THE PENTECOSTYLE PAGE 1818 BY COLORS

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FILE

INTERNATIONAL EDITION



VENANCIO, THE GANGSTER CHIEF

By JOHN P. KOLENDA . Brazil

WHILE I WAS MINISTERING in the Brazilian interior, a missionary named Gustavo told me about the first baptismal service he had held in that remote area.

Thirty candidates were awaiting baptism when he arrived at Itacurubi. Some of their unbelieving relatives opposed this step to the point of conniving with a band of outlaws to break up the service.

Venancio, the gangster chief, had for years evaded

I SUFFERED WITH CANCER on the left side of my face for two years before I saw a doctor, and afterwards it became so large and bothersome I went to my doctor at Springdale Hospital. When he saw it, I was ordered at once to go to St. John's, Newfoundland, and have it burned off by radium treatment.

I told the doctor that I would not go immediately, but would consider this for another two weeks. His reply was, "If you wait two more weeks, you might as well stay home, as it is already too late. If you get treatment soon, it would possibly stop its growth."

He further remarked, "This is a cancer, and indeed a bad one."

On Sunday night, August 15, 1962, I attended church and went forward for prayer, trusting that the Lord would heal this dreadful cancer. Pastor C. F. Roswell anointed me with oil, and the saints of God with Pastor Roswell laid hands upon me according to the Scriptures (James 5:14, 15). I felt His healing touch that very moment. The same virtue that left the body of Jesus and went through the woman who touched the hem of His garment and made her every whit whole, went

civil authorities. For a price, he promised that he and his men would appear on that Sunday afternoon and make the baptismal service impossible.

Although the Christians had heard of the plans, all the believers were determined to go ahead with the service, even at the cost of their lives if necessary.

A large crowd of people was present to witness the baptismal service, while the candidates, dressed in white baptismal robes, stood by the creek. They sang a few songs and Gustavo began to preach. Then they heard the galloping of horses and 30 horsemen approached, with Venancio in the lead. They rode past the crowd of spectators and stopped in front of the preacher and candidates—all with drawn pistols.

The terrified crowd drew back, while the believers stood motionless on the bank of the creek. But Gustavo

continued to preach.

Suddenly Venancio rode a few steps forward, turned toward his men, and yelled, "Whoever harms these people is a dead man." Then he kept his pistol pointed at his own men during the rest of the sermon! When the sermon ended he gave an order and they rode away.

How the believers praised God! Tears of gratitude flowed freely as the baptismal candidates stepped in-

to the waters.

Two years after Gustavo told me this incident I received a letter from my niece in Porto Alegre, Brazil,

with a sequel to the story.

She and a group of believers had gone to a prison to hold services. One of the prisoners had been converted through reading the New Testament two years before, and he asked for a new Bible. When my niece and others returned with the Bible, the prisoner told them his story.

A few weeks before my niece's visit, a fellow prisoner had come to him and said, "I have observed your life here in the prison. I have seen how the others persecute you, and have marveled that you could remain so patient under such injustice. I am convinced that your religion is real."

Joyously the Christian witnessed of the saving grace of God through Jesus Christ. But his fellow prisoner turned away sadly and said, "No, my sins are too great and too many. God could never forgive me. Do you know who I am? I am Venancio, the gangster chief. My first crime was to burn down an Assemblies of God church. Many other crimes I have on my conscience, even the shedding of blood.

"But for one thing I am thankful. In some strange way I was once prevented from shedding innocent blood," he said, and began to describe the scene of which Gustavo had told me.

"I was determined to prevent that baptismal service even if it meant some would lose their lives. I planned to give them a few minutes to clear the place, and then I would begin to shoot. But suddenly I saw shining beings above the preacher and the converts who were to be baptized. They must have been angels. When I recovered from my fright, I commanded my men not to harm those people..."

The believing prisoner continued to deal with Venancio, and the day came when he knelt with the gangster chief in his cell and they prayed together. There God met Venancio and saved him.

Others began to come to Christ through their witnessing, and at the time my niece wrote me the warden had assigned them a hall in which to meet. Venancio had been chosen as pastor of the group. Such is the transforming power of the grace of God.

(This story is condensed from the book, *The Scissors Sharpener and Other Missionary Stories*, by John P. Kolenda. Copies may be purchased from the Gospel Publishing House, Springfield, Missouri 65802, at 50 cents each. Order number 3-EV-2433. Please mention both title and number when ordering.)



NEWFOUNDLAND WOMAN DESCRIBES A MIRACLE

The Cancer Fell Off My Face

through me that night. Praise the Lord!

The service closed, and I went home with the cancer still showing on my face, but I had faith that I was healed. On Tuesday morning, August 17, 1962, when I arose from my bed I discovered that the cancer which had been on my face had fallen off, and was lying there on the bed.

There were two little roots left where the cancer had been. I removed one with a handkerchief, and it began to bleed, so I left the other one and looked to the Lord in prayer that He might remove everything, roots and all. Before noon that day the other root had dried up and that dreadful thing was gone.

Today my face is clean; nothing is showing except a little spot where the cancer had been. Truly His Name

is to be praised for His mighty acts and His wonderful power! I opened my Bible, and my eyes fell upon Psalm 118:17, 18, "I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the Lord. The Lord hath chastened me sore: but he hath not given me over unto death."

It is now four years since the Lord healed me, and there has been no trace of the cancer since. I am now 80 years of age and enjoying wonderful health. Praise the Lord, there is nothing too small or too big for Him to do.

If there is any doubt in your mind as to this healing power, I would suggest that you take your Bible and read the Acts of the Apostles, as well as the four Gospels concerning the mighty miracles that Jesus performed. It will increase your faith.

So put your faith and trust in Him today. He will save your soul, heal your sickness, and make you ready for His appearing.

(The foregoing testimony is given by Mrs. Dora Oxford, Springdale, Newfoundland. It appeared in the December 1966 issue of *Good Tidings*, official magazine of the Pentecostal Assemblies of Newfoundland.)

A Mark or a Number

HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED what the apostle John was thinking when he wrote about "the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name," in Revelation 13:17? Out there on the lonely Mediterranean island of Patmos to which he was exiled, could he possibly have had any idea that someday there would be so many people on earth that each would be assigned an individual number for identification pur-

Not likely. And yet the words he penned 19 centuries ago are astonishingly significant today in view of the trend toward identification by number rather than name. Where the numbering idea began we are not sure. As long as we can remember, there have been house numbers, license numbers, account numbers, insurance policy numbers. We also have credit card numbers, military numbers, library numbers, college numbers, etc. Even our postal addresses must have numbers

(Incidentally, our friends outside the U.S. may wonder why those numerals appear at the end of our postal address. They are the "zip code." ZIP stands for the Zone Improvement Plan introduced by the post office a few years ago to improve mail delivery. For example, the zip code for The Pentecostal Evangel office is 65802. The "6" indicates an area which takes in four states: Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, and Illinois. The "58" indicates the post office or "sectional center facility" in that area, which in our case means the city of Springfield. The "02" indicates the locality within the city. So in case someone does not write the address clearly, if he gives the zip code the post office can tell the state, city, and neighborhood to which a letter is addressed simply by breaking down the code. Not only does the zip number identify mail but it speeds up the sorting and delivery processes.)

Of all the numbers attached to an individual, probably his Social Security number is the most important. Without it he cannot claim government benefits for himself or his survivors in case of retirement, disability, or death. This number is being used more and more to identify each American citizen. It must appear on his income-tax reports, his bank account, his dividend statements, etc. It is used on his driving license in some states. Officials have recommended that each person be given one number-at birth-and carry it until he dies.

It is further proposed that this number be tied to the individual with a mark of some kind-perhaps a fingerprint, or a voice print, or some other foolproof device. In fact, we are told that committees are now at work, together with trade groups and computer manufacturers, to devise some such system.

With a modern digital computer, all kinds of records can be kept and detailed information on any individual can be had immediately if it is stored in the "electronic brain" and keyed to a number.

Here then is the genius required to classify billions of people and keep them under the control of a central world government. We are moving rapidly to the time, prophesied in Revelation 13, when the world ruler (described as "the beast") will cause "all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark...and that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark..." Thank God, we also have the hope that before the "beast" is revealed our Lord Jesus Christ will appear to take His Church away.

-R.C.C.

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STATEMENT OF FAITH

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

"THE LIGHT OF THE BODY IS THE EYE: IF THEREFORE THINE EYE BE SINGLE, THY WHOLE BODY SHALL BE FULL OF LIGHT" (MATTHEW 6:22).

HARLES SPURGEON USED TO COUNSEL his theological students to have one blind eye and one deaf ear when they entered the ministry. They would need to be blind, he warned, to many phases of human conduct, and deaf to many things to which they would be required to listen.

It is said of Britain's naval hero, Lord Admiral Nelson, that he possessed only one good eye. On occasions when his naval superiors might have flagged a signal to retreat or surrender, the indomitable Nelson would place his telescope to his blind eye. Later when asked to account for his failure to comply with surrender orders he would blandly explain that he saw no such signals.

Seriously sick persons are sometimes afflicted with a trouble called double vision. They see two doctors and I am taken from thee, it shall be so unto thee, but if not, it shall not be so."

You will also remember that Elijah was snatched away in a split second by God's whirlwind chariot whose fiery horses doubtless traveled with the speed of lightning. (Thus it shall be in the rapture of the Church. The apostle described it, "We shall all be changed in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye.")

Elijah's split-second departure certainly called for the single eye on the part of Elisha. He had to keep his eye fixed on his master who was momentarily destined for rapture. Had he looked around to see what the other students were doing it might have been that in that split second of distraction his master would be taken from him. Failing to witness the rapture he would fail to receive the blessing of the double portion. Note God's measurements here. For the single eye He gives the double portion!

The Scriptures give a remarkable amount of space to Stephen's deathbed sermon as it relates to the life of Moses, "And Moses was learned in all the wisdom



By HARRY J. STEIL

two nurses attending them; two spoonfuls of medicine extended toward them. The problem would be to grasp at the real and not the imaginary image. Imagine driving an automobile in today's traffic while afflicted with double vision!

Recently a busy pastor stated, "I have so many irons in the fire I hardly know which way to turn." How truly this describes our times. Most of us share his plight-so many irons in the fire-that we are like mobile junk yards. We need to simplify our complex lives and say with Paul, "This one thing I do...." Doubtless this is the meaning of having a single eye, the ability to concentrate on the main issue, the one important thing, and not allow ourselves to be distracted from it by the many minor things that clamor for our time and attention.

This ability to concentrate on the one eternally and spiritually important objective is illustrated so clearly in Elisha's witnessing of the rapture of Elijah (2 Kings 2:10-12). Elisha had asked for a double portion of Elijah's spirit. The old prophet replied: "Thou hast asked an hard thing: nevertheless, if thou see me, when

This article is the gist of an address delivered by Evangelist Harry J. Steil before the student body at Evangel College in Springfield, Missouri.

of the Egyptians, and was mighty in words and deeds" (Acts 7:22). This was no small accomplishment. The ancient Egyptians had a knowledge of building construction which we have not recovered to this day. The building of the pyramids is witness to this. Their ability to impregnate dead flesh with embalming chemicals and wrappings, so as to arrest the law of nature which demands that the dead body revert to the dust from whence it came, makes us marvel to this present time. Three thousand years later these mummified bodies are on display in our museums. The form of face, head, and skin are still recognizably preserved.

These ancients also had a knowledge of astronomy which Moses must have shared. But Moses looked into the heavens much farther than his Egyptian contemporaries-even into the "third heaven," the paradise of God. Moses had the gift of the single eye. Heir apparent to the throne of the Egyptian empire, he spurned it all and embraced the way of the Cross. He preferred to suffer affliction with the people of God rather than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season, "esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he had respect unto the recompense of the reward."

Note four things about Moses: he chose, he suffered, he endured, and he saw. He chose a greater kingdom than Egypt. He suffered for 80 long years, 40 of them as leader of a stiff-necked rebellious people. But he went through with it. He was not a drop-out for he had a single eye. He endured because he saw Him who is invisible.

Aaron's faltering, Miriam's treachery, the rebellious threat of Korah, Dathan and Abiram—these and a thousand other unhappy conditions weighed on him, but Moses knew how to slip away and anoint his eyes with a wondrous eyesalve. Jesus later recommended it to the Laodicean church (Revelation 3:18). Moses had a "single eye" and gazed on the promise of the world to come. He endured because he gazed on Him who is invisible, and because he valued the eternal reward as of greater worth than Egypt's wealth.

We live in a so-called "painless age." We have painless surgery, painless childbirth, and painless dentistry. We buy autos, appliances, and homes with "painless payments." (I think this means the finance company feels no pain when it extracts those monthly payments!) The painless age also offers a "painless religion." Do we, in our comfortable churches, know anything about the suffering and reproach of Christ described in He-

George Matheson, the blind preacher of Scotland, is said to have seen more of the truth and reality of God than all of his seeing contemporaries. With a single eye he beheld the King in His beauty, and people from all over Scotland flocked to hear him describe the glories of the invisible God.

brews 11?

Are you familiar with his story? Shortly after he graduated from theological school the eye specialists told him he would become completely blind. He carried the sad news to his betrothed, who asked to be released from their marriage engagement. In his darkest hour, cruelly spurned by human love, he saw with a "single eye" the King in His beauty, and wrote:

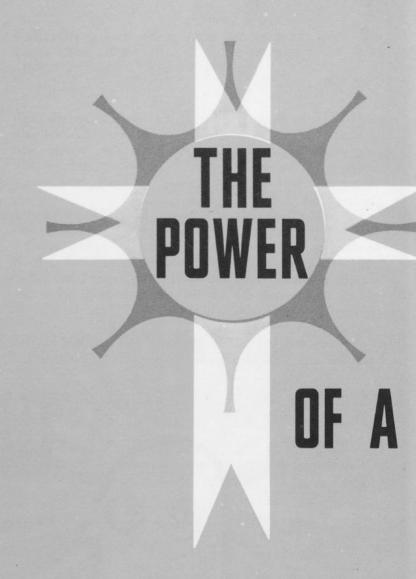
O Love that will not let me go, I rest my weary soul in Thee; I give Thee back the life I owe, That in Thine ocean depths its flow May richer, fuller be.

With great joy he described the experience that followed his choosing:

O Cross that liftest up my head,
I dare not ask to fly from thee;
I lay in dust life's glory dead,
And from the ground there blossoms red
Life that shall endless be.

There was another who spurned the easy painless way and chose with a single eye the way of the Cross. Paul described his perspective in 2 Corinthians 4:8-18 and keynoted the whole meaning of the blessedness of possessing the single eye. Listen to this quotation from Living Letters, the paraphrased Epistles:

"These troubles and sufferings of ours are, after all, quite small and won't last very long. Yet this short time of distress will result in God's richest blessing upon us forever and ever! So we do not look at what we can see down here, the troubles all around us, but we look forward to the joys in heaven which we have not yet seen. The troubles will soon go away, but the joys to come will last forever."



THE TRAGIC DEATHS of Ananias and Sapphira—when they had lied to the Holy Ghost (Acts 5: 1-11)—reveals the pure spiritual atmosphere breathed by the Early Church. The Spirit of Pentecost so lived in the Church, inspiring and controling her every movement, that when someone lied before men, he lied to God.

What are the spiritual lessons for us from this incident? We would affirm that the Holy Spirit must still maintain the purity of the spiritual atmosphere of the Church. All Christian work must be carried out on a spiritual basis. No carnal hand should dare to touch the work of God. Every pastor, elder, deacon, choir member, Sunday school teacher, and every member of the assembly should be filled with the Spirit.

In the Early Church there was no line of demarcation between the secular and the spiritual. Even to "serve tables" the deacons had to be "full of the Spirit" (Acts 6:3).

The Holy Spirit is the leader of the affairs of the assembly. All acts in the Christian life must be inspired by Him. We must recognize His personality, deity, and authority.

When we give our gifts for the Lord's work, we are giving to God and not to our human leaders. There must be no giving for show or for the pleasure of man.

It is possible to sing lustily, "I Surrender All," and yet hold tightly to our purse strings while lonely sentinels of the Cross of Christ in heathen mission fields desperately need the help we withhold.

HOLY CHURCH

WHEN THE HOLY GHOST IS ALLOWED TO WORK MIRACULOUSLY THROUGH THE CHURCH, NOT ONLY DO MIRACLES OF GRACE OCCUR BUT ALSO MIRACLES OF JUDGMENTS.

By JAMES STEWART

One of the greatest hindrances to God's blessing sweeping through the Church to a dying world is the sin of insincerity. How many broken covenants and vows there are that only the eye of God can 'see! "Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron" (1 Timothy 4:2).

How sad when a believer allows Satan a foothold in his spiritual life! How sad when a believer allows Satan to take possession of him! "How is it you have cherished this design in your heart?" Peter asked Sapphira. "Why have you entertained this diabolical plot even for a moment to see if you could escape detection from the Spirit?"

Only by constant vigilance, prayer, and Bible study can we keep walking in the Spirit. If Satan can use any of the Lord's people for his own evil business, he has scored a victory. Said Paul, "Do not give the devil his opportunity" (Ephesians 4:27, Knox). Envy and jealousy, carnality and materialism—these are some of the doors by which Satan enters the hearts of God's people. Oh, may we never allow the envy to gain a foothold in our souls!

Although such sudden and public judgments rarely befall the saints today, we must not infer from this that God's mind and attitude have changed as to the exceeding sinfulness of sin. When the Holy Ghost is allowed to work miraculously through the Church, not only do miracles of grace occur, but also miracles of judgments.

The Spirit was working mightily in a European city (Continued on page fifteen)

HE BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT, which I experienced in 1909, is still a vivid reality to me after more than 57 years.

We had arranged with Archie and Pearl Adams to conduct a meeting in our little community near Waurika, Oklahoma. The evangelists told us that they had received the baptism in the Holy Spirit a few weeks before, while praying in their home, and they spoke in tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.

They held two services daily, and as the meetings progressed I developed an intense hunger for the Pentecostal Baptism. Every time Brother Adams talked about the Pentecostal experience, it seemed I would be lifted up into the heavens. There was no loud praying

THE RIVER STILL

By E. L. NEWBY

in the services, and the evangelists were not demonstrative people, but God's power was present in a definite way.

Then, in one of the morning services, the evangelist spoke a few words in tongues. It was the first time I had ever heard anyone speak in tongues, and since my own heart was prepared and hungry, the Spirit of the Lord came upon me also and I began to speak in tongues.

Such a holy quietness, such a flow of joy, such a deep peace possessed me that I have never been able to express it fully. It was "joy unspeakable, and full of glory."

My brother-in-law, the late J. J. Grubbs, and I were the only ones who received the baptism in the Spirit in that revival, but both of us received a call to preach the gospel when we were filled with the Spirit, I could not separate the two experiences.

During these years of ministry I have seen the Lord work in many ways, confirming His Word with signs following. Programs and methods have changed with the years, but God is still the same and the principles of righteousness do not change. The old paths still lead us to God and bring peace to the souls of men. Holiness of heart and mind is the foundation stone on which a lasting Pentecostal experience is built.

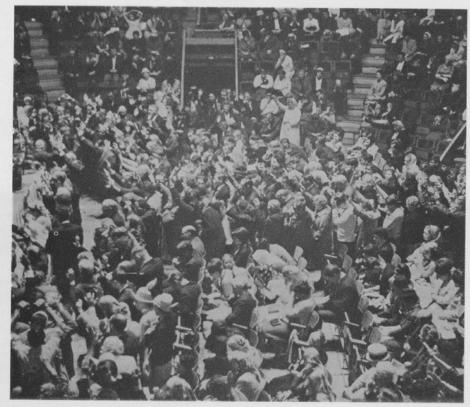
Brother, if you want the baptism of the Spirit, don't settle for less. Find a place of prayer and pray until God meets you and there is no question as to the reality of the experience. Jesus said this baptism would be like rivers of living water. This river has flowed for me for more than 57 years, and I have no fear that the source will fail as long as we live a life of holiness by His grace.

E. L. Newby, Fort Worth, Texas, became a Pentecostal preacher in 1909. He has been an ordained minister in the Assemblies of God for more than 50 years. While engaging in pastoral and evangelistic ministry he also has served as a general presbyter and district presbyter. For six years (1930-37) he was district superintendent of the North Texas District.

By ROGER COPIN Assemblies of God Pastor in Rouen, France







GOOD NEWS CRUS

SUCCESSFUL FRENCH CRUSA BY GLOBAL CONQUEST AND LIGH

ROUEN, FRANCE, is a well-known city, for it was here that Joan of Arc was burned in 1431. In 1944 the German army tried to cross the River Seine at Rouen, but was stopped by the U. S. Air Force.

Today, Rouen with its suburbs has over 200,000 inhabitants. The Assemblies of God is the main Protestant group in the city, with three downtown churches whose combined membership totals at least 1,500 believers.

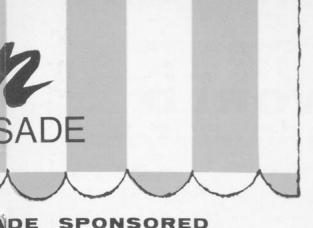
Over a year ago we heard Missionary Kenneth Ware talking about the coming of a U. S. Assemblies of God evangelist named Harold Herman. We heard that he once worked in Hollywood, was a photo reporter for General Douglas MacArthur during World War II, and was now preaching the gospel.

For many weeks, the churches prayed in preparation for the crusade. The week before the campaign 200 big posters were displayed throughout the streets of Rouen; 40,000 invitations and 20,000 tracts were distributed. The newspaper Paris Normandie put in a free story about the campaign; this was very unusual, for most of the time we cannot even buy newspaper space in France to advertise our meetings.

The *Circus* with about 2,700 seats was rented, and over 2,000 people came to the first meeting. Attendance averaged from 600 to 900 nightly, until the last meeting on Sunday afternoon when over 2,300 came inside the auditorium.

People were wonderfully saved; sometimes over 70 would come forward at the same time. Each night

In the top photo is a poster announcing the Harold Herman evangelistic campaign. In the center photo are Harold Herman (left) and Kenneth Ware (right) with some of the national pastors in Rouen, France. At left, people press forward for prayer for healing.



FOR-THE-LOST

there were some who claimed to be healed; and in the last days of the campaign some of these people brought reports from their doctors to verify their healings.

Harold Herman is a man of God. This I write in behalf of all who met him in Rouen. He spent hours and days in fasting and prayer. He is a humble man, and this was so important. We were able to work in full fellowship with him, for though he was a foreigner he did not shock the French nationalist spirit. He came to help us and not in words only. We were deeply impressed by the simplicity and the truth of his testimony.

We thank the Lord Jesus from Whom all these blessings came.

Statue of Joan of Arc marks the place where she was burned at the stake as a witch and heretic. Her last cry was "Jesus."





A quartette sings for the teachers conference.

Harold Kohl, BBI and FEAST president, spoke on *The Holy Spirit and Teaching*. He said, "There is no substitute for the Holy Spirit's role in Bible school teaching. Let us make room for the Holy Spirit in our lives, in our teaching preparations, and in our classroom presentations. 'When he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth.'"

Trinidad Esperanza, FEAST registrar, taught *Daily Lesson Planning* and *Preparing a Course Syllabus*. She discussed the importance of lesson planning and the steps involved in this procedure.

Other topics presented were Moti-

teachers are taught too!

By ROSINA CORPUZ Registrar and Teacher at Bethel Bible Institute, Manila, Philippines

We are moving in the right direction!" This was the happy comment of a delegate concerning the forward move in the upgrading of Bible school instruction which was made at the third annual Philippine Bible School Teachers' Conference. This Assemblies of God conference was convened on the campus of Bethel Bible Institute in Manila, Philippines, on October 15 and 16, 1966.

Thirty-one teachers attended. They came from Luzon Bible Institute (Pangasinan), Immanuel Bible Institute (Cebu), Bethel Bible Institute and the Far East Advanced School of Theology (Manila), and South Central Bible Institute (newly opened Bible School in Bicol).

vation and Learning by E. E. Javier of FEAST, and The Teaching Team by Lester Kenney, president of IBI. A forum on general classroom teaching problems was conducted by L. B. Lazaro of BBI and FEAST. Questions on pupil participation, assignments, individual differences, and pupil-teacher rapport were satisfactorily answered.

In a morning devotion, Philippine General Superintendent R. C. Esperanza brought out the need for more Bible school graduates trained of the Spirit in the Word. Leonardo Caput spoke on faith during a Communion service.

The delegates considered this conference a most rewarding experience.

Derrick Hillary (standing), Dean of FEAST, comments on a topic under discussion.





UNITED STATES

FAA Reports Link Alcohol with Fatal Air Crashes

An article appearing in the Bulletin of Pathology, published by the College of American Pathologists, reports these alarming facts about the use of alcohol by

pilots involved in fatal aircraft crashes:

In 1963 the Federal Aviation Agency had autopsies performed on 158 of the 475 pilots-in-command who were killed in aircraft accidents. Toxologic analysis showed a measurable alcohol content in the blood of 35 percent (56). In 1964, autopsies on 193 of the 436 pilots killed showed a measurable alcohol content in the blood of 40 percent (78). In approximately 10 percent of these cases alcohol levels were so high as to indicate an advanced state of drunkenness.

Adding to the seriousness of the problem is the fact that increased altitude heightens the effects of alcohol. Only one-half the concentration of alcohol in the blood is required at 10,000 feet as at sea level to produce the same adverse effects on thinking processes, reaction, motor skills, and coordination.

The FAA reportedly is seeking a course of action to strengthen existing restrictions on alcoholic intake by pilots and crew members prior to and during flight.

ISI Purchases New Headquarters

A new headquarters building for International Students, Inc., has been purchased in Washington, D. C., just four blocks from the White House. The building will eventually house a training and reception center for the evangelical organization.

ISI is an independent, interdenominational organization dedicated to giving a Christian witness to the millions of foreign students and visitors in the U.S.

THE ORIENT

Chiang Kai-shek Condemns Persecution of Religion

Nationalist China's President Chiang Kai-shek has urged the world's Christians to take "united action against the inhuman persecution of religion" on the Chinese mainland.

In a message to the second conference of the Asian Christian Anti-Communist Association, which met in Taipei, the Methodist President said, "the persecution of religion in the Communist countries is ever-increasing in its intensity." The Chinese Communists, he said, are using "Red Guards" to destroy the religious freedom of the people on the China mainland and to "inflict on them added sufferings."

Chinese Children Display Lack of Bible Teaching

A Protestant missionary asked to teach English and Bible in a Christian school in Hong Kong reported some startling results from a preliminary test he gave to 269 eighth- and ninth-grade students. Some of them showed

previous contact with the Bible, but none answered all 18 multiple-choice questions correctly.

Although 146 believed Jesus was Head of the Church, 70 thought the Pope was, and 53 did not know. Some 95 considered sin something done only by bad people; 77 said by all people; and 97 didn't know.

The world is getting better all the time, according to 111, but 82 said it is getting worse and only a few will be saved. Some 58 thought hell is a happy place; 30 replied that the church is a state religion and all citizens are members; 25 identified the Holy Spirit as a Biblical city.

Indonesian Christians Hail Deliverances

An article in a recent issue of The Alliance Witness reviewed reports from Christians in Indonesia indicating the seriousness of the threat to Christians when a Communist coup was narrowly averted last year.

In Bali a captured leader of a communist cell was found to be carrying a list of Balinese pastors who were to have been killed when the Communists took over. In Karubaga, West Irian, a Javanese government official told a group of missionaries, "If the coup had succeeded, their plans were to exterminate 250,000 present company included."

EUROPE

"Movement Towards Rome" Opposed by Evangelicals

More than a thousand evangelical churchmen from Britain expressed concern at "an accelerated movement towards Rome" when they met in London for the second National Assembly of Evangelicals.

Delegates from over 600 churches and Christian societies approved this resolution: "That this Assembly, recognizing an accelerated movement towards Rome, and being convinced that Rome has not changed in any fundamental doctrine . . . affirms that the movement towards Rome is a move away from Biblical Christianity '

Pope Calls for Greater Devotion to Mary

Pilgrims recently heard Pope Paul VI appeal for greater devotion to Mary. He said, "We note with great interest that the piety of the people toward the Mother of Christ has usually a decisive influence in the awakening of a religious mentality, in the union of all people of charity, and in their loyalty to the church....

"We shall pray for those separated brethren who see in Marian piety an obstacle to Christian union when actually it is a deep and profound appeal for union."

This appears to be an answer to some Protestants who thought Rome might deemphasize Marian doctrine as a move toward ecumenicity.

Britain's Top Catholic Theologian Leaves the Church

"I do not think that the claim the church makes as an institution rests upon any adequate Biblical and historical basis. I do not believe that the church is absolute, and I do not believe anymore in papal infallibility. There is concern for authority at the expense of truth, as I am constantly shown by instances of the damage to persons by the workings of an impersonal and unfree system."

With these words, reports *Time*, Charles Davis, 43, of Oxford left the church he had served for 20 years as a priest. His announcement touched off a welter of shock comment, for many considered him to be England's top theologian. He announced plans to marry an American woman and "rebuild my life upon a personal love I can recognize as true and real."

Church Membership Declining in Netherlands

The percentage of the Netherlands' population having no church affiliation has almost doubled in the past six

years, a recent survey shows.

The Rotterdam public opinion institute says that in 1960, 19 percent of the total Dutch population reported no church membership; but in 1966 this increased to 33 percent.

Membership in the Reformed Church, largest Reformed body in the Netherlands, declined from 30 percent of the total population in 1960 to 20 percent today. Other churches also reported losses.

WORLDWIDE

Jailing of Russian Baptists Reveals Dissent

Reports from Russia describing the jailing of six Baptists who held a mass baptism in the Don River indicate an increasing "spiritual ferment" in the USSR, according to the editor of *Religion in Communist Dominated Areas*. He said available information on Baptists in Russia—estimated at a half million—reveals a considerable amount of dissent from state and church.

In November 1966 a woman was arrested for gathering Russian children together secretly in the USSR for Bible lessons. The laws of USSR do not permit any churches or individuals to gather children together in groups for Sunday school, catechism, or similar purposes.

Christian Terms Translated into Modern Hebrew

A list of 600 modern Hebrew words used in translating Christian literature has been drafted in Israel.

The United Christian Council, which convened a panel of experts to compile the list, said it was drawn up because of practical need. This is the second draft of Christian terms. Work has been in progress for several years. The list will be very valuable in preaching Christ to the new generation of Hebrew-speaking Jews.

New Zealand Methodists Urge Church Union

The Methodist Church of New Zealand is urging union of five denominations by 1977. They are the Anglican, Presbyterian, Methodist, Congregational, and Associated Churches of Christ. The eight theological colleges of the negotiating churches are to begin using a common syllabus next year. The five churches expect to produce a joint youth magazine later this year.

New Testaments Placed in Varig Life Rafts

The Brazilian Bible Society recently furnished Brazil's Varig Airline's jet planes with Portuguese New Testaments to be placed in the life rafts. Previously the rafts carried New Testaments in English.

While it is hoped the rafts will never be used, they may someday save men's lives—and they are equipped with Scriptures which can save men's souls.



Your Questions

Answered by Ernest S. Williams

When Jesus said, "Hereafter ye shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of man," did He address these words to Nathanael alone, or to all believers? (John 1:51).

He spoke the words directly to Nathanael. Jesus would be the fulfillment of the vision of the ladder in Genesis 28. While spoken to Nathanael, it applies equally to us. Jesus is the "ladder," the angels ascending and descending certifies that angels are "ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation" (Hebrews 1:13, 14).

Since we are to seek the kingdom of heaven, would it

be wrong to pray for material things?

We have two relationships: one to God, the other to this present life. We do well if we pray that our daily lives may be in harmony with God's desire for our spiritual lives. While we are to put God first, we may still have material needs, and God knows that. If a Christian needs work, why shouldn't he ask God to give him work? If he is in business, why shouldn't he ask God to direct him in conducting his business?

However, we need to examine our motives, for God has not promised to answer selfish prayers. "Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may con-

sume it upon your own lusts" (James 4:3).

What did Jesus mean when He spoke of putting a piece of new cloth on an old garment and new wine into old bottles? (Matthew 9:16, 17).

The meaning is that Christianity does not consist of putting a patch of new cloth on the old garment of life by the works of the Law, or putting new wine of spiritual life into old bottles of ritualistic religion. Through the Cross a new dispensation began; God, by His grace, endues us with new life by the Holy Spirit.

"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things

are become new" (2 Corinthians 5:17).

John spoke of himself as "that disciple which Jesus loved." Did Jesus love John more than He loved others?

My opinion is that John so greatly felt the love of Jesus for him that he expressed his appreciation in the words, "That disciple which Jesus loved." It was not that he claimed a favored place in the affection of Jesus.

I do think some live nearer Jesus than others, entering more deeply into His plan and life. Among the disciples, Peter, James, and John seem to have done so. (See Matthew 17:1; 26:37.) And I am sure there are those today who live more intimately and understandingly with Jesus. These feel His love, not because He is partial in His love, but because they enter more deeply into "the secret place of the most High."

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 King's Consecration

Sunday School Lesson for February 12, 1967 Matthew 26:36-46

BY J. BASHFORD BISHOP

When we attempt to enter into the mysteries of Christ's experience in Gethsemane, we should remember we are on holy ground. It is far better not to attempt to explain its mystery than to give an inadequate explanation which reflects unfavorably on the mighty Son of God.

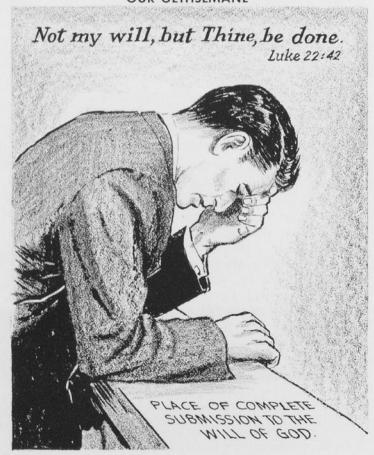
Yet there are those who would have us accept the preposterous idea that the "cup" from which Christ shrank was nothing more than death on the cross! Such an idea is positively insulting to the strong Son of God. To say that He shrank from physical death is to reduce Him to a level beneath hundreds of old men, feeble maidens, timid boys—the martyrs of the ages—who went exultantly to death, singing while flames licked their bodies.

The book *Gethsemane*, by Robert W. Cummings (Gospel Publishing House, price 75 cents—order number 2717), gives the most satisfying interpretation of Gethsemane I have found.

CHRIST'S PERPLEXITY (vv. 36-38)

As we consider the mystery of Gethsemane, we must

OUR GETHSEMANE



consider two questions: First, Who is this who is "sore amazed...exceeding sorrowful unto death"? (Mark 14: 33, 34). We have never seen Christ act this way before! Yet this is the One who everywhere else had been Master of every situation—the strong Son of God, majestic, serene, perfectly poised, never at a loss to know what to do. But here we have Christ perplexed, restless, uncertain, and shrinking from something.

This leads us to the second question: What could be so terrible as to cause shrinking on the part of the bravest Man who ever lived?

CHRIST'S PRAYING (vv. 39-44)

Compare both Mark's and Luke's accounts of Gethsemane with our text in Matthew. This was no ordinary praying. Christ "fell [on the ground] on his face," says Matthew. Luke tells us that "being in an agony he prayed more earnestly: and his sweat was as it were great drops of blood" (Luke 22:44).

Christ asked the Father to remove, if possible, "this cup." Then He arose, went to His disciples, found them asleep, returned, repeated His prayer—but with a definite difference: "If this cup may not pass from me except I drink it, thy will be done." He arose a second time and went to His disciples—only to find them asleep again. He returned to prayer the third time. Having apparently settled the issue over which He battled, He arose with characteristic poise—once again the majestic Master of His circumstances and prepared now for the ordeal ahead. Again we question, What were the contents of this "cup" from which He recoiled?

CHRIST'S CUP

Christ "by the grace of God should taste death for every man" (Hebrews 2:9). Isaiah says, "The Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all" (53:6). Paul declares, "He [God] hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin" (2 Corinthians 5:21). The cup from which Christ shrank was the accumulated sin of the world! The shrinking of Christ was the recoiling of holiness from becoming sin.

"It was something far deadlier than death. It was the burden and the mystery of the world's sin which lay heavy on His heart; it was the tasting, in the divine humanity of a sinless life, the bitter cup which sin had poisoned; it was the bowing of the Godhead to endure a stroke to which man's apostasy had lent such frightful possibilities.

"It was the sense, too, of how virulent, how frightful, must have been the force of evil in the universe of God which could render necessary so infinite a sacrifice. It was the endurance, by the perfectly guiltless, of the worst malice which human hatred could devise; it was to experience, in the bosom of perfect innocence and perfect love, all that was detestable in human ingratitude, all that was pestilent in human hypocrisy, all that was cruel in human rage.

"It was to brave the last triumph of Satanic spite and fury, uniting against His lonely head all the flaming arrows of Jewish falsity and heathen corruption—the concentrated wrath of the rich and respectable, the yelling fury of the blind and brutal mob. It was to feel that His own, to whom He came, loved darkness rather than light—that the race of the chosen people could be wholly absorbed in one insane repulsion against infinite goodness and purity and love."



By JANE SCOTT

The good old days when the majority of preachers challenged their congregations to have faith in God are but memories. Today a large percentage of those who fill the pulpits work toward emptying the pews.

Their sermons appear to be designed to undermine faith in God, to discredit His Word, and to create doubts instead of nurturing the faith of the people.

A recent Gallup poll shows a decline in the number of Americans who believe in God. In 1952, 99 percent professed belief in God; today only 97 percent of those polled said they believed in God.

A 14 percent decline was shown among the Jews. Roman Catholics and Baptists were credited with being the most convinced believers.

One reason why Roman Catholics and Baptists are the most convinced believers is that the majority of their leaders are the most convinced preachers, men who emphasize faith in God as *the* fundamental of true discipleship.

In recent years scores of people have left the church because of the negative approach of many preachers to God and His Word.

Some of the dissenters have found enriched spiritual life by joining churches where the preacher is convinced that *God is not dead* but is a vital, living Creator and Saviour who not only merits our faith, but stimulates it.

I have watched the pew-emptying process work through the years. Churches that were filled when Christ was exalted and God glorified began to empty when sermons were watered down. Many older denominational churches closed, believing their usefulness was over. In a sense it was over, because it was destroying faith in God.

A total absence of teaching is to be preferred to religious teaching that destroys faith in God.

Disillusioned dissenters who were seriously seeking after truth came back to fill the empty sanctuaries when a God-believing preacher rented the deserted accommodation and began to preach the faith once delivered to the saints.

I could name a dozen churches in our city that were abandoned by those who question the old concepts of God and refuse to preach the Bible and recite the Christian creed. Some of these churches were refilled to

capacity when a real champion of God and His Word took over.

Such preachers continue to interest and inspire hundreds of people who have given thousands of dollars for the propagation of the gospel.

The Peoples Church in Toronto which raised \$324,000 for its annual missionary budget is an example. It purchased the old Central Methodist Church and attracted a congregation that packed the auditorium every Sunday for years. Finally they had to build a larger church on Sheppard Avenue East to accommodate the ever-expanding congregation.

The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada, which is one of the fastest growing organizations in the world today, has utilized many deserted church buildings and filled them with men, women, and children who want more than anything else to have faith in God.

There is genuine heart-hunger in the world today. Thousands of people are seeking an answer to their innermost needs. The needs are more spiritual than physical in many instances, and faith in God is the answer.

In Him we live and move and have our being now and in Him rests our hopes for the future. Mankind was, indeed, made for God and we cannot find rest for our souls apart from God. Like the pigeon, his homing instinct draws him back to the Father's house.

Though his feet may wander far, his restless spirit yearns for God, and nothing in this mundane sphere will ever completely satisfy the homesick child who has lost contact with his Heavenly Father and Creator.

The callous preacher who tells the lost men that God is dead will eventually empty his church and have much to answer for. But the preacher who assures the people and encourages faith in a living and loving God brings comfort and hope to his congregation and attracts the hopeless and unchurched into the fold.

"Have faith in God." Which God? "The God and father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible...reserved in heaven for you, who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation" (1 Peter 1:3-5).

-Toronto Telegram (reprinted by permission)



"Revivaltime's" overseas ministry is a massive missionary endeavor. Here Gene Richardson, "Revivaltime" tape technician, prepares recordings for distribution to stations around the world.

"He directeth...his lightning unto the ends of the earth" (Job 37:3).

From transmitters scattered around the globe, God's lightning (harnessed in the form of radio waves) is reaching the multitudes with the message of salvation. Through radio more people can now be reached with the gospel in a single day than were reached during the first three centuries of Christendom!

Released over 64 key foreign outlets, *Revivaltime* is a massive missionary endeavor effectively reaching the lost with the gospel. The broadcast imparts a warm atmosphere of personal evangelism.

Enthusiasm is contagious among people of every nationality. The stirring music of the Revivaltime choir

ALASKA

EACH WEEK "REVIVALTIME" FLASHES AROUND THE WORLD BY MEANS OF RADIO—



has captivated and inspired the hearts of thousands. Couple the choir's joyful dedication with the personto-person ministry of Speaker C. M. Ward, and there emerges a highly effective evangelistic broadcast attractively wrapped and obviously designed to win souls for Christ.

Whom does Revivaltime reach overseas? Currently,

REVIVALTIME RELEASES OUTSIDE THE CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES

(Releases are on Sunday unless otherwise indicated)

Saskatchewan

	Anchorage KFQD 730	10:30	p.m.	Rosetown CKKR 1330	9:15 a.m.
	Angoon	2 20		PHILIPPINES	
	Barrow		p.m.	Cebu City DYRC 600	4:00 p.m.
	Cordova KLAM 1450		p.m.	Iloilo City DYRI	The second secon
	Juneau KINY 800	9:05	a.m.	Manila DZF3 15.385 mc	8:00 a.m.
	Point Hope			Manila DZAS 680	8:30 p.m.
	Sitka KSEW 1400	9:30	p.m.	Manila DZH6	8:30 p.m.
	*******			Manila DZB2	8:30 p.m.
	HAWAII	4.00		Koronadal, Cotabato DXK	
	Hilo KIPA 1110		p.m.	Rotolladai, Cotabato DAR	3:00 p.m. Wed.
	Honolulu KAIM-AM 870		a.m.		5.00 p.m. wed.
	Honolulu KAIM-FM 95.5 mc	8:00	a.m.	TAIWAN	
	CANADA			Taipei 890	5:30 p.m.
				Tainan 1540	5:30 p.m.
	Alberta CECAN 700	4.20		Taichung 1380	5:30 p.m.
	Camrose CFCW 790		p.m.	Kaohsiung 1220	5:30 p.m.
	Drumheller CJDV 910		a.m.	Ohaiyi 1460	5:30 p.m.
	Peace River CKYL 610	8:00	a.m.	INDIA	
	British Columbia			DZF3	10:30 a.m. Thurs.
	Chilliwack CHWK 1270	1.00	p.m.	DZF5	10:30 a.m. Thurs.
	Chilliwack CFVR 1240		p.m.	DZF6	10:30 a.m. Thurs.
	Cranbrook CKEK 570		a.m.	DZI6	10:30 a.m. Thurs.
	Kelowna CKOV 630		a.m.	DZIO	10:50 a.m. Thuis.
	Kelowila CKOV 030	7.50	d.III.	JAPAN	
	Newfoundland			DZF2	8:15 p.m. Thurs.
	Corner Brook CFCB 570	10:00	a m	DZH7	8:15 p.m. Thurs.
	Grand Falls CKCM 620		a.m.	DZF8	8:15 p.m. Thurs.
	Marystown CHCM 560		a.m.	VIETNAM	
	St. John's VOCM 590		p.m.	DZF2 11.920mc	1:00 p.m. Thurs.
	St. John's VOCIVI 770	2.00	p.m.	DZH9 15.300mc	1:00 p.m. Thurs.
	Ontario				1.00 p.m. 1 mars.
	Pembroke CHOV 1350	8.30	a.m.	FM station	
	Timmins CKGB 560		a.m.	BRAZIL	
	Tillillins CROD 700	7.30	4,111,	Est de Sao Paulo PRA-7	12:30 p.m.
	Quebec			Est de Sao Paulo ZYR-206	5 15.415mcs
	Sherbrooke CKTS 900	2.30	p.m.		p.m. (short wave)
1	CHECKE CITY / / /		I	12170	1 (, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,

PUERTO RICO Hato Rey WFID-FM Viegus WIVV 1370 9:	12:30 p.m. 30 p.m. Sat.
SURINAM Nickerie Radio Nickerie	
Paramaribo Paramaribo Radio RAPA	R 9:30 a.m.
BAHAMAS Nassau ZNS 1540	9:00 a.m.
BERMUDA Hamilton ZBM 1240	2:30 p.m.
BRITISH HONDURAS Belize, Radio Belize	8:00 a.m.
BRITISH WEST INDIES Port-of-Spain, Trinidad Radio Gu	ardian 5:30 p.m.
COSTA RICA San Jose TIFC 1075kc 9.645r 97.1 FM 9:30	ne 6.037me p.m. Thurs.
GUYANA Georgetown BGBS	8:30 a.m.
NETHERLANDS WEST IND: St. Maarten PID2 1300	1:00 p.m.
NIGERIA Ibadan WNBS 49.6 short wave 10:00	p.m. Mon.
OKINAWA Naha KSAB 1020	8:00 p.m.
SOUTHEAST ASIA (including DZ16	Vietnam) 8:00 p.m.
TONGA Nuku'alofa ZCO	Sat.

the broadcast is released from some 20 countries in Africa, Asia, North America, and South America. Heard in more than 50 nations, *Revivaltime* is reaching scores of millions of English-speaking persons.

From servicemen to natives in remote jungle huts—from wealthy estate owners to Orientals crowded on rickety sampans—radio is forging a path for the message of Christ.

Scores of Assemblies of God missionaries have testified of the effectiveness of *Revivaltime*. Besides supplementing their own efforts, the broadcast is a welcomed voice from home.

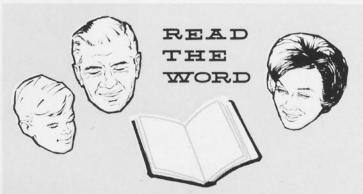
In strategic areas around the world concerned Christians are doing their best to share *Revivaltime* with their friends and neighbors. Friends of *Revivaltime* who do not live within listening distance of a foreign release are using tapes of the broadcast in their own personal ministries. In Vietnam 25 copies of the weekly *Revivaltime* release are being made for replay by chaplains throughout that country.

As thousands of letters reach the Radio Department from overseas listeners, a growing challenge faces radio evangelism. Revivaltime is anxious to meet that challenge. With the acquisition of a new tape-recording duplicator making possible the inexpensive mass production of broadcast tapes by the Radio Department, Revivaltime is anticipating rapid expansion of its foreign outreach in 1967.

Please pray that Revivaltime will blanket the world until every English-speaking nation becomes personally acquainted with the pleading strains of There's Room at the Cross for You.

As the choir sings in the background, thousands of persons have knelt beside their radios and yielded to Christ during the urgent personal appeal of Evangelist C. M. Ward. And as other foreign releases are added to *Revivaltime's* radio log, millions more will join this vast listening congregation at the "world's longest altar."

If you have friends or relatives in the areas listed below, why not write to them and urge them to listen to *Revivaltime*.



CHAPTERS FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 5-12

Sunday Matthew 9, 10	Thursday Matthew 17, 18
Monday Matthew 11, 12	Friday Matthew 19, 20
Tuesday Matthew 13,14	Saturday Matthew 21, 22
Wednesday Matthew 15,16	Sunday Matthew 23, 24

"Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many" (Matthew 20:28).

THE POWER OF A HOLY CHURCH

(Continued from page seven)

some years ago when a certain pastor allowed Satan to fill his heart with bitterness. He separated himself from the leaders, gathered a little group of like-minded brothers and sisters around him, and sought to hinder this particular work of God. So great was the Satanic opposition that a few Christians gathered each morning at five o'clock to pray for his restoration.

The climax came one Sunday evening when he went to the church he had left, stating that he was going to preach. The minister in charge, knowing that God had given the victory through intercession, told the brother he might preach when the time came, knowing that somehow God would stop him.

During the next 15 minutes the intruder sought several times to go to the platform, but each time an unseen hand brought him back. Suddenly he fell to the floor, a raving madman. He began to smash the furniture about. It took four men to hold him down until an ambulance came to take him away.

During the days of his insanity the opposing faction repented of their sin and joined in prayer for his recovery. God healed him, and he made a public confession of his sin of jealousy and hatred. God mightily met with him afterward and gave him a long and fruitful ministry.

Similar events have been recorded in connection with many other revivals and times when the Holy Spirit worked mightily on behalf of God's people. Dr. A. T. Pierson told of a minister who was about to be displaced by the congregation simply because he had reached the age of 60. Nothing was said to him, but it was decided that on a certain Sunday a business meeting would be called and he would be asked to resign. A competent chairman had been chosen.

The day came; the church was filled. At the close of the service the pastor retired to the vestry. The people waited expectantly for the chairman to begin the meeting. Then a messenger came in and said the chairman had just fallen dead in the vestibule.

As we return to the awful scene related in Acts 5, it is not the sentence of death carried out upon Ananias and Sapphira which fills us with holy awe, but rather it is the spiritual power prevalent in that Early Church. The little group of believers lived in such a pure, holy atmosphere of heavenly light and power that a lie automatically was exposed in their midst by the detecting Spirit.

Can it be that the reason we see such judgments so seldom in the Church today is that we have not maintained the purity and power of a like holy atmosphere in our midst? Can it be that the reason there is no fear and dread among the ungodly is because there is too little holy awe of the majestic presence of the discerning Spirit among the saints?

Oh, for a repetition of those days of spiritual power and purity! Oh, that every pastor, elder, and deacon would yearningly prepare the way for a complete restoration so the Holy Spirit may have full sway in the Church!

THERE COMES A DAY in earth's history that is unlike any other, and that is THE DAY AFTER. There comes a point "when the fulness of the time is come" and on the day after that fulfillment of prophecy beclouded minds see clearly what burning words were never able to convey before.

It was not until rain had deluged the earth that the people awoke to Noah's pleading message of mercy and wished they had entered the ark.

It was not until spoken words became unintelligible that an awakening came to the builders at Babel's tower. In a moment family ties and friendships were suddenly severed. What agony, what regret, what frantic seeking to undo the heedless shoulder-shrugging, on THE DAY AFTER. The lesson of history stands as a gaunt specter pointing its finger condemningly at the heedless multitudes of all ages.

It was so in Egypt. "Let my people go" was the Lord's command. The span of 430 years was measured and "the fulness of that time had come." The fore-tastes of judgment were bitterly resented but uncomprehended until the death angel passed over, and THE DAY AFTER came with its wails of regret!

"Surely the Lord will do nothing, but he revealeth his secrets unto his servants the prophets," said Amos. So the prophets sounded the warning, but Israel and Judah paid no attention—until too late. The day after came in all its horrible reality, and in shackles they remembered the warnings they rejected.

Prophecy is steadily unraveled by time until the kernel of truth is revealed. The "fulness of the time" came when the seed of the woman should appear—the promised Messiah. The "prophet from among thy brethren" came. "Unto him ye shall hearken," the Spirit said. But so few hearkened. So few recognized and received Him. The world went blindly on, lightly esteeming the Man of Sorrews who was the answer to earth's grief.

Then came the lifting up of that Man of Sorrows. Only then, when He hung on the cross, was the cry heard, "Surely this was the Son of God!" In the "holy the state of the stat

city" the earthquake's rubble was cleared away. In the temple the midday darkness was forgotten and the mending of the veil began. Meanwhile the evening and the morning sacrifice smoldered on the altar; smoke ascended from the altar of incense; the 12 loaves were replaced with freshly baked ones; and oil from crushed olives was poured out to replenish the golden candlesticks.

Today men and women are as heedless as ever to God and His Word. So few cherish the prophecies concerning Christ's return. "I go to prepare a place for you," He said. "I will come again, and receive you unto myself." But so few look for His coming. One day soon that blessed hope will be turned into blessed reality. A new and agonized cry will be heard throughout the earth, "Jesus came." Not until then, THE DAY AFTER, will the general public awaken to the eternal danger they are in. They will look for their born-again neighbors but will not find them, for they will be taken away to be forever with their Lord. The startling fact will be: the true Church is gone though the churches remain.

What will happen in the churches? Will services continue as usual? I wonder what kind of prayers will be offered. What hymns will be found to fit the occasion? What Scriptures will be read to comfort those who are left? Could the congregation sing, Face to Face with Christ My Saviour, or, When the Roll Is Called up Yonder I'll Be There? Could the minister read the words of Christ, "Let not your heart be troubled," or, "Be ye also ready, for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh"?

Would he read, "And the Lord direct your hearts into the love of God and into the patient waiting for Christ"? What wailing of anguish and rending of heart it would bring. Precious promises will turn into lashes of lament on THE DAY AFTER.

"O earth, earth, earth, hear the Word of the Lord," as the prophet Jeremiah cried. Today there still is time to get ready. But this may be the last day! Tomorrow? Tomorrow may be THE DAY AFTER.

