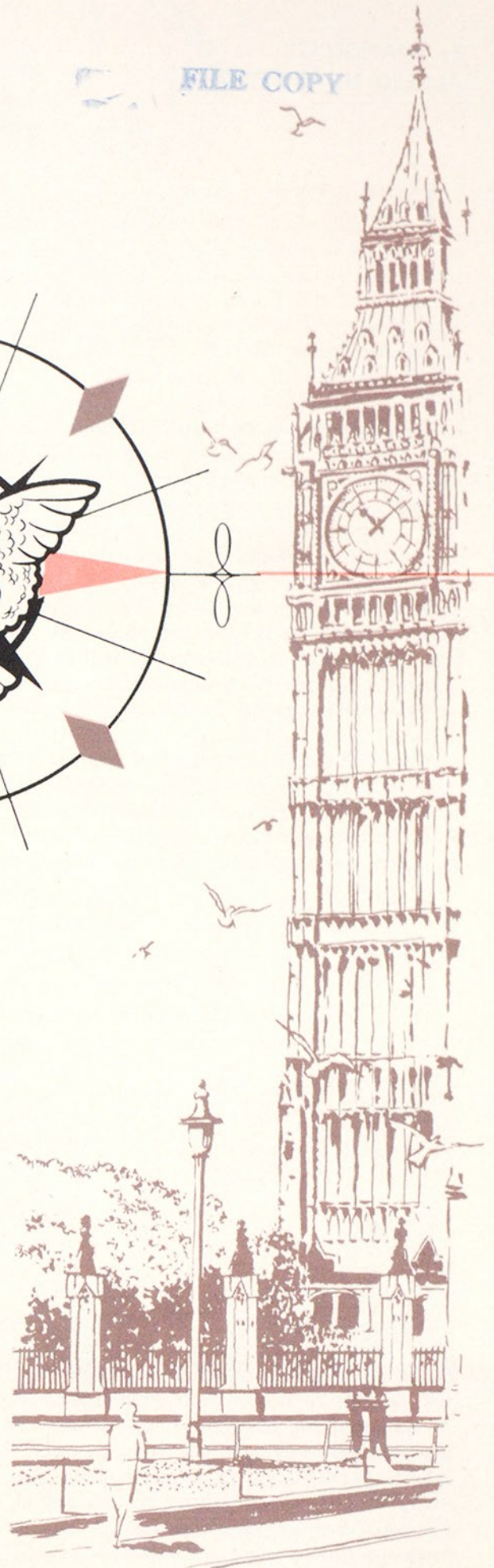
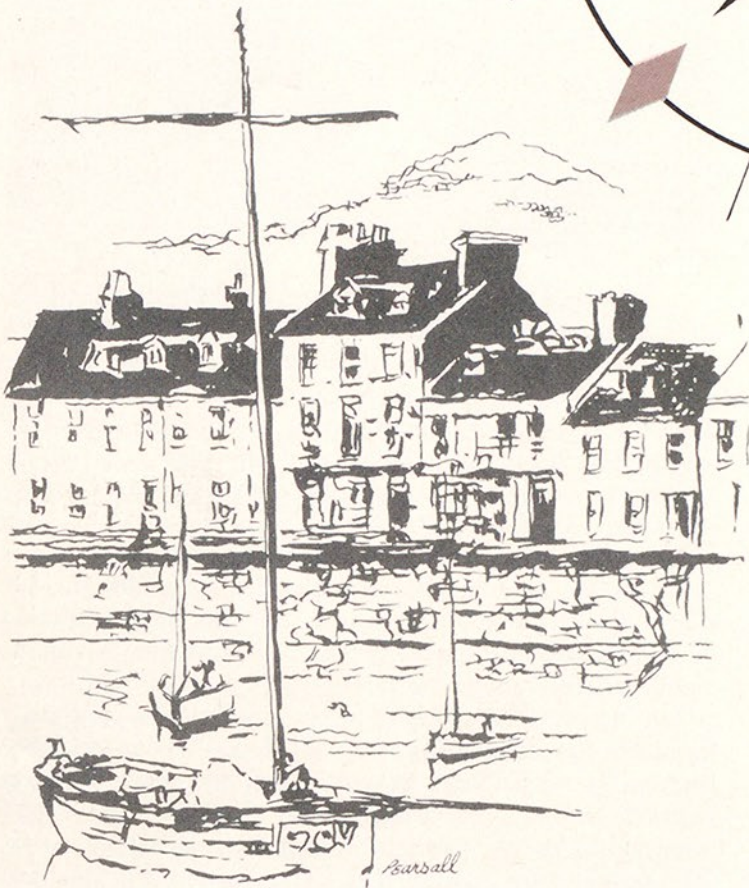


THE PENTECOSTAL evangel

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

FILE COPY

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AUGUST, 1965 ■ TEN CENTS
INTERNATIONAL EDITION

By EVANGELIST
ALFRED N. TROTTER

JESUS - OUR

THIS IS JESUS the King of the Jews" (Matthew 27:27). The other Gospels have the inscription over the cross worded a bit differently, but the complete inscription was on this wise: "This is Jesus of Nazareth the King of the Jews." You will recall that when the Jewish religious leaders asked Pilate to change this inscription to read, "He said, I am King of the Jews," he rebuffed them with, "What I have written, I have written." Truly Jesus was King.

"When Jesus was born in Bethlehem, there came wise men from the east" to seek for Him. "Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east and are come to worship him," they inquired. The star guided them to the place where the young child lay, and they brought unto him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh—gifts befitting the birth of a King. Unheralded and unsung by the earth, yet He was ushered into this world by the heavenly host, who appeared unto the wondering shepherds and proclaimed His arrival. He was born a King. When He shall come again, it shall be as "King of kings and Lord of lords" (Revelation 19:16).

Some Bible expositors say that Jesus is never the King of the Church. He is the Head of the Church, say they, and the Bridegroom to the bride, but not the King to the Church; they insist He is the King of the Jews. But He is, indeed, our sovereign Lord—our King. We sing:

*He's my King; and oh, I dearly love Him;
He's my King, none other is above Him;
All day long with raptured heart I sing,
Hallelujah, He's my King.*

We have been delivered from the powers of darkness and translated into the kingdom of God's dear Son (Colossians 1:13). We have been called unto His kingdom and glory (1 Thessalonians 2:12).

Jesus is not a king because of heredity or election. The old Germanic word "Koenig" means "the able one," and we derive our word "King" from "Canning" which is the Anglo-Saxon form of the German word. Isaiah foretold that the government should be upon His shoulder. In olden times the king of the tribe was made chieftain or leader by reason of superior ability. Hence he was called the king, or the able one.

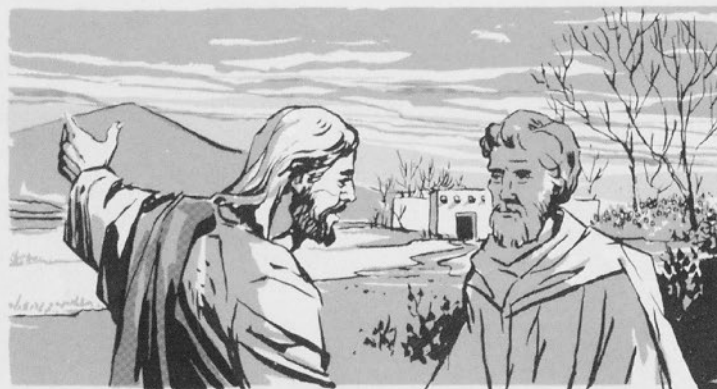
Our King is indeed the One who is able. This expression associates itself in our thinking with Paul's acclaim of Jesus, in Ephesians 3:20, 21, "Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, unto him be glory in the church . . ." (R. V.). Hallelujah! He is the Able One. He is our King.

He walked up and down the shores of Galilee, but He walked also upon the waves of Galilee. He showed forth miraculous signs as evidences of His sovereignty, of His kingship. A sovereign is supreme. In the dealings

of Jesus Christ with the affairs of earth and His Church, He is not the head of a democracy, the president of a republic. He is an absolute sovereign, the King of a theocracy. His word is absolute. He brooks no interference from anyone, at any time, at any place. His word is supreme. He is our "Able One"—able for our sin, able for our sickness, able for our poverty, able for our spiritual weakness, able for all the problems that confront us, able for the fearful uncertainty of the future. He is able! He is our King!

Let us look at some of the credentials of His sovereignty, His kingship, as recorded in the Gospel of Matthew.

HE IS SOVEREIGN OVER CIRCUMSTANCES



In Matthew 8:19 we read, "And a certain scribe came and said unto him, Master, I will follow thee whithersoever thou goest." Jesus did not answer him: "My! you've made a wise choice. I certainly commend you. You've done the right thing. Come and be my disciple." No, He said, "The foxes have holes, and the birds of the air have nests; but the Son of man hath not where to lay his head" (Matthew 8:20).

He put that statement to the scribe as a test of his faith, to see whether he would really be a disciple for Christ's sake alone. Jesus was faithful to show him that discipleship meant the hard way, one difficult to understand, a rugged road to tread.

But the adverse circumstances which Jesus constantly faced did not disturb Him one bit. I don't know whether that scribe turned back or not. However, Jesus went on to meet the adverse circumstances day after day, week after week, as He wrought His great redemptive work. The people were against Him. The demons were against Him. Everything was against Him. His background was against Him. He grew up in Nazareth, and the proverb was, "Can any good thing come out of Nazareth?" They jeered Him and mocked Him and scorned Him. And there was a shadow over the circumstances of His birth. In later life they threw it in His teeth, and said, "We have Abraham to our father, but you were altogether born in sin; you were born of fornication."

KING



But He was Master, Sovereign, King over circumstances. Are circumstances against you? If you are walking with Christ the circumstances are against you. But Jesus was born Master and King of every situation. He went to the cross and died—a King! He arose—a King! He will come again—a King! He will be King over your circumstances if you walk with Him.

HE IS SOVEREIGN OVER THE ELEMENTS



In Matthew 8:23-27 we see our Lord in a little boat with His disciples, on the Sea of Galilee. A fierce storm arose and they rowed hard to bring the boat to land, but they could not. Jesus was human, though a King. He was asleep in the hinder part of the ship, being overcome with fatigue and weariness. When it seemed that they were surely going to sink, they roused Him and said, "Master, carest thou not that we perish?" And Jesus did something that doesn't sound like Jesus. He arose and rebuked the disciples. I have thought, "What else could they have done?" If we were out in a boat, and the waves beat high, and the wind blew and the rain came, so that we were about to sink, and the Lord was asleep in the boat, I think we too would arouse Him and say, "Lord, don't You care if we perish?" But when Jesus woke up and took in the situation, He rebuked the disciples, and said, "Why are ye fearful, O ye of little faith?"

That seems a bit severe on the part of the Lord. But here are the underlying facts. Faith is always based upon the Word of the Lord. Faith that saves, faith that gets things from God, faith that pleases Him, faith that receives healing, faith that achieves is always associated with the Word of God. Jesus was the Living Word, and

on the shore of the lake, before they set out, He had said (Luke 8:22), "Let us go over unto the other side of the lake." When the storm came up, in their unbelief they as much as changed His words to, "Let us get into the boat and go to the bottom."

In the disciples' question (Mark 4:38), "Carest thou not that we perish?" there was an inference—"Jesus, You're to blame for this." Sometimes we in our faithlessness say, "Carest thou not that we perish?" With Martha, we say, "Lord, if thou hadst been here, my brother had not died." We attach blame to Him, but He refuses it absolutely. He says, "It's not my fault—it's your fault."

We can correctly imagine Him saying to the disciples: "You ought to know that I am the Son of God. You yourselves have acknowledged that I am the Son of God. You ought to know better than to believe that there are waves high enough and powerful enough to drown me—and you are my disciples. Did I not say, 'Let us get into the boat and go to the other side'?"

So after He has dispelled their unbelief He said to the waves, "Peace, be still." And there was a great calm. That sea immediately became as placid as a mill pond, for Jesus is King over the elements of nature. He can save from apparent impending disaster.

HE IS SOVEREIGN OVER SIN



Read Matthew 9:1-8. In the unusual incident of the man borne by four friends, who came into the presence of the Lord through the roof, He demonstrated His power and authority over sin. Jesus said to the man sick of the palsy, "Son, be of good cheer; thy sins be forgiven thee." Then the scribes stood by and mumbled through their beards and said, "Who is this blasphemer?"

(Continued on page fourteen)

AN OPEN SECRET

Some people think the Bible is a very mysterious book. They say they cannot understand it. In this they are partially correct: the Bible does contain *mysteries*, but the mysteries are not insolvable. If a person is born of the Spirit he will find he can read the Scriptures with understanding. What it requires is spiritual discernment. Although the natural mind cannot grasp it, the Spirit makes it plain.

Take 1 Timothy 3:16 for an example. It reads, "Without controversy, great is the *mystery* of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh. . . ." The Incarnation was indeed a great mystery hidden from the intelligentsia who approach spiritual truth through natural reason, but it is an open secret to the humble ones who have simple faith. If God is God, He can do anything; He can even become a human child. Thus God reveals His secrets unto babes but hides them from the wise and prudent.

Strangely, however, some of the people who accept the truth of the Incarnation seem not to grasp the meaning of Colossians 1:26, 27, which reads, "God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this *mystery* among the Gentiles; which is *Christ in you, the hope of glory*." Actually this latter "mystery" is as basic to the redemption of the individual as the Incarnation is to the redemption of the human race. If Christ be not in us, we have no eternal life.

The glory of Christianity is the presence of Christ in His people. Christianity is not merely a religion, a creed, a way of life. Christianity is a Person. It is the presence of Christ in our hearts; the transplanting of divine life within us; the imparting of Christ's own nature to men and women through the New Birth, the Word, and the Spirit. "God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life" (1 John 5:11, 12). Could it be more clear? We get saved by receiving the Son of God, and we remain saved by recognizing His presence in our lives and by yielding to His Lordship over us.

If you have been trying in vain to live a Christian life, perhaps it is because you have not learned this secret of *Christ in you, the hope of glory*. All your hope must be in Christ. If you need strength let the indwelling Christ display His power through you. If you need holiness, let Christ show His spotless nature through your life. If you need wisdom, count on Christ to manifest His wisdom through you. Christ "is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption: that, according as it is written, He that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord" (1 Corinthians 1:30). If Christian service were based on self-effort, self would get the credit; but since it is based on *Christ in you*, all the glory goes to Him.

Do not be surprised if all your own attempts to be a victorious Christian end in failure. God does not ask you to do His will by self-effort. He only asks you to let Christ dwell in your heart by faith. He wants you to recognize His personal presence in your life and to yield to Him. It works. Try it. Christianity is a personal relationship between yourself and the Son of God.

You need not be discouraged if you stumble and fall. Just quit thinking you can do any good thing by yourself. Stop and pray. Turn the situation over to Christ. Place all your hope and expectation in Him, and let Him work in you both to will and to do of His good pleasure. This is the "open secret" of successful Christian living.—R.C.C.

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STATEMENT OF FAITH

WE BELIEVE the Bible to be the inspired and only infallible and authoritative Word of God. WE BELIEVE that there is one God, eternally existent in three persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost. WE BELIEVE in the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, in His virgin birth, in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His vicarious and atoning death, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father, and in His personal future return to this earth in power and glory to rule a thousand years. WE BELIEVE in the Blessed Hope, which is the Rapture of the Church at Christ's coming. WE BELIEVE that the only means of being cleansed from sin is through repentance and faith in the precious blood of Christ. WE BELIEVE that regeneration by the Holy Spirit is absolutely essential for personal salvation. WE BELIEVE that the redemptive work of Christ on the cross provides healing of the human body in answer to believing prayer. WE BELIEVE that the baptism of the Holy Spirit, according to Acts 2:4, is given to believers who ask for it. WE BELIEVE in the sanctifying power of the Holy Spirit by whose indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a holy life. WE BELIEVE in the resurrection of both the saved and the lost, the one to everlasting life and the other to everlasting damnation.

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Doctor Amazed at Boy's Recovery

OUR 10-YEAR-OLD GRANDSON, Steve Crawley, had gone to the home of a playmate after school. Finding the father's .38 caliber pistol, the boys began playing with it. Steve pointed the gun at the floor and pulled the trigger. There was only an empty "pop." Now it was the friend's turn to try it out. He raised the gun, and Steve yelled, "Don't point that thing at me!"—too late.

The bullet went through Steve's abdomen, and he was rushed to the hospital. When the news reached us, my husband and I went quickly to the hospital. Our pastor and his wife soon joined us, and together we waited out the long hours. We made intercession in the Spirit and claimed the promises of God; for just a few months before, Steve had given his heart to Christ at a *Kids' Roundup* at Central Assembly of God in Tucson, Arizona.

The bullet had gone through the large artery to the stomach, made two holes in the stomach, damaged the gall bladder to the extent that it was removed, and penetrated two lobes of the liver, leaving a hole big enough for the doctor to put his fist through. If Steve could live 12 days, the doctors said, he might have a 50/50 chance of getting well.

The church went to prayer for Steve. Many others were praying. Every time I was allowed a minute with Steve, I whispered a prayer in his ear, and he would tell me what courage he was finding in just saying the name of Jesus.

And God began a miracle! The liver began to function again and a rapid healing took place within the boy's body. In two weeks he was home; in three weeks he was back



By **MRS. KIEFER CRAWLEY**
as told to Betty Swinford

in school. In four weeks the doctor checked him over and managed a single word, "Amazing!"

Steve will be taken before a medical conference shortly by the attending surgeon. With the liver so badly damaged, he is the only case of this kind to survive at St. Mary's Hospital, Tucson.

Truly, Christ came that they might have life and that they might have it more abundantly! We give Him the glory for Steve's recovery.

(Endorsed by Pastor Jack D. Brock, Central Assembly of God, Tucson, Arizona.)

Healed When She Sought the Lord

SALVATION AND THE BAPTISM of the Holy Spirit, which I have enjoyed for a number of years, are not merely experiences to me, but a way of life.

This great salvation brings many side benefits. Many doors of opportunity have opened, and there is victory in my soul. I have felt God's healing power too.

While in Florida I became afflicted with a heart ailment, and although I had medical assistance and we prayed earnestly, the pain persisted. Like Paul, "For this thing I besought the Lord, that it might depart from me." But it went on into the following year.

Then one winter night in the Assembly of God church in Adams, N. Y., the Lord healed me without my requesting prayer (at that immediate time).

I had been in much pain that Sunday afternoon, and the tempter urged me to remain home that night. But God prevailed and we went to the church service. I was

sitting, humbly asking God why a child of His must suffer so that she could not even have breath enough to sing the hymns others were enjoying so much.

Suddenly, something like electric power started in the fourth and fifth fingers of each hand. Then slowly (but oh, so forcibly) the current flowed up to my shoulders and into my chest. At first I thought it might be a stroke or some circulatory malfunction. I raised my hands and praised God, thinking that if this was the last time I could speak, at least I would be talking to my Father.

As the warm, electrifying feeling spread through my chest and I began to feel invigorated, I realized it was the power of God healing my body.

That was over two years ago, and I can now do all my work without any of the previous trouble. "Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God."—Muriel Thompson, Rodman, N. Y.

(Endorsed by Pastor Kenneth Choflet, Assembly of God, Adams, N. Y.)

IN THE VICINITY OF NOMBEKILENGE HILL was a deep little lake held in a hollow among the hills above Koni village. The village itself once occupied a shallow depression below the surrounding country. The soil is of a strange friable nature which readily falls apart when damp.

Several generations ago a young married couple had a very productive sweet potato field outside the village. The soil was always moist but they never associated this with little Lake Katantanya, half a mile away.

One early morning, however, as they were digging some sweet potatoes, water came welling up from the hole. In a few minutes their entire garden was inundated and the flood was rolling on towards the village.

Possibly there would still have been time to warn their fellow-villagers, but most of them would still be sleeping. So the young people quickly clambered up to higher ground, carrying the baskets of sweet potatoes which they had just dug up.

Perched up there among the rocks, they were horrified to see the waters, increased to a raging torrent, roll over their home. Huts, people, trees all were inundated. Not a soul escaped. Today that village is beneath the waters of a large lake, which every year increases by several acres, as its banks constantly fall in. At the same time the old lake half a mile away sank to the level of the new one. Evidently there was a subterranean connection between them.

The other villages in the vicinity refused to receive that unhappy couple. They were regarded as accursed. They had to start another Koni village on higher ground, up out of reach of flooding waters.

Koni always has a squalid dejected air. It seems to bear a reproach in its very appearance. The inhabitants descended from the original pair are openly cannibalistic, killing and eating any strangers who happen to pass there. They will not fraternize with their neighbors. If you ask at Kabub'wa, Kisanga, the village close by, they will tell you the story, and whether it is true or not they always end up by saying: "They are accursed. They might have warned their relatives when the flood first began, but instead they preferred to save their baskets of sweet potatoes; and so the whole village perished."

I know of a lake which is about to engulf its millions. Not a lake of water, but of fire. "The fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars" will feel its awful, unending torments.

God says: "When I say unto the wicked, Thou shalt surely die; and thou givest him not warning, nor speakest to warn the wicked from his wicked way, to save his life . . . his blood will I require at thine hand" (Ezekiel 3:18).

Paul said: "I ceased not to warn everyone night and day with tears" (Acts 20:31). May we be found equally faithful.

A warning ministry is never easy and seldom popular. John the Baptist in his day cried: "O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come?"

W. F. P. Burton is cofounder of the Congo Evangelistic Mission in which he now serves as honorary field director. Born in 1886, he went to Africa as a Pentecostal missionary in 1914 and has given 51 years of his life to this work. The accompanying article is reprinted from *C. E. M. Report*.

(Matthew 3:7). Possibly the Koni villagers would not have heeded the warning shout, for the calamity seemed so improbable, but at least they should have been given the chance to escape. God help us to profit by the lesson of the Katantanya Lake.

How optimistic folk can be! One would think there was no danger of impending judgment, no death, no hell, no lake of fire. Even the aged seem content to put off thought of approaching calamity and are more concerned with passing political problems than with their soul's eternal destiny.

We are commanded, "Some . . . save with fear, pulling them out of the fire; hating even the garment spotted by the flesh" (Jude 22, 23). Yet the natural reaction to the preaching of judgment is, "Ha! ha! Trying to scare us, are they! You can't catch birds with that chaff." Yet the kindest, tenderest lips that ever breathed warned men three times of a place of torment "where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched" (Mark 9:43-48).

So frequently we meet those who repeatedly declare,

THE VILLAGE WHICH DISAPPEARED

By W. F. P. BURTON



Keissall

"Yes! One day I will be saved." Yet they continue to insult God's grace by persisting to live unrepentant lives. At times they have been near death, through sickness or accident, but in His mercy God spared them, raised them up, and gave them another chance. Every time they are spared yet continue again to spurn His long-suffering, it but increases their awful condemnation and at last the end comes. Often some venial preacher is found who for a few shillings will "lay them to rest," committing them to the grave "in sure and certain hope of a glorious resurrection" while all the while they are shrieking as they endure the first torments of an endless punishment. Remorse, yes, but too late.


The wise man declared, "He that being often reprov'd hardeneth his neck, shall suddenly be destroyed, and that without remedy" (Proverbs 29:1). "When a wicked man dieth, his expectation shall perish; and the hope of unjust men perisheth" (Proverbs 11:7). When? At death. "They that go down into the pit cannot hope for thy truth" (Isaiah 38:18). God gives us no promise for tomorrow. "Now is the accepted time; . . . now is the day of salvation" (2 Corinthians 6:2). "Today if ye will hear his voice, harden not your heart" (Psalm 95:7, 8). How the person who trifles with divine mercy will curse his folly when he opens his eyes among the damned! "Who among us shall dwell with the devouring fire? Who among us shall dwell with everlasting burnings?" (Isaiah 33:14).

Better to be afraid now and flee for shelter to God's outstretched arms of love than trifle with your soul's salvation and hear at last the awful sentence, "Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels" (Matthew 25:41).

In my teaching ministry I am frequently called upon to show what the Bible says about the life after death and the awful doom of the Christ-rejecter. Such talks are not easy. They are often preceded by a sleepless or nearly sleepless night, as I hear again the weeping and wailing and gnashing of teeth. I speak with all the gravity and earnestness, all the tenderness and brokenness of spirit of which I am capable. I cover nothing and I feel that Jesus weeps with me as I weep over men that are without God and without hope.

Yet at the end of such talks, as I shake hands with the folk going out of the meeting, while my heart is almost breaking, they will smile in my face and remark, "How I have enjoyed your teaching! It has been so interesting. Oh, these Bible studies are lovely." Enjoyed! Lovely! Is that all the impression it has made? God, how can I send them home weeping, to plead with their unsaved loved ones? I am "unto them as a very lovely song of one that hath a pleasant voice" (Ezekiel 33:32) for they hear the Word but heed it not!

I have seen the lurid glare in the sky from the volcano craters of Mikeno and Nyamulgara. I have seen the boiling mud springs and mighty geysers of Rotorua. Hell is a place of torment (Luke 16:28). It is in the heart of the earth (Ephesians 4:9). There is a literal fire there. Jesus said so, and He cried repeatedly, "What is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?" (Matthew 16:26).

If you have read this article you cannot make the excuse that you have not been warned. 

to those who are NEAREST ETERNITY

By EVELYN C. GUNTER

GOD SPEAKS TO US in many ways—if we are willing to hear. A certain minister always prayed regularly at the close of his Sunday morning broadcasts, "Lord, save that one nearest eternity." Listening, I was led to pray, "Lord, lead me to the one who is near eternity." This was the beginning of a new ministry for my husband and me.

Our first call was at the home of an elderly man who had never attended church. He wasn't hard or cynical. He didn't drink either. He had just stayed home and worked hard on his farm, but he had neglected his soul. We found him cheerful, and he welcomed our visit. My husband prayed with him there in the living room, and he was saved!

Three weeks later this man suffered a heart attack and was suddenly in eternity. None of us had known how near he had been to eternity that day we visited him. What if we had not gone? It was a source of comfort to us that we had obeyed God.


In looking over the names of persons in the hospital, I noticed the name of a man I had known from childhood, for his farm had joined ours. He had been a good neighbor—congenial, friendly, and always with a smile. But Sundays found him fishing or sleeping, his two main interests on that precious day. He never went to church.

Although I had prayed many times for him in years past, I had almost forgotten him until his name came to my attention because he was in the hospital.

"Go," the Holy Spirit whispered into my heart. "This is his opportunity."

We went, and although my husband had only 10 minutes with him that day, he was saved. "I'm going home tomorrow," he confided, thinking of his earthly home. But exactly 24 hours later he went to his eternal home. How near he was to eternity when we came to him!

We watched for newcomers at church, those seeking for help. During a revival, a young man obviously not well sat near the back of the church with his wife and child. He came readily to the altar when opportunity was given. Later he told us his doctor had given him only three months to live. He too seemed near to eternity, but he was saved in time.

We recognize that God wants to save people while they still have time to serve Him, living abundant lives filled with meaning and purpose. But He is not willing that any should perish, and we are grateful for the privilege of witnessing to some who might otherwise have been lost forever. 



Nigerian technicians handle recording equipment.



Speaker is Superintendent Ezeigbo.



Male choir provides plenty

By REX JACKSON ■ Enugu, Nigeria

All-African Broadcast Launched

THE NIGERIAN Assemblies of God Radio Hour is on the air! After months of delay—mostly due to lack of finances—we have been able to start broadcasting. As far as we know, this is the first all-national program of the Assemblies of God in Africa.

My wife trained the choir and played the piano; I have written the scripts and served as director. But the actual

voices are all African, and our Christians are really thrilled.

Already letters from nonmembers have started coming in—after only the first broadcast! It is plain that radio provides a unique opportunity to reach the multitudes of Nigeria—55 million we could never reach by ordinary means.

Recently the power of radio in this

country was dramatically illustrated. In the last federal election there were accusations of irregularities in voter registration and pre-election events. One of the main political parties called for a boycott of the polls on the very eve of the elections. There was no way to get the word to supporters of the party except by radio announcement only a few hours before the polls were to open. Nevertheless on election day in Eastern Nigeria, where this political party dominates, there was not a single vote cast! The boycott was 100 percent effective—and it was all done by radio announcement. This kind of thing has verified our conviction that radio can be a

By H. LUTHI SCHWEIZ ■ Student at Berea Bible School, Erzhausen, Germany

I Gave Him My Life - And He Took It

ALTHOUGH I WANTED to live a good life after my confirmation, I never entered a church building. I had many proud plans for my professional development. But things did not go as I thought they would.

At the time of my confirmation my mother was already a Christian, but I resisted her testimony. One day, however, I went to a meeting she was attending. I do not remember the sermon, but there were young Christians present who were recently baptized in the Holy Spirit. They could hardly be

quiet during the sermon, and sometimes they even spoke with other tongues. I was deeply moved, realizing that God was at work, that Jesus Himself was in our midst. I was sweating and nearly trembling. The Spirit of God was convincing me through those other tongues that I was a sinner.

When the service was over, I left the church at once and ran home. There, alone in my room, I gave my life to Jesus Christ—and He took it!

One week later there was another

meeting. The sermon was about "drinking from God." I thought, "I don't know how to drink from God." But when everybody stood up for the benediction, something happened. A mighty power touched me at the neck and flowed through my whole body until it reached my fingertips. I was in the presence of God and for a while I forgot everything around me. Tears ran down my cheeks. The same Holy Spirit who convinced me and led me to repentance a week before, now filled me. I could say only one



...des plenty of gospel music.

141 B

powerful new tool for the gospel in Nigeria.

Our program begins with several songs and choruses sung by an all-male choir. Next comes a good testimony from one of our Christians. The speaker is our Nigerian superintendent, Matthew Ezeigbo, a capable and spiritual man. All participants, including two announcers, are Africans.

We hope this beginning of broadcasts will open the way for a continual effort. Our national church will help finance the programs, but at present it cannot carry the whole burden. Several Americans have faithfully contributed this past year. More are needed.

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word: "Hallelujah." To me it seemed like another tongue. Later on I really did speak in other tongues.

When I left the church, the whole world seemed to be new. Now I could love everybody. After that experience I also understood the Word of God much better. I am so thankful that God baptized me with the Holy Spirit.

This was the beginning of my Christian life. It opened the door for me to receive all the blessings which are written in the Scriptures—blessings which I am still enjoying in Christ.

NEW BETHEL IN BARQUISIMETO

By WILLIAM C. STEPP ■ Barquisimeto, Venezuela

"We'll drive those Protestants off this corner," said the *Capuchin* Roman priests in 1919. The threat came after G. F. and Christine Bender, pioneer Assemblies of God missionaries, had built the first Protestant church in the city of Barquisimeto, Venezuela.

For 45 years their chapel stood, while Barquisimeto grew to a population of 275,000. The site, once at the edge of the city, was now one of the main downtown corners. The *Capuchins* built a mammoth, ultra-modern cathedral right behind it, but they did not succeed in driving the Protestants out.

However, the congregation has been forced to move for a different reason. It needed more room! By selling their valuable downtown property and moving seven blocks, the people have been able to buy an ample lot and build a large, modern church.

The new building has a seating capacity of 500, a baptistry, and Sunday school rooms. It is of earthquake-

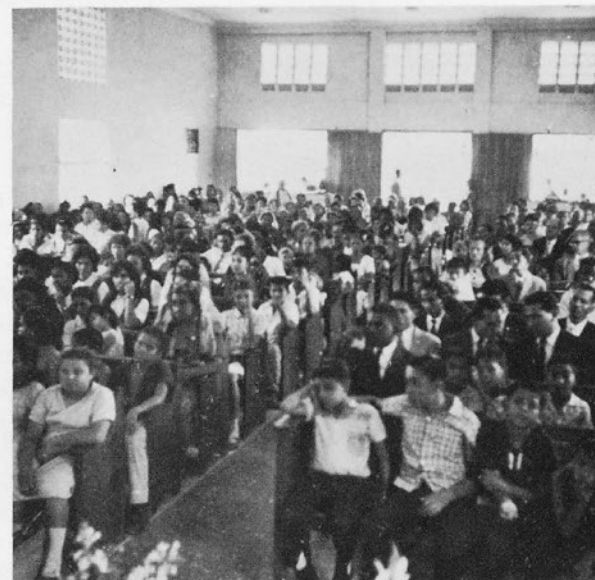
proof steel and concrete construction. There is land at the rear for a future parsonage.

When Bethel Church dedicated its new facilities, believers gathered from the three other Assemblies of God churches of Barquisimeto for the occasion. Hilda Meyrick gave a historical report of the church, and Ralph D. Williams brought the dedicatory message. I had the privilege of performing the dedication ceremony. Music was provided by our Bible school choir and also by a city-wide church choir.

A special feature of the service was the personal testimony of 90-year-old Alvarado Tovar, the first convert under the late G. F. Bender's ministry in 1919.

Another of Brother Bender's converts, Pedro Amaro, is today the pastor of the church. He and his congregation are to be commended for their accomplishment in completing a fine new building as a witness for the gospel.

Dedication day finds building full.



New structure is earthquake-proof.





THIS PRESENT WORLD

Latin America

Protestantism Advancing in Latin America

The Roman Catholic Church has lost more people to Protestantism in Latin America in the 20th century than it lost in Europe during the Reformation, a Spanish priest reported in Colombia after making a three-month survey. He stated that Latin America is the only portion of the world where Protestantism is growing faster than the population. Population is increasing at the rate of 2.6 percent a year, he reported, but Protestantism is growing at the rate of 15 percent a year.

The priest noted that there were only 100,000 Protestants in Latin America in 1914, but that their number grew to 10 million in 1960. He predicted there will be 50 million Protestants in Latin America within 50 years.

Jungle Tribes Threatened with Extinction

While most of the world is staggered by statistics of population explosion, Brazil is concerned about the threatened extinction of whole tribes of jungle Indians. Of the 235 tribes known to exist in Brazil in 1900, only 186 remained in 1950. A survey of Indian tribes is now underway to help the Brazilian government formulate a new Indian policy. Missionaries in the area are assisting in the survey.

Europe

Bishop's Sequel Stirs New Controversy

A controversy is building up in Britain—and may soon spread to the U.S.—over a new book written by an Anglican bishop. In it he questions the future of the church and Christianity.

The author is Dr. John Robinson, bishop of Woolwich, whose sensational book, *Honest to God*, reportedly shook the Church of England "to its foundations" two years ago. His latest book, *The New Reformation?* carries further the debate initiated by his first book.

In the new book, Dr. Robinson declares that increasing numbers do not accept the gospel as preached today because it evokes no sense of "good news."

One Church of England writer condemned the bishop for expressing "provocative exaggerations." He said the bishop is guilty of "vulgar concern with novelty," and charged that far from being courageous and challenging, he is hesitant and timid.

TV Cigarette Commercials Banned in Britain

Citing increased tobacco consumption and a five percent increase last year in deaths linked to lung cancer, the British government recently banned cigarette commercials from television. It also warned that cigarette ads may soon be barred from the press and billboards as well.

The British Medical Society welcomed the action. Tobacco manufacturers and advertisers, predictably, protested. And independent television stock and tobacco stocks dropped.

Russian Youth "Ready to Catch Fire"

"If one or two really dedicated Christians got into the University of Moscow, they could literally turn that huge, skyscraping monument to communism upside down," two British ministerial students told an American newsman, McGregor Smith, in an interview in Moscow.

According to *Christian Life*, the two told Smith, "The young people don't have anything to believe in anymore, and they're ready to catch fire."

Russians haven't had any arguments thrown up against atheism, so they haven't developed any good ones for it, the two declared.

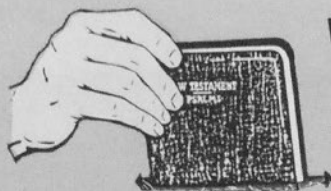
More Church Liberty in Yugoslavia?

A law designed to liberalize the status of churches in Yugoslavia was to be introduced in parliament, according to the official Yugoslav press agency. The bill includes provisions enforcing the separation of church and state, proclaiming freedom of thought and religion, and giving churches the right to hold other private property besides worship centers.

The bill also proclaims the right of churches to set up seminaries to train clergymen, specifies and increases the number of places where collections may be made for religious purposes, and establishes the equality of all religious communities under the law. It also prohibits the abuse of churches and religious communities for political purposes.

Cardinal Pleads for World Government

Stressing that nuclear war would "amount to the suicide of the whole human race," Maurice Cardinal Feltrin, archbishop of Paris, has called for the creation of a supranational authority for peaceful solution of conflicts



Walking with the WORD

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR AUGUST 1-8

Sunday—Psalm 89	Thursday—2 Corinthians 5
Monday—2 Corinthians 2	Friday—2 Corinthians 6
Tuesday—2 Corinthians 3	Saturday—Psalm 90
Wednesday—2 Corinthians 4	Sunday—Psalms 91, 92

which might otherwise lead to war. The cardinal declared that such an authority would bring about a reduction in armament costs.

Calls such as this apparently are paving the way for nations to surrender their sovereignty and be united under the rule of the Antichrist.

"And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh" (Luke 21:28).

Australia

"Dr. Wednesday" Popular Preacher in Australia

Gordon Powell, 53-year-old Presbyterian clergyman in Sydney, Australia, has found a way to reach many thousands with his sermons. He conducts a short noontime service in his church each Wednesday. Over a thousand people of all denominations spend their lunch hour each week attending his brief service. Other hundreds of thousands of Australians hear the service over 21 radio stations. The radio ministry is financed by offerings which Pastor Powell—popularly known as "Dr. Wednesday"—receives from listeners.

North America

Pastors Who Speak in Tongues Now Barred

The Association of Free Lutheran Congregations has barred from its clergy roster any pastors who promote speaking in tongues. The decision came from the association's board of administration at Minneapolis.

This action counters attitudes found today in many denominations where there is either an open approval, an implied approval, or a tolerant wait-and-see attitude toward the infilling of the Holy Spirit and speaking in tongues as the Spirit gives utterance.

Gains Strength from Prayer, President Says

"I find for myself, as I know men and women throughout this great government of ours find, a sustaining strength from the moments of prayer, whether we assemble together or whether we pray silently alone," declared President Lyndon Johnson at the 13th annual Presidential Prayer Breakfast held February 4 in Washington, D. C.

"What has become a tradition and practice in our times is actually one of the oldest traditions of our national life," the President declared.

Attending the annual breakfast were many high government officials, including Vice-President Humphrey, leaders of the Senate and House, and Justice Clark of the U.S. Supreme Court. Also present were 70 presidents of national and international labor unions and more than 100 leaders of industry, business, and educational institutions.

Kansas Senator Frank Carlson, presiding at the function and commenting on the growth of the prayer breakfasts, said there is a "growing appreciation for the values gained when leaders meet in the spirit of prayer, recognizing that our ultimate hope and trust is in God."

Just four years ago at a similar breakfast, Lyndon Johnson, then vice-president of the U.S., had stated: "We need to remember that the separation of church and state must never mean the separation of religious values from the lives of our public servants." ✍



Your Questions

Answered by Ernest S. Williams

In Genesis 1:27 we read that God created man "in his own image." Does this mean that God has a body such as we have?

This statement refers to the nature of man—mentally, morally, spiritually. It refers also to those qualities which constitute personality—power to think, to feel, to will.

Was Judas a real disciple of Jesus before he betrayed Him, or was he a devil from the beginning?

Some argue that Judas was a devil from the beginning, using John 6:70, 71 as proof scripture: "Have not I chosen you twelve, and one of you is a devil?" I cannot believe Jesus would empower a demon-possessed person with ability to work miracles in His name. In John 6:70, 71 I think Jesus was speaking prophetically. Judas became demon-possessed at the time of the pass-over supper (John 13:2).

If a demon were cast out of a man, would the man thereby be saved?

This in itself would not save a man. Man must repent, turning from sin, and accept the Lord Jesus as his personal Saviour in order to be saved.

I am saved, and have been filled with the Holy Spirit, but recently I have been troubled by blasphemous thoughts concerning God. I resist these, but they keep coming to me. Can you suggest some help?

You may be sure that since you do not want such thoughts they are no evidence of unfaithfulness in your heart. You are rather suffering temptation in which the enemy is trying to bring your mind into captivity. Your victory is in knowing you resist such thoughts. Your heart is right; it is your mind that is tormented. Do not struggle against vain thoughts merely by strong exercise of will. When they come, turn your mind from them, thanking Jesus for making you a child of God.

In our Sunday school class some claim that God is the Father of everyone, since it says in Ephesians 4:6, "... one God and Father of all," and in the Lord's Prayer, "Our Father, which art in heaven. . . ." How do you explain these scriptures?

When Paul wrote to the church at Ephesus he was writing to believers, not to sinners. In the Lord's Prayer, Jesus was emphasizing the need of reverence for God. From the standpoint of creation, God might be spoken of as "the Father of all creation," since He is the getter. But men are "without God and without hope" until they are saved (Ephesians 2:12). They are "strangers and foreigners," and only through Christ can they enter "the household of God" (v. 19). Of those opposed to Him, Jesus said, "Ye are of your father the devil" (John 8:44). "Except a man be born again he cannot see the kingdom of God" (John 3:3).

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



STEPS TO SALVATION

Next Week's Sunday School Lesson
ROMANS 10:1-17

BY J. BASHFORD BISHOP

THE GREAT THEME of Romans 9 through 11 is the destiny of Israel—its failure through rejection of Christ, God's way of salvation; its restoration; its relationship to the gospel and to the Church. In our text Paul has Israel in mind, yet the principles and truths have universal application.

1. *The Burden of a Great Apostle* (v. 1). Though Paul has suffered terribly at the hands of his fellow-Jews, he could not consider the thought of their rejection of Christ with cold indifference. On the contrary, he longed for their conversion with such Spirit-inspired intensity that he would have well-nigh given his own soul for them! (See Romans 9:3). What an example he sets for us!

2. *The Tragedy of Misguided Zeal* (v. 2). "They have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge." How zealous indeed were the Jews in keeping the Law, in

observing their ceremonies, in seeking to win proselytes. But their zeal was without profit and unacceptable to God because it ignored God's way of salvation. How sad it is that this misguided zeal is prevalent even today. Zeal is of no profit unless it is coupled with truth. On the other hand, the zeal of those who are misguided is often a rebuke to those who, though they know the truth, are without zeal!

3. *The Futility of Man's Works* (v. 4). "For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone that believeth." A train is not an end in itself; it is to bring one to a destination. Such was the purpose of the Law—to bring us to Christ. We ought to get "off the train" when we reach our destination! Those who seek to be saved by "trying to live right" are foolishly staying on a train that has reached the end of the line! Christ died for us, redeeming us from "the curse of the law," thus making it possible for God to declare us who were sinners to be now righteous.

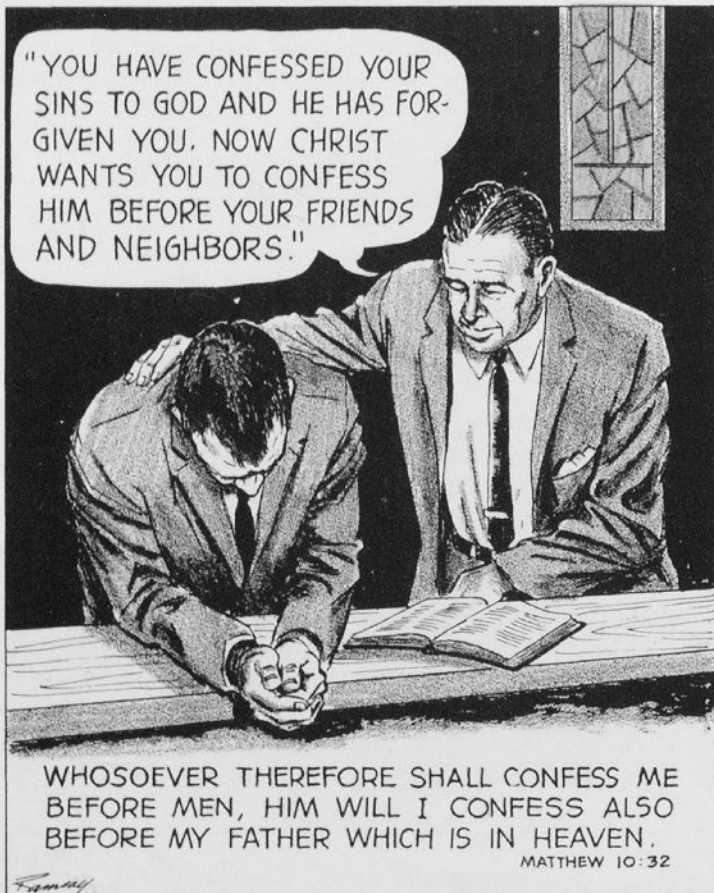
4. *The Availability of the Saving Gospel* (vv. 5-8). Here Paul emphasizes the simplicity of salvation. There is *nothing* that a man can *do* in order to be saved and nothing that *needs* to be done, for Christ has done it all. He is not afar off, but through the preaching of the gospel He is made real in and to the one who believes.

5. *The Steps in Experiencing Salvation* (vv. 9, 10). The key words here are believe and confess. This belief is more than intellectual consent to the truth. According to the Amplified New Testament, it is to "adhere to, trust in and rely on the truth." Real saving faith in Christ must find outward expression through public confession. Verse 10 explains verse 9. A man is justified when he believes with his heart and is saved when he "declares openly and speaks out freely his faith" (Amplified N. T.).

6. *The Universality of the Gospel* (vv. 11-13). Twice Paul uses the word "whosoever." First, he quotes the Septuagint Version of the Old Testament (Isaiah 28:16; 49:23; and Psalm 34:22), showing thus that these Scriptures with which the Jews were familiar pointed out God's way of righteousness through Christ. And here, too, Paul states again (Romans 3:22) that "there is no difference" between Jew and Gentile. All men may be saved through faith in Christ. No one, whatever his race or however sinful, is excluded!

7. *The Indispensability of Proclaiming the Gospel* (vv. 14, 15). God might have used angels to herald the glad tidings. Instead He limited Himself to human instrumentality. The oft-repeated "how" in these verses represents vital, searching, and challenging questions. How wonderful that God in His infinite condescension has made us ministers of reconciliation. God grant we shall be faithful in doing our part in witnessing and in sending witnesses.

CONFESSORS WANTED



Faith is dead to doubts, dumb to discouragements, blind to impossibilities, knows nothing but success. Faith lifts its hands up through the threatening clouds, lays hold of Him who has all power in heaven and on earth. Faith makes the uplook good, the outlook bright, the inlook favorable, and the future glorious.

—V. Raymond Edman

REVIVALTIME APPRECIATED IN

FOR GENERATIONS Christians have been concerned about reaching the lost in India. Missionaries have worked faithfully to spread the gospel to India's millions.

Today India is a force to be reckoned with in international affairs, a nation respected as a world power. Reaching the people for Christ thus takes on a new dimension—and an increasing urgency. The people of India will have influence in their own land—and in other countries as well.

Revivaltime is assisting Christian missionaries in spreading the gospel in this land. Through the facilities of the Far East Broadcasting Company, *Revivaltime* is reaching India with a message of hope—salvation through Jesus Christ.

A national minister in Bangalore wrote this thrilling letter describing the powerful effect of the full-gospel message on the people of his country:

"Listening to your heart-stirring messages is so uplifting in the midst of all the worries and cares with which we are surrounded here. We long for the *Revivaltime* broadcast each Sunday and Thursday. Scattering the seed in the uttermost parts of the world is the greatest need of this hour.

"In my country, the primitive hill people worship a crude deity—the goddess of smallpox called Mariammen. It is regarded by these simple folk as a very powerful spirit.

"Once we ventured into the midst of a vast crowd of festival-makers, as they sang the song of Mariammen in our own language, Tamil. The song was a tribute to the great power of their goddess.

"We sang, 'What a joy, what a joy unspeakable that my Lord Jesus has forgiven all my sins!' Little by little, the people gathered around us; the drumbeaters turned to keeping time to our song of triumph, and many listened to the challenge of the gospel that day.

"Now, many of these hill people listen regularly to *Revivaltime's* broadcast service and often return to our village to express their gratitude for the Christians' message of truth."

Many appreciative letters are received each month from listeners in India who had never known Christ before. In every letter there seems to be one thought always present: "We are so glad to hear the wonderful message of truth!"

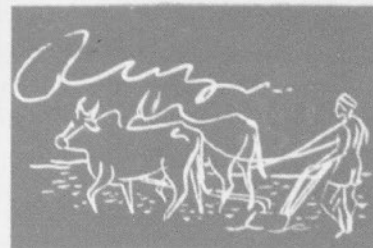
But there are also many longtime Christians who find encouragement and blessing in the *Revivaltime* broadcast. One listener wrote: "I am an Assemblies of God missionary serving in India. I often listen to *Revivaltime* from Manila, and have been inspired by it. Many of our church folk listen to you regularly at 4:30 Sunday mornings."

A Salvation Army major in Andhra Pradesh testified, "We are glad to inform you that we are hearing your broadcast regularly and enjoy it very much. It is truly the time of revival. May God inspire you to lead many souls to Christ."

Among *Revivaltime's* Indian listeners are many professional persons. A medical doctor in Kerala, South India, wrote: "We hear *Revivaltime* regularly from Manila,



INDIA



and are greatly inspired. Thank you so much for your wonderful broadcast. We pray for you every day."

From another Bangalore listener came these words of encouragement: "My friend and I are retired school-teachers, and we listen to your religious broadcast as often as we can. We consider your sermons and the messages in song most inspiring and tell all of our friends about *Revivaltime*. Many of them now listen to the broadcast regularly."

"I never miss your Sunday morning broadcast," testified an American minister serving in South India. "The beautiful singing and your dynamic preaching always lift my spirits before I begin my service to a congregation of about a thousand persons in this remote South Indian village."

A factory superintendent wrote: "It is a blessing for my family to hear your inspiring sermons every Sunday here in Madras, India. Your prayers have brought so many changes in my life. I found Christ through your broadcast. Recently, as a result of prayer, I received a promotion to superintendent. We are praying daily for you and your fellow gospel workers."

This letter from a police officer in Madras, was especially appreciated: "I am a keen listener to *Revivaltime*. I find it very inspiring and uplifting and look forward to hearing it each week. The reception is clear though the distance between us is so great. It is as though we were seated right in front of you. Thank God for your ministry."

A nurse working the night shift in a Bengal hospital testified: "*Revivaltime* reaches us at the breakfast table every Sunday morning. Sometimes when I am late getting home, I can hear the choir's singing from almost every house in our neighborhood, so I know there are many who listen to your broadcast. Your efforts are surely appreciated!"

Through the support of friends around the world, *Revivaltime* is reaching the lost with the gospel. But air-time and production costs have increased greatly in the past few months. If *Revivaltime* is to maintain its vast outreach, we must have your help. You may have a part in this worldwide radio ministry by enclosing an offering with your next letter to *Revivaltime*, Box 70, Springfield, Missouri 65801.

God is the only one who can forgive sins." Jesus, knowing their thoughts and hearing their murmuring, said, "Whether is easier, to say, Thy sins be forgiven thee; or to say, Arise and walk? But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins, (then saith He to the sick of the palsy), Arise, take up thy bed, and go unto thine house."

So the palsied man rolled up his mattress, and threw it on his back, and walked out. Oh, my friend, Jesus is not only sovereign over conditions, circumstances, the elements of nature, and evil spirits, but He is sovereign over sin. When He says to sin, "Go!" it has to go. Do you believe it? According to your faith be it unto you.

JESUS IS SOVEREIGN OVER DEATH

At His girdle hang the keys of Hades and of death (Revelation 1:18). One of these days He is going to say, "Rise," and the dead in Christ shall rise as Lazarus rose. Nothing can stand in the way of the Son of God. He's our KING. He's coming for us.

*Lo, He cometh! Lo, He cometh!
Not as once He came to earth—
Poor and humble, meek and lowly,
Through the gate of human birth.
Not to walk with feet awearied
Through a world of sin and pain,
By His own despised, rejected,
Lamb of God for sinners slain.*

*Now in majesty He cometh,
Cloudy splendors wrap Him round.
Wake, ye dead; and list, ye living—
Hark, the trumpet's awful sound.
Now His face is like the lightning,
Now His eyes are like the flame;
Lion of the tribe of Judah
Heaven and earth adore His name.*

*Lo, He cometh! Lo, He cometh!
Bride and Spirit echo, "Come!"
Come to heal Thy hurt creation,
Come to take Thy people home.
Mount the throne, O Son of David;
Take the scepter, Prince of peace;
Come, and hush the drums loud beating;
Come, and bid all conflict cease.*

*Come, and furl the flags of warfare!
Come, and sheathe the nation's swords!
Come, and reign in truth and justice—
King of kings and Lord of lords.
Come in power, come in glory,
Come to take Thy Kingdom, Come.
Even so, O King and Bridegroom—
"Even so, Lord Jesus, come."*

—Annie Johnson Flint

The whole creation groans for His coming. The saints wait joyfully for His return. Will you be able to stand before Him? "Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and ye perish from the way, when his wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed are all they that put their trust in Him" (Psalm 2:12).



WHEN THE MINISTER

PRAYED

By MONT HURST, Dallas, Texas

IT IS MOST AMAZING the way we can know beyond doubt that prayer contact has been made with God and that He is going to give us the thing we need and have asked Him for. And it is also remarkable the way the intercessory prayer of others also does this in cooperation with our own prayer.

Some years ago I was in dire circumstances and needed a job very badly. I am an advertising copywriter. I had made application to every agency I thought could use my experience and services. I got nothing but negative responses to my applications. I also applied to other concerns I thought could use me. But to no avail.

I had been a born-again Christian for many years and I could not understand why God had not provided me with something He knew I needed and which certainly was within the bounds of His will. I prayed and trusted but nothing happened. I was so discouraged. I had personal and family responsibilities which were great and I was broke financially. It looked like the end of the road.

One night I attended a church which always has a time of prayer at the altar following the sermon. The minister was a wonderful, Spirit-filled man of God. I knelt at the altar that Sunday night with others. The minister moved behind each one who was on his knees at the altar. He asked God to bless them as he laid his hands upon each one in turn. When he came to me, he did this. He moved on to the one next to me and then suddenly came back to me and prayed, "Father, supply this brother's need."

Now I had not told him of my dire need of employment. He had met me but knew absolutely nothing of my work or of the fact that I was at my wit's end. But when he laid his hands on my head and prayed for my needs, something happened. A feeling of relief and assurance came over me. Somehow I knew that this minister had touched God for me. I arose and hurried out of the church to get home as quickly as possible.

My mother had the habit of leaving notes on my bed if anyone called while I was away. I almost ran all the way home for I was sure there would be a note on my bed. I switched on the light in my room. There was a slip of paper on my bed! I hastily picked it up. One of the best-known agency men had called me while I was in church, asking that I call him the next morning. Previously he had turned me down.

I telephoned him the next morning. Then I hurried down to his agency and talked to him. He employed me and, after a short time, gave me a fine raise in salary. Later on, I moved on to a still better job.

I have never ceased to thank the Lord and testify to this marvelous incident. Prayer is the greatest privilege we have when we pray in faith. And the intercessory prayer of others will get results when our own praying becomes weak or faulty.

MISSIONETTES ACTIVE AROUND THE WORLD

GIRLS ARE MUCH THE SAME the world over. They like to gather in groups and feel a sense of security when they belong to an organization. No doubt this is at least part of the reason why the Missionettes program, organized in 1956, has been so readily accepted in many countries.

In countries where English is not spoken, missionaries translated materials and adapted them to fit the needs of their own field of ministry. Mrs. Hilda Roman, late missionary to Cuba, was one of the first to develop the program in Spanish. Through her efforts many Cuban girls became Missionettes and faithfully worked for the Lord.

Ruth Wakefield, daughter of missionaries to Togo-Dahomey and now Senegal, has been instrumental in starting Missionettes in those two areas of West Africa. She recently returned to the U.S. to enter college but left the Missionettes work in capable hands.

Other countries where missionaries have introduced Missionettes include India, Ghana, Australia, Chile, Egypt, El Salvador, Guatemala, Dominican Republic, The Philippines, Ecuador, Malaysia, Bahamas, Guam, Puerto Rico, and Jamaica. The number increases continually.



Missionettes from Guayaquil, with sponsor, Mrs. Paul Cooper, and assistant, America Navas.

Mrs. Paul Cooper, Guayaquil, Ecuador, recently wrote about the first Missionettes Club in that country, which meets in the Evangelistic Center Sunday afternoons for a devotional time and handwork. They are now ready to start the *Stairway to the Stars* Achievement Program.

These girls have made Bible markers, birthday cards, and cloth picture books. The girls often quietly slip into a seat beside a mother with a small child and help to keep the child quiet with the picture books, so the mother can benefit from the service.

From now on Mrs. Dina Moroco will supervise this group of girls, while Mrs. Cooper starts clubs in other churches.

As interest continues, more and more clubs will be organized around the world. This is an important and effective means of getting girls into the church.



FIRST WMC CONVENTION HELD IN WESTERN VISAYAN DISTRICT, PHILIPPINES

Women attending the first Western Visayan District WMC convention. Jo Kenny (left) and Marjorie H. Denton hold WMC emblem.

THE FIRST Women's Missionary Council Convention to be held in the Western Visayan District (Panay Island and Negros Occidental) met in San Jose, Antique, Philippines, this spring. Fifty ladies in native costume (plaid skirts and blouses) registered at the meeting.

Marjorie H. Denton, who serves as district president, said of the opening service:

"The Holy Spirit used the theme, 'Now Is the Time' to stir the

hearts of us all. The women met in the girls' school for an evening banquet where each of the seven active groups of the district displayed original projects. On Sunday, Jo Kenny from Cebu City was guest speaker. It was impressive to see the Filipino ladies depositing the *centavos* (pennies) they had saved in a miniature church made of plywood. The funds will be used to equip the district camp kitchen and dining-

room. The Bacolod City WMC group added blessing to the meetings with singing and dramatization.

"Prizes were awarded for a six-months' activities contest. One member received a Visayan Bible for having read 806 chapters of God's Word. Another was rewarded for distributing more than 8,000 tracts. We are enthusiastic about higher goals for next year. Please pray for us!"



WORK AMONG WOMEN, GIRLS PROGRESSES IN GHANA

Western Kusasi women attending sectional WMC convention in Ghana, West Africa. The banners were made for them by a Bakersfield, Calif., WMC group.

MEMBERS OF the Women's Missionary Council of Ghana attended a sectional WMC Convention in Western Kusasi recently. There are 11 active WMC groups in Kusasi. Others are waiting to be set in order.

Besides doing personal evangelism and work for the church, the Kusasi WMC's join the missionaries in promoting Christian

work among the young girls. Adeline Wichman and Pauline Smith say:

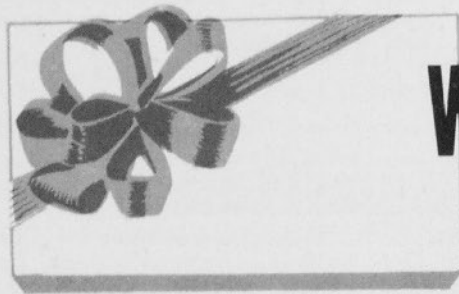
"This year we enrolled 65 girls in two camps. They were all eager to learn and to please their teachers.

"When we visit the churches now, we find ourselves so much more familiar with these naturally shy girls. Their faces light up

when we are able to call them by name.

"We felt rewarded as we saw the girls at camp pray for one of their number who had taken ill. They didn't stop until she left her bed and ate the meal they had saved for her. She was well from then on.

"We are looking forward to more camps next year."



WHAT IS FAITH?

By OSWALD J. SMITH

FAITH—WHAT DOES IT MEAN? God's Word says, "By grace are ye saved, through *faith*" (Ephesians 2:8). "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved" (Acts 16:31). But what does it mean to believe? How does faith save?

1 ACCEPTING CHRIST AS A GIFT

No one would ever dream of paying for a gift, for the moment payment is made it ceases to be a gift. All you can do is to take it and say, "Thank you." You do not work for it. You cannot earn it.

So it is with Christ. He must be accepted in the same way. For just as you believe in the sincerity of the one who sends us a gift, so too you must believe in the genuineness of God's offer and accept His gift, Christ. Faith reaches out a hand and takes. Thus the Lord Jesus Christ becomes your Saviour.

2 RECEIVING CHRIST AS A GUEST

"Behold," He says, "I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in" (Revelation 3:20). In other words, He waits outside your heart's closed door. But He will never force His way in. You must open the door. You invite Him in. And the moment you open the door He enters. Then you can honestly say, "Jesus is in my heart."

My friend, let Him in. Be courteous. You would not dream of keeping a guest standing on the threshold, would you? Well, then, why keep Christ outside? Why not be courteous and invite Him in?

3 COMING TO CHRIST AS A PAUPER

That, you remember, was the way the prodigal son came to his father. He had nothing. His money was gone. He came in rags. He knew he was unworthy, so he simply cast himself on his father's mercy. He came just as he was. And so must you. Do not wait to reform. Do not endeavor to better yourself. Come as you are, for after all, you are nothing but a sinner.

4 TRUSTING CHRIST AS A SAVIOUR

Suppose you are drowning and someone throws you a life belt. Do you ignore it? Do you cast it from you? Certainly not. You grasp it. You rest your weight on it. You trust it. That is faith. You must rely on another. Have you done it?

Oh, how simple! Why not trust Him now? Intellectual faith will not do. "The devils believe and tremble." To believe *about* Christ will never save you. You must *trust* Him. Do not look within. You are not to examine your feelings. Cast the anchor outside. Lay hold of Christ.

5 KNOWING JUST THREE THINGS

You do not have to know or understand all the Bible. You do not have to know theology or the doctrines of the church. But there are three things you must know.

First, you must know that you are a sinner and that you are lost.

You will not want a doctor unless you know you are sick. You will not want a rescuer unless you know you are drowning. You will not want to be found unless you know you are lost. You will not recognize you need a Saviour unless you know you are a sinner. Now God says, "All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way" (Isaiah 53:6). "All have sinned" (Romans 3:23). In other words, you are a sinner. You must know this, and you must repent.

Second, you must know that you cannot save yourself.

"Not by works of righteousness which we have done (Titus 3:5) is what God says. "Not of works" (Ephesians 2:9). You cannot save yourself. Your own works will never save you. Self-salvation is impossible. You must recognize this.

Third, you must know that Jesus Christ and He alone can save you.

No one else can. "Thou shalt call his name Jesus: for he shall save" (Matthew 1:21) is what God says. "Neither is there salvation in any other" (Acts 4:12). Mohammed cannot save you, nor can Confucius, or Buddha. Religion cannot save you—neither Catholic, Protestant nor Greek Orthodox. Only a Person can save. Jesus Christ, the living, resurrected Son of God, can cleanse you from all sin. Will you believe it?

All you have to do, if you know these three things, is to *receive* Jesus Christ as your own personal Saviour. That is faith. Open your heart to Him now and invite Him in. God says, "As many as *received* him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God" (John 1:12).