

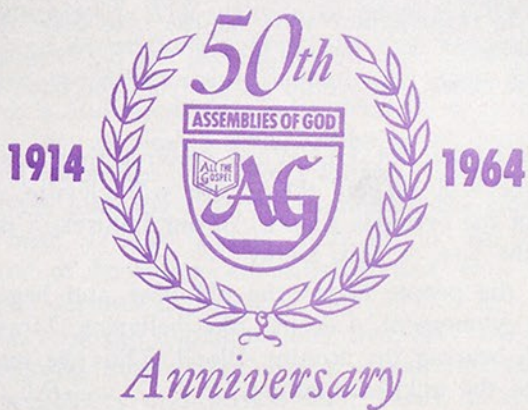
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TEN CENTS

JANUARY 5, 1964

# THE PENTECOSTAL evangel

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



**WEEK OF PRAYER • JAN. 5-12**

Make the 50th year a new year indeed  
by "praying in the Holy Ghost"

# THE PENTECOSTAL evangel

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

PUBLISHED CONTINUOUSLY SINCE 1913

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Official Voice of the Assemblies of God  
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#### STATEMENT OF FAITH

WE BELIEVE the Bible to be the inspired and only infallible and authoritative Word of God. WE BELIEVE that there is one God, eternally existent in three persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost. WE BELIEVE in the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, in His virgin birth, in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His vicarious and atoning death, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father, and in His personal future return to this earth in power and glory to rule a thousand years. WE BELIEVE in the Blessed Hope, which is the Rapture of the Church at Christ's coming. 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 on the cross provides healing of the human body in answer to believing prayer. WE BELIEVE that the baptism of the Holy Spirit, according to Acts 2:4, is given to believers who ask for it. WE BELIEVE in the 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.

( Average paid circulation in November )  
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EDITORIAL COMMENT

## A Happy New Year

We would like to greet each *Evangel* reader on this, the first Lord's Day of 1964, with a sincere "Happy New Year." Our wish for you is that which the apostle wrote so long ago in 3 John 2. In the Amplified New Testament it reads: "Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in every way and [that your body] may keep well, even as [I know] your soul keeps well and prospers." May this be a prayerful year, a faith-filled year, a Christ-centered year.

This is the fiftieth year of the Assemblies of God. During this golden anniversary year may we all seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness, so that all the things we need may be added unto us. Not all we want, perhaps, but all we need. God has been gracious in the past. He wants to help us still more in the future.

1964 may be the year of our Lord's return. When He appears may He find us putting first things first, keeping spiritual things uppermost above all material considerations; for "the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost" (Romans 14:17). Notice the inspired order of the words: righteousness comes first, and the work of righteousness shall be peace. If only the world could realize this!

Romaine's new year wish for his people was, "God grant that this may be a year famous for believing." There is an old story about a steamboat that was caught in a storm one night. It could make very little headway, and a nervous passenger said to the captain, "Do you think we can make it?" The old captain replied: "This is a leaky old hull, and we may go down. The boilers are not in the best condition, so we may go up. But whatever happens, we're going on." There may be some storms in 1964 which call for strong faith and rugged determination like that of the old sea captain. Let us remember that, although the waves may rise high around us, they cannot overwhelm us if we keep believing.

Possibly you are discouraged. You are tempted to feel guilty. You may have a sense of failure. This will handicap you in the new year until you cast it on the Lord and trust in His mercy.

A beautiful story is told about the headmaster of a certain boarding school who always had a party for his boys on New Year's Eve. He would get them seated in front of a big fireplace where they could enjoy the dancing flames, and then he would bring out a large book. At the sight of the book all faces would drop.

"Boys, here is the record of the past year," he would say. "You saw me write your names whenever you misbehaved or failed to do your lessons. We are going to make a new start for the new year. All the past is going to be forgotten." And he would toss the big book in the fire. You can imagine the cheer that would go up from the boys at this good news.

We know that God keeps books, but His Word declares that if we confess our sins to Him He will forgive them; He will cleanse us through the atoning power of the precious Blood. All our failures of the past can be consumed in the fire of His mercy.

Under the old covenant, the people ended the old year and began the new with the Day of Atonement. Let us, like believing Israel, enter this new year by faith bearing the atoning Blood. Thus we may safely pass within the veil of the unknown future.

—R.C.C.

*"We must resist the temptation to settle down"*

# Our Fiftieth Year

BY THOMAS F. ZIMMERMAN  
*General Superintendent, Assemblies of God*



FIFTY YEARS AGO THE PENTECOSTAL REVIVAL WHICH had begun around the turn of the century was in full swing. Hundreds of individuals throughout the United States and Canada had been blessed at the old Azusa Street Mission in Los Angeles, where God's power was falling, and many had gone out to take the message to the ends of the earth.

In April, 1914, approximately 300 persons met in Hot Springs, Arkansas, and formed a cooperative fellowship known as The General Council of the Assemblies of God. We are approaching the 50th anniversary of that historic occasion, so this is a good time to "stir up our pure minds by way of remembrance" (2 Peter 3:1) relative to the purpose of this Movement and to consider seriously the importance of the Pentecostal message in 1964.

The founding fathers of our Movement laid a foundation strong and sure. There is an illustrious history going back not only to 1914 but to the years that preceded the charter session. But we must not glory too much in the past lest we forget our situation today and the work that is yet to be done.

With this in mind, the Executive Presbytery of the Assemblies of God has called for a season of earnest prayer throughout the Fellowship during the coming week (January 5 to 12). Today we need, as never before, a special endowment of God's power.

We are happy to know that Pentecostal blessings are falling upon many of our fellow-Christians in old-line denominations. The attitude of many of these churches today is in marked contrast to the attitude they took toward the Pentecostal Baptism 50 years ago. We are seeing a fulfilment of God's promise to pour out His Spirit "on all flesh." This fulfilment of divine prophecy should encourage us to surge forward in our soul-winning activities knowing that the coming of the Lord is drawing near. It also should alert us to the ever-present danger of becoming self-satisfied and even complacent in our spiritual experiences.

Many of the denominations that are now enjoying a Pentecostal outpouring once slumped into the valley of self-sufficiency and turned their backs on a moving of the Holy Spirit. Revival fires had burned in these churches but they moved over to formalism, went through insti-

tutional and educational stages, and lost their spiritual life and spiritual usefulness.

We must resist the temptation to settle down. God has called us to be a Spirit-filled Movement. Our churches need to recognize the importance of the Sunday evening evangelistic service, and of the weekly prayer service, as well as daily Bible reading and prayer in individual and family life. What a pity if any should turn away from the richness of the Pentecostal experience to become like cold and formal groups who themselves are now seeking a moving of the Holy Spirit!

One of the factors in the growth of our Movement during its early years was the sense of urgency to evangelize the world. This same burden is needed for continued growth. World conditions are shaping up for the soon return of Christ. Fifteen years ago (in 1948) an important Bible prophecy was fulfilled with the establishment of the State of Israel. I wonder if we realize the significance of this event in God's prophetic calendar. Currently, the development of the Common Market in Europe is moving toward the fulfilment of other prophecies. The Vatican Council in Rome and the trend of the Ecumenical Movement throughout Christendom are other signs pointing to the soon return of Christ. These considerations demand a renewed fire on our hearts and an added thrust forward if we are to do the job to which God has called us.

Nothing short of a full mobilization, under God, and an overflowing portion of Holy Ghost power, will suffice. During our 49 (going on 50) years of existence a good organization has been built and efficient programs designed through the guidance of God's Spirit. But we must not depend on these, desirable though they are. Christ called men, not organizations or programs. He did not direct the disciples to pray that better and more efficient operational procedures might be thrust into the harvest fields; He told them to pray that *laborers* might be sent forth. The greatest need today is for men and women who will dedicate themselves to *labor* faithfully and wholeheartedly in the field to which they are called.

As one studies the history of the Assemblies of God and detects the patterns of growth, an interesting fact emerges. It has been immediately following the years of growth in the number of ministers that we have

shown the greatest growth in churches, in missionaries, and, most important, in souls won to Christ. We still need more God-called, Spirit-anointed workers throughout the United States and in many countries of the world.

There is definite work that all of us can do to fulfill God's purposes in this revival Movement.

*First*, we can all pray through again to a renewed Pentecost in our personal lives. God wants to give us more power and divine guidance for the day in which we live.

*Second*, we need a new understanding of the value of a soul and the terribleness of one being lost.

*Third*, we need to equip ourselves through prayer, reading of the Scriptures, and active participation in training courses, to win the lost.

*Fourth*, we need to get a new sense of the imminence of the return of Christ and to face up to the tasks that must be done without delay.

These are the things each of us can do as we work for God in this 50th anniversary year. ◀◀◀



1929

FIRST OF A SERIES OF REMINISCENCES—A 50TH ANNIVERSARY FEATURE

# 9 Remember . .

BY ERNEST S. WILLIAMS



1963

IN AUGUST, 1906, A YOUNG FRIEND and I were in the state of Colorado when we received letters telling of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit in Los Angeles. In September we went to Los Angeles, our home city, to see for ourselves what was happening.

My first visit to the Azusa Street Mission was on a Sunday morning. There I saw what I had never seen before. Although there was considerable inspiration in the meeting, it was the altar service at the conclusion that fascinated me. The front of the mission was packed with seekers and persons trying to assist them. Christians and unsaved spectators crowded around to see what was going on. Some at the altar were seeking to be filled with the Holy Spirit; others were worshipping God in unknown tongues. I looked on not knowing what to think. My heart was hungry for God. I knew God in the salvation of my soul, but was not satisfied. Were it not for the unsatisfied hunger I might have turned away, for I had been taught that entire sanctification and the baptism with the Holy Spirit were one. We called this the second blessing, conversion being the first. I began to read my Bible to see if it taught a third blessing.

On the brink of turning away, a great check came over my spirit and I felt that by resisting I was rejecting God. Then I began to seek earnestly.

In my first seeking I was not praying that I might be filled with the Spirit, but asking God if there was anything in my life that was not what He would have it be, or that was not given up to His will. Finding no condemnation, I began to seek the Baptism with the Spirit and on October 2 I received.

I had some wonderful experiences while I was seeking the Lord. The greatest, perhaps, came one week before I spoke in other tongues. I had tarried at the altar that night until all but two other persons were gone. It seemed that as I worshipped, God was taking hold of my flesh, not in physical manifestation, but in divine penetration. With it came such rest that I felt I could have remained at that altar the rest of my life.

At midnight I stood and said, "I have gotten something; what is it?" I was told, "You have received the anointing." That was all right with me, though I did not know what to name it. From that time until I reached the climax of my experience a week later, I walked in undisturbed and spiritual peace, feeling as though I were protected from any invasion by hills of God on either side.

This was my introduction into the Pentecostal Movement. A Holiness friend warned me that I had gotten into error and would soon find it out. Fifty-seven years have passed since then and I am still in the Pentecostal Movement, looking for the Lord to come to take His people home and, should He tarry, to be transported by the angels of God in the hour of death to be forever with the Lord.

\* \* \*

On January 7, 1964, Ernest S. Williams will be 79 years of age. An ordained minister in the Assemblies of God since 1914, he served as General Superintendent for 20 years (1929-1949).



## ANNIVERSARY CONVENTION

Springfield, Missouri

April 20-23, 1964

Make your plans now to attend the 50th Anniversary Convention of the Assemblies of God, which will begin with a great **Prayer Meeting** on Monday night, April 20, and continue through three days filled with Pentecostal fellowship and spiritual inspiration.

**Old-Time Fellowship Meeting** on Tuesday, April 21.

**Over 100 Workshops** on Wednesday and Thursday, April 22 and 23, designed to help every lay worker in the local church as well as the pastor, evangelist, or missionary.

**Mass Meeting** each night featuring outstanding speakers, special music, and challenging visual presentations.

Who will pick up their weapons and take their places in the ranks of prayer?

# When Old Warriors Pass On

WRITTEN BY ANNE SANDBERG

*Dedicated to All Veterans of the Pentecostal Faith*

RECENTLY I ATTENDED THE FUNERAL OF AN ELDERLY Christian friend. My tears mingled with those of relatives and fellow Christians. Relatives mourned the loss of a godly wife, mother or grandmother. Others like me wept because we had lost a saintly Christian friend.

But the mourning of the church should have been the greatest, because its loss was the heaviest. Another prayer warrior had departed, leaving a gap in the already too-thin ranks of men and women who "give themselves unto prayer."

In these days of the church's increasing involvement and dependence on organization and man-made programs, how few there are who fully appreciate the worth of a prayer warrior!

While the youth of the church rejoice over expanding programs and increasing membership, old saints lament declining standards and diminishing spiritual power. While the young people flock to Sunday school, the young married folk to the Sunday morning and perhaps evening services, it is the old saints who remain faithful to the midweek services and prayer meetings.

Think of your own church members. Who are the most spiritual? Who deploras the encroachments of the world into the very sanctuary of God? Who bears the burdens of the work of the Lord? Who cries, "Oh Lord, revive thy work in the midst of the years"?

Are they usually not the old-timers who experienced the glory and power and blessing of the Lord twenty, thirty, forty years ago? Because they saw miracles in their days, they know what prayer can do. Because they witnessed the glory of God mightily descend on a congregation after a night of prayer, they understand the value of fasting and prayer. Because they bowed under groanings which cannot be uttered or travailed with intercessions and supplications, they were not surprised at the conversion of sinners, the baptism of believers with the Holy Spirit, or the consecration of young people to foreign service. They saw the results of their prayer in victory over habits, in deliverances from Satanic bondages, and in lives transformed from carnality to holiness. And while they looked upon the glory of God on the faces of those over whom they had labored in prayer, they seemed unaware of the radiance that streamed from their own.

But now that so many churches depend more on human effort than on prayer, they scarcely weep over the departure of a praying saint.

The picture, however, is not quite so dark. There still are ministers who realize that the most valuable assets of the Church are her intercessors. And because they

do, they cooperate with the Holy Spirit in encouraging the younger members to prepare to fill the gaps left by departing saints.

How wise is the minister who understands that he must cultivate and develop in any member so inclined this greatest of all talents: the high and holy task of making prayers, intercessions, supplications "for all saints" (Ephesians 6:18) and for "all men" (1 Timothy 2:1).

It would be a woeful day for the Church should the last prayer warrior depart and leave the Assembly with none to replace him. But God has foreseen the danger and has Himself been laboring over "trainees" who are willing to be taught the mighty art of prayer.

When Moses went up into the mount of God (Exodus 24:13) he took with him "his minister Joshua." Young and inexperienced though Joshua was, yet what glories must have been relayed to him by the old saint Moses! And later, when Moses entered into the tabernacle over which hung the cloud of God's presence, where "God spoke to him face to face, as man speaketh to his friend," Joshua was there—watching, learning, praying.

"But Joshua, the son of Nun, a young man, departed not out of the tabernacle" (Exodus 33:11).

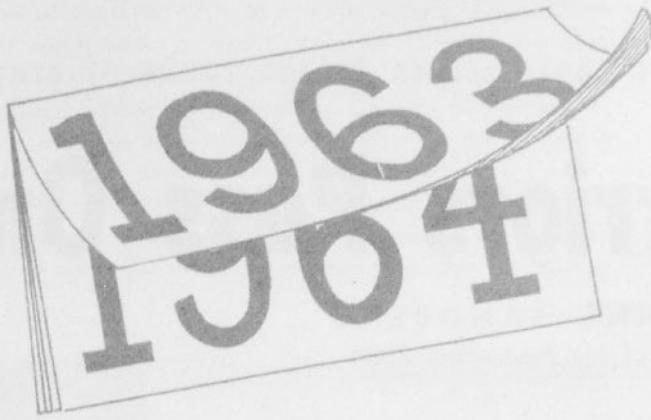
Thank God for all the young Joshuas who linger at the Sunday night altar services. The Lord be praised for everyone who, while others leave the altar early to stand in the vestibule of the church chatting of mundane things, remain on their knees battling in prayer. For these "Joshuas" are unconsciously being clothed with the armor of God and armed with the Sword of the Word which will fit them to step into the ranks of God's departing men of war.

"When the saints go marching in," thank God there will always be a few who remain to go "marching on," to take up the old warriors' challenge:

*As, one by one, old warriors go—  
Who fought and struggled 'gainst the foe—  
Whose prayers relieved another's woe,  
And won Christ's victories below—*

*Who fills the vacancy they make?  
Who will the path of ease forsake?  
Who now the challenges will take:  
The powers of hell through prayer to break?*

*Who chooses things above to hoard  
And gladly now takes up the sword?  
No earthly comfort their reward;  
Far greater this: to please the Lord.*



# A YEAR TO

IT WAS A YEAR WE SHALL ALWAYS REMEMBER, 1963. AND the portion of it we shall remember most vividly was that dark Friday in November when the President of the United States was assassinated.

There were other murders in 1963, though none so infamous. In fact, the year probably set a new record for crimes. In the nine months ending September 30 there were 10 per cent more crimes committed in the U. S. than in the same nine months of 1962.

True, church membership continued to be popular. At year's end there were 117,946,002 members of churches, synagogues, and other places of worship, according to the latest *Yearbook of American Churches* released by the National Council of Churches. This represented 63.4 per cent of the total population, the same percentage as a year ago.

But there were many signs of deterioration in the moral character of the American people. They spent more on pleasures, gambled more, smoked more cigarettes, drank more liquor. "Alcoholism is an epidemic," said W. A. Scharffenberg, executive secretary of the International Commission for the Prevention of Alcoholism. "Of the nearly 6,000,000 known alcoholics in the country, we will bury 350,000 before the year is out."

For those who served the Lord, however, it was a year of blessing. In churches, Sunday schools, camp meetings, and conventions God poured out His Spirit in a gracious measure. Glowing reports came from camps and council meetings all over the country. The General Council at Memphis was called "the best yet." Biennial reports told of good progress in the various departments of the Assemblies of God. One cause for concern was the small increase in total church membership.

1963 was the year for sounding a new call to evangelism. Men's Fellowship responded by launching "invasion teams" to go from door to door winning souls to Christ. The Christ's Ambassadors responded by distributing more than 3,500,000 copies of *Chicken*, a hard-hitting tract for the unsaved. The urgency of gospel tract work was made all the more evident by the fact it was a tract about Communist spies, falling into a teen-ager's hands, that led him to become fascinated with Communism and to end up as the accused murderer of President Kennedy.

For C.A.'s it was the year of the first National Bible Quiz. It saw new records made in BGMC, Light-for-the-Lost, Speed-the-Light, and other missionary projects. It went down in history as the year when Royal Rangers rocketed into a strong boys program with over a thousand outposts.

During 1963 magazines of every faith were publishing articles about a spreading movement which some called a Charismatic Revival. Others called it The New Pentecostalism or they pinpointed one feature of it by using the Glossalalia label. Not only Protestant magazines, but Roman Catholic journals such as *Extension* and *America* too, carried articles on the gifts of the Spirit and Pentecostal manifestations. The Holy Spirit was working in thousands of lives in many churches of Episcopal, Lutheran, Methodist, Baptist, and other denominations making the Lord Jesus Christ more gloriously real. There was a return to New Testament experience as indicated by transformed lives, radiant witnessing for Christ, miraculous answers to prayer, and new power in soul winning.



CHIEF JUSTICE EARL WARREN (left) of the U. S. Supreme Court accepted at his home the 20th anniversary poster for the Worldwide Bible Reading program sponsored by the American Bible Society. Photo shows Mr. Everett Smith, the Society's President, making the presentation as Mrs. Warren looks on. The Bible-reading program, promoted from Thanksgiving to Christmas, was one of the Bible Society's methods of projecting the Scriptures into millions of lives in 1963.

"It is good to know that the Bible is still the world's best selling book, and it should also be the best read," the Chief Justice said in accepting the poster.

# REMEMBER

The movement was not without opposition. Church leaders in a number of denominations raised their voices to warn against the Pentecostal doctrine.

One woman, while praying alone in her home, was filled with the Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as recorded in Acts 2:4. In December she wrote to the *Evangelist*, having just seen her first copy of this magazine. She was delighted to find a magazine that fitted into the experience God had given her, but puzzled as to why her pastor could not see that her experience was Scriptural.

A Minneapolis congregation was expelled from its denomination because its pastor and some members were engaging in "speaking in tongues" and other "Pentecostal-type practices."



AT WASHINGTON, D. C., Congressmen received a flood of protests against the ruling handed down by Chief Justice Earl Warren and other members of the Supreme Court pertaining to religious exercises in public schools. Photo shows Rep. Frank S. Clark (D.-Pa.) carrying petitions containing 22,000 signatures. The petitions, circulated by Protestants, Catholics, P.T.A. and civic leaders asked that voluntary prayer and Bible reading be permitted in schools.

Mr. Clark is one of 35 House members who have introduced a resolution calling for a Constitutional amendment to override the Supreme Court decision.

At the same time there were many godly ministers and church officials in various denominations who felt this "new thing" was from God. In November 1963 a committee from the Protestant Episcopal Church spent two days in Springfield, Mo., talking with Assemblies of God officials concerning the gifts and manifestations of the Holy Spirit. It was reported the number of Episcopalians who had received the Pentecostal baptism was over 2,000 in the Los Angeles area alone.

Among other important events in 1963 was the Supreme Court's ruling of June 17 concerning prayers and Bible reading in the public schools. It touched off a wave of actions and reactions which were still making news headlines at year's end.

Billy Graham continued to make front-page news. In March, ailing health kept him from participating in scheduled Asian crusades, although his associates continued and saw thousands reached for Christ. But God restored health to the evangelist and in September he went to Los Angeles for his biggest and most successful crusade.

The move toward church mergers continued. A plan was worked out in 1963 to merge the Evangelical United Brethren Church and The Methodist Church, possibly within five years. Other mergers were in the offing, not only in the U.S. but on a worldwide scale. The trend toward a vast world union of churches was brought home to Americans watching a television network on October 15 through a trans-oceanic panel discussion. Two churchmen in Rome, one in London, and two in Princeton, N. J., talked back and forth for nearly an hour, through the medium of telstar II. They discussed the international movement toward religious unity and some of the problems dividing the churches.

To the ecumenically minded, the big event of the year was the second session of the Vatican Council. Pope John, who had convened the first session in 1962, died in June 1963. His successor, Pope Paul, called prelates from all over the earth to convene for a second session. For ten weeks they debated ways to change the structure of the Roman Catholic Church and make it more compatible with the space age. Only two decisions were announced when they recessed: one concerning the duty of censoring material that is morally objectionable, and one concerning the use of modern languages instead of Latin in certain parts of the Mass. It was predicted that the slow-moving Council would continue until 1966 or later.

In May the U.S.S.R. continued its "anti-religious" drive in print... but the UNESCO Index of Translations for 1963 revealed that the Bible was still the world's most translated book.

By mid-1963 the world population reached 3,180,000,000. Statisticians reported, however, that growth of the Christian population was not keeping pace. Whereas in 1950 Christians made up about 33 per cent of the world population, by 1960 they dropped to 31 per cent, and in 1963 still less. If the same rate of decline continues, they said, by A.D. 2000 Christians will account for only about 20 per cent.

So this was a year to remember... a year of blessings that made us thankful... a year of sorrows that sent us to our knees... and a year of change that challenged us all to renewed faith and action for Christ in the months ahead.

—R.C.C.



JOHN F. KENNEDY 1917-1963

# A Great Man Is Fallen

BY LAMAR H. KYLE  
*New England, North Dakota*

THE UNTIMELY DEATH OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY RECALLS the assassination of Abner so long ago and reminds us of the cry of King David when he heard the sad news. The king cried, "There is a prince and a great man fallen this day" (2 Samuel 3:38).

Grief and dismay swept the country when the word went out that John F. Kennedy had been assassinated. First there was shock and disbelief; then there was sympathy for the first family's loss, and sorrow for our own. There was resentment and anger toward the man accused of the crime.

Some looked on him with pity, wondering how any man's mind could be twisted by Satan to such an extent that he would do this deed. Others were moved with contempt for him. One man reportedly was so enraged that he killed the accused in revenge.

Are there not some lessons we can learn from the events of those dark days, November 22 and 24? In the aftermath of the death of President Kennedy, the wounding of Governor Connally, the slaying of the policeman, J. D. Tippitt, and finally the murder of Lee Harvey Oswald, is it not fitting that every American do some sober thinking?

Many have said, "How could such things happen in this enlightened nation?" If they would look about them perhaps they would understand. The sin of this country is reflected in the unrestrained appetites for evil entertainment. Encouragements to immorality can be seen on every hand—on the newstands, in theaters, on television, in nightclubs, liquor stores, legalized gambling.

Violence and vileness have spread across the land. America is fast becoming a pagan nation. God is being shut out of our national life—not only by court decisions but by private decisions to forget God in individual and family life.

The average citizen's conscience is growing calloused and seared by carousing, self-indulgent, carefree living.

It is a Biblical principle that as we sow, so shall we reap. Perhaps America is just beginning to reap the harvest of its wickedness. Sin will bring reproach on any nation. It destroyed the Roman Empire. It plunged Babylon into ruin. It brought a great reproach on America those dark November days in the shooting of four men.

Another Biblical principle illustrated by these events is the deceitfulness of human nature. There are those who tell us that civilization, education, and culture will change society and cure the evils of human nature. Such is not the case. Unless a man's heart is changed his sinful nature may erupt at any time. The prophet Jeremiah declared, "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?"

No one who knew the young man accused of assassinating President Kennedy ever dreamed he was capable of such a crime. He did not look like a murderer. His acquaintances considered him "different" but never supposed his frustrated feelings and hatred went so deep that he would commit murder. Only God knew, and only God could have changed him.

The same may be said about the man who killed the accused assassin. Hatred was in his heart also. He was unable to control his passions. When we let sin destroy our character it will lead us from bad to worse. An unregenerate man is capable of unspeakable transgressions. That is why God says, "A new heart also will I give you..." Nothing less than a New Birth, the miracle of regeneration by the Spirit of God, can change our hearts and make us holy in thought, word, and deed.

Finally, we see another Biblical principle illustrated in the tragic deaths of these three men. None of them had a minute's notice. Death struck suddenly, and when it struck nothing could save them. President Kennedy was a wealthy man but his riches could not help him when the death angel called. He was a man with great political power and world prestige but neither position



nor popularity could save him. He had expert medical help from specialists who did all they could to save his life but they failed. Even princes and great men fall sooner or later.

Death may come suddenly and unexpectedly to any of us, as surely as it came to these three men. Accidents happen every day. Heart diseases and others may strike suddenly. None of us know what a day or night may bring forth. This should be a grim reminder that "now is the day of salvation," for tomorrow may be too late.

"It is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment" (Hebrews 9:27). What will be our fate after death? This, after all, is the most pressing question any of us can face. If you have not prepared to meet your God, I pray that you will do so without further delay.

May God have mercy upon America. I understand the speech that President Kennedy prepared for delivery at a dinner in Dallas, but which he never delivered, contained the following quotation from the Bible: "Except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it. Except the Lord keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain" (Psalm 127:1). Will America learn the lesson? Will we turn away from our sin, self-will, and self-sufficiency and turn with all our hearts to Him who alone can save and preserve us a nation? ◀◀

## Never Quite Ready

By ROLLIN J. CARLSON  
*Ellensburg, Washington*

REGARDING THE TRAGIC END OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY'S life, news commentator Paul Harvey observed, "We are never quite ready for this type of thing; yet when the end of the world comes it will be just like this." Mr. Harvey drew an apt parallel, for Scripture teaches that the end of this age will catch people as unaware and unprepared as the events of that tragic day in Dallas. People will be left standing with their mouths open, aghast at the suddenness of the sound of the trumpet that ends God's day of grace.

"And this know, that if the goodman of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched, and not have suffered his house to be broken through. Be ye therefore ready also; for the Son of man cometh at an hour when ye think not" (Luke 12:39, 40).

During the past year there has been much controversy over the matter of prayer in public schools and other public places. The question was carried directly to the Supreme Court, and that body handed down the decision that this type of prayer is a violation of "individual freedom." Yet in times of national emergency and tragedy, such hair-splitting is forgotten and the first request that is made of the American people is, "Let us pray."

The stark tragedy that robbed our nation of its elected leader has produced questions for which it was not easy to find the answers; individuals looked for somewhere

to turn, and uncertainty filled the hearts of many with nameless fears.

Against this dark background God's Word points the way of security and blessing to a nation that calls itself Christian: "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land" (2 Chronicles 7:14). This is the hour for our nation to put this promise to the test.

Let Christians not pray in self-righteousness, but humbly, examining their own hearts and motives. It is as we identify ourselves with our nation that we can intercede for it and for ourselves most effectively. Daniel did this for his nation, praying, "O Lord . . . we have sinned, and have committed iniquity, and have done wickedly, and have rebelled, even by departing from thy precepts and from thy judgments: neither have we hearkened unto thy servants the prophets . . ." (Daniel 9:4-6).

Because we could not bear the awful knowledge of future events, God in mercy keeps it from us. At the same time He gives us enough of an outline of future events to guide our actions and attitudes. We do not know how soon the Lord will come, but we know that at this moment the door of God's grace is yet open to all who will come to Him.

Jesus says, "Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me" (Revelation 3:20). The Lord knocks, but we must open the door.

Do you want to respond, but wonder how? Here is the answer: "If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. For the Scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed. For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him. For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved" (Romans 10:9-13).

You will never be quite ready, even for the events of this life, much less of eternity, until you have made your peace with God. ◀◀

## Ask What You Can Do . . .

By W. O. STEPHENS  
*Eufaula, Alabama*

OUR LATE PRESIDENT CONCLUDED HIS INAUGURAL ADDRESS in January 1961 with a statement which will go down in history: "And so, my fellow Americans: ask not what your country can do for you; ask what you can do for your country."

As a pastor I received a great challenge in meditating upon those words and applying them to our high calling as children of God. In these days before the coming of our Lord, every Christian should be asking not what God can do for him, but what he can do for God. The

church is engaged in bitter conflict with the enemy, and if we join in this fight we will be able to go forth rejoicing in the soon coming of our King and Saviour.

It is easy in these days of prosperity for Christians to forget the true meaning of their salvation and the purpose for which they were redeemed. There is a tendency to ask, "What will I get in return for my work for the Lord? What will God do for me if I do this for Him?" How unlike the spirit of Jesus which brought Him to earth, not asking what humanity could do for Him, but what He could do for fallen, suffering humanity.

"Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: but made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and . . . became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross" (Philippians 2:5-8).

"And whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant: even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many" (Matthew 20:27, 28).

"For I have given you an example, that ye should do

as I have done to you. Verily, verily, I say unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord; neither he that is sent greater than he that sent him" (John 13:15, 16).

It is easier to go to church seeking a blessing than it is to go seeking to be a blessing and a witness. But we are saved to witness of this great salvation, looking not for a reward in this life but in the life to come. "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord" (1 Corinthians 15:58).

Thank God for those who have heard the call of God to humble service and have gone to the battle for our Lord. Days are sometimes long, burdens sometimes heavy, and the battle hard against our common enemies, the world, the flesh, and the devil. But let us look up with renewed faith and courage and be about our Father's business, for the trump of God will shortly summon us to meet Him in the air, "and so shall we ever be with the Lord." In the time that remains to us, let us continue to ask not what our God can do for us, but ask what we can do for our God. ◀◀

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A TESTIMONY BY D. WILSON

## My Wonderful Priest

IN ITS VARIOUS RELIGIONS THE world has many priests, but there is only one Priest who has been ordained by God to appear before Him on behalf of men; and He is my Priest. Please allow me to tell you some of the wonderful facts about this Priest of mine.

First of all, He is the eternal Son of God who came into this world through the virgin Mary in order that He might become my Priest; for I need a priest, and you need a priest. Because we are sinners, not one of us can approach God on his own behalf. We need one like ourselves, yet without sin, and equal with God, who can go into the presence of God on our behalf. Such is my Priest.

Secondly, my Priest is a true Man who lived in this evil world long enough to experience the trials of life, and to endure its bitter hatred for God, even unto the terrible death of the cross. As He is now in heaven, my Priest can sympathize with me and help me as I go through the trials of this life.

Thirdly, my Priest has so thoroughly purged away my sins, by shedding His blood and suffering vicariously during the three hours of darkness, that He has "sat down" on the right hand of the Majesty on high. All other priests are kept standing day after day because they *cannot* purge the sins of their followers. My Priest put away my sin by the sacrifice of Himself. Then He arose from the dead and ascended on high to make His sacrifice count for me.

Fourthly, as my Priest is alive for ever more (not as a spirit, but as a man), He is able also to save to the uttermost all that come unto God by Him, seeing He ever liveth to make intercession for them. He is in the presence of God, His Father, and as such is the sure Anchor of my faith. No wonder Paul said, "I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day."

Fifthly, my Priest sympathizes with me in my daily trials, and is always

willing and able to help me, for He is seated on a throne of grace to which He invites me to come *boldly*, that I may obtain grace to help in time of need. He knows my every thought, word and deed; so I need not try to hide anything in order to obtain mercy.

Sixthly, my Priest is my Forerunner, who has gone on ahead to tell the citizens of heaven that I am coming, and to prepare an abiding place for me. As He is a Priest for ever, those who have Him as their Priest are safe for ever, and sure of enjoying His presence for ever.

Seventhly, my Priest is changeless. "Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, and today, and for ever." I can trust in Him and not be afraid. As the Divine Priest He is Almighty. As the Human Priest He is sympathizing. As the Eternal Priest He is able to save for ever. Read about Him in the Book of Hebrews; and then turn to the Gospels for a full-length portrait of Him.

No other can save you (Romans 10:9).  
—Old Faith Contender

*"It cost me my last dollar, but . . ."*

A COWBOY ONCE CAME FROM THE Western plains into town. As he walked down the main street he passed the window of a taxidermist. The mounted birds and animals attracted his attention so he stopped to look.

Then he noticed, on a perch in a cage, a live eagle. It was a magnificent bird. For a while he stood and gazed at this eagle. Then he went inside.

"How much do you want for that bird?" he asked the taxidermist.

"Oh, that eagle would cost you a lot," was the answer, and the man named his price.

The cowboy said, "I don't know whether I am able to find that much." He went through all his pockets. Then he asked, "Will you take all I have? I have no more."

The man counted the money and said, "That's good enough! Yes, the eagle is all yours."

Eagerly, the cowboy went to the eagle and undid the chain. Taking the bird carefully he carried him outside, up the street, until he was just out of town. He walked over to a fence and put the eagle on top of it. Then he stepped back, took off his big cowboy hat, and began waving it. The eagle lifted his head, caught sight of the sun, ruffled his feathers, then extended his huge wings and away he flew, up and up.

Some folk who had watched the cowboy come to him and asked, "What did you do that for?"

"Well," he said, "I live out in the open, and I have seen these eagles out enjoying their great freedom. I couldn't bear to see that bird chained. It cost me my last dollar, but I wanted to set him free."

One day our Lord Jesus saw us captive, chained, and bound, so He came and gave all that He had for our freedom. That is the great aim of the gospel: to deliver men from bondage.

There are so many bondages: evil habits, passions, fears, guilt. But Jesus said, "If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed." And again, "And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." The truth of which Jesus spoke



## ***Life Without Chains***

BY MICHAEL P. HORBAN

is the blessed message of deliverance given us in His holy Word.

When men believe this gospel they are set at liberty; they begin life anew. By the New Birth they become new creatures in Christ. A new day dawns! They are not dominated by the world, the flesh, and the devil, but they walk in the freedom of the children of God. They can say with the hymn writer:

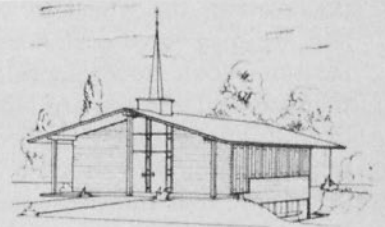
"My chains fell off. My soul was free.

I rose, went forth, and followed Thee."

No one is really free until the power of sin is broken in his life. And no sinner can extricate himself. He needs outside help. Efforts of moral reform will always fail. No man has what it takes to deal with the bondage of sin. Only Jesus can bring release. When He was born, the angel said, "Thou shalt call his name Jesus: for he shall save his people from their sins" (Matthew 1:21). And He does! All who believe on Him, and receive Him, obtain full forgiveness, a new nature, and a glorious liberty. It works; it is a fact, as the lives of Christians of all ages testify.

This is authentic freedom—life without chains. If you are not enjoying this kind of life but are still a captive to sin, like the eagle in the cage, your Liberator waits to set you

free. Why not receive this new life for the new year? It is God's gift to you if you will take it. ◀◀



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*Signs of the times tell us this may be the year  
the world's darkness suddenly turns to day  
by the coming of the Sun of Righteousness.*

# Will He Come in '64?

BY GORDON CHILVERS

IT IS A GOOD THING TO WORK WITH one eye on the clock if it is God's clock we are watching. In His Word He has given us clear guidance on the conditions that will prevail when the midnight hour strikes.

Our Lord has promised to return for His second advent and He has told us something about the kind of world this will be at that time. He said: "As the days of Noe were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be" (Matthew 24:37).

So we look first at conditions that prevailed in the world in Noah's day that we may have a standard of comparison. Noah stood out in contrast to the gross darkness around him. He lived in an extremely wicked age. God calls attention to this time and again. "God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually" (Genesis 6:5). So corrupt was the world that "it repented the Lord that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart" (Genesis 6:6). Then a little lower down we get this statement: "The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence. And God looked upon the earth, and, behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted his way upon the earth" (Genesis 6:11, 12).

All of men's thoughts were wicked. The description that we have here is not of an occasional day, but of every day. It was a most appalling world in which to live and serve God.

Noah's age was marked by indifference. Our Lord says of the days that were before the flood: "They were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day

that Noah entered into the ark" (Matthew 24:38). They were interested in pleasures and had no thought of God. Planting and building were their dominant interests; these operations show that people expected to be here for a long while to come. They were not expecting a cataclysm, but a continuance of things exactly as they had been. These occupations are not evil in themselves, yet the fact that they engaged in nothing else shows that they had forgotten God and completely ignored His warnings. Apart from his family no one believed Noah even though, as Peter tells us, he was "a preacher of righteousness" (2 Pet. 2:5).

Indifference led to ignorance, and, as Peter says, it was wilful ignorance (2 Peter 3:5). The people could have known God's purposes for the world, but they refused to listen when God's spokesman Noah revealed this truth to them.

A moment's thought confirms the resemblance between that period and ours. We still see men more interested in building, planting, marrying, and giving in marriage than they are in the things of God. The spiritual character of the last days is clear.

Moral character has fallen to a dangerously low level. Newspapers, radio, and television all confirm the fact. Murders are commonplace; largescale armed bank robberies are frequent; rape and sex crimes were never so high. Sad to say, the criminals often escape justice although the cost of crime detection is always increasing. Juvenile crime has reached a peak. The average age of the criminal is getting lower and lower; some murderers are only ten years old. What makes matters even worse is that

young people ask why they should not commit crimes!

Indifference to the claims of Christ is a mark of the sixties. The words, "I couldn't care less," adequately sum up the general attitude of people today. So many will not listen to the preaching of the gospel or read a tract, let alone read their Bibles. There is no more thought today of Christ's return than the earlier generation had of the flood.

So there is a complete ignorance of what God has done or is doing today. In a recent poll it was found that the vast majority of people do not even know the names of the four Gospels. Their knowledge of their contents must be little if anything. They can have the Bible in their hands so theirs is wilful ignorance.

We may expect ridicule. Peter foretold it: "There shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, and saying, Where is the promise of his coming?... For this they willingly are ignorant of, ... the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished" (2 Peter 3:3-6). A leading dramatist ridiculed Christianity in these words: "Popular Christianity has for its emblem a gibbet, for its chief sensation a sanguinary execution after torture, for its central mystery an insane vengeance brought off by a trumpery expiation." It may be that ridicule will not rear its ugly head in the blatant ways of an earlier decade, but it is present even if more secret.

Darks days are to be expected, and certainly dark days are here. We know therefore that the great event which this darkness heralds must take place soon. While we cannot but be sad at the wickedness of this world,

we nevertheless find joy in the knowledge that Christ's return is so near.

Our Lord Jesus said words which are not only a source of comfort to us today, but which also give the right focus to our attention: "Let not your hearts be troubled: . . . I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also" (John 14:1-3).

Having indicated the character of the day when His return could be expected, our Lord then gives us this injunction: "Watch therefore." Like the Thessalonian Christians of Paul's day we have "turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God; and to wait for his Son from heaven" (1 Thessalonians 1:9, 10). As we love the Saviour and are ready to receive Him, His return is the most joyful event that we can expect to take place immediately.

We must give attention to the events around us, for they are most revealing. Our Lord is to be expected, and soon. No one can deny that these are dark days, but our Lord's prediction lightens the gloom. The day will soon dawn when "we which are alive and remain shall be caught up . . . to meet the Lord in the air" (1 Thessalonians 4:17). Then we shall leave the darkness of earth's night once and for all and pass to the bright sunshine of our Lord's personal presence for ever.

It is the season when we see these things "begin to come to pass" that we are to lift up our heads because our "redemption draweth nigh" (Luke 21:28). There can be no doubt that we are already living in such a period.

Dr. Campbell Morgan, stressing the encouragement to be derived from our knowledge of the imminence of Christ's return, said: "To me the Second Coming is the perpetual light on the path which makes the present bearable. I never lay my head on my pillow without thinking. Maybe before morning breaks the final morn may have dawned! I never begin my work without thinking. Perhaps He may interrupt my work and begin His own. This is now His word to all believing souls, till He come. We are not looking for death; we are looking for Him."

A clergyman was discussing events with Dr. Batol of Boston. At length the clergyman said: "Doctor, do you expect to die?"

The old man's face lighted up and

he replied: "Why, no. Do you?" We look not for death, but for Him.

Is it possible that this event will take place before another day passes? Robert Murray McCheyne once said to some friends: "Do you think Christ will come tonight?" One after another said: "I think not." When all had

given this answer he solemnly repeated this text: "In such an hour as ye think not, the Son of man cometh" (Matthew 24:44).

So we continue "looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ" (Titus 2:13).

BY KATHERINE BEVIS

## TOMORROW IS NOW!

A NEW YEAR LIES BEFORE US. ITS OPPORTUNITIES challenge us; yet with all the promise a new year brings, we will not be drastically different from what we were in 1963. For life is made up of gradual advancements, not of layers of years stacked neatly one on top of another.

It is true that we can tell the age of a tree by the number of rings which make up its trunk, but human experience is not so well defined. There are no definite markings to prove that one is exactly 20, or 40, or 50 years old. The date of birth is the only standard we can go by in this matter. Our development is gradual, imperceptible, constant. This continuity means that we are always in process, always becoming, always undergoing change.

What we are today is determined by what we were yesterday! Each day's experience contributes to the foundation on which our tomorrows are built. Thus 1964 will be little different from 1963 except that that which has been developing will become intensified and multiplied. We can only develop and advance as we learn to use what the Lord has given us. We must not wait for some brighter tomorrow to better our condition or polish our talent. Tomorrow is *now*! The Lord can use us *now*, and we can improve as we work. What we do not use we lose. Set a goal for your life and trust God to help you accomplish the desire of your heart, by using that which you have, right where you are.

A ship had been lost at sea for many days before it was finally sighted by a friendly vessel. From the mast of the ill-fated ship was seen the signal, "Water! We die of thirst!"

The friendly ship answered back, "Cast down your bucket where you are."

As if they did not comprehend, or could not believe, a second and a third time the signal came from the ailing ship: "Water! Water! We die of thirst."

Again the friendly ship answered: "Cast down your bucket where you are."

The captain of the distressed vessel at last, heeded the message, cast down his bucket, and brought it up full of fresh sparkling water from the mouth of the Amazon River.

Let us learn from this story. Too many times we feel that our talents are so small, that we have so little to offer, and we should wait for a better opportunity.

For most of us the majority of the days of this New Year will be rather ordinary. We will work and play, laugh and cry, pray and worship, and perform the routine of daily living. Yet these days are all a part of God's timetable. He has the year planned and knows what will be best for each one of us, thus the best resolution we can make and keep throughout the year is this: "I resolve, by God's help, to keep communication channels with heaven open, by using that which God has given me, right where I am, right now."

God knows our talents! He knows what we are capable of doing. And He wants us to utilize that which we have right where we are. So shall we live each new day to the full—glorifying God and encouraging each other.

A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!



Answered by Ernest S. Williams

## YOUR QUESTIONS

*In 1 Corinthians 14:27 Paul says, "If any man speak in an unknown tongue, let it be by two, or at the most by three, and that by course; and let one interpret. Does this include any speaking in tongues during an altar service?"*

In the altar service those present are seeking the Lord either in prayer or worship. There should then be freedom to worship in an unknown tongue since such would be directed toward God and not to the other worshipers. This is different from giving a message which should be interpreted for the enlightenment or encouragement of others.

*Please explain Galatians 4:21-31.*

In verse 24, Paul used Hagar and Ishmael, Sarah and Isaac, as an allegory, or illustration, of the relationship between the dispensations of Law and Grace. The dispensation of Law which began at Sinai, he compares to Hagar, a bondwoman. Ishmael typifies those begotten through the Law. He likens Sarah to the present dispensation, and her son Isaac to those born under grace. He then concludes, "Cast out the bondwoman and her son: for the son of the bondwoman shall not be heir with the son of the free woman."

In this passage Paul shows that we are not living under the dispensation of the Law, to be saved by the Law, but are living in the dispensation of Grace through faith in Christ.

*Since the Jews were the means of crucifying Jesus, are they still the chosen people of God?*

Some believe we who are believers are spiritual Israel and there will not be any revival of natural Israel, that it is "we who are of faith [that] are blessed with faithful Abraham."

Paul deals with both the rejection and restoration of Israel in Romans 9-11. In chapter nine he shows their privileges and their rejection. In chapter ten he shows that their rejection was because of their unbelief. In chapter eleven he shows that their rejection is not to be permanent (v. 11). A fullness of blessing awaits them (v. 12). This fullness will include the many promises of blessing found in the Old Testament. See Isaiah 2:2-4; chapter 11; Amos 9:13-15. They will accept Christ and repent when He comes again (Zechariah 12:10 to 13:1). "And so all Israel shall be saved" (Read Romans 11:25-29). There will be a national restoration.

*Are children of unsaved parents lost if they die in infancy?*

It was under St. Augustine that the doctrine developed that all children were in Adam when he sinned, and therefore they were guilty of his sin and lost. Should they die in infancy they would go to hell. This doctrine was approved by the Catholic Church and some forms of it carried over into Protestantism. Augustine saw the severity of the doctrine, so advanced the teaching that children of believers might become children of the covenant by means of baptism; thus, should baptized children die in infancy they would be saved.

The more general belief is that because "where there is no law there is no transgression," young children who are not conscious of breaking any commandment of God would be saved if they die in innocency. This is in keeping with the words of Jesus, "Suffer little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God" (Luke 18:16).

I do not believe innocent children go to hell.

*If you have a spiritual problem or any question about the Bible, you are invited to write to "Your Questions," The Pentecostal Evangel, 1445 Boonville Ave., Springfield, Mo. 65802. Brother Williams will answer if you send a stamped self-addressed envelope.*

# AN OPEN DOOR

By SUE SCHAEFFER

JESUS SAID, "I KNOW THY WORKS: behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it" (Revelation 3:8). One of Paul's joys was to recognize an open door of service. "When I came to Troas to preach Christ's gospel," he wrote, "a door was opened unto me of the Lord" (2 Corinthians 2:12). At one time or another most of us have prayed for an "open door." Sometimes the knob is in our hand, and if we only have faith to turn it we may find the opportunity we are seeking.

Progress was slow in the new pastorate we had taken. The church was smaller and less active than what we were accustomed to. The change was difficult and we were discouraged. One day I knelt in heaviness of heart and prayed earnestly that the Lord would "open a door" for us. What I really meant was for God to move us. I visualized a completely new field of labor, grand with opportunities—and, yes, a little more prestige. No sooner had I uttered my plea than two majestic doors swung gently open before my eyes. I caught my breath

The author is the wife of Raymond Schaeffer, pastor of the Assembly of God in Velma, Okla.

in awe at their beauty. For a fleeting second I thought God was answering my prayer the way I really meant it.

Even as I strained for a clear view the big doors in all their grandeur vanished. In their place appeared two rough, ugly, unpainted doors. As I waited in submission the doors swung open. A golden harvest field waved in the sunlight. The rustling of the grain modulated to a buzz, and the bending wheat began to take the form of people. There were teen-agers, alert and challenged, searching for a leader. Men and women were stumbling and reaching for help. I recognized people there that I had thought could not be reached.

My vision ended and tears flowed unchecked. This golden harvest, ready to reap, was in our own community. I felt jubilant. The transition from discouragement and discontentment came from the knowledge that we were needed, and without the move I half expected when I prayed for an open door.

Jesus said, "I am the door." We must gain entrance to the new and abundant life through Him first. Only then can we trust His guidance to lead us on. There are those who prefer that God should furnish revolving doors so they could scan the potentialities and then keep going if they did not like what they saw inside. However, if we have really learned to trust Him, it is enough to know He is the doorkeeper.

The next time you pray for God to open a door of service for you, consider the Christian imperative, "Go ye into all the world." "All the world." includes the place right where you are. However crude the doors, opened in faith they may become the entrance to a fruitful but neglected field of service. ◀◀

Our salvation is in Christ Jesus; not in the life which He lived; not in the words which He taught—but in the death which He died. He made, in His death, one sacrifice for sins forever. It was all-inclusive; it was all-efficacious; it was all-sufficient. It was a sacrifice for all the sins of all men everywhere who will believe. Nothing can possibly be added to that sacrifice.

It completely satisfied God. The divine satisfaction is indicated by the fact that Christ is now seated at the right hand of God.

## A YEAR UNTRIED

A year untried before me lies,  
What it shall bring of strange surprise,  
Or joy, or grief, I cannot tell;  
But God my Father knoweth well.  
I make it no concern of mine.  
But leave it all with Love Divine.

Be sickness mine, or rugged health,  
Come penury to me, or wealth;  
Though lonesome I must pass along,  
Or loving friends my way may throng;  
Upon my Father's word I rest,  
Whatever shall be will be best.

The sun may shed no light by day,  
Nor stars at night illumine my way;  
My soul shall still know no affright,  
Since God is all my life and light.  
Though all the earthly lamps grow dim,  
He walks in light who walks with Him.

O year untried!—thou hast for me  
Naught but my Father's eye can see;  
Nor canst thou bring me loss or gain,  
Or health or sickness, ease or pain,  
But welcome messenger shall prove  
From Him whose name to me is Love!

—R. M. Offord

Join the

## CENTRAL BIBLE INSTITUTE BIBLE LANDS TOUR

SAILING MARCH 4, 1964

Pastor T. Kermit Jeffrey says . . .



"My trip to the Bible lands with the CBI tour group was a never-to-be-forgotten experience. We went as students rather than as tourists, and discovered a new dimension in Bible understanding. Calvary Temple (San Jose, California) had a spiritually renewed man when its pastor returned to the pulpit."

For information write to:

**CBI BIBLE LANDS TOUR**  
Robert Cooley, Director

Central Bible Institute  
Springfield, Mo. 65802



Venezuelan Bible school student Ramon Bejarano is thrilled to see the new building going up.

# Miracle at Caracas

BY MRS. ELMER C. NILES  
*Missionary to Venezuela*

"IT'S LIKE SEEING A DEAD MAN RESURRECTED BEFORE MY eyes!" Ramon Bejarano, third-year student at the Caracas Bible school, echoed my sentiments, for the sight we were beholding was far different from the one which greeted me on my arrival in Venezuela in 1960.

I can still vividly remember how shocked I was when I first saw the Caracas Bible school. The building was badly run down and part had already been torn down so a new one could be built. However, all that existed of the new structure was part of a high wall not far from the original building. A pile of debris several feet high was strewn over a large area of the property. Evidently it had been like this for some time.

Someone with vision had started to build but had not been able to finish. Why? I was told this story:

Missionaries had first realized the need of a new Bible school several years previous to my coming to the country. The city of Caracas had granted them a large piece of land at the outskirts of the city on condition that a building be started within four months and finished within a year from date of the building permit. If these conditions were not met the property would revert to the municipality.

The Bible school director and students worked in their spare hours to dig a foundation and start the lines of blocks of the new school. Later permission was secured to build on the grounds on which the institute already stood, and a second attempt was made to construct a new school. Part of the original building was torn down and a new wall begun on one side of the property. The city was to haul away the debris gratis.

However, they did not finish this task. And this is the way things were when I arrived.

It was not long before I discovered the real obstacle to the building project! He was the city engineer. We went to every individual possible in order to bypass him, but we were always forced back to his office. He had the final word in the decision to build.

Many people prayed with us for a new Bible school building, and for years we tried to sell the old property. But no buyer appeared. The first indication that God was answering our prayers came when we finally found a buyer.

We had tried to pay taxes on the property at the edge of town, but the city insisted that our time limit had elapsed and the property was no longer ours. So now that



For a discouraging period the building stood barely started, delayed by many problems. . . . Now under way, construction moves rapidly.





we had a buyer for the old property we had to look for another place on which to build. We began our search.

As we were looking, we accidentally discovered that someone had tried to obtain the plot at the city limits which we had formerly purchased. They were told the land still belonged to us. We investigated and found the property was still in our name. If we would immediately make plans for a building we could still have it, we were told!

We had a buyer for the original property, and some money with which to start building, plus a plot of ground. But we did not have a building permit.

We hired a contractor to obtain the permit for us, thinking the city engineer would not dare illegally refuse him permission. We were wrong!

Plans were turned down, ridiculous demands were made of us, and land was removed from the plot. "Come back next month," we were told; and then, "Change this." When it was changed we were told, "No, you misunderstood me. You must change this part." Change after change was made, and four months passed with still no hope of obtaining permission.

In the meantime we were all desperately praying. One person told me, "I have been praying that God will take that man's life if he continues to obstruct the way." (Peter would still cut off the ear of his opponents!) The rest of us were asking God to do that which was necessary to secure the permit.

"I don't understand this," the contractor said. "I have been in this work for years and have never experienced anything like this. I have many buildings I can build, and would not fool with this one except that I am a stubborn individual. When they deny me without reason, it makes me all the more determined to win."

But one day he said to himself, "If I don't get the



When uninterrupted construction finally began in May, four happy men officiated at a dedication service. Left to right, they are: Venezuelan Vice-Superintendent Juan Alfaro, Secretary Lucidio Rivero, Bible School Director Elmer Niles, and Field Superintendent William Stepp.

## WANTED: TOOLS FOR TRAINING

### POWER TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT IN GOOD CONDITION

are needed at the Assemblies of God Industrial School in South India where Mrs. Robert Edwards is superintendent.

The industrial school provides vocational training for boys and girls in a Christian environment. Anyone wishing to donate equipment to the school should write to the Foreign Missions Department describing the equipment, its condition and location, and its approximate value. Specific instructions for shipment to a central point for forwarding overseas will then be given.

Equipment needed can be either with or without electric motors. If motors are supplied, 220-volt 50-cycle are most needed. Sixty-cycle motors are acceptable but are not as durable. Equipment having motors of one-half horsepower or less may be 110-volt, 50 or 60 cycles. Specific equipment needed is listed below.

#### MECHANICS SECTION

Multipurpose lathe, surface grinder, tool grinder, electric drilling machine, one set of precision tools, drills, straight shank, taper shank.

#### AUTOMOBILE SECTION

Reboring machine, valve grinding machine, valve, seat and face cutters, pullers for pulleys, hubs, etc., crank pins cutter, valve lifters for side valve and overhead valve, scrapers, air compressor, spray gun, grease gun, oil gun and other equipment for lubrication, big hydraulic jack, arc welding plant, nozzles for gas welding.

#### CARPENTRY SECTION

Floor-type circular saw machine, band saw machine (14 inch) and bigger one, wood lathe (with necessary tools), disc and belt sander, planes, marking gauges, dividers, various carpentry tools.

In addition, a number of smaller hand tools of various kinds are needed. The Foreign Missions Department will provide a detailed list on request.

permit today, I will give up." Feeling discouraged, he went to the engineer's office. To his astonishment a strange engineer was occupying the position. God had removed the hostile engineer and given us a replacement! No, the man had not been killed; he was on vacation.

The new engineer said, "Leave the plans with me for half an hour to review the measurements, and I'll let you know then." The contractor returned in the stated time and the engineer told him, "They are O.K. Permission granted!"

Now, as I view the Bible school, I can hardly believe my eyes. As each precious brick of the new building goes up, I know I am seeing a miracle. That's why I could agree heartily with Ramon that what we were experiencing was like seeing the dead resurrected. For we have seen the forces of the enemy in "high places" vanquished by the forces of light! This is a dead hope resurrected—years of discouragement erased.

We are starting the school year soon, very provisionally. Although we have permission to build and have begun construction, we still need money for a water tank. We must have a wall around the property for which we have only part of the money. (Because of political conditions in this country, it is presently dangerous to be without a wall.) We must have a kitchen, dining room, and classrooms. Urgency is upon us. We need your co-operation. Will you send an offering to the Foreign Missions Department, 1445 Boonville Avenue, Springfield, Missouri 65802, designated "Venezuela Bible School"?



EXECUTIVES OF ASSEMBLIES OF GOD AND  
PENTECOSTAL ASSEMBLIES OF CANADA CONFER

National leaders of the U.S. Assemblies of God and the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada, who met in joint executive session in Toronto, Nov. 22 and 23, are shown at left. Front row, left to right: Martin Netzel, General Treasurer, A/G; Dr. C. M. Wortman, General Secretary-Treasurer, PAOC; T. F. Zimmerman, General Superintendent, A/G; Tom Johnstone, General Superintendent, PAOC; Bartlett Peterson, General Secretary, A/G. Second row: C. H. Stiller, Executive Director of Home Missions and Bible Colleges, PAOC; C. W. H. Scott and H. S. Bush, Assistant General Superintendents, A/G; George Upton, Executive Director of Overseas Missions, PAOC; G. F. Lewis, Assistant General Superintendent, A/G; Philip Hogan, Executive Director of Foreign Missions, A/G; Bert Webb, Assistant General Superintendent, A/G; and James Montgomery, Executive Director of Youth, SS and MF Departments, PAOC.

# A Call to Prayer

TORONTO, ONTARIO — At the invitation of the executive officers of the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada, the executive officers of the Assemblies of God in the U.S. visited the Canadian headquarters at Toronto and participated in a two-day conference, November 22 and 23. The purpose of the meeting was to provide fellowship and opportunity for a general review of matters of mutual interest in all branches of church work.

This was the second annual meeting of the leaders of the two organizations. The next scheduled conference of its kind will be at Springfield, Mo., in October 1964.

There has always been a strong bond between the two bodies. There was a time when the work in Canada and the U.S. was carried on under one organization. After the Canadian Assemblies set up their own national headquarters there continued to be close fellowship with the American Assemblies. Leaders on both sides of the border have shown a strong desire to

continue the cooperation that is being enjoyed today, and have expressed the hope that in making future plans for expansion both bodies will coordinate their efforts more closely than ever.

Due to the fact that the majority of the Canadian Assemblies participate in the annual Week of Prayer, as do the American Assemblies, the brethren decided to issue a joint Call to Prayer. The statement, signed by Tom Johnstone, General Superintendent of the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada, and by T. F. Zimmerman, General Superintendent of the Assemblies of God in the U.S., reads as follows:

WHEREAS, in the grace and will of God, our Father, the executive officers of the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada and of the Assemblies of God, U.S.A., are met together in the interest of the cause of Christ; and

WHEREAS, a common burden is felt by all for a world now beset by indifference toward God, and crises among nations;

BE IT KNOWN AND DE-

CLARED that the assembled officers of the above-named Fellowships hereby issue a united call for fervent prayer and therewith proclaim that the week of January 5th to 12th, 1964, shall be set aside by our people and our churches as a WEEK OF PRAYER for the needs of the church, the entire world, and especially that all of God's people may make a new dedication and commitment for:

1. A deepening of our spiritual life that we may extend the influence of the home, the church and its institutions.
2. Divine help to safeguard in accordance with the Scriptures the present move of the Spirit as we seek to provide aggressive leadership, counsel and guidance to the many of other church affiliation who now experience the infilling of the Holy Spirit.
3. A continued outpouring of the Spirit and an experimental knowledge of a Spirit-filled life and holiness within our churches.
4. A renewed emphasis on an intensive program of evangelism in our North American churches.
5. The Lord of the harvest to send forth laborers who shall meet the need of our mission fields.
6. A renewed obedience to the command of the Scriptures that we as responsible citizens shall daily pray for those in governmental leadership (1 Timothy 2:1-3).

## WEEK OF PRAYER JANUARY 5-12, 1964

*Hitherto hath the Lord helped us . . . Wilt thou not revive us again?*



# Prayer Partners Share in REVIVALTIME'S Ministry

YOU CAN BE A PRAYER PARTNER WITH THE REVIVAL-  
*time* team.

There are many important ministries associated with the *Revivaltime* broadcast service. One of the most vital is that of the Prayer Partners' Fellowship, which prays daily for the urgent prayer requests sent to the office.

While everyone cannot be a preacher, yet each person can be a pray-er. The need for prayer is great today. Current events in the United States and around the world point to human frailty and moral degeneration. Wars and rumors of war continue; spiritual and physical weaknesses are widespread; death and despair are rampant; social and material problems are increased.

We are constantly reminded of the value of the prayer ministry. Hundreds of letters come daily to the *Revivaltime* office. A large proportion of these contain prayer requests for personal, church, and family needs of every description. Unbelievable problems face so many people, and prayer is the only means to solve most of them.

These needs are carefully considered. In 1957 the Radio Department initiated the *Revivaltime* Prayer Partners' Fellowship to share in prayer for the many burdens. This prayer program asks friends to obey the Biblical command, "Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ" (Galatians 6:2). Participation in this special phase of the broadcast ministry has grown until at present many thousands of individual persons and prayer groups pray daily for the urgent requests forwarded to them from *Revivaltime*.

Urgent prayer requests included in the daily mail are compiled and relayed to the Prayer Partners' Fellowship. Thus, once a month the prayer partners receive a prayer request folder with the names, addresses, and a summary statement about the prayer needs.

Unusual personal testimonies are sent to the prayer partners to encourage their faith. This testimony recently came from Kansas City, Missouri:

"I wrote you about my grandson-in-law. A few days after I requested your prayers, I received a letter from him saying he had planned to end his life."

But God intervened. On the brink of a nervous breakdown, the young man had a day of harrowing experiences. He received a call from the telephone company demanding payment for a \$75 bill; his car broke down, and the repairman said it could not be fixed; he was losing hope of obtaining a job for which he had applied.

"He could see his way out of nothing," the grandmother wrote.

"Then the telephone rang again—the phone company

had made an error. His bill was only \$7.50 instead of \$75; the garage called and said his car had only a broken axle and could be repaired for \$15; then the company to which he had applied for work called telling him the new job was his.

"He fell on his knees and gave thanks to God. Since that time, he has put his trust in the Lord."—H. M. R.

Thanks to God for His healing power came from Lexington, Nebraska:

"Last winter I asked you to pray for my niece who had cancer. The disease had spread to her whole system, and the doctors said they had done all they could. They said she had three months to live.

"About two months ago the cancer stopped draining. The doctor said if it started again she would go fast. However, the next time she went for an examination the doctor said in surprise that the cancer was all gone. Thank God for His wonderful works."—G. P.

The value of the prayer partners' faith ministry was illustrated also in a testimony from White Bay, Newfoundland. A lady wrote:

"I know and believe that prayer is real. About two years ago I wrote you for prayer for my little boy. He was four years old and could not even say 'Daddy.'

"Not long after I wrote you, he began to talk, and he has done wonderfully since that time. I thank God for it."—A. C.

Additional members are needed for this wonderful ministry of prayer through the *Revivaltime* Prayer Partners' Fellowship. You may become a member by filling in the attached coupon and mailing it with your letter to *Revivaltime*. You will receive the regular monthly current prayer requests for which you are to pray daily. You will truly be an important partner in the worldwide evangelistic ministry of *Revivaltime*.

## PRAYER PARTNERS FELLOWSHIP

- I want to join those who will be praying regularly during 1964 for the special requests sent to *Revivaltime*.
- I personally want to receive *Revivaltime* prayer requests each month in 1964.
- Send me ..... copies of the prayer requests each month for our group.
- Send list of prayer requests to the following. (Give names and addresses.)

SEND TO .....

ADDRESS .....

CITY ..... STATE ..... ZIP .....

NAME OF GROUP .....

- I am enclosing an offering for the support of *Revivaltime* wide radio ministry.

REVIVALTIME • Box 70 • Springfield, Mo. 65802



# John the Baptist's Testimony

Sunday School Lesson for January 12, 1964

ISAIAH 43:3, 4; JOHN 1:15-29

BY J. BASHFORD BISHOP

Our lesson text contains a threefold testimony.

1. *John the Apostle's Testimony Concerning Jesus* (John 1:14, 16-18). In the opening verses of his Gospel, John made emphatic and startling declarations concerning Christ. Said he: Christ is eternal, co-equal with God, of the very essence of God, a partner with God in the work of creation. He spoke of Christ as the "Word"—the expression of God, the representation of God. Our text sets forth Christ as:

(a) *The Incarnate Word*. "And the Word became flesh." The divine Son, not ceasing to be God, assumed a human body and a human nature through Mary and the miraculous agency of the Holy Spirit. Christ "dwelt among us" for some 33 years. He was "full of grace" which may be interpreted as divine love in action in His ministry, and "full of truth" which may be interpreted as divine light shining through His preaching and teaching. John further added, "We beheld his glory,"

for he had indeed been an "eyewitness of his majesty" (2 Peter 1:16). Finally, he stated that which is most wonderful and which completes the whole declaration: "And of his fulness have we all received." Those who "receive" Christ (John 1:12) do indeed partake of His divine nature and fullness. "And grace upon grace" is the correct rendering of "grace for grace" which means that there is a constantly flowing supply of His divine grace toward us for every occasion and need.

(b) *The Revealer of God*. Verse 18 is a paradox. No man has seen God as God actually is, said John; yet "the only begotten Son... hath declared him." The word *declared* means "expounded, interpreted, revealed what has been a mystery." And this Jesus did! So perfectly did Jesus in His person reveal God in all His glory that He could say in all truth: "He that hath seen me hath seen the Father."

2. *John the Baptist's Testimony Concerning Himself* (vv. 19-24). When asked by the delegation from the Pharisees if he was Elijah or the Messiah, John said, "I am the voice." His words would of course remind his questioners of the words from Isaiah 40:3, 4—words which they knew well. As it was the work of a herald to assemble the people and give out news, so it was John's mission to assemble the Jewish nation and to announce the coming of the Kingdom and the King, or Messiah.

How completely selfless was John, and what an example to every minister and witness! He as much as said, "Never mind me; mind my message!" John knew his mission was to call attention to Jesus and not to himself, and in true humility and faithful devotion he fulfilled that mission!

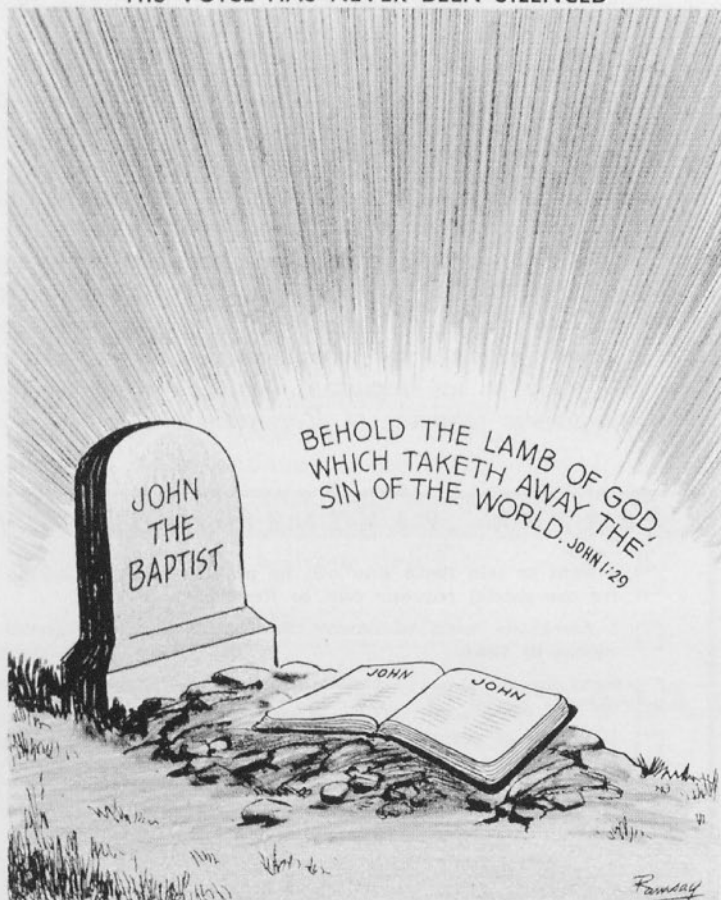
3. *John the Baptist's Testimony Concerning Jesus* (vv. 15, 25-29).

(a) *Christ is the Pre-existent One* (vv. 15, 27). John the Baptist, as well as John the Apostle, had a revelation concerning Christ's preincarnate existence. "He was before," John twice declared. Since John was born before Jesus, his words can only mean that he understood that Christ had a prior and therefore divine existence.

(b) *Christ is the Pre-eminent One*. "He it is, who coming after me is preferred before me." John clearly understood that Christ was the divine Lord of glory and that, since He was God's Messiah, He deserved the foremost place in the universe and in the lives of men.

(c) *Christ is the Lamb of God*. "Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world." John could not have made a statement more startling, more arresting, more loaded with mighty and far-reaching implications, or more certain of gaining the attention of the Jewish nation! John was speaking to a people who had been taught to offer animal sacrifices in connection with their worship. At the beginning of the Age of the Law, Israel was redeemed from a Gentile nation by the blood of the Passover Lamb, and they had been celebrating the Passover annually ever since. Many remedies have been offered through the ages for the disharmony and disease in the souls of men, but John the Baptist pointed to one divine Remedy when he cried, "Behold the Lamb of God!"

## HIS VOICE HAS NEVER BEEN SILENCED



# I Studied to Be a Nun

BY IDA WEILERT As Told to Ada Nicholson Brownell

I WAS BROUGHT UP IN A ROMAN CATHOLIC HOME AND desired to know God from the time I was a small child. I took the Catholic religion seriously and tried to do everything I was told to do so I could know God. But there was no satisfaction.

In my teen years the desire was intensified, and I decided to become a nun in order to quench the constant thirst in my heart for God. Accordingly, at the age of 14 I went to St. John's Academy in Wichita, Kansas.

On the first day I was given the black costume of a nun candidate. My hair was cropped short and covered with a black cloth fitted tightly against my forehead. Then a nun took me to a cradle where a statue of the Baby Jesus lay. The little hands raised in the air were laden with beautiful rings that girls who entered the convent had placed on the fingers. The candidates were not allowed to wear jewelry.

The nun said, "Kneel here and ask the Infant Jesus to help you become a good nun."

We went to chapel for mass every morning, and to confession every Friday. Because of daily worship and no contact with the outside world, I soon ran out of things to confess to the priest on Friday.

"I have confessed all," I told the mother superior, "but still I have no peace." She advised me to search for things in my past life that I had not confessed. Still, I could not find peace with God.

One day I went out to the cemetery alone. "These people had their last chance for salvation before they died," a voice seemed to whisper. Then I began to doubt the Catholic teaching of purgatory and prayer for the dead.

We were told to keep our eyes constantly toward the ground and not to look up. I rebelled at this for I thought those who loved God should look heavenward at least occasionally. We were also told not to try to think for ourselves, nor to reason out any part of our Christian faith. The teachings of the Catholic church were to be accepted without question.

When we met another nun, we were required to say, "Praised be the blood of Jesus Christ." Every time I spoke those words I felt sinful and unworthy. No matter what I did for the church, the gnawing guilt of sin was still there.

I wanted to go home, but the mother superior was determined to keep me there, at least to finish the nine-month term.

When my parents came for me at the end of nine months the mother superior told them to bring me back after the three-month vacation and let me try again. Everything within me rebelled but I had to go back.

Because of my previous attitude I had to start at the bottom again, but things were no better. I lost all hope of finding God there and made up my mind to get out. But when I asked the mother superior if she would send

me home, she said, "Don't give up; keep trying."

The more I tried the more hopeless I became. A great deal of the time I was in tears, but they were not enough to relieve my poor soul. I continued to appeal to the mother superior for release. Finally she decided to send my record to the bishop to see if he would consent for me to go home. He gave permission and I left.

For several years after this I sought satisfaction in the pleasures of the world, but the emptiness was still there. I attended the Catholic church occasionally but did not strictly follow its teachings.

In February 1961 Mrs. Sam Gallina moved next door to me in Pueblo, Colorado. She talked to me about God from the time we met. I marvelled at the way she seemed to know the Lord.

I had never attended any but the Catholic church because I was afraid to. But Mrs. Gallina invited me to First Assembly and I decided to go with her. Although I was afraid, I was also impressed by the way the people prayed. I felt they must surely know God.

I knelt beside my friend at my seat the first three nights I attended, but did not pray. I wanted to pray but I thought in my heart I could not stand the sound of all the people praying aloud. I wanted to cry, but did not know why.

The third night the pastor's wife, Mrs. Clyde King, asked me if I was saved. I said I hoped I was. The Catholic church taught me in catechism that when I was baptized as a child I was saved, but I knew there was something more to be desired.

When I got home I said, "Lord, whatever I need to do to be saved, I'll do it. Whatever these people have, I want it."

Then it happened. Something supernatural came over me and I became lost in the Spirit. Tears flowed freely. The assurance of salvation and indescribable joy filled my soul.

It was not long before I had more questions. Was there not something more? I wanted all that these people had. Then Mrs. Gallina explained the baptism in the Holy Spirit and I began asking God for it. I was so hungry, but did not know what to expect.

One night at church when I was praying I felt the power of the Holy Spirit. I was afraid, but my friend reassured me. She invited me to her home the next morning and I went.

As we prayed, I was soon filled with the Holy Spirit, speaking in a language I had never learned. My search for God was satisfied.

I have found the close walk with God that I had always longed for. I know the Lord Jesus Christ personally now. I know He has washed away my sins with His blood. The guilt is gone, and each day He grows sweeter! ◀◀

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### STILL AVAILABLE

NEW OUTREACH ISSUE of the Pentecostal Evangel, specially prepared for door-to-door distribution. Only \$2.50 per hundred copies, postpaid anywhere in U.S. Minimum 100 copies. Terms: cash. Order from the Pentecostal Evangel, 1445 Boonville, Springfield, Missouri 65802. Ask for Outreach Issue Number 2575.

### MIDWINTER CAMP

MIDWINTER CAMP, ORLANDO, FLORIDA. At Calvary Assembly of God, 1919 Miller Avenue, Winter Park, Florida, Feb. 16-March 1. Camp evangelist, Eddy Barg; Bible teacher, W. Millington, London, England. For further information write: Pastor Dale C. Zink.

### MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

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### MISCELLANEOUS

WHEN IN NORFOLK, VIRGINIA, visit Calvary Assembly of God, 739 Yarmouth Street. Servicemen welcome. Write Frank Mays, pastor.



## An Appeal to Christian Parents

BY EARL W. GOODMAN

Montana District Superintendent, Assemblies of God

A CHRISTIAN MAN RECENTLY TOLD me, "I failed my son when he needed me most. I was under a great strain from a work load I seemed unable to escape. A gulf came between me and my son, and when I recognized it, it was too late. I have never been able to regain communication." Sadly he added, "I failed God as well as my son."

Too many Christian homes are failing to produce Christian young people. Often this is not due to an irresponsible dereliction of duty, but simply a failure to understand the great amount of care and attention every child needs. Children are the products of the home and its discipline. Otherwise we must conclude that they are victims of a nature inclined either toward God or away from Him.

We often hear people say, "I taught my child properly." But while it may take only minutes to teach, it may take months or years to "train up a child in the way he should go." It takes infinite patience and care to discern the inclination of a child and to correct him before it is too late.

"But if any provide not for his own..." goes far beyond the supply of food, clothing, and shelter. Meeting the deeper emotional needs of a child requires time and attention. To "train up a child" includes directing his interest toward wholesome activities and giving him a right sense of values instead of leaving him to drift in a vacuum.

The quickened pace of today's world

is not conducive to a child's spiritual welfare. Note a few disaster areas that are directly or indirectly responsible for setting a child spiritually adrift:

Fathers holding two jobs, thus being at home very little.

Both parents working.

Too few evenings planned for family activities.

Every evening claiming one or both of the parents for some church or social function.

No home responsibilities or directed activities for the children.

Unfortunately, many children, even in so-called Christian homes, grow up in an atmosphere of bickering and quarreling. The parents are not warm, congenial and loving toward each other and naturally their irritations are reflected in their attitudes toward the children. They do not express a holy wonder at the things of God, and the children never "catch" the Spirit of Christ because it is not manifest in the home. Children who see unethical practices and lack of Christian principle in support of Christian teaching do not come to respect their parents' faith.

Of all people, Christian parents need to be aware of the rudiments of child development, principles of discipline, and effective training methods. We have something positive and vital to give our children as we share our Christian faith and principles with them. May God help us to do it in 1964 by precept and example, while we have opportunity. This is our task.

# Broken Arm Miraculously Healed

"WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF ONE OF your children broke a leg?" queried my friends who knew of my strong belief in trusting God directly for healing.

It was easy to say: "I would trust God—the same as for anything else!" But it was another thing to be actually put to the test!

The test came in late August, 1960, when twelve-year-old Mary tripped over a low fence, fell on her left arm and broke it. Her forearm was curved out of shape, and her hand twisted to one side at the wrist.

Laying Mary on the sofa, I telephoned our pastor's wife and Mary's Sunday school teacher. They immediately came to the house and the three of us earnestly called on the Lord in prayer. Mary agreed with us that she did not want a doctor but wanted to trust Jesus entirely for healing.

We had not prayed long until the sweet presence of the Lord surrounded us. We felt assured that He had heard our cry. Right then He took away all pain. Both ladies encouraged us with testimonies from their own experience of how the Lord had set bones instantly. They instructed Mary to keep looking to Him in prayerful expectation that He would set her bones.

But the following morning Mary's arm was as crooked as ever. And the next morning, and the next, and the next! True, there was no pain—Jesus had taken it all away at the first, and it never came back. We were not discouraged for we knew He would not leave a job half-done. Mary wore her arm in a sling. We merely told people she had fallen and hurt her arm—not daring to tell them the arm was actually broken!

September wore on. Mary's arm still remained crooked, and lumps began to appear under the skin. My husband took her to an osteopath who superficially examined her arm. He stated that, though we should not accept his diagnosis without X rays, the bones in the forearm had been broken clear through and were overlapped, causing the curve in the arm. They were knitting together in that position, and lumps of *bone callus* were forming. He said it would take *major surgery* to get her arm back to normal shape.

My husband came home much upset and discouraged. Should we have had Mary's arm set by a doctor? *Had we been foolish to trust God?* It so happened that God had directed my attention that very morning to Romans

4:19: "And being not weak in faith, he [Abraham] *considered not his own body* now dead"—Abraham considered only the promise of God. (That was faith!)

When my husband came home with the dismal diagnosis, I said to the Lord: "Lord, I am not considering the condition of Mary's body. I'm not looking at her arm. I'm not looking at the doctor's diagnosis. I'm looking at Your promise to heal and I believe You keep Your Word!" I felt that Jesus must have allowed Mary's arm to get this way in order to show us what He could do. I *KNEW* He was going to heal that arm!

Mary's own faith never seemed to waver. Her confidence was in God and, if she became discouraged, she never showed it. She serenely went to school and cheerfully went through each day's occupations—her arm all the while in a sling.

From then on Mary's arm began to straighten—very slowly, over a period of many weeks. She found she could begin to use her hand a little and was able to rotate her wrist a bit more from day to day. The lumps disappeared. She regained the full use of her hand and arm. It was a thrilling day when she came home from school and told us she had played volleyball with her left arm!

Today Mary's arm is sound and strong—a testimony to the miraculous healing power of a loving God who said: "Behold, I am the Lord of all flesh: is there anything too hard for me?" (Jeremiah 32:27)—God who delights to hear faith's reply: "Nothing, Lord! Your promises are greater than all natural circumstances!"—Mrs. John Manchester, Santa Cruz, California.



















(Endorsed by Pastor J. Reuben Davis, Assembly of God, Soquel, California. This remarkable testimony presents a strong challenge to faith. Some readers may not agree with Mrs. Manchester's decision. Many take the position that in an emergency like this medical help should be obtained. The fact that God honored faith in this case would indicate that each believer should pray for divine guidance and take the course which will honor God.)

If God has healed you recently, we invite you to write out your testimony for publication so that others who need healing will be encouraged to believe and receive the Lord's healing touch. Kindly make your testimony as brief as possible, and ask your pastor to sign it; then mail it to The Pentecostal Evangel, 1445 Boonville Ave., Springfield, Mo. 65802.

MUSEMENTS FOR MINORS

BY DICK CHAMPION

## NEW YEAR'S PICTURE PUZZLE

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Revelation 21:5

# Teen Challenge Marches On!

## THE NEW YORK CHALLENGE

BY DAVID WILKERSON

Director of Teen Challenge Center in Brooklyn, N.Y.

A VIGOROUS WINTER EVANGELISM PROGRAM is under way at the Center. Much of the evangelism must be conducted indoors. Gang services are now being held among the *Royal Crowns*, *Latin Crowns*, *Hell Raisers*, *Social Serpents*, and others. Unless these young gang members are reached now, they soon will turn to drugs or will spend months or years of their lives in jail.

Cold weather brought a rising influx of drug addicts wanting to get off the streets and off their habits. All available beds are taken almost every day. Staff members are busy working with these boys.

It is impossible to cure a drug addict without God. Those who are not willing to accept Him cannot be kept—for "there is no other name given under heaven whereby we must be saved." Those who refuse God's power and the simple Bible way of salvation soon land in jail. When they are desperate enough they will call on God.

The addicts who let God work on them are sent to the Teen Challenge Training Center in Pennsylvania. Records show that 80 per cent who follow this Holy Ghost rehabilitation program

are completely delivered. This school year saw seven of these boys enter our Bible schools. Others are waiting to enter next year.

Our main concern is not mere statistics, but souls. We did record 500 genuine conversions during the summer campaign. Many more were saved; but, especially in street rallies, many who make decisions get away before our workers can get their names. True results can only be estimated over a long period, since many addicts who come to us do so after having heard about the Center at a street rally.

Last summer 25 Bible college students and a number of converted dope addicts and former gang members joined with the regular Teen Challenge staff for another great evangelism thrust. Troubled sections of this great metropolis were chosen as *target* areas for invasion.

Racial tension was high and a feeling of unrest was evident on the streets as the teams began their work. For the first time it was necessary to secure permits from the police department to hold street rallies. Large gatherings were not welcomed by

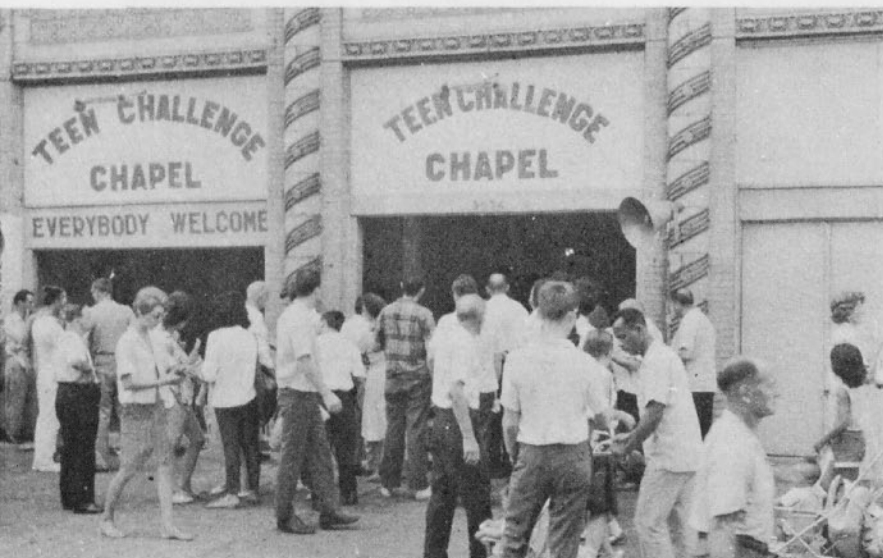


Wanda, a personal worker, urges a young lady to read the Last News.

them because of the possible Black Muslim uprisings and racial demonstrations.

But from the first street service it was evident that the Holy Spirit was working with us, confirming His Word with "signs following." It was not unusual to see hungry hearts kneel on the street corner seeking salvation. Often the policemen, who had been sent out to break up the service and disperse the crowds, would not do so when they saw that Teen Challengers were not fighting flesh and blood but the powers of drug addiction. In most cases, police officers stationed themselves nearby to offer protection if necessary. They listened to the testimonies of former "junkies" (main-line addicts).

Nicky Cruz, Spanish Evangelism director, led a Spanish team into these dope-infested areas. As former addicts



Crowds mingle outside the Coney Island chapel.



Inside the chapel, Mickey does personal work.





Keith explains the Second Coming to an interested listener.



Beatniks stand around in Washington Square, Greenwich Village.



When beatniks sing and dance they welcome an audience.

and gang members spoke of their changed lives, it was impossible for their old neighborhood friends to deny the facts.

The English Team also carried a heavy evangelism outreach. Coney Island Chapel, in the heart of a great amusement area, was again a lively center of gospel outreach. This was its second season of operation.

At Coney Island, the very presence of our workers was a noted victory. Last year as we began this unusual chapel, neighboring business places said it would not last—that they would put it out of operation. This year, while our doors remained open again, large crowds gathered and souls were saved, while those who had predicted our closing had to close down for lack of business. A well-known dance hall across the street from the chapel went up in flames at the height of the Fourth of July activities and is now closed. Yet God's work there goes on!

One of the most unusual literature invasions was conducted on a bright summer day in June. This was called *Operation Saturation—Wall Street*.

As Wall Street exchange houses closed for the afternoon, Teen Challenge workers began to distribute copies of the *Last News* (a stirring message on the coming of Christ). Reaction was immediate and unique as the phone began to ring at the Teen Challenge Center. "You're trying to scare people." "What are you trying to do—start a riot?" But others were moved by the message and expressed their appreciation for having been given the paper. Workers observed businessmen reading the paper as they drove away from Wall Street in their chauffeured limousines. Similar literature saturations took place in Times Square, Greenwich Village, at schools, and at city projects.

Greenwich Village is famed as the "home of the beatnik." The beatnik deserves and needs the gospel as much as anyone. Sunday afternoon is one of the busiest times of the week at the Village as large crowds gather around Washington Square to sing their folk songs, most of them in the minor key. This afforded Teen Challenge workers a great opportunity

to sing of their glorious hope. Often the largest crowds were around our group to listen to the gospel in song and testimony.

For three years my mother, Mrs. Ann Wilkerson, has labored faithfully along with her helper Fay, sowing the seed and praying that a building could be rented in the Village for a chapel to better reach this *beat* generation. God has heard these prayers and now the new Teen Challenge *Cat-acomb* Chapel is a reality. The workers rented a former underground espresso coffee shop right in the heart of the Village among the dens of iniquity and art shops. This chapel is already the talk of the town. Some resident beatniks say it will never work, but already a number of others are asking for prayer and show a keen interest. The local residents ("squares") are delighted to have such a worthwhile project in their midst.

The days of the acts of the Holy Ghost are not over! God is again taking the weak, base things of the world to confound the wisdom and might of the world. ◀◀

#### CHURCH SEATS NEEDED AT ANIAK

The people of Aniak, Alaska, where the Otis Lichlyters recently became pastors, are responding in an encouraging manner to the preaching of the gospel. Now Brother Lichlyter needs to provide room for more people to attend services. The seats will cost \$150. Offerings for this need may be sent to the Home Missions Department, 1445 Boonville Ave., Springfield, Mo. 65802, for *Seats for Aniak*. Missionary credit will be given.



Members of a typical teen gang attend a Teen Challenge gospel service.



# Evangelism **BREAKTHROUGH**



**THIEF RIVER FALLS, MINN.**—There was never an "off" night at the two-week meeting held by Evangelist Lowell Lundstrom and the "Message for America" team from South Dakota at the Assembly of God Tabernacle here. Many outsiders attended. One was baptized in the Holy Spirit, some were refilled, several were reclaimed, 17 were saved, and 24 baptized in water.

For the past 10 months the Assembly has been enjoying a spirit of revival. At least 15 have received the Baptism including some young people from other churches. Others are seeking, and souls are being saved.

—*H. Ray Colver, Pastor*

**COVINA, CALIF.**—Souls were stirred in September during a two-week revival at the Assembly of God here. Glen and Faithe Shinn of Fort Worth, Tex., were the evangelists. A special feature was the music of Mrs. Shinn and their daughter Kimberly. Some were saved, a number reclaimed, and several filled or refilled with the Holy Spirit.

—*J. B. Lindsey, Pastor*

**FULLERTON, CALIF.**—The Tanner Team of Willmar, Minn., had a successful two-week revival at the First Assembly of God here. Attendance was excellent. Several were saved or reclaimed, and the entire church was stirred to work for God.

—*Lloyd J. Cagle, Pastor*

**WEST PALM BEACH, FLA.**—Calvary Temple here recently en-

joyed a two-week "Festival of Faith" with Evangelist Jack Martz of Atlanta, Ga. The attendance was good, and new families were contacted. Personal visitation resulted in a man over 80 years of age and his wife (who passed away a few days later) accepting Christ in their home. During a "Sunday school at Night" service during which all of the classes met briefly with their teachers, three teenagers came forward for Christ.

—*Roy A. Harthern, Pastor*

**DALLAS, TEX.**—Dan and Mrs. Marocco ministered in a successful missionary convention at Christian Temple recently. The theme, "Global Conquest," stirred the people to greater zeal for missions. The singing of the Marocco family was a blessing and Mrs. Marocco told exciting missionary stories. Pictures, foreign relics and symbols of other lands attracted much attention.

—*Bill Sharp, Pastor*

**FORREST CITY, ARK.**—There was a good attendance every night at an October revival at the First Assembly of God here with Evangelist and Mrs. A. G. Calaway. Some decisions were made for Christ, and a number were refilled with the Holy Spirit.

—*J. S. McMahan, Pastor*

**GARY, IND.**—Gary Full Gospel Tabernacle has just concluded revival services with Evangelist Charles Harthern. A number were saved and several reclaimed. The people were inspired and challenged not only by the evangelist's dynamic preaching but by his ex-



**ABERDEEN, S. DAK.**—The congregation of the Assembly of God Tabernacle cooperated in a union revival with other full-gospel groups. The meeting was conducted by Evangelist Paul Clark and family under their "tent cathedral." Pastor D. W. Wartenbee reported a fine spirit of unity prevailed among the participants. The photo shows the Clarks ministering on the local TV program, "Assembly Time."

ample of ringing doorbells for Christ and passing out *Evangels* from house to house.

—*Karl D. Strader, Pastor*

**NEW ALBANY, IND.**—The First Assembly of God was privileged to have the G. A. Snavelly Evangelistic Team with them from Sept. 24 to Oct. 13. A record number of outsiders attended. Souls were reclaimed and several testified to healing.

—*J. Haskell Wooldridge, Pastor*

**TULSA, OKLA.**—A profitable ten-day Prophetic Conference was conducted by Evangelist Bernard R. Minton of Tallahassee, Fla., at the Faith Tabernacle here. The services awakened the people of the church to the truth of the soon return of our Lord.

—*Don Mallough, Pastor*

**LINCOLN PARK, MICH.**—The ministry of the Snavelly Musical Team of Indiana was enjoyed by the Bethel Assembly of God. Throughout the two-week meeting many visitors were in attendance. Eight were saved, one reclaimed, two baptized in the Holy Spirit, and two refilled. One service featured the Sunday school when ten classes had 100 per cent attendance and eight accepted Christ.

—*Seth Balmer, Pastor*

**MEADVILLE, PA.**—Evangelist Stan Morris of Montreal, Canada, was with the Assembly of God here for several weeks recently. Among the many visitors who attended 43 were "first timers." Nine persons found the Lord as Saviour, and one was baptized in the Holy Ghost.

—*Donald E. Berkey, Pastor*

**ANDRIMONT, BELGIUM**—Evangelist Johnny Barton and co-worker (Michael Lasky) of Granite City, Ill., were used of God in one of the best youth camps ever held in this area. Young people from ten nations attended, and word has been received that they are testifying for God in their native lands following the camp. During the three weeks of meetings around 65 were saved, 70 received the Baptism, and a great number were refilled. In the French-speaking group in particular the youth were challenged to live closer to God and testified to great blessings.—Richard W. Dortch, President, Emmanuel Bible Institute.



# EVANGELISTIC EVENTS

BRIDGEPORT, ILL.—One of the best revivals in the history of the Assembly of God here was led by Evangelist Winferd Mack of Seminole, Tex. His dynamic preaching stirred believers to reach out for the lost of the community. Some 20 persons were either saved or reclaimed. All services were well attended and an increase was noted in the Sunday school.

—Truman Smith, Pastor

\* \* \*

ROCKVILLE, MD.—A two-week revival that reached all ages and brought many new people into the Sunday school and church was concluded on October 13 at the Assembly of God here. Jim and Tammy Bakker of North Carolina were the evangelists. The all-time Sunday school record was broken. Souls were saved and reclaimed, and a number testified to healing.—L. A. Hubbard, Pastor

\* \* \*

ALEXANDER CITY, ALA.—The First Assembly of God here was blessed by the ministry of Evangelist Grant Daniel in October. One was reclaimed, one received the Baptism, and another refilled. During the summer, the church building was remodeled and enlarged. The congregation is praising God for what has been accomplished in His Name.

—Donald G. Cox, Pastor

\* \* \*

JEFFERSONVILLE, KY.—The Assembly of God here praises God for the move of His Spirit in the two-week revival with Evangelist Samuel Calk of the North Texas District. Three were saved, four reclaimed, and eight refilled. On the last Sunday, Oct. 27, an all-time record was made with 122 in Sunday school attendance.

—Fred Carrington, Pastor

\* \* \*

EUNICE, N. MEX.—A two-week revival just concluded with Evangelist Norman Gordon of Rialto, Calif. brought great blessing to the congregation at First Assembly. The unsaved came to Christ, a number received the baptism in the Holy Spirit, and the sick were miraculously healed. Faith soared to new heights as the Word delivered under the anointing of the Holy Spirit was received by the people.

—Daniel Ballard, Pastor

## WITH CHRIST

CHARLES F. BIBBER, 67, of Atlantic City, N. J., died November 8. Ordained in 1959 with the New Jersey District, Brother Bibber pastored in Mays Landing, N. J., for two and one-half years, and also did evangelistic work. He is survived by his wife Pauline and daughter Carol.

BRIGHT EDWARD HAGGARD, 74, of Van Buren, Ark., fell peacefully asleep in Jesus October 14. He was ordained in Arkansas in 1912. Churches he pastored were at Van Buren, Havana, Texarkana, and Hartford, Ark., and Briscoe, Tex. Brother Haggard also did evangelistic work. He is survived by his wife Mayme and two children.

SAM B. ARNOLD, 69, of Zephyrhills, Fla., died November 10. He was a member of the Peninsular Florida District. From the time of his ordination in 1953 until his superannuation last year, Brother Arnold pastored the Branch Borough Assembly. His survivors include his wife Luceille and nine children.

MRS. MATTIE GRAVES, 68, of Andalusia, Ala., went to be with the Lord November 6. She was a licensed minister with the Alabama District. Sister Graves served as an evangelist during her ministry but due to poor health she had been inactive for several years. She is survived by her husband Robert and seven daughters.

STATE	CITY	ASSEMBLY	DATE	EVANGELIST	PASTOR	
Ala.	Ozark	First	Jan. 9-19	J. E. & Mrs. Douglass	Luther Tadlock	
Ariz.	Phoenix	Glad Tidings	Jan. 7-12	David & Mrs. Lewis	David J. Geist	
	Scottsdale	A/G	Dec. 31-Jan. 5	David & Mrs. Lewis	Wayne Haun	
	Tucson	First	Jan. 5-26	Walter & Ruth Lascelle	L. G. Gilmore	
Ark.	El Dorado	First	Dec. 31-Jan. 12	Ernie Eskelin	Erling Saxelid	
	El Dorado	First	Jan. 13-17	A. G. & Mrs. Calaway	Erling Saxelid	
Calif.	Bellflower	A/G	Jan. 8-19	Christian Hild	David Pearce	
	Burbank	First	Jan. 1-12	The Musical Mathans	H. P. Wilde, Jr.	
	Corning	First	Dec. 29-Jan. 12	Billy D. Young	Jim Logan	
	Fortuna	A/G	Jan. 7-12	Paul Clark	J. Kirk Soper	
	Imperial Beach	First (Palm City)	Dec. 31-Jan. 12	Lloyd Perera	Richard W. Krake	
	Lancaster	First	Jan. 9-19	Sara E. Sharp	Fred Cottriel	
	Los Angeles	Bethel Temple	Jan. 5-19	Bob Watters	Arne Vick	
Colo.	Paradise	A/G	Jan. 1—	Bob Griffin	Ray Parks	
	Ridgecrest	Calvary	Dec. 29-Jan. 12	Don R. Merrill Family	S. A. Merrill	
	Sunnyvale	First	Jan. 5-19	The Tanner Team	Ralph W. Hillegas	
	Tulare	First	Jan. 8-12	Doug Payne	Paul J. Smith	
	Denver	South Denver	Jan. 5-19	I. D. Rayborn	H. J. Jackson	
	Pueblo	Park Hill	Jan. 5-12	Dewey Heath	Kenneth Crouse	
	Fla.	Bartow	A/G	Jan. 5-12	R. S. Peterson	D. N. Asbury, Jr.
		Brandon	A/G	Jan. 5-19	Don & Sharon Parker	W. C. Wynn
	Ga.	Eau Gallie	First	Jan. 7-19	Ray & Elaine Leonard	E. L. Frerking
		Jacksonville	Southside	Jan. 5-19	John & Faith Stallings	J. B. Davis
Lakeland		Galloway	Dec. 31-Jan. 19	Ralph A. Creider	Glenn M. Babcock	
Lakeland		Skyland Chapel	Dec. 29—	Bobby & Mrs. Jackson	Sammy Mizell	
Miami		Central	Jan. 5-26	The Sunshine Party	Rex Anspaugh	
Winter Haven		Bethel	Jan. 5-11	Edgar M. Davis	Wm. David Lee	
Griffin		First	Jan. 5—	Don Carroll	Ernest P. Pruett	
Moultrie		First	Jan. 5-17	Russell Peavy	Leon Comer	
Lewiston		First	Dec. 29-Jan. 12	Wesley F. Morton	Frank McAllister	
Collinsville		A/G	Jan. 5-19	E. L. Surratt	Norman Surratt	
Idaho	St. Elmo	First	Jan. 1-12	Cox-Brown Team	Yale Roberts	
	Gary	Black Oak	Dec. 29-Jan. 12	Harold J. Baker	Jimmie Johnson	
	Gary	West Gary	Jan. 5-19	Rose Marie Meringola	Basil E. Hillman	
	Indianapolis	Evangel Tab.	Jan. 5-17	J. E. Friend	Marion Cazzell	
	Indianapolis	Lighthouse Tab.	Dec. 29-Jan. 12	Joseph DeGrado	William Totman	
Ill.	Michigan City	First	Jan. 8-19	The Musical Lebsacks	Stewart H. Robinson	
	Perry	A/G	Dec. 29-Jan. 12	Frank Martin	Boyd Hoferman	
	Elkhart	A/G	Jan. 2-12	Steve & Pat Rexroat	Victor Unruh	
	Great Bend	First	Jan. 5—	C. M. Smitley	J. O. Rosenberg	
Iowa	Arabi	A/G	Jan. 5-12	Don Logan	N. J. Sorensen	
	New Iberia	First	Jan. 6-19	Bob & Paughnee Bornert	C. E. Gilbert	
	Winnfield	A/G	Jan. 12-26	Don & Mrs. Brothers	W. F. Harrell	
Minn.	Willmar	A/G	Jan. 7-19	Jerry & Joy Spain	Richard Orchard	
	Maryland Hgts.	A/G	Dec. 29-Jan. 12	Glenna Byard	Paul Adams	
Mo.	Minot	A/G	Jan. 12—	Neil Eskelin	Paul Sandgren	
	Stone Station	A/G	Jan. 7—	Woodrow Oxner	Allen Ross	
N. Dak.	Hugo	First	Jan. 5—	D. R. & Mrs. Clements	G. A. Brannon	
	Miami	First	Dec. 31-Jan. 12	Musical Vanderploegs	Dan Sheaffer	
Ohio	Eugene	First	Jan. 5-19	Watson Argue	Murray W. McLees	
	Sweet Home	A/G	Dec. 31-Jan. 12	O. E. (Gene) Vaale	W. P. Rutledge	
Okla.	Bonesteel	A/G	Dec. 29—	J. L. Glass	Harold James	
	Dallas	Urban Park	Dec. 29-Jan. 12	Floyd L. Dennis	Robert W. Brasher	
Oreg.	Ft. Worth	Liberty Tab.	Jan. 5—	Leo Walker	Coyce Pollard	
	Midland	First	Dec. 31—	Jimmy & Lenete Merritt	W. D. Metzgar	
	Pampa	First	Jan. 1-12	Wesley Pollet	J. S. McMullen	
	Sequin	Central	Jan. 1-12	H. M. & Mrs. Lednicky	Wm. Thurman Fountain	
	Culpepper	A/G	Jan. 5—	J. E. & Mrs. Douglass	Hugh L. Porter	
S. Dak.	Sedro-Woolley	Bethel Tab.	Jan. 12-26	Wesley F. Morton	Carl Gunderson	
	Carolina	A/G	Jan. 7-19	Jim & Tammy Bakker	Olan Knotts	
Tex.	Brandon, Man.	Bethel Temple	Jan. 12-26	Paul Olson Party	E. E. Austin	
	Bombay	* Stadium	Jan. 10-25	Quentin Edwards	Jim Anderson, Miss.	
W. Va.	Montevideo, Uru.	** A/G	Dec. 20—	Bob Hoskins	Samuel Baluis, Chm.	
	Trinidad	Sch. of Theology	Jan. 1—	W. Clifford Nelson	Charles Barker	

\* City-wide Revival

\*\* Open-Air City-wide Revival

Due to printing schedule, announcements must reach *The Pentecostal Evangel* 30 days in advance.

# COMMISSIONED!

WHEN JESUS PREACHED A SERMON it was not always easy to identify the points of His outline. But in the last three verses of Matthew's Gospel His thoughts are clearly organized around four great *alls*. He was giving His disciples the assignment we call "the Great Commission," and He described the task by showing them its utter completeness in four particular ways.

## 1. AN AUTHORITATIVE COMMISSION

First, it was an *authoritative* commission. He laid the groundwork for His orders by saying, "All power [authority] is given unto me." Perhaps He realized that even these men so faithful to Him might need to be reminded that He was truly their Lord. His personal authority over each disciple is the foundation for any commission He might give.

For a Christian today as well as then, the sheer fact of Christ's command is the ultimate motivation for reaching out to a non-Christian world. He may also be moved by deep compassion for mankind, or by a sense of justice, or by a desire to see his church and its beliefs more widely accepted; but the call which penetrates his heart most deeply will be the call from the One to whom his heart is given—Jesus Christ Himself.

## 2. A UNIVERSAL COMMISSION

Second, it was a *universal* commission. Jesus said, "Go . . . teach all nations." Wrapped in this second great *all* are the enormous geographic and ethnic dimensions of the Christian gospel. It is for everybody everywhere. The apostle Paul knew this. His vision was to reach "all men everywhere." He preached to Jews, Greeks, and barbarians without discrimination. He was not limited to a country, a caste, or a cult. Some samples of the kinds of people to whom he felt commissioned may help us understand the parallel kinds of people to whom we are sent today.

The first group is the heathen. By this I mean those primitive pagans who are both unchristian and uncivilized. Paul's ministry in Lystra (Acts 14) provides a good picture of this sort of people. Their response to the preaching of the gospel was a kind of double-barreled fanaticism. First their enthusiasm led them almost to worship Paul; next their antagonism led them to attempt his murder. In each case, note that their response was to the personality of the preacher, not to the message of his ministry.

It requires no great imagination to find similar heathen responses in people of our own time. And not all of them are in places geographically remote. Any hero worship of a minister, or any personal irritation at his style or manner—either of these is essentially a pagan reaction.

There are still places on earth as far removed from our centers of culture as was Lystra from the culture of Paul's time. And such places are still part of the "all nations" we are commissioned to reach. We are not excused from going to them simply because they are fanatical nor because it may be dangerous for us. One of the greatest obstacles to the advance of missions today is a kind of "closed-field" mentality which causes us to look on some parts of the world as being more or less permanently unreachable. Paul accepted as closed only those doors which were closed by God, not men.

Another kind of people Paul preached to were the highbrows of Athens. At the opposite cultural pole from the untutored folk of Lystra, their response was predictably different. They neither worshiped the preacher nor stoned him. Their reaction was a mixture of scorn and procrastination. "Some mocked: and others said, We will hear thee again of this matter" (Acts 17:32). All too often the advancement of material cul-

ture is accompanied by the spread of religious cynicism. Unfortunately America is probably today's prime example of an Athenian-type response to the preaching of the gospel. Fanaticism is not the problem. Scorn and procrastination, these are.

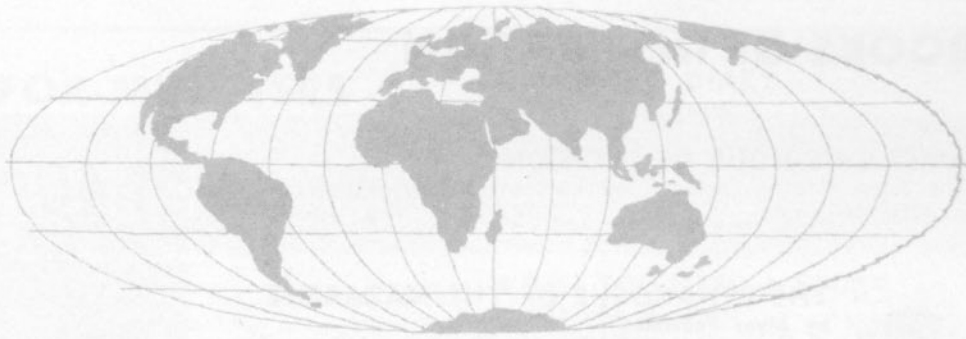
Our commission would be discouragingly difficult if all populations responded to our efforts with the barbarism of a Lystra or the ultra-sophistication of an Athens. Fortunately there is another kind of people. Paul found some of them in a place called Berea. Their response was all any preacher could wish. "They received the word with readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily whether these things were so" (Acts 17:11).

The Bereans were ready for change, eager to receive new ideas, yet they were not so gullible as to believe blindly without studying the facts for themselves. This twofold quality is what makes ideal subjects for the operation of the Christian gospel: a willingness to listen, and a willingness to search for personal faith. Millions of people around the world are in this same receptive attitude today. The emphasis is upon learning, improvement, self-development. The accelerated dawning of democracy and modern facilities of communication have given us dozens of what we sometimes call emergent nations. These people are willing to listen, eager to search the Scriptures. They are Berean in attitude.

It is probably not coincidence that the order in which these groups appear in Acts is Lystra first, Berea next, Athens last. There is a kind of natural historical evolution of culture from the primitive toward the sophisticated, though both may be equally immoral. When you stop to think of it, Athens must once have been like Lystra.

Translated to twentieth-century terms, the lesson is this: Most of our





world is between the extremes of primitive heathenism on one hand and cynical sophistication on the other. Shaken loose from fanatical opposition to our message, they have not yet reached the stage when their worldly wisdom will erect an even more formidable barrier. For now, they are Bereans. So now is our best chance to preach to them.

### 3. A COMPREHENSIVE COMMISSION

Third, our commission is *comprehensive*. Jesus said, "...teaching them to observe *all* things whatsoever I have commanded you." This is a very big *all* indeed. Jesus was speaking to men He had taught almost day and night for three years. Surely He had covered a wide expanse of truth; now He commanded them to go and teach the complete spectrum of what they had been taught.

Here again is the enormous size of Christ's commission—not in miles or languages, but in the scope of what is to be communicated. How wrong we are when we conceive of missions as being only a project to see that every soul on earth hears the gospel once! We have a task which cannot possibly be accomplished by merely scattering tracts or sermons. No one method or medium alone will succeed in teaching the world "all things." It is frequently pointed out that the word *teach* in this particular passage has the deeper meaning of "to make disciples." Jesus literally said, "Go disciple-ize all nations."

To make disciples can never mean less than evangelism *plus teaching*. Salvation may be an *event*, but teaching is a *process*. And this process is an integral part of the commission we have been given.

The recognition of this fact by the Assemblies of God missions program is evidenced in the emphasis on Bible schools. Another natural outgrowth is the increased attention to Sunday

school development on each field. If the indigenous church in each country were a space capsule, our missions effort would be the launching rocket. And the final, vital stage before a successful orbiting would be labeled "Christian education." The first stage might be the proclamation of the gospel, the second stage the organization of converts won, but the third stage would be "teaching... all things."

### 4. AN ACCOMPANIED COMMISSION

Fourth, our commission is *accompanied* by the promise of His presence. Not only has Christ set a missionary example by His own expedition from heaven to earth; not only has He pictured the ideal missionary by His faith and compassion, His preaching and teaching; but He has assured us that He Himself will be present as we carry out the task He has passed on to us. He said, "Lo, I am with you always." Here is our big *all* number four.

This magnificent promise makes our great task a privilege, not a sentence. We are not being told sternly that we must march out into the night and bring the lost back to our Lord's presence. Instead we are being taught that He is continuing to seek men even though His physical presence is no longer upon the earth; that He seeks them through us, His disciples; that His presence is built into our efforts as we respond to His commission.

\* \* \*

Jesus preached His brief sermon of commission with a beautiful sense of balance. The first and last of His four great *alls* are His part. He begins with the assertion of His all-pervading *authority* and ends with the assurance of His universal *presence* in our work. Sandwiched between these two great bulwarks are the two *alls* which are *our* part. To reach all nations with all things that Jesus taught—here is the summation of our commission. ◀◀



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# ONE DAY AT A TIME

BY ALICE REYNOLDS FLOWER

IN THE SACRED RECORD OF CREATION WE READ, "AND the evening and the morning were the first day" (Genesis 1:5).

For the second, third, fourth, fifth, and sixth days of that "week of creation" the record runs the same—"And the evening and the morning" were another day. "And God saw everything that he had made, and, behold, it was very good. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day" (Genesis 1:31).

There had been a marvelous accomplishment for each day: God's divine quota—nothing more, nothing less, but just the satisfying fulfilment of God's purpose with His own seal of approval.

God could have wrought the whole tremendous undertaking with one grand sweep, but He did not. The inscrutable wisdom of our eternal, omnipotent God, the very God who inhabits eternity, whose counsels reach from everlasting to everlasting, chose to frame the universe day by day. "And on the seventh day God ended his work which he had made; and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made" (Genesis 2:2). The extent of these days is not important. The important thing is that God took time to deliberately execute His creative design.

To us, by the prophet Jeremiah, comes the cheering but urgent reminder that the Lord's mercies are "new every morning," and are measured to us for each day's peculiar need. "It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning; great is thy faithfulness" (Lamentations 3:22, 23). "As thy days so shall thy strength be." The very same power by which God operated in His gigantic task is available for us in the varied undertakings of our lives. But this operation comes "day by day" as God desires to fulfill in us "all the good pleasure of his will and the work of faith with power." It is as though God Himself made the pattern that we might understand how He would carry through for us in the

daily measure of His sufficiency for each day's demand.

Again we say, how wisely our God set the example for us, then gave the promise for the abundant provision in our continuous order of doing His will. True enough, yesterday's happenings, decisions, attitudes affect today; and today's living will affect tomorrow. But as we live unto Him in the light of His soon coming, we can confidently depend on the Holy Spirit's guidance and aid, moment by moment. Thus it is we can leave each yesterday in His hands even when we may fancy we have failed or come short. Our humble committal of each day's issues to God insures His undertaking. This is the true secret of a life of faith. We should never forget that He has in the past and is still able to make even "the wrath of man" to praise Him.

Apart from God, today's pressures may be unbearable. Pointed advice, grave warning, tragedies from overwrought nerves confront us constantly. We see men and women trying to live through "yesterday, today and tomorrow" in one intense burst of activity so contrary to God's own working and plan for us. And do such driven souls accomplish more? The spirit of this mad rush can affect God's children; and it will sadly hinder the effecting of God's design.

The Lord Jesus emphasized this truth in His life and teaching. There was time for Him to be a helpless babe demanding "day by day" care from a devoted mother. The need of the world was great; the spiritual darkness was appalling; but not until the appointed hour was He displayed publicly to Israel. What about all the thirty years—called, by some, the silent years—when the need of His ministry appeared so necessary? "Mine hour is not yet come," was the startling statement He made to His mother at Cana of Galilee. But He and the Father were working as one.

When His own disciples pressed their fear upon Him, He answered with words of deep hidden meaning, "Are there not twelve hours in the day?" We should never forget there is always time for the performance of God's will if we maintain our relationship with Him by constant harkening for His voice. There need be no anxiety for tomorrow's apparent mountainous task—there will be time enough for what God wants us to do. Just receive His fresh mercies each day, exactly as the obedient Israelite "day by day" gathered the fallen manna.

Only "day by day" can we meet the hardest trial. Anticipation of what lies ahead will certainly overwhelm us. We cannot breathe tomorrow's required oxygen today; neither can we draw tomorrow's supply of grace, strength and comfort in advance. Here is the secret of endurance in every testing hour.

Feeling the importance of living each day at our best causes us to run *short accounts* with God and men. It may be our last day on earth and we would leave "our earthly books" properly balanced. No carry-overs, grudges, unforgiven wrongs, unrighted injuries to others, questionable dealings, unfulfilled tasks measured for this day. Being a faithful steward today is our best preparation to enter His presence unashamed before the dawning of tomorrow.

*"One day at a time, and the day is His day;  
He hath numbered its hours, though they haste or delay.  
His grace is sufficient: we walk not alone;  
As the day, so the strength that He giveth His own."*