

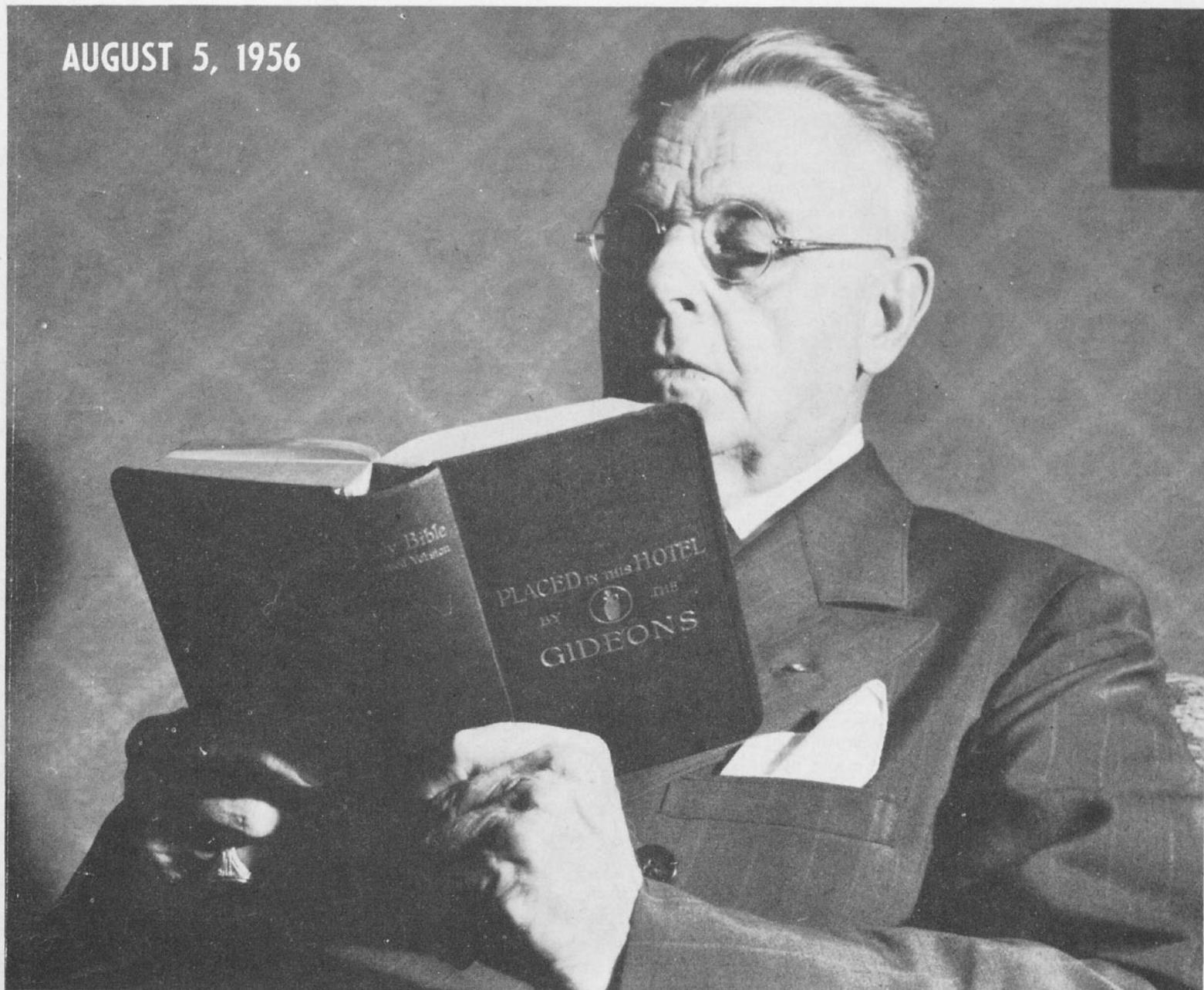
The Pentecostal

5¢

EVANGEL

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

AUGUST 5, 1956



Many a weary traveler has drawn spiritual strength
from a Bible placed in his hotel room by the Gideons.

The Spirit's Mighty Sword

Nineteen centuries ago, when men still fought with swords, the apostle referred to the Word of God as the Sword of the Spirit, because it is this Word that the Holy Spirit uses to smite the enemy of men's souls and save them from sin. In this twentieth century swords have been abandoned in favor of modern weapons, but the Sword of the Spirit has never been outmoded. It is still the mightiest weapon in the Church's armory.

No group is more conscious of this fact than the Gideons, that valiant aggregation of Christian businessmen who for fifty-eight years have been winning traveling men to Christ. They believe in the power of God's Word. They know that if an individual will read the Bible he will find the way to pardon, peace, and eternal happiness. Therefore they are spending two million dollars a year to print and distribute Bibles and New Testaments. They have put more than thirty million copies of the Scriptures in the hands of school children, servicemen, nurses, and people in all walks of life.

Not long ago a U. S. Congressman returned from an extended tour of Europe and reported on conditions there. He said, "Unlike hotels in our country, no Bibles are to be found in the rooms. . . . I visited the bookstores and book stalls in the world's great capitals and was shocked to note how few Bibles were on display. . . . Something seems to be lacking in the life of Europe. One wonders whether it could be the Bible." The Gideons are doing something about that lack. They are organizing Gideon "camps" all over the world and are doing their best to make Bibles as common in the hotel rooms of foreign lands as they are in the United States.

Do we fully appreciate the power of God's Word? If we did we would use it more. It is a living Book. It is "quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword . . . and is a *discerner* of the thoughts and intents of the heart" (Hebrews 4:12). The word "discerner" means "critic." Instead of being critics of the Word, men should allow the Word to criticize them. The Word will show us how to straighten out our lives. Then, after the mighty Sword has done its work on us, we are to "take" it in our own hands and wield it in the battle for men's souls (Ephesians 6:17). We can shout as the warriors of old, "The sword of the Lord, *and of Gideon*" (Judges 7:18), for it is both the Spirit's Sword and our Sword. It is held in two hands—His hand and ours. With His mighty power we're sure to win.

God has not promised to bless the theories and philosophies of men, but He has promised to bless His own Word. He has said: "So shall My Word be that goeth forth out of My mouth: it shall not return unto Me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it" (Isaiah 55:11). Faithful teaching and preaching of the Word will never be fruitless. The Holy Spirit works through the Word. The Spirit uses it to show the sinner his need of a Saviour. Then the Spirit uses that same Word to create faith in the sinner's heart toward the Saviour. "Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God" (Romans 10:17). The Spirit of God also uses the Word to accomplish the miracle of the New Birth. Men are "born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the Word of God" (1 Peter 1:23). Let us use the Word to a greater extent in preaching, in teaching, and in personal evangelism—for the might of the Almighty is in it.

THE PENTECOSTAL EVANGEL

THE WEEKLY VOICE OF THE ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

AUGUST 5, 1956

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ROBERT C. CUNNINGHAM, *Editor*

J. R. FLOWER, *Executive Director* LESLIE W. SMITH, *Layout Editor*
G. D. ANDERSON, *Editorial Asst.* R. G. CHAMPION, *Circulation Mgr.*

CONTENTS

Dr. Luke's Second Letter	Francis C. Stiffler	3
The General Superintendent Speaks	R. M. Riggs	4
A Fool and His Folly	William B. McCafferty	5
A Milestone to Victory	G. L. Johnson	6
Hope for the Backslider	J. Boehmer	8
This Present World	R. G. Champion	10
Foreign Missions News	Cyril L. Carden	12
Home Missions News	Elva M. Johnson	14
Babies Wanted	Mrs. T. S. Shields	16
Sunday School Lesson	J. Bashford Bishop	18
"Murder Was in My Heart"	Florence E. Pakorny	19
Recognized by the Master	Alpheus Noseworthy	21
How To Live the Christian Life	C. H. Spurgeon	22
Clean Hands and Pure Minds	J. G. Govan	25
Healing Testimonies		31

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..... *we believe* the Bible to be the inspired and only infallible and authoritative Word of God. WE BELIEVE that there is one God, eternally existent in three persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost. WE BELIEVE in the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, in His virgin birth, in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His vicarious and atoning death, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father, and in His personal future return to this earth in power and glory to rule over the nations. WE BELIEVE that the only means of being cleansed from sin is through repentance and faith in the precious blood of Christ.

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Dr. Luke's SECOND Letter...

THE MOST IMPORTANT HISTORICAL document ever written was written by a physician. It isn't very long. You can read it in less than two hours. And I suggest you do so some evening. Although it was written almost 1900 years ago you will find no difficulty in getting hold of a copy of this little document. You don't even have to go to a bookstore for it. You can find it in any chain store and it will not cost you much.

If you don't read English, no matter, for you can get this little history book in other languages. No book of history has ever been translated into so many tongues. The American Bible Society lists 426 languages in which the whole New Testament has been translated, including all the tongues used by most of the people of the world.

When Dr. Luke wrote his historical treatise he dedicated it to a friend whom he addresses as Theophilus which, ap-

propriately enough, means "Lover of God."

Luke begins by reminding Theophilus of a former letter, also, and we call this devoted doctor's first letter the Gospel of Luke.

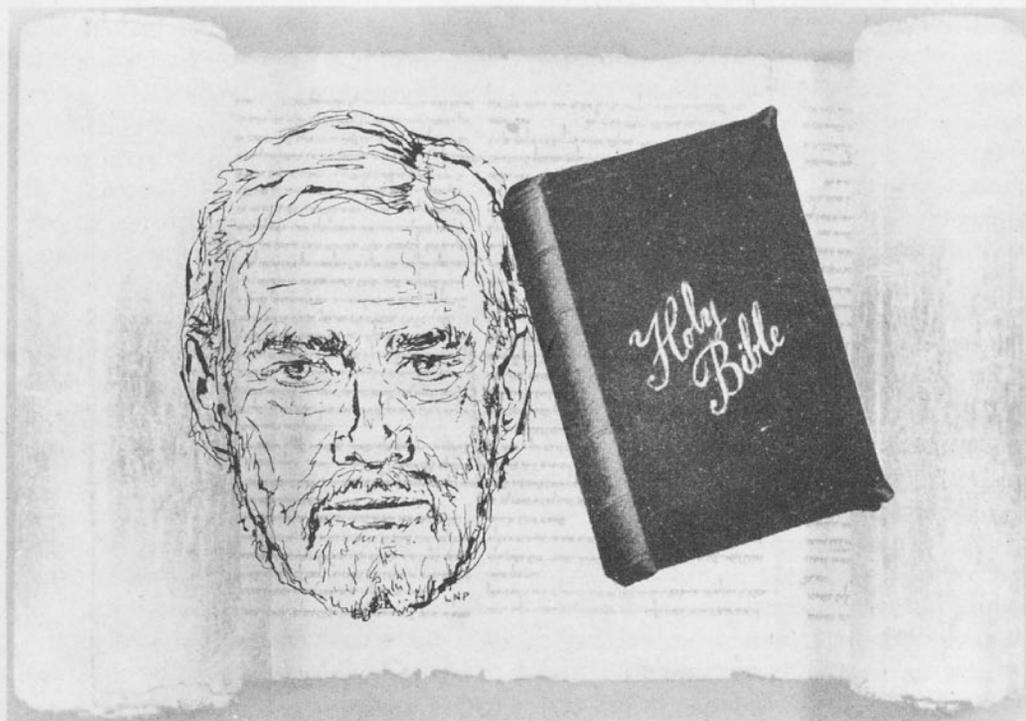
I have found that many people do not know that Luke, who apparently was the Apostle Paul's traveling companion, is also the author of the Book of Acts, which just follows the four Gospels in our New Testament.

The Book of Acts is the most important historical work because it is the only record of the most important period in human history. The dating of most of the documents of today's world are figured from the birth of Jesus Christ. His coming proved to be the turning point in history, and the record of those first days when the world was turning its most important corner is to be found only in this second letter of Dr. Luke's to his esteemed friend Theophilus.

The story related in the book of Acts begins with eleven men huddled in a secluded room waiting for something to happen. Then suddenly something does happen. These simple men who six weeks before had been ready to look upon their months of companionship with Jesus as a closed chapter in their lives, suddenly experienced a new visitation of the Spirit of God. Luke tries to describe what happened—but who can describe acts of God? From the standpoint of history what interests us is that on that day—it was the day of the Feast of Pentecost in the Jewish calendar—the Christian movement was born, the movement which has been and is today the most vital social and spiritual force in the world's life.

Peter, the natural leader of the little band of disciples, stood up that day and preached his first Christian sermon. He minced no words. He accused his audience of rejecting their Saviour—and when they asked what they should do to make amends Peter gave in about ten seconds time the formula, which, to the exact degree to which it has been followed by men ever since, has measured the progress of the Christian movement in the world. In English, this is what Peter said: "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."

(Continued on page twenty-six)



*If you want literature that is refreshing
and different, read the Book of Acts*

BY FRANCIS C. STIFLER, AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY

The General Superintendent Speaks



AMERICAN MORALS ARE AT A LOW ebb. Following the pattern of Babylon, Assyria and Rome, the United States can be said to be approaching the brink of moral collapse. When one out of three marriages end in divorce and the loose morals of Hollywood prevail in the entertainment world, restraint seems to be cast to the winds and the American home is endangered.

Christian workers are constantly faced with this problem. The gospel net is thrown out. The Holy Spirit does His appointed work of convicting men of sin. Precious souls are redeemed—and bring their broken, wrecked lives to God. Married, divorced and remarried! His children, my children, our children! What a tangle there is in some people's lives when they come to Christ! What shall they do?

When the Passover blood was applied to the door posts and lintels of the Jewish homes in Egypt, Jehovah said, "This month shall be unto you the beginning of months: it shall be the first month of the year to you" (Exodus 12:2). A new life begins at Calvary. Jesus cleanses the past and accepts us as we are when we come to Him. "Let every man abide in the same calling wherein he was called . . . Art thou bound unto a wife? seek not to be loosed. Art thou loosed from a wife? seek not a wife" (1 Corinthians 7:20, 27). "This is good for the present distress," Paul said concerning their problems then. The same can be said of our similar problem now. *Art thou bound to a wife? seek not to be loosed.* Let the *status quo* prevail. The past is under the Blood. Start life anew as a new creature in Christ Jesus. To this agree the experiences of many forgiven Blood-bought souls and the witness of the blessed Holy Spirit.

What about the ministry? And what about elected officers in the local church? The Bible makes a distinction. "A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife . . . moreover he must have a good report of them which are without. Likewise let the deacons be the husbands of one wife—blameless" (1 Timothy 3:2, 7, 10, 12). In order to protect His church from reproach and

Keep Thyself Pure

just criticism, He has ordained that they who are mixed in their married relations shall not be conspicuous in church work and church relationships. Let these dear people rejoice in their good fortune of being redeemed and listed among the redeemed, and let them help protect the name and reputation of the church that has accepted them and now constitutes their church home. After all, salvation is the biggest thing in the world. Let us rejoice in God's mercy and walk humbly with Him.

Our churches ought to constitute a dike against the flood of immorality that streams at our side! This is a wicked and an adulterous generation (Matthew 16:4). This is the day when men shall have "eyes full of adultery and cannot cease from sin" (2 Peter 2:14). The billboards and newsstands are covered with lewd pictures. Wicked suggestions and seductive styles allure on every hand. It would be the devil's delight to penetrate our defense and pierce us through with many a sin and sorrow. We need to be on our guard constantly. The Bible warns, "It is good for a man not to touch a woman" (1 Corinthians 7:1). The physical touch makes a completed circuit of a current of physical desire and leads to completed sin. This is the curse of the dance hall—and thrill of a woman's or a man's embrace out of holy wedlock. This is the danger of petting

or promiscuous kissing, even in so-called fun or in games. This is the folly of fondling physically the opposite sex. Don't take the first step toward sin and you will never take the second.

Jesus said, "Whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart." (Matthew 5:28). This reminds us of the purdah veil worn by Oriental women to reserve even their facial beauty for their husbands. Any lifting of this veil to look on a woman was a violation of her sanctity and purity. Let us beware that no improper approach or suggestive touch or maneuver imply evil intent or desire. Let our ministers be very careful and scrupulous in all their contacts and relationships with the opposite sex. Let our young people of mating age maintain the strictest purity of word and deed. Let forbidden relationships not be once named among us as becometh saints. Let parents be on their guard to protect their precious children from the prevalent sins of our time. And may God keep us all and our beloved Church without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that we may be holy and without blemish until the day of Jesus Christ.

"Wisdom excelleth folly, as far as light excelleth darkness" (Ecclesiastes 2:13).

WEBSTER DEFINES A FOOL AS ONE "devoid of reason or intelligence." Alexander Cruden says, "In the language of the Scripture, especially in the Book of Proverbs, 'fool' is the usual character of the sinner, and folly and foolishness are put for sin. Psalm 38:5."

While the fool is usually the sinner, yet there are cases in which righteous men have been called fools: *e.g.*, "O fools, and slow of heart to believe." This is what Christ said to the men who were walking toward Emmaus, because they doubted His resurrection (Luke 24:25). But Cruden's definition covers the major part of the passages where the word "fool" is used in the Scriptures. Fool, then, is the usual character of the impenitent sinner. For this reason we are warned by the Lord against calling a Christian brother a fool, which is tantamount to charging him with sin against God (Matthew 5:22).

The following passages will show that the fool is one who:

(1) RETURNS TO FOLLY. "As a dog returneth to his vomit, so a fool returneth to his folly" (Proverbs 26:11). See also 2 Peter 2:22. Let us beware of backsliding from the grace of God, for "if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him" (Hebrews 10:38), the anointed apostle said. "It were better . . . not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after knowing it, to turn back from the holy commandment" (2 Peter 2:21, ASV).

(2) REFUSES TO BE INSTRUCTED. "Fools despise wisdom and instruction" (Proverbs 1:7). "How long, ye simple ones, will ye love simplicity? . . . and fools hate knowledge?" (Proverbs 1:22). Such a one is instructed in folly rather than in wholesome knowledge. Consider Proverbs 16:22 and Romans 1:22.

(3) DEPENDS UPON MATERIAL THINGS rather than upon spiritual things, as did the rich fool of

A Fool and His Folly

by William B. McCafferty

Southwestern Bible Institute
Waxahachie, Texas

Luke 12. "But rather seek ye the kingdom of God; and all these things shall be added unto you" (Luke 12:31). Jeremiah 17:11 tells the fate of the man who seeks riches but forgets God and righteousness. Therefore the true child of God should provide himself with "a treasure in the heavens that faileth not," rather than with material goods.

(4) DENIES THE EXISTENCE OF GOD. "The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God" (Psalm 14:1). To deny God's existence in the face of universal evidence is the consummation of foolishness; it is folly in full flower. For the "heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handiwork" (Psalm 19:1). And "the invisible things of [concerning] him, from the creation of the world are clearly seen . . . , even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse" (Romans 1:20).

(5) MAKES A MOCK AT SIN (Proverbs 14:9). "It is as sport to a fool to do mischief" (Proverbs 10:23). Sin is "exceeding sinful" (Romans 7:13) and is soul-destroying in its effect (Romans 6:23). And those who trifle with sin are taking "fire into their bosoms" (Proverbs 6:27, 28).

(6) IS RIGHT IN HIS OWN EYES (Proverbs 12:15). Such a one will not be instructed (Proverbs 18:12). His "lips enter into contention" (Proverbs 18:6). He "dotes" upon "questions and strife of words." He is "proud" and "perverse," and has a "corrupt mind"; and concerning the "truth" he is "destitute" and "knows nothing" at all (1 Timothy 6:3-5). The children of Israel often "played the fool" (1 Samuel 26:21) in the "days when the judges ruled" (Ruth 1:1), for "every man did that which was right in his own eyes" (Judges 17:6; 21:25). Such "contention," "strife of words," and "debates" are, in the sight of God, "folly" and sin (2 Timothy 3:7-9). The true child of God is admonished to "shun" such "vain babblings" (2 Timothy 2:14-18), "for they are unprofitable and vain" (Titus 3:9) and have in them the element of "wickedness." Therefore, "lean not unto thine own understanding" (Proverbs 3:5), but "apply thine heart to understanding [of God]; . . . out of his mouth cometh knowledge and understanding" (Proverbs 2:1-6).

(7) IS DESTROYED AND SNARED BY HIS OWN MOUTH. He is boisterous and loud, and his unholy "laughter" is like the "crackling of thorns under a pot" (Ecclesiastes 7:6). He is quick to "utter perverse things," like one who "tarries long at the wine" (Proverbs 23:30, 33). And being "perverse in his lips," he "is a fool" (Proverbs 19:1), and thereby "falleth into mischief" (Proverbs 17:18-20). Therefore the Scriptures say, the "prating [talkative] fool shall fall" (Proverbs 10:8). Thus, a "fool's voice is known by multitude of words" (Ecclesiastes 5:3; 10:14). And "the lips of a fool will swallow up himself" (Ecclesiastes 10:12). Consider Proverbs 14:33; 15:2, 14. Would you be wise, O child of God? Then "study to be quiet" (1 Thessalonians 4:11). Compare Ecclesiastes 9:17 and 1 Peter 3:4. Do not be "hasty to utter any thing before God," and "let thy words be few" (Ecclesiastes 5:2), for it is truly written, "A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver" (Proverbs 25:11).

(8) TRUSTS IN HIS OWN HEART (Proverbs 28:26). His trust is not in the Lord, but in himself. Such

(Continued on page twenty-one)

Faith is more than going

through contortions of face and

limb to work on earth

the miraculous. Faith is a day

by day trust in God.

A Milestone to Victory

by Evangelist G. L. Johnson

IF ANYONE THINKS HE CAN GET BY without troubles, he is in the wrong world; for as certainly as the sparks fly upward, he is sure to face difficulties and troubles. Since this is true, the problem of life is not how to avoid trouble, but how to overcome it and live a victorious Christian life.

John said, "This is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith" (1 John 5:4). I suppose there never has been a time in religious history when there have been so many books, papers, magazines, pamphlets, and articles written on the subject of faith, and yet there seems to be less faith than ever before. Perhaps this is because many people are still not certain what faith is.

Faith is infinitely more than getting a prayer answered or a healing effected, though faith will accomplish these wonderful things. Faith is more than going through contortions of face and limb to work the miraculous. Faith is a constant, day-by-day companion that tells you in every circumstance of life that God is tenderly caring for and is guarding you against the onslaughts of the enemy.

Many years ago the world's greatest preacher lifted a confident face to heaven and burst forth from the deepest recesses of his heart, "We know that all

things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."

Someone says, "That is easy to proclaim, but does it work?"

Paul lived in a time when to confess Christ was a crime; when the hob-nailed boot of tyrannical Rome ground down opposition on any front around the civilized world. To preach Christ in that day meant being burned at the stake, executed on the chopping block, fed to carnivorous beasts in the amphitheaters, or dragged until death at the heels of horses.

But you ask, "In the face of such great difficulties, did Paul's assertion work?"

Look at him as he is shipwrecked, beaten, or stoned and left for dead. Did his assertion work? Of course it worked! Paul knew that God was on the throne in heaven, working out His purposes. The most that men could do to him was kill him, but they could never thwart the plan of God.

Watch Paul in that dark, vermin-infested Philippian jail at midnight—in stocks, with his back torn and stinging from a Roman lash. What was he saying? I can imagine that he and Silas began to talk of the mercies and goodness of God. Soon they started praying and singing, joyful because they had been accounted worthy to suffer for their Master. God took special note of those happenings. They were not complaining. They were singing and shouting at what would seem to be a most illogical time. Why? These men

did not doubt God for a minute, for they were walking in the light of God's Macedonian call, and they knew that God would inevitably lead them to purposeful victory.

Dear friend, God has no accidents—He has a purpose. If we will only realize this, our discouragement and doubt will flee as darkness routed by the rays of the morning sun. This faith is absolutely essential to a victorious Christian life.

Through that dark night God saw and heard His two saints in jail and speedily dispatched His "jail-shakingest" angel to jar loose their bonds. During the ensuing events, the apostles were freed, the jailor and his family converted, and the news the following morning rocked a heathen city. Faith defeated worry and fretting, and God's glorious purpose was accomplished.

Watch that old soldier yonder in a Roman dungeon. God did not see fit to release him from the jail, but instead gave him grace to endure. Paul looked out of the small cell window and could see the Caesar coming down the Appian Way, the executioner's ax glistening in the sun and the heads of his enemies tied to his chariot wheels. Paul knew that the end was near.

But what did he do? Picking up his pen, words of glorious encouragement seemed to drop from its point, as pollen from a shaken flower, as he wrote:

"I am now ready to be offered,
And the time of my departure is at hand.

I have fought a good fight,
 I have finished my course,
 I have kept the faith:
 Henceforth there is laid up for me
 a crown of righteousness,
 Which the Lord, the righteous judge,
 shall give me at that day:
 And not to me only, but unto all them
 also that love his appearing."

How can a man, facing the hour in which he knows he is to die, rise to such heights of eloquence as this? The answer lies in the simple fact that Paul knew that soon he would shake hands with Noah, sit down with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Best of all, he knew he would see Him whom he was not privileged to see in the flesh upon this earth—Jesus, his Redeemer.

So it was with this certainty he could walk swiftly to the bloody chopping block, assured that the One in whom he believed was able to keep that which he had committed unto Him against that day.

Oh, if only we, instead of throwing

up despairing hands, will recognize, "This is God's way." When we do, we will not only defeat worry, fear, and doubt, but we will also be helping to accomplish God's purposes.

Tomorrow may be grossly adverse, but we *know* that God has a purpose for our lives. Regardless of circumstances, we can be assured that God planned it all for our good.

It was this type of faith that made Enoch walk with God, though no one else of his generation did. It was this faith that made Noah build a boat far from sea, in spite of doubting taunts and jeers. This faith made Moses turn a deaf ear to Egyptian paganism and carry out God's orders from a burning bush. This faith made Job know there was a purpose behind his adversities. And it made Paul exclaim, "I have kept the faith"—and it also kept him.

The success of any Christian life depends largely on having and using this type of faith. This is the first milestone to victory. ▲▲

JOYOUSNESS

In days of acute difficulty and depression, it is of critical importance that we who love the Lord should not lose our joyousness. In the golden words of George Mueller: "Above all things, see to it that your souls are happy in the Lord. Other things may press upon you; the Lord's work even may have urgent claims upon your attention; but I deliberately repeat, it is of supreme importance that you should seek, above all other things, to have your souls happy in God Himself.

"Day by day, seek to make this the most important business in your life. This has been my firm and settled conviction for the last thirty-five years. For the first four years after my conversion, I knew not its vast importance; but now, after much experience, I especially commend this point to the notice of my younger brothers and sisters in Christ. The secret of all true and effectual service is finding joy in God, and having experimental acquaintance and fellowship with God Himself."

by *Chloe Stewart*

Biographical SKETCHES

CONSTANTINE

288-337 A.D.
 ROMAN EMPEROR FROM 306 TO 337

IN HOC SIGNO VINCES

HE SAW A CROSS OF LIGHT ABOVE THE SUN, AND THE WORDS "BY THIS SIGN SHALL YE CONQUER"

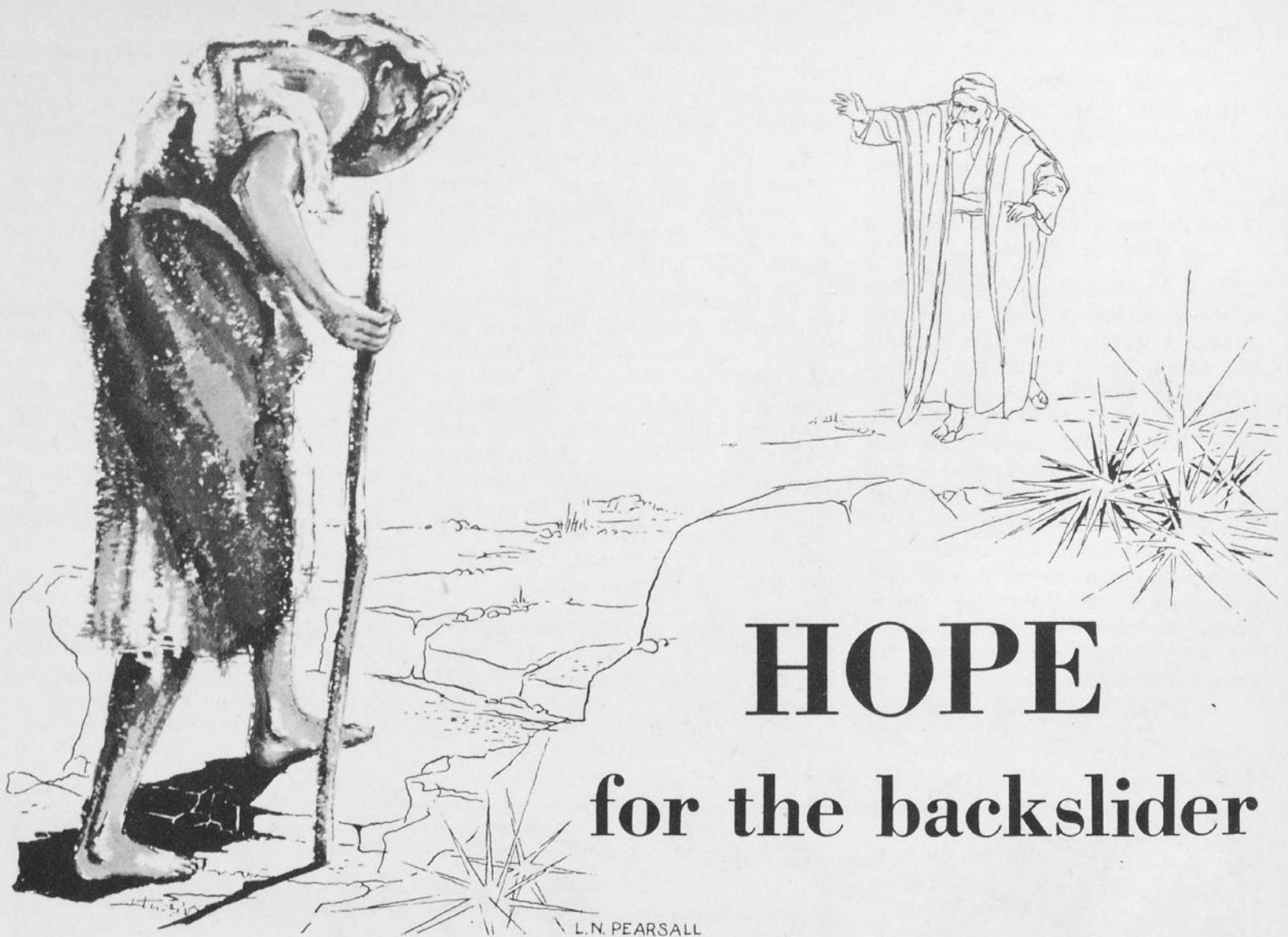
AFTER THE BATTLE OF MILVIAN BRIDGE, HE ADOPTED THIS SIGN AND MOTTO AS A STANDARD FOR HIS ARMY.

THE GREAT

AFTER CHRISTIANITY WAS NATIONALLY ACCEPTED, HE CHOSE BYZANTIUM FOR HIS NEW CAPITAL (CONSTANTINOPLE)

DUE TO PERPETUAL SQUABBLES ABOUT DOCTRINES, CONSTANTINE, IN 325 A.D., CONVENED THE FIRST ECUMENICAL COUNCIL AT NICAEA. THE CHURCH THEN BECAME A MORE SETTLED INSTITUTION.

WHEN HE GAINED CONTROL OF ITALY, HE ISSUED AN EDICT OF TOLERATION WHICH PUT AN END TO THE IMPERIAL PERSECUTIONS



HOPE

for the backslider

L.N. PEARSALL

by J. Boehmer

ARE YOU A BACKSLIDER? You are? Then I want to chat with you about your condition and God's cure. I want to tell you that despite everything, there is hope.

There are not many who will be honest enough to admit they are backslidden. The majority remind me of the costly mistake a Scotch preacher friend of mine once made. Speaking of man's depravity and utter guilt, he finally challenged: "I'll give five pounds to any man who can stand up and say he has never sinned." At that point a man stood up, came forward, said he had never sinned—and *collected!* He met the conditions but he did not tell the truth. You see, profession is not a sure test of our spiritual state. If God is going to use me to help you with regard to this condition we call "backsliding,"

you will have to expose your need in humble heart-searching before the Spirit of God.

In order to be as helpful as possible, I will try to be practical and personal. If you are a backsliding child of God, you know that you are spoiled for *both* worlds! As such, you are scraping the bottom of misery. We will have to talk clearly to remove hindering misconceptions and to provide the God-prescribed remedy.

First of all, please look up my text—Jeremiah 3:22—in your own Bible. I have a reason for asking you to do this. This text is peculiarly the backslider's hope. You see, "backsliding" as a Bible word is exclusively Old Testament. Of the seventeen references, thirteen are found in Jeremiah. When you look up these thirteen, you discover that more

than half (seven) are located in Jeremiah chapter three! And Jeremiah 3:22, is a sort of climax and summary of all this emphasis: "Return, ye backsliding children, and I will heal your backslidings." Get this into your heart. Let this word from God soak deep down.

WHAT IS A BACKSLIDER?

You will probably answer, "Someone who has slid backwards!" You are quite right—but *backwards from what?* There are two possibilities: (1) You may be backslidden from a vital experience with God. Peter and his denial of our Lord is a good illustration of such a person. (2) You may be backslidden from what has never been more than a religious profession. Judas, as one of the twelve, demonstrates this condition. I can't possibly know your personal relationship to God, but I can give you a simple test. In what or whom are you trusting for acceptance before a holy God? Don't

bring up the experiences of the past. Can you say: "As best I know my heart before God, *right now* I am still trusting solely and wholly in the Lord Jesus Christ as my Saviour and Lord"? If you can say this, God is saying: "Return . . . and I will heal your backslidings."

For those who cannot truthfully confess a present trust in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, the gospel invitation still stands: "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved" (Acts 16:31). Do not let old experiences or anything else keep you from closing in with Christ. Remember our Lord's words to those trusting in their profession and demonstration: "Then will I profess unto them, I never knew you; depart from Me, ye that work iniquity" (Matt. 7:23).

This distinction between a true believer and a fake pretender is basic. From this point on, I shall assume that you have been "born again" and speak to you accordingly.

WHAT CAUSES BACKSLIDING?

I am not thinking of a long list of things which may be specifically to blame, but of the more general factors that grease the skids for the backslider. The Bible reveals the causes by illustration.

Backsliding is caused by *being plugged into the wrong control room!* "And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal, even as unto babes in Christ" (1 Cor. 3:1). They were ruled by the flesh instead of being led of the Spirit. Their behavior reflected the clay of Adam instead of the gold of Christ. Your life, too, can be plugged into the wrong control room. Christ is not Lord of your life. He should be! He must be!

Backsliding is caused by *a forgotten honeymoon!* Revelation 2:4 reads: "Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left [not 'lost'] thy first love." The joy is gone. The thrill is missing. Service that was once a blessing becomes a burden. The same condition that causes husband and wife to sit hugging the door-handles of opposite sides of the car when once you couldn't see a hairbreadth between, is in evidence spiritually.

Backsliding is caused by neglecting to wash your ears! "Ye are dull of hearing," the writer to the Hebrews says, and adds: "For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that

one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God" (Heb. 5:11-12). Old truths, even basic truths, have become stale. But the staleness is in you, not in the truths of the grace of God. You have become a Dead Sea.

You are not alone in this condition. Many, many others are in the same boat tossed by the same storm. As a pastor I meet such folk constantly and long to help them. In dealing with those that have wandered away from the path and place of blessing, I usually ask simple questions:

"Are you expectantly looking to your Lord for victory in your daily need?" Some people's salvation was love at first sight, and they seem to think they don't need to take another look! On the contrary, the whole Christian life requires us to wait on the Lord by His Spirit and to get everything from Him and of Him.

"Are you reading your Bible as God's Word to you—reading it with an aim and for heart application?" When I get nothing out of my Bible reading, it is because I sought nothing.

"Have you learned to pray to your heavenly Father?" I know this seems too simple, but I discover that some Chris-

tians have never gotten beyond their childhood prayer methods. There is no sense of actual fellowship with God. Prayer is a monotonous monologue instead of a delightful communion and conversation.

"Do you openly identify yourself before others as one of Christ's?" Secret discipleship is the baby carriage for backsliders. Failure to speak usually results in failure to stand.

"Is there some 'thin end of the wedge,' some root cause for your backsliding?" You may not be conscious of anything definite. On the other hand, many can trace their whole collapse to some one thing which they have withheld from God, some one area in which they have disobeyed Him. Your spiritual growth is like taking a course by correspondence—you cannot expect to have the second lesson until you report on the first. Obedience in little things is the first step. Disobedience in anything brings defeat in everything.

THE HOPE OF BACKSLIDERS

You haven't forgotten our text, have you? The backslider's verse—Jeremiah 3:22—"return, ye backsliding children, and I will heal your backslidings." Learn once and for all the sufficient basis for your hope, the simple condition, and the sure result.

The sufficient basis on which the hope of backsliders rests is *the grace of God*. Victory in every spiritual problem comes through a simple confidence in the grace and power of Another. Base your hope on the sufficiency of divine grace. God will always restore the repentant, returning backslider because He deals with us by grace alone! Remember that just as God saves us from sin by grace alone, through the Cross of our Lord Jesus, so God restores us to fellowship on this same grace basis.

You who are being tormented by the thought that you are beyond God's forgiveness—think for a moment. If you are a parent and your estranged son or daughter comes and asks forgiveness, do you withhold what is sought? No, never! And neither will the heavenly Father turn one of His erring children away when they seek reconciliation with Him.

The simple condition is to "*return*." "Turn ye unto Me, saith the Lord of hosts, and I will turn unto you" (Zech. 1:3). This returning, of course, has its confession aspect, and its cleansing aspect. "He that covereth his sin shall

(Continued on page thirty-two)



My Advocate

I sinned. And straightway, post-haste, Satan flew
Before the presence of the most high God,
And made a railing accusation there.
He said, "This soul, this thing of clay and sod,
Has sinned. 'Tis true that he has named Thy
name,
But I demand his death, for Thou hast said,
'The soul that sinneth, it shall die.' Shall not
Thy sentence be fulfilled? Is justice dead?
Send now this wretched sinner to his doom.
What other thing can righteous ruler do?"
And thus he did accuse me day and night,
And every word he spoke, O God, was true!

Then quickly One rose up from God's right hand,
Before whose glory angels veiled their eyes,
He spoke, "Each jot and tittle of the law
Must be fulfilled; the guilty sinner dies!
But wait—suppose his guilt were all transferred
To Me, and that I paid his penalty!
Behold My hands, My side, My feet! One day
I was made sin for him, and died that he
Might be presented, faultless, at Thy throne!"
And Satan fled away. Full well he knew
That he could not prevail against such love,
For every word my dear Lord spoke was true!

—Martha Snell Nicholson





THIS PRESENT WORLD . . . NEWS AND NOTES ON OUR TIMES

Gideons Suffer Setback in Colorado

The attorney general of Colorado has ruled that distribution of Gideon Bibles to school children violates the state and federal constitutions.

University of Hawaii to Have Religion Courses

The University of Hawaii in Honolulu will offer courses in religion for the first time this fall. The plan was made possible by the last legislature which provided the salary for a professor of religion in the university's budget.

Hebrew Documents Turned Up in Moscow

A treasure chest of old Hebrew documents has been turned up by an American rabbi visiting Moscow's huge Lenin Library. The rabbi, one of the five Orthodox U. S. rabbis who toured Russia, described the volumes (found in Russia's equivalent to the Library of Congress) as a "tremendously valuable collection of ancient Hebrew books and manuscripts."

Communists Print Koran for Moslems

Atheistic Communists, seeking the good will of Moslems, are trying to gain it through religion. The Prague (Czechoslovakia) Radio announced that the state publishing house in that country has printed several hundred thousand miniature copies of the Koran, the Moslem Holy Book, for distribution in Arab countries. The tiny copies measure one inch by two and a half inches and contain 500 pages.

Drinking Youths Called a "Menace"

The new president of the Methodist Conference of Great Britain said that drinking teen-agers have become a "menace to the community." He charged that the liquor industry has "such a stranglehold on public opinion that neither of the great political parties has the courage to deal with it."

It appears there is not a great deal of difference between England and America in this respect.

Israel's Fortification Has Unexpected By-Products

Israel Digest reports that fortification work throughout Israel has proved fruitful for archeologists. More antiquities have been unearthed than the Department of Antiquities in Jerusalem has been able to classify.

Several new sites, the unexpected by-products of defense digging, are important enough to merit intensive study. Perhaps from these will come further verification of Old Testament history.

Armed Forces Keep "W for Whiskey" Designation

Despite protests by church groups, the Armed Forces will keep their "W for Whiskey" designation in the new phonetic alphabet (EVANGEL, July 8). A spokesman for the Defense Department said the designation "has no relation to the drink" and will not be changed.

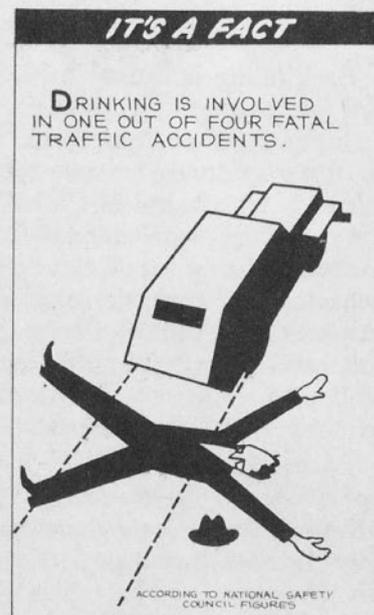
If the designation does not refer to the drink, to what does it refer? Webster's dictionary gives but one definition of whiskey—"a distilled alcoholic liquor. . . ." The Defense Department's attempt to cloud the issue does not lessen the insult to all America's non-drinkers.

Liquor on the Highways

Lowest reliable estimates indicate that drinking drivers are involved in one out of every four fatal traffic accidents, but on holidays and in certain localities the situation is much worse. National Safety Council reports say that of the 609 "immediate motor vehicle deaths" which occurred over the 1955 Christmas week-end, "drinking drivers were involved in nearly 55 per cent." The nation's capital reports that 35 per cent of all the 1955 fatalities involved people who were drinking. Delaware State Police say that 63 per cent of their 1955 fatal crashes involved some degree of drinking. Vermont, Maryland, and Texas officials have set the drinking and driving percentage at 50 per cent or over.

Ray Hill, of the National Safety Council, writing in the July issue of *Public Safety*, warned that the drinking driver can be as dangerous as the drunken driver. He said, "After one drink, the driver has reduced his ability to make split-second decisions and react to emergencies."

State-wide and nationwide manhunts are often employed to catch a murderer. But alcoholic beverages can be blamed for thousands of deaths yearly—and yet very little is being done to halt this unnecessary slaughter. We know of no other menace to public safety being coddled as the liquor traffic is.



"Christian Life" on the Newsstands

Christian Life magazine, beginning with the July issue, is being sold on the nation's newsstands. A spokesman for the magazine said it is the only Protestant inter-denominational magazine available on newsstands.

Men, Do You Want to Live Longer?

The life expectancy for women is 71.5 years; for men, only 65.9. Dr. E. V. Cowdry told the Missouri State Welfare Conference why he thinks women live longer than men. One reason: three times as many women as men go to church, deriving consolation and peace of mind.

Consider Bible Institute to Train Laymen

Missouri Synod Lutherans, in their national meeting, decided to set up a commission to study the advisability of establishing a Bible Institute for training lay workers. The commission was proposed because of a "desperate need" for full-time lay workers in the church.

Religious Periodicals Popular in Germany

Religious periodicals in Germany have increased nearly six-fold in total circulation in the past seven years and now rank second only to general newspapers and magazines, *Alliance Weekly* reports. There are now 524 church papers with a total circulation of nearly 13 million.

Priests Arrested After Poznan Uprising

Between 20 and 30 Roman Catholic priests were among hundreds of persons arrested for alleged complicity in the three-day anti-Communist uprising in Poznan, Poland. Poznan, a city of 300,000, is predominantly Roman Catholic. Unofficial sources claim that between 400 and 600 persons died in the uprising. Newspaper reports said the demonstrators paraded with signs stating, "We want bread and freedom." A Norwegian merchant returning from a visit to Poznan said he saw posters reading, "We want a return to religion."

"Reader's Digest" Carries Martyrs' Story

The only officially authorized account of the martyrdom of five evangelical missionaries in Ecuador last January has been condensed for the August issue of the *Reader's Digest*. The complete book, written by Abe C. Van Der Puy of World Radio Missionary Fellowship, Incorporated, has been titled, "Through Gates of Splendor." Published by Harper Brothers, New York (300-plus pages, \$3.75) the book will be available next March.

The *Reader's Digest* condensation runs to 10,000 words and covers 20 pages. It is reported to be a most sympathetic treatment of the martyrdom.

Turlock Turkeys Help Provide Church Plane

Executives of the Evangelical Mission Covenant Church are grateful to the turkeys—some living, some dead—of Turlock, California. Thanks to them, the officials of the church will be able to save considerable time in the future when they contact the denomination's congregations in 34 states and five Canadian provinces. Two laymen—one a turkey hatcher and the other a turkey egg supplier—in Turlock have provided the officials with a four-passenger Beechcraft Bonanza airplane. One of the men donated the plane; the other will pay the salary of the pilot who will also care for the plane. The aircraft was dedicated during the 71st annual meeting of the denomination in Chicago.

TO RESTORE OLD MEETING HOUSE AS MONUMENT TO FAMOUS 1800 REVIVALS

According to the *Nashville Tennessean Magazine*, folk in south-east Logan County, Kentucky, are promoting a project to restore the old Red River meeting house near Schochoh. It would be a sort of museum commemorating the great revival that started at Red River and spread out over a number of southern states around 1800.

Stories of the meetings have it that there never has been a revival in the area, before or since, that compared with this one. One church historian says that "multitudes came from miles around and stayed for days and weeks, camping on the ground."

As many as 30,000 people attended some of the services at the meeting house, according to old letters written during the time. It was a period of great religious fervor.

One minister wrote his friend, "It baffles description. Many fall down as men slain in battle. Hundreds of saplings on the ground have been cut breast-high for persons who jerk to hold onto. They kick up the earth like a horse stamping flies."

We see no harm in erecting monuments to past revivals—unless the monuments are worshipped. But the quiet, empty Red River meeting house will be a poor substitute for the reality of the 1800 revival. Why not restore the revival instead of the building? The God who sent the 1800 revival is still the same today.



The old meeting house

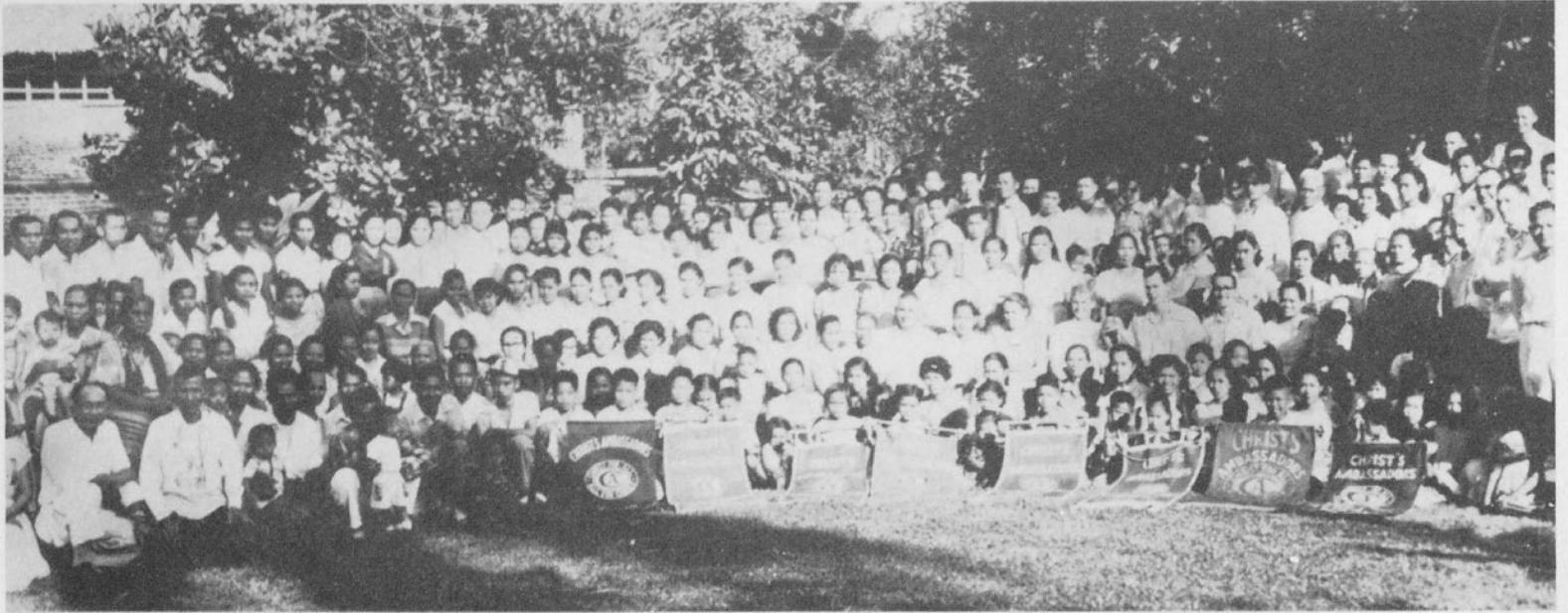
Parents Win Fight to Re-Open High School

A situation that we might think couldn't exist in this land of ours where we enjoy religious freedom is finally being corrected. Parents of predominantly Protestant Bradfordsville (population 500), Kentucky, won a two-year fight with the Marion County School Board when the Kentucky Board of Appeals ordered the board to re-open Bradfordsville High School.

The high school had been closed in September, 1954, for what the board termed "economic reasons." But parents charged that the board had discriminated against their Protestant community while favoring schools in the largely Roman Catholic western part of the county. As a result, Bradfordsville parents went on an education strike, refusing to send their children to a high school in Lebanon, ten miles away, and boycotting the elementary school in their own community.

In its decision the State Board of Appeals held that the Marion County School Board had been "arbitrary and discriminatory" in closing Bradfordsville High School. It held that the board had failed to provide equal and uniform educational opportunities for children living in the eastern section of the county as compared with the western section.

The court ordered the school board to close schools only on public holidays and not on Roman Catholic holidays. It also ordered the board to cease providing Roman Catholic literature for county high school libraries. The court said that in one high school "substantially all periodicals in the library were Catholic periodicals, a violation of the law." But the court failed in one point: it refused to reconsider the legality of Roman Catholic nuns teaching in public schools while wearing religious garb. Marion County is noted for this practice.



Fourth Annual Visayan District Council, San Jose, Antique, Panay, Philippines

The Philippines District Council was

THE BEST CONVENTION YET!

by CALVIN R. ZEISSLER

THE FOURTH ANNUAL VISAYAN District Council held in San Jose, Antique, Philippines, has been termed the best convention we have yet had. God's blessing was apparent from the very commencement. The people looked forward with eager anticipation to the meetings, and a happy crowd was present to enjoy everything there was for them.

Warren Denton is the missionary located in San Jose, and he with his people did a wonderful job in providing accommodations for those attending. Over 200 people were fed each day.

There were a few incidents that seemed amusing to some of us—such as killing a pig at 2:30 in the morning and not doing a very quick job of it, so that sleep was an elusive thing after that. Then there was the morning the goat was killed—another time of lost sleep. The incident of banjo music at four in the morning by someone just learning to play meant another short night of rest—but these incidents added spice to the happy time of fellowship.

The main thing, of course, was the rich blessing of the Lord. Our hearts

were bound close together as the torrents of blessing fell. Souls were brought under conviction and many were saved. Believers were filled with the Spirit and those who formerly had received the Baptism in the Spirit received *anointings with fresh oil*, as the Psalmist put it. Undoubtedly, all were greatly refreshed and encouraged in the things of the Lord.

The evening services were very well attended with many outsiders present. Missionaries who attended the convention were Gunder and Doris Olsen, Edward and Frances Blount, Calvin Zeissler and Warren Denton.

There has been a great increase in our outstation work. At present we have twenty-five outstations. We strive to make each a permanent church. There

are six teams of young people with three members assigned to each team. One is the teacher, another the music director and the third takes care of the literature distribution and roll call. Most of our C.A.'s are active in this program. In each outstation there will average between twenty-five and fifty children plus adults. In one recently there were eighty children and seventy-two adults. We thank God for the vision our people have of reaching out to others with the gospel.

This expansion work has not been done without opposition. Children who desire to join the classes have been informed that we are of the devil; but in spite of all this, there is a steady growth. God is in this work! Satan cannot overthrow it!

Miss Charlotte Rogers of Oregon, who was one of the survivors of the sinking of the *Washington Mail*, was with us for a few nights of special services. Her testimony and ministry was greatly enjoyed. Her account of her survival through God's deliverance was most effective. Each night the attendance was good and souls were at the altar.

Send Foreign Missionary offerings to
NOEL PERKIN, SECRETARY
FOREIGN MISSIONS
DEPARTMENT
 434 W. Pacific St., Springfield 1, Mo.

God Uses An African Nurse

by RUTH JOHNSON, Transvaal, S. Africa



Alina Vilakazi

STAFF NURSE ALINA, WHO HAS BEEN a valuable helper in the nurses' work ever since she was saved nearly four years ago, feels the call of God upon her life to full-time missionary work. Her home is in a large farming area where hundreds of African families have never heard the gospel message. All they know is heathenism. When Staff Nurse Alina went home for her vacation last year she led two of her family and six others to the Lord. This year when she went home they were all standing true but were hungry for teaching on spiritual things, as the only help they have had is what she has given them by correspondence. Ten more were saved on her last visit, and now the Macedonian call comes to her to "Come over and help us; teach us and

lead us in this wonderful way that we have found."

Two of our men missionaries will be going through this area on a preaching tour early next year, so we feel that Alina is preparing the way before them. Do pray for this consecrated young woman, that God will mightily bless and use her. It is almost painful for me to give her up in the work, but please pray that God will lay the burden on the hearts of other nurses to help in the hospital work as she has done.

Then I must share with you the

victory in the life of Johanna. Johanna is a beautiful young woman of Indian and African mixture. She went through our Bible Training College and seemed very promising for the work of the Lord. Then a series of sad happenings occurred and she was stumbled over the unfaithfulness of other Christians. For a time it seemed as though the enemy of her soul would defeat her; but we held on in prayer—and partly through the influence of Nurse Alina, Johanna came through to real victory and is now stronger than ever for God. Johanna is now preaching with an older woman in the villages near her home. Many have been saved, and the chief of the village is so impressed that he has asked the missionaries to let these two young women stay in their village as their own missionaries.

So amid the powers of darkness we can truly rejoice and say that where sin abounds, grace doth much more abound! Praise our wonderful God!

Besides helping in personal work among the nurses, Alina has evening prayers with the patients in the ward of which she is in charge.



Alina often forfeits her day off or her own tea time to give a living testimony to the patients gathered for tea.



Revival Fires Continue

The Salvation-Healing campaign conducted by Ralph Byrd and Glenn Horst in Monrovia, Liberia, officially came to a close on March 21, but the blessings have continued.

by JOHN HURSTON

THE DEPARTURE OF THE BYRDS DID not mean the closing of the revival. From all over the republic, we hear encouraging reports of the continuance of God's blessings. Here in Monrovia, many are still being healed and numbers are receiving the Baptism in the Holy Ghost. Crowds at our meetings have increased; spirituality and faith are both higher than we have witnessed here before. We thank God for what the revival has meant to the church.

Africa is a place of many strange customs. There are many who pray for the sick using holy water and holy oil. They bless the water and oil, praying over it and selling it to the people. But in this revival, they have seen people healed through the prayer of faith. What a revelation.

During Ralph Byrd's campaign, a special meeting was arranged for him to pray for the Justices of the Supreme Court. A few days ago, at a government function, champagne and cigarettes were passed to Justice Davis. These

he refused, stating that this was the price of his healing. Thank God, the meeting not only brought healing to many, but awakened them to righteousness.

Senator Gibson, the first to be healed and one of the first to receive the Baptism in the Holy Spirit, spoke at our church last Sunday night. His message was Pentecostal, and the service was brought to a close with many around the altar consecrating themselves to the Lord. The prospects look bright; our hearts are encouraged.

A lieutenant in the army, who was one of the escorts of the evangelistic party in the city of Tchien, said that as a result of the revival in Tchien, they are having to start an English church in that city.

We are very grateful to God for: (1) the B.G.M.C. for sending 5,000 January 8th EVANGELS and song-books for the campaign by air freight, (2) the Foreign Missions Department for the splendid co-operation they gave to the campaign, and (3) you who travailed in prayer that Liberia would have this national revival.



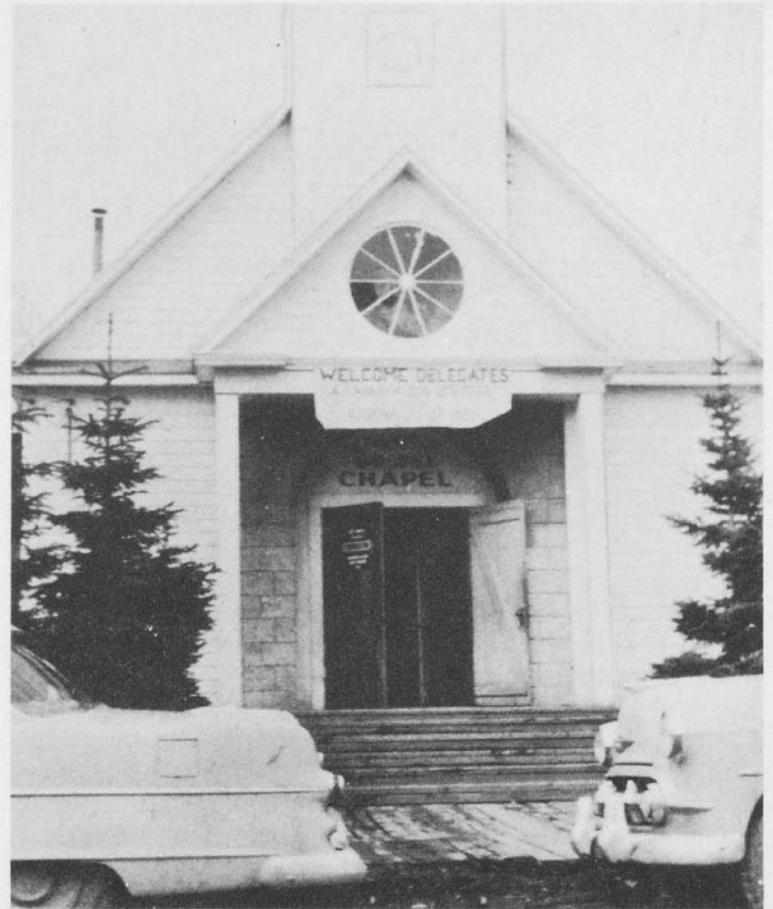
Alaska Convention Notes

ONCE EVERY TWO YEARS ALL THE Alaska Assemblies of God missionaries gather together for a great convention. The sixth biennial convention, using the theme "Occupy Till I Come," was held this year June 19-24 in Valdez, Alaska. Valdez is a beautiful little port city, nestled between mile-high snowcapped mountains.

Brother and Sister G. F. Lewis and Brother and Sister Victor Trimmer of the National Home Missions Department were present and ministered. Brother Trimmer reports that the convention was marked by the blessing of the Lord. He says, "Time after time during the services of the convention the many workers who gathered from the far-flung churches and mission stations of Alaska were lost in worship to the Lord.

"One morning the devotional service which started at nine o'clock and was to have been finished for the business session by 10:15 carried over until 11:00 as God's refreshing rain fell upon His people. Hungry hearts were filled with the Holy Spirit, sick bodies healed, and everyone was encouraged and strengthened in the Lord."

Reports from various fields of service throughout the territory were given by the 120 workers present. They reported the blessing of God has been resting upon the work in Alaska in a very wonderful way during the past two years.



Valdez Gospel Chapel, host church to the convention

Several new works have been opened and the already established churches and missions were strengthened.

The three children's homes in Alaska have made some very definite improvements in their activities, as well as ministering to many of the homeless children of Alaska.



Territorial Senator Egan addresses the Assemblies of God convention at Valdez

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Cather in reporting on their activities in the Children's Farm Home near Palmer, which they founded in 1944, indicated they would be leaving for the States soon. Their work in this field has been deeply appreciated.

In reporting on the Juneau Children's Home, Harold Maley, chairman of the Advisory Board of that home, said about thirty-five children are cared for in the Home. There have been several conversions among the children during recent months. Two of the high-school graduates received scholarships this year. The new dormitory is nearly complete, and is free of debt.

The report given by Ralph O. Wilson, former manager of the Valdez Assemblies of God Children's Home, indicated that fourteen of the original seventeen children in the Home are still there. These have been in the Home since its inception in 1953. A new and more adequate building to replace the one destroyed by fire is under construction. However, due to lack of sufficient funds and other factors, it has not been completed as yet.

The Wilsons are returning to the

Home Missionary III

Miss Wilma Hahnemann who had been assisting in the Valdez Children's Home for about a year, is very ill at this time. She is much in need of our prayers, and extra financial assistance. (Offerings for this need should be sent to the Home Missions Department and designated for WILMA HAHNEMANN'S SPECIAL NEED.)

States and Mr. and Mrs. James L. Houghton are now in charge of the Home.

Byron Personeus, chairman of the boat committee, reported that the crew had a good ministry during the summers of 1954 and 1955. Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Torgerson of Seattle worked with the Personeuses both summers.

The operation of the boat was made possible through the co-operation of Mr. Barem in Tacoma, the Northwest District, and the National Home Missions Department. No boat ministry has been undertaken this summer.

Because of the great opportunity for ministry to the men in our armed forces in Alaska, special interest was shown in the report given by Assemblies of God Chaplain (Major) W. H. Ponge. Chaplain Ponge stated that we have seven hundred Civil Air Patrol Chaplains, and this number includes twenty-nine Assemblies of God chaplains. A committee

on ministry to servicemen brought a number of recommendations to the convention on reaching servicemen for Christ.

A real forward step was taken in the Alaska work with the appointing of three presbyters to serve as an Executive Committee for Alaska. Presbyter of the Southeast Section and chairman of the committee is Harold Maley of Juneau; presbyter of the Northern Section is B. P. Wilson, pastor at Fairbanks; in the Central Section the presbyter is David Hogan, pastor of the Gospel Tabernacle in Anchorage.

This committee and the work in Alaska will operate under the supervision of the National Home Missions Department. It is felt that the committee will be able to strengthen the work in Alaska in many ways.

On Sunday morning there was a Communion service, and in the afternoon four were ordained to the Full Gospel ministry. They were: Harriet Brown, pastor at Nome; Lewis Welker of Barrow; Doyle Smith; and Paul Riley, pastor at Wasilla.

Two who had passed into the presence of the Lord since the last convention were specially remembered — W. R. Gunn, missionary at Wrangell for eighteen years, and Harry Bates, a faithful layman who spent much time in the service of the Lord.

One of the interesting features of the convention was the presence of a thirteen-year-old girl who attended the convention with the Capeners from Point Barrow, our most northern church in Alaska. On this trip she saw for the first time in her life a tree, flowers, automobiles, large stores, and many other things we take for granted. But the most interesting thing was her testimony. She was the first to receive the baptism in the Holy Spirit in Barrow, Alaska. Her testimony was a blessing to all.

The convention expressed itself as appreciating the excellent leadership of G. F. Lewis, Executive Director of the National Home Missions Department, and Victor Trimmer, National Secretary.

We are reaching SERVICEMEN stationed at . . .

U. S. Coast Guard Training Station, New London, Connecticut	Bamberg, Germany
Patrick AF Base, Cocoa, Florida	Laredo AF Base, Texas
Kaneohe Naval Air Station, Hawaii	Quantico Marine Base, Virginia
Lake Charles AF Base, Louisiana	Fort Belvoir, Virginia
Chincoteague Navy Base, Virginia	Whiteman AF Base, Sedalia, Missouri
Fort Holobird, Maryland	F. E. Warren AF Base, Cheyenne, Wyoming
Fort Crowder, Missouri	Naval Air Station, Key West, Florida
Malden AF Base, Missouri	Grandview AF Base, Missouri
U. S. Naval Base, Tongue Point, Oregon	Travis AF Base, California
Munich, Germany	

THERE IS an Assemblies of God military chaplain or pastor at each of these locations (and dozens more) who makes personal contact with young men stationed nearby. Continue to watch the EVANGEL for other installations not listed here.

SEND US the address of your serviceman assigned to any of these bases. We will inform the chaplain or pastor about him. Or, better yet, send your serviceman's address without delay no matter where he is stationed. We will place him on our mailing list whether or not we have a chaplain or pastor to contact him.

ALL SERVICEMEN on our mailing list regularly receive friendly correspondence, REVEILLE, and other gospel literature and services. There is no charge for this ministry; the Servicemen's Division is supported by freewill offerings. Address all correspondence and offerings to:

SERVICEMEN'S DIVISION
434 West Pacific Street
Springfield 1, Missouri



The newly elected executive committee of Alaska: B. P. Wilson, David Hogan, Harold Maley





Babies Wanted!

— AND THEIR MOTHERS TOO

by Mrs. T. S. Shields

WE WANT BABIES IN OUR CHURCHES. The babies are the beginners, primaries, and juniors of tomorrow.

We want their mothers, too. We want them to come to church because we love them, and we miss them when they stay home. Besides, the mothers need the spiritual help that is obtainable at the house of God.

In fact, the mothers of small children probably need to attend church more than any other members of the congregation. For one thing, they are just about the busiest people in town. The old saying is still true, that "father works from sun to sun, but mother's

work is never done." From early morning until late at night the mother of small children is cooking, housecleaning, feeding little mouths, washing little faces, tending to their many wants, and answering their countless questions. She breathes a sigh of relief when the kiddies are finally settled down for an afternoon nap, or tucked in bed for the night, but only because it gives her an opportunity to do the ironing, mending, or dishwashing that couldn't be done while they were awake.

Only a young mother can know what a treat it is to escape from the four walls of home where she has been incarcerated all week long, and to sit with other adults listening to the sermon or opening her heart to God in prayer and worship. Surely no one will dispute the fact that the mother who has the responsibility of teaching little tots to take their first faltering steps down the path of righteousness needs all the spiritual help she can get. Her store of patience, love, and understanding needs to be replenished.

But when she brings her babe to church, what happens? In many a church there is no nursery with an attendant to take care of the baby, and the mother has to hold little Junior on her lap throughout the service. Just when she is getting her mind on the Lord and beginning to enjoy the service, Junior sounds off, and she has to march out with him before his crying disturbs the entire meeting!

And where does she take him? There ought to be a nursery, at least, where she could tend to the child and still hear the service, but in many a church there is no such room. She has to take the baby outdoors and perhaps sit in a stuffy car until the service is over.

Or else there is an uninviting room downstairs where she and others in a similar predicament can sit out the service. They can't hear the sermon so they bore each other with "mother talk."

The Commander-in-Chief in heaven must have a special medal for the valiant soldiers in His army who will bring

Sister Shields is the wife of the pastor of the Merritt Assembly of God Church, Merritt Island, Florida.

Our Family Altar

MONDAY

AUGUST 6

SCRIPTURE: Romans 1:1-17

TODAY'S GEM: "I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth" (Rom. 1:16).

FOR THE PARENTS: After pointing out that "gospel" means "good news," stress that this good news (1) is centered in Christ; (2) is the power of God working to save the sinner.

QUESTION TIME: Who wrote this epistle to the Romans? (v. 1) For what did he especially commend these Christians? (v. 8) What is the gospel? (v. 16) For whom is the gospel the power of God? (v. 16)

PRAY that God's power may work in our lives.

TUESDAY

AUGUST 7

SCRIPTURE: Romans 2:1-11

TODAY'S GEM: "Therefore thou art inexcusable, O man, whosoever thou art that judgest: for wherein thou judgest another, thou condemnest thyself" (Rom. 2:1)

FOR THE PARENT: Practicing the gospel helps keep us from finding fault. Point out that (1) when we find fault with others, we are very often guilty of the same thing; (2) our judgments may be wrong, but God's are always right.

QUESTION TIME: What is one reason we are not to find fault with others? (v. 1) How does God judge us? (vv. 6, 11) What do you think is meant by the expression, "respect of persons" (v. 11)?

PRAY that we will not be fault-finders.

WEDNESDAY

AUGUST 8

SCRIPTURE: Romans 3:10-26

TODAY'S GEM: "For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God" (Rom. 3:23).

FOR THE PARENT: Emphasize that (1) all are born in sin and have no righteousness or goodness in themselves; (2) because of this we cannot be saved by what we do; (3) God sent Jesus to die for our sins; (4) by accepting Him we gain His goodness; (5) this makes us clean and acceptable in God's sight.

QUESTION TIME: Is it possible for us to be saved by our works? Why not? (v. 10) How can a person be saved? (v. 25)

PRAY for salvation of your family and friends.

Bible Animals

1. Daniel was thrown into a den of _____ because he prayed to God. (Fill in the blank).
2. What kind of animals killed some children who made fun of a prophet of God?
3. The Psalmist said, "As the _____ panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after thee, O my God."
4. What kind of an animal did the Israelites use for their passover sacrifice?
5. What kind of skins composed the covering for the tabernacle in the wilderness?
6. What animals licked the sores of the beggar Lazarus?
7. When Jesus sent out seventy disciples, He said that He was sending them forth as lambs among _____.
8. What animal did Jesus ride into Jerusalem? _____
9. When Jesus reigns upon the earth, "The wolf shall dwell with the _____, and the _____ shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young _____ and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them."
10. _____ are sometimes used in the Bible to represent the unsaved.

ANSWERS: (1) lions, Daniel 6:16; (2) bears, 2 Kings 2:24; (3) hart, Psalm 42:1; (4) lamb, Exodus 12:1-11; (5) rams' skins and badgers' skins, Exodus 36:19; (6) dogs, Luke 16:21; (7) wolves, Luke 10:3; (8) colt, Mark 11:7; (9) lamb, leopard, lion, Isaiah 11:6; (10) goats, Matthew 25:31-46.

Do we want mothers to bring their babes to the house of the Lord? Does *He* want them to do it? Then let every church make proper provision for them. The church needs the mothers—*and the mothers need the church.*

THE WAY OUT!

Back in 1849 Louis Harms, pastor of a country church in Germany, was discouraged. The church was small, the congregation indifferent. After prayer and study of the Word, he announced his purpose "to initiate a vital missionary program as 'the way out.'" Eight responded to his call for volunteers to the mission field, and the program started.

During the seventeen years that Louis Harms conducted the missionary enterprise, that little church, that barely had sixty members, enjoyed an unprecedented, perennial revival, bringing 10,000 members into the church fold. And on the mission field, by 1883, (thirty years after the first missionaries sailed) more than thirty mission stations had been established by their working force of 357 missionaries, and they had gathered from the heathen 3,920 communicants and 8,520 adherents.

In thirty years that struggling little church, which had contemplated packing its few belongings and going to the poorhouse, had been enriched until it was the envy of practically all of Christendom. —*The Prairie Overcomer*

little children to church under these circumstances, week after week!

We provide class rooms for our Sunday School pupils, and a study for our pastor. We install public-address systems and all kinds of equipment to increase the efficiency of the gospel work. Isn't it time every church took up a special offering to provide a nursery with one or two qualified

women to take care of the children so that bone-weary mothers may sit in church and enjoy the service? Or else the church ought to do the next best thing: provide a mother's room, preferably at the rear of the auditorium, where women with small children may sit in privacy behind a glass partition, watching the service and listening by means of loud speakers.

THURSDAY

AUGUST 9

SCRIPTURE: Ephesians 6:10-18

TODAY'S GEM: "Take unto you the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day" (Eph. 6:13)

FOR THE PARENT: Review the story of Joash, the king who couldn't stand alone (see Sunday's Lesson page). Point out that (1) such weakness shows a lack of character; (2) God wants strong soldiers in His army; (3) God gives us certain weapons and defenses to use.

QUESTION TIME: What are two ways we can be strong? (vv. 10,11) Why do we need the whole armor of God? (v. 13) Name the parts of the Christian's armor.

PRAY that we will be fully equipped soldiers.

FRIDAY

AUGUST 10

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 5:20-24; 6:1-15 (next Sunday's lesson for Juniors)

TODAY'S GEM: "Except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven" (Matt. 5:20).

FOR THE PARENT: These passages are from the Sermon on the Mount. Stress correct attitudes toward (1) our brothers—natural and spiritual; (2) Christian giving; (3) prayer.

QUESTION TIME: Not only those who kill, but also those who . . . are in danger of the judgment. (5:21,22) What reward do people lose when they serve God to be noticed by others? (6:1) How should we pray? (6:5-15)

SATURDAY

AUGUST 11

SCRIPTURE: Luke 22:14-27 (next Sunday's lesson for Primaries)

TODAY'S GEM: "I am among you as he that serveth" (Luke 22:27b).

FOR THE PARENT: The passover was a Jewish feast commemorating Israel's deliverance from Egypt. It was at a passover that (1) Jesus began the Lord's Supper, which is to be a time when we remember that Jesus loved us and died for us; (2) that Jesus gave His disciples the key to true greatness.

QUESTION TIME: What was the passover? (Ex. 11,12) What is the purpose of the Lord's Supper? (1 Cor. 11:26) What key to true greatness did Jesus give? (Luke 22:26,27)

SUNDAY'S LESSON



THE KING WHO COULD NOT STAND ALONE

Sunday School Lesson for August 12, 1956

2 CHRONICLES 24:1, 2, 4, 13-18, 22

The life story of Joash has been preserved to warn us that a good beginning does not guarantee a good ending. Sin must be guarded against all through life. Godly associations are very helpful, but only a man whose spiritual life is deeply rooted in God Himself will be able to weather the storms of temptation which come all through life.

JOASH RESTORES THE TEMPLE

The house of the Lord which had been desecrated by wicked Queen Athaliah was in sad need of repair. Joash, inspired by a love for the building in which he had been sheltered as a babe, set about to restore its dignity and beauty. The priests and Levites were instructed to receive offerings for the temple repairs from the people in their respective cities.

"Howbeit the Levites hastened it not." Why did the priests fail to carry out the plan of Joash? Perhaps they feared this offering for the temple would cut down their own income! Such fears, of course, were groundless. *Nothing is safer than to put God's interests before our own!*

Joash, seeing that his plan had failed, revoked his former orders and instituted a second plan which was carried out with great success. A large chest was placed beside the altar of burnt offering in the court of the temple, and the people throughout the kingdom were asked to bring in their offerings themselves.

"And all the princes and all the people rejoiced, and brought in, and cast into the chest. . . . Thus they did day by day, and gathered money in abundance." Here was Spirit-inspired giving—voluntary, cheerful, and abundant! As a result the temple was completely restored without and within, and there was money enough to replace the sacred vessels of the temple as well.

The renewing of the temple may be studied as a picture of *renewing the life of the church*. Here is a church which has fallen into spiritual decay. Barrenness and impotence are in evidence everywhere. Deathly stillness replaces the songs of joy and victory. Then God moves upon a modern "Joash" who calls for revival and passes his burden on to others. The people give themselves to repentant prayer, make restoration, renew their consecration. The result is Holy Ghost revival!

Spiritual declension in the church is due to spiritual decline in the life of the individual members. Thus the restoring of the temple may be viewed as a picture of the *need for renewing the temple of the Christian*.

The Bible declares that every believer is a spiritual temple indwelt by the Holy Spirit. As such, it is exposed to

influences which bring about spiritual decay and ruin. In renewing the spiritual temple of man's soul all grudges, grievances, worldly desires, unholy ambitions, unconfessed sins must be removed. There must be the strengthening of the prayer-life, reading God's Word, attending services of the church. It is wise to check frequently on our spiritual state. And the blessed Holy Spirit is always ready to renew us and refill us when we are conscious of our need!

JOASH FAILS GOD

"And Joash did that which was right in the sight of the Lord all the days of Jehoiada the priest." Behold the influence of a godly life! Joash owed a great deal to this godly priest who had first protected him from death at the hands of Athaliah and then had given him godly counsel as long as he lived.

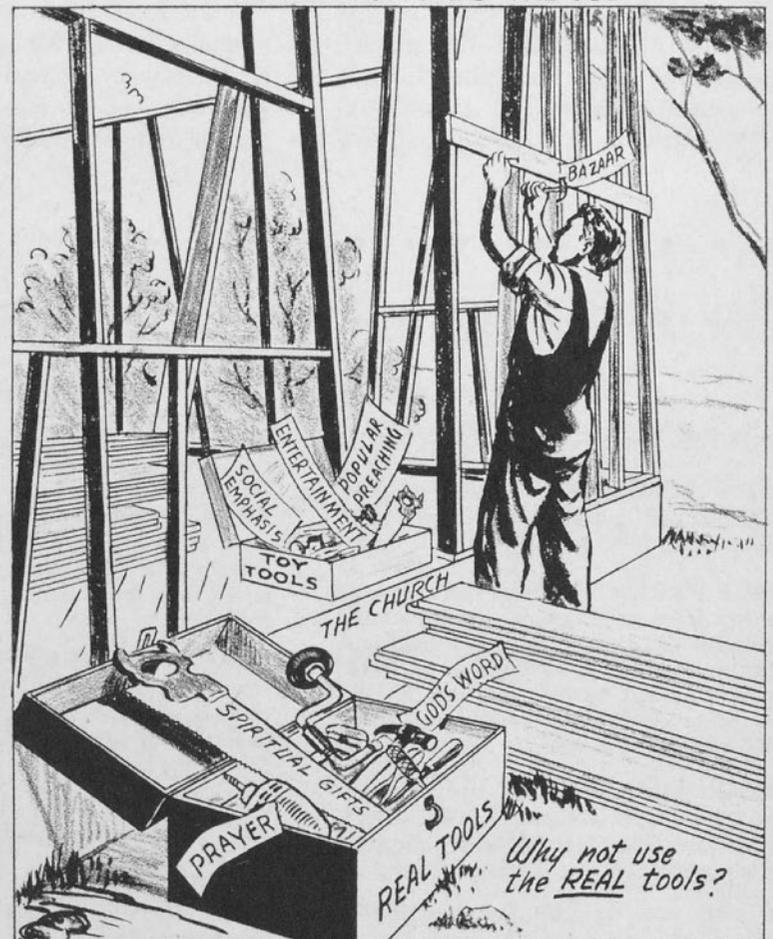
"But Jehoiada waxed old and . . . died." The passing of godly leaders in one generation precipitates a crisis in the generation that follows. The princes of Judah who became Joash's advisers did not possess the spiritual strength and character of Jehoiada. Consequently they led their king away from God; and he, in turn, led the nation into idolatry!

Joash went from bad to worse. He refused God's warnings and murdered a prophet who was the son of Jehoiada—the man who saved his life! For this, God's judgment came upon him. He was slain by his own servants and was even denied burial in the sepulchre of the kings.

Thus ended the life of a man who was first weak, then wicked. Yet no weak man need despair. God is able to make him stand if he will set his will on God's side!

—by J. Bashford Bishop

TOY TOOLS WON'T DO THE JOB



by Florence E. Pakorny

THE FIRST FEW YEARS OF MY MARRIAGE were happy and peaceful ones. Then my husband began to drink and, like King Solomon, he loved many strange women. But since he was generous and kind to me, I held my peace.

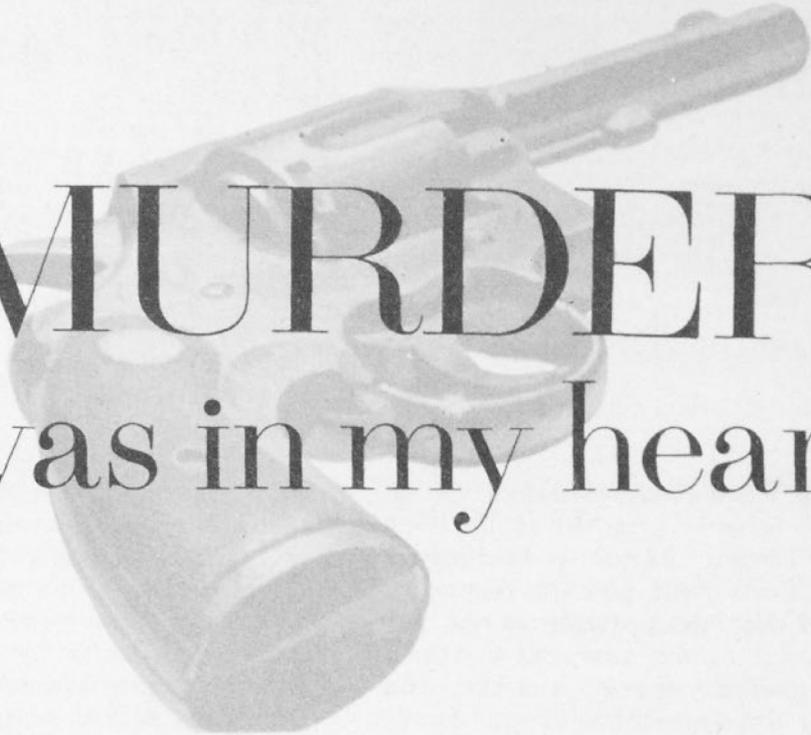
We were very worldly people, loving all things that go with that kind of life. I believed in God, believed that Jesus Christ was His Son, but of the Bible and salvation I knew nothing.

After several years conditions grew worse. He would leave me alone in the stuffy apartment while he took his lady love out for a spin in the cool of the evening. This, with other things, was beginning to be too much. Hatred and a desire for revenge became the consuming passions of my life.

I had always loved firearms—loved to handle them and target practice. When I spent the night alone, I slept with a loaded .38 under my pillow. I had, I believed, a plan to destroy my husband and still escape punishment. Then I began to think seriously of also killing the third party of the triangle.

So one cold, misty night in April I started down Ira Avenue in Akron, Ohio, hoping to find his car parked in front of her house so I would know just where she lived. Murder was in my heart. But all at once it started to rain. Just ahead was a store room all lighted up. Upon reaching it, I found that it was a little Full Gospel mission. I entered and sat down in the rear of the building since I was not interested in anything but a shelter from the rain. In my heart a fire of hatred and revenge burned. Every happy year, every kindness was forgotten. All that was left was a desire to kill and destroy the ones who had hurt me so cruelly.

I paid no attention to the preaching. But all at once the preacher pointed a finger in my direction and thundered, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord." This statement awakened me from my bitter thoughts and I knew that God had spoken directly to me. Gone was my desire to kill. Gone was the desire for revenge. I made my way to an old-fashioned altar, and, on my knees, confessed my many sins and wept as I had not done in years. Then a great burden seemed to be lifted from my soul, and I felt so light and



MURDER

was in my heart

free; so clean inside, and so happy!

The next night I went back to the mission and gave my testimony. I made a full confession of what I had planned to do.

The minister then said that when he had come that night before, he had no text or sermon. But as he stepped over the threshold, God had given him the verse, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord." He said that he wondered why God gave him such a text. He didn't realize that two lives and a soul hung in the balance.

Then I told my husband what I had intended to do. After that I broke the gun and threw it and the cartridges under the eaves of the house. Then I asked him to drive me to my mother's home in Central Ohio.

Two years later I returned to Akron to visit a friend. While there I attended the North Hill Assembly of God and received a deeper spiritual experience in the Lord. I vowed to give God a tenth of all the money I would ever have and also, if I ever owned a home, to tithe the produce of the trees and garden.

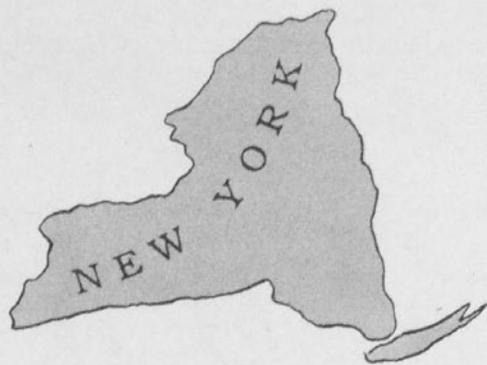
Two years later my mother, then a widow, and I went to Lynn Haven, Florida. We bought a nice home with rich gardens and a large pecan tree.

The first year the pecan tree had only five pounds of nuts. But I tithed, and each year the crop increased until at

last I picked up 412 pounds one year. I also gave a tenth of my garden produce, eggs, and chickens to the Lord. I was happy to have something to give to the One who had given so much to me.

But there was no Assembly of God in Lynn Haven. When an abandoned Christian mission building became available, I coveted it for the Lord. A niece and nephew sent me the money for a down payment on the building. Then I got in touch with Brother Jack Spence. He came and started a revival—the beginning of Lynn Haven's First Assembly of God. God moved in wondrous manners. I was so happy to be able to have a part in this venture and found many avenues of service in this church.

When I gave my heart and life to Christ that rainy night in Akron, I gave it for time and eternity. My own son gave me only six months until I would be back to my worldly life, but after ten years he was forced to admit that I was a sticker for the Christian life. I have never been sorry for my decision to follow Christ. Instead, a great joy has filled my heart to know that He could forgive and love one as wicked as I had been and use me in His service. I am hoping that someday I shall hear Him, say "Well done, thou good and faithful servant; enter thou into the joys of thy Lord."



PASTOR TESTIFIES OF **Miracles Through Revivaltime Speaker**

THE REVIVALTIME SPEAKER, C. M. Ward, recently preached at the New York District Council in Huntington, New York. An unsaved couple attended the Tuesday night service, and responded to the altar call and both were gloriously saved. And also, as a result, three members of the family were marvelously healed. Norman S. Farrington, pastor of the Huntington Assembly, and Joseph Flower, District Superintendent, have verified this testimony.

Speaking of what God did for this family, Brother Farrington remarked: "The wife had fallen down a flight of stairs in May of 1955. The X rays at the Huntington hospital showed that her spine had been shoved over to her left side with a displaced disc. After a child had been born, she was advised by the doctors to have an operation to correct the trouble. At certain times, she would become completely paralyzed and unable to move. As she came to the altar for salvation, at the close of the Tuesday night Council service, and knelt to pray, the Lord instantly healed her of the dislocated disc, which would have required a serious operation and many months of being laid up."

"One of their five children, a four-year-old boy, had a rheumatic heart from birth. His diaphragm was pressing up against his heart, which was enlarged, causing a heart murmur. He wasn't able to talk until he was three and

a half years of age, due to the thymus gland pressing on the windpipe. On May 1, 1956, X rays had been taken which showed the boy's serious condition. He was to return on May 14 for a special examination by five doctors in the Huntington hospital.

"It was on May 8 when this family found God, and from then until the mother took the boy back to the doctors, she prayed for his healing. When she did return on May 14 for the examination, the doctors were beside themselves trying to find out what had happened to the boy's heart—for the new X rays showed no defects. He had previously spent half his life in the hospital. They told the family doctor that he must have gotten the X rays mixed up, which he steadfastly denied. They could find nothing wrong with him so discharged him as being perfectly normal."

"In addition, the six-month-old baby girl was prayed for by Brother Ward at the mother's request. At six weeks of age, the baby was in the hospital for bronchial pneumonia. When she returned from the hospital, she was unable to eat solid foods. The family returned her to the hospital for a series of X rays which revealed nothing. They arrived at no conclusion as to what was wrong. In answer to prayer, she is now eating normally and gaining weight rapidly."

Brother Farrington adds that on the

following Sunday morning, the entire family was in Sunday School and church, and the parents presented their baby for dedication that Sunday morning.

CHRIST IS ALL

The *service* of Christ is the *business* of my life.

The *will* of Christ is the *law* of my life.

The *presence* of Christ is the *joy* of my life.

The *glory* of Christ is the *crown* of my life.

—Selected

News Flash!

The following stations were added to the REVIVALTIME radio log beginning the week of July 8.

BOYERTOWN, PA. (WCCR)
Sunday—3:30 p.m.

ATLANTA, GA. (WEAS)
(1010 kc.—50,000 watts)

Check local paper for time.

Contact cleared through James Mays.

WINNEMUCCA, NEV. (KWNA)
(1400 kc.—250 watts)

Check local paper for time.

Contact cleared through Charles Eddings.

WINONA, MINN. (KWNO)
Sunday—10:30 p.m.

(1230 kc.—250 watts)

REINSTATED

NEWPORT, KY. (WNOP)
Sunday—3:30 p.m.

(740 kc.—1,000 watts)

FRESNO, CALIF. (KYNO)
Sunday—8:00 a.m.

(1300 kc.—1,000 watts)

TIME CHANGE

TULSA, OKLA. (KOME)

Now heard at 7:30 a.m. and again at 10:30 p.m.

Hear C. M. Ward on REVIVALTIME . . .

HAND-PICKED (Proverbs 11:30)

SERMON SUBJECT FOR AUGUST 5

SUNDAY 10:30 P.M. ABC NETWORK



Recognized by the Master

by Alpheus Noseworthy

MANY YEARS AGO AT AN OLD AUCTION mart in London, titled nobility and society people gathered and sought for rare pieces of art. On one occasion the auctioneer was selling some musical instruments brought from Europe as a job lot. After various pieces had been offered and sold to the highest bidders, the auctioneer reached up on a shelf and took down a dirty old violin. Only one string remained on it; several of the pegs were broken; and it certainly did not look like a valuable piece of workmanship.

The auctioneer looked at it for a moment, and then an electrified audience heard him say, "Ladies and Gentlemen, I hold in my hand a genuine Stradivarius. I had no idea that such a valuable violin was in my shop. This instrument is worth thousands. It is a Cremona."

"Is the master's name on it?" someone shouted from the crowd.

"No," replied the auctioneer. He then went on to explain that the master did not put his name on the early models, but that he knew it from its workmanship, its shape, and its wood.

He could sense that they did not believe him and he shouted again, "A Cremona, Gentlemen, a Cremona."

The first bid was for one pound. The next was for twenty-one shillings—just about a quarter more. The violin looked so old, so worn, so dilapidated that the entire group seemed to doubt the auctioneer's word.

The auctioneer entreated; he appealed; he begged—but to no avail. It looked as if the violin would have to go at a ridiculously low price.

Then something happened. The door opened, and a man in a long black cape entered the room. He made his way toward a seat but stopped as the auctioneer mentioned the word, "Cremona."

Quietly he walked up to the auctioneer and asked, "Sir, did I hear you say, 'Cremona'? Let me look at the instrument." Tenderly he fondled it, and after tightening its one string, he called for a bow. Then, placing the violin against

his cheek, he began to play. And as the notes from that single string filled the air, the crowd realized it was a melody sublime. Someone whispered, "Paganinni!" Yes, it was that master himself. The great musician made the violin seem like a thing with a soul, as under his master hand the single string vibrated again and again.

When the auction was over, the great violinist walked out of the building with the old violin tucked securely under his arm, his face wreathed in smiles. That violin was used to bless music lovers all around the world.

God can recognize qualities in men that we would never see. He can take the life that seems useless and hopeless and make it resound with sweet music

under His master touch. He took Jerry McCauley from Sing Sing penitentiary and made him the apostle to New York's slums—changing him from a degraded river thief to a highly respected evangelist who won thousands to the Christ who is able to save to the uttermost. God took a barefooted gypsy boy, later known as Gypsy Smith, and under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit enabled him to lead multitudes to the Cross. How true are these blessed words:

Down in the human heart, crushed by the tempter,
Feelings lie buried that grace can restore;
Touched by a loving hand, wakened by kindness,
Chords that were broken will vibrate once more.

Friend, Jesus can reach down just as far as the blighting effect of sin has gone, and can bring a man back to the realms of salvation, peace, happiness, and usefulness—for "the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost."

And for this great miracle of transformation which prepares us for this life and the next, all He asks is that we yield ourselves completely to Him.

A FOOL AND HIS FOLLY

(Continued from page five)

seek to "justify themselves" (Luke 10:29), and do not know "that which is highly esteemed" in the sight of God (Luke 16:15). This is illustrated in the parable of the publican and the Pharisee, which was spoken to those "which trusted in themselves" (Luke 18:9). The unregenerated heart is not trustworthy. It is "deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked" (Jeremiah 17:9). The true child of God has placed all his trust in God. His faith is "God-ward." He feels that he is not "sufficient" of himself to "think anything" as of himself, but has come to know that his "sufficiency is of God" (2 Corinthians 3:4, 5). He "worships God in the spirit, and rejoices in Christ Jesus, and has no confidence in the flesh" (Philippians 3:3).

(9) WALKS IN DARKNESS (Ecclesiastes 2:14). The fool is therefore one who chooses "darkness rather than light, because his deeds are evil" (John 3:19, 20). "Neither will he come to the

light, lest his deeds should be reproved." "The god of this world hath blinded" him, "lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ . . . should shine unto him" (2 Corinthians 4:4).

* * *

"But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief. Ye are all the children of light and the children of the day" (1 Thessalonians 5:4, 5). We, as God's children, have seen that "wisdom excelleth folly, as far as light excelleth darkness" (Ecclesiastes 2:13), and therefore we have come to the light. "Our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ." And we love to declare "that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all" (1 John 1:3-7).

Let every sinner turn away from his folly and begin to serve God, the Giver of true wisdom. The Bible says, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom."



“ . . . worship Him in Spirit and in Truth.”

How To Live The Christian Life

by C. H. Spurgeon

TEXT: “AS YE HAVE THEREFORE RECEIVED Christ the Lord, so walk ye in him” (Col. 2:6).

Though the shepherd cares for the lambs, and carries them in his arms, he does not cease to care for them when they become sheep; but, so long as they shall need to be tended, he will watch over them. Hence it is that the apostle Paul, though always quick of eye after newborn souls, and abundantly anxious to bring sinners to a knowledge of the truth as it is in Jesus, is equally in a conflict of soul for the spiritual healthfulness of those who have been born again. Our text contains one of those loving admonitions. It is addressed not to the ungodly, not to those who are strangers to our Lord and Master, but to those who have “received Christ Jesus the Lord.” Longing for their spiritual good, and anxious that they shall be established in the faith, he admonishes them thus, “As ye have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him.”

1. All true Christians are here de-

scribed in the text as having received Christ Jesus the Lord. I would particularly direct your attention to

THE PERSONALITY OF THIS RECEPTION. Believers have, it is true, received Christ’s words; they prize every precept, they value every doctrine; but this is not all. They have received Christ Himself. While they have received Christ’s ordinances, and are not slow to walk in obedience to the things which He has commanded, they do not stay here. They have received Christ Himself—His Person, His Godhead, and His humanity. They have “received Christ Jesus the Lord.” And, mark you, there is a great distinction here, and a great mystery also. A great distinction, I say; for there are some who do, I think, even honestly believe the doctrines which Christ has taught, and are profoundly orthodox, and are full of an earnest controversial spirit for the faith once delivered to the saints; and yet, for all that, they do not seem to have received Him, the very Christ of God.

And, truly, there are many who have received both baptism and the Lord’s Supper; yet, despite what any may say, we believe that they have not received Christ but are still as great strangers to Him as though they had only passed through

THE RITES COMMON TO MANKIND, or the rites in which heathen indulge. There is a vast difference between the outward reception of the doctrine, or the ordinance, and the inward reception of Christ.

We said also that herein is a mystery—such a mystery that only he who has received Christ can understand it. The preacher cannot tell you what it is to receive Christ. Human language is not adapted to make clear this deep enigma, this matchless secret. We know what it is, for “truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ.” We can describe it in such a measure that our friends, who have also received Christ, will know that we understand the mystery; but to the carnal mind it will ever remain a puzzle how Christ can be in us “the hope of glory”—how we can eat His flesh and drink His blood. They run away to some carnal interpretation, and suppose that the bread is turned into flesh at the Eucharist, or that the wine is transformed into blood. That is carnal talk, and this they talk because they know not what is the mystery of this receiving Christ, and this walking in Christ.

Our text seems to

POINT TO A THREEFOLD CHARACTER in which we have received Christ. We have received Him as *the Christ*. My soul, hast thou ever seen Him as the Father’s anointed One—as the chosen and sent One, ordained of old—as One that is mighty, upon whom help should be laid? Hast thou seen Him as God’s great High Priest, ordained as was Aaron, chosen of God from among men? Hast thou looked upon Him as David did, as One chosen out of the people? We must accept Christ as the anointed One, and the right way thus to receive Him is to receive Him as the garments of Aaron received the oil that flowed from his head. Christ is the anointed One, and then you and I become anointed ones through the Holy Spirit which distils from Him to us, and so we receive Him as Christ.

And then He is called “Jesus”; and we must receive Him as *the Saviour*. “Thou shalt call his name JESUS, for

he shall save his people from their sins." Justification is receiving Christ as Jesus; so is sanctification; only, I think I must say justification and pardon receive Christ as Jesus, and

SANCTIFICATION RECEIVES HIM
AS CHRIST JESUS,

both as the anointed One and the Saviour. May you and I be daily delivered from sin, the guilt and power of it, and so receive Him as Jesus!

There is a peculiar emphasis about the next expression. The article is emphatic here, "Christ Jesus *the* Lord." To me, if I receive Christ, He must be Lord—not one of the lords that may have dominion over me, but *the* Lord, peculiarly and specially; and though hitherto other lords have had dominion over me, now I am to obey Him, and Him only. What sayest thou, professing Christian? Hast thou received Christ *the* Lord? Is thy will subject to His will? Dost thou desire only to act according to His bidding? Are His commands thy desires? Is His will thy will? Is He thy Lord? For, mark you, you can never truly receive Him as Christ, or as Jesus, unless you receive Him also as the Lord. Thus, then, another sense in which we receive Him is by subjecting ourselves entirely to Him, sitting at His feet, wearing His yoke, taking up His cross, and bearing His reproach.

2. As briefly as possible we turn to

NOTICE THE COUNSEL GIVEN:

"As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him." In walking there is progress. After a man becomes a Christian, he has not to lay again the foundation, but he has to go on, and to advance in the divine life. Still, wherever he shall advance, he is always to say, "None but Christ! Christ is all!" Depend upon it, every inch of progress that you make beyond a simple reliance upon the Lord Jesus Christ, will entail the painful necessity of your going back. If you begin to patch Christ's robe of righteousness with the very best rags of your own, no matter how cleanly you may have washed them, every rag will have to be unravelled, and every stitch will have to be cut.

There is the rock Christ Jesus. Some Christians begin building their own stages on the rock. How carefully they tie the timbers together, how neatly they plane and smooth them, and then they get high up on these stages that

they have built, and they are so happy—they have such frames, such feelings, such graces, such fullness, and they are inclined to look down upon poor souls who are crying, "None but Jesus!"

BY-AND-BY THERE COMES A STORM, and the edifice they have built begins to creak and rock to and fro, and they begin to cry, "Ah! where are we now? Now we shall perish! Now Christ's love begins to dry up! Now He will fail us!" Nay, no such thing! It is not Christ who is failing you; it is not the rock that is shaking, but what you have built upon the rock. Come down from the stage which you have built, and, as Job says, "Embrace the rock for want of a shelter."

I believe those souls have the most safety and comfort who trust simply to Christ. Was it not Irving who said that he believed his good works had done him more harm than his bad works had done for him; for his bad ones drove him to Christ, but his good ones led him to rely upon them? And, after all, are not our good works bad works, for is there not something in all of them to make us fly to the fountain of the Saviour's blood for cleansing?

"As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in Him," also implies activity.

CHRISTIANS ARE NOT TO BE BED
PATIENTS,

nor for ever to sit still. There is an activity in religion, without which it is of little worth. Feed the hungry; clothe the naked; help the poor; teach the ignorant; comfort the miserable; but take care that, when you do all this, you do it in Christ, and for Christ, and let no thought of merit stain the act; let no reflection of getting salvation for yourself come in to mar it all, but in Christ Jesus walk day by day. Ah, brethren, if a thunderstorm were to come on just now while we are sitting here, and if the lightning should come flashing in at these windows, and run with its blue flame down these columns, you and I might begin to feel some alarm; and if one were struck dead in our presence, in what kind of state would you and I like to be amidst such confusion and alarm? If I were to choose the words which I would like to say at such a moment, they would be these:

"Nothing in my hand I bring;
Simply to Thy cross I cling."

You are on board ship in a storm
(Continued on next page)



WHERE DID YOU
BURY YOURS?

You know the parable of the unfaithful steward and his hidden talent as well as we do. But have you ever really thought about it in relation to your own money and property? Have you considered that the "nest egg" you have banked or invested may be buried in so far as God's work is concerned? That's right. Just as truly as if you'd wrapped it in a napkin and hidden it away!

"But," you say, "I must depend upon the income from my money and property to maintain me as I grow old." If so, you are exactly the person who should read the free booklet on Assemblies of God Annuity Agreements. It explains in detail how you can bring your earthly means out of hiding and put them to work for God—without losing the income you need. In fact, *the income might actually be increased!*

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CITY STATE

(Continued from preceding page)

just now; there goes a mast into the water; the boats have all drifted away; the ship is pretty sure to be dashed on yonder rock; pallor is on every cheek, and turmoil on every side. What is your prayer as you kneel down? What are your thoughts? Do you think now about your sermons, about your visitings of the sick, about your prayers and your experiences? No! I tell you that they will seem to you to be nothing better than dross and dung when you are in such a state of apprehension; but you will cling to Christ's cross, and be conveyed to heaven, let the stormy winds blow as they will. And if everything were silent tonight, could we hear nothing but the ticking of the watch, were we ourselves reclining on our death-pillow, while loving friends wiped the clammy sweat from our brow, surely we should each one wish to say:

"My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame;
But wholly lean on Jesus' name.

On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand."
Well, walk in Him just as you would walk in the valley of the shadow of death, but walk on

THE MOUNTAIN-TOPS OF LIFE'S ACTIVITIES.

3. Let us now say a few words on our third point—the model which is presented to us here. We are to walk in Him as we receive Him.

And how did we receive Him? Let us remember. You will not have to strain

your memories much, for methinks, though other days have mingled with their fellows, and, like coins worn in the circulation, have lost their impress, yet the day when you first received Christ will be as fresh as though it were newly minted in time. Oh, that first day!

"Dost mind the place, the spot of ground,

Where Jesus did thee meet?"

Some of us can never forget either that place or that time. Well, how did we receive Christ?

We received Him very humbly, gratefully, having no claim whatever to His grace. We felt that we had done everything to deserve God's wrath. We confessed that there was no merit in us, but we perceived that there was mercy in Him.

"We saw One hanging on a tree
In agonies and blood,"

and as He told us to look at Him, and assured us

THAT THERE WAS LIFE IN A LOOK,
we did look, and we were lightened, and we found life in Him. We had no confidence then in any resolution of our own, in any performances yet to come, much less in anything past. Well, then, we are to come now as empty-handed as we came then; our song is to be:

"Nothing in my hand I bring;
Simply to Thy cross I cling."

How did we receive Christ? If I recollect rightly—and I think I do—we received Him very joyfully. Oh, what joy my soul had when first I

knew the Lord! It was holyday in my soul that day. Perhaps we have never had such joyous days since then, and the reason has been, most likely, because we have been thinking about other things, and have not thought about Christ Jesus the Lord. Come, let us again take Him! The wine from heaven is as sweet;

LET US DRINK AS DEEPLY AS EVER.

Christ, the Bread of heaven, is as nourishing; come, let us eat as heartily as ever. Fill your omers, O ye poor and weak ones! Gather much, for ye shall have nothing over. This manna is very sweet; it tastes like wafers made of honey. Come to my Master as ye came at first, and He will give you to drink of the living waters once again!

"As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him."

But oh! some of you have never received Him, so my last word is to you. Do you ask, "What is the way of salvation?" It is by receiving Christ. Oh, then, come and receive Him! May the Holy Spirit's power lead sinners to Christ! You need not bring anything to Him. You need not bring a soft heart to Him; you need not bring tears of repentance to Him; but just come and take Christ. Remember, it is not what you are, but it is what Christ is, that saves you. Never look at yourself, but look to the wounds of Jesus. There is life there. God help you to look—to look right now. And when you shall find Him, our prayer shall be that, from this day forth, you shall walk in Him; and He shall have the glory.

Sometime, Somewhere

Unanswered yet? the prayer your lips have pleaded
In agony of heart these many years?
Does faith begin to fail? Is hope departing?
And think you all in vain those falling tears?
Say not the Father hath not heard your prayer;
You shall have your desire, sometime, somewhere.

Unanswered yet? though when you first presented
This petition at the Father's throne,
It seemed you could not wait the time of asking,
So urgent was your heart to make it known.
Though years have passed since then, do not despair;
The Lord will answer you sometime, somewhere.

Unanswered yet? nay, do not say ungranted,
Perhaps your part is not wholly done;
The work began when your first prayer was uttered,
And God will finish what he has begun.
If you keep incense burning there,
His glory you shall see, sometime, somewhere.

Unanswered yet? Faith cannot be unanswered;
Her feet are firmly planted on the rock,
Amid the wildest storms she stands undaunted,
Nor quails before the loudest thunder shock,
She knows Omnipotence hath heard her prayer,
And cries, "It shall be done, sometime, somewhere."

—Selected.

Clean Hands and Pure Minds

by J. G. Govan

*Hearts and minds that are set upon God will not
be overcome with the temptations of a wicked world.*

MANY CHRISTIANS STUMBLE BECAUSE they do not recognize that thoughts can come from other sources besides their own hearts. We are in a world of sin and temptation, and there are wicked things and people all around us, whence thoughts of evil can come to us.

THOUGHTS FROM AROUND

We must distinguish between the "evil thoughts" that come from within, and the "thoughts of evil" that may assail us from other sources. We must distinguish between sin and temptation. James tells us, "Every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust [or desire], and enticed." But that may be only temptation, not sin. It is when we yield to the temptation that we sin. As James says, "When lust has conceived, it bringeth forth sin; and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death."

Such temptations, or thoughts of evil, may come from inanimate things around, such as books, newspapers, pictures, even a desert country, a stormy sea, excessive heat, or other things in this world that is under the curse that came through sin. Or they may come through individuals. "Evil communications corrupt good manners," we read in Corinthians. Job was sorely tried by the losses and privations, severe sickness

and suffering, that befell him; and he was tempted through his wife, and then through the "miserable comforters" who came to console and comfort him (but who did the opposite, because—as God testified of them—"Ye have not spoken of me the thing that is right").

CHRIST'S SECRET OF VICTORY

Simon Peter was "an offense unto" Jesus when by his carnal counsel he caused thoughts of shirking the Cross to pass through the mind of Christ. But the Master at once resisted temptation, and detected the source of it, saying, "Get thee behind me, Satan." There are people who have experienced the cleansing of their hearts from sin, and who were tempted by other individuals or by some evil or "high thing" round about them. They did not maintain a right spirit and attitude, but got infected and carried away, and lost the purity of heart they had.

But, although thoughts come from around, we may not be responsible for them, and we do not need to receive them. When cleansed from "the spirit of the world" we shall not respond to them as formerly. The "high things" will not get possession of our being if a lowly Jesus is dwelling there in full possession and control. But if we are to possess the presence of God, we must keep low, for He dwells "with

him that is of a contrite and humble spirit."

THOUGHTS FROM BENEATH

We use this general term to designate the abode or dwelling-place of evil spirits or demons, and of Satan, the great adversary of God and man. In some ways the expression may not be very appropriate, as Satan is spoken of as "the Prince of the power of the air"—and the "principalities," "powers," "the rulers of the darkness of this world," "hosts of wicked spirits" are said to be in "high" or "heavenly places." On the other hand we read of "hell from beneath" and "hell beneath," and Jesus said, to those whom He described as being of their "father the devil"—"Ye are from beneath."

One thing we know—that, wherever their abode may be, the Scriptures tell us (and experience confirms it) that we are opposed in our journey heavenwards, and assailed, by hosts of dark and powerful spirits of evil.

You remember how the Spirit of the Lord left Saul the king, and an evil spirit came and filled his mind with wrong imaginations and thoughts, so that he began to doubt every one around him. He had a devoted and true servant in David, who "behaved himself wisely in all his ways, the Lord being with him." But "Saul was afraid of David because the Lord was with him"—he envied, hated, and again and again sought to slay him. Then we find him full of anger against his own son Jonathan, imagining that he is against him too, pouring out on him a torrent of abuse and casting a javelin at him. Here we see how sadly one who had been called to a high office, through disobedience and unfaithfulness can give place to the Evil One, resulting in unjust and cruel actions towards others, and in bitterness in his own soul.

SATANIC SUGGESTIONS

But even in the case of those who have been cleansed, evil spirits can suggest thoughts to the mind that are unwholesome, unworthy, and wicked. Satan is still "the accuser of the brethren," and by such "fiery darts" seeks to cause distrust, discord, and division, and to spread defilement. We are not to be "ignorant of his devices," and the cleansed and Christ-possessed heart can be protected by Divine power and equipped to stand against the attacks of the enemy.

(Continued on next page)

You cannot prevent thoughts of evil from presenting themselves to your mind but you can avoid entertaining them. Moody used to say in his quaint way, "I cannot avoid a bird flying over my head, but I can prevent it building a nest in my hair." Thoughts of evil presented themselves to the mind of Jesus. Temptations to exalt Himself, and to take wrong means of allaying His hunger, passed through His mind; but they never once stained His soul. The Evil One may tempt us, but he need never get a hold on us.

"RESIST THE DEVIL"

Satan is subtle and sneaking in his methods. He will send thoughts through your mind, and then ask, "Where is your pure heart now?" But one truth that seems to be clear in the Bible, is that Jesus can cleanse the heart from all sin. Otherwise there would be no meaning in such passages of Scripture as:

"Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord? He that hath a clean heart."

"Create in me a clean heart."

"God is good to . . . such as are of a clean heart."

"Blessed are the pure in heart."

"See that ye love one another with a pure heart."

"The end of the charge is love out of a pure heart."

When Satan thus attacks us, let us, as our Master did, use the sword of the Spirit, shouting "It is written"—and refuse to allow him either to defile our hearts or to confuse our minds and rob us of our inheritance.

THE FIGHT OF FAITH

How is the victory to be gained and maintained? Not by carnal weapons, not by carnal reasonings, not by struggling and fighting against these thoughts. If you fight against them, you will go on thinking about them. The victory has already been won—won for us by "the Captain of our salvation" right through His death and resurrection. In Colossians 2:15, we read: "The hostile princes and rulers he shook off from himself, and boldly displayed them as his conquests, when by the cross he triumphed over them."

We are called to a "fight of faith." By the reckoning of faith we claim identification with our Lord in His death and resurrection, and, realizing what it is to be "dead indeed unto sin, and alive unto God," we are brought into the experience of victory.

—*The Alliance Weekly*

none of his aggressive zeal—only it is now for Jesus rather than against Him.

The Book of Acts is now in full swing with the apostle Paul in the center of the stage.

It is a book that almost shouts its story. It is radiant with joy and prayer and brotherhood. Women play their part heroically. In scene after scene Luke condenses, many times into a few sentences, the thrilling scenes in which a new world was being carved out of the dreary dying Roman Empire. I wonder if the march of history has ever been so vividly and powerfully recorded. Paul carried the gospel over into Europe. He challenged every stand that the old Roman religion took against him. The book ends with Paul, though a prisoner, living in his own house in Rome, and with freedom enough to keep on with his work.

One wonders, when he comes to the end of the Book of Acts, why it stops where it does. Why doesn't Dr. Luke go on and tell us how Paul's trial came out, or what happened when Paul died? Maybe Luke died first—or maybe the end of the book has been lost; we can think of a hundred things we might like to have at the ending of the book.

But I think the Book of Acts ends just as it ought to. It tells of the beginnings of the most wonderful movement in human history—the coming, just as Jesus has promised, of the Holy Spirit into men's lives—a coming which would never end until "the kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord and His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever."

Are you fed up with the cynicism and the smugness and the sneers of much of our current literature? If you want refreshment just pick up the Book of Acts and read it through. It is sober history—describing the seed plot out of which everything you count dearest in your life today has come. It tells its story in colors of radiant confidence and joy. But it is more than history. That is why so many millions of copies of it are distributed by the American Bible Society. They go to people who are not interested in history. They are interested in salvation. The Book of Acts has a message for you—it throbs with a call to you to repent and be baptized, and receive the Holy Spirit, and snatch the torch, and race on to do your bit for Christ and His Kingdom till He comes.

DR. LUKE'S SECOND LETTER

(Continued from page three)

Luke says that 3,000 accepted the offer and a little later he says the company of believers had become 5,000.

Read those first eight chapters of the Book of Acts. They are, just as you would expect, crammed with drama and excitement. One leader named Stephen spoke out so boldly that the rough element in the crowd stoned him to death. Stephen was Christian martyr number one. We have an old saying that the blood of the martyrs is the seed of the church. Luke handles this idea with consummate literary and historical skill in his story of the stoning of Stephen. He points out one seemingly insignificant detail—that a man named Saul was standing by, who, though not throwing stones, was guarding the coats of those who were.

This is our introduction to the foremost leader of that first century and probably of all Christian history. Luke

devotes most of the remaining twenty chapters to the story of this Saul who was later called Paul. He was a man with some sort of physical handicap, which possibly had prevented him from throwing rocks at Stephen. This same handicap may have made Luke's presence with him as an attending physician necessary.

Now Paul was of a different stripe altogether from the twelve apostles. He was what we would call a university graduate. He had been a lawyer and a theologian—these professions always went together among the Jews. He was a Roman citizen—a man of travel and culture, who, after the custom of well-educated young men of that day, also had learned a trade. Paul was a tent-maker.

Read Luke's 9th chapter of Acts—about how Paul became a Christian. When this big change comes, Paul loses

"Train up a child in the way he should go..."

A leading denominational organization has often expressed the statement, "Give us a child until the age of seven and we know he will not depart from our faith." By the use of a parochial school system of education it is no astonishing fact that this has been proven a reality. However, the great responsibility of teaching our children the fundamentals which we believe does not lie with the school teacher as in the latter case, but with our faithfulness as parents! It is imperative that we give our children a solid Biblical background during their early formative years. There is no better way we can do this than by the reading of Bible stories. These will plant in their minds the seed which will later bear the fruit of peace, joy, contentment, and real happiness.

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by Elsie S. Egermeier

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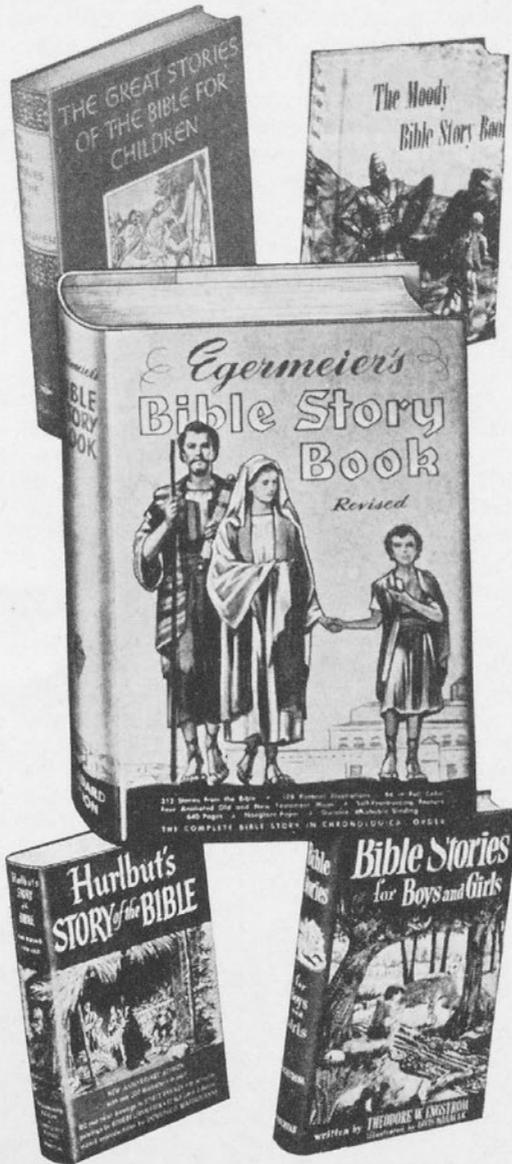
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Fagots From the Torch of Evangelism

Compiled by the Department of Evangelism, 434 West Pacific St., Springfield, Mo.

► **HICKORY, N. C.**—Great victory attended the three-week revival conducted here by Evangelist Glenn Lester of Waxahachie, Tex. Some 20 sought salvation, one received the Baptism of the Holy Ghost, and many were healed of various afflictions. Sunday School attendance increased to 50. Brother Lester's powerful preaching and faith was a great blessing to this new work.

—James D. Gitchell, Pastor

► **TULSA, OKLA.**—A two-week revival just concluded at the North Cincinnati Assembly of God with Evangelist Quentin Edwards and brother, Dwight, of Garland, Tex. brought gratifying results. Their anointed and talented ministry proved a great blessing to the congregation. Five were saved or reclaimed, and one of these was immediately filled with the Holy Ghost. There were also several testimonies of healing.

—Jerry Hale, Pastor

► **NORTH TONAWANDA, N. Y.**—The folk at Christian Tabernacle are rejoicing over a great spiritual revival which has been conducted for 14 weeks beginning with meetings held by Evangelist and Mrs. Paul Graban of Vineland, N. J. and closing with Evangelist Billy Wolfe of Davenport, Iowa. God blessed in a wonderful way. A number of souls were saved, believers were filled with the Holy Ghost, and sick bodies healed. Sunday School attendance reached a new high of 185. Twenty-three were baptized in water. Pledges amounting to \$2,500 were raised by Brother Wolfe toward the erection of a new church building.

—Homer C. Cooper, Pastor

► **LANCASTER, OHIO**—A two-week revival was just concluded at First Assembly with Evangelist and Mrs. Eddie Roush of Clinton, Ind. Two were saved, five reclaimed, and two received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit. There were also some definite healings. The record attendance was broken with many attending the services for the first time. The talented ministry of these youth evangelists has proved a real blessing to the church.

—James Hinzman, Pastor

► **FORT WAYNE, IND.**—Eternity alone will reveal the marvelous results of a two-week revival just concluded here by the Clifton Erickson evangelistic party. Several hundred came to the altar for salvation and were dealt with personally by altar workers, in most instances, until the individual received an assurance of salvation. It is apparent that a deep and lasting work has been done, as many have expressed the peace and joy that has come into their hearts because of the transforming power of Christ in their lives. Sicknesses and diseases of all descriptions were healed. Miracles of healing seemed to be the order of the day. Some of the outstanding cases were those who were healed of palsy, cataracts, cancer, blindness, broken back, and lameness. A number of deaf mutes also were instantly healed, and are now learning to speak words which they had formerly known only by signs. One of the most thrilling results of the revival is the sweet presence of the Spirit of God here in the Assembly of God, and a blessed spirit of unity.

—Glenn Horst, Pastor

► **ANDERSON, S. C.**—Homeland Park Assembly of God has just closed a revival with Evangelist Jesse Ray Decatur, Ga. Several were saved, and the spiritual tide ran high for the entire revival. The good spirit and the increased attendance are especially welcome with the church planning to build a new auditorium. Brother Ray's ministry was a blessing to the entire church, especially to the young people.

—Aaron M. Wilson, Pastor

► **CLARKSBURG, W. VA.**—Crowds thronged the recent tent services conducted by Evangelist Velmer Gardner of Springfield, Mo. It was one of the greatest revivals this city has ever witnessed. More than 850 accepted Christ as Saviour, while scores were filled with the Holy Ghost, and hundreds were healed by the power of God. Folk were healed instantly of blindness, total deafness, arthritis, cancer, and various other ailments. One thousand copies of the EVANGEL were distributed to visitors in this revival. Before the meeting closed all expenses were amply met with no financial strain whatsoever. Some 110 people promised to start tithing as a result of these services. On the last night Brother Gardner raised over \$3,000 in pledges for the new church. Many ministers and members from other churches in this section attended each night. The tent (which has a seating capacity of 3,000) was packed out several nights and during one afternoon service.

—Russell W. Harvey, Pastor

Tent seating 3,000 filled during Gardner revival in Clarksburg, W. Va.



ANNOUNCEMENTS OF FORTHCOMING EVANGELISTIC CAMPAIGNS

STATE	CITY	CHURCH	DATE	EVANGELIST	PASTOR
Calif.	Hermosa Beach	³ Gospel Tab.	Aug. 6-12	Virgil Warens & wife	J. Van Oosbree
	Port Hueneme	A of G	Aug. 7-19	Westbrook Family	John H. Edmonds
Conn.	New London	A of G	Aug. 5-19	A. W. Freese Family	Ove Pettersen
Fla.	Eagle Lake	A of G	Aug. 16-26	J. M. Graham	Carnell Bruce
Ga.	Macon	Central	July 31—	Eskelin Family	W. T. Davis
Ill.	Danville	² First A of G	August	T. T. Ward	Jas. E. Hyllberg
	Pittsfield	A of G	Aug. 5-19	H. Cox-M. Brown	C. W. Marshall
Ind.	Clinton	A of G	Aug. 14-26	Anspaugh Chord Makers	Enos J. Bruton
	Wabash	³ A of G	Aug. 6—	Dedelow-Friederici	R. Dillingham
Iowa	Keokuk	Faith Temple	Aug. 1-12	Christian Hild	W. J. Lewis
	New Sharon	A of G	Aug. 5-19	Carl Oney & wife	Oscar Hamilton
Kans.	Garden City	¹ Faith Tab.	July 22-Aug. 5	Paul Hild & wife	Richard Dortch
La.	Jonesboro	A of G	Aug. 5—	E. H. Sherratt & wife	W. E. Gunter
Mo.	Excelsior Sprgs.	First	Aug. 14—	Arnold Segesman & wife	Robert Beckman
N. J.	Millville	Gospel Lthouse	Aug. 12—	David Owen	Mrs. C. Snyder
N.Y.	Olean	⁴ Rollerland	Aug. 19-Sept. 2	Reid Party	D. Wellman, Chm.
	Oneonta	² Revival Center	Aug. 10-31	John & Olive Kellner	M. S. Williams
Ohio	E. Trumbull	⁴ A of G	Aug. 7—	Eddie Roush & wife	R. Friedstrom
	Fostoria	A of G	Aug. 14—	A. H. Gilbert & wife	J. Ferrante
Pa.	Moosic	Gospel Tab.	Aug. 10-19	William Caldwell	George Butrin
	New Kensington	² Union revival	Aug. 12-26	Paul Hild & wife	C. A. Davenport
Tenn.	Ripley	Whitefield A/G	July 31-Aug. 12	R. W. Hastie & wife	Paul McKeel
Tex.	Baytown	West Main A/G	Aug. 12-26	Glen Shinn & wife	Leo Tippit
	Cleburne	Bethel A of G	July 29—	Danny Hope & wife	T. A. Braziel
	Tyler	² Union revival	Aug. 10-19	Oral Roberts	M. L. Fauss, Secy.
Wash.	Seattle	² Union revival	Aug. 2-19	Quanabush Party	J. Tappero, Chm.
	Woodland	A of G	Aug. 5-19	Lloyd Portin	S. C. Jacobsen
Wis.	Green Bay	A of G	Aug. 7-19	William Moorman	Edwin A. Beck
Canada	Regina, Sask.	Bethel Temple	Aug. 12-19	Evelyn M. Olsen	G. R. Upton
	Toronto, Ont.	Glad Tid. Tab.	Aug. 5-19	Singing Wyricks	H. Pannabecker

¹ Afternoon children's meeting, evening evangelistic services

² Tent revival

³ Children's revival

⁴ Union meetings

Announcements should reach us 30 days in advance, due to the fact that the EVANGEL is made up 24 days before the date which appears upon it.

► WICHITA, KANS.—The spiritual tide ran high during a recent revival conducted at Central Assembly by Evangelist Earla McKinley. This was one of the best evangelistic meetings in the history of the church. The anointed preaching and graphically illustrated messages were a great blessing and presented a challenge to the members of the congregation. There were a number of miraculous conversions, several were filled with the Holy Ghost, and a number of sick folk were healed. In spite of exceptionally hot weather the week-night attendance was comparable to that of the Sunday services.

—J. Boyd Wolverton, Pastor

► SANTA PAULA, CALIF.—The Assembly of God here has recently experienced a very excellent revival with Evangelist Tommy Barnett of Kansas City accompanied by Don Brassfield, musician. Their spiritual emphasis was infectious, causing the youth of various denominations to attend, seek Christ and be filled with the Holy Spirit. Forty were saved, and whole families joined the church and were baptized. Each night the crowds increased, making this one of the most highly attended campaigns in many years. Average Sunday School attendance increased to 226, which is considered high for this church during the summer months. Each week since the close of the revival there has been a consistent addition to the church, and crowds continue to attend.

—Paul M. Wells, Pastor

RADIO PROGRAMS

FRESNO, CALIF.—“Echoes from Calvary,” station KRDU, 1240 kc., Sundays 2 to 2:30 p.m. Broadcast from Calvary Tabernacle, 1st and Nevada Sts.—Claude Weaver, Pastor.

URBANA, ILL.—“The Assembly of God Hour,” station WKID, 1580 kc., Sundays 8:30 to 9 a.m. Sponsored by Assembly of God, Champaign, Ill.—Cedric King, Pastor.

TELEVISION PROGRAMS

CHARLESTON, S. C.—Station WUSN-TV, channel 2, Sundays 12:30 p.m.—Frank Cottingham, pastor, First Assembly of God.

SACRAMENTO, CALIF.—Station KBET-TV, channel 10, Sundays 1:30 to 2 p.m.—Clyde A. Henson, Pastor, Bethel Temple.

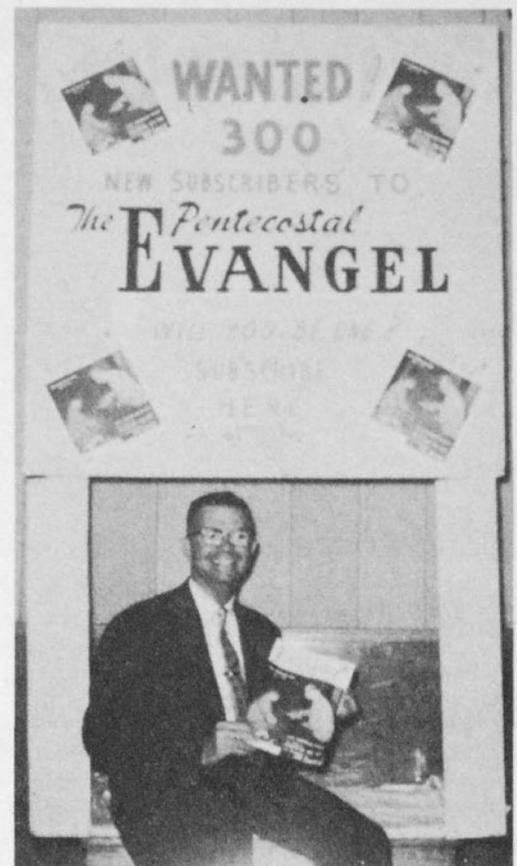
MISCELLANEOUS NOTICES

WANTED—Sunday School picture rolls for native preachers in Africa, India, and Philippines. Send postpaid to Honorea Osberg, 1236 S. Grand, Los Angeles 15, Calif.

CORRECTION—An article published April 8 in the EVANGEL erroneously used the name “Chicago Hebrew Mission.” We are the Assemblies of God Hebrew Mission, not the Chicago Hebrew Mission. Please address all mail intended for us to Assemblies of God Hebrew Mission, Box 5185, Chicago 80, Illinois.—Ernest C. Sumrall, supervisor.

WITH CHRIST

BARNEY S. F. MOORE, 80, San Bernardino, Calif., went to be with the Lord June 25, 1956. Brother Moore was ordained in 1906, and labored in evangelistic and missionary work. He was in Honolulu, Hawaii from 1933 to 1941.



Earl J. Rogers' smile and enthusiasm for the EVANGEL helped him obtain a number of new subscriptions during the District Council at Greenville, Texas

TEXAS DISTRICT NOW KNOWN AS NORTH TEXAS DISTRICT

Among the noteworthy developments at the 41st Texas District Council, held in Greenville, June 12-24, was action taken by delegates to change the name of the district to the North Texas District Council. This action serves to clarify geographical divisions of the state's three districts: the West Texas District, the South Texas District, and now the North Texas District.

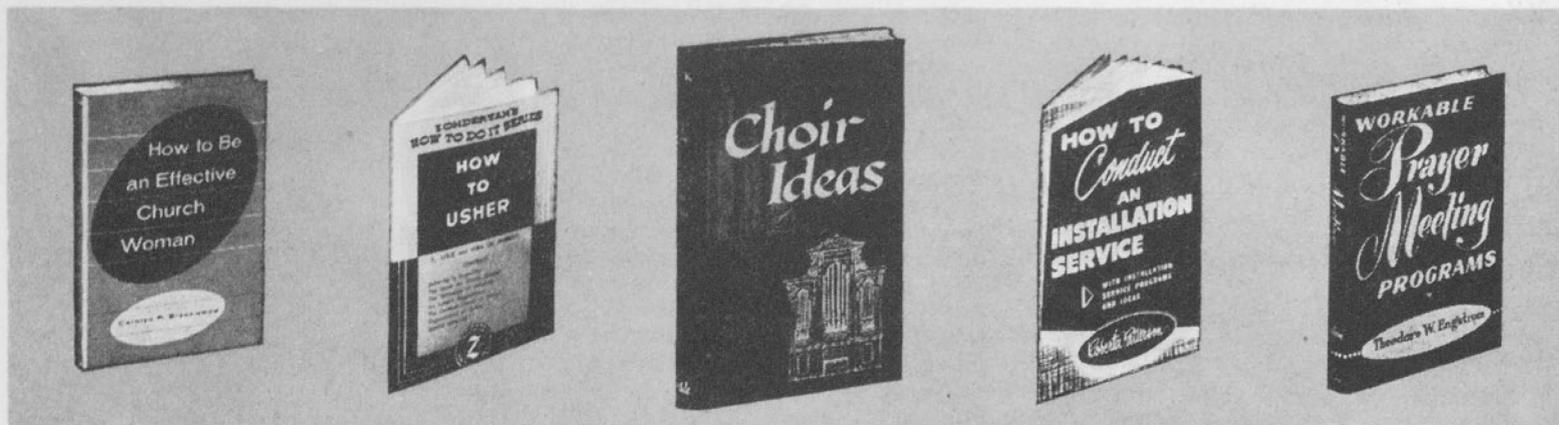
D. H. McLaughlin, Superintendent of the Northwest District, was the featured Council speaker, and his ministry was greatly appreciated.

This was not the election year for district officers. However delegates selected Jim Morrison, Fort Worth, to succeed Bob Willis who resigned as the District C. A. President.

M. B. Netzel, District Superintendent, announced that the dedication of the new District office building had been temporarily postponed, but that a new dedication date would be announced soon. The WMC's of the district have collected \$2,345.76 toward furnishing the office.

An interesting feature of the Council was the special EVANGEL booth planned and manned by Earl J. Rogers, pastor at McKinney. Brother Rogers did an excellent job of promoting the EVANGEL during the Council. He himself is sold on the value of the magazine and he sent in a number of subscriptions from this endeavor which he initiated.

Improve Your Church Activities



HOW TO BE AN EFFECTIVE CHURCH WOMAN

by Carolyn P. Blackwood

This book is not only a valuable manual for women already active in the Church, but serves also to inspire those who for various reasons have been withholding their talents and energy. Ministers and workers will recognize it as an indispensable volume for the church library, as well as a basic tool for personal use. Cloth bound.

3 EV 1721 \$2.50

CHURCH USHER'S MANUAL

by B. F. Sylvester

This booklet is just what its title indicates, an excellently written treatise of the art and ministry of ushering. It will fill a definite need for ushers who wish to know the proper techniques of ushering, whether it is for a small or a large church. Every pastor and usher should read this interesting booklet. Paper bound.

3 EV 3404 30c

A BOOK OF INSTALLATION SERVICES

by Virginia Ely

Here is a versatile handbook for use in all types of installation services. It is a book of methods and materials which discusses the many phases of installation-service planning, of what such services should consist, and the objects to be used in making these occasions more meaningful. This is a book for church, Sunday School, educational, and civic leaders, or for all those who schedule and plan installation services. Cloth bound.

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HOW TO USHER

by Leslie and Lora Lee Parrott

An enlightening book on: The Technique of Ushering, Organization of Ushers, Special Ushering and other forms explained. Paper bound.

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LYDIA, SELLER OF PURPLE

by Eleanor B. Steiner

Devotions for Women's Meetings compiled for those women who need help when it is their turn to lead the devotional period. Stresses a closer walk with Christ and a deeper understanding of His glorious person. Paper bound.

3 EV 3524 75c

CHOIR IDEAS

by Flora E. Breck

The purpose of this book is to tell informally something of the experiences of a number of choirs and to offer suggestions for the successful conduct of choir work. Cloth bound.

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HANDBOOK FOR LEADERS OF MISSIONARY MEETINGS

This book includes twelve complete Missionary Services under the following headings: Outline for message, Song suggestions, Abundant illustrations, Homiletic suggestions, Poetry, Quotations, and suggestions for variety in Missionary Meetings. Paper bound.

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INSPIRATIONAL TALKS FOR WOMEN'S GROUPS

by Florence Kerigen

Our author has prepared this book in response to the demand for more talks for women's meetings. It will prove a great help for those planning programs for class meetings, missionary gatherings, etc. In it are seventeen talks on such subjects as hospitality, heritages, womanhood and pure speech. Paper bound.

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SNAPPY SENTENCES FOR CHURCH BULLETIN BOARDS

by Paul E. Holdcraft

Stimulating sentence sermons to catch the eye of passers-by. Paper bound.

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1000 MORE SNAPPY SENTENCES FOR CHURCH BULLETIN BOARDS

by Paul E. Holdcraft

Stimulating sentence starters—on church attendance, observing the Sabbath, special days and seasons, patriotism, temperance; with selected scripture verses. Paper bound.

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HOW TO CONDUCT AN INSTALLATION SERVICE

by Roberta Patterson

This is an unusually excellent booklet of this nature. It has in detail several Installation Services and Programs. It is especially adapted to young people's groups yet can be used to advantage with those much older. Paper bound.

3 EV 3462 \$1.00

WORKABLE PRAYER MEETING PROGRAMS

by Theodore W. Engstrom

Variety and workability—those are two things that every program leader looks for in a book of programs. In this volume these are the two outstanding points that can be noticed. No two of these programs are alike; each is complete in itself. Here's a book that has been prepared with the thought of making each and every prayer meeting more effective. Cloth bound.

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SPECIAL PROGRAMS FOR THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

by Charlotte Arnold

A book that contains material for sixty occasions which may be created "special days" of the Sunday School year. Completely planned programs are the resources of the book which make it a valuable helper to any Sunday School superintendent who wishes to sharpen interest between classes and increase attendance. Cloth bound.

3 EV 2562 \$2.50

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HEALING TESTIMONIES

Brain Injury Healed

On Tuesday, August 23, 1955 I suddenly became desperately ill, and I lost consciousness. When I regained consciousness a few minutes later, I had such a terrible headache I thought my head would literally split in two.

Since my new baby was only ten days old, I thought it was only my nerves; so I took some aspirin and after a time went to sleep. However, by the next morning I had developed a stiff neck, and my vision was blurred. I also suffered from upset stomach, loss of appetite and a worse headache. The slightest noise bothered me terribly.

My obstetrician thought the headache was a nervous symptom, and prescribed medicine. My husband earnestly prayed that God would heal me, but the pain continued to grow worse and so I was taken to a hospital.

Three days later (Monday, August 29) a neurologist was consulted regarding my case. He told my husband that either I had an aneurysm (dilated blood vessel) in the brain or a brain tumor. He said that I must be taken to Barnes General Hospital at St. Louis for emergency surgery.

When I entered Barnes Hospital, the doctors confirmed what the neurologist had said, but added that I was too weak to stand any test to determine the nature or location of the trouble. They would have to wait until I gained strength. They said, "It's only a 50-50 chance, even if we operate."

For two days I lay in this very critical condition. During those two days my eyes completely crossed to the point of marked double vision. All this time I had a terrific headache. My neck was very stiff and it seemed a tremendous effort to speak.

When the doctors tapped my spinal column, they found a trace of blood in the fluid, indicating a disturbance in the brain, such as a brain tumor or a dilated blood vessel. They said the pressure of the fluid was $9\frac{1}{2}$ times greater than normal. No wonder I had a headache!

In the natural, the situation seemed rather hopeless, but during my illness Christian people were bombarding heaven in my behalf. Students and teachers at Central Bible Institute (where my husband is a student) gathered one night with Brother and Sister Glenn Reed for a special prayer meeting at the wash house in the trailer court. They prayed until they felt that God had undertaken for me. That very night, I suddenly began to improve. My headache lessened considerably, and every day from then on it bothered me less and less. Prayer was also requested daily for me during the C. B. I. chapel services after school had begun. Many people in our home assembly in Ames, Iowa and in Berea Temple in St. Louis were fasting and praying for me, as well as in other churches, and the Lord graciously answered their prayers.

The doctors began making more tests. They were amazed when the tests proved to be negative. They felt certain that something was wrong with me, but they couldn't find it. Over a period of one and a half weeks they did three tests, and every one of them was negative. I improved so rapidly that one

Healed of Kidney Infection

I shall never forget the day Jesus so wonderfully healed my body of a kidney and bladder infection.

I was stricken in September 1954. I suffered for many weeks, and when I could stand it no longer I went to a doctor. He told my mother they must get me to a hospital at once, as my condition was serious.

After we came out of the doctor's office I asked Mother to go back and ask the doctor if I might stay in bed at home, since I wanted to give Jesus a chance to heal my body.

As soon as I was home in bed I began to wonder if Jesus would heal me, as I had been backslidden so long. Thank God, I had a praying mother who had held on to God all the time

doctor told me, "You can't get well so fast. You knock all our theories in the head." Another doctor said, "God has definitely touched your body."

I remained in St. Louis for five and one-half weeks while they ran this series of tests and lumbar punctures to see if there were any more symptoms. During this time, my eyes slowly began to straighten.

I returned to Springfield, and on November 5, 1955 I went back to St. Louis for a check-up. The doctor told me, "You're looking wonderful. I give you a clear bill of health. Your eye-grams are perfect."

Since my sickness I haven't worn glasses, something that was a must for me for twelve years, and I have not been bothered with double vision. My eyes are normal.

How I thank God for what He has done for me. I know that God hears, sees, and cares for His own—I am a living proof of that. I am so thankful that His healing power is the same today as yesterday. We truly do praise Him that He counted us worthy to be tested and tried. Our prayer is that through this experience we may be able to serve our Lord in a better way.—Mrs. Kernn Severtson, Box 9, Central Bible Institute, Springfield, Mo.

(Endorsed by A. G. Blackard, pastor, Elwood Assembly of God, Rt. 4, Springfield, Mo.)

I was backslidden, and I asked her to call our pastor, J. M. Tucker. He and his wife and my Sunday School teacher came, and as they prayed I cried to Jesus to forgive me of my sins and heal my body.

The power of God came down, and the precious healing hand of Jesus was laid on my sick body. I got up and was able to walk without pain, whereas before I could not even straighten up. Praise the name of Jesus, He healed me. That was on November 2, 1954, and I am still well today.—Barbara Babcock Richardson, Aledo, Ill.

(Endorsed by Pastor J. M. Tucker [former pastor in Aledo, Ill.], Denver City, Tex.)

If God has healed you recently, we invite you to write out your testimony for publication so that others who need healing will be encouraged to believe and receive the Lord's healing touch. Kindly make your testimony as brief as possible, and ask your pastor to sign it; then mail it to the Pentecostal Evangel, 434 W. Pacific St., Springfield 1, Mo.

Hope for the Backslider

(Continued from page nine)

not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy" (Prov. 28:13). "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9). Take your stand right here. In faith, return to the Lord. Enter once again into the joy of the Lord.

The sure result is affirmed in our text: "Return . . . and I will heal your backsliding." God has pledged Himself. The promise is true.

Does it seem too simple? Then remember that the problem of your sin was not simple to God. To provide a way for men with their sin to be forgiven and to fellowship eternally with Himself, God had to give up His only begotten Son, the Lord Jesus. The Lord Jesus had to give up His own blood as your Substitute. The tomb had to give up our Lord's crucified, buried body. And now God in grace—grace bestowed because of the perfect provision of the Cross—can and will receive you. He can do no less. You could not ask for more. Are you still hesitating? Is there still some lingering doubt in your mind as to whether there is hope for you? Oh, if Christ had not died for *all* our sins; if the pardon were only partial; if the finished work were not finished; if our victorious Advocate were not the righteous One; and if our mighty Intercessor were not faithful and just, it might be conceivable for God to refuse to restore to fellowship His erring child. But all is done! Every provision has been made. The Father watches for the first sight of your return. He longs to bestow the kiss of welcome. "Return, ye backsliding children, and I will heal your backsliding."

—Elim Evangel

How Do I Know That I Am Saved?

by A. T. Pierson

One afternoon some years ago a little girl, then only eight years old, came into my study in the church during the hours habitually given to conversation with those who were seeking salvation. To my question she frankly replied that she came to talk with me about herself. I said to her:

"Anna, are you a disciple of the Lord Jesus?"

"Yes, sir," she replied.

"Do you know yourself to be a child of God?" I asked.

"Yes, sir," she answered.

"Well, how do you know it?"

"Why, sir, because God says so."

"Where does He say so?"

"He says, 'Him that cometh to Me I will in no wise cast out' (John 6:39)."

"But," I rejoined, "that does not say anything about your being a child of God. How, then, do you know that you are?"

"I know it because I know that I have come to Him, and He says that He will not cast out those who come."

"Then," said I, "you know you are His because you know what you have done, and you know and believe what God has said?"

"Yes, sir, that is it."

And I thought, *What disciple of three score years can give any better reasons for his faith than this simple little child who knows her saved state because she rests on God's Word?*

There are three elements which enter into my confidence that I am a child of God:

First, the knowledge of His Word, which positively declares that if I thus come, He will in no wise cast me out. His promises are so repeated, and varied, and unmistakable that after I have come to Him I ought to rest absolutely on them without waiting for any other evidence. This is faith—venturing upon God's Word. It is not, however, without conditional compliance on my part, for no promise is mine until I come.

Second, the knowledge of MY OWN ACT; that is, of my sincere and repeated coming to Christ. My self-surrender has been so frequent and so hearty that if I know anything about my own acts of voluntary choices I know that I have thus fulfilled the one condition on which His acceptance of me is based (see John 6:37).

Third, the knowledge of GOD'S CONTINUED WORK IN MY SOUL, giving me new convictions, desires, resolves, and affections. This evidence confirms the others, but it comes in its fulness only when the others have first been experienced: "Having also believed, ye were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise" (Eph. 1:13, R.V.). God gives this "sealing witness of the Spirit" only to those who have first believed. True "assurance" is thus a matter, not of feeling, but of faith. We need to look less into ourselves and more unto Him. Doubt is unbelief, and for it there is no remedy half so prompt or so sure as simple trust in The Word of God. He who can forget his own unworthiness and sinfulness, and think only of the grace that seeks and saves the lost—he who will take the free gift of salvation and commit himself wholly to the sure Word of God's promise—may know the perfect peace of him whose mind is stayed on God.

These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God (1 John 5:13).