

EVANGEL

March 2, 1958

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

LAMBERT PHOTO

The Lord's Prayer



Our Father

who art in Heaven, hallowed
 be thy Name, thy kingdom come,
 thy will be done on earth as it is
 in Heaven; give us this day our
 daily bread; and forgive us our
 trespasses, as we forgive them
 that trespass against us; And
 lead us not into temptation, but
 deliver us from evil: for thine
 is the kingdom, the power and
 the glory for ever and ever;



LUOMA PHOTO



God's in His Heaven . . .

In an age of satellites, space travel, and inter-continental missiles, the church must keep on proclaiming that "God is our refuge and strength."

There is a temptation to put our trust in human inventions. This was well illustrated recently when the announcement came that the Explorer had been thrust into orbit. Many an American began to breathe more easily when he learned that the Russian sputnik no longer had a monopoly on outer space. Some, we fear, began to let up on their praying. One newspaper wrote: "The moon's signal is a high-pitched, continuous wheeee. And that can be translated as, 'Cheer up, America. We're in the heavens, all's right with the world.'"

If we have nothing better than a mechanical satellite in the heavens, all's *not* right with the world—all's wrong. The Bible warns, "For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape."

We have a national motto—"In God We Trust." We must live up to that motto if our nation is to be strong and to continue to uphold freedom's cause.

Let us not be "tempted into a new kind of idolatry, with missiles and space ships as our false gods, and physics textbooks as our Scriptures"—as a Louisiana churchman puts it. We hear a frantic call for scientists. There's a clamor for more teachers, more schools, more training in science. But our survival cannot be achieved merely by requiring every high-school student to take physics and chemistry, or by building space ships, or reaching the moon. Says Dr. H. Y. Mullikin, head of the physics department of Georgetown College, Kentucky: "You can put the whole human race into orbit and you won't solve the problem—because the problem of man is still himself." Sin is still man's worst enemy. Christ the Saviour is still his best Friend.

Nathan M. Pusey, president of Harvard University, reminds us that "we have countless other problems which bear on our national good health and safety as much as do the production of rockets and rocket fuels or nuclear engines. Mental ills, broken homes, misguided young people—these are all problems which must be attacked by other means than by the strictly scientific." No better means has ever been found than the simple gospel of Christ. We should beware, therefore, of modern Aarons who point to idols of scientific progress and cry out, "These be your gods, O America." Our God is in the heavens. He is greater than human inventions. He is eternal and almighty. It is He that has made and preserved us a nation, and it is to Him we must look for help in every crisis. Let us ask the Lord to have mercy upon us. We can safely put our trust in Him, for it is written, "He that believeth on Him shall not be confounded."

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WE BELIEVE that regeneration by the Holy Spirit is absolutely essential for personal salvation. WE BELIEVE that the redemptive work of Christ on the cross provides healing of the human body in answer to believing prayer. WE BELIEVE that the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, according to Acts 2:4, is given to believers who ask for it. WE BELIEVE in the sanctifying power of the Holy Spirit by whose indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a holy life. WE BELIEVE in the resurrection of both the saved and the lost, the one to everlasting life and the other to everlasting damnation.

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EXPLORING SPACE

PHOTO BY A. DEVANEY

By Evangelist B. D. Bennett

DOWN THROUGH THE AGES MEN have had an insatiable desire to explore the unknown. In the Garden of Eden man was not content to stay within the boundaries of knowledge God had given him. He must know how the fruit of the forbidden tree would taste. Somehow man seems always determined to find what is on "the other side of the hill."

The Bible tells of a time when all men were "of one language, and of one speech" (Genesis 11). A group migrated from the east to the land of Shinar and decided to dwell there. They said, "Let us build us a city and a tower, whose top may reach unto heaven; and let us make us a name, lest we be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth."

The Lord came down to see the city and tower which were being built. He said, "This they begin to do; and now nothing will be restrained from them, which they have imagined to do. Go to, let us go down, and there confound their language, that they may not understand one another's speech." And the Lord scattered them abroad upon the whole face of the earth; they stopped building their tower to heaven.

Our history books tell us that the medieval European nations were jealous of the Italian merchants' prosperity in trade and wanted to find a new route to the East so as to bypass these middlemen. Medieval scholars knew that the world was round, and Christopher Columbus convinced the Spanish government that it was so and that the

Indies might be reached by sailing west. Man did indeed discover that the world *is* round like a ball. Since then man's quest for adventure has led him to explore every island and continent on the face of the whole earth. Yet he is not satisfied. He still feels the urge to explore.

Geologists estimate that the age of the earth probably exceeds 1½ billion years. The paleontologists figure that man first made this sphere his home about 25,000 to 40,000 years ago. Yet for thousands of years man had only a fuzzy notion of the nature of the globe he inhabits. The Bible says, "[At] the time of the end...knowledge shall be increased." Man has discovered that this sphere on which we live is spinning on its axis with a linear velocity of a thousand miles an hour at the equator; it speeds around the sun at 67,000 miles an hour, and orbits on the fringe of our galaxy at 175 miles a second.

With a universe to explore, what has man accomplished? He has drilled into the earth to a depth of four miles, though it is 4000 miles to the center of the earth. He has flown seventeen miles high, though the atmosphere prob-

ably extends up to 500 miles. He has descended two and one half miles below the surface of the sea, though the lowest point in the ocean is about six miles.

The late Albert Einstein, one of the greatest mathematicians and theoretical physicists who has ever lived, spent his lifetime searching for the unified mathematical concept of the laws that govern the universe. He derived the theory of relativity, and showed that a small amount of matter could be transformed into a vast amount of energy, but he was unsuccessful in developing a "unified field theory." On April 18, 1955, at 1:15 a.m. Dr. Einstein died. At 1:16 he had the answer to his unsolved problem—that God upholds His creation.

Man has explored the microscopic world. He has investigated the nature of particles too small to be seen by even the most powerful microscopes. There are probably as many atoms in a drop of water as there are drops of water in the Mediterranean Sea. And yet man, because of his desire to do the impossible, has split the uranium atom and brought into existence the most feared weapon yet devised.

Are there any challenging conquests left to be made by modern man? Are there other worlds to conquer? Certainly man thinks so. Man has successfully launched three earth-circling satellites. Now he is contemplating the launching of "space platforms." Plans are being made for travel to the moon

(Continued on next page)



B. D. Bennett

and to Mars and other planets. When and if this is accomplished, men will have overcome the force of gravity; and gravity is one of the great unsolved mysteries in the universe.

You ask, "How can man do this? Above the earth just a few miles there is not enough oxygen for man to live. Man's blood boils at 13 miles altitude. At 24 miles he is unprotected from the death-dealing cosmic rays. And at 100 miles there is the problem of avoiding collision with meteors, meteorites, and asteroids." I am not a scientist, and I cannot explain these things. But there is one thing I know—"If I ascend up into heaven, God is there: if I make my bed in hell, behold, He is there."

The International Geophysical Year, an eighteen-month period that began on July 1, 1957, has been set aside by scientists for the most extensive and intensive study of the earth ever attempted. I believe God is about ready to call a halt to what man is attempting to do. Men are trying to thwart the will of God. The people of Babel never finished their construction job.

Will man ascend to other worlds to populate them with a sinful race? No, a thousand times No. There is a "great gulf" fixed between earth and heaven, and no evil race or individual will ever cross that gulf. Only the precious blood of Jesus Christ will suffice to make us eligible to inhabit that city "whose builder and maker is God."

God's Daybreak

There's a break in the clouds over yonder,
And the promise of fair new day,
For the long stormy night has been ended
And the dark clouds are driven away.
The rising sun in its brightness
Tints the far-off hills with light,
And my heart is filled with rejoicing
By its glory and radiance bright.

There's a break in the clouds over yonder,
And the low-hanging mists of fear
Are scattered and driven backward
By His presence so real and near.
Though the night has been long and dreary,
And the pressure hard and strong,
Yet the daybreak has brought me the
promise
Of a glorious deliverance song.

There's a break in the clouds over yonder,
And the form of a Coming One
With a face all glorious and radiant
As the glow of a setting sun.
'Tis a long dark night we have waited,
With but few faint stars to cheer,
Now the Morning Star has arisen
And the Day of Rapture is here.

—Alice Reynolds Flower

I have heard the statement many times, "One of these days this old earth is going to lose its gravity." For the Christian, yes. But for the sinner the earth's gravity will still have its pull.

The Bible says, "For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first. Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord." As far as the sinner is concerned, this sound of the trumpet will be "ultra-sonic." Only those whose ears are tuned to heaven will hear that sound. But less than thirty seconds after the trumpet sounds, apostate Christendom is going to realize that the Bible is true and that the blood-bought Church of Jesus Christ has gone to be with the Lord.

"In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye" the Lord will come. How can this be? Light travels at the rate of 186,285 miles a second, yet it takes millions of years for the light of some stars to reach the earth, say the astronomers. If the North Star should suddenly disappear, it would be 75 years before anyone on earth would know it. Yet when Christ appears, in a moment of time the redeemed Christians will be transported to heaven!

How can it be? Who guides the salmon to the sea and back to its spawning place? Who guides the geese from the north to the south and back again? Who guides the homing pigeon, the little bee? God placed the homing instinct in that fish, bird, and bee. And when the Lord, through His grace, saved me He placed a "homing instinct" in me. I want to go Home.

The giant airliners sometimes come into the airport when the fog is so dense that the pilot cannot see the landing lights or the runway. But there is one in the control tower, guiding him to a safe landing. Sinner friend, if you will place your hand in the nail-scarred hand of the Son of God, he will guide you to a safe landing in heaven.

Yes, I am planning on traveling to outer space one of these days. And I need not fear the lack of oxygen, the penetrating cosmic rays, or the danger of flying meteors. I will have a suit of divine protection. I want to explore that place called heaven. I want to live in that mansion He has gone to prepare for me. ◀◀

" . . . This same Jesus, which is come in like manner as ye have

WE BELIEVE IN THE BLESSED HOPE to which the apostle Paul referred when he wrote, "Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ" (Titus 2:13).

We believe in the personal, visible, physical return of Christ to this earth before the great tribulation. Did He not say, "If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again" (John 14:3)? The angel said, "Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven" (Acts 1:11). "Because thou hast kept the word of My patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth" (Rev. 3:10). "For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Thess. 5:9). This is our creed, found in the Statement of Fundamental Truths of the General Council of the Assemblies of God.

But a creed must be made personal, vital and experiential in order to be effective. We must remember that with us too there is such a thing as having a form of godliness and not having the power thereof. We must *prove* by our actions and our *heart* attitude that we truly believe in the return of our Lord.

"Waiting for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Cor. 1:7). To wait for our Lord from heaven means to set a high value upon His return. There are things which only His coming can accomplish. To attempt to do them ourselves would be pride and unbelief. Leadership and ultimate responsibility are His prerogative and His alone. He is the Head of the Church. The government shall be upon His shoulders. The sheep are His; pastors are only under-shepherds. Our day-by-day assignments of service are sufficient for us. "Casting all your care upon Him, for He careth for you" (1 Peter 5:7). "Take no thought for the morrow, for sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof." The Lord has called us to be faithful in our

taken up from you into heaven, shall so
seen him go into heaven" (Acts 1:11).

Looking for That Blessed Hope

BY R. M. RIGGS
General Superintendent



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daily duties and to leave the results with Him.

We *wait* for His coming by refraining from trying to do the things that only His coming can accomplish. We thus prove the reality and sincerity of our faith in His return and in what His return will effect. Only His coming can convert the world. Only He can overturn the kingdoms of this world. We wait for the triumph of that hour. Let us *wait* trustingly and happily for our Lord from heaven. He is coming. He that shall come will come and will not always tarry. The just shall live by his *faith*. We *wait* for our Lord for we *believe* that His coming will square every account and complete every task that has to do with His kingdom.

"Unto them that *look* for Him shall He appear the second time, without sin, unto salvation" (Hebrews 9:28). "*Looking* for that blessed hope" (Titus 2:13). Our faith is manifested not only by our waiting. They who wait could get discouraged in their waiting. Remember the man who said, "My lord delayeth his coming; so I will indulge and be careless." Such servants will be rejected when He comes. This is why He says He is coming for those who *look* for Him. Not only do we cease

from activities that would indicate a lack of faith in His return, but we definitely turn our eyes upward in earnest expectancy that He shall return at any moment. That is why He left us no prophetic measuring stick by which we could determine the year, the day and the hour. He gave us certain signs to stimulate our expectancy but certainly no reason why we ever should lessen our faith in His soon return. It is scoffers that say, "Where is the promise of His coming?" The warm, true, sincere believer is actually *looking for* and expecting the coming again of his Lord and Master.

The very heart of the true attitude toward the second coming of our Lord is found in 2 Timothy 4:8—"Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that *love* His appearing." "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy *heart*, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength" (Mark 12:30). "*Lovest* thou Me" (John 21:15, 17)? "Set your *affection* on things above, not on things on the earth" (Col. 3:2). "For with the *heart* man believeth unto

righteousness" (Romans 10:10). "Keep thy *heart* with all diligence, for out of it are the issues of life" (Proverbs 4:23). As a lover longs for the coming of her beloved, so we truly long for His appearing.

We wait for His coming, for we know only He can complete redemption's work in the earth. Our strength is harnessed to His return. We look for His coming, for His coming is the blessed hope of the church. Our mind is fixed upon His return. We love His appearing for this is the fulfillment of our heart's desire. Our heart and soul are set upon His coming.

"And now abideth faith, hope, and love, these three." We *believe* in His return. We *hope* for His coming. We *love* His appearing. ◀◀

Till He Come

As the years grow more troubled and threatening,
Now that evil is raging unchecked,
And the hearts of men tremble and fail them
As the world's hopeful projects are wrecked,
The Lord to His own watchful servants
Who praise Him while others are dumb,
Makes clearer the signs of His coming
To fill them with hope—"till He come."

The Altered COUNTENANCE

BY ETHEL L. TENNEY



PHOTO BY H. ARMSTRONG ROBERTS

IT IS WRITTEN OF JESUS THAT AS He prayed on the Mount of Transfiguration "the fashion of His countenance was altered" (Luke 9:29). And in this phrase is hidden a truth we may well ponder in our hearts.

The fashion of man's countenance is a very revealing thing. Jacob saw the face of Laban that it was not toward him as before. The marks of displeasure were there. It is written of King Belshazzar that when the fingers of a man's hand began writing on the palace wall, "the King's countenance was changed." The fear of his heart was seen on his face.

As Jesus prayed that day upon the mountain with Peter, James and John, the fashion of His countenance was altered, and His face shone as the sun. Surely, there was revealed the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. We recall, also, that Moses standing in the presence of God caught the glow

of that eternal glory, and his face shone with such brightness the children of Israel could not look upon him until he veiled himself.

When first I encountered the Baptism in the Spirit I thought every Pentecostal believer was a shining Christian. I thought that was the mark. It seemed they were the happiest people in the world. And I believe today it is the privilege of the children of God to so dwell in the secret place of the Most High that the world will see the glory of God on our countenances, and note that we have been with Jesus.

In Psalm 34 we read, "They looked unto Him, and were lightened, and their faces were not ashamed." *They looked unto Him and were radiant.* We get the glow and the glory by looking unto Jesus. We find it as we seek Him and dwell in His presence.

"And as He prayed the fashion of His countenance was altered." And

there is the secret. As we pray we are changed. We, like Moses, may not realize that our faces shine, but those with whom we associate will see a loveliness not of this world. We cannot look at Jesus very long without being changed from one glory to a greater glory as by the Spirit of the Lord.

We remember the long seasons of prayer—the nights Jesus spent alone with the Father. How much more do we need that communion! If we would avail ourselves of this holy fellowship our lives would have new purpose, and our hearts new love. Then would our faces shine with the glory of His joy.

Do you want others to come seeking

NAE Opens Files on Persecution in C

Files containing over 700 documented cases of persecution of Protestants in Colombia, South America, were opened a few days ago to the inspection of representatives of the American Society of Newspaper Editors, the American Publishers Association, and the journalistic fraternity, Sigma Delta Chi.

The files, possessed by the National Association of Evangelicals, were made accessible to these parties to counteract a protest issued in October, 1957, by John E. Kelly of the National Catholic Welfare Conference, about alleged inaccuracies in current newspaper reporting on persecution in Colombia. At that time he stated he would take his protest to the three journalistic societies.

According to Clyde W. Taylor, secretary of public affairs of the evangelical association, the files have been painstakingly assembled over a period of years and are completely documented. Dr. Taylor, once a missionary to Colombia, has visited Colombia to personally inspect the scenes of persecution and receive testimony from eye witnesses.

A number of events which occurred late in 1957 bear out the fact of persecution in Colombia. On September 29, during an afternoon church service in the municipality of San Cayetano, Cundinamarca, the police arrested four Protestants. They were kept in jail for a number of hours before being re-

leased. Following their release, the priest of San Cayetano threatened the four men with language which they described as "abusive."

On October 3, 1957, an explosion caused by a bomb in the Protestant Chapel of Ocana, North Santander, did serious damage to the building. Doors, roof, walls and pews were damaged.

On October 29, Juan Pablo Coy of Saboya, Boyaca, was attacked near his home. He was fired upon three times and died of his wounds the same day. Prior to the attack he had been arrested for holding evangelical meetings in his home. He was jailed for two weeks because he refused to sign a statement that he would stop evangelizing in the

Jesus for themselves? Let them see His lowliness and loveliness, His willing service and self-abasement, in you. If we reveal that Life, men will glorify our Father who is in heaven.

I know of a person who went home from school earlier than usual and heard his mother's voice. He looked through every room on the lower floor but could not find her. He said, "I crept upstairs to see with whom she was conversing, and I found she was talking with God. And I crept down the stairs again. I sat down in the sitting room very silent. I waited until she came down, and there was a light on her face never seen on sea or land. She lived a transfigured life."

All those who wait upon the Lord until the very light of heaven shines on their face will live such lives. *"Let the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us."*

"Let it be seen! the wondrous love
And tenderness He had:
Compassion for the wayward heart,
And pity for the sad,
A yearning for the souls of men—
For all: the bond, the free;
Let it be seen again, Dear Lord
Let it be seen in me!

"Let it be seen! against the blackness
Of life's stormy sky,
Let it shine forth! to save some
Helpless soul who else would die,
And though by way of suffering, Lord,
I fellowship with Thee;
Let my life glow with Calvary's love!
Let it be seen in me!"

Colombia, S. Am.

area. After pressure was put on the mayor by the Ministry of Government, he was released. Shortly afterward the attack took place which ended his life.

The National Association of Evangelicals has spearheaded a continuing effort to alleviate the persecution of Colombian Protestants and the infringement of religious and other rights of American Protestant missionaries living in Colombia. ◀◀

If our Refiner puts us into the furnace, He can make no mistake. He will not make the fire too hot, or continue us in it too long. While He tries us, He loves us, and loves us too well to allow anything to harm us.



Men Who Stood Alone

MOST OF US GET ALONG FAIRLY WELL as long as we have the support of the crowd. We fight shy of standing alone in a position which throws much responsibility upon us. Probably one of the main reasons why we like to be in the crowd is that we are not men of deep convictions. Occasionally we see an individual coming into a place where he is prepared to receive a broadside of criticism and abuse. That man is one who is held by powerful convictions.

Men who have made a great mark for God in the world have generally been those who have had to stand alone. Many leaders had to stand alone with God during their entire lifetime. Moses is a classic example of this. Few of his fellows understood him, and he was often misunderstood and misjudged. His course was a lonely one, and at times he had to depend utterly on God for vindication because of the jealousy of his immediate associates. Abraham was another who had to walk a lonely pathway if he was to become the father of the faithful. It is less difficult, somehow, if there are others to share an experience with us.

Think of David and his lonely vigil with the Lord, awaiting the crowning day in the kingdom. Even though anointed by the Holy Spirit he had to flee for his life many a time from that jealous monster Saul. Who could be more alone with God than Jeremiah, who had to endure the utmost rigors of suffering and persecution in order to be faithful to the commission given him from on high? The names of these men are famous to us now, but at the time the persecution was no romantic experience for them. What romance was there in the prison of Pharaoh where Joseph was held? He could have sympathized with himself, feeling that

he was the most oppressed man in creation, but he didn't; he stood in that trying situation as a true witness—alone with God. He knew that God understood and was with him. That was enough.

Luther, in the dawning of a new age of Gospel light, had to tread this pathway; and so did Wesley, in the midst of a dead Christianity. Had they not been willing to stand alone with God they would never have seen the great movements that came as the result of their witness.

George Mueller has left a great testimony to the world as to what God can do through the man who fully trusts Him, but his was a life that no other man could share fully with him. He had to stand in the sanctuary alone with God. We could continue the list of worthy souls. Livingstone was alone with God in Africa, Hudson Taylor likewise in China, and Judson in Burma. Had these men not gone through this experience there would have been no record of their victories to thrill us today.

Perhaps the loneliest man that ever walked this earth was the Lord Jesus Himself. His was not a temporary loneliness. He had to go to death and to endure on the Cross an experience that none of us will be called on to undergo. He endured spiritual death, for He was cut off from God His Father.

Do we seek the pathway of greatness? This, then, may be the price we will have to pay. We shall have to be men with a mission; with great convictions. We shall have to be men who at times may have to stand alone, utterly alone, with God. In this way we shall be led to know Him in a mighty way, and there will be fruitage beyond all expectations.—*Indian Christian*



The Lord's Challenge

BY NIELS P. THOMSEN

God challenges His weak, worldly church to seek His face and prove His power in these last days

THE LORD'S CONTROVERSY IS WITH His people—the people who are called by His name. This is the truth that was deeply engraved upon my heart recently, as I was communing with my Lord from a helpless position on a hospital bed. As I checked with the Word of God I found this to be true throughout the Bible. It is His weak, failing, unstable and undependable people who call forth His grace, patience, love, and forbearance.

Prayer and conformity to the will of God is seldom given the first place in our lives these days. His people, who are called by His name, are trying to see how nearly they can be like the world without losing their church connections. They experiment with the things of the world to discover how much of its likeness they can put on without losing their sanctification completely. The gulf that separates the church from the world has grown very narrow; it does not seem to be an impassable gulf any longer. And yet it is still true that *friendship with the world is enmity with God*.

The age of the long prayer meeting and the all nights of prayer and waiting on God seems to have come to an end. Unless there is to be some kind of entertainment, it is difficult to get many of the church people out to the service. The reason for this must be that the deep hunger and thirst for holiness and Christlikeness is sadly missing. I wonder what we really have of the Christ-life and the Holy Spirit if there is not enough to outweigh all desires for the world, and to create within us a keen thirst for holiness and surrender to the mind of the Spirit. It is this thirst that is lacking in the hearts of God's people; and this indi-

cates that the Holy Spirit is not in full control of a person.

Someone has said that we have as much spiritual life as we want. We may seriously question such a statement, and say, "Oh, but I want much more of God than I have." I enter a large department store, or an up-to-date gift shop; and there are many things I would like to possess. That desire fills me until I look at the price tag; then I do not want the item any longer. It is the same with the things of the Spirit. Unless you meet God's price for holiness and Christlikeness they cannot be yours.

How many times have we made big promises to God. We were going to obey Him implicitly; we would not conform to the world; we would separate from the things that would not help us on in the way of holiness; we would be Christlike in the trying situation. But not long after we had left the place of prayer we had forgotten all our vows. We did not pay our vows unto the Lord. The spirit was willing, but the flesh was weak. No wonder the Church is in such a weak condition that she has no power either with God or with man. God is concerned. He challenges us to seek His face and prove Him in these last days. Where are the people who are willing to be separate from this world—not conformed, but transformed—that they may know Him and the power of His resurrection?

If we are to know another mighty outpouring of the Spirit of God in revival we must again be found in the place of prayer. We have our large

gatherings to discuss means of doing work more efficiently. I am not opposed to this, and I do not believe that the Lord is either. These gatherings make provision for discussions, lectures, workshops, committee meetings, and fellowship banquets; but how often is a day or a night set aside for prayer? Are we so tired from the activities of such gatherings that we cannot pray? Or are those activities supposed to take the place of prayer? If so, they are a hindrance to our forward march in the way of holiness.

Why can we not have both activity and prayer? We need the power of God in our activities if they are to produce holiness and spirituality. That power can be found only in the place of prayer, as we wait upon God. Such prayer should be fervent, humble, unselfish, controlled by the Spirit of God.

Someone has asked, "Just how much of our experience is peculiarly the work of the Holy Spirit—that is, fleshly energy could not accomplish it, and it must be attributed to the Holy Spirit entirely?" The truthful answer to this question will give us a clue as to how much He is in control. Do we yield to His promptings and allow Him to direct us in all things?

Man does not become devout by accident. There must first be a mounting desire in the heart for such a state—a desire that will bring us to the place of prayer and keep us waiting on the Lord, confessing our failures and sins, seeking cleansing, and becoming obedient to all of the will of God for us. "They that wait upon the Lord shall re-

new their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; they shall walk, and not faint."

Revival cannot be worked up; it must be prayed down. God grant that a great host of prayer warriors may be raised up in these last days—men and women who will not only pray, but also put into practice the life of God within them. ◀◀

Religion Without Alloy

In the past, counterfeiters have been known to work on genuine gold coins. They would saw them through, remove the interior, fill up the space with base metal, and unite the doctored coin. The outside was real gold, the alloy hidden.

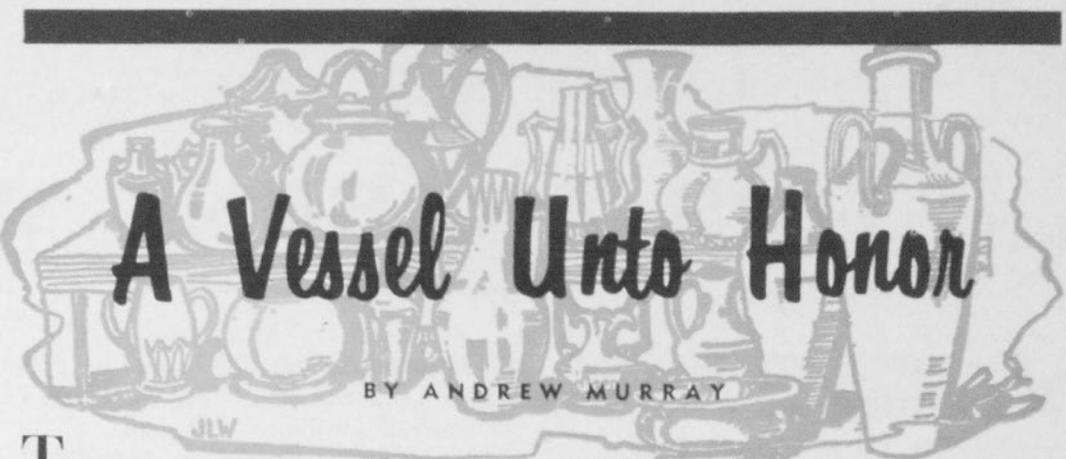
Something similar is being done today with so-called "religion." The world is religious-minded. It is a popular thing to belong to a church or religious organization. Protestantism, Catholicism, Judaism, Mohammedanism, Confucianism, Buddhism, Hinduism, and many other isms are all thriving; and yet one could never imagine the spiritual darkness that exists in multiplied millions of souls who have embraced empty "religions." For these poor souls it is only a gold-covered coin filled with worthless metal.

Who is right? Which way shall I go? There must be an answer! Let us seek that answer from the infallible Word of God. Jesus Christ said, "If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed." *Free indeed!* Here is the gold coin without alloy! It is not just a religion, not a mere philosophy of life, not church membership—but life itself in Christ!

Militarism, politics, education, social reform, all fail to answer the all-important question, "What must I do to inherit eternal life?" The answer is found in God's Word, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved!" See Calvary with the Saviour's drops of blood, His torn brow, and His pierced side. Here is the eternal God's own sacrifice for your sins! Dare you turn elsewhere?

"Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved."

—Everett Stenhouse



A Vessel Unto Honor

BY ANDREW MURRAY

THE APOSTLE WROTE, "IF A MAN therefore cleanse himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honor, sanctified, meet for the Master's use, and prepared unto every good work" (2 Timothy 2:21).

In the Church of Christ there is a vast amount of work done which yields very little fruit. Many throw themselves into work in which there is but little true holiness, little of the Holy Spirit. They often work most diligently, and, as far as human influence is concerned, most successfully. And yet true spiritual results in the building up of a holy temple in the Lord are but few. The Lord cannot work in them, because He has not the mastery of their inner life. His personal indwelling and fellowship, the rest of His holy presence, His reigning and ruling in the heart and life—to all these they are comparative strangers.

My brother! listen to the message. "If a man... cleanse himself... he shall be a vessel unto honor, sanctified, meet for the Master's use." You cannot have the law of service more clearly or beautifully laid down. A vessel of honor, one whom the King will delight to honor, must be a vessel cleansed from all defilement of the flesh and spirit. Then only can it be a sanctified vessel, possessed and indwelt by God's Holy Spirit.

So it becomes meet for the Master's use; cleansed and made holy, it is fit for the Master. He can use it, and work in it, and with it. And so, clean and holy, and yielded into the Master's hands, we are divinely prepared for every good work.

How many Christians, there are who mourn the want of power, long and pray for it, and yet do not obtain it! They have spent their strength more in the outer court of work and service, than in the inner life of fellowship

and faith. They truly have never understood that only as the Master gets possession of them, as the Holy Spirit has them at His disposal, can He use them, can they have true power.

They forget that the way to have God's power in us is for us to be in His power. Put yourself into the power of God; let His holy will live in you; live in it and in obedience to it, as one who has no power to dispose of himself. Let the Holy Spirit dwell within, as in His holy temple, revealing the Holy One on the throne ruling all. He will without fail use you as a vessel of honor sanctified and meet for the Master's use.

Holiness is essential to effectual service. And service is no less essential to true holiness. We have repeated it so often.

Holiness is an intense energy of desire and self-service to make others partakers of its own purity and perfection.

Christ sacrificed Himself. Wherein did it consist, what was its aim? That we might be holy. A holiness that is selfish is a delusion. True holiness, God's holiness in us, works itself out in love, in seeking and loving the unholy, that they may become holy too. *Self-sacrificing love is of the very essence of holiness.*

Let it be a matter settled between God and the soul, that your longing for holiness is that you may be more fit for Him to use, and that what He has given you of His holiness in Christ and the Spirit is all at His disposal, waiting to be used.

Be ready for Him to use you. Live out, in a daily life of humble, self-denying, loving service to others, what grace you have received. You will find that in the union and interchange of worship and work, God's holiness will rest upon you.



THIS PRESENT WORLD

Population

MOST LARGE CITIES FOUND TO BE MORE CATHOLIC THAN PROTESTANT

While Catholics and Jews tend to have most of their members in large cities, Protestants are found in greater numbers in middle-size or small cities and in rural areas. Results of a church distribution study by the National Council of Churches, just published, showed that only 45.7 per cent of all Protestants live in cities having 50,000 or more population.

Protestant Episcopal membership is more metropolitan than any other Protestant denomination, having 72.8 per cent of its total in cities of this size. Southern Baptists are the least metropolitan, with 30.4 per cent in the cities.

In New York City only 10.7 per cent of the people are Protestant, 34 per cent are Catholic, 22.1 per cent Jewish, and 33.2 per cent unaffiliated. By way of contrast, Protestants make up 31.2 per cent of the population of Washington, D. C.

There are more Protestants than Catholics in Washington, Des Moines, Louisville, Minneapolis-St. Paul, Columbus, and Seattle. The preponderantly Catholic centers are New York, Buffalo, Boston, Chicago, Cleveland, Pittsburgh, Milwaukee, Philadelphia, Detroit, Dayton, San Francisco, St. Louis, Baltimore, and Los Angeles.

National Affairs

NAE EXPANDS ITS WASHINGTON OFFICE

The National Association of Evangelicals is expanding its office in Washington, D. C. It has leased an entire floor in the Western Union building located two blocks from the White House, and is enlarging its staff to six full-time members who will work under the direction of Dr. Clyde W. Taylor, secretary for public affairs of the NAE.

The office will serve as liaison between the U. S. State Department and

the Evangelical Foreign Missions Association. It will also house the NAE's commission on military chaplains. (The NAE comprises 41 conservative Protestant denominations—including the Assemblies of God—with a total membership of more than two millions.)

CLERGYMAN HELPS THE PRESIDENT TO WRITE HIS SPEECHES

A 40-year-old Congregational Christian minister, Frederick E. Fox, is one of President Eisenhower's most trusted assistants. He serves as the President's special office assistant, spending ten hours a day rattling away on a White House typewriter with a furious but effective two-finger system.

Whenever the President makes a speech containing an element of spiritual significance, it is probable that Mr. Fox has had a hand in it. He is the only clergyman to serve on an American President's staff since the days of Abraham Lincoln.

Foreign

CARRYING A CROSS TO JAPAN

Ernst Walter, a Roman Catholic pilgrim from Germany, is carrying a large wooden cross all the way from Nuremberg to Japan. As of January 6 he had only gotten to Paris, but he said he was bound for Hiroshima where he intends to plant the cross in protest against the use of nuclear weapons.

ANTI-CHURCH CAMPAIGN BEING INTENSIFIED IN EAST GERMANY

Conflict between church leaders and Communist officials in East Germany is growing sharper, and there appears to be a revival of the anti-church drive of 1953. Walter Ulbricht, first secretary of the (Communist) Socialist Unity Party, has announced plans to force all teen-agers in the Soviet Zone to participate in the youth dedication ceremonies which the Reds have invented as a substitute for Christian confirmation. An atheistic book entitled "Universe, Earth and Men" will be distributed to those who participate.

Protestant sources reported an in-

creasing number of incidents in which Soviet Zone school authorities were refusing young people admission to high schools and colleges on the ground that they failed to participate in the youth ceremonies. The official Party organ "New Way" has demanded that all Communist Party members must sever their connections with religion and abstain from all religious ceremonies, such as baptism, confirmation, and church weddings. One official, referring to Christians as "vermin," said that any Communists who permit their children to attend religious classes are joining forces with those who are "plotting to fight socialism."

INTERNATIONAL MISSIONARY COUNCIL VOTES TO MERGE WITH WCC

By a vote of 58 to 7, the International Missionary Council has voted to merge with the World Council of Churches. The vote was taken at the IMC's quadrennial assembly in Ghana.

The Christian Councils of Norway, Sweden, the Congo, and Belgium voted against the plan. Individual opposition came from some delegates from Canada, Germany, and the United Kingdom. Canon M. A. C. Warren of London, England, head of the (Anglican) Church Missionary Society, told the assembly he would vote for the merger "with regret" because he felt it was "throwing away a priceless asset of the Church" and wasting manpower. He warned that creation of the new organization would probably break the link which now exists between the IMC and Pentecostal churches.

Miscellaneous

CHRISTIAN DAY SCHOOLS COMPLAIN OF TAX DISCRIMINATION

A representative of Protestant day schools testified in Washington on behalf of a measure now before the House which would allow all gifts to private schools to be tax deductible. John Vander Ark of Grand Rapids, Michigan, appeared before the House Ways and Means Committee on behalf

EVANGEL DEADLINE

... LATE NEWS AT PRESS TIME

of two groups of Protestant Christian Day Schools which comprise 350 elementary and secondary schools in 45 states with a total enrollment of 58,000 students. These schools are owned and operated by school societies rather than by individual churches or denominational agencies, he said. He told the committee this had led to tax discrimination against them. He said that contributions to these schools by the parents of pupils are considered "tuition" rather than charitable gifts, whereas contributions by those who are not parents of pupils are tax deductible.

Meanwhile the question came in for considerable discussion at Miami Beach, Florida, where the Association of American Colleges was having its annual convention. Representatives of church-related colleges joined with other educators in adopting a proposal that individuals be given "tax credit" for payment of tuition and other fees to private and public colleges alike.

YOUTH LEADER SAYS THE WORLD NEEDS "FANATICAL FIRE"

Christian young people need a "fanatical fire" to build a better world, the leader of Youth for Christ International said at Chicago.

Addressing the annual mid-winter convention of the organization, Dr. Ted Engstrom said that "the hope of the world rests with its teen-agers."

He said Communist youth "have fire—the burning passion and compulsion to build a better world. Our Christian teen-agers need this kind of fanatical fire—a consecration to the greatest cause a person can dedicate himself to—a consecration even unto death." Dr. Engstrom said that in a world threatened with destruction "a spiritual awakening—the general turning of a generation to God"—is needed. He scored "lukewarmness and worldliness" as "the greatest snare Christian witnesses face today."

1957—A RECORD-BREAKING YEAR

The year 1957 was a record breaker in the U. S. in many ways. Not only did it set new records for church membership, and for contributions to churches, and for new church buildings. It also set a new record in the consumption of cigarettes (410 billion), in the amount spent on wearing apparel (\$18,500,000,000), on playing cards (\$27,000,000), on food (\$75,000,000,000 or \$440 per capita), and on the amount of aspirin consumed (about 23,800,000,000 five-grain tablets).

NATIONAL C. A. DAY—Young people in hundreds of Assemblies of God churches throughout the U. S. will participate in simultaneous evangelistic rallies on Sunday evening, April 20. Each rally will be sponsored by a C. A. group as part of its observance of National C. A. Day. Over 300 conversions were reported on National C. A. Day in 1957.

'CHAPLAIN OF YEAR' DIES—After surviving the dangers of traveling thousands of miles in the South Pole area, Chaplain (Lt. Comdr.) Peter Bol of the U. S. Naval Reserve died in an air crash over Norwalk, Calif. The plane collision took 48 lives. Chaplain Bol was en route to Washington, D. C., to receive the "Navy Chaplain of the Year" award for his work at Little America and McMurdo Sound in the Antarctic during the International Geophysical Year. He was cited for meeting the "spiritual, moral, educational and recreational needs" of the G. I.'s

A VICTORY FOR GEORGIA TEMPERANCE FORCES was won when the House of Representatives passed a bill to prohibit persons under 18 from working where alcoholic beverages are sold. It was the first temperance bill to reach the floor of the Georgia House in many years and it passed unanimously.

SAFETY SERMONS NEEDED—State Police Superintendent Harold S. Zeis says that Indiana motorists need to be made more safety conscious. One way to do this, he suggests, is for ministers to preach more sermons on sane and safe driving.

A NEW CHURCH-BUILDING RECORD for the month of January was set with construction of \$68,000,000 worth of new religious edifices.

CONSCIENCE MONEY—When the deacons of a New York City church counted the offering they came across an envelope containing \$72.00 which bore the following message: "Kindly send this to the State Tax Commission." The pastor forwarded the \$72.00 to the government, saying, "No doubt it's conscience money."

MONEY EARNED BY CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTORS in World War II would be appropriated for overseas relief and rehabilitation programs, under new legislation introduced in Congress by Rep. A. S. J. Carnahan (D.-Mo.). Religious objectors were not paid for the civilian work they performed in lieu of military service. The money they would have earned in the various mental hospitals and institutions in which they worked was placed in a special fund and totaled \$1,407,976 at the war's end.

THE INTERNATIONAL UNION OF GOSPEL MISSIONS will have its 45th annual convention in Lebanon, Pa., May 17-22. There are now 250 "rescue missions" in the Union, an increase of 25 during the past three years.

BILLY GRAHAM'S evangelistic crusade in the Cow Palace, San Francisco, will last eight weeks (two weeks longer than originally planned). It will open April 27 and conclude June 22 with a rally at Kezar Stadium where an attendance of 60,000 is anticipated. A drive is now on to recruit 15,000 volunteer ushers, singers, and personal workers from Bay Area churches.

BUS TRANSPORTATION provided for Catholic parochial school pupils by a Pennsylvania public school district was ruled illegal by the state Justice Department.

What of China?

BY MAYNARD L. KETCHAM
Field Secretary for Far East



One highly placed visiting churchman made this statement, "One of the significant facts in the picture of Christianity in China today is the rapid and unexplicable (?) burgeoning of "Pentecostalism"!"

One remarkable fact is that the government of China now occasionally allows the publication of figures (whether true or not, we cannot know) in regard to the spread of Christianity. Certainly the figures would not be exaggerated! Thus we read that there were 5000 converts to Christianity from non-Christian faiths during 1955, 4,000 converts during 1956. We also read of a baptismal service in the Assemblies of God church in Hopei on August 18, 1956, when 170 people were baptized, and of a service in Harbin when forty were baptized.

Doubtless the most rapid growth of the Pentecostal testimony is among the Lisu people, who dwell in the mountainous area of Western China. According to reports which filter across the snowenshrouded, 10,000-foot-high mountain passes into Burma, there are now 70,000 of these Lisu Christians in the Assemblies of God churches. We hear that these people are welded together with such cohesion into a monolithic social and religious structure that the Communistic overlords leave them strictly alone, allowing them complete religious and political freedom. Fortunately, gospel literature, Bibles, and song books can be smuggled across these mountain passes into China to meet the spiritual needs of these churches.

The Assemblies of God can take great satisfaction in the solid foundation for its work in China laid by our pioneer missionaries. And, at the present time, the Assemblies of God is in a unique position in relation to China due to its chain of stations which form an "encirclement move" of China. Let us briefly mention our ring of stations around the eastern, southern, and western perimeter of China.

THERE ARE CRACKS IN THE BAMBOO Curtain! In spite of the fact that all Communist countries are shrouded in inscrutable mystery, in spite of all the window dressing for the benefit of the outside world, in spite of the fact that any visitors are taken on "guided tours"—news does leak out! And this news is certainly not discouraging!

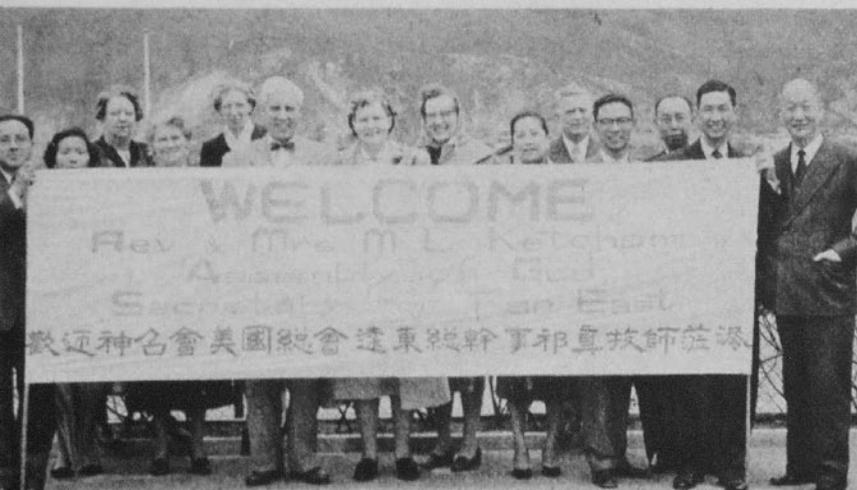
It would appear that the Communist rulers of China have realized that Christianity is such a strong, vital force that it cannot be extirpated. Therefore, the government has launched a propaganda campaign seeking to equate Christianity's inherent urge toward social justice and equality with the ideology of Communism. Christians are being told that Communism is not antagonistic to Christianity, but is rather the full flowering of the "Gospel of the common man," which was preached by Jesus Christ. Thus, the Communists are trying to establish the idea that Christianity and Communism are first cousins! They are also trying to make their subjects believe that a person can remain a Christian and still be loyal to the Communistic government of China.

The reaction of Christians to this has been twofold. First of all, there is a fairly large segment of Christianity

which proclaims itself loyal to the government and which gives at least lip service to the doctrines of Communism. One of the spokesmen for this group is Soong Ching-Ling (Madame Sun Yat-sen). She says, "The October Socialist Revolution was a turning point in history, one of those decisive breakthroughs, a thunderbolt of progress which shook the world and has determined its destiny ever since. The Soviet State was the first major power in history, and for many years the only power, that took the side of the subjected peoples of the world." The Christian churches which have subscribed to this premise have enjoyed relative freedom from government interference.

On the other hand, many of the Chinese Christians have steadfastly refused to "bow the knee" and have consequently suffered grave persecutions. Scattered incidents of the most cruel persecution and of martyrdom have filtered through to our listening posts. It is significant that Pentecostal people are in the vanguard of these "non-conforming Christians" and that the number of Pentecostal people is growing rapidly. There are most certainly between 100,000 and 200,000 Spirit-filled people in China today.

Hong Kong Workers during the Ketchams' 1957 visit



Tribal Convention in Burma



Unusual Prayer Requests

by Gail Winters, Belgian Congo

On the north, we are happy to say that our work in South Korea is most strategic; we have a fine Bible school there, and many churches are springing up. Without doubt, the Pentecostal testimony definitely filters across the border into North Korea and thus on into China.

Coming down the coast of China, we find Formosa with a first-class Bible school, an excellent literature program, and well-established churches.

Then, we come to Hong Kong, which is perhaps the most strategic beachhead we have for the launching of a full-fledged gospel attack into China. Here there is one of the finest Bible schools to be found anywhere, under any organization, in the Orient. Graduates of this Bible school serve the needs of our Chinese-speaking area throughout the Far East; and also across the border into Communist China, in spite of great persecution, they preach the message.

In Singapore the Assemblies of God has a very interesting program, and the same applies to Kuala Lumpur, where a Bible school is now in the process of formation. This will strengthen the attack upon the forces of darkness.

And finally, we come to Burma, with its tremendous and completely indigenous church work among the hill people on the China border.

Let us pray much for our Christian brethren in troubled China, that they may be preserved through great persecution. Let us pray for those deluded Christians who see a measure of hope in a rapprochement between the pure teachings of Christ and the nefarious teachings of Communism. Let us pray for our pastors and workers—many of them hounded and under constant surveillance—that they may continue to work with unabated zeal. And let us pray that the time may soon come when the Church of China shall be able to show the nations that Christ, and not Communism, is the “hope of the world”!



Assemblies of God Church in Formosa

Editor's Note: We have received a list of prayer requests from Sister Winters, which gives us a glimpse of some of the missionary's problems. Make these a matter of intercession. Specific prayer will do much to break the fetters and undo the entanglements that have hindered many of our African brethren.

* * *

Please pray for the following young men, whom God has called into the ministry but who have left the Mission because of a “wife palaver” or because of other hindrances:

1. Petero Kangwanay's wife-to-be was too young for marriage. He waited for a few months, then became impatient and took her, leaving the Mission. However, he continues to attend church in the village. His wife is growing up, and he is wanting to make things right and attend Bible school.

2. Setefano Kpandu paid for a girl and took her for his wife. It turned out that she was the second wife of a policeman, but had always refused to live with him. Nevertheless the policeman refuses to give her up, and the chief stands by him. Please pray for Setefano, that God will work out these entanglements according to His will and enable him to make the necessary consecration and fulfill his call to preach.

3. Yoane Galingoma is a converted Catholic lad who was in our school only one year. Because he didn't pass his exams he refused to finish school and left the Mission to arrange for buying a wife. He had been mightily used of God during the revival—many were saved through his ministry, many backsliders were reclaimed, and many Christians made things right because of his exercise of spiritual gifts. At the present time he is living with his mother near a village church of a neighboring non-Pentecostal mission, and we hear that some are trying to arrange for him to remain there and teach the village school. Do pray that God will keep him from entanglements that will rob him of his Pentecostal ministry. Pray that he will find a wife of God's choice, and attend Bible school.

4. Pierre Kana has taken a job at a plantation in order to secure enough money to buy his wife. Pray that when that is accomplished he will be freed from any hindrances that may keep him from attending Bible school.

5. Pray for the following, who are planning to go to Bible school, that nothing will hinder and that they may be kept true: Teophile Kanifi, Ngungumuke, Dakpala, Samwele Akomboyuyo.

* * *

The following are in Bible school; pray that they may be kept free from sin. The temptations which confront them as they do village work are unbelievable:

1. Philemona and his wife have lost a baby recently. He also is manifesting a rebellious, arrogant spirit. Simeona Gbagba and his wife recently lost their baby under most trying circumstances. Tangbwalo and his wife lost a baby as an aftermath of measles. Pray for these couples.

2. Simona Imangala, a single lad, often requests prayer to be kept free from sin.

3. Timoteo Koda, a single lad, is crippled; nevertheless he travels to do village evangelization, walking with the help of a stick. Pray for his ministry.

4. Danyeje Majango, who fought his call for many years, has a large family and has financial difficulties.

5. Pray for Andarea Bakote who fell into sin while in Bible school and is now back in his village.

6. Yoseto recently graduated from Bible school and has started a thriving work. The new congregation is building a church at present. The chief is fighting them, seeking to hinder the work and destroy it. Remember this need before the Lord.

* * *

Sepio, our largest village church, is without a pastor, because the pastor's wife died in childbirth, leaving him with a family of six children. There is no one to take his place until others graduate in the Spring. Pray for this pastorless church and for the pastor, who is at the Mission caring for his small baby and other children.

The Value of a Soul

BY EVANGELIST E. DWAYNE MADSEN

MAN DOES NOT KNOW THE WORTH OF HIS OWN SOUL, BUT
CHRIST DOES—AND THAT IS WHY HE BECAME THE WORLD'S REDEEMER

SEVERAL YEARS AGO, IN A SMALL southeastern Colorado town, a solemn tragedy took place. Some school children were walking home early one peaceful summer afternoon, when suddenly the calm was shattered by a crash and a piercing scream. The children rushed to the corner, and were horrified at what they saw.

Lying beside two smashed automobiles was the crushed body of an elderly woman. Her husband was kneeling over her, frantically trying to help her. He was pleading, "Speak to me, Mother. Oh, please speak to me."

This elderly couple had been driving slowly without much care, since they were on a through street and had the right-of-way. Suddenly from a side street there had come another car, driven by a high-school girl who disregarded the stop sign. Before she realized what had happened, her car had crashed into the side of the old couple's car. The little old lady was wrenched from the car and thrown to the pavement, where the wheels of the car passed over her, crushing her body.

Tears flowed from the old man's eyes as he held his wife's head in his lap and tried to bring her back to consciousness. Their children had left home long before this, and she was all he had left in the world. He groaned and wept and pleaded with her not to leave him, but before the ambulance arrived to remove her broken body she gasped her last breath and was gone. Life had been good to the two of them while they were together, but now he felt that he had nothing to live for.

Any normal girl should have been overcome with grief at the misery she had caused. But from the moment this tragedy occurred the girl just stood beside her smashed car and repeated one sentence, over and over, "What is my father going to say about his new car?" She was indifferent to the feelings of others, unconcerned about the death and sorrow and pain she had inflicted,

fearful only of her father's rage when he learned what had happened to his automobile.

You say, "How callous can anyone be?" I'll tell you something even more unfeeling than that. Every day multitudes die without ever knowing about Christ, because the Christians who live near them and work with them never make any attempt to warn them. Even though our neighbors are lost and in sin, many of us don't take the time to give Christ to them. We need to cry out to God, "O Lord, help me to know the value of a soul!"

God Himself has a very definite sense of values. From the time man sinned and fell from grace, bringing upon himself the curse of death, God has been trying through many plans to reconcile errant souls and bring them back to Himself. Keep in mind that, though God sends judgment upon man, He has always loved souls more than judgment. Though the sins of the antediluvian age were repulsive to God, He did not destroy mankind until He had made provision through Noah for men to be saved.

God cursed the city of Nineveh and



judged the people worthy of destruction. The Lord definitely said He would destroy the city but sent a prophet, nevertheless, to warn them. And when men repented, "God saw their works, that they turned from their evil way; and God repented of the evil, that he had said that he would do unto them; and he did it not" (Jonah 3:10).

Though man continues in sin, still God desires and longs to save him. And even today He is "not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance" (2 Peter 3:9).

Surely the life of Jesus Christ demonstrates the highest regard for the value of a soul. His every act of mercy, suffering, and vicarious sacrifice was made because He knew that men's souls were more valuable than all else. No matter how great the price, how bitter the cup, Jesus was conformable to the scheme of redemption because of the value He set upon the souls He sought to redeem.

He left His heavenly glory and power to become a man, to become subject to the cares and pain of man. He left His heavenly home and wandered about homeless. He gave up a throne to become a pauper. He gave up power to become subject to a mob and die on a cross. He who knew no sin became sin, to redeem us from sin. He would not shrink, even though the Father turn His back upon Him as He hung upon the cross. Surely Christ knew the value of men's souls.

But does man know the worth of his own soul? Adam didn't. He failed to value his soul's salvation and fellowship with God; therefore he was sent from Eden to die. Cain didn't know the value of his soul until he became a murderer and lost it.

The sinner is in his sins today simply because he does not realize the eternal value of his soul. Most folk will very carefully plan their lives to meet financial problems and to make themselves secure. They buy insurance and have bank accounts so that they will have resources in the event of an emergency. Yet their soul, their only eternal possession, they disregard. They fail to realize that it would be no profit to them if they should "gain the whole world, but lose their own soul." The devil has so perverted man's sense of values that everything in the material realm supersedes the spiritual. Jesus said, "And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able

to destroy both soul and body in hell" (Matthew 10:28).

During the winter of 1955-56, as some men were flying over the Colorado Rockies they spotted a horse marooned on top of a mountain. Because of snow and ice it was impossible for the poor animal to get down or for anyone to get to him. The men could see from their airplane that "Old Elijah," as they dubbed him, needed help.

As soon as they landed they began to work to rescue the horse. The newspapers carried the story and pleaded for an airlift to drop food to the old horse on top of the mountain. The results were phenomenal! Money came in the mail. Feed was bought and flown to be dropped to him. Every day the newspapers told of each new development. Finally, a party of men risked their lives to ascend the icy mountain and bring "Old Elijah" down. For their actions the men were awarded a medal by the Humane Society.

I am not suggesting that the men did wrong in rescuing "Old Elijah" from the mountain. It took a great deal of courage for them thus to risk their lives. But it seems strange that people can get stirred up so easily to help an old horse, while it is so difficult to get them concerned about their own souls. And Christians who know that a world is separated from God, dying for lack of the gospel, ought to make a greater effort to win those souls. Yet far too many church members are not even living a life consistent with their testimony, to say nothing of spending time or sacrificing comfort in order to spread the gospel. May God show us the value of a soul! May He wake us up; and help us to pray daily, *"Lord, lay some soul upon my heart, And love that soul through me. And may I faithfully do my part To win that soul to Thee."* ◀◀

RADIO NEWS FLASH

The following stations have been added to the REVIVALTIME radio log:

GUTHRIE, OKLAHOMA (KWRW)

1490 kc.—100 watts
Sundays, 5:45 p.m.

MORGANTOWN, WEST VIRGINIA

(WCLG)
1300 kc.—1,000 watts
Sundays, 12:30 p.m.

CHANGE OF TIME:

WSUN, St. Petersburg, Fla., will now broadcast REVIVALTIME at 9:30 p.m., Sundays.



New Church Dedicated in Marianna, Arkansas

The new auditorium of the Assembly in Marianna, Arkansas, was dedicated by District Superintendent G. W. Hardcastle on October 27, 1957. Standing by the church sign is J. C. Nichols, who has been the pastor since 1951. Construction of the new building was begun in August 1955. The auditorium is 40x70 and seats 275. It is joined to the old building, which is being converted to Sunday School classrooms. The total indebtedness is only about \$2,000.

A Minister Expresses Appreciation for "Evangel"

An Assembly minister in Louisville, Kentucky, writes:

"I was led into the Assemblies through the Evangel. I was saved in another church, and the night I was saved a sister (I don't know who she was) gave me fifteen or twenty copies of The Pentecostal Evangel. When I would read my Bible and didn't understand it, I would get one of the Evangelists and read it. There would be a message on the things I didn't understand and it would make the Scriptures clear to me.

"Later I moved to Pittsburgh. I didn't have a church home, so I wrote to the brethren at Springfield to see if there was a church in Pittsburgh. They answered me right back and I found a church close to where I lived.

"That was eighteen years ago, and I still praise God for the Evangel. My son is now pastor of the East End Assembly in Louisville—I am co-pastor with him—and we get a bundle of Evangelists each week. I just hope that those to whom I give the Evangel as I visit will be helped by it as I have been"—by Mrs. W. F. Bunch.



Praying Parents



—by—
Mrs. Leona M. Sherman

HAVEN'T YOU NOTICED THAT YOU can almost feel the difference when you enter a home where the parents pray? What is there about prayer that makes such a different atmosphere?

For one thing, prayer puts the parents in contact with a wellspring of wisdom. The writer of Proverbs says that through wisdom is a house builded, and that by understanding it is established. Even as Job asked the question, "Where shall I find wisdom?" so may we.

One mother whom I know seems to be relying entirely upon the rules of psychology which she reads in parents' magazines. Not that they aren't helpful, but they ought not to be our main source of wisdom.

In the Psalms we read, "Thou shalt make me to know wisdom." And James says, "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God." Having talked with a number of Christian parents who are having outstanding success in the rearing of their children, I believe this to be their source of help: they have asked God for wisdom, and He has given it to them. "Ye shall go and pray unto me, and I will hearken unto you."

Prayer becomes a daily source of help. One very good mother said to me, "Prayer is an indispensable part of our everyday procedure. Prayer becomes the routine source of help we need to handle and cope with our problems. It gives us more stability to make our home what it ought to be. The home should be a place of spiritual growth, as well as physical."

I asked this same mother how prayer had guided her in the training of her children. She said that their discipline had been done through love and concern. I asked, "How do your children know that?" Her quick reply was that they understand love by the way their parents live with them, and through the home atmosphere. The few times

in her family when a spanking had to be resorted to, it was not done in anger but in a calm, cool spirit. This happened with a couple of their children at an early age when there were temper tantrums. She added, "That is one time when gentle words aren't in order." The one spanking was sufficient.

So you see that even prayer guidance does sometimes lead to a spanking. And in this day when so many spurn the good old hairbrush, that is unusual. One mother told me she feels that an absence of discipline makes for delinquency and lack of respect for adults and the church. Probably more parents ought to remember that "the rod and reproof give wisdom: but a child left to himself bringeth his mother to shame." Would you like to hear what one very conscientious young mother told me was her most remembered prayer experience in connection with guidance? She told her son, "Gary, you are not ever to turn on that oil drum again."

A few days later the oil drum was turned on. "Gary, did you turn on the oil?" asked the mother.

"Yes, I forgot."

"You know you were told not to do this, so you are to go to bed."

Gary went, but every few minutes came this mournful wail from the bedroom, "Mother, you promised me I could go to the birthday party today." This mother realized she was in a predicament. She had forgotten about the party. She kept praying for guidance, and she felt God did lead her as to what to do. She finally said, "I promised you a few days ago you could go to the party. I will keep my promise. You may get up long enough to go to the party. But I expect a promise from you, too."

"I promise never to do it again," agreed Gary; and he never did.

Praying parents know indeed the

truth of Deuteronomy 33:27, "The eternal God is thy refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms. "In the morning, at noon, and in the evening they pray for the protection of their families. One good mother told me very earnestly that the thought of God surrounds them at all times, and that prayer is so much a part of their lives that they cannot realize how many times their prayers have been answered. The father has to fly a lot in his work, and each time he takes a trip she and their three boys pray for his safe return. God answers prayer.

She also told me that they had always been very watchful to guard against polio because of the experience of some of their relatives with it. At one time, one of their boys definitely had symptoms of it. They prayed earnestly that, if it could be God's will, their boy would not have polio. He was spared.

One mother prayed that their children would be kept from drinking and smoking. None have done so. One is married and another has gone through college.

And who can know the amount of good accomplished by the *example* of praying parents? This same family, each night, kneels by the side of the bed. The three boys each pray first, and then the father and mother pray. If one of the boys has a guest, he is invited to join them. Sometimes the guest will pray, and sometimes not, but recently one boy did—he simply said, "Thank you, God, for those who help me."

This mother teaches her children that God is always with them, and that at any time they can talk to Him. Recently, two of the boys were skating. They were told to be home by dark. One of the boys couldn't get his skates unfastened to walk home. He tried coming along as best he could with his skates on, and then finally resorted to crawling on his hands and knees. A neighbor saw the boys and picked them up in his car. On reaching home, the boy said to his mother, "I remembered what you said about God always being with us, and I prayed; and sure enough, someone picked us up."

When a behavior problem comes up among these children, they are told to go by themselves, to think it over, and ask Jesus if it is what He would have them do. For instance, one boy is reluctant to go to bed on time. Another is sometimes guilty of telling half-

truths. These problems are dealt with lovingly, tactfully, prayerfully.

The homes of praying parents are tranquil homes. This does not mean that disturbing situations never arise. Neither does it mean that all prayers are answered in the manner expected, because God often says "No" when we think He ought to say "Yes." But the parents who pray are better able to take the reverses when they do come because they go along serenely in their faith that God is with them and helping them.

The writer of Proverbs speaks of the wellspring of wisdom as a flowing brook. Webster defines wellspring as "a source of continual supply." You, as praying parents, have access to a never-failing supply not only of wisdom, but of strength and help in every way. That knowledge brings a steady flowing stream of peace and contentment into the heart of a parent, even in this hectic and busy age. Surely, "the effectual fervent prayer of a righteous [parent] availeth much" (James 5:16).

For the Junior Reader

Who Said It?

Here are some statements from the Bible. Can you give the name of the person who made each of these statements?

1. "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith."
2. "Brother Saul, the Lord, even Jesus, that appeared unto thee in the way as thou camest, hath sent me, that thou mightest receive thy sight, and be filled with the Holy Ghost."
3. "See, here is water: what doth hinder me to be baptized?"
4. "Sing ye to the Lord, for he hath triumphed gloriously; the horse and his rider hath He thrown into the sea."
5. "Suffer me that I may feel the pillars whereupon the house standeth, that I may lean upon them."
6. "If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth."
7. "Yea, Lord; Thou knowest that I love Thee."
8. "Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God."
9. "So will I go in unto the king, which is not according to the law: and if I perish, I perish."
10. "Wilt Thou also destroy the righteous with the wicked?"

ANSWERS:

1—Paul (2 Timothy 4:7). 2—Ananias (Acts 9:17). 3—Ethiopian eunuch (Acts 8:36). 4—Miriam (Exodus 15:21). 5—Samson (Judges 16:26). 6—Jesus (Mark 9:23). 7—Peter (John 21:17). 8—Stephen (Acts 7:56). 9—Esther (Esther 4:16). 10—Abraham (Genesis 18:23).

March 2, 1958



Family Altar

DAILY BIBLE READINGS BY R. G. CHAMPION

Monday, March 3

Read: Colossians 3:1-11

Learn: "Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth" (Colossians 3:2).

For the Parent: After a person has been saved, his primary interests should center in spiritual things, vv. 1-4. Point out the things we are to "mortify" (literally, "put to death") and "put off", vv. 5-9. Deal with each of these as time permits. Verses 8 and 9 should especially lend themselves to discussion in the family group.

Question Time: Where should we set our affection and where should we not set it? (v. 2) Why? (v. 3) What are some things we are to put out of our lives? (vv. 5-9) Why should we desire to put these things out of our lives? (v. 4)

Tuesday, March 4

Read: Colossians 3:9-17

Learn: "And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness" (Colossians 3:14).

For the Parent: Review the material studied yesterday. Emphasize that there is more to the Christian life than the negative aspect—putting away sinful practices. We are also instructed to "put on" some things. Discuss these from vv. 12-17. Point out the important place given to love, v. 14. If true Christian love governs our actions, then these other qualities will come as a matter of course.

Question Time: What are some of the things the Christian should "put on"? (vv. 12-17) If a person has done something against us what should we do? (v. 13)

Wednesday, March 5

Read: Colossians 3:18-4:6

Learn: "And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men" (Colossians 3:23).

For the Parent: The apostle here gives some practical suggestions for our relationships with others. Point out these rules for: (1) wives, 3:18; (2) husbands, 3:19; (3) children, 3:20; (4) fathers, 3:21; (5) servants—employees, 3:22-25; (6) masters—employers, 4:1. In all our relationships we must remember that we belong to God and should seek to please Him by our lives.

Question Time: What instructions are here given to the various members of the family group? to servants and masters?

Thursday, March 6

Read: Luke 4:16-21; John 5:39-47

Learn: "Search the scriptures; for... they are they which testify of me" (John 5:39).

For the Parent: (Additional material on "Christ Teaches About the Scriptures" will be found on Sunday's Lesson page.) The Bible is an essential element in the life of the Christian. Jesus had many things to say about the Scriptures. From these passages point out: (1) Jesus is revealed through the Bible, Luke 4:16-21; (2) the Scriptures either lead a person to Christ or else point the way to judgment, depending upon our reaction to them, John 5:39-47.

Question Time: What are two things the Scriptures do? (See above)

Friday, March 7

Read: John 11:20-45 (Sunday's Lesson for Juniors)

Learn: "She saith unto him, Yea, Lord: I believe thou art the Christ, the Son of God" (John 11:27).

For the Parent: Have the group review the story of the raising of Lazarus from the dead. Emphasize: (1) Jesus' personal concern in the situation; (2) Jesus has power over death, showing again that He is the Son of God. Some day this same resurrection power will work in all people—some raised to eternal life, some to eternal punishment.

Question Time: What practical lesson does Jesus' concern for Lazarus show you? What was the result of this miracle? (v. 45)

Saturday, March 8

Read: 2 Kings 4:1-7 (Sunday's Lesson for Primaries)

Learn: "He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the Lord" (Proverbs 19:17).

For the Parent: Review the miracle of the multiplied oil, pointing out: (1) the problem of the widow; (2) she went to the prophet for help; (3) God used what she had, multiplying it in a miraculous way, to solve her problem. Emphasize the importance of being concerned about the needs of others and being willing to help them. Also show the value of pointing them to God.

Question Time: What was the problem of this woman? (v. 1) How was her problem solved? (vv. 2-7)

'I Was in Prison'

BY R. S. WATSON

"PREACHER, I HAVE A PRISONER working for me at the State Prison Dairy who wants someone to pray with him, and he sent me after you."

Rising from my desk I said, "My car is being repaired right now. But just the minute it is ready I will be right out."

At that time I was pastor of First Assembly of God in Atmore, Alabama, having been elected a few months before this incident in 1950.

Atmore Prison Farm was only ten miles out of town. I took two or three of the men from the church with me on the trip. The superintendent of the dairy had told the prisoner that I had promised to see him, and when we drove up he was standing at the entrance of the dairy barn with eager eyes cast our way.

They called this man "Old 35" because of a thirty-five-year sentence of which he had served some fifteen years. He had been a terrible sinner.

I talked with him a few minutes, then we knelt in prayer and he poured out his heart to God. His burden was lifted and he accepted the Lord wholeheartedly. He threw away his snuff, quit drinking and cursing, and became a shining light before his fellow prisoners and the officials. Within a few short months this degenerate had gained the confidence of the other inmates and the officials alike.

Some 18 months later he was granted a parole, and after five years he is still a free man (on parole) and is faithfully serving our Lord.

This incident was a landmark in my ministry, for it taught me the need, the

Prison chapel, the Door of Hope, which was built by inmate labor.



yearning, and the craving of incarcerated people to receive help and to have someone to place confidence in them, and their desire to do right and to know about our Saviour.

It was several months and hundreds of prayers later that we were granted permission to conduct services inside the prison.

One of the first high lights of my prison ministry was a water baptismal service with four prisoner converts in a lake on the prison farm. Of these four men, two are free today on parole and are still serving the Lord, one has passed on, and the other one is still in prison.

At the beginning, we were permitted to hold services inside the prison only on the second Sunday of each month. But the services became so popular that within a short time we were given per-

mission to include an afternoon service on the fourth Sunday. Then a little later we added a regular Thursday night service, and as the attendance grew we added Saturday night to the schedule.

All of these services were conducted for two years in addition to my pastoral duties at the First Assemblies of God Church in Atmore. The Lord blessed our efforts, and quite a number accepted the Lord as their personal Saviour.

Because of all this and our love for prison mission work, a group of friends started a movement anticipating my appointment as chaplain at the prison. I was soon appointed part-time chaplain with a sixteen-hour weekly schedule for a salary of \$100 per month.

At that time I was pastoring a growing church and we were in the process of building a lovely eight-room parsonage. My pastoral and prison work were both increasing, and I began to realize that I did not have enough time to handle both jobs adequately. I didn't want either work to suffer, even though I felt it would take a miracle from God if I was ever appointed as a full-time prison chaplain.

My combined salaries were more than a hundred dollars per week, besides a nice, new house to live in, gratis. I didn't want to give up either the prison work or the church.

Finally, one day while driving down the highway, I made my decision and



The Men of the South, a prison quartet, with their accompanist who is also secretary to Chaplain Watson.

consecration. I said, "Lord, if you will open the door to full-time prison work, regardless of the sacrifice or the great cost, I'll enter prison mission work."

God, soon opened that door for me. The Director of Religious Activities for the State of Alabama came to see me and asked if I would give up my church to become full-time chaplain of the Atmore Prison Farm. It would mean a reduction in salary of \$175 per month from what I had been receiving.

Since I had already made my dedication, I accepted the position and resigned as pastor of First Assembly in Atmore, Alabama. I continued in prison missions work in Atmore for six years before I was transferred to Montgomery to serve as chaplain at the Receiving and Classification Center.

On this new assignment I interviewed each man as he came to prison from the jails over the State. I found that these men needed guidance and comfort. Most of them felt lonely, and they needed someone to talk with them and to help them bear their burdens. This was a golden opportunity for me to tell them about the great Burden-Bearer, our Christ. I was the first chaplain to interview the men at this reception center ("quarantine," in prison terms) before they were shipped out to the various prison units over the State, including Atmore, where I had worked. My work also included Number Four Honor Camp near Montgomery, where I held regular services.

Then on October 14, 1957, I was transferred to Kilby Prison, which is the main prison unit in the State of Ala-

bama. Kilby is the State's main maximum security prison, with solid cement walls towering some twenty feet into the air. These white walls enclose the main prison compound, which is composed of several acres of land. In addition to the main cell block building, which also houses the general offices of the prison, there are a large textile mill, a tag plant, canning plant, cold storage plant, carpenter and machine shops, a large hospital with a T. B. wing, and the chapel which is known as The Door of Hope.

As one enters the vestibule of the chapel, the office of the chaplain is on the right and the clerk's office and the religious library on the left. The auditorium is done in snow-white with comfortable, spring-cushioned seats. The floor is marbled cream and black tile, and the ceiling is covered with acoustical tile. The altar rail is draped with red velvet, and the pulpit is of white pine in modern design. There is a new spinet model Hammond organ and a new studio model Wurlitzer piano. The choir loft contains fourteen chairs, but four extras must be placed in the small aisle each Sunday, for the choir has outgrown the architect's dream.

The unusual painting of Christ in the Garden, which serves as a backdrop behind the choir loft, was done by a former prisoner. It has drawn visitors from as far away as London, Burma, the Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, Hawaii, Mexico, Canada, and from almost every State in the union.

(Continued on next page)



Kilby Prison choir sings each Sunday morning.

HERE IS A MESSAGE FOR PEOPLE PAST FIFTY



(YOU CAN READ IT
WITHOUT GLASSES)

*The Assemblies of
God will guarantee
you an income as
long as you live. In
return for a gift of
one hundred dollars
or more, we will pay
you a regular return
as long as you live.
Upon your death, the
fund will be used
to further our many
ministries for Christ.*

*We would like to
send you a FREE
booklet which will
explain the entire
plan. Fill out the
coupon and send
it in-NOW!*

M. B. Netzel, Treasurer
434 W. Pacific St., Springfield 1, Mo.

Please send me your free booklet on
Assemblies of God Annuity Agreements.

NAME

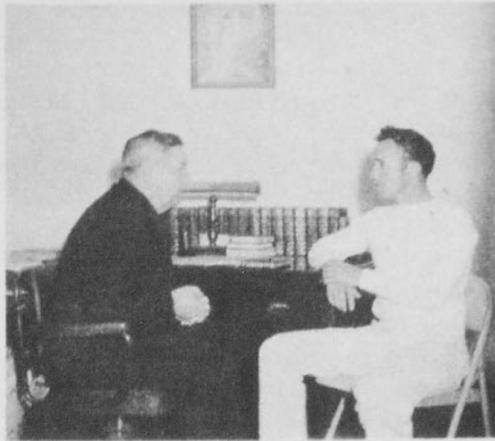
ADDRESS

CITY STATE

My secretary is also the music director of the prison; he has had a long career in musical activities. He finds time to teach a number of classes in music here in Kilby. During his four years here he has set up a music studio and music library that would be the envy of many teachers in the free world. He also gets out the church bulletin and does hundreds of letters for the many inmates who cannot read and write. He spends two afternoons each week doing social work in both the main and T. B. hospitals—where he runs errands; reads; writes letters for the men; buys them stamps, fruit juices, etc.; and distributes the stamps, magazines, Bibles, and other items that are sent in by interested Christians for these men.

He directs the choir and quartet activities and plays the organ for the chapel services.

The officials as a whole have been very co-operative with me in my work. Of course, there are many restrictions that the general public cannot understand, but they are intended for the



Chaplain R. S. Watson counsels with an inmate

security and betterment of the population of the prison as a whole.

My daughter, Mrs. Bettye Bartlett, is among the many visitors who attend the services each Sunday morning, as the visitors from the visiting yard are permitted to enter the main prison compound for this service.

We usually invite an outside church group to conduct the 2:30 service each Sunday afternoon. Bettye also attends this service with me, and her songs

have become a favorite with the prisoners.

Today I feel that I am in the greatest field of service on earth. What pastor has 1,000 souls who need Christ so desperately within reach of his hand every day of the year? And any one of these souls is worth more than all of the world.

"I was in prison, and ye came unto me."

* * *

Chaplain Watson has distributed many of the Bible Correspondence Courses, which are produced by the Home Missions Department especially for prisoners. You can help in prison work everywhere through an offering for these courses. A new course, entitled *Outstanding Bible Characters*, is being produced this Spring. Your offerings now will help to defray the costs of production. Designate your offering for PRISON BIBLE COURSES and send today to

HOME MISSIONS DEPARTMENT
434 West Pacific Street
Springfield 1, Missouri

Healing Testimonies

Growth Disappears

Until a year ago my husband and I were both living in sin. In December 1956 our local doctor sent my husband to Oakland, California, for a very serious throat operation; he needed to have a very large growth removed. I was acquainted with N. R. Ingram, the pastor of the Assembly of God here in Klamath, and I asked him and his wife to pray that God would bring my husband safely home again. Our prayers were answered.

When my husband got well we started attending the Assembly in Klamath. Both of us were saved in February 1957.

Some time after that, another growth appeared in my husband's throat, and he began to have difficulty in swallowing. It seemed that he would have to undergo another operation. But then Pastor Ray Ingram and his wife took us to a revival campaign being held in Crescent City. When the evangelist asked the sick to come to the altar for prayer, my husband went up. The evangelist and our pastor both prayed that God would take that growth out of

my husband's throat. And (glory to God!) He did. God completely healed my husband so that he does not now need an operation.

I truly praise and thank God for that healing and for the many other blessings He has showered on both of us. They are too many to be numbered.—Mrs. Orreal Jones, Box 2322, Klamath, Calif.

(Endorsed by Pastor N. R. Ingram, Klamath, Calif.)

Injured Back Healed

A few months ago while house-cleaning I injured my back. I must have strained a muscle or a ligament. It hurt so much I could hardly walk around, and if I sat down I could hardly get up again.

My pastor, Gordon H. Matheny, prayed for me. Thank God, the pain left and I was completely healed. I came home and went on with my work, as strong as though nothing had ever happened.—Lena Smith, 620 Silver St., New Albany, Ind.

(Endorsed by Gordon H. Matheny, Pastor, First Assembly, New Albany, Ind.)

Healed of Tuberculosis

I was stricken with a severe case of pneumonia, followed by pleurisy. The result was walking tuberculosis.

The doctors, after having me under observation in 1951, told my family that I probably wouldn't live more than a year. They placed me in a tuberculosis hospital in Baton Rouge, La.

My pastor, William Blair, and his wife came to visit me regularly before I left to go to the hospital. We prayed that God would heal me, and I felt sure our prayers would be answered. During the eight months I was there, Brother and Sister Blair visited me repeatedly and kept praying for me.

We were very grateful to the Lord when, in September 1952, the doctors released me as healed completely. That was over five years ago, and my healing still holds good today.—Mrs. J. D. Brown, 823 Fifth St., Jennings, La.

(Endorsed by William R. Blair, pastor, Assembly of God, Jennings, La.)

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

HE CAN!

"He . . . hangeth the earth upon nothing" (Job 26:7).

In looking to God for deliverance of any kind, we are prone to try to discover what material He has on hand to work on in coming to our relief. If we are praying for financial help we are apt to look over the community to see if we can think of anyone whom the Lord might influence to lend us some money. If there are no apparent probabilities in that direction we find it difficult to believe for hard cash.

It is so human to look and crave for something in sight that will help the Lord out. In time of need if we can only find a little something for God to begin on, we seem so much better satisfied. To need a sum of money and not be able to think of a friend or a moneyed institution from which to borrow, gives a dark background to the scene.

To need work and to find that throngs of others as needy as ourselves are also idle makes the human outlook very dark. To be in bed day after day, feeling no better, household bills increasing, business suffering, and patience giving out, makes a situation in which relief does not seem very probable. The outlook is all liabilities, with no resources to help out.

Now, to God's child what is the real situation? Does God have any resources? Yes, thousands, millions, billions! Where are they? Above you, below you, around you. Earth and air are full of wealth untold. You can't see it? You don't need to see it—keep your eye on Him!

Just think a moment. It is not at all necessary for there to be any help in sight, nor is it necessary for God to have any relief on hand. He does not need anything to begin on. In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. With what did He make them? Nothing, absolutely nothing. When the earth was made, on what did He hang it? Nothing. It's a wonderful earth to be made of nothing, isn't it? Remember, not a scrap of anything was used to make it. "He . . . hangeth the earth upon nothing."

A God who can make the earth, sun, moon, stars out of nothing, and keep them hanging on nothing, can supply all your needs, whether He has anything to begin with or not. Trust Him and He will see you through even though He has to make your supplies out of nothing. —*The Elim Evangel*



Your Questions

ANSWERED BY ERNEST S. WILLIAMS

In 1 Corinthians 15:50 we read, "Flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God." What does this mean?

It means (1) that we cannot enter heaven in our present material bodies, and (2) that man in his natural, unregenerate state cannot inherit the kingdom of God. Jesus said, "Ye must be born again." "Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God" (John 3:3).

If a person has confessed his sins and they have been blotted out, will he have to give account for his sins again at the Judgment Seat of Christ (2 Corinthians 5:10)?

The time of the Judgment Seat of Christ may be much more serious than many seem to think. However, I am thankful for the precious assurance which Jesus has given those who turn to Him: "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth My word, and believeth on Him that sent Me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life" (John 5:24).

If God is an invisible Spirit, how could He create man in His image? Will we see God in heaven?

The Bible plainly teaches that "God is a Spirit." The image of God in man is in his personality, not his flesh and bones. Man's body will decay and return to dust; but the divine image, the spiritual part of man, continues after death.

Some Bible expositors believe that the appearances of God to the Old Testament patriarchs were revelations of the preincarnate Christ. Or, we may choose to accept such revelations as a manifestation of the divine glory rather than the revelation of His full excellence. In Acts 7:55 Stephen "saw the glory of God." He was very conscious of the presence of God, but saw only His glory. A similar manifestation of the presence of God was given to John (Revelation 4:2 to 5:1). Such manifestations are spoken of as the-

ophanes, or divine appearances in human form. This possibly is the sense in which we shall see God in heaven.

In the new earth will people live in natural bodies such as we now have?

The saints will possess glorified bodies. But there are those who feel that because the promises to Israel are so largely material and related to this earth, Israel and perhaps other nations also will be earth-dwellers in the time of the new heavens and new earth (Revelation 21:24).

Since the new earth comes into being after the final judgment, when the present form of things will come to an end (Revelation 20:11-15; 2 Peter 3:10-14), it is possible that man in his present physical form will cease to be. If man in the material form of his present existence were to continue, might he not have the same fallen nature as he now possesses, a form on which the divine curse rests?

We are given glimpses into the future, but only glimpses. We must await fulfillment to learn all that God has in His eternal plan.

Can we expect our departed loved ones to communicate with us while we are here?

If this were possible I believe the Lord would not forbid the living to converse with the dead (Isaiah 8:19). But it is not possible. I do not know why God allowed Samuel to be brought up and to appear to the Witch of Endor. However, this gives us no license to seek knowledge from the dead. The practice is forbidden by the Scriptures (Deuteronomy 18:10-12). Spiritism is demonism, which must be avoided lest we become demon-possessed.

If you wish Brother Williams to answer a question, send it to "Your Questions," The Pentecostal Evangel, 434 W. Pacific St., Springfield 1, Mo. He will answer either in this column or by personal letter (if you send a stamped self-addressed envelope).

Sunday's Lesson

RIGHTLY DIVIDING THE WORD OF TRUTH



Christ Teaches About the Scriptures

Sunday School Lesson for March 9, 1958

LUKE 4:16-21; JOHN 5:39-47

CHRIST'S MINISTRY DESCRIBED BY THE SCRIPTURES

(Luke 4:16-21)

The Invitation (Luke 4:16, 17). "And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up." Christ returning to His home town! With what eagerness and longing must He have come, and with what deep desire to bless those among whom He had grown up! Yet how cruelly He was to be treated!

"And, as his custom was, he went into the synagogue on the sabbath day"—just as He had done through the years of His boyhood and youth. Though He had just come through an exalted spiritual experience and a great victory over temptation, yet He would not discount the importance of regular religious worship. What an example He is for us today! No spiritual experience, however wonderful, can be a substitute for regular, systematic habits of worship! Let no man, however spiritual he may fancy himself to be, think that he may with impunity ignore the Scriptural exhortation—"not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together" (Hebrews 10:25).

"And [he] stood up for to read. And there was delivered unto him the book of the prophet Esaias." It was customary for the leaders of the synagogue to invite notable visitors to read and expound a passage from the Old Testament scrolls. Thus Jesus, the "home town Boy" who had become a preacher of great reputation, was given opportunity to minister.

The Message (Luke 4:18, 19). "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me." Deliberately choosing as a text Isaiah 61:1, 2, which so beautifully describes His blessed ministry, Christ maintained that its fulfillment was to be found in Him! "This day is this scripture fulfilled in your ears." Some would say that these words have only a spiritual application and describe a ministry which is only to the soul. This cannot be! While the gospel has an application to the "poor in spirit," thank God it also has a social effect on the poverty-stricken. The gospel which Christ preached and practiced had blessed effects upon social life and physical life, as well as upon men's souls.

Observe, too, where Christ's quotation of Isaiah stopped—before the words, "the day of vengeance of our God." He would have His hearers (and us!) realize that they were living in a day of grace, a day of glorious privilege and opportunity. The living Christ waited to be gracious to them! But what was the effect of His message?

The Rejection (Luke 4:20-30). Here we have one of the great tragedies of Christ's early ministry. He was rejected by those who knew Him best and whom He loved the most! (1) "Is not this Joseph's son?" They stumbled over His lowly origin. (2) They became enraged at His non-sectarianism (vv. 25-27). (3) They endeavored to destroy Him (vv. 28-30).

CHRIST'S REJECTORS DENOUNCED BY THE SCRIPTURES

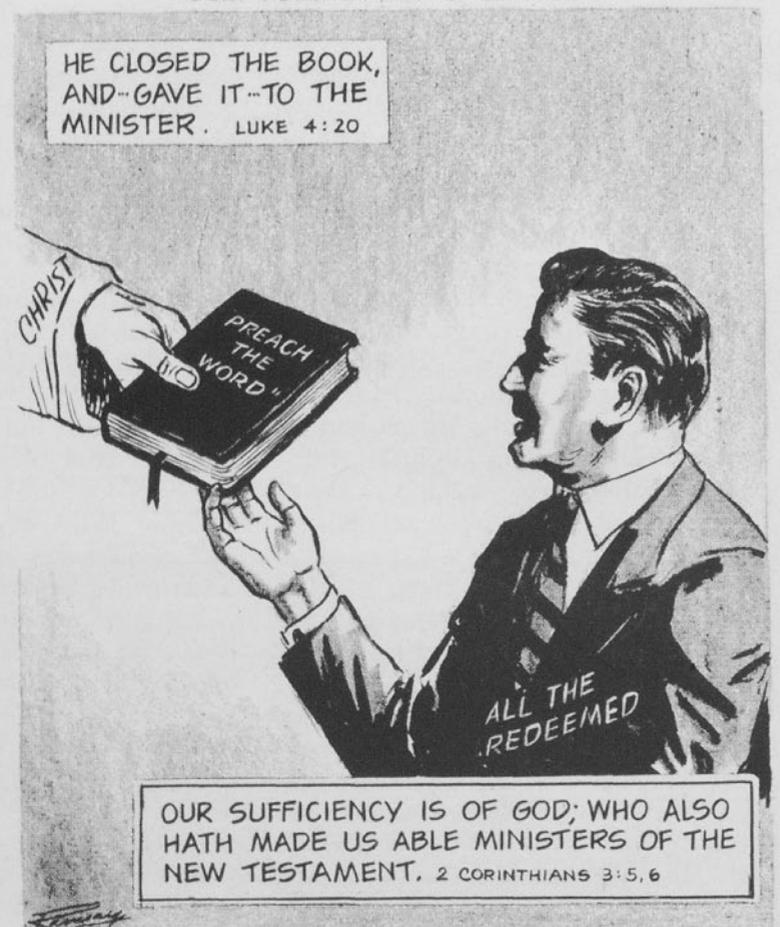
(John 5:38-47)

The second portion of our lesson text is taken from a passage in John's Gospel, in which Christ is pointing out to those who opposed Him that His claims are based on a fourfold witness: namely, the witness of John the Baptist, whom they respected; the witness of Christ's miracles; the witness of God the Father Himself; and finally, in our lesson portion, the witness of the Scriptures.

The Scriptures reveal Christ. "Ye search the scriptures, because ye think that in them ye have eternal life" (John 5:39, ASV). These words reveal irony rather than approval. Christ is repudiating the idea held by the Scribes and Pharisees that by mere study and knowledge of the letter of the Law itself they possessed eternal life. They "thought" they had eternal life, but did not. Why? Because they rejected the Christ of whom the Scriptures testified.

The Scriptures accuse the unbeliever. "For had ye believed Moses, ye would have believed me: for he wrote of me." Christ delivered another telling blow to his listeners. They professed to revere Moses and cherish his teachings; yet Moses, Christ said, wrote of Him! How and where did Moses write of Christ? Christ was foreshadowed in the types and offerings of the Tabernacle; He was pre-figured by living men such as David, Moses, and Solomon; He was predicted by Moses himself, in Deuteronomy 18:15, 18, 19. See also Luke 24:27. Yet, for all this, Christ said of His listeners, "And ye will not come to me, that ye might have life." It is the same today. There is no power, no proof, or no claim strong enough to convince those who do not want to believe. "The preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God." —J. Bashford Bishop

OUR SOLEMN RESPONSIBILITY



Time to Awake!

BY EVANGELIST O. E. VAALE

IN THE SONG OF MOSES IN THE thirty-second chapter of Deuteronomy are recorded these words: "An eagle stirreth up her nest, fluttereth over her young, spreadeth abroad her wings, taketh them, beareth them on her wings."

When a storm is pending, the mother eagle is spurred by an instinct to protect her young. She goes to the nest where her young are sleeping, and begins to flutter over them and stir the nest. The little ones, with their eyes still closed, may open their mouths for a feeding, but that isn't what the mother wants. She is stirring the nest because she wants to make it uncomfortable for them. She continues to flutter over them, transferring her nervousness to them. The little eagles, when awake, discern what it is the great eagle wants. They latch on to her wings. Then she soars upward, spreading abroad her wings, until she and her young are far above the threatening storm.

I see a parallel in this to the perilous times in which we are living. A storm is pending. The world is facing catastrophe, chaos, devastation. Darkness is deepening as nations prepare for war. Tension mounts. This is a momentous hour. The age is about to culminate. Armageddon is at the door. The death throes of this age are upon us.

The Holy Spirit hovers over the church today as the mother eagle hovers over her young before a storm. He is stirring up our "nest," trying to awaken us to the urgency of the hour in which we live. Many Christians are sleeping, as were the disciples in the Garden of Gethsamene in that momentous hour. Jesus tried to impart to them a realization of that hour's significance, but they could not grasp it. Instead, they slept. Finally it was too

(Continued on page twenty-seven)

March 2, 1958

THIS INTERESTING BOOK FREE!

A NEW EXCITING
STORY OF AN ARMY
SERGEANT'S LIFE—
"THE SERGEANT
THOMPSON STORY"

BY C. M. WARD



Is it possible to live for God in the armed forces of our nation? Thousands of anxious parents have asked this question as they contemplated the call of their sons into the armed forces of our nation. They have wondered, "Will my son come out as fine and consecrated to the cause of Christ as he was when he entered? Will he lose his integrity as a Christian?"

These important questions are brought into focus in this moving story, and we see a *miracle answer*. It tells not only how a man stayed true to his Christian testimony in the armed forces, but also how he found Christ in a very real and wonderful way while serving in the U.S. Army. *It takes you through his days of misunderstanding by his superiors to the time when he was given one of the highest honors bestowed upon a member of the armed forces.*

Out of World War II and the Korean conflict comes this thrilling story that reads almost like that of Daniel in the lions' den. Because of this miraculous experience in the Army, Sergeant Thompson is now pastoring a growing church in the State of Wyoming.

Also, as a special feature in this book, Brother Ward has given some important facts and helps in receiving the baptism of the Holy Spirit. Since Sergeant Thompson's story is centered in his experience with this Pentecostal faith this section is a fitting climax, and therefore the book should be placed in the hands of every believing Christian.

A free copy of this book will be sent to you upon request when you forward your offering for the support of REVIVALTIME's world-wide ministry for this month. *Our goal this year is 500 stations and 3,000,000 more listeners.* Your offering will help to make this possible. Get your request to us early to assure your copy of this book. After reading it, you will want to pass it on to a friend, perhaps someone in the service. Just clip your offering to the coupon below and mail immediately.

REVIVALTIME
BOX 70 SPRINGFIELD, MO.

I do not want to miss receiving this miracle story. Please send me a copy of your new book, *The Sergeant Thompson Story*. Believing that REVIVALTIME has a spiritual message for this hour, I am enclosing an offering for this vital ministry, \$.....

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY STATE

Thou Shalt Not Kill



DRIVE CAREFULLY

BUSES IN WASHINGTON, D. C. have been carrying placards, designed by the National Safety Council, which say, "Thou Shalt Not Kill." On these placards the two tables of the law are pictured, with the sixth commandment circled—followed by the words, "Drive Carefully." The message is good and timely.

Many complaints have been voiced by people who say it is the fifth commandment, not the sixth, that says, "Thou shalt not kill." To these complainants the D. C. Transit System states: "While the Catholics and Lutherans number the Commandments differently from the Hebrew and Protestant Churches (except Lutheran), all have the same wording throughout. The National Safety Council followed the most ancient from the books of the Hebrews with no thought of this difference detracting from the intent of the placard. They wanted to impress upon the mind of man the value of human life, and to point out that God says, 'Thou shalt not kill,' and any driver who kills a person by deliberately violating safe driving practices is disobeying God."

People who drive cars while under the influence of liquor are deliberately violating safe driving practices. Most drinkers know that wine, beer, and distilled spirits reduce the speed and accuracy of perception; slow down reaction time; and diminish tensions, anxieties, and inhibitions. If they are responsible for accidents resulting in death, they have broken the law of God, and in His sight they are murderers. Although the courts of man may let them off with a comparatively light

sentence, it is high time for people to realize that they have yet to be judged before the bar of God.

A man is being held under bond at Leesburg, Virginia, in the death of an 18-year-old Washington girl. His car went off the road and through a guard rail, turned over, and rolled and crashed into a stone wall. Police are charging the man with manslaughter, driving while under the influence of liquor, reckless driving, and driving without an operator's license. He certainly wasn't bothered with inhibitions.

A family weren't safe in their home from a drunken driver. In Reseda, California, a car hurtled through the wall of a house where a family of three lay asleep, killing the man, critically injuring his pregnant wife, and crushing the crib but narrowly missing their two-year-old daughter. The driver failed to pass a sobriety test—and emerged from the crash unhurt! Although he will suffer less in this life than the bereaved and injured wife and mother, as a murderer he will stand before God.

But for all of us to practice safe driving, the law must be more than something we have heard and read, more than an authority enforced by officers. Paul the apostle said in 2 Corinthians 3:3, 6, "Ye are manifestly declared to be the epistle of Christ ministered by us, written not with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God; not in tables of stone, but in fleshy tables the heart..." We need to

have the law written in our hearts, so that we have a sincere desire to obey the commandments which are "comprehended in this saying, namely, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. Love worketh no ill to his neighbour: therefore love is the fulfilling of the law" (Romans 13:9, 10).

Now, the letter of the law tells us that we should dim the lights of our cars when approaching another vehicle at night. Near Nogales, Arizona, nine people were killed in a head-on auto collision because of a light-dimming dispute. The driver of one of the cars involved failed to dim his lights. The other driver flicked his lights several times as a signal for the approaching car to dim his—and they crashed with both cars' lights on high beam. If either driver had possessed the law of love in his heart rather than contend for the letter of the law, nine people would have been spared.

The letter of the law tells us that we should have our cars inspected for safety. But an inspection sticker does not give us license to disregard things we know are unsafe between inspections. On the Baltimore-Washington Parkway a bus crashed into the rear of a slow-moving vehicle which displayed no tail lights. Police said the car left a flaming trail of gasoline after the impact, and the bus also caught fire as it ran through the flames. The bus driver and a passenger pulled the seriously injured driver of the car from his flaming vehicle and extin-

You Tell on Yourself the Way You Drive

guished both fires. With 24 passengers on the bus this could have been an extremely serious accident. The injured man would not have been driving if his car had not been inspected, but he still had no tail lights. The law written in our hearts will cause us to check our cars frequently to be sure they are in safe condition.

We could go on to mention that speed, weariness, sleepiness, and failure to be alert are unsafe driving practices. Any of them can cause us to break the law of God — to kill. Christians should obey the laws of the land as well as the law of God. We would indeed be conscience stricken if we had an accident through outright disobedience to the laws of the land or through failure to have the law of God written in our hearts. May we never be guilty of breaking the commandment, "Thou shalt not kill." Remember, too, that the life you destroy could be your own. ◀ ◀

He who stops learning is old, whether this happens at twenty or eighty. He who keeps on learning, remains young and becomes increasingly valuable.

Women of Understanding

God put His approval upon a mother of the Old Testament with the words, "She was a woman of good understanding" (1 Samuel 25:3).

A professor was lecturing to his class against the Christian religion. When he had finished he asked for the students' reactions. A young man replied, "Your arguments are almost convincing till I go back to my room and look at my mother's picture and remember her godly life; then they fade into insignificance. Her life is an answer to all the skeptics in the world."

Every mother who has reared a child has created a little world in which that child will live until he dies. Will it be a world of misunderstanding? Will it be a confused world? That depends largely upon Mother. Will it be a

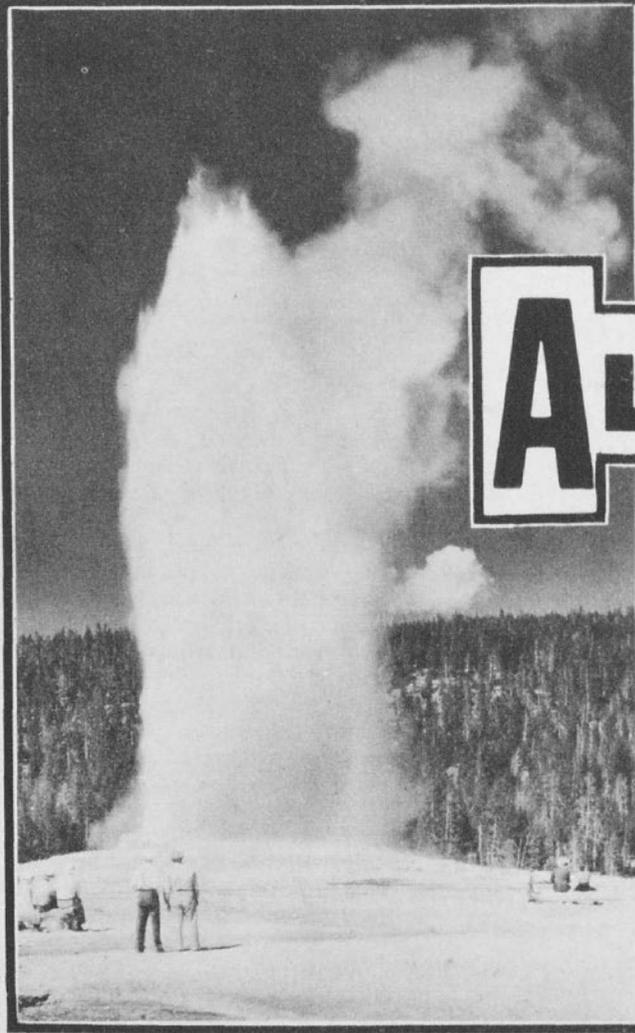
world of happiness? Will it be a world of confidence? Will it be a peaceful world? That, again, depends largely upon Mother. Let it be said of every mother who has been lovable and sincere, and has centered her life in her family, that "she was a woman of good understanding."

The world needs women of good understanding, but not merely the understanding of how to run an office, or how to make a sale. The crying need in this hour when juvenile delinquency is at an all-time high is for women who have good understanding in how to be a faithful mother and a successful homemaker. How I thank God for my dear mother. When I lived at home I always knew where to find her—not at a club house but at our house. Her presence and her love made it a home. "She was a woman of good understanding."

—Everett Stenhouse

One should no more be affectionate in front of a child without including him, than to eat in front of him while he remains hungry.

—Dr. Eric Burne



A great rumbling, a hissing, and suddenly a pillar of boiling water spurts into the air! Old Faithful does it again! Old Faithful in Yellowstone never fails. Every sixty-five minutes she discharges a voluminous column of boiling water before amazed spectators.

The trait of faithfulness as symbolized by this remarkable geyser should be the aim of every Christian. "Moreover it is required in stewards that a man be found faithful" (1 Corinthians 4:2).

ALWAYS FAITHFUL

The 1958 Loyalty Campaign begins April 13! The theme this year is "Always Faithful." The dates of the campaign and the subthemes are:

- April 13—Always in Prayer
- April 20—Always Faithful in Testimony
- April 27—Always Faithful in Service
- May 4—Always Faithful in Missions
- May 11—Always Faithful in Family Devotions
- May 18—Always Faithful in Stewardship
- May 25—Always Faithful in Attendance

Follow the example set by Old Faithful! Be "Always Faithful" in your service for the Lord. Be faithful—not just seven Sundays of the year, but every day of every week!

For added information on the Loyalty Campaign write to the NATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL DEPARTMENT, GOSPEL PUBLISHING HOUSE, 434 WEST PACIFIC STREET, SPRINGFIELD 1, MISSOURI.



Fagots From the Torch of Evangelism

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

► CLOVERDALE, CALIF.—One of the best revivals in this church was recently conducted by Evangelist Richard Jeffers. Souls were filled with the Holy Spirit and many were healed.

—J. L. Jeffrey, Pastor

► COAL HILL, ARK.—The Assembly here enjoyed a time of spiritual blessing during a week of revival with Evangelist T. M. Wiginton of Houston, Tex. Souls were saved, and backsliders returned to the Lord. The entire church was uplifted spiritually.

—C. W. Melson, Pastor

► MOOSIC, PA.—The ministry of the Musical Vanns proved a great blessing to the folk here at Full Gospel Tabernacle. About 35 came to the altar for salvation. A good number of visitors attended the services. The congregation rejoices in the revival spirit that has continued since the meetings closed. A number have been saved and many healed.

—Duane M. Wessman, Pastor

► HIGGINSVILLE, MO.—The church here participated in the Universal Week of Prayer and received much blessing through it. Four people came to the altar for salvation, and the whole congregation was blessed and drawn closer to the Lord. On the concluding Sunday evening the power of God fell during the C. A. service at 6:45 and the service continued until 10:20 with no preaching at all.

Since August 1, eight have been saved and two have been filled with the Holy Spirit.

—Floyd Sedgwick, Pastor

► COLORADO CITY, TEX.—For 18 days Evangelist and Mrs. Gene Davis of Muleshoe, Tex. ministered in a special revival meeting at Calvary Assembly. About ten individuals were saved during the meeting. Two received the baptism of the Holy Spirit according to Acts 2:4. When one man was saved, his wife, who had been a member of the Church of Christ all her life, yielded to the moving of the Spirit of God and had an experience such as she has never had in her life. The church was started only two and a half years ago, and the Sunday School attendance now averages 45.

—Hubert J. Barr, Pastor

► EL PASO, Tex.—Evangelist Velmer Gardner of Springfield, Mo. recently conducted two weeks of revival in the First Assembly of God, and many believe it to be the most outstanding revival in the Assembly and the area. Seventy-four persons accepted Christ, many were healed by the laying on of hands and through faith in Christ. Several were filled with the Holy Spirit. Brother Gardner min-

istered under a rich anointing of the Holy Spirit. The budget of \$2,000 was raised the first week, and \$1,000 in cash was received for foreign missions. The church is zealous to continue on in evangelism.

—William F. Hageman, Pastor

► LAWRENCE, KANS.—The Assembly here recently enjoyed a revival with Evangelist Christian Hild. In all the advertising it was referred to as the "Begin the Year with God" campaign. The attendance was better than for any other campaign in the church. Spiritually hungry people came night after night, and on Sunday nights the church was filled early. Bodies were healed, and the church was refreshed and inspired.

—J. J. Krimmer, Pastor

► SAN ANTONIO, TEX.—The blessing of God rested abundantly upon the two-week revival meeting conducted in the First Assembly of God here by Evangelists Smith and Rogers of Granite City, Ill. Interest and attendance were both good, and a number of souls were saved and filled with the Spirit.

—A. L. Todd, Pastor

► GREER, S. C.—Glad Tidings Tabernacle has just concluded a revival crusade with Evangelist Bill Lee of Atlanta, Ga. Large crowds, including many first-timers, attended each service. Some 40 to 50 young people were saved. Several received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, and many testified to healing. Night after night the altars were filled with young and old alike seeking God. This revival will long be remembered.

—L. D. Staton, Pastor

► OSCEOLA, IOWA—The recent meetings held here by Evangelist Ivan Kramer of Springfield, Minn. are believed by many to be the best in the history of the church. At least 10 were either saved or reclaimed, and quite a number refilled and healed. The entire church was benefited. As a result, several new members will be received into the church. During the past year a number of new Sunday School rooms have been built, and the Sunday School attendance is running higher than a year ago. The all-time attendance record of 110 was reached recently.

—Stanley P. Wiksell, Pastor

► SAN BERNARDINO, CALIF.—The First Assembly here has just closed a splendid New Year's revival with Evangelist Watson Argue. Twenty-two came forward for salvation and 16 backsliders were reclaimed. A number testified to receiving healing and the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

On the last Sunday about 40 raised their

hands signifying their desire to affiliate with the church. Brother Argue's pictures of Bible lands brought many outsiders to the meetings.

—L. H. Hauff, Pastor

► EUDORA, ARK.—Thirteen were saved and reclaimed and 3 filled with the Holy Spirit during the recent two weeks of meetings here with Evangelist and Mrs. John O. Rorie of Herlon, Calif. A number also received physical healing. The meeting was a great spiritual impetus to the church. Though the church here is only two years old, the Sunday School attendance has reached a high of 87.

—L. L. Van Arsdall, Pastor

► BEECHWOOD, KY.—The church here enjoyed three God-sent revivals in 1957. In May, Evangelist E. T. Corbin of Holt, Fla. ministered, and God honored His Word by saving souls, healing sick bodies, and filling believers with the Holy Spirit. Evangelist Lucelia Lanz of Belleville, Ill. conducted a children's revival in August. Again God moved in a special way, saving 13 and baptizing five in the Holy Spirit. Although the meetings were designated as a children's revival, they reached young people and adults too. Evangelist Donald Whitlow of Linton, Ind. came here for three weeks in November. Brother Whitlow is a young man still in his teens; he is on fire for the Lord. There were good results from his ministry—souls were saved, definite physical healings took place, and one received the baptism of the Holy Spirit. The church was built up and refreshed in these revivals, for which God is to be praised.

—Fred E. McDonald, Pastor

► CANTON, Ill.—The Assembly here recently concluded three weeks of very successful meetings with Evangelist and Mrs. A. F. DiMusto and daughters, Sharon and Rachael, of Detroit, Mich. There were 14 definite conversions, and three were filled with the Holy Spirit. Many testified to healing. Two of those who received the Baptism were in their seventies, and had very outstanding experiences. One Catholic lady and her two boys were saved. Much of the success of the revival was attributable to the morning prayer meetings. The special singing of the little girls was enjoyed by all. The singing of the evangelists and the oil paintings attracted 419 visitors. One person was responsible for 62 new ones. The last Sunday of the meetings eight members were received into the church. During the month of January the Sunday School averaged 150, which is an increase over last year's attendance. Recently a tavern operator in this city gave his heart to the Lord, and then disposed of his tavern.

—Willis Akridge, Pastor

Time to Awake!

(Continued from page twenty-three)

late for them to wake up; the betrayer was at hand; and Christ said, "Sleep on now, and take your rest."

Will we sleep through this hour as the disciples slept through theirs? Many are unconcerned as this world faces its darkest hour. Souls are being closed in by the powers of darkness. The Iron Curtain and the Bamboo Curtain have closed in multitudes of people. The tide of nationalism is rising in Africa, and the doors to missions there may soon close. Multitudes of Africans are now saying, "White man, go home." May the Holy Spirit impart to us the essential feeling of urgency. May we realize that it is time to make haste, for each day may be our last day on earth to live for God.

Too many Christians are snug in their nests. Their eyes are closed to the world's need. Their ears are deaf to the cry of those about to perish. How fitting are the words of Paul, in 1 Corinthians 7:29-31—"But this I say, brethren, the time is short: it remaineth, that both they that have wives be as though they had none; and they that weep, as though they wept not; and they that rejoice, as though they re-

joiced not; and they that buy, as though they possessed not; and they that use this world, as not abusing it: for the fashion of this world passeth away." We must not become so engrossed in our families, or in sorrow, or merriment, in prosperity, or possessions, that we are diverted from the task before us of sounding the alarm to a world facing judgment.

Our time is running out. "The great day of the Lord is near, it is near, and hasteth greatly. . . . That day is a day of wrath, a day of trouble and distress, a day of wasteness and desolation, a day of darkness and gloominess, a day of clouds and thick darkness, a day of the trumpet and alarm against the fenced cities, and against the high towers" (Zephaniah 1:14-16). The storm is coming. The greatest cities of man are doomed to go up in the smoke of hydrogen explosions.

Before the storm breaks, the mother

eagle carries her young higher and higher into the sky, until she can look down upon the tumultuous clouds. The storm may destroy the nest, but it doesn't matter, for the little eagles are safe. Let us labor the harder in the harvest fields, knowing that the storm is coming, when work will be impossible. Never fear the gathering clouds, but look up, for our redemption draws nigh. Before the storm of God's wrath is poured upon the earth we shall be lifted. We shall feel those everlasting wings bear us up on high. The Holy Spirit will lift us above the storm and strife to meet Jesus in the air. It will not matter what happens to our earthly nests in the ensuing devastation of the earth, for in our Father's house are many mansions. We shall be forever with the Lord.

"In the shadow of thy wings will I make my refuge, until these calamities be overpast" (Psalm 57:1). ◀◀

EVANGELISTIC CAMPAIGN CALENDAR

STATE	CITY	ASSEMBLY	DATE	EVANGELIST	PASTOR
Ark.	Jacksonville	* A of G	Mar. 3-9	N. B. Rayburn	James A. Villani
Calif.	Fillmore	A of G	Mar. 9—	Bennett Musical Trio	Neville Carlson
Fla.	Miami	Christian	Feb. 23-Mar. 9	Fred Numrick	Ivan R. Loy
	Oxford	Mt. Zion	Mar. 3-16	H. Syvelle Phillips	G. T. Tindall
	Tallahassee	First	Feb. 25-Mar. 9	Jimmie Mayo, Jr.	Wiley T. Davis
Ga.	Decatur	East Lake	Mar. 2—	L. G. Gilstrap	A. V. Hendrick
Ill.	Joliet	First	Mar. 2-16	Bobby Ray	L. H. Bottroff
	Rock Island	Bethel	Feb. 18-Mar. 2	Bobby Ray	George Clark
Kans.	Baxter Springs	First	Mar. 4-16	George Hayes	J. W. Henegar
	Kansas City	FG Community	Mar. 2-16	Ronald & Ida Snider	David Goff
	Williamstown	A of G	Mar. 9-23	Jim Collins	K. G. Swenson
Mass.	Springfield	Bethany	Mar. 4-16	Wayne Fagerstrom	David W. Flower
Mich.	Gladwin	A of G	Feb. 25-Mar. 9	The Quanabushes	Burdette Faulk
	Saginaw	First	Mar. 6-16	Watters Gospel Team	A. F. Thornton
Miss.	Biloxi	Central	Feb. 26-Mar. 9	Musical Vanns	Douglas Carroll
	Gulfport	A of G	Feb. 25—	Robert Northrop	Woodrow Oxner
Mo.	Risco	A of G	Mar. 2—	Charles Leathers	W. E. Vaughn
Nebr.	Scottsbluff	A of G	Feb. 23-Mar. 16	O. E. Gaddis & wife	Clyde King
N. Mex.	Gallup	First	Mar. 2—	Jack Pruitt	David F. Uttz
	Roswell	First	Feb. 25—	L. G. Flowers	Edgar Newby
N. Y.	Corning	A of G Tab.	Mar. 9-23	C. S. Tubby	Norman G. Love
Okla.	Oklahoma City	Bethel	Feb. 23—	M. R. Boatright & wife	R. L. Ireton
	Tulsa	Glad Tidings	Mar. 2-16	John & Olive Kellner	J. M. Stubblefield
Pa.	Conshohocken	Gospel Assembly	Mar. 2—	M. Q. Spencer & wife	Neven A. Snyder
	Mifflinburg	A of G	Mar. 2-16	C. T. Chegwin & wife	Howard Garman
	Milesburg	A of G	Feb. 18-Mar. 2	Jim Collins	Philip Bongiorno
S. C.	Greenville	Southside	Feb. 25-Mar. 9	Calvin Melton	Russell Marsh
Tex.	Alvarado	A of G	Mar. 9-23	Jim H. Anderson	G. C. McGlothlin
	Azle	Jaybird	Mar. 2—	Raymond Grimes	Isaac Davis
	Ft. Worth	White Settlement	Mar. 2—	Glen & Faithe Shinn	R. M. Thompson
	Grand Prairie	Northside	Feb. 26-Mar. 9	Tanner Team	M. L. Calloway
	Harlingen	First	Mar. 2—	Norman Jones	R. R. Taylor
	Lubbock	North Side	Feb. 25—	Ken George	Scott Mitchell
	West Freeport	Valesco	Feb. 25-Mar. 9	Maurice Evans	Wm. Metzgar
Wash.	Grandview	A of G	Feb. 25-Mar. 9	Warren D. Combs	Alvin E. Isaak
	Bellevue	A of G	Feb. 25-Mar. 2	Christian Hild	Benny Birkeland

* Workers Training

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Easter Service

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Songs and miscellaneous program material with which you may plan a Sunday School program especially adapted for your own group, and with a minimum of effort. These "Program Builders" are arranged with ages grouped, to make the director's task easier. One of the most appreciated features is the section of special songs for the Easter season—trios, solos, and group numbers. Many church musicians obtain the "Program Builders" solely for this material. Material is different in each one of these "Programs".

- 30 EV 9841 Easter Program Builder No. 1
 30 EV 9840 Easter Program Builder No. 5
 30 EV 9844 Easter Program Builder No. 6
 3 for \$1.20

HE IS RISEN INDEED

A simple, dignified presentation of the wonderful triumph of the Resurrection and the power of love Christ held over those who believed in Him. The play is based on the imaginary theme that Claudia Procula, the wife of Pilate, was a secret follower of Jesus. Requires eleven men and three women.

30 EV 9852 3 for \$1.05

THE CHANCEL LILY

An Easter play, by Harriet Faust and Margaret Miner. It is a simple, two-act production which uses tableaux to tell the life of Christ and bring home the meaning of Easter to people now. Complete stage, lighting properties, and costume directions are given. It was written for seventh and eighth grade children.

30 EV 9944 3 for \$1.05

COKEBURY EASTER PROGRAMS

Included are three complete services for the Sunday School, three services for special church programs and two full-length pageants. The book also contains poems, prayers, hymns, stories, etc., each assisting for a presentation of an enriching and original Easter service.

30 EV 9953 3 for \$1.05

EASTER HELPER No. 57

Much new and improved material has gone into this book to make it one of the finest produced. There is a wide selection of material in recitations suitable for Primary and Beginners. Also included are selections for Juniors and Intermediates. Musical features and playlets are another added attraction for the entire school.

30 EV 9845 3 for \$1.00

UNWASHED HANDS

This play attempts to relate the story of the crucifixion and the resurrection—all from the living rooms of Pilate's house. There are seven characters needed as well as other voices. There are five scenes, the first beginning with the appearance of Jesus before Pilate. A fascinating play which will be enjoyed by everyone.

30 EV 9855 2 for \$1.00

TAKE UP YOUR CROSS

Here is a complete Easter service compiled by W. Rowland Felts. The music and tunes are very singable. The recitations give opportunity for primary, junior and intermediate boys and girls to take part. The theme, taking up the cross for Christ, is brought out very strongly. This service is very acceptable for everyone.

30 EV 9964 3 for 60c

THE EASTER GARDEN

A new cantata-pageant calling for adult singers and children. Excellent for Seniors and Juniors, or Adult and Sunday School children.

30 EV 9950 3 for \$1.20

EASTER PROGRAM BOOKS

Inspirational of collections of program material to insure a most effective Easter service. Each book includes material for Beginner, Primary, Junior, and Intermediate departments. There are playlets, Easter songs, monologues, recitations, and exercises. Approximately 32 pages each.

- 30 EV 9963 Standard Book No. 8
 30 EV 9958 Standard Book No. 9
 30 EV 9851 Standard Book No. 10
 3 for \$1.20

EASTER TREASURY No. 58

A booklet of Easter recitations, exercises, drills, dialogs, tableaux, pantomimes, decorating suggestions, etc. Recommended for Primaries, Juniors, Intermediates, and Seniors.

30 EV 9843 3 for \$1.20

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This book contains a wonderful wealth and variety of material by a multitude of authors. In it you will find: Recitations, Acrostics, Pantomimes, Drills, Dialogs, Exercises, Tableaux, Songs for all ages.

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THE KING IS COMING

An Easter service in pantomime, reading and song by Grace Ramquist. Parts especially adaptable for young people or adults.

30 EV 9850 3 for 45c

THE CONQUEROR

An Easter service in reading and song by Grace Ramquist. Simple to prepare—effective results.

30 EV 9848 3 for 45c

NOTICE

These Easter programs are offered as a service to our Sunday School teachers and workers. They contain purely suggestive material which we believe will be a great help to our many workers. However, it is possible that you may find a few suggestions that we can not wholeheartedly endorse. Nevertheless, we believe that our workers can use the good and overlook anything that would not be wholesome.

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GOD HAS PROVIDED A REMEDY FOR OUR SICKNESS, AS WELL AS FOR
OUR SIN—BUT WE MUST MEET GOD'S TERMS TO RECEIVE IT.

Balm in Gilead

BY A. B. SIMPSON

THE PROPHET SAID, "IS THERE NO balm in Gilead; is there no physician there? Why then is not the health of the daughter of my people recovered" (Jeremiah 8:22)?

This was Jeremiah's plaintive cry over the apparent failure of God's gracious provision for ancient Israel. It would almost seem, as he looked upon the sick and sinking nation, that there was no balm and no physician. But there was, and it was not the fault of the Physician but the failure of the patient to take the prescription and obey his directions.

The same sad question might well be put as we look around us upon a world of sin and sorrow and think of the hearts that break with anguish. Is there no provision for a suffering world?

Yes, there is provision for our sickness as well as for our sin, and the reason it seems in vain is only because man will not receive it on God's simple terms. The balm may well represent His Word, His blood and His Spirit, the three blessed ingredients in the divine provision for our healing.

The foundation for our healing must always be God's simple promise, His own divine revelation, and this is so explicitly given that no room is left for doubt on the part of any candid man. The promise runs through every dispensation to the close of the New Testament. He gave it to ancient Israel as they left Egypt. He gave it to David as he inaugurated the kingdom. He gave it to Isaiah in the prophetic age. He gave it to Malachi as he predicted the coming Messiah. He repeated it through all of Christ's own ministry as He fulfilled the promises made to the fathers. He handed it to the apostles and through them to the elders of the church, and a long array of inspired witnesses stand in the front ranks repeating through every age the promise of healing.

But the balm also includes the blood,

the precious blood of Calvary, for "with his stripes we are healed." In His own body He bore our physical liabilities on account of sin, and His atonement covers our diseases and our pains. He "himself took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses."

The Spirit is another blessed ingredient in the healing balm of Christ's complete gospel. He brings to us the very life of the risen Christ and breathes in our mortal frame the quickening, invigorating energy of the Lord, uniting us and making us members of His body, His flesh and His bones. "If the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies

by his Spirit that dwelleth in you" (Rom. 8:11).

There is balm in Gilead, balm for every sickness and every pain. It is the life that He gives us which expels the forces of disease and death. Not only is there balm in Gilead, but there is a great Physician there. There is One to apply the remedy. There is an eternal Teacher, Healer and Comforter. He knows how to diagnose the case, to probe the wound, to detect and reveal the source of the trouble, and then to apply the right remedy in the right proportion. He knows how to bring to us the very promise we need for the cause that is hurting us, and enables us to remove it and receive His life and strength.

We need, as much as they did in the days of His earthly life, to put our case right into His hands and then receive and follow His explicit directions. It is not a patent medicine that we take on general principles, but it is a personal Physician who comes Himself to carry us through by His faithfulness and love.

How differently He dealt with those He healed on earth! Sometimes He led them a long while by the hand; then He touched them in healing. Sometimes He visited them, forgiving their sin before He would touch their sickness. Sometimes He required them to set out and claim the strength before they felt it; often He used heroic treatment and laid upon them a command enough to kill them if it did not heal them. In every case He was the direct Physician, and in every case His physical health was designed to lead them to a higher, holier blessing in their innermost spirit and in their daily lives.

"Why, then, is not the health of the daughter of my people recovered?" Sometimes because they do not go to the right physician. Often because they have too many doctors. In human af-



The River of God

From the Rock that God has riven
Flows the sacred river,
Through the wastes of barren ages,
Ever and for ever.

Still on this side and on that side
Grow the healing trees—
Bearing fruit for all who hunger,
Leaves for all disease.

From the throne of Christ in glory,
Rock that God has riven,
Onward still the crystal river
Bears the life of heaven.

Still to drink the living waters
Come the souls athirst,
Eyes behold the face of Jesus
Even as at first.

—Selected

fairs no one would think of employing two doctors of different schools to treat the same case. In such a case, one or the other of the doctors would retire and leave the patient to the other. And yet people profess to go to Christ as their Healer while at the same time they have put their case in human hands, and are looking to man for their healing.

Sometimes it is because they have not confidence in the Physician. The very first requirement is that you trust Him implicitly, so implicitly that you go forward on His bare Word and act as if you had received His healing the moment you claimed His promise. But

no one would expect to be healed by an earthly doctor unless they obeyed his directions.

You must do what the great Physician tells you if you expect Him to make you whole. You cannot expect to be healed if you are living in sin, any more than you could expect the best physician to cure you while you lived in a disease-infested climate and inhaled poison with every breath. So you must get into the pure air of trust and obedience before Christ can make you whole. And then if you will trust Him and attend to His directions, you will find that there is balm in Gilead—there is a great Physician there. ◀◀

of merit are all inadequate. "Neither is there salvation in any other" except Christ Himself. (Acts 4:12).

But Jesus Christ, the living, resurrected Christ, God's Son, can save you. "Thou shalt call His name Jesus, for He shall save" (Matthew 1:21). Do you believe it?

(4) *Receive Jesus Christ as your own personal Saviour*

"But as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God" (John 1:12). You must receive Him. "Him that cometh to Me I will in no wise cast out" (John 6:37). You must come to Him. "If any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in" (Revelation 3:20). You must open the door. Will you do it?

But, you say you do not understand. Well, let me show you what I mean.

In the year 1829 two men—Wilson and Porter by name—were sentenced to be hanged for robbing the United States mails. Porter was executed, but Wilson was pardoned. However, he refused his pardon and Chief Justice John Marshall of the Supreme Court handed down this decision:

"A pardon is an act of grace, proceeding from the power intrusted with the execution of the laws, which exempts the individual on whom it is bestowed from the punishment the law inflicts for a crime he has committed.

"A pardon is a deed, to the validity of which delivery is essential, and delivery is not complete without acceptance. It may then be rejected by the person to whom it is tendered; and if it is rejected, we have discovered no power in a Court to force it upon him."

My friend, God offers you a pardon. You may accept it or you may reject it, for you are a free agent. It is for you to decide. But never will you be saved until you receive the Lord Jesus Christ as your own personal Saviour. Then why not do it, and do it now?

CHURCH DESTROYED BY FIRE

SHEPHERD, MICH.—The Oil City Assembly of God building was destroyed by fire on January 19. The church was a total loss. The congregation plans to rebuild as soon as sufficient funds can be raised. The fire was discovered shortly after the Sunday morning service began. No one was injured, but the loss is estimated at \$10,000.

—Jack Honeycutt, Pastor



Just 4 Steps

BY OSWALD J. SMITH

DO YOU REALLY WANT TO BE SAVED? Would you like to know the way? Then let me tell you. I am going to make it as simple as I can. There are just four steps. Here they are:

(1) *Recognize that you are a sinner*

You would not want to be saved unless you were lost. You would not want a doctor unless you knew you were sick. You would not want a rescuer unless you thought you were drowning. You cannot realize your need of a Saviour until you know that you are a sinner.

The Bible says, "All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way" (Isaiah 53:6). Hence, whether or not you feel yourself to be a sinner does not matter. God says you are and that settles it.

The Bible says, "All have sinned and come short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23). "There is none righteous, no, not one" (Romans 3:10). That includes you.

An apple tree is not an apple tree because it bears apples; it bears apples because it is an apple tree. You are not a sinner because you sin; you sin because you are a sinner.

Do you believe it? Will you admit

that you are a sinner and that you are lost? Are you ready now to accept God's Word about you?

(2) *Admit that you cannot save yourself*

You cannot save yourself by being baptized or confirmed; nor by becoming religious, joining a church and taking the communion. You cannot save yourself by living a good life, by obeying the Golden Rule or keeping the commandments. You cannot save yourself by performing deeds of merit or doing the best you can. Your own good works can never save you.

You might as well try to lift yourself by your own bootstraps as to be your own saviour. Self-salvation is impossible. "Not by works of righteousness which we have done" (Titus 3:5), is what God says. "Not of works" (Ephesians 2:9). Will you admit that you cannot save yourself?

(3) *Believe that Christ and Christ alone can save you*

No one else can. No religion, Catholic or Protestant, Jewish, Coptic, or Greek Orthodox. No man, Mohammed, Confucius, Buddha. No minister, priest or pope. Systems and doctrines, rites and ceremonies, pilgrimages and deeds

For Easter

WHITE BIBLES

Holman NEW TESTAMENT White Binding

An attractive pocket-size New Testament for the busy man or woman. Printed on fine paper in a large legible type on a small page. It contains a 2-color Presentation Page, the Lord's Prayer and 16 Hymns, Gold Titles and edges—without Psalms. Size $2\frac{5}{8} \times 4\frac{1}{4} \times \frac{5}{8}$ inches.

1 EV 376 \$1.70

National NEW TESTAMENT White Fabrikoid

This Vest-Pocket Testament is printed on a fine white Bible paper in clear bold-faced type. It contains an 8-page Harmony of the four Gospels, self-pronouncing, limp cover, round corners, amber under gold edges, silk marker, presentation page, headbands. Gift boxed.

1 EV 436 \$1.35

World YOUNG FOLKS' BIBLES

These Bibles are excellent for younger readers. Contain the beloved authorized King James Version of the Old and New Testaments, printed in neat, self-pronouncing Ebony type. 16 duo-tone illustrations help young imaginations to picture Biblical scenes and events. These Bibles are also valuable keepsakes for they contain a Presentation Page, Family Register, and Marriage Certificate. Size $4\frac{1}{4} \times 6\frac{7}{16}$ inches. Gift Boxed.

WHITE IMITATION LEATHER, overlapping covers, gold-stamped, amber edges.

1 EV 324 \$2.75

WHITE IMITATION LEATHER, zipper, gold-stamped, gold edges, silk marker.

1 EV 328 \$4.50

BEAUTIFUL WHITE BIBLES

This lovely Bible bound in gleaming white conveys a feeling of infinite charm and beauty. Authorized King James Version, printed in clear type on best quality paper. Self-pronouncing text. Contains marriage certificate, family record and four maps in full color. Stamped in gold, pages are round cornered and edged in gold. Headbands and white silk marker. Size $3\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{3}{8}$ inches. Bound with special quality padded white rayon moire. India paper. Wrapped in cellophane and packed in a white gift box.

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This handsome new Bible is exceptionally thin—less than 1"—in convenient $5" \times 7\frac{1}{8}"$ size. It has morocco-grained, modified overlapping covers, and contains attractive Frontispiece, Presentation Page and Family Register. Printed in clear-cut type on white Bible paper. Red "Stay-Stayn" edges, headbands, round corners, boxed.

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These beautiful white Bibles contain an illuminated Presentation Page, Marriage Certificate, and Family Register. They are printed in neat, clear Agate type. Size $3\frac{11}{16} \times 5\frac{3}{8} \times 13\frac{1}{16}$ inches.

WHITE GENUINE LEATHER, limp binding, round corners, gold-stamped, gold edges, two silk markers, Gift boxed.

1 EV 310 \$5.00

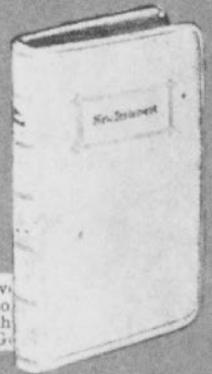
WHITE GENUINE LEATHER, zipper, gold-stamped, gold edges, two silk markers, Gift boxed.

1 EV 312 \$6.50

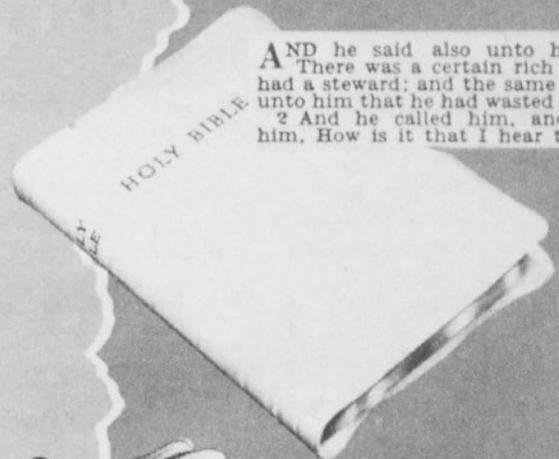
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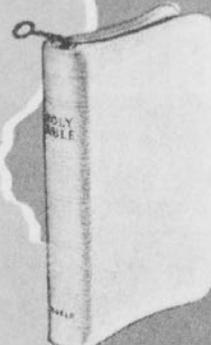
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5 And Je'sus answe



3 Blessed be God, ev
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AND he said also unto hi
There was a certain rich
had a steward; and the same
unto him that he had wasted
2 And he called him, and
him, How is it that I hear t



29 That thou wilt do u
we have not touched the
have done unto thee noth
and have sent thee aw



14 Let all your things
done with charity.
15 I beseech you, brethr
(ye know the house

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Believing Is Seeing!

BY FRED HEARTLY WIGHT

WHAT GOD PROMISES US SHALL BE
FULFILLED, IF WE BELIEVE HIS WORD RATHER THAN WHAT WE SEE OR FEEL.

A POPULAR SAYING WITH THE PEOPLE OF THE WORLD is, "Seeing is believing," whereas the Bible instructs us that "Believing is seeing." The world wants something it can see upon which to base its faith, but the spiritual man makes *the Word of God* the foundation for his faith rather than anything he can see or feel.

In the days of Jesus great crowds followed Him and one day the people said unto Him (John 6:30): "What sign showest Thou then, that we may see and believe Thee?" Somehow they thought if they could see Him perform some mighty miracle they would believe in Him. But it did not work out that way, for many who did witness His wonderful miracles still refused to put their faith in Him.

When the nobleman, whose son was sick, came unto Jesus, the Saviour said to him (John 4:48): "Except ye see signs and wonders, ye will not believe." By saying this He was testing the man's faith. Verse 50 indicates the nobleman stood the test, for "Jesus saith unto him, Go thy way, thy son liveth. And the man believed the word that Jesus had spoken unto him, and he went his way." And because he believed the word of Jesus, he actually saw his son healed as a result of his faith.

The apostle defines faith for us in Hebrews 11:1 as "the evidence of *things not seen*." To believe what you see

and feel is not real faith, but rather it is knowledge. Faith deals with the unseen and the unfelt. See 2 Corinthians 5:7: "For we walk by faith, not by sight."

But let us always remember that such faith must have a real basis in the Word of God. What God promises us shall be fulfilled, if we believe His Word in spite of anything we see or feel which may seem to contradict the promise.

When Lazarus lay dead in the tomb, Jesus said to Martha (in John 11:40): "Said I not unto thee, that if thou wouldest believe, thou shouldest see the glory of God?" What a challenge this was to her faith. To believe the word of Jesus would result in seeing the glory of God demonstrated.

David understood the meaning of real faith when he wrote the words of Psalm 27:13: "I had fainted, unless I had believed to see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living." May the blessed Holy Spirit teach us today to believe God in order to see His promises fulfilled in our lives.

*"Oh, teach me how to praise the Lord
For all Thy wondrous love to me;
And how to trust Thy precious Word
When I can neither feel nor see."*

—Faith Tonic