

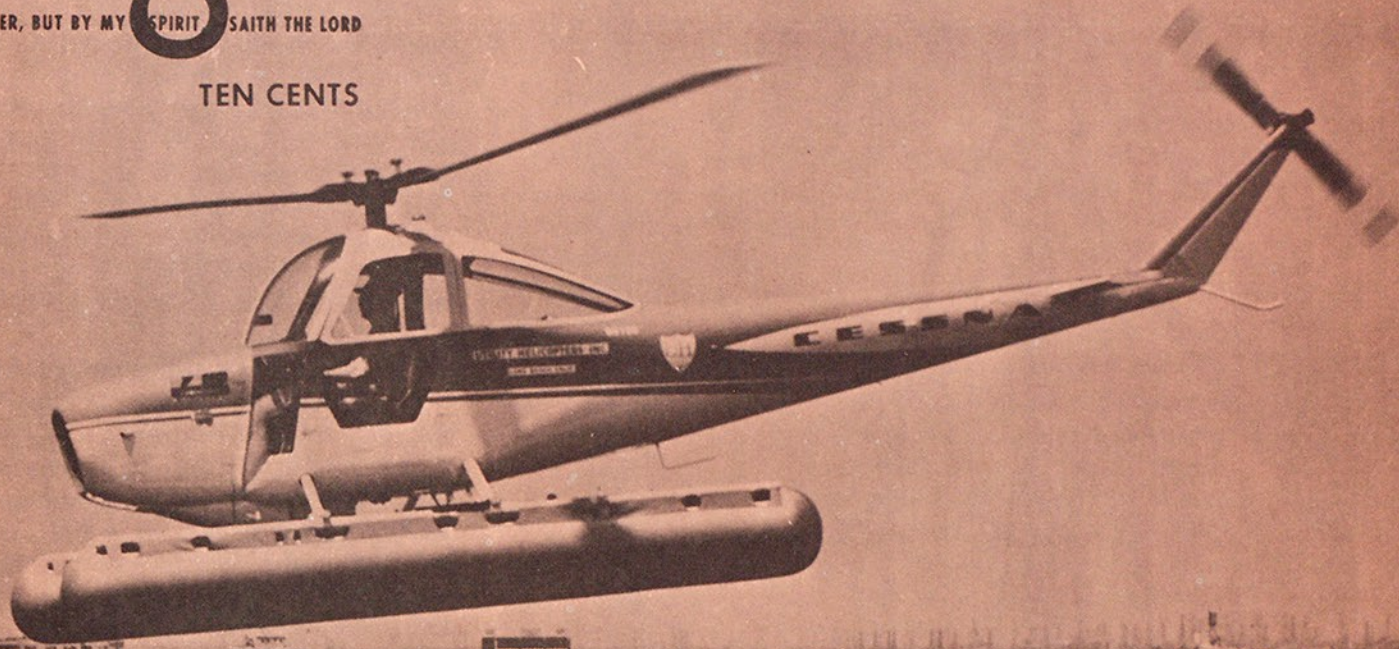
# THE PENTECOSTAL evangel

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

JULY 1967

TEN CENTS

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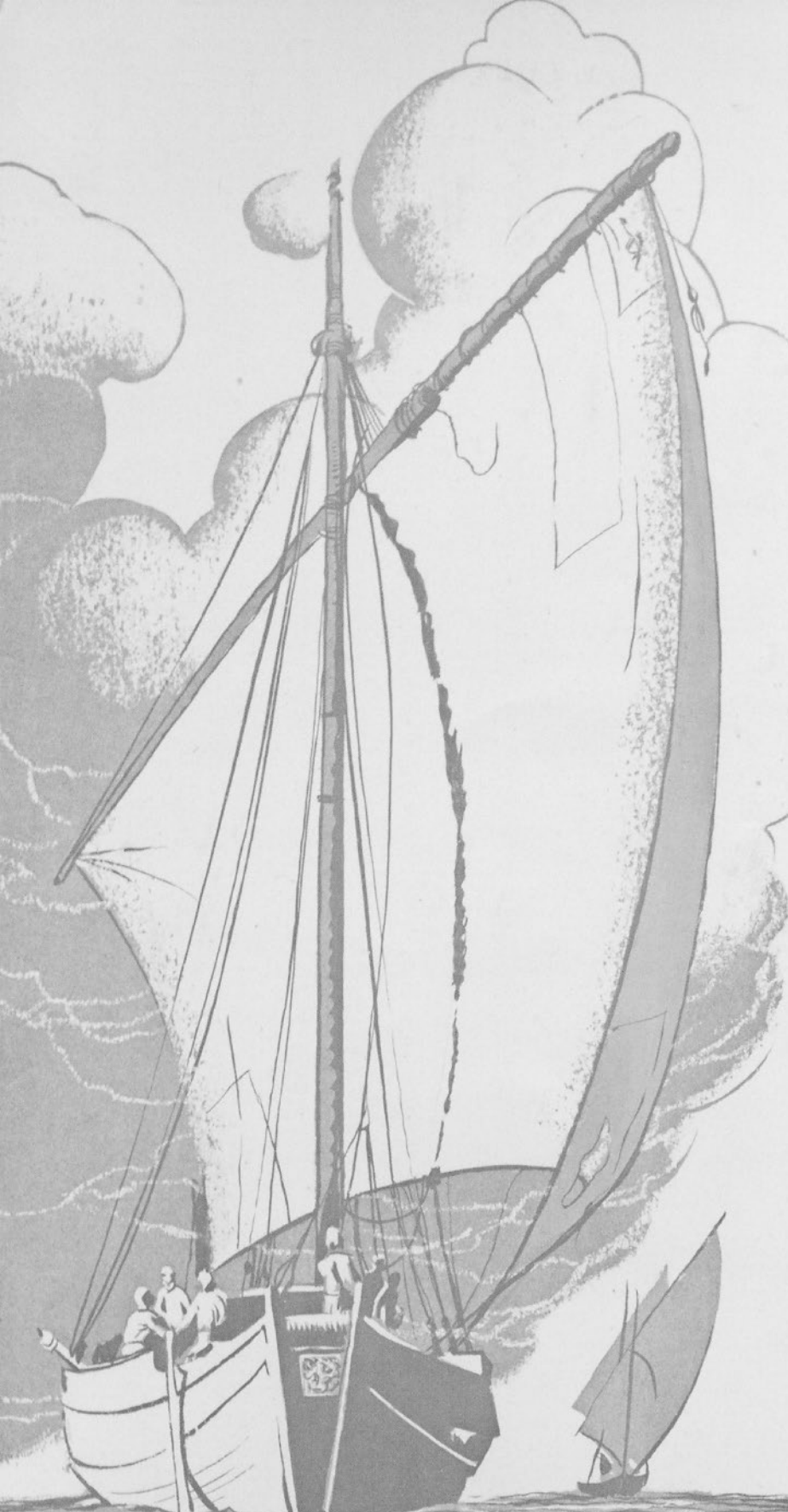
## 32nd GENERAL COUNCIL

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**INTERNATIONAL EDITION**



PAUL'S VISIT TO ATHENS had been very disappointing. For some reason his ministry there had misfired. Used to seeing the Word confirmed with signs following, he was distressed because nothing happened in Athens. In other cities he had gathered goodly companies of believers; but in Athens the results were small.

We may picture him as he sails across the narrow stretch of water that separates Athens from Corinth. Seated on a coil of rope, or leaning on the rail and gazing disconsolately into the water, he ponders this problem. Proud Athens had refused to bow the knee to Christ!

Whose fault was it? Were they too lost in vain philosophy and idle speculation to respond to the glorious gospel? Or was this failure his?

He recounts every phase of his brief stay there. He recalls how deeply he was stirred, and how "he disputed in the synagogue with the Jews, and with the devout persons, and in the market daily with them that met with him" (Acts 17:17).

Paul's teaching of the atoning death of Christ and His glorious resurrection was strange to their ears. They brought him to Areopagus so that he might speak forth his doctrine before the highest court of the city.

He did. His message was a masterpiece. Were they orators? So was he. Were they philosophers? So was he! With logical clarity and rhetorical exactness he presented his case. Arguments were pressed by citations from their own poets; natural evidences of religion expounded; the immortality of the soul and future judgment stressed; the resurrection of Christ proclaimed.

But brilliant as the sermon was, it lacked one thing. It made no mention of the cross of Christ.

Like a flash of light he sees it. With a gasp of astonishment he feels the full weight of this thought. He had left out the greatest thing of all! What is philosophy without the Cross! It may entertain; it may even improve the mind; but it can never save from sin.

He had met the Athenians on their own ground, but with what result? They received him as one of themselves—a philosopher, a brilliant man with a new and somewhat strange philosophy. But Christianity is more than philos-

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Aaron Linford is a veteran minister of the Assemblies of God in Great Britain and Ireland. For some years he has served with distinction as Editor of the British Assemblies' official magazine, *Redemption Tidings*.

By AARON LINFORD  
London, England

# PAUL'S GREAT RESOLVE

AND HOW HE KEPT IT

ophy; it is life! The gospel is not a product of man's learning; it is a message from heaven.

Now the reason for the poor results was clear. We read, "Howbeit certain men clave unto him, and believed" (Acts 17:34). They clave to *him*. It was his personality that attracted them. He had shone, but he had almost outshone his Lord. They believed because of him. Their faith, being wrought more by his speaking than by the Spirit of God, still needed his support to keep it going. How long would it survive in his absence?

It was now that Paul made his great resolve. Before him was Corinth, full of philosophy and earthly wisdom—full also of vileness and iniquity. To them he would preach nothing but the cross of Christ. He would make no parade of his learning. Simply, sincerely, without oratory or other fleshly show, he would tell the story of Calvary.

Leonardo da Vinci had almost completed his painting of the Last Supper. He called in a friend to mark the progress he had made. "What a beautiful cup the Saviour holds!" exclaimed this privileged friend; "it stands out like solid silver!"

Da Vinci took a brush, and soon a less pretentious vessel was in the Saviour's hands. "Nothing shall draw attention away from my Lord," he explained.

This was the attitude of Paul. No display of self—whether by attire, eloquence, or philosophy—was to hide the face of the Lord Jesus from the penitent sinner or the needy saint.

How faithfully he kept his vow may be gathered from the derogatory remarks made by some about him: "His bodily presence is weak, and his speech contemptible" (2 Corinthians 10:10). The apostle answered this: "But though I be rude in speech, yet not in knowledge" (2 Corinthians 11:6). He did not affect the style of the orator. If his words were lowly, they conveyed the deepest truths. Like vessels of common stuff, they imparted their rich contents without attracting attention to themselves.

If we read carefully his letters to the Corinthian believers, we will note how rigidly he followed his resolve. In every problem he directs them to the Cross. Every aspect of life is touched by principles demonstrated at Calvary.

Notice these references in First Corinthians:

*The Cross of Christ Produces Unity* (1:11)

The Corinthians are divided. Human attachments have produced schism. He informs them that their attachment should be to the One who was crucified for them—not to Paul, but to Christ. Their common love for the Author of their salvation should knit them together. The cross is the hub of redemption. As the spokes of a wheel are drawn together as they approach the center, so they, in contemplating the love of Christ on the cross, will be united.

*The Cross Causes Pride to Be Slain* (1:18)

There is no room for fleshly display when the cross of Christ appears. The "old man," with all his arts and devices to attract attention to himself, can have no place when the cross of Christ is truly preached. The Lord God chooses foolish things and weak things; "and base things of the world, and things which are despised hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are: that no flesh should glory in his presence." Jesus must have all the praise.

*The Plans of God Center in the Cross* (2:8)

God's "hidden wisdom," His eternal purposes, are all hinged on this great theme. Before time began, when God planned for a creation yet future, He made the death of His Son the basis of all His mighty schemes. The first promise given to fallen humanity (Genesis 3:15) is the epitome of all God's promises. The seed of the woman was to bruise the serpent's head. Every blessing was planned to spring from the Cross; every stream of grace to flow from this fountain.

*The Cross Produces Purity of Life* (6:20)

The thought of purchase, being so important, is reiterated from another aspect. We are led to see that, being bought with the blood of Christ, we must not be enslaved to men. No more do we slavishly imitate the ways and opinions of the world, nor bow to their gods of fashion and pleasure. Bacchus we scorn, Venus we abhor, and Nicotine we renounce. These idols have lost their sway over us. A higher life is ours; we are bond servants of Christ.

*The Cross Reveals the Preciousness of a Saint* (8:11)

The fact that Christ died for a man sets a tremendous value upon him. My weakest brother should be precious to me because of what God has done for him. The Cross helps us to regard each other in the light of what we mean to Christ. Our actions must be such as will not stumble the weaker saints. In so serving one another we serve our Saviour. "But when ye sin so against the brethren . . . ye sin against Christ" (v. 12).

*The Cross Is the Preeminent Theme of Communion*

In partaking of the communion we partake of Christ (10:16). As we remember the death of Christ in sincerity and truth, our souls partake of the benefits of the Cross. The fragment of bread becomes, by faith, a spiritual meal; the sip of wine a refreshing draft for "the hidden man of the heart." Thus we have real and holy communion with our blessed Lord.

By observing this sacrament we proclaim our faith in the Cross (11:23). So great is this theme that the Lord Jesus has assured its perpetual remembrance by instituting the "Lord's Supper." Each time the communion is served, His people are forcefully and blessedly reminded that the Cross is the bulwark of salvation and the only true refuge of the soul.

*The Cross Is the Platform for Every Important Bible Doctrine* (15:3, 4)

When leading them to consider the doctrine of the resurrection, the apostle begins by connecting it with Calvary. And so we will find that every great doctrine of Holy Scripture is associated with the Cross. Like a great foundation stone it lends support to the whole framework of truth. Like the keystone of an arch, the structure of Christian teaching depends for its solidity upon the centrality of the Cross.

The apostle earnestly sought to maintain his resolve. So may we apply the Cross to life's experiences, drawing help and strength from that fountain of all spiritual good. Let us ever declare the message of the Cross, for although "the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness," yet "unto us which are saved it is the power of God" (1 Corinthians 1:18).

## Thirsty for God

THOUSANDS OF LIVES were lost in the bitter Arab-Jewish war last month, but all did not die from modern bombs and bullets. Many perished from the age-old enemies of desert heat and thirst.

Many a weary soldier, separated from his military unit, trudged the scorching sands until he could go no farther. Lost in the trackless desert and with no one near to help, he collapsed from utter exhaustion and died for lack of water.

A newsman riding in an army truck along a desert road told of meeting one such straggler who had reached the end of his strength. Even as the truck approached, the worn-out soldier fell to his knees, then held out his arms, pleading for water. The newsman said the man's tongue was already turning black; his lips were hardening like baked clay; he was babbling hysterically. But before they could get a canteen to the poor fellow's lips, he fell forward on his face.

This is the country where David had to wander when King Saul was seeking his life. Blazing sun, burning sands, and parched lips all belonged to his daily existence and symbolized the intense spiritual longing that pulsed in his soul:

"I stretch forth my hands unto Thee," he cried; "my soul thirsteth after Thee, as a thirsty land."

"My soul thirsteth for Thee, my flesh longeth for Thee in a dry and thirsty land, where no water is."

"As the hart panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after Thee, O God. My soul thirsteth for God, for the living God."

This reminds us of Christ's call to the thirsty souls at Jerusalem on the last great day of the feast of tabernacles. "If any man thirst, let him come unto Me, and drink," He cried. He was speaking of the Holy Spirit. He said those who believed on Him would receive the Spirit in such generous measure that it would flow like rivers; but first they must be thirsty.

If you have prayed for the infilling of the Spirit in your life and have not received, perhaps it is because you are not yet thirsty enough. God loves to satisfy the longing soul, and to fill the hungry soul with good things; but until we really hunger and thirst for His fullness He may withhold the blessing.

God waits to be wanted. He longs to be desired by His people. Every outpouring of the Holy Spirit has been preceded by earnest prayer and supplication on the part of the recipients. This was true in A.D. 33, when the first Outpouring came, and likewise in A.D. 1900 when the latter-day Outpouring began. Great thirst always precedes great downpours of the Holy Spirit.

"Behold, he prayeth," was the key to the coming of the Holy Spirit upon the great apostle Paul.

"Ask, and ye shall receive," the Saviour said. Our Heavenly Father reserves the gift of the Spirit for those who ask for it. "If ye . . . give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?"

Do you thirst for God? Are you so thirsty you are pleading with God to fill you with the Spirit, and thirsty enough to continue pleading until He does it? Thirst is the key to the blessing. The Lord has promised, "I will pour water upon him that is thirsty, and floods upon the dry ground: I will pour my Spirit upon thy seed, and my blessing upon thine offspring." But we have to be thirsty.

—R.C.C.

# THE PENTECOSTAL evangel

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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 APOSTLE PETER SAID OF CHRIST, "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved" (Acts 4:12). He meant that no one can be saved from guilt, power, and consequences of sin, except by Jesus Christ. He meant that no one can have peace with God the Father, and escape the wrath to come, except through the atonement and mediation of Jesus Christ.

In Christ alone God's rich provision of salvation for sinners is treasured up; by Christ alone God's abundant mercies come down from heaven to earth. Christ's blood alone can cleanse us; Christ's merit alone can give us a title to heaven. Jews and Gentiles, learned and unlearned, kings and poor men—all alike must either be saved by Jesus or be lost.

There is no other person commissioned, sealed, and appointed by God the Father to be the Saviour of sinners, except Christ. The keys of life and death are committed to His hand; all who would be saved must go to Him.

There was but one place of safety in the day when the Flood came upon the earth, and that was in Noah's ark. All other places and devices—mountains, towers, trees, rafts, boats—all were useless. So also there is but one hiding place for the sinner who would escape the storm of God's anger—and that is in the Lord Jesus Christ.

There was but one man to whom the Egyptians could go in the time of famine—Joseph. It was a waste of time to go to anyone else. So also Christ is the One to whom hungering souls must go, if they would not perish forever.

There was but one word that could save the lives of the Ephraimites in the day when the Gileadites contended with them and took the passages of Jordan—they must say *Shibboleth* or die (Judges 12). Just so, there is but one Name that will avail us when we stand at the gate of heaven—we must name the name of Jesus as our only hope, or be cast away from God's presence.

Such is the teaching of Acts 4:12. No salvation but by Jesus Christ. In Him, salvation to the uttermost, sal-



# There Is No Other

By J. C. RYLE

vation for the very chief of sinners. Outside of Him, no salvation.

This is in perfect harmony with our Lord's own words: "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me" (John 14:6). It is the same that John told us: "God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life" (1 John 5:11, 12). All these texts come to one and the same point—there is no salvation but by Jesus Christ.


Make sure you understand this before death overtakes you. Remember that you are not to rest partly on Christ and partly on something else. You must not rest partly on doing all you can, partly on church membership, or partly on receiving the sacrament of the Lord's Supper. In the matter of your justification, Christ must be all.

Heaven is before you, and Christ is the only Door into it. Hell is beneath you, and Christ alone is able to deliver you from it. The devil is behind you, and Christ is the

only Refuge from his wrath and accusations. The Law is against you, and Christ alone is able to redeem you.

Since there is no salvation except in Christ, make sure that you yourself have that salvation. Do not be content with hearing, approving, and assenting to the truth and going no further.

Seek to have a personal involvement in this salvation. Lay hold by faith for your own soul. Do not rest until you know that you have actual possession of that peace with God which Jesus offers. Do not be satisfied until you know that Christ is yours, and you are Christ's.

If there were many ways of getting to heaven, there would be no necessity for pressing this matter upon you. But since there is only one way, make sure that you are on it. 



**ABOVE:** Program Director C. T. Beem flashes the on-the-air signal, and in the next second the familiar strains of "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name" fill the air waves.

**RIGHT:** A few minutes before air time, National Radio Secretary Lee Shultz extends greetings to visitors in the studio audience and explains what they will see and hear during the radio broadcast.



VACATIONERS ARE WELCOME AT THE RADIO BROADCAST

# VISITING

**V**ISITORS TO THE WEEKLY ASSEMBLIES OF GOD broadcast, *Revivaltime*, feel a very special atmosphere as soon as they enter the auditorium. There is a sense of expectancy, a feeling of determination, an awareness that God is there and that He is anxious to move through the ministries of those behind the microphones.

Almost immediately you are caught up in the spirit of reverent enthusiasm pervading the 654-seat radio auditorium of the Assemblies of God Headquarters. As the choir concludes its last-minute rehearsal, members step off the risers, kneel together, and pray as one that God's anointing will be on the approaching broadcast.

Choir Director Cyril McLellan joins them in prayer, reminding the singers that in a few moments they will be ministering to millions of persons around the world. Special prayer is offered for servicemen in Vietnam who will be listening to the evangelistic service.

The sense of urgency moves to the congregation. Many in it lay aside their program folders and join the choir in fervent prayer.

A few minutes before air time, Producer-Narrator Lee Shultz steps to the microphone and welcomes the



**LEFT:** Before each broadcast service, the "Revivaltime" choir seeks God's anointing. In a few moments their music will be reaching millions of hearts and homes around the world.

**BELOW:** "Revivaltime" choir director Cyril McLellan discusses a last-minute alteration in one of the numbers with accompanists Judy Casso and Sharon Bell.



# REVIVALTIME'

By RON ROWDEN

visitors, explaining what they can expect to see and hear during the 25-minute network broadcast. He reminds them that in addition to the network outlets, this service will be sent to hundreds of independent stations by tape recording for release the following week. (The recorded version contains an additional five-minute segment.)

Then Evangelist C. M. Ward gives a word of greeting to his studio audience. In a frank, personal tone he tells what his sermon will be about and the kind of person he hopes to reach this week. His impromptu remarks are a sermon in themselves.

It's now approximately two minutes until air time, and Brother Ward leads the congregation of visitors in a final prayer. The studio doors are closed. In the control room, ABC engineer Wally Fender is on the direct telephone line, making the last-second hookup to the network's Chicago facilities for "live" transmission of the broadcast service.

An expectant hush falls over the audience as everyone on the platform stands poised and alert, waiting for the on-the-air signal from Program Director C. T. Beem.

The high-quality professional sound of the "Revivaltime" broadcast depends largely upon the skilful audio control of radio engineer Wally Fender.



C. M. Ward's intimate "me-to-you" altar calls minister to thousands of unsaved persons each week.

As his arm flashes downward, the choir bursts into song, and in millions of homes "it's *Revivaltime* across the nation and around the world!"

Countless radio listeners are familiar with the joyful music of the *Revivaltime* choir and the dynamic preaching of Evangelist C. M. Ward, but only after a personal visit to the radio studio can they appreciate the split-second timing needed to produce a high-quality network broadcast. *Revivaltime* has the staff to do the job.

Program Director C. T. Beem has been at his job for more than 13 years, as has Choir Director Cyril McLellan. Evangelist Ward has preached more than 700 consecutive radio sermons. Under the able leadership of National Radio Secretary Lee Shultz they function like a well-oiled machine—each person fitting perfectly into his particular place of responsibility.

Following a powerful message, the broadcast climaxes with a moving altar call. The words, "This is the ABC Radio Network," terminate all too soon the thrill of seeing radio-in-action.

The *Revivaltime* evangelist moves down among the audience for a period of informal fellowship. Visitors are recognized, testimonies are presented, and the guests are given an opportunity to share in the broadcast ministry by contributing toward its cost. All in all, a visit to *Revivaltime* makes for a refreshing evening of Pentecostal evangelism.

If you are traveling through mid-America this year, be sure to come to Springfield and include a *Revivaltime* visit in your vacation activities. Discover the thrill of joining your voice with others in the congregational hymn which goes out over the air. The live broadcasts originate most weeks from the Assemblies of God Headquarters Auditorium, 1445 Boonville Avenue, Springfield, Missouri.

Conducted from 9:15 to 10:10 p.m. (Springfield time), the program activities do not interfere with the Sunday night services in local churches, and are an inspiring conclusion to the Lord's Day.

Evangelist C. M. Ward and all the *Revivaltime* staff will be waiting to welcome you to the broadcast service. Come and worship with us.



THIS IS THE SEASON when the national game in the United States—baseball—is drawing much attention. When the schedule began, each team posted a starting line-up. These are the players who play every day.

But championships today depend upon *bench strength*. There are members on the team who must be able to step in at any moment and fill the place of the regulars. They sit on the bench, eating their hearts out, hoping for a chance to play. They are the reserves waiting in the shade.

*Life is like that.*

In 1868 practically anyone in New York could have told you something about Mrs. Joseph Fairchild Knapp. Not quite 40, and very close to the top of the social register, she and her husband were prominent in charitable and philanthropic work.

Knapp was founder of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company. At his death, he left his wife a guaranteed annual income of \$50,000 in an era when a man could get a shave and a haircut for 25c.

From girlhood, Mrs. Knapp had shown an unusual interest in music. She had a knack of appealing to ordinary folk through sprightly little tunes that she sensed running through her brain.

One of her special friends was a woman almost 20 years her senior. Unlike Mrs. Knapp, the name of Mrs. Alexander van Alstyne never appeared in the social register. From girlhood she had borne a great handicap that could have made her bitter and cynical, but did not.

Like Mrs. Knapp, she was a devout churchwoman—and also deeply interested in music. In an era when Braille had not yet come to be generally accepted, blind Mrs. van Alstyne managed to put a great many words on paper to form little songs that she called “outpourings of my heart.” Eventually they were to make her world-famous under her maiden name, *Fanny Crosby*.

One day in 1868 Mrs. Knapp snatched a new tune from her mental repertoire, experimented with it, and went over to play it for Fanny Crosby.

It was a gloomy period. That February, Congress had suspended retirement of “greenbacks,” leaving \$365 million worth of depreciated currency in circulation. President Andrew Johnson was embroiled with Congress and his Cabinet, facing formal action against him by his foes. In two separate actions impeachment of the President failed by a single vote.

In this climate of turmoil and uncertainty about the future, Mrs. Knapp played her new tune for Fanny Crosby. Then she asked her a searching question. “Fanny,” she said, “what does that tune bring to your mind?”

Almost instantly the woman, blinded in childhood as a result of incompetent treatment by a rural physician, replied: “Phoebe, your tune is saying very clearly, ‘Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine.’” And so the song of comfort and direction was born.

Today *Blessed Assurance* still packs a punch. But the most marvelous thing about it is the fashion in which a woman whose blindness might have made her bitter,



instantly “heard” a message of joy and peace in a new melody.

That is the test! Do you “hear”—do you “see” while you are sitting on the bench, wondering what, if any, useful part you have to play in the game of life? Your response to any situation is a vital measure of your own faith. Are you in the game? Are you following the action? Can you be called upon at a moment’s notice?

That dark place—that bench—is a wonderful opportunity to shine—to show your fellowman what is really inside you. It is the supreme test of one’s spirit.

A few years ago a man from Sonora, California, was driving along a road on vacation, enjoying the beauty of the day. Without warning he was enveloped in an impenetrable black fog. Norman E. Peterson had entered the world of darkness. He was sent to the bench. *He was blind.\**

Suddenly he knew an emotion to which, in all his active life, he had been a stranger—*fear*.

Doctors told him his case was hopeless. He would never be in the mainstream again. Nothing could be done.

But there were things he himself could do, and he did them. He says:

“Your world is changed. You no longer have sight. You are tagged ‘blind’! Your visible beauties are destroyed. People you live close to and thought of as friends during your days of sight turn away from you. You discover you had a few false friends, and you ask yourself: ‘Why?’”

\*The book, *Beauty in a World of Darkness*, written by Norman E. Peterson, is published by Vantage Press, New York. It may be purchased from the Gospel Publishing House, 1445 Boonville Avenue, Springfield, Missouri, USA 65802, for \$2.50 a copy.



# SITTING ON THE BENCH

By Revivaltime Evangelist  
C. M. WARD

And there is no answer. This is where fear takes over and you need courage—or else you die slowly.”

That is what it means to be “benched.”

But Mr. Peterson decided to play himself back into the game, to find that courage, to look for that opening, to be ready for it when it came. That is the difference!

At Guide Dogs for the Blind, in San Rafael, California, he was “selected” by a remarkable golden retriever, Wilfred. The dog served him with uncanny perception and resourcefulness.

Mr. Peterson had the love of his wife to buoy him on. So he set out to discover, as he says, “a rare beauty we can only see with our hearts, feel with our hands, and hear with our ears.”

Then the miracle occurred. On July 13, 1964, Mr. Peterson’s wife was suddenly stricken.

He describes the events of that crisis:

“I commanded Wilfred, ‘Find a drugstore.’ It was up to him now, and I prayed to God that this magnificent animal would know what I meant. We entered a store, and I knew by my sense of smell that Wilfred had not failed me. I explained to the pharmacist that I needed a portable oxygen tank and mask.”

“On that night,” he says, “I got out of bed and got

down on my knees. I prayed out loud by Irene’s bedside: ‘Dear Heavenly Father, please hear my prayer! In the name of Thy Son Jesus, help me that I may save my wife! Oh, Lord, take away this darkness from my eyes. Restore my vision that I may help her now when she needs me. Oh, Lord, that I may receive my sight in the name of Thy Son Jesus Christ, grant me this one prayer! Amen!’”

That was the night of the 14th. Mr. Peterson says that on the morning of the 15th:

“I felt Wilfred come and push my arm with his nose. I had put my hands over my eyes, so I removed them to push Wilfred away from me. I commanded him, ‘Sit.’”

“Suddenly I saw the big, golden-haired guide-dog in a harness sitting in front of me! He jumped to his feet and barked. Then, like a cloud of fog diminishing to clear sunlight, the blackness of my dark world disappeared. I could not believe it. I could not speak. I could see!”

Some moments later, his wife asked, “What’s the matter, Honey? Are you all right? You look like you’ve seen a ghost.”

He says, “I picked up a newspaper and read a few words. My wife verified what I had read.”

Mr. Peterson testifies today: “We will forever praise God, who gave me my sight and Irene her life in the darkest hour of our blind world. God does answer prayer. Miracles do happen. Don’t ever doubt it! I lived this one, and I was as blind and sightless as man can ever be; but in my darkness, I found treasures that all the riches of the world cannot buy.”

So I have been pondering the words of this text, “He hath set me in dark places.” (Lamentations 3:6). There is work to be done on the benches of life.

Are you asking, “When will I get my chance? Why should others have so much and I so little? What good can I do here? I might as well quit.” This text and these testimonies answer those questions.

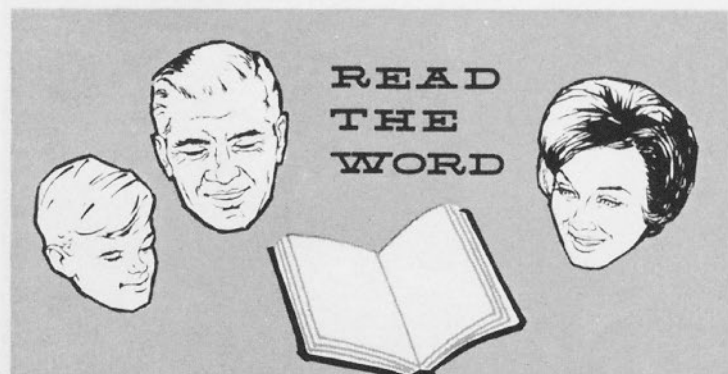
Make these words your aim:

*“His lamp am I, to shine where He shall say;  
And lamps are not for sunny rooms,  
Nor for the light of day;  
But for dark places of the earth;  
Where shame, and crime and wrong have birth;  
Or for the murky twilight gray  
Where wandering sheep have gone astray;  
Or where the light of faith grows dim,  
And souls are groping after Him. . . .  
So may I shine—His light the flame—  
That men may glorify His name.”*

Your lamp is your faith. That is what your fellowman needs to see. Without it, you are making his world a more difficult place.

Your chance will come. That is why you are on the bench. You can write history. You can win the game. You can turn the tide. It will take faith. “Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven” (Matthew 5:16).

God has not forgotten you. Light your lamp, and then make your place on some bench in life another opportunity for glorious performance.



**READ THE WORD**

**CHAPTERS FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 2-9**

Sunday .....	1 Sam. 21, 22	Thursday .....	1 Sam. 29, 30
Monday .....	1 Sam. 23, 24	Friday .....	1 Sam. 31
Tuesday .....	1 Sam. 25, 26	Saturday .....	2 Sam. 1, 2
Wednesday ..	1 Sam. 27, 28	Sunday .....	2 Sam. 3, 4

**“The Lord therefore be judge, and judge between me and thee, and see, and plead my cause, and deliver me out of thine hand” (1 Samuel 24:15).**

By DORIS P. JOHNSON • Brazil

# BOAS NOVAS



(GOOD NEWS)

1,500 BRAZILIANS RESPONDED TO ALTAR CALLS IN THE TAUBATÉ GOOD NEWS CRUSADE

WHEN PASTOR EZEQUIEL invited our *Boas Novas* (Good News) team for a week-long crusade in Taubaté, State of São Paulo, little did we know the blessings and work that God had in store for us.

The city of Taubaté is located in the prosperous Paraíba Valley at the foot of Serra Mantiqueira, Brazil's highest mountain range. It claims fame as the

birthplace of Monteiro Lobato, the renowned Brazilian statesman, poet, and writer.

Although the Assemblies of God has a thriving church with several preaching points in Taubaté, we needed a larger building in which to hold this crusade. We went in search of a suitable building. It turned out to be an abandoned porcelain factory! How-

ever, after we applied several coats of paint, installed crude benches made with planks balanced on chairs, and put up huge cloth banners announcing a salvation-healing campaign, the place looked more suitable than when we found it.

Three weeks before the scheduled meetings, two Brazilian evangelists went to Taubaté to organize groups of

**BELOW:** Good News Evangelists Joa Caitano (left) and Bernhard Johnson (right) rejoice with a man who was healed after seven years of paralysis.

**RIGHT:** Bernhard Johnson counsels with those who responded to the call to repentance.



believers into visitation teams. These faithful teams distributed Light-for-the-Lost literature from house to house, not only in Taubaté but also in four neighboring towns cooperating with the campaign.

Carl Hultgren of Rio de Janeiro conducted a course to train personal workers in assisting new converts in the counseling room.


Posters and banners decorated the streets and plazas, and loudspeakers on cars and motorbikes announced the services downtown and throughout the *bairros*. The Good News daily radio broadcast brought dozens of inquirers to the local Assemblies of God church. One of the evangelists came to be called "Mr. Good News" by postal clerks as he mailed hundreds of letters to new converts. Priests warned the people by radio to stay away from the meetings.

On the opening night of the campaign demon power was demonstrated, especially through one young woman who became very violent and ran to the platform screaming and snarling like an animal. She was marvelously delivered through prayer, and now testifies to the great change in her life.

Nightly crowds numbered up to 5,000 with dozens responding to the altar call. Approximately 1,500 signed decision cards and received counseling. These included many university students, businessmen, a city council man, and a seminary student awaiting ordination to the priesthood.

Paralytics, blind, deaf, and arthritics were marvelously healed through the prayer of faith. Goiters, tumors, skin diseases, and hernias disappeared instantly. Many people were delivered from demon possession.

After the campaign ended, Pastor Ezequiel had to continue renting the porcelain factory to accommodate the crowds coming for salvation and healing. New converts were given special instruction classes, and each one was encouraged to attend the preaching point in his neighborhood. Many have already been baptized in the Holy Spirit and are witnessing to their friends and neighbors.

Pastor Ezequiel and the church board are now searching for suitable property to build a larger church. Pray that God may direct them as they nourish the new congregation in Taubaté. 



Part of the Good News program was to distribute Light-for-the-Lost literature from house to house in Taubate and four neighboring towns. Organized groups of believers helped in this effort as well as assisting in the counseling room. Banners hung across streets, daily radio broadcasts, and loudspeaker announcements brought many inquirers to the meetings.

## CHINESE YOUTH ORGANIZE FOR CHRIST

By STEPHEN CHEONG  
Singapore

**F**AITH ASSEMBLY OF GOD in Singapore is a bilingual church (English and Chinese) with a strong group of English-speaking young people.

The very strength of this Christ's Ambassadors group has presented problems, however; for, while the English-speaking young people have gathered in the church every Saturday evening to enjoy the blessings of the Lord, the Chinese-speaking young people were neglected. They had to spend their weekends doing other things because they did not know the English language.


We needed to have a Chinese Christ's Ambassadors service without further delay. The church, the missionaries, and the young people themselves saw the need; but who had the burden to take up such a responsibility? Many Christians began to pray.

We overflowed with joy when the answer to our prayers came after years of patient waiting. A small group of

young people saw and accepted the challenge. Serious planning for the much-longed-for service began, and at last the Chinese Christ's Ambassadors group was officially started. A group of about 50 young people came with smiling faces to attend the inauguration service.

Since that time our group has continued to grow gradually. By the merciful grace of God, the Chinese Christ's Ambassadors service has drawn a number of straying young people back to the waiting arms of our ever-loving Christ.

Recently two of the Chinese young people answered the Lord's call to enter Bible school in Singapore to prepare themselves for full-time gospel service.

Pray that the Chinese Christ's Ambassadors of Faith Assembly of God in Singapore will continue to be a true light shining through the darkness in this part of our country. 

Dedicated young people started a Chinese-speaking C. A. group in Singapore. Stephen Cheong, author, is standing third from the left.





# DAVID AND GOLIATH

Sunday School Lesson for July 9, 1967

1 SAMUEL 17:4-50

BY J. BASHFORD BISHOP

DAVID'S VICTORY OVER GOLIATH illustrates that the Christian's battles are won with weapons that "are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds" of Satan. It suggests ways and means whereby every child of God may slay modern Goliaths and become a vital part of God's present-day program.

### DAVID GOES TO THE BATTLEFRONT (1 Samuel 17:4-29)

1. *Goliath's Challenge* (vv. 4, 8-10). Goliath represents man's power at its best. "Give me a man, that we may fight together," was his challenge. These words illustrate the natural man's confidence in his own ability, skill, and power—as well as his boast of supremacy over those who claim faith in the living God. They also represent the challenge of Satan who desires to overthrow God's people.

2. *Israel's Cowardice* (vv. 11, 16, 24). How tragic that Saul and his armies, who had slain 40,000 Philistines in one day, now trembled in fear and unbelief before one man! The departure of the Spirit of the Lord—the spirit

of power and courage—had made Saul cringe with cowardice. Does not this suggest a reason for some of the modern-day powerlessness that exists among God's people?

3. *David's Zeal and Indignation* (v. 26). David was aghast that God's people should shrink in fear from one man—and that man an idol worshiper.

4. *Eliab's Resentment* (v. 28). Eliab had a big body—but a little soul and a nasty disposition! Why did he become angry and critical of his brother? Because David's faith and spiritual aggressiveness were a rebuke to his own lack of faith and courage. Those who are spiritually cold and indifferent invariably find fault with those who display zeal and fervor toward God.

5. *David's Humble Defense* (v. 29). David revealed the strength of character which enables a man to respond to wrath with a soft answer. He had won the greatest victory of all—the victory over his own spirit. (See Proverbs 15:1; 16:32.)

"Is there not a cause?" inquired David earnestly. His words bear investigation. Is there not a cause today for aggressive spirituality? Should not the godlessness, the moral depravity, the degradation of our times, and the comparatively low spiritual state of the modern church provoke us to renewed dedication to God and to an abandonment to His purposes?

### DAVID WINS THE BATTLE (1 Samuel 17:30-50)

1. *David Encourages Saul* (vv. 31, 32). David's faith and courage made an immediate impression and began to stir up faint hopes. His words were reported to Saul, who eagerly sent for David. Spiritual enthusiasm is contagious! How wonderful that it lies within the power of every believer, by virtue of his relationship to God, to spread the contagion of faith.

2. *David's Reason for Confidence* (vv. 33-36). There was worldly wisdom in Saul's words, but he made the mistake of belittling the possibilities of youth, and left God out of his calculations. David's argument was as simple as his faith—and as powerful. The same God who had empowered him to slay a lion and a bear would enable him to slay Goliath. David could be confident because he had a living, up-to-date experience with God. Such an experience is available today through the in-filling of the Spirit. Do we have such an experience? If so, are we stepping out in faith and discovering the potential of such an experience?

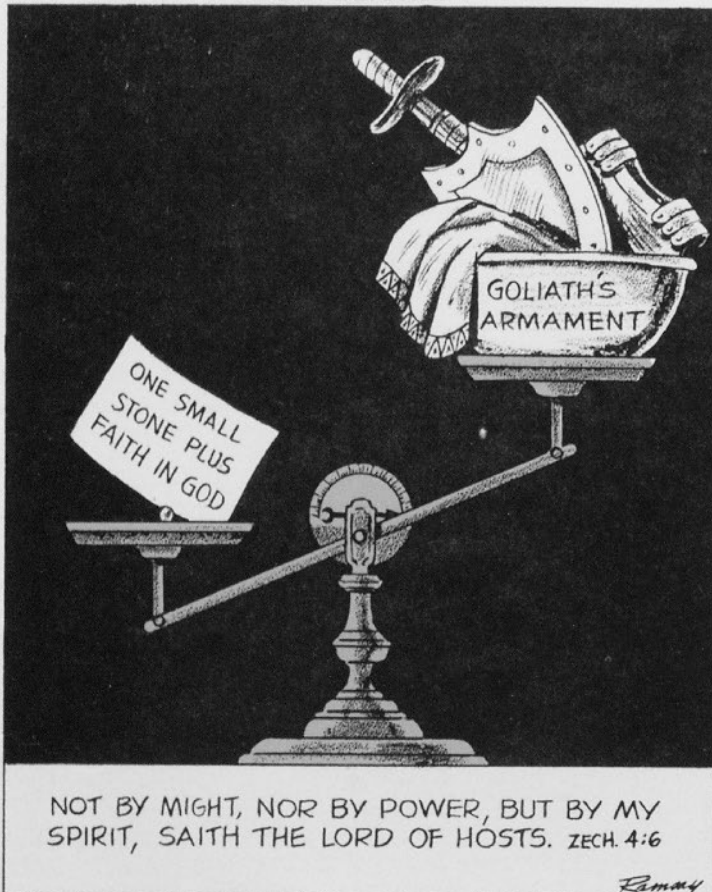
3. *David Rejects Saul's Armor* (vv. 38, 39). Faith and common sense caused David to rely on weapons with which he was familiar.

(a) *Untried armor is useless.* We must be ourselves—not imitators of others. Our religion cannot be "put on"; it must be "put in."

(b) *We must fight spiritual battles with spiritual weapons.* (See Ephesians 6:12-17.) When we rely on carnal weapons, we are doomed to defeat.

4. *David Slays Goliath* (vv. 40-50). From start to finish David's motive had been selfless. God was a reality to him. He acted as "seeing him who is invisible." He sought no glory or gain for himself, but was moved solely by a burning desire that the God of Israel should be known and glorified among all nations. As David slew Goliath, so the child of God shall triumph as he fights in like manner.

### OUTWEIGHED



**T**HE SCOPE OF THE CRIME PROBLEM is reflected by statements of leading penologists who state that in a number of countries one person out of every 27 will be charged with a serious criminal offense.

This ratio is not stable, but seems to be increasing rapidly. The incidence of crime exceeds the population growth by 300 to 500 percent.

The 12-18 age group is considered most vulnerable as potential criminals. Each year the median age of those incarcerated goes lower as a greater number of youth are sentenced.

Another critical area closely related to criminology is the group revolt against established customs. Many of these people are rebels without a cause.

Revolts against authority reveal a basic deterioration which can have very serious ramifications to those involved and to society as a whole. Authorities are showing increasing concern over the number of college-age youth engaged in these law-defying demonstrations. Basic loyalties seem to have little meaning.

There are many facets being brought into play to create this universal spirit of lawlessness. National and international crime study commissions wrestling with this problem have uncovered some interesting reflections. The Third United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders met in Stockholm, Sweden, to research this worldwide problem. Some of its findings were as follows:

In most countries there is an increasing tendency to rely on the law and its agents for control, rather than to place responsibility on the family unit. This weakens the family, making its members more susceptible to becoming involved in criminal activities.

Urbanization also contributes to increased crime, partly because it provides an opportunity for greater impersonality. This encourages a different set of values, a wider freedom of action, a greater exposure to violation of God's order. A general breakdown in communication between age groups is often due to the absence of family members from home.

In most countries youth tend to be isolated from the general society. This separation increases the opportunity for the young to adopt their own norms and standards. Very often these new standards lead to delinquency and crime as accepted forms of recreation.

The desire for excitement and acquisition of material goods tends to increase the incidence of crime not only among the youth, but also among the adults.

Penologists generally agree that the family unit must be strengthened if crime trends are to be reversed. Crime is a minor problem in cultures having strong family units. This is well illustrated in the Oriental and Jewish cultures.

Most prison inmates come from poorly structured families. Genuine love and concern usually were missing in these homes. Very often the homes were broken by divorce. The children became insecure and later revolted by striking out against society. This is their way of compensating for hurts experienced early in life.

The church stands in a unique position to help reverse this universal crime trend. There are several major areas



# CRIME

## A UNIVERSAL PROBLEM

By **PAUL R. MARKSTROM**

National Prison Chaplain

with which the church should be concerned if it is to assist successfully in reducing crime.

The church should teach the youth and young parents the importance of the family unit and the role of parenthood. Young parents should have access to knowledgeable leaders who can counsel them wisely in times of frustrations. The pastor may be such a counselor. The church should instruct young parents to impart to their children a respect for authority. If a child cannot respect adult authority, he probably will not respect God's authority.

Normally, youth are idealistic and easily challenged to high goals in life. God in His wise economy of creation endowed youth with these admirable qualities. Seldom are young men and women found in prison who have had wholesome, challenging goals in life. The adult world, by word and example, can help youth be successful by encouraging them to be their best for God and their fellowmen.

Young people must be taught the values of correct choices. A disciplined life is not developed quickly. It is a lifetime learning experience, best begun when very young.

Another avenue by which the church can assist in reducing crime is by communicating to prison inmates that they can be released from fallen self and its destructive ramifications. They need to be told there is a complete freedom from sin and guilt. This release is found in the cleansing stream from Calvary and the re-creative power of the Holy Spirit. They need Bible teaching. The inmate who has been "born again" and maintains this spiritual experience will not return to crime.

I believe the church has the greatest opportunity to successfully reduce crime trends throughout the world.



# THIS PRESENT WORLD

## Veteran Pentecostal Leaders Now in Heaven

Two veteran preachers have departed to be forever with Christ. Douglas Scott, Brive, France, passed away April 15, and Frank G. Bursey, Newfoundland, on May 12.

Pastor Douglas Scott was one of the earliest pioneers of the Pentecostal testimony across Belgium and France. More than 35 churches were established by him personally, and today there are hundreds of Pentecostal churches in Belgium and France who owe much to the strong faith and self-sacrificing ministry of this beloved British preacher. Miraculous healings attended his revival campaigns, particularly in the early years. He suffered a heart attack and died half an hour after preaching in Chalon-sur-Saone, France. He is survived by his widow, Clarice A. Scott, who has returned to Chigwell Row, Essex, England.

Frank G. Bursey, pastor of the Botwood Pentecostal Assembly, preached the full gospel 38 years. He served for 34 years as assistant general superintendent of the Pentecostal Assemblies of Newfoundland and 23 years as superintendent of the Central District Conference. Pastor Bursey's death resulted from an automobile accident. He is survived by his widow, four children, and six grandchildren. His brother Stanley is general superintendent of the Pentecostal Assemblies of Newfoundland.

## Many Visit "Sermons from Science" at Expo '67

Directors of the Sermons from Science pavilion at Expo '67 in Montreal, Canada, are pleased with the response

of visitors to the unique presentation of the gospel. "God has visited this place and put upon it His seal of blessing."

During the first 10 days the pavilion was open, more than 30,000 people watched the 30-minute film or demonstration. Of these, some 12,000 remained in the counseling room to hear more of the claims of Christ on their lives.

Daily 4,000 people attend 16 Sermons from Science programs. As many as 150 have crowded into the counseling room, built for 65. Produced by Moody Institute of Science, the project is supported by numerous evangelical bodies including the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada.

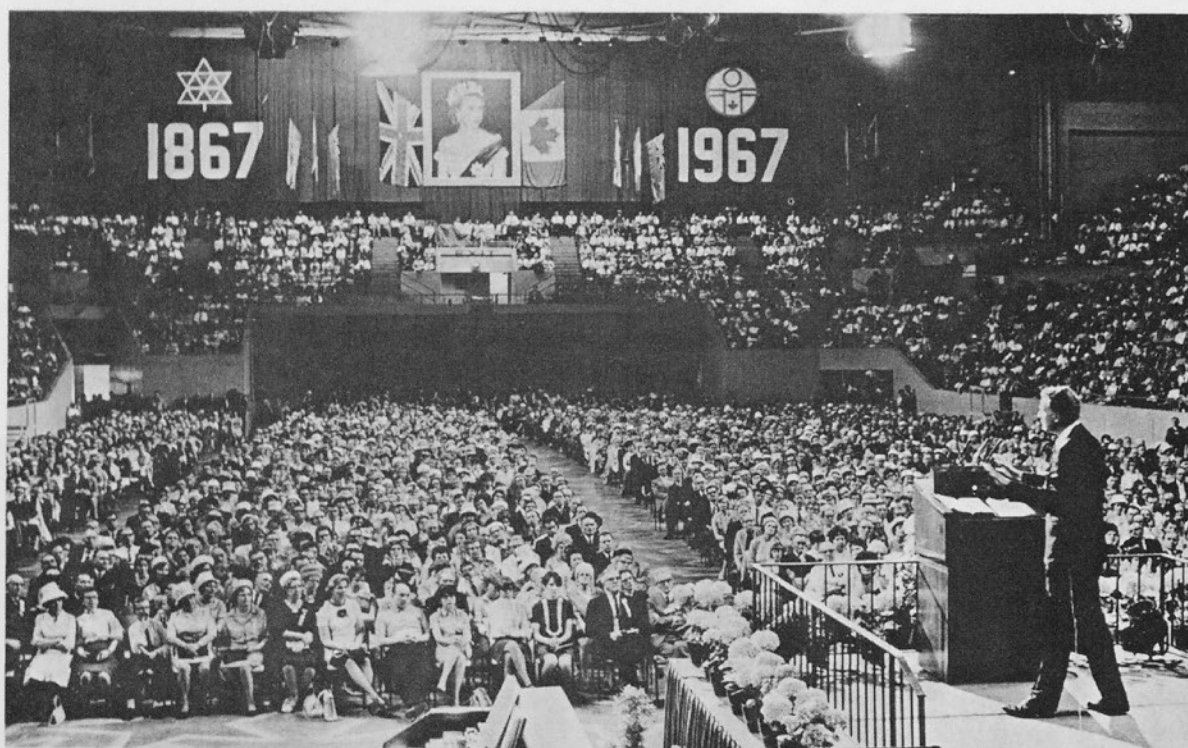
## Literature Sales Rise at Walgreen Stores

Walgreen Drug Stores, one of the nation's top 10 retailers of books and magazines, reported a 10 percent rise in magazine sales and a 26 percent gain in paperback book sales during 1966.

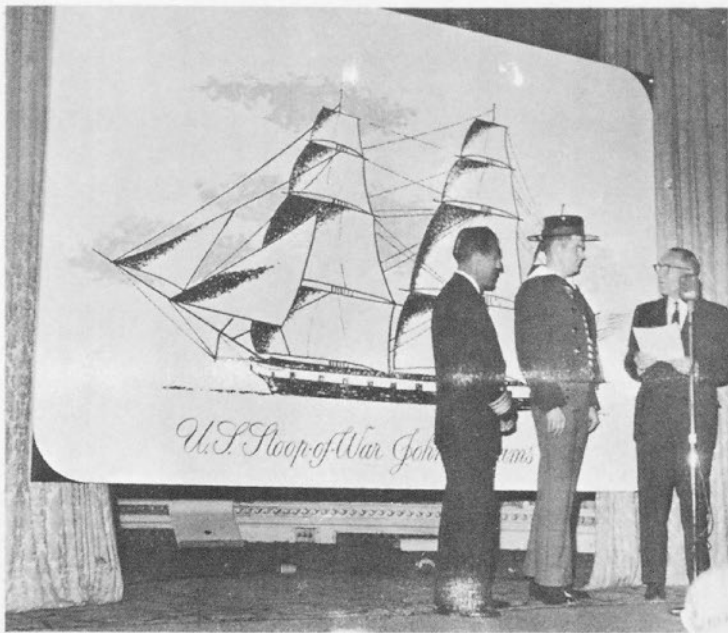
The increase followed the firm's public statement in late 1965 reaffirming its long-standing policy to carry only clean literature in its stores.

"Though we cannot attribute this gain to our policy, we can't discount its widespread public response," said C. R. Walgreen Jr., board chairman, who established the policy. The firm has received numerous commendatory letters from business, government, and religious leaders.

Mr. Walgreen explained why the company was determined to pursue its clean literature policy regardless of sales figures. "Well over a million shoppers enter our



**GRAHAM AND QUEEN—**  
Evangelist Billy Graham addresses 22,000 people at the first service of his Centennial Crusade in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada. The service was the largest inter-denominational meeting in the city's history. The opposite end of the arena was decorated to mark the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Dominion of Canada.



**HISTORIC EVENT RECALLED**—In 1817 the American Bible Society, then one year old, presented 65 Bibles to the crew of the USS John Adams. The event was reenacted at New York on May 11, 1967, at the society's annual meeting. An 1817 Bible was presented to an enlisted sailor dressed in the uniform of that period, and it was pointed out that the Bible Society has given away almost 50 million Scriptures to military personnel in the past 150 years. Participating in the ceremony which had a watercolor painting of the U. S. Sloop-of-War John Adams for a backdrop were (left to right) Rear Admiral George R. Luker, USN; Musician 2nd Class Ralph L. Dial, USN; and Everett Smith, President of the American Bible Society. More than half a million Scriptures were distributed free to the American armed forces in 1966 alone, in the Bible Society's continuing ministry to the military.

stores everyday—including many young people. As members of the communities we serve, we like to maintain (and help others create) a standard for good, clean, wholesome literature."

### Church Dinners Canceled in Illinois

According to *Wayne County Press*, a newspaper published at Fairfield, Illinois, the annual Calendar Dinner at Fairfield First Christian church is no more. It has been a well-attended community event for over 40 years, but the Women's Council of the church recently voted to discontinue the event.

The council president said it was the feeling of a majority of the women in the council that it was not best to conduct a money-making project inside the church.

### Woman Over 100 Learning to Read

A person is never too old to read the Bible. That's what Mrs. Sara Bridges of Steelton, Pa., believes. Mrs. Bridges who is either 106 or 109 years old, wants to learn to read and write so she can study her Bible and be "nearer to God." The daughter of slave parents, she claims to be 109, but friends say she is 106. At any rate, she feels she is not too old to learn to read.

### T. F. Zimmerman Gets ABS Board Post

Thomas F. Zimmerman, General Superintendent of the Assemblies of God, has been elected a ministerial member of the board of managers of the American Bible Society.

He will serve on the new church relations committee of the nonprofit Society, which supplies Scriptures to the world for more than 65 Protestant denominations.



# Your Questions

Answered by Ernest S. Williams

*Whenever troubles come to others, people here seem always to say, "All things work together for good" (Roman 8:28). A woman's husband burned to death, leaving her to support her little son and herself. How could his death work for her good?*

There are many sad experiences in life that we cannot understand. If we commit them into the hands of God, they can help to develop godly qualities and Christlikeness in us. All things that help conform us into the image of God's Son work for our good (Romans 8:29). "For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory" (2 Corinthians 4:17). But unless we see eternal values in the experiences of life, just saying that "all things work together for good" is empty talk.

*Is it right for a church to have an elected officer who uses tobacco? It seems to be a stumbling block to others.*

We believe it well that none in the church use tobacco; this should be especially true of church officers who are to be examples to others. It is, however, the duty of the church to decide whom they wish to serve them; but I think one who continues using tobacco would do the church a service were he willingly to resign his office.

*Since the term "Jews" is not used earlier than the Book of Second Kings, why are Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob spoken of as Jews?*

It would probably be better to call these men Hebrews, since Abraham was spoken of as "The Hebrew" (Genesis 14:13), and he became the father of the Hebrew people. The term *Israel* was given to Jacob when he wrestled with the angel (Genesis 32:28), and his descendants were called Israelites. Of these, Judah was the father of the tribe of Judah, and it is these that in a general way are spoken of as Jews.

*Did any receive salvation as we know it prior to the atonement made by Christ?*

I believe that from clothing Adam and Eve with the skins of animals people were taught the need of forgiveness through the shedding of blood. Perhaps the most elaborate demonstration of this is to be found in the sacrifices on the day of atonement (Leviticus 16). I do not know how fully man comprehended, but I am sure that God did, giving the contrite in heart the assurance of forgiveness.

"Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered" (Psalm 32:1). The Old Testament sacrifices were patterns setting forth what the realities would be. The sacrifice of Christ provided the needed redemption "of the transgressions that were under the first testament, [that] they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance" (Hebrews 9:15).

*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.*

# NOT SO 'DUMB'!

By EDWIN RAYMOND ANDERSON



EVEN THE DOG KNEW WHERE TO GO FOR HELP  
WHEN A SPLINTER PIERCED HIS PAW!

THE OLD MAN LOOKED TIRED. Every motion of his body, as he tended the corner newsstand, spoke of weariness and despair. I felt a certain ache in my heart and prayed that I might say something to help him.

And just at that moment a little dog came limping along. He was walking on three legs, holding up the fourth which had an ugly splinter in the paw.

The old man glanced at me and sighed, "Poor fellow—he's got his troubles too. . . ."

I nodded and said something about the troubles of life. We watched the little creature come closer. I could see the sharp splinter, the quivering paw, the gathered splotch of red. Then something turned my thoughts aside for a moment, but I was brought back quickly by the sudden outbreak of laughter on the part of the old news vendor.

"Just look at that!" he said, slapping his leg. "And they call a dog a 'dumb animal'!"

I looked, and to my surprise I saw the dog had turned aside. He was heading for the open door of the building behind us—which happened to be the clinic entrance of the General Hospital!

At that moment a delivery truck rumbled up, and the man in the rear of it tossed a bundle of late papers down near the newsstand. "Come and get 'em, Pop!" he said. The old man whipped out a knife, severed the cords, and with practiced hands arranged the papers on his stand.

I was instantly struck by one of the headlines: "Prominent Industrialist Takes Own Life."

The old news vendor saw it too. He gazed at the black headline, then glanced toward the clinic entrance. I felt sure I could read his thoughts.

"The dog was a lot smarter, wasn't he?" I remarked softly. "He seemed to know where to go to get rid of his splinter. But this poor rich fellow who killed himself didn't know where to turn when his 'splinter' cut deep."

I paused a moment, then added, "That's why I'm glad I know the Lord Jesus Christ. I can always turn to Him when trouble comes."

When I mentioned the name of Jesus, the old man turned away and mumbled something. But only for an instant. It seemed that the words had made a mark. He turned around, eyed me shrewdly, and said, "Well, maybe you've got something there, if you know where to go when you're in trouble. For me, it's getting late and it don't matter much. . . ."

I couldn't say much more, for the people were coming to get their evening papers. But I did manage to slip him a gospel tract. He accepted it and hurriedly shoved it into a pocket. "Thanks," he said, "I'll read it later."

I hope he did. I never saw him again. Next time I passed that way the newsstand was gone. But I felt sure the incident was not merely a matter of chance. The sight of that limping little dog, the newspaper headline, and my visit all coming together in that way must have been designed by the One who came to seek and to save all who are lost. I hope to meet that old man again, and to find him better off.

I wonder how it is with you. Do you know where to turn in trouble? Have you found the Friend you need? The Lord Jesus Christ will save you out of your predicament if you will call to Him in prayer. 