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The Pentecostal

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EVANGEL

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

AUGUST 19, 1956



Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God—see page 22

Faith Assembly of God
New church dedicated at Casper, Wyoming—page 19

The Goodness and Severity of God

George W. Cornell of *Associated Press* recently interviewed the leaders of some antireligious groups. They told him that things are quiet in the atheist camp today. Its ranks are scattered. The so-called "Damned Souls" clubs are gone from college campuses. The old fire with which atheists once tangled with the churches has faded, and atheists find it difficult to get even a handful of people out for a free lecture.

The president of the Freethinkers of America, Joseph Lewis, explained that "the opposition isn't as strong as it used to be." He said, "There's been a considerable liberalizing of religion. The lines of conflict aren't as clearly drawn." How true!

Charles Smith, who was president of the American Association for the Advancement of Atheism for many years, said that religion has become "a bit too tame" to draw the atheists' fire. "We don't have the old repressive religion today," he explained. "The churches don't preach hell-fire and Jonah-in-the-whale any more." He said that church activity nowadays is mostly a social affair. "They go in for this 'cheer 'em up stuff' now," he said. "That's not the old-time religion."

But the atheists are not complaining. They are quite content to see the churches abandoning the "old-time religion" and becoming social centers instead of soul-saving centers. And Satan himself must chuckle with glee as he listens to most of today's preaching. He knows that sermons on human brotherhood and social reform will not set anyone free from sin. He makes no objections to sermons on the goodness of God, as long as they don't mention the severity of God. But both of these truths need to be emphasized. The Lord revealed Himself to Moses as One who is "merciful and gracious," willing to forgive sin, but also as One who "will by no means clear the guilty" (Exodus 34:6,7). Jesus stressed the love of God for human beings, but He also emphasized God's hatred of sin, and said, "Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish" (Luke 13:3). The apostle Paul preached on both "the goodness and severity of God" (Romans 11:22). It takes the message of God's wrath to make men appreciate the greatness of His mercy.

Every preacher who has ever won souls to Christ has faithfully warned of hell. Sam Jones said, "I believe in a bottomless pit; and I believe that the wicked will be turned into hell." Billy Sunday told his audiences, "You will not be in hell five minutes until you believe that there is one." R. A. Torrey said, "I have read the Bible in three languages every day of my life for many years . . . and I believe the old-fashioned doctrine regarding hell." Similar statements could be quoted from D. L. Moody, C. H. Spurgeon, General William Booth, and every other great soul-winner.

In this issue we are printing Jonathan Edwards' famous sermon, "Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God," to remind us of *the terror of the Lord*. Some have said Jonathan Edwards was too stern in his preaching. He was an extreme Calvinist and he emphasized the severity of God more than the goodness of God. But in spite of his shortcomings he had remarkable results. His preaching of divine wrath against sin helped to bring a great spiritual awakening to New England. There would be more spiritual life in the church of Jesus today—and less complacency in the atheist camp—if there were more preaching of hell-fire. A sinner might be saved by the message of God's goodness, but for every one who is thus won there are a thousand others who are brought to repentance by the preaching of His severity. Every Christian who believes the Bible and who loves the souls of men will warn them to "flee from the wrath to come."

THE PENTECOSTAL EVANGEL

THE WEEKLY VOICE OF THE ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

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God's Rod and God's Staff

THE ROD FOR HIS ENEMIES . . .

. . . THE STAFF FOR HIS FRIENDS . . .

. . . PROTECT AND COMFORT US STILL

—A Radio Address by C. M. Ward

THE PSALMIST HAPPILY SANG, "Mercy and truth are met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other" (Psalm 85:10). You can't have a river with one bank. There is the law of God, and there is the grace of God. I am comforted to know that sin does not go unpunished in this life, and I am comforted to know that sin can be forgiven in this life. "Thy rod and Thy staff, they comfort me."

THE ROD OF GOD

God's rod is manifest in this life. "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap" (Galatians 6:7). No man can trespass the law of God with impunity. No emperor, dictator, statesman, general, or beachcomber can trample God's laws. That is a comforting fact to the person who wants to do right in an evil world.

Jezebel cannot abuse her place as queen of Israel, frame Naboth, and steal his vineyard — and go unpunished. Whenever I read that story I come away with the feeling, "Crime does not pay." God sent His prophet Elijah to tell that wicked woman, "Thus saith the Lord, in the place where dogs licked the blood of Naboth shall dogs lick

thy blood, even thine." And this came to pass literally. It's comforting to know there is justice in this world.

Hitler, Himmler, and Goebels cannot send thousands of Jews to the gas furnaces of Dachau and other horror camps, then rake out the gold fillings of teeth from the ashes of their cremated bodies—and go unpunished. There is a God who sees and reckons. "Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord" (Romans 12:19). And so Hitler was himself to die in the pit he dug for others—the flames he kindled consumed the once-feared Fuehrer. God always has the last word in history with the arrogant and unbelieving.

God has demonstrated over and over again that He will punish sin. Noah, a preacher of righteousness, warned his community for more than a century that the Lord had said, "My spirit shall not always strive with man." "God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. . . . And the Lord said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth. . . . The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence" (Genesis 6:5, 7, 11). Neighbor, there

is a "rod" in this world that no power of hell can set aside.

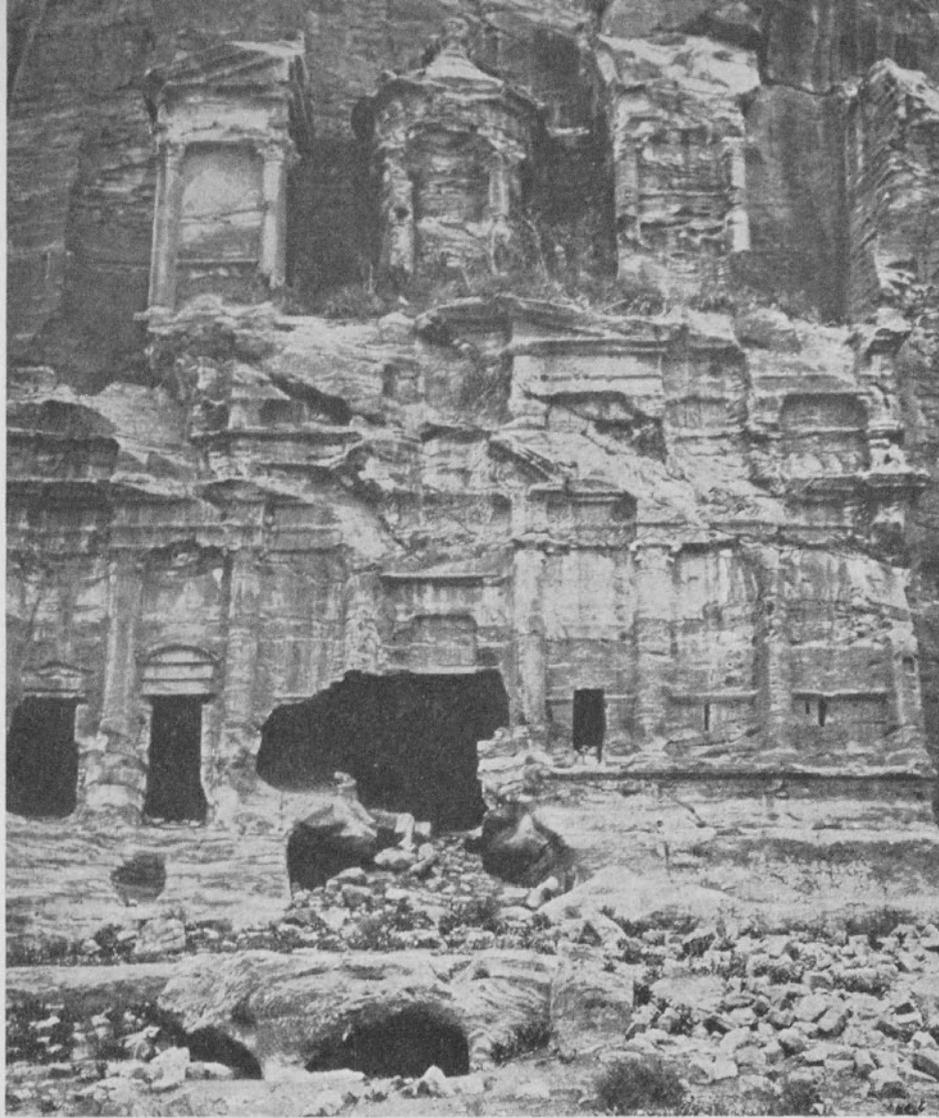
Judah, who had so heartlessly arranged to sell his brother Joseph to a slave caravan on the way to Egypt, later confessed, "God hath found out the iniquity . . ." (Genesis 44:16). The Bible says, "Be sure your sin will find you out" (Numbers 32:23).

It would have been little comfort to Paul to have reasoned with the Roman official, Felix, "of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment" if God had no standard of these things and cared not whether men were clean-cut, modest, and reverent. It would have been little comfort to John the Baptist to have said to Herod, who had taken his brother's wife, "It is not lawful for thee to have her," if God had no marriage standard in this world and if the Ten Commandments didn't mean anything. If Queen Esther had not recognized the justice of God it would have been little comfort to her to risk her life to say to the king, "The adversary and enemy is the wicked Haman. . . . For we are sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be slain, and to perish." But Esther believed God's promise to Abraham, "I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing" (Genesis 12:2, 3). I look upon the justice of God in this world, and I say with David, "Thy rod comforts me." I know it will always be right to do right, and it will always be wrong to do wrong.

Neighbor, thank God for His justice! Parent, He will use it to bring your wayward child to Himself. Wife, He will use it to bring your ungodly husband to his senses. Pastor, He will use it to straighten out a rebellious and perhaps hypocritical church member. The Psalmist has said: "Thou hast a mighty arm: strong is thy hand, and high is thy right hand. Justice and judgment are the habitation of thy throne: mercy and truth shall go before thy face."

Never forget it, God knows how to use the rod. He brought a hardened Pharaoh into line. He took the pride and insolence out of Nebuchadnezzar. He sent His secret weapon of "death-dew" upon Sennacherib and his legions, and slew the host where they were encamped before Jerusalem. He brought a city-wide revival to wicked Nineveh. He turned a saucy, over-stepping "chamber of commerce" in Philippi into

(Continued on page thirty-one)



The LOST City

—by Elizabeth Bowman

PETRA, THE CITY OF MYSTERY, HAS been called "The Rose-Red City Half as Old as Time," "The Rainbow City," and many other descriptive names suggested by its strange, desolate beauty. All we are able to find out about it from secular history is, that it once had 267,000 inhabitants; that it was on a trade route from Egypt to Sheba, Iraq, and Persia, that it was inaccessible except through the rift which was only wide enough for two horses abreast; and that the perpendicular walls of this rift are from 400 to 700 feet high, and brilliant with all the colors of the rainbow.

This beautiful city was occupied by

the Nabatæns from 100 B.C., until they were conquered by Rome about A.D. 106. It was mentioned by Strabo as a city of great riches and luxury. Herod Antipas married the daughter of Aretas IV, and she fled to her father at Petra when she heard that he had taken his brother Philip's wife, for she knew the fate of any one who stood in the way of Herod's desires.

Then we know that the armies of Mohammed swept down upon Mount Seir, and that soon after that it was lost and forgotten for hundreds of years until Burkhart heard of it through an Arab, and studied Arabic three years in order to go there disguised as a sheik.

He only stayed a few hours, but he was thrilled by the beauty and mystery of this desolate city.

The Bible alone is able to solve the mystery for us. It is mentioned as one of the cities conquered by the four kings who captured Sodom and carried Lot captive. It was then called Mount Seir, and the inhabitants were called Horites or "cliff dwellers." Afterward, the story of the Twin Brothers is woven into the history of the ancient city.

One night Esau came home tired and out of sorts, and coveted a dish of red beans that Jacob had prepared for himself. He had to decide between the great Covenant of God with his grandfather Abraham, or that dish of beans, and he reasoned something like this: "What will the birthright *profit me?* Shall I do without my supper that the world may be blessed through me?" He decided to let the blessing for the world go into the discard, and have a hot supper. Jacob decided that the world should be blessed through him at the cost of his supper and almost life itself, and *contrived* to get the blessing—but it was not the Abrahamic blessing that he received through his connivance. The great blessing was given to him freely by Isaac later on. He left all the riches of his father's home and went away with only his staff. Genesis 28:3, 4.

When Jacob returned from Padan-aram in after-years, Esau came from Mount Seir (Petra) with 400 men to meet Jacob, and after the greeting he returned to his home in Seir, and Jacob eventually went to his father Isaac, who was still living (Genesis 33:16). Esau must have prospered greatly, for we read: "These are the generations of Esau the father of the Edomites in Mount Seir . . . and these are the kings that reigned in Edom, before there reigned any king over the children of Israel," and a long list of kings and dukes are given who reigned "in the land of their *possession.*" Genesis 36. But we read, "Jacob dwelt in the land wherein his father was a *stranger*" (Genesis 37:1).

Esau, who had despised his birthright, was living in the most beautiful city in the world—its palaces carved like beautiful cameos out of rose-red, rainbow-hued, and lemon-colored stone, his family reigning as dukes and kings—but wait!

Jacob returns from Padan-aram, "a stranger in a strange land," grieving over the loss of his beloved wife Rachel, then soon despairing over the loss of

The discovery of Petra, Esau's lost city, reminds us of certain

prophecies already fulfilled and other prophecies yet to come to pass

Joseph. After a while they are distressed by famine, and the fear that Benjamin may also be lost to him. In his despair Jacob says, "All these things are against me!" Then the news came that Joseph was alive and master of all Egypt, and that he was providing bread for the whole kingdom. With a glad heart Jacob went to his beloved son, as the Jews will one day turn to the Lord Jesus, and Jacob spent the remaining years of his life amidst the glories that surrounded his famous son. Jacob, with all his faults, had chosen to be a channel of blessing to the world, and he lived to see his own son bless the world!

When Jacob died, Joseph had his body embalmed, and the great of Egypt followed his remains to the threshing floor of Atad on the east side of Jordan, so it must have been the desire of Joseph to pass through the land of Edom, and show Esau and his family how God had honored the humble Jacob by giving him perhaps, the most impressive funeral cortege that had ever been seen in Palestine. "His sons carried him to the land of Canaan, and buried him in the cave of the field of Machpelah," and there he rests today, waiting for the coming of the Lord; when Abraham and Sarah, Isaac and Rebecca, Jacob and Leah will rise from the cave at Hebron to meet the Lord. What a wonderful sight that will be!

While the Edomites (children of Esau) were living in oriental luxury in their "rainbow city," the children of Jacob were enslaved in Egypt by a "king who knew not Joseph," and finally they were led out by the hand of the Lord. "Then came Amalek [descendant of Esau] and fought with Israel." When the hands of Moses were held up, the Israelites prevailed, but when Moses lowered his hands, Amalek prevailed. (Let us hold up the hands of our leaders, who are God-given.) And God said unto Moses, "Write this for a memorial in a book, and rehearse it in the ears of Joshua: for I will utterly put out the remembrance of Amalek from under heaven" (Ex. 17:14). This is one reason why beautiful Petra was lost for hundreds of years!

When the children of Israel finally came to the borders of Edom and begged to be allowed to pass through the

country, the plea was one of the most pathetic in the Bible: "Let us pass, I pray thee, through thy country: we will not pass through the fields, or through the vineyards, neither will we drink of the water of the wells: we will go by the king's highway, we will not turn to the right hand nor to the left, until we have passed thy borders. And Edom said unto him, Thou shalt not pass by me, lest I come out against thee with a sword" (Numbers 20:14-21). There was nothing for the children of Jacob to do, but turn south over the rough country to Akabah, and travel all those weary miles out around the land of Edom, which was under the rule of the children of Esau.

One dark night, the darkest the world has ever known, two kings were face to face for the first time. One sat on his jeweled throne in all his magnificent regalia. He had an income of about \$3,400,000 a year; he had everything he desired, for human life was nothing to him. Anyone that stood between him and the thing he wanted was doomed, as they had been in his father's day. He had even repaid his brother for his hospitality in Rome, by taking his wife from him. This was the Edomite usurper of David's throne, Herod Antipas. The slogan of this descendant of Esau was the same: "What will it profit ME?"

The other King who stood before

Herod had the same burning desire (only intensified to its highest degree) that had moved the heart of Jacob: He desired above all things that the whole world might be blessed through Him. He was brought in, bound, before the usurper who sat upon His own throne. What a wonderful picture: *The king from the line of Esau, and the King from the line of Jacob, stood looking into each other's eyes!* With only a gesture, Jesus could have summoned legions of angels to sweep the usurper from His throne which He could have easily occupied Himself. But He did not want that throne—not then—because He was on His way to the cross to redeem you and me. He didn't want that throne until you and I could share it with Him! Herod sent Him back to Pilate. Later He who knew no sin, took the place of the sinner on the cross, and died in the place of Herod, as well as for you and me. Jesus even died for the man who had usurped His throne!

The son of Esau went on with his revelry, while the Son of Jacob hung on the cross. But the hand of God fell upon this tyrant soon after: he was banished to Lyons and died in exile in great misery (this Herod must not be confused with Herod Agrippa I, who vexed the church and was eaten of worms, Acts 12); while Jesus Christ rose from the dead to reign as King of kings and Lord of lords for all eternity!

At this time Mount Seir (Petra) was still beautiful and prosperous, but God had spoken its doom: "I will make Mount Seir an astonishment and a desolation" (Ezekiel 35:3-7). Again, "Because that Edom hath dealt against the house of Judah by taking vengeance, I will also stretch out mine hand upon Edom [Esau] and will cut off man and beast from it; and I will make it desolate from Teman [Maan]." These words were fulfilled to the letter; Maan is the railroad station, and from just there the desolation begins.

Not only was Esau's city and kingdom doomed, but his nation, Edom, was to be destroyed: "There shall be none remaining of the house of Esau" (Obadiah 18). See Joel 3:19; Amos 1:11; Isa. 34:5; Ezek. 25:12. Petra, or Mount Seir, his capital city, is an "astonish-

(Continued on page eleven)

CONSTANT EXPECTANCY

One master word covers the attitude of Christians in relation to this expectation of the coming of the Bridegroom to claim His bride, and that word is "imminent." Ever since our Lord passed beyond the confines of this earth into the heavens, the hour of His return, all unknown, has been imminent: Our right attitude, therefore, is one of constant expectancy, with hearts fully prepared to give our Lord His fitting, royal welcome, when He appears, no longer as sin-bearer, but with the holy angels and in His heavenly glory.

—Howard A. Kelly, M.D., LL.D.

The story of a young woman who neglected God's call until late in life, but found there was still time to win souls.

Never Too Old for Service

by Mrs. Julia A. Shelhamer



WHEN MOTHER WAS A BLUSHING maiden with eyes of blue and hair of gold, she fell in love with a school teacher—the city bandmaster. Since she also was a teacher, it appeared to be a good match; so when he asked her to marry him she consented.

But there was a secret in her heart. God had called her to go South and do missionary work among the colored people, and she was not willing to do so. To keep from obeying God, she accepted the proposal of her fiancee.

All went well. They established a home, built up a good business—but Mother's joy was dulled by an accusing conscience.

In due time God blessed the home with five little girls. Every time a baby came, Mother told herself she had further reason to doubt her call.

The children were carefully trained. In early life each daughter felt she must prepare herself to be a soul winner, and later each succeeded in entering the field of gospel service either as author, editor, evangelist, pastor or minister's wife.

Of course, Mother rejoiced in this, but as she advanced in years the call she had heard in her youth returned.

Now she was more than willing to obey—she longed to answer the call—but how could she begin? Her hair was white, her shoulders stooped. One hip was larger than the other, because she carried babies on it while doing her housework. Besides, she had one weak eye; and most of her beauty was gone.

Often I found her in the attic weeping and praying over her rejection of God's call. "Julia, what shall I do?" she asked in despair. "Woe is me if I preach not the gospel, but there is no pulpit open to me now that I am old."

In my theological course I had just been reading "The Life of John Wesley." When barred from preaching in the Church of England, Wesley entered every open door for soul winning. Once he preached from his father's tombstone. Thousands gathered in the fields to hear him. He held services in barns and homes and humble mission halls, and thus established preaching points in so many places that he had to employ others to help him. He had as many as sixty such places on one circuit, and thousands were converted to Christ.

It was in this energetic way that Wesley launched the great Methodist movement which for many years was

a continuous revival of God's blessing.

I was at a loss to know how to comfort my dear mother, except to say that her girls were doing the work to which she had been called. But one day the Lord gave me an answer. "Mother," I asked, "why don't you do as John Wesley did?"

She lifted her fair face, red with weeping, and caught the inspiration. Despair vanished, and at once she began marking her slate. She outlined a program for every day in the week, and to that schedule she held until the last. It was somewhat as follows:

There was a little village two miles away called Browntown, and another which was rightly called Bugtown. At each of these places Mother established a weekly gospel service.

Every Wednesday she visited the hospital and prayed with the sick and dying.

Then there was the Brickyard, where she took a company of young people for an open-air service every week.

One afternoon of the week was reserved for calling on irreligious families. Mother always knelt and prayed with them, and numbers were led to Christ in this way.

Down in the city stood the great jail where so many condemned criminals were kept. Every Friday Mother visited these prisoners. Policemen bowed and smiled as she passed. The jailors knew her and gladly let her in. She would be taken to the top floor. A great key opened the death cell, and my little mother was admitted. The door was locked behind her. She would sit and talk with the murderer as though he were her own son, then she would read from the Bible and ask him to kneel while she prayed. She would induce him to confess his sins to God, and in her sweet simple way she would lead him to Jesus.

I understand that for years, not one poor criminal in that large jail died unprepared. Mother led every one of them to Christ.

One of these men told Mother that the following Friday he must die. He had few friends, if any, and humbly asked if she would condescend to be with him in the hour of death. He was a big Negro whereas she was so delicate and timid—but she consented.

One morning I said to her, "Mother, where are you going all dressed up?"

She answered sweetly, "I'm going to see my boy die."

When the sheriff brought the condemned man out of his cell, Mother was standing near, waiting for him. His sad countenance brightened when he saw her. Drawing near, he said, "Mother, I'm going to be with Jesus in just a few minutes." So happy was he that he caught hold of a rafter or iron bar above him and actually took a swing, as though in ecstasy!

The black cap was placed over his head, and a rope around his neck, and a few seconds later he dropped, limp and lifeless—into the arms of Jesus, a trophy of my mother's faithfulness.

God has called every one of His people to win souls in one way or another. Will you not consecrate your service this day to Him? Seek the Baptism of the Holy Spirit at once and receive that Divine Power to lead men and women to Christ. It is not too late. Begin now, this very hour, to help someone find Jesus.

Perhaps you, like Mother, heard the call of God many years ago. Have you obeyed? If not, do as Mother did. Re-consecrate yourself to God and He will yet show you how to proceed.

"Ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto Me."—*Tract.*

Why Not Choose Teaching?

by EVELYN C. GUNTER, Martin, Tennessee

YOU ARE GOING TO COLLEGE THIS fall. Congratulations! And may you choose as your profession a teacher in our public schools. Fifteen years ago I made this choice and began a career of teaching—an elementary teacher. I have never been sorry that I am a teacher.

It's true that sometimes the pay check does look small; but then I remember that I also get paid in apples on my desk, live frogs for the aquarium, tying little girls' sashes, and helping out by doctoring sore toes—then the amount I get paid looks enormous! Little things become giants to a teacher.

Let us look at this idea of teaching from a new window—a picture window of home mission work. You say that you want to work for the Lord. That is wonderful. But how? You feel you are not "called" to preach or evangelize. Sing? Why, you can't! Well, why not consider home missions among our own American boys and girls? Included in them you will find all the materials you need. Real live clay they are, that shapes and molds so easily at a teacher's touch. Once they love you, the bending, shaping, and molding has begun.

Your material will vary. There will be Joyce whose parents live on a small pension. She will need an extra smile and shoes and dresses to feel she is as important as Patsy whose parents belong to the "Upper 400 Club."

John will be overbearing, arrogant, and repulsive to all that is fine and clean and decent. The teacher's patience will be sorely tried. But when the day comes that he stands at your door with a freshly-dressed rabbit just for teacher, you choke, then smile; and he never guesses that for the response of this

moment his teacher has spent time on her knees.

Once it was almost generally agreed that teachers *had* to be "old maids." But educators now feel a teacher can also be a happily-married mother and housewife. Many teachers obtain a leave of absence to raise their families, later returning to their chosen profession when their children are older.

It is true that we cannot teach religion in the public schools where this is prohibited; but there is no law against living it. The teacher is looked upon with utmost respect by the citizens of the community. Therefore, at all times she must conduct herself in a Christian manner. She must be an example to the parents as well as her pupils. Her conversation, dress, associates, and social life should always be Christlike. Pupils will come to her with problems or for advice on how to act and conduct themselves. Who could ask for a broader or more influential field of service?

A teacher must always keep in mind how the Master Teacher would react in a given situation. She should have a private place for prayer so that she can slip away to it when the day is perplexing. A nearby cloakroom that is my own provides an excellent sanctuary where I can spend time alone with God. If there is to be a parent conference—one of those in which it is a foregone conclusion that teacher is wrong, and parent and pupil are right—I find that slipping to my knees beforehand can save the day for both parent and teacher.

Yes, I love teaching. And I want to perform my tasks faithfully, so that when I meet the Master my report card will read, "Well done."

I hope *you* will enroll in one of our Assemblies of God schools to prepare for the ministry of teaching. And may God bless your ministry with souls!

Evelyn Gunter is a teacher of first and second grades. She is a member of the First Assembly of God, Union City, Tenn.



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

Southern Baptists Give \$10 Million for Missions

During the first six months of this year, Southern Baptists gave more than \$10 million to support their Foreign and Home Mission Boards.

Little Rock Adopts Sunday Closing Ordinance

The City Council of Little Rock, Arkansas, has adopted an ordinance, effective immediately, which requires all grocery stores to close on Sundays.

Liquor and New Homes

The American Businessmen's Research Foundation says, "Drinking families annually pay out in cash for intoxicants enough to buy over 700,000 beautiful new homes at \$11,500."

Nazarene Goal: Five New Churches a Week

Establishment of five new churches a week for the next four years was proposed as a goal of the Church of the Nazarene at its 14th quadrennial assembly in Kansas City.

Army Chaplains Mark Another Milestone

On Sunday, July 29, the chaplains of the United States Army commemorated the 181st anniversary of the day on which the Continental Congress founded their branch of service to care for the spiritual needs of American soldiers.

SBC Launches Vocational Publication

Southern Baptist Career News, a vocational guidance publication for teen-agers, will be launched in October by the Southern Baptist Education Commission. Its aim will be to help the denomination's 900,000 teen-agers choose which of 22,000 vocations will be theirs.

Louisiana Senate Kills Bingo Bill

A bill permitting parishes (counties) to decide on a local option basis whether to legalize bingo, raffles, and keno games conducted by churches and charitable groups was killed in the Louisiana Senate by a 27-9 vote. It earlier had been approved by the House.

A Million Dollars for the Pope

Congress has recently passed and sent to the President a bill which would authorize payment of almost a million dollars (\$964,199.35) in full settlement of all claims and damages resulting from the accidental bombing of the Pope's summer residence at Castel Gondolfo during World War II. As one observer has noted, the Pope must have an exceedingly fine mansion for a summer home—certainly incongruous with the appeals for help for starving nuns and priests in some countries.

Clergymen Preach "Last Sermon"

Clergymen of seven denominations preached at Evangel Community Church in New Castle, Pennsylvania, on the theme, "If This Were My Last Sermon." Among the topics they chose were: "Judgment," "Repentance," "The Cross," and "Missions." The sermons were given on seven successive nights.

Form First Church Co-op in Maine

Members of the Hartford Community Church (Presbyterian) have formed Maine's first church co-operative. A farm machinery pool will be established as the co-operative's initial project. Also planned are co-operative buying and selling undertakings as well as educational, mission, and charitable activities.

Youth for Christ Votes Larger Budget

Youth for Christ International adopted a budget of \$690,000 for 1956-7 at its annual convention in Winona Lake, Indiana—\$135,000 more than last year's budget. Dr. Robert A. Cook was re-elected president for his ninth consecutive year by the more than 4,000 delegates who attended the convention.

Churches Win Complete Victory in Parking Issue

The churches of Memphis, Tennessee, won a complete victory in their fight to liberalize the city's off-street parking regulations. The City Commission adopted an amendment relaxing parking requirements in the present ordinance.

The amendment provides that churches built in the future need supply only one parking space for each ten seats. Existing churches will not be required to provide off-street parking unless they increase the size of their main auditoriums, and then at the 1-10 ratio.

Acting on the pleas of many clergymen, the city legislative body overrode the 1-to-5 ratio originally urged by the Memphis Planning Commission. It also overruled the compromise 1-to-8 ratio recommended by the planning group after a committee of clergymen had protested the 1-to-5 ratio as discriminatory and unfair. The clergymen's committee, of which James Hamill, pastor of First Assembly, was a member, had pointed out to the planning commission that auditoriums, ball parks, stadiums, and school buildings were required to provide but one parking space for each ten seats, and that downtown movie theaters and other such buildings were not required to provide any off-street parking. The ministers charged that the existing regulations deprived churchgoers of constitutional rights and were a "very definite hindrance to the cause of Christ" in Memphis.

U. S. Could Have a Catholic President

Growing "political tolerance" among U. S. voters could result in the next president of the U. S. being a Roman Catholic! A report released by Dr. George Gallup, director of the American Institute of Public Opinion, shows that 73 per cent of the voters now voice "no objection" to voting for a generally well-qualified nominee of their party who happened to be a Roman Catholic by faith.

Newsboys Blacklist Immoral Literature

In Melbourne, Australia, newsboys have joined in a fight against immoral literature. They have refused to handle 21 magazines—mostly issued by American publishers—on a list which they themselves compiled as being "too filthy to handle." When news agents give them copies of the black-listed magazines, the boys simply return them without displaying them or offering them for sale. News agents are complaining—even threatening legal action—but the newsboys just grin every time they hear that sales of their self-censored publications have fallen off sharply.

Warns Number of Unchurched in U. S. Growing

A Lutheran home missions leader has warned that the number of non-church members in the U.S. is increasing every year despite "a strong resurgence of interest in religion." Pointing out that the 66 million Americans who have no connection with any religious body is greater than the population of the country at the turn of the century, he added, "Yet at least half of this number live within easy distance of a Protestant church."

There are multitudes in America without Christ! What a responsibility rests upon every Christian to reach these people with the good news of salvation.

Sees Demand for Church to Provide Kindergartens

A Louisville (Kentucky) minister said that public-school kindergartens apparently are a thing of the past and that churches will face mounting demands that they provide this service. He said that his church—St. Paul Methodist—expects to start a "church day school" for five-year-olds and possibly younger children this fall.

The pastor said, "I have always felt that the church was missing a great opportunity in helping form the attitudes of these children. The Sunday School program is good as far as it goes, but it is terribly inadequate."

Louisville kindergartens may be dropped because of the failure of voters to pass a proposed half of one per cent school occupational tax.

Methodists Face Serious Shortage of Ministers

The eight presiding bishops of the Methodist North Central Jurisdiction said that the size of their church is one of her most serious problems. They warned Methodists, the largest U. S. Protestant denomination, that "the greatness of any Church is to be measured not by its statistical size nor numerical strength but by its prophetic message and spiritual power."

They also said that the shortage of ministers is one of the most serious problems the Methodist Church has ever confronted. The bishops said that the denomination needs a minimum of 1,200 new ministers each year to replace retired and deceased clergymen and another 1,800 annually to fill new churches and the needs of the Church's expanding program. They pointed out, however, that in a recent 12-month period the denomination gained only 927 new ministers.

August 19, 1956

"... IN THE DARKNESS THE MASS OF MEN
STRUGGLED. THERE WAS A SCREAM FOR
HELP—THEN COMPLETE PANIC AND A
FLOUNDERING, FUTILE SURGE TOWARD
THE SHORE. MEN HARDLY ABLE TO HELP
THEMSELVES WERE PULLED UNDER BY
THOSE WHO COULD NOT SWIM AT ALL...
A ROLL CALL ON THE DARK AND
QUIVERING MUDBANK REVEALED
THE ENORMITY OF THE TRAGEDY..."



However you feel about the Parris Island drill sergeant whose "disciplinary march" led 74 young Marines into an orgy of death in a tidal marsh, you cannot escape the facts: it was a stupid, tragic waste of life. It did not need to be!

But how about the world around us? While we Christians sit high and dry, in the brightness of His Light, men are being led to destruction in the darkness all about. Leaders who do not know the way, direct the destiny of millions. Men grasp at reeds in the darkness; they are pulled under by the frantic clawings of their fellows.

What are we Christians here for if it is not to shine a light into the dark?

Through our missionaries we *can* form a living chain out into the midst of the night. Anchored on higher ground, we can pull multitudes to safety. We can light the way so men can discern between reeds and ropes!

Speed-the-Light, the missionary enterprise of our C.A.'s, has assigned itself a specific part of the great task—to provide transportation, radio, and printing equipment for our missionaries. If, having Light, we do not *speed* the Light, will not some future generation accuse, "It was a stupid, tragic waste of *souls*. It did not need to be."

**DARKNESS DEEPENS—
SPEED-the-LIGHT
DOLLAR DAY IS OCTOBER 21**

INDIANS RESPOND TO GOSPEL



Sunday School at the Indian Mission (Assemblies of God) in Gallup, New Mexico. Mr. and Mrs. Caleb Smith (right, second row) are the missionaries.

GALLUP, NEW MEXICO

Brother and Sister Caleb Smith went to Gallup about two years ago, convinced that God was leading them to minister to the Navajo and Pueblo Indians in that city and on the reservations nearby. Gallup is a great trading center for Indians from the large Southern Navajo Reservation and the Zuni Reservation.

Their ministry began in hogans and other Indian homes open to them, both on the reservation and in the city. Many Navajos have been saved, healed and filled with the Spirit as a result of their ministry.

Due to the steady increase in attendance at the services, it was necessary for them to find a larger place of worship. The Lord opened the way for them to rent a downtown store building for a mission, and they also continued to conduct some services on the reservation.

The work continues to grow and the Sunday School has been averaging around one hundred. They have both English and Navajo teachers, and use an interpreter in most of their services. Their songbooks are in the Navajo lan-

guage, and were purchased from the Wycliffe Translators.

Recently the building they rented has been put up for sale, and they are in need of another place of worship.

Due to the fact that Gallup is an Indian center, many Indians can be reached for Christ there through an Indian mission. The annual "Inter-tribal Ceremonials" held in Gallup during the early part of August attract thousands of Indians of many tribes each year.

The city also has several Indian schools and a large Indian hospital and nursing school. The opportunity for reaching Indians here is seemingly unlimited. In view of these opportunities, let us pray earnestly that the Lord will supply the need of a building for the Gallup work.

CANYON DAY, ARIZONA

Brother and Sister Robert Oakes held their first service at Canyon Day on the Fort Apache Reservation in June, 1955. The spiritual hunger of the people was manifest in the fact that there were sixty present, out of a village of less than four hundred population.

There were already some Christians at Canyon Day as a result of the ministry of our missionaries at White-river a few miles away. The Christian ladies built a brush arbor on the church grounds and this served as the church through the summer months. The Oakeses lived in a trailer house alongside the arbor.

Then came cold weather in the White Mountains and the services were moved to an army hospital tent. Later, the home of Brother and Sister Oliver Altabah, Apache Christians, was opened for services.

The Oakeses continued believing God for a church. They itinerated in Illinois and Indiana and raised \$1,000 toward a building.

In March several carpenters donated their labor and time, and on Easter morning they held the first service in the new building with a Sunday School attendance of 116.

The building is not finished. It has only a sawdust floor; it needs ceiling inside and siding outside; but the missionaries believe that the God who started the work will finish it. Brother Oakes writes:

"I know we have only started, but God has blessed in wonderful ways. We baptized five teen-agers all of whom are going on with the Lord. Lives of drunkenness and evil have been changed to peace and happiness in Jesus. Several new families are coming and are hungry after God.

"Many have knelt for salvation but are still in need of prayer. Pray that God will strengthen them and fill them with the Holy Spirit."

PHOENIX, ARIZONA

Brother and Sister Clarence Washburn with their co-worker, Virginia Kridler, have one of our largest Assemblies of God Indian works. It is located in Phoenix, Arizona, which is a great Indian center, surrounded by reservations.

The Washburns have counted representatives of more than a dozen tribes in a single service. The Lord has blessed their work, saving many and

calling young Indian men to preach to their own people. The work has grown greatly since the Indians themselves are helping to carry the message in their own tongue back to the reservations. Some of them have attended Bible School in order more ably to minister the Word. Others, with less formal education, are training right in the local church.

The Washburns hope to erect a local training school to facilitate their training program.

This summer an All-Tribes Indian camp meeting was held in Phoenix on the church grounds. Several were saved and many were blessed and refreshed in spirit through the services. Local WMC groups took turns providing food for the evening meals which were served to everyone.

SHIPROCK, NEW MEXICO

Brother and Sister Charlie Lee minister to the Navajos at Shiprock, and God is blessing their efforts. Like Andrew of old, who "first findeth his own brother," Brother Lee's first convert in the work at Shiprock was his own brother Harry. Since Harry was saved there have been many others, and their little home is crowded out for the services. Brother Lee preaches in Navajo so that everyone may understand.

Their church building program is under way, and as soon as sufficient



A typical Apache home in Canyon Day



A Navajo hogan on the reservation

carpenter help can be secured it will be completed.

Meanwhile, Brother Lee spends some time each week out on the reservation going to the widely scattered hogan homes of his people with the good news that Jesus saves.

A recent issue of *Arizona Highways* carried an article on Navajo artists, featuring some of the best. Here is a quotation from the article concerning Brother Lee, which is a commentary on his devotion to the ministry he has chosen:

"Charles Lee of Yel Ha Yah ('He that goes off in anger') belies the translation of his Navajo name and is a gentle, slender, ascetic-looking young man and an ordained minister of the Assemblies of God. He is an ardent missionary to his own people and in fact spends so much time on his church work that there is lamentably little time left

for his very fine painting. He was born on the reservation near Red Rock in 1926. He has a pretty blonde Anglo wife and little girl, and both he and his wife speak beautiful English. . . .

"Charlie Lee is one of the two youngest painters to attain prominence with his painting today. . . . If he can spend more time on his painting it is safe to say he will be one of the outstanding Navajo painters of future years. . . ."

Brother Lee has chosen deliberately to minister Christ to his people rather than travel the road to fame as an artist. Let us pray for this young couple, that God will bless and use them to win many more to Christ.

Your offerings for the INDIAN BUILDING FUND, or for INDIAN MISSIONS, may be sent to the HOME MISSIONS DEPARTMENT, 434 West Pacific, Springfield 1, Missouri.

THE LOST CITY

(Continued from page five)

ment and a desolation." All the buildings that were constructed of stone blocks and mortar have crumbled to dust, but those cut from the solid rock of the mountains are still standing in all their exquisite beauty, enough of them to accommodate thousands of people in comfort. A clear stream is bubbling over rose-red rocks, with oleanders and wild figs growing on its banks. Everything is ready and waiting for the children of Jacob, when they will need to fly from the Beast who will conquer the Holy Land. "He shall enter into the glorious land, and many countries shall be overthrown: but these shall escape out of his hand, even Edom, and Moab [just north of Edom], and the chief of the children of Ammon" (Daniel 11:41).

Esau's lost city has been discovered, and everything is ready for the Children of Jacob, who are even now gathered in Israel. "And the woman fled into the wilderness, where she hath a place prepared of God, that they should feed her there a thousand and two hundred and threescore days. . . . And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle [perhaps airplanes] that she might FLY into the wilderness, into her place where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time from the face of the serpent" (Revelation 12:6, 14).

Two kings are heading two kingdoms. Either the self-centered Esau is our king with the slogan, "What will it profit ME?" or the God-centered Christ who gave Himself a ransom for sinners. May

we pledge our allegiance to the King of kings, and take our inheritance among the redeemed of the Lord. Even those who choose the things of the world instead of the things of God, cannot really have them, for like Herod's throne and kingdom, they all belong to God.

The story of THE LOST CITY is the story of a lost man, and a lost people. Beautiful, desolate Petra is the fitting memorial of a self-centered man.

"For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?"

GOD-CENTERED AFFECTIONS

God aims in all His dealings with His children to bring them to a high contempt of and deadly feud with the world. He withholds from them the childish toys and the earthly delights that He gives to others, in order that He may have all their affections centered upon Himself.

—SAMUEL RUTHERFORD



Many came to the front of the tent to seek Christ



A crowd at one of the 6:30 p.m. children's services

Teamwork Wins in Japan

by Leonard Nipper, Tokyo

THE PLACE: Himeiji, a city of 250,000 people, 40 miles west of Kobe, the nation's second largest port.

THE TEAM: Evangelist and Mrs. Gene Martin, members of the Southern California District, working together with the missionaries and the Japanese brethren in the area.

THE MISSIONARIES: Miss Florence Byers (Pennsylvania), Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Ginrich (Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada), Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Nipper (Southern California), and Mr. and Mrs. Earl Taylor (Oklahoma.)

The Lord has given us the victory, for which we are thankful.

Working together in full co-operation with the Japanese brethren in this area, our evangelist under the anointing of the Holy Spirit proclaimed the truths

of God's Word night after night. God honored His Word!

Two small buildings have been rented for the present and a graduate of our Assemblies of God Bible School in Tokyo has assumed the responsibilities as pastor of this new work. Over twenty adults, plus high school and college students, have attended these meetings since the tent campaign. A Sunday School has been started, and meetings are held four times each week for the new group.

Tent meetings have been the foundation of many of our Assemblies of God churches in Japan. Seven other tent meetings have been planned for the summer, four of them in totally unevangelized areas and three to help small works reach new people in their communities.

After much prayer and inquiry, we had a desirable piece of land one block from where we held the tent campaign

offered to us at about one-half the regular price. Realizing that the rented buildings would not be permanent, and because of the attractive price, we gave the matter much prayer and serious consideration. We did not have the money, but in faith we made a deposit of \$400.00 with the understanding that we would try and pay the balance (\$1100.00) by the end of this year.

Teamwork? Yes! We believe in it; we work and pray together. Some of you are on the team. We invite others to join the team and pray with us, work with us, and give with us, so that we will be able to purchase this land and build another Assembly of God here in Japan for the glory of our God. Your offering sent to the Foreign Missions Department, designated "Himeiji Church Building, Japan," will help us win these people to the Lord.

The presbyter, Kishibei Sensei, in front of one of the rented buildings



When we think of Him whose form was marred more than any man's, who was crowned with the crown of thorns—when we think of Him who hung upon the cross at Calvary, will you not rejoice to bring joy to Him? What joy can you bring to Him like going to the heathen and making known to them the precious blood that cleanses from all sin, and bringing them as trophies to His feet?

—Hudson Taylor

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

A LETTER FROM AUSTRIA

Precious brethren in the Lord:

The Board of Directors of the Commissary Department (Helping Union) of the Free Christian Assemblies Branch-Union of Steiermark has requested me to express thanks to you for the designation of \$78.00 for the building of the meeting place at Knittelfeld. Our joy was very great as we received this check which when cashed brought us 2,000 Shilling.

So, dear brethren, please accept our most hearty thanks in the name of the above-mentioned Commissary Department as also the Assembly at Knittelfeld. Through this action of love you have helped us so that the meeting place can be advanced a bit further toward its completion. For the present we still lack the seating, the lighting and the heating equipments. So there is still a need of about 15,000 Shilling (\$500.00) for the securing of these. For us, as a small assembly, with the members generally poor, this is not so easily possible. For this reason we are always very glad and thankful for every assistance toward the completion of the work.

Up to the present, when we had no place of our own, some had to assemble in a hotel of which we were later deprived, and some in my dwelling which happens to be out of town and is one of the twenty barracks of the First World War. This will give you an idea of the urgent need for the meeting place to be completed, for under such circumstances one does not get people into the meeting which is even under normal circumstances difficult. As soon as something moves, we are immediately faced with opposition. Therefore, we trust the Lord to move upon hearts to make the completion of the building of the meeting place possible so that we will be able to proclaim to the people the gospel of full salvation in Christ.

In the bonds of the love of the Lord Jesus, there greet you heartily the Directory of the Commissary Department (Hilfsverein), the local assembly and your humble brother in the Lord.

KARL WAGNER
Knittelfeld, Austria

MISSIONARY News Notes

Connie Lynn was born to Mr. and Mrs. Carl Malz of South India on June 18.

* * *

Mr. and Mrs. R. Scotti sailed for Europe on July 12 on the *SS Ryndam*. They will continue their missionary work in Belgium.

* * *

Lawrence Olson is in need of a Hammond organ for the radio program in Brazil. Any friends who may wish to help, may write him at Caixa Postal 3274, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Rachel Maser returned to Cuba on June 23 for another term of service.

* * *

Mr. and Mrs. V. G. Greisen sailed for Denmark on June 19 on the *SS Kingsholm*.

* * *

Jacqueline June arrived July 1 in the home of Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Cimino, Umuahia, Nigeria.

* * *

A cable received from Mary Martin and Florence Bassett tells of their safe arrival in Liberia.

* * *

Mr. and Mrs. James Baker and family returned to Formosa on June 29, where Mr. Baker will again have the oversight of the Bible Institute.

Mr. and Mrs. R. Scotti Miss Rachel Maser

The James Baker family



MONTHLY REPORT

Foreign Missions Department

June, 1956

CONTRIBUTIONS

Alabama	\$ 2,133.69	Northwest	16,389.78
Appalachian	641.97	Ohio	9,355.44
Arizona	934.07	Oklahoma	14,082.95
Arkansas	2,742.88	Oregon	11,084.93
Eastern	10,031.66	Polish Br.	15.15
Georgia	1,765.43	Potomac	8,079.35
German Br.	1,326.32	Rocky Mtn.	7,913.13
Greek Br.	113.09	Russian Br.	21.43
Hungarian Br. ..	47.00	S. Calif.	21,743.48
Illinois	10,435.51	S. Carolina	394.66
Indiana	4,712.01	S. Dakota	1,411.19
Italian Br.	609.65	S. Florida	4,135.55
Kansas	6,503.84	S. Idaho	1,113.75
Kentucky	662.35	S. Missouri	7,910.30
Lat. Amer. Br. ..	1,990.33	S. Texas	6,653.42
Louisiana	1,448.52	Tennessee	1,250.27
Michigan	9,829.74	Texas	9,976.08
Minnesota	8,297.58	Ukrainian Br. ..	65.96
Mississippi	763.51	West Central ..	4,855.97
Montana	3,267.91	West Florida ..	1,849.47
Nebraska	3,155.20	West Texas	3,426.66
New England	2,454.22	Wis.-N. Mich. ..	6,258.17
New Jersey	7,457.92	Wyoming	486.05
New Mexico	1,215.01	Alaska	165.86
New York	9,566.48	Canada	290.58
N. Cal.-Nev.	14,391.80	Hawaii	142.96
North Carolina ..	1,037.86	Foreign	40.00
North Dakota	2,583.25	Miscellaneous ..	50.00

Total Amount Reported	\$249,281.34
District Funds	\$12,972.83
National Home Missions	3,069.13
Office Expense	4,034.79
Given Direct to Missions	33,193.11
Received for Council Missionaries	196,011.48
Received for Non-Council Missionaries	2,237.60
Missionary Offerings Not Allocated to Any State	50,855.49
Total Receipts	\$249,104.57

DISBURSEMENTS

Support of Missionary Personnel	\$109,679.31
Missionary Equipment	20,529.93
Missionary Work	92,159.85
National Workers Abroad	8,539.52
Buildings on Foreign Lands	24,659.96
Missionary Transportation	39,846.65
Transferred from "Hold" Accounts	\$295,415.22
	46,310.65
	\$249,104.57

The following missionaries have recently returned on furlough:

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Wright and family from East Africa. They can be reached at 434 West Pacific Street, Springfield 1, Mo.

Mr. and Mrs. A. Heetebry from the Fiji Islands. Their address is 211 Malthilda Ave., Sunnyvale, California.

Mr. and Mrs. Murray Brown and children from Africa. They are living for the present at Mission Village, Route 5, Springfield, Mo.

Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Petroskey of Dahomey, Africa. They are located at 2918-9th St., N. W., Canton 8, Ohio.

Mrs. A. E. Lindvall and children from El Salvador. Mr. Lindvall is remaining on the field a while longer.

HOME —

IS WHAT YOU MAKE IT!

A shrewd salesman stopped a couple of boys and, pointing down the hill, asked, "Which house do you live in, boys?"

One of the boys replied: "We used to live in that house but it's not a house any more, it's a home."

The salesman looked surprised and asked, "What made the difference?"

The boy beamed, "You see, there's love there now."

Four walls and a roof will make a house, but not a home. The house is a mere shelter; the home is a shelter plus love and kindness and co-operation and trust.

Never forget that marital difficulty often begins when one partner takes the other for granted. The little kindnesses are neglected, the little courtesies are overlooked, the scrupulous care of person and clothing is given up, and soon a wide chasm of misunderstanding separates those who once were knit together in a beautiful fellowship of love.

Dr. J. B. Chapman said: "Every home should keep two bears." When asked for



an explanation, he replied: "They are, *bear and forbear*. 'Bear ye one another's burdens' and 'Forbear one another in love.'"

Living is an art to be learned and practiced, as well as a responsibility to be used. Everybody who looks for it can find an alibi for a grouchy disposition and a tendency to find fault with others.

Reading through Ezekiel I came upon the words: "I sat where they sat." I meditated upon it as I thought of home.

Were I to sit where the children sit,

would I be more appreciative and a little less exacting toward them since they are compelled to live in a generation that has lost its way?

Were I to sit where the wife and mother sits with cooking and mending, sweeping and laundry, house cleaning and baby care, would I be more helpful to her, and kinder in speech and attitude?

Were I to sit where Grandma sits, with failing powers and sight, with the clutching fear of helplessness, and lonely for the days that are past, would I be

Our Family Altar

MONDAY

AUGUST 20

SCRIPTURE: Proverbs 1:1-10

TODAY'S GEM: "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge." (Proverbs 1:7).

FOR THE PARENT: God wants His children to be wise for several reasons listed in verses 2-6. Knowledge begins with the fear (reverential trust) of the Lord (v. 7). Children should obey their parents (v. 8), for this helps them to obey God when tempted to do evil deeds (v. 10).

QUESTION TIME: Why does God want us to have wisdom? (vv. 2-6) Where does knowledge begin? (v. 7) What are children told to do in this Scripture passage? (vv. 8, 10)

PRAY for greater wisdom (see James 1:5).

TUESDAY

AUGUST 21

SCRIPTURE: Romans 5:1-11

TODAY'S GEM: "But God commendeth his love toward us in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us" (Rom. 5:8).

FOR THE PARENT: Point out the progress of the Christian life—trials teach us patience, which in turn brings experience and hope. But the only reason we can be Christians is that Jesus died for us—not because of our goodness, but because He loved us.

QUESTION TIME: What do trials do for us? (v. 3) Why did Jesus die for us? (v. 8) What hope does the fact that Jesus died for us while we were sinners bring us? (v. 9)

PRAY for a greater love for Jesus.

WEDNESDAY

AUGUST 22

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 6

TODAY'S GEM: "The Lord will receive my prayer" (Psa 6:9).

FOR THE PARENT: This Psalm could easily be the words of a person who had sinned, or one who was very sick. Stress the fact that verse 9 is the key to the Psalm—it expresses the faith of the Psalmist that God has heard his prayer. Read 1 John 5:14,15.

QUESTION TIME: Why did David ask the Lord to have mercy on him? (v. 2) What special confidence in God is expressed in verse 9? If we know that God hears our prayers, then what else do we know? (1 John 5:15)

PRAY for a greater faith in God.

more sympathetic, more careful to speak graciously and show greater interest in her concerns?

The home is what we make it. It is a shrine for worship or a den of hate. It is an oratorio of gladness or a dirge of self-pitying despair. It is an island where love reigns or a galley filled with insulting slaves. It is a heaven or a hell.

Make your home and its maintenance the supreme business of your life. The dividends will be large in happiness and in character.

—The Wesleyan Methodist

REAR AN ALTAR

Rear you an altar that will last forever:
Longer than any shaft or marble dome;
Erect it there beside your own hearthfire,
The chaste, white family altar in the home.
Chisel the Word of God upon the waiting
Hearts and minds of the dear ones gathered
there—

The blowing sands of time will not erase it.
No friction dim the imprint of your prayer.

For memory will hold those chiseled letters,
And prayer shall be embedded in the heart.
O Father, Mother, rear the lasting altar,
And the children whom you love will not
depart

From the way of life. . . . The Word will last
forever,
Though earth and heaven itself should pass
away—

If you have not as yet begun the building
Of that eternal altar—start today!

—Grace Noll Crowell

A BRAVE RESCUE

A STORY FOR JUNIOR READERS



ABOVE THE MIGHTY NIAGARA FALLS there is a little island called Goat Island. Today a bridge joins the island to the shore, but some years ago there was no bridge.

One day an artist, looking down on the swift current of the river, lost his footing and fell into the swift water. He was rapidly swept downstream toward the Falls.

On the brink of the Falls there was a rock which he managed to grasp, and he held on for his life. The swift current was pushing against him and it took all his strength to hold on to the rock, but he managed to keep himself from being swept on to destruction.

Crowds gathered on the banks, and every device was tried to reach the man as he clung to the rock; but every attempt failed.

At last a man said he was going out to him. The man bound a rope around his waist, told some people on shore to hold the end of it, and he jumped into the water exactly where the artist had fallen in. He let the current carry him down until he reached the rock where the artist was clinging for his life.

As he reached the artist, he grasped him firmly. The artist loosened his hold on the rock and grabbed his rescuer. The people on shore then pulled on the rope; and the two men, clasped in one another's arms, were slowly drawn to shore.

What a shout went up from the crowd as they saw the two men safely reach land!

That is a picture of what the Lord Jesus has done for us. We were lost in sin; the power of sin had swept us along and there seemed to be no way to save ourselves from eternal destruction. But Jesus, the Son of God, came down from heaven with the strong rope of salvation to rescue us. He became a man so that He could come alongside us and share our circumstances. Not only did He *risk* His life for us—He actually *gave* His life in order to save us. Oh, how much it must have cost Him to go down into the black waters of sin to rescue us—Jesus, the sinless Son of God! Have you thanked Him for dying on the Cross for you? Are you clinging to Him and trusting Him as your Saviour?

THURSDAY

AUGUST 23

SCRIPTURE: 2 Chronicles 26:1-5, 16-21

TODAY'S GEM: "Let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall" (1 Cor. 10:12).

FOR THE PARENT: Tell the story of King Uzziah (see Sunday's Lesson page). Behind his great sin, like Amaziah's, was pride. Amaziah was proud of his strength; Uzziah was proud of his spiritual life. Because of this, he failed to respect God and God's house.

QUESTION TIME: What was Uzziah's sin? (v. 16) Did anyone warn the king of the wrong he was doing? (vv. 17, 18) How did God punish Uzziah's sin? (v. 19)

PRAY that we will never become proud because of what we do for the Lord.

FRIDAY

AUGUST 24

SCRIPTURE: John 6:26-35 (Sunday's Lesson for Juniors)

TODAY'S GEM: "Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life" (John 6:35).

FOR THE PARENT: Have the children tell the story of how Jesus fed the multitude. Then point out that (1) the unselfishness of one boy enabled Jesus to perform this great miracle; (2) Jesus performed this miracle so He could tell the people that He is the bread of life and can satisfy our spiritual hunger.

QUESTION TIME: What did Jesus use to feed the multitude? (vv. 9-11) Why did some of the people follow Jesus? (v. 26) What advice did Jesus give these people? (v. 27)

SATURDAY

AUGUST 25

SCRIPTURE: John 19:4-16 (Sunday's Lesson for Primaries)

TODAY'S GEM: "For Christ . . . suffered . . . that he might bring us to God" (1 Peter 3:18).

FOR THE PARENT: Tell the story of Jesus in Pilate's judgment hall. Show the children that (1) Pilate's statement was foolish, v. 6; (2) Pilate had no power over Jesus except what God gave him, v. 11; (3) the sufferings of Jesus (Matt. 27:27-31) were for us.

QUESTION TIME: What did the Jews answer Pilate when he said to them, "Behold your king"? (v. 15) What were some of the things Jesus suffered at His trial? (Matt. 27:27-31) Why did Jesus suffer? (1 Peter 3:18)



Pastor R. A. Rieben

Shut-In Club

This ministry to shut-ins has brought cheer and help to hundreds in Muskegon.

CENTRAL ASSEMBLY OF GOD, MUSKEGON, Michigan, is a church that feels a responsibility to its community. And among its members is a couple, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Mael, who have a special ministry of bringing hope, help, and encouragement to those to whom it means so much—the shut-ins.

Here is the way the Shut-In Club came into being:

Pastor R. A. Rieben conducts a popular weekday radio program, "The Assembly of God Hour," at 9:30 a.m. over station WMUS. Among its many listeners are shut-ins—those who because of ill health or physical handicaps find it impossible to move about in the world like others. Pastor Rieben felt a responsibility to help and encourage these people. He knew that only actual visitation could reveal the real situations and problems, and provide needed sympathy and comfort. But he did not see how he himself could give the necessary time to such a ministry because of his many duties as pastor of a large, thriving church.

In the church were two members anxiously looking for a way to serve the Lord. They were enthusiastic about the possibilities of this ministry, and so in Muskegon the "Shut-In Club" was born, and Brother and Sister Mael became the official "visitors," working closely with the pastor and letting him know of cases where a pastoral call was needed.

Because of the influence of the radio program, it was not long until the

"Shut-In Club" had more than 230 members.

As the idea caught "fire," the city of Muskegon began to take notice. The Eastgate Bakery offered to donate a cake each Tuesday to the person named as shut-in for that day. Kweekman's Floral Shop said they would donate a plant each Friday to the person named as shut-in for that day. Listeners were encouraged to write to the person named as shut-in of the day.

Pastor Rieben reports that the shut-ins began receiving hundreds of pieces of mail. He also states, "We have never yet been refused admission to a home when we inform them of our business. It is a great advertising medium for our church, but primarily it is a means to bring comfort and cheer to those who need it so badly, and to present the message of divine healing."

On June 10, Pastor Rieben planned a special Sunday service for all the shut-ins who were able to come to the church. Each one attending was honored with a gift. There were special musical numbers and a message particularly for shut-ins. Interest in the service was high.

The Maels consider their ministry to the shut-ins a great privilege. When they enter a home, they have the opportunity to pray with the person and often with the family; counsel them to trust the Lord for physical and spiritual help; read the Word; and leave gospel literature. They use the EVANGEL extensively in their work.

To give you an insight into this work and to help you realize the problems and possibilities, we asked the Maels to recall some of the persons they have visited. They cited a few whom they felt were typical of the many they visit.

"One shut-in is a Christian mother



R. A. Rieben (right), pastor of Central Assembly of God, Muskegon, Michigan, and Mr. and Mrs. Carl Mael stand at the entrance to the Muskegon County Hospital. The Maels have found a great ministry in visiting and helping the shut-ins of the Muskegon area.

who has been confined to a wheel chair for over five years. In addition to her physical sufferings, she is undergoing severe trials because of domestic problems and financial difficulties. We have visited her several times, always praying with her and leaving gospel literature. The Word has meant so much to her.

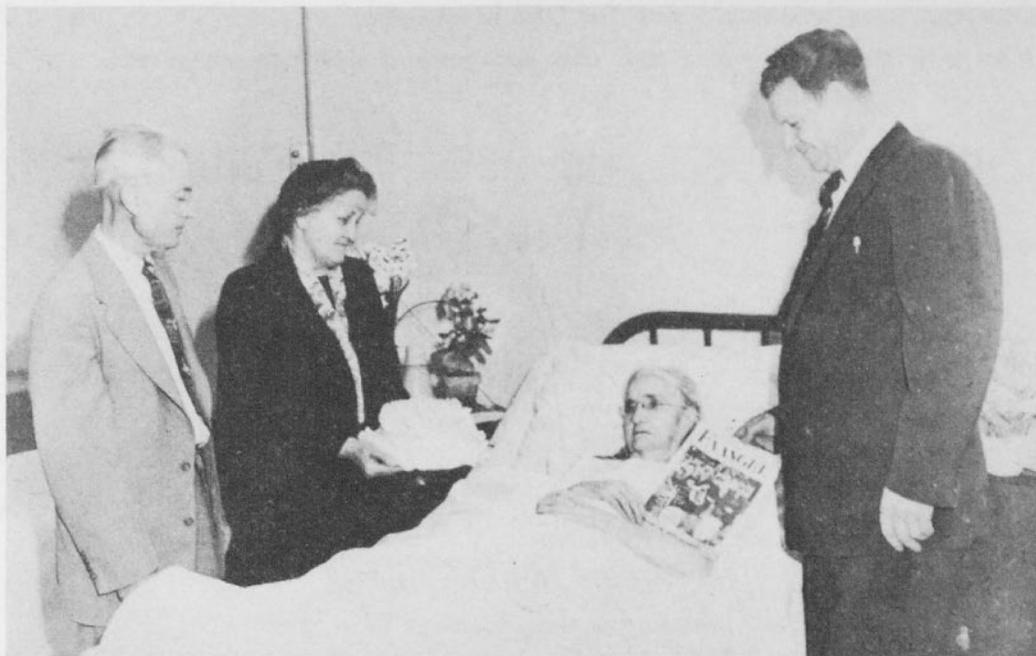
"In another home where we have visited a number of times, there is a girl who has been in a coma for many months. This girl gave a wonderful testimony of God's help prior to lapsing into this present condition, and why she is so afflicted God alone knows. Her illness, of course, is a great burden to her father and mother. The girl herself is unaware of our visits, but her parents do appreciate our calls and prayers. Please join us in praying for her complete healing.

"We have called twice in a home where a little boy of seven has been confined to his bed for many months with a serious rheumatic condition. In fact, the whole family, including the parents and three other children, is plagued with sickness. One-half of the father's earnings are spent for medicines and remedial measures. We have prayed for this family and are encouraging them to put their faith in God.

"Just a short time ago we visited a sweet elderly lady. She was very sick, but her attitude was so cheerful that one would hardly have thought her to be so ill. As we prayed with her, little did we realize that in less than a week we would be standing before her coffin and that she would be with the Lord. There was a consolation to us to know that we had been able to minister to her, even in a small way.

"We visited a Christian home in a neighboring community where both husband and wife were blind. We were amazed to discover that they were able to carry on normal household duties. Their sweet, humble Christian spirit was an inspiration to us, and they seemed to deeply appreciate the time we spent with them, talking of the things of the Lord, reading the Word to them, and praying with them. The husband painstakingly typed us a letter, expressing their thanks for our visit.

"We also visit the convalescent homes and hospitals, and we have been able to place a plaque which reads, 'I will never leave thee nor forsake thee,' in every room and ward in these homes and hospitals."

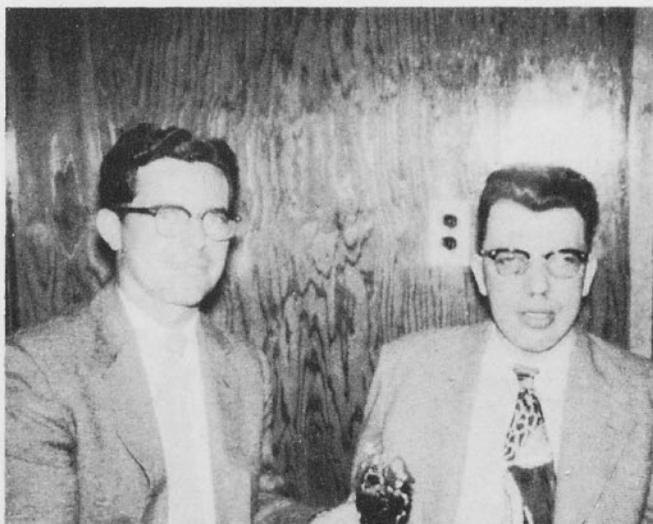


Mr. and Mrs. Carl Mael (left) present a cake donated by a local bakery to Mrs. Brillhart, who was named shut-in for that day. Pastor Rieben makes sure that Mrs. Brillhart, who has been a member of Central Assembly for many years, gets her copy of the EVANGEL. The EVANGEL is used extensively in the ministry to the shut-ins.

Do the Maels ever get weary in their work? They answered, "Yes, at times, but as we see the need for Christian fellowship, understanding, and sympathy among those enduring great trials of affliction and pain, and those with seemingly insurmountable difficulties, we remember that the Lord has told us to bear one another's burdens. We thank God that He has led us into this work, and feel impelled to redouble our efforts so that we can bring help, encouragement, and the message of deliverance to many more."

The Maels also feel that this ministry to the shut-ins can be profitably undertaken by every one of our

churches. Brother Mael states, "Every community doubtless has the same need as ours, waiting only for God's people to catch the vision and awaken to their sense of obligation to those who need them so much. We would like to see something similar to our 'Shut-In Club' operating in conjunction with every one of our Assemblies. God has said in His Word that 'pure religion and undefiled . . . is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world' (James 1:27). Great blessings await the persons who will give themselves to this important ministry."



Central's assistant pastor, Everett Linville (left), presents a plant to Charles Harmon, Jr., who was one of a number of shut-ins able to attend a Sunday service that was planned especially to honor members of the "Shut-In Club."

John the Baptist was a voice for God in his day.

Who will lift up his voice and call our generation to repentance?

A Voice

by Violet Schoonmaker

Veteran Missionary to North India

PERHAPS NO MORE GRAPHIC PEN-PICTURE of the preaching of John the Baptist may be found than that given in the book, "The Prince of the House of David," written many years ago by J. H. Ingraham.

The author describes John the Baptist's coming into the midst of Israel, working no miracle but, by the eloquence and power of his preaching alone, drawing great multitudes into the desert to hear him. Such was the power of his preaching that multitudes from all Judea and the country around Jordan were moved to confess their sins and be baptized.

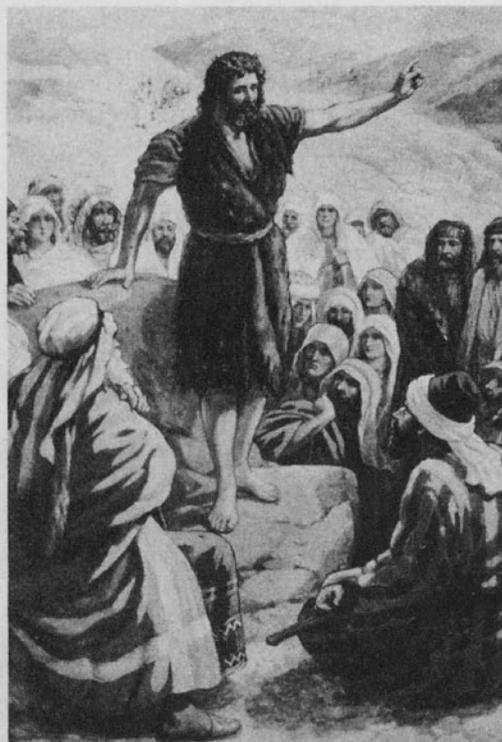
Such a voice Israel had never heard before. The prophets had spoken to them, but their words had fallen, for the most part, on deaf ears. But here was a voice that penetrated into the very depths of their beings, creating mighty conviction of sin and repentance toward God. The fame of the youth preacher spread so rapidly that the multitudes trampled upon one another in their eagerness to reach him. There were no miracles, no mighty signs or wonders, no advertising—but just a voice preaching in the wilderness and carried by the Wind of heaven into every city, village, and hamlet of Judea.

Some time ago I reread J. H. Ingraham's book and pondered upon the enthusiasm and fire of John, the wilderness preacher. Clad in a garment of camel's hair, he held himself aloof from other men. His food consisted of the locusts and wild honey of the desert, and his bed at night was in the coverts of wild beasts. As I thought upon these things and the magnetic power

of his word, my heart sent up a cry to heaven that God would again send such a messenger into the world, with such a message, to produce a similar conviction of sin, in preparation for the Second Coming of our Lord. We believe He is coming soon; but there may yet be valleys to be filled, mountains and hills to be brought low, crooked ways to be made straight and rough places to be made smooth before the way of the Lord will be prepared for His return.

The early disciples were prepared by the Holy Spirit to be a voice from God.

A Dove had descended upon the head



of Jesus at the Jordan, but cloven tongues of fire sat upon the heads of the one hundred and twenty in the Upper Room. Our Lord had told them that they would receive power to witness after the Holy Ghost had come upon them (Acts 1:8). In this unique sign of the baptism of the Holy Ghost, did not God show that He was giving men the power to witness for Him? He who said to Moses, "I will be with thy mouth," desired now to show His disciples that His Spirit could so control their tongues that they would become the very voice of God. Isaiah had prophesied that with stammering lips and another tongue God would speak to His people (Isaiah 28:11). It was God who spoke at Pentecost. It is God who is speaking today through thousands of His Spirit-baptized saints.

Is it a light thing that these human lips of ours have been touched and cleansed with a live coal from the altar of God? Is it a trivial thing to be a voice of God? No, rather, it is a solemnizing thought that we are called "tongues people." We have winced at the name. Should we not glory in it? Not that we would overestimate this sign. But it is truly marvelous to have the Spirit of God so move these tongues of ours as to make us His voice in warning the sinner, arousing the slumbering Church, and proclaiming the soon return of our Lord.

I do not mean to imply, however, that we must speak in tongues to be a voice of God, for the Scripture does not teach that tongues are given to us for the purpose of preaching the gospel. The one hundred twenty "magnified God" in new tongues on the Day of Pentecost, but Peter evidently preached to the multitudes in Aramaic, a language known to all those gathered together.

Nor are we Pentecostal people the only voices God is using today. There are many other voices that are being heard in every land. We believe some of them to be as truly prophets sent to the world as were the prophets sent to Israel. And why not? Surely the God who warned Israel so faithfully of coming destruction would not let the world go unwarned at this time.

We do believe, however, that God has a special message to speak through us. As John the Baptist was sent from God to prepare the way for the first advent of our Lord, we have been sent to help prepare the way for His second advent. John belonged to the Old Dispensation of the Law and cannot be in every detail

an example for us in this dispensation of the Spirit. His was a unique ministry also that made him "more than a prophet," so that the Lord said of him, "Among them that are born of women there hath not risen a greater than John the Baptist" (Matthew 11:11). However, we can learn much from this man, who suddenly appeared on the horizon as a blazing meteor and as quickly disappeared.

What was John's message for his day? First of all, it was a message of *repentance*. "Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand," he preached. John proclaimed that God's axe was already laid at the root of the trees, and that every tree which did not bring forth good fruit was to be cut down and cast into the fire. Surely there was never a time when the world needed this message of repentance as it does today. Someone has said, "An intercessor like Abraham or a prophet like Elijah or a host of little intercessors and little prophets could turn the crisis for God." We believe this is true. We may be very "little intercessors and prophets," but we believe we can turn the present crisis for God. What is to be our message? Is it not, as John's, the message of repentance? Read 2 Chronicles 7:14.

Again, John spoke of a "Coming One." "After me cometh a man which is preferred before me," he said. "There cometh one mightier than I." This is our message for today—"Jesus is coming soon!" This is the only hope for a dying world and the only solution for its great moral and political problems. The words, "Jesus is coming soon," have been the first to sound from the lips of many Spirit-baptized saints. Pastor Barratt of Norway had written a book against the premillennial coming of Christ, but when the Lord baptized him in the Spirit, the first words he uttered in a new tongue with the interpretation were these, "I am coming soon." Gone like a flash were all his arguments. He reasoned, "If Jesus says He is coming soon, who am I that I can say He is not?"

John also bore witness of the "Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world" (John 1:29). Was this message ever emphasized so much by any group as by the Pentecostal people? When the Spirit fell upon our little orphan girls in India, the words *the cross, the blood, the Lamb of God* were heard continually among them. We began to learn at that time something

(Continued on page twenty-five)

COVER PHOTO

New Church Dedicated in Casper, Wyoming

Pastor H. R. Kennedy and the congregation of Faith Assembly in Casper, Wyoming, are rejoicing in the blessings of God. Four years ago this church did not exist. Today the congregation worships in a beautiful new building which was recently dedicated to the Lord.



H. R. Kennedy

The dedicatory services which were broadcast over Casper's radio station, KVOV, and the growth of the church were acclaimed a distinct credit to the Assemblies of God in the Wyoming District.

Afternoon and evening services were held June 19, 1956, with Charles E. Blair, pastor of Calvary Temple, Denver, as main speaker. Local tradesmen and civic leaders were in attendance at the services—part of a crowd of over four hundred persons from Wyoming and neighboring states.

R. G. McAllister, Wyoming District Superintendent, officiated at the dedication. Thomas A. Nicholas, mayor of Casper (population 35,000) commended the members for their spiritual growth and their zeal for continued faith in these times.

The attractive new structure is of building tile with Roman tile marquee and planter. The commodious auditorium

seats 362 persons and the balcony has a capacity of 50.

The attractive interior of the church includes: a grand piano and electric organ, gifts of members and interested groups; a sound-proof nursery; and a built-in baptistry.

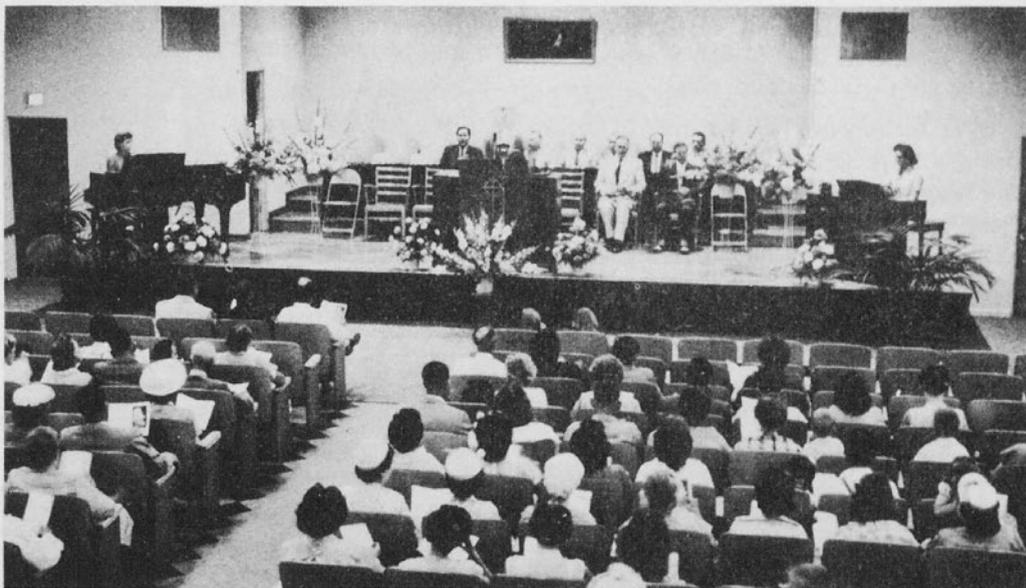
The church was started in the fall of 1952 when the only available building was a former military barracks. It was in that structure that Brother H. A. Hampton first held services for the initial group of approximately ten persons. Brother Kennedy, present pastor, took over the pastoral duties of the small congregation in April, 1953. In the fall of that year, the church moved to the basement of one of its members.

Construction began on the new building in the summer of 1954, and the congregation moved into the new building for the first worship service in January 1955. At that time the average Sunday School attendance was 20. A year later it had increased to 120. The church is located in a fine residential area of the fast-growing community termed the "Oil Capital of the Rockies."

Plans have been drawn up for a two-story Sunday School annex which will be constructed at the rear of the new church building.

Certainly God has blessed this congregation and pastor as they have moved forward in faith.

Interior view of Faith Assembly of God at dedication service



SUNDAY'S LESSON



THE KING WHO MADE A MISTAKE

Sunday School Lesson for August 26, 1956

2 CHRONICLES 26:1-5, 16-21

Pride cost Uzziah his kingdom, his place in society, his health, his all. Many a less prominent man today is paying just as terrific a price for allowing this same sin to take root in his life!

UZZIAH FAVORED OF GOD (vv. 1-15)

His favorable opportunity (verses 1-5). What advantages the youthful king enjoyed at the very outset of his reign. He had (1) the support of the entire kingdom; (2) the counsel of Zechariah, the prophet; (3) the strength and help of God, as indicated by his names: "Uzziah," meaning "might of Jehovah," and "Azariah," meaning "whom Jehovah aids" (2 Kings 15:1).

His favorable rulership (verses 6-15). Uzziah reigned well for many years. He was (1) a seeker after God (v. 5); (2) a brilliant warrior (vv. 2, 6); (3) a great builder (vv. 9, 10); (4) an extensive cattle breeder and agriculturist (v. 10); (5) an able general who organized a well-equipped army; (6) a famous potentate.

UZZIAH'S FLAGRANT SIN (vv. 16-23)

The cause of his sin. "But when he was strong, his heart was lifted up." Instead of humbly and reverently praising God for having helped him so wondrously, Uzziah began to think that his success had been achieved by his own wisdom and skill. His sin was the root sin of all others—pride!

The nature of his sin. "He . . . went into the temple of the Lord to burn incense upon the altar of incense"—an act of the greatest presumption, an open violation of divine law (Ex. 30:7, 8; Lev. 16:2, 12, 13; Num. 18:1-10). Uzziah doubtless wished to imitate other monarchs who, as supreme priests, themselves conducted temple worship in honor of their heathen gods.

The seriousness of his sin. Uzziah committed his grave offense (1) "when he was strong"; when his kingdom was at the height of its power and he should have been supremely contented without aspiring for more; (2) against the God by whose power he had been lifted to the place of power and prosperity, thus showing himself basely ungrateful; (3) in spite of the remonstrance of Azariah the priest who fearlessly warned him of the awfulness of his actions; (4) with an outburst of angry rage. Josephus the historian tells us that he threatened to kill Azariah and his colleagues unless they kept silent.

The punishment for his sin. While Uzziah stood in the Holy Place raging at the priests; God smote him with leprosy! He realized his guilt, fled from the sanctuary, and was an outcast from society until his death.

PRACTICAL LESSONS

The source of prosperity. "God made him to prosper." If only Uzziah had realized this! A man may pride himself on his intellectual achievements, but who gave him his intellect? Another may glory in his riches, but whence came those riches? Says Paul, "Who maketh thee to differ from another? and what hast thou that thou didst not receive? Now if thou didst receive it, why dost thou glory, as if thou hadst not received it?" In other words, if everything has been given to us, why do we boast as if we created it?

The sustenance of prosperity. "As long as he sought the Lord, God made him to prosper." How shall we keep prosperous? "Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."

The subtlety of prosperity. "In prosperity the destroyer shall come" (Job 15:21). Satan comes in prosperity to tempt a man to forgetfulness of God, to selfishness, to covetousness, to pride, to self-congratulation.

Material prosperity is a severe test, but so is spiritual prosperity! A Christian may become proud of his blessings, proud of his spiritual gifts, proud of his Christian service. A pastor or evangelist may become proud of his statistical successes! It is a good thing to remember that, at best, we are "unprofitable servants."

Abiding in our calling (1 Cor. 7:20; Psa. 131:1). God chose Uzziah to be king, but pride led him to believe he could be priest as well. We need to abide within our limitations. Pride has led many a Christian to attempt that for which he was unqualified. Let us find our place in the will of God and be content; for it is the safest, happiest, and most successful place after all! —by J. Bashford Bishop

SOME THINGS CAN'T BE HIDDEN



You Can Trust Where You Cannot Trace

There are many places I cannot trace God, but there is no place I cannot trust God. To trace Him is sight. To trust Him is faith. To trace Him is my investigation. To trust Him is simple resignation. When I trace Him, I may see His hand, but when I trust Him, I find His heart. To trace Him is to find His works, but to trust Him is to believe His Word.

Job tested out the searching method to find God. He made investigation but did not gain much information. He tried to trace God but ultimately gave it up to trust God. See Job in his hopeless attempt to trace God: "Behold, I go *forward*, but he is not there, and *backward*, but I cannot perceive him: on the *left hand*, where he doth work, but I cannot behold him: he hideth himself on the *right hand*, that I cannot see him" (Job 23:8, 9).

By searching he could not find God. The trace did not yield any results. He took to four directions and they each failed. He went backward, he went forward, then he journeyed to the left and also turned to the right. He obeyed the traffic rules in his human search, but he never found the quest of his soul. You cannot trace God; you should learn to trust Him.

"I go forward," says Job, "but he is not there, and backward, but I cannot perceive him." "I cannot behold Him"—"I cannot see Him." What a confession of inability and possibility! Three times he confesses, "I cannot."

Of course you "cannot," Job. God is self-revealing. You cannot trace Him, but you will find Him when you trust Him. He hides Himself from whom He will. He reveals Himself to whom He will. You cannot know His way; but, thank God, He knows your way. His

ways are not known to you, but your way is known to Him.

"But he knows the way that I take," Job added. Mine is the ignorance, His is the information. I am in the dark, He is in the light. I dwell in the land of human impotence and He is Himself Omnipotence! Oh, what a great God is He and what a frail creature am I!

There came a time when Job ceased tracing and began trusting. He came to the end of human ingenuity. He came to the end of the road of human wits and confessed his dilemma. He learned to shut his mouth and be still before God!

"Once have I spoken; but I will not answer: yea, twice; but I will proceed no further. I will lay mine hand upon my mouth" (Job 40:4, 5).

He was not ready to trust and therefore triumph—for there is always triumph where there is trust.

Trace and you never find anything about God. Trust and you will know all about God. God reveals Himself

to the trusting soul, for teaching us to trust is God's highest training for us. The school of faith is God's Highest School.

By Thee, Lord Jesus, guided,
My path is safe and sure;
All cares to Thee confided,
I to the end endure.

When I cannot see Thee;
Where I cannot trace,
Yet, Thou still wilt guide me
With unerring love and grace.

And how perfectly right it is that we should trust and not attempt to trace Him. We cannot follow One such as He. He has a path in the sea and His chariot is in the clouds. He knows all the secret ways and we know none of them. There is no maze to Him. All is the open path to Him who never lost His way. He knows the way we take, but we do not know the way He takes.

Judge not the Lord by feeble sense,
But trust Him for His grace;
Behind a frowning providence
He hides a smiling face.

Blind unbelief is sure to err
And scan His works in vain;
God is His own interpreter,
He will make it plain.

You can trust God where you cannot trace Him. Will you do it?

—The Wonderful Word



I once saw a dark shadow resting on the bare side of a hill. Seeking its cause I saw a little cloud, bright as the light, floating in the clear blue above. Thus it is with our sorrow. It may be dark and cheerless here on earth; yet look above and you shall see it to be but a shadow of His brightness whose name is Love.

—Dean Alford

Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God

Jonathan Edwards was an American preacher mightily used of God two centuries ago. Wherever he preached this famous sermon, men and women were seized with conviction of sin and cried out to God for mercy.

TEXT: "Their foot shall slide in due time" (Deuteronomy 32:35).

THE EXPRESSION I HAVE CHOSEN FOR my text, "Their foot shall slide in due time," seems to imply the following things, relating to the punishment and destruction to which these wicked Israelites were exposed:

That they were always exposed to destruction, as one that stands or walks in slippery places is always exposed to fall;

That they were always exposed to sudden, unexpected destruction;

That they are liable to fall of themselves, without being thrown down by the hand of another, as he that stands or walks on slippery ground needs nothing but his own weight to throw him down;

That the reason they are not fallen already, and do not fall now, is only

that God's appointed time is not come, for it is said that when that due time or appointed time comes, "their feet shall slide." Then they shall be left to fall, as they are inclined by their own weight. God will not hold them up in these slippery places any longer, but will let them go; and then, at that very instant they will fall into destruction, as he that stands on such slippery, declining ground, on the edge of a pit, that he can not stand alone; when he is let go he immediately falls and is lost.

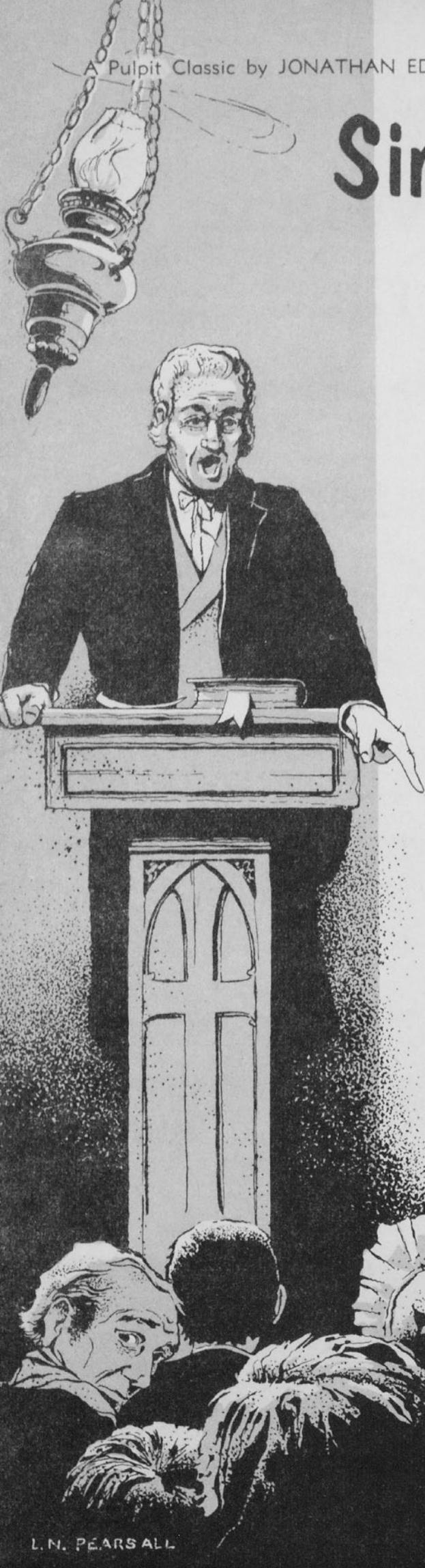
There is nothing that keeps wicked men at any one moment out of hell but the mere pleasure of God. By "the mere pleasure of God" I mean His sovereign pleasure, His arbitrary will, restrained by no obligation, hindered by no manner of difficulty, any more than if nothing else but God's mere will had, in the least degree or in any respect whatever, any hand in the preservation of wicked men one moment.

The truth of this observation may appear by the following considerations:

There is no want of power in God to cast wicked men into hell at any moment. Men's hands cannot be strong when God rises up: the strongest have no power to resist Him, nor can any deliver out of His hands.

He is not only able to cast wicked men into hell, but He can most easily do it. Sometimes an early prince meets with a great deal of difficulty to subdue a rebel who has found means to fortify himself and has made himself strong by the number of his followers. But it is not so with God. There is no fortress which is any defense against the power of God.

They deserve to be cast into hell, so that divine justice never stands in the



way; it makes no objection against God's using His power at any moment to destroy them. Yea, on the contrary, justice calls aloud for an infinite punishment of their sins.

They are already under a sentence of condemnation to hell. They do not only justly deserve to be cast down thither, but the sentence of the Law of God, that eternal and immutable rule of righteousness which God has fixed between Him and mankind, is gone out against them and stands against them, so that they are bound over already to hell.

They are now the objects of that same anger and wrath of God which is expressed in the torments of hell, and the reason they do not go down to hell at each moment is not that God, in whose power they are, is not then angry with them, as angry as He is with many of those miserable creatures now tormented in hell, who already feel and bear the fierceness of His wrath. Yea, God is a great deal more angry with great numbers who are now on earth (yea, doubtlessly, with many who, it may be, are at ease and quiet) than He is with many of those who are now in the flames of hell.

So, it is not because God is unmindful of their wickedness and does not resent it, that He does not let loose His hands and cut them off. God is not altogether such a one as themselves, though they imagine Him to be so. The wrath of God burns against them; their damnation does not slumber; the pit is prepared; the fire is made ready; the furnace is now hot, ready to receive them; the flames do now rage and glow. The glittering sword is whet and held over them; and the pit hath opened her mouth under them.

The devil stands ready to fall upon them and seize them as his own, at what moment God shall permit him. They belong to him; he has their souls in his possession, and under his dominion. The Scripture represents them as his goods. The devils watch them; they are ever by them, at their right hand; they stand waiting for them, like greedy, hungry lions that see their prey, and expect to have it, but are, for the present, kept back. If God should withdraw His hand by which they are restrained, they would, in one moment, fly upon their poor souls. The old serpent is gaping for them; hell opens its mouth wide to receive them. If God should permit, they would be hastily swallowed up and lost.

There are in the souls of wicked men

those hellish principles reigning which would presently kindle and flame out in hell fire if it were not for God's restraints. There is laid in the very nature of carnal men a foundation for the torments of hell; there are those corrupt principles, in reigning power in them and in full possession of them, which are the beginnings of hell fire.

It is no security to wicked men for one moment that there are no visible means of death at hand. It is no security to a natural man that he is now in health, and that he does not see which way he should now immediately go out of the world by any accident, and that there is no visible danger in any respect in his circumstances. The manifold and continual experience of the world in all ages shows that this is no evidence that a man is not on the brink of eternity, and that the next step will not be into another world. The unseen, unthought-of ways and means of persons going suddenly out of the world are innumerable and inconceivable. Unconverted men walk over the pit of hell on a rotten covering, and there are innumerable places in this covering so weak that they will not bear their weight, and these places are not seen. The arrows of death fly unseen at noonday; the sharpest sight can not discern them. God has so many different, unsearchable ways of taking wicked men out of the world and sending them to hell that there is nothing to make it appear that God had need to be at the expense of a miracle, or go out of the ordinary course of His providence, to destroy any wicked man at any moment.

Natural men's prudence and care to preserve their own lives, or the care of others to preserve them, do not secure them a moment. To this, divine providence and universal experience do also bear testimony. There is this clear evidence that men's own wisdom is no security to them from death; that if it were otherwise, we should see some difference between the wise and politic men of the world and others, with regard to their liability to early and unexpected death; but how is it, in fact? "How dieth the wise man? As the fool."

God has laid Himself under no obligations, by any promise, to keep any natural man out of hell one moment. God certainly has made no promises either of eternal life or of any deliverance or preservation from eternal death but what are contained in the covenant of grace, the promises which are in

Christ, in whom all the promises are yea and amen. But surely they have no interest in the promises of the covenant of grace who are not the children of the covenant, and who do not believe in any of the promises of the covenant, and have no interest in the Mediator of the covenant.

So that thus it is that natural men are held in the hand of God over the pit of hell. They have deserved the fiery pit and are already sentenced to it, and God is dreadfully provoked; His anger is as great toward them as to those who are actually suffering the executions of the fierceness of His wrath in hell. They have done nothing in the least to appease or abate that anger; neither is God, in the least, bound by any promise to hold them up one moment. The devil is waiting for them; hell is gaping for them; the flames gather and flash about them and would fain lay hold on them and swallow them up; the fire pent up in their own hearts is struggling to break out, and they have no interest in any mediator; there are no means within reach which can be any security to them. In short, they have no refuge, nothing to take hold of; all that preserves them every moment is the mere arbitrary will, and uncovenanted, unobliged forbearance of an incensed God.

The use may be of awakening to unconverted persons. This that you have heard is the case of everyone of you who are out of Christ. That world of misery, that lake of burning brimstone, is extended abroad under you. There is the dreadful pit of the glowing flames of the wrath of God; there is hell's wide gaping mouth open, and you have nothing to stand upon, nor anything to take hold of. There is nothing between you and hell but the air; it is only the power and mere pleasure of God which holds you up.

The wrath of God is like great waters which are dammed for the present; they increase more and more and rise higher and higher till an outlet is given. The longer the stream is stopped, the more rapid and mighty is its course when once it is let loose. It is true that judgment against your evil work has not been executed hitherto; the floods of God's vengeance have been withheld; but your guilt, in the meantime, is constantly increasing, and you are every day treasuring up more wrath; the waters are continually rising and waxing more and more mighty. There is nothing but the mere pleasure of God which holds the

(Continued on page twenty-eight)



Revivaltime

ENDS FISCAL YEAR IN VICTORY!

Broadcast Now Heard on 360 Stations

The month of June, the last month of our fiscal year, was a time of outstanding victories. More churches gave to REVIVALTIME in the month of June than in any other month in 1955 and 1956. A total of 1,384 churches sent offerings for the support of the broadcast in June.

REVIVALTIME has come to the top as a religious broadcast. It has gained recognition everywhere. The broadcast is heard each week on 360 radio stations with no less than ten million homes reached weekly with the full gospel message.

The New York District had 62 churches sending offerings to REVIVALTIME in June. THIS WAS THE FIRST DISTRICT TO REACH ITS GOAL AS TO THE NUMBER OF CHURCHES GIVING IN ANY ONE MONTH. Congratulations to the New York District! New Jersey and Michigan followed close behind in the number of churches giving, lacking only two and five churches (respectively) in meeting their goal for the month. Every district except six had an increase in the number of churches giving in June of 1956 as compared with June of 1955. A total of 214 more churches gave to REVIVALTIME this past June than in the same month last year.

There were eight more districts which broke their own records with more churches giving in June than in any other month since the beginning of 1955. These were the Appalachian, Arizona, Kansas, Kentucky, New Jersey, New York, Southern California, and Southern Missouri Districts.

There were eight other Districts which broke their records of from six to

fifteen months with more churches giving in June than in any other month in that period. These included Eastern, Georgia, Illinois, Michigan, North Carolina, Northern California-Nevada, Southern Idaho, and West Central.

The record shows that we are moving in the right direction. A denominational broadcast MUST have the support of the denomination which it represents. With the support of every Assemblies of God church, we could make this broadcast the greatest single soul-winning agent anywhere!

Another modern-day miracle is that REVIVALTIME received \$270,000 in personal offerings toward the support of the broadcast in the past fiscal year. This in itself is a marvel since REVIVALTIME is a denominational broadcast.

The future is brighter than at any other time. Souls are being saved and

our churches strengthened. Recently an evangelist said that he was holding a meeting in a new field. When the people in this particular town heard that he was connected with the REVIVALTIME denomination, he had a church full of people immediately. He continued to say, "I never thought so much about REVIVALTIME and its work until then; but when it gives you a crowd to preach to, you know it's doing something."

As we begin a new fiscal year, we are expecting God to give us the greatest year yet. It is our prayer that more souls will be saved than ever before, and that men and women will be built up in the faith. Let us pray that God will truly make it REVIVALTIME around the world. For it is "Not by might, nor by power, but by My Spirit, saith the Lord of hosts."

FOR HIS GLORY

I was reading of the battle of Agincourt, in which Henry V figured; and, it is said, after the battle was won—and gloriously won—the king wanted to acknowledge divine interposition, and he ordered the chaplain to read a Psalm of David. When the chaplain came to the words, "Not unto us, O Lord, but unto Thy Name give glory," the king dismounted, and all the cavalry dismounted, and all the great host of officers and men threw themselves on their faces. Oh, at the gospel of the Saviour's love and the Saviour's deliverance, shall we not prostrate ourselves before Him today, hosts of earth and hosts of heaven, falling upon our faces and crying, "Not unto us, not unto us, but unto Thy Name be the glory"?

—T. DEWITT TALMAGE in *One Thousand Evangelistic Illustrations*.

REVIVALTIME Giving



TOP TEN DISTRICTS

January 1 to June 30, 1956

TOTAL GIVING		AVERAGE PER CHURCH	
1. EASTERN	\$9,298.38	1. NEW YORK	\$66.55
2. SO. CALIFORNIA	9,230.25	2. OHIO	48.23
3. NORTHWEST	8,740.09	3. NEW ENGLAND	47.05
4. NEW YORK	8,652.50	4. NEW JERSEY	44.28
5. OHIO	8,296.99	5. WISCONSIN-N. MICH.	42.56
6. ILLINOIS	6,797.42	6. EASTERN	42.26
7. SO. MISSOURI	6,680.91	7. ILLINOIS	35.40
8. WISCONSIN-N. MICH.	5,703.79	8. NEBRASKA	35.11
9. WEST CENTRAL	5,496.09	9. SO. FLORIDA	34.79
10. NO. CALIFORNIA-NEV.	5,495.17	10. NORTHWEST	33.74



MISSIONETTES HONOR MOTHERS

A VOICE

(Continued from page nineteen)

Just before Mother's Day the Missionette groups of the Glad Tidings Assembly of God in Hanford, California, and the Eastside Assembly of God in Visalia, California, jointly arranged a Mother-Daughter banquet in Hanford. Eighty persons were in attendance and throughout the evening the Spirit of the Lord was manifested in a very precious way.

The theme for the evening was "Consecrated Hands." All the music and recitations were on this theme. The colors of blue and white were used for table decorations. These are the official Missionette colors—standing for loyalty and purity. The pictures accompanying this article were taken by a reporter from the local newspaper, the Hanford *Sentinel*. One of them appeared in the *Sentinel* along with a fine write-up concerning the banquet.

Mrs. Clyde Henson of Sacramento, speaker for the occasion, related experiences both of her girlhood and as a pastor's wife. She stressed the importance of setting goals early in life and depending on Christ to lead to the accomplishment of those objectives. She told of several goals which she had set early in life and which the Lord helped her to meet.

A display arranged at one end of the banquet room showed different handwork which the two girls' groups had made for missionaries. Included were stuffed toys for children in mission homes, Swedish embroidery, and place cards for hospital trays made from old greeting cards. Other items shown were a handmade flag of India, which the Missionettes made while studying about missionary

work in that country, and a scrapbook of activities on their study of India.

Missionettes, an auxiliary of the Women's Missionary Council, is the girls' missionary club of the Assemblies of God. A time of fellowship such as this banquet tends to cement the bond between the two groups.

There has been a very good response to the Missionette program since its official introduction early this year. During the first six months of 1956 one hundred and forty groups received membership certificates making them official Missionette Clubs. Many other groups have been formed but have not as yet applied for their certificates.

Do you have a Missionette Club in your church for your teen-age girls? If not, send today for the free pamphlet entitled, "What is the Missionette Club?" Your girls will enjoy studying the biographies and true stories of our Assemblies of God missionaries with their thrilling answers to prayer. They will be eager to make things which missionaries need and appreciate so much.

Missionettes will help teen-age girls find a place of service and develop Christian character. In addition it will provide training and experience that will help them later to become creditable members of the Women's Missionary Council.

Interest the teen-age girls of your church in the things of God now by forming a Missionette group for them. For further information, write: WMC Dept., 434 W. Pacific St., Springfield 1, Mo.

of the preciousness and the power of the Blood. Likewise, down through the last half century thousands have had a vision of the Cross as the Spirit has descended upon them. And so we point the world to the Lamb of God and determine to know nothing among men except "Jesus Christ, and Him crucified."

John witnessed of the *One who would baptize with the Holy Ghost and fire* (Matthew 3:11). How this witness has been neglected by the churches! Many that witness strongly of the "Lamb of God" have nothing to say about "the Baptizer in the Holy Ghost." This is the most neglected phase of all the witness concerning Christ because it is the least understood and experienced. But this truth is the *peculiar* message of our Pentecostal movement. It is not popular, but it is supremely important in these last days. Let us never cease to tell the weak, faltering Church that she will receive power after the Holy Ghost has come upon her. Let us urge our fellow Christians to "wait for the Promise" and to "tarry until they be endued with power from on high." And let us live the life that will confirm the words we speak!

God make us a voice, as was John the Baptist—not "reeds shaken with the wind" or men and women "clothed in soft raiment, dwelling in king's houses," but strong, rugged messengers of God.

LEFT: Shown inspecting some of the handwork of the Missionettes are (left to right): Mrs. Gene Forrest, WMC Sectional Director and sponsor of the Hanford Missionette Group; Mrs. Clyde Henson of Sacramento, banquet speaker; Janet Ray, Hanford Mis-

sionette President; and Carolyn Williams, East Visalia Missionette President. RIGHT: This picture shows a part of the group which attended the Missionette Mother-Daughter banquet in Hanford, California.





Fagots From the Torch of Evangelism

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

► **HOUSTON, TEX.**—Burbank Assembly reports a very successful two-week revival with Evangelist and Mrs. Glen Shinn. Their ministry in Word and song was a real blessing to the church.

—*J. W. McClellan, Pastor*

► **LEVELLAND, TEX.**—Seventeen were saved and 10 baptized in the Holy Spirit during a month's revival with Evangelist and Mrs. L. C. Eldridge of Bakersfield, Calif. A number were healed in answer to prayer.

—*Ted Vassar, Pastor*

► **PECOS, TEX.**—The congregation at First Assembly greatly enjoyed the recent ministry of Evangelist and Mrs. Kenneth Smith of Oklahoma City. All of the meetings were signally blessed of God. Souls were saved and some received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit. The anointed preaching and singing was enjoyed by all.

—*O. W. Newman, Pastor*

► **VANCOUVER, WASH.**—A four-week revival was recently concluded at Glad Tidings with Evangelists Carl and Edna Goodwin. Their anointed preaching caused many to hunger for the power of the Spirit. Some were saved and reclaimed, while 26 were filled with the Holy Spirit and many others refilled. Since this glorious moving of the Spirit of God the congregation has a new determination to go forward in God.

—*J. S. Manchester, Pastor*

► **SAULT STE. MARIE, MICH.**—Spiritual victories were won in every service of a 10-night campaign conducted at the Assembly here by the Musical Vanderploegs of Toledo, Ohio. Over 20 accepted Christ as Saviour. In one service alone, five came through to the Baptism of the Holy Spirit. As a result of this meeting many new contacts were made, a good number of which were first-time visitors. It was a joy to see the all-time Sunday School record broken. The entire church was blessed by the consecrated ministry of the "Musical Vanns."

—*Carl Johnson, Pastor*

► **BROWNTOWN, VA.**—A spiritual refreshing was experienced by the folk at Community Tabernacle during one of the best revivals ever conducted here. The evangelist was J. E. Winstead of Winter Garden, Fla. Numbers were saved, healed, and filled with the Holy Spirit. Backsliders were brought back to God. Nearly all the saints experienced a refilling. Sunday School attendance increased to 127 with a four-week average of 119. Fifteen were baptized in water. There was a definite substantial increase in both tithes and offerings. The church truly was enriched by Brother Winstead's ministry.

—*Curtis A. Arnold, Pastor*

► **FREER, TEX.**—Over 30 responded to the call of salvation, and a number received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, during a three-week revival just concluded with Evangelist Bert Clendennen. Many testified to the healing power of God. The entire church was encouraged to go on with God during this time of spiritual refreshing.

—*James C. Davis, Pastor*

► **ARTESIA, NEW MEX.**—The ministry of Evangelist and Mrs. L. C. Eldridge of Santa Barbara, Calif., proved a great blessing to the folk at First Assembly during a recent three-week revival. Ten were saved and seven were filled with the Holy Ghost.

—*J. H. McClendon, Pastor*

► **ABERDEEN, WASH.**—Calvary Temple rejoices over three weeks of special meetings recently conducted by Evangelist Cornelius Eylander. Six were saved and 16 filled with the Holy Spirit. A great transformation came to several families as a result of God's moving on their hearts. In one instance, three boys and their mother were filled with the Spirit. A young man, formerly Catholic, not only rejoiced in his experience of the Holy Ghost baptism but in that of his wife who had newly accepted Christ. Everyone appreciated Brother Eylander's ministry to help people receive the Holy Spirit.

—*Werner Uhlman, Pastor*

► **UHRICHSVILLE, OHIO**—The Spirit of the Lord was felt in each service of a two-week revival just concluded here by Evangelist and Mrs. Eddie Roush of Clinton, Ind. There was a good response, with quite a number accepting Christ. The anointed ministry of the Word and the musical talent of this young couple was appreciated.

—*Charles D. Hirst, Pastor*

► **BAKERSFIELD, CALIF.**—A truly old-fashioned Holy Ghost revival has been in progress at Riverview Assembly for eleven weeks without the aid of an evangelist. Night after night the power of God fell at the very outset of the service, and there would be no preaching except messages in tongues and interpretations. Sinners literally ran to the altar to accept Christ and be filled with the Holy Spirit. It was impossible to keep count of all those who came through to this glorious experience. An elderly man who had come to the church on crutches, left them at his seat, went up to the platform, and praised God for deliverance. "God told me to get up—that I could walk without crutches," he said. As a result of these weeks of gracious visitation from God, 40 joined the church, and 27 were baptized in water, with more awaiting this experience. God is still blessing, saving, and healing the people. He has enabled the church to broadcast every Sunday morning from 9 to 9:30 over KCHJ in Delano.

—*L. M. Vaughn, Pastor*

ANNOUNCEMENTS OF FORTHCOMING EVANGELISTIC CAMPAIGNS

STATE	CITY	CHURCH	DATE	EVANGELIST	PASTOR
Calif.	Cloverdale	First	Aug. 22—	Don George	J. L. Jeffrey
	National City	¹ Sweet Water Val.	Aug. 14-19	Mel Johnson	Don Fullerton
	San Diego	¹ First	Aug. 21-26	Mel Johnson	Elton Hill
Fla.	Miami	¹ Evangel Temple	Aug. 19-Sept. 5	Gladys Voight	J. Billy McIntosh
Ill.	Belleville	Full Gosp. Tab.	Aug. 28-Sept. 9	Christian Hild	T. M. Kimberlin
	Joliet	First	Aug. 19-Sept. 2	Carl Oney & wife	Larry Bottroff
	Peoria	² Union revival	Aug. 24-Sept. 9	Velmer Gardner	L. Shoemaker, Chm.
Iowa	Woodbine	A of G	Aug. 26—	Kenneth Smith & wife	James Booth
Minn.	Floodwood	A of G	Aug. 14-Sept. 2	Singing Sandalls	Robert Scharnberg
Mo.	Columbia	A of G	Aug. 12-Sept. 2	C. C. Truitt & wife	Chas. Parker
N.Y.	Bath	Bethel Gosp. Tab.	Aug. 26-Sept. 16	J. F. Pepper	Lewis Riling
Okla.	Miami	² Union revival	Aug. 5-26	Morris Cerullo Party	L. J. Choate, Chm.
Oreg.	Forest Grove	A of G	Aug. 26—	Lloyd Portin	V. Ward Honey
Pa.	Lancaster	First Pent. A/G	Aug. 14—	S. MacPherson & wife	Derrick Hillary
	Millersburg	² A of G	Aug. 12-Aug. 26	H. E. Hardt	David Forkey
Tex.	De Leon	A of G	Aug. 22—	Bob McCutchen & wife	M. M. Otwell
	San Angelo	Campus Blvd. A/G	Aug. 13—	Danny Hope & wife	Eston Pack
Wis.	Berlin	Gospel Tab.	Aug. 21-26	Wm. Moorman & wife	Harley Olson
	Dodgeville	² Full Gosp. Tab.	Aug. 19-Sept. 16	Carl Johnson, Jr.	Bob Streblov
Canada	Edmonton	Pentecostal Tab.	Aug. 26-Sept. 9	Evelyn M. Olsen	R. W. Taitinger

¹ Children's revival

² Tent revival

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.

YOUTH SPEAKER to be heard in Atlanta, Ga., October 30

► **MODESTO, CALIF.**—A glorious revival has just been concluded at the South Modesto Assembly with Evangelist Nolan Mott. The presence of God was so real in every service that many new consecrations were made. Several were saved, and a woman of another faith received the Baptism of the Holy Ghost. The church rejoices in the things that have been accomplished for Christ.

—*J. W. Sandlin, Pastor*

► **POTSDAM, N. Y.**—The compassion and power of the living Christ was recently witnessed in this north country area as Evangelist Wm. Caldwell of Lancaster, Pa. ministered here in gospel tent services. This was the first real response in many years; folk attended from great distances as a result of radio ministry. Over a dozen were saved or reclaimed. The deaf, paralytics, and people suffering from arthritis were among those delivered by the power of God. Potsdam Assembly has received a great spiritual boost, and the blessing of God is still evident.

—*William C. Burkett, Pastor*

► **GARDENA, CALIF.**—Victory Assembly continued to enjoy a great revival spirit which was kindled during a recent union revival effort with the Culpepper Evangelistic Party. Scores were saved, and many were filled with the Holy Ghost. A good number were healed by the power of God. Each service increased in blessing and power. During the last service the presence of God was so great that there was no need for preaching. The altars were filled with seekers as conviction gripped the audience. Churches from Gardena, Torrance, and North Redondo gave full support, bringing about a blessed unity and fellowship among the various pastors and churches.

—*C. E. Shields, Pastor*

THREE THOUSAND ATTEND YOUTH CONVENTION

OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLA.—The annual Oklahoma C. A. Convention was conducted at the District Camp Grounds June 18-20. Kenneth Schmidt, pastor of the First Assembly in Grand Junction, Colo., was the speaker. The estimated attendance during the three days was around 3,000. We considered this attendance very good, as the Billy Graham Crusade for Christ was in progress at the same time in Oklahoma City. About 50 were saved and a number received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.—*T. A. McDonough, District C. A. President.*

WEST CENTRAL DISTRICT RE-ELECTS OFFICERS

The executive officers of the West Central District (Iowa and Northern Missouri) were re-elected at the 41st annual convention of the district held in Des Moines, Iowa, May 1-3. T. E. Gannon continues to serve as District Superintendent, B. B. Compton as Assistant District Superintendent, and C. E. Long as Secretary-Treasurer.

Those attending report that the spiritual tide of the Council was a real uplift. Guest speaker was Southern Missouri District Superintendent David Hastie, a former member of the West Central District. His ministry of the Word brought great encouragement to all who were privileged to hear him.

Laurie Price will be the Youth Speaker in Atlanta, Georgia, during the annual convention of the Pentecostal Fellowship of North America. He will address the Youth Rally on Tuesday evening, October 30, which will be the first public service of the three-day convention.

Brother Price, one of Canada's outstanding young Pentecostal preachers, is well known in various parts of the U. S. where he has conducted successful revival campaigns. He is an ordained minister of the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada.

Born in Campbellton, New Brunswick, Laurie Price was saved at an early age and graduated from the Eastern Pentecostal Bible College in Ontario. Due to his leadership ability and his zeal for God, he was named Youth President for the entire district of Eastern Ontario and Quebec, a position which he filled with distinction for seven years. For the past six years he has ministered in Belleville, Ontario, where a beautiful church has been erected with a splendid congregation which has outgrown its quarters. Many have been saved



Laurie Price

and filled with the Holy Spirit under his ministry.

In addition to Brother Price the convention program will feature other outstanding speakers representing various Pentecostal groups. The brethren in Atlanta are expecting thousands of Pentecostal people, young and old, to assemble October 30 to November 1 for this annual season of sweet and blessed Holy Ghost fellowship.

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY TO BE OBSERVED IN LOS ANGELES SEPTEMBER 16-23

Fifty golden years of Pentecostal blessing will be celebrated next month.

It was in 1906 that the Holy Ghost fell at the old Azusa Street Mission in Los Angeles. The news swiftly spread abroad that God was blessing His people as on the Day of Pentecost, and hungry-hearted saints came from all directions. Hundreds were baptized with the Holy Spirit in that humble place. The sick were healed, and sinners were saved as they came through the doors into that Power-charged atmosphere.

Many are longing for a return to the simplicity and spiritual reality of those early days. A special observance of the Golden Anniversary therefore has been planned for the week of September 16-23. A group of ministers and laymen, representing every organized segment of the Pentecostal Movement, has been meeting each Wednesday to plan and pray for this Anniversary Week. It will be an old-fashioned, soul-stirring, Spirit-seeking, four-meetings-a-day event. Some of these men were present fifty years ago when the Spirit fell at Azusa Street. Now aged and frail, their words still burn with fervor and their testimony fires younger men to a greater vision to seek God as they did half a century ago.

The meetings will be held in Angelus Temple, 1100 Glendale Boulevard, Los Angeles, at 10 a. m., 11 a. m., 2:30 p. m., and 7:30 p. m., each week-day, and at 2:30 p. m., both Sundays. Well-known preachers representing various Pentecostal groups will minister. A special feature of the week's program will be a breakfast meeting at 7:30 a. m. Saturday, September 22, at the Biltmore Hotel.

FIFTEEN SAVED AT V.B.S.

FAIRVIEW, OKLA.—We had a two-week Vacation Bible School with Sister Louise Garvie of Alva, Okla., in charge. The average attendance was 57, and 15 were saved. Some boys and girls attended who had not been coming to our church before. We thank the Lord for all that was accomplished during these two weeks.—*Clarence Glaze, Pastor.*

PASTOR TO VISIT DENMARK

V. G. Greisen, formerly Kansas District Superintendent, invited our pastor, William A. Raiford, to come to Denmark for some meetings. Brother and Sister Raiford will be the guests of Brother and Sister Greisen and also of the Harold Rich family who visited Kansas and the surrounding Districts last year. The Raifords will leave September 9 and return October 21.—*C. Wayne Moore, Church Missionary Secretary, Baxter Springs, Kansas.*

MISCELLANEOUS

CONTACTS WANTED—We are starting a new work in Navasota, Texas. If you have friends in this vicinity, please send us their names and addresses.—*Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Willis, 918 E. McAlpine St., Navasota, Tex.*

TEACHER WANTED—If you have a bachelor's degree in nursing education and are interested in teaching in a Christian college, please write immediately to the Education Department, 434 W. Pacific, Springfield, Mo. There is a position vacant for the coming fall semester.

WITH CHRIST

DORRIS W. JOLLEY, 30, Crowley, La. went to be with Jesus July 5, 1956. Brother Jolley was ordained in 1952. He was pastoring the First Assembly in Crowley, La. at the time of his death.

EDGAR A. RAMEY, 55, Houston, Tex. went to be with the Lord July 25, 1956. Brother Ramey was ordained in 1933 with The Church of God and came into the Assemblies of God in 1949. He pastored several churches in Texas.

SINNERS IN THE HANDS OF AN ANGRY GOD

(Continued from page twenty-three)

waters back, which are unwilling to be stopped and press hard to go forward. If God should only withdraw His hand from the floodgate, it would immediately fly open, and the fiery floods of the fierceness and wrath of God would rush forth with inconceivable fury and would come upon you with omnipotent power. If your strength were ten thousand times greater than it is, yea ten thousand times greater than the strength of the stoutest, sturdiest devil in hell, it would be nothing to withstand or endure it.

The bow of God's wrath is bent, and the arrow made ready on the string, and justice bends the arrow at your heart and strains the bow, and it is nothing but the mere pleasure of God, and that of an angry God, without any promise or obligation at all, which keeps

the arrow one moment from being made drunk with your blood.

The God who holds you over the pit of hell, much as one holds a spider or some loathsome insect over the fire, abhors you and is dreadfully provoked; His wrath toward you burns like fire. He looks upon you as worthy of nothing else but to be cast into the fire; He is of purer eyes than to bear you in His sight. You are ten thousand times as abominable in His eyes as the most hateful and venomous serpent is in ours. You have offended Him infinitely more than ever a stubborn rebel did his prince. Yet it is nothing but His hand which holds you from falling into the fire every moment; it is ascribed to nothing else that you did not go to hell the last night after which you were suffered

to awake again in this world, after you closed your eyes to sleep. There is no other reason to be given why you have not dropped into hell since you arose in the morning but that God's hand has held you up. There is no other reason to be given why you have not gone to hell, since you have sat here in the house of God, provoking His pure eye by your sinful wicked manner of attending His solemn worship. Yea, there is nothing else which is to be given as a reason why you do not this very moment drop down into hell.

O sinner, consider the fearful danger you are in! It is a great furnace of wrath, a wide and bottomless pit, full of the fire of wrath which you are held over in the hands of that God whose wrath is provoked and incensed as much against you as against many of the damned in hell. You hang by a slender thread, with the flames of divine wrath flashing about it and ready every moment to singe it and burn it asunder; and you have no interest in any mediator, and nothing to lay hold of to save yourself, nothing to keep off the flames of wrath, nothing of your own, nothing that you have ever done, nothing that you can do to induce God to spare you one moment. *Abridged*

What is happening to the old-fashioned humility taught by the Word of God and preached by our predecessors?

Does not the Bible condemn pride and self-exaltation, and does it not commend humility?

Did not Jesus teach us to take the lowest seat at the feast? What about all these people who push themselves to the front and who seek the spotlight and the applause of men? It is not uncommon these days for ministers to have publicity directors who see that they are properly headlined and eulogized, and their abilities and successes extolled. Religious workers advertise their own success like conceited children. What has happened? Has black suddenly become white? Is poison nourishing? Is sin righteousness? Is death life? Is pride of person, place, and achievement humility?

Sometimes when two trains stand side by side in a railroad station and one starts very slowly, the passengers may for a few moments wonder which train is moving. Some of the things that are happening round about us in the religious world make us ask our-

Who Is Going Where?

by Paul W. Thomas

selves, Who is going where? Is this a fantastic dream?

William Law wrote pointedly and well when he said,

"Self is the root, the branches, the tree of all the evil of our fallen state. All the evils of fallen angels and men have their birth in the pride of self. On the other hand, all the virtues of the heavenly life are the virtues of humility. It is humility alone that makes the unpassable gulf between heaven and hell. What is then, or in what lies, the great struggle for eternal life? It all lies in

the strife between pride and humility: pride and humility are the two master powers—the two kingdoms in strife for the eternal possession of man. There never was, nor ever will be, but one humility, and that is the one humility of Christ."

One far greater than William Law has said, "And whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased; and he that shall humble himself shall be exalted" (Matt. 23:12). And again we read, "Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up" (James 4:10). —*Pilgrim Holiness Advocate*

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—ANDREW MURRAY

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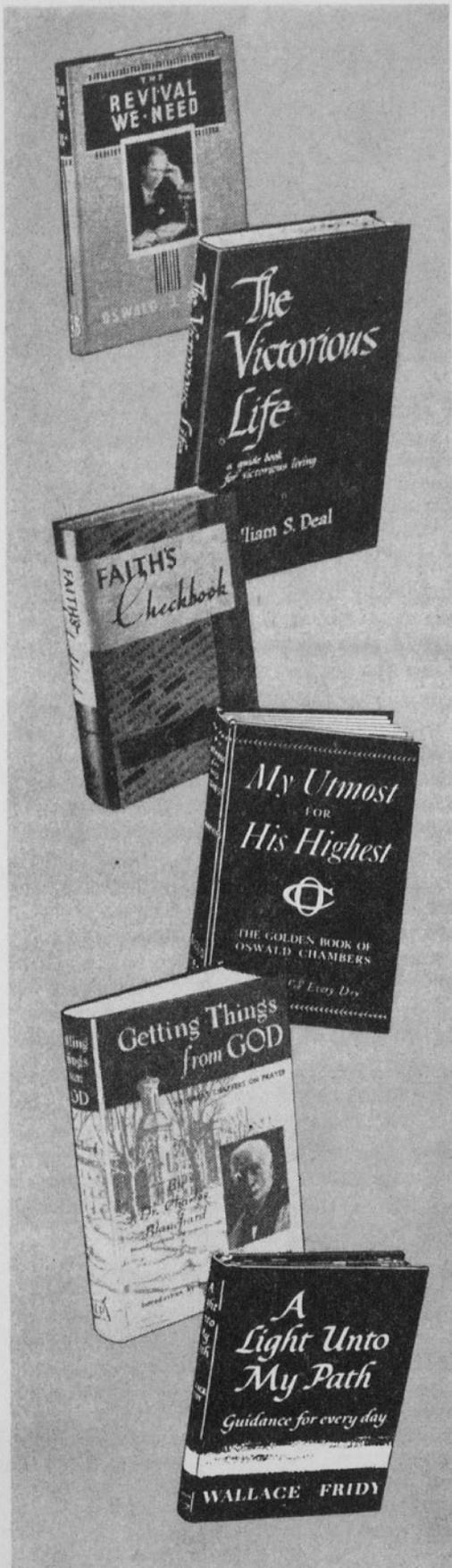
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GOD'S ROD AND GOD'S STAFF

(Continued from page three)

a group of mild petitioners who came to His servant Paul and said, "[Please] depart, and go in peace" (Acts 16:36). He silenced the cynicism and bickering of Elymas, the sorcerer, who heckled the evangelistic ministry of Paul and Barnabas, and withstood them, and sought to turn away the deputy, Sergius Paulus, a prudent man, from the faith. As an act of judgment, God sent blindness to that wicked man (Acts 13:10).

Yes, my friend, there is a "big stick" in this world. The law of God is at work every day. And what a comfort that is!

THE STAFF OF GOD

But David said that wasn't the only thing that comforted him. He said that God's *staff* is manifest in this life, too. David was comforted by the kindness, mercy, and forgiveness of God. While the rod is applied to bring the delinquent in line, the staff reaches down to rescue the perishing and lift up the fallen. Neighbor, God's love and God's care are a comfort to me in this life. I must not magnify the grace of God out of proportion, but neither must I magnify the severity and the law of God out of proportion. God uses both rod and staff.

Jonah found this out, although it upset his Old Testament theology quite a bit. He wanted to see Nineveh punished. He didn't find much joy in the message of God's grace.

Paul also found this out. He said, "What shall we say then? Is there unrighteousness with God? God forbid. For he saith to Moses, I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion. So then it is not of him that willeth, nor of him that runneth, but of God that sheweth mercy" (Romans 9:14-16).

"Love has a hem in its garment
That reaches the very dust,
It can reach the stains
In the streets and the lanes,
And because it can, it must.

"It cannot stop on the mountain;
It is bound to go to the vale,
For it cannot find
Its fullness of mind
Till it reaches the lives that fail."

Yes, God is forever reaching His "staff" out toward you, Neighbor.

To the woman brought before Him by her accusers, Jesus said, "Where are those thine accusers? hath no man condemned thee? . . . Neither do I condemn thee: go, and sin no more." That woman needed help, not hell! She needed the Rock of Ages, not the rocks of self-righteousness; conversion, not condemnations; a Saviour, not a slayer; a Friend, not a foe. How many more like her need comfort in this hour! The comfort of His "staff" to reach them and protect them and give them a new start in life!

To Zacchaeus, a tax agent with a warped and twisted soul, calloused by greed and financial scheming, He said, "Make haste, and come down; for to day I must abide at thy house" (Luke 19:5). And when Zacchaeus repented and offered to make restitution, Jesus said to him, "This day is salvation come to this house." That man needed help. Jesus said that He had come "to seek and to save that which was *lost*." That "internal revenue agent" was *lost*. What comfort there is in God's "staff"! "God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them" (2 Corinthians 5:19).

Far beyond all human comprehension
Measured by an infinite dimension,
Wonderfully broad in its intention
Is the boundless love of God.

Love divine surpasses all that human tongue
can tell,
While on earth or in eternity—
Higher than the mountains, where the soaring
eagles dwell,
Deeper than the mighty rolling sea,
Love sufficient to redeem and set a captive
free—
As shoreless and as endless as eternity.

Neighbor, God is reaching out after you with both His rod and His staff! "Thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me." David knew that line of the twenty-third Psalm from personal experience. More than once he had felt like God's "black sheep." His flagrant sins brought God's "rod" upon his back. But that same "rod" brought comfort, protection, and vindication. And God's "staff" brought him salvation. Out from his troubled soul he could cry, "Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy lovingkindness: according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. . . . Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. . . . Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me." (Psalm 51:1, 2, 7, 10).

Friend, God is waiting to hear the same cry of repentance from your lips. You are not bigger than His law, and you are not beyond His grace. His "rod" can teach you and His "staff" can reach you. That is where your eternal comfort lies in this hour. Accept His gracious salvation today.

MEEKNESS

Meekness is love at school, at the Saviour's school. It is the disciple learning to know himself—to fear, distrust and abhor himself. It is the disciple practicing the sweet but self-emptying lesson of putting on the Lord Jesus, and finding all his righteousness in that righteous One. It is the disciple learning the defects of his own character, and taking hints from the hostile as well as the friendly monitors. It is the disciple praying and watching for the improvement of his talents, the mellowing of his temper, and the refining of his character. It is the loving Christian at his Saviour's feet, learning from Him who is meek and lowly, and finding rest to his own soul.

—JAMES HAMILTON

Hear C. M. Ward on REVIVALTIME . . .

SECRET SIN (Luke 12:15)

SERMON SUBJECT FOR AUGUST 19

SUNDAY 10:30 P.M. ABC NETWORK



There Is A Big Difference

HOW GOOD ARE YOU AT SYNONYMS? To test your skill, let us begin with the two words, *aggravate* and *irritate*. Examine the following sentences carefully:

1. False rumors serve to *aggravate* racial animosities.

2. His mannerisms *irritate* me greatly.

You don't have to be a Webster or a linguistic genius to see that there is a difference in the way *aggravate* and *irritate* are used in these two sentences. *Aggravate* means to "worsen" or "increase." *Irritate* means to "annoy" or

"provoke." The two words are *not* synonyms, although many people often use them interchangeably.

"Religion" and "salvation" are words often used as if they meant the same. But there is a world of difference between their meanings. They are not synonyms. Just as certainly as night is opposite to day, "religion" is opposite to "salvation." Here's how one writer puts it:

"Religion is what a man does for God. Salvation is what God does for a man (Isaiah 53:6).

"Religion says, 'Something in my hand I bring.' Salvation says, 'Nothing in my hand I bring.' (Ephesians 2:8, 9).

"Religion is trusting in a work that we do. Salvation is trusting in a work that Another has done (Matthew 26:28).

"Religion depends upon our behaving. Salvation depends upon our believing (Acts 16:31).

"Religion says we must act our best. Salvation says we must accept God's Best (John 3:16).

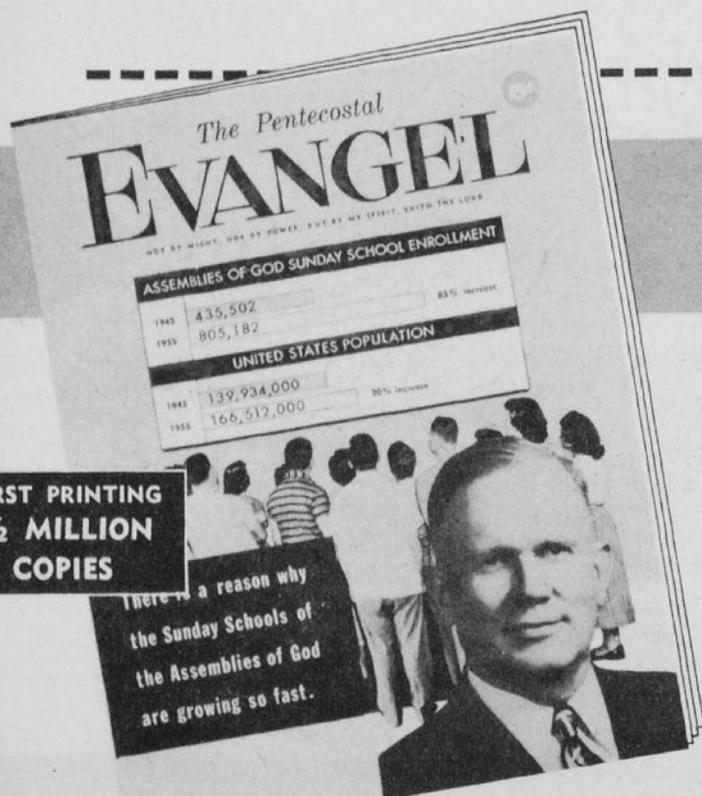
"Religion says we must be found in God's house. Salvation says we must be found in Christ."

Friend, you can have "religion" and be lost, but if you have "salvation" you are saved.

You need a "new life," not a "new leaf." You need "regeneration" more than "reformation"; the "new birth" more than "new mirth." You need a soul-saving, heart-warming, life-transforming experience which the Bible calls being "born again." Salvation is taught in God's Word. You ought to read it; and then heed it; for you need it. It's either Christ or chaos for you, heaven or hell, "religion" or "salvation." There is a big difference! Do you belong to Christ? Are you saved?

Now read the glorious message of Acts 4:16, "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." No other name but Jesus! Yes, remember that. Salvation is not in a creed, a church, or a prayer—but in a Person, the Lord Jesus Christ. You need Jesus, the Saviour of men's souls.

Don't be satisfied with a dead religion. Accept a loving, living Redeemer. Take Him today as your own personal Saviour!
—Nathanael Olson



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