

## THE PENTECOSTAL Alange <br> NOT BY MICHT, NOR aY POWER, BUT BY MY (SPIRIT. AITM THE LORD

For the man without Christ, each day of life that slips by plunges him deeper into darknessneater the black abyss of eternity lost.

Think then on the plight of whole nations of men cut off from gospel witness. Through every still-open door we must speed the Light!

# SPEED-the-LIGHT DOLLAR DAY 



## DARKNESS



When the "bllletin of the atomic scientists" was first published 20 years ago, its cover featured a large clock face with the hands set ominously at eight minutes before midnight. Later the hands of the clock were moved forward to two minutes before midnight, as sincere scientists faced the certainty of world destruction should nuclear war come.

But the symbolic clock, once so predominant on the Bulletin cover, has been reduced to a less conspicuous size, and the time set to a less frightening hour, a comfortable 12 minutes before midnight. Its shout of warning has become only a whispered reminder.

Something dangerously parallel to the shrinking of that clock seems to be happening in some segments of the church world. The clarion call to be ready for Christ's return has given way to a faltering, uncertain sound in many quarters.

Jesus warned against this attitude repeatedly. "And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares.... Watch ye therefore" (Luke 21:34, 36).

The Bible contains some 300 prophecies of Christ's first advent, and 1,500 of His second advent. Many advent prophecies link in the same inspired breath His first and second comings, so that they appear to be two aspects of one great coming. As for the centuries which temporally divide the two advents, Peter wrote, "A thousand years are with the Lord as one day, and one day as a thousand years" (2 Peter $3: 8$ ).

We do not rightly divide the Word if we accept the first advent and minimize the second. Even conservative theologians consider at least one-third of the Bible is prophetic in substance. Can full-gospel believers who are called to declare the "whole counsel of God" rightly divide the Word of Truth if we neglect the one-third that is prophetic?
"Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure" (1 John 3:23).

Satan has robbed many Christians of this soul-purifying hope by calling attention to the "date setters" who
brashly and without scriptural foundation have presumed to fix various definite dates for our Lord's return. Some who have sincerely believed such erroneous prophecies have become confused and discouraged when the prophecies were not fulfilled.

Others, once vigilant and watchful, have become careless, fulfilling our Lord's description of those who say in their hearts, "My lord delayeth his coming."
How readily does the indifferent Christian accept Satan's tranquilizing theory that the second coming of Christ is only a matter for speculation, and then go back to sleep the midnight hour away.

God does have a set day and hour for the Lord Jesus to return. "But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only" (Matthew 24:36). While it is not given to us to know the moment of His return, we can and should know the times and the seasons. Paul makes that clear in 1 Thessalonians 1:5-9, as does the Lord Jesus in Luke 21: 7. 8 and Matthew 24:3.
"Behold the fig tree, and all the trees; when they now shoot forth, ye see and know for your own selves that summer is now nigh at hand. So likewise, ye, when ye see these things come to pass, know ye that the kingdom of God is nigh at hand" (Luke 21:29-31).

The fig tree is undoubtedly Israel (see Joel 1:6, 7 where God, referring to the enemy invasion of the land of Israel, says, "He hath barked my fig tree"). But in relation to His second advent Jesus spoke of the "shooting forth" not only of the fig tree but of all the trees. In the Old Testament, trees were often used to symbolize nations (see Daniel 4 and Ezekiel 31:1-14). The reviving of all the trees speaks of the awakening of Gentile nations long deep in sleep, along with the miraculous revival of the Jewish nation.

After centuries of burial in Gentile countries, Israel has been raised from the dead and restored to the family of nations (Ezekiel 37:11-14). She is back in her own land; she holds an equal seat in the United Nations along with the great powers of the world.

But other "trees" are also putting forth leaves, showing the seasonal signs of His advent. Egypt, which for centuries held a lowly position among the nations, is today in the forefront of world activity, sponsored by the Soviet Union. Notice the other parts of Alexander's
fragmented empire-Greece, Turkey, Syria. These are often in today's headlines.

The sleeping giant that is China is now fully awake after centuries of slumber, and with $700,000,000$ population is demanding a place among the great world powers. Surely God's angel must be stirring in the valley of the Euphrates to prepare the "way of the kings of the east" (Revelation 9:14; 16:12).
When you see this revived activity among the nations, Jesus warned, you may know that the summertime of His return is at hand. And just as surely as harvest follows summer, so the world's harvest is about to be reaped by the Lord of harvest (Revelation 14:18-20).

Let no one be deluded into thinking that we need to see a more complete and a fuller development of the end-time signs before we become concerned. To His church, the Lord Jesus says, "When ye see these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads: for your redemption draweth nigh" (Luke 21 28). Surely we have seen the beginning!

Some years ago, during the winter, we took a night train to southern Florida to fill an evangelistic engagement. Our journey began in the north in a bitter blizzard, at the midnight hour. At breakfast time we were traveling through southern Kentucky. There was no sign of
snow and ice, and the trees still retained their brown foliage. It looked like fall. At noontime our train was rolling through the verdant country of the Carolinas. It looked like spring. By mid-afternoon thousands of red hibiscus and hundreds of green-crowned palm trees waving in the warm breeze made us think of summer. No one needed to alert us that we were nearing the end of the line. The signs of summer all around us gave that unmistakable assurance.

Christian fellow traveler, on board the Bridal Special, headed for the Grand Central Terminal in the New Jerusalem, look about you. See the signs of awakening nations, including the budding fig tree, Israel. Know that summer is nigh! And as you look, listen! He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit is saying to the churches. The summer breeze will bear to sensitive ears of faith the voice of the Bridegroom calling to His Bride, the Church. He is saying:
"Rise up, my love, my fair one, and come away. For, lo, the winter is past, and the rain is over and gone; the flowers appear on the earth; the time of the singing of birds is come, and the voice of the turtle is heard in our land; the fig tree putteth forth her green figs, and the vines with the tender grape give a good smell. Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away" (Song of Songs $2: 10-13$ ).

## PEACE-THE GREAT END-TIME

In one of his vivid descriptive passages concerning the Antichrist, Daniel speaks of the fierce countenance, dark sentences, craftiness, and self-magnification of this wicked king. But in between these powerful words he inserts a paradoxical phrase: "By peace he shall destroy many" (Daniel 8:25).

We have seen one after another of the prophecies of the end time fulfilled. Israel has become a state. Nationalism is on the increase, bringing with it seething unrest and perplexities among the nations. The power struggle foretold in Daniel 11:40, 41 is evident at international bargaining tables. There have been wars and rumors of wars which are also signs of the times.

But our precarious world peace-with its many definitions by conflicting ideologies-is also a most significant sign of the end time. Speaking of the coming of "the day of the Lord," God's Word says, "When they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them ... and they shall not escape" (1 Thessalonians 5:3).

The climaxing evil in the name of peace will be the destruction of many "by peace." But consider the beginning of the fulfillment of this ominous prophecy even in our day.

World communism has annihilated millions in the name of peace since World War II. It is estimated that two million Russians were destroyed by Stalin's orders, in the name of peace. Khrushchev has been responsible for the murder or exile of thousands more, in the name of peace. Our U. S. Senate has recently passed a resolution

DECEDTION

By PAUL RADKE

Pastor, Assembly of God, Westwego, Louisiana
conveying our great concern over Russian treatment of the Jews.

Mao Tse Tung has enslaved hundreds of millions in China, and destroyed millions, in the name of peace. He has isolated Tibet, threatened India, and sent his agents throughout Asia and into Africa to present him as a champion of peace.
Fidel Castro holds Cuba in the iron grip of communism under the guise of bringing true peace. Thousands have fled Cuba and thousands more are in Cuban prisons now because they are not thinking of peace in communist terms.

To the communist idealist, peace will come when the bourgeois has been annihilated and the people then accept the state as supreme.

Roman Catholicism holds out an olive branch of peace in the hope of bringing back to the fold the "erring" Protestants-on Catholic terms, of course.
The Moslem idea of peace is based on the premise that Mohammed is the chief prophet of all time, and that Christ is only one of many prophets that have come.

All of these biased ideas of peace are forerunners and
(Continued on page eleven)

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WE BELIEVE the Bible to be the inspired and only infallible and authoritative Word of God. WE BEIIEVE 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.

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## Help Wanted

Your pastor is looking for help. He may not insert a classified ad in the newspaper under "Help Wanted"; he may not even make any appeal for help from the pulpit; nevertheless he sorely needs assistance, for one man cannot carry the load of a church alone.

Some churches are large enough to hire assistant pastors. Most churches, however, have to depend on volunteer help to do most of the work, and this is not an unhealthy condition, for it offers many opportunities to develop spiritual life in the workers. Any church that has to pay for most of its help is probably in a sad spiritual condition.

Is your church suffering from a lack of workers? No doubt your pastor at the present time is praying for a greater measure of support from members of the congregation, especially now when the most promising months of the year lie before him. Can you offer your services as an usher, musician, janitor, nursery attendant, Sunday school teacher, or other such helper?

A sure way to lift the spirit of any gospel minister is to give him your hand and to say: "Pastor, I want you to know I'm with you a hundred per cent. I'm ready to do everything and anything I can to help our church go forward."

Every member can do something to help the church. If he cannot be a pianist, deacon, or Sunday school officer he can be a soul winner; and he can intercede in prayer. Behind-the-scenes work is as important to the success of God's kingdom as public ministry.

For instance, you can help your pastor by encouraging him with a word of appreciation, and by refusing to find fault with him (either aloud or silently) even if you disagree with his methods. You can say to yourself: "My pastor has come to us as God's servant, to bring us God's message. I will give him the respect and support an ambassador of the Lord deserves. I will listen carefully to his sermons; I will speak well of him; I will let the people know that I love him and believe in him. I will not add to his burdens by telling him my troubles, or by making unnecessary calls upon his time, but will try to lighten his load by holding up his hands the way Aaron and Hur held up the hands of Moses. I will pray for my pastor every day until the earthly work is finished and the final victory's won."

Have you ever noticed how often the apostle Paul appealed to God's people to pray for him? Writing to the Thessalonians he said, "Brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may have free course.
He asked the Corinthians, Romans, Philippians, and Colossians to pray for him. He felt the need of being supported by the prayers of believers in order to have an effective ministry, and your pastor stands in need of prayer today just as much as Paul did in his day.

A preacher was addressing a hostile crowd. They booed and heckled. Then the preacher noticed a number of people leave the meeting and he was disturbed. But the Spirit of God began to move upon that crowd, and before the meeting was over many had accepted Christ. The reason some had slipped out was to unite in prayer. Their praying brought success to a meeting that was failing, and your praying may mean the difference between dismal failure and glorious success in your local church. Be an assistant to your pastor. Hold up his hands by earnest, believing prayer. Those who share part of his burden will receive part of his reward.
$-R . C . C$.

## "CALL TO THE FELLOWSHIP" SERIES

# Spectators or Participants? 

By MELVIN L. HODGES<br>Field Secretary for Latin America

"He is so interested in sports that he doesn't get enough exercise!" So says a mother of her son who is watching a ball game on television. Thus a recent cartoon takes a sly poke at our nation of sport fans who indulge their interest from the comforts of an airconditioned living room. Millions are spectators, but so few are participants!

It is the task of the whole church to bring the whole gospel to the whole world. Yet many are content with the role of spectators. They would like to be thought "missionary-minded" without the necessity of throwing themselves into the struggle. It is one thing to enjoy a good missionary story ; it is quite another to become involved with our time, money and life itself, so that souls are actually won because we participate in fulfilling Christ's command.

To become involved in missions it is necessary to be convinced that our personal contribution is important; that what we do, or fail to do, will make a difference in the final outcome.

Moses would have preferred to leave the responsibilities of Israel's deliverance to others. But he heard the voice of the Lord call him to personal participation at the burning bush: "I have seen the affliction of my people.... Come now therefore, and I will send thee unto Pharaoh, that thou mayest bring forth my people." So he put aside his natural reluctance, went down to Egypt, and took upon himself the burdens of a nation in slavery. He became involved to the point of personal anguish. He participated, and he redeemed a nation.

Queen Esther, comfortable in the palace and removed from immediate danger, was reluctant to play the role of mediator in the crisis that faced the Jews. The risk to her own life was great. Then she saw that as a Jewess she was involved whether she desired to be or not. The key to the survival of her people was in her own hand. She made the necessary spiritual preparation, took her life in her hand ("If I perish, I perish!") and went into the king, "which was not according to law"-and saved a nation!

Our participation in missions must not be just sentimental or imaginary, but real and worthwhile. How can we actually participate in the conversion of the lost in lands where we cannot go in person?

We participate by GIVING. Does the giving of money seem too materialistic, too mundane, to constitute a true
spiritual participation in the salvation of souls? But what is money? How many hours does a laborer work to earn 10 dollars? If he gives that amount as an investment in the salvation of souls in distant lands, is he not in reality giving a little portion of his life, represented by the hours it required to earn the money? Money, then, is not just metal or paper but time, the element of which life is made. What portion of my time, as represented by my hourly wage, should I dedicate to world evangelism? The answer will be the measure of my financial participation in the salvation of the heathen.

We participate in PRAYER. Again some would reject this as too spiritual, too intangible, to be of much practical value. Let us not forget that Jesus placed a high priority on prayer as a means of meeting the world's need. "The harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few: pray ye therefore..." (Matthew 9: 37, 38). Our prayers form an indispensable link in the process of gathering in the world harvest. Prayer unleashes the spiritual forces that bring about the ingathering.

We participate in WITNESS. "Ye shall be witnesses unto me, both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth" (Acts 1:8). True, some of us will be limited to our "Jerusalem" and will never travel beyond our hometown, but "the field is the world" and our hometown is a part of that world. Our converts in "Jerusalem" may well carry the message to "Samaria" or to some "uttermost part." We must participate where we are and do the task near at hand. Our faithfulness in our "Jerusalem" will enable someone to fulfil God's will in the "uttermost part."

Then we participate by our INTEREST. Of what value is it, asks one, for me to be burdened for missions if I cannot go and have little or nothing to give? The answer is that we go as a church, as the body of Christ. The whole Church shares with her Lord in the redemption of those for whom He died. He longs for their salvation. His Spirit within us imparts that same love and yearning. Our tears and prayers are not in vain, just as the longing in the heart of Jesus is not in vain! As we share our Lord's desire, the İoly Spirit works to bring to fruition this holy purpose. There can be no higher motive for participation in missionary outreach than the simple fact that we love our Lord!

Under the law, priests were born to their office; and under grace, all those who are born again are called to the priestly office. We minister to God, and for God, and with God.

By OLIVE EVANS



## Il'he Comsegration of Priests

The priest under the law is sometimes considered a privileged person; but if one takes the time to look at this man closely he will find that much of his work was monotonous, and some even distasteful.

Daily there was the task of killing and preparing the animals for sacrifice, the stench of blood and flesh and refuse, the smoke of burning wood and flesh and hair. Over and over and over!

There must have been days when the priest longed to leave the altar awhile to enjoy the smell of open fields. Perhaps the thought of the scythe in his firm, strong hands, or the joy of following the plow behind fragrant opening furrows, or the desire to fill the harvest-baskets with clumps of purple grapes, at times overwhelmed him. Or it may be that the longing to feel the sweep of clean pure air rushing into his choked lungs, and to forget the burden of sacrifice, would press in upon him.

But always the burden of the sins of the people weighed upon him. The holy calling of his office superseded his own desires and moved him to make atonement for a sin-cursed people, among whom none was more bound by sin than he.
The question of remaining true to a consecration was as pertinent in those days as it is today. It cost something then. It costs something now. Under the law a few men served as priests; now every believer is a member of the "royal priesthood" under the direction of our great High Priest.

Under the law the priests were consecrated with animal blood, linen robes, and much ceremony. Their thumbs were touched with blood that their hands might be consecrated to do the work of God. Their great toes were touched with blood that their feet would be consecrated to walk in the way of God. Their ears were touched
with blood that they might hear only the voice of God, and turn away from the call of the world, the flesh, and the devil.

Many of them continued faithful even though they must often have sighed for the coming of the One who was to be offered "once for all" as an eternal sacrifice. But what should not our consecration be today, having our members touched with the precious blood of the spotless Lamb of God, anointed with the Holy Spirit, wrapped in the robe of His righteousness, people of the rent vail and a risen Intercessor!

Under the law, priests were born to their office; and under grace, all those who are born again are called to the priestly office. We minister to God, and for God, and with God. This part of our priesthood is delightful. There is no monotony, no trial in this blessed relationship. But the ultimate test of true consecration is in our relationship with people, our contact with the flesh, which is opposed to the spirit. "For the flesh lusteth against the spirit, and the spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would" (Galatians $5: 17$ ).

But hidden within that hateful flesh is the soul of man-endless in duration, helpless in position, priceless in value. It is for this the Father yearns; for this the Son died; for this the Spirit seeks; for this the true priest of God labors without counting the cost.

What if at times the days seem long, and our hearts heavy with the burden of souls? We are privileged nonetheless to be workers together with God in a priestly ministry. There is no higher calling, no greater ministry.
"Ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light" (1 Peter 2:9).

STONES OR DIAMONDS
One day a traveler in South Africa saw some boys playing with stones. As they threw them, one fell at his feet. Picking it up to return it he noticed a flash that made his heart beat faster. He discovered it was diamond.

Children playing with diamonds! Carts crushing them beneath their wheels. Peasants kicking them aside. They were stones of no value until this man came along.

This is the business of a prophet. Looking into the rough metal of men's lives he must see the flash of a diamond-the image and purpose of the Creator-if he would call that man to God.
-A. H. Stainback

## GREATNESS CALLS FOR CONQUEST

Perseverance is the badge of true saints. The Christian life is not a beginning only in the ways of God, but also a continuance in the same as long as life lasts. It is with a Christian as it was with the great Napoleon. He said: "Conquest has made me what I am, and conquest must maintain me."
-Charles Spurgeon

## INFINITE SUPPLY

God's bounty never stops at the measure of man's need. In fact, He gives in an overflowing abundance beyond our power to ask or think.

Nature needs plenty of water. Have you considered the generous measure in which God supplies it-in clouds, rain, dew, snow, lakes, waterfalls, glaciers, ice? He not only answers our need for water; He does so with infinite variety, abundance, and beauty!

It is significant that Jesus used the symbol of water in His conversation with the woman at the well. He offered her "living water . . . a well of water springing up into everlasting life" (John 4). And true to His character He gave her that water in infinite supply.

It came first as a river of cleansing. Then it was a deep refreshing draught that satisfied eternally the cry of her spirit for fulfillment. Again, it formed a fountainhead within her life to cleanse and refresh others. "And many of the Samaritans of that city believed on him for the saying of the woman.
-Mary Tregenza

## A STRANGE REQUEST

Two Arab leaders who had helped a British officer a great deal were brought as his guests to London. When they had seen many things, the officer asked them to choose a gift to take back to the desert as a souvenir.
They talked it over and finally decided, "We want a water faucet!"

They did not realize that there had to be a source of water and a means of bringing it to the faucet before the faucet could be effective.

Perhaps many times we ask equally strange requests from God. We want to be a blessing to others, yet we do not tap the vast reservoir of God's power, or try to make any connection with Him. A faucet alone is a
mere gadget, dry and useless. It only functions when it is connected to the source of water.

What are our connections with God? Bible reading and prayer are vital connections. Worship in faith, and gratitude for His blessings bring us closer to God. Let us not ask to be a blessing until we are in contact with the Source of all blessing.
-Esther M. Payler

## ONE WORK OF MAN IS ETERNAL

The minister was eloquent as he preached about the futility of hoping to get into heaven through good works. "There will be no work of man in heaven," he said. "Salvation is entirely by divine grace through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. No work of man will enter heaven."

Afterward a little old lady commended him for his sermon. "But there will be one work of man in heaven," she said with a wistful smile. Tears came to her eyes as she explained. "The one work of man that will be in heaven will be the nail prints in the hands and feet of the blessed Saviour."
"How true!" the minister reflected. "And to think that I myself helped to wield those hammer strokes by my sins!"

## OUR MISSION IS SPIRITUAL

As a spiritual body, the Church has a message primarily for the spiritual needs of mankind. Once she shifts her emphasis from spiritual to secular matters, her influence wanes; and this is the danger she faces today. In the New Testament we find our Lord and the apostles living in the midst of social, economic, and political evils as great as any in our times; yet we find their ministries primarily directed to the spiritual needs of mankind and we are assured that only as the hearts of men are changed can these evils be eliminated.
-Christianity Today

## WIDENING CIRCLES OF INFLUENCE

Wilberforce, the great English preacher, said that Christianity could be condensed into four words: Admit, Submit, Commit, and Transmit. Let us use these four words in one sentence, expressing a great truth. When a man is ready to admit Christ into his life, and then submit himself to the will of Christ, commit his way unto the Lord, and transmit his knowledge to others, he puts himself in position to be of the largest possible service to God and humanity.

Others are affected by what I am and say and do. And these others have also their sphere of influence. So that a single act of mine may spread in widening circles through a nation of humanity.
-W. E. Channing


Mrs. Lorraine J. Smith

# Revivaltime Listener Recovers Sight in Answer to Prayer 

 Doctors Admit This to be Miracle of GodFree Methodist pastor's wife grateful for Revivaltime broadcast service and literature for spiritual guidance

This spring i suddenly lost all sight in my right eye from a hemorrhage in the retina resulting from optic neuritis. I was hospitalized for 12 days, and my doctor called in one of the leading eye specialists in the state for examination and consultation. They told me not to build up hope of recovering my sight, but said they would do all they could for me.

I learned recently from my doctor that the specialist had told him there was "no hope at all," as the blood supply had been cut off from the optic nerve for more than three days.
My mother wrote to Revivaltime requesting prayer of your prayer group for the restoring of my sight. My parents have great appreciation for Brother Ward, having become personally acquainted with him while he was pastoring in Bakersfield, Calif., and we all feel very grateful for the spiritual help that Revivaltime has brought us.

While I was still in the hospital, I received from you the tract, PRAYERS Are not Always Answered, but PRAY-ERS Are! written by Brother Ward. This was a great encouragement to my faith.

I know it was the prayers of Rezizaltime prayer warriors, and prayers of other friends and loved ones, that availed for me. The Lord gave me such deep peace that my only prayer was, "Thy will be done." I also read Brother Ward's tract, Music on a Single String, which was such a precious blessing to my heart and helped me to be completely yielded to Him.

I am so happy to report that God has wonderfully answered prayer and restored my sight. The doctors are amazed and admit it is a miracle of God!

I do thank you and your prayer group for praying for me, and I do praise our wonderful Lord for all His mercy, love and grace.
-Mrs. Lorraine J. Smith

# Children Inspired by Radio Broadcast 

Jesus said, "SUfFer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven" (Matthew 19:14). Revivaltime reaches the children and draws them to the Saviour.

A mother in Fresno, Calif., recently wrote, "Our little five-year-old always waits to hear your program come over the air. When he hears the first notes of your theme song, he runs to the radio and sits right in front of it to listen."

It warms our hearts to know that the same gospel messages and spiritual music that are a blessing and an encouragement to the mature in Christ, are also an inspiration to the young. An Owensboro, Ky., 12-year-old had this to say about Revivaltime:
"Listening to your marvelous sermons and rousing music is really something! At the age of 12 I think a lot of a person who can really get the meaning across to youth and adults about our Lord. I want to thank you for your guidance. I always listen, along with my family, to your wonderful preaching."

Children are not given enough credit for their powers
of reasoning and discernment. The simple, innocent observations of a child, undistorted by the pitfalls of life, and filled with enthusiasm for the future, never cease to inspire us. A 12-year-old girl from Chicago, Ill., took time to write these words of tribute to Revivaltime:
"At the end of your program each week, someone says, 'Until it is our pleasure.' He is wrong. It is my pleasure to be one of the very lucky ones to hear your broadcast.
"I am 12 years old and was not really putting much faith in God until I heard your program one night. I now have a Bible in my desk drawer, and I always use it during your services. I have been going to church every week since I started listening to your program. My nightly prayers have more meaning and I feel that God and His Son are watching and listening to my every word."

Childhood is a time of optimism, of eagerness, of untiring energy. But children have needs. They are concerned for those around them. Our hearts melted at the following tender request from a child in Minneapolis, Minn.
"Please pray for my mommy that she may come back to Jesus. She's playing the piano in a night club. My mommy and daddy are divorced. Pray daddy will be saved, too. My sister and I are praying hard for them."

The faith of a child is something to be sought after by every Christian adult. Our trials would seem so small if we could see them through the eyes of our children.

Reaching into homes shut off from the Spirit of God by drunkenness, drug addiction, unbelief and bitterness, Revivaltime is the only glimpse of the brighter world, the better life, the kingdom of heaven, that some children have.

Let us not fail the fathers and mothers of tomorrow. Help us to be a guiding light that will lead them to a full, mature Christian life that comes only through knowing Christ as a personal Saviour.

Please send your letters and offerings for the support of this worldwide radio ministry to Revivaltime, Box 70. Springfield, Mo. 65801.

## Child Healed of Infection When Taken to Church

Babara ann myrick, Age seven, Awoke on tuesday, August 4, 1964, with a headache. That night her fever reached 104 degrees even after prayer. We took her to the doctor in Montgomery, Alabama, 60 miles away, and he gave the child medicine. All during the night her fever remained at 102 degrees.

Again the next afternoon we took Babara Ann to Montgomery. Treating her for an infection, the doctor gave her a shot and additional medicine. Neither the medicine nor the alcohol baths I gave her succeeded in reducing the fever below 102 degrees. Most of the time it was higher.

By Thursday afternoon she was a very sick girl. When her daddy told her he would do anything to make her well, she immediately replied: "If you go to church I will get well."
Her fever was 102 degrees when we carried her to church on Friday evening. As soon as we arrived she was anointed and prayed for, and when the service was over her fever had completely disappeared! God had healed her instantly.

When we returned home she asked for hot chocolate. After drinking it she went into a normal sleep that lasted all night. Her appetite and sleeping habits have been better than they ever were, and she hasn't been sick since that night. Praise the Lord!

One month after God healed her, Babara went to the altar and gave her heart to the Lord.-Mrs. Irene Myrick, Georgiana, Ala.
(Endorsed by Mrs. Estelle Peek, pastor of the Assembly of God, Georgiana, Ala.)

## Allergy and Hepatitis Healed Through Prayer

For three years carol anne, now 11 , was seriously ill. We were greatly perplexed, but two years ago the Lord healed her. Since then she has received the baptism of the Holy Spirit. She is in perfect health today.

Carol Anne's symptoms varied from constant dizziness and headache to nervous tension and hives. On occasion her body was totally covered with hives and the
doctor would administer drugs to put her to sleep. Her heart became affected and her lips would turn blue. She had been under a doctor's care with no real relief; she was given tranquilizers with no results.
In January 1962 she was hospitalized six days after a temporary partial loss of vision. After testing of all types we were told she must be emotionally disturbed and we must ignore her symptoms. But Carol Anne loved the Lord and we could not accept this diagnosis.

In February, still very ill, she was hospitalized for a week in Children's Hospital, Los Angeles, where the leading pediatricians of our area were able to observe and examine. There were tests, brain waves, and still no answer. When she was released I knew in my discouragement that only God had the answer.

We were then advised by our doctor to take her to an allergist. It seemed to us that this was also the Holy Spirit's guidance. The doctor was a Christian and very kind. After 120 allergy tests, 74 proved positive and half of this number very serious. We were told it would take weekly shots for two or three years to desensitize her to all irritants. Of course, we were thankful for this information, but many hundreds of dollars had already been spent and we dreaded more years of medical care.

Having seen God heal in our family many times previously we knew He could again. When Carol Anne was in Children's Hospital this song was in her heart, "If I could but touch the hem of His garment." The first Sunday night in June, 1962, our pastor (Orrin Kingsriter) and others prayed. From that night on our daughter has not needed medical care!

The same week that Carol Anne was healed our five-year-old son contracted infectious hepatitis and was ordered to absolute bed rest. He was already quite yellow. On Wednesday night Brother Kingsriter came to our home and prayed for Joe, and God completely healed him. On Friday we left Los Angeles for an Indiana vacation with both of these children perfectly whole!

We have six children and God has proved Himself to us countless times.-Mrs. Donald Huntsinger, Norwalk, Calif.
(Endorsed by Pastor Orrin A. Kingsriter, Norwalk Assembly of God.)

## FAITH IS INVENTIVE

Faith is full of inventions. The house was full, a crowd blocked up the door, but faith found a way of getting to the Lord and placing the palsied man before Him. "And when they could not come nigh unto him for the press, they uncovered the roof where he was; and when they had broken it up, they let down the bed wherein the sick of the palsy lay" (Mark 2:4).

It seems that a tiling had to be removed which would make dust and cause a measure of distress to those below. But where the case is very urgent we must not mind running some risks and shocking some proprieties. Jesus was there to heal, and therefore, fall what might, faith ventured all so that her poor paralyzed charge might have his sins forgiven.

The world is constantly inventing. Genius serves all the purposes of human desire. Cannot faith invent too and reach by some new means the outcasts who lie perishing around us? -Charles Spurgeon

# True Forgiveness 

Sunday School Lesson for October 25, 1964 Matthew 18:21-35; Philemon 17, 18

BY J. BASHFORD BISHOP

Christ had been teaching His disciples concerning their conduct toward those who offended them. Peter, who had been listening with interest, probably thought at once of certain brethren who had repeatedly wronged him, and therefore asked the question: "Lord, how oft shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? Till seven times?" Peter probably regarded his offer as generous and worthy of commendation. But if so, he was sadly disappointed. Jesus as much as said, "Peter, your words indicate that you think there is a limit in the extending of forgiveness. True forgiveness knows no limitation, for how would you like it if God limited His forgiveness toward you?"

In order to emphasize the lesson Christ told the story which comprises our text.

The Forgizing King (Matthew 18:23-27). The servant in the parable, probably the king's minister of finance, either through mismanagement or dishonesty found himself in debt to his sovereign to the tune of

## THE RIGHT CHOICE


the equivalent of 12 million dollars. Of course, he never could repay the debt any more than the sinner can save himself by any amount of good works. Yet when the servant pleaded for mercy he was freely and fully forgiven! How amazing! Yet this is not as amazing as God's forgiveness of sinners through the shed blood of the Lord Jesus Christ!

The Unforgiving Servant (vv. 28-33). In these verses amazing grace is contrasted with man's astounding inconsistency, ingratitude, and cruelty to man. He who had been forgiven a debt equal to 12 million dollars demanded instant payment of a debt of 20 dollars! However, instead of thinking we are not like this monster of iniquity, perhaps we should be hearing a voice saying, "Thou art the man." In our own recent conduct or in our future action we may act just as he did unless we walk in the Holy Spirit.

Does Jesus mean to suggest that God will not forgive us unless we forgive others? This is like asking, Will the electric power company refuse to light our bulbs if we turn off the switch that connects them to the power plant? In both cases it is a matter of "cannot," not "will not." The person who turns off the light switch thereby makes it impossible for the company to give him light. And the one who harbors an unforgiving spirit makes it impossible for God to forgive him. Such a person shows that he is fallen from grace and "hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins" (2 Peter $1: 7-9)$. The man or woman who constantly lives in the light of Calvary's love will find there all the needed grace to forgive others.

The Interceding Apostle (Philemon 17, 18). Onesimus, a slave, ran away from his master Philemon. He fled from Colosse to Rome where he had been won to Christ by Paul. Paul then wrote from his Roman prison to Philemon asking him to forgive Onesimus and to receive him now as a brother in Christ.

Moreover, he said: "If he hath wronged thee, or oweth thee aught, put that on my account." Paul's words remind us of what Christ has done for us. Our sins against God have been "charged up to Christ's account." On the cross He fully repaid that account with His own precious life's blood.

In asking Philemon to forgive his slave, Paul based his appeal on the fact that Philemon owed his own life to him (meaning probably that Paul had won Philemon to Christ). Similarly, the fact that we owe our personal salvation to Christ is reason why we should freely forgive others.

Years ago in the land of India, a famous brigand chieftain was converted through the personal work of Amy Carmichael. This man caught such a remarkable vision of the true meaning of Calvary that he repeatedly refused to take revenge upon those who had betrayed his friendship. When asked why he behaved so strangely, his simple reply was, "I have been forgiven; must I not forgive?" It is this kind of Christian philosophy that this harsh, unforgiving world needs to see exhibited today!

We do not preach Christ with a comma after His name, as though waiting for something else ; or Christ with a dash after His name, as though leading to something else ; but we preach Christ period.

- A. W. Tozer


## PEACE-THE GREAT END-TIME DECEPTION

(Continued from page three)

waymakers for the Antichrist. In fact, even in John's day the spirit of Antichrist had already gone out into the world ( 1 John $4: 3$ ). How much more does this spirit pervade the political systems of our time!

In a world where peace is many things, depending on the time, place, and parties involved, it will be easy for the man of $\sin$ to promote a platform of peace and prosperity. The Antichrist will have great might and shall destroy the "mighty and holy people" by means that shall be defined as peaceful.

World peace will be the weapon he will use to enslave millions and to torture millions more. He will no doubt justify his acts on the grounds that the progress of society demands the annihilation of these "unfit subjects" (Daniel 8:24, 25). What a contrast between this deceptive, distorted idea of peace and the true peace which Christ can give. When Jesus promised peace to His disciples He said it was "not as the world giveth."

World systems propose to bring peace by beginning on the level of the masses and working down to the individual, destroying all who oppose it. In contrast, Christ begins by bringing peace to the individual, and working through the heart of the individual to bring peace to the masses.

When the man of Gadara was given peace in exchange for his torment, Jesus told him, "Go home to thy friends, and tell them how great things the Lord hath done for thee." The woman at the well outside Samaria first received peace in her own heart, and as a result she shared the good news and brought others to Christ.

These are days when many talk about peace. It is promised ; it is hoped for ; but we do not have real peace in the world today. We may have freedom from war or hostilities, but it is only an armistice. While men are saying "peace and safety" we are all aware that we live on the brink of international chaos. Even the word crisis has lost its impact by constant repetition. The world is filled with conflicts.

But at Christ's return the KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS will pierce the thin fabric of deception called "peace" and reveal the Antichrist in his true character. Following the purging holocaust of Armageddon He will set up a kingdom of everlasting peace. Because it is based on truth and righteousness there shall be no end to that kingdom ruled over by the Prince of Peace.

Until that time comes, "Let the peace of God dwell in you richly" (Colossians $3: 5$ ). "Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day;...therefore, let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober" (1 Thessalonians 5:4, 6).

## divine maintenance

We do not enjoy a reign of law. God reigns. He is not imprisoned by His own house rules. Laws are His slaves, the tool-kit of the divine Maintenance and Repairman. The earth does work like a vast machine, but the Maker runs it and can make it do anything He wants. -David A. Reddine, in The Miracles of Christ (Revell)

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Howard Bush and Missionary Ted Schultz prepare to take off in the Speed-the-Light plane to visit missions outposts in Togo-Dahomey. Photo at right shows Missionary John Hall with national welcome committee at Dapango airport. (Ted Schultz standing by plane at left.)

# Penetrating the Darkness in Africa 

BY HOWARD S. BUSH, ASSISTANT GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT, ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

RECENTLY I HAD THE PRIVILEGE, WITH M. B. NETZEL, General Treasurer, to visit a number of West African mission fields. We met missionaries so dedicated to the ministry of the gospel that immediately the Amplified New Testament version of John $5: 41$ impressed me as aptly describing these modern-day apostles of the Lord Jesus Christ. "I receive not glory from men-I crave no human honor, I look for no mortal fame."

The trip was planned that we, like Paul, might evaluate the effectiveness of missions and encourage missionaries and nationals alike to strive for "the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."

All along the African trail, missionary after missionary impressed us with the urgency of the times, the struggles for independence in the many new nations that have come into being in the last five years, and the need of reaching many more millions for Christ before the doors of opportunity close.

Catholicism and Mohammedanism are both intensifying their efforts to reach the masses and secure more converts. Communism is using every means possible to foment strife among these nations. I was reminded of the Speed-the-Light Dollar Day theme, "Darkness Deepens." The African, after centuries of tribal customs, is being appealed to by the world's voices of materialism, liberalism and ecclesiasticism.

Only Holy Ghost-filled men and women, burdened with the pressures of impending judgment and tribulation, are prepared to speed the light into major cities, rural communities, and remote bush villages.

Speed-the-Light airplanes, cars, buses and pickups carried us to mission stations, churches, Bible schools and villages. We visited regular services, fellowship meetings, and a church dedication. In the space of a few weeks we were able to cover thousands of miles because Speed-the-Light equipment was everywhere available.

One of the highlights of my tour was the occasion when Missionary James Chaney of Dahomey drove me
about 25 miles in his pickup from Tanguieta to Tihoun, a remote bush village. Here, as far as could be ascertained, the gospel had never before been preached. With a bridge out it was necessary to ford a dry riverbed twice to reach this village. I had the joy of preaching Christ for the first time to the Berba Chief and his people. Without Speed-the-Light equipment this opportunity would not have been mine.
Nothing penetrates the darkness but light. The darker the night the brighter the light shines. To be able to witness the marvelous transformation in the lives of African Christians and see them manifest the gifts of the Holy Ghost in worship was thrilling indeed. Many of the Christians who attended the area fellowship meetings in Nigeria walked jungle trails for upwards of two days to attend the meetings.

It has been said, "It is better to light a candle than to curse the darkness." Our missionaries have learned this lesson and practice it daily. They do not compete with the witch doctor in sorcery. This would only leave the national in his darkness. Instead they "light the candle" by preaching Jesus Christ, the Light of the world. (See John 1:4-9.)
Furthermore, light never struggles to dispel darkness. It effortlessly shines. This is the power of God in action. Where human efforts fail and men struggle against $\sin$, the anointing of the Holy Spirit gives power over sin.

Without contradiction, all signs today point to the deepening darkness of tribulation, unrest, violence, riots and mounting political problems. "Nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom.... And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring; men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken" (Luke $21: 10,25,26$ ).

While all of the African missionaries we visited had

Speed-the-Light equipment, we still have many missionaries in other countries of the world who do not as yet have transportation. The C. A. Department has a backlog of applications in its Speed-the-Light Division. Faith promises from district C. A. presidents last spring reached a goal of over $\$ 500,000$ for the year.

Speed-the-Light Dollar Day will assist in reaching that goal. Together with our dedicated missionaries will you rededicate yourself and follow in the footsteps of the Master by "craving no human honor, nor looking for mortal fame," but give glory and honor unto God by sharing with your support on Speed-the-Light Dollar Day?

Every dollar you give helps a missionary "speed the light" to another soul in darkness, a soul that must be reached before the midnight hour arrives.

## HOW TO DRIVE OUT DARKNESS

The pupils of a saintly rabbi were troubled about the prevalence of evil in the world and asked him how to drive out the forces of darkness.

The rabbi suggested that they descend with brooms into the cellar and try to sweep out the darkness. Amazed, they obeyed, but of course the darkness remained.

He then suggested they take sticks and try to drive out the darkness. Again they followed their rabbi's advice. Again they failed.

The rabbi turned to them with his final suggestion: "My children, perhaps you can better deal with this darkness if each of you will take a candle and light it. Then take it into the darkness."

They lit their candles, went into the cellar; and, behold, the darkness was driven out! The rabbi's lesson was clear. You drive out darkness with light.

Jesus said: "I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life" (John 8:12).
-Michael Horban


Gathered here for an informal practice session during the National Youth Conference is the Eastern District C. A. Choir with guest soloist Ken Carter. Eddie Reece selected and directed the group.

These C.A.'s paid their own way to the National Youth Conference at Springfield where they sang one night. On the way to and from Springfield they made one-night stands in various churches in the interests of Speed-the-Light. Offerings for Speed-the-Light had amounted to $\$ 1,800$ when they reached Springfield, and were expected to reach $\$ 2,500$ by the time they returned home, according to Eastern D-CAP Bob Clayton.


1944 the year Speed-the-Light began! 1964 -Speed-the-Light's 20th birthday-and the biggest year yet for our youth missions program. C.A.'s, and especially post-C.A.'s (who helped get Speed-the-Light rolling when they were teen-agers) are being urged to mark this birthday Dollar Day by giving $\$ 2$ for the 20th. You may have missed your opportunity to give at church. Or you may not have known this is an anniversary of note. Either way, just clip your offering to the coupon and help continue speeding the Light.


My offering for Speed-the-Light is \$
(212-510)
Name
Address
City
Stàte
ZIP
Church

MAIL TO
1445 BOONVILLE AVE. SPRINGFIELD, MO. 65802

# To God Be the Glory... GREAT THINGS HE HATH DONE 

RALPH W. HARRIS

Editor, Church School Literature
"Happy birthday to you, happy birthday to you." As the organist played the familiar refrain one night during the National Youth Conference in August, a murmur of surprise rippled across the audience. Then hundreds of eyes looked in wonder as Verne MacKinney carried a huge cake down the center aisle, 20 candles burning brightly.

The occasion delighted me more perhaps than any other person present, as memories of the past 20 years flooded my mind. For it was at a National Youth Conference in 1944, like this one in Springfield, Missouri, that the Speed-the-Light campaign was publicly announced for the first time. What great things God has done through the Christ's Ambassadors since that year!

The national C. A. office had been opened only 18 months before, in February, 1943. How well I remember my feelings when a letter arrived from General Superintendent E. S. Williams, asking me to undertake this assignment. Facing me, I knew, was a glorious opportunity, but also a solemn responsibility. Unless God helped me, I should certainly fail.

With my wife and two small daughters I traveled to Springfield, leaving my pastorate in Michigan and the presidency of the C.A.'s of the state. As I traveled to our headquarters city and during those first weeks there, I constantly prayed for divine guidance. I remember most of all praying that God would give me worthwhile ideas. Robert C. Cunningham, now editor of The Pentecostal Evangel was editing the Christ's Ambassadors Herald, and William Pickthorn, then pastoring in Memphis, Tennessee, had done some groundwork. But except for these activities, the Christ's Ambassadors had no sense of national unity. Goals and projects were needed to weld us into a national team.

How quickly God began to answer prayer! Within weeks circumstances occurred which helped to produce the Speed-the-Light idea.

The Assemblies of God was already beginning to plan


Ralph Harris, first national secretary of the Christ's Ambassadors Department, tells the National Youth Conference about the early days of Speed-the-Light which was launched in 1944.
its strategy for taking advantages of postwar opportunities. In March, 1943, a missionary convention was held on the campus of Central Bible Institute. Perhaps it was the missionary atmosphere that helped to bring Speed-the-Light into existence. If I had known what was to develop, I surely would have recorded my actions and reactions more completely. As it was, all my diary for March 17, 1943, states is: "An idea came to me of C.A.'s getting behind a move to train missionary workers and gather funds for a great expansion in missionary effort after the war."
"An idea came. ..." I believe it came from God. I remember talking with Kenneth Morris, a member of the editorial staff, who was a flying enthusiast. We talked one day about the many pilots who were being trained and of all the surplus equipment which would be available after the war. Why could not the C.A.'s raise money to purchase vehicles for missionaries?
"Your young men shall see visions." E. S. Williams said that is the verse which came to him when I suggested the as-yet-unnamed plan to him. Paul, he thought, didn't use planes and jeeps and station wagons. Then God spoke to our general superintendent's heart and reminded him that undoubtedly the apostle would have used every means at his disposal. How thankful we can be for leaders who encourage youth!

A program that affects an entire Movement is not developed overnight. So there was a great deal of work to do before that official announcement 20 years ago. Then the August. 1944, issue of the C. A. Herald carried a brief article which contained this paragraph:
"We have an age-old gospel, but we must use the latest means to send it out. 'Speed the light' is the cry if missionaries are going to be able to take advantage of the opportunities. They are going to need the best and fastest facilities possible. Airplanes will play a big part, jeeps will be of great value, motorcycles can help to speed the gospel. In some places motorboats can reach places accessible by no other means."

Then the article added, "We plan to raise $\$ 100,000$ for a fund to buy such vehicles."

The term "Speed the light" appeared although the name had not yet been chosen! Then came the prophetic comment: "This will be the greatest project ever undertaken by the C.A.'s." How true!

Many names were suggested as a result of a contest conducted by the C. A. Herald, and at the 1944 youth conference, the district C . A. leaders chose the name so well known now-Speed-the-Light. And at that Youth Conference, when the plan was announced, the young people spontaneously gave almost $\$ 900$ for the first project, an amphibian plane for West Africa.

What an exciting year 1945 was, as the C.A.'s rallied to the cause. By March, $\$ 10,500$ had come in ; by July, $\$ 37,000$; by November, $\$ 75,000$; and by the end of the year the C.A.'s had gone over the $\$ 100,000$ mark.

Probably my faith was small, for I had thought of Speed-the-Light as only a one-year project. Little did I realize what can happen when an idea is God-given and God-blessed. It soon became evident that Speed-the-Light could not be stopped-and who wanted to stop it, anyway?

I was pastoring in Seattle, Washington, when a telegram arrived in 1952 telling me the first million dollars had been given. It was my privilege four years later to give the two millionth dollar (in 1956) after I had returned to Springfield for my present post. Raising the third million took only three years; and the offering containing the four millionth dollar was mailed April, 1962, 10 years to the day from the time the C.A.'s reached the one million mark.

Speed-the-Light has meant more than dollars. It has


Verne MacKinney, who has served as Speed-the-Light coordinator and administrator for 14 years, carries the cake with 20 candles outlining the Speed-the-Light emblem during a presentation at the National Youth Conference.
meant vehicles-a stream of planes, jeeps, motorcycles, motorboats, station wagons-nearly 2.500 altogether. The program has also broadened to include radio and printing equipment. For example, in Rome our Sunday school literature is translated into Italian by an ex-priest, printed on Speed-the-Light presses-then shipped to about 40 countries of the world!

But Speed-the-Light means more than dollars and equipment. Most of all, it means souls. Missionaries say this equipment makes them 10 times as effective as they would be without it. It will take eternity to unveil all that Speed-the-Light has accomplished.

Sometime this fall the five millionth dollar will be given. It could be on Dollar Day, October 18. If so, it will mean the latest million dollars took only two and a half years, compared with the more than seven years for the first million. Speed-the-Light is speeding up. And it needs to. If anything, the need is more urgent than when the first dollar was given in 1944.

God has done great things, but He has needed people through whom He could work. He wants to do greater things, but He still depends on people like you. Aren't you glad you can help!

## A Little Creature with a Big Message

There are many little creatures on God's earth with a big message. The cony is one of these. "The conies are a feeble folk, yet they make their houses in the rocks" (Proverbs $30: 26$ ). The conies realize that they are an easy prey and that they need a refuge. Would to God that every one of us might have that much sense!

David said, "Lead me to the rock that is higher than I. For thou hast been a shelter for me, and a strong tower from the enemy" (Psalm 61:2, 3).

I cannot tell you how often in my own life I have breathed a quick sigh, "Jesus, help me now," and I have found the same refuge. This is not poetic language. This is reality.

All of us are like these little creatures. We are easy prey. The evil in this world "walketh about seeking whom it may devour." Millions of our fellow human beings are caught in the claws of intemperance, greed, revenge, perversion, folly, profanity and bitter memory. No man is a match for evil in himself.

The biggest lie the devil tells, he tells to the perfectly mannered young man or strictly raised young woman that he or she-depending upon breeding, culture and favorable background alone-can venture into the mainstream of society and retain such ideals untarnished. He says the world will welcome such a change; that you can mingle and be recognized and appreciated for what you are, high-class, a cut or two above the average; that extraordinary ability does not have to prostitute itself to climb the ladder of success.

I ask you to look at the human wreckage all around you. If you are going to play the world's game, you are going to have to accept the world's rules.

Call me what you want! I need a hiding place. The greatest sense of all is to recognize your own need in time to do something about it-in time to find salvation.

The Rock of Ages, Jesus Christ the Son of God, is that hiding place.
-C. M. Ward

## THE PROPHETIC THEME OF ANOTHER DOLLAR DAY RINGS OUT A CHALLENGE TO C.A.'S IN 1964

It was 1956. None of today's teen-agers were yet C.A.'s. The Pentecostal Evangel carried the picture at the right to highlight the annual Speed-the-Light Dollar Day theme: Darkness Deepens! The setting of the photo was Camaguey Province, Cuba. Speed-the-Light was helping hasten the spread of the gospel across the island nation. No one then foresaw Cuba's future. The country was held in the iron grip of dictator Batista. Two year later, another Speed-the-Light vehicle was photographed in front of a church in Ciego de Avila, Cuba. Scrawled across the wall of the church was a revolutionary slogan-"Down with Batista." The revolution came. As far as missionary work was concerned, darkening clouds moved across Cuba. Normal access was cut off. But because we had worked while we could, a national church had been established. Judging from current reports, it has maintained its witness, even through trying times.
In China, too, Speed-the-Light helped hasten the gospel witness. The present condition of the church there is more difficult to assess-repression has been violent. We pray for our brethren when they are cut off from us. Their situation moves us to look upon the seething world of today and declare again, "Darkness deepens!" Where next will the curtain fall on missionary opportunity?
It is not pessimism nor defeatism which prompts the question. Rather it is determination to rush through every open door, to buy up every opportunity, lest somewhere, by our neglect, some whole city, or nation, will move beyond the reach of our witness without our having met the challenge.


Rachel and Fernando Nieto stand in front of the Ciego de Avila, Cuba, church. Their car was provided by Speed-the-Light. Note the revolutionary slogan on the wall.



In 1946 Howard Osgood and L. C. Bolton posed by their STL car in front of the old headquarters building in Springfield before starting on a historic missions survey trip across Chino from Shanghai to Kunming. Ranging for from the beaten track, the trip encountered ancient bridges, ferries, and plain,

unimproved mudholes. High in the mountains of Kuei-chew on the way to Yunnan Province, the missionaries paused to look across the mile-high back country. "The roads are bad," said a brief note on the snapshot. At a Chinese village, Brother Osgood's daughter Anita visits with Chinese children.

# I Get Around 

Autobiography of a Speed-the-Light Jeep as told by MAYNARD L. KETCHAM

-Field Secretary for the Far East



I Am a Jeep. I was designed by united states army consultants as a "utility vehicle" to bring defeat and confusion to the enemies of America. I was designed to look small, to be cheap, rugged, versatile, and readily expendable. I accomplished my military purpose-but I live on!

Yes, I live on to fight a much bigger battle - "the battle of the ages." For I have been pressed into yeoman service by missionaries in the great fight to bring Jesus Christ and His wonderful salvation to the unevangelized millions of the world. Yes, I am cheap. Yes, I am rugged. Yes, I am versatile. But expended-no! Why, I have already covered 65,000 miles-many of which they call carabao miles here in the Philippines! I have gone cross-lots, I have forded rivers, I have climbed mountains. And no one has yet seen my "insides." My owner laughingly says I will last longer than he will!
To be more specific, I am a Speed-the-Light jeep. I was dressed up just a little with the addition of one of those Texas-made aluminum bodies. It keeps out the rain and holds in the heat! The young people of the Northwest District bought me for one of their favorite sons-Rudy Esperanza.

Rudy and I have something in common. For he too is not following out people's original intention for his life! He was a Methodist Filipino and was sent to the United States for seminary education. But he became filled with the Spirit, left his seminary, attended Northwest Bible College, and went back to the Philippines determined to spread the "latter rain" experience from one end to the other of his beloved country.

Came the war-and complete disruption. The embryonic Pentecostal movement in the Philippines seemed due for extinction. Our few missionaries were interned;

Pentecostal Christians were subject to grave privations. Rudy "went underground" for the duration. He often lived on sweet potatoes and mangoes. He surreptitiously smuggled life-giving food parcels to the missionaries who were practically dying in Japanese internment camps. He visited the few faithful believers wherever he could find them. And he laid the foundation for Bible school work by giving systematic teaching wherever he could gather a few students.

At the conclusion of the war missionaries returned, the work was organized, and Rudy was asked to serve as general superintendent of the Assemblies of God in the Philippines. This he did with such blessing and efficiency that the work has burgeoned in a few short years. Today we have five first-class Bible schools, 350 churches, 600 pastors, 35,000 adherents, and a widespread radio and literature ministry.

All this took travel-which is where I enter the picture! As Rudy's responsibilities grew he had to have some kind of vehicle. He said, "Get me a jeep-it will take me anywhere." May I boast just a little? During the seven years of my life I have taken the general superintendent of the Philippines from one end of the island of Luzon to the other - to workers conferences, to church dedications, on preaching missions. I have helped establish Bible schools by hauling sacks of rice, loads of timber, coconut mats, and fiber for thatching. Wherever there was an emergency-I was there! Wherever there were advances in the work-I was there! Let me give you a page from my diary:

The annual convention is coming up for the Northern Luzon District Council. Superintendent Rudy is no armchair superintendent. He says the backbone of the Philippines economy is rural-so let's get out into the rural areas where the "genuine" Filipinos live.

Jeeps don't talk. But missionaries do, and scores of them would like a chance to say THANK YOU to every Christ's Ambassador who has helped make Speed-the-Light a success. No one can use a Speed-the-Light vehicle for long without realizing what un interesting story the vehicle could tell if it had the power of speech. Maynard L. Ketcham has captured the feelings of many missionaries in this true-tolife account of the activities of one item from the long list of equipment serving our missionaries around the world.

So this particular convention is planned to take place way off through the rice fields and across the ravines at the foot of famous Mt. Del Pilar. Brother Ketcham, the field secretary, is coming on a visit. Don't worry, we'll let him rough it too! So Rudy loads me up in Manila-with Ketcham and his bags and camera and briefcase, a couple of hundred pounds of literature, several thousand copies of the new Philippine Evangel, new editions of Sunday school quarterlies, and several other people. Up the major highway I roll to Pangasinan, Rudy's home, where the night is spent. Then we leave the road, fording streams, crossing dry rice fields, and churning through buffalo wallows. More preachers and interested parties are piled on my sides, my back, and even my top.

At last we reach the convention site. Bamboo, corrugated roofing tin, planks, huge cooking pots, and people are scattered around in apparent disarray. But, in the usual unhurried pace of the Philippines things begin to take shape. Sizwali houses soon appear. And I certainly am kept busy. Rudy turns my key over to a succession
of local boys. They are more used to piloting carabaos than piloting a sophisticated jeep like me. Nevertheless, I take them to buy rope and building material. We bring back sweet potatoes, too-only vegetable we can find. Then we go a long way across the rice fields to the local bus station to rescue the WMC director and her packages.

The convention materializes. Several hundred people come. A dozen new students are contacted for the Bible school. Plans are made for several new churches-to be established by Bible school graduates. Seven new Sunday schools are organized. And finally, the WMC ladies steal the show by their enthusiasm. The convention is soon history.

Yes, I am proud of my part in the development of the Assemblies of God of the Philippines. I may be a "utility vehicle." I may be designed to be expendable. But through my efforts and through the loyal backing of the young people who provided me, the "battle of the Philippines" is being won for Jesus Christ our Lord!


I was CaUGHt UP in the air of excitement that filled the auditorium of my home church. Christ's Ambassadors from all over the section were rapidly filling the building. This rally, held in Fredericktown, Missouri, in the spring of 1945, was to introduce us to a new venture in missions. It was our first sectional Speed-the-Light convention.

I was especially thankful to be there. During the winter months I had suffered a severe case of rheumatic fever. Through those weeks of illness, Christ had made Himself known to me in a new way. This was the first C. A. convention I had been able to attend since my illness.

As I sat with friends, waiting for the service to begin, we chattered as teen-agers usually do. There was so much news to catch up on since we last met. How could I know that the events of this night would change the direction of my life?

Our district C. A. president, Loren Wooten, spoke at the rally. He presented to us the new concept of Speed-
the-Light. We teen-agers could accelerate the going of the gospel! By pooling our meager resources we could equip our missionaries to go farther and faster with the message of salvation. The idea caught fire. We were excited to think that our few dollars could become important in the great cause of missions.

Primarily, Brother Wooten had challenged us to GIVE. Then the tenor of the message changed. Important as giving was, he said, it was not enough! Someone must go. Recruits were needed-replacements for veteran missionaries soon to retire; volunteers to pioneer new fields. Who could meet this need? Young people . . . teen-agers

Christ's Ambassadors! The speaker closed with a direct appeal. His eyes searched the audience as he said quietly, "Will you go?" He was looking at me! Did every teen-ager there feel as I did? Those three words seemed to be the voice of God thundering through my heart, "Will you go?"

How could I do less after all He had done for me? I did not think then of the barriers-youth, inexperience, poor health (my heart was "incurably" damaged by my recent illness). I only thought of how great and good God was. So much He had given me. Now, He needed me! In that church, crowded with weeping, praying young people, I slipped quietly to my knees beside the seat. In answer to God's call I whispered the one word that was to change my life, "Yes."

Outwardly my life changed little at first. The same momentous occasions that come to every girl measured my experiences... high school graduation, college, my first job. Then a miracle-God healed my damaged heart ! After that came Bible school, marriage, motherhood, life as a pastor's wife.

The years passed- 13 of them. Then, in God's time, His plan for me was fulfilled as we landed on the shores of the Philippines. We have served as missionaries here the past six years. When I gave that first Speed-theLight dollar in 1945, I could not know that I would one day ride in a Speed-the-Light car, taking the gospel to villages where there was no Protestant witness. The direction of my life was completely changed in that first Speed-the-Light meeting I attended.

In addition to its great foreign ministry, Speed-the-Light extends the Kingdom in the homeland by providing funds to help build new churches and to buy vehicles for home missionaries.
 stands beside the 1964 GMC vehicle provided through STL funds.

Since the 1961 general council in portland, oregon, five per cent of Speed-the-Light offerings is allocated for Special Ministries of the Home Missions Department to provide vehicles for Alaskan missionaries and those working among Indians. Over 20 grateful home missionaries -in Alaska, Arizona, the Dakotas, Idaho, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming-have been the recipients of urgently needed vehicles.

For some time, twenty per cent of STL funds received in the national office has gone back to the districts for their Home Missions projects. Numbers of pioneer churches which have received help from STL funds are now thriving assemblies that are able themselves to contribute to Speed-the-Light. Thus the chain reaction of STL goes on to provide more gospel light in the homeland.

## Speed-the-Light Helps Build Churches

Rocky Mountain District
During the past year, the Rocky Mountain District was able to help finance two new churches-Denver Faith Chapel and Denver Rose Haven-with STL funds.


STL funds helped build this attractive church in Centerville, Ga. The church is a block and brick structure with laminated trusses.

# Speed-the-Light on The Home Front 

Faith Chapel received $\$ 500$ and Rose Haven Assembly $\$ 750$.
R. G. Fulford, superintendent of the Rocky Mountain District, says: "This return to our district has been a real help over the years. Altogether we have received $\$ 12,000$ which we have used to help over thirty churches."
Georgia
One thousand dollars of STL funds went into the attractive new Assembly of God church building in Centerville, Ga. This church began in a barracks building March 29, 1963. John Edwards pastored the congregation for several months and the present pastor, Earl Stucky, followed him. Brother Stucky soon began construction of the new church which was completed on December 29, 1963. The church is a brick and block structure with laminated trusses and occupies 5,500 square feet. The main auditorium is air-conditioned. The church has a beautiful nursery, beginner and primary departments and six other Sunday school rooms.

## Southern California

L. E. Halvorson, superintendent of the Southern California District, writes: "Our Speed-the-Light program has received warm acceptance in our district. We are hoping and praying that our united effort this year will add $\$ 70,000$ to the over-all STL drive. Returns from the Speed-the-Light fund have been a blessing to our home missions program through many years."

## Alabama

A lovely brick veneer church building has now taken the place of the district's portable tabernacle at Saugahatchee Assembly of God in Alabama. This church, launched approximately a year ago, already has averaged approximately 60 in Sunday school. God's blessings have rested upon the congregation from the beginning. The church was dedicated September 13. The district was able to grant this pioneer church $\$ 500$ from STL returns. L. V. Nelson is pastor.

Also, the district was able to help a new work that is being started in Huntsville, Ala., from STL funds. R. S. Watson is undertaking the establishment of an assembly in this thriving city known as Rocket City. It is a rocket test site and the home of the Redstone Arsenal.

Although they have not yet begun construction, a beautiful lot has been purchased in a very desirable location
for the new Oakwood Avenue Assembly. The potential for this church is great since Huntsville is one of the fastest growing cities in the United States. More than three hundred new families are moving into the area each month.

The St. Thomas Episcopal Church has granted permission to Brother Watson and his congregation to conduct their Sunday evening services in this church at present. Several have been saved and at least four have been filled with the Holy Spirit.

## STL Puts Missionaries on Wheels

## Burntwater, Arizona

On May 5, 1964, the Charles Kumleys were presented with $\$ 1,500$ from STL to assist in the purchase of a GMC pickup truck. After three months of use among the Navajo Indians, the mileage has exceeded 9,000 miles. The gray half-ton truck with its white canopy is affectionately thought of as an assistant missionary.

It provides transport over rough reservation roads for a Tuesday afternoon young people's class, the Wednesday night service, and two services on Sunday. A baptismal service calls for a 17 -mile trip to a lake deep in the reservation.

Utility uses of the vehicle include the hauling of water for household use, and either a 50 -mile trip to Gallup or a 65 -mile trip to Holbrook for freight-packages of clothing for the Navajo and mission supplies. Occasionally the pickup truck becomes an ambulance to transport the sick to government hospitals.

The sacrificial giving of Christ's Ambassadors is greatly appreciated by the Charles Kumleys.

## Phoenix, Arizona

An International Travel-All now is serving the Lonnie Thomases of Phoenix in their work among the American Indians, thanks to the help of $\$ 1,500$ from STL funds. The vehicle is presently in use on the Salt River reservation near Phoenix where the Thomases have been successful in leasing $21 / 2$ acres of land with the approval of the Tribal Council for a new mission among the Pima Indians. When the Thomases visited a C. A. camp in

South Texas this summer the vehicle was dedicated. It was an inspiration to the C.A.'s to see what their dollars for Speed-the-Light do for missions.

## Tuba City, Arizona

Out in the Navajo-Hopi country Marguerite Shaw and Phyllis Hammerbacker can take 42 Indian people to church in their STL bus. The bus reaches Moenhavi, Kerley Trading Post, Moenkopi, Rare Metals, and Tuba City.

## Gallup, New Mexico

The Caleb Smiths of Gallup report that their 37passenger bus has greatly blessed their ministry and has increased their Sunday school attendance to over 100. The bus travels 70 miles each Sunday and brings twice as many people to Sunday school and church as the old vehicle did.

## Mexican Hat, Utah

Their STL Chevrolet station wagon helps the Grant Croasmuns to get the gospel to the Indian people in the Mexican Hat area. Without it, many of the Indian people would be unable to attend services. This is a relatively new Indian work, having been started in 1959. The Croasmuns' 1953 Buick soon wore out on the rough roads. They paid down on a pickup truck and since Mr . Croasmun works to support himself and his wife, he had to have the truck at his work leaving Mrs. Croasmun without transportation. The Croasmuns say their work among the Indians would be paralyzed without transportation and they are so thankful for the station wagon.

## Valdez, Alaska

Mildred Pitts, supervisor of the Valdez Children's Home in Alaska, says the VW microbus supplied through STL funds is just right for the "family." It serves as general transportation, ambulance (especially when the nearest doctor is 117 miles away), and a way to bring back the moose and caribou in the hunting season to feed the hungry children. At Christmastime the VW brings to the home all the boxes of Christmas remembrances from the WMC's and Missionettes. Sister Pitts says, "Having this wonderful gift makes it like Christmas all year round."



BY MELVIN HODGES, FIELD SECRETARY FOR LATIN AMERICA

The glorious gospel is shining in ever-increasing brightness throughout Latin America, and Speed-theLight equipment is part of the reason. Our ambassadors abroad are using many kinds of equipment purchased by C.A.'s in America.

## Radio

Latin America has an amazing radio coverage. I have seen a Bolivian Indian riding along on a donkey listening to a transistor radio.

Once I saw a man trudging on foot with a bag on his back. The sound of music enveloped him. We decided he had a transistor radio turned on inside the bag, to entertain him while he plodded along.

Opportunities for broadcasting in Latin America are greater than ever. Speed-the-Light microphones, tape recorders, and other equipment are being used in preparing programs. Paul Finkenbinder has come out with a four-minute spot sermon, broadcast several times a day. No hymns are sung-just the message. The steppedup response is gratifying. These four-
minute talks prepared on tape using Speed-the-Light equipment are being heard in Central America, South America, and the West Indies.

The Second Assembly of God in Managua was raised up as a result of the radio program. Russell Kensinger, writing to Paul Finkenbinder, said: "The local family accepted the gospel entirely from listening to your radio messages. There are now about 60 believers in this new congregation. The local congregation has paid every cent of the cost (the building). It is a completely indigenous project.
They have sent four students to the Bible Institute in the last three years."

From Mexico to Argentina, from Brazil to Peru, from the West Indies to Central America, missionaries and nationals are on the air in the Spanish, Portuguese, and English languages. The message is going out.

## Airplanes

We have only two airplanes in use in the entire Latin America-West Indies area. George Davis, the Sunday school coordinator, is using a Cessna


Missionary Ellis Stone
and Nicaraguan pastor and Nicaraguan pastor with his Speed-the-Light "vehicle," meet on a road near Somoto, Nicaragua, where God has helped them recently to establish a new church. Of the 40 members, 20 have received the baptism of the Holy Spirit. The mule is a STL gift from C.A.'s in Ontario, Oreg., and transports workers who are evangelizing this area.

The T. O. Johnstons of Bolivia put their Speed-the-Light vehicle to many varied uses in their ministry in the high Andean country. They continually visit groups and towns located from 13,000 to 15,000 feet above sea-level. Then after a group gets started they use the truck to haul a tent for special services. Later the truck hauls building materials for the new church. Finally it serves, with the camper, as a temporary home for the missionaries while they minister the Word of life to hungry believers.

## Presses

From Mexico to Argentina offset presses and duplicators are helping in

Bible school work, printing tracts, chorus books, sending out bulletins, and in general are speeding the message on its way.

A Speed-the-Light boat will help open the area around Iquitos, Peru. This city is on the headwaters of the Amazon. Calls are coming in to our missionary from points that will take seven days to reach by boat. Semicivilized Indian settlements are open to the gospel.

With Speed-the-Light equipment, missionaries and workers are speeding the light on all fronts. The darkness deepens, but the light continues to shine forth, sped on by the faithfulness of Pentecostal youth.

## NAE NOW 22 YEARS OLD

A GUEST EDITORIAL BY DR. JARED F. GERIG<br>President, National Association of Evangelicals

Striding the mid-Twentieth century is an organization which, in 1942, sprang from the need for oneness of voice and unity of action among evangelical Christians-a vehicle for spiritual unity and action with an unqualified loyalty to the gospel of Jesus Christ. A unique ministry has settled upon this organization, the National Association of Evangelicals, and finds its expression in at least three distinct missions :

NAE stands. "Unqualified loyalty to the gospel of Jesus Christ as revealed in the Word of God" is a stand without compromise and without blush. The purpose of NAE in its founding was to reaffirm the loyalty of evangelicals to "the historic evangelical position as recapitulated in our statement of faith, and to raise up a witness against apostasy of groups claiming to represent Protestant Christianity without such loyalty to the historic gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ." Here the NAE continues to stand.

NAE speaks. The "oneness of voice" for thousands of Christians has been heard on great issues in many places. This voice has been heard in the smallest churches and in the highest places of government. It has spoken from the printed page and from convention platforms. Hundreds of thousands of evangelicals are express-
ing themselves and being heard through this united voice.

NAE serves. The NAE is not the master but the servant of its constituent members. Scores of mission boards are now served effectively in this day of multiplied problems by the Evangelical Foreign Missions Association from its Washington office. A great door has been opened to the churches for a relief ministry to the world through the World Relief Commission. The National Sunday School Association serves the churches of our nation in one of the greatest Christian education revitalization programs of the century. These are but a few of the vital services now rendered through the many commissions, affiliates and agencies of NAE.

The NAE continues to meet the needs of evangelicals everywhere. Can any evangelical Christian or church afford in these critical days to stand independently without adding his voice and taking his stand where it will count the most?

October $18-25$ is NAE week. The Assemblies of God as a charter member of this united evangelical effort urges all its churches to pray for this cooperative ministry and to support the NAE program, particularly on Reformation Sunday, October 25.


## he may be learning more about the Word than most folks...

He's one of over 12,000 men who have taken our basic Bible study course in prison! Where does he go from here? He may teach Sunday school inside the walls. Or he may become your neighbor and fellow worshiper outside. He may even become your pastor! Over 100,000 Bible study courses have been distributed in prisons across the country by the Prison Division of the National Home Missions Department. The courses are provided free as funds permit. This is just one aspect of our prison work-a work enjoined by the Saviour Himself. Your financial support and your active participation in local jail ministry is desperately needed. Send your offerings and inquiries to

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# It's Time for Action 

By D. V. Hurst
Coordinator, Spiritual Life Evangelism Commission

There has been much talk about personal evangelism. It is time now to do it, to learn how while doing it and to experience power in doing it! Our Men's Fellowship is saying, "We will!"

The Early Church was known for action! The record of its accomplishments is called "The Acts." In this the believers were merely following their Lord's lead. He was known for action! He said, "My meat is to do the will of Him that sent me. ..." (John 4:34). John concluded his Gospel saying, "And there are also many other things which Jesus did, the which, if they should be written every one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that should be written" (John $21: 25$ ). In writing his second letter Luke implied Jesus never stopped-"The former treatise have I made . . . of all that Jesus began to do ..." (Acts 1:1). The inference: this second letter will be about what He is continuing to do! The action of the Early Church was "Christ in them"-doing!

After stating His own purpose Jesus challenged His disciples to "look on the fields" and find a place of harvest, a place for action. They, too, could share in His work. And He explained that sowing and reaping work together. Different persons may be involved in each but the whole action was one operation-both will "rejoice together." The reaper "enters into" the labor of the sower (John 4).

There is a harvest ready across America! The seed has been sown. Mass media have been employed. The seed has been "given to the winds" to carry. It has been sown in churches, in neighborhoods, and everywhere silently by the everyday lives of those who "let their light shine." It is time to "look on the fields," to be challenged by the sight of them, to let the Sword of the Lord become a sickle in hand and with all "might"
to reap. "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might" (Ecclesiastes 9:10).

There is a need today for "greater works," more action in the harvest field. The kind of action needed is the kind described in "The Acts."

There is a need for universal action. The whole church must be involved. There is need for total mobilization of spiritual manpower and for channeling that manpower into effective soul winning.

The promise of Jesus to the Spiritfilled was not restrictive, not to a select few! "Ye shall be witnesses" was the word directed to all who experienced the baptism in the Holy Spirit; "witnessing" was to follow directly.

When heavy persecution befell the Early Church, the record states, "They that were scattered abroad went everywhere preaching the word" (Acts 8:4). Evidently they were all ready to preach and evangelize wherever they went. They had been involved in de-

## Men Reaching the Lost

Night after night during the month of November, 1963, the men of the First Assembly of God, Mobile, Ala., went door to door witnessing to the lost, praying for the sick, and listening to the problems and sorrows of others. Again and again our hearts rejoiced as men, women and children knelt before God and confessed their sins.
The month of witnessing had a profound effect upon our men. They became possessed with a strong desire to continue this bold approach to reach the lost with the gospel. As a result, our men decided this ministry should be carried on throughout the entire year. Once every week now the men go out two by two inviting the lost of the city to accept Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour.

Without a doubt this is the most beneficial and scriptural program ever adopted by any group in our church. It has brought a continuous and healthy rate of growth to our Sunday school and church.
-OSCAR L. FARRAGUT MF President
claring the good news in Jerusalem. This was the pattern of life "daily." And Jerusalem had been "filled with doctrine." Now that they were scattered to new fields they continued in their everyday evangelism.
It is staggering to realize what could be accomplished today if every Spirit-filled believer would actively evangelize every day! Someone said, "We know so much and have experienced so much and yet do so little. If we did proportionately, we would out-do all others!'"
There is need for penetrating action -the Early Church was "scattered" and "went." They did not wait for a harvest to come to them.
The pattern had been given in advance by Jesus in sending out the 70 : they were chosen and appointed; they were sent in teams of two ; they were told to pray ; they were sent "as lambs among wolves"; they were told what to take, how to speak, what to do, and how to face opposition; and when they returned they were retrained. The shepherd deliberately sent His sheep into the midst of wolves. But He said, "I give you power...." When they acted they discovered His power was with them!
The church today needs to break out of its tower and go-and go-and go! Many members want to remain in the protection of the church and avoid "contact" with the world. They sing and testify to each other! However, they feel a sense of guilt and periodically seek to salve it by engaging in a bit of evangelism. Like the mythical knight of old they mount and ride out of the castle to do battle. Soon they come back having slain the dragonof guilt-to relax in the security of four walls once again.
It is time to penetrate the stronghold of the enemy, to engage him in action on his territory outside the sanctuary. There needs to be an offensive for God!

There is a need for Christ-centered action. Jesus must be "lifted up." The aim of personal evangelism must be to confront individuals with the gospel of Jesus Christ. It is not just "inviting" people to church. It is not talking about the organization of the church, its spread of classes, its comforts and advantages, or the lovely building. It is pointing people to Jesus Christ! The Early Church, the body of Christ, functioned in evangelism before it ever put up a building! They witnessed to Christ.

The simple truths of sin, judgment and an available Saviour need to be declared today.

Recently two Assemblies of God young men were engaged with a large number of C.A.'s in "Operation Utah," calling at homes and looking for a harvest. Apparently they were reported to the authorities. Soon a patrolman "picked them up" and told them there had been complaints. One of them quickly replied, "We're making calls and representing Jesus Christ," and without waiting he leaned forward from the back seat of the squad car and shared his Evangel with the officer. He then turned to his "door opener" and went through the plan of salvation. When he had finished his witness the officer dismissed the two boys and permitted them to continue their calling. That afternoon a team of two girls called at the officer's home. He was there with his wife. The girls presented the plan of salvation to both. When they had finished the officer praised both the boys and the girls and told the young ladies, "If there is anything we can do to help you, just let us know."

There is a need for Holy Spiritled and empowered action. Just as Jesus, Himself, was led and empowered by the Spirit, and just as the Early Church was led and empowered by the Spirit, so believers today need to be led and empowered. We have been led and told to "go"; we will be empowered as we do!

The 70 learned to know the power of Christ in action. The Early Church experienced the power "after" the Holy Ghost came as they acted in witnessing evangelism. The record here is clear. Peter and the others learned it on the first day. Later, after the first arrest and release, "with great power gave the apostles witness..." (Acts 4:33).
There is a transforming power op-


Assemblies of God leaders review new leadership manual on soul winning sponsored by the Department of Men's Fellowship. Left to right are: D. V. Hurst, coordinator of Spiritual Life-Evangelism Commission; Burton Pierce, national MF secretary; T. F. Zimmerman, general superintendent; Howard S. Bush, assistant general superintendent and executive director of Men's Fellowship.

## A WORD FROM THE GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT

The key to a soul winner's success is his compassion. Unless this motivating and impelling force is infused and implanted, by the Holy Spirit, into the heart of a man, his soul-wimning efforts will be barren and fruitless. Jesus said of His own ministry: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor, to heal the broken hearted ...to set at liberty them that are bruised."

And again, when Jesus saz the multitudes, "he was moved with compassion ... because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd." He turned to his disciples and said, "The harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few. Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest. that he will send forth laborers.

The great Lord of the harvest will not send His laborers out with empty hearts and empty hands. He will equip them with His own mighty power and with divine compassion for lost men and women all around, that the poor, the maimed, the lame and the blind may receive the Bread of Life.

Thos. F. Zimmerman
erative in the action of Holy Spiritanointed witnessing. It works in the life of the witness himself! Recently I've seen young people, men and women transformed and renewed in a refreshing way in the action of soul winning. I don't believe they can ever really be the same again. This is part of the change "into the same image from glory to glory" by the Spirit that takes place in the Spirit-filled. For "we have this treasure in earthen
vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God..." ( 2 Corinthians $3: 18 ; 4: 7$ ).

There is need for faith action. The Early Church "went" in faith. They dared to "look" for and expect a harvest. The record again is clear. The Lord "worked with them, confirming the word with signs following" (Mark 16:20).

God cannot work with inactive peo-
(Continued on page twenty-seven)


# The Future Belongs to Those Who Read 

BY LOUIS H. BENES

# STRONG WORD... 

## BUT IT'S SCRIPTURE

And the Lord said...compel them to come in

Luke 14:23
The annual men's soul-winning drive, sponsored nationally and locally by men's fellowships, will soon begin.

## MEN NEED TO BE SAVED

## SAVED MEN NEED TO BE WORKING TO WIN THEM

If your church is participating, rally to the cause! If you haven't heard of plans yet, ask your MF leaders, or pastor. Any interested group is urged to write Men's Fellowship, 1445 Boonville, Springfield, Mo., 65802, for complete details.


Do you remember the man who trained for years to compete in the 1960 Olympics and then slept through the 800 -meter run, which was the qualifying heat of his event? The time of the race had been changed from its published schedule, and messengers were sent to awaken the athletes who were to participate in this event. They were not able to arouse Wim Essajas of Surinam (Dutch Guiana) so the race was run without him and he lost his chance to compete in the Olympics!

Christ's Church is engaged in a great contest. We who are Christian disciples represent Him in this struggle on the scene of time. What if we are not awake and alert? What if we do not keep informed and as a result are asleep for the event in which Christ depends on us?

The appeal of superficial entertainment via the tabloids and the comics or the television set, besides just ordinary mental laziness, may often tend to head off even serious determination to improve the mind and the soul. Ralph Tyler Flewelling, in his book Survival of Western Culture, says that "the most conspicious lack of our times, in spite of our intellectual pride and self-sufficiency, is a dire mental incapacity, an inability for continuous or profound thought, an incapacity for mastery of many complementary facts.... This is discoverable in the growing innocuousness of our educational curricula, in the meaninglessness of our amusements, in the journalistic reign of our mob psychology, in the over-flooded presses issuing the latest fiction, in the detonations of our

[^1]jazz orchestras, the popular crooning of the radio.

But shouting against bad literature will never fill our minds with the good. It is not enough to operate in the negative only. We need to fill our homes with Christian literature, the best of Christian books and magazines. Yet, look around you-Christian literature in many a church member's home is almost non-existent. Everything else is there-newspapers, secular magazines, television sets-but where are the Christian books and magazines?

But you don't read? Not a great deal, anyway? How much you are missing. Reading is one of the distinguishing marks which separate man from the animal! Language is God's gift to those whom He has created in His own image. This ability to read, to think, is a part of the image of God in us that was not lost in man's fall at the beginning of history. Perhaps that is why language is so sacred, so precious. God speaks to man through His words, and men communicate with one another through these same words. As Dinsdale T. Young, a British preacher of yesterday, has said: "One of the great presuppositions of the Bible is that God's people will read. The existence of Scripture is in itself an argument for the necessity of reading. That God inspired a book indicates His desire that His servants should be readers."

How precious is language through which God speaks to man; language which links mind to mind and heart to heart. The non-reading Christian misses all this. He limits his witness and effectiveness in a time when ignorance of the Christian faith and the Christian warfare is most inexcusable.

The Archbishop of York, writing on The Church's Task in the Field of Christian Literature, said recently: "It is my profound conviction that
the Church-and I use the word in its widest sense-must take a new look at the whole matter of Christian literature. It must plan a new strategy, and that at once, unless we are to see the Christian battle for the mind of the world lost in our generation. Is not this the time to review our strategy? Is not this the time to alert the churches-and, beyond the strict limits of the churches, the well-disposed pub-lic-to the fact, which none can deny unless they shut their eyes, that the real battle today is being fought in the realm of ideas, and that ideas are born and nourished by literature? Nothing less is called for than the 'impregnation' of society, at all levels of culture, in all races of the world, with literature which conveys the Christian message." This "impregnation" must begin within the churches, within our own hearts.

It must begin with Christian homes saturated with Christian books and journals. This will not only preserve us against the "brainwashing" of the mass media. It will also equip us to take the offensive and to invade our secular culture with the truth of the gospel.

Christian magazines have a peculiar and distinctive function in the service of Christ and His Church. They provide what neither newspaper nor television nor any other magazine can. They bring to the reader what no mass communication media can ever possibly furnish. Your Christian magazine presents you with information you get nowhere else. It helps you to interpret the meaning of contemporary history in the light of the Word of God. It binds you together with other Christians to make you aware of the blessing of Christian fellowship and of our common strength as we hold our faith and witness in a hostile environment.

We are out there in the Olympics. If the Christian faith is to win, Christians will need to outpublish, outread and outdistribute the secular world, the Communists, and all others who

are competing to outrun the gospel today.

The future does not belong to churches which are religiously uninformed and illiterate, or to Christians who slumber in ease and pleasure. The future belongs, under God, to those who know what they helieve, and why.

## It's Time for Action

(Continued from page twenty-five)
ple. But He can work with those who act in faith., The apostle Paul said, "We have the spirit of faith... we also believe, and therefore speak" (2 Corinthians $4: 13$ ). It is a "hard saying" but he who is afraid to speak does not have faith. "Faith without works [action] is dead." The first Adam was "afraid" and "hid"; the brethren of the second had "faith" and "went."

There is an element of venture, of daring, of faith action required in evangelism.

There is a need for compelling action. The Early Church sensed an urgency in their action. They had a degree of abandonment, of finality. Paul said, "Knowing the terror of the Lord, we persuade men..." (2 Corinthians 5: 11). "The god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not..." (2 Corinthians $4: 4$ ). They know not what their real need is and they have not the propensity to save themselves. They need urging, persuasion.

The Early Church felt compelled to compel! It has been said: "One gets the impression upon reading the Book of Acts that it records the lives of men and women who are under a great compulsion. These people are intoxicated with a sense of destiny."

Jesus implied there would come a time when the need for compelling action would be even greater. In the parable of the great supper He indi cated that the invitation, "Come," would be sent. Many would excuse themselves. Then the poor, the maimed, the halt and the blind would be brought; but still there would be room. Then it would be time to "compel [urge and constrain] them to come in" (Luke 14:23). Many feel that now is the time:

Our Men's Fellowship has taken up the challenge of compelling action.

The men have chosen as the theme for their November "Action MANdatory" soul-winning drive the one word, "Compel." They feel the Holy Spirit is speaking, calling for action in this direction. It is a theme very much in keeping with the urgent need for a revival of evangelism, a need that is being felt all across our fellowship.

We say to the men and to the whole fellowship: "Use everyone you can enlist. The main business of the church is evangelism. Every man is responsible. All should be totally committed to Christ and totally involved in reaching others with His gospel. Nothing will stabilize a convert in the faith as quickly as winning another soul. Nothing will help him along the road to maturity in Christ as much as regular witnessing. So, move forward in soul-winning action! Learn how as you do it! You will experience divine power and enablement as you do! It is time, now, for action!"

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## Evangelism BREAKTHROUGH

MERCER, MO.-The ministry, years found the Lord. Each night baptized in water on the final both in sermon and song, of God met the people; there was a Evangelist Spencer Weddle and family of Bethany, Mo., was a blessing to the Assembly of God here during a meeting from July 7 to 20. By far the best revival in the past two years, nine came to the altar for salvation, eight were reclaimed, and one was baptized in the Holy Spirit. Pentecost fell in 1909 in this little North Missouri farming community. With a population of only 377 , the church was filled with 174 in attendance on the last day of the meeting. -A. M. Roberts, Pastor

BIRMINGHAM, ALA.-A revival with Evangelist Gene Burgess of Memphis, Tenn., June 2-14, left a lasting impression upon the First Assembly of God here. Several were saved and a young man who had been an agnostic for 15
fine group of visitors, and many, especially the youth, drew near to the Lord. During the Sunday school hour, the evangelist taught the youth classes in a seminar on "Understanding God's Will for Your Life."

Every facet of the church is growing. Miss Lois Worth is ministering to the deaf. The youth choir and orchestra have traveled to many churches throughout the south.-S. F. McManus, Pastor.

FORT WAYNE, IND.-In spite of August vacations, attendance at a revival conducted by the "Musical Vans" (A. R. Vanderploeg) at the First Assembly of God here was the best in many years. Many came to the altar as conviction swept over the congregations. Some of the new converts were


BIRMINGHAM, ALA.-The youth choir enjoyed a trip on the new bus to Bessemer, Ala., for a homecoming service. Shown on the front row (1. to r.) are: Pastor and Mrs. S. F. McManus, Miss Lois Worth, minister to the deaf, and Evangelist Gene Burgess.


MERCER, MO.-The Assembly of God was filled to capacity on the last day of the meeting with Evangelist Spencer Weddle and family.
night. At least two were filled and another refilled with the Holy Spirit. The entire church has been inspired with zeal to perpetuate the current spirit of revival.
-D. Fred Leader, Pastor KANSAS CITY, KANS.-Gospel Temple Assembly of God here recently enjoyed a three-week revival with Evangelists Tommy and Esther Lance of Mexia, Tex. Interest grew spiritually and numerically as 31 were saved and several filled with the Spirit. Several testified to definite healings.
-Jack F. Burgess, Pastor
WYNONA, OKLA.-A 10 -day revival has just closed at the Assembly of God here with Evangelist and Mrs. Melvin R. James of Sherman, Tex. Twenty-four came to the altar for salvation, and six were filled with the Holy Spirit. Revival fires which had begun to burn several weeks before the meeting are continuing.
-Thomas E. Blevins, Pastor
EL CAJON, CALIF,-A union revival was held here July 26 to August 9, with numerous assemblies from surrounding communities cooperating. Palm City, Chula Vista, Encanto, Escondido, Vista, Point Loma, and the EI Cajon churches furnished choirs, music,
altar workers, etc. Other churches and pastors were present as the meetings progressed.

Twenty-five sought salvation, and 10 were filled the Holy Spirit. Many others were refilled or healed. One night is especially remembered when tears flowed freely in regard to parents' responsibility for their households.
Evangelist Oran Duncan ministered the Word.
-Charles F. Shapter, Chairman
WACO, TEX.-Recently Calvary Assembly of God here experienced one of its greatest revivals with Evangelist Quentin Edwards of Dallas, Tex. Night after night large crowds came to hear the timely messages and be refreshed by the music of the evangelist. Souls were saved and a great number of first-time visitors attended.

## - R. L. Whitsworth, Pastor

GARY, IND.-One of the best revivals since the beginning of the church 10 years ago was conducted in August at the Miller Assembly of God here under the ministry of Evangelist Wilburn Fisher. Many souls were saved, backsliders reclaimed, and five filled with the Holy Spirit. Sunday school attendance increased from an average of 246 to 301.
-Floyd Petrucci, Pastor

## PENTECOSTAL BLESSINGS FLOW "LIKE A RIVER"

CLEARFIELD, PA.-The River renewed personal evangelism. of Pentecost flowed in historic Several hundred copies of Trapped power and blessing during a week of special services at the Glad Tidings Assembly of God in which "Youth Week" and the Golden Jubilee of the Assemblies of God were highlighted.

After a special effort of fund raising, C.A.'s presented the church with a $\$ 50$ bill to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Fellowship. In addition, they presented the cantata, "Perpetuating Pentecost," in the closing Sunday evening service. The continuing flow of the Pentecostal River was evident in the tarrying meeting which followed, when two of the young people received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

The week-long emphasis was marked by occasions of deep conviction, intercession for souls, and one conversion resulting from

## were distributed.

Sessions of prayer and fasting have been conducted each week for the entire year, and a new hunger for revival has resulted. -James L. Snyder, Pastor


Mrs. Julia Kritzer, C. A. leader of the Assembly in Clearfield, Pa., presented $\$ 50$ to Pastor James L. Snyder as a gift to the church.

JACKSONVILLE, FLA.-Both the parking lot paved, and the young and old, and especially the property improved more than $\$ 50$,-teen-agers, responded to the min- 000. The church membership and istry of Evangelist David Grant offerings have tripled.
in a two-week meeting at the -J. B. Davis. Pastor Southside Assembly of God here in July. Six were saved, six reclaimed, two filled with the Spirit, four refilled, two baptized in water, three joined the church, and five were healed. The attendance was good.
During the past three years the Assembly has been moving forward for God. A new churchmodel Hammond organ and a grand piano have been purchased,

CHICAGO HEIGHTS, ILL "My daughters are different since the Krusade," said one mother following a "Kids" Krusade" Aug. 10-14 with Evangelist and Mrs. Eugene Dayka of Hebron, Ind., at the First Assembly of God here. There was a record attendance. A number of boys and girls and one man accepted Christ.

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Pastor
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## New Sanctuary for Faith Assembly

PHOENIX, ARIZ.-The new to be built was a chapel seating sanctuary for Faith Assembly was 160. For two years before moving dedicated on February 2 during into the new sanctuary, two Sunthe Arizona Midwinter Camp day morning services and two Meeting and District Council. C. Sunday school sessions were held M. Ward, Revivaltime speaker, was guest speaker for the dedication and the camp meeting which was held in the new sanctuary.
The church, valued at $\$ 200,000$ including land, is situated on five acres at the corner of 15 th and Glendale in a strategic northwest Phoenix location. The sanctuary, seating 620 , is completely air-conditioned and there is parking for 95 cars.
The church was pioneered over 8 years ago by the present pastor, Willis K. Hirschy. The first unit


The beautiful new sanctuary of Faith Assembly in Phoenix was dedicated last February. In the lower photo the members of the board are seen sharing the platform with the pastor during the dedication. (Pastor Willis K. Hirschy, inset)

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GREAT LAKES BIBLE INSTITUTE REUNION-Oct. 30 , 7:30 p.m., at Assembly of God, 63 rd and Pershing Blvd., Kenosha, Wis. Plans are being made to organize an official G.L.B.I. chapter of CBI Alumni Association. For information write Elizabeth Preuss Ramsey, 3218 Twyford Rd., Waukegan, Ill. CITY-WIDE MISSIONARY CONVENTION-Nov. 1-8, Rockford, Ill. Sponsoring pastors are: Marvin Carlson, Glad Tidings; Oda Jones, West Side Assembly; E. A. Manley, First Assembly; and Truman Turner, Haven Assembly. Missionary speakers are: Mr. and Mrs. George Goomas, Greece; Olga Olsson, Germany ; Mr. and Mrs. Harry Pennington, Nigeria; Mr. and Mrs. Leo Bankson, American Indians; Mr. and Mrs. Orville Carlson, East Pakistan; Mr . and Mrs. Einar Peterson, West Indies.-by E. A. Manley, pastor.

20TH ANNIVERSARY SERVICE at First Assembly, Havre de Grace, Md., Oct. 25. All-day services are planned.-by John Pittam, pastor.

HOMECOMING at Georgetown Assembly of God, Wilmer, Ala., Oct. 25. Former pastors and members invited.-by D. Z . Finch, pastor.

MISSIONARY CONVENTION at Calvary Temple, Marinette, Wis., Oct. 20-22.-by Daniel B. Spina, pastor

MORTGAGE BURNING at First Assembly, Lancaster, Tex., Nov. 1. The church was completed and dedicated in 1957. E.





|  | Taft |
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| Colo. | Wilmington |
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Minn. $\quad \begin{aligned} & \text { Hutchinson } \\ & \\ & \end{aligned}$

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| ASSEMBLY | DATE |
| :---: | :---: |
| First | Oct. 18-Nov. 1 |
| First | Oct. 18-31 |
| Forest Park | Oct. 18-Nov. 1 |
| A/G | Oct. 18-25 |
| First | Oct. 18-Nov. 1 |
| ${ }^{\text {A }}$ / G | Oct. 18-23 |
| Bethel | Oct. 21-Nov. 1 |
| A/G | Oct. 18-25 |
| First | Oct. 25 |
| Calvary | Oct. 18-Nov. 1 |
| A/G | Oct. 20-Nov. 1 |
| Taft Heights | Oct. 18 |
| First | Oct. 20-25 |
| A/G | Oct, 20-Nov. 1 |
| Evan. Temp. | Oct. 18-25 |
| Eighth St. | Oct. 25-Nov. 1 |
| *First | Oct. 20-Nov. 1 |
| A/G | Oct. 20-Nov. 1 |
| First | Oct. 21 |
| First | Oct. 20 |
| Southside | Oct. 22 |
| First | Oct. 18-25 |
| * $\mathrm{A} / \mathrm{G}$ | Oct. 19.23 |
| A/G | Oct. 20-Nov. 1 |
| A/G | Oct. 18 |
| First | Oct. 20-Nov, 1 |
| A/G | Oct. 18-Nov. 1 |
| Canal | Oct. 21-25 |
| Evan. Temp. | Oct. 18-Nov. 1 |
| Calvary | Oct. 13-25 |
| A/G | Oct. 20-Nov. 1 |
| A/G | Oct. 18 |
| A/G Tab. | Oct. 20-Nov. 4 |
| A/G | Oct. 23 |
| A/G | Oct. 23-Nov. 1 |
| First | Oct. 20-Nov, 1 |
| A/G | Oct. 21-Nov. 1 |
| A/G | Oct. 20-Nov, 1 |
| A/G | Oct. 20-Nov. 1 |
| Calvary | Oct. -Nov. |
| *A/G | Oct. 18-23 |
| First | Oct. 18 |
| First | Oct. 18-Nov. 1 |
| A/G | Oct. 18 |
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| First Trinity | Oct. 20-Nov. 1 |
| A/G | Oct. 20-Nov. 1 |
| First | Oct. 20-Nov. 1 |
| A/G | Oct. 19 |
| First | Oct. 21-Nov. 1 |
| A/G | Oct. 20 |
| A/G | Oct. 20-Nov. 1 |
| A/G | Oct. 20-Nov. 1 |
| Glad Tidings | Oct. 20-Nov. 1 |
| A/G | Oct. 20-Nov. 1 |
| First | Oct. 18-Nov. 1 |
| Westside | Oct. 20-Nov. 1 |
| First | Oct. 20-Nov. 1 |
| First | Oct. 20-Nov. 1 |
| First | Oct. 4 |
| Glad Tidings | Oct. 20 |
| A/G | Oct. 20-Nov. 1 |
| Calvary | Oct. 20-Nov. 1 |
| First | Oct. 20-Nov. 1 |
| A/G | Oct. 18 |
| A/G | Oct. 18-30 |
| *Full Gospel | Oct. 18-23 |
| Maple Grove | Oct. 18 |
| Gospel Tab. | Oct. 20-Nov. 1 |
| A/G | Oct. 18 |
| A/G | Oct. 18 |
| Pent. Tab. | Oct. 20-Nov. 1 |
| Calvary | Oct. 20-Nov. 1 |

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H. A. Christopher

Herbert Winslow
L. L. Whittaker

Wesley Payne
E. R. Foster
C. E. Wilson

Charles Wigley
Albert Ark
Frank C. Mays
W. C. Blewitt

Cornelieus Rienties
Lester Damron
J. J. Wagner

Richard Ross
Bronnie Stroud
L. E. Curtis
T. O. Johnston
J. H. Hazlett

Lynn Pinkston
*Children's Crusade
Due to printing schedule, announcements must reach The Pentecostal Evangel 30 days in advance.
North Texas District, speaking NORTHWEST COLLEGE 40TH ANNIVERSARY SERat 11 a.m. service. Dinner ALUMNI HOMECOMING at VICES at First Assembly of will be served at the Community Kirkland, Wash., Nov. 6. Dr. God, Wichita, Kans., Nov. 1. House. Friends, former pastors Henry H. Ness, speaker-by Former pastors will be speaking and members invited.-by Her- A. D. Millard, Northwest College bert L. Corpany, Jr., pastor. Alumni Association.

McKinney, pastor


I Was awakened out of sleep in the middle of the night. Being a sound sleeper, this sudden interruption came as a shock. The room was dark, unusually dark. As I lay there in wonderment the words outer darkness flashed across my mind and echoed over and over again. The phrase gripped me with such reality that a shiver went through me and cold sweat formed on my forehead.

Outer darkness-what a place to be thinking about! Aware of the fact that God was speaking to me, I quickly got out of bed and dropped to my knees to seek the meaning of it all.

As I waited on the Lord, His Spirit reminded me of a visit I had made to some underground caves during which we were plunged into total darkness. For a moment a mild panic gripped the group at this complete extinction of light. Darkness was thick and tangible. I heard little gasps of fear all around me. In a few moments the lights went on and all were visibly relieved.

And now the Holy Spirit was reminding me of the utter helplessness that one experiences in total darkness. At death, the unsaved soul will suddenly awaken in this almost tangible blackness fully conscious. All of the panic, confusion, and hysteria that comes with being lost and helpless will rush in upon him like an avalanche. Hysterical screams of others around him who have also just arrived will pierce the air. Moans and groans of those who have been there for some time will further paralyze his soul with dark terror.

What will the soul in outer darkness do? In which direction will he go? The clarity of his consciousness will be horrifying. He will think this to be a nightmare,
but this is an experience that will never wear off. Even if his friends were there they could not find him. Natural abilities and talents will be nullified in this total darkness. He will be thirsty, and unable to find water; hungry, and unable to find food; weary, and no rest be possible.

On and on he gropes. Feeling, reaching, straining for a familiar form or a glimmer of light. But there is none. Not in outer darkness.

The mention of this place in the Bible is a warning to all of us. Jesus spoke of it when He told the story of the unwelcomed wedding guest: "Cast him into outer darkness ; there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth" (Matthew 8:12).

Outer darkness is the place where fallen angels are chained and reserved for eternal punishment (2 Peter $2: 4$ ). It is also the place where souls who have chosen to disobey God shall find themselves after death. The Bible says, "The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished . . . to whom the mist of darkness is reserved for ever" (2 Peter 2:9,17).

Not an appointment by design, outer darkness is a necessity. "The Lord is . . . not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance ( 2 Peter $3: 9$ ).

If you are without Christ as you read this, your feet are even now on the road to the doom of this darkness. Won't you turn and take the forgiveness offered at the cross of Calvary? The moment you do, you will turn your back on darkness forever. For the Bible says, "The path of the just is as a shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day" (Proverbs $4: 18$ ).


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[^1]:    Louis H. Benes is editor of The Church Herald, organ of the Reformed Church in America. This article is a Protestant Press Month feature of the Evangelical Press Association, of which The Pentecostal Evangel is a member.

