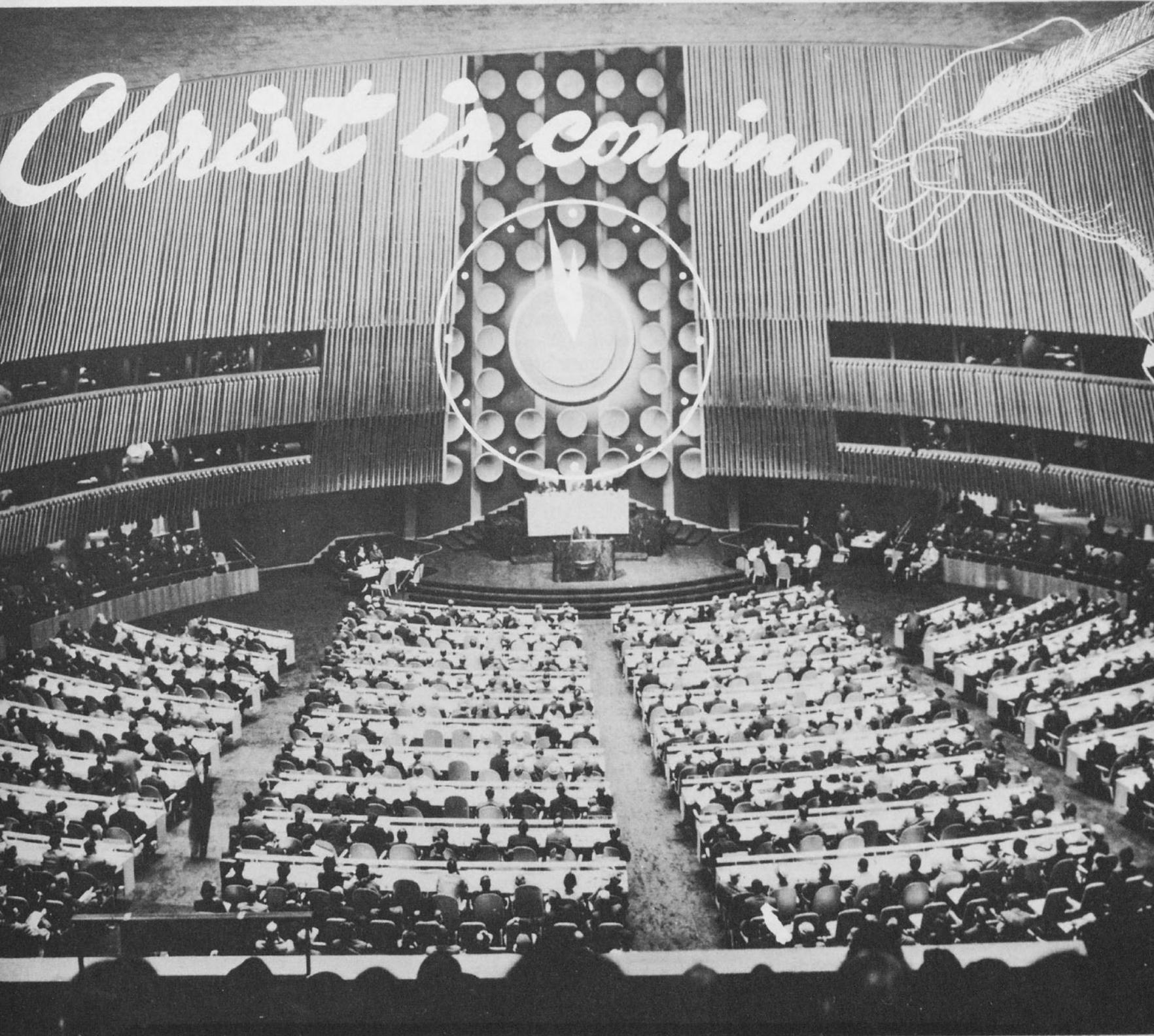


The Pentecostal
EVANGEL

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



Read in this issue —

**The Day of the Lord • The Middle East in Prophecy
Ready for Christ's Coming • How Can I Be Saved?**

The Time Is Short!

Tremendous events lie ahead. Leading statesmen and average citizens alike see the handwriting on the wall. A troubled world waits tremblingly for the next move by unscrupulous leaders who hold incalculable destructive force in their hands and who are ruthless enough to use it if and when it suits their whim to do so.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, head of the Church of England, recently warned that the end of the world may be near. Commenting on the dangers of atomic warfare and the power of the hydrogen bomb he wrote: "For all I know, it is within the providence of God that the human race should destroy itself in this manner." All over the world church leaders are discussing his statement pro and con. Men's hearts are failing them for fear as they ponder what may happen next.

We should be very thankful that God has given us a Book that tells us something of the future. It is true that man has found a way to destroy himself but our Lord will not permit him to complete the job. Divine mercy will be extended to all who repent and believe in Christ. We may look forward to a better world beyond the smoke and chaos in which this present world order will end.

Today the "signs of the times" point to the soon return of Christ to transport His Bride to mansions of eternal glory. The Bible says God has not appointed His saints to wrath but to obtain salvation through Christ. He will save them out of the terrible judgments which lie ahead. Once the saints have taken their upward flight, there will be "great tribulation" in the world, worse than anything the world has ever known. It will be a veritable "hell on earth." In those days the whole world will be ruled by Antichrist, "the man of sin." His identity will be made known after the Christians have gone. Anyone who decides at that late hour to become a Christian will have to seal his testimony with his own blood.

The fact that men hold in their hands the power to destroy the human race is one of many reasons why we believe the time is short. God will intervene very soon to preserve a remnant. The Bible tells of Armageddon, about Gog and Magog, about the fire that sweeps, the plagues that torture, the false prophet and the Antichrist—but even after the Millennium and the purging of the earth with fire the Scriptures still picture people on the earth. The question is whether we as individuals will perish or be saved. Will we be lost with the ungodly or will we be among the redeemed ones who have forsaken their sins, accepted the Saviour, and been made worthy through His Blood to escape all these things that shall come to pass upon the earth?

Jesus rebuked the religious people of His day because they were unaware of the momentous times in which they lived. He said that if they could forecast the weather by reading the signs in the sky they ought to be able to discern the signs of the times. Can we? The various prophecies have been fulfilled. None awaits fulfillment prior to the Second Coming of Christ. Wise is the man or woman who understands and who gets ready to meet Him.

The Pentecostal

EVANGEL

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CONTENTS

Are You Ready for Christ's Return? M. L. Davidson	3
The Middle East in Prophecy Frank M. Boyd	4
Provisions for Midnight Zelma Argue	5
Pentecostal Churches Are Different Ralph M. Riggs	6
The Lord Healed Me Leslie Pridemore	7
The Day of the Lord Is Near! J. Narver Gortner	8
"How Can I Be Saved?"	10
Revivaltime News Stanley Michael	11
The Ministry of Motherhood	12
Family Altar	13
Home Missions News J. Holsinger	14
Foreign Missions News Cyril L. Carden	16
Sunday School Lesson J. B. Bishop	18
Out of the Depths Eldon Vincent	24

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

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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Are You Ready For Christ's Return?

BY MARTIN LUTHER DAVIDSON

CHRIST, WHO IS NOW IN HEAVEN, is going to return to earth in the immediate future. Are you ready for His return?

The apostle John was given a vision of Christ's second coming. On the lonely isle of Patmos he penned the following words, upon which we shall base this article: "Behold, He cometh with clouds, and every eye shall see Him, and they also which pierced Him, and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of Him. Even so, Amen" (Revelation 1:7).

The Bible says that Christ is the "Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending" of all things (Revelation 1:8). There is nothing of which it may be said that His sovereignty is not the commencement and the consummation. This unalterable chain of Divine begetting and completing is everywhere evident in the Scriptures. He whose incarnate advent was an "alpha" of humility and sorrow must have His second advent in an "omega" of power and great glory. Our Lord must certainly come again.

I

I want you to notice, first of all, the clear unmistakable *statement* of the Bible—"Behold, He cometh." Indisputable and irrefutable evidence of Christ's second coming lies in the Scriptures. Here in the only absolutely inerrant Book on earth, God has foretold the second coming of His Son from glory. This revelation was made to man; and since it treats of such a momentous event, it is revealed clearly, and with a frequency and repetition proportionate to its importance. In expounding the glorious truth of the second coming of Christ, the Holy Spirit made sparing use of metaphorical

and figurative expressions. He chose only the plainest and simplest language—language that all can understand unless they are given to the most willful and violent distortion of truth.

There are no less than 1,845 references to the second coming of Christ in the Scriptures. Of these, 1,527 are in the Old Testament, while 318 are in the New. Whole chapters and books are given to this thrilling theme. An average of one in every twenty-five verses of the Bible refers directly or indirectly to this future event. For every mention of His first advent there are eight mentions of His second coming. The second coming of Christ is a pre-eminent doctrine of the Scriptures.

The message is proclaimed through the pen of divinely inspired men, through the explicit testimony of angels, and through the exact words of Jesus Himself. The universe knows no higher authority than these.

II

This verse also suggests the *imminence* of Christ's second coming. To this writer, it is almost unbelievable that any discerning person could read the New Testament record of the apostolic church and fail to realize that the early Christians were ever looking for and expectantly awaiting the promised coming of the Lord. The soon return of the Master was then, as now, the glorious hope of the Church.

Paul commended the Thessalonians because they had turned from idols to God and were waiting "for his Son from heaven" (1 Thessalonians 1:10). This word "wait" is a present infinitive, and means *to be constantly watching* for the return of a person who went away. Precisely this is what the apostle



Paul tells us the Thessalonian Christians were doing. We should be doing likewise. Albert Barnes says in his *Notes on the New Testament* at this point, "They lived as if they were waiting for His return . . . not knowing when it might occur, and as if it might occur at any moment."

The grace of God, says the apostle Paul, teaches us to look "for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of . . . our Saviour Jesus Christ" (Titus 2:13). The original text indicates that we should be constantly living for, and constantly looking for the Lord to appear.

Still another text supporting the momentary expectancy of Christ's return is Philippians 3:20: "For our conversation [citizenship] is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour." Here again is the word "look." The Greek word for "look" here is in the present tense and means to watch *constantly*. The eminent New

(Continued on page nineteen)

THE REVOLUTION IN IRAQ HAS SET THE POLITICAL STAGE FOR "THE LATTER TIME"
OF DANIEL'S PROPHECY. THE CURTAIN IS ABOUT TO RISE ON THE FINAL
ACT IN THE DRAMA OF HUMAN HISTORY.

THE SPOTLIGHT OF WORLD INTEREST at present is upon the area known as the Middle East, those countries bordering upon the Eastern Mediterranean, the Red Sea, the Indian Ocean, and the Persian Gulf.

To the world at large this area carries interest first, because of its great wealth of oil, upon which a large portion of humanity depends for existence; and second, because of the mineral wealth of the Dead Sea. It is the crossroads of three continents—Asia, Europe, and Africa.

For the Christian and Bible lover this region is important for the following reasons:

1. It was the cradle geographically into which the human race was born and in which it was nurtured.

2. It contains the land of Palestine, chosen of God, where His redemptive purpose, centered in the nation of Israel originated. God calls it "the glory of all lands" (Ezekiel 20:6).

3. The Near East is the area where a centuries-old family feud between Isaac and Ishmael—Jew and Arab—has come again into sharp focus and intensifying hatred.

To the student of prophecy and believer in the second coming of Christ, this region is of peculiar interest because it is specifically the locale of end-time events forecast in the *Book of Daniel, chapter eight*.

Here the prophet recounts his vision of the clash of two great empires, Medo-Persia and Graeco-Macedonia, under the symbolisms of a *ram* and a *he-goat*, which are explained in verses 20 and 21. The he-goat had "a notable horn" between its eyes, which represented the first king of Grecia; namely, the well-known historical figure Alexander the Great. When this notable horn was "broken," signifying Alexander's death at the early age of thirty-two, his great empire was divided into four parts shown by verses 8 and 22. Alexander left no family successor and four of his Grecian generals partitioned his domain—

Cassander took Greece (modern Greece).

Lysimachus took Asia Minor, including Thrace in Europe (modern Turkey).

Seleucus took Syria and Mesopo-

The Middle East in Prophecy

BY FRANK M. BOYD

tamia (modern Syria and Iraq).

Ptolemy took Egypt.

It will be well to retain these divisions carefully in mind.

Daniel chapter 8 proceeds to predict that out of one of these four divisions will arise a ruler, designated as "a little horn," whose conquests will include Palestine, "the pleasant (glorious) land," and who will be a persecutor of Israel, a desecrator of her religion and priesthood, and a suppressor of her sacred truth (vv. 9-14).

Such a personage is to be found in Antiochus Epiphanes (the Illustrious), called the Greek Antichrist, eighth king of the Seleucid dynasty, who reigned from 175-164 B.C. Nebuchadnezzar, Cyrus, and even Alexander the Great paid homage to God, the Most High, but this man paid none. He raged against the holy covenant, took the holy city, and assailed the princes and priests of Israel. He took away the morning and evening sacrifices; deposed the lawful high priest, Omias III; erected a pagan altar upon the altar of burnt-offering; sacrificed a swine upon it; and set up a statue of Jupiter. He ordered the erection of idol altars in every town; slew 100,000 Jews; and devastated Jerusalem until those cou-

rageous, intrepid Jewish warriors led by Judas Maccabeus finally drove his armies out and re-established their city and worship.

This man, we believe, is a striking type of what the final Antichrist will be.

If we did not examine Daniel 8 closely we would be disposed to hold that the final application of this vision was to Antiochus. But the language of the chapter in various expressions fails to apply altogether to him. Herein lies the application of the prophetic law of double reference, according to which two prophecies are often blended in one composite picture; and one event, near at hand, becomes a type of a more remote fulfillment.

The expressions above referred to are: "the time of the end" (v. 17); "in the last end of the indignation" (v. 19); "when transgressors are come to the full" (v. 23); "he shall stand up against the Prince of princes" (v. 25). *The time of the end* is an expression in Scripture which includes both a near and a far horizon of fulfillment, the former being a type foreshadowing the latter. *The indignation* denotes God's judicial wrath against Israel for their transgression of His covenants. *The last end of the indignation* is that final stroke of God's judgment upon them immediately preceding their deliverance and restoration. *When the transgressors are come to the full* indicates the consummation of *lawlessness* of both Jew and Gentile upon whom will be visited the vials of God's wrath in the last days before the coming of the Lord. *He shall stand up against the prince of princes* can mean no other than the final act of blasphemous self-exaltation of Antichrist against the "King of kings and Lord of lords" at Armageddon (Revelation 19).

These time elements doubtless belong to the time of the great tribulation (Jacob's trouble, Jeremiah 30:4-9; Daniel 12:1; Matthew 24:15, 21, 30), the final stage of God's prolonged chastisement of His people and of Israel's disobedience. This, of course, implies their return in unbelief to Palestine, already fulfilled before our eyes in the new state of Israel, the rebuilding of the temple, the setting up of

the temple sacrifices again, and finally the sign of Christ's presence in the sky as the object of Antichrist's defiance (Matthew 24:30).

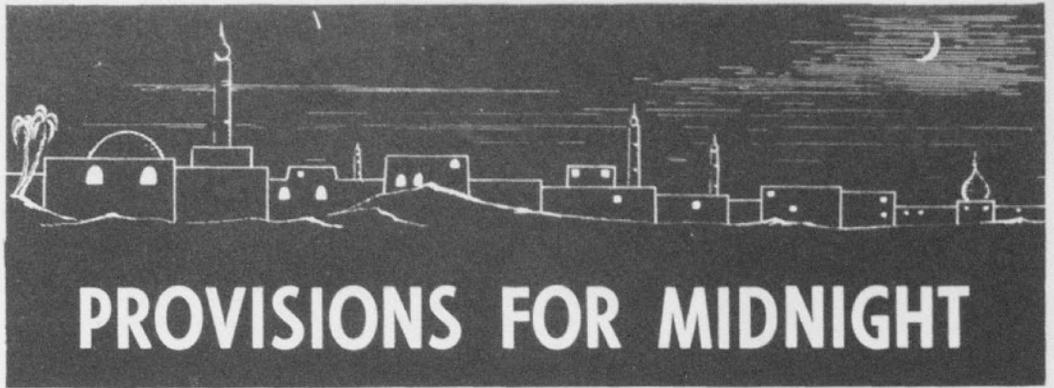
If the exegesis of the foregoing paragraphs is sound—and we believe it rests upon valid principles—we must look for a revival in the last days of the four kingdoms into which Alexander the Great's empire was divided, and out of one of which the final "little horn" (Antichrist) will arise. The "former time" of these nations has passed and we believe "their latter time" is now clearly developing.

TURKEY

Space precludes our tracing the course of history in detail, which might lend further interest to the study of this theme. Suffice it to say that for centuries all these Middle Eastern lands were incorporated in the Turkish Empire, which once included in the sixteenth century all of the Balkan States (Greece, Roumania, Bulgaria, Jugo-slavia, and Crimea in South Russia), Asia Minor and Mesopotamia (the valleys of the Tigris and Euphrates rivers), Palestine (including Israel, Syria and Lebanon), Egypt, and all of North Africa. This great empire was reduced during the centuries through war and diplomacy, until at the beginning of World War I her territory included only the small province of Thrace in Europe on the Dardanelles, Asia Minor, Mesopotamia, and Palestine.

In this war Turkey joined the Triple Alliance—Germany, Austria, and Bulgaria—and thus came under attack by the Triple Entente—Britain, France, and Russia. The result is well known. Turkey was left completely defeated and prostrate under the combined attack of Russia through the Caucasus, the British armies up the Euphrates Valley, General Allenby's attack through Palestine, and the Arabian allies of the British under Colonel Lawrence. The Holy Land was delivered from the Turks.

The Paris Peace Conference began January 18, 1919, and revealed how soon allies can become rivals. At this conference allied differences were most apparent. The Italian delegates withdrew on account of President Wilson's proposal to transfer the port of Fiume to Jugo-Slavia. France and England rushed Greek troops to Smyrna in Western Turkey to forestall Italy, which had landed troops at Adalia in Southern Asia Minor. The Greeks



PROVISIONS FOR MIDNIGHT

BY ZELMA ARGUE

TODAY THE WORLD FLOUNDERS helplessly toward self-destruction and men's hearts fail them with fear as the midnight hour approaches.

But God's Word abounds in assurances of His inexhaustible resources which are available to those who trust in Him. He is still Jehovah-Jireh, the Lord who provides for His own. The child of God has but to look into the Word to realize that there are bountiful provisions for this crucial time.

In Exodus, chapter 10, we read of a darkness so dense it could be felt. It was the darkest hour before the great deliverance of Israel. Yet a word of hope is here—"All the children of Israel had *light in their dwellings.*"

And today while the world seeks the answer to its problems, God's Word is a light in the Christian's dwelling. We are not ignorant of the times. We have not isolated ourselves from the world situation, but the light of the second coming of Jesus shines as a beacon through the otherwise impenetrable darkness and saves us from despair. This hope is one of God's gracious provisions for the midnight hour.

Bomb shelters are becoming common today, but the Christian knows a shelter more safe and more enduring than concrete and steel. We see a beautiful type of this protection in Exodus 12 in the account of the killing of the Pass-

over lamb for they placed the blood on the doorposts and lintels of the houses of Israel. God's midnight promise and provision for them was, "When I see the blood, I will pass over you." And at midnight the angel of God brought death and sorrow into every Egyptian home, but Israel was spared because they had appropriated God's provision.

The blood of Jesus is God's guarantee of safety to everyone who by faith accepts its shelter and remains there. There need be no fear at midnight for the bloodwashed child of God.

In Matthew 25 we read of the midnight cry, "Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him." And we read of some who were not ready because their lamps had gone out. Only those who had maintained a supply of oil right up to the midnight hour were permitted to go in to the wedding. The provision had been made, but not appropriated. What a tragedy! There is enough of the precious oil of the Spirit to keep our lamps burning brightly right up to the instant of Christ's return, but we must appropriate it.

God's provisions for the midnight hour include light for our dwellings, blood for our protection, and the oil of the Spirit for our vessels so that our lamps will not go out. Have you accepted all these provisions for your own life? ◀◀

marched half way across Turkey, but their imperialistic ambitions against an apparently defeated Turkey gave impetus to the Nationalistic Movement, a resurgence of Turkey, headed by Mustapha Kemal Pasha. On April 24, 1920, the Turkish National Assembly met at Angora, present capital of Turkey, and repudiated the Constantinople government. On August 10, 1920, the treaty of Sevres, which reduced Turkey from a nation of over 600,000

square miles and 20,000,000 inhabitants to one of 75,000 square miles and 8,000,000 inhabitants, was signed by the Sultan at Constantinople.

The Turkish Nationalists repudiated this and would not consent to its terms. In the meantime the Greeks were repulsed by the newly-organized armies under the leadership of Kemal. Then came the London Conference of February 21, 1921. Great Britain was back-

(Continued on page twenty-three)



Pentecostal Churches Are Different

BY RALPH M. RIGGS

General Superintendent, Assemblies of God

A Discussion of the Distinctive Features That Make Full Gospel Assemblies Different From Other Evangelical Protestant Churches

* * *

PENTECOSTAL CHURCHES ARE DIFFERENT from other churches. They have practices and characteristics that make them entirely distinct. Some of these practices and characteristics are never found elsewhere, and others only in lesser degree. Let us tell you something about these Pentecostal "distinctives."

The term "Pentecost" or "Pentecostal" is taken from the Bible (see Acts 2:1). It was on the day of Pentecost that the first followers of Christ were baptized with the Holy Spirit. *Pentecost* was the name given to an annual Jewish feast which was observed fifty days after the ceremonial waving of the first sheaf of the harvest. The resurrection of Christ fulfilled this type or symbol of the waving of the sheaf of the first fruits very beautifully and the memorable event that occurred fifty days later fulfilled the typical or symbolic meaning of the feast of Pentecost.

Fifty days after the Resurrection the disciples were suddenly filled with the Holy Ghost and began to speak with other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance (Acts 2:4). This happened on the day of Pentecost; that is why the people who are filled with the Holy Spirit and speak in tongues today are generally known as "Pentecostal."

The Saviour, after He arose from the dead, had commanded His disciples to *tarry in Jerusalem "until ye be endued with power from on high"* (Luke 24:49). Only a hundred and twenty obeyed that command. Possibly others of His followers did not take Him seriously. They did not see the neces-

sity of waiting for a deeper spiritual experience than they already had. They thought they could get along somehow without it. But those who obeyed the Lord tarried and were filled with the Holy Spirit.

This Baptism with the Holy Ghost was accompanied by a strange new experience—*speaking with other tongues*—but that did not faze these disciples in the least. Christ had prepared them for this when He said, "These signs shall follow them that believe... they shall speak with new tongues" (Mark 16:17). No one had ever spoken in tongues before. They did not understand why this should be necessary. Nevertheless they did not question the Lord. They just received the fullness of the Spirit, tongues and all. We who are Pentecostal today take the same attitude. We simply submit to the will of God and accept this speaking in tongues as the distinctive sign of the Baptism.

There were unbelievers who ridiculed and mocked when the believers were filled with the Holy Spirit. The actions and utterances of the believers made some people accuse them of being drunken. They said, "These men are full of new wine" (Acts 2:13). There is no record that any of the hundred and twenty were disturbed by the mockers. The spiritual blessing that bubbled in their hearts like a fountain of heavenly joy was so exhilarating they cared very little whether they had the approval of men or not. They knew they had the approval of God and that was sufficient.

There was and is a definite stigma to being Pentecostal. It is written that the new sect was "everywhere spoken against" (Acts 28:22). The disciples suffered ostracism and persecution for preaching Christ and this Baptism with the Holy Spirit. Pentecostal people

are willing to pay this price. They are willing to "go forth unto Him without the camp, bearing His reproach" (Hebrews 13:13).

While "tongues" are the distinctive feature of Pentecostal churches which is most apparent, there are other doctrines and practices that make us different from other denominations. One is our hope in and preaching of the *Second Coming of Christ*. We believe that very soon the Saviour will appear in the clouds and we shall see Him face to face. This hope inspires us to purify ourselves from all that is sinful, carnal, and worldly and to follow a separated life of "holiness unto the Lord."

We believe that a personal spiritual experience is basic and essential to the Christian life. Each individual must repent of his sins and make his own application to the Throne of Grace for an experience of *personal salvation*. No empty ritualistic acceptance of Christ is sufficient. No mass movement brings the Pentecostal believer to the Lord. Each Pentecostal person first of all prays through for himself to a heartfelt, know-so experience of genuine conversion. This results in regeneration, a changed life, and gives him something in his heart that is real.

Each Pentecostal person knows also that the experience of being *filled with the Holy Spirit* is just as real and personal as conversion. Of course, we recognize the dispensational significance of Pentecost. On the day of Pentecost the Holy Spirit was given to men to inaugurate a new dispensation in God's plan of the ages. There was a time, likewise, when the Christian faith was once delivered to the saints (see Jude 3) but that faith must be accepted individually in order to be individually effective. In the same sense, the outpouring of the Holy Spirit which be-

gan on the day of Pentecost must be received by us individually in order to make it real and meaningful in our individual lives. Pentecostal people do not merely believe in the Scriptures that tell about Pentecost but they personally wait upon God until they are "endued with power from on high."

This emphasis on personal experience accounts for the *audience participation*

in Pentecostal church services. There are spontaneous outbursts of praise: the people say "Praise the Lord," "Amen," "Hallelujah!" and they lift their hands toward God (see 1 Timothy 2:8) in worship. Sometimes they weep with joy as they give thanks to the Lord for His goodness.

It follows that a group of Spirit-filled believers should respond simul-

taneously to a call to prayer. Of the first disciples we read, "They lifted up their voice to God with one accord" (Acts 4:24). In heaven also there will be this unison of audible prayer for the seer said, "I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude and as the voice of many waters, . . . saying, Allelujah; for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth"

(Continued on page twenty-one)

"The Lord Healed Me"

Decayed Kidney Functions Again After Prayer

BY LESLIE PRIDEMORE

EIGHTEEN YEARS AGO I LAY AT death's door. One kidney had been removed by surgery, and the other wasn't functioning at all. My wife and I were lost souls. But God saved both of us from sin, and made me a well man again.

I was stricken with kidney stones in 1936 and had to have my left kidney removed. Then while vacationing in Grand Rapids I was stricken again, and the next morning I was in the hospital.

X rays showed a stone in the ureter, the tube running from the kidney to the bladder, and several more stones in the kidney. Five days later, after trying to build me up, the doctors operated on my one-and-only kidneys. They removed the stones and figured I would be all right.

Instead, I got worse. My fever rose

to 106 degrees and I was in constant pain. From pain and fever I was out of my head, and had to be strapped hand and foot to the bed.

The kidney wouldn't function, and the doctors had tubes coming out my side. I was fed glucose intravenously because I couldn't take even water by mouth. My tongue had swollen so much I couldn't swallow, and fever blisters were all over my mouth and chin and down on my throat.

For days I lay, not knowing my wife or doctor or anyone else. Finally the doctor called my wife to his office and explained to her that there was absolutely no hope of my recovery. He said he couldn't understand why I kept getting worse after the removal of all the stones. He asked her permission to operate again; he said if he knew what was keeping me from recovery he might be able to save someone else's life.

After surgery the doctor came out of the operating room and told my wife the kidney was swollen to twice its normal size and one side of the kidney was decayed. They couldn't do any more for me, he said, and it would be only a few minutes until I passed away. He also said the fever had been so high that if I did recover I would never be normal mentally again but would have to spend the rest of my life in an institution.

Although neither my wife nor I was converted at the time, as she sat next to my bed waiting for the end to come the Lord began to talk to her. She called a minister, and he anointed me with oil and prayed for me according to James 5:14, 15. Twenty minutes

after he left the hospital I regained consciousness. I knew my wife for the first time in three or four weeks, and had something to eat for the first time in four weeks.

First the nurses, then the interns, and finally my own doctor were called, and they were all amazed at the miracle. Ten days later I was allowed to go home, healed completely by God's power. Best of all, both my wife and I were saved.

In December 1957 I had a yearly X-ray picture taken, and the doctor said he marvels at my healing more than any other because instead of a decayed kidney I have one strong healthy kidney.

Praise God for His healing, saving, and keeping power. The Lord has been so good to me and mine.—Leslie Pridemore, 13278 Morlowe, Detroit 27, Mich.

(Endorsed by Bond Bowman, Pastor, Brightmoor Tabernacle, Detroit, Mich.)

Healed of Large Tumor

After suffering much pain in my body, I went to my family doctor for a general checkup. The doctor reported that I had a tumor as large as a grapefruit, which must be removed immediately. Arrangements were made with the hospital for me to have an operation the following week.

I went home and began to fast and pray, and on the following Sunday my pastor anointed me and prayed. Praise the Lord, I was healed immediately.

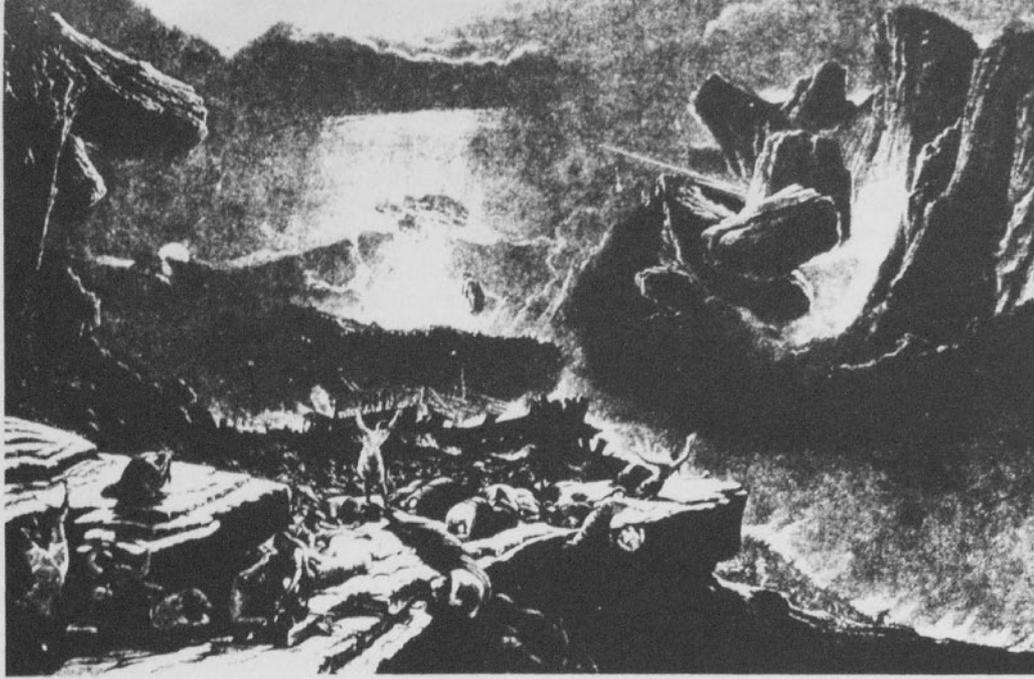
I did not enter the hospital, but instead I asked my doctor to re-examine me. He refused. Then I went to another physician, who knew nothing of the other examination, and he said he could find no trace of anything that resembled a tumor.

I have felt better in my body from the day God healed me. All praise be to God.—Mrs. Georgia White, 8833 Nyssa St., Houston 28, Tex.

(Endorsed by D. R. Johnson, Pastor, Lake Forest Assembly, Houston, Tex.)



Leslie Pridemore



"And [they] said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of Him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb: for the great day of His wrath is come" (Rev. 6:16, 17).

BY

J. NARVER GORTNER

Berkeley, California

The Day of the Lord Is Near!

An "elder statesman" in our church warns us that the rise of Russia is a sign that the time is short.

THE DAYS IN WHICH WE LIVE ARE critical days. The old world is experiencing crisis after crisis. But what shall we call the days that lie just ahead? At the risk of being called a prophet of doom I must tell you that the present critical days will issue in catastrophic days. There will be catastrophe after catastrophe. What we read in the Book of Revelation of the seven trumpets, the last three of which are known as the woe trumpets, must yet come to pass. "Woe, woe, woe to the inhabitants of the earth!"

The days in which we live are days of trial and trouble, difficulty and distress, danger and disaster, but the days that lie ahead will be days of intensified destruction and death. Men's hearts are *now* failing them for fear. Already in scientific circles, in political circles, and in other circles, men are beginning to sense, or at least fear, what is coming on the earth. In the days that lie ahead men will desire to die, and death will flee from them; but it will flee from them for a season only, and then "sudden destruction shall come upon them and they shall not escape."

This period of catastrophic days will be worse than any period the world has ever experienced, or ever shall experience afterwards. The saints who are ready for the Rapture will not be here,

for they will have been translated. The promise of our Lord to the church in Philadelphia is still true—"Because thou hast kept the word of My patience, I also will keep thee out of that hour of testing that shall come upon all the world to try them that dwell upon the earth" (Rev. 3:10).

Billy Graham said in San Francisco the other day that he had talked with many of the world leaders in almost every major nation, and that he had not found one who was privately optimistic about the future. Recently I heard a noted commentator say, "Man is standing *in the dark* at the crossroads of destiny, vainly trying to find a formula to save himself from the destruction that seems to inevitably lie ahead as a result of his progress in scientific achievement."

A good friend of mine, Dr. Charles Edward Locke, wrote a book in the days of my Methodist ministry, and he entitled it, "Daybreak Everywhere." It was written and published just after the close of the first World War. In the first chapter the author wrote: "November 11, 1918, is the day when the purposes of Christ reached their fullest fruition. It was the day of liberty's enthronement. Might and force had been abjectly defeated, and the illicit ambitions of selfishness had been forever rebuked, and once more meek-

ness and love and justice and righteousness have been exalted." And he added, "It was the rebirth of liberty. It was another Christmas day."

But where today is the man who will venture to suggest that the eleventh day of the eleventh month of 1918 was "the day when the purposes of the birth of Christ reached their fullest fruition"? What rivers of blood the armies of earth have waded through since that day! And what perils and perplexities men have faced, and what confusion and chaos there have been, and still are!

It is written in the Word of God concerning Him that "sitteth upon the circle of the earth" that He is ordering "all things after the counsel of His own will," and we read that "all things are of Him, and through Him, and to Him." Therefore it seems to me that it was the will of God that the Russian Communists should launch their baby moons before our scientists got around to launching theirs. And I think that God would have us know that by means of these satellites that are encircling this globe at almost unbelievable speed—five miles a second, eighteen thousand miles an hour—atheism is saying, "Our purpose is to take over the whole earth which we are now symbolically encircling." Let us not forget that back of atheism and all it

represents is the devil, "the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience."

David (who was a prophet, as well as a poet and king) looked with prophetic vision down through the centuries, and wrote the immortal prophecy, "The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the Lord and against His Christ." That is exactly what they are doing today. And what is God doing? Hear what David wrote, "He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh; the Lord shall have them in derision." Mark the words that follow, "Then shall He speak unto them in His wrath, and vex them in His sore displeasure." This prophecy must be fulfilled before the prophecy that follows can find its fulfillment: "Yet have I set My King upon My holy hill of Zion" (Psalm 2:6).

I received a message recently from "outer space" that confirmed my conviction that we are now very near to the end of this dispensation of grace and upon the very verge of the ushering in of the terrible "day of the Lord." It came to me in the form of a dream. In Job 33:15, 16, we read that Elihu said, "In a dream, in a vision of the night, when deep sleep falleth upon men, in slumberings upon the bed; then He openeth the ears of men, and sealeth their instruction." God has done this same thing many a time since. We are all familiar with the prophecy of Joel, repeated by Peter on the day of Pentecost: "And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of My Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams." That my body has grown old it would be folly to deny or to ignore, for the evidences are manifold. My heart has been beating constantly, hour after hour, day in and day out, for almost eighty-four years. So, since the Spirit has been poured out upon me, it is no wonder that I should dream a dream. In my dream the Lord simply "sealed my instruction," for I had already been instructed through the Word as to what is coming upon the earth.

In my dream I was in the very heart of the communist world which I suppose was Russia. All around me were the homes of communists, and

it was night. I had my Bible with me; and I was made to know that I was to go into one of these homes, and read a portion of Scripture, and pray. I entered, in obedience to what I believed was a divine behest. All who were in the home were fast asleep; and it was made known to me that God had sent me to read and pray at that time for the reason that if I had gone while they were awake I should have been seized as a spy, and shot, or hustled off to a concentration camp, or to Siberia. I read a portion of Scripture and prayed. I suppose I should not know what portion of the Word I read, were it not for the fact that, as I was about to leave, it was made known to me that I should leave my Bible, and should write on the fly leaf that I had been there, and had read from God's Word, and prayed, and then add, "The portion I read was Obadiah, verses fifteen and sixteen."

The next day I looked, and was almost startled as I read the scripture in Obadiah. It seemed to me to be a direct message from God, not only for Russia, but for all of us:

"For the day of the Lord is near upon all the nations*: as thou hast done, it shall be done unto thee: thy reward shall return upon thine own head. For as ye have drunk upon MY holy mountain, so shall all the nations drink continually, yea, they shall drink, and they shall swallow down, and *they shall be as though they had not been.*"

Those of us who have some understanding of the symbolism of the Word understand, of course, that the cup from which they will be compelled to drink will be the cup that in Isaiah 51:17 is called "the cup of trembling," and also "the cup of His fury." In Psalm 75:8 we read, "For in the hand of the Lord there is a cup, and the wine is *red*; it is full of mixture: and He poureth out of the same: but the dregs thereof, all the wicked of the earth shall wring them out, and drink them." It was this cup that our Lord shrank from in the Garden—"the cup

* The word in the King James Version is *heathen*, but the Hebrew word is *gohy*, which most certainly means *nations*, and is so rendered in the R.V., the R.S.V., in the margin of the Newberry Bible, and by Rotherham, Moffat, Goodspeed, and other modern versions, including the Jewish Version. In many other passages in the King James Version the word is rendered *nations*, as, for instance, Genesis 10:5; 22:18; Psalm 9:17; Isaiah 34:1, and many others.

LOOKING

We look not for the Beast to come
Nor for the great False Prophet:
We scan not skies for signs of men—
Such studies yield no profit.
We wait not tribulation times,
Nor seek for death to take us;
We wait for God's Beloved Son,
From this hope none can shake us,
Our Lord is coming—this we know,
Some day, at night, or noon:
And, though we have no date to show,
We know He's coming soon.

—T. Baird

of the Lord's fury." He did drink it, however; and therefore we who have received Him as our Saviour will not have to drink it. But all sinners who have not received Him will have to drain its dregs.

If you want to know what will take place after our Lord shall have come at the second stage of His second advent, read the Book of Revelation. There we have an outline of the tragic days that lie just ahead, "the time of Jacob's trouble," and of *the world's trouble*. What a time of doom awaits "the inhabitants of the earth" when the day of grace shall end, and "the day of vengeance of our God" shall begin! Read Isaiah 34:1-6, and mark what verse two says—"The indignation of the Lord is upon *all* nations, and His fury upon *all* their armies: He hath utterly destroyed them, He hath delivered them to the slaughter." Notice also verse five—"For My sword shall be bathed in heaven: behold, it shall come down upon Idumea, and upon the people of My curse, to judgment." Idumea is the same as Edom, and the book of Obadiah was written that God's judgment upon the land of Edom might be foretold, and, as is evident, not only upon Edom, but upon all the nations of the earth.

The prophecies appear to indicate that the divine judgments of "the day of the Lord" will stem from Edom. Edom means *Red*, and it is not without significance that the Communists are known as Reds. We read in Genesis 24:25 that when Esau was born he was "*red* all over," and the story follows that when "Jacob sod pottage: and Esau came from the field, and he was faint, Esau said to Jacob, Feed me, I pray thee, with that same *red* pottage; for I am faint: therefore was his name called *Edom.*"

(Continued on page nineteen)

HOW CAN I BE SAVED?

THERE IS ONLY ONE ANSWER TO LIFE'S GREATEST AND MOST SIGNIFICANT QUESTION
READ THIS ARTICLE WITH AN OPEN HEART. IT CAN CHANGE YOUR ENTIRE LIFE—FOR TIME AND FOR ETERNITY.

NO QUESTION YOU CAN ASK IS MORE important than this: "How can I be saved?" Do not take the opinion of men for an answer. Too much is at stake. Go to the highest possible authority—the Bible—and get the answer that God has written in its sacred pages.

Open your Bible to the tenth chapter of Romans, verse thirteen, and you will find these wonderful words: "Whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." Does that sound too simple? Do you wish to look further in order to be sure there is no mistake? All right, turn to the Book of Joel, chapter two, verse thirty-two, and you will find these words: "Whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be delivered." Almost the identical words!

In order to be quite sure, turn to the second chapter of Acts and read what Peter said, verse twenty-one: "Whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved." Surely the fact that this statement appears three times in the Bible means that it is very important.

There are four things about this inspired statement that you need to notice. First of all, salvation is necessary. You need to be saved. That fact is clearly taught throughout the Bible. It says, "All have sinned and come short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23). Man in his natural condition is alienated from God. He is a sinner by nature and by practice. He may be a refined sinner—very cultured, decent, and respectable—yet he is a sinner. He must receive forgiveness and cleansing and a new nature in order to be fit for heaven. This is true of every person in the world, even good

As many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name. John 1:12

people. It was to a very religious man that Jesus said, "Ye must be born again" (John 3:7).

In the second place, you need to notice that it is our Lord Jesus Christ who saves men. He bore our sins in His own body on the Cross, the Bible says (1 Peter 2:24). "Christ died for our sins, according to the Scriptures" (1 Corinthians 15:3). No man can save his own soul. Neither can one man save another's soul. As the poet put it:

"There was no other good enough
To pay the price of sin;
He only could unlock the gate
Of heav'n, and let us in."

The third thing you need to notice in the text is the simplicity of salvation. Even a child can understand

it. All you need do is to "call on the name of the Lord." Do you remember that night when Jesus was walking on the water, and Peter started doing the same, but suddenly he began to sink? Peter didn't have time to make a long prayer. He just had time to cry out, "Lord, save me," but that was enough. The Bible says that "Jesus stretched forth His hand and took hold of him." He will do the same for you.

Of course, there must be faith in your heart. You must believe these things that you have been reading; namely, that you need to be saved, and that only Christ can save you. Furthermore, you must believe that He *will* save you. Jesus said, "Him that cometh to Me I will in no wise cast out" (John 6:37). You must take Him at His word. You must call upon Him, believing that He will save you; and as surely as you believe, He will do it.

Finally you need to notice that wonderful word "whosoever." That means everyone; the old and the young, the rich and the poor, the educated and the uneducated—EVERYONE. It means you. No matter where you are, or what you have done, or how weak you feel, you can be saved by calling upon the name of the Lord. He knows all about you. He loves you and desires to save you. He can transform your life if you will let Him do it. Call upon the name of the Lord Jesus Christ this moment and you will be saved instantly. You will have the joy of salvation in this life, and an eternal home in heaven.

Remember what the Bible says—*"Whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."* ◀ ◀



That thou mayest love the LORD thy God, and that thou mayest obey his voice, and that thou mayest cleave unto him: for he is thy life
DEUT. 30:20



Choir from various churches in the Youngstown, Ohio area participated in the REVIVALTIME broadcast.



C. M. Ward standing with ten of the pastors who sponsored the release of REVIVALTIME from Youngstown.

Revivaltime Released From Youngstown, Ohio

By STANLEY MICHAEL

PENTECOST WEEK, MAY 19-25, 1958, found C. M. Ward and the REVIVALTIME staff engaged in a great week of revival climaxed by an origination of the broadcast in the South High School Auditorium in Youngstown, Ohio.

For six nights prior to the origination, Brother Ward preached to outstanding crowds, re-emphasizing Pentecost for these days. Eleven churches in the Youngstown area sponsored this great meeting. The results of this series of services can be summed up in the comments of the local promotional chairman, Pastor Donald Cox:

"Many thanks for the great 'Pentecost Revival' which you conducted for our churches in the Youngstown area. We feel that you did a splendid job of representing our individual churches to the great number of visitors who were present every night.

"Without a question, one of the high lights of each service was the altar call, when a throng of souls found Christ as their personal Saviour.

"Pentecost can lift its head a little higher in this community because of your very effective representation. It was a real help to each of our churches to have REVIVALTIME originate in our city. We are still hearing many wonderful comments about the program from friends outside our churches.

"Your coming to Youngstown for

this week of meetings and the great climax of the REVIVALTIME broadcast was one of the best things that could have happened to extend our Pentecostal testimony in the Valley."

This special origination of REVIVALTIME from Youngstown became a blessing not only to the churches and

people of this area, but to millions across the nation and in other parts of the world as well. Because of the sacrifice and co-operation of the pastors and churches in this Eastern Ohio area, many were encouraged in God and thousands of people heard the Full Gospel message by means of the ABC network.

Each week REVIVALTIME's message continues to reach the multitudes. You can share in this great ministry of reaching the lost by writing to REVIVALTIME, BOX 70, SPRINGFIELD, MO. *We need your letter this week.*



A Student Looks at

College Day—Sept. 21, 1958

The educational program of the Assemblies of God has given me great cause for rejoicing. Through it I have received not only a well-balanced academic preparation for my future ministry, but also great spiritual blessing and training in the Scriptures. This latter emphasis is of course the great distinctive our Assemblies of God schools have to offer our youth.

Without doubt a "great door and effectual" lies before our church in the area of providing Christ-centered, Pentecostal training for our young people. The need for support of this "open door," both prayerfully and financially, must be evident to our Assemblies of God constituency. Your concern and support will make possible a continuing of the educational pursuits of young men like myself in a Pentecostal atmosphere.

James Bridges

President, Southwestern Bible Institute Missionary Association, 1957-58



The Ministry of Motherhood



THE PROMISE OF GOD'S WORD IS that we may "train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it" (Proverbs 22:6).

"A text I have heard for years," you say, "but somehow it doesn't seem to work out that way." Perhaps it is because you have not quite understood what it means.

In the first place we so often think the verse says "teach a child the way he should go." Notice, however, the word used is *train* and there is a real difference. Teaching is instruction, but training is the sum total of *all* the influences that mold the child's character from infancy. You may start teaching the little one quite early, but the forces which will determine how he is trained have roots far back in generations that have passed. All of the things that belong to its heritage give a bent this way or that to the little life that is to be.

You may say, "There certainly is not much one can do before he is three or four years old." Let me ask you to keep in mind that training is much more than teaching, and let's go on from there. Suppose a recording instrument were placed in your home shortly after your baby came into the world, and all that you said all day long was recorded there—not only all the words you said, but also the spirit in which you said them and all the expressions of your face as they revealed what was going on within your soul. If this were true for one day and you knew it, how careful you would be. But suppose it were true not for one day, but for weeks of days, years of days.

Well, mother, it is true. That is not fancy—that is fact. Your baby's soul from birth is that sensitive recording instrument. It is not only what you say, but it is also what you are, what you think, and what you do that makes the indelible impression which can never be erased. It is your spirit, the

atmosphere which you create, that he absorbs as surely as the air he breathes. "Who is sufficient for these things?" you are thinking. Only the indwelling Christ, I assure you, but if you depend upon Him it is a glorious, priceless privilege to be a mother.

A man once told me that he was going to give his children the opportunity to choose for themselves "as far as religion goes." He was not going to train them one way or another. They are grown now, but they did not choose for themselves. He is a Christian, perhaps, but by his indifference to the things of the Lord he trained them to be indifferent. He went to church when convenient; they observed it and did the same. He discounted the Word of God by seldom reading it and by so doing he trained them to discount it. He went to the world to seek satisfaction and thus showed them where to seek theirs. No, he did not *teach* them these things, but he *trained* them

just as surely as he did the little tendrils of the vine in his back yard.

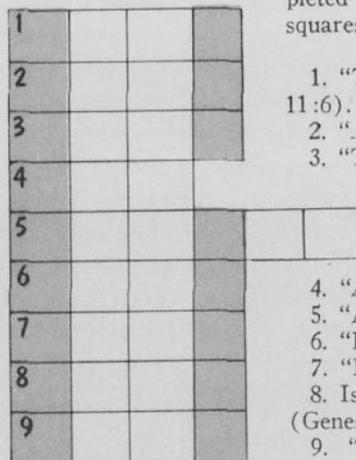
A mother was brokenhearted when she overheard profanity from the lips of her small boy. She sent him up to his room pending the arrival of Daddy who would administer the necessary punishment. When Daddy heard the story, he started upstairs two steps at a time muttering aloud, "I'll teach Jimmie to curse." As he reached the top step he tripped and fell and the air was blue for a moment with his remarks. Mother called up from below, "Hadn't you better come back down, Daddy? I think you've taught Jimmie enough for one day." Of course he hadn't realized that it was he himself who had given his son lessons in profanity. But it was true, nevertheless.

You are not going to influence your children? You cannot help doing so. The telephone rings and you answer, "Why, I'll be so glad to see you. Come right over." Then as you hang up the receiver little Mary does not overlook the expression on your face which plainly says, "I wish that old soul would stay at home where she belongs"—and the child receives a lesson in hypocrisy. When you lose your temper and shout at Johnnie to "shut that door," you are training him to neglect self-control.

Happily there is another side of the picture. Do you remember when your mother used quietly to go about her work in the kitchen, singing in that

Bible Drill Puzzle for the Junior Reader

Below is a puzzle with an important message. You can find out what Christians should be in school by finding the words that are missing from the Bible verses and putting them in their proper places on the puzzle. All words go across. When you have completed the puzzle, you will find the message, up and down, in the gray squares.



KEY

- "The _____ also shall dwell with the lamb . . ." (Isaiah 11:6).
- "_____ the son of Zechariah" (2 Chronicles 27:21).
- "The wild beast shall _____ them" (Hosea 13:8).
- "At thy word I will let down down the _____" (Luke 5:5).
- "And _____ the Tishbite" (1 Kings 17:1).
- "Lest _____ evil overtake me" (Genesis 19:9).
- "Beloved, now are we the _____ of God" (1 John 3:2).
- Isaac died "and his sons _____ and Jacob buried him" (Genesis 35:29).
- "_____, what must I do to be saved?" (Acts 16:30).

SOLUTION:

If you have solved the puzzle correctly, the puzzle will tell you (in the gray squares) that Christians should be WITNESSES FOR JESUS IN SCHOOL.



soft mother way an old song like *Jesus, Lover of My Soul*? She didn't know it, but she was recording that song on the souls of her children. When the baby was desperately ill, or when money got low (and the flour in the bin) or when the mortgage came due and the crop had failed, it was in times like this that God enabled her to face it all with a calm quiet trust in Him, without fret and without worry. In spite of circumstances, an atmosphere of serenity pervaded the home. She was training her children in a life of faith.

The little fellow watched his mother every day slip into a quiet room and close the door. He noticed that after she came out there was always a dent in the covers on one side of the bed—and a look of peace in his mother's eyes. That little fellow was being trained in a life of prayer. Oh, mother, what has been recorded today on the impressionable soul of your child? Of one thing you may be sure—what you have written you have written. Except by a miracle of grace, it cannot and will not be erased.

Our text not only says, "Train up a child in the way he should go," but also, "when he is old he will not depart from it." We accommodate that to our convenience by making it mean when he is old he will *return* to it, but that misses the point. On our place once were two tiny saplings, growing side by side. In a frolicsome mood my husband wrapped one around the other and left them so. The years came and went and the trees grew as he had bent them. One day he decided he would separate the two. Could he unwind them by a simple twist of the wrist, the way he had wrapped them together? No, it was too late. He sawed one of them off near the ground, but the other is still a twisted tree and will always be just that.

Thank God, through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and His atoning sacrifice, warped and twisted lives may be made straight. But prevention is better than cure. It is better to lead them early to Christ, then train them that they may grow straight and tall like the cedars of Lebanon. Let us see to it that these little ones are trained in the way they should go; then God's promise will hold good that when they are old they will not depart from it.

—Reprinted from *The Romance of Motherhood*, by permission of Zondervan Publishing House



Family Altar

DAILY BIBLE READINGS BY R. G. CHAMPION

Monday, September 8

Read: 2 Corinthians 6:11 to 7:1

Learn: "Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness?" (2 Corinthians 6:14)

For the Parent: There should be a difference between the Christian and the unsaved person. This passage: (1) warns against the unequal yoke because of a lack of fellowship; (2) urges separation that we may enjoy our family relationship with God. Emphasize that our Christian testimony should show in our lives and in our conduct—worshiping God and abstaining from evil.

Question Time: How can we show our Christian testimony? (See above)

Tuesday, September 9

Read: Psalms 133, 134

Learn: "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity" (Psalm 133:1).

For the Parent: Yesterday's lesson dealt with the Christian's separation from the practices of the unsaved. These psalms emphasize the importance of unity in relationships between Christians. Point out the example of unity (Acts 2:1) in which the Holy Spirit was given to the 120. Stress the importance of Christians getting along with each other—for the spiritual blessings it brings them and the church, and for the testimony it is to the unsaved.

Question Time: Why is it important for Christians to have unity? (See above)

Wednesday, September 10

Read: Psalm 135

Learn: "For I know that the Lord is great, and that our Lord is above all gods" (Psalm 135:5).

For the Parent: We serve a great and wonderful God. He is worthy of our praise and worship. This passage recounts some of His works, and is a song of praise to God for them. Stress the importance of praising God—even when we may not feel like it. God has done so much for us that we should never cease to praise Him.

Question Time: How long will God's name endure? (v. 13) What is one reason we should praise the Lord? (v. 3) How do idols differ from our God? (vv. 15-17) What about people who trust in idols? (v. 18)

Thursday, September 11

Read: Haggai 1:1-12

Learn: "Let us rise up and build" (Nehemiah 2:18).

For the Parent: (Additional material on "Haggai, the Prophet of Reconstruction" will be found on Sunday's Lesson page.) At this time the Jews had returned from captivity to their native land. One of the main reasons they had returned was to rebuild God's house. Instead, they built their own homes and God's house lay waste. Haggai helped bring them to their senses. Emphasize the importance of putting God's work first.

Question Time: At what time did Haggai prophesy? (See above) What is the important lesson of this passage?

Friday, September 12

(Sunday's Lesson for Juniors)

Learn: "If any man offend not in word, the same is a perfect man, and able also to bridle the whole body" (James 3:2).

For the Parent: This week's Junior Lesson is on the important subject of our speech. Have various members of the group read the following scriptures, commenting briefly on each—James 1:19, 26; James 3:2, 5, 8; Proverbs 15:28, 29:11, 10:19, 31:26; Psalm 34:13; Ephesians 4:25, 29; Colossians 4:6; 1 Thessalonians 5:18. These scriptures give a good pattern of the kind of speech which should characterize the Christian.

Question Time: What does James say about the religion of the person who does not "bridle" his tongue?

Saturday, September 13

Read: Luke 1:5-20, 57-66 (Sunday's Lesson for Primaries)

Learn: "Here am I; send me" (Isaiah 6:8).

For the Parent: Have the group review the story of the birth of John the Baptist. Emphasize: (1) its miraculous announcement; (2) the ministry God had planned for the boy, v. 17; (3) the events related to the birth of John. Also tell briefly of John's later ministry—preparing the way for Jesus to come. Stress that we are also to prepare the way for Christ to come by telling others about His saving power.

Question Time: What ministry did God have planned for John? (v. 17) What sign did the angel give Zacharias regarding the birth of the child? (v. 20) Why?

Miracle Church in Bowling Green

BY J. CALVIN HOLSINGER

IN THE WINTER OF 1955 Mrs. Holsinger and I began to feel that our work in Springfield, Missouri, was completed. I had taught theology, speech, and history at Central Bible Institute for eight years, and Mrs. Holsinger had taught music for three years. As we prayed about our future, we felt that God would desire us to volunteer as home missionaries, to pioneer a church in a college community.

Just before Christmas we wrote to C. W. Hahn, Ohio District superintendent, about the matter. After consultation with Paul Emery, assistant superintendent, T. Hartshorn, secretary, and other members of the presbytery, Brother Hahn suggested to us the need of Bowling Green, Ohio. It was a city of 10,000 plus a growing university of about 5,000 students.

As soon as school was out, we packed our belongings and headed for Bowling Green! The Full Gospel was not entirely new to Bowling Green. As early as 1917, T. K. Leonard, one of the organizers of the General Council of the Assemblies of God, held some services there. From then on various pastors and evangelists ministered in the city; but a permanent work was never established.

Arriving in Bowling Green in early June, 1956, we began looking for a place of employment (for there were no funds available from the district for a mission church) and a building in which to hold services. The Lord provided work for us at the local high school—*Spanish* for Mrs. Holsinger *English* for me. However, finding a meeting place seemed utterly hopeless. For a whole month we walked the streets of Bowling Green looking for a suitable place. A store building seemed out of character to the community. One-room apartments were \$100 a month, but there were no auditoriums or houses available at any price.

Just when we began to get a little discouraged, we found that God had already begun to work a *miracle*. In

our search for a house we had met a young Christian and Missionary Alliance couple who said they might go away to missionary school, and that if they did they would rent their house to us. On the very night when we felt that we must have an answer from the Lord as to whether we should remain in Bowling Green (the very next day the superintendent wished us to sign teaching contracts), the Lord was dealing with this Christian couple. The young husband found it difficult to sleep that night because God was talking to him about his rejection of God's call. The next morning he went off to work without mentioning it to his wife. While the wife was praying the Lord told her also that He wanted them to go to missionary school.

That noon we stopped by their house. As we came up the walk, the husband had just finished saying to his wife, "Have the Holsingers been here today? Whenever they come, tell them they can rent the house. We are going to missionary college!" The Lord was right on time with the answer, proving to us that He certainly wanted an Assembly in Bowling Green.

When the first service was held in September, 1956, in a rented house, four people came. Gradually the Lord added to the group. A young man whom I had taught in school was working at the university as an electrician. Gene Hardin and his wife started coming to the church. This was the way the Lord supplied the first Sunday School teachers. A little later the Lord sent another CBI couple, the Tom Davies, back to Bowling Green to live and to be a help in the church.

From almost the first service the group began to talk about "building." It was obvious that if the Assembly were to prosper, it must have permanent facilities. It was wonderful to see how God was working. First He gave the people, without urging, a willingness to give generously of their money. Then God began to bring building skills into the church; first an electrician, then bricklayers, a carpenter, and willing "helpers." Not one of them was asked to donate his labors. The Lord laid it on their hearts, and one by one they offered their skills to erect Christ Assembly.

The next step was securing building plans. The National Home Missions Department had just begun to provide architectural drawings for mission parishes. From Springfield the church secured its plan—a design called the "Reaper"—an unusually attractive plan of contemporary design in brick and redwood. It allowed for easy future expansion. The real obstacle was



Christ Assembly in Bowling Green, Ohio where J. Calvin Holsinger is pastor. Most of the work on this new church was donated by the members.

money. The Lord had helped the church in ten months to save enough to buy a lot, but still there was no money for building supplies. The outlook was not bright. Another church in town, with a good congregation, had tried to borrow money to build a new church and was turned down. However, I said to my congregation, "It is remarkable the way the Lord has brought the right building skill and willing hearts into this pioneer church. Surely He is not teasing us, but intends to complete the work."

After prayer the members decided to approach the bank. They told the officials that all they had was money for a lot, and willing workers, many of whom were skilled. The president of the bank said he would like to meet the people who were donating their services, for he could hardly believe it! An appointment was arranged and the plans were shown to him. The Lord had prepared his heart and he approved all the money for the materials. We thanked God! With this money from the bank, willing workers from Bowling Green, and help from four churches (Toledo Assembly, Calvary Assembly in Toledo, Fostoria Assembly, and Jeannette Assembly in Pennsylvania) plus \$500 from the Women's Missionary Council to buy chairs, this beautiful buff-brick church with its modern bell tower was built for \$15,000.

Already the importance of an attractively styled church has been demonstrated. During dedication week we began with an open house followed by nightly services with Bishop K. C. Pillai, of the Orthodox Church of India, as guest speaker. Bishop Pillai has received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit and is ministering in many of our Assemblies. He brought a stream of visitors to our church. The university president, professors, teachers, business people came. We received front-page news three times during dedication week. The community was greatly interested in "the new church" and was impressed to hear an Orthodox bishop preach what the Assemblies of God emphasize—salvation, healing, the Baptism. The university, the Kiwanis Club, the Rotary Club all requested the bishop to address their groups. This combination of an attractive new church and the anointed ministry of God's servant, Bishop K. C. Pillai, has opened up the university community of Bowling Green to the full gospel. ◀◀



Your Questions

ANSWERED BY ERNEST S. WILLIAMS

Does Satan have a material body?

Satan is a spirit, and therefore does not have a material body such as man has.

* * *

Does Luke 21:20 mean that Jerusalem must be walled in again on every side before the age comes to a close? Will this be the sign of the end of the age?

The Scripture reads: "Ye shall see Jerusalem compassed with armies," not walls. This was fulfilled when Jerusalem was taken in A.D. 70.

* * *

The Bible says concerning interpretation of tongues, "Let it be by two, or at most by three, and that by course; and let one interpret" (1 Corinthians 14:27). Is it scriptural then for a person who speaks in tongues to interpret his own message?

In verse 13 Paul instructs, "Wherefore let him that speaketh in an unknown tongue pray that he may interpret." Thus it seems to be just as much in harmony with the Scripture if a person interprets his own message as if another person interprets.

* * *

Does Matthew 19:9 permit divorced persons to remarry?

It is a pity that divorce and remarriage has become so common. It is much as it was in the days of Noah: "They took them wives of all which they chose." One of God's important purposes in marriage is "that he might seek a godly seed" (Malachi 2:15). Nothing has proved a more hurtful influence on children than homes broken up through divorce. The standard which Jesus set was union for life, and He warned that he who puts away his wife and marries another commits adultery against her (Mark 10:11, 12).

Concerning Matthew 19:9, if a man in Israel married one whom he later learned to be unchaste, he might put her away (Deuteronomy 24:1). Jesus made this an excuse for putting away. In Israel, when the wife was thus put away she was permitted to become the wife of another, and the man also might marry again. From this some teach

that, where the marriage vows have been broken, the marriage is thereby severed. They believe this gives the innocent party a right to marry again; while others feel it provides the basis for divorce only. Further than this I am unable to answer your question.

* * *

Is it true that when a person is converted he is saved from all sins of the past, present, and future?

When a person is born again he is saved from all sins of the past, including every sin committed up to the time of his conversion. Provision is made whereby, if he should sin in the future, he may receive pardon (1 John 1:9; 2:1, 2). But there is no provision which gives him freedom to choose to live in sin. "Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin" (1 John 3:9). This means that he does not *live* in sin or *practice* sin.

* * *

Was Jesus a Nazarite, as were Samson and John the Baptist?

A Nazarite was to "separate himself from wine and strong drink"; neither was he to eat "moist grapes, or dried" (Numbers 6:1-3). The Scriptures indicate that Jesus did not follow this rule. He said, "The Son of man is come eating and drinking; and ye say, Behold a gluttonous man, and a winebibber" (Luke 7:34). At the Lord's Supper He said, "I will not drink henceforth of this fruit of the vine, until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom" (Matthew 26:29).

Thus Jesus did not follow the Nazarite vow as to outward forms, and we can conclude that He was not a Nazarite. Nevertheless, His soul was completely separated to God from "all filthiness of the flesh and spirit."

If you have a spiritual problem or any question about the Bible, you are invited to write to "Your Questions," *The Pentecostal Evangel*, 434 W. Pacific St., Springfield, Missouri. Brother Williams will answer either in this column or by a personal letter (if you send a stamped self-addressed envelope).



Members of the church board stand on the cleared church lot.

THE LORD'S DOING

By **Florence Byers**, Kobe, Japan

I WANT TO LET YOU KNOW SOMETHING of the Lord's doing, for "it is marvelous in our eyes."

There he sat, a bereaved Japanese father, bowed in worship before the elaborate shrine of Buddha. So engrossed was he in his chanting and prayers in behalf of his son who had passed into eternity some months ago, that he failed to sense our presence. We had a business proposition with him, and although his wife had suggested we go to him, we waited in the little entrance while the poor man (though rich in this world's goods) poured out his heart to a god who could neither hear nor answer.

According to Japanese custom in all matters of importance, a middle-man or go-between is necessary in the dealings of the two parties involved. Our middle-man was a fine Christian who had been a Buddhist before accepting Christ. His testimony would naturally

affect the thinking of another Buddhist believer of the same rank. This man had made the contact for us regarding a lot to be purchased, and had dealt faithfully on our behalf.

For years we had the vision and burden of a church in the densely populated area of Mikage, about thirteen blocks south of our Orphanage. Since we had first seen the suitable lot in question, it had been our heart's cry that a soul-saving station be erected on this choice corner. It was indeed the best site for a church in all the area.

The information gained by our Christian friend was not encouraging. It seemed there was no hope of securing the land. Property in Japan is very costly, with prices increasing continually. The owner of the lot we desired had determined not to sell to anyone, either an individual or a business firm. He had already rejected an

offer of Yen 50,000 per "tsu-bo" which is equivalent to \$140 for just thirty-six square feet. But God gave Brother Hashio, the go-between, real wisdom. He informed the owner that the desired purchase was not for an individual or a business firm, but for Christ.

In spite of his refusal to sell the lot, we did not feel this was final, and spent more time before the Lord in prayer seeking His direction. We felt sure the lot would be ours, but Brother Hashio discouraged another visit to the owner lest he become angry and cause an embarrassing situation.

However, we were able to make an appointment with the father of the owner, who had spoken to his son about the matter and had urged him to sell the lot to us at a reduced rate. We were graciously received and had opportunity to witness for Christ before discussing the matter of the property. Although the entire family were staunch Buddhists, this man had mentioned to his son that an uncle, who had formerly owned the lot and was now dead, would be pleased perhaps to have the lot used for Christ.

An appointment was made the following day with the owner, at which time we were privileged to make a small deposit and sign a contract. We did not have to pay Yen 50,000 per "Tsu-bo" but Yen 30,000, or \$85 per thirty-six square feet. This means that since the lot is sixty "Tsu-bo," the total cost is \$5,000.

The property is not fully paid for, but the God who opened the way and provided the down payment will most assuredly supply the balance. Will you pray with us that this may be realized speedily and that soon a church shall be erected for the glory of God and the salvation of immortal souls in Japan.

On the day following the down-payment we celebrated my thirtieth anniversary of missionary work in Japan. It was a wonderful way to celebrate, and as it happened to be the "Day of Pentecost" we also celebrated the birth of the Christian church.

The Lord has answered my deep longing and prayer for a church location in this needy area. How He values the salvation of lost souls! He was willing to leave heaven and sacrifice His life for them.

"Go, go, go, go!"

*Leave what He asks you to leave;
Pray for your part in the harvest,
Give what He asks you to give!"*

Children of the Orphanage help clear the rubble away.





Called Home



Jessie Wengler, our veteran missionary to Japan, went to her eternal reward on July 22 of this year at the age of seventy-one. She received missionary appointment in June 1919; and in 1949, when Brothers Noel Perkin and Gayle Lewis, executives of the Assemblies of God, visited the field, she was ordained.

Miss Wengler underwent a serious operation just before she died. Several

weeks previous, sensing the nearness of her death, she had requested Leonard Nipper, a fellow missionary, that a very simple funeral service be held; she did not want a lot of remarks made about her, "for," she said, "I won't be there. I'll be with the Lord!" She asked, rather, that the gospel message be given to the unsaved who would attend the service.

The interment took place at the Karuizawa Cemetery. Brothers Nipper, Davies, and Yumiyama officiated.

Miss Wengler faithfully taught her classes in the Bible school at Tokyo until a short time before entering the hospital. There is a vacancy in the missionary ranks because of her passing, but heaven has gained another of the Master's jewels. Undoubtedly she will hear the Lord say, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant!"

MISSIONARY News Notes

Mr. and Mrs. John S. Mattox and family returned to Upper Volta, Africa on July 31.

* * *

The Norman Correll family sailed for Tanganyika, East Africa on July 31, where they will be assisting at the Bible school in Mbeya.

* * *

Mr. and Mrs. Glen McCollister and children returned to Hawaii on August 6.

* * *

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Epler and family sailed from San Francisco on July 28; word has since been received from Hawaii telling of their safe landing.

* * *

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Peterson and



The Harry Peterson Family

children left for Korea on August 1. They spent their previous term in Japan.

* * *

A letter from Guatemala City informs us that Mr. and Mrs. Walter Haydus and family have arrived safely in Guatemala, Central America.

* * *

Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Jeter and family arrived in New York City on July 25 from Tangier, Morocco.

Church Participation In Missionary Giving

June 1958

District	Total Churches	Participating Churches	Participation Percentage
1. Montana	65	64	98%
2. N. Dakota	50	48	96%
3. New Jersey	99	87	88%
4. Nebraska	79	69	87%
5. Wis.-N. Mich.	136	114	84%
6. Michigan	176	146	83%
7. Rocky Mtn.	126	103	82%
8. Kansas	165	134	81%
9. Wyoming	37	30	81%
10. S. Idaho	57	46	81%
11. Oregon	200	159	80%
12. Northwest	273	214	78%
13. Minnesota	147	115	78%
14. New York	162	126	78%
15. S. N. England	62	48	77%
16. Potomac	180	139	77%
17. S. Dakota	49	37	76%
18. W. Central	224	169	75%
19. Illinois	220	165	75%
20. Ohio	180	135	75%
21. N. Calif.-Nev.	332	242	73%
22. W. Texas	128	92	72%
23. S. California	383	272	71%
24. Eastern	262	183	70%
25. S. Missouri	333	229	69%
26. Tennessee	100	65	65%
27. N. N. England	56	35	63%
28. Indiana	157	95	61%
29. S. Florida	168	100	60%
30. W. Florida	138	82	59%
31. N. Texas	513	298	58%
32. Arizona	88	50	57%
33. Louisiana	152	84	55%
34. S. Texas	266	147	55%
35. Georgia	134	74	55%
36. Oklahoma	496	273	55%
37. Appalachian	71	39	55%
38. New Mexico	77	42	55%
39. N. Carolina	78	42	54%
40. Kentucky	67	35	52%
41. Alabama	257	133	52%
42. Mississippi	94	46	50%
43. S. Carolina	51	21	41%
44. Arkansas	443	182	41%



The John Mattox family



The Norman Correll family



The Paul Epler family



The Glen McCollister family

Sunday's Lesson

"RIGHTLY DIVIDING THE WORD OF TRUTH"



Haggai, the Prophet of Reconstruction

Sunday School Lesson for September 14, 1958

HAGGAI 1:1-12

The message of Haggai should be read in connection with the last chapter of 2 Chronicles and the first four chapters of Ezra.

Because they did not obey the messages of the prophets and turn from their sins to God, the people of the kingdom of Judah were sentenced to seventy years of captivity in the land of Babylon. Jeremiah, who predicted the captivity, also foretold its length and the punishment of the Babylonians. Isaiah prophesied also, naming the Persian conqueror Cyrus who would overthrow the Babylonians and whose decree would permit the captive Israelites to return to their land.

Thus it was that more than thirty-two thousand Israelites, under Zerrubabel their appointed governor, returned to Jerusalem, rebuilt their altar, offered sacrifices, and laid the foundation for the new temple.

As is always the case, opposition to the revival in Israel set in. The Samaritans, jealous because they were not invited to assist the Israelites in the work of the Lord, began to trouble the people and wrote a lying letter to the new king Artaxerxes, who commanded that the work on the temple cease. So for sixteen years the work of the Lord—the building of the temple—was neglected.

At such a time God raised up Haggai with the message of the hour for Israel. And His message has vital application to us today. Let us heed it well!

"This people say, The time is not come, the time that the Lord's house should be built... Is it time for you, O ye, to dwell in your ceiled houses, and this house lie waste?" What a searching indictment!

(1) *God's house was lying waste.* For sixteen years no work had been done on the temple. How easily and quickly the people had given up the work when opposition set in! It was as if they were actually relieved. Would God have reproved these people for such neglect if it had been justified? Indeed, Artaxerxes had decreed that the work stop. But should they not have protested further? Would not God have intervened, had they looked to Him?

(2) *God's people made excuse.* "It is not the right time to build," they said. This was simply a subterfuge. Often God's work is neglected today because people make the excuse of unseasonableness. The writer, for example, has often wondered just what the right kind of weather for churchgoing really is! Too hot, too cold, too rainy, too windy—these are excuses we often hear. God's time is always now! We are to be "instant in season, out of season," in serving the Lord. No work for God has ever been done under ideal conditions. We must begin with things just as they are, and God will see us through.

(3) *God's prophet exposed the people.* "Is it time for

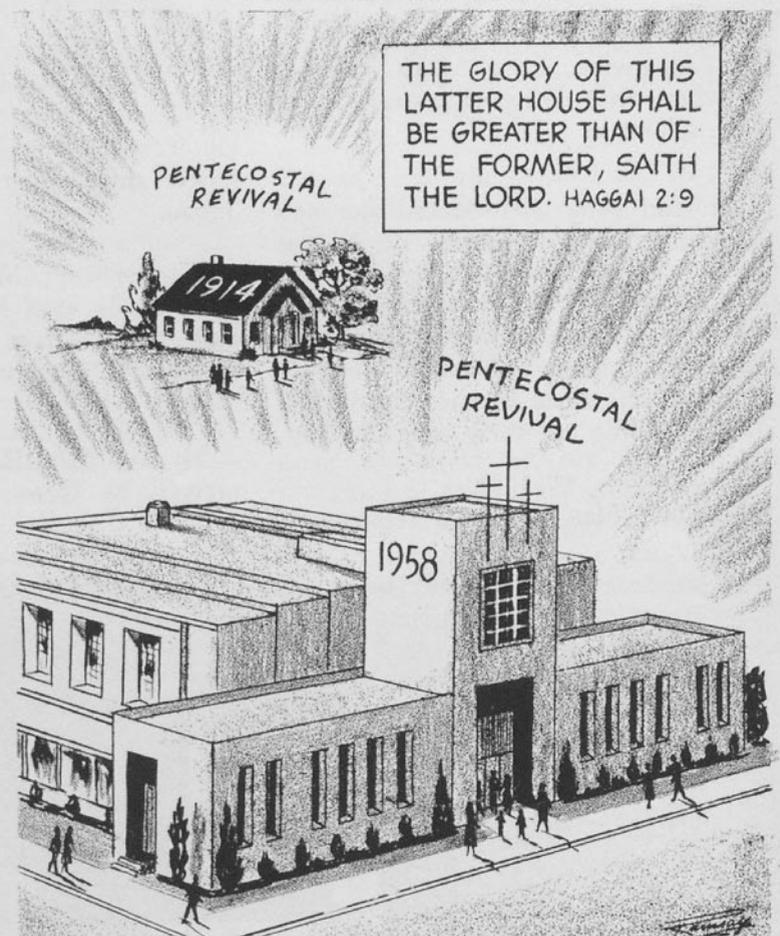
you... to dwell in your ceiled houses...?" The truth was that the people chose to neglect God's work and His interests in order to pursue their own! They were so completely occupied in building and planting for themselves that they could forget God's kingdom without qualms. And spiritual negligence leads to selfish indulgence and carnality. The expression "ceiled houses" indicates an unnecessary love of luxury. It is easy, when one loses the spiritual vision, to spend too much of one's time and resources upon things which have no eternal value.

(4) *The people's difficulties were explained.* "Consider your ways... Ye have sown much, and bring in little;... he that earneth wages earneth wages to put it into a bag with holes... Therefore the heaven over you is stayed... And I called for a drought upon the land." According to Haggai there is a closer connection between lack of prosperity and bad weather and spiritual failure than most people realize. Fruitfulness and productivity are from the Lord. Disobedience will prevent both. God's laws never change, nor His principles. "Seek ye *first* the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."

The people did "consider their ways," as the prophet exhorted. They responded to God's Word at once, resumed the work on the temple, and soon completed the task. Let us consider our ways. How do they stand in view of Christ's claim upon us? Are we putting our own interests ahead of the Lord? Are we neglecting His work? God stirred up Zerrubabel and his people to renewed consecration and devotion to God. And they did accomplish a great work! The same God will stir us likewise and enable us to accomplish His work in our generation.

—J. Bashford Bishop

A PROMISE FOR TODAY



Are You Ready?

(Continued from page three)

Testament Greek scholar, H. A. W. Meyer, says that this word "denotes the patient, attentive waiting, which never slackens until realized." A. T. Robertson, another noted Greek scholar, explains the meaning of "look" in Phil. 3:20 like this: "The picture is like that of a wife who watches at evening for her husband who tarries. She steps out of the door, down the steps, finally out of the gate and looks away down the street with longing for his coming." Even those who are not so conversant with doctrinal reasons can shout from an inborn knowledge imparted by the Holy Spirit, "Behold, he cometh!"

III

"Behold, he cometh!" Do not these words provoke one to ask, "Will there be signs to proclaim His return?" It would seem inconsistent with the whole tenor of Scripture and an unprecedented departure from His revealed character as the God of "signs and wonders" if this most heralded event of Scripture should transpire without any divine omen. He who in primeval creation hung the lights in the firmament for signs, who called on heaven and earth to testify to the birth of His Son, and who provoked the greatest array of phenomenal wonders in the region of cosmos at His death, and beckoned a cloud of angels to receive Him into heaven, will surely call for the greatest exhibition of signs and wonders when the Lord of lords approaches His footstool again.

However, we must be reminded that no one sign or groups of signs will reveal the exact day or hour of His advent. Else how could Jesus say, "But of that day and hour knoweth no man"? Or how could Paul emphasize, "The day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night"? All these signs of His second coming reveal the imminence of His return. They flash the signal, "Your redemption is drawing near."

This generation is witnessing the most phenomenal happenings in the world's history! These are days of signs—strange signs! World rulers, statesmen, intellectuals, and common men are all seeing signs! Both Christians and non-Christians are seeing

them. No sane person will dismiss them as mass hysteria, for that would not explain nature's behavior.

The frequency and violence of nature's fury has shattered all records. Beneath man's feet the earth is constantly shaking like a bowl of jelly. Over a million geological disturbances are recorded each year at the California Institute of Technology. Volcanologists have been forced to revise their science.

Some time ago a vast blanket of fog strangely covered thousands of square miles of the Pacific Ocean. Meteorologists are wondering if the wind currents of the atmosphere are not being altered. Our mean temperature is rising. Ice at the North Pole is melting too fast. The equilibrium of our globe may be disturbed. Our atmosphere may be courting an invasion of death from outer space. Strange objects appear in the heavens, and for want of knowledge man has dubbed them "flying saucers."

More than a third of the world's populace lies beneath the brutal hand of atheism. Man holds within his hand the material power to annihilate himself. More rulers have been assassinated since World War II than during any similar period in history. Do you ask, "What is the meaning of these things?" There can be but one answer: "Behold, he cometh!"

"Every eye shall see him!" The righteous and the wicked may see Christ at separate times, but it cannot be denied that "every eye shall see him!" Eventually, whether he is a saint or a sinner, either dead or alive, and whether it is here or hereafter, everyone will see Him. How soberly and honestly each of us should ponder our imminent destiny. Each of us must stand before Him whose eyes of judgment are as flames of fire. No one may offer a substitute. Let each mortal on this earth say to himself, "I shall see Him. I shall stand before this God-man, this heaven-sent Saviour, the Judge of the universe—*perhaps today*."

If the supreme event of all time should occur today, could you shout exultantly with Job, "I shall see [Him] for myself"? Or would your terror-stricken heart have to cry out with the lamenting wicked, "Mountains and rocks, fall on us; hide us from the One who sits on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb; for the great day of His wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand"? **BEHOLD, HE COMETH!** ◀ ◀

The Day of the Lord Is Near

(Continued from page nine)

The prophecy in the thirty-fourth chapter of Isaiah concerning the judgments that will usher in "the day of the Lord" finds further confirmation and emphasis in the sixty-third chapter. Here the prophet asks questions and He who is the Avenger in "the day of the Lord" answers them. The prophet asks, "Who is this that cometh from Edom, with dyed garments from Bozrah? this that is glorious in his apparel, travelling in the greatness of His strength?" And the Traveller, or Marcher, answers, "I that speak in righteousness, mighty to save." Let us not forget that redemption is by blood and by power. The blood of the Redeemer has been shed; His power must be exerted. In order that the whole world may experience the benefits of redemption Satan must be defeated in his followers and rebellion put down. Mark the prophet's question in verse two, "Wherefore art Thou *red* in Thine apparel, and Thy garments like him that treadeth in the winefat?" and our Lord's answer in verses three to six, "I have trodden the winepress alone, and of the people there was none with Me; for I will tread them in Mine anger, and trample them in My fury; and their blood shall be sprinkled upon My garments, and I will stain all My raiment. For *the day of vengeance* is in Mine heart, and the year of My redeemed is come."

It has been said that our Lord trod the winepress at Calvary when He shed His blood for our redemption. This is a false interpretation. He has not yet trodden the winepress. The winepress He will tread at His second advent, and it will be "the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God," as we are definitely told in Revelation 19:15. Read carefully the context in this chapter, beginning at verse 11, and read also a parallel passage in Revelation 14:15-20 where we are afforded further information concerning the terribleness of that day when the winepress shall be trodden. The judgment here depicted in such graphic language is still future. It will be in "the day of the Lord," but *that day is near*. "The day of the Lord is *near* upon all the nations." ◀ ◀

A Strange Family

I know a strange family. The father has never missed church or Sunday School in twenty-three years. The mother has had a perfect record for eleven years. A son has not missed for twelve years. A daughter has been teaching Sunday School and hasn't missed for nearly seven years.

What's the matter with this family, anyway? Don't they ever have company on Sunday to keep them away from church?

Don't they ever feel tired on Sunday morning?

Don't they belong to any clubs that keep them out late on Saturdays—or that invite them out for weekends?

Don't they ever have headaches, or colds, or nervous spells, or tired feelings, or sudden calls out of the city, or business trips, or picnics, or such things?

Don't they even have a radio, so that they could get some good sermons from out-of-town preachers?

Don't they ever get disgusted with hearing the same old Gospel Sunday after Sunday, or don't they get fed up with some of the members?

What's the matter with this family, anyway, and why are they so happy and cheerful?

What Prayer Has Done

"Prayer has divided seas, rolled up flowing rivers, made flinty rocks gush into fountains, quenched flames of fire, muzzled lions, disarmed vipers and poisons, marshaled the stars against the wicked, stopped the course of the moon, arrested the rapid sun in its great race, burst open iron gates, recalled souls from eternity, conquered the strongest devils, commanded legions of angels down from heaven. Prayer has bridled and changed the raging passions of man and destroyed vast armies of proud, daring, blustering atheists. Prayer has brought one man from the bottom of the sea, and carried another in a chariot of fire to heaven. What has not prayer done!"

Someone has said that a little fly in Noah's ark was just as safe as an elephant. It was not the elephant's size and strength that made him safe; it was the ark that saved both elephant and fly. It is not your righteousness, your good works, that will save you. Rich or poor, learned or unlearned, you can be saved only by the blood of Christ.—D. L. Moody.

TO OUR REGULAR Christmas Greeting Card AGENTS



For a number of years, prior to and during the Christmas season, there have been those of you who have served successfully as our representatives in the selling of Sunshine Line Christmas Greeting Cards and Gift Wrappings. It has been a pleasure to work with you. With another Christmas season approaching we extend a cordial invitation to you to join in the selling of America's largest exclusively religious line of cards again. *And new members would also be welcome to the selling staff.*

The Sunshine Line of Christmas Greetings for this year is just as lovely as in the past with the usual wide variety—12 assortments plus Christmas Gift Wrappings. You will remember that you can make up to 50c profit on each box. If you are interested mail coupon for descriptions, prices, and information on selling kits. You should get started selling right away.

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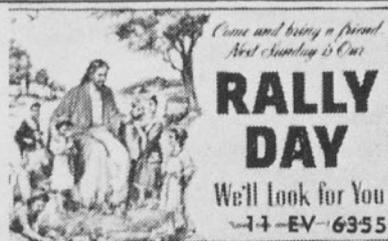
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An all-new series of attractive invitation cards for increasing attendance on Rally Day. Bright colors, friendly messages, and appropriate illustrations and Scripture texts. For those who wish to pen a hasty personal note there is space on the address side. Cards for all ages—children through adults. Lithographed on high quality linen-finish card stock. Size 3 3/8 x 5 3/8.

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Charge Orders: Add 5% for Postage and Handling—We Pay Postage on all orders sent with cash.

Pentecostal Churches

Are Different

(Continued from page seven)

(Revelation 19:6). People give vent to some of their excitement and emotions at ball games: why should they not give expression to some of their feelings at church?

Pentecostal *singing* is different, too. The people sing heartily and lustily for it is Scriptural to do so. The Psalmist said, "Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord. Praise ye the Lord."

There is a spirit of heart-felt worship that extends also to the *receiving of the offering*. As the Bible says, the Lord loves a cheerful giver, and if the Spirit of God is in us we give generously to the work of the church, even as God Himself is generous. Pentecostal people receive joy and blessing in supporting God's kingdom in the Bible way by bringing their tithes and offerings to the church.

Of course, the old-fashioned *testimony meeting* is not a feature peculiar to Pentecostal churches but it distinguishes them from many denominations. The Bible says, "Let the redeemed of the Lord say so" (Psalm 107:2) and Pentecostal people do this. They give their personal testimony during the church service. This is one of the Pentecostal "distinctives" that makes the services attractive and enjoyable.

Possibly one of the most distinctive features of a Pentecostal meeting is the *altar service*. The customary evangelistic appeal for penitents is here expanded into a general altar call and this develops into a united prayer service. Thus the meeting comes to a climax in a joint seeking after God. The believers help one another and pray especially for those who have not yet received the infilling of the Holy Spirit. It is not uncommon during these "altar services" for individuals to be prostrated under the power of the Lord. Such prostrations are quite Scriptural (see Daniel 10:8-11, 15-17; Matthew 28:4; Acts 9:4; Revelation 1:17). These experiences are most blessed and fruitful, and are entirely in conformity with the apostle's admonition that "all things be done decently and in order" (1 Corinthians 14:40).

Another Pentecostal "distinctive" is the custom of *praying for the sick*. The Bible teaches Divine Healing and therefore Pentecostal people both teach

EVANGELISTIC CAMPAIGN CALENDAR

STATE	CITY	ASSEMBLY	DATE	EVANGELIST	PASTOR
Ala.	Mobile	Crichton	Sept. 14-28	H. Syvelle Phillips	Clarence Cope
Calif.	Bakersfield	Oildale	Sept. 3-14	Christian Hild & wife	George Brown
	Carlsbad	* Gospel Tab.	Sept. 9-14	Virgil & Edythe Warens	P. A. Zimmerman
	Marysville	Bethel Temple	Sept. 16-28	Stanley P. MacPherson	Floyd W. Thomas
Fla.	Tallahassee	Oak City	Sept. 7-21	Wesley Weekley	Clayton Wilkinson
Idaho	Grangeville	A of G	Sept. 9-21	Johnson Bros. Team	John S. Jamison
Ind.	Fort Wayne	* A of G	Sept. 8-12	Dedelow-Friederici	Glenn Horst
Iowa	Indianola	A of G	Sept. 16-28	Frank Martin	Robert Wenig
Kans.	Chanute	First	Sept. 9—	Jim Collins	L. Glen Ahlf
	Liberal	A of G	Sept. 7-21	James Miller & wife	Anthony Benigas
	Medicine Lodge	A of G	Sept. 14-28	Ivan Christoffersen	O. L. Tucker
Md.	Hagerstown	West End	Sept. 14-28	Charlotte Rodgers	W. H. Helms
Minn.	Minneapolis	Minn. Evang. Aud.	Aug. 27—	Joseph De Grado	Russell Olson
Mo.	Kansas City	Evangel Temple	Sept. 9-21	Eskelin Family	A. A. Wilson
	Kansas City	Evang. Ctr.	Sept. 7-15	Louise Nankivell	W. L. Miles
	St. Clair	* A of G	Sept. 7—	Lavirta Horstman	Boyd Cody
Nebr.	Lincoln	First	Sept. 16-28	R. W. Hastie	S. K. Biffle, Jr.
N. Y.	Rome	A of G	Sept. 10-21	Eddie Lowmaster	E. W. Darling
N. C.	Glen Alpine	A of G	Sept. 7-21	Grant Daniel	J. Lewis Powell
N. Dak.	New Town	A of G	Sept. 16-Oct 5	Paul Clark & wife	Don Waggoner
	Williston	A of G	Sept. 9-21	Paul & Evelyn Sandgren	Charles Jackson
	Columbus	A of G	Sept. 7—	Harold W. Mayo, Jr.	Alex D. Vance
Ohio	Covington	A of G	Sept. 9-21	Freadus S. Seal	James Gaver
	Okla. City	Evangel	Sept. 7-21	Danny Sheaffer	Floyd L. Poag
Oreg.	Bend	A of G	Sept. 2—	John Everett & wife	Everett Oip
Pa.	Brookville	First	Sept. 9-14	Harvey McAlister	Vernon Boyer
	Clarks Summit	A of G	Sept. 10-21	D. J. Paglia & wife	David Laquintano
	Irwin	Pentecostal	Sept. 1-14	Musical Vanderploegs	J. L. Pittman
Texas	Bay City	First	Sept. 14—	LeRoy Fleck	R. E. Ferguson
	Cleveland	Hi-Way Tab.	Sept. 7-21	B. P. Carroll	M. A. Cowey
	Levelland	A of G	Sept. 14—	Winferd Mack	Ted Vassar
	Sunray	A of G	Sept. 7—	J. W. Farmer	W. F. McCleskey
Va.	Endicott	A of G	Sept. 14-28	W. F. Voodre	Willard Mullins
	Remington	A of G	Sept. 9-21	L. K. Dodge	David Messick
Wash.	Pt. Orchard	Orchard Hghts.	Sept. 7-21	Warren D. Combs	Frank J. Schoonover
	Wenatchee	A of G	Sept. 9-21	H. C. MacDonald	L. R. White
Wisc.	Milwaukee	Lakeside	Sept. 2-14	Musical Mathan's	Lloyd Christiansen
	Viroqua	A of G	Sept. 2-21	Joel Palmer & wife	Paul C. Ade
China	Hong Kong	A of G	Sept. 14—	F. A. & Inez Sturgeon	H. A. Park

* Children's revival

Announcements should reach the Department of Evangelism 30 days in advance, due to the fact that *THE PENTECOSTAL EVANGEL* is made up 24 days before the date which appears upon it.

and practice it. During the church services an invitation is given for any who are sick to kneel at the altar and let the elders pray over them, "anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord" (James 5:14). As the Lord answers prayer in an evident and tangible fashion, it is understandable that shouts of thanksgiving to God may follow. "Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all the earth: make a loud noise, and rejoice, and sing praise" (Psalm 98:4). There is a fraternal fellowship among Pentecostal people that is sweet and precious. It is indeed the "communion of the Holy Ghost" (2 Corinthians 13:14).

This individual experience of real salvation, this personal infilling with the Holy Ghost and His constant indwelling, this audience participation, this specific application and appropriation at a general altar service—all these

characteristics make a Pentecostal church different from others. The people are different, too. They enjoy their religion, they practice it, and they propagate it. No wonder the Pentecostal churches are growing and multiplying everywhere. They welcome the moving of the Holy Ghost in their lives and in their meetings, and it is His power that brings success. It was ever thus, and thus it ever will be.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BI-SECTIONAL REVIVALTIME RALLY and 6th ANNIVERSARY at the First Assemblies of God Church, Brookville, Pennsylvania, Friday, September 12 at 7:45 p.m. C. M. Ward, speaker.—by Vernon P. Boyer, Pastor

ANNUAL HOMECOMING—Sept. 6-7 at Assembly of God, Conway, Mo. C. M. Ward speaking Sunday morning. Former pastors speaking both nights.—by Gordon Zercher, Pastor.

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JESUS IS COMING

By W. E. Blackstone

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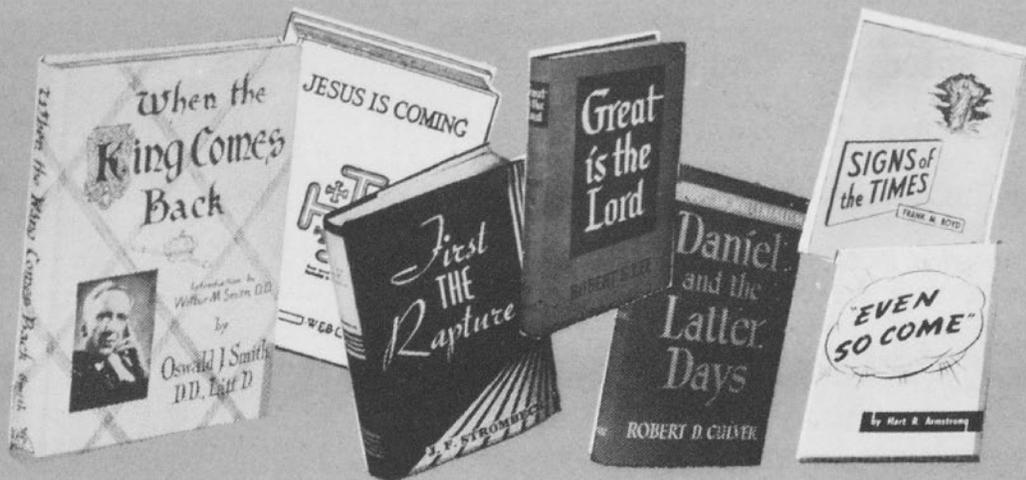
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By J. F. Strombeck

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"Behold, I
come quickly. . . ."

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The Middle East in Prophecy

(Continued from page five)

ing the Greeks, and France and Italy the Turkish Nationalists. The divergence of interest and opinion resulted in the resumption of the Greek-Turkish conflict. The Greeks were driven out and the Turks were hardly restrained from attacking the British occupying forces in Constantinople. Sober counsels prevailed and the armistice of Mudania resulted on October 1, 1922.

From this point on through two peace conferences at Lausanne we see the anomaly of a nation absolutely defeated in the World War treating with the great western nations as their equal and receiving practically all her demands. Among these was her insistence on receiving the promise of Thrace in Europe, once in the kingdom of Lysimachus of the "former time." *Today, Turkey occupies exactly the old territory of Lysimachus and fulfills "the latter time" of that kingdom.*

GREECE

In 1829, through the intervention of France, England and Russia, Greece regained her independence from Turkey and has continued a *sovereign nation to the present day.*

EGYPT

Egypt was lost to Turkey in 1866. British influence was predominant for many years. At the opening of World War I Britain proclaimed a protectorate over Egypt. In August 1920 the independence and sovereign status of Egypt was recognized and Fuad II ascended the throne as king. On February 28, 1922, the British protectorate was fully terminated. At the death of Fuad his son Farouk became king. He was not an able ruler but more of a playboy. He gave little attention to the affairs of state and the welfare of the poverty-stricken Egyptian felaheen. British troops were stationed in Egypt for many years ostensibly to guard the Suez Canal. In 1952 Farouk was deposed and exiled by the coup planned and executed by the present president of Egypt, Gamel Abdel Nasser. British troops were withdrawn and Egypt is now free of all foreign domination. Nasser proclaimed the nationalization

of the Suez Canal which created quite an international ruckus and led to the abortive attack of French and British troops against the Canal area in 1956. But the attacking forces were withdrawn through U.S. and United Nations influence. Now Nasser is the strong man of the Middle East. *Egypt is the third of these "latter time" kingdoms.*

SYRIA

Encouraged by promises of the Allies, those Arabs who had fought alongside them believed they would now be liberated. The leaders of Emir Feisal's forces formed a secret society called the Ahd al Iraqi, dedicated to obtain the absolute independence of Iraq, federated with an independent Syria, under control of King Hussein, grandfather of the present ruler of Jordan. Arab aspirations seemed to be realized when an Arab state, headed by Feisal, was established in Damascus, subject only to the British occupying forces. But these national ambitions of the Arabs were decidedly inconvenient for the Great Powers, which had become parties to secret treaties during the wartime.

In March 1920 Feisal was proclaimed King of Syria at Damascus, but in four months was deposed by French forces. Feisal, though forced to relinquish his throne, asserted that he would return some day. By the Treaty of Versailles Britain was given the mandate over Iraq (Mesopotamia) and Feisal was made king of that country.

The French assumed the mandate over Syria and the country was administered for many years after 1920 by French military and civilian high commissioners. Syrian opposition to the French was intense, expressed by continuous brigandage. The country was in a state of political and religious unrest for several years. The French offered Syria independence in 1936, but factional strife greatly hindered setting up a stable government.

Then came World War II. British and French troops drove the Vichy French (those dominated by Germany) out of Syria in 1941. *Syria was declared an independent republic.* In 1943 the people elected a President; and despite trouble stirred up by Syrian army leaders, Syrian independence and stability was assured.

Now comes the union of Egypt and Syria (1958) in the United Arab Republic, the overthrow of the Husseini family in Iraq, and the establishing of

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MISCELLANEOUS

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a republic in Baghdad. Arab leaders of Syria and Iraq have for years desired a close union of both countries and have now signed a mutual defense pact. That this should occur is no surprise, especially as these two countries comprised *the domain of Seleucus, one of Alexander the Great's generals.*

Thus is the political stage being set for "the latter time" of those ancient kingdoms of Daniel 8 and the actors, we believe, are in their dressing rooms awaiting their cues to appear. From this Middle Eastern area it would seem that the final "little horn" or world ruler, often called Antichrist, will appear. He at first will profess to be a friend of restored Israel, but will betray them and persecute them. Jacob's trouble (Jeremiah 30:4-9) will follow, but the Jews "shall be saved out of it."

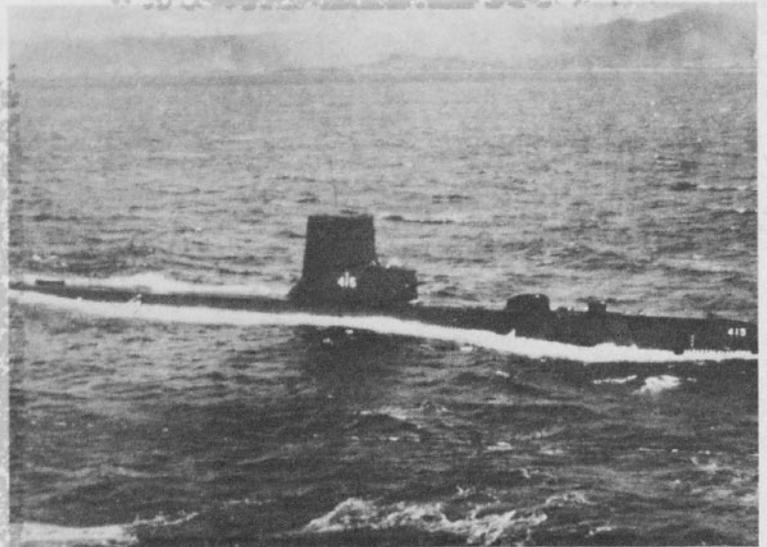
We dare to predict that Hussein, king of Jordan, will lose his kingdom, and that Israel will take over this territory west of the Jordan River as well as the old city of Jerusalem. "Jacob's trouble" will soon follow.

Before that time, however, the Church will be raptured. Are we ready for that momentous event? The King is on His way. Are we ready to stand before Him? ◀ ◀

A True Story of Answered Prayer

BY ELDON VINCENT

Pastor, First Assembly of God, Honolulu, Hawaii



The USS Stickleback

OUT OF THE DEPTHS

I WAS GLAD TO SEE GENE LENNOX IN THE SERVICE on Sunday morning, June 1, but I didn't know till later just how nearly he had missed being there.

He began his testimony in our church that evening with these words: "Aboard the submarine *Stickleback* we had been schooled to realize that the occasion might come when an officer would have to give an order which would mean sacrificing the lives of the men in one compartment to save the lives of those in the other two. But I didn't know that such an order would come so soon, or that I would be among the expendable ones."

It had happened on May 29, 1958, while the submarine *Stickleback* was on maneuvers with the destroyer *Silverstein* about twenty miles southwest of the island of Oahu of the Hawaiian Chain.

The *Stickleback* had just fired a practice torpedo at the destroyer when the *Silverstein* changed course and started bearing down on the *Stickleback* for a simulated depth charge attack.

The captain of the submarine ordered submersion to a depth of 200 feet at flank speed to out-manuever the attacking destroyer. As the submarine was in a 15-degree angle proceeding to flank speed, the two battery wells, which were its only source of power, were lost through an electrical mechanical failure. This rendered the submarine powerless and caused it to sink in an increasing down-angle beyond ordered depth.

Both forward and after ballast tanks were blown in an attempt to stop the plunge and to stabilize the submarine. However, this also resulted in a buoyancy which caused the *Stickleback* to surface uncontrollably and placed it directly in the path of the oncoming destroyer.

Upon impact, the destroyer cut through the tanks and pressure hull of the wallowing submarine.

The control room and forward battery compartments started flooding immediately, and the *Stickleback* was

rigged for collision. A desperate effort was made to check the flooding but to no avail.

At this point the senior officer gave the order to close the door to the forward battery compartment and thus sacrifice six lives to save fourteen others. Gene Lennox was one of the six men locked in the battery compartment. As the waters swirled higher around his ankles and legs, he prayed, "O God, if this is it, I am ready in my heart to go; but if you will save us, I will do whatever is your will for my life."

The water continued to rise, but God heard the prayer of His child out of the depths of the sea. At that very moment, a junior officer in the forward torpedo room took it upon himself to push the senior officer aside (a rare thing in the Navy) and unlock the door, liberating the six men.

Sea water spilled over the doorsill knee high as the last man dived into the forward torpedo room. The door was quickly closed again and locked. In a matter of minutes the battery room was completely flooded, but Gene Lennox and his friends had been delivered from certain death in answer to prayer.

A few minutes later the entire crew of the *Stickleback* were taken aboard the *Silverstein*. By sundown that day the *Stickleback* had made her final dive into the depths to the bottom of the sea—without Gene Lennox and his five shipmates.

Gene concluded his testimony to our congregation by saying, "I realize now how quickly life can end, and I know my life is no longer my own. It belongs to God, every bit of it."

"Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's" (1 Corinthians 6:19, 20).