

The Pentecostal
Evangel
 Weekly Voice of the Assemblies of God

Number 2016
 December 28, 1952
 Five cents

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

A NEW YEAR'S WISH

*Blessings unspoken this year be thine!
 Each day in its rainbow flight entwine
 New gems in thy joy-wreathed crown;
 May each in the smile of Him be bright
 Who is changeless Love and unfading Light,
 Till the glory seem to thy traced sight
 As heaven to earth come down.*

—Frances Ridley Havergal



PASSING and PERMANENT

NEWS BRIEFS FROM THE CHRISTIAN PERSPECTIVE

To Seek the Ark by Helicopter

Aaron J. Smith, who climbed Mount Ararat in 1949 in search of Noah's Ark but failed to find any trace of the ancient craft in the snowy peaks, has decided that the Ark may have been pushed into an Ararat valley by the gentle flow of lava from volcanic peaks. He therefore hopes to make a new expedition—this time by helicopter—to explore the hidden valleys which are inaccessible on foot.

An Evangelical Newspaper Column

Newspaper readers who are tired of seeing columns about nothing but politics, sports, movies, Broadway gossip and the like will be glad to see a column by an evangelist for a change. It is reported that Billy Graham is going to offer such a column to daily newspapers throughout the nation. Entitled "My Answer," it will be written on a question-and-answer basis. It will be short—only about 200 words a day—but it will appear six days a week in any newspaper that wishes to carry it.

One Billion Dollars Stolen

It is reported that employees are outstealing professional burglars these days by more than five to one. Last year these unarmed robbers clipped their bosses for at least a billion dollars in embezzlements, forgeries, and thefts, according to estimates of leading public accountants. Of course, many of them were caught. But this type of embezzlement has increased 50 per cent since 1947. The veneer of culture which education has placed upon the human heart is very thin. It has not changed the nature of human beings that are prone to steal: it has only enabled them to work from the inside rather than the outside!

Controlling the Weather

The Bible indicates that God controls the weather, but men are beginning to think that perhaps they can control it themselves. Dr. Irving Langmuir, associate director of the General Electric Research Laboratory, says that weather in all its phases could be controlled on a world-encircling basis. For twenty-one months Langmuir's group worked in New Mexico, seemingly creating clouds out of a blue sky, and causing these to produce rain. It is claimed that study of world-wide weather reports showed that there was a definite relationship between the cloud seeding in New

Mexico and the rainfall, air pressure, winds, and temperature across the United States and over the Atlantic to Europe.

Scientists with different theories would dispute Dr. Langmuir's claims. Even if men could control the weather over a wide area for a prolonged period of time (a claim which has yet to be demonstrated) we question whether men's limited wisdom could do the job as well as our heavenly Father. Second Chronicles 7:13, 14 and other passages of Scripture teach that there is a relationship between the weather and men's obedience or disobedience of God's law, a fact that sinful man would like to evade but cannot.

The "Men of Distinction" Ads

Those "Men of Distinction" liquor ads are drawing fire from many Christian groups. Out in Anaheim, Calif., five young men have determined to launch an anti-liquor advertising program to show the country what really happens to a so-called "Man of Distinction." They have organized under the name of Truth Advertised as a non-profit corporation.

The United Temperance Movement of Minnesota, backed by Protestant churches, has published a booklet giving testimonials of "real men of distinction"—attorneys, police chiefs, governors, judges, and others who can tell the true story of alcohol and its effect on men and women. Here is an idea which Christian groups in any community could adapt in temperance publicity.

The Pacific Garden Mission

This year the Pacific Garden Mission in Chicago celebrated its 75th anniversary. The doors of this rescue mission have been open every night since 1877, and thousands upon thousands of broken lives have been made new. Its soul-winning work still goes on—over 2600 men reportedly found Christ as their personal Saviour during the past twelve months—but new projects have been added to keep up with the times. It now has a Women's Division; also a Skid Row Clinic; and it is reaching up-and-outers as well as down-and-outers by means of its dramatic radio program, "Unshackled," which is on thirty stations. The Mission also operates a Servicemen's Center where 3300 servicemen found Christ during the first six months of 1952.

Restoring Family Prayers

Roman Catholic leaders are making a determined effort to restore family prayers in all Catholic homes. Using the slogan, "Families that pray together stay together," they conduct a Family Rosary Crusade in the church and climax it with a mass rally outdoors.

One such "Rosary Rally" in the Polo Grounds in New York was attended by 76,000 people. At home plate was a twelve-foot statue of the Virgin Mary. Cardinal Spellman is reported to have said:

"By the power of the Rosary manifold miracles have been performed through the ages, bringing health to bodies, holiness to souls and vocations to lives. By the power of the Rosary wars have been averted, disasters checked and God-given rights protected. Face to face with God's justice, we children of Mary turn to her for mercy. It is the earnest hope of our hearts that the Mother of God will manifest her power in this crusade in a special way by restoring the sanctity of family life to Christian homes."

Family worship ought to be a daily custom in every Christian home in 1953, but let us be sure that our prayers are keyed to the Scriptures, not to a string of beads, and that they are directed to God, not to Mary. There is nothing in the Bible to teach that we should pray to Mary or to any other departed saint. Jesus told us to pray, "Our Father, which art in heaven. . . ." (not our Mother).

Religious Liberty in Denmark

Denmark's approval of the Baptist Union as a recognized denomination has been praised by an American Baptist leader as "an important forward step" in establishing religious liberty throughout the earth.

"I think that the end is in sight for all forms of religious discrimination in our Protestant countries, and it is a gratifying victory," said Dr. J. M. Dawson, head of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs.

Dr. Dawson, who visited northern European countries last summer, said he had noted "a marked improvement" in the status accorded minority religious groups throughout Scandinavia. (In Sweden, for example, members of the State Church formerly had many civil advantages which those in non-conformist churches did not enjoy, but this inequality among citizens was corrected a few months ago.) The Baptist leader believes that the granting of equal rights to all denominations in Protestant countries will help to pave the way toward religious freedom in other countries where non-Protestant faiths are in the majority.

How to Have a Fruitful New Year

Andrew Murray

WHAT A SIMPLE thing it is to be a branch—the branch of a tree, or the branch of a vine! The branch grows out of the vine, or out of the tree, and there it lives and in due time bears fruit. It has no responsibility except to receive sap and nourishment from the root and stem. And if we only knew our relationship to our Lord Jesus Christ, our spiritual lives would be filled with sunshine and victory and fruitfulness.

1. DEPENDING ON HIM

Jesus said to His disciples: "I am the vine, and ye are the branches: he that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing." The branch must abide in the vine. As long as it remains a part of the vine it remains alive. Hourly, daily, unceasingly the living connection is maintained.

The sap does not flow for a time, and then stop, and then flow again. No, it flows every moment. And just so, my Lord Jesus wants me to take that blessed position as one of His branches. I must be wholly dependent upon Him. Morning by morning, hour by hour, step by step, I must abide in Him, realizing that without Him I am nothing, and know nothing, and can do nothing.

That is the secret of spiritual success. The branch has nothing but what it gets from the vine, and you and I can have nothing but what we get from Jesus.

2. RESTING IN HIM

The life of the branch is a life of deep restfulness. Oh, if we could say to that little branch, "Tell me, please, how I can be a true branch of the living Vine," and if the branch could answer, it would say, "Man, I hear that you are wise, and I know that you can do a great many wonderful things. I know you have much strength and wisdom given to you, but I have one lesson for you. With all your hurry and effort in Christ's work you never prosper. The first thing you need is to come and rest in your Lord Jesus. That is what I do. Since I grew out of that vine I have spent years and years, and all I have done is just to rest in the vine. When the time of spring came I had no anxious thoughts nor care. The vine began to pour its sap into me, and to give the bud and leaf. And when the time of summer came I had no care. In the great heat

I trusted the vine to bring moisture to keep me fresh. And in the time of harvest, when the owner came to pluck the grapes, I had no care. If there was anything in the grapes not good, the owner never blamed the branch; the blame was always on the vine. So if you would be a true branch of Christ, the living Vine, just rest in Him. Let Christ bear all the responsibility."

You say, "Won't that make me slothful?" No, for he who learns to rest in the living Christ never can be lazy. The closer your contact with Christ, the

more of His zeal and love will be borne in upon you. Rest deeply, and the restfulness of your spirit will bring refreshing to those about you until they too will be led into this abiding life of Christian rest and peace and holiness.

3. BEARING FRUIT FOR HIM

Notice how often the Lord Jesus repeated that word "fruit" in John 15. He spoke first of "fruit;" then of "more fruit;" and then of "much fruit." He has chosen you, and ordained you, that you should go and bring forth not only "fruit," but "much fruit." He said, "Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples." O Christian, this world is perishing for the want of workers who have a different life, who possess a new power, who can bring more blessing. Christ, the heavenly Vine, has power to provide the heavenly grapes, but He depends on us to bear them.

Do not confuse work and fruit. There may be a good deal of work for Christ that is not the fruit of the heavenly Vine. Do not seek for work only. Study this question of fruit-bearing. It means keeping a close connection with the Vine so that the very life, the very power, the very love within the heart of the Son of God comes into your heart and mine.

Go to the Lord Jesus in prayer and say: "Nothing less than Thy Spirit, Thy power, Thy love is what I ask. Lord Jesus, I pray Thee to let Thy life flow through me in all that I am, in all that I think, in all that I say, in all that I do." Thus you will be a branch constantly abiding in the Vine and constantly bearing much precious fruit.

4. COMMUNING WITH HIM

The life of the branch is a life of close communion. It is a life of constant abiding. There are the branches, in unbroken communion with the vine from January to December, and that is the picture Christ gives of our relationship to Him.

You say, "But I am so occupied with daily tasks." That need not keep you from abiding in communion with your Lord. You may have ten hours' hard work daily, during which your brain has to be occupied with temporal things; God orders it so. But abiding is the

THE SECRET OF SPIRITUAL SUCCESS

The Lord told Joshua how to have prosperity and good success—by meditating in the Holy Scriptures and following their counsel. He said: "This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success."

Then followed another precious promise: "Be thou strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest."

You can claim these promises for 1953 if you will meet the conditions. Determine that you will read a portion of God's Word every day, without fail. By reading approximately three chapters a day you can read the entire Bible by the end of 1953.

Better to start the day without your breakfast than without your Bible.



What Is the Chief End of Life?

THE END of life is not to do good, although so many think so. It is not to win souls, although I once thought so. The end of life is—to do the will of God.

C. H. Spurgeon replied to an invitation to preach to an exceptionally large audience, "I have no ambition to preach to ten thousand people, but to do the will of God"—and he declined. A young minister in a small church, on a small salary, who has a wife and five children, received a tempting offer to go on the lecture platform. He replied: "The Lord never called me to lecture, but to preach the gospel"—and dismissed the matter from his mind.

If we could have no ambition past the will of God our lives would be successful. If we say, "I have no ambition to go to the heathen; I have no ambition to win souls; my ambition is to do the will of God, whatever that may be," that makes all lives equally great, or equally small, because the only great thing in a life is what of God's will there is in it. The maximum achievement of any man's life, after it is all over, is to have done the will of God. No man or woman can have done any more with a life—no Luther, no Spurgeon, no Wesley, no Melancthon can have done any more with their lives; and a dairymaid or a road laborer can do as much.

Therefore, the supreme principle

upon which we have to run our lives is to adhere, through temptation, and prosperity, and adversity, to the will of God, wherever that may lead us. It may take you to China, or you who are going to Africa may have to stay where you are. You who are going to be an evangelist may have to go into business, and you who are going into business may have to become an evangelist. But there is no happiness or success in any life till that principle is taken to heart.

How can you build up a life on that principle? Let me give you an outline of a little Bible reading:

The definition of an ideal life: "A man after Mine own heart, which shall fulfill all My will."

The object of life: "I come to do Thy will, O God."

The first thing you need, after life, is food: "My meat is to do the will of Him that sent He."

The next thing you need, after food, is society: "Whosoever shall do the will of My Father in Heaven, the same is My brother, and sister, and mother."

You want education: "Teach me to do Thy will, O my God."

You want pleasure: "I delight to do Thy will, O my God."

A whole life can be built up on that vertebral column; and then, when all is over, "HE THAT DOETH THE WILL OF GOD ABIDETH FOR EVER."—Henry Drummond.

work of the heart, not of the brain; the heart can be clinging to Jesus, resting in Him, through the blessed ministry of the Holy Spirit who comes to link us to Christ Jesus. Oh, do believe that deeper down than the brain, deep down in the inner life, you can abide in Christ, so that whenever your mind is free from your work it will be occupied with Him. This is the secret of fruit-bearing.

There are Christians who long for the higher life, and who sometimes have received a great blessing so that their joy overflows and they bear fruit for a time; and yet, after a time, the bless-

ing seems to pass away. They have not understood how necessary it is to keep in close personal communion with Christ day by day and hour by hour. Take time to be alone with your Lord. Talk to Him, worship Him, and let Him speak to you through His Word. Nothing in heaven or earth can free you from the necessity for communion, if you are to be a happy and holy Christian.

5. SURRENDER ALL TO HIM

The life of the branch is a life of entire surrender. This term, "entire surrender," is a great and solemn term and I believe we do not understand all

of its meaning. And yet the little branch preaches it. "Have you anything to do, little branch, besides bearing grapes?"

"No, nothing."

"Are you fit for nothing?"

"Fit for nothing. A bit of branch cannot even be used as a pen; it is good for nothing but to be burned, unless it abides in the vine."

"Then what do you understand, little branch, about your relation to the vine?"

"My relation is just this: I am utterly given up to the vine, and the vine can give me as much or as little sap as it chooses. Here I am at its disposal, and the vine can do with me what it likes!"

Oh, we want this entire surrender to the Lord Jesus Christ. We want it, not merely in word, but in deed and in truth. Some profess to give themselves entirely to God but never take time to study quietly what it means. What is meant by entire surrender? It means that just as literally as Christ was given up entirely to God, I am given up entirely to Christ. Is that too strong? Some may think so. Some may think it impossible for them to give up their lives to please Christ just as entirely and absolutely as Christ gave up His life to please the Father. But that is actually true.

I am not my own. Christ has bought me with His blood. If there were a slave market today and I were to buy a slave, I should take that slave away to my own house as my personal property, and I could order him about at all times. And if he were a faithful slave he would give up his own will and his own interests in order to promote the well-being and honor of his master. In like manner I, who have been bought with the blood of Christ, have become His possession and I should live every day with the one thought, "How can I please my Master?"

Listen to His words: "I am the vine, ye are the branches." In other words: I, the living One who have so completely given Myself to you, am the Vine. You cannot trust Me too much. I am the Almighty Worker, full of divine life and power. Christian, if there is in your heart the consciousness that you are not a strong, healthy, fruit-bearing branch, that you are not closely linked with Jesus, that you are not living in Him as you should be—then listen to Him saying: "I am the Vine; I will receive you! I will draw you to myself;

ROBERT C. CUNNINGHAM, EDITOR

THE PENTECOSTAL EVANGEL is published weekly by the Gospel Publishing House, 434 West Pacific Street, Springfield 1, Missouri (J. O. Harrell, General Manager). Entered as second-class matter June 25, 1918, at the Post Office in Springfield, Mo., under Act of March 3, 1879. Accepted for mailing at special rate provided in Sec. 1103 of Oct. 3, 1917, authorized July 3, 1918. Printed in U.S.A.

Subscription rates: In U.S.A., \$1.00 for 8 months, \$1.50 for a year, \$3.00 for 2 years, \$5.00 for 4 years. Outside U.S.A., \$2.00 per year. Send cash with order. Single Copies: 5 cents each; 50 copies for \$1.50. In quarterly bundle orders, 4 or more weekly to one address, 3 cents per copy in U.S.A., 4 cents outside U.S.A. Photo Credits: Eva Luoma, page 1; A. Devaney, Inc., pages 3 and 5.

I will bless you; I will strengthen you; I will fill you with My Spirit. I, the Vine, have chosen you and ordained you to be one of My branches. I have given Myself utterly to you; will you not give yourself utterly to Me? I have surrendered Myself to become man and to die that I might be entirely yours. Come and surrender yourself entirely to be Mine."

What will your answer be? Oh, let it be a prayer from the depths of your heart that He, the living Vine, shall link you to Himself and that you shall abide constantly in Him. Then you will find rest and joy and fruitfulness in Him. You will love to be alone with Him, to worship and adore Him, to praise and trust Him. You will say, "Thou art my Vine, and I am Thy branch. It is enough; my soul is satisfied."

New Power for a New Year

In the *Journal of John Wesley* we have the following account of a thrilling outpouring of the Holy Spirit that sent the early Methodists out into the highways and hedges of England as "flames of fire" with the burning message of "free salvation for all men, and full salvation from all sin!"

"On the first night of the new year Messrs. Hall, Kinchin, Ingham, Whitefield, Hutchins, and my brother Charles, were present at our love feast, with about sixty of our brethren. About three in the morning, as we were continuing instant in prayer, the power of God came mightily upon us, insomuch that many cried out for exceeding joy, and many fell to the ground. As soon as we were recovered a little from that awe and amazement at the presence of His majesty, we broke out with one voice, 'We praise Thee O God; we acknowledge Thee to be the Lord.'"

Sister Bridget and the Devil

SOME TIME AGO there lived in San Francisco a woman who became known in later years as Sister Bridget. She had been living in sin. Some Christian people found her and persuaded her to try to live a Christian life. She tried, but failed, the trouble being that she did not have a genuine born-again experience.

A little later she wandered into a Pentecostal Mission, went to the altar, and was wonderfully saved. She was Irish. She had a unique way of testifying. One day she stood up in the meeting and testified something like this:

"I tried so hard to be a real Christian. I tried so hard to do right, and to be right; but the old Devil would come and knock at the door of my heart day

after day, and commence to argue with me. How he could argue. The trouble was, he could out-argue me. After he would argue and argue, I would generally fail, until I got discouraged. Then one day I came into this Mission, and Jesus came into my heart. Praise His name!

"One day when the Devil came back and knocked at the door, I was about to open it and start the old arguments but then I remembered I had given control to Jesus; so I said to my Lord, 'Jesus, You will have to go to the door this time.' So the Lord Himself went and opened the door."

Then Sister Bridget said: "When the Devil saw Jesus standing there, he stammered and said, 'W-e-l-l, w-e-l-l, there must be some mistake.' Off he went, and he hasn't been back since."

That is the secret of victorious living, my friends. The best New Year's resolution you can make is to live closer to Jesus than you ever have done before. You can conquer in His strength when you cannot conquer in your own.—Dr. Charles S. Price, in *Golden Grain*.

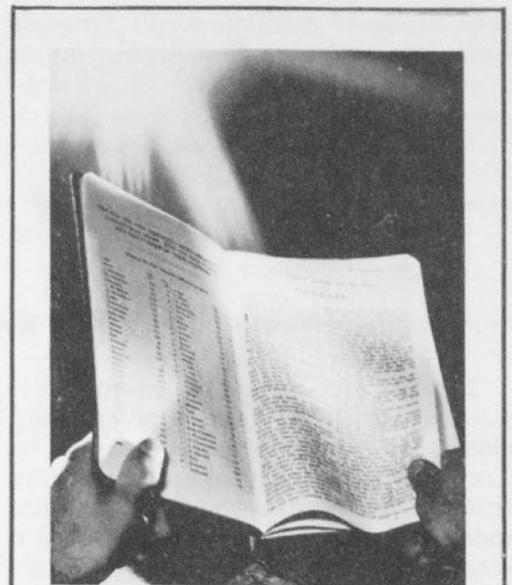
THE EFFICACY OF PRAYER

There is no greater power in the world than prayer. True prayer, the prayer that is wrought by the Spirit and is presented at the throne of the Omnipotent God in the name of Christ, can do anything. True prayer, the prayer of faith in the power of the Holy Spirit, brings the intercessor into immediate touch with God. In this sense, prayer is work and involves an utmost expenditure of the heart's vitality. It is a free gift, but there are conditions to the receiving of the gift. The intercessor must have free access to the Throne on the ground of the perfect work of Atonement of Calvary.

Only eternity will reveal how such prayers have altered the course of events in this world, how they have availed for the salvation of individual souls, and what vast numbers of people have been influenced and inwardly stirred. The petition which the lonely intercessor bears to the Throne in prayer under the Spirit's guidance is carried into effect by heavenly messengers (Dan. 9:23).

IT WORKS

In the far West a poor woman stood by her wash tub where she was busy at work. Hot tears fell into the lather of her soapsuds. Her hands were working, her spirit was wrestling in prayer. Her heart overflowed in earnest entreaty for her son who was far away. It was as if the mother's heart divined something of the struggle through which her child was passing.



HOW TO FACE THE NEW YEAR

1. Face the New Year with the Old Book.
2. Face the New Needs with the Old Promises.
3. Face the New Problems with the Old Gospel.
4. Face the New Life with the Old Remedies. —Selected

He was on his knees in a desolate room, hundreds of miles away. It was a "life and death" conflict. A fearful temptation had assailed his soul; the scales were swinging. Who would win? The youth wrestled as if in death agony. At last he rose; quiet determination was written on his face, and his features were lit with the radiance of holy victory. The mother's prayers in the far-off log cabin in the West had decided the issue.

That son became a great witness to the Truth, and thousands were led into the Way of Life through him. One of those who were won through his testimony was the great evangelist Moody, and he in turn also reaped an abundant harvest of souls. It was all brought to pass through that poor woman's prayer; she had access to the Throne and she poured out her soul there in burning supplication. The son of such a mother could not be lost; he became an instrument in God's hands.—*Living Waters*.

"Not My Will, But Thine"

A Bible teacher was asked to describe, in a word, his idea of consecration. He replied by holding out a blank sheet of paper, and saying, "It is to sign your name at the bottom of this blank sheet of paper, and let God fill it in as He will."—James H. McConkey, in *Earnest Worker*.

Out of an Horrible Pit

Violet Schoonmaker

THERE IS a chapter in my missionary life that I have kept carefully closed and sealed for many years. The Lord has been telling me to break the seals, so that others who are struggling today against spiritual powers that are seeking to overthrow them, both mentally and spiritually, may have access to its pages and may perchance find help. I have found it more difficult to break these seals than I expected. I found they were made of an irresistible substance called pride; but with the help of the One who bade me break them, they lie at my feet today in tiny broken pieces and I open my chapter to you.

I went to India in 1902 under the Christian and Missionary Alliance. The Lord had called me and anointed me by His Spirit, and I was very happy in my work in an orphanage of some five hundred girls. I was there during the wonderful days of revival from 1904 to 1908. In 1908 I received the blessed baptism of the Holy Spirit, which was to me a real entering into the Shekinah glory of God. A year later I was married. Our love story was very sweet.

The day for our wedding drew near. I had been in India nearly seven years, in one of the most unhealthy parts of the land, and had worked hard with little rest. Money had come in too slowly those days for me to take vacations in the hills. During the summer months of 1909, I had taken over the charge of the orphanage, while other missionaries were away. Several things happened that summer which took toll of my strength. I had suffered many times during the years with malaria and was in no condition physically to think of marriage.

Just about a week before the great day we were busy making preparations when I was taken with fever. It did not seem at all like malaria, but settled in various parts of my body producing a hot, burning sensation. It reached my brain. We had no doctor at the time and I have never consulted a doctor about it since. He probably would have called it brain fever. I can never forget the agony the night when my brain burned like a furnace. Nerve after nerve seemed to be pulled out as the nerves of a tooth. I was all alone and called no one.

In the morning I went into my bathroom and on the way glanced into a mirror on the wall. My eyes stared back at me. I was frightened at their glassy appearance. I wanted to take a bath but found I was unable to do so. I could not remember how to begin, and after gazing for a time at the tub I returned to bed. I cannot recall just what happened next. Everything seemed to be confused from then on.

Doubt entered my mind. Perhaps I should not be married. I was not sure I really loved the man I had so deeply loved a few days before. But it was too late to postpone the date. Invitation cards had gone out to our friends. All thought it best if I would go on with the ceremony and then accompany my husband to a hill station where I could get a complete rest. I kept my sufferings much to myself. My friends, however, were troubled over the glassy appearance of my eyes; but they did not know how I was suffering.

My nights were worse. Demon spirits seemed to be closing in all about me. I could see them and hear them. Prayer

I stood with God on the edge of the world, and my hand was in His hand. I looked down the road of the past, as it stretched away in the dim distance, till it was shrouded in the mists of time. And I knew it had no beginning, and a little chill wind of fear blew about my head.

God asked, "Are you afraid?"
And I said, "Yes, because I cannot understand how there can be no beginning."

So God said, "Let us turn and face the other way."

And I looked into glory, and my heart rejoiced with joy unspeakable. And then my mind went ahead, a billion, billion years, and I knew there would be no end, and again that little chill wind of fear began to blow.

And God asked me again, "Are you afraid?"

And I answered, "A little, because I cannot understand how there can be no end."

So God asked me tenderly, "Are you afraid now, today, with your hand in mine?"

And I looked up at Him and smiled and replied, "O my Father, No!"

And God said, "Every day in eternity will be today."

—Martha Snell Nicholson

brought deliverance as long as others were with me; but as soon as I was left alone, the air seemed filled with them again.

We were married. I could eat nothing of the wedding dinner; the food seemed to thicken in my mouth so that I could not swallow it. This peculiar symptom remained through all my days of suffering. Others packed my clothes for me and we started off for the hills, a distance of several hundred miles.

We were all alone in a small compartment in the train. My husband took out his Greek diatome and suggested that we read together the twelfth chapter of Romans. He had read a verse or two when I began to realize that I could not understand anything he read. I looked at my husband and thought to myself, "You dear soul! How little you know you have married a demented woman. Never shall we be able to read and discuss the Word of God together." The awfulness of the thought of having lost my mind and of having to spend the rest of my days in an insane asylum swept over me, and I began to scream. With each scream my mind seemed to recede farther and farther into the distance. I seemed to have no power to think, or even to move, any more. Both parts of my brain seemed to be paralyzed.

We had to change trains in Delhi. My husband helped me to a bench on the station platform and I looked about on what seemed mad confusion and unreality. I scarcely recognized any object I saw. There was the awful consciousness that my mind had gone.

Another night's journey brought us to the foot of the mountains. I was seated in a dandy (a sort of hammock carried by natives) and my husband rode beside me on horseback as we climbed the mountain and reached the Missionary Home where we were to be entertained.

I went to bed. All the light of my life seemed to have blown out and a horrible darkness enveloped me. I had known the voice of God's Spirit. Now other spirit voices spoke to me. They told me I had been a hypocrite all of my life; that I never had been saved; had never been called of God; had never been baptized in the Spirit; and had never been led of God to marry. All had been imagination, pretense and hypocrisy, it seemed, and because of this God had cursed me to everlasting punishment in hell.

We were in the mountains and it was cold in my room, but I would not let any one start a fire in my fireplace, for that reminded me of the fire into which I feared I would finally be cast! Indeed, I could seem to hear already the

weeping and wailing and gnashing of teeth. My companions were demons and the angels that Peter said had sinned and been "cast down to hell and delivered into chains of darkness to be reserved unto judgment."

Each day fresh revelations came to me. Sometimes I could seem to see throngs of white-robed saints in the distance walking the streets of gold, but I felt I was never to join them. I was tempted to go to the brow of the mountain and cast myself down headlong. I believe I would have done so, if God had not prevented me. Somehow my loving Lord had not allowed those demons to possess me, but only to oppress me. I am sure that if they had gotten possession of me, I would have done away with myself. Sometimes I pulled my hair in agony.

Why am I writing all this? To frighten you? No, but to show you how far the devil can go if permitted of God and to reveal God's way of deliverance. Why did God permit this? I do not know. My husband and friends tried to pray with me. I would not allow them to do so. I was afraid of God, afraid of the Cross, afraid of the Blood. Indeed I felt sure that if I dared speak the word "blood," the Lord would strike me dead.

Yes, I learned in those days how the devil fears the Blood, the Cross, and the name of Jesus.

In some unexplainable way, I thought I was not a soul for whom Christ died but a part of Satan himself. So I could not pray. There was no forgiveness, no pardon, no hope. The Cross bore witness against me. However, I did not once question God's holiness or justice. I felt I deserved eternal damnation.

My husband had written to our mission station on the plains asking for prayer. One sister had prayed that God in His mercy would send something to turn my thoughts from myself. This He did. My husband was stricken down with fever. He must have suffered greatly those days, but we never talked about it afterwards. He grew rapidly worse. One day friends gathered round his bed in another part of the room and I could see they were anxious. He stopped breathing. His pulse stopped and he began to get cold. Then he cried, "Don't you hear the music?" Afterwards he told us that he asked the Lord to let him come to Him, and the Lord answered, "A few more years." With this, perspiration broke out on his cold forehead, and he began to breathe again.

I could not see everything from my bed but I sensed the danger, and I said to myself, "There was a time when I could have prayed for him. I wonder if He really has forsaken me. I wonder if Satan has been deceiving me." I

slipped out of bed, knelt down, and said, "Jesus." I do not remember saying more. The heavens seemed like brass. I could not see. I could not feel. I heard no answer to my cry. I crept back into bed.

And then, for the first time in ten days, I began to think clearly. My first thought was of my clothes they had

packed for me. Had they been unpacked and hung up? I thought of the lunch we had brought with us, which neither of us had even tasted. Had the homemade candy been taken out and distributed? Then my hair! Was I not a bride? How shameful to let my hair hang down my back!

(Continued on page twelve)

Think on These Things!

**"Finally brethren,
Whatsoever things are true,
Whatsoever things are honourable,
Whatsoever things are just,
Whatsoever things are pure,**

**Whatsoever things are lovely,
Whatsoever things are of good report;
If there be any virtue,
And if there be any praise,
Think on these things."**

Phil. 4:8

FROM THIS scripture and many others, we learn that thoughts have a mighty power in the building of our character, and in determining our destiny. The idea many of us have held, that our thoughts mattered little if they were restrained from outward expression, is utterly wrong and untenable.

The act of thinking is performed through a process of the brain (how, no scientist can tell) but the origin of our thoughts is in our own essential spiritual being. Our thoughts are deposited in our hearts, and issue thence in words, acts and attitudes. Back of all our words and acts are our thoughts, and back of all thoughts are the essential YOU and I; therefore thoughts are indeed mighty things. "As a man thinketh in his heart so is he."

But it is strangely true that our thoughts also influence our inner being. There is a mysterious reciprocal working going on in the soul, which we might call "pendulum movement." The inner impulse that urges your thoughts out to God, is increased by your mind and desires being more centered upon Him. And your thoughts being more occupied with God and the things of God, increases your soul's urge in the "God-direction."

From out of these thoughts within come the issues of life. In whatever direction these thoughts trend, whether heavenward or downward; on whatever side your thoughts are arrayed, with God and His Word, or against Him; from your thoughts comes the outflow of your life. From them comes the outward manifestation of your very self. Because of this we are warned to guard our hearts with all diligence. Out from the heart comes a mighty irresistible influence on soul and body for all time. Rotherham translates it, "Above all that must be guarded, keep thy heart." This means to protect the heart

so that all that is not of God shall be kept from entering it, or feeding the thought life.

Fill your heart and mind with God's Word. Fill your life with His truth by obeying and living it. As you habitually incorporate His truth into your life you will learn and prove that His words and promises are true no matter how things may appear.

The reason our spiritual progress has been so slow is because God has not possessed our thoughts and hearts. Only as much as He possesses your heart does He possess your thoughts. Only as much as He possesses you does He give Himself to you. It may not be easy at first to fix your mind on Him and to have your thoughts filled with the praise and virtue He enjoins for your meditation, but remember that all He offers and commands is possible.

"I feared a fear," said Job, "and it came upon me." It was his lack of faith that brought the calamities upon him. Fear in the heart is always a proof of lack of faith and rest in God. Fear always opens the door for the thing feared to come upon us, unless God prevents it. If our minds are stayed upon Him, no doubts or fears can enter. God is able to bring every thought into captivity unto the obedience of Christ, and we are told that our weapons, through God, are mighty to do this very thing. How wonderful would be our lives if all our thoughts were brought into captivity unto the obedience of Christ. Our thoughts seldom have been under our control, and more rarely have they found their home and resting place in God.

There is a place where our thoughts are filled with the things that are true and lovely and of good report, a place and relationship with the Lord where the God of Peace is consciously and constantly with us.—*Elim Evangel*.

NEPAL FRONTIER NEWS

Mildred Cummings

OUR MISSION STATION in Rupaidiha is just a stone's throw from the Nepal border. In fact, you may walk out the back door of the mission bungalow and in a moment's time you are in Nepal. Nanpara, another of our stations, is also near the border.

Nepal is an independent kingdom on the northeastern frontier of India. Because about nine-tenths of the country is mountainous, Nepal is known as "the mountain kingdom."

Probably it is best known to the rest of the world as the home of the Gurkhas, the name popularly applied to all the fighting castes of Nepal. Intrepid and warlike, they are regarded as the finest soldiers in the world.

Nepal's chief religion is Hinduism but large segments of the population follow an unorthodox Buddhism. The Brahmins, or Hindu priests, wield considerable influence in Nepalese affairs.

The population is estimated at 5,600,000. There is only one large city and that is Katmandu, the capital.

Nepal is still a "closed land" to the gospel, but there are numerous ways by which we can reach its people with the gospel message. One day my husband and I sat in the same train-compartment with a young Nepalese widow, her mother and a woman servant. The young widow and her mother were both educated and could read Hindi fluently. We gave them some Scripture portions and how eagerly they read! We had the joy of telling them of Jesus' love. They listened intently with tears in their eyes. Never had they heard the gospel message before, as far as we know—not even once.

Our Nepalese worker and his wife visit faithfully in the homes of the people. They frequent the market place and at train time they make their way to the station so that they may contact the Nepalese as they reach their destination.

Our missionaries were able to get permission for us to cross the border, and we had a very interesting time wandering through the native city of Nepalganj. Some strange and very old customs still prevail in Nepal.

For instance, when one is caught stealing, the thief is punished by having one foot put in a stock. For any crime, in fact, other than murder, one foot is put in the stock. A murderer must have both feet put in the stocks until he is sent to jail.

One time when the queen was ill she sacrificed a chicken, a duck, a sheep, a goat and a young buffalo. When our missionaries arrived on the scene the buffalo was being sacrificed. This last must be done with one stroke of the knife.

Miss Mattie Personoe gives an interesting account of the conversion of Bala Singh, a Nepalese:

"For two years the mission worker, Barnabas Rae, had been visiting the home of Bala Singh, a night watchman. Barnabas

Rae sometimes read the Bible to him and his wife, and prayed with them. Sometimes he just sang a hymn and told them a Bible story. One day he gave them a Nepali New Testament. When one of Bala Singh's friends heard of this he warned him that if he read that book he would become a Christian. Bala Singh laughed and said he never would become a Christian. Was he not a Hindu! However, his wife became more and more interested. One day when their little girl was ill the mission worker prayed for the child and she recovered. This answer to prayer made a great impression on them.

"Later this family was transferred to a village in Nepal. Not long afterward their little girl contracted smallpox and died. Heartbroken, they came back to Rupaidiha to live. The man found no employment there and was invited by our worker to come to Nanpara. There he found work and the two families became very friendly. As time went on, Bala Singh and his wife often joined our workers in prayer and in the reading of the Word.

"Later Bala Singh contracted fever. During this illness the Lord revealed Himself to Bala Singh in a special way. He had resisted long enough! He determined that he would take a bold stand for Christ. He was healed and immediately he arose and cut off the long lock of hair that is the sign of Hinduism. He buried the lock and, with a significant gesture, stamped on it with his feet.

"After some weeks Fred Merian came to Nanpara. Bala Singh and his wife were catechized by him and both gave ringing testimonies. After Brother Merian baptized them in water a precious communion service was held. Bala Singh has now become 'John.' God has given them a beautiful little son whom they have named Daniel.

"Eager to witness to their relatives and friends, they have returned to Nepal to tell of God's wonderful provision for a lost world. It is not permissible to hold public meetings in that country, yet much can be accomplished by the faithful witness of these new converts as they visit their friends in their homes. Relatives of the couple have already expressed a desire to become Christians. Pray for this 'closed land' and for those who witness along its frontiers!"



UPPER LEFT: A Nepalese (Hindu) priest. His shrine is at the left—in the rock. LOWER LEFT: Looking down on a typical Nepalese village in the valley. LOWER RIGHT: Prisoners in stocks; this primitive method of punishment is still used in Nepal.

India-Bound Missionaries Encounter Typhoon

OUR MISSIONARIES, Marguerite Flint, Anna Tomaseck, and Hilda Wagenknecht, sailed November 6 from Seattle, Washington, on the *S. S. Kertosono*. Six days later a severe typhoon struck the Calcutta-bound freighter when she was about 725 miles out to sea. After the fury of the waves had abated somewhat the damage to the vessel was determined, and it was found necessary to return to the States. On Sunday, November 16, the battered freighter with her injured crew aboard limped through the Golden Gate to San Francisco.

The following letter has been received from Miss Flint: "Three of your missionaries have learned anew that they who go down to the sea in ships do indeed see the works of the Lord! We were very conscious of the power of prayer and of His sweet presence as the specter of death rode with us on the stormy sea.

"Leaving Seattle we spent a few days in Vancouver, B. C. After we sailed from there a dreary rain set in and day after day the weather continued to be bad. On the night of the 12th we suddenly found ourselves in the midst of a furious hurricane. The wind shrieked and howled, and tore at us like demons from the pit. Mountainous waves crashing over the *Kertosono* seemed determined to break her in pieces.

"All through that night of terror no one slept. We lay in our bunks, tossed about, praying and at the same time listening to the shivering of glass and the crashing of ventilator pipes. Above all this we could hear the shouts of the men as they battled against the angry sea whose force seemed about to break our ship in two. In spite of the formidable sounds which reached our ears we were confident that God was with us, and a sweet peace filled our souls.

"The hurricane reached the peak of its fury at four in the morning; but even at seven o'clock when we stood in the dining room watching the sea through the portholes, the waves were still tremendous and each

time they came against the ship it seemed we would be swallowed up.

"Only then did we learn of the havoc which had been wrought through the night. Every lifeboat had been smashed by the fury of the storm. The ventilation system was ruined. The door and porthole of the Marconi operator's room was broken open by the force of the breakers and the room was flooded with water. Our first mate was knocked down and his head severely cut. His knees and arm also were injured. Several others, too, were badly hurt.

"The lower part of the ship was so filled with water that the men had to wade up to their knees. For nearly two days the pantry could not be opened because the water would have rushed in and ruined the food supply. Consequently during that time we lived on cheese sandwiches served to us in our cabins. The crew had to use the dining room as sleeping quarters. The salty sea water got into the oil tanks and into the drinking water. As a matter of fact, it got into everything—tea, coffee, and soup included! It has been an experience that we shall never forget. If you could have seen the wreckage lying about the decks you would better understand what He has brought us through.

"Having no doctor or nurse on this freighter they were thankful to have Miss Tomaseck to assist in caring for the injured men. When we reached port the first mate and six other members of the crew had to be carried off the ship on stretchers to the waiting ambulances.

"What a harrowing experience! It seems that the enemy has done his worst to hinder our return to India. Nevertheless, as soon as the *Kertosono* is pronounced seaworthy again we plan to sail. We are praising God for our miraculous escape and trusting Him to take us safely back to our beloved Hindustan."

The trio finally left San Francisco on the freighter *S. S. Roebiah* on December 6. They sailed back to Seattle and were scheduled to leave that port December 10. Miss Tomaseck was in hospital for several days after their trying experiences at sea but she was able to embark with the others. We trust they will have an uneventful trip to Calcutta!

MISSIONARY News Notes

Kenneth Hale, baby son of our missionary, Dewey C. Hale, passed away on Saturday, November 29, from injuries received in an automobile accident. Mrs. Hale was seriously injured and is in a critical condition. Earnest prayer is requested for this family in their time of bereavement and trouble.

* * *

Wayne and Doris Turnbull have left for their new field of labor. Their address is: Apartado 153, Ciudad Trujillo, Dominican Republic.

* * *

The McClays from Ranchi District, North India, report that God richly blessed in a recent series of meetings which they held in the church at Mutta. Two were saved and two received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit. One who received the Baptism was a lad of 19 who is now in Bible School preparing for the Lord's work.

* * *

Word has been received from Brother and Sister Kenneth Godbey that after an extended trip and many delays they have arrived safely in Obudu, Nigeria, Africa.

* * *

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Doleshal arrived safely in Chile on November 21.

* * *

Miss Martha Jacobson's address is now: 1431 National Avenue, Palm City, Calif.

* * *

Miss Jessie Wengler has moved to 2222 89th Avenue, Oakland, Calif.

LEFT: Barnabas Rae and his wife are shown with a Nepalese couple whom they led to Christ. MIDDLE: Fred Merian seated in front of the hut of a "goddess" in Nepal. RIGHT: Four Nepalese young men who formerly were students in our Boys' School at Nawabganj. They are now witnessing to their own people in Nepal.



SUNDAY'S LESSON

A PREVIEW OF NEXT WEEK'S
LESSON BY E. S. WILLIAMS

THE MAGI VISIT THE NEW- BORN KING

Lesson for January 4

Matthew 2:1-12

The place where Jesus was born was Bethlehem of Judea, about six miles south of Jerusalem. It is called Bethlehem Ephratah in Micah 5:2. The prophecy in Micah, foretelling the place where the Lord should be born, also foretold that in His birth He would be human, while at the same time He would be the Eternal One—"But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting." Because of this prophecy the Jews expected that their Messiah would come from Bethlehem. Matt. 2:4-6.

Bethlehem means "the house of bread," a name well adapted to the birthplace of Him who is "the Bread of Life." In the Arabic "lehem" means "flesh," but even so, it would still be an appropriate name since Jesus said, "The bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world" (John 6:51).

1. The Journey to Jerusalem

a. Following the Star. The Wise Men came from the east, beyond the land of Israel. The exact land from which they came we may not know. Some believe they were Persian astrologers, men of reputation in their native land, supposedly able among other things to predict coming events by study of the stars. It was among this class that Nebuchadnezzar sought an interpreter of his dream (Dan. 2:2). Some believe the Magi may have been descendants from Abraham through Keturah (Gen. 25:1-4), their home somewhere in Arabia; or men who hoped for Messiah through teaching handed down to them from the time of Abraham. Likely they were students of the Old Testament where they had read, "There shall come a Star out of Jacob, and a Scepter shall rise out of Israel, and shall smite the four corners of Moab" (Num. 24:17). Whoever they were, and from whatever land they had come, these men when they saw the unusual star moving toward Judea recognized it as a herald of a king, and decided to follow it.

b. Representing the Gentiles. Since they came from outside the land of Palestine, we may safely say that the Wise Men were Gentiles. The star appearing to them and directing them to Jesus tells us that He was to be the Saviour of all men, and not of the Jews only. A new day had dawned; the love of God for the whole world was to be manifest so that "whosoever believeth in Him

should not perish but have everlasting life." The star signified to them that a King was born, a Person worthy of highest honor. They would therefore seek Him in a worthy manner.

c. Arriving at Jerusalem. Upon arriving at Jerusalem the wise men made their way to the palace of Herod the ruler, where they inquired, "Where is he that is born king of the Jews?" They knew the star they had seen heralded a royal birth. At Bethlehem their search was rewarded. When they saw Jesus they presented to Him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh (Matt. 2:11). Some believe these gifts were divinely ordered—the gold an acknowledging of His deity; the frankincense, their recognition of His kingship; the myrrh, that the king should be a "man of sorrows and acquainted with grief." Such an interpretation is beautiful and would be in harmony with Biblical truth, but we must be careful when spiritualizing lest we draw too much upon our fancy. It is enough to know that the Wise Men gladly bestowed upon the little Jesus the choicest gifts which they had.

2. The Preservation of Messiah

a. Herod's Selfishness. Herod, often spoken of as Herod the Great, was ruler in Judea. It is said that he reigned for thirty-seven years, our Lord being born in the last year of his reign. When he learned that a king had been born in Israel, he feared for his own crown. He feigned that he also would like to find and worship the new King, but his heart was set on doing away with Him. This we learn from his ruthless cruelty in having all the children under two years of age at Bethlehem killed. What a wicked, shameful deed! Jesus would have been no menace to his reign, and little did Herod know that his days were already numbered. He would retain his power through slaughtering the children, but God overruled. One year later Herod must die—die with the blood of the innocents on his hands. God help us to resist any temptation to seek selfish gain. What God wishes us to have He is able to give us. If we seek for selfish advantages God is able to sweep both us and the advantage which we seek into oblivion.

b. Herod's Deceit. Herod resorted to falsehood and carnal cunning. He had no desire to worship Jesus. God knew his thoughts and motives, and sent an angel to Joseph, telling him to take the young Child and His mother and flee into Egypt. God had sent His Son into the world, made of a woman (Gal. 4:4). In the birth of Christ, God's determinate counsel and foreknowledge

was being fulfilled. This being so, no Herod could thwart the divine purpose. Herod's depraved self-interest worked hardship on Joseph and Mary, and even upon the little Jesus, but it could not prevent what God had planned.

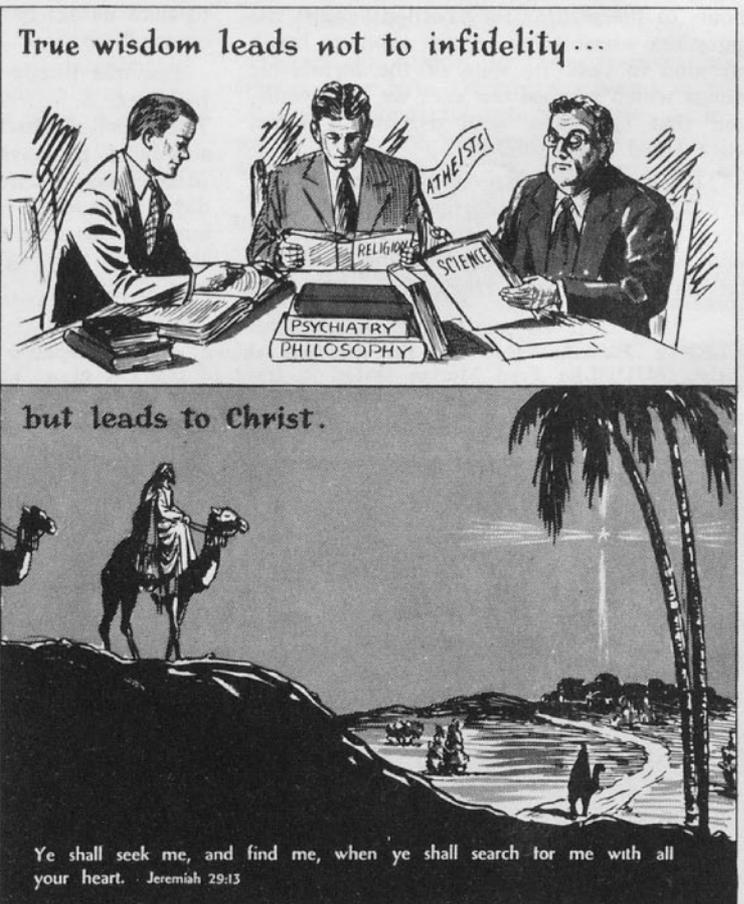
c. A Lesson For Us. May we apply the lesson to ourselves. God has a purpose in each one of our lives as Christians. Circumstances may bring unpleasantness upon us, but our lives if consecrated to Him are in God's hands. The Scripture is true: "For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end" (Jer. 29:11). We may not always understand, but God is working out His plan. We must walk by faith. In the end we will see that all things work together for good to them that love God.

3. The Blessedness of Faith

The Wise Men had faith by which they accepted the star as the sign of a king. Joseph had faith to obey the voice of the angel. Without faith the Wise Men never would have seen the King. Without faith Joseph would not have left for Egypt. "Without faith it is impossible to please him (God)."

Have you ever thought of Joseph and Mary as they took their departure for Egypt? The family was poor. Egypt probably was an unknown country to them. What would they do when they arrived there? They had a baby besides themselves to support. They would be strangers in a strange land. Great misgivings may have entered their minds and hearts, and had they taken time to ponder them, the longer they hesitated the greater the obstacles would have seemed.

We have no way of knowing whether



Joseph and Mary had an inward struggle before finally deciding. It may be that the angel's word made the will of God so clear to them that they felt no uncertainty. For some, it is not hard to come to a decision. For others, there is a great struggle. If we are certain concerning the will of God, it is not so hard to step out and obey; but for those cautious souls who find it hard to make up their minds or venture, we would give this word of encouragement. God knows all hearts, and where there is a desire to do His will and a willingness to trust Him, He will see us through. Faith may require taking a step in the dark, but if it does, God and light will be found there.

THIS WEEK'S LESSON

John, the Prophet in Exile (lesson for Sunday, December 28). Lesson text: Revelation 1:9-19; 22:6-10, 20.

MISSIONS AT HOME

New Works . . . Industrial Chaplaincy
Alaska . . . Jews . . . Deaf . . . Prisoners
Indians . . . Foreign-Language Groups

LATIN-AMERICAN BIBLE INSTITUTE

In October, 1926, Brother and Sister H. C. Ball opened the Latin American Bible Institute in San Antonio, Texas. This venture of faith was to meet the challenge of a growing Pentecostal work among the Spanish-speaking people of our own country, as well as those of our neighbor to the south, Mexico. Perhaps no other factor has so influenced this work. The school has graduated 339 young men and women, a large percentage of whom are now engaged in active ministry.

Four of our graduates are laboring for the Lord in Cuba, and two are in special

missionary work in Mexico. The present leaders of the Assemblies of God in Mexico came to Texas as young men to study, and in turn have established several Bible Schools in their native land. Some thirty graduates are district officials in the States and in Mexico, while thirteen are faculty members of the Latin American Bible Institutes of Texas and California.

The school at the present time is located in Ysleta, the oldest town in Texas. The local people are very proud of their Old Missions, and very religious. Together with the Spanish-speaking population of nearby El Paso, and the many thousands of needy souls in Mexico, less than a mile from our school, they give our students opportunity for much outstation work. Many thrilling testimonies are given after street services, jail services, visitation work, and services in missions across the border. There are fifty-nine students this year, representing seven states and four foreign countries. The school needs your prayers and financial co-operation in order to help these young people prepare for the Latin American harvest field which is crying for laborers.

(Kenzy Savage, who sent in the above report, writes further, "I might add that we have a very good atmosphere in the school, and that one first-year girl has already received the baptism in the Holy Spirit.")

Friends wishing to contribute to the support of the Latin American Bible Institute at Ysleta, Texas, should so designate their offering, and send it directly to the National Home Missions Department, 434 W. Pacific St., Springfield 1, Missouri. All funds will be forwarded 100% as designated.

LOVE IS BETTER THAN LOGIC

One man with a glowing experience of the Lord is worth a library full of arguments. We are God's witnesses, not His lawyers. We have been apologetic when we should be apostolic. People do not usually find God at the end of an argument; Simon Peter usually comes to Jesus because Andrew goes after him with heavenly compassion and holy compulsion.—Vance Havner.



LET'S NOT READ THE BIBLE

D. L. Moody said that when he was a young man he would hoe a field of corn so poorly that the next morning he could not tell where he had stopped. And some people read the Bible in the same manner. They read it casually and carelessly, as if it were an essay on philosophy, or a collection of wise sayings.

But it is not. It is the word of God, and as such it should be studied. "Study to show thyself approved unto God" (2 Timothy 2:15). So this year, let's not merely read the Bible; let's *study it*.

Take one book, such as one of the Epistles, and read it every day until you actually know what it says. Read it until, without looking at the Bible, you can write a summary of it. Read whatever commentaries you can on the book. Memorize the outstanding verses.

Or select one of the Psalms and read it every day for a month.

Reading aloud will help you concentrate on what you are reading. If you have a cross reference Bible, look up the references. Read the footnotes. Read any parallel passages which come to your mind. Write your own cross references in the margin.

By reading or meditating on one portion of the Bible for a month, you will learn more of the Lord and His Word than by merely reading the whole Bible for a year.

But most of all, obey whatever the Word says. "Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams" (1 Samuel 15:22).

Read your portion for the day until a verse impresses you; then stop reading and think about it. If no verse impresses you, stop at the end of the chapter and think through the entire portion. The fact that you didn't respond to it may indicate that you need this passage more than any others.

Ask yourself, Is there something in this passage that I should obey?

Is there something for which I should pray?

Does it point out a sin for me to avoid?

Find the lesson and apply it to your heart. Make it practical by obeying it. It is all too easy to say *Yes* to God and not mean it.

Upon the assembly floor of the British Columbia Native Brotherhood the question came up, "When does an Indian mean No?" An old chief, sitting at the back, rose to his full height and said, "It is very simple when Indian mean No. When Indian say Yes and do nothing, Indian mean No."

If you read the Word of God and do nothing, you are saying No to God. This year, let's not merely read the Bible; let's study it and obey it.



The choir at our Latin-American Bible Institute, Ysleta, Texas.

A CALL TO PRAYER

God's people everywhere are exhorted to gather for prayer on Watch Night (December 31) and each day during the Universal Week of Prayer which begins on Sunday, January 4.

The World's Evangelical Alliance in London, England, is inviting all the Christians throughout the world to observe the first full week of 1953 as a time of penitence, prayer and praise. It has issued such a call every year since 1846.

The Great Commission Prayer League in Chicago, Illinois, likewise calls us to prayer at this crucial time, reminding us of the inspired promise in Ezra 8:22—"The hand of our God is upon all them for good that seek Him; but His wrath is against all them that forsake Him."

There are many who have forsaken the Lord. Some have been enticed by the wages of unrighteousness in the business world. Others have allowed the love of worldly things—possessions, pleasures, popularity—to take first place in their hearts. Public standards of morality have fallen very low. Dishonesty, greed and corruption abound in political circles. Materialistic philosophies have crowded the Bible out of the public schools. America at large has forsaken God, and is beginning to pay the penalty.

But we are bidden to "come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need" (Hebrews 4:16). The Lord waits to be gracious, and there are signs all around us of His willingness to hear our prayers for mercy and to extend His grace toward those for whom we are praying. Let us be bold to ask great things of God and to expect mighty and marvelous answers.

Parents, do you covet God's blessing for your children? Sunday School teachers, are you anxious for the conversion of your pupils? Young people, are you burdened with a strong desire to win the lost? Then dedicate New Year's Eve and the following days to prayer and see how God will honor your faith during the coming year.

It is suggested that the Watch Night Service should begin at 8 o'clock, and that there be a guest speaker or some other special feature during the first hour. The second hour can be a time of praise and testimony to the goodness of the Lord during the year that is past. The third hour might be spent in prayer. The fourth hour might afford time for Communion, or for a breaking-of-bread service. There is untold blessing in the latter. Each person is given a piece of bread to share with any persons to whom the Spirit may draw him. As the people move about the room, breaking bread first with one and then with another, exchanging words of appreciation and Christian affection one for another (and sometimes making up personal differences that have arisen) the hearts of all are melted together into loving unity and the blessing of the Lord comes down in abundant measure.

The theme suggested for the Week of Prayer is the cry of the Psalmist, "Wilt Thou not revive us again, that Thy people may rejoice in Thee?" Psalm 85:6. The series of meetings will be more profitable if the praying is directed into definite channels. The following outlines are suggested (subject, of course, to the leading of the Spirit at all times).

SUNDAY. Missionary day. Texts for sermons: Isaiah 40:1-3; Acts 1:8; Hosea 10:12; Matthew 17:19; Proverbs 1:30.

Pray for:

The unsaved people of other lands.
The foreign missionaries.
World-wide spiritual revival.
Power from on high to enable us to fulfil our personal obligation toward the evangelization of the world.

MONDAY. Topic: the Christian Home.

Pray for:

The deepening of devotional life in the family.
Unsaved loved ones.
The spiritual enlightenment and early conversion of children.

Home Missions work—new churches, meetings for the deaf, for the American Indians, for Alaska, etc.

TUESDAY. Topic: The Christian Church.

Pray for:

A mighty baptism with the Holy Spirit.
Members of the church, wherever they may be.
Ministers, Bible teachers, evangelists, deacons, and others in places of leadership.

Backsliders.

A greater separation from the world and dedication to God.

A bigger, better Sunday School.

WEDNESDAY. Topic: The Community.

Pray for:

Unsaved neighbors and acquaintances.
The public schools.
Civic leaders.
Christ-like conduct in every situation.
All gospel broadcasting, including our international radio program "Revivaltime."

THURSDAY. Topic: The Nation.

Pray for:

All rulers in Federal and State Governments.
Those who make our laws, and those who enforce them.

Divine guidance in America's relationship to other nations.

All who publish gospel literature, such as the Gospel Publishing House.

FRIDAY. Topic: The Nations.

Pray for:

Nations torn by war, that they may be led in the paths of righteousness and peace.

Our enemies.

Christian believers in other lands.
Youth, especially those in military service.
All who are persecuted for the gospel's sake.
The salvation of the heathen.

SATURDAY. Topic: Christian Institutions and Agencies.

Pray for:

All Bible Societies.
Our Bible schools.
Inter-church organizations such as the National Association of Evangelicals, the

World's Evangelical Alliance, the Pentecostal Fellowship of North America.

Homes for the aged.

Homes for the orphans.

The sick everywhere.

Let us lay hold of the promise given to us by Christ (in Matthew 21:22), "And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive."

OUT OF AN HORRIBLE PIT

(Continued from page seven)

Was there still hope for me? The words of John 3:16 came to me. I was not an evil spirit but a person for whom Christ had died. "Whosoever" meant me. If I would believe I would not perish. I was not at all conscious of the Lord's presence, but I had this promise of His and I determined to believe it.

Night came on, and I suddenly awoke from my sleep. Awful fears possessed me. Darts of fire were coming straight at me. A voice said, "It is useless for you to try to ease your conscience or give yourself any hope or nullify your fears by trying to believe. It won't work." I sat up in bed and cried, "I am lost! I am lost!" My husband said, "No, Violet, you are not lost." Then I heard another voice, "Take your shield of faith." I remembered John 3:16 and in a loud voice I cried out, "God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." The darts stopped flying.

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for Home Missions Emphasis Week
January 18-25

My fears vanished. I lay back in my bed and went to sleep.

For three nights I had the same identical experience—real fiery darts—real fear—a real shield—a real sword of the Spirit—real victory. And then the Tempter came no more. Life and light and joy became mine again. Satan had certainly desired to have me, and to wreck my life as a missionary of the Cross and as a wife and mother. No words can describe how awful the struggle had been.

Why did God allow His child to suffer in this way? I do not know. I do know that I learned lessons never to be forgotten. I learned that all I experienced in those awful days actually would have been there but for the grace of God. I deserved nothing better. By God's grace alone I am saved today.

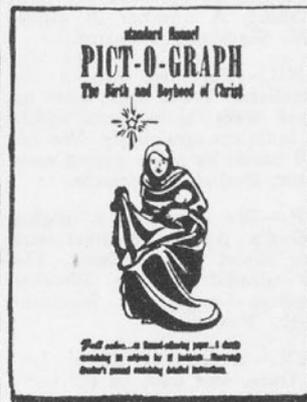
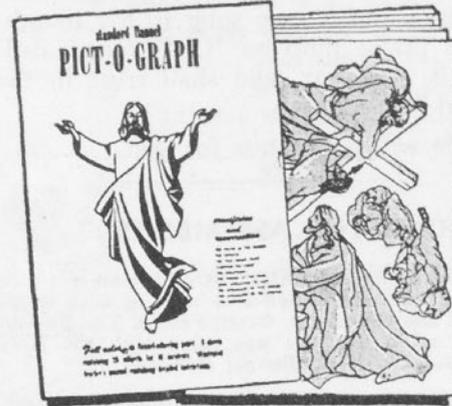
I learned something of the terrible state of the lost and of the awfulness of hell. Ah, reader, if you have not believed on the Son of God, do so today. He has paid the price of your salvation. Repent and believe the gospel.

I learned that the devil is a liar and that there is no truth in him; that he is a deceiver and a murderer. I learned that his way of approach is to create doubt in the hearts of God's children—just a single doubt, perhaps. One doubt leads to another and then another. In my case, it began with a doubt concerning my marriage. That led me to doubt my baptism in the Spirit. Doubting my baptism led me to doubt my salvation, and then I doubted everything but the devil and his lies.

As long as I doubted, God could do nothing for me. The moment I said, "Perhaps the devil is deceiving me. Perhaps God has not forsaken me. Perhaps He would hear if I call upon Him," God began to work for me. As soon as I began to doubt the devil, he lost control of me. Doubt is a mighty force. If we begin to doubt the devil and his lies, he loses control of us. Both demand faith. Whom would you rather believe—God or the devil? You cannot believe both.

I learned that the devil fears the Cross of Calvary and the Blood of that Cross. He knows he is a conquered foe but he will fight until the end. He knows that if a sinner comes to that Cross he will be saved and another prisoner will escape from his hand. He hates the Man of Calvary. He knows the power of the Blood. I am convinced that this is the reason he prevailed upon me not to plead the Blood for my deliverance.

I learned that the principalities and powers, the rulers of the darkness of this world, the wicked spirits in high places of which Paul wrote to the



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Ephesians, are not myths or fables or fairy tales but awful realities with which we must wrestle.

I learned that faith is a shield that will quench all the fiery darts of the devil. I learned I must put on the whole armour of God if I would stand against the wiles of the devil. I learned something of the mighty power of the sword of the Spirit—the Word of God. I learned how to use this sword, even as our Lord used it in the wilderness. John 3:16 was my sword, and as I used it, the tempter fled.

So he will flee from you, tempted one. God says, "Resist the devil and he will flee from you." Do not hope he will flee if you do not resist him. There is no other way. There is no other sword. We must use the Word. Our very life depends on it. Ask God for a verse of

promise that covers your case. Then lay hold upon it and hurl it at the devil. Don't be afraid to say its words audibly and loudly. I literally shouted the words of John 3:16. I believe if I had only whispered its words, the devil would not have fled. I do not believe Jesus whispered when he said, "Get thee behind me, Satan," do you? At the tomb of Lazarus, Jesus cried with a loud voice. Again on the cross. In Isa. 9:5 we read, "Every battle of the warrior is with confused noise, and garments rolled in blood."

I am aware that there may have been some natural, physical causes for my illness. Doctors would call it the hallucinations of a fevered brain. But because of the nature of my illness and the fact that my healing did not come through medical science but through



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spiritual forces alone I am convinced that the struggle was a spiritual one.

Are you in an horrible pit today? In the miry clay? You need not stay there. Paul told Timothy to "fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life." This you must do if you would be delivered. "Step out on the promise, get under the Blood."

The Psalmist wrote, "He brought me up also out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and established my goings. And he hath put a new song in my mouth, even praise unto our God: many shall see it, and fear, and shall trust in the Lord."

He will do no less for you.

AMONG THE ASSEMBLIES

HARRISBURG, ARK.—On November 16 we closed a successful two-week meeting with Evangelist and Mrs. M. A. Groff, Pampa, Tex. Several were saved and one was filled with the Holy Spirit.—Ernest A. Sharpe, Pastor.

ASTORIA, ILL.—We had a three-week meeting with Evangelist E. A. Sawings of Milwaukee, Wis. Two were saved and 13 received the baptism of the Holy Ghost. A number of others were refilled.—E. W. Stambaugh, Pastor.

TIPP CITY, OHIO—For two weeks the Wright-Myers Evangelistic Team was with us. Several young people were truly born again, and the church was built up spiritually. We enjoyed the singing and music by these young men.—E. P. Cooper, Pastor, Bethel Tabernacle.

LAMONT, CALIF.—We witnessed a mighty demonstration of God's power to heal sick bodies. Several were saved or reclaimed. The church was greatly blessed by the anointed preaching of Evangelist Langley of Modesto, Calif.—Johnnie Smith, Pastor.

LONGVIEW, TEX.—Evangelist Cham Livingston from Tulsa, Okla. was with us for three weeks. There were 14 saved, and four baptized with the Holy Ghost. A little girl was instantly healed of arthritis. There was a glorious revival among the children of our church.—D. E. Ferguson, Pastor.

TORONTO, CANADA—Overflow crowds attended the meeting conducted by Evangelist and Mrs. J. Earl Douglass of Fallen Timber, Pa. They preached the old-time Pentecostal message under a rich anointing of the Spirit. A great number were saved and filled with the Holy Ghost. The entire church was mightily stirred.—H. R. Pannabecker, Pastor, Glad Tidings Tabernacle.

SASAKWA, OKLA.—On November 2 we closed a two-week meeting with Evangelist and Mrs. W. O. Stephens of Oklahoma City, Okla. We had a wonderful revival. Ten were saved and two filled with the Holy Spirit. A number testified to receiving definite healing in their bodies. We give God all the glory for this meeting for it was an answer to many prayers.—Palmer Bridge, Pastor.

THOMASTON, GA.—The anointed preaching of Evangelist Billy McIntosh of Nashville, Tenn. helped every department of our church and Sunday School. A lady of our church summed it up by saying, "Brother McIntosh preaches God so big, Christ so real, that one does not see the evangelist at all." The Word produced such conviction that folk actually ran to the altar. One night a young man was filled with the Holy Ghost while listening to the sermon. Many testified to definite healing. All previous Sunday School records were broken with 401 present the last Sunday of the meeting. We have asked Brother McIntosh to return for another meeting.—H. F. Freeman, Pastor.

ALBION, MICH.—We have just closed evangelistic meetings with the Paul Hilds. We thank God for their zeal and ministry. A number were saved, and our people were stirred to seek the Lord.—C. A. Davenport, Pastor.

WATER VALLEY, MISS.—Evang. and Mrs. R. T. Havener just closed a meeting with us which was richly blessed of God. Twelve were saved or reclaimed, seven received the baptism of the Holy Spirit, five followed the Lord in water baptism and four were added to the church roll. We are grateful to God for what was accomplished during this meeting.—George E. Walters, Pastor.

READING, MICH.—We had a successful meeting with Evangelist Paul Klinger. Our church is a small pioneer church, but God has been blessing us. At the beginning of the meeting the attendance was in the twenties, but by the closing night the attendance was over 70. Four were saved and many testified that they were refreshed and encouraged in the Lord.—Alton C. Smith, Pastor.

BICKNELL, IND.—We concluded a wonderful meeting with Evangelist Paul V. Jones of Springfield, Mo., a former instructor at Central Bible Institute. The presence of the Lord was felt in a marvelous way. Our souls were thrilled as the Lord gave us "heavenly manna" through Brother Jones' anointed ministry. God answered prayer in sending our brother to us for a meeting. We can see lasting results from this meeting.—John L. Riggle, Pastor, Calvary Assembly.

OKMULGEE, OKLA.—We concluded five weeks of old-time Holy Ghost revival with Evangelist and Mrs. Lee Krupnick of Tulsa, Okla. The church was crowded every night. Twenty-nine came to the altar for salvation. My wife's father, who is 68 years old and had never been saved, gave his heart to the Lord during this meeting. A Catholic man was saved. This was one of the most fruitful meetings we have had.—C. R. Franklin, Pastor, East Side Assembly.

DALLAS, TEX.—The Blue Bonnet Assembly of God was dedicated Sunday, November 30, with J. O. Savell, Assistant General Superintendent, as guest speaker. O. E. Farris, Presbyter of the Dallas Section, spoke at the Sunday morning worship hour and Mrs. Marguerite Hughes spoke in the evening evangelistic service. On December 7 Evangelist Johnnie Barnes of Alford, Tex. began our first revival in the new church.—R. M. Sparks, Pastor.

PUEBLO, COLO.—The Central Tabernacle recently closed its second anniversary revival with the Musical Vanderploegs of Toledo, Ohio. During the 18-night meeting, 339 people attended who had never been in the church before.

This revival was an answer to prayer. The power of God was so manifest at different occasions that people came to the altar without even a sermon. Seventy-six came forward for salvation. The all-time Sunday School record was broken. The last week-end of the meeting, because of the capacity crowds, we moved to a larger auditorium and eleven accepted Christ in this last service.—C. F. Ferguson, Pastor.

COMING MEETINGS

Notices should reach us three weeks in advance, due to the fact that the Evangel is made up 18 days before the date which appears upon it.

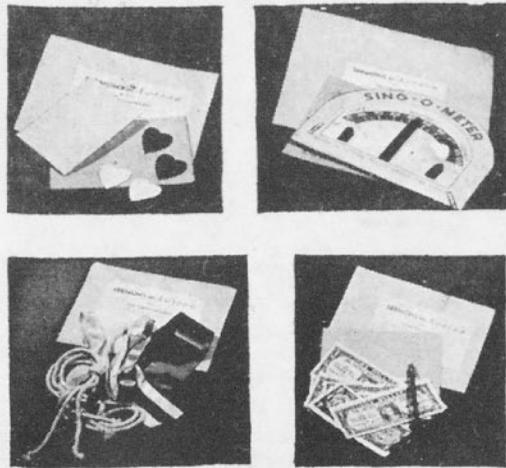
ARCHER CITY, TEX.—Assembly of God, Jan. 6—18; Evangelist Erla LaDow, Cleveland, Ohio.—by H. E. Allen, Pastor.

GUTHRIE, OKLA.—Workers' Training, Jan. 4—18; N. B. Rayburn, Henryetta, Okla, instructor. (Robert Hill is Pastor.)

SACRAMENTO, CALIF.—Bethel Temple, Feb. 8—; McColl-Gerard Evangelistic Party. (Clyde Henson is Pastor.)

WICHITA, KANS.—Douglas Avenue Assembly of God, Dec. 30—Jan. 11; Evangelist and Mrs. Lee Krupnick, Tulsa, Okla.—by Charles W. Shumway, Pastor.

BELLVILLE, ONT., CANADA—Calvary Temple, Jan. 4—; Evangelist and Mrs. Bird Campbell, Sedalia, Mo.—by Hope Smith and Laurie Price, Pastors.



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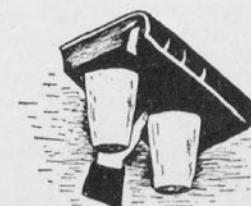
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EXPERIMENT, GA.—Dec. 28—; Evangelist Eugene Smith, Cheyenne, Wyo. (E. P. Pruett is Pastor.)

GENEVA, N. Y.—Assembly of God, Dec. 28—Jan. 18; Evangelist Rudy Cerullo, Philadelphia, Pa.—by George L. Hubbard, Pastor.

DAYTON, OHIO—Bethel Temple, Jan. 4—18; Evangelist Cyril Homer.—by Paul J. Emery, Pastor.

DELANO, CALIF.—Dec. 28—; Evangelist Ernie Reb.—by Lloyd J. Cagle, Pastor.

BRIDGEPORT, NEBR.—Jan. 4—; Evangelist Oliver Johnson, Powers Lake, N. Dak.—by R. S. Denny, Pastor.

GLASGOW, MONT.—Jan. 4—; Evangelist Harry Walker, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.—by Owen S. Hodges, Pastor.

OLIVEHURST, CALIF.—First Assembly of God, Dec. 28—; Evangelist and Mrs. Carl W. Oney of Missouri.—by Searl Stover, Pastor.

FRONT ROYAL, VA.—Jan. 4—18; Evangelist and Mrs. J. Earl Douglass, Fallen Timber, Pa.—by Virgil R. Jackson, Pastor.

DALLAS, TEX.—Maplewood Assembly of God, Jan. 4—; Evangelist E. J. Robison.—by Ray R. Soper, Pastor.

DALLAS, TEX.—First Assembly of God, Jan. 4—25; Evangelist Clifford Burkett.—by B. I. Greer, Pastor.

OCALA, FLA.—Jan. 1—; Evangelist and Mrs. W. H. Magee and daughter.—by Charles S. Brown, Pastor.

QUINCY, ILL.—Bethel Assembly of God, Dec. 28—Jan. 4; T. J. Jones, Minneapolis, Minn.—by O. E. Carter, Pastor.

TECUMSEH, OKLA.—Dec. 28—; Evangelist and Mrs. Jimmy Phillips, Tulsa, Okla. (R. P. Rider is Pastor.)

CORTEZ, COLO.—Assembly of God, Dec. 28—Jan. 18; Evangelist S. W. Thomas, Englewood, Colo.—by Kenneth Crouse, Pastor.

MONROE, LA.—Central Assembly of God, Jan. 4—18; Evangelist David Burris, Hot Springs, Ark.—by G. E. Chambers, Pastor.

LUBBOCK, TEX.—Central Assembly, Dec. 28—Jan. 11; Evangelist Morris Lefkowitz, Oklahoma City, Okla.—by Glenn D. Stafford, Pastor.

HAZLETON, PA.—Faith Assembly of God, Dec. 31—Jan. 18; Evangelist Homer B. Peterson, Portsmouth, Va.—by William A. Caldwell, Pastor.

CARLSBAD, N. MEX.—West Side Assembly of God, Dec. 30—Jan. 4; Evangelists Stanley and Ethel MacPherson. (W. A. Vanzant is Pastor.)

PINE BLUFF, ARK.—Area-wide Training Course, Jan. 4—9; G. Raymond White, National S. S. Representative, instructor.

DOTHAN, ALA.—Area-wide Training Course, Jan. 4—9; George H. Davis, National S. S. Representative, instructor.

BIRMINGHAM, ALA.—Area-wide Workers' Training Course, Jan. 11—16; D. V. Hurst, Supervisor of Workers' Training Division, instructor.

GALVESTON, TEX.—Area-wide Workers' Training Course, Jan. 12—16; G. Raymond White, National S. S. Representative, instructor.

ALBUQUERQUE, N. MEX.—City-wide Workers' Training Course, Jan. 11—16; Charles Denton, National S. S. Representative, instructor.

EAST ST. LOUIS, ILL.—Bethel Tabernacle, Dec. 31—Jan. 11; Evangelist and Mrs. B. M. McCutchen, Austin, Tex.—by Paul and Mary Ruth Chalmers, Pastors.

BARTLESVILLE, OKLA.—First Assembly of God, annual Watch-Night Service and New Year's Fellowship Meeting, Dec. 31—Jan. 1; Gayle F. Lewis, General Superintendent, speaker. Services Wed. 7:45 p.m., Thurs. 2 and 7:30 p.m.—by C. H. Asher, Pastor.



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MILWAUKEE, WIS.—City-wide Training Course, Jan. 11—16; George H. Davis, National S. S. Representative, instructor.

PHILADELPHIA, PA.—City-wide training class, Highway Mission Tabernacle, Jan. 4—9; Paul Copeland, Director National S. S. Department, instructor.—by Wallace S. Bragg, Pastor.

HERTFORD, N. C.—Assembly of God, Dec. 30—Jan. 13 or longer; Evangelist and Mrs. J. Merrill Rayner, Lonaconing, Md.—by Alvin W. Price, Pastor.

MIAMI, FLA.—Tent meeting on church lots of Central Assembly, Jan. 4—18 or longer; Evangelist and Mrs. W. B. McKay and party, Orlando, Fla.—by R. S. Peterson, Pastor.

SPRINGFIELD, MASS.—Bethany Pentecostal Church, Jan. 1—4; Mrs. Eva Barney, Pioneer Parsons' Quartet, and William Bailey. Also special music from N.E.B.I.—by A. D. Skymmer, Pastor.

MOOSIC, PA.—Scranton Zone C. A. Rally, Jan. 1; Charles Shaffer, Freeport, Pa., speaker. Services 2:30 and 7:30 p.m.—by Chester P. Jenkins, Zone C. A. Leader.

LAWRENCE, KANS.—Assembly of God, New Year's Day Rally, Homecoming and Dedication. All former pastors and members invited. Beginning Jan. 4, Evangelists Cordelia Donnell and Mildred Holler, Guthrie, Okla.—by J. J. Krimmer, Pastor.

FILLMORE, CALIF.—Assembly of God, Workers' Training Class, Jan. 12—18; James Rider, Springfield, Mo., instructor. Nearby churches invited to co-operate.—by Ray F. Curtis, Pastor.

LAS ANIMAS, COLO.—Assembly of God, Watch Night Service, Dec. 31, 8 p.m. Theme, "Begin the Year with God." Special speakers. Communion at 11:30 p.m. Neighboring churches invited.—by Bennie R. Harris, Pastor.

WEST FLORIDA MINISTERS' INSTITUTES—Bagdad, Jan. 19—20; Marianna, Jan. 22—23. Three services each day. Evening services conducted by Clayton Wilkinson, District C. A. President. Speakers: Bert Webb, Assistant General Superintendent; Wiley T. Davis, District Superintendent; Charles H. Harthern, Pastor of Graceville Assembly; and G. H. Blair, District Secretary-Treasurer.—by G. H. Blair.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA MISSIONARY CONVENTIONS—Bellflower Assembly of God, Dec. 28—Jan. 4, E. W. Odell, Pastor; Long Beach Assembly of God, Jan. 4—11, L. B. Lewis, Pastor; Wilmington Assembly of God, Jan. 11—18, James Pearson, Pastor; Compton Assembly of God, Jan. 18—25, William Robertson, Pastor. Missionary speakers: Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Thomas, Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Good, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Fox, Paul Davidson, and James Nicholson.—by E. W. Odell, Pastor.

RADIO BROADCASTS

WICHITA, KANS.—"Religious Spotlight on the News," station KFBI, 1070 kc., Saturdays at 10:30 a.m.—J. Boyd Wolverton, Pastor, Central Assembly.

NANTICOKE, PA.—"Gospel Voice," station WHWL, 730 kc., Sundays 8:30 a.m. Also at RED LION, PA., station WGCB, 1440 kc., Tuesdays 1:30 p.m.—Evangelist J. B. Woolums, Rt. 2, Carlisle, Pa.

COLUMBUS, NEBR.—"Gospel Echoes," station KJSK, 900 kc., Sundays 8:30 a.m. WADENA, MINN., station KWAD, 920 kc., Sundays 2:30 p.m. EAU CLAIRE, WIS., station WRFW, 1050 kc., Sundays 2:30 p.m. ALEXANDRIA, MINN., station KXRA, 1490 kc., every fourth Sunday at 8:45 a.m. (first broadcast for 1953 is Jan. 4).—Clarence H. Jensen, 1216 Broadway, Alexandria, Minn.

HAZLETON, PA.—"Miracle Moments," station WAZL, 1490 kc., Sundays at 3:34 p.m.—William A. Caldwell, Pastor, Faith Assembly of God.