

# The Christian Evangel

A Weekly Pentecostal Newspaper Published in the Interests of the General Assembly of God and the Promulgation of the Gospel of the Kingdom in all the Earth.

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## THE NEED OF THE HOUR

**A Supernatural Ministry—Many Miracles and Signs Being Performed and Yet the Gospel of the Kingdom Needs to be More Thoroughly Demonstrated.**

As a rule religious propaganda has degenerated into a mere competition among the creeds—this system of belief striving for supremacy over that system of belief, each claiming to be better and more accurate than all the rest. This is too much so even in the home-land of so-called Christian countries, and all the more true, as the heathen see it, when denominations bring their systems of thought into competition with heathen philosophy and heathen religions. The battle is too much mental, too philosophic, not enough concrete and practical. It is not enough of the God that "answers by fire," as it were. As long as the contest between Israel's faith and that of Baal in the days of King Ahab was on the plane of mere intellectual teaching, Elijah was at a disadvantage, though a true prophet of God, and the priests of Baal multiplied to four hundred about the Court of Jezebel and Ahab. The people were left in doubt as to whether Baal or Jehovah was the true God, Elijah asked why they "halted between two opinions." Thus it was then, and thus it always will be when the contest is merely in the mental realm between this theory and that, this system and that system. One theory will suit this person and another theory that person. One will be Buddhist, and another Christian in thought, and still another Mohammedan. There will be no compelling force that will reveal where the true God is and is at work.

But, when Elijah got the ear of God and went up the heavens from raining for three and one-half years, and Jezebel and all her four hundred prophets of Baal could not stop the drought, then King Ahab began to seek for Elijah. God's prophet was in great demand. Still the people were not fully decided. The drought might be natural and not the direct result of the power of Elijah's God. All right, then, said Elijah, we will offer sacrifices to the gods and the one who answers by fire from heaven in a mighty, miraculous way, let him be the true God. The contest is no longer in argument or in theory. The God that can hear prayer and answer it, the God that can do things, the God that has power, the God of real supernatural miracles—He is to prove Himself the true God by demonstrating his presence with power and wonders from Heaven. Not all the priests of Baal could wake up their god, could get any answer to prayer, could get the miraculous fire to fall and lick up the waiting sacrifice. But, Elijah got a hearing from heaven. The true God sent the fire that water could not quench and which burned up, in the presence of the people, not only the waiting sacrifice of Elijah but also the barrels upon barrels of water upon the sacrifice and in the trenches. This settled the matter. The people saw, despite their fine arguments and great show and display, that the priests of Baal were mere humbugs and their god a myth. The people halted no longer. Instead of believing and following these priests they slew the four hundred false prophets on the spot.

Moses also had to prove that his God was mightier than the gods of the Egyptian magicians. Only thus could he get Pharaoh to heed God's demand and let the people go.

In the New Testament days it was no different. On the day of Pentecost Peter held up "Jesus of Nazareth as a man approved of God unto you by mighty works and wonders and signs which God did by him in the midst of you," Acts 2:22. The miraculous outpouring of the Holy Ghost in the name of Jesus proved to all that Christ was accepted and approved in heaven. This was enough. The people that Jesus could not convince by all His arguments and teaching, now own Him as the Son of God and cry out to know how they can be saved from

the awful sin of having rejected Him. In the later ministry of Peter it seems not so much what Peter said but rather what Peter did that turned men to God. When Peter said, "Aeneas, Jesus Christ healeth thee," and when this man, in bed for eight years, was instantly healed, then we read in the next verse that "all that dwelt at Lydda and Sharon saw him and they turned to the Lord," Acts 9:35. No nice teaching and beautiful theory about Jesus, but rather the power of His name made the people own Him as Christ and worship Him as the crucified yet living and exalted Son of God.

Paul was a great and deep teacher; but not even the church accepted him as the Apostle on account of this. In the great Council at Jerusalem it is said of the church that they listened "unto Barnabas and Paul rehearsing what signs and wonders God had wrought among the Gentiles through them," Acts 15:12. Then they gave Paul the right hand of fellowship as an Apostle to the Gentiles, Gal. 2:10.

Read of Paul's ministry among the wild barbarians when shipwrecked on the island of Melita (the modern Malta), Acts 28:1-10. It was not his theories or doctrines that captured the island in a few months, but his supernatural ministry of healing alone.

Paul tells the Romans that he will make mention only of the things which God wrought through him for the obedience of the Gentiles "by word and deed, in the power of signs and wonders, in the power of the Holy Ghost," Rom. 15:18, 19. Does not the Gospel need as much today to be demonstrated by power for the obedience of the present heathen Gentiles as it did for the obedience of the heathen then? The heathen today who never heard of Jesus or Jehovah know just as little about the truthfulness of the Bible and the truthfulness of the Gospel story as they did in Paul's day. No argument can be adduced for the need of miracles then that is not equally true today among the heathen who know neither Christ nor His power. Paul said to the Corinthians, "My speech and my preaching were not in the enticing words of man's wisdom but in the demonstration of the Spirit and power," 1st Cor. 2:14.

### MODERN DEMONSTRATION OF THE GOSPEL OF CHRIST.

Certainly in the midst of every ism under the sun, of every old and new philosophy, of all the ancient and modern false religions that have ever infested the world, now making inroads into even Christian lands, especially in our great cities—certainly under such circumstances God needs to stretch out His own arm in power. For more than ten years this is exactly what God has been doing. More cases of the dead being raised, beyond all doubt, in these ten years, are now on record than are recorded in the Bible in two thousand years of miraculous dealings of God with His ancient people. All intelligent people know that even in the days of Christ and the Apostles the raising of the dead was a very rare thing. Had God restored in all its fullness the power of the early Apostles, we could not expect, with the records of the New Testament as our guide, that the raising of the dead would be a very frequent occurrence. It is a matter of praise and glory, then, to the great name of our God that so many of such miracles in modern times have occurred both in America and in foreign lands—in England, Germany, Africa, etc. Thousands of cases, during the same short period, of cancers, consumption, epilepsy, palsy, pellagra, asthma, rheumatism, fevers, pneumonia and many other diseases,—even a few cases of leprosy and a few of broken bones—are on record as being

completely healed alone by the power of God in the name of Jesus.

One common miracle which every child of God can experience for himself, is the miraculous baptism with the Holy Ghost, which results in the recipient's speaking in other tongues in a supernatural way as the Spirit of God gives utterance, just exactly as recorded in the miraculous days of New Testament times. See Acts 2:14; 10:46; 19:6.

Perhaps two hundred thousand people in the past half a dozen years have individually tested in faith and received the promise of the Father (Luke 24:49) and this sign has followed. See Mark 16:17. This is not some theory, not a mere doctrine, not a mere philosophy to be held in the mind with the hope that it may prove true in eternity. It is something to be experienced, here and now, and by every honest child of God who will believe and obey the Lord. This is a part of the Gospel and this Gospel has been demonstrated by over a thousand preachers who are now preaching this gospel, and God, in a supernatural way, is all around the world backing it up by signs and wonders from heaven. Not a week passes but our desk is covered with wonderful, living testimonies from all lands to this effect.

But, with all this—for which we praise God—there is not generally that sweeping victory and miraculous healing that accompanied the ministry of Peter, where every afflicted one who came was healed. See Acts 5:16. This is the ministry needed. It is no hour to waste time in or over mere theories. The world is dying for the living, tangible Gospel of power and salvation from sin. This is the time when men can know God and His power for themselves, can be filled with His unspeakable joy and glory. We want, and the world needs, a ministry that can demonstrate the Gospel by healing, in Jesus' name, the sick who come in faith, by making the lame to walk, casting out devils and delivering those who are bound by Satan, from the power of the Devil.

To get this we must not be just idly seeking power, but we must be saturated with the word, life and Spirit of God. We must humble ourselves, must live the truth, be utterly abandoned to God and His will and believe Him and at once act on our faith.

E. N. B.

## "ALWAYS."

"Lo, I am with you all the days, even unto the consummation of the age." Matt. 28: 20, R. V. Margin.

I'm footsore oft and weary,  
For the way has been so long;  
And the storms that beat around me  
Have been so fierce and strong;  
I've climbed up dreary mountains,  
Whose paths were rough and steep;  
I've waded through dark waters,  
That were so cold and deep.

But all the way so weary,  
One joy has been my own:  
I've always known one comfort,  
I have not walked alone!  
For One has e'er been with me,  
Whose face I could not see,  
But I cannot tell to any,  
All He has been to me.

When darkest clouds were o'er me,  
His presence seemed more near;  
When trials sore beset me,  
I felt His love most dear;  
When weak and worn I stumbled,  
His own arm held me up;  
When fainting by the wayside,  
He filled my empty cup.

When Faith is weak and faltering,  
He whispers words of cheer;  
"Those whom I love may suffer,  
But I will help them bear;  
I know the path before thee,  
I'll guide thee all the way;  
It leads to joy unending  
Amid eternal day."

So still I travel onward,  
Though dark the path and dim;  
I would not miss one trial  
That brings me nearer Him;  
And when before His presence,  
I stand, through His own grace,  
I'll see in Kingly beauty,  
His glorious unveiled face.

—Selected.

"He shall not be afraid of evil tidings: his heart is fixed, trusting in the Lord."

## VOWS

**Are They Binding? What God's Word Says About It.**

Let us study carefully in this article Eccl. 5:1-7 on the making of vows. Some may not perfectly understand what is the full meaning of a vow. Let us see what Webster says about "a vow."

1. It is "a solemn promise to God or to some deity; an act binding one's self to some act, service or condition."

2. "A promise of fidelity, pledge of love or affection."

Among the first things the preacher (Solomon) gives is a warning about the making of vows. In verse 1 he says: "Keep thy foot when thou goest to the house of God," i. e. be careful or cautious in a wise and considerate way. He then says: "Be more ready to hear than to give the sacrifice of fools." Jesus often admonished his hearers to listen with their ears. Matt. 11:15, 13:9, 43, etc. James also gives the wise admonition: "Let every man be swift to hear, slow to wrath, slow to speak." James 1:19. That is when it comes to making rash vows and statements, etc. I suppose Solomon referred to vows in connection with going to the house of God because he knew that there was the place where the soul was stirred up under the preached word. That is the place where conviction usually comes to a soul and that is the time when vows are made. We should try by all means to get our unsaved children and friends to go to the house of God with us, for that is the common place where God meets to talk with them. We should be more ready to hear than to give the "sacrifice of fools." In meditating upon that expression recently I seemed clear to me that the making of vows in a multitude of words (recklessly), verse 3, and then neglecting to pay those vows, verse 4, is what is meant by the "sacrifice of fools." God's word, again, to us on this line is found in 1 Sam. 15:22: "Behold, to Obey is better than sacrifice, and to Hearken than the fat of rams."

It is very common to see people, when wrought upon by the Spirit of God, make their promises to God and then immediately, or soon after, go out from His presence and fail to put their promises into effect. We meet people on every side who are not keeping their word with God. To ease their consciences they do many things, as did Herod. He did many things, but the vital thing which he refused to do was to accept Jesus Christ in the humble, scriptural way. Many people are like the little boy who was out in the back yard one day and, seeing a large white goose, was tempted to take a shot at it, and, to his surprise, he so hurt it that it died. He took it out behind the barn and buried it, unbeknown to his mother. Then he came in and began to bring in wood and run errands. Such a remarkable change had come over the boy in his willingness to help mama (which hitherto he had not been wont to do) that she began to wonder what was the matter with Willie. It was much easier for Willie that morning to work hard and do the many things than to get right down to hard business and go to Mama like a man, and confess that he had killed the goose. Is not this the way many people do? They will carry a load around on their consciences for months and sometimes years, and will do many things in their effort to buy God off and keep from doing the very thing which God makes plain they should do. They are like Naaman. "Are not Abanah and Pharpar, rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel. May I not wash in them and be clean?" 11 Kings 5:12. Yes, we try to bargain with God, but it does not work. God has a one-price business, as it were. You pay His price or you don't get the goods.

Another point here: Says someone: "Does God hold one to every vow he has made? According to the text under consideration, I believe

God holds us to every reasonable, intelligent vow that we make to him or to man, when the Holy Spirit has prompted us to make it. God knew that some would be so dishonest as to say: "It was a mistake; I did not know what I was doing, etc." See verse 6: "Neither say thou before the angel that it was an error," etc. You may be tempted to think that God does not pay attention to such small things as that, or to think in the words of scripture: "Wherefore should God be angry at thy (your) voice and destroy the work of thine hands?" Do you know that this is the very cause (broken vows) of the lack of anointing and blessing on many souls. This will often answer the question why you cannot receive healing or the baptism.

Let God talk once more. Listen! "Call upon Me in the day of trouble; I will deliver thee." But, examine the conditions upon which God promises such wonderful help to us. It is in the preceding verse: "Pay Thy vows unto the Most High God," etc. Psalm 50:14,15.

When you get behind in your vows your credit is not good in heaven and therefore you cannot get a favor when you need it. Suppose, as Brother Erickson, of Chicago, has expressed it, you go to the grocery and say: "I would like to run a bill with you until the first of next month. Then I will pay you." The month goes by and the groceries are received. The first of the month comes and you fail to pay for them as you said you would (a very common thing in the world, but of course, not among saints). Well, about the middle of this next month you go back to the grocery again and say: "I would like to have you give me some credit. The grocer would undoubtedly answer you: "No, for you now owe me for the month past and you said you would pay on the first and haven't done so." No one would blame the grocer for doing that. However, we seem to think that God requires less than finite man and that we can disregard our promises to Him and expect Him afterward to help us. Let me tell you that God will deal with us just as sternly and faithfully as any man, and you need not expect any favors from Him until you obey Him in all things.

### Here are Some of Our Common Vows:

Some promise to give God their property and pledge to Him all they have. When God asks them for some of it they will draw back, and if they do give, it will be in such meager amounts that they will begin right there to leak out in their spiritual lives. If these very people think they are going to die, they will usually make out a will, but to whom do they leave their property? Usually to unsaved relatives. Seldom do they ever will their property to the work of God. Poor, inconsistent children of God. They will be the losers in the coming time when rewards are given. Many are stiffed up and say: "From now on, Lord, I do give you the tenth of my income and of the increase of my property." The time comes when they are a little pinched and use God's tenth and never pay it back when they are able to do so. Are you guilty reader? If so, be honest. How many, perhaps, in a Missionary meeting, promise to give so much at a certain time for foreign missions, and the enthusiasm wears off and you have left the convention or camp-meeting, and the devil tempts you not to give it. You may think it is a little thing, but, do you know, you lied to God.

Here are some who have a definite call to go into the ministry or perhaps to the foreign field and they promise God to go. But, after a little they too fail God. Often they are a burden and a nuisance to the Assembly they are in. After Jonah had his painful experience he saw that when he promised to obey God and go, he was up against a big God. So, he said: "I will pay that that I have vowed," Jonah 2:9. "To obey is better than sacrifice." 1 Sam. 15:22.

I knew a brother who was called to work in street meetings. He would

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RUMORS OF WARS.

As we are preparing the manuscript for this week's paper, we are aware that the world is facing one of the greatest crisis in its history. As we have scanned the newspapers and read the glaring headlines which have conveyed to our consciousness the information that war is about to be declared which may plunge the whole of Europe into a deadly conflict, our hearts have been looking up with expectancy, for who knows but that the Lord will soon come.

Prophecy plainly teaches us that ten kingdoms shall arise in last days over which the anti-Christ shall rule, and through them, having by far the balance of political power, compel all the nations of the earth to do his bidding. Also notice that God showed Nebuchadnezzar in Dan. 2:41-44, that these ten kingdoms shall be composed of part iron and part clay. There shall be in them the strength of the iron and the weakness of the clay. "They shall mingle themselves with the seed of men; but they shall not cleave one to another, even as iron is not mixed with clay." The Apostle John, in his revelation on Patmos, saw these ten kingdoms rising out of the sea as a great beast having seven heads and ten horns. Rev. 13:1.

We have been watching the movements of European and Asiatic nations for a number of years in the hopes of seeing some signs of this gathering together of the nations and we have not been disappointed in our search. During the Balkan war our expectations were almost realized. The Triple Entente (England, France and Russia) and the Triple Alliance (Italy, Austria-Hungary and Germany) and the four Balkan states made just ten kingdoms, and we watched the war through to the close with the greatest of interest. But the end was not yet. Now again, the air is vibrating with the sounds of war and the whole world is waiting with anxious expectancy to see what the outcome will be. Again the ten kingdoms are being involved and even in a more serious way than during the Balkan War. What another week will bring forth no one knows, but even though the crisis should pass for a season and peace be restored, and the war dogs of the strongest nations on earth be held in leash it can only be but delaying the inevitable conflict, which is bound to take place to make way for the establishment of the Kingdom of God on earth.

It is interesting to note that one of the heads of the beast of Rev. 13 was "wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed; and all the world wondered after the beast." This wounded head is the Roman Empire, which has been slain, as it were, for centuries, but which is now being revived in the rapid development of Italy. Of late years the Italian people have been hoping and working toward the revival of the Roman Empire and suddenly, before the world is fully aware of her purpose, she will break out into a strong nation and the whole world will wonder after her as the Scriptures declare. She will be an important part of the new confederation of nations composing the kingdom of the beast which is to dictate to and rule over the whole earth.

The reason for forming the Triple Alliance and the Triple Entente is that some nations thus banded together might hold the balance of power, and thus be able to extend their own territory and look after their own interests without opposition from the weaker nations. This spirit will finally head up into a great federation of ten nations thus banded together as the Scriptures declare.

We have shown in the above brief statements that the Scriptures are rapidly being fulfilled and that another Kingdom is about to be set up which is not a kingdom of this world, but "the kingdom of the heavens." Daniel says:

"And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed; and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever." Dan. 2:44.

We are watching every development of the crisis in Europe with the greatest of interest, with our newspapers in one hand and the Bible in the other, checking off each prophecy as it is being fulfilled, knowing of a surety that the coming of the Lord cannot be long delayed.

—J. R. F.

A REVIVAL COMMENCING IN UPPER ALTON, ILL.

Without any previous knowledge or advance advertising, God launched forth a glorious revival here in Alton. Tuesday night the altar was packed full of people seeking the baptism, many who had never sought before. The Lord sent Brother Wm. H. Merrin, of Chicago, here and has wonderfully anointed him to preach, and his messages are having powerful effect upon the people. The revival is young as yet but about 500 attend and Alton is awake to the fact that a big revival is on.

Brother Merrin will probably go to the Coast to hold camp meetings in Washington and Oregon, but he intends to visit Findlay, Cambridge, Newark, Cleveland and through the East in about eight weeks on his way to New York, previous to his sailing to Alexandria, Egypt, where he will join Brother Post as a missionary. He intends to sail in October. Pray for us brethren.—Wm. F. Kirkpatrick.

FROM WILLIAM H. MERRIN.

Just a line for your precious paper. Held a six day meeting in the large tent erected on 29th and Fuda iac ave., Milwaukee, in which they are holding union meetings, German and English Pentecostal Assemblies uniting. Brother Martin (who has received his sight after being blind for thirty-five years) was also with us. The messages went forth in the power of the Holy Ghost and the glory of God filled the place. Sinners were saved and believers baptized in the Holy Ghost, speaking in other tongues and praising God. The sick were also healed. Hallelujah!

I went from Milwaukee to Indianapolis, Indiana. Held a series of meetings at Oak Hill Tabernacle, which will hold about 500 people. The altar was crowded with seekers and people were saved and believers baptized in the Holy Ghost. Brother Roberts is the pastor.

Am at present with Brother Kirkpatrick at Upper Alton, Ill. God is with us and the tent is filled. Sunday night the lawn was also crowded. The altar is packed with seekers in the altar service. No baptisms yet, but many slain under the power of God at one time.

I expect to go to Egypt sometime this fall (D. V.)—Wm. H. Merrin.

BROTHER MERRIN'S CALL.

About three years ago when I was pastor of the Pentecostal work in Lincoln, Neb., Bro. A. H. Post came through that way and stopped a few days with us and as he told us about how God worked in Egypt my heart burned within me. A few nights after, as my wife and I waited on the Lord in the stillness of the midnight hour I received two glorious visions in connection with my call, but my wife never got the call, and that held me back to a certain extent, although she was willing to go to the ends of the earth for Jesus. It seems she was not to go. About one year later the Lord took her home to glory.

Last winter while I was on the Pacific Coast the Lord burdened me once more for Egypt, so I answered, "Here

am I, Lord, send me." I have heard from Egypt lately through Bro. Post. He has given some points concerning that land and concerning the passage, best time to sail, etc. I am ready to go just as soon as the means are provided. Would like to start by October or November, and if you know of any brother whom God has called to that land, will you please put me in touch with him.

According to Brother Post's figures, I would need about \$225.00 at least, to start from here with, for fare and equipment, and the amount I should have on landing there.

WM. H. MERRIN,  
1023 N. Mayfield Ave., Chicago, Ill.

VOWS.

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come to it every little while and then back down. He was quite up and down in his experience. Some consecrate in the matter of plain dress or temperate living in the sexual relation, or more time spent in prayer, or the writing of letters to the foreign missionaries, and many other things too numerous to mention,—and God sees from heaven (verse 3) and expects us to make good. Read also Psalm 66:13, 14.

"All obstructions to this cable Must be ever kept away; Broken vows, neglected duties Often hinder and delay. God is watching very closely All we think and do and say, He searches every heart."

—Harry Morse.

HEALED OF CONSUMPTION OF THE BOWELS AND PILES.

Mr. Pearl Carlton, of Evansville, Ind., a member of the Nazarine Church, came into our home about four weeks ago suffering terribly with consumption of the bowels and piles. He had not been able to work for several weeks and could scarcely eat anything. He looked as though he was not long for this world. Evil spirits were cast out of his body in the name of Jesus and he was instantly healed. When we arose from our knees, he went to the door, threw his tobacco away and began praising God. The next day being Sunday he went to church feeling fine. He is now working and gaining in flesh rapidly. There is nothing impossible with God.

R. W. Fortune and Wife,  
Evansville, Ind.

FLORIDA FARM FOR SALE.

Twenty acres of fine land in Brevard County, Florida, near Milbourn region. The climate is not cold in winter and not hot in summer. This land is adapted to all kinds of gardening and the raising of grape fruit and oranges. The land in this region is rapidly developing and increasing in value.—E. J. Witte, 456 Grand St., Gallion, Ohio.

PENTECOSTAL CAMP MEETINGS

APOSTOLIC CAMP MEETING.

Mrs. M. B. W. Eter in charge. To be held at 70th and Lansdowne Ave., Philadelphia, Pa., from August 1st to September 1st. For full information write Wm. Anderson, 6003 Larchwood Ave., West Philadelphia, Pa.

NORTH ALABAMA ENCAMPMENT.

Begins at Warrior, Ala., on August 1st and continues ten days. All invited. Entertainment will be provided for all who come on free-will offering plan. For information address J. B. Albritten, Warrior, Ala.

THIRD PENTECOSTAL CAMP MEETING

Cardwell, Mo., Aug. 8-23. Rev. J. H. King and F. E. Short in charge. For information write J. N. Goff, Cardwell, Mo.

WAURIKA, OKLA., CAMP.

Will begin August 20th and will run until September 5th. We have a pine grove half a mile from depot. Brother J. H. James in charge. H. Dean, R. 2, Waurika, Okla.

SEATTLE, WASH.

Pentecostal Camp Meeting begins July 15th and continues one month or longer. Address M. R. Tatman, 2843 West 60th St., Seattle, Wash.

JACKSBORO, TEXAS.

Camp meeting to commence August 25th, to run indefinitely. Address Oscar Jones, Jacksboro, Texas.

NEW JERSEY CAMP MEETING.

A Pentecostal Camp Meeting will be held July 15 to Aug. 15 and longer (D. V.) at Belmar, N. J., about two miles south of the well-known Ocean Grove. Belmar is about 56 miles from New York and is easily accessible from that city by Penna. R. R. or Central R. R. of N. Y. Patten Line steamers leave the Battery, N. Y., and run to Pleasure Bay, Long Branch, thence by trolley or rail to Belmar.

Tents for campers may be obtained for \$3.00 per week, with floors \$1.00 per week extra, occupants to bring their own bedding. Brother Robert E. Erdman, of Buffalo, N. Y., will have charge. Other Pentecostal workers will be present. For further information write Frank M. Boyd or N. A. Doughty, 640 Mattison Ave., Ashbury Park, N. J.

GARDEN GROVE, IOWA.

Iowa and North Missouri State Encampment will be held at Davis City, Iowa, from July 31st to August 9th, in the city park on the bank of the river. Address John Goblen, Lucas, Iowa.

Pentecostal Notes on International Sunday School Lesson

By MRS. A. R. FLOWER

Aug. 16, 1914.

THE WICKED HUSBANDMEN.

Lesson Text—Matt. 21:33-46.

Golden Text—The stone which the builders rejected, the same was made the head of the corner. Matt. 21:42.

Leading Thought—Prayerfully consider v. 44 in connection with Jno. 12:24.

I. The Parable of the Householder.

(vs. 33-41) Before taking up study of this lesson, read closely the parable of the Two Sons (Matt. 21:28-32). The three warning parables, including the one of next week's lesson are given immediately after Christ's conflict with the religious leaders. "Hear another parable—Christ emphasizes its importance. In the Old Testament the vineyard represented Israel (Psa. 80:8-11. Isa. 5:1-2. Jer. 2:21) but here it is the kingdom of God. The householder is God who after fully equipping His vineyard let it out to Israel first as the husbandman v. 43. Today its charge is committed to believers in Christ (1 Pet. 4:10). We should not lord it over God's heritage for it still belongs to Him tho in a sense He has withdrawn, leaving the responsibility on us in His absence. It is just, then, that He expect fruit. From the beginning He has had long patience. The Old Testament prophets were first sent to demand the fruits (2 Chron. 36:15-16. Jer. 25:4) and the fruits demanded were repentance, obedience, righteousness. 2 Ki. 17:13. Zech. 7:8-10. God is still sending His servants in divinely called and commissioned ministers. But the reception of these servants all along has been harsh, cruel. Historically Israel's treatment of them was so (ch. 5:12. 2 Chron. 36:16; 24:20-21; 16:17-10; Jer. 26:21-24; Neh. 9:26; Acts 7:52; 1 Ki. 18:4-13; 19:2-10; 22:26-27; Lu. 11:47-51); godly men are so used today (2 Tim. 3:12) and the world thus reveals its enmity to God. Jno. 15:18-19.

And now as a final resource in the

hope of moving upon their hearts the Husbandman sends His only son, the heir. Mark 12:6; Heb. 1:1-2-5; 3:5-6. It was a final attempt at reconciliation and reckoning. How clear is Christ's assumption of sonship to the Father! He is the Son. (v. 37). How foolish the plot of the husbandmen to gain possession of the vineyard. Its impossibility Christ shows in the following verses. Christ speaks prophetically of His own life (v. 39). They caught him; cast him out of the vineyard; slew him. John 18:19 should be read in this connection. Heb. 13:12-13. Have we taken our place with Him without the camp, bearing his reproach? Thus far could the husbandmen go. They may slay the son but they cannot possess the vineyard. The builders may reject the stone, but that will not hinder its becoming the corner-stone just the same. What a searching question in v. 40. Their answer declares their own doom. The vineyard's fruit yet belongs to the husbandman and His rejection of those miserable servants—opens a place for other servants who will be found faithful. Upon us is the responsibility today. God has granted the early and the latter rain to the Earth, and now He is waiting, watching for the precious fruit. What long patience He has had with us. Jas. 5:7. What idling many of us have done! Oh yes, we have enjoyed His gifts to us, but what fruit are we bringing to Him? God has a purpose in this refreshing; it is for His benefit as well as ours. What account shall we render to Him when we shortly meet Him face to face?

For the last few verses Christ speaks directly to the chief priests and Pharisees. He declares God's relentless severity toward those who spurn His goodness. The truth was so plain, so clear they were left without excuse—"they perceived that he spake of them." He is the same God of righteousness and truth today.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND.

The fourth annual Pentecostal convention of the Apostolic Faith Assembly will be held at the Assembly Hall on the corner of Senate Avenue and 11th Street, Indianapolis, Ind., from August 28th to Sept. 6th. For further information address George W. Cable, 411 Northwest Street, Indianapolis, Ind.—Elder G. T. Haywood, pastor.

STAR, IDAHO, CAMP MEETING.

The first Apostolic Faith Camp Meeting for the State of Idaho from Sept. 3rd to 17th, or longer. A most blessed opportunity after harvest to meet together to tarry for the baptism with the Holy Ghost and also to receive some good wholesome Bible teaching. Pastors, teachers and evangelists will help. Those coming from a distance should buy their tickets to Caldwell, Idaho, then take the electric car out to Star. Bring your tent, bedding and cooking outfit. These things are not easy to get in Star but there are two good hotels and good grocery stores. Ministers and their families will be provided with food at a free table. For information, address Harry Morse, 2304 Fairview Ave., Boise, Idaho.

DOVER, ARK.

Beginning August 6th, the Lord willing, we expect to have a local camp meeting at Dover, Ark., nine miles north of Russellville. Take the Iron Mountain railroad to Russellville and then mail hack to Dover. This is for the benefit of the mountain people of this part of the state. All who desire to come are cordially invited and will be cared for as far as we are able. Spiritual laborers are especially invited. We desire to correspond with a good preacher to assist. Write Lee Floyd, Dover, Ark.

THIRD ANNUAL PENTECOSTAL CAMP MEETING

Of the Assemblies of God will be held at Puxico, Mo., on August 28 to September 6, 1914, at the City Park. Meetings conducted by H. A. Goss, of Hot Springs; J. W. Welch, of Essex, Mo., and other workers. The meeting will be conducted on the free will offering plan. Please bring your own bedding and toilet articles. Tents or rooms will be furnished or provided free to those coming from a distance. For further information, address G. W. Lawson, or W. W. Childers, Puxico, Mo.

EIGHTH ANNUAL CAMP MEETING

Topeka, Kans., August 20th to 30th. Will be held in Jones' Grove in charge of the Topeka Assembly and other ministers and workers whom the Lord will send. Evangelists O. W. Edwards, of Texas, and C. Pyatt, of Arkansas, Brother J. A. Derry and J. V. Johnson, of Gas, Kans., and Brother J. A. Dunham, of Iowa, Kans. Brother Thos. Oneal, of Alton, Kans., Brother and Sister Fritz, of Osborne, Kans., and Brother J. Simms, of Burlingame, Kans., and others have spoken of being with us. God is working mightily in our midst and we are expecting a great camp. A boarding tent on the grounds run on the free will offering plan. For information about tents, etc., write C. E. Foster, 219 Grattan St., Topeka, Kans.

NORTHWEST TEXAS STATE CAMP

Will be held at Quanah, Texas, beginning August 26th and continuing ten days or longer. Let all the people that love God come to the feast. All the ministers of the Assemblies of God are invited to come. For further information address A. H. Stanley, Quanah, Texas, Box 440, or W. W. Hall, Wichita Falls, Texas.

WORLD-WIDE CAMP.

Elim Grove, Cazadero, California. July 8th to August 9th. M. M. Pinson, Mrs. Piper of Chicago, A. P. Collins of Fort Worth, Tex., pastor A. A. Boddie of England, and a number of other evangelists are expected to aid in the meetings. For further information address Carrie Judd Montgomery, Beulah Heights, Oakland, California.

ARKANSAS STATE CAMP.

To be held at Russellville, Ark., from Sept. 10 to 20th. We expect to have a great time this year. Prepare to come to this camp and get some blessing for your soul. R. L. Erickson, pastor of the Stone Church, Chicago, Ill., will be in charge of the night evangelistic meetings. For further information, address H. A. Goss, Box 322, Hot Springs, Ark.

PENTECOSTAL CAMP MEETING

Oklahoma City, Okla., Aug. 21 to 31. This is our 6th annual Camp Meeting. Preachers expected to be with us: Elder A. G. Canada, Winston-Salem, N. C., Elder R. B. Beall, Elder O. C. Wilkins and Mrs. C. L. Smith, and many other preachers. Last year over 200 camped on the ground. Let us know at once if you want a tent. Address Harry P. Lott, P. O. Box 731, Oklahoma City, Okla.

SEMMES, ALA., CAMP MEETING.

Encampment of the Churches of God in Christ at Semmes, Ala., begins Sept. 10th to 20th. All are invited to attend. We are expecting this to be the best encampment that has ever been in this part of the State. Tents and meals free as God provides. Pray that this may be a glorious time, the saints be built up and established in the present truth. Address H. A. Waltman, Semmes, Ala.

BOONVILLE, ARK., CAMP MEETING.

Will be held beginning July 25th, lasting two weeks. We will run on old style plan—everybody expected to come prepared to take care of themselves as far as possible. Will not have any tents on the grounds to rent, but will have plenty of house room free. Everybody welcome. W. H. Hacker, Booneville, Ark.

TEXAS STATE CAMP.

The State Encampment for Texas will be held D. V. near Temple, Texas, from the 13th to the 23rd of August, 1914. We have the promise of one of the most beautiful sites to be found anywhere for this year's encampment. Let the saints throughout the state expect and pray for the greatest meeting we have ever had. Brother Chas. A. Smith will have charge of the preliminary arrangements.—Daniel C. O. Opperman.

Those coming to camp should take the Interurban car to the Midway Camp Grounds in order to reach the camp.

CLEVELAND, TEXAS.

South East Texas Camp Meeting will be held at Cleveland, Texas, July 30 to August 10th. Plenty of large tents on the ground. Come and bring your bedding and stay through the meeting. Address Harvey Shearer, Bertram, Texas.

AUBURN, NEBRASKA, CAMP MEETING.

Pentecostal Camp Meeting from Sept. 4th to 13th, or longer if God so leads. C. E. Foster, of Topeka, Kans., and other Holy Ghost men will be present. Board and lodging will be provided on the grounds. Tents and cots for rent at cost. Bring bedding with you and notify us as early as possible to secure accommodations. For all particulars address W. L. Short, Auburn, Neb.

# PROGRAM VERSUS THE HOLY GHOST AND VICE VERSA

(By A. W. Orwig.)

A program is often a good thing, whether relating to meetings of either a spiritual or other nature. It presupposes some system and general plan, some thought, labor, prayer and definite purpose. But persons of common sense or good judgment are usually willing to subordinate a human program to certain contingencies, namely, that it should be of sufficient elasticity to be accommodated to unforeseen circumstances. It is quite possible that on some occasions a formal program is not necessary, and that spontaneous action is better. Sometimes the Holy Spirit may unmistakably impress some persons as to a certain course of procedure, while at other times He may leave it to the sanctified and experienced judgment of men. And yet we need to be devoutly careful that mere human or Santanic impression, or our own fancy is not taken for the mind of God. In view, therefore, of human frailties and diversity of opinion, even among honest and holy men, and especially of the great importance of seeking the glory of God, I think we should beware of a so-called iron-clad program, as well as of undue or fleshly radicalism or general looseness. Both of these evils seem to obtain sometimes, and to the detriment of God's cause.

## Two Sides to the Subject.

Evidently there are two sides as to the use of programs. All of us know that God employs human agencies to promote His work, but in connection with the guidance of the Holy Spirit and His Holy Word. Therefore, men may prayerfully prepare a program and still be in harmony with God. Or they may adopt a program in which He has little or no part. We often hear the expression, "Let the Holy Spirit have right of way." Certainly we should always do so. But while we profess to be thus guided, human co-operation and even certain human leadership are not to be utterly precluded. Both prophets and apostles were divinely assigned such incumbency, but they by no means felt independent of God. Again, the Bible speaks of men whom "the Holy Ghost hath made overseers" in "the church of God." Surely this implies a degree of human authority and responsibility, and some plan of operation, or the making of a program for the general or special advancement of the work of God. The Apostle Paul speaks of having "the care of all the churches," and does not that mean an "overseer" of some kind? And he exhorts "Obey them that have the rule over you." Here leadership and authority are directly implied, and the prerogative of arranging action according to "program" when deemed advantageous. The Apostle's declaration that "God is not the author of confusion," and his admonition that "all things be done decently and in order," verily imply that a haphazard manner of conducting religious services is not proper, and that some one should be responsible for the conduct of a meeting, without, however, exercising arrogant or despotic rule. A godly and prudent man, or a committee of such men may, accordingly, seek counsel from God and receive it more or less definitely, and also in connection with certain providential circumstances, and in that sense adopt a "program" on which the divine blessing may truly rest. And such men may be among the first to suggest a change, if the Holy Spirit should so indicate, and which He might do and often has done, before the close of a meeting or even before it began. But the thoughtless or fanatical cry of "No program," is, generally speaking, foolish and unscriptural. Charity and wisdom, however, are needed to hold in check extremes on both sides of the question of programs. Let us be willing for a program if God so directs, but just as willing to set aside a program, if that be His will.

## Examples of the Holy Ghost Super-seding Program.

The eminent Dr. A. T. Pierson, deceased, in describing a religious convention held in 1905, across the Atlantic, wrote, among other things: "There was deep feeling, which found vent in sobs, tears and outcries, but

it was not wild and uncontrollable. There was no need of human leadership; the Invisible One was in control." Continuing, he declared: "The next speaker, according to the program, was set aside by the Holy Spirit. The spirit of penitent confession could not be restrained, and broke out in every quarter for about two hours and a half."

An esteemed acquaintance of mine, an evangelist of considerable note, speaking of a certain meeting, said: "The Holy Spirit ran the meeting from beginning to end; no program, no preaching, but songs, prayers and testimonies. There was terrible conviction on the unsaved. Many lay around the altar, stretched out under the power of God."

Speaking of meetings in China, a missionary wrote: "The leadership of the Holy Ghost is especially prominent." Another missionary wrote: "It is a misnomer to speak about the meetings being led by Mr. So-and-So. He who leads is the Holy Spirit." And still another missionary said: "When I get to the meetings, I just say 'Now, blessed Holy Spirit, the meeting is absolutely in Thy hands.'"

Some one wrote several years ago: "We wanted a revival along our own lines, being jealous of our own methods. But one day God said, 'Will you get out of the way, clear the deck, off with your programs and plans, and let Me try?' To this we heartily consented, and a glorious revival followed. Before that we had not had a revival for years."

A preacher who received the baptism of the Holy Spirit wrote that the services in his church "would more fully than ever be committed to the direction of the Holy Ghost."

Some one writes: "The Lord is at the head of this Mission. He chooses the one to deliver the message, and anoints him with the Holy Spirit. No program. No one is asked to preach. Singing, prayer and testimony all in the Spirit."

A few years ago I attended a meeting where a sermon was to have been preached by a very spiritual and able man, but such was the great interest and profit of the testimonies given, that the program for a sermon was abandoned, and the altar was crowded with seekers of salvation.

While two preachers were on their way to a certain convention, where it was expected that the program would not be very spiritual, they prayed earnestly that God would sweep away all merely human plans. And on entering the place, they at once began to sing a deeply spiritual hymn, and in a few minutes two women were on their knees, convicted for and seeking the baptism of the Holy Ghost. The meeting turned out to be a glorious time of saving and sanctifying power.

Again permit me to quote a few lines by the Rev. Dr. A. T. Pierson, a world-wide authority on deeply spiritual matters and the cause of missions: "No one fact and truth revealed in the New Testament is practically so little realized or even recognized by disciples as this, namely, that the presiding Presence in every true assembly of believers is the Holy Spirit of God." Surely that implies that there can be and sometimes is too much mere human program and not enough of the Spirit's guidance.

At a camp meeting in Tennessee, in 1913, it was part of a program that one of the two preachers in charge of the meeting should preach at a certain hour, but as he began, he found that he had to turn the meeting over to the Holy Ghost and let Him have full sway, while the people shouted and praised God for what He was doing.

A brother writes: "I have never attended a convention where the human seemed to be so nearly eliminated. Whatever there was of the human was inadvertent and not willful."

Concerning a meeting in which many ringing testimonies were given, and spontaneous, unctious prayers offered, some one writes: "Generally no human leader was in sight. 'Give the Holy Spirit the right of way' was our motto, and He led in a most blessed manner."

In connection with a meeting in

which a certain preacher was expected to take a prominent part, he wrote: "How human energy, human thinking, human speaking were laid aside, and the Holy Spirit began to speak and act through this vessel of clay. I seemed to be set aside, while my blessed Master said, 'Stand still and see the salvation of God! You cannot do my work.' He said, 'but if you will keep out of my way, I will do my own work through you!'"

A writer says, "On one occasion the address prepared had to be set aside, and the time given to prayer. And there followed a wonderful outpouring of the Holy Spirit, resulting in repentance, putting away of sin and turning to God."

Concerning a meeting in Pennsylvania, some years ago, an old friend of mine wrote, among other things: "While the pastor was offering prayer preparatory to preaching, an avalanche of power swept over the congregation, bursting forth in the shouts of saints and the cries of penitent souls, so that the sermon could not go on. It was like a veritable pentecost."

Some one writes thus: "In the testimony meeting the Holy Ghost took possession and set aside the man-made program, so that all had perfect freedom to take part in any way they desired."

Some years ago the editor of a paper published a program taken from a bulletin board in front of a certain popular church, and which savored very greatly of the carnal mind, and the subject of the sermon being, "The Road to Greatness." The editor's comment was: "One real breath of the Holy Ghost would blow that program into a thousand pieces."

A man writes concerning meetings where he worships: "Any program or plan which we may have we are quite willing shall be set aside by the Holy Spirit for then a hurricane of grace and power is likely to fall upon us."

Concerning a great revival in a certain college, I condense what the president wrote: "It was unannounced, unplanned, unexpected, and in the absence of human leadership. The Holy Spirit guides and directs, and no one knows what is to come next. No preaching is being done, nobody opens the meeting, nobody has charge, and yet services begin and continue and end in salvations, sanctifications and reclamations at every coming together. An intermission of an hour and a half for supper was attempted, but the fire fell at the supper table and but few ate anything, and the supper broke up in a shout."

A noted preacher, who was to have addressed a large assembly, was restrained by the Holy Spirit, and telling the people so, he humbly sat down. Then the Spirit mightily moved the people, and a great tidal wave of confession, humbling and salvation followed.

The editor of a truly spiritual paper says: "There can be no failure when the Holy Spirit does the planning, directs the forces and stimulates the workers with His presence."

A writer, lamenting the frequent dependence on mere human agencies for success, substantially says: "Many of our ministers today are spending their time and strength on programs without the Holy Ghost, and thus there is often noise, splurge, etc., but little if any real work done for God."

An editor of my acquaintance writes: "Let us preach the truth of God to the people, pray for them with fervor, sing to them in the Spirit, and let the Holy Spirit manipulate them in His own way."

Several years ago some one wrote: "While we must use Scriptural safeguards, God never did allow men to dictate to Him what sort of a revival the Holy Ghost should project. A preacher irreverently said that men are now so well educated in doctrines and methods of religious work, that an orthodox meeting can be conducted without the Holy Ghost!"

And thus I might easily multiply instances in which human programs have been set aside by the Holy Spirit, both in apostolic times and since then. Even the great apostle Paul courted and most gladly yielded to the leadings of the divine Spirit. And woe to the man or committee unwilling to be entirely directed by the same almighty Agent! But I must reserve other instances like the foregoing, as well as further remarks, for another article. In the meantime let

us seek new anointings of the Holy Spirit and always desire and seek His blessed will in all things.

## Concluding Remarks.

Now, very briefly to sum up the matter, it may be said to be generally true that some gatherings will languish and prove more or less unprofitable where a blind, fanatical prejudice exists against all programs and when they are entirely ruled out. On the other hand, it is just as true that too much program, especially if not devoutly prepared, is very likely to injure and even kill a meeting. Instances of both of these conditions are by no means wanting. Wise men will avoid extremes, and really good men are always ready to let the Holy Ghost supersede them.

## BURNT TO ASHES.

### What Led Up to the Welsh Revival.

We have been singing, "Send the fire"—did you mean it?

Many people think of God as Love and nothing else, and sometimes this is made a pretext for careless living. But, in Hebrews 12:29 we read "Our God is a consuming Fire." We often hear of and pray for fire, but "God is \* \* \* Fire." Yet, don't be afraid of Fire, for He is "Our God"—the covenant God whom we come to know when we receive His Son as our Saviour.

Fire not only burns, but it will REDUCE, and when this reduction takes place, what is left? Dust and ashes are what is left. You are willing for the fire? Be willing also for the reduction. The more you know of the Word of God, the more you will know that everyone who knows God and draws near to Him knows also this reduction. If it is GOD'S fire it will bring to dust and ashes; it will search your desires, and see if there be any wicked way in you. There is plenty of fire in God for you.

"God is a consuming Fire." Not a God of '59 or 1904 and 1905 only, but "God is a consuming Fire." Everyone who comes near to God, who approaches Him, will come to know something of this reduction.

In Genesis 18:23-27, we find that Abraham came very near one day to God. He "drew near." He came with a string of questions to God—a string of interrogations to the Almighty! Yet eventually his conversation with God brought him to his right place. "I am but dust and ashes," he said. He was brought to his own level. Don't talk glibly of the service of intercession. It is only those who know this reduction, those who have come to dust and ashes that are able to intercede.

Again, we see in Exodus 3, the episode of Moses and the burning bush. Sometime before this Moses, we read, was "forty years old," fully educated, going to make his mark in his manhood; and he went forth to deliver his people and failed. God had to take him aside into the wilderness, and after long discipline he saw this bush of fire, and God's presence makes him very small. NOW he is just suitable to God to use. The fire has shown him what he is made of. The strong man was there no longer, but he had become such that God could make him leader and commander to the people.

Again we read, in the case of Job, of one who was brought to dust and ashes. God allowed him to be stripped, but mightiness was still there. When people came to argue he stood on his defense. He grew quite big in his own estimation those days when MEN came to see him; but God, the consuming Fire, came, and then there was a great reduction; (Job. 40:2 and 43:5.) Job met God, faced the Almighty, and he dwindled. Here was a great reduction! Anyone could tackle him now. He would answer a child meekly. He had found his level.

God made man from the dust of the earth, and that is how He makes new men too—from the dust. The reduction is not pleasant. We have been singing, "Send the fire." It is easier to sing it than to bear it. But, in being brought to dust and ashes, you will lose nothing but what you will praise God for taking. He is so full of love that He will burn the very things that hurt your soul. And He, the gracious One, will see to the right heating of the furnace. If the fire seems almost unbearably hot, the sooner will the work be done, till it is "none of self and all of Thee."

Shrink not from the big fire, brother; it will finish the work sooner.

"Send the fire." What did you sing? Did you mean it? Are you willing for God to answer your prayer? He burns out the evil and burns in the image of His dear Son.

Dust is very precious. Do you know that God has to have dust to convey the rain to this earth? Thank God that He does not let the rain come down without the dust. It comes down on fine particles of dust. You have been praying for revival (in Ireland). God must have dust to convey the living water. We are too mighty, dear people. God cannot use so many Christians. They are not small enough to carry the water to the thirsty land. Before the revival in Wales, men were at their wits' end. How were the people to be reached? How were the masses to be brought in? Then the colleges decided that the young ministers must have better training, be better "finished," so there was to be a chair of elocution founded. But then God came, and for months the colleges were closed and we heard no more of the chair of elocution.

Dust is the strongest thing in the world of nature. In Jeremiah 5:22 look what it does there. The sea "cannot pass it." On our Welsh coast there is a place where, year by year, some high cliffs are being worn away by the force of the waves; each year a fresh slice of the cliffs fall off. Not five miles distant from this, something else is happening. There are some sandbanks, and year by year these banks of sand are growing higher, keeping back the sea, and they will grow until "the waves cannot pass." There is a fight going on, but the sand is winning. The sand does not fight, brother. What does it do then? It does nothing. It simply takes in the rush of the tide. When God has done the burning work, when you become very small, you will not then be fighting—in the carnal sense of the word; you won't be scheming for your own plans. No, you will be swallowed up in a better one. The best activity is passiveness; the "Lamb" is stronger than the lion. In Isaiah 65:25 we read "Dust shall be the serpent's meat"—the devil's food. He will have plenty of that some day. People brought down by the Holy Ghost, they are the dust, and the devil does not like them a bit. Give God time to burn you, brother. Don't run away half burnt. The finer the particles of dust, the better the Divine "Wind"—the Holy Ghost—is able to carry them and blow them about.

In 1 Cor. 1:27, 28, we see the Christian workers who are acknowledged by God. Are you in one of these classes? The lowest is the highest, viz: "The things that are not." That is the best class—those reduced to dust and ashes. Ask God to put you in the top class. It is Love that will burn you, so don't be afraid. Jesus Christ Himself was a "whole burnt-offering." When we are reduced to utter weakness, brought down to the dust that is the place where He can make "a new creation," Christ formed in us (Gal. 4:19). The word God sent to us in Wales was B-E-N-D, and when we obeyed God came.

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**W. W. SIMPSON WRITES:  
A New Worker in Pentecost.**

Praise the Lord for the blessing of God on the Hot Springs meeting! How I rejoice with the Assemblies of God in America! The Lord has so laid it on my heart to see His people in China going on "keeping the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace, until we all advance into the unity of faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ." Lack of unity of the faith is no reason for not keeping the unity of the Spirit, but rather is the very strongest reason for keeping it, so that the Spirit may, through the ministry of the gifts, Apostles, etc., edify the body and bring us all into the unity of the faith.

I have had to leave the Christian and Missionary Alliance because we could not sign their Official Statement of April 13, 1914 in which they declare "But we hold that none of these things (tongues and other miraculous manifestations) have any essential connection with the Baptism in the Holy Spirit." The Lord has led us to Shanghai and is opening many doors of ministry to us. Held meetings near Nanking this month, in which there were five healings, fifteen baptisms in water, fourteen baptized in the Holy Spirit, and many believed. That work is connected with Bro. H. L. Lawler's work in Shanghai.

I go in a few days to open up Pentecostal work in Nanking. There are many hungry hearts there and the Lord is manifestly leading. By His help the true faith must be spread all over China. As He leads and provides the funds, I am ready to go not only to Nanking but to Peking, Hankow, Sian, Chengtu, Kinkiang, and every place in North and Central China, where the Spirit has not yet fallen.

Address: W. W. Simpson,  
31 Quinsan Road, Shanghai, China.

**MRS. H. L. LAWLER,  
China.**

Many have been saved in the last few months,—a mighty awakening,—and souls hungry for God. The first of July another mission will be opened at Nanking. Bro. Mo will help in this place till the Lord sends someone else. Pray much for this young man and wife, that they may be real firebrands for God.

We praise God for sending Bro. Simpson to Shanghai. He feels one with us in going forth to open new stations, to put the natives to work. We have two brothers called of God to this work. Both have the baptism. Join in prayer with us that every need may be met for them. It takes means to open these new stations. Our God is able. Hallelujah! Let us "Declare His glory among the heathen. His wonders among all people."

Yesterday in the mission at Woo-Sung, shortly after service began, a poor cripple came in, could not walk, just slid along using his hands with tin cans on them. The dear Lord gave real faith, and, like the lame man at the Beautiful Gate, he stood to his feet, walking, running and praising God for his release. "These signs shall follow them that believe." \* \* \* "The Lord hath made known His salvation; His righteousness hath he openly shown in the sight of the heathen." The hall was filled with eager souls, gazing upon the mighty works of God.

**MRS. N. D. NICHOLS,  
Ningpo, China.**

Have never passed through such deep tests since being on the field but, Praise God! we can, by His power and grace ever look up and shout and praise our triumphant Lord whose victory is sure. It is wonderful how He strengthened us for the battle and how our hearts are continually strengthened and encouraged in Him.

God is working in our midst. Souls

are seeking the Baptism, some being saved and healed. We are steadily marching forward under the blood-stained banner of the cross. Pray for Ningpo and China.

**APPEAL FOR SISTER SMITH.**

Dearly Beloved: We, the undersigned, write you in behalf of Sister Sarah Smith, one of our missionaries in full harmony and fellowship. Sister Smith is now seventy years of age, and feeble in body. She has labored faithfully in Egypt for five years, excepting a few months in Palestine. She now desires to return to America, to her home in Indianapolis.

Her support of late has been small and she cannot pay her own fare. She has \$25.00 held in trust for her. At present she is stopping in our mission in Cairo awaiting her fare to return.

We therefore appeal to the saints for \$125.00 for her return. Kindly send us what you can for this as soon as possible as the weather at times is extremely hot and trying for her.

C. W. DONEY,  
Pastor Cairo Mission.

A. H. POST,  
Pastor Alexandria Mission.

Note:—Any money sent us for Sister Smith's return will be gladly forwarded to Brothers Doney and Post.

E. N. BELL, Treas.,  
Findlay, Ohio.

**PERSECUTIONS IN PERSIA**

**Great Opposition is Aroused Against the Pentecostal Awakening of the People.**

The work here has begun in the Apostolic way. Hallelujah! During two weeks street meetings in a little town a great number were saved of whom thirty-five received the baptism in the Holy Ghost, speaking powerfully in other languages, some of which were understood well. Being the first Pentecostal Revival in the history of Persia, the country has been stirred up against this work until the Russian Council, who rules affairs here, ordered us to get out of the town, fining us \$27 and also punishing those who kept us in their homes. Now the command is from the high courts that we must not preach in the streets, and if we do, we will be in danger of our lives. You can easily see the position in which we are placed. Please pray for us and the new Spirit-filled converts.—Andrew D. Urshan.

**GOD IN CAZADERO CAMP.**

God is in our midst. One hundred and thirty-nine tents up. Blessed unity. Some thirty or forty were laid out under the power of God yesterday in the prayer tent. Some came through speaking in tongues. Some real healings are taking place. Some who have been wearing glasses have been healed, after having used them twenty years. Pastor Boddy is to come the last week. The tide is rising. Brother Wigglesworth, of England, has come. God is using him. Pray for us.—M. M. Pinson.

**BROKEN ARROW, OKLA.**

We just closed a meeting six miles south of town in a Presbyterian Church. God surely did meet us in a blessed way. About fifty-six were converted and a number of others who were already Christians came into the faith and about thirty-three received the precious baptism of the Holy Ghost, with the Bible evidence of speaking in other tongues. Two Baptist ministers were among the number who received the baptism. They came to investigate the work and fell into it. And the third one came and went to his home seeking his baptism. Truly, our Captain never lost a battle. Praise be to His Holy Name! Some of the most influential men in the country were saved and received the Baptism. God is mightily working in this country. Souls are waking up to the fact that Jesus Christ is the same "yesterday, today and forever" (Heb. 13:8). We are looking for great things ahead. We expect by the help of God, to press the battle to the gates.—W. H. Pope.

**PINCKNEY, TEXAS.**

Have only been here a few days. The Spirit of the Lord is moving upon the hearts of the people in a mighty way. Hearts are breaking down at His feet crying for mercy. The glory of God filled the tent last night and many were made to know Jesus was in His people. Glory to God! Several made their peace with God and four received the baptism.

**Child Raised to Life.**

Brother and Sister Dickens' baby, about 5 months old, was accidentally smothered to death by his sister throwing a mattress on him, not knowing he was on the bed. When found about an hour later it was cold and dead. After much calling upon God, the Lord heard the prayers of His children and raised the baby up and it is now well and fat. Hallelujah!—Robert LaFleur.

**GENEVA, ALA.**

We have just closed a tent meeting two miles southwest of Geneva, Ala. We had a good time in the Lord. Seven were saved and seven baptized with the Holy Ghost. There is a great revival on hand in this part of God's vineyard. Twenty-five have been baptized with the Holy Ghost in meetings where I have been since the first of June. I praise God for it.—J. A. Cullifer.

**BEWARE OF DUTTON.**

A man by the name of Dutton, traveling with a woman he calls his mother, dressed in grey suit and shoes, which appear too large, looks as though he wore a wig, smiles and says "praise the Lord" all the time, has defrauded some of the saints at Syracuse. For information address Mrs. Thos. S. Reed, 103 Temple St., Syracuse, N. Y.

**STUART, FLA.**

There are but four active workers here. When I came we began to have prayer meetings at home. There was

no place that we could hold meetings but we kept praying that God would open up a way, and, thank God, He did open up the way and we now have service in a hall every Sunday afternoon and God has been with us in Spirit and power.—Mrs. Mary DeWees.

**NEEDS MORE LABORERS.**

Meeting has just closed at the Union Church near Pleasant Hill, La. Five received the baptism in the Spirit. People are very much interested and are reading the Bible and receiving the Bible truths.

We ask the prayers of God's people everywhere that God will send more help in this field. The harvest is white but the laborers are few. Lots of people are coming for miles to hear the Word and I am needing a tent badly to go into some places where the churches are closed. I have part of the money on a tent and if anyone has a good second hand tent or knows of one that can be bought at a reasonable price, or if anyone has any of the Lord's money that they would like to put out for this purpose, please write me at Noble, La.—G. C. Laut.

**VICTORY AT PETOSKEY, MICH.**

A blind man received partial sight last night. The meetings have grown wonderfully, in spite of much opposition. Sunday night there must have been two thousand people on the grounds. We attend three meetings a day and the Lord has enriched my heart and I am sinking deeper.—E. H.

**ATLANTA, GA., CAMP MEETING.**

I found the Lord working here when I arrived. God gave us a very precious time over last Sabbath and since then He is working most graciously. Dear Brother Myland arrived here on Wednesday. God is using him greatly in his apt harmonic way of teaching. The Camp will at least continue till Aug. 2nd.—J. O. Lehman.

**WHAT IS THE MATTER WITH CENTRAL ILLINOIS!**

While we have read of many good reports in the Pentecostal papers of the Latter Rain showers being poured out at various places, especially in the Southern states, we have heard of but a few light showers in Central Illinois. Might it not be said of us as of the Laodiceans that we imagine that we are rich and increased in goods and have need of nothing, not knowing that we are spiritually poor, blind and naked?

The Lord has richly blessed us in our tarrying. Some have been converted while others have had their bodies healed in answer to the prayer of faith, but as yet the Holy Spirit has fallen on none of us. By the grace of God, we shall keep on asking, seeking and knocking until we receive. Our church house has now been open every evening for tarrying meetings for over eighteen months without a break, and some members of the mission have never missed a single evening's service.

Do pray for the little band at Mansfield that the Father may speedily pour out the Holy Spirit upon us and thus qualify us as His witnesses, that the Holy Spirit may use us to the glory of God. Hope to be able to give you a good report in the near future. D. E. Stover, Box 196, Mansfield, Ill.

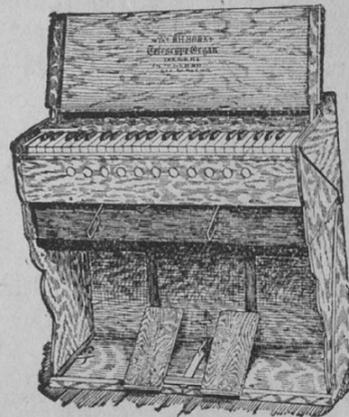
**LEBANON, ARK.**

Glad to announce the blessing of the Lord through Rev. C. G. Robertson, of Paris, Ark. and R. E. Sbrader and W. J. Parker, of Heavner, Okla., who have just closed a sixteen day's meeting in this dark corner of Arkansas. Twelve were converted and one received the baptism in the Holy Ghost. The workers returned home Sunday with many good wishes following and a good work left behind.—J. H. Buzbee.

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**WEEKLY EVANGEL OFFER**—The Weekly Christian Evangel is \$1 per year of fifty issues. To the one sending in 100 subscribers at \$1 each, cash in full with each name, we will send Style A Bilhorn \$50 organ free, including a folding stool.

**WORD AND WITNESS OFFER**—The Word and Witness is 50 cts. per year and is the biggest Pentecostal monthly newspaper at 50 cts. per year we know of in the world. To the one sending in 120 subscribers at 50 cts. each, cash in full with each name, we will send free, with a stool, this \$50 Style A Bilhorn Organ.

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**SEND FOR SUBSCRIPTION BLANKS AND SAMPLES** and get busy. You must mail the last one about Christmas so as to reach us before January 1, 1915, as this offer is only good for this year.

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