### 

### TEACH THEM TOO

#### SOME PEOPLE CAN'T GO TO SUNDAY SCHOOL

LE COPY



#### SUNDAY IS SUNDAY SCHOOL EXTENSION DAY SEE PAGE 13

# the new Jensalem

#### A PREVIEW OF THE CAPITAL OF THE UNIVERSE-

THE IMPRINT OF EARTH upon heaven and heaven upon earth becomes clear in a study of the New Jerusalem, the city of the ages.

"And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband" (Revelation 21:2). This text is not poetry. It is reality. If mankind can lift a space station into the heavens, it should not be thought strange that God can let down a city.

The word *city* presents a definite picture. Many earthly cities have striven to become world capitals, but the city John previews is to be the capital of the universe.

It will be absolutely *new* in concept and design. Its location is new. Its purpose is new. Its style is new. Its material is new. Its utilities are new. It is called the *New* Jerusalem. It is everything that the earthly city, where God's Temple once stood, has failed to be. It will be a mammoth city. The nations of the earth shall walk in the *light* of it! It will be to the new earth what the pillar of fire and the cloud were to Israel. Its effect upon earth will be supernatural with benefits not yet imagined by mankind.

This great enclosed cube is nearly 1,378 English miles every way. That is approximately the distance from Tampa, Florida, to Des Moines, Iowa; or from Dallas, Texas, to Washington, D. C.

Were the city to be divided into blocks as in our American cities, there would be at least 625 million blocks.

But this unique city has another dimension. It is as high as it is wide and long. Thus following the pattern already established, and contemplating street over street and yet accommodating the highest buildings yet erected in New York, there would be at least 7,500,000 streets and  $937\frac{1}{2}$  billion blocks.

In such a city there would be ample room for 10 million houses, each large enough for 12,500 occupants measured by today's standards. At this rate the city would afford ample room for one and one-quarter quadrillions of people. That would be more than 1,000 times as many people as have been born in Adam's race up until the 1960's. *There is room, sir!* 

The Creator is still creating. Jesus said, "My Father worketh hitherto, and I work," and "I go to prepare a place for you."

The New Jerusalem is beyond the ability of a human architect and engineering. It will surpass the plans that created this earth.

The Bible says that Abraham, who was born and raised in the glamour city of antiquity, Ur of the Chaldees, "looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God" (Hebrews 11:10). There is a Heavenly Contractor at work on a literal city. John describes it as "having the glory of God." That glory is a terror to sinners but a joy to God's people.

It is a clean, pure city *without pollution*. There are no skid rows, no palaces of lust. No flashing invitations to lewdness will ever operate under city license; no sophisticated forms of evil will defile its borders.

The same moral climate will prevail as prevailed in the Garden of Eden when God walked in fellowship with man in the cool of the day.

The New Jerusalem will be a city without a church. "I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it" (Revelation 21:22).

Will it seem strange not to see a spire, a bulletin board, a three-story educational annex, a parsonage? No more, sir, than the absence of hospitals, funeral establishments, police stations, and parking meters will seem strange. Remove the Temple from this earth's Jerusalem and you have a city like other cities. It is the Temple that gives Jerusalem story and romance. Not so with the New Jerusalem. *The use of symbols will have been erased forever*.

I could not endure now what I will enjoy then. My Bible says that God is a consuming fire. Were you or I exposed literally to God without intermediary we would be consumed. It would be like plugging an ordinary household appliance directly into the turbines at the powerhouse. That massive flow must be reduced again and again until I can adapt it to my 110 or 220 volt appliance.

Jesus does that so beautifully for me. He brings God

#### A Radio Address by C. M. WARD "Revivaltime" Evangelist

down to my level. But then I shall be exposed to His immediate presence. I shall see Him as He is! My need for any and all intermediate steps will have vanished.

Today we are engaged in urban renewal. But that city will never need renewal. "The city was pure gold, like unto clear glass." Here we do not have enough gold to back our expansion of currency. What men struggle for here will be commonplace there. "The foundations of the wall of the city were garnished with all manner of precious stones...and the twelve gates were twelve pearls" (Revelation 21:19, 21).

"The city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof" (Revelation 21: 23). Its light is so bright that the nations of the earth will walk in the radiance of it.

God is even now putting the finishing touches to this new administration center of the universe. "The kings of the earth do bring their glory and honor into it" (Revelation 21:24). Space travel will be as normal as highway travel is today.

Right now the Holy Spirit is taking applications. In Old Testament times God separated an earthly people to Himself. He called His witness *Israel*. He made its capital *Jerusalem*. He sent His Son to press His claims. His Son came to this city and was rejected by it. A few years later this city was smashed to ruins beyond recognition.

God, the Father, is preparing another city for His Son and for His people. The supreme Ruler of the universe must be Jesus Christ. He has promised to set up an administration that will govern the universe in righteousness.

I am a follower of that Man. I am preparing now for place and ministry in the Capital of the Universe.

I ask you to make a similar choice. The alternative is rebellion against God and eternal regret. *The city is His city*. You must have His salvation to go there. *All residence is by invitation alone*.

Open your Bible to Romans 10:9-13. That is your invitation. Will you accept it now?

# You Don't Have to Worry

By BETTY SWINFORD Tucson, Arizona

A FEW MONTHS AGO we opened our home for a prayer service to which people of all denominations were invited. I looked forward to this meeting, but I had a very practical problem: the carpet which covers our large living room and hall and extends into my study was quite soiled. I knew these rooms would be crowded on the night of the service. I also knew we were in a financial bind and could not have the rug cleaned.

I walked through the living room one week before the meeting and prayed, not aloud, "Father, Your people are coming here for a service, and the carpet needs to be shampooed desperately. What are we going to do?"

He answered me, not audibly but definitely, "You don't have to worry about anything. I'm going to meet all your needs."

I have not often known the Lord to speak to me in such a way, but this was very real. So I put the whole matter out of my mind.

About an hour and a half later my doorbell rang. A Baptist minister, who also sells vacuum cleaners, stood there. I explained kindly that I was not interested.

"I'd be glad to demonstrate this sweeper for you," he said, surveying the section of the carpet he could see. Again I declined. "Thank you, but I'm really not

interested." We chatted a minute longer, and then he said, "You

know, your carpet needs to be shampooed."

"Yes, I know."

"I'll be glad to do it for you. I have a machine in the car that will shampoo your carpet in no time."

Again I protested, but the Lord reminded me of the talk we had had earlier. Finally I told the minister about it. That did it. He and his helper came inside and spent the next three hours cleaning my carpet. During this time we talked about the things of God, and the minister told me he had received the baptism in the Holy Spirit while praying privately.

When they finished the job, the carpet looked better than I had ever seen it! The cost? Not one cent.

Surely the words of Isaiah are true: "Before they call, I will answer, and while they are yet speaking, I will hear" (Isaiah 65:24).

#### The Second Coming of Jesus

THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST is mentioned in the Bible eight times as often as His first coming-more than 300 times in the New Testament. Paul refers to it in his Epistles at least 50 times. Whole chapters of the Scriptures are devoted to it (Matthew 23; Mark 13).

In fact, both First and Second Thessalonians were written to explain this blessed hope of the Church. Evidently the Christians at Thessalonica had forgotten what the apostle Paul had taught them concerning the resurrection of the dead, the rapture of the Church, and the revelation of Jesus Christ. They seemed to be sorrowing over the dead as if there were never going to be a resurrection. Perhaps they had reverted to the old Greek philosophy that only the soul will be resurrected and not the body.

These Thessalonian believers were being subjected to very severe persecution, and some of them made the mistake of thinking that the Great Tribulation had already begun. Paul wrote the two Epistles to correct their thinking along this line.

#### THE RESURRECTION OF THE DEAD

The Thessalonian church had somehow come to the conclusion that only those who were alive at the coming of the Lord would be caught up to meet Him in the air. Therefore Paul wrote to them, saying, "But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him" (1 Thessalonians 4: 13, 14). He goes on to say that we who are alive at the time of Christ's second coming will not "prevent" (precede) the dead Chris-tians. On the contrary, "the dead in Christ shall rise first: then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air" (1 Thessalonians 4:16, 17). In other words, we shall all meet the Lord at the same moment (whether we be dead or alive at the time of His coming) provided we are accounted worthy by His grace to be among that blood-washed throng of His redeemed people.

#### THE RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH

In the Bible, the Rapture is taught as clearly and as emphatically as the resurrection. It will occur so suddenly it will surprise mankind. The unconverted will not even see what is happening, for it will be a secret operation and it will be completed in less time than it takes to blink one's eye. "We shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye" (1 Corinthians 15:51, 52). Christians who are "corruptible" (dead) shall suddenly become incorruptible. Those who are "mortal" (alive, but subject to death) shall suddenly become immortal. Whichever class we may be in at the time of Christ's return, we shall all be suddenly changed and in a flash we shall be gone from this earthly scene. We immediately shall find ourselves in the presence of Christ in realms above, clothed in our glorified bodies; "and so shall we ever be with the Lord" (1 Thessalonians 4:17).

Paul told the believers not to fear: God would not leave them in the midst of earthly trouble indefinitely, neither would He leave them in their graves forever. "For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, that, whether we wake [live] or sleep [die], we should live together with him. Wherefore comfort yourselves together" (1 Thessalonians 5:9-11).

(Continued on page twenty-two)



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#### STATEMENT OF FAITH

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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 the redemptive work of Christ on the cross provides healing of the human body in answer to believing prayer. WE BELIEVE that the BELIEVE that the Holy Spirit, according to Acts 2:4, is given to be saved, and the lost, the one to everlasting life and the other to everlasting damnation.
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BELIEVE THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST is very near, for several important reasons.

First, the Bible is the Word of God. It is true from beginning to end. It is completely trustworthy. When Jesus Christ was here upon earth, He put His seal of approval upon the Old Testament. For example, in Matthew 5:18 we read His words: "For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled." Again in John 10:35 the words of Christ are recorded: "The scripture cannot be broken." The Lord Jesus Christ put His seal of approval upon the Old Testament. We therefore accept it as authoritative.

So far as the New Testament is concerned, our Lord gathered His disciples around Him prior to His departure to be with the Father and said unto them, speaking of the Holy Spirit: "Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he shall guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear that shall he speak: and he will show you things to come" (John 16:13). The implication of this statement is that the Saviour was preauthenticating the New Testament.

A second reason I believe Christ's coming is near is that the Bible clearly teaches that the Lord Jesus Christ will actually return someday to receive believers unto Himself. Every informed Christian should know where some of these crucial passages are. For example, in John 14:3 are the words of Christ: "And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also." Again, in Acts 1:11, the words of angelic visitors are heard: "Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven."

Third, I believe that the Lord Jesus will soon return because signs of His coming are clearly delineated in the Scriptures. The Saviour gave us certain clues. Moreover, the writers of the New Testament repeatedly indicated the coming of the Lord will have definite preparatory signs.

Fourth, I believe that the return of Christ is near because these signs are now being fulfilled. Let us list some of them. One of the prophecies being fulfilled is found in 2 Peter 3:3, 4: "Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, and saying, Where is the promise of his coming?" A scoffing attitude of unbelief, we are told in this passage from Second Peter, will characterize the days immediately preceding our Saviour's return. "In the last days" people will be challenging belief in the Second Coming, and in some cases actually ridiculing the teaching.

A second sign is the religious unconcern in the world today. Callousness and carelessness with regard to the things of Christ have always been present. But they will increase in the last days and thus point unerringly toward the return of Christ.

A third impressive sign clearly enunciated in the Word of God is the prediction that shortly before our Lord's return there will be an apostasy, a falling away from the faith. Spurious sects abound in the 20th century. The old-fashioned saving gospel of the grace of God is widely spurned. The integrity of the Scriptures is denied even in some church circles. The growing apostasy pro-



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# Signs of Christ's Return

#### By CHARLES J. WOODBRIDGE

claims the approach of the coming of the Son of God. A fourth sign is outward formalism. In the latter days, we are told, inward unbelief will be cloaked in

outer ritualism. Faithlessness will be concealed by ceremonialism. The apostle Paul put it this way: "Having a form of godliness but denying the power thereof: from such turn away" (2 Timothy 3:5).

A fifth sign is the increase of wickedness. Paul described the last days as "perilous times" (2 Timothy 3:1). Essentially men will be "lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God" (2 Timothy 3:4).

A sixth sign that the second advent of the Son of God may be very near is that there are today more natural disturbances than ever before. Earthquakes, famines, and pestilences have characterized human history, for since the fall of man nature has been under the divine curse (Romans 8:22). But the Lord Jesus said these things will increase in number, intensity, and destructive effect toward the close of the age.

There are five additional signs, all unique during the past few decades, which clinch the matter: (1) A political consolidation in western Europe; (2) A great northern confederation of nations; (3) Far East nations are awaking from political slumber; (4) Israel is back in her land; (5) The atomic age with all its stupendous fury is upon us.

Christ's return is indeed near. His coming to receive believers is the first step in a series of dramatic prophetic events.

The important point for me is—Am I ready for His coming? Am I trusting the Saviour with all my being? Can I join with the apostle John in the earnest prayer: "Even so, come, Lord Jesus"? (Revelation 22:20).

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THE CIRCLE OF GOD'S PLAN FOR THIS EARTH WILL BE COMPLETED.

THE

F YOU TAKE A COMPASS and stick its point in the center of a piece of paper, you can draw a circle. God sits at the center of His universe; everything describes its own appointed circle according to the divine plan of the Great Architect. The planets complete their circuits. "The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament showeth his handiwork" (Psalm 19:1).

Each drop of water that falls from the clouds will not return until all is accomplished for which it was sent. "As the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth...so shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth; it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it" (Isaiah 55:10, 11).

God's Word is certain to be fulfilled in the way He "sent it." Sometimes we think He is a long time in working out His plans; but as surely as the circle bends back upon itself until completed, so surely will God cause His purposes to be fulfilled.

Let us apply this principle—which I believe is a scriptural one—to the subject of the millennial reign of Christ. Will Christ reign on this earth for a period of time after His second advent? I am firmly convinced He will do so for the following reasons.

#### Ι

#### God's purpose for a world governed righteously by the man He created must be fulfilled.

When God formed Adam, He said: "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion *over*...*all the earth*" (Genesis 1:26). Satan deceived and enticed man from his obedience and allegiance to God, and it seemed as if the plan of God had

#### By C. J. E. KINGSTON

gone awry; that man's circle was being bent further and further away from the divine intention.

MILLENNIUM

But the last Adam came so that the failures of the first Adam might be overcome and the plan of God for this earth be completed.

Listen to the grand climax, the completion of the circle of God's plan for this earth: "And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. . . And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall *rule them with a rod of iron*" (Revelation 19:11, 15). The rod is the baton of royalty, but it is of iron for discipline.

God will have His purposes carried out: if not by the first Adam, then by His perfect last Adam, our Lord Jesus Christ. At the second advent of Christ "they that are Christ's" will be raised (and only those, 1 Corinthians 15:23). But this does not yet usher in the eternal state, for Christ will not deliver up "the kingdom to God the Father until he shall have put down all rule, and all authority and power. For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet" (1 Corinthians 15:24, 25).

On the supposition of the nonmillennialist that Christ's reign can only be a spiritual one as Lord and King of His Church, this passage implies that Christ's coming will be delayed until everyone in the world is finally converted. But this theory is exploded by world facts and by Scripture which teaches that at Christ's return to this earth the world will not be converted but far otherwise. Christ asked: "When the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?" (Luke 18:8). Paul said: "The day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night. For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them... and they shall not escape" (1 Thessalonians 5:2, 3). There will therefore be those on earth at Christ's second advent who will not have the faith of Christ but who will be living in carnal security in unbelief and sin.

These are the tares of Matthew 13:40, 41: "The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather *out of his kingdom* all things that offend, and them which do iniquity." If Christ has only one kingdom, and if that is a spiritual one, how can there possibly be in His spiritual kingdom (the entrance to which is only by the new birth, according to John 3:3, 5) them "which do iniquity"? Evidently there must be another kingdom, an earthly one (besides the spiritual kingdom), composed of those whom Christ will have to rule with a rod of iron.

God's promises made to Israel must be fulfilled literally.

II

It is plain fact that those prophecies concerning Christ's first advent have had a literal and absolute fulfillment. To quote only a few: the virgin birth of Christ was prophesied (Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:23); the place of His birth was foretold (Micah 5:1-3; Matthew 2:6); the ministry of Christ was prophesied (Isaiah 61:1, 2; Luke 4:18, 19); the manner of Christ's death was foretold (Zechariah 12:10; John 19:37); His burial was foretold (Isaiah 53:9; John 19:38-42), His resurrection was prophesied too (Psalm 16:10; Acts 2:24-32).

Christ was literally born in Bethlehem, rode literally on an ass into Jerusalem, was literally betrayed for 30 pieces of silver, His hands and side were literally pierced on the cross, He died and was buried literally, and He rose again the third day literally.

Often the promises of His second coming stand in the same sentence with those of His first coming which have been so literally fulfilled. How absurd it would be to evaporate into mere metaphors those scriptures foretelling His future reign. Has then Jesus only metaphorically died on the cross? Has He drunk spiritual vinegar? Were lots thrown only for His spiritual garments (Psalm 69:21; 22:18)? No, all came to pass literally and actually.

These scriptures having been literally fulfilled, what right have we to assume that other prophecies which speak just as clearly of a glorious reign of Christ on the earth will not be fulfilled in a literal sense? What right have we to alter the plain literal sense of the promises made to Christ and Israel and thus rob them of their relevance to those who first received them?

Let us examine a few of the many scriptures on this subject. In Genesis 17:8 God made a covenant with Abraham which He has never abrogated. He promised the "land wherein thou art a stranger, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession." This promise refers to an earthly country, and will be finally fulfilled when Christ reigns on earth.

In Isaiah 11:1, 2 Christ's first advent is in view. He will be of David's line; He will be anointed with the Holy Spirit. Then the prophecy leaps forward to Christ's second advent when He will "smite the earth with the rod of his mouth"; He will judge with righteousness and "the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea" (Isaiah 11:9).

God intended these prophecies to be literally fulfilled or else language has ceased to have any meaning. Dean Alford, combating in his day what he described as the "spiritual interpretation now in fashion," said that to spiritualize the plain statements of God's Word means "there is an end to all significance in language and Scripture is wiped out as a definite testimony to anything."

To quote Erich Sauer, the "mere spiritualizing is a dangerous circumventing of the simplest meaning of Scripture: in view of the prophecies of the first coming of Christ it is arbitrary and illogical, and it makes God a liar as regards His promises."

Let us take Zechariah 14 as further proof of God's promises which He will keep literally. The opening verse declares that "the day of the Lord cometh" when Jerusalem will be attacked (verse 2) and Christ will return to the Mount of Olives (from whence He ascended—the circle comes back again, verse 4), "and it shall be in that day...the Lord shall be King over all the earth" (verses 8, 9).

Could language be plainer? Christ is to come again. After the destruction of the armies which will attack Jerusalem (verse 12), He will reign over the nations which are left (verse 16) and they will "go up from year to year to worship the King, the Lord of hosts" (verse 16).

There are many other promises in the Old Testament which God has made and which He will literally fulfill when He sets His Son as "King upon my holy hill of Zion"; when He gives Him "the uttermost parts of the earth for [His] possession" (Psalm 2:6,8).

#### III

Christ's prayer that God's will should be done on earth must be answered.

In the Lord's Prayer we are taught to pray, "Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven" (Matthew 6:10). This petition proves several things concerning our subject:

1. That the kingdom Christ asks us to pray may come cannot refer to the spiritual kingdom of the Church, since the Church was already in being in Christ's day (compare Matthew 18:17; Acts 7:38) and was composed of all His true followers.

2. That the kingdom we are instructed to pray may come is an earthly one, for when it comes God's will will be done "on earth."

3. That the prayer for the kingdom presupposes a time when all on the earth will do God's will, for His will is to "be done on earth as it is in heaven." This is in line with Isaiah's prophecy (11:9): "The earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord."

We are faced in this prayer of Christ's with these alternatives. Either (1) Christ is to return to this earth to reign as King for a certain period of time during which God's will will be done "in earth as it is in heaven"; or (2) Christ will not return to this earth until every inhabitant of it has been converted and does the will of God "as it is in heaven."

We know from other passages of Scripture that this latter alternative is not true. We are therefore compelled to believe there must be a reign of Christ on this earth after His second advent and before the dawning of the eternal state. <u>—The Elim Evangel</u> WE LOOK BEYOND THE TROUBLED TIMES IN WHICH WE LIVE TO A DAY OF RIGHTEOUSNESS AND PEACE. THY KINGDOM COME

**F**OR CENTURIES MEN HAVE DREAMED of the day when they "shall beat their swords into plowsnares, and their spears into pruninghooks:" when "nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more." That time, prophesied in Isaiah 2:4, shall come when the world returns to divine government, a Theocracy. It will come when the kingdom of heaven is brought to earth.

In Matthew's Gospel, chapter 13, there are parables which set forth the present or "mystery" phases of the kingdom of heaven. The spiritual meaning was hidden from the many, but revealed to the disciples. Jesus said, "For unto you is given to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven."

Some see a difference between the kingdom of heaven and the kingdom of God. They view the kingdom of heaven as the Messianic kingdom, and envision the kingdom of God as larger, including all things under the government of God (all souls saved from the beginning of time, heavenly angels, Christian believers, and other creatures ruled over by God). We do not object to this view, but would point out that the parables recorded in Matthew under the term "kingdom of heaven," and in Luke under the term "kingdom of God," are very much alike. I wonder if both expressions do not mean the same thing.

Since the kingdom is now in mystery form, it might be well to think of what the kingdom will be when it is made manifest. To do this we need to begin with a consideration of God's covenant with Abraham.

God promised to Abraham and his seed all the land north of Egypt, from the Mediterranean Sea to the River Euphrates—all the land of the Canaanitish nations (Genesis 15:18, 19). But the outstanding promise in the covenant was that "in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed." It was to be a Messianic kingdom in which special divine qualities would be evident.

The prophets spoke of the King and the Kingdom. The King was to be divine and human. "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulders: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace" (Isaiah 9:6). "But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting" (Micah 5:2).

Paul identified our Lord Jesus as this covenant king. "Now I say that Jesus Christ was a minister of the circumcision for the truth of God, to confirm the promises made unto the fathers: and that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercies" (Romans 15:8, 9). In the counsel of God, when Jesus was on earth the time had not yet come for the manifestation of the kingdom in its full glory. The Kingdom was partly veiled, partly revealed. The present "mystery" form of the kingdom was to come in Christendom, the sphere of religious profession.

But we must return to the Old Testament, for it is there

#### By ERNEST S. WILLIAMS

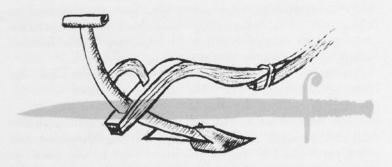
that light is thrown on God's plan for the manifest Messianic kingdom. Through miraculous intervention God brought His people out of Egypt. Having separated them unto Himself at Sinai they entered a covenant of obedience, saying, "All that the Lord hath spoken we will do" (Exodus 19:8).

Prior to this time each family, or clan, was a law unto itself. Having covenanted obedience to the rule of God they were now formed into a nation and given national laws and a national worship. With God as their King and Moses His prime minister, they were established under what is called a Theocracy. They had a divinely appointed leader, but no earthly king.

God, who knows the human heart, foresaw the time when the people would demand a king so He told them the kind of king they ought to look for (Deuteronomy 17:14-20). When they did choose a king they selected one who fell far short of the qualities God had recommended. A king fulfilling all requirements will be given them. In Daniel 2 there is recorded a vision given to King Nebuchadnezzar which was interpreted by Daniel, setting forth the course of this world during "the times of the Gentiles" (that is, the time when the great Gentile nations would rule over the Jews—Luke 21:24). This time began with the captivity of Judah and will end with the overthrow of the Antichrist and the False Prophet and their followers at the end of what we call the Great Tribulation (Revelation 19:11-21).

In Nebuchadnezzar's vision he saw the disintegration of Gentile world power, brought to its end by means of a smiting stone, which is interpreted to mean that "the God of heaven [will] set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed." Then comes an important word, "and the kingdom shall not be left to other people." It will be the manifest kingdom of heaven, ruled by the King of the Jews, heavenly in its character although the kingdom is to be on the earth.

The same vision was given Daniel in chapter 7, but in more detail. "One like the son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the ancient of days . . . and there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom." It is to be "an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away." How harmonious is this with the words spoken concerning Jesus : "Behold, he cometh with clouds ; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced



him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him" (Revelation 1:7).

The kingdom will be spiritual in nature, far different from a world of wars and rumors of wars. And it will be earthwide. The Scriptures tell us "all nations shall flow unto it" (Isaiah 2:2). "And he shall judge among the nations," who will have a hunger to walk in His paths, and be taught His ways. "Surely shall one say, in the Lord have I righteousness and strength: even to him shall men come; and all that are incensed against him shall be ashamed" (Isaiah 45:24). "And men shall worship him, every one from his place, even all the isles of the heathen" (Zephaniah 2:11).

The government of the Lord will be earthwide. The man of sin will reign no more. And those who serve our blessed Redeemer in the present age will have the joy of sharing high honors with Him when He comes in His kingdom. "To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne" (Revelation 3:21).

John the Baptist came announcing this kingdom, saying, "Repent ye, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." Jesus took up where John left off, saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." Later He offered Himself to the Jews as their king (Matthew 21:1-9), fulfilling the promise by the prophet, "Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy king cometh unto thee: he is just and having salvation; lowly, and riding on an ass, and upon a colt, the foal of an ass" (Zechariah 9:9).

There has been discussion about Jesus offering Himself as King to Israel. Some say it would be treason against the Roman government for Him to do this, worthy of death according to Roman civil law. All I know is that Jesus offered Himself in fulfillment of prophecy and in such a way as brought no charge against him for civil disobedience. At His trial the Jews cried out in protest when Pilate considered freeing Jesus. They said, "If thou let this man go, thou art not Casear's friend" (John 19: 12). "I find no fault in him," were the words of Pilate. Jesus honored the Roman government, saying, "Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that be God's."

We live in the Church age. As the Jews rejected Jesus as their Messiah during His ministry on earth, the Gentiles today are rejecting His Lordship and redemption in this Church age. When the fullness of the Gentiles is come (Romans 11:25) God, who delivered Israel from their bondage in Egypt, "will set his hand again the second time to recover the remnant of his people." And, if we are looking for dispersed Israel, where are we most likely to find them? "From Assyria, and from Egypt, and from Pathros, and from Cush, and from Elam, and from Shinar, and from Hamath, and from the islands of the sea" (Isaiah 11:11). God knows where they are. There will be a national regathering and a uniting of the 10 tribes with the tribes of Judah and Benjamin (Ezekiel 37) while their cleansing is described in chapter 36. "And so all Israel shall be saved" (Romans 11:26).

Space forbids enlarging on these wonderful promises, but here is enough to cause us to rejoice in these times of serious unbelief as we see our place in the Church of Christ and look forward to the age when "the kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ" (Revelation 11:15).



# Your Questions

#### Answered by Ernest S. Williams

In Luke 21:24, we read, "Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled." What is meant by "the times of the Gentiles"?

The "times of the Gentiles" is that period from the captivity of the Jews in Babylon to the time (yet future) when Israel is restored (Daniel 2). Evidently Jesus had in mind particularly the time between the destruction of Jerusalem and its restoration in kingdom blessing.

During this time of Jewish dispersion has come the Church Age in which the Gentiles, along with any Jews who believe, are invited to prepare for the marriage supper of the Lamb. This age will close with the coming of the Lord Jesus for the Church. The fullness of opportunity for salvation of the Gentiles will then have come (Romans 11:25). This does not mean that the Gentiles will then be destroyed, for the Bible makes it clear that people of many nations will share in the blessings of the Kingdom Age (Isaiah 2:2-4). Concerning the restoration of Israel, read Zechariah 12:8 to 13:1; 14:4-6; Ezekiel 37; Romans 11:26.

We are being taught the Church must go through the Tribulation. Can you give us Scripture to prove this is error?

We do not like to enter into controversies, nor do we have space in this column for lengthy discussions. However, I will give you my opinion briefly.

In Daniel 9:24-27 we have a vision of the history of the Jews from the time they were given freedom to return from captivity (see the Books of Ezra and Nehemiah) to the end of this present age. Israel is in the vision; the Church is not.

After 69 weeks (each day representing one year) Messiah would be cut off. There would be an undisclosed time between the 69th and 70th weeks. At the beginning of the 70th week a Prince (we believe he will be the Beast) will enter into a covenant with Israel. This he will break, bringing on the Great Tribulation of the Jews, spoken of as "the time of Jacob's trouble" (Jeremiah 30:7). This tribulation will end with the coming of Jesus who will bring judgment on the Beast and the False Prophet and their followers (Revelation 19:11-21), and will bind Satan (Revelation 20:1-3).

The Church is a New Testament mystery, unrevealed in Old Testament times, inserted between the 69th and 70th weeks (Ephesians 2:11 to 3:6). "When the fullness of the Gentiles is come in" (Romans 11:25), the Church will be caught away. Then God "will set his hand the second time to recover the remnant of his people" (Isaiah 11:11) and there will be a national restoration of Israel. "And so all Israel shall be saved" (Romans 11:26).

I believe Matthew 24 will be fulfilled after the Church has been caught away. It is related to the time of Tribulation which will come after this great event.

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.

## **The Satanic Trinity**

THE MESSAGE OF REVELATION 13 deals with the great effort of Satan to counterfeit the Holy Trinity and thus deceive the peoples of earth.

Satan, through his military genius, Antichrist, organizes the nations in order to control the warriors and the wealth of the world. If one has eyes to see, he cannot help but admit that there exists already today the groundwork which will shortly blossom into the system of Satan when once the Church is caught away from the world to be with Christ.

#### THE FALSE GOD-SATAN

(Revelation 13:1)

It is not John who stands upon the sand of the sea, but the dragon. What he sees not only interests him, but also provides for him the opportunity for which he is looking. He is a dragon, a great fiery monster, brilliant, attractive, formidable (Ezekiel 28:12). He is that old serpent who introduced all the sin, and sorrow, and suffering into this world. He is a devil, a slanderer, and an accuser of the brethren through the centuries. As Satan, he is the opposer and the adversary of the Lord and His people. By his serpentine methods he has filled the role of deceiver of the nations, for he is a liar from the beginning and the father of lies (John 8:44).

He sees the sea of the nations in agitation, restless, troubled, in confusion and disorder (Luke 21:25, 26; Revelation 17:15). The difficulties and perplexities of the nations attract him, and shortly provide him with his great opportunity.

By HERMAN A. HOYT

#### THE FALSE CHRIST—ANTICHRIST (Revelation 13:1-10)

Let us consider the origination, description, concentration, and organization of this first beast.

His *origination* is out of the sea of the nations, and he is therefore a man. He is some great personality who finally emerges from the milling masses of people. In the desperation and perplexity of the nations, this man appears on the horizon as the one who is able to solve the problems of humanity and lead them out of confusion and chaos into order, system, and happiness.

But while he is a man with great ability, he is one who has some real relationship to the abyss. Twice it is affirmed that he comes out of the abyss (Revelation 11:7; 17:8). This must mean that he is so much in league with Satan that he is finally indwelt by an evil spirit from the pit and supernaturally energized for his task.

The *description* of this beast is most significant. In character he is like a wild beast (cf. Revelation 6:8 for meaning of this word). Though he may appear to be the very fullness of perfection as men see him, God knows that nature within. It has a wild, untamed, rebellious nature. He is expressly called a man and treated as such in other scriptures. He is also described as a king (Revelation 17: 10, 11). But in addition to these he is a kingdom. There is no better symbol of a kingdom than the king.

The *concentration* of all preceding empires is in this beast. This beast sums up in his kingdom all the brilliance of Greece, all the tremendousness of Medo-Persia, and all the autocratic power of Babylon. Such is the revived Roman Empire of the end time.

The organization of an empire for the beast is unseen and spiritual. Satan has everything arranged for the coming of this mighty man. The dragon gives to this superman his own power, such power as will produce results. The coming of Antichrist is after the working of Satan (2 Thessalonians 2:9). He also gives to him his throne or position. A throne is always the symbol of position and power. Satan's throne has been over the nations (Luke 4:5-8). The Devil offered this to Christ, but He rejected it. This man will receive it. Satan also gives to him authority which is great.

The *wounding* of one of the heads of this beast is the first matter of importance. The object of this wound is the seventh head. This kingdom has seven heads, which are seven mountains which in turn stand for seven kings. Five of these kings are fallen, one is now reigning as John writes, and the seventh king has not yet arrived. It is this last king and kingdom that is wounded. This king dies, comes to life again, and thus becomes the eighth king (Revelation 17:10, 11).

The nature of this wound is marked

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by the words "as it were wounded." These words imply the exercise of violence. Without a doubt this is the permitted imitation of the crucifixion of Christ in order that this man may in every way possible become the great counterfeit of Christ—Antichrist.

No one doubts that Christ experienced death as a result of His death wound. Why should there be any hesitation here when the same words are used in the wound, and then it is added that it was unto death? This attracts such worldwide attention that if it is not a wound which produced death, it is so cleverly executed that everyone thinks the Antichrist died and rose from the grave.

There is no doubt that God permits this so that men who have rejected the true Christ may believe the lie (2 Thessalonians 2:11).

For the first time, a world that has denied the possibility of resurrection and the fact of resurrection in Christ now awakens to the fact that here is one who has conquered death. In amazement this world believes the lie, the counterfeit, and men join themselves to the Antichrist as the invincible warlord and give to Satan and Antichrist worship that only God deserves.

Armies and war are turned loose against the saints in the earth, and this lasts for the remaining period of three and one-half years of the Tribulation. This dominion is well-nigh universal. Perhaps by this time the other three powers—the northern, eastern, and southern—are subjugated. The *effect* of his dominion is universal worship. By miraculous works and marvelous deeds he attracts the worship of millions, and by compulsion he gains the worship of many other millions.

#### THE FALSE SPIRIT—THE FALSE PROPHET (Revelation 13:11-17)

The person described here as the second beast has a relationship to the first beast that simulates the relation of the Holy Spirit to Christ. This person is described as a wild beast. The two horns like a lamb suggested religious power. But he speaks like a dragon. Since this does not have to do with appearance, it must refer to his message. With all the religious subtlety of the serpent through the centuries, this beast propagates a message of religious delusion (2 Corinthians 4:4; 11:13-15). This beast is the counselor and prime minister for Antichrist. His purpose is to turn all devotion and worship toward Antichrist. And he has force at his command to compel devotion to the first beast.

The *power* of this second beast to compel obedience to his commands is tremendous. With the wealth of the world concentrated in his hands, he is able to perform feats that would otherwise be impossible.

Because he has a commercial monopoly on the wealth of the world, the false prophet is able to compel all men to bow to his demands. If they want to live, they must receive the mark, bear the name or the number of the first beast. Extreme need drives men into the camp of the Antichrist. Only those who love not their lives unto death because they have the mark of Christ upon them in salvation will resist this tyranny of the end time.

Since Christ is all the fullness of God incarnate in human flesh, it is to be expected that Satan will produce a counterfeit.

-Brethren Missionary Herald



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# on tiptoe with expectancy

By MARTHA SHELL NICHOLSON

LOOKING BACK over nearly a lifetime of illness, I am thanking God for these pain-filled years. When I stood at the beginning and strained my eyes to see down the dim path ahead, I was sure it would be strewed with roses. When pain and sorrow came, I could not understand. But now as I look back the long road which lies so clearly behind me, I see that His hand was upon me all the way.

Never strong as a child, I broke down very early in young womanhood. I spent the ensuing seven years in bed most of the time with TB, then up off and on, one sick spell after another, seven operations, besides 15 minor carvings. It seems that almost every disease has had a try at me. For the last 20 years I have been on the shelf, able to attend church only once during that time.

They have brought me gifts—those weary years. I do not enjoy sickness or suffering, or the nervous agony and exhaustion that are harder to bear than physical pain. And an invalid must bury so many dear dreams which have death struggles and refuse to die decently and quietly. But God has a way of taking away our toys; and after we have cried for a while like disappointed children, He fills our hands with jewels which cannot be valued, with the gold of Ophir, with the precious onyx, or the sapphire.

It seems odd that I can thank Him for sleeplessness. I have suffered so from it; and yet, looking back, I can see that some of the greatest blessings have come during the long nights. At about two in the morning, when all the world is quiet, God comes very close. Sometimes when I have been wakeful for hours with fever or pain, or have tossed about, restlessly trying to solve the problems, financial and domestic, that come when someone in the home is ill, at last the thought has come, "How foolish of me. I don't have to attend to this; He will do it for me." And I have whispered over and over to myself some of His precious promises, and they were indeed a lamp unto my feet in the night.

Of course, one of the hardest things about being sick

is a feeling of uselessness. We want to work for God. Can it be that we have an idea that God is needy, that our services are necessary to Him? Oh, it is indeed good to work for God, but it is better just to do His will and it may be that it is not His will that all should work. Someday He will tell us about that.

But there is one great ministry in which even we sick ones may share, and I thank God for that—the ministry of prayer. It is a marvelous, breathtaking thought, that I, lying here on my bed in my small room, may help set in operation the vast machinery of God; may change the destiny of a life, a world; may even hasten the day of His appearing! Why don't we pray more?

I recall that after I had been sick for several years, I thought, in my foolishness, that I had learned the lessons which God wanted to teach me and that He would let me go out into the world and work for Him. As though one could ever learn all that God has to teach! No, I am still sick. I do not understand why I must still be an invalid. I no longer expect to understand. If I did, there would be no need of faith. Enough that He knows why and someday He will tell me all about it—why it was best for me and best for His cause.

But the best part of all is the blessed hope of His soon coming. How I ever lived before I grasped that wonderful truth, I do not know. How anyone lives without it in these trying days, I cannot imagine. Each morning I think, with a leap of the heart, "He may come today!" And each evening, "When I awake, I may be in glory!" Each day must be lived as though it were to be my last, and there is so much to be done to purify myself and get my house in order.

I am on tiptoe with expectancy. There are no more gray days for they are all touched with color. No more dark days, for the radiance of His coming is on the horizon. No more dull days, with glory just around the corner. And no more lonely days, with His footsteps coming ever nearer, and the thought that soon, soon I shall see His blessed face, and be forever through with pain and tears!

#### **TREASURES** One by one He took them from me, All the things I valued most; Until I was empty-handed, Every glittering toy was lost. And I walked earth's highways, grieving, In my rags and poverty Till I heard His voice inviting, "Lift your empty hands to Me!" So I held my hands toward heaven And He filled them with a store Of His own transcendent riches Until they could hold no more. And at last I comprehended

With my stupid mind and dull That God could not pour His riches Into hands already full!

-MARTHA SNELL NICHOLSON

The late Martha Snell Nicholson wrote hundreds of Christian poems which have helped and encouraged people all over the world. She lived with pain, as this testimony of hers points out, yet through this she was able to be a blessing to others. This article appeared in *Log of the Good Ship Grace*.

# TRUE FRIENDS TEACH THEM TOO

By MEL J. DeVRIES Extension Consultant, National Sunday School Department

THE NEW TESTAMENT tells of 40 people, each suffering from some disease, who were healed by Jesus. Of these, 34 were brought to Jesus by friends or else Jesus was taken to them. Only six found their way alone to Him.

One wonders whether the percentage would be different today. Of the people who find their way to Jesus, most will reach Him because of friends genuinely concerned about their spiritual welfare.

The ministry of the Sunday school centers in people who attend class. But many other people, though interested in attending, must depend on a friend coming to them with Bible instruction and spiritual food because they cannot be present.

First Assembly in El Dorado, Arkansas (Erling Saxeli, pastor) is the "friend" of many shut-ins. Mr. and Mrs. Plunk (ages 81 and 77 respectively) are among 20 members of the Extension Department who are regularly ministered to. He is a victim of diabetes that has resulted in the loss of both legs and most of his sight. Through these trying days, the Lord has been made very real to them. Mr. Plunk sits in his wheelchair and looks forward to the regular visits of his "friend." The Plunks are not shut out from the fellowship of the church even though they are not able to attend.

The Sunday schools of First Assemblies of God in Siloam Springs, Arkansas, and Enterprise, Alabama, also believe in "Teaching *Them* Too." Mrs. Ruby Layton a nurse in the Enterprise Nursing Home, is conducting a Sunday school class in the chapel; and she also has a daily devotional period for those unable to leave their rooms. Brother and sister Omer Jarrell, retired ministers, with the help of Loren Adams, musician, conduct a service in the lobby of the Siloam Springs rest home each Wednesday evening. After the service they visit the rooms of those unable to attend. Pastor Howard Trawick of Enterprise and Pastor Lonnie Nelson of Siloam Springs report these Assemblies have gained the respect of their communities through their Extension Departments.

Pastor Robert O. Turman and the Sunday school of First Assembly, Searcy, Arkansas, are ministering to the inmates of the local prison. As a result of Malcolm Smithey's efforts, a 32-year-old man was converted and has become a consistent Bible reader. They are convinced that it pays to "Teach *Them* Too." A very interesting means of extending friendship to those unable to attend has been discovered by First Assembly in Springdale, Arkansas. As reported by Pastor C. L. Dixon, the ladies of the WMC visit all the children in the local hospital every day and give them something to cheer them.

Does such a ministry pay dividends in the work of teaching the Scripture? To hear Pastor Eugene Petrosky of the Ambridge, Pennsylvania, Assembly of God speak you would believe it. He reports that 25 percent of his entire congregation has been won to the Lord and the church through the extension ministry.

Many in the ranks of the 35,000 Extension Department members throughout the nation are in the midst of trials. But as they are taught from the Bible by faithful extension workers, they discover a special freedom in the midst of trial. This reminds us of the words of Horace Greeley, founder of the New York *Tribune*, "It is impossible, mentally or socially, to enslave a Bible-reading people! The principles of the Bible are the groundwork of human freedom."

You can be the means for restoring the Bible to those who are unable to attend Sunday school. As you "Teach *Them* Too," giving them the foundation for spiritual freedom, your heart will be warmed with theirs.



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# God's Poppies

TODAY I STOOD before a bed of poppies in the patio of the Court House in Pasadena. The poppies were beautiful to look upon as they nodded and bent gently in the breeze. They were of various colors: orange, yellow, white, pink—all individual in their many tints and hues. I was thrilled and edified as I reflected upon their loveliness. My soul expressed itself in worship unto God who created them for His and my pleasure.

The poppies in their plain, unpretentious beauty were facing the sun and nodding their heads. They seemed to smile and wave at me. As the bright light fell upon them, their translucent petals looked like lace spun of gold and silver.

Then I noticed many that were "has-beens." Their petals were gone, and they were dead and dry. They had bloomed at another time... now faded forever. They had made their contribution; only a few days before they were beautiful, smiling and dancing in the breeze, kissed by the rays of the sun. Now their work was over.

As I observed carefully I became aware of many buds amid the dazzling beauty of the waving flowers—some ready to bloom, others less developed. I realized that while they have but little beauty today, tomorrow they will be radiant. They will look like these that were in full bloom today, and later like those that had blossomed a month ago, but were now asleep.

I mused: "I wonder what color each bud will reveal. Peaceably waiting in their round jackets of green, only God knows what each shall be. But the day will come when they shall be revealed. They will burst forth into glorious beauty and smile as the sun shines through their tender, delicate petals. They, too, will nod and dance and sing with the joy of vibrant life."

In fancy, the panorama of human life passed before my eyes. I thought of Christians...all ages, but particularly of ministers of yesterday, today and tomorrow. The flowers that had bloomed and since faded, reminded me of my elder brothers and sisters in the Lord who at one time were clothed with the beauty of the Lord and in full strength of life. Their ministry had blessed and edified those about them, and the sunlight of God's abounding love shone upon them, revealing the beauty of the Lord in their lives. Today they are gone: some are asleep, others resting. But their works carry on, and we who are alive and carrying the banners they laid down are enjoying the fruit of their labors of love. Their prayers are being answered today, unknown but to God alone. "They, being dead, yet speak." Their petals have fallen and decayed but in their place remains precious seed that will bloom anew another day in another place and in another way by the touch of the Master's hand.

Today, as I look about me, I see many beautiful Christians working in the harvest fields and vineyards of the Lord. Their lives are a benediction to those in need, and a blessing to all they touch. This is their day to work for the Master. Tomorrow will be too late. This is their hour to carry the message of salvation to the lost and dying. They were buds yesterday—tomorrow they shall rest upon the gentle hillsides or in the valleys where the green grass grows.

Who will carry the message to the lost and tell of the glories of their Master? God will see to that. The buds will break and blossom, and their beauty and fragrance will bless a new generation. It is impossible for us to know what their colors will be—red, white, yellow, black. What matter . . . each will be lovely to behold.

Young man, young lady, you are in the springtime of life . . . budding and preparing for a glorious tomorrow. Be patient! In the fullness of time God will open your life and ministry to those about you. Be not anxious, or overly eager-you are in the hands of a Creator who has already planned your life's pattern. You cannot know at this early day what kind of ministry you will have. The color of your petals is unknown today. Tomorrow will be your day of revelation. As you permit your loving Heavenly Father to develop you, you will discover His highest will. You will know then if you are to be a missionary, a pastor, a teacher, a personal worker, or an evangelist. And, whatever the color of your petals, they will be beautiful and glorious in God's sight and man's, as the rays of God's sunshine cause them to shine in His garden of love.

Jesus said, "Consider the lilies how they grow: they toil not, they spin not; and yet I say unto you, that Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these." So long as you blossom into the beauty of a Christlike life, with the smile and anointing of your Heavenly Father upon you, you will not fail to bless. So long as the fragrance of the Lord is in your soul, so long will you continue to please. "Without me ye can do nothing," warns our Lord.

Finally, I noticed that the poppies were individual in color and beauty. Some were larger than others, some had more depth in color, others looked strong while some seemed frail. But this, too, I saw...each did its best to shine for its Creator. Each had its face turned toward the sun to catch every ray of light. The brighter the sun, the more glorious its color and beauty. Each stood in its own place. They had one task to do, and they did it without question. They were just what God made them—nothing more, nothing less. They had no other duty than to please their Creator and bless His creation. And, as their various colors blended into a complete pattern, I saw that God does all things well.

I want my life to be translucent as the petals of the poppy...nothing hidden—everything in plain view. I want only the glory and beauty of my Creator to shine forth in my life till all shall know that I have been with Jesus.

By L. E. HALVORSON Southern California District Superintendent

#### FERVENT EXPECTATION

THE HIGH PRIEST went into the Holy of Holies alone, and the whole congregation waited in expectation without until he had made the offering and came forth to bless them. (See Leviticus 16; Numbers 6:23-26; Luke 1:10.) So has our High Priest entered once for all into the true Holy Place, and the Church should look for Him in fervent expectation until He appears the second time without sin unto salvation (Hebrews 9:24-28).

-W. E. BLACKSTONE, in Jesus Is Coming

#### GOD'S WHITE LINE

According to the CALENDAR it should have been an ideal night for driving—full moon and that sort of thing —but it *wasn't!* Instead a dense fog had descended. Traffic crawled.

But circumstances compelled us to venture, so we found ourselves prayerfully, tensely clutching the steering wheel, and peering out—always following the white line of safety on the pavement. The distance seemed unending, and then abruptly we were out of the fog and relaxing in the bright beauty of a moonlit night.

Life is like that. Sometimes fogs come with an oppressing, darkening cloud and all sense of direction is lost. Then the only sure guide to safety is God's *white line*—His precious Word. Careful and persistent following of that eventually will lead out of the mist into glorious revelation and realization of clear shining Light! —F. HELEN JARVIS

#### WAIT FOR THE PILOT

THERE WAS A SHIP outside a harbor. A heavy sea made it roll fearfully. A dense fog blotted out all buoys and lights. The captain could not tell his way into the harbor, and no pilot could get out to him.

Eager passengers urged him to be courageous and make a dash for the harbor, but he refused. "A pilot is required here," he declared, "and I will wait for one if I wait a week."

The truest courage is that which can bear to be charged with cowardice. The captain waited his time, and at last saw the pilot's boat coming to him. With the pilot at the wheel, the captain's anxious waiting was over.

The Church is like the vessel. The Pilot has not yet come. The weather is very threatening. But Jesus will come before long; He will bring us to the desired haven. Let us wait with patience. Stand fast! Jesus is coming, and in Him is our sure hope.

-CHARLES H. SPURGEON

#### **BROWN SIN**

THE INDIAN WOMEN of Guatemala are known for their colorful hand-woven dresses. Each one of the 20 tribes has its own distinctive dress. To many of these women the most festive color is red. They weave red stripes in their scarfs. They embroider their blouses with red.

Wycliffe Translator Harry McArthur knew that red meant happiness to the Aquacateco Indians. This made a problem when he came to translating, "Though your MOMENTS OF

sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow" (Isaiah 1:18).

He pondered and prayed about the translation, finally deciding that to convey the meaning of the verse, he should translate it, "Though your sins be as the stains of the ugly brown banana skin, they shall be as white as the glistening snow."

Whatever you think is the most ugly thing in life, that is how sin looks to God.

-DOROTHY C. HASKIN

#### THE VOICE OF THE BELL

I WAS RAISED on the farm, and the old dinner bell had a welcome language I understood. Yes, even the horses hitched to some farm implement understood the voice of the bell as well as I. When it was nearing noon, they would go up and down the rows or furrows with their ears cocked in the direction of the bell. The instant they caught the first sound they stood still in their tracks until I unhitched them. Then they made swift tracks for the stable. They knew what awaited them there.

More and more these earthly troubles are causing us, the servants of God, to turn our spiritual ears in the direction from which we know we shall hear the sound of the trumpet of God. And it will not take long to unhitch from earthly ties and make a beeline for our heavenly home.

-WILLIAM BEIRNES

#### SOUND THE ALARM!

Sound the alarm through the earth and the heavens! Summon the slumbering world to attend!

Jesus is coming! the hour is impending! Sound the alarm to earth's uttermost end!

Sound the alarm in the ears of the sinner! Haste, ere the time of probation be past! Now is the day of salvation, improve it; Mercy long lingers, but doom comes at last.

Sound the alarm to the slumbering Christian! Are you prepared should the Bridegroom appear, Oil in your vessels, your lamps trimmed and burning? Brother, be ready, the Master is near.

Sound the alarm to the millions that wander Out in the darkness of heathendom's night! Tell them the King of all kingdoms is coming; Tell them of Jesus, and send them the light.

Sound the alarm to the scoffers and worldlings! Long have ye mocked at His grace and His Word. "Look, ye despisers, and wonder, and perish."

Where shall you hide in the day of the Lord? —A. B. SIMPSON "IT IS GOOD TO BE with God's greats," declared veteran Missionary V. G. Greisen during the initial activities of the eighth annual School of Missions in Springfield, Missouri. For two weeks Assemblies of God missionaries and new missionary recruits gathered to observe new methods to help them serve in their particular areas of the world. It was an exciting experience to mix with these heroes of the faith.

In the face of dangers and hardships the gospel still has to be carried to the ends of the earth. Therefore the School of Missions was slanted to inform the returning missionaries and the new appointees of the latest techniques and developments in the world of missions. Many of the most modern methods and materials are now available to our missionaries.

The teaching staff was chosen from varied fields of service. Some of the guest instructors were: Willard Cantelon, overseas evangelist; Dr. Clyde W. Taylor, executive director of the National Association of Evangelicals; Dr. Eugene Scott, religious education consultant; and Dr. Richard H. Cox, faculty member at Northwestern University Medical School.

Dr. Taylor stimulated the thinking of everyone present when he said, "The missionaries' greatest problem today is the vast opportunity of the modern world." And he continued, "Last year human births in the world totaled 125 million, of which 60 million died shortly after birth. There remain approximately 65 million people born yearly who must be reached with the gospel."

Nearly all of us are aware in a general way of the



J. Philip Hogan speaks at missions banquet.

At the banquet, missionaries relax as they take an imaginary cruise. Theme of the occasion was "Bon Voyage." 250 MISSIONARIES, RECRUITS, AND DISTRICT MISSIONARY SECRETA

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need for foreign missionaries, but it came as a shock to me when I was faced with the specific needs. My wife and I had come to the school in the final stages of our appointment, with only a broad call to Latin America upon our hearts. Missionary after missionary asked us to remember their areas as we sought God's direction concerning a country. We detected urgency in their voices as they explained, "There is only one missionary to every million nationals." In some cases this ratio reached eight million people to each missionary. My heart cried within, and I wanted to divide myself into a hundred people so I would not disappoint these faithful men.

Should it appear the school tended to be always serious, let me assure you there were numerous occasions when the sound of laughter rang through the classes. We were mildly surprised to find missionaries so adept at laughter. They have learned to laugh at hardships which would break the average person, and therefore their sense of humor is very keen.

The missionaries' comments reveal the high regard in which they hold the School of Missions.

Paul Greisen (Hong Kong) stated, "The School of Missions helps the missionary retain his sense of balance after working in a difficult culture. In a strange country, with strange customs, it is easy to forget many important principles that are needful to foreign missions work. Through concentrated study the basic objectives are reemphasized."



RETARIES

ol of Missions

By G. B. ROBESON Missionary Recruit to Nicaragua

Mildred Ginn (India) said, "I particularly appreciated the devotional aspect because the pressures of itinerating tend to rob the missionary of the opportunity just to relax in the presence of the Holy Spirit."

Robert Turnbull (Haiti) observed, "The School of Missions placed a desire within my heart to get back to the field and put into practice what I have learned." John Hall (Togo, West Africa) commented that, aside

from the obvious practical aspects of the school, he appreciated the opportunity to renew old friendships. The response from each missionary interviewed was

overwhelmingly positive and thankful. They expressed appreciation for this spiritual, mental, and social refreshing before returning to their mission fields.

The main theme this year was the indigenous principle of church planting. The missionary practices this when he seeks to establish self-supporting, self-governing, and self-propagating national churches. This plan for evangelizing the masses of the world was emphasized repeatedly by educator and missionary alike. It was agreed that this is the best method the missionary can use to meet the problems of exploding population, nationalism, and paganism.

There was a general gratitude among the participants for this opportunity to enlarge their knowledge of missionary principles. They will be better prepared, better equipped, and better qualified to obey our Lord's commission: "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature."



Fredolf and Ardelle Sondeno, missionaries to Japan, after registering, receive a program from Mrs. Gladys Newbill, School of Missions registrar.



At left, Charles Haun tells about the Amazon Indians. Below, Paul and Louise Greisen, missionaries to Hong Kong, minister in voice and violin during the dedication service.







Noel Perkin delivers a challenging mesage at the dedication service for 62 new missionaries.



#### JOSHUA CHALLENGES ISRAEL

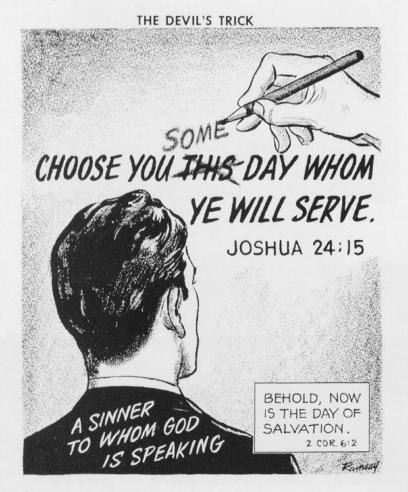
Sunday School Lesson for August 7, 1966 JOSHUA 24:1-8, 14-17 BY J. BASHFORD BISHOP

THE TIME HAD COME for Joshua to die. He had fulfilled his great life's work—leading Israel in conquering and possessing their land. He still had one important thing to do—settle them in the land and establish them in God's Law and covenant.

Joshua knew how strongly Israel would be tempted to take on the idolatrous ways of the surrounding heathen nations. It was fitting and wise, therefore, that his last act in life was to gather the people together to provoke a solemn and sincere renewal of their covenant with God, for their destiny and welfare depended on this. Since we today face similar ungodly surroundings and are tempted to compromise and conform, we do well to regard the text as a living message to our own hearts!

#### THE APPEAL FOR DEFINITE DECISION (Joshua 24:1-14)

Joshua reminded Israel of God's wonderful grace and faithfulness. Even though Israel was under the Law, their national life began and progressed because of divine grace. Joshua in verse 14 told the people God's goodness and grace called for:



(1) *Reverence*. "Now therefore fear the Lord." This *fear* is not expressed in terror nor dread, but in reverence—the desire to obey fully.

(2) Service. "And serve him." The service here enjoined is service which is the expression of love and gratitude.

(3) *Reality.* "Serve him in sincerity and truth." Jesus' most blistering denunciations were not directed against out-and-out sinners but against Pharisees who claimed to be servants of God while their inner lives were false and ungodly.

(4) Sanctification. "Put away the gods which your fathers served." In spite of current religious teaching to the contrary, there is a negative side to any real relationship to God. We cannot serve God and mammon.

#### THE CALL TO SERIOUS CONSIDERATION (Joshua 24:15-20)

(1) Consider the issues. Joshua outlined the alternatives: Either serve God or become heathen idolaters. There can be no compromise. The text, "Choose you this day whom ye will serve" (v. 15) suggests the following questions: Can we escape from serving someone or something? If men do not serve God, whom do they serve? What gods are being served by the majority of people today? How many masters are there to choose from?

"Choose you *this* day," urged Joshua. Delay is dangerous. Deferring a choice weakens the ability to choose later on. Good intentions, when deferred, may lose their power to move to right action. *Now* is always God's time!

(2) Consider my example. "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord" (v. 15). Like a true leader, Joshua would not ask the people to do what he himself would not do. His decision expressed here was one he had lived throughout his life. He was not a preacher of empty theology but a man who had spent a lifetime living out the sermon he now preached to others.

"As for me." This phrase, occurring often in the Bible, expressed resolution and firmness of conviction, and implied a certain separation and contrast. "As for me, I will serve the Lord."

"And my house." These words marked Joshua as a man of spiritual influence in his own home. His children knew his religion was real and were aware that they would be expected to serve his God as long as they lived in his home. One of the most powerful influences in any person's life is the memory of a godly parent! May such parents increase!

(3) Consider God's character (vv. 16-20). Lest the people make too hasty and too shallow a consecration, Joshua pointed out the character of the God they so glibly vowed to serve. He emphasized: (a) God's holiness. A holy God cannot have unholy worshipers; (b) God's jealous love. God is jealous in the same sense that devoted parents are jealous for the welfare of their children and oppose that which would harm or corrupt them; (c) God's opposition to sin. "He will not forget your transgressions" (v. 19). Joshua did not intend to contradict a host of texts which assure us of God's willingness to forgive sins if we repent. He meant God will not tolerate, wink at, or overlook sin.

Joshua's words produced the desired effect. The people renewed their consecration to God, put it in writing, and erected a monument as a memorial to it.



#### PRAYER BRINGS MOTHER BACK TO GOD

A TELEGRAM FROM MY SISTER told me my mother was in the hospital. Her condition was critical. She had been under oxygen for 36 hours.

A chill gripped me. It was an eight-hour journey to her bedside. She was not ready to meet God, for she was a backslider.

I had one hour and 15 minutes to catch the bus—to grab a bite to eat, pack my bag, and walk 12 blocks to the depot.

First I ran to the parsonage to ask my pastor to pray for my mother. Although I found the pastor's wife at home, he was out on a call. She promised me they would remember my mother in prayer. On my way home, I cried in anguish to the Lord, claiming 1 John 5:14, 15 as the basis for my confidence in Him. I prayed, "Oh, my gracious and loving Heavenly Father, in mercy and love please spare my mother's life until her soul is saved. Amen. I thank you, Father, for the answer." With praise in my heart, I went my way.

I reached my destination, and my sister met me. She joyfully told me Mother had passed the crisis and was showing definite signs of recovery. The crisis came at the exact time I was lifting my petition to the Lord as I was running from the parsonage to my home!

This experience made my mother realize her need of returning to her Heavenly Father. The dear Lord granted me the privilege of praying with her until victory came to her soul. She was permitted to live five years longer —until she was "three score and ten years."—Mrs. Elsie Smith, Yakima, Wash.

(Endorsed by Pastor Dale Carpenter, Stone Church, Yakima, Wash.)

#### DOCTOR AGREES, "THIS HAD TO BE GOD"

ON MARCH 1, 1965, our daughter went to a specialist to be examined. After a thorough examination, he informed her she had a tumor, low blood count, and a heart murmur. He said an operation must be performed within three weeks but an emergency operation might be necessary before that. He gave injections to build her up and asked her to return in two weeks for a final checkup before the operation.

The next morning I started fasting a meal a day and praying for our daughter's healing. I requested prayer for her in our assembly and also asked several friends and loved ones to join in prayer.

Our daughter went back to the specialist at the ap-

pointed time. He examined her and reexamined her but to his amazement could find no tumor! Her blood count was normal and her heart was normal!

She called from the doctor's office stating she would be right over to tell us some good news. Even before she told us, my wife and I knew God had answered prayer and healed her.

That night I called the doctor and told him that God had healed our daughter. He said it had to be God, because formerly there was a tumor but now it was gone! He had never seen any case like it, he told us.

You can be sure it was with much joy and gratitude we called friends and loved ones that night to tell them of this wonderful healing.—Darrell D. Houghtaling, Niles, Mich.

(Endorsed by former pastor, A. O. Marialke, and present pastor, Burdette L. Faulk, First Assembly, Niles, Mich.)

#### CHILD'S ALLERGIES AND THREATENING BALDNESS HEALED AS A RESULT OF PRAYER

WE HAVE HAD SEVERAL OCCASIONS to ask God to heal our youngest daughter Linda. How we praise Him for healing through His Son!

In November 1962 Linda became ill with an acute infection and allergy problems. Her hemoglobin had dropped also. She was allergic to so many foods that I had to feed her baked potato for breakfast. The doctor took her off whole milk and put her on goat's milk. If she ate the wrong foods, a rash would break out on her face, and her eyes would water; and she seemed always to have a cold. Often she had bad coughs.

I began fasting and praying for Linda. Our church had special prayer on Sunday, and as an act of faith, I gave her whole milk and oatmeal for breakfast on Monday. The coughing disappeared, the watering of her eyes stopped, and the rash left.

When the rash came back a few days later, I began fasting and praying again, for I was claiming complete healing for her—and God did heal her! Today she eats anything and is strong and healthy.

Some time later her hair became thin and dry, and bald spots appeared. We prayed again and God heard the prayer of faith. Today Linda has a head of thick, healthy hair to match her beautiful complexion and to prove that God hears the prayers of His saints!—Mrs. Becky Burch, Phoenix, Ariz.

(Endorsed by L. H. Gundlach, pastor, South Mountain Assembly, Phoenix, Arizona, and also by Mrs. Burch's former pastor, Altus F. Compton, Sweetwater Assembly, National City, California.)



Templo Calvario Spanish Assembly in Alamogordo, N. Mex. Pastor Wedge Alman at right.



### ANOTHER SPANISH CHURCH IN NEW MEXICO

THE NEW STRUCTURE of the Templo Calvario Spanish Assembly, Alamogordo, N. Mex., was dedicated May 29, 1966, the result of a work begun 10 years ago. Mr. and Mrs. Wedge Alman laid the groundwork in the fall of 1956. The Almans went to Alamogordo after graduation from Central Bible College, Springfield, Mo. They had heard there was no Spanish Assemblies of God church in the area.

When he arrived in Alamogordo, Brother Alman obtained employment as a research electronic technician at Holloman Air Force Base. This helped him support his family while he undertook the pioneer effort.

The first service of their Spanish Assembly was held at an English-speaking Assembly. With the help of the P. G. Fuertes and Mrs. Edna DuLavey, the Almans blanketed the south side of the community with handbills and personal invitations. But the initial results were disappointing. On the first Sunday only the workers attended the service!

However, the next Sunday one man came; the Sunday after that a few children ventured in; and so the church began to grow.

Within a few months the little congregation was granted the use of an unoccupied adobe ranch house. They held services there for three years and then moved to an empty school building. Construction on a new church was begun in May 1960.

It was without the help of a professional architect or a contractor that Wedge Alman and his 43-member congregation carved the Templo Calvario Spanish Assembly into the setting of Alamogordo. "The church was the work of God," affirms Brother Alman. "He provided the knowledge and the skill, just as in Exodus 31 when He commanded Moses to build the tabernacle."

The help of God was evident from the building's inception. Early in the construction program, the builders became concerned over the type of roof to be used. The one called for in the plans was too expensive. So Brother Alman placed an advertisement in the newspaper for steel roof trusses. The next day an El Paso company informed him they had the trusses for his church. The company had only six of the 54-foot trusses—exactly the number needed for the church. They sold them to Alman for the price of scrap metal.

Another firm then donated a crane and the services of two operators to install the huge trusses.

Today an inviting little church stands on the corner of Seventh Street and Virginia Avenue, Alamogordo, N. Mex. The building is of reinforced concrete block with split-face brick trim and facing. The sloped floor of the sanctuary is carpeted. The lighting is provided by variable intensity, recessed fluorescent units. The sanctuary has an elevated platform with dark wood paneling behind it.

There are six classrooms, a kitchen, pastor's study, nursery, rest rooms, and central air conditioning and heating. Marking the front corner of the church is a 30-ton brick tower leaning six degrees off vertical, with an eight-foot slanting cross mounted on its face. The tower is illuminated at night by indirect lighting.

Templo Calvario Spanish Assembly has been dedicated to God. It will play its part in making known to all men His love through the saving grace of Jesus Christ.

Offerings for Home Missions (including Indian, Alaska, Deaf, Blind, Foreign-Language, Prison, Teen Challenge, and Jewish ministries) should be mailed to

#### ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

HOME MISSIONS DEPARTMENT

1445 BOONVILLE AVE., SPRINGFIELD, MO. 65802

N MAY 1966 the congregation of the Mt. Olivet Assembly dedicated its new church building to the Lord. Herman H. Rohde, superintendent of the Minnesota District, was the speaker. Paul Dean Baldwin has been pastor of the Assembly since December 1965.

In 1964 the congregation, under the direction of founding pastor, Kenneth Haddaway, made application to the National Home Missions Department for a loan to purchase property. The request was granted with a "Sites for Souls" loan in September 1964.

At this time the congregation was worshiping in the parsonage they had purchased in 1963. Construction of the church was begun in the spring of 1965 and was completed by the following July.

The structure is 38 by 76 feet with a seating capacity of 225. The facade is of glass sectioned and framed by dark-stained wood. Dual stairs lead to the sanctuary which is dominated by a rich wood cross hanging behind the platform. The roof is supported by large beams.

The educational department has eight rooms, including a nursery. The fellowship hall is located in the center of the educational section.

Sites for Souls, a facet of the national Breakthrough program of the Assemblies of God, was designed by the Home Missions Department to provide funds to purchase strategic sites for pioneer churches across America. More than 500 churches have pledged support for this project, but demands for allocations continue to exceed the funds on hand. Thus far, 16 districts have received assistance from *Sites for Souls*.



#### It could have been a church...

Our Sites for Souls funds are used to help districts and sections purchase strategic sites for new churches. In many areas the locations we should have are gone, or beyond reach in cost. Right now a number of crucial decisions are awaiting the results of this urgent appeal.

Sites for Souls needs the immediate assistance of a large number of generous donors besides the many who continue to give their regular gifts.

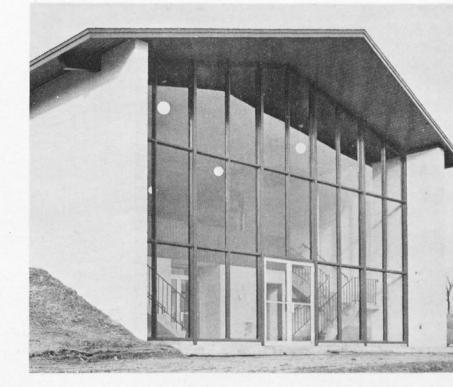
Here is your opportunity to make a lasting and personally rewarding investment in the future of our gospel witness at home. All gifts are taxdeductible.



### 'Sites for Souls' Church Dedicated in Rosemount, Minnesota



The photo above shows the choir singing during the dedication of the Mt. Olivet Assembly in Rosemount, Minn. Lower photo shows the front of the church and the foyer where dual stairs lead into the sanctuary.



# Worshiping in the Spirit

THESS ACCOUNTS OF EARLY

TECOSTAL REVIVAL DAYS, WRITTEN BY VARIOUS IEER PASTORS, EVANGELISTS, AND MISSIONARIES

#### By LELAND R. KEYES Pastor, Bethel Church, San Jose, California

PIONEER

MY INTRODUCTION TO PENTECOST occurred in a mission in an eastern city. (In the early days we did not call our places of meeting churches; they were Pentecostal missions.)

In this particular mission where I was to be both saved and filled with the Spirit, there was one custom which attracted my attention and drew me toward the Lord.

A Spirit-filled lady, known to be a godly and devoted believer, was used of God in a very simple manner. She would go to the organ (just an old-fashioned pump organ) before the service began, and play the old familiar songs that had become Pentecostal favorites. She played them under anointing of the Spirit and would sometimes begin to sing, also under an anointing.

As the people gathered for the service they would join in this beautiful, deeply devoted singing. God came down. His presence was wonderfully real. A spiritual atmosphere was created that prepared the way for the service to follow. Somehow there was no problem of talking, whispering, or other preservice noise and confusion. Such would have been alien to the spiritual atmosphere that was engendered by this simple informal singing and playing before the service began.

Nothing had to be "worked up" or "brought down" by the efforts of the leaders. There was no need to try to produce a spirit of worship; it was already there. A Spirit-baptized body of believers, loving the Lord with all their hearts, singing and making melody in their hearts to the Lord, expressing their joy in songs and hymns and spiritual songs in the public assembly, prepared the way for what was called "a Holy Ghost meeting."

The gifts of the Spirit were manifested, and the Word of God was proclaimed in the power of the Spirit. The result was that the altars were filled with those who were hungry for God.

It was in such an atmosphere that I came to know the Lord and to receive the fullness of the Spirit.

One of the members of this Pentecostal mission, a godly "mother in Israel," was given a vision. In her vision she saw the building filled with the saints of God, sitting in their usual places, worshiping God. Then, as though the ceiling were lifted off the building, she saw demon spirits around the rim of this rectangular building with their fiery darts which they were constantly aiming toward the believers seated in the worship service. But between these demonic powers and the people of God there appeared a thick, blood-red cloud. Each time a fiery dart was shot toward the believers, it was unable to penetrate this thick cloud. Instead, the fiery dart would be deflected by this protective covering of a blood-red cloud. The saints of God suffered no harm.

One cannot help but be reminded that in the exodus from Egypt the Lord provided a cloud which stood between the people of God and their enemies; in fact, the cloud struck terror into the hearts of those who would have destroyed them.

Thank God for the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ which covers those who put their trust in Him. It is their protection from all the fiery darts of the enemy. By day and by night, God's blood-washed people shall dwell securely.

#### The Second Coming of Jesus

#### (Continued from page four)

. In 2 Thessalonians 2:1 the apostle beseeches them "by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together unto him." This expression describes very well the event that will occur at Christ's second coming: we shall be *gathered together* in His presence somewhere "in the air" or in a secret spot in space which God is reserving for that glorious reunion to which all history has been moving for centuries. What a gathering that will be when millions of saints of all the ages shall assemble to meet the Saviour!

#### THE TIME OF HIS RETURN

No man knows the day nor the hour when Christ shall return (see Matthew 24:36) but He expects us to recognize the nearness of the event by the "signs of the times" (Matthew 16:3). Paul says the Second Coming will catch unbelievers by complete surprise, as a thief in the night, but it should not come upon the "children of light" unexpectedly, as a thief (1 Thessalonians 5:4). We are to "watch and be sober" (verse 6). We are not to be "drunken" either on liquor or on pleasure or on any worldly things that would dull our spiritual senses.

We are warned that "when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape" (1 Thessalonians 5:3). In other words, when the world is being rocked to sleep with false promises of security, that is the very time when the Lord shall come and take the wicked by surprise. His coming will be unanounced. It may occur at any moment. Those who know their Bibles best are convinced that every prophecy that needs to be fulfilled prior to the Rapture of the Church has already been fulfilled, and the next great event on God's prophetic calendar will be the catching away of His people.

#### THE REVELATION OF CHRIST AND ANTICHRIST

After the Thessalonians had received Paul's First Epistle, they evidently misinterpreted some of his statements and were badly shaken in their faith. Apparently they thought the Great Tribulation had already begun. Paul therefore sent them the Second Epistle in which he

# WHAT ARE YOU MISSING?

A YOUNG WOMAN listened intently to the testimony of a new convert. It sounded so wonderful, so dramatic, to have been a sinner one day and then to have repented the next and been saved—changed by the power of God.

Thinking back over her life, the young woman felt for the first time that it just might be possible she had missed some things by not experiencing worldly pleasures or dabbling in sin. For one thing, she could never testify to such a marvelous deliverance from the power of Satan....

Then the Lord made her realize that the power of God is manifested as surely in the life that is kept from going far astray as it is in the one that is rescued from the depths of sin by His grace.

David's life would have been better if he had not fallen into sin. His unlawful relationship with Bathsheba left upon his life stains of murder and adultery that endure to this day, even though David repented bitterly of his sin and God forgave him.

However complete God's forgiveness, it does not undo our past. What is done is done. David carried the memory of his sin to his grave along with the memory of his victory over the giant.

Before he died of lung cancer recently, a newspaperman wrote his own obituary. It began with, "Cigarettes were the death of me." Certainly he did not begin smoking with the idea that he would one day write those lines. Perhaps he thought he was missing something, so he took his first cigarette....

Two high school boys from good homes decided they were missing some of the excitement that life offered, free for the taking. So they began to "borrow" cars in which to ride around the countryside. When they were apprehended and brought into court, they were con-

#### By ADA NICHOLSON BROWNELL

victed of a felony. The district judge paroled them. But before he let them go, he pointed out lifelong problems that will plague them because of this blot on their records. It will prevent their ever entering civil service or becoming a resident of another country. It will interfere with certain rights which should be theirs when they reach age 21. Because they did not want to miss a momentary thrill, they will miss some things all their lives.

Christians who have been kept by God's power from the evil of this world should be grateful they have missed sin's consequences as well.

The Church is called the "bride of Christ" in God's Word. A bride keeps her wedding gown spotless and clean. And only those with spotless garments of salvation will meet the Bridegroom in the skies for the marriage supper of the Lamb. Christ "loved the church and gave himself for it; that he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, that he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish" (Ephesians 5:25-27).

If He has kept you clean and pure by His grace and through your obedience to His Word, give glad thanks that you have missed both the way of the transgressor and the wages of sin.

If you have been washed from deep sin and made clean through His blood, you too can rejoice in His wonderful grace.

Whatever you have experienced or missed in this life, the most important event is yet future—the coming of Jesus for His own. If you miss that, you've missed all that is worthwhile for time and eternity. If you are ready when He comes, you will not have missed anything worth missing.

exhorted them not to be "shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that day of Christ is at hand" (2 Thessalonians 2:2). The latter part of the verse is translated more correctly in the Revised Version, as follows, "as that the day of the Lord is now present." Paul went on to tell them that the "day of the Lord" (that is, the Great Tribulation) shall not come until the Church has been raptured and the "man of sin" (the Antichrist) has been revealed. He said the presence of the Church on earth is hindering the revelation of the Antichrist. The spirit of lawlessness is growing ever stronger but it cannot reach its climax with the appointment of a lawless world ruler until the Church, which acts as a restraining force, is taken out of the way.

Once the Church disappears from the earth there will be a period of unrestrained evil. But wickedness will not go unpunished. God will express His wrath against men's sin by punishing the world with dreadful plagues far worse than any mankind ever has known. At the end of this Great Tribulation period, Christ will reveal Himself from heaven as the Lion of the Tribe of Judah and make war against the Antichrist. Christ shall "consume" the Antichrist "with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy [him] with the brightness of his coming" (2 Thessalonians 2:8). Then Christ shall set up His earthly kingdom and shall rule all mankind for a millennium (a thousand years).

#### THE PUNISHMENT OF THE WICKED

The language with which Paul described the punishment God will mete out to evildoers ought to make every sinner stop and think about turning from his wicked ways. He said the Lord Jesus will take vengeance "in flaming fire" on "them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel." He said they "shall be punished with everlasting destruction" (2 Thessalonians 1:8, 9). But the future destiny of the believers will be very different. God will recompense trouble to them that trouble His people, and give rest to His people during this time of great tribulation that is coming upon the earth (verses 6, 7).

"But the Lord is faithful, who shall stablish you, and keep you from evil [the evil one, R.V.]. . . . And the Lord direct your hearts into the love of God, and into the patient waiting for Christ" (2 Thessalonians 3:3, 5).

#### TRAVELING ALONG WITH THE REVIVALTIME CHOIR



# **ON THE BUS HOME**

"Lord, lay some soul upon my heart, and love that soul through me..."

The drone of the chartered bus, like muffled organ music, accompanies the chorus of praise sung so often in the past two weeks by the 29 passengers aboard. Another *Revivaltime* choir tour is finished; the students are homeward bound.

#### "And may I ever do my part To win that soul for thee."

The singing ceases, and the young musicians edge forward in their seats, eager to relate their tour experiences. On the long trips home, it has become a choir tradition for each person to share those incidents particularly inspiring to him.

An air of expectancy fills the spacious touring bus as John Davis, choir president, steps up to the driver's microphone, which the choir uses every day in their devotions.

"I know we're all anxious to testify," says the young man from Moss Point, Mississippi, "so let's start at the front, right here with Judy LaBrie." The Stamford, Connecticut, freshman takes the microphone, and smiles at her friends:

"During the service at First Assembly in Fort Wayne, Indiana, I approached a middle-aged woman who raised her hand for prayer. At the altar we prayed, and she sobbed broken-heartedly.

"You probably remember, she stood before the entire congregation after she accepted Christ and reported that an auto mishap had hospitalized her a few days before. Nerves were damaged, and she was in severe pain. Her niece asked the pastor to visit her, and after prayer the pain left her body. She had never been to the church before, but when the choir came to town, her niece asked her to attend. Now she has accepted Christ! Praise God!"

"We can all thank God for the success of this trip," says Ernie White, speaking to the group from his seat near the front of the bus. "During our 17 appearances, 49 persons made decisions for Christ, and 61 were reclaimed. It's wonderful how the Lord's convicting presence was so real in the services. Last night I noticed several young people come forward even before the invitation was given!"

Taking the microphone again, John Davis says: "Let's move down the aisle to Dick Nicholson."

The bass from Auburn, Washington, turns to face his schoolmates:

"One night in Green Bay, Wisconsin, God seemed especially near to me. At the close of the service, while the choir hummed 'Room at the Cross,' and Brother McLellan gave an appeal, I felt led to approach a 36year-old man sitting at the rear of the church.

"The man was crippled and twisted by a muscular disorder, but I felt God's assurance as I counseled and prayed with him. Immediately after we prayed, pain which had been wracking his side for more than a year instantly disappeared. Praise the Lord!"

Jerry Sluka is next:

"My most wonderful experience took place after the service in Wausau, Wisconsin. Jim Boehner and I had returned to the hotel, and he decided to go out to eat with Terry Cullison. I was looking for some of our gang in the hotel lobby, and my eyes met those of a young man who was limping toward the elevator. He was curious about the matching dresses worn by the girls in our choir.

"I told him we were all part of the *Revivaltime* choir. Since he seemed interested in Central Bible College, I began to ask him about his college. Soon he opened problems in his own life to me.

"As we talked, I felt the Holy Spirit directing the conversation, and I was able to present Christ as the answer to his problems. Before leaving, I joined that Catholic boy in asking Christ to come into his life."

Fran Ferrante, an alto from Fostoria, Ohio, jumps to her feet to testify: "I had the privilege of leading a 12year-old girl to Christ in Kansas City. And before we were through praying, she received the baptism in the Holy Spirit!"

Unfolding a note as he steps to the front of the bus, Choir Director Cyril McLellan addresses the young people: "This message was given to me by Paul Hibbard, head of the Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Youth for Christ. It says:

"'Last night the *Revivaltime* choir sang in concert at Calvary Assembly in Wauwatosa, Wisconsin. After the service a young man in the choir went to my son and asked him if he would like to accept the Lord. They went to the altar, and my boy found Jesus.

"'I have prayed so long for this to happen. I have led many young people to the Lord, but I could never get my son to accept. Thank God for the choir and for that young man who prayed. I sang with the *Revivaltime* choir in 1950, so I have a special place in my heart for them.'"

As Brother McLellan continues to speak, young faces radiate the joy that can only be found in serving Jesus.

\*

\* \*

The bus is almost home now, and enthusiasm is running high in anticipation of the broadcast service in Springfield tonight—the last time this group will be singing together. The two-week tour through Kansas, Missouri, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, and Wisconsin has gone quickly and another exciting adventure is finished.

For some, this is the last choir tour—LuAnne Nicholson, Auburn, Washington; Jan Pavia, Racine, Wisconsin; and pianist Nancy Hobson, Richland, Washington. For these young graduates the ministry of the *Revivaltime* choir has been the first giant step in a lifetime of Christian service.

Clustered into small groups, some of the students are reminiscing over past tours; others eagerly talk about plans for the summer, while others discuss the challenge of the coming year's choir ministry. In the rear of the bus, Nancy Hobson is reviewing the events of the past four years with Sharon Bell, a firstyear member from Mesa, Arizona. Sharon reflects:

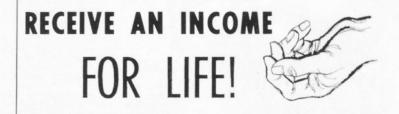
"It's saddening to part after two weeks of such close Christian fellowship, Nancy, but we know that someday we'll all meet around the throne of God."

"Yes," Nancy replies. "We've had a part in influencing many lives for Christ—perhaps more than we will reach the rest of our lives. But one thing we can be sure of : after we leave there will be someone to take our place. So many of the young people I talked to while on tour expressed their desire to sing in the *Revivaltime* choir ; and there will be others, from all parts of the nation.

"I'm thankful for the opportunity we have had to sing God's praise, and to tell others of His love. Most of all I'm thankful for the lives I have seen won to Christ by the personal witnessing of the choir members on these wonderful tours."



On the one hand, an Assemblies of God Gift Annuity Agreement enables you to make a generous contribution now, while you are able to enjoy the personal satisfaction which stems from the knowledge that you have expressed your gratitude to Christ by extending His kingdom both at home and abroad.

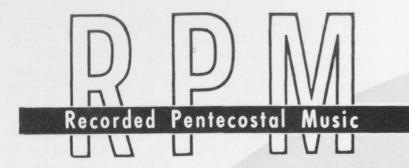


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Room at the Cross; It Matters to Him About You; Without Him; How Great Thou Art; Until Then; An Evening Prayer; Do You Know My Jesus; Jesus Use Me; Known Only to Him; No One Ever Cared for Me; I Ask the Lord; The Lord's Prayer.
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JERI SINGS, Jeri Winford Ten Thousand Angels; I Cannot Hide from God; The Sea Walker; The Wonder of It All; Zion's Hill; Nothing Can Compare; I'll Tell It Wherever I Go; Until Then; How Big Is God; I Found the Answer; My God Is Real; The Highest Hill. 28 EV 591 Long Playing \$3.98

JOHN MCDUFF SINGS, John Mc-JOHN MCDUFF SINGS, John Me-Duff That One Lost Sheep; In My Father's House; Great Is Thy Faith-fulness; Follow Me; Just a Closer Walk; Take Up Thy Cross; Jesus Is All I Need; The Last Mile of the Way; For All My Sin; I Won't Have to Cross Jordan Alone. 28 EV 493 Stereo \$4.98 28 EV 478 Long Playing \$3.98



SOMEONE WHO CARES, Tommy Barnett; I've Got Heaven in My Soul (Poor Man); He Knows Just What I Need; I'm So Glad; Nobody Knows de Trouble I've Seen; Just a Closer Walk with Thee; Someone Who Cares; I'm Gonna Walk Them Golden Stairs; I Want to Do What He Wants Me to Do; Reach Out and Touch the Lord; Teach Me Lord to Wait; His Hand in Mine. 28 EV 519 Long Playing \$3.98

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MAKE CALVARY REAL, Connie &<br/>Lowell Lundstrom<br/>Make Calvary Real; That's Why<br/>You're Not Happy Like Me; Have<br/>You Ever Come to Jesus; My<br/>Priest; The Gospel; Someone to<br/>Take My Place; His Name Is Jesus;<br/>When the Lord Is by My Side;<br/>Dying Without Jesus; Tommy's<br/>Prayer; A Visit by the Devil.28 EV 464 Long Playing\$3.98

IT IS NO SECRET, Bill & Verna

IT IS NO SECREI, Dir & Tena McPherson It Is No Secret; Ten Thousand Angels; His Name Is Jesus; Faith Can Work Miracles; How Long Has It Been; I Found the Answer; The Eastern Gate; Jesus Use Me; One by One; Until Then; I Saw a Man; God Is Love. 28 EV 497 Long Playing \$3.98

BECAUSE, Bob Watters Because; At Dawning; God Made You Mine; I Love You Truly; Be-yond the Sunset; O Promise Me; Let's Go to Church; He Was There; Bless This House; The Lord's Praver

Prayer. 28 EV 484 Stereo 28 EV 466 Long Playing \$4.98 \$3.98

#### THE SENSATIONAL SOUNDING,

THE SENSATIONAL SOUNDING, Couriers Quartet. Turn Your Life Over to Him; The Mighty Man of Galilee; When It All Starts Happening; Smile on His Face; The Battle Is Almost Won; Stepping in the Light; I'll Be Somewhere Listening; Fill My Cup to Overflowing; Homecoming; Sometimes It Seems; At the End of the Road; Thank You Lord. 28 EV 552 Stereo \$4.98 28 EV 539 Long Playing \$3.98

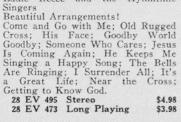
I ASKED THE LORD, G. W. Hardcastle Destined to be a Best Seller. I Asked the Lord; Keep Me; The Mystery of His Way; Lord Teach Me How to Pray; He Was There; Ship Ahoy; No Greater Love; Al-ways Remember; From This Moment On; Tenderly; His Grace Reaches Me; I Believe. 28 EV 677 Stereo \$4.98 28 EV 667 Long Playing \$3.98 ASKED THE LORD, G. W.





**BOB WATTERS** 





Singers





CARRY ON FAMILY TRADI-CARRY ON FAMILY TRADI-TIONS, Carol and Jimmy Snow A Rich Man Am I; Keep Me; Down from His Glory; Beyond Under-standing; Do You Need a Friend; Sweet Jesus; How Big Is God; I Believe; Nearer to Thee; Faith; The Lord I Worship; Highway to Clory

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#### GOODBYE WORLD GOODBYE. The Kings Three Goodby World Goodby; God Speaks;

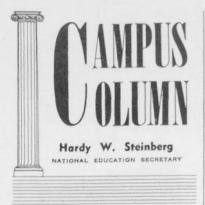
Crying in the Chapel; How Great Thou Art; He Leads Me; Glory Road to Heaven; Dios Es Amor; That's My God; Don't Want to See Day Break; Close to the Master. 28 EV 338 Long Playing \$3.98



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#### CONSTRUCTION MOVES AHEAD AT CBC

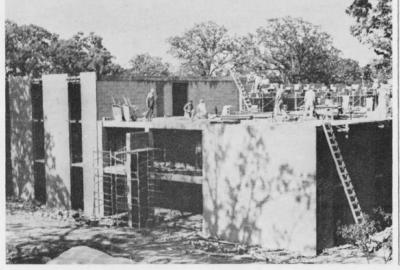
Construction is moving forward according to plan on the J. Roswell Flower Residence Hall at Central Bible College.

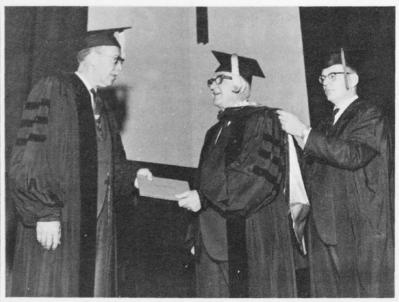
Business Manager Stephen Walegir stated that construction is | The building will be ready

ahead of schedule-and also ahead of bond sales. The walls are up and part of the roof is in place. Work has begun on inside walls. Open spaces between brick sections (see photo) will be finished with porcelain on steel below window areas. The front section of the building, south of the main entrance, will have a stone facing.

The \$300,000 building will house 128 students in suite-room arrangement, each suite containing two sleeping rooms, study area, and a bath, to be used by four students. The dormitory, begun on March 1, is to be completed for use this September.

Work on the new J. Roswell Flower Residence Hall at CBC is ahead of schedule. for use in September.





Dave Carlson (left) and John W. Lackey (right) assisted in bestowing an honorary doctorate upon C. E. Butterfield.

#### C. E. BUTTERFIELD RECEIVES HONORARY DOCTORATE

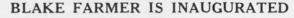
The honoray degree of doctor of | has made to the development of the divinity was conferred upon C. E. Butterfield, president of Northwest College, Kirkland, Wash., from 1949 to 1966, at graduation ceremonies held on the campus June 5. Dave Carlson, former chairman of the Board, and John W. Lackey, college dean, assisted in the bestowal service.

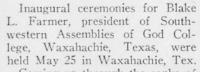
Brother Butterfield retired from the presidency after completing 18 years of service to the college. Conferral of the honorary degree was in recognition of the significant contribution which his leadership, under the blessing of God,

college.

Brother Butterfield plans to continue an active ministry after leaving the college. He already has several speaking engagements in Europe this fall, and has been appointed an observer at the World Congress on Evangelism to be held in Berlin October 28-November 3. He has been cleared by the State Department to visit China and North Viet Nam, among other places in the Orient, should an opportunity develop.

During his years as president of Northwest the school gained





Coming up through the ranks of the college as student, teacher counselor, and dean, Dr. Farmer assumed his responsibilities as president of the college in 1964. He received his doctor's degree from Baylor University in 1965.

Approximately 200 people attending the inauguration were welcomed by Lynn Lasswell, mayor of Waxahachie. Dr. Abner McCall, president of Baylor University, gave the inaugural address.

T. E. Gannon, assistant general superintendent and executive director of the Department of Education, gave the charge to President Farmer. Academic representatives from 11 Texas colleges were recognized by Hardy W. Stein- in Dr. Farmer's honor.

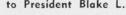
Inaugural ceremonies for Blake | berg, national secretary of the Department of Education.

A historical sketch dating back to Southwestern's origin in Enid, Okla., in 1927 was given by E. R. Anderson, superintendent of the North Texas District. The New Mexico district superintendent, Raymond Hudson, presented the president with the Holy Bible, and the chairman of the Board of Directors, Virgil Claxton, Norman, Okla., presented the keys and seal of the college to the president.

W. S. Graham, superintendent of the South Texas District, gave the invocation; Fay Hutchinson, superintendent of the Arkansas District, offered the inaugural prayer; and Robert E. Goggin, superintendent of the Oklahoma District, gave the benediction.

Following the ceremonies, 153 invited guests attended a luncheon

T. E. Gannon (left) gave the charge to President Blake L. Farmer at the inaugural ceremonies.



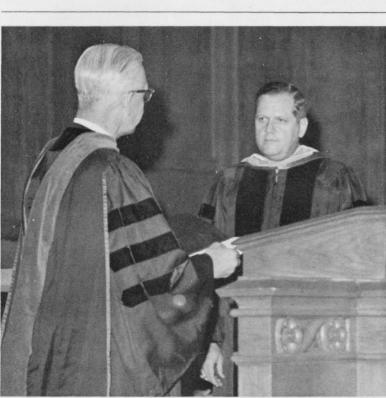


PHOTO BY STANLEY WAGNER

professional accreditation, organized under its own regional board of control, developed curricula totaling 14 programs, acquired a new campus valued at over two million dollars, and has maintained a spiritual emphasis in keeping with the evangelistic and spiritual values upon which the college was founded 32 years ago.

Brother Butterfield has also been made president emeritus of the college by action of the college Board of Trustees in its June meeting. He is succeeded by D. V. Hurst who assumed office July 1.

#### ACTIVITIES BUILDING GOING UP AT EVANGEL

The new Evangel College activities building is under construction and expected to be in use during the 1966-67 school year.

The building is of thin shell concrete construction with brickfaced walls. The architecture is a different application of the design used for the library, Evangel's first permanent building. When completed, the activities building will contain a regulation basketball court, other physical education facilities, and faculty offices. Bleacher seating capacity will be 1,500.

Funds for the building are being raised by the Council of Evangel College. This council, composed largely of business and professional men from the U.S. and Canada, now has a membership of 446. Its first major project was the library which was completed in 1963. The men have also provided for other campus improvements. The goal for their development plan is \$400,-000 by next October.



The activities building, under construction at Evangel College, will contain a regulation basketball court with bleachers for 1,500, other physical education facilities, and faculty offices.

#### TOURING C. A. CHOIR TO ATTEND NATIONAL YOUTH CONFERENCE

voice Northwest District Christ's Ambassadors choir will again participate in the National Youth Conference, to be held August 15-19 at Central Bible College, Springfield, Mo. A similar group appeared there two years ago.

The youth choir accompanied on several numbers by a brass trio, will visit over 20 churches en route. Each program they present will feature a selection of numbers with narration emphasizing the major doctrines of the Assemblies of God.

Chairman of the three-week tour is Ward Tanneberg, Northwest District C. A. president. He will be assisted by Rollin J. Carlson,

SEATTLE, WASH .- The 65- | pastor of the Assembly of God in Arlington; Glen D. Cole, associate pastor of Calvary Temple in Seattle; Don Duncan, pastor of Glad Tidings Assembly in Tacoma; and Dale Gunderson, assistant pastor of Bethany Temple in Everett. The wives of these ministers will be on the tour as well. Two chartered buses will carry the choir and tour committee.

Evangel readers are invited to hear this outstanding youth choir at any of the following places:

Tacoma, Wash.-First Assembly, Aug. 5 Olympia, Wash .- First Assembly, Aug. 6 Kelso, Wash.-Assembly of God, Aug. 7 (a.m.)

Milwaukie, Oreg.-Assembly of God, Aug. 7 (p.m.)

The brass trio (right) composed of Don Duncan, Glen Cole, and Dale Gunderson, will accompany the choir on several numbers. The Northwest District C. A. choir is shown below with Director Rollin J. Carlson at right.

Aug. 8 Gooding, Idaho-First Assembly, Aug. 9

Salt Lake City, Utah-Assembly Taber-nacle, Aug. 10 Grand Junction, Colo .- First Assembly,

Aug. 11 Aurora, Colo .- First Assembly, Aug. 12

Kansas City, Kans .- First Assembly, Aug. 14 (a.m.) Springfield, Mo.-Central Assembly,

Aug. 14 (p.m.)

Walla Walla, Wash .- Assembly of God, | Rapid City, S. Dak .- Citywide rally, Aug. 20

- Newell, Hot Springs, and Lead, S. Dak.-Aug. 21 (a.m.)-three groups Newcastle, Wyo .- First Assembly, Aug.
- 21 (p.m.) Billings, Mont.-First Assembly, Aug.
- Yellowstone National Park-Aug. 23 Spokane, Wash .- First Assembly, Aug. 24

Yakima, Wash .- Stone Church, Aug. 25 Lincoln, Nebr.-Citywide rally, Aug. 19 Seattle, Wash.-Calvary Temple, Aug. 26





FAIRFIELD, CALIF .- The As- | reclaimed and for the young peosembly of God here recently held ple who consecrated their lives to the first evangelistic services in its the Lord. new sanctuary.

Ten were saved and there was very good response and attendance in the two-week meeting. Earnest Rogers was the evangelist.

On the final evening of the meetings, the largest cash offering in the church's history was received.

-Eugene W. Ness, pastor \*

TIPP CITY, OHIO-The con-gregation of Bethel Tabernacle here praises the Lord for the 17 persons who accepted Christ as Saviour in recent meetings with Evangelist and Mrs. Andrew Basell. Several also testified to receiving divine healing.

A spirit of revival continues as hungry hearts seek to know the Lord in a greater way.

-Boyd McClellan, pastor

CHICAGO, ILL,-Calvary Tabernacle here recently concluded a successful evangelistic crusade with Evangelist Bobby Black of Oakland, Calif.

A converted dope addict and rock and roll singer, Brother Black has a living testimony of God's grace and power which was an inspiration to everyone in the church.

Calvary Tabernacle thanks God for those who were saved and

-Richard W. Bishop, pastor \* \*

TAMPA, FLA .-- Glad Tidings Assembly here recently enjoyed a wonderful meeting with the Freddy Clark team.

Each night there was a great move of the Spirit. A new record attendance was set on Easter with 475 in Sunday school.

Many were saved, filled with the Spirit, and healed. -P. D. Creel, pastor \* \* \*

CARDIFF, CALIF.-In three weeks of special services in the Chapel by the Sea here with Evangelist and Mrs. Leonard Sampier, 19 were saved, many believers were filled with the Holy Spirit, and several were healed.

Thirteen were baptized in water the final night.

Attendance was outstanding with an average of 60 in each service. Many new families were contacted.

-Dalton E. Webber, pastor \*

HOOPA, CALIF .-- People came from as far as 28 miles to attend special services at the Assembly of God here with Evangelist J. L. Jeffrey of Cotati, Calif. The entire church was encouraged and stirred to deeper consecration.

-Mack Lancaster, pastor



**OF THE CHURCHES** 

SPRINGFIELD, MO .- Glen B. | throughout the nation at his own Bonds, a layman from Pomona, Calif., has been appointed national secretary of the Men's Fellowship Department.

Brother Bonds is the second layman to head a national department since the Assemblies of God was established in 1914.

He succeeds Burton W. Pierce who has accepted the pastorate of Whitehaven Assembly in Memphis, Tenn. Brother Pierce had held the post since 1960.

As national secretary, Brother Bonds will supervise Light-for-the-Lost, Royal Rangers, TEAM magazine, and Action Crusades.

Brother Bonds was elected chairman of the Light-for-the-Lost Council here late in March. He will continue to serve as chairman until a successor is chosen.

Since 1963 he has traveled 1933 and have four children.

#### NSSA CONVENTION SLATED FOR BOSTON

BOSTON. annual convention of the National 175 workshops. Sunday School Association will be held here September 21-23 in the Church of God literature, Clevenew War Memorial Auditorium in land, Tenn., is president of the Nathe Prudential Center.

field. Experts in various areas of convention.

expense promoting Light-for-the-Lost, Assemblies of God men's missionary program.

Brother Bonds is a native of Dover, Ark. He received his college education at Arkansas Polytechnic Institute in Russellville, before moving to California. He was in the produce business for more than 20 years until he sold his interests in 1961 to work for the Lord.

After his retirement from the business world, he and his wife took a world tour, visiting Assemblies of God missions stations.

He was a Sunday school superintendent for 18 years at First Assembly in Pomona and helped construct the 1,100 seat sanctuary there.

The Bonds were married in

#### MASS.-The 21st Christian education will conduct

tional Sunday School Association.

Representatives from perhaps 50 Between five and seven thoudenominations will hear six head- sand people from the U.S. and line speakers, each a leader in his Canada are expected to attend the



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#### ANNOUNCEMENT

MEETING-Georges CAMP Fla. Creek Camp Meeting, August 7-28, Lonaconing, Md. Speakers: Ga. Lowell Lundstrom and the Message for America Team .- by Chas. E. Fussell, camp pastor. Ill.

#### WITH CHRIST

MARY E. VOGLER, 51, went to Ind. her eternal reward on May 22. Miss Vogler spent 17 years in gospel ministry in Kansas, New Iowa Md. York, Pennsylvania, and Illinois following her graduation from Mo. Central Bible College in 1937. She was ordained by the Illinois District in 1946. Sister Vogler became inactive in 1954, suffering much with multiple sclerosis. She NI lived at Bethany Retirement Home Ohio in Lakeland, Florida, from 1960 until her Homegoing. Like her father, who lost his eyesight, she remained cheerful in spite of the physical handicap. She is survived Okla. by her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Vogler; a brother, David, of Decatur, Illinois; and three sisters; Kathyrn, formerly a missionary to India, Ruth Riegle of Wichita, Kansas, and Alice Howard of Rolla, Missouri. (Kathyrn and her parents live at 628 Stromberg Avenue, Belleville, Illinois 62221.) Pa.

KENNETH C. CLARK, of Harrisburg, Pa., was called into the presence of the Lord May 23, 1966. Brother Clark was ordained in 1954 by the Eastern District. He pioneered Glad Tidings Pentecostal Church in Bloomsburg, and also pastored in Harvey's Lake and Luzerne, Pa., and Charleston, Tex W. Va. He is survived by his wife Christine, a licensed minister; three sons; and five grandsons.

IAMES C. HELD, 66, of Topeka, Kans., went to his eternal reward May 25, 1966. Brother Held was licensed to preach in 1938 and was a member of the Kansas District. He served as a pastor in Cabool, Mo., and pioneered North Side Assembly (now Faith Assembly) in North Topeka, Kans. He also was an evangelist. He is survived by his wife Gladys, three children, seven grandchildren, and one great granddaughter.

STATE CITY Ariton Birmingham Geneva Dover Hickory Ridge Mena N. Little Rock Russellville Alturas Lake Tahoe Calif Long Beach Oildale Santa Clara South Gate Wofford Hgts. Colo. Buena Vista Eustis Palatka Panama City Chickamauga Columbus Moultrie Waveross Elgin Galesburg Joilet Maryville Chesterton Goshen Hymera Seymour Newton Crellin Grantsville DeSoto Festus Joplin St. Louis Springfield Steelville Midvale Akron Cincinnati Columbus Conneaut Johnsville Allen Alva Erick Heavener Tulsa Tulsa Grants Pass Oreg. Lebanon Milwaukie Umatilla Boyertown Cherry Tree New Kensington Strasburg Rock Hill S.C. Tenn. Dyer Gallatin Jackson Knoxville Marvville Samburg Canadian Ft. Worth Hereford Houston Lake Dallas

Midland

Ebony

Saltville

Everett

Kelso

Cathlamet

Packwood

Charlestown

Flemington

Ft. Ashby

Luck

Va.

Wash.

W. Va.

Wis.

San Antonio

ASSEMBLY DATE August 7-14 Elamville August 16-21 Sayreton August 3-14 First August 14-28 August 15-28 Smith Center August 3-14 August 2-14 A/G Glad Tidings August 8-21 August 7-12 South New Hope A/G South Shore Chap. August 14-19 August 2-7 Glad Tidings August 3-14 Riverview August 9-14 August 8-14 August 10-14 August 7-14 August 17— Neighborhood Bible A/G A/G A/G August 7-21 August 15-21 \*First St. Andrews August 3-15 August 8-14 August 4— Gospel Tab. Municipal Aud. Northside August 3-14 August 7— August 7-20 August 7-20 August 15-21 August 8-14 First First Calvary \*Faith August 8-14 August 14-19 August 8-12 August 15-21 August 9-21 August 9-21 August 7-28 August 15-Sept. 4 \*A/G \*A/G \*First Shiloh First A/G A/G Maranatha August 1-7 August 9-21 First August 2-14 Calvary August 2-14 August 15-28 August 7-12 August 7-19 August 7---Faith \*Riverview \*Calvary Temple First Gospel Church August 16-28 August 16-21 First Tri-County August 9-14 Fairmoor August 2-14 \*First August 8-14 \*First August 1-7 \*\*\*A/G August 7-August 14-First August 14-21 First August 14-A/G August 14-28 Sheridan August 3-14 Trinity Pleasant Valley August 9-21 Month of August A/G \*First August 1-5 August 7-14 A/G August 15-21 \*Calvary Tab. August 10-21 Kinport August 3-14 Gospel Tab. \*A/G August 8-14 August 3-7 First August 14-26 First August 3-14 First August 3-10 First August 7-19 Skyline Drive August 15-19 A/G August 9-21 A/G A/G August 2-14 August 2-14 Broadview August 10-21 First Glendale August 3-A/G August 7-First August 10-Valley Hi August 10-21 August 2-14 A/G August 3-7 Valley View August 3-14 A/G Bethany Temple August 14-19 August 14-First August 9-21 A/G First August 1-14 August 2-14 A/G August 3-14 Calvary

EVANGELIST The Michael Lord Party . Syvelle Phillips H. Syvelle Phillips Arlis & Janis Thrasher Freddie Salisbury Bob McCutchen J. C. & Mrs. Nichols Ed Eaton Loretta Kaupanger Loretta Kaupanger Stanley & Mrs. MacPherson Winferd Mack Phil & Claudene Young Stanley & Mrs. MacPherson Tom Melroy R. I. Stewart Philip & Marydell Combs Philip & Marydell Combs Gary & Annese Chapin Ernie Eskelin W. W & Mrs. Martin The Michael Lord Party Charles & Mrs. McKnight Nettie Parham Bob Watters Coal F. Commel Carl E. Gammel Carl E. Gammel David & Patricia Johnson Dedelow-Friederici Team Rebecca M. Beisel Bill McPherson Bill McPherson J. E. Friend Keetah Jones Irving & Mary Lou Howard Rebecca M. Beisel Joel & Mrs. Palmer I. D. Rayborn Clarence E. Lambert David & Patricia Johnson Charles Senechal Charles Senechal Leroy W. Morgan Dan & Anita Bogdan Culpepper-Gourlas Tm. Sunshine Party Arnold & Anita Segesman Culpepper-Gourlas Tm. Culpepper-Gourlas Tm. Patsy Ruth Allen Branham & Steele Tm. James E. Farmer Patsy Ruth Allen Rob Larson Clarence E. Lambert D. L. Nultemeier John I. Smith Bob Bradford L. H. & Mrs. Sheets & Noni Brosey-Buchwalter Tm. "Gypsy" George (Butrin) Ernest & Mrs. Berquist Brosey-Buchwalter Tm. Neil Eskelin Dave & Jan Olshevski Grover & Carolyn Dunn Dave & Jan Olshevski Knott-Olson Tm. Grover & Carolyn Dunn Bill & Naomi Hayes Victor Etienne Hale-Turner Tm. D. A. Watson Family Tommy & Esther Lance B. P. Carroll Melvin McKnight Leon Morrow John Higginbotham George & Nadine Van Riper The Tanner Tm. Christian Hild Thomas Ming Sr. James Boreland Irving & Mary Lou Howard "Little Joe" Peterson Don & Sharon Parker Ralph E. Leslie

PASTOR Archie Moon Robert Gowins E. Hollis Kelley Audrey C. Booher Jasper E. Whitt Harry L. Klepper Doyle L. Johnson Jesse Rye Glenn Matson Gerald Boyd Allan Snider W. J. Cherry Ed R. Gomes Ernest L. Friend Dave Morrison O. C. Kitchens Robert E. Woodward Norman McCutchen Howard Ridings Woodward Howard Ridings Edwin C. Smith T. D. Whitehead, Chmn. Joseph White L. C. Grice Coy Cleghorn David Iverson Paul S. Bredeson George O. Ankarlo Robert C. Mayfield William Burkett W. A. VanWinkle A. O. Brodie Hilton Griswold J. L. Smith William Ferguson Arlie Roberts C. G. Rose John C. Newman James R. Wilkinson Stewart Robinson Joe R. Massey Jonathan Reign Gay Benson Hugh H. Rosenberg Felix O. Coyle Chadwick Weaver Terry Diehl Edwin P. Lack Isaac Snow Walter Swaim Glenn E. Millard Otho Allen Gene Rightmier H. D. Robeson Bennie R. Harris G. B. Robeson Barry Reichard Zene Fleming A. C. Martin Harold Zuch Lyman Richardson J. Wesley Payne M. C. Dailey Doug Karnes Esker Turner Jerry Smith J. T. Brown William J. Tims Ray Heady V. W. Marcontell Ralph Leatherwood Elvin Johnson W. D. Metzgar Elbert Smart Ervin Hukill Vernon Thomas W. C. Nelson Eugene Born Thomas Ming Jr. Bob Unruh W. P. Reed Leroy Harvey R. E. Kirby

\*Children's Crusade

A/G

\*\*City-wide Revival

August 2-14

Due to printing schedule, announcements must reach The Pentecostal Evangel five weeks in advance.

Arnold V. Hanson

\*\*\*Youth Revival

must be made and maintained. This contact is with God, our Heavenly Father, through our Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ. It is important for this life and for eternity.

During Christ's ministry on earth many miracles took place because of His touch in response to faith in a needy human heart.

In Mark's Gospel we read where they brought "a blind man unto him, and besought him to touch him. And he took the blind man by the hand and led him out of the town; and when he had spit on his eyes, and put his hands upon him, he asked him if he saw ought. And he looked up, and said, I see men as trees, walking. After that he put his hands again upon his eyes, and made him look up: and he was restored, and saw every man clearly" (Mark 8:22-25).

When Jesus came to Nain and saw the funeral procession for the widow's only son, He had compassion and told the woman, "Weep not." He then touched the bier and told the young man to arise. "And he that was dead sat up, and began to speak. And he delivered him unto his mother" (Luke 7:12-15).

In the case of the leper who came to Christ and said, "Lord, if thou wilt, thou canst make me clean," Jesus

# THE TOUCH OF HIS HAND

#### By CLARKE E. GAGE Pastor, Assemblies of God Tabernacle Crosby, Minnesota

A RECENT CAPTIVATING ARTICLE in a leading periodical brought out the importance of keeping in touch. It stressed the value of our contacts, communications, and conversations, whether verbal, written, by telephone, or even the handclasp.

I vividly recall the horrifying scene of a traffic victim trapped in the mangled wreckage of an automobile. He screamed hysterically for help. It took several hours of feverish work with cutting torches to free him, but he was consoled as long as someone would reach through the jumbled mass of metal and broken glass to clasp his hand in theirs.

I am also reminded of the sweet consolation which comes from the sympathetic grasp of a friend's hand in a time of bereavement. Very often this expresses more comfort than a volume of words at a time when the brain seems numbed by grief.

Then too there is the vivid recollection of the tender hand of a mother upon a feverish brow. It brings quiet consolation to the restless, fretful child.

And what of the thrill brought by the tender handclasp of a beloved sweetheart?

Keeping in touch with others is important to our existence. But there is a far more important contact which put forth His hand and touched him, saying, "I will: be thou clean" (Matthew 8:1-3).

In that same chapter of Matthew we are told how Christ touched the hand of Peter's mother-in-law who was sick of a fever, "and the fever left her, and she arose and ministered unto them."

In raising Jairus' daughter from the dead, Jesus "took the damsel by the hand, and said unto her..., Damsel, I say unto thee, arise. And straightway the damsel arose, and walked" (Mark 5:35-43).

Although Christ is not among us in bodily form today, He is still divinely communicating with any who will call upon Him. The writer of the Book of Hebrews said of Christ: "For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin" (Hebrews 4:15).

Call upon the Lord. Establish an open line of communication between you and Christ. Regardless of what your need may be, He will answer. His answer may not always be what you anticipate or even what you desire, but He who can see the future knows what is best for you—and He will meet your needs accordingly.

The power of this Christ has not changed and will not change. He is still able to administer health and healing, peace and soundness of mind. Most of all He is able to grant forgiveness of sin and bring eternal life to the seeking, sin-sick soul.

May you sense His holy touch upon your life this very hour and respond to His touch in love, gratitude, and submission.