

THE PENTECOSTAL
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**“NOT BY MIGHT, NOR
BY POWER, BUT BY
MY SPIRIT, SAITH
THE LORD OF HOSTS”**

ZECHARIAH 4:6

When the thrill and throb of the Holy Ghost are lost through prayerlessness, all kinds of substitutes will be introduced to cover up the fact that the real thing has been lost.



A UNIQUE PENTE

By P. S. JONES

IF THERE IS ONE DISTINCTIVE FEATURE in Pentecostal worship, it is the prominence given to prayer. Most forms of church service end when the benediction is pronounced, but in Pentecostal assemblies another service usually begins at that time—the prayer service.

What we have to say here is not intended to detract from the acknowledged importance of the earlier service of song, prayer, testimony, and the ministry of the Word; but we wish to emphasize that the blessing on that service is measurable to a very large degree by the spiritual power which attends the prayer service.

No spiritual Christian would care to deny the great importance of prayer, both individual and corporate. The success of any ministry in God's sight is proportionate to the prayer life of the man who ministers. The eternal valuation of church activities is estimated according to divine standards by the prayer content found in the fellowship, for the simple reason that prayer is actual contact with heaven. All eternal realities come to us as the direct result of divine intervention in human experience.

Therefore, one must come to the conclusion that the spiritual exercises in the prayer room (or at the prayer altar in those places which do not have a separate prayer room) are of greater importance than anything else. The call to prayer should take precedence over every other activity in the church.

To neglect the greater need for the lesser must end in spiritual disaster. The success of any church does not depend upon the social climate. It is a good thing to possess a reputation of being a friendly church,

but that should not be the height of a congregation's ambitions. It should aspire to be known as a place where God is and where His presence is manifested.

There seems to be a most deceptive idea abroad that special seasons of prayer are not necessary, but that prayer can be made "without ceasing."

John Wesley in his famous *Journal* wrote: "I was considering how it was, that so many who were once filled with love are now weak and faint. And the case is plain; the invariable rule of God's proceedings is, 'From him that hath not shall be taken away that which he hath.' Hence it is impossible that any should retain what they receive without improving it. Add to this, that the more we have received, the more of care and labor is required, the more watchfulness and prayer, the more circumspection and earnestness in all manner of conversation. Is it any wonder, then, that they who forget this should soon lose what they had received? Nay, who were taught to forget it? Not to watch! *Not to pray, under pretense of praying always.*"

One man told me that he was always in the spirit of prayer and was never nearer to God than when out shooting ducks. Such a statement would appear to be very far removed from God's holy order. Any neglect of secret prayer would bring about ultimately the collapse of true spiritual relationship, thus giving every opportunity to the devil to gain control of such a prayerless life. The treasures of heaven are not picked off the counter of God's storehouse without effort, but are gained by "fervent" intercession, which has been translated by one, "hot, animated, boiling-over prayer."

Elijah had prayed at no great length on Carmel when God sent fire from heaven, but the background of such a prayer of faith was the prophet's life of communion. When rain was needed in Israel, the prophet put his head between his knees and engaged in a strenuous effort of earnest petition. Just how

P. S. Jones, now retired, lives in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. A former pastor in Canada and the U.S., he also served the Assemblies as a district official. For a number of years he was district superintendent of British Columbia. Prior to that time he was secretary-treasurer of the Northwest District while pastoring in Seattle, Washington.

COSTAL FEATURE

long the struggle lasted we are not told, but the reported "seven times" is a recognition that a perfect petition had been offered.

Saul of Tarsus, a seasoned religionist, after meeting Jesus on the Syrian highway, seems almost to have surprised the living God who said, "Behold, he prayeth!" The aftermath of the zealous apostle's life record is a demonstration of prayer offered "with the Spirit and the understanding also."

The Lord Jesus Himself, when living on this earth, found it necessary to withdraw from all human fellowship and engage in prolonged seasons of private prayer. No crisis was met without secret prayer.

Facing strong persecution in the early days of uncertainty in the Christian church, the saints resorted continually to corporate prayer, with the result that the Holy Ghost fell upon them, and they received enduement of power and boldly witnessed to the resurrection of Jesus.

It has been rightly said that prayer without action is futile. That is granted, but it is equally true that action without prayer avails nothing as far as the kingdom of God is concerned. Praying Hyde of India is said to have prayed until his faith claimed one soul a day; yet at the same time, it was his duty to go out and win that soul for Christ. He prayed more earnestly until he believed God for several souls a day, but always he went forth in the boldness of faith to win them.


Prayer is hard, exacting work. Its demands touch the altar of sacrifice. Prayer is not necessarily blessing, although it may bring down blessing from heaven.

Prayer alone will bring victory over "principalities and powers" (Ephesians 6:11-18), "for we wrestle not against flesh and blood." Jacob had an all-night struggle in a mighty spiritual conflict before his name was changed to Israel, and the mark of the conflict was left on him as an open evidence that he

had become a prince with God. It was Jacob's prayer life, and nothing else, that distinguished him in Bible history.

The records of heaven will one day be opened, and every Christian life will be exposed before the white light of the judgment seat of Christ. Great discrepancies will most probably be revealed between divine and human estimates of success. Many who have lived in the limelight of popular acclaim will undoubtedly find themselves in the dim light of God's disfavor; on the other hand, many who were unrecognized in their hidden prayer ministry will be acclaimed as princes with God. Workers who have advertised with glowing reports the success attending their ministry may find that the crown they expected is not for them but is rightly the possession of prayer warriors, unknown up to then, who diligently sought the face of God for revival.

Pentecostal prayer rooms are truly the powerhouses of the assemblies. Everything else can be counted of secondary importance in the church's program. The ministry of the Word does not depend upon the academic status of the minister, but upon the enduement of power which is always the result of the continuous prayer life of the minister and of his people.

When the thrill and throb of the Holy Ghost are lost through prayerlessness, all kinds of substitutes will be tried—pleasing social functions, entertaining preaching by popular illustration or by studied rhetoric, amusements announced as perfectly innocent—all these camouflages will be introduced to cover up the fact that the real thing has been lost. Yet the truth remains that God has provided sufficient joy for all of life, "the joy of the Holy Ghost." All the thrills necessary in public worship are at the disposal of God's people in "the demonstration of the Holy Ghost and power." 

We Need the Spirit

THE HOLY SPIRIT is given to us because we need Him. Without His gracious presence and power we cannot serve God effectively. Today as truly as in Zerubbabel's day, it is "not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith the Lord of hosts" (Zechariah 4:6).

Zerubbabel was attempting to rebuild the Jewish temple at Jerusalem and he was discouraged. His helpers were few, his enemies many. The difficulties seemed insurmountable—and humanly speaking, they were. But the Lord gave Zechariah, the prophet, a vision to assure him the project would proceed to a successful conclusion by the power of the Holy Spirit.

In the vision the prophet saw a great golden candlestick having seven lamps. All the lamps were burning, for they were fed by oil which flowed through golden pipes directly from living olive trees.

"So far as the Jews were concerned," F. B. Meyer wrote, "the meaning of the vision was obvious. They were represented in the candlestick, of which the many lamps and the precious metal in its composition set forth their perfection and preciousness in the thought of God. Their function was to shed the light of His knowledge on the world, as it lay under the power of darkness.

"To aid them in fulfilling this mission, divine supplies would be forthcoming from a celestial and living source, and brought to them through the golden pipes, of which one represented Joshua the priest, and the other Zerubbabel the prince. These men, therefore, were but mediums for divine communications. Their sufficiency was not of themselves, but of God. The mission of Israel would be realized, not by them, but by the Spirit of God through them. They might seem altogether helpless and inadequate; but a living fountain of oil was prepared to furnish them with inexhaustible supplies."

We need this constant supply of the Holy Spirit—as symbolized by the oil—to keep shining with the light of God's love and truth in a dark world. As with those Jews of old, so with us today—our dependence must not be on any might or power except the Spirit. For it is not by might (*hayil*) of any army, nor by power (*ko'ach*) of any human individual, but by the Spirit of Jehovah.

Human strength—whether physical, mental, or moral—is never sufficient to accomplish God's purposes on earth. We cannot serve God effectively in our own power, and the Lord does not expect us to try. He wants us to be filled with the Spirit so He may do His work through us in such a way that He will receive the glory.

Spiritual power comes from the Spirit of God alone. S. D. Gordon, a great Baptist preacher, said many years ago: "There is one inlet of power in the life—anybody's life—any kind of power; just one inlet—the Holy Spirit."

We need the Spirit, not merely for power to preach, or for power to work miracles, but for day-to-day victorious Christian living in all circumstances.

And "heaven is still as full of stores of spiritual blessing," said Andrew Murray, "as it was in apostolic times. God still delights to give the Holy Spirit to them that ask Him (Luke 11:13). Our life and work are still as dependent on the impartation of divine power as in Bible times; and prayer is still the appointed means for drawing down these heavenly blessings."

—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.

A "CHARISMATIC REVIVAL" IS SPREADING AROUND THE WORLD PENETRATING CHURCH CIRCLES OF MANY KINDS. HOW DOES IT COMPARE WITH THE ORIGINAL REVIVAL RECORDED IN THE BOOK OF ACTS?

WHEN OUR LORD JESUS left this earth to return to the Father, He told His disciples to tarry in Jerusalem until they were endued with power from on high (Luke 24:49).

His last recorded words are: "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me, both in Jerusalem, and in Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth" (Acts 1:8). This promise was gloriously fulfilled 10 days later when 120 believers were baptized with the Holy Ghost and began to speak with other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance. This was noised about, and soon a crowd gathered at the place. Peter began to preach to them in this new power, with the result that about 3,000 believers were added to the Lord. That was only the beginning, however, of a mighty work of God. It was the planting of the church of our Lord Jesus, the New Testament Church.

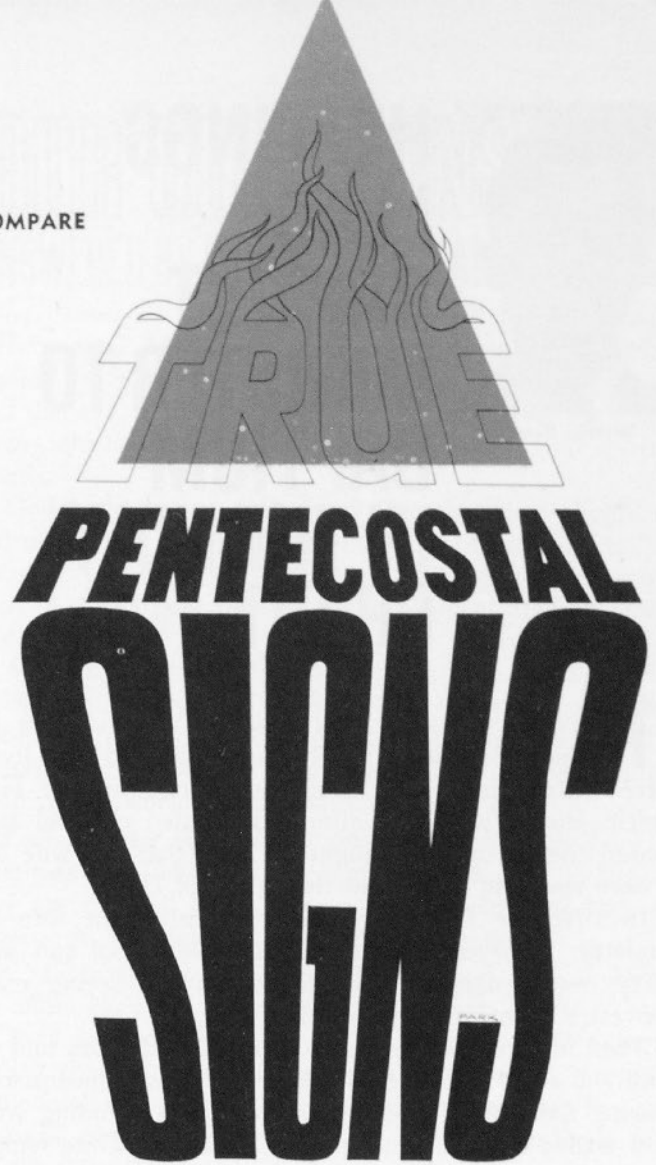
We strongly hold to the teaching that the initial sign of the baptism in the Holy Ghost is speaking in tongues today as much as in the days of the apostles. (See Acts 2:4; 10:44-46; 19:6.) That, however, is the *initial* sign, and not the *only* sign.

Many seem to be satisfied when they have spoken in tongues, thinking that is all there is to it; but the Word teaches differently. In the same second chapter of Acts where we read of the outpouring, we find many other glorious signs that followed the incoming of the Spirit. If these signs do not follow the initial sign of speaking in tongues, then one has reason to doubt the genuineness of the Baptism. We stand with the Scripture and believe that the same Holy Ghost today will do the same works as in the days of Peter and John. God has not changed; Jesus has not changed; the Holy Ghost has not changed. Man may change; conditions in the world may change; iniquity may abound more and more; but God remains the same. The question is: Do we find faith in the earth today—the same faith that dwelt in the first apostles?

Now let us look at some of the signs mentioned in Acts 2:42-47. The very first words we read there are a sign of a real Holy Ghost work. "*They continued steadfastly.*" It was not a mere emotion, a stirring of the feelings, but a deep divine working, that continued and bore fruit in their lives.

There was a hunger for the Word—they wanted to be taught the truth as it is in Jesus. "They continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine [teaching]." The Holy Ghost leads us to the Word, not away from it. The enemy tells some people that when they have the Baptism, they do not need the Word anymore. Those who listen to his voice generally fall into error, into fanaticism, and sometimes into grievous sin.

Another remarkable sign (v. 42) is *continuance in prayer*. The Holy Ghost revival of this present century, as indeed every other genuine revival, was born in prayer. It is the Spirit of God who teaches us to pray (Romans



TRUE PENTECOSTAL SIGNS

By PETER L. LeROUX

8:26), and a Pentecostal church is a praying church. That which was begotten by prayer has to be kept alive by prayer. Individual believers should see to it that they continue in communion with their living Head—the risen Christ—by spending some time in prayer every day. They should also call their family together at least once a day for worship in the home, and so keep the Holy Ghost fire burning on the family altar. A home without family prayer is a very poor example of a Pentecostal home. Children growing up in such homes very easily become worldly-minded, seek worldly companions, and deny the faith of their parents.

From the home we naturally turn to the assembly and ask how much time is given to prayer in the public meetings of the church. We hear much about *preaching* meetings, but not enough about *prayer* meetings. What is the attendance at the weekly prayer meeting compared with the Sunday preaching meetings? Do the people love to pray? Do they flock in large numbers to the prayer meetings? Are they eager to pour out their hearts in prayer and thanksgiving to God?

One of the signs of a Pentecostal church, where the members are filled with the Holy Ghost, is that they continue steadfastly in prayer. There were times when people were so eager for prayer that two and three would start together, and sometimes a whole assembly would

(Continued on page 10)



Wilbur Beadle

HEALINGS LEAD BAPTIST MINISTER TO BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT

TODAY MY HEART IS FILLED with a new song, a joy I had never known. The power of God is a living force within since I received the baptism in the Holy Spirit. But it was only after God healed me and later spared the life of our daughter Cindy that my wife and I were ready to believe all the Word of God.

In 1947 the Lord saved me and called me into the ministry. I obeyed Him, attended Bible school and seminary, was ordained, and had the joy of seeing many converted in my pastoral work.

Then in 1962 I had a heart attack. The doctors told my family I could not live. For a week I was unconscious. During that time I had a vision of Jesus standing within a walled city on the steps of a gleaming white temple. He told me I would be all right. When I told my wife what God had revealed to me, we praised Him together. Six weeks later I was again preaching.

Cindy became ill in August 1966. Her temperature rose to 106 degrees. She was packed in ice for nearly a week, but the fever did not subside. The doctors told us she had nephritis (Bright's disease), and sent us to the medical center at Columbia, Missouri. There they could do nothing, so after 21 days we brought her home. Soon we had to take her back, but still the doctors were unable to help her. However, she remained under the doctor's care during the following months.

When Cindy became worse on December 7, 1967, we took her to the Kansas Medical Center. Again it was to no avail. They could do nothing for her.

Our hearts were broken as at home we watched her become weak and wasted. We had spent over \$3,000, but realized all the money in the world could not heal our little girl.

Then God began to speak to us about trying Him. So we began to study healing in the Bible. Our hearts told us to obey the Word of God, but doubts filled our minds.

One night the doctor called after making some tests on Cindy. He said she would have to lie flat on her back for six months to a year, completely inactive. He also advised us to take her to Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota.

As he talked to me, James 5:14, 15 came to my mind again and again. God kept saying, "Try Me." Finally I told the doctor we would turn her case over to the Lord. Of course, he couldn't understand and tried to persuade me to follow his orders, but I insisted.

I called the deacons in the church I pastored and asked them to pray with me as I anointed her with oil according to God's Word. They declined. I called some of my fellow-pastors and asked if they would come and pray with me. They would not do so.

JAPAN WMC'S HELP PIONEER CHURCHES

IN FEBRUARY 1966 the Japan Assemblies of God organized the Women's Missionary Council and appointed Marie Juergensen national president. Other officials consist of the Central Committee and a district committee in each of the seven divisions of the country.

To be closely related to the North American WMC the ladies have chosen to name themselves the "WMC Japan Assemblies of God Fujin Kai" (Women's organization), and to adopt the universal motto, "We minister as unto Christ."

The long-range program of the Japanese WMC is to help pioneer churches. Miss Juergensen says:

"It is our plan to bring help and comfort to God's servants who are preaching the gospel by providing needed articles for their homes or churches.

"For the new work started in the northern city of Akita we were able to provide floor cushions for the congregation to sit on.

In the Kanto District, in Greater Tokyo, offerings



Marie Juergensen greets WMC ladies in Tokyo, Japan.

amounting to \$215 helped provide benches for the new church in the suburb of Edogawa-dai.

"WMC offerings in the Central District purchased 20 folding chairs for the church in Shimizu City. The con-

My wife and I poured out our hearts to the Lord. We prayed and read God's Word until late in the night. The next morning we called Carl Roberts, pastor of the Assembly of God in Rolla. Within minutes he was in our home, encouraging us to trust the Lord.

As Brother Roberts anointed Cindy with oil, I saw the Lord for just a second standing over her, and the room was filled with His glory. Three days later we took a test to the doctor. It was negative! He couldn't understand it, but we could—and we told him what God had done.

Twelve-year-old Cindy began to live a normal life. She has gained 10 pounds, her color has returned, and her eyes sparkle. Praise the Lord!

I resigned my church after this. I told the congregation I was going to preach the whole gospel. They refused to accept it; but I decided that as long as God gave me strength, I would preach His healing power.

I talked with Brother Carl Roberts, and he showed me from the Scriptures that I needed the baptism of the Holy Spirit in order to have a full-gospel ministry. So I began to pray for this experience.

One night while praying I felt the overwhelming power of God upon me but I did not receive the Baptism at the church. I went home but could not rest. The family had gone to bed, and I kept praying past the midnight hour. Finally I went to bed still praying for the Lord to have His way. I fell asleep, and the next thing I knew my wife was sitting up in bed staring at me—and I was praising the Lord and speaking in other tongues.

Oh, the joy that filled my soul. I want to share this experience with the whole world.—Wilbur Beadle, Rolla, Missouri.

(Endorsed by Carl Roberts, pastor, Assembly of God, Rolla, Missouri.)

gregation had recently changed its location and was much encouraged by the gift.

"The Izumi church in the Southern District was glad to receive \$145 for the same purpose.

"The following year God richly blessed every local meeting and regional rally. The first national WMC breakfast was attended by 53 leaders and members representing all parts of the nation. For the first time a WMC rally was held as a part of the annual convention of the Assemblies of God of Japan. We expect this meeting to become a regular event with better attendance each year.

"As president I have scheduled evangelistic meetings in many areas to reach unsaved relatives and friends of WMC members. Each one has been very rewarding.

"To meet our objective of assisting pioneer churches we have made and distributed small offering boxes marked with the WMC emblem. We are urging women to place the containers in their kitchens as reminders to give a sacrificial offering each day. At the rallies the boxes will be opened and the money designated for current needs of new works.

"Women of the WMC Japan Assemblies of God Fujin Kai say, 'We will GIVE, we will PRAY, we will WITNESS to those who know not God!'"

YOUR QUESTIONS



ANSWERED BY ERNEST S. WILLIAMS

Christ came to "destroy him that had the power of death" (Hebrews 2:14). Does this refer to physical or spiritual death?

I believe it includes both. Satan instituted the fall of man which brought about both physical and spiritual death.

God had warned Adam and Eve that they should not eat of the tree which was in the midst of the garden, "lest ye die" (Genesis 3:3). Through yielding to the temptation of the serpent they lost both physical life and eternal life.

Man immediately lost communion with God and died spiritually, though he continued to live physically for a time before he died. Unredeemed man is now "dead in trespasses and sins" (Ephesians 2:1). He is "without God in the world" (Ephesians 2:12.)

Do you believe the 144,000 sealed in Revelation 7 are the same as the 144,000 spoken of in Revelation 14?

I am inclined to believe so. In Revelation 7 they are sealed; in Revelation 14 they have overcome.

Do people need to jump and yell in every church service to show they are filled with the Spirit?

It is wonderful if a person becomes so filled with the Spirit that he hardly knows what to do with himself. I believe all are glad if they see such exuberance. But yelling and jumping as a regular practice is more likely to be of the flesh than of the Spirit.

God gives the Holy Ghost to develop the Christ-life in us. This development may be judged by whether or not we manifest the fruit of the Spirit: "love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance" (Galatians 5:22, 23). Let us pray that Christ may dwell in our hearts by faith, and that His presence may be shown by the righteousness and true holiness in our lives.

Deuteronomy 23:2 says, "A bastard shall not enter into the congregation of the Lord; even to his tenth generation." Do you believe a bastard can be saved? The next verse says, "An Ammonite or Moabite shall not enter into the congregation of the Lord; even to their tenth generation." Do you believe no descendant of Ammon or Moab can be saved?

Deuteronomy 23:2 excluded illegitimate children from Jewish worship privileges. The prohibition was for the purpose of keeping the Jewish state morally pure. But Israel was not the New Testament Church.

At the same time, remember that Jephthah, who was cast out by his half brothers for being the son of a harlot, is recorded among the worthies of faith. Concerning him read Judges 11 and Hebrews 11:32.

The gospel of Christ is offered to all—"whosoever will" may come and be saved. In Christ "the law of commandments contained in ordinances" is abolished.

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.

GOOD NEWS

FOR A LOST WORLD



**Foreign Missions Home Secretary WESLEY R. HURST
Interviews Good News Evangelist HAROLD HERMAN**

During the past 17 years Good News Evangelist Harold Herman has personally conducted 85 gospel crusades in more than 25 nations of Europe, Asia, South America, and the islands of the seas. While on the

campus of Central Bible College, Springfield, Missouri, for the annual School of Missions, he was interviewed by Foreign Missions Home Secretary Wesley R. Hurst.

WESLEY R. HURST: Brother Her-

man, you have had a fruitful ministry in many of the major cities of the world. Why have you concentrated on the cities?

HERMAN: I think when a man goes fishing, it is very wise to go where the fish are. The cities of the world are where the people are congregated. More and more of the world's population is crowding into the cities.

HURST: Do you believe the modern city dweller is really open to the gospel?

HERMAN: I think this is one of the greatest opportunities in all world history. I say this as a former newspaper reporter, having traveled in many, many lands.

There is a double crisis today. There is a psychological crisis, for people are confused about all that is taking place in the world. Nobody has the answers to current problems. People are looking for something, yet they don't know what.

There is also a crisis of communications. In some ways the Church has lost contact with this world of lost souls. I think we have to go outside our churches, outside our beaten path, and go to the people right where they live.

HURST: You feel, then, that this state of social flux makes people open to the gospel?

HERMAN: Beyond a shadow of a doubt, this is one of the greatest opportunities in all history for the Church to reach the multitudes with the gospel. It is not only an opportunity; it is our duty to go and tell them.

HURST: Is it a hindrance for an overseas evangelist to be an American these days?

HERMAN: It can be a hindrance unless the evangelist goes as a brother in Christ. I feel that the concept of missions today is that we go as equals and work together with them.

HURST: Do you mean that you

would be putting your nationality, your passport, and your origin to the background and going only with your Christian experience?

HERMAN: Very definitely. This is a day when we must stress that our message is from heaven. Because of the nationalism in many parts of the world, we must concentrate on the gospel. We are 100 percent for the gospel that will set souls free.

HURST: Would your Paris GOOD NEWS CRUSADE illustrate these points? Paris is a very sophisticated, hard city when it comes to the gospel. How were you received there?

HERMAN: Well, I was always afraid to go to Paris. I felt that Paris was for someone else. But Kenneth Ware, our missionary to France, asked me to pray about coming to Paris. As I prayed, I got a green light from heaven—from God.

Now this is supernatural. I think we have to depend on the supernatural leading of God before we can get the job done. So I went to Paris on the supernatural leading of God. At first I couldn't get coordinated with the people; but I found that if I let them do things the French way, everything turned out very well.

HURST: Then you followed up in other cities. How many French cities did you visit after the Paris GOOD NEWS CRUSADE?

HERMAN: This Paris crusade opened the door to the whole French nation. I was invited to 30 different cities, so I spent many months preaching the gospel throughout France. At the end of that time, Brother Ware had received 100 more invitations for me to preach.

HURST: What U. S. assistance did you have for these GOOD NEWS CRUSADES?

HERMAN: This is part of the crisis of communication. In Paris you cannot buy newspaper advertising for an evangelical meeting. We had money from Light-for-the-Lost and GOOD NEWS CRUSADES, but we couldn't buy any advertising. What we did was to print hundreds of thousands of gospel tracts, and the young people went out on the streets distributing them. I was told that ours was the finest gospel tract in French.

HURST: Did you ever get any coverage in the news media?

HERMAN: The French press is usually quite indifferent to any evangel-



"I think when a man goes fishing, it is very wise to go where the fish are."

ical activities, but somehow they heard about our campaign in the theater. We were in Paris to open a new evangelistic center; and when the newspaper people heard about it, they came from all over Paris to take a look. The ministry of Divine Healing drew their attention. They wrote, took pictures, and our crusade was in every newspaper in Paris! From the biggest to the littlest, every newspaper had a story about the Assemblies of God GOOD NEWS CRUSADE.

HURST: What you couldn't buy, the Lord gave freely!

HERMAN: It was beyond anything we could ever ask or think. If we dare to step out for God, He will give us what we need.

HURST: How do you feel that the GOOD NEWS CRUSADE program is helpful to you in overseas evangelism?

HERMAN: I feel that any evangelist who goes overseas is building on the foundation laid by the missionaries. The missionary is our soldier in the field, and we come to help him. So our GOOD NEWS CRUSADES program is an outreach built on the foundation of our missionary work. I think GOOD NEWS CRUSADES are among the finest things in the world today. Thousands of people are being saved, healed, and filled with the Holy Spirit.

HURST: What happens after the crusade is over?

HERMAN: In the meetings we have people come forward for salvation and we pray with them. In the prayer room

we get their names and addresses; we give them gospel literature and a Bible course on the life of Christ. These names are given to the national pastors, and they follow them up.

HURST: Where do you plan to go next?

HERMAN: To Java, Indonesia, and then to the Philippines and Singapore. After that I go to Malaysia, Hong Kong, and Formosa. I'll be in Asia for the next two years, Lord willing, and expect to get back to France in 1970.

HURST: Brother Herman, as I listen to you, I think of the Book of Acts and how Paul and his associates went to the great cities. Do you believe the stories of the Book of Acts are being relived today?



"We have to depend on the supernatural leading of God to get the job done."

HERMAN: I believe God wants to duplicate the Book of Acts today if He can find men. God is looking for men who will go into "all the world," and He is looking for people who will help them go. That is our program.

People are bewildered and looking for reality today, and the only place they can find it is in God. Through GOOD NEWS CRUSADES and our Light-for-the-Lost literature we can communicate the gospel to multiplied millions in the great cities of the world.

HURST: May God bless you, Brother Herman. The people of America are going to be praying for you as you continue around the world with GOOD NEWS CRUSADES.

HERMAN: Thank you very much.

SCHOOL IS NEVER EASY

By CARMEL R. FIELD



DURING THE DAILY REVIEW in our morning language class a young fellow, slouched low in the front-row seat, was asked by the professor, "Mr. Lambert, would you please give us the present indicative of *hablar*?"

Larry started up out of his seat to mumble, "Um-m-m, yes, well um-m-m. . ."

The rest of us were immediately alert. Instinct told us our professor would push the issue.

"Mr. Lambert, were you up late last night?"

"Yes," Larry answered.

"Well now that you are a college student, you will realize that late hours and adequate class response do not mix."

Our professor's lips drew tighter as she waited for his reply.

"I worked." Larry's reply was slow and deliberate.

"At night?"

"Yes, all night last night. . ."

Larry's isn't an isolated case. Working a full eight-hour day and attending classes was routine for Ann too. She sat next to me and was a bundle of nerves, the result of a serious auto accident.

One day she confided, "I just don't have the hours it takes to study for this course. I work too, so I'm going to withdraw this week."

Schooling is never easy. Too often we forget the rough places a student must face. We mistake zeal for ease. We think of hard work and forget there are frustrations. We fail to realize that men and women who achieve do so through perseverance and self-denial.

We also fail to realize that God requires a certain amount of schooling for each of His children. Although He is never a harsh schoolmaster, His schooling is not easy either.

Think of the schooling of Moses. His initial education took place within the marble walls of Pharaoh's palace. There his mind sharpened and filled with concepts and theories, calculus and codes, arts and science.

But Moses had one course yet to master—to learn about himself!

After making a major mistake he fled to the desert. There Moses entered the School of Patience. For 40 years he was a humble shepherd, learning to care patiently for the needs of sheep.

As Moses learned patience, he also learned to be grateful—grateful for the simple things of life; for friends, not enemies; for kindness, not hatred; for tolerance, not vindictiveness.

Moses also learned to appreciate the greatness of God. He learned to be the kind of man God needed him to be, a leader of men.

On graduation day, when the voice of God spoke to

him out of the burning bush, he but needed a further push in the right direction. Having received his degree in patience he was ready to care for the spiritual and physical needs of God's chosen people and to lead them out of bondage into freedom.

Before Moses there was another honor student—Joseph. His early training began with a course in sonship and brotherhood. Then he too was subjected to rigorous schooling. Rejected by his brothers, set adrift upon a sea of slavery, wrongly imprisoned Joseph faced a maze of adjustments.

Joseph needed to be schooled in faith. Not a faith based upon who he was or where he had been or even where he was going but faith based upon the nature of his relationship to his God. So Joseph began his classes, and to him faith became "the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen" (Hebrews 11:1). Later he would take his place in the hall of fame (Hebrews 11:21, 22) along with Moses (Hebrews 11:23-28).

When the time of instruction was finished, Joseph graduated. Immediately he was placed in the coveted position of corporation manager for the financial houses

TRUE PENTECOSTAL SIGNS

(Continued from page five)

pray together with one heart and one voice. (See Acts 4:24.)

When reading the first few chapters of the Acts, one is constantly confronted with another sign: *unity among the believers*. "All that believed were together." "And the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul." (Acts 2:44; 4:32). By that time there were thousands of believers, and they were of all classes: rich and poor, educated and uneducated, different nationalities (Acts 2:9-11). Yet these all were of one heart. Filled with one Spirit, they forgot all their divisions, forgot that they belonged to different countries; but Jews and Romans, Greeks and Arabians, Egyptians and North Africans all become one nation, one in Christ, because all were filled with one Spirit.

What a glorious sign of a real Baptism! No wonder the world could not understand! No wonder there was power to bring in many souls! No wonder we read that "many signs and wonders were done by the apostles." "And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved."

This is real Pentecost. How much of it is seen today?

of Pharaoh. Throughout the rest of his life he was in a position to further the purposes and plans of God. Thus he put those earlier lessons on faith into action.

Schooling also requires perseverance. Rarely is a worthwhile achievement attained without some sacrifice. Even an eight o'clock class requires some sacrifice when one rises early to study instead of sleep.


Frequently college students forgo extracurricular activities. One young married student remarked, "I haven't had time to read a newspaper or magazine in months." This is not an idle statement, for I have had some 2,000 pages of outside reading to complete and outline, plus five additional textbooks, for just two courses. Indeed, it certainly adds up to a tremendous number of study hours.

Many will accept such denial for secular education, how many will accept God's schooling requirements?

One new convert recalled how eager he was to tell others the good news. This led to his teaching a Sunday

school class. He studied 10 hours a week for the class—and this brought an important priority into focus. He was in the habit of staying out late on Saturday nights. He found he couldn't come in at 2:30 on Sunday morning and put the finishing touches on his lesson! So he started coming in earlier.

Schooling is never easy. Yet the rewards are totally satisfying. Can you picture Moses when he realized he had learned his lessons well? Hear him intercede with God to forgive the sins of a nation and plead, "If not, blot me, I pray thee, out of thy book" (Exodus 32:32). Joseph too realized the desire of his life when by faith he claimed the promises of God to Israel. He saw his own dear brothers and father Jacob again; his sons became heirs of the promise (Genesis 48:20).

Surely the greatest reward a faithful child of God can realize will not be a golden-edge diploma but rather a soul-tingling: "Well done, thou good and faithful student; graduate thou into the joys of thy Lord." 

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS REFLECT WORLDWIDE OUTREACH

IS REVIVALTIME REACHING YOU?

A PARTICULARLY INTERESTING FACET of international news coverage is the foreign correspondent's on-the-spot reports concerning response in various countries to news-making incidents occurring in the United States.

American broadcasters so often switch to an overseas correspondent for his analysis of a particular event. Naturally this adds color to the news; but it does more than that—it serves as a barometer of world opinion to the American public, a constant reminder that our responsibilities reach far beyond our geographical boundaries.

Revivaltime has its "foreign correspondents" too. In more than 75 ports-of-call individuals report regularly, assuring us that the people of their country appreciate receiving the weekly "good news" from their favorite "newscaster," C. M. Ward.

During one recent month, reports were received from the following locations:

Barbados	Antigua	Burma	Montserrat
Bahamas	Philippines	Denmark	England
Bermuda	Thailand	Korea	New Zealand
Guyana	Hungary	Mexico	Malaysia
India	Ethiopia	Virgin Islands	Peru
Honduras	Brazil	St. Vincent	China
Granada	St. Kitts	Fiji	Anguilla
Trinidad	Nigeria	Costa Rica	Vietnam

Here are just a few of the scores of on-the-scene reports reaching *Revivaltime* in one month.

From a missionary in the Philippines: "Thank you for the messages that you have faithfully and painstakingly taped for broadcast here in the Philippines. We have invited some of our friends to tune in on Sundays, and even people in the houses around us are listening to the broadcast because it is aired over one of the most popular

stations here in the Visayas, and the time is just right—from 4:00 to 4:30 p.m. This is just the time people come out of their siestas and want some music. What better music can they get than the *Revivaltime* choir, which is first-class singing, and then to hear the message from the Word of God right in their own homes."

A listener in Guyana, South America, writes: "I assure you that your radio ministry is doing many things for the people of Guyana. God is using *Revivaltime* to reach and bless many hungry souls."

From the Leeward Islands:


"Just a few lines to let you know how much *Revivaltime* is appreciated on this little island. Though you may not get many letters, that does not mean many are not listening. So often people do not take the time to write and say thanks for things they really appreciate.

"We are glad that preachers still exist who do not compromise. You preach on everyday things that make us search ourselves to know whether we are right. For my fellow islanders I want to say thank you."

It is evident that the broadcast is doing an effective job around the world. Indeed, the full gospel via radio is going into many places where missionaries cannot go.

To better determine the scope and dimensions of this radio ministry, more reports are needed. Everyone listening to *Revivaltime* in an overseas port-of-call is urged to write to the broadcast, pinpointing their location.

Only by knowing which areas of the world cannot hear the broadcast, can *Revivaltime* meaningfully expand its outreach. This is the ultimate aim: to reach into every nook and cranny of the world with the full gospel.

We'd like to know if we're reaching you. 



THIS PRESENT WORLD

PEOPLE

Warner Sallman Dies at 76

Artist Warner Sallman, whose "Head of Christ" has become world-famous, died of a heart attack May 25 at the age of 76.

Reared by Christian parents, Sallman early in life was influenced by Gustave Dore's drawings of Biblical scenes. He attended art school and later enrolled in a Bible school where he became impressed with a different type of Christ than had been painted by most artists.

In 1924, at the age of 31, he produced a charcoal sketch of the "Head of Christ" for his church paper, the *Covenant Companion*. Reproductions of the color edition in oils of the famous portrait were first published in 1941. Over 100 million copies of the painting have been distributed.

After 1941 Mr. Sallman produced 20 other portrayals of Christ, including "Christ Our Pilot," "Christ in Gethsemane," and "The Lord Is My Shepherd."

Asian Named President of Evangelical Fellowship

At the fifth General Council of the World Evangelical Fellowship, which met in Switzerland in May, I. Ben Wati was named president for a five-year term. The well-known leader of the Evangelical Fellowship of India succeeds Dr. Everett Cattell, an American, in the world post.

The international secretary, Dennis E. Clark, of Canada was reappointed for three years.

The Council expressed a great burden for the youth

of the world, and approved the appointment of an international coordinator of youth work.

Believers from 36 countries attended this General Council meeting, including three communist countries of eastern Europe. The Council is made up of evangelical alliances in various countries. Six additional alliances were taken into membership this year, bringing the number of constituent national evangelical alliances up to 18.

HEALTH

Tobacco Firms Help Promote AMA Study

According to the *Chicago Tribune*, the American Medical Association has received \$8 million in research grants from six tobacco companies, making a total of \$18 million that has now been contributed by such firms, to support studies into the relationship of smoking and health.

The A.M.A.'s Education and Research Foundation allots the funds to independent scientists doing private research. The program began in 1964, and the new grants will continue support through 1973.

Pending reports indicate that habitual dependence on smoking is psychological in origin. They also show evidence that patients with heart disease run a great risk if they smoke. Two drugs used to curb the smoking habit have been found to be ineffectual or even harmful.

Smoking Causes 14.3 Percent of All Deaths

Cigarette smoking causes one-seventh or 14.3 percent of all deaths in the United States each year, says Dr. William H. Stewart, surgeon general of the United States. Smoking claims a life every 105 seconds.

Healthy persons who break the habit can expect to live as long, or almost as long, as those who never smoked. Just as important, they can expect better health and less illness than smokers, he says.

In addition, cigarette smoking is responsible for seven million cases of chronic illness in the U.S. each year, according to U. S. Senator Ralph Yarborough. It is also responsible for 77 million days lost from work and 306 million days of restricted activity each year.

THE CHURCH

Merger Forms New Wesleyan Church

About 650 representatives of The Pilgrim Holiness Church and the Wesleyan Methodist Church of America gathered on the campus of Anderson College, Anderson, Ind., on June 26 for a merging conference. The merger results in a new denomination of 122, 340 members known as The Wesleyan Church.

Sharing common spiritual and doctrinal beliefs of the Wesleyan-Arminian teachings, the two groups effected the

READ THE WORD

CHAPTERS FOR THE WEEK OF AUGUST 4-11

Sunday	Acts 3, 4	Thursday	Acts 11, 12
Monday	Acts 5, 6	Friday	Acts 13, 14
Tuesday	Acts 7, 8	Saturday	Acts 15, 16
Wednesday	Acts 9, 10	Sunday	Acts 17, 18

"But we believe that through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ we shall be saved, even as they" (Acts 15:11).

first significant merger of two "holiness" denominations and expressed hope that it may pave the way for additional unions of conservative church bodies.

"The Wesleyan Church is uniting in the common purpose of proclaiming the Wesleyan message of full salvation," according to General Superintendents Harold K. Sheets and Paul F. Elliott. "It is committed to the unfinished task of worldwide evangelism and seeks to cultivate fellowship with those of like precious faith."

At the closing business session, The Wesleyan Church overwhelmingly proposed immediate merger negotiations with The Free Methodist Church of America, Winona Lake, Indiana.

Israel's Christian Population Increases

Following the 1967 Arab-Israeli war, the Christian population under Israeli control has risen from 56,000 to 105,000, Zerah Wahrhaftig, Israel's minister of religion, reported in Jerusalem.

In a statement to the Knesset (Parliament), Mr. Wahrhaftig said that 30 Christian denominations have members in Israel and that the Christian population includes 2,500 clergymen, monks, and nuns.

Relations with Christian groups are "proper and even friendly," he said, but "until now, relations with the Muslim leadership in Eastern Jerusalem have been marred by political influences."

Catholics and Protestants Zero in on Colombia

Two significant events are taking place in Colombia, South America, this year.

On the Protestant side, the evangelical churches are joined together in an Evangelism-in-Depth campaign with the goal of witnessing to everyone in the country.

On the Catholic side, Pope Paul VI plans to visit Colombia this summer. Describing himself as "an apostle on the move," he announced officially he will attend part of the World Eucharistic Congress to be held at Bogota in August. It will be the first visit of a reigning pontiff to Latin America.

Evangelicals Sending Relief to Vietnam

The World Relief Commission, a branch of the U.S. National Association of Evangelicals, is expanding its relief efforts in the city of Hue, Vietnam, which was severely damaged in the Tet offensive earlier this year. Commodities for 5,000 persons were shipped into Hue in March. The volume was expanded in April to minister to 15,000 persons.

Last month a call went out for 100,000 blankets and 100,000 sets of clothing for use in Hue and other areas of Vietnam. (In the past 15 years the World Relief Commission has procured and distributed 92 million pounds of food valued at \$5,300,000, clothing worth \$1,500,000 and more than \$900,000 worth of medical and hospital supplies, for needy people in many lands.)

Soviet Believers Teach Bible by Mail

Study courses in the Bible and related fields are being conducted by mail in Russia, according to *Evangelical Press*. The number taking the two-year course is limited to 100 pastors and theological students.

The new teaching program was authorized by the minister of religious affairs in late 1967. Russian Baptists, who have been denied the right to conduct correspondence courses since 1929, hailed the development as a step toward religious liberty. However, churches still

cannot have Sunday schools or other training programs for children in the U.S.S.R.

Captured Missionaries Reported Alive in Vietnam

Archie Mitchell, a missionary captured six years ago by the Viet Cong, was reported alive and well by leaders of The Christian and Missionary Alliance in its 71st General Council at Raleigh, North Carolina.

Betty Olsen, former Seattle nurse captured January 31, 1968, was reported in poor health and suffering from tropical fever.

It is believed that Dan Gerber of Canton, Ohio, and Dr. Ardel Vietti of Houston are in good health but held incommunicado.

Miss Olsen and Henry Blood of Portland, Oregon, also captured January 31, are known to have been united with the other three missionaries.

During the C&MA convention a cash offering amounting to \$106,000 was given by the 3,500 delegates and visitors to restore mission buildings which were destroyed or damaged in the Tet warfare in Vietnam.

Vacationing Collegians Converted on the Beaches

Beach evangelism during Easter vacation at Fort Lauderdale, Florida, resulted in numerous conversions. A team of 130 Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship students and 20 staff members witnessed for Christ among 8,000 collegians on the beaches. Decision cards were signed by 44, with additional conversions unrecorded.

"Many were open to the gospel as we talked to them," said Pete Hammond, coordinator of the project.

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SOLOMON DEDICATES THE TEMPLE

Sunday School Lesson for August 11, 1968

BY J. BASHFORD BISHOP

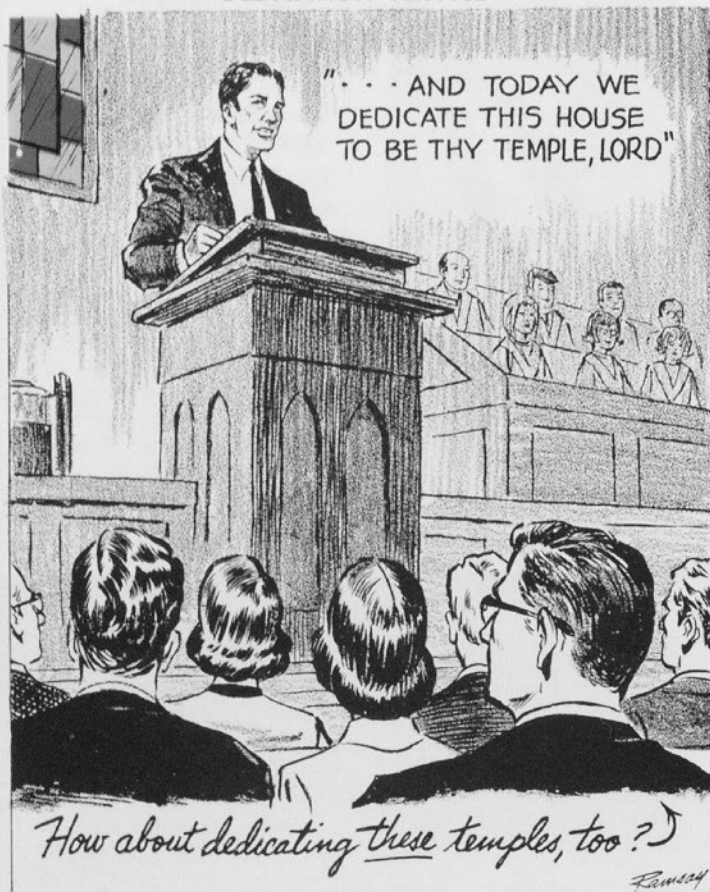
1 KINGS 8:54-66

THE TEMPLE WAS COMPLETED—a magnificent structure, beautiful to behold. Yet for all that, something else was needed to give it meaning and to make it indeed the temple of God. Solomon knew all this. Thus he gave instructions for moving into the temple all the sacred furnishings, chief among these being the Ark of the Covenant, the symbol of God's presence.

GOD'S PRESENCE MANIFESTED (1 Kings 8:10, 11)

When this had been done and all of God's specifications and requirements met, the glory of the Lord came down and the presence of God was manifested. Read 2 Chronicles 5:11-14 for details not described in 1 Kings 8:10, 11. Observe the parallel between what took place here and what took place leading up to and on the Day of Pentecost (Acts 1 and 2). Whenever and wherever God's conditions are met, His presence and power are manifested!

DEDICATION SERVICE



SOLOMON'S PRAYER (1 Kings 8:54-61)

Following the manifestation of God's glory, Solomon knelt before the assembled people and from a devout and grateful heart offered one of the most wonderful prayers in the Bible. This model prayer of dedication contains marvelous depth of truth and spirituality. Read it slowly to sense an awareness of the nature of man, of the nature of God, and of the possibility of revival.

SOLOMON'S BENEDICTION (1 Kings 8:54-61)

"And it was so, that when Solomon had made an end of praying all this prayer and supplication unto the Lord, he arose . . . from kneeling on his knees with his hands spread up to heaven. And he stood, and blessed all the congregation of Israel with a loud voice."

Solomon thanked the Lord—not for wealth, fame, or power, but for rest, as if rest were more valuable than these other things. Let us not underestimate or fail to appreciate spiritual blessing!

Solomon recalled God's faithfulness in relation to His promises. (Although 3,000 years or more have passed, does not Solomon's declaration remain true today?)

Solomon requested that God's presence might be experienced by the people in their daily lives. We often hear it said that the presence of the Lord in one's life is granted upon the condition of obedience. However, the opposite is also true—the presence of God in one's life inspires obedience and makes overcoming temptation and living a life of victory possible!

Paul said, "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not-I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me" (Galatians 2:20).

Solomon realized that all of God's blessings are meant to contribute toward spreading the knowledge of the true God. To what extent do we realize this and act upon it? "Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God" (1 Corinthians 10:31).

The happiest people in the world and those who will be most blessed in the world to come are those who most completely live for the glory of God and the extension of His kingdom!

SOLOMON'S LEADERSHIP IN SACRIFICE (1 Kings 8:62-66)

The temple had been completed, and its dedication was attended by a glorious manifestation of God's presence. Now its consecration was crowned by an act of sacrifice on a colossal and unprecedented scale—so much so that the brazen altar was not able to handle all the sacrifices!

A grateful heart like Solomon's is quick to express itself in sacrificial actions. Sacrifices should be in proportion to the size and character of blessings given. Solomon had received tremendous spiritual and temporal blessings; his sacrifices were therefore in similar general proportion. May the same be said of us!

Sacrifices are often followed by happy results. We read in verse 66 that when the days of sacrifice and of feasting were over, Solomon sent the people away and "they blessed the king, and went unto their tents joyful and glad of heart."

Great sacrifices are often followed by great blessings. "They that sow in tears shall reap in joy" (Psalm 126:5). The sacrifices of a few may contribute to the joy of many. Have we really learned the art of sacrifice?

CHARISMATIC RENEWAL SPREADS IN NORWAY

By Evangelist E. HOWARD ANDERSON

STAMFORD, CONNECTICUT—There are thousands of Spirit-baptized believers in Norway. A goodly number from other denominations have come to the Pentecostal meetings and have entered into this experience. In the Mission Covenant Church also there are a considerable number of Spirit-baptized members.

In the past eight years I have visited Norway a number of times and found many Norwegian people hungry for God's fulness.

A large number of youth of the Lutheran Inland Mission in Skien area have been baptized in the Holy Spirit. First the youth leader experienced Pentecost; then, as they had prayer meetings in homes, many other Lutheran youths were baptized in the Holy Spirit.

One Sunday at the regular Lutheran State Church services in Bergen, a member received the Spirit and praised the Lord in new tongues. Shortly thereafter, approximately 30 youth in the church received the Holy Spirit. They discussed the matter with their lay leader. This subject was foreign to him; however, as he searched the Scriptures he was baptized in the Holy Spirit. So was his wife. Now they both work in the Sunday school and in the evangelistic phase of the church.

The little island of Fjell where I ministered last year is in the Bergen area. The services were in Lutheran homes and normally lasted from three to four hours. People of all ages packed into the living room where there was singing, testimonies, preaching, prayer for the sick, and prayer for those desiring to be baptized in the Holy Spirit.

There had been little or no church activity on this island outside the Lutheran Church. The middle-aged housewife who was the first to be baptized in the Holy Spirit knew nothing of the Pentecostal experience and, as I recall her testimony, knew nothing of the movement, as their life on the island is quite isolated. She received in her humble farm home. Soon her husband received. In about a year's time approximately 30 had been baptized in the Holy Spirit, and others were healed by our wonderful Lord.

The Lord poured out His blessing in Trondheim. Large numbers gathered nightly for five weeks. Many received salvation and heal-

ing. Scores were baptized with the Holy Spirit. A Lutheran man came from an island to the meetings and experienced his Pentecost. He in turn prayed for a Lutheran evangelist visiting in his home and he was baptized in the Holy Spirit.

A young sister went from a service to her work in a hotel and while there received the gift of the Holy Spirit. A brother testified: "As I was about to leave the prayer room I shook hands

with another brother and was baptized in the Holy Spirit."

As God poured out His grace and power, doors have opened throughout Norway. Approximately 80 received the Holy Spirit at Oslo, and 50 in Molde.

During two weeks of evangelistic meetings at Tromso, north of the Arctic Circle, over 100 adults came forward for salvation and the Lord confirmed His Word by baptizing many in the Holy Spirit and numerous visible miracles of healing took place. The sick came from over 100 miles and extra daily services had to be arranged

so the New Birth could be presented to them as well as Divine Healing.

This is yet the day of small beginnings of the Charismatic Revival in this country of approximately four million. We are praying and believing the Lord for a greater shower of this Latter-day Rain. Northern Norway borders on Russia. I ministered on the border at Kirkenes last fall, where a goodly number received the Pentecostal Baptism. A great move of God's Spirit will stem the tide of Communism. Let us stand by this land in prayer!

21st Annual PFNA Convention Set

DES MOINES, IOWA—Preliminary plans for the 21st annual convention of the Pentecostal Fellowship of North America have been announced here by R. Bryant Mitchell, fellowship chairman.

The convention will be held in Vancouver, B.C., Canada, October 29-31. Theme will be "Eternal Verities for Changing Times."

Preconvention activities on Monday, October 28, include the annual meeting of the PFNA board of administration, women's auxiliary, and the missions and youth commissions.

At 9:30 a.m. Tuesday there will be a prayer time followed by an address from David A. Womack, Assemblies of God foreign missions editor, on "Universalism."

At 2:30 that afternoon a yet undesignated minister from the Pentecostal Holiness Church will preach on "Existentialism." There will be a musicale at 7 p.m. that evening.

R. Bryant Mitchell, who was elected PFNA chairman this past fall in Dallas, will deliver the keynote address at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday.

Wednesday's schedule opens with a 9:30 a.m. prayer time followed by a 10:30 sermon by Ray E. Smith, Des Moines, general superintendent of the Open Bible Standard Churches. His subject is "Spirit-Centered Experience."

An as yet unnamed speaker from the Pentecostal Free Will Baptist Church will preach on "World Revolution" at 2:30 Wednesday afternoon. At 7 p.m. there will be a report on the Pentecostal World Conference.

At 7:30 that evening "New Morality" will be the sermon subject for Herbert H. Barber, Winnipeg,

of the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada.

On Thursday morning from 7:30 to 9:30 there will be breakfast meetings of the board of administration and chapter officers, convention committees, and denominational superintendents.

From 9:45 to 10:15, there will be a prayer time, followed by a business session and a ladies' luncheon at 12:30.

Communion will be held at 2:30 with Guy P. Duffield, International Church of the Foursquare

Gospel, preaching on "Christ and Redemption."

Charles W. Conn, general overseer of the Church of God, will speak at 7:30 Thursday evening on "The Prophetic Word" in the concluding session of the convention.

In charge of the local committee is Dean A. E. Wolf of Life Bible College of Canada, North Surrey, B.C. The Grosvenor Hotel in downtown Vancouver has been chosen as the convention hotel. Reservations should be made by September 15.



WHY I PLAN TO ATTEND THE COUNCIL ON EVANGELISM

THE HOUR IN WHICH WE LIVE and its circumstances cry for a new move of evangelism. Instead of a pronouncement emanating from our national headquarters on the subject, the forthcoming Council on Evangelism affords an opportunity for the entire church to participate in a forward move of evangelism. I want to be there and have a part in it.

LOWELL C. ASHBROOK, pastor
First Assembly, West Monroe, Louisiana

COUNCIL ON EVANGELISM
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI • AUGUST 26-29



"THERE JUST AREN'T ENOUGH CRUTCHES IN THE WORLD FOR ALL THE LAME EXCUSES WE MEET."

NO CRUTCH TO LEAN ON

By ESTHER M. TAHMAZIAN

AN ORIENTAL FABLE tells of a man who went to borrow a neighbor's rope. The neighbor said, "I need it to tie up a pile of sand."

The first man replied, "But you can't tie up a pile of sand with a rope."

"Oh, yes," said the neighbor, "you can do almost anything with a rope if you don't want to lend it."

Don't you think that's a good illustration of what an excuse really is?

Making excuses is a human weakness that started with Adam. He said to God, "The woman whom thou gavest to be with me, she gave me to eat." Eve, in turn, blamed the serpent. How common it is to make excuses for our actions by blaming someone else!

Jesus told a story about excuses that must have brought a wry smile to the faces of His hearers. He told about a man who threw a big party and invited a lot of people who offered the lamest kinds of excuses!

One man said, "I have bought a piece of ground, and I must needs go and see it: I pray thee have me excused." Who would believe this son of Abraham had bought some land without seeing it first! Anyway, the land would still be there when the party was over.

Another said, "I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to prove them: I pray thee have me excused." What difference would a party make? Even if it delayed him a whole day, that wouldn't be very long compared to the period of time it would take him to break and train those oxen.

A third man said, "I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come." Was he ashamed to bring his wife to the

feast? If there's one place a bride would like to go, it's to a banquet where servants do all the cooking and dish-washing.

On hearing these silly excuses the host was very angry, Jesus said; and no wonder. We look upon these people as being neither courteous nor honest. But was their behavior any worse than the reaction of many of us to God's invitation?

There is going to be a party such as human history has never known; the Bible calls it "the marriage supper of the Lamb" (Revelation 19:9). It is written, "Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb." God has sent out invitations to multiplied millions of people to join the company of redeemed who will attend that supper, but millions have turned down the invitations by offering all kinds of excuses.

Some say, "I'll come later but not now. I have plenty of time." The truth is they have no guarantee they will live long enough to get another opportunity.

Others say, "I'm too sinful. There's no hope for me." That's a direct contradiction of the Bible which says Jesus came to call sinners to repentance.

Then there are those who offer the excuse, "I'm good

enough; I don't need to be cleansed by the blood of the Lamb. In fact, I'm a lot better than many who profess to be Christians." The lameness of this excuse is shown by the Scriptures which teach that all human righteousness is like a filthy rag in God's sight. The Scriptures state, "There is none righteous; no not one." "All have sinned, and come short of the glory of God."

Another excuse often offered is, "There are too many hypocrites in the church; I want no part of it." True, there are phonies—and there are counterfeit dollar bills floating around too, but who would refuse the gift of a few real ones because of that!

Some say, "I don't understand how the gospel works; I can't believe something I don't understand." The fallacy of that excuse is evident every day; we understand very little about radios, automobiles, telephones, but we use them constantly.

As someone has said, "*There just aren't enough crutches in the world for all the lame excuses we meet.*"

When you stand at last in the presence of God, you will have no crutch to lean on if you haven't prepared for that day by accepting the Lord Jesus Christ as your personal Saviour. Every excuse will dissolve in His presence. Every word of self-defense will perish before it can be spoken.

Accept the invitation to the gospel feast—and do it now. Discard every excuse. Put your trust in God's saving grace which can deliver you from all your sins this very hour. Prepare to stand whole and clean in God's presence without a crutch to lean upon—for there won't be any.