 6:19. which reads, "An anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast," is translated, "A picketing peg which cannot be rocked loose nor broken." A Mossi picketing peg is a short, mushroomshape stake driven into the ground, to which the front leg of a horse is tied.

To differentiate between colors, not clearly defined in the Mossi language, certain items are referred to such as the rain spider, which illustrates crimson; a red variety of corn leaves, which stands for scarlet: and the cow egret and lime, which are used for white.

To convey the meaning of a crown, the translators mentioned a tribal chief's cap.

Much of the translation was done
by Brother Hall in a makeshift office set up in the laundry of his African home. The manuscripts were typed and taken before the committee to be analyzed with the aid of nationals.

At present the Mossi Bible is not a single bound volume. Much of it is still in looseleaf binders to which additional books are added as they become available. However, in June 1960 a revised edition of the New Testament was prepared by the committee and 5,000 copies were printed by the American Bible Society. Revision of the Old Testament is not scheduled at the present time.

The Bible has been translated and published in less than half of the world's languages, according to the American Bible Society. Mossi is an important addition to the list, for the language is spoken by three million Africans.


Missionaries and nationals working on the translation of the Bible into the Mossi language (John Hall in foreground)

We are told that Jesus was made in the likeness of men (Philippians 2: 7). "He took not on Him the nature of angels; but He took on Him the seed of Abraham" (Hebrews 2:16). In order to redeem us from the curse, He took upon Himself the "marred vessel," the sinful human body, and so the prophet says, "Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given" (Isaiah $9: 6)$. Yes, the Virgin prepared a childbody, "a vessel," to be the residence of "God in the flesh," and God sent His Son to live in that human body.

That terrestrial body contained (though it limited and obscured) the brightness of His glory. At the close of His earthly life, that same body, made from the clay "marred in the hands of the potter," was also marred physically beyond all recognition, for we read, "His visage was so marred more than any man, and His form more than the sons of men" (Isaiah $52: 14$ ).

Then, after completing by this act the redemption of fallen, marred man, the Great Potter "made it again another vessel"; this time it was a glorified body, through the resurrection, whereby He became a "vessel unto honor and glory."

And, praise the Lord, we too are to share in this some day, receiving another vessel, even an immortal body, for "we shall all be changed in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye" (1 Corinthians $15: 51-53 ; 2$ Corinthians 5 : 1 ), receiving a body that is "fashioned like unto His glorious body" (Philippians $3: 21$ ). John gives us more on this, saying, "We shall be like Him; for we shall see Hiin as He is. And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as He is pure" (1 John $3: 2,3$ ).

Do you share this hope that some day your marred vessel will be made into another vessel-changed, and yet recognizable to others as Christ's was

after His resurrection? There are conditions involved in this: "Purify your hearts, ye double-minded," is a warning to those who try to be acceptable to both God and man (James $4: 8$ ). It is "unto them that look for Him" that He shall appear the second time without $\sin$ unto salvation (Hebrews 9: 28). Christ is looking for a "bride" to present unto Himself, one "not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish" (Ephesians 5:27).

While still inhabiting this "marred vessel," we "which have the first-fruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body" (Romans 8:23), for He "shall also quicken your mortal bodies by His Spirit that dwelleth in you."

What a glad anticipation is this for us who love His appearing! We are looking forward not only to "new heavens and a new earth" ( 2 Peter $3: 13$ ) but also to receiving a new body which shall be like His, "the first-fruits of the resurrection." Because He lives, we too shall live in that glorified state, and throughout all the endless ages of eternity we shall know the close companionship and the fellowship which God originally longed for. In loving harmony and association with the redeemed of all ages, we shall praise Him-the Great Potter-who made us again "another vessel."

# It takes a miracle to open the eyes of the soul 

By Wildon Colbaugh

Thomas McDormand said: "Christ came to open closed eyes, to make sightless eyes to see, to give glory and grace to human life. To accept Him as Friend and Saviour is to enter a bright and spacious world through magic doors flung open by His pierced hands."

I was reminded of this thought when I read the amazing story of Phillip Pron, which appeared in a recent issue of the Family Weekly. It is the story of a man who was blinded in a storm at sea, but who was not willing to remain blind.

Phillip Pron was a seaman on the S. S. Robin Trent, a merchant ship sailing the Mediterranean Sea. Rough waters rolled the ship so violently one


## NEW SIGHT FOR BLIND EYES

day that a heavy refrigerator door swung at Phillip and struck him on the forehead, knocking him unconscious.
Upon regaining consciousness he found a lump on his forehead and a throbbing ache behind his ears. He went to bed but failed to appear for breakfast the next day. Some of the men went to awaken him. When he was aroused it was discovered that he was blind. The light of the new day had failed to penetrate his being. He was in perpetual darkness.

The tragedy occurred in 1950. Phillip was returned to the United States for eye tests but the doctors were not at all optimistic. They said the cornea of each eye was severely damaged. It seemed that he was doomed to total blindness for the rest of his life.

A year of painful adjustment followed. Phillip eventually began to take his fate in stride, and the Association for the Blind made plans to begin instruction in Braille and handicrafts.

At this time a new patient, Eric, took the bed next to Phillip's. Eric was a boxer, and he had been struck a hard blow on his eye which already had required six operations. One final operation remained. If the eye failed to respond there would be no further hope for it.

Meanwhile the doctors decided there was some prospect that Phillip might
receive sight in at least one eye if he could have a cornea transplant. The cornea is the transparent shield at the front of the eye-something like the crystal on a watch. If it is damaged or blurred, even if the rest of the eye mechanism in back of it is in perfect condition, the eye is useless. But this damaged cornea can be removed and a sound one from another eye can be put in its place. This was the lone hope for sight that was held out to Phillip.
In the ordinary course of events, Phillip would have to wait his turn to secure a cornea from the Eye Bank. Usually this took years. But one day the doctors came with startling news. They told him he would not have to wait on the Eye Bank. Eric, his friend in the next bed, had decided that instead of holding on to his slim hope for a restoration of sight in his injured eye, he would rather forego his final operation and give the eye to Phillip to have the cornea transplanted.
It was a most delicate operation. The doctors took out Eric's eye, removed the cornea, and carefully placed it on Phillip's. For six weeks afterward no one knew what the outcome would be. When the dramatic moment came for the bandages finally to be removed, light penetrated Phillip's dark world. He looked up and saw his mother's face. He saw the tears rolling down
her cheeks. He saw his friend Eric. He was overjoyed to know that his long night was ended. Sight was his again-in one eye.

Phillip returned to sea and Eric went with him. Each had one good eye. Phillip hoped that some day perhaps a cornea could be transplanted on his other eye, but the opportunity did not arrive for four years. When it came, he was in Korea. He was informed that a cornea was available back in the States, but the operation must be performed immediately. He could not get back in time. He had to pass up the opportunity.
He therefore decided to return to the U. S. and remain available so that he could be in line the next time his name came up on the list in the Eye Bank. This did not happen until 1959, when he responded and the second eye received a cornea transplant.
Today, Phillip Pron is a rarity in the world-a man with two successful cornea transplants. He is able to see a beautiful world filled with light. What a blessing it would be if every blind person could be restored to sight!
Physical blindness is a tragedy but there is a blindness that is immeasurably worse. It is spiritual sightlessness. Sin strikes every person such a damaging blow that he is left in spiritual darkness. Day after day he lives with-
out the light of God. He cannot see the righteousness of the Lord. Nor is there any hope for sight to be restored to him through human efforts. He is lost and undone, bound for eternity in which darkness will prevail forever. As a sinner he is doomed to eternal separation from God and light.

Is there no hope? Must a man remain spiritually blind forever? If man cannot help himself, cannot God help him? Yes, God can restore his sight by means of an operation of the Holy Spirit. And he does not have to wait for years until his turn comes, either. Spiritual sight is available to everyone, at any time, regardless of his financial condition. Jesus Christ, our Saviour, gave Himself to pay the cost of restoring spiritual sight to sin-blinded eyes.

Jesus suggested this hope that day when He talked with Nicodemus. He expressed the condition on which it is possible to see the kingdom of God. He said, "Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God" (John 3:3). Thus, for our blinded eyes to see the eternal glories of heaven, it is necessary for God to perform this major operation upon us-for Christ to remove our old sinful nature which has caused our blindness, and to impart to us His own clean, pure, and holy nature.

When this regeneration has taken place our eyes are able to view the light of a glorious new day with its bright hope of an eternity where we may enjoy the light shed abroad by Christ Himself-for He is the Light of that city "coming down from God out of heaven" (Revelation 21:2). This experience is not for a limited few, but for whoever will believe in Jesus Christ as their Saviour and Redeemer. Everyone who walks in darkness may see if he so desires.

If you are still walking in darkness, you need to come to Jesus, who said: "I am the Light of the world: he that followeth Me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life" (John 8:12). In the darkness there is heartache, sorrow, fear, and burdens that weigh the spirit down; but in Jesus, the Light of the world, there is joy, faith, peace, and strength.

Phillip Pron could have remained in a world of darkness, had he wished, but he chose to emerge into the brighter realm of sight and freedom. You, too, must decide what course you will follow. You may have this New Birth
and see the kingdom of God, if you wish, or you may remain in darkness and be lost forever. Jesus said, "This is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil" (John 3:19).

Which course do you choose?

## SUMMER TRAINING COURSE IN CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

The 1961 sessions of the Advanced Christian Training School, sponsored by the National Sunday School Department of the Assemblies of God, will be conducted June 5 through 9 on the campus of Central Bible Institute, Springfield, Missouri.
A.C.T.S. offers specialized training for district Sunday school directors, sectional representatives, pastors, Christian education directors, child evangelism workers, Sunday school superintendents, and (this year, for the first time) teachers.

The entire field of Sunday school and related subjects is covered during this week of concentrated study. It is also a time of inspiration and Christian fellowship. The entire week costs only $\$ 25$, including room, board, tuition, and insurance.

A catalog with detailed information and an enrollment application may be obtained from the National Sunday School Department upon request.


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## THIS PRESENT WORLD

## Churches <br> CHURCH REOPENED IN SPAIN

Spanish government officials have authorized the reopening of the Baptist church at Seville. The church was one of the five Baptist churches ordered closed by Spanish police in 1958.

## MANY SPANISH-SPEAKING PENTECOSTAL CHURCHES FOUND IN NEW YORK CITY

The 1961 Protestant Church Directory published by The Protestant Council of the City of New York lists 2,442 Protestant and Orthodox churches in the five boroughs and in Nassau and Westchester counties. This total includes 308 Spanish-speaking churches and the editors of the Directory estimate that 50 per cent or more of these are related to Pentecostal bodies.

There are now 18 churches in the City of New York affiliated with the Assemblies of God.

## CHURCH BUILDING BOOM CONTINUES

Construction of new churches in the U. S. may be slowing down in some areas due to the economic situation, but for the nation as a whole January 1961 was a record-breaking month. The government estimates $\$ 82,000,000$ worth of new church construction was begun during the month, setting a new all-time record for January. A year ago the total for the month was $\$ 80,000,000$.

## PEW RENTAL SYSTEM ENDED

After 153 years the tradition of rental or ownership of pews in Grace Protestant Episcopal Church, New York City, has ended. The rector, Benjamin Minifie, said fees for the use of pews "are an anachronism in 1961. It is my feeling," he said, "that, because this is God's house, any person should be free to enter it and to sit wherever he might choose."

In future, no reserved seats will be
for sale. Those who prefer to sit in a particular spot may do so if they arrive early enough to get the seat before someone else gets it.

## NAZARENES CONTACT 1,800,000 IN EVANGELISTIC CAMPAIGN

Members of the Church of the Nazarene contacted $1,800,000$ persons-six times their total church membershipin a four-month prayer and witnessing campaign which ended February 1. As a result of the denomination-wide "Try Christ's Way" program of ringing doorbells and inviting folk to church 92,831 persons sought spiritual help at the altars of Nazarene churches, and 10,792 of these people became members.

The denomination now has 318,500 members in 4,741 congregations in the U. S. and Canada. A church-wide threeday fast has been proclaimed for March 29-31 during which members are asked to "pray for our anguished world."

## GOVERNMENT LEADERS OF VARIOUS <br> FAITHS EAT AND PRAY TOGETHER

President John F. Kennedy attended an inter-creedal prayer breakfost in Washington recently and remained for the entire meeting. The photograph shows him seated between Evangelist Billy Graham and Senator Frank Carlson of Kansas as all heads were bowed in prayer.

The prayer breakfast was sponsored by International Christian Leadership, Inc. The predominantly Protestant organization sponsors prayer breakfost and luncheon groups among businessmen and political leaders in the U. S. and abroad.

Approximately 800 Congressmen, government officials, and clergymen attended the breakfast meeting, which was held in the Hotel Mayflower. The program, at which Senator Corlson presided, included Bible readings by Robert McNamara, Secretary of Defense, and Judge Marvin Jones of the U.S. Court of Claims.

Vice President Lyndon B. Johnson, U. N. Ambassador Adlai Stevenson, and six Cobinet members sat ot the head table. Speeches were given by Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Johnson, and Evangelist Billy Grahom.

The President said: "No man who enters into the office to which I have succeeded can fail to recognize how every President of the United States has placed special reliance upon his faith in God."

Representative Bruce Alger of Texas, chair-

man of the House prayer breakfast group which meets weekly, spoke briefly. So did Senator Frank J. Lausche of Ohio, who heads the Senate prayer breakfast group. Senator

Lausche, a Roman Catholic, called for a new "Gideon's army" to arise, a small force of dedicated men whose faith will save free society.

## JAPANESE ELECT 22 CHRISTIANS

Twenty-two Christians were among 468 Japanese elected to that country's House of Representatives in the recent elections, including two Roman Catholics. Five other Christians ran for office but were defeated. Two of the twenty-two are women.

## FIFTY GOVERNORS CLAIM CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

A new survey has revealed that the governors of all fifty states lay claim to church membership. Ten are Baptists, 10 Methodists, 10 Roman Catholics, 6 Lutherans, 5 Presbyterians, 4 United Church of Christ, 3 Episcopalians, 1 Disciples of Christ, 1 Latterday Saints.
Ten is believed to be the largest number of Catholic governors ever to serve at one time.

Each of the newest states, Hawaii and Alaska, elected a Catholic governor though the Catholic population in both cases is relatively small.

## NO LIQUOR AT DIPLOMATIC RECEPTION IN WHITE HOUSE

Controversial cocktails were missing at a diplomatic reception held in the White House on February 8. Instead of hard liquor, the butlers brought champagne for the guests.

Newsmen surmised that the storm of criticism raised by religious and temperance leaders following the serving of mixed drinks and highballs at a January 29th party had something to do with it. They recalled that President and Mrs. Eisenhower limited their party beverages to sweet punch, including light wine and champagne. But White House aides denied there was any change in the menu. "This is the way the party was planned," insisted Pamela Turnure, press secretary for Mrs. John F. Kennedy.

## Archaeology

## ANCIENT WALL FOUND IN OLD CITY OF JERUSALEM

Municipal laborers digging the foundation of a school in the old city of Jerusalem have unearthed a wall believed to be part of the ancient wall of Jerusalem, built by Herod the Great twenty centuries ago. Excavations have revealed the wall was built of huge stones rumning from north to south, parallel to the wall of the mosque. Diggers have unearthed an 80 -foot section about six feet high.

## ANSWERED BY ERNEST S. WILLIAMS

Please explain what the "congregation of the Lord" means.
"The congregation" and "the congregation of the Lord" were terms generally used when referring to all the people of Israel. See Leviticus $4: 21 ; 16: 33$; Numbers $14: 27$.
Is there more than one way to interpret the coming of the Lord as recorded in 1 Thessalonians $4: 15-17$ ?

I cannot see any explanation of these verses apart from the personal return of Christ for His Church. There could be differences of opinion as to the time, but I see no possibility of difference as to the event itself.
Why did God put the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the garden, if it tempted man to $\sin$ ?

Man was created innocent, and had no proved moral character. For him to develop morally it was necessary that he have something to resist. God would rather risk the fall of man than to have him and his descendants rise no higher morally than a baby.

## If God foresaw that Jesus was to be crucified, how could He hold those who crucified Him guilty?

Undoubtedly God foresaw that Jesus was to be crucified, but those who crucified Him were men of free will. They did not have to crucify Him. If it were something which God made them do, and they could not keep from doing, they would not be guilty before God. If God were to make men sin, He would then be the One responsible for their $\sin$.

What is the age of accountability? When does a child reach this age?
When a child realizes he sins against God, he becomes at this age responsible before God for what he does. No set age can be given. Some, either because they grasp moral responsibility earlier than others, or have been taught better, may arrive at the age of accountability, the time of responsibility, sooner than do others.

## Who are the children of the kingdom who shall be cast into outer darkness,

 as referred to in Matthew 8:12?They are the Jews who had the promise of the kingdom but rejected Jesus. The servant of the centurion, a Roman officer, had been healed by Jesus. The Lord then promised that Gentiles as well as believing Jews would sit down with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, while the Jews who rejected Him would themselves be rejected.

An elder is to be "the husband of one wife." Does this mean that he must not be a polygamist? 1 Timothy $3: 2$.

Probably this is what Paul had in mind when he wrote, but also it applies well to persons divorced and remarried, since an elder is to be an example to the flock.
I am almost heartbroken. When we see our loved ones suffering, is it wrong to grieve?

If we did not grieve when we see our loved ones suffering, we would be "without natural affection," (2 Timothy $3: 3$ ). But Christians ought not to grieve as "they that have no hope."

Although there is suffering here, we look for a city whose builder and maker is God, where sin, sorrow, and sickness will be no more. Normal sorrow is wholesome. It becomes wrong when we entertain sorrow, and nourish it with self-pity until a state of melancholy possesses us.

[^1]
# MIGHTY POTENTIAL 

# "As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said . . ." (Acts 13:2) 

"Neglect not the gift that is in thee which was given thee by prophecy, with the laying on of the hands of the presbytery" (1 Timothy 4:14)
"Stir up the gift of God that is in thee by the putting on of my hands" (2 Tinnothy 1:6)

A

S We thoughtfully read these three passages of Scriptures, several truths stand out boldly-truths that our familiarity with them may actually hide from us. First, it is evident that gifts of God, formerly given "by the laying on of hands," may now lie "neglected" and in need of "stirring up." There is also most unquestionably a very precious ministry that is not primarily to the congregation, but is a "ministering to the Lord."

Some Assemblies today have become settled down into a comparatively dormant and stalemated condition, and need these reminders! They have only "regular" services, with various groups functioning faithfully, and with all the "priestly ministrations" carried out, but with no fresh breath of the Holy Ghost stirring in their midst.

Our faithful Lord realized the danger of this and He has provided a means of probing, stirring up, and refreshing our memories and our hearts to a new realization of who we are and just what our calling is. He is today raising up, in other denominational groups, those upon whom He can outpour His glorious Spirit. These Christians are experiencing their "first love" in choice spiritual realities. And while they enter in and enjoy these blessings, I believe the Lord would have them incidentally minister to us, to "stir up" our forgetful hearts and cause us to remember our former secrets of power.

An Episcopalian periodical, The Living Church, carried a quotation from Dennis J. Bennett, formerly rector of Saint Mark's in Van Nuys, California,
and now of Saint Luke's Episcopal Church in Seattle, Washington. His most interesting subject was, "When Episcopalians Start Talking in Tongues." He wrote:
"In a number of parishes all over the country, in widely-separated locations, an ancient type of prayer meeting is being renewed by God, the Holy Spirit. In 1 Corinthians 14:26-33, St. Paul describes this type of meeting in detail: 'When you come together, each one hath a hymn, a lesson, a revelation, a tongue or an interpretation. Let all things be done for edification. .

Brother Bennett continued: "The people who attend such meetings are not 'fringe' people, or 'religious hobbyists.' For the most part they are leaders in the parish. One parish priest has had such a group in his parish for over five years, and states that there is nothing exclusive about it. It is open to any persons who are truly interested in a deeper fellowship in the Spirit, and a greater spiritual power in their lives.
"After the intercessions, there may be a period of silent prayer, and then out of this silence may arise any one of a number of different offerings of praise or prayer. While one member is praying, praising, or prophesying, others may be quietly responding to what is being said. The whole tenor is one of quiet joy. At any point the group is open to the moving of the Spirit and a member may be moved to speak from God in prophecy or in an 'unknown tongue.' This will not be gibberish but a strongly inflected, and usually beautiful expression, clearly
recognizable as a language. Another will immediately interpret what has been said for edification, exhortation, and comfort. So objective and real is this gift of interpretation, that many times after the first interpreter has spoken, one or two others will say, 'I received essentially the same interpretation.'
"Such a prayer meeting as this may last from 8 p.m. until two o'clock in the morning! And people may still be unwilling to go home, so strongly do they feel the presence of the living God among them."
I have heard Brother Bennett on different occasions, and have talked personally with him. This exhortation from him comes very close to my heart, and we will do well to humbly and with all our hearts meditate upon what his words convey to us, as our Episcopalian friends enter into the wonderful operations of the Holy Ghost in the "Living Church" of today. May we not be found to lag behind but be fully as diligent and responsive as they to the movings of the Holy Spirit.

Recently we held New Year "Weeks of Prayer and Tarrying" in such assemblies as First Assembly, Portland, Oregon; Evangel Church, Montreal; Bethel Church, Ottawa, Ontario; and Stone Church in Toronto. In each place the power of God fell in fresh, breathtaking ways, filling all our hearts with joy and filling numbers of hungry seeking hearts with the Holy Ghost. We noticed a pattern working itself out in these services-a pattern that was sweet, free and satisfying.

First, we were led to recognize the mighty potential (perhaps now long un-
used) of a group of Spirit-filled saints of God. That such a potential may have been neglected and be urgently in need of "stirring up" is acknowledged ly the apostle Paul as he writes to young Timothy, his son in the faith, saying, "Neglect not the gift that is in thee... with the laying on of the hands of the presbytery," and, "Stir up the gift of God, which is in thee by the putting on of my hands."

If this mighty gift was first given by the "laying on of hands," how good and how fruitful it is to call these blessed prayer warriors forward, and once more exercise the ministry of the "laying on of hands of the presbytery." This stirs up and imparts a fresh charge in regard to this gift of the Spirit, and results in turning loose at the altar or in the prayer room a mighty potential of workers to help new seekers whose hearts are hungry for the Spirit of God. It was Paul's method of power and it works today!

Does the thought that man can minister unto the Lord sound strange to our ears? Daniel had a glimpse of the throne one day and reports that up there "thousand thousands ministered unto him" (Daniel 7:10). Some of this number slipped down to earth one day and found the Son of God in the wilderness of temptation and there "ministered unto him" (Matthew $4: 11$ ). The Old Testament priests ministered unto the Lord, and even of little Samuel we read, "And the child did minister unto the Lord" (1 Samuel 2:11). Both Elijah and Elisha were very careful to observe this attitude "to the Lord," both of them declaring, "As the Lord of hosts liveth before whom I stand.

And so we find a group in the New Testament too, who "ministered to the Lord and fasted..." and as a result heard the Holy Ghost speak and direct their lives (Acts 13:2). If we today desire and expect a response from the Holy Ghost, it is essential that we be more conscious of ministering before the Lord than before the congregation.

We have found it comforting and reassuring to discover how many people in the congregation are willing to assume a responsibility with the minister when given opportunity. For a powerful background, it is well to have two or three people fasting each day or part of each day. When we call for those who will fast on the different days to raise their hands, we ask that all eyes be closed, and then those who
respond know their promise is made not in the eyes of man but of the Lord.

In conducting services of this kind, here is one secret that is of value beyond words. We announce that there will be a period of waiting upon God for one hour or more before the regular service commences. In these days of rush and stress, not all feel that they can stay and pray into the midnight hours, to really have time to wait upon God and get into the Spirit. But we can ask people to come early. If necessary, those who come direct from work will bring a sandwich. Then in the sacred place we just WAIT upon God.

It is not necessary for different ones to lead in prayer, but simply to wait in the presence of God.

When John Hyde was having his mighty prayer ministry in India in the early part of this century, someone requested the privilege of joining him in his intercession. This was granted, and an early hour mentioned for the meeting on the following morning. This person came and kneeled quietly nearby. One hour passed without an audible sound escaping the lips of John Hyde, though mighty sighs came forth! (This reminds us of the Word that says Jesus "breathed on them, saying, Receive ye the Holy Ghost." God "breathed the breath of life" into the form of dust, and man became a living soul. Perhaps we can be too wordy, and yet lack this breath of God.) At length, about the noon hour, with another great sigh from unspeakable depths, two words escaped the lips of the great intercessor; they were, "O God... !"

My experience has been that from such early prayer sessions before the regular meeting begins, the Spirit of God brings His people into a wonderful unity. Not infrequently some seeker desiring the infilling of the Holy Ghost continues there in the prayer room "under the power" while the public service is in session. No well-prepared sermon can possibly do for those in the regular meeting what those glorious sounds do, of someone's receiving the infilling of the Holy Spirit in the prayer room. Hearts are melted and moved and become expectant. Sometimes, at the conclusion of the service, one or two who have just been filled are brought into the main service to glorify God for what they have received, and invariably there is a rush of hungry believers into the prayer room
to get under the falling showers.
And now, the old-time saints and prayer warriors that have been newlyrecognized, newly-charged before God, and newly-prayed with, have a new zeal as they remember how God used them in days gone by, and find themselves yielding afresh to God for blessing and for service.

Our Pentecostal circles need not relinquish these glorious operations of the Holy Spirit just because our Episcopalian, Presbyterian, and Lutheran friends are entering in! Let us instead plant our tents once more where the Living Waters flow, and let us again drink deeply at the Fountain Head.

##  <br> EPISCOPALIANS PRACTICE "SPEAKING WITH TONGUES"

Richard Philbrick, writing in the Chicago Daily Tribune, says: "Chicago area Episcopalians who 'speak with tongues,' a phenomenon associated with the first Pentecost, received a set of rules for their guidance from their spiritual mentor, Bishop Gerald Francis Burrill, of the Chicago Episcopal diocese.
"His stand on the matter was made known, he said, because there has been some revival of the practice in the Chicago diocese and because a growing number of priests and laymen have been asking him for guidance concerning it.
"Bishop Burrill's rules were formulated by a committee of six clergymen headed by Canon J. Ralph Deppen, archdeacon of the Chicago Episcopal diocese. He said the group spent six months studying the phenomenon and its revival in this area before making its report.
"In addition to a few persons in the diocese who practice speaking with tongues individually, there is a group in Wheaton which meets regularly for that purpose.
"After reviewing the hopes and progress of contemporary Christendom, the committee said, 'It is not surprising that small groups of sincere Christian people, gathering for deep and attentive prayer, might find their souls stirred to depths of new utterance, and might feel that the Spirit of Renewal, which is everywhere at work in Christ's church, has touched them, too.'"

# AIR FORCE INVITES REVIVALT <br> <br> Broadcast to Originate at Whiteman Air Force 

 <br> <br> Broadcast to Originate at Whiteman Air Force}


Control tower of Whiteman Air Force Base, Sedalia, Mo., which is the home of the 17 th Air Division and the 340th Bombardment Wing

L$\triangle_{\mathrm{Ed}} \mathrm{by}$ Chaplain (First Lieutenant) Malcolm Smith, the Protestant chaplains of Whiteman Air Force Base, acting for the Air Force, have invited the Revivaltime team to conduct the annual preaching mission on the base. Highlighting the preaching mission will be the origination of the broadcast service from the new base chapel next Sunday night, March 26.

Dates set for the mission are Tuesday, March 21, through Sunday, March 26. Whiteman is located at Sedalia, Missouri, about 125 miles from Springfield. Plans for the crusade include taking the Revivaltime choir to the base for the services March $24-26$ so they will be present for the origination service.

Group discussion meetings will be held in homes on the base each day throughout the mission. Special officers' and airmen's breakfasts will be held affording opportunity to minister. Surrounding churches and professional groups will share in the mission-crusade.

Speaking each night will be C. M. Ward, Revivaltime evangelist. Brother Ward and I also will be ministering in the special breakfasts and group discussion sessions.
"Peace is our profession" is the motto appearing on the entrance sign to the base. What a wonderful opportunity this is to preach the "peace that passeth understanding" and to declare the name of the Prince of Peace!

Whiteman Air Force Base is the home of the 17th Air Division and the 340th Bombardment Wing. They are part of the Second Air Force and part of the combat-ready striking force of the Strategic Air Command. The wing is engaged in a continuous training program using the B-47 Stratojet medium bomber and the KC97 tanker in aerial refueling, intercontinental bombing, and world-wide navigation missions.
The base was designated as Whiteman Air Force Base on October 1, 1955, in honor of Lieutenant Whiteman, a native of Sedalia, Missouri, who became the first Air Force casualty when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor. His plane was shot down as he was taking off to engage the enemy in the air.
The motto, "Anywhere-Anytime," speaks of the continuous alert and readiness to strike any place on the globe on orders from Washington. This is part of America's front


# TIME PREACHING MISSION 

## Base Next Sunday byy.v. . . umast

line of defense. Four thousand men are assigned to this base. One-third of this striking force is on active alert at all times, ready to be air-borne in fifteen minutes. Onehalf of this alert force is on the "flight line" ready to run to the planes at the sound of the alert.

It is the men who comprise this striking force to whom Revivaltime will have the privilege of ministering during this mission!
Welcoming the team to the base in the opening rally will be Brigadier General Robert H. Straus, 17th Air Division Commander. Colonel George L. Newton, 340th Bomb Wing Commander, stated to me in conference about the mission, "We want this mission to succeed!"
Plans call for a special Air Force Combat Documentation team to film the crusade-mission in 16 mm color movies. This film will then be used in Air Force Chaplains' training activities to show how a mission may be conducted.

The base newspaper will give full coverage to the mission. Advance stories have already been carried. Local radio and television stations will publicize the crusade, as will local and Kansas City papers.

Persons living in the Sedalia, Missouri, area are invited to attend this special preaching mission. The new base chapel is located just inside the west gate.

The Air Force will finance part of the costs of this mission, but Revivaltime will supply large quantities of literature to be used. It seems providential that Revivaltime now has on hand striking servicemen's testimonies in book form, written by C. M. Ward. These will be most appropriate to use in conjunction with the mission. They include such books as these:

The Leon Miles Story-,
"Expendable, But...."
The Hal Herman Story-
"Good-bye Make-believe!"
The Major James Bradley Story-
"Five Times Reprieved"
The Captain Borgen Story-
"God Was with Me in the Fiery Furnace"

This latter story is of special significance since Captain Borgen is a B-47 pilot himself, based in Savannah, Georgia, a sister base to Whiteman Air Force Base. These books can be used by the Holy Spirit to grip the hearts and minds of many at Whiteman.
Revivaltime needs the help of all its friends in sharing these gospel literature costs. It has no funds from which to draw for this literature. May I personally urge you to give a literature offering for this cause!
$\$ 5.00$ will supply 25 books
$\$ 10.00$ will supply 50 books
$\$ 25.00$ will supply 125 books
$\$ 100.00$ will supply 500 books

Send your Christian literature offering to Revivaltime to assist in this crusade-mission. Be sure, too, to place this mission on your personal prayer list. God must move if this mission is to succeed! REVIVALTIME, BOX 70, SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI.


Col. George L. Newton, Jr., D. V. Hurst, and Chaplain Malcolm Smith discuss plans for preaching mission

# Breaking Trail 

The True Testimony of an Indian Christian

WRITTEN BY AN ASSEMBLIES OF GOD MISSIONARY TO AMERICAN INDIANS

SOME YEARS AGO A SUDDEN BLIZzard swept across an Oregon Indian reservation during the night, leaving man and beast snowbound. Early in the morning, after the snow ceased to fall, a lone Indian rode his pony slowly through the deep snow, breaking trail to a small herd of cattle stranded somewhere on the marsh.

As the horse struggled along, the Indian's mind seemed no longer on the cattle he sought, but rather on the words of the missionary spoken not long before: "Jesus Christ is the Saviour of the Indians as well as the white man and all other races, because He died for all ; and whoever will accept Him as personal Saviour will be saved." Could it be true? he questioned silently. Church is too far away to go and find out more from the missionary, he thought. I wonder if He really died for me!

Suddenly his heart began to melt in a strange way, and tears filled his eyes and dripped down his cheeks. "How odd for me to be shedding tears, something I have not done since my mother died," he said.

Without further thought, he quickly reined in his horse and dropped down into the snow. He was on his knees almost before he realized what he was doing. The power of God-something greater than he had ever knowngripped his whole being and caused him to cry out from the depths of his soul.
"Oh, Jesus," he prayed, "if this story is true, if you died for this poor Indian, please forgive my sins and make me to know that you are my Saviour." There in the midst of that snowy wilderness, a soul was born again! "It's true, it's true!" he shouted. "Jesus is my Saviour. My sin is gone and my heart is whiter than this snow! My heart is singing because I know now He died for the Indians too! He is real, He is wonderful! I feel so free.

Then he said to himself, "I must tell someone quickly or my heart will burst with this new-found joy."

Climbing high on a rock, he scanned the landscape but not a soul was near. Only a few snowbirds flitted here and there. "Well, then, I will tell the snowbirds how great is the Lord," he said; and he began to pour out his heart in praise and thanksgiving unto the Lord.

Suddenly he heard a voice! He looked around in all directions but could see no one. Then again someone spoke, "My son, my son, what are you doing here?"
"Oh, it must be the Lord speaking to me," he said. "Lord, you know I
came out here to break trail to that little bunch of cattle snowed in somewhere around here. I had forgotten all about them. But if I do not break trail for them, they will die for want of feed and water."

The Lord replied, "My son, hear me. Your Indian people all over this great country are snowed in by $\sin$ ! Unless someone will break trail to them, they will die for want of the living Bread and the living Water! Will you break trail to them? Will you take them the Bread of Life? Will you tell them of Jesus Christ, their Saviour? Will you tell them of His precious


SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI -OR- 332 W . COLORADO ST., PASADENA, CALIF.

Blood that washes whiter than the snow?"
"Yes, Lord," he answered, "I will break trail to my people. I will do my best. Just help me, Lord, and I will answer your call."

This Indian did his best to "break trail" for several years. Then he went on to be with the Lord, but his testimony lives on. The voice of the Lord still continues to call to all who will hear, "The Indian people are snowed in by sin. Unless someone breaks trail to them, they will die for want of the living Bread and the living Water." Will you break trail now? If you can't go to them yourself, will you support those who do answer the call?

## NATIONAL GOAL OF HOME MISSIONS ADVANCE...

## CHURCH

 EXTENSION

## ..ONE CHURCH FOR EACH 10,000 POPULATION

Here is an umusual story of a pastor who resigned from a thrizing Assembly to pioneer another church in the same city-with the wholehearted approval of the other Assentblies of God pastors of the community.

## NEW CHURCH AT ABILENE

For twelve years Wilson G. Estes had been pastor of First Assembly of Abilene, Tex. In January, 1959, he felt that God was leading him to pioneer another work.

Realizing the irregularity of such action, he hesitated; but after receiving assurance that the Lord would help him to accomplish this in the right manner, he began to make plans to do so. Brother Estes received permission from the other pastors in the city and then consulted his presbyter and the district superintendent.

After receiving the green light to go ahead, he began to search for property that would be suitable. The Lord helped him to find property across the street from a new school and in church zoning. The nucleus of sixteen members (who had comprised less than ten per cent of First Assembly's congregation) bought this property for $\$ 8,000$. It included four lots with a frontage of 243 feet. They then began building a large home with double garage and den which, when folding doors were opened,


Pastor Wilson G. Estes and family (left) and the new Bethel Temple in Abilene, Texas
would make an auditorium 40 feet by 20 feet.

This was the beginning of Bethel Temple. On the opening day, Sunday school attendance reached 57; and on the fifth Sunday it soared to 82 . No First Assembly members other than the original sixteen who left to help the new church attend Bethel Temple now.

The new group then made plans to build the first unit of a three-unit building. The first unit, a masonry building 40 feet by 84 feet, was begun September 1, 1959, and the first service was conducted November 29. At the grand opening service, held December 13, Sunday school attendance reached 125 and the worship service 131. The Sunday school has averaged 70 to 75 since the opening day and the congregation is striving for 100 average soon.
The new building has an auditorium 40 feet square which will seat 160 . It also contains room for ten classes, four rest rooms, a nursery, and a kitchenette. There is a 20 -by- 27 -foot fellowship hall with fol-dors which can be converted into four Sunday school rooms (included in the ten). It has central heat and refrigerated air conditioning and has oak church furniture with carpeted podium and altar space. Approximately $\$ 20,000$ has been invested in the building itself, not counting the lots.

This little congregation at Bethel Temple realizes that God has certainly blessed their efforts. The new church has no wealthy members and $\$ 800$ has been the largest single donation. The total cost of land and buildings including the minister's home was slightly over $\$ 50,000$, and of this sum they made a loan for $\$ 31,000$ which they are paying back in monthly installments. Much of the labor for the church was donated.

The pastor designed the plans for
the church and is willing to send a copy to any pastor who might be interested in using them. They are not copyrighted.

May God help our congregations and pastors to establish more such churches where the Assemblies of God doctrine is taught and experienced.

## MORTGAGE BURNED IN BIRMINGHAM

Huffman Assembly of God in Birmingham, Alabama, burned the mortgage on its church property January 22, 1961. T. H. Spence, superintendent of the Alabama District, was guest speaker.

The property was acquired on September 30, 1958, and services were begun the following week with 14 present.

Brother Spence, in presiding, said, "God has visited you in a most unusual way to make this possible in only 27 months. For this we give Him all the praise."

Pastor Bobby R. Smith said, "This has by far excelled anything we had hoped for." He went on to say, "I would like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation to the District as well as to the National Home Missions Department for their support and financial backing. Without this, we would have been greatly hindered in the very beginning of our church."


[^2]
## Sunday' Lesson

THE APOSTLE WHO DOUBTED

Sunday School Lesson for March 26, 1961
John 20:19-29

## I. THE REVELATION TO FEARFUL DISCIPLES.

 John 19:19-23.The fearing disciples. V. 19. Here the disciples met behind locked doors for fear of the Jews. Fear always locks doors! Fear brings bondage of mind, of body, and of spirit. Fear paralyzes activity and prevents usefulness to God. Yet, though they were fearful, their love for Christ and interest in the momentous events of the day had drawn them together.

The appearing Christ. "Then came Jesus and stood in the midst." Christ, clothed in His glorified resurrected body that was not subject to the laws which now restrict our physical bodies, was able to penetrate the matter of which the room was built, thus giving us a hint as to the kind of bodies we, too, shall have in the resurrection!

The significant salutation. "Peace be unto you." He spoke these same words to them at the Last Supper. But they had gone forth to witness Gethsemane, the humiliation, the suffering and spitting, and then Calvary. There had been no peace in that! Now again they stood in need of peace, for they thought He was dead and they were left alone in a hostile world, the future bleak and uncertain. But all is changed in a moment! He stands among them, beyond the agony, beyond the Cross, beyond the tomb, the same living Christ! Now all reason for fear is over!

The meaningful marks. V. 20. There was a definite connection between Christ's words and His showing of His marked hands. Peace with God which is the peace of sins forgiven, and the peace of God which is the peace of victorious living, is only possible through the Cross (Ephesians 2:13-15; Philippians $4: 7$ ).
The great commission. "As my Father hath sent me, even so send I you." Their place was not behind locked doors but out on the streets and in the byways duplicating His own ministry! How was Jesus sent? He tells us in Luke $4: 18,19$. See also Isaiah 61:1-3.

The special impartation. "He breathed on them, and saith unto them, Receive ye the Holy Ghost." Having commissioned them, He now gives them the "first installment" of the divine power which would enable them to carry out that commission. Though they were not baptized and filled with the Spirit until ten days later, it seems quite evident that they did upon this occasion receive a real impartation of the power of the Spirit. Similarly, it is only as the Church today, and the individuals who make up the Church, are genuinely energized by the Spirit that this commission can be fulfilled!
II. THE REVELATION TO INDIVIDUAL DOUBT. John 20:24-29.

The doubt of Thomas. Vv. 24, 25. We do not know why Thomas was not present on this occasion. However,
this incident may encourage us to be faithful in church attendance; for it may be the time when you are absent that the Lord will especially manifest His presence.

When he heard the testimony of the others, Thomas was unable to receive it. We must not be too hard on him. Temperamentally, Thomas seems to have been a pessimist. He possessed great love for Jesus, and at the same time was tormented by fear. Insight and faith struggled against a hankering after physical manifestations. But-
(1) Thomas made the mistake of limiting the way in which Christ must meet him. Is this not a common error? We must leave room for God to manifest Himself, as He surely will, in a variety of ways.
(2) There is a sense in which the kind of evidence Thomas sought may be legitimately demanded. People have a right to say of us, "Except I see in your life the marks of your Master, I will not believe."

The faith of Thomas. Vv. 26-28. Though Thomas had doubts, he also gave evidence of faith.
(1) His very presence on the second occasion proves that in spite of his doubts, he wished to believe and hoped for a satisfying of his doubts.
(2) His willingness to believe distinguishes him from out-and-out unbelievers and insincere doubters.
(3) Those who have doubts should be encouraged by the fact that Jesus accommodated Himself to Thomas and offered him exactly what he asked by way of proof.
(4) Thomas, who doubted, came out with stronger faith than others who had not doubted. His confession, "My Lord and my God," was a confession of faith beyond that of all the others. And Christ still loves to so transform us that out of a wilderness of doubt and fear is created the mightiest faith! -J. Bashford Bishop

## PROOFS OF RESURRECTION POWER



BUT THIS MODERN WORLD IS CONVINCED BY OUR TRANSFORMED LIVES


# The Fanily Altar 

MONDAY, MARCH 20
Read: Acts 11:1-10
Learn: "Peter went up . . . to pray" (Acts 10:9),
For the Parent: Review the tenth chapter of Acts, discussing the incidents related to Peter's taking the gospel message to the Gentiles. Stress that before this the Gentiles were outside of the plan of salvation as far as the Jews were concerned. God used a vision to show Peter that all men are equal in God's sight. After the miraculous events, Peter returned to Jerusalem. Some of the Jews began to criticize him for going to the Gentiles. Peter gave reasons for his actions by recalling the vision God gave him and its important truth (v. 9). Use this lesson to point out that God's revelations often come to us in our times of prayer.
Question Time: Of what did the Jews accuse Peter when he returned to Jerusalem? How did he answer them?
Missionary Birthdays: Marguerite Shaw (Indian), Oklahoma; Louis L. Grossnickle, Dominican Republic; Melvin A. Grams, Nigeria; Mrs. Paul D. Schoonmaker, India.

## TUESDAY, MARCH 21

Read: Acts 11:11-18
Learn: "Then hath God also to the Gentiles granted repentance unto life" (Acts 11:18).
For the Parent: Review yesterday's material. After telling the Jews of his vision, Peter told about the messengers from Cornelius, the voice of the Holy Spirit to his heart, and the purpose Cornelius had in sending for him. He then told about how the Holy Spirit fell on the Gentiles while he was preaching to them. To Peter this gift of the infilling of the Spirit was a sign that God would save Gentiles without them first becoming Jews and keeping the Law of Moses. Peter's testimony also convinced the other Jews that this was God's plan.
Question Time: To what do you think the last phrase in verse 15 refers? (See Acts $10: 44-46 ; 2: 4$ )
Missionary Birthdays: George W. Flattery, Senegal; L. Wayne Turner, Togo.

## WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22

Read: Acts 11:19-30
Learn: "And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch" (Acts 11:26).
For the Parent: The new-found realization that God accepted all who would come to Him through Christ, whether he be Jew or Gentile, brought a new evangelistic zeal to the early Christians. Discuss: (1) the spreading of the gospel to Antioch, including preaching to the Gentiles, vv. 19-21; (2) sending Barnabas to assist the church in Antioch, v. 22; (3) Barnabas' reaction to the church and his message to the church, v. 23 ; (4) A testimony to his character, v. 24; (5) Saul-Paul-joins Barnabas, vv. 25, 26; (6) a new name for believers, v. 26; (7) the Christians' concern for the less fortunate, vv. 27-30.

Question Time: What kind of man was Barnabas? (v. 24) Where did the name "Christian" first get started? (v. 26)
Missionary Birthdays: Ralph M. Miller, Alaska; Mrs. Bert Parker (Indian), Arizona.

## THURSDAY, MARCH 23

Read: John 20:19-29
Learn: "Blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed" (John 20:29)
For the Parent: (Additional material on "The Apostle Who Doubted" will be found on Sunday's Lesson page.) After Jesus arose from the dead, He appeared several times to His disciples. One such appearance is related in verses 19:23. These verses also give some clues regarding the glorified body which Jesus now possessed. Then point out the doubt of Thomas (vv. 24, 25), and the manner in which Christ dealt with him in removing that doubt (vv. 26-28): It is good to believe as Thomas did, but it is even better to accept God's truths by faith (v. 29)
Question Time: What things were unusual about Jesus' appearing to the disciples? (vv. 19, 20) Why did Thomas doubt that Jesus was alive? What conditions did he set for believing? How did Jesus answer his doubts?
Missionary Birthdays: Elvis D. Davis, Ghana; Mrs. J. J. Friesen, Congo Republic; Mrs. Gunder A. Olsen, Philippines.

## FRIDAY, MARCH 24

Read : John 19:5-12, 16-18, 28-30 (Sunday's Lesson for Juniors) Learn: "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8). For the Parent: Have the group review the events relating to the death of Christ. Emphasize Pilate's judgment of innocence, yet pronouncing the death penalty, v. 6. Show also Pilate's fear and uncertainity in the situation, being swayed by the mob's accusations that if he did not crucify Jesus, he would be guilty of treason to Caesar, vv. 7-12, 16. Stress the purpose of the death of Christ-He offered Himself willingly and freely as an atonement for our sins. Because He died for us, we can have eternal life through faith in Him.
Question Time: What inconsistencies do you find in Pilate's attitudes and actions? Why did Jesus die?
Missionary Birthday: Mrs. Millard R. Pipkin, Dahomey.

## SATURDAY, MARCH 25

Read: 1 Samuel 13:1-14 (Sunday's Lesson for Primaries) Learn: "To obey is better than sacrifice" (1 Samuel 15:22). For the Parent: Not long after Saul became king of Israel, he faced a crucial test-a test which revealed he had allowed pride to find a place in his life and that he was not worthy of the high position to which God had called him. Point out: (1) Saul's impatience and fear, vv. 8, 12; (2) his intrusion into offering sacrifices-a duty kept specificially for the priests, v. 9; (3) Samuel's observations on Saul's disobedience to God, v. 13; (4) God's rejection of the family of Saul-they would not continue as the royal family of Israel because of Saul's disobedience, v. 14. Stress the importance of hearing and doing what God tells us to do.
Question Time: Why did God reject Saul from being king? (vv. 13, 14) What lesson is there in this for us?
Missionary Birthdays: Maynard L. Ketcham, field secretary for Far East; Mrs. J. C. Morrison, superannuated), Burma. Missionary Birthdays for Sunday: Mrs. Robert Oakes (Indian), Arizona; Alice R. Melching, Formosa.

## FOREIGN MISSIONS

 $\longrightarrow$Bolivian Christians in the Andes

# The Gospel Invades the Andes 

## BY MONROE AND BETTY GRAMS

Missionaries to Bolivia

AN EIGHT-DAY TRIP IN ITSELF WhS nothing to get excited about because this type of mountain work is almost a steady diet for the Bolivian missionary. Sleeping bags, musical instruments, tracts, Bibles and Testaments were ready along with the Speed-the-Light International Travel-all that has taken us over 10,000 miles of rugged mountain roads in the past year. However, this time we felt a tingling of excitement as we left with two national pastors to cross 500 miles of plateau, mountain glaciers, through deep valleys, and over high mountains.
"Are you taking the P. A. system?" asked one of the pastors, "and the slide projector to capture the interest in the new area?"
"Yes, indeed," we replied. "Don't we plan by the help of the Lord to make this a real invasion ?"

And an invasion it was, as we set our faces toward an isolated area far behind Mt. Illimani, the tall snowcapped mountain that stands as a guardian near our capital city of La Paz. Before going into unreached territory we stopped to organize a new church where one of our consecrated pastors is doing a fine work for God. After performing two wedding ceremonies, baptizing 22 believers, and organizing this new group into a new Assemblies of God church, we began to feel the urgency to get into new territory.

It was evening as we entered the community of Collpani. The last rays
of the sun's warmth had receded behind the nearby mountain leaving the extreme cold of the night upon us. We knew the people worked in tin mines during the day, and this was the appropriate hour to call them to a meeting. An invitation to attend the service was bellowed into the nearby valleys by the use of loudspeaker in Spanish and in the native Aymara. Our hearts rejoiced as through the shadows the people came from every direction. By this time we had the accordion out, the screen on the mud wall, and the Coleman lamp hung on a nearby peg. It was a precious sight as we ministered under the Spirit's anointing to those people who were hearing the gospel for the first time.

This was the first thrust. There were no decisions that night. The next day a delegation from the community came to the place where we were staying, inviting us back. "You must come back; only half the village was out last night."

The next night a large crowd came to hear our message of salvation. "Who will accept this Christ tonight?" No one came forward. By this time the enemy had prepared his counterattack. At the edge of the crowd a stirring indicated that anything could happen. During the service we had observed a youthful element of scoffers trying to divert the attention of the crowd. There were plenty of stones in the road, should they decide to use them. To my mind came the memory of the Baptist missionary and national pastors who
had been killed in similar circumstances several years previously.
"We are the servants of the Lord," we breathed in prayer as we continued to make an appeal for the people to accept Christ.

Suddenly a half-blind boy was pushed forward from behind the crowd and forced by the jesters to kneel. Laughing, they next pushed the village moron. The enemy was coming in like a flood, and we felt an inward pain as we realized that scores of hungry hearts were being influenced by these scoffers. Never before had we felt such enemy power in Bolivia.

Again we invited sinners to receive salvation, but with the same results. We dismissed the meeting and told the people to go to their homes, hoping that the interested ones would remain.

The people who were hungry for God did remain, but due to the jeers of the crowd and the mountain cold they were fearful. "If only we had a building to go to right now," we said to those near us. "Let's just go right into this town hall; the door is unlocked." And we went inside the town hall with some forty people following us.

Again we earnestly dealt with them. We asked them to come forward to receive Christ. This time the scene changed as everyone in the room knelt. However, many were still grinning and agitating. I commanded those to leave who were not sincere, warning them not to play with the things of God. Half the group slipped out of the door. Now the victory was ours! Over twenty hungry souls accepted Christ as their Saviour.

The tables were turned. This time the devil was on the outside. After prayer the names were taken down and a real feeling of brotherhood was felt. They asked us to stay and spend the night. The next morning they took us to one of the homes for breakfast.

Yes, the invasion was a success. We are grateful for this victory won in Bolivia; however, there are many in this country who do not yet know Christ. Pray for us as we continue to win new areas for the Kingdom of God.



## Premier Welcomes Revival in Togo

Premier Olympio, Chief of State for the Republic of Togo, recently welcomed Evangelist Ernie Eskelin (left) to the city of Lome. Brother Ekelin came to assist Missionary David Wakefield in a city-wide crusade held in a courtyard of the Good Samaritan Hotel.

Right: An average of 1,000 to 1,200 attended the services nightly. About 500 were saved during the revival. Standing in the center aisle is Mr. Mulm, a member of M. Olympio's cabinet. Left to right are Evangelist Eskelin and Missionaries D. Wakefield and W. Turner.


Pearl Estep and Flora Shafer

## MISSIONARY NEWS NOTES

COMING: Miss Mollie Baird is home from the Philippines. Her address is 3000 Azle Avenue, Ft. Worth, Texas. Mrs. Eleanor Johnson is now teaching in Immanuel Bible School, Cebu City.
GOING: Mr. and Mrs. Dan Maser have left the States for Honduras, Central America.
The Orville Carlsons have returned to East Pakistan for another tour of service. Before returning to Bolivia, Misses Flora Shafer and Pearl Estep have gone to Costa Rica for additional language study.
Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Bascue and family have sailed for Dahomey, West Africa, for another tour of service. The Bascues formerly served in Upper Volta.
Miss Florence Metcalf has returned to Nigeria to serve on the staff of Hillcrest School
Returning to Hong Kong for another tour of service is Miss Sarah Johnston. The Harold Carlblom family has returned to Indonesia for another term of service.
Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Butler have returned to Upper Volta.


Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Bascue and daughters


The Harold Carlblom family


Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Butler and family

# Soul Winning 

(Continued from page three)
outcast tax gatherer, Zacchaeus, in the city of Jericho. Yes, soul winning is the spirit of our Redeemer.

It is characteristic of all His words. In Luke 15 we have the threefold parable of the Lost Sheep, the Lost Coin, and the Lost Son. In this parable we are taught the urgency of winning lost souls. The conception of the believer as a herald, a witness, and a winner of souls runs as a golden thread through all His discourses and even in His parables and miracles.

His death upon the cross makes the salvation of a soul possible. "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus" (Romans 3:23-24). "For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly" (Romans 5:6). This verse means that when we could do absolutely nothing, the Lord Jesus Christ did absolutely everything. See also Luke 23: 32-43; Titus 2:14.

His great commission enjoins it for us. Our Lord commanded, "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost" (Matthew $28: 19$ ). The vast majority of Christians have never realized that it is a personal, individual command to every child of God to go into his own personal world and witness to every creature. We are commanded to do one thing only and that is to "GO!" This command cannot be obeyed by proxy; it can only be obeyed in person.

## THE PLACE OF SOUL WINNING

 IN THE APOSTOLIC CHURCHThe apostolic church was a great soul-saving unit. The individual members were red-hot witnesses to the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. Radiant with their new-found joy in their Redeemer, they blazed abroad His fame everywhere and on every occasion. "And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all" (Acts $4: 33$ ). "And at that time there was a great persecution against the church which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered abroad throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except the apostles. Therefore
they that were scattered abroad went everywhere preaching the word" (Acts $8: 1$ ). Other passages, which the student should study, also describe the evangelistic fervor of these early believers. See Acts $2: 41 ; 4: 4 ; 5: 14 ; 6$ : $7 ; 12: 24 ; 19: 18,20$.

Without the medium of magnificent church buildings or great religious machinery, the Early Church took the Roman Empire by storm. We, too, must make this our supreme aim.

In the city of Glasgow there is a church building dedicated to a dear man of God named Pastor John Harper. It is called "The John Harper Memorial." It was my privilege, as a boy, to preach the gospel in this sacred place. The story of John Harper's last convert deeply affected me in those days. This Baptist pastor was a unique Bible teacher and also an evangelist with a burning heart. While crossing the Atlantic in the ill-fated liner, the Titanic, to minister in the Moody Church in Chicago, he was drowned with the other passengers. Some weeks later in a Canadian town a young man arose in a city mission and gave his remarkable testimony.

The young man had been a passenger on the Titanic when that great ship went down. He was thrown into the water in the darkness and managed to scramble to a piece of wreckage, where he held fast. By and by, a man drifted near to him, holding to a similar bit of wreckage. As the other came near, he called across the water to the young man: "Young man, are you saved?"
"No, sir," replied the young man.
Back came the words, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved."

Then the speaker drifted away into the darkness. By and by, through some strange happenings-not by chancethe stranger drifted within hailing distance of the young man and called out over the water again: "Young man, are you saved now ?"

Again the young man replied, "No, sir."

Again the voice came back, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved." Then a wave swept over the speaker and broke his grasp. and he went down to a watery grave.
"And then," said the young man as he testified in Canada, "with two miles of sea underneath me, I believed on the Lord Jesus Christ and was saved." Then with intense earnestness he added,
"I'm John Harper's last convert.'
Truly, that was making the last moments of life the holy ground of soul winning.

O let thy love my heart constrain! Thy love for every sinner free, That every fallen soul of man May taste the grace that found out me; That all mankind with me may prove Thy sovereign, everlasting love. -Charles Wesley

The late Dr. Nettleton, the wellknown American evangelist of a bygone century, put to himself the searching question, "After a thousand years have passed, what shall I wish I had done at this time?" His answer to that question resulted in his devoting himself throughout life to the work of seeking to win souls.

Let the reader put the question to himself in a slightly different form, "How can I best lay out my life for God and my own generation?" Get alone with God right now without disturbance and answer this question for your own soul. You alone must give an account to God for your life here.

Soul winning is a sacrificial work. It will cost something. It will cost you your own selfish desires and a life of ease and self-entertaining. In the journal of John Wesley, we read these words: "I preached near the hospital to twice the people we should have had at the church house. What a marvel that the devil does not like the fieldpreaching! Neither do I! I like a commodious room, a soft cushion, a handsome pulpit. But where is my zeal if I do not trample all these under foot in order to save one more soul?" 4 4

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## DEDICATING NEW CHURCH

SPRINGFIELD, MO.-Calvary Temple, new home of what has been known as South Side Assembly of God, will be dedicated Sunday April 2. Speaker for the dedication service, to begin at $2: 30 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{m}$., will be T. F. Zimmerman, General Superintendent of the Assemblies of God.

The dedication will be preceded by a twoweek revival campaign with Evangelist Watson Argue. Einar Waermo, Swedish tenor singer, will participate in these meetings which will begin Sunday, March 19, and conclude April 2.

Pastor Jack West has also announced that on Tuesday, April 4, Evangelist Willard Cantelon will begin a campaign in the new church. On Sunday night, April 16, the Revivaltime network radio broadcast will originate in Calvary Temple's beautiful auditorium.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINNESOTA DISTRICT COUNCILApril 3-6 at Assemblies of God church, 1705

Elton Hills Drive, Rochester, Minn. (O. E. Carter, host pastor.) Earl W. Goodman, Montana District Superintendent, guest speak-er.-by G. Raymond Carlson, Minnesota District Superintendent.

MISSIONARY CONVENTION—March 23-26 at Brightmoor Tabernacle, Detroit, Mich. Speakers: Richard D. McGee, Nica-
ragua; Marguerite Flint, North India; John S. Richards, South Africa.-by Bond P. Bowan, pastor.

DEDICATION-March 20 at Assembly of God, 320 S. Meridian St., Washington, Ind. William Van Winkle, speaker-by R. I. Covington, Pastor.

## EVANGELISTIC CAMPAIGN CALENDAR

S

| Ala. | Dothan <br>  <br>  <br> Mobile <br> Montgomery |
| :--- | :--- |
|  | Sol |

Ark. Subiaco
Calif. Lomita
Newport Beach Tustin Van Nuys
Fla. $\quad \begin{gathered}\text { Visalia } \\ \text { Tampa }\end{gathered}$
$\begin{array}{ll}\text { Ga. } & \text { Tampa } \\ \text { Columbus } \\ \text { III. } & \text { Chicago }\end{array}$
III. Chicago

Chicago
Ind. Coshen
Terre Haute
Iowa $\begin{aligned} & \text { Decorah } \\ & \text { Oskaloosa }\end{aligned}$
Ottumwa
Storm Lake Woodbine Kans. Overland Park
$\begin{array}{lll}\text { Kans. } & \text { Overland Park } & \text { First } \\ \text { Mich. } & \text { East Detroit } & \text { Calvary }\end{array}$ Muskegon East Broadway
Minn. Thief River Falls A/G Tab.
Mo. Bismarck A/

| Cuba | A/G |
| :--- | :--- |
| East Prairie | A/G |
| Illmo | Ilmo-Fornfelt |

N. Kansas City

Springfield
$\begin{array}{lll} & \text { Springfield } & \text { Lighthouse } \\ \text { Mont. } & \text { Glendive } & \text { A/G } \\ \text { Nebr. } & \text { North Platte } & \text { A/G Church }\end{array}$
N. J. Medford
N. Mex. Hobbs

Las Cruces
Mountainair
N. Y. $\begin{aligned} & \text { Binghamton } \\ & \text { Huntington Sta. }\end{aligned}$

| Ohio | Jamestown | Calvary |
| :---: | :--- | :--- |
|  | Dayton | Bethel |
|  | Harrison | Harrison Ave. |
|  | Ravenna | A/G |
|  | Willard |  |

Okla. $\begin{array}{ll}\text { Willard } & \text { Aklahoma City } \\ \text { Airpot }\end{array}$

|  | Oklahoma City <br> Tulsa | Airport <br> Faith Tab. <br> Capitol Hill |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
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A/G
A/G

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First

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First
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A/G Pent. Church
Calvary
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Gospel Tab
Full Gospel
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Pioncer
Full Gospel Tab. Pentecostal
Bethel Pent. Tab.
Calvary Pent.

DATE
Mar. 19-24
Mar. 22 -
Mar. 14.26
Mar. 19-Apt. 2
Mar. 22-Apr. 2 Mar. 26-
Mar. 22-Apr. 2
Mar. 21
Mar. 12 -
Mar. 19-24
Mar. 22-
Mar. 21-Apr. 2
Mar. 8.26
Mar. 26-Apr. 2
Mar. 22-
Mar. 22-Apr. 2
Mar. 19-Apr. 2
Mar. 21-Apr.
Mar. 14
Mar. 21-Apr. 2 Frank \& Mrs. Martin
Mar. 26-Apr. 2 Larry Allbaugh
Mar. 26-Apr. 9 Floyd L. Dennis
Mar. 19-26 Paul Hild
Mar. 21-Apr. 2 Robert J. Price
Mar. 19-Apr. 2 Wesley R. Hurst, Sr.
Mar. 22- C. M. Smitley
Mar. 19-Apr. 2 Glenna Byard
Mar. 26-Apr. 2 Glymn Hall
Mar. 26-Apr. 2 Bonnie M. Ruble
Mar. 19-Apr. 2
Mar. 19-Apr. 2
Mar. 22-
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Mar. 26-Apr. 9
Mar. 21-Apr. 2
Mar. 26-Apr. 9
Mar. 22-Apr. 2
Mar. 19-Apr. 2
Mar. 26-
Mar. 28-Apr. 6 Lloyd Faulkner
Mar. 21-Apr. 2 Nate Killian
Mar. 26-Apr. 2 John Eller
Mar. 21-Apr. 2 Jimmic Mayo, Jr.
Mar. 25-31 N. B. \& Mrs. Rayburn
Mar. 19-Apr. 2 Marcus Alexander
Mar. 19- Glen \& Faithe Shinn
Mar. 23-Apr. 2 Morris Cerullo
Mar. 28-Apr. 16 V. M. \& Mrs. Dullabaur
Mar. 14-26 Denny Davis
Mar. 14-26 John Everett
Mar. 13-26 Evelyn Glosser
Mar. 21-Apr. 2
Mar. 21-Apr. 2
Mar. 21-Apr. 2

Mar. 15-Apr. 2 David \& Mrs. Howe
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# INSTRUMENTS OF PRAISE 

BY JAMES E. ADAMS

Seven hundren people gathered in the Manhasset (New York) High School auditorium to hear a concert by pianist Rudolf Kirkusny. But the program came to an abrupt halt twice during the evening.
While everyone was enjoying Beethoven's "Variation on a Theme" Kirkusny fingered an E-flat. It rattled. He stopped while a member of the concert committee rushed on stage, searched, and finally picked a matchbook cover from the offending string.
The celebrated pianist continued with a Schubert number. Then the piano began to buzz when certain keys were struck. Another inspection produced a metal New York State auto license tab lodged on the strings under the metal plate of the instrument. With these "foreign objects" removed the pianist Kirkusny went on to complete his program and added several encores to make up for the interruption.

Our lives are like an instrument on which the Holy Spirit plays to bring forth a symphony of praise unto Him who loved us and gave Himself for us. The apostle Paul wrote, "Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord" (Ephesians $5: 19$ ). This is a ministry of the Holy Spirit for in the preceding verse he wrote, "Be filled with the Spirit."

Although the Lord tunes the chords of our hearts to sing His praise when He saves us, He allows tests and trials to come our way which could introduce "foreign material" and bring the Spirit-inspired concert to a halt. What a discord there was in the heart of Peter when he denied his Lord! He went out and wept bitterly.

But after Jesus was risen from the dead, an angel said
to the women at the tomb, "Tell His disciples and Peter." Peter repented. The offense was removed and forgiven. He went forth to witness to Christ's resurrection power and to sing His praise.

What many young Christians fail to realize is that the Holy Spirit does not immediately leave the keyboard of our hearts if we make a mistake. He waits patiently for the foreign material to be removed.

A teacher in a VBS reprimanded one of his pupils for throwing a Bible across the room. Too late that morning he learned that another child was the culprit. Should he just forget the matter? Oh, no! He was disturbed: the melody was gone from his heart. But he got in tume the following morning by apologizing to the wrongly accused boy before the rest of his class.

By correcting the smaller discords man keeps his heart in tune for a bigger test which might either silence his song or bring forth a concert of adoration to the Lord.

In the Scripture we meet Job after the smaller causes of discord had been removed and God had found him perfect. Through no failing of his own he faced his greatest test. Satan stripped him of his possessions, his children, and his health. But in that hour Job brought forth a sonnet of praise-perhaps in a minor key, perhaps only in a whisper, "Though He slay me, yet will I trust in Him" (Job 13:15).

Job clung to his Lord, and his hymn of worship rose to this glorious crescendo, "I have heard of Thee by the hearing of the ear: but now mine eye seeth Thee." And this paean of praise was acceptable to God, for Job realized that no instrument of flesh has the right to glory in himself. And so he said, as he stood in the presence of God, "I abhor myself, and repent in dust and ashes" (Job 42:5, 6).

Some time ago a little boy seemed lost in his crucial hour, but he left a sonnet of praise which hundreds of people in Los Angeles will not soon forget. He was Timothy Getty, twelve-year-old son of oil multi-millionaire J. Paul Getty.

Timothy was a friendly, outgoing boy, a bit on the philosophical side, perhaps because of illness. He had undergone several operations for a brain tumor. While awaiting his last operation-a minor one to remove scars of previous surgery - he wrote a poem. His heart failed after the operation, and he died.

What adult speakers said at his funeral was soon forgotten. But his sonnet of victory, which was read, remains:

> "God protects me through the night. God will help me win each fight. Because His love is oh, so dear, I know in God I cannot fear. God will show mee day by day, If I follow in His way."

The big fisherman who failed his Lord so miserably followed in His way and wrote, at a later date, "Ye should show forth the praises of Him who hath called you out of darkness into His marvelous light. . . . Whom having not seen, ye love ; in whom, though now ye see Him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory" (1 Peter 2:9; 1:8).

May we finish our course with joy, ever praying, "Spirit of the Living God, breathe on the chords of our hearts that our lives may be a concert of praise unto Christ, our Saviour and Lord."


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[^1]:    If you have a spiritual problem or anv question about the Bible, you are invited to write to "Your Questions," The Pentecostal Evangel, 434 W. Pacific St., Springfield, Missouri. Brother Williams will answer cither in this column or by a personal letter (if you send a stamped self-addressed envelope).

[^2]:    T. H. Spence, superintendent of the Alabama District, burns mortgage of the Huffman Assembly of God in Birmingham, Ala. Pastor Bobby Smith and members of church board look on.

