

The Pentecostal EVANGEL

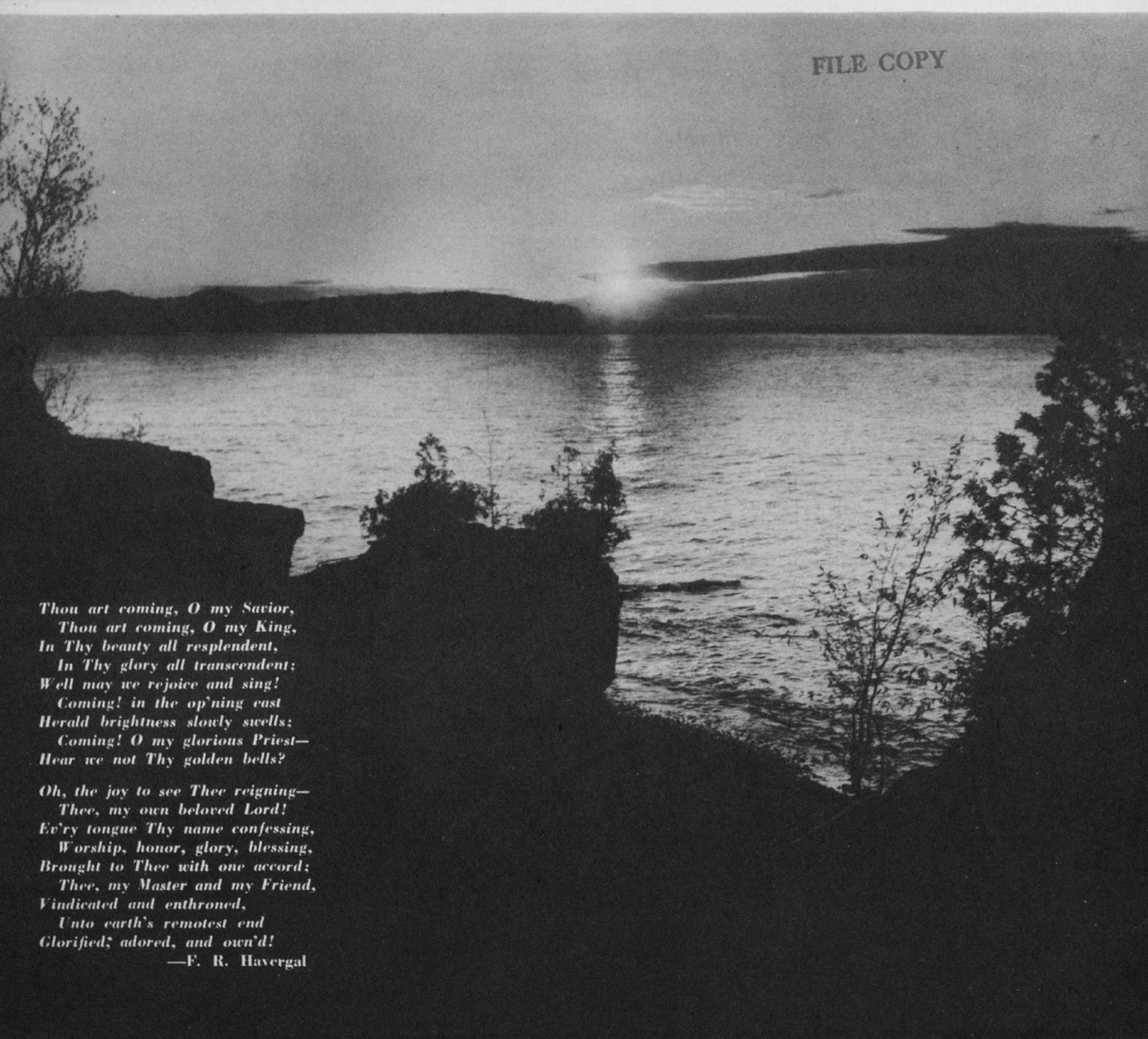
NOT BY MIGHT,
NOR BY POWER,
BUT BY MY SPIRIT,
SAITH THE LORD

PRICE 10 CENTS . . .

Weekly Voice of the Assemblies of God

. . . July 19, 1959

FILE COPY



*Thou art coming, O my Savior,
Thou art coming, O my King,
In Thy beauty all resplendent,
In Thy glory all transcendent:
Well may we rejoice and sing!
Coming! in the op'ning east
Herald brightness slowly swells;
Coming! O my glorious Priest—
Hear we not Thy golden bells?*

*Oh, the joy to see Thee reigning—
Thee, my own beloved Lord!
Ev'ry tongue Thy name confessing,
Worship, honor, glory, blessing,
Brought to Thee with one accord;
Thee, my Master and my Friend,
Vindicated and enthroned,
Unto earth's remotest end
Glorified, adored, and own'd!*

—F. R. Havergal

PHOTO BY LLOYD LUTEY, MARQUETTE, MICHIGAN

In This Issue—

- ▶ A Most Important Question
- ▶ Cancer Disappears
- ▶ Act Your Faith
- ▶ Why I Believe in Divine Healing

A Sacred Symbol

When Evangelist Billy Graham visited Moscow recently he saw some things he had not expected to see. Right in the Kremlin, the seat of Russia's atheistic government, he found church buildings surmounted with golden crosses and embellished with religious paintings.

As he watched Russians looking at wall paintings of Christ in one ancient church, he said, "That is a very moving sight. To see His picture here in the very heart of the Kremlin is a tender, moving thing. . . . When I see Him on the cross I am deeply moved. Never, never did I expect to find this in the Kremlin."

The evangelist was greatly impressed also by the large golden crosses surmounting the old churches. "Here I am standing right in the center of the Kremlin, and there against the sky are the golden crosses of Christ," he said. "There is a symbol I never expected to see. I hope it has meaning for the future."

Some would attach very little significance to such a thing as a cross on a cold, dead church. They would say men would be better off without any golden crosses, inasmuch as some people venerate them as objects of worship while others despise them as symbols of a lifeless, ritualistic religion. It is true, a cross is only a symbol. And symbols have no power in themselves. A wedding band worn on the finger is only a symbol; it cannot guarantee marital happiness and faithfulness. A flag hanging from a window is only a symbol; it cannot protect or produce loyalty in men's hearts. People do not necessarily derive the correct meaning from a symbol. Therefore we are wise to refrain from displaying crosses in our Pentecostal places of worship. Better to have Christ in our midst than to have an empty cross on our church. Better a vibrant spiritual experience in our lives than merely a gold cross on our lapels. But if any symbol of Christianity were needed, none would be better than a simple cross. The cross signifies the common ground on which all Christians can meet, and it symbolizes the sacrificial spirit which should dominate all true followers of the Lord. After all, the cross is the symbol God Himself chose by which to demonstrate His redeeming love to a wayward world.

The cross is a symbol of God's perfect holiness. It reminds us that sin is so repulsive, so obnoxious and intolerable to God that the sinner must die.

At the same time, the cross symbolizes God's measureless love for mankind, reminding us that He gave His beloved and only Son to be the sinner's Substitute, to die on a cross of shame to save us from eternal death.

The cross is also a symbol of the way of salvation—the only way by which a sinner may come to God and receive from Him a clean heart and a new life. The cross signifies that the price of our redemption has been paid in full. It speaks of divine grace by which man may know he is reconciled to his Maker.

Would that all the people in the Kremlin might realize these truths when they gaze up at those golden crosses!

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CONTENTS

| | |
|--|-------------------------|
| How Keith's Wish Came True | 3 |
| A Most Important Question Roy H. Wead | 4 |
| Why I Believe in Divine Healing George E. Holmes | 6 |
| Act Your Faith | Zelma Argue 8 |
| Why Anoint with Oil? Bernice M. Gerard | 9 |
| This Present World | Harold C. Mintle 10 |
| Living in God's Will | E. S. Williams 12 |
| Home Missions News | Ruth Lyon 14 |
| The Christian Home | 16 |
| Foreign Missions News | Ray Brock 18 |
| Sunday School Lesson | J. B. Bishop 20 |
| Will the Laymen Be There? | E. S. Christoffersen 22 |
| Revivaltime News | C. M. Ward 24 |
| News of Evangelism | Don Mallough 26 |
| Somebody Has to Pay for It | Edwin Orr 30 |
| Interruptions | Elva M. Johnson 32 |

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How Keith's Wish Came True

Nine-year-old Keith Brown longed to run and play with the other boys, but there seemed to be no hope whatever that his wish would come true—until God intervened.

MIRACLES DO HAPPEN! AND THERE is one little fellow by the name of Keith Brown who knows about them first hand.

Keith is the nine-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Brown of Gonic, N. H. Two years ago little Keith lay in his bed without much hope of ever walking and running again like other children. He suffered from a disease known as Legg-Perthes.

The blood was not getting to the ball of his leg where it fits into the socket of the hip. The ball became soft and mushy. When Keith stepped on the leg, his weight pushed it up into the socket and the leg became "shorter."

These were difficult years for Keith, who would lie in bed and wish with all his heart that he could run and play with other youngsters. He was treated by doctors, but the opinion was that he would never be completely cured.

Last year he left his bed and began to hobble around on crutches enough so that he could attend the Gonic elementary school. He worked hard at his studies, but he longed to play like other youngsters.

Then something happened, and right now, today, Keith is running and jumping, and having the time of his life. His doctor says his condition is apparently cured.

Medical scientists and theologians may differ in their opinion as to what happened to heal Keith's leg, but there is no doubt in Keith's mind, nor that of his parents, nor his pastor, nor a woman who prayed for Keith.

It all started last February when the Men's Fellowship at the Assembly of God church on Pearl street began to offer prayers for Keith. Something came over them and they were con-

vinced that the boy would get well, says Rev. J. Franklin Lenentine, his pastor.

Then on Wednesday, April 15, Keith and his parents along with his brother, David, 12, and his sister, Martha, 13, went to an evening prayer meeting at the church. Mrs. Carrie B. Hunsberger of Fort Wayne, Ind., was there in a revival campaign.

Mrs. Hunsberger had prayed for the sick and the maimed on previous occasions, and a number of them had been healed. That evening she was offering prayers for those in the Dover congregation.

Keith's mother had told him not to enter the line of people seeking the healing hand of God unless he really and sincerely felt down inside that he should do so. The boy sat in a pew and watched the line diminish.

Mrs. Brown says that while she wasn't looking, Keith hobbled up to Mrs. Hunsberger and stood there. The woman knelt before him and placed her hands on his leg, and prayed.

"I felt warm all over," says Keith, and "I knew that I was well."

He handed Mrs. Hunsberger his crutches, and with tears in his eyes he began to walk away. Suddenly he broke into a run and flung himself into his mother's arms.

"You should have seen him," says Pastor Lenentine. "He raced up and down the steps inside the church, and everybody began to cry. They had all been praying hard for little Keithie for a long time, and it struck all of us."

Mr. and Mrs. Brown say they are sure that it was God who has healed their son. However, they don't discount the medical treatment, and explain that there had been improvement after the Men's Fellowship had prayed for him.



Keith Brown and his mother (right) are happy over his wonderful healing. Evangelist Carrie B. Hunsberger holds the crutches Keith used before God miraculously healed his legs in April.

But it was that night with Mrs. Hunsberger that it finally happened, say Keith's mother and father. Their faces shine when they tell what happened to their son, and there is no doubt in them.

Both parents declined to have any public mention made of the story until after the family doctor had given Keith his regular six-month check-up, including X rays. This was done a week ago today.

The doctor declared Keith was apparently cured. He declined to have his name used publicly or to comment on the case for publication. "It's a wonderful thing that the boy has the faith," says the doctor.

And so it is that miracles happen.

(The foregoing story is reprinted, by permission, from the front page of "Foster's Daily Democrat," a newspaper published in Dover, N. H.—issue of May 9, 1959. The local Assemblies of God pastor, J. F. Lenentine, waited six weeks after the healing occurred before submitting the story for publication in the Pentecostal Evangel. Brother Lenentine says the authenticity of the account has been verified by X rays and by statements of the attending physician and specialists as well.)

A Most Important Question

An Address by ROY H. WEAD at Central Bible Institute

"While the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them, saying, What think ye of Christ? whose son is he? They say unto him, The son of David" (Matthew 22:41, 42).

ANYBODY CAN ASK QUESTIONS, BUT not all questions are significant. A child can ask more questions than parents can ever answer. A fool can ask questions a wise man cannot answer.

The Word of God tells us we should avoid "foolish and unlearned questions" because they precipitate strife. However, some people are much more concerned over where Cain got his wife than over their soul's salvation or the will of God for their lives. The Sadducees and Pharisees often tried to tempt Christ by asking difficult questions involving government and politics or some disputed theological doctrine. Christ always had an answer that put them to silence.

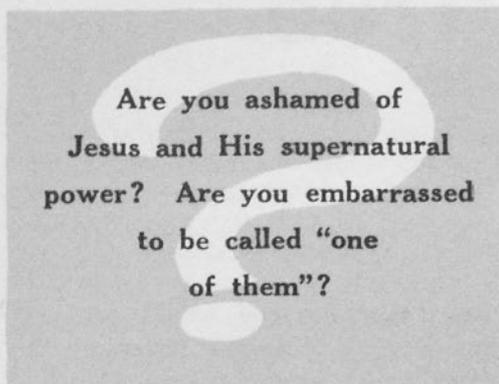
Shortly before Jesus asked the significant question quoted above, a lawyer asked Him, "Which is the great commandment in the law?" Jesus answered, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

Jesus boiled the whole thing down to that which was really important, to that which was vital. And He could do the same thing when He was asking questions.

I want to call your attention to this one vital question of Christ's—the answer to which will determine your soul's destiny. It will determine the success or failure of your Christian experience. Upon the answer to this question hangs the success or failure of the Church and her mission to the world.

"What think ye of Christ? Whose son is he?"

He had previously asked the disciples, "Whom do men say that I am?" They replied, "Some say John the Bap-



tist, some Elias, other Jeremias, or one of the prophets." These were all good guesses, but they were not the right answers. Then Jesus asked Peter the question and he replied, "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God."

Many people today are coming up with varied answers that fall short of the truth. Some say Christ was the greatest Teacher that ever lived. Some that He was a prophet sent from God; others, the perfect Man, the perfect Example. But there is only one right answer and that must be revealed to you, even as it was to Peter, by God the Father:

Christ is the Son of God, the only begotten of the Father. He took upon Himself the form of man that He might die to redeem us from our bondage, forgive us, deliver us, and make us new creatures.

Each of us must comprehend and decide for ourselves the answer to this question: Is Christ the eternal Son of God, creator of the earth and all that is therein; co-existent with the Father from the beginning; coming to earth in the flesh, demonstrating and proving His Sonship by mighty miracles, signs, and wonders with all power in heaven and earth committed unto Him and from Him to the Church? Is He alive and at the right hand of the Father, present with us in the Holy Spirit to save men's souls, make them new creatures, deliver them from all sin, sickness, and power of the devil—or is He, as many say, just another wonderful man whose example should inspire us to live better and hope for the best?

Upon your personal answer to Christ's vital question rests your success or failure. What think ye of Christ? Whose son is He?

I used to be perplexed by the words of 1 John 4:1-3, "Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God. . . . Every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world." I thought it must apply to some demon-possessed person frothing at the mouth, out of natural control. We like to make things apply to others than ourselves, or at least to keep things general instead of personal.

But here is what it means: No spirit of doubt and fear and unbelief of God's written word that comes to us individually or as a Church is of God. That was Satan's method in the beginning when he raised a doubt in Eve's mind with the question, "Hath God said?"

That was the great sin of Israel. The evil report of the ten spies of unbelief against God's Word was, "We are not able. . . . We will perish." And God was displeased.

But that which witnesses with your spirit that Christ is come in the flesh as the Son of God to save His people, deliver them, free them from sin, sickness, and all power of the devil, is the Spirit of God. And that is the answer to the need of the Church today.

I like the new Amplified translation of Hebrews 13:7-9, "Remember your leaders and superiors in authority, for it was they who brought to you the Word of God. Observe attentively and consider their manner of living—the outcome of their well-spent lives—and imitate their faith, that is, their conviction that God exists and is the Creator and Ruler of all things, the Provider and Bestower of eternal salvation through Christ; and their leaning of the entire human personality on God in absolute trust and confidence in His power, wisdom, and goodness. Jesus Christ, the Messiah, is always

the same, yesterday, today, yes, and forever; to the ages. Do not be carried about by different and varied and alien teachings."

A few weeks ago I sat with the congregation in a foreign country, a heathen land. The evangelist, an American, was preaching to over a thousand nationals, many of them heathen. In the midst of his message he challenged them in this manner: "My God says, 'If ye abide in me and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will and it shall be done unto you.'" He quoted other scriptures of promise and deliverance, then he said, "God is not a liar. I am his servant. If I pray for this man and he is not healed or delivered, then you know I am not God's servant or God's Word is not true. I say to this man, 'Get up and walk, leave your bed, be whole in Jesus' Name.'"

I confess to you that I felt a momentary fear, but soon recognized God's presence so that I was not at all surprised when that man got up immediately and walked, praising God. Hallelujah!

I used to be somewhat disturbed about Matthew 7:21-23, which says, "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name have done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity."

I wondered how it could be that Christ will say to men that manifest the power and anointing of God, "I never knew you?" Upon closer examination, however, I note that this applies to unregenerate folk that never knew real salvation and the power of a living God. He speaks of people who in the name of the Lord have preached and established schools and driven out the darkness of superstition, built hospitals, brought civilization to the heathen, and done many

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wonderful works worthy of praise in the name of Jesus and Christianity, but without the power of God and real salvation.

To these He must say, "Depart—I never knew you." They did many wonderful works, but neglected the one thing needful. They never knew a living, saving, miracle-working, powerful Christ. They did not know He was the Son of God come in the flesh to redeem man.

But what think ye of Christ? What do you as an individual think of Him? Is He the living God come in the flesh to redeem you and give you power to live above sin; to forgive you, make you a new creature, deliver you from all power of the devil and set you free? Or is He just another great man to whose teaching you give mental assent but actually deny the real power thereof?

Another important question Jesus asked was in Mark 8:36, 37: "For

what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?" And then He went on to say, "Whosoever therefore shall be ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation; of him also shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he cometh in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

Notice, He says we must not be ashamed of Him nor of His Word. Some people like to explain away the miracles, the supernatural of the Word. It embarrasses them.

Are you ashamed of Jesus? Are you embarrassed to be called "one of them"? Then He will not acknowledge you before His Father. If you acknowledge Him, answer this question rightly and say, "I believe that thou art the Christ; forgive me of my sin and unbelief and come into my life." He will save you to the uttermost. ◀◀

An Octogenarian Testifies

I AM EIGHTY-TWO YEARS OLD AND have trusted God for health and healing for many years. Some months ago I became ill while visiting my sister in Virginia. The doctor was called and he gave me some medicine but I kept getting worse. I was running a high temperature, had no appetite, and ached all over.

I was taken to the hospital, and for three days I was fed intravenously. Every hour the nurse took my temperature, and when I asked the reading she would only say it was over 100 degrees.

My cousin called to Lodi, Calif., and asked the church there to pray for me on Thursday evening. That day they also prayed for me at the church in Abingdon, Va. That night I did not think I would live until the next morning, so I told the Lord, "Not my will, but Thine be done."

At that time I did not know they were having prayer for me in either church but I went to sleep after midnight, and when I awoke the sun was shining in the room. I had no fever, no aches or pains, and I was hungry. I asked the nurse for breakfast. She brought me plenty of breakfast and I

ate it all. I was so weak she had to feed me, and she fed me again at noon, but in the evening I fed myself.

Within a few days I came home on a plane to Lodi.

This is not the only time the Lord has healed me. I suffered from bronchial asthma in 1933 to the extent that I was taking as many as eighty-five shots of adrenalin in a twenty-four-hour period. One night the doctor pronounced me dead from this trouble, but I was brought back to life and healed by the power of God.

In 1947, I was suffering from arthritis, and could not move my head at all, nor lift my hands above my mouth. I suffered so much at night that sometimes I wished I might go to sleep and not wake up. Then one night God came and took all those aches and pains away in just a few minutes. I have never had an arthritic pain since that time. Praise His blessed name! I know that God is no respecter of persons, and that what He has done for me He will do for others also if they will trust Him.—W. J. Larimer, 309 Maple St., Lodi, Calif.

(Endorsed by Pastor Gene Forrest, First Assembly of God, Lodi, Calif.)

Why I Believe in DIVINE HEALING

BY GEORGE E. HOLMES

Palo Alto, California

NOT SO LONG AGO IF ONE MENTIONED the possibility of healing, apart from the use of means, in a group of average Christian people, it would have been coldly received. One would have been considered an extremist, rather to be humored than taken seriously. But today there is scarcely a section of the Church of Christ that is not giving attention to the subject.

Divine healing is not reserved for one section of the Church; it is the privilege of all who will believe the truth of the Bible. If men refuse the privilege because of problems that arise they are the poorer, but multitudes will affirm that with all the difficulties the principles of Divine Healing are too obvious to be ignored.

1. *I believe in Divine Healing because God has always been willing to heal.*

Scan the pages of God's Book and you will see this is so. One or two occurrences spring at once to mind. In answer to Abraham's prayer, God healed Abimelech, his wife, and servants. Miriam, Moses' sister, because of her contentious spirit, was smitten with leprosy. This terrible disease would have consumed her had not Moses cried, saying, "Heal her now, O God, I beseech thee." The warrior Naaman, upon submitting to the prophet's requirements, was miraculously healed of a like disease. These are instances from the Old Testament; the New Testament records abound with illustrations too numerous to mention.

2. *I believe in Divine Healing because of the origin of sickness.*

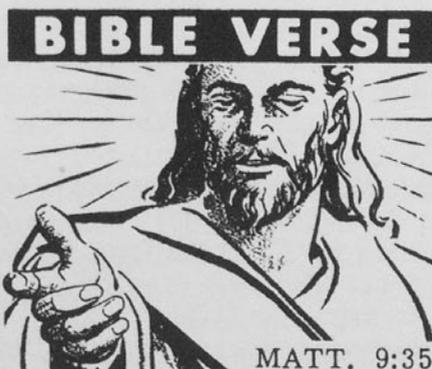
On that terrible day when sin entered the world, sickness closely followed. Hand in hand they stalk through life reaping a terrible harvest. As a result of Adam's transgression the human body became liable to corruption, of which disease and illness are the

first stages. Satan, who is responsible for introducing sin into this world, is also responsible for sickness. That he is given authority, within limits, to afflict the bodies and minds of men, is made clear in the story of Job. Jesus Christ, too, recognized this fact as when, for instance, confronted with the bowed and distorted body of a woman, He referred to her as "this woman whom Satan hath bound."

If we could say no more than that sickness is the work of the devil how hopeless the picture would be, but hope streams from heaven for all the oppressed because "the Son of God was manifested that He might *destroy* the works of the devil." Is it unreasonable to expect evidence of such destruction now?

3. *I believe in Divine Healing because Jesus Christ has provided deliverance in His redemption.*

We read in Matthew 8:16, 17 that Jesus "healed all that were sick: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, Himself took our infirmities and bare our sicknesses." The world's great Sin Bearer was also the world's greatest Sickness Bearer. Do you believe He bore your



And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people.

sins in His body upon the cross? Then trust Him for your diseases too.

4. *I believe in Divine Healing because spiritual and physical well-being are related.*

This is no new discovery, although it may be a re-discovery. Throughout the Bible the prophets, apostles, and the Saviour Himself all teach the dependence of the physical upon the spiritual.

"Who forgiveth all thine iniquities, who healeth all thy diseases," glories the triumphant David.

"Whether is it easier, to say to the sick of the palsy, Thy sins be forgiven thee; or to say, Arise, and take up thy bed, and walk?" challenges the mighty Saviour.

"Beloved," intercedes the loving John, "I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth."

5. *I believe in Divine Healing because God would not give ordinance and spiritual gift to the Church needlessly.*

"Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord: and the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up" (James 5:14, 15).

This ordinance to the Church is surely as binding as those of communion and baptism. If it were not God's intention to heal, this ordinance would be superfluous.

There are "gifts of healing" (1 Corinthians 12:9) given by the Holy Spirit to the Church. Many would have us believe that the gifts of the Spirit were only for the "apostolic era;" that is, for the lifetime of the apostles. But the New Testament does not support this view, and witnesses who are above suspicion leave no room for doubt that "the miraculous powers of the apostolic age continued to operate at least into the third century." Moreover, history teaches us that whenever there has been a revival of primitive faith and practice, miracles and gifts have occurred. If God equips men and women with such faith, then it must be His purpose to heal.

These are not far-fetched reasons, but straightforward inferences from Bible statements. May the light of truth scatter the darkness of unbelief and generate faith in the power of the living Christ. ◀◀

Cancer Disappears

By L. A. MESSICK

Fort Collins, Colorado

ONE DAY ABOUT THREE YEARS AGO Gene and Judy Dyck came to our parsonage with heavy hearts. Their two children were too young to sense the fear that had prompted the visit, but as their pastor I knew they were deeply disturbed. After the first few pleasant remarks, the young mother said hesitantly, "Pastor, you know I haven't been feeling well of late?"

"Yes, I know that."

"Well, we have just come from the doctor's office where I received some unpleasant news."

I waited.

"He says that the X rays definitely show cancer in the colon, and two or three nearby spots indicate the probability of the same thing."

Long years of experience "schooled" my expression in this tense moment. Two pairs of eyes, bright with just a suggestion of tears, turned hopefully toward mine. Here were people grasping for a straw, for a suggestion of hope, for faith.

"Well," I suggested quietly. "Maybe he has made a mistake in reading the X ray. Even doctors make a mistake once in a while."

"Yes, I know," replied the young mother. "I asked about that, but he says there isn't a possibility of a mistake this time, so—I guess I have—cancer."

We assured them of our concern, and after a time of earnest prayer together, my wife and I watched the little family drive away.

We prayed often during the next month, and the doctors gave the best treatments they had to offer. But further X rays showed no improvement at all.

The Sunday following these X rays, God graciously manifested His presence in the services of the church. A

real spirit of praise seemed to fill every heart and even the building itself. God spoke to us through tongues and interpretations urging us not to be afraid, assuring us that He would show us great and mighty things.

The fear that had clutched the heart of the young mother began to relax its grip and her faith was stimulated. She hurried forward to be anointed with oil in obedience to James 5:14, and we joined in prayer for her. It seemed that heaven came down into that building. All were moved upon by the Spirit of God and the glory of God filled our souls.

The days dragged by slowly, however, until time for another trip to the doctor's office for more X rays. Mrs. Dyck's steps were a little lighter this time, for faith was conquering her fears. The X rays were taken and the seemingly interminable wait for the report began.

Then, once again the Dyck car was parked in front of the parsonage. There were hurried steps and a brief knock at the door, but before we could open it, Judy Dyck seemed to burst into the room. "Oh, Pastor," she exclaimed, "I have just come from the doctor's office and he told me he didn't know how to explain what has happened,

but that I have no further cause to worry. The new X rays show NO TRACE OF CANCER!"

That first visit had ended in an earnest prayer meeting, but this one called for heartfelt praise to our wonderful God.

Later the doctor requested me to come to his office to discuss this remarkable answer to prayer. I did so, and he showed me all the X rays, pointed out where he believed the cancer had been, and why. Then he showed me the final X ray that indicated the removal of the spots. He could not, and did not try to deny that a notable thing had taken place.

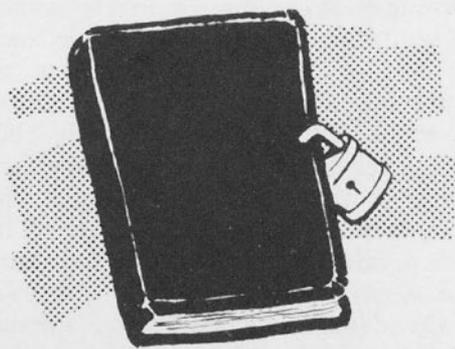
This healing occurred about three years ago. Mrs. Dyck has had no further trouble, and is in good health. She and her husband are members of First Assembly of God at Fort Collins, Colorado. ◀◀

Growth Is Gone After Prayer

Mrs. Mary Andrews of Henryetta, Okla., has enjoyed the blessings of Pentecost for twenty-five years. She has recently proved the Lord as her Healer after suffering for years from a recurring growth on her neck. It first appeared as a large wart, which a doctor removed. Twelve years later a large knot formed in the same place and burst into a painful open sore. When she was anointed and prayed for, it disappeared; but later the trouble recurred, apparently worse than before.

One Sunday morning, at the close of the worship service, Pastor H. A. Strange and a group of Christians laid their hands on her and prayed again. The pain stopped and Mrs. Andrews forgot about the trouble. Two days later she remembered, and felt of the place. The knot was gone! Looking into the mirror she could find no sign of the growth whatever. That was over a year and a half ago and today there is not even a scar to show where the growth had been. Mrs. Andrews, who is now seventy-seven years old, gives all the glory to Jesus for this deliverance.

(Endorsed by Pastor H. A. Strange, First Assembly of God, Henryetta, Okla.)



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ACT YOUR FAITH



IN MATTHEW 14:36 WE READ OF Jesus, "And when the men of that place had knowledge of him, they sent out into all that country round about, and brought unto him all that were diseased; and besought him that they might only touch the hem of his garment: and *as many as touched were made perfectly whole.*"

Jesus always expected those who desired healing or other help from Him to do something about it. If they cared enough and believed enough to ask for help, then He responded by challenging them to act out their faith. It was "*as many as touched*" who were made whole on this occasion. They acted out their faith.

He expects us to act *promptly*. When He called Peter and Andrew to follow Him they were busy, but straightway they left their nets and followed Him. Going on, He saw James and John in a ship with their father, mending their nets, and He called them. Immediately they left the ship and their father, and followed Him. Here again was prompt action.

We are to act *in full confidence*. When the children of Israel came to the Red Sea, Moses said confidently, "Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord, which he will show you today. . . . The Lord shall fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace." Moses was acting upon direct word from the Lord. He was not left in confusion. His orders were to be crying to the Lord no longer but to act, and to command the children of Israel to act. "Wherefore criest thou

unto me? Speak unto the children of Israel that they go forward. But lift thou up thy rod, and stretch out thine hand over the sea, and divide it." Moses obeyed in confidence, and stretched out his hand over the sea, "and the children of Israel went into the midst of the sea upon the dry ground."

Elisha had to act his faith in the face of death. Although two futile attempts had been made to raise the dead son of the Shunammite woman, Elisha continued to believe God. He walked to and fro in the room until he knew he was in contact with God and his faith was quickened. Then he acted upon his faith by going to the child and, stretching his body over the dead body of the child, believed God for a miracle. And God responded to his active faith by raising the boy from the dead.

David acted his faith, and suffered considerable humiliation in doing so. He meekly overlooked the fact that his parents did not consider him worth sending to the battle against the Philistines. And when they sent him with supplies to his brothers, he accepted humiliation from his oldest brother Eliab. "Why camest thou down hither . . . with whom hast thou left those few sheep? . . . I know thy pride and the naughtiness of thine heart. Thou art come down that thou mightest see the battle."

He accepted humiliation from King Saul also: "Thou art not able to go against this Philistine to fight with him, for thou art but a youth, and he a man of war." In reply, David

rehearsed the deliverances God had already given him—from the bear and from the lion.

David was put to humiliation by the arrogant words of Goliath who disdained him and cursed him. "Am I a dog, that thou comest to me. . . ?" David's reply was twofold. First he *declared* his faith. "Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield; but I come to thee in the name of the Lord of hosts, whom thou hast defied. This day will the Lord deliver thee into my hand . . . and all this assembly shall know that the Lord saveth not with sword and spear; for the battle is the Lord's."

Then, David *acted* his faith without hesitation. He ran with confidence to meet the enraged Philistine. "When the Philistine arose, and came and drew nigh to meet David, David hasted, and ran to . . . meet the Philistine." The result is well known. "And Saul was afraid of David because the Lord was with him . . . and David behaved himself wisely in all his ways; and the Lord was with him."

Joshua faced the waters of the Jordan and acted his faith. He required the people likewise to act their faith. The priests must dip their feet in the waters of the Jordan while it was still swollen over all its banks in order to see its waters divide. They found that when they obeyed, God did not fail them.

But there were still obstacles on the other side of Jordan. They came to the wall of Jericho and, following orders from the Lord, began what must have seemed a very foolish course of

action to the watchers on the wall. Once around the wall each day the whole army marched, until the seventh day. Then at the seventh time around on the seventh day, "Joshua said unto the people, Shout; for the Lord hath given you the city." They acted their faith. The time had come to shout and they shouted. And amid the blowing of trumpets and the shouts of faith "the wall fell down flat."

Consider the commands of Jesus to the sick and suffering who sought His help. "Rise, take up thy bed and walk," He commanded the man by the pool of Bethesda. And the man did what he could not do before, because now he was acting his faith.

"Stretch forth thine hand," was His command to the man with the withered hand. "And he stretched it forth, and it was restored whole like as the other."

"Go, wash in the pool of Siloam," He said to a blind man, and "he went and washed and came seeing." He acted his faith.

"Go show yourself to the priest," He commanded the ten lepers. "And as they went, they were cleansed."

"Maid, arise," He said to a dead girl, and "she arose straightway."

There is something about acting upon our faith that wins God's response. When the woman with the issue of blood for twelve years came to Jesus to be healed, she disregarded the crowds and pressed her way through until she touched the hem of His garment. She was healed because she acted her faith.

*"She only touched the hem of His garment
As to His side she stole,
Amid the crowd that gathered around Him,
And straightway she was whole.*

*"Oh, touch the hem of His garment,
And thou too shalt be free!
His saving power this very hour
Shall bring new life to thee."*

My earliest camp meeting memories take me back to the world-wide camp meeting in the Arroyo Seco, Los Angeles, at which time my brother Watson and I both were filled with the Spirit in the children's services. Mrs. Woodworth Etter was praying nightly for the sick. I can remember how insistent she was that those who were prayed for lift their hands in praise and give God the glory, and how the power of God came down! In Smith Wigglesworth's early meetings he would insist after praying for someone, "Roon, now, roon! (Run)." Both of these veterans knew the value of acting out one's faith for victory.

Our Lord still requires of us today that we act our faith. And however feeble our act of faith, he sees and responds. "But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him" (Hebrews 11:6). ◀◀

Why Anoint With Oil?

A WOMAN ATTENDING A CHURCH service where the evangelist was praying for the sick was mystified by the anointing oil. She noticed that before praying for an individual the evangelist touched the person with oil.

"What kind of witch's brew is the evangelist using?" she asked herself. She felt sure it was something with magical powers to put people under a spell! Finally her curiosity got the best of her. She stole the bottle of oil from the church pulpit and took it to the druggist to be analyzed! You can imagine how surprised she was when the druggist told her it was pure olive oil.

The woman turned from unbelief and criticism, and accepted Christ as her personal Saviour.

There is no curative power in the anointing oil. It is simply a symbol, used as an act of faith and obedience to the command of God. The Bible says the disciples of Jesus Christ cast out many devils, and anointed with oil many that were sick, and healed them (Mark 6:13). The healing came through the prayer of faith, not through the merits of the oil, for we

By Bernice M. Gerard

Chickasaw, Alabama

read in James 5:14, "Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord: *and the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him.*"

The function of the oil is not to effect a cure by its chemical or medicinal qualities, but to serve as a mighty symbol.

In its symbolic language, the Bible speaks volumes in a single word. For example, John the Baptist said, "Behold the Lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world." John did not need to repeat all that Isaiah had said about the Lamb that was to be brought to the slaughter. That one symbolic word "lamb" brought to mind Isaiah's description of the suffering Saviour and much more beside.

Similarly the one word "rainbow" speaks volumes. When rain and sunshine intertwine to form the colorful

bow, it says to mankind, "I am a token of God's promise that there shall never be another flood to destroy all flesh."

To anoint with oil is to share in a thousand sacred memories of Bible consecration services. Moses was instructed to anoint the altar, the tabernacle, the candlesticks, and other sacred vessels in consecration to God. Not only were objects anointed with oil, but also persons. Aaron and his sons were sprinkled with the anointing oil and with blood for the priestly office. On becoming king, Saul was anointed by Samuel. With that downpour of olive oil came the anointing of God's Spirit and Saul was turned into another man (1 Samuel 10:1). When at Samuel's insistence David was brought from keeping the sheep to be anointed king, *the horn of oil* was emptied on his head and "the spirit of the Lord came upon David from that day forward" (1 Samuel 16:13).

"Find Jehu; take him to a private place. Pour the box of oil on his head and say, 'Thus saith the Lord, I have anointed thee king over Israel.' Then open the door and flee,

(Continued on page twenty-five)



THIS PRESENT WORLD

Bible

TWO HUNDRED COMPLETE BIBLE TV COURSE FOR COLLEGE CREDIT

More than 200 students took final examination at Washington, D. C. in the first Bible course ever offered over television for college credit. Most of the students, who had watched the hour-long lectures each Saturday over a local station, WMAL-TV, passed the course and received two hours of credit which they can apply toward a degree at American University, a Methodist institution, if they so desire. Professor Edward W. Bowman of American University is the teacher.

BEN-GURION STRESSES BIBLE'S ROLE IN ISRAEL'S DEVELOPMENT

Tribute to the key role of the Bible in the colonization and modern development of Israel was paid by Premier David Ben-Gurion at the seventh annual Bible Study Congress in Jerusalem.

Greeting the congress, Mr. Ben-Gurion said, "But for the Bible, Israel would never have returned to its land. . . . No book has ever exerted such influence on any nation as the Bible has on Israel."

Some 1,500 delegates attended the meeting, including farmers, clergymen, and statesmen. The congress is sponsored by the Israel Society for Biblical Research. This year it was devoted to lectures and discussions on the prophetic books of Jeremiah and Ezekiel.

BIBLE STUDY BECOMING VERY POPULAR IN ISRAEL

The Bible study movement in Israel is spreading with ever-increasing popularity. Political and civic leaders, by their own active participation, have invested the Old Testament with newness of relevancy so that today it is very fashionable to be a member of one of the many groups which meet regularly to study the Scriptures.

Among the most recently formed Bible classes is the one held in the Jerusalem residence of the Prime Minister, David Ben-Gurion. It meets on

Saturday nights. Both the Prime Minister and the President of Israel, Ben Zvi, participate actively. The first meeting was devoted to the Book of Joshua. A number of university professors, archeologists, and important national figures were present, but no Rabbis; it was laymen only. The circle was led by the Relieving President of Israel's Supreme Court, Justice Cheshin.

Meanwhile, a Women's Bible Class has been meeting in the home of the President every Monday night for the past four years. This is sponsored by the Pioneer Women's Organization, which also promotes 15 other Bible classes in Jerusalem. At present the women are analyzing the Book of Nehemiah.

Morals

FOUR BILLIONS SPENT ON TOBACCO

Americans spend about 15 per cent more for cigarettes and other tobacco products than they give to all churches and religious and charitable activities. According to the U. S. Department of Agriculture, expenditures for cigarettes and tobacco products total \$4,262,000,000 while money given to religious and charitable causes amounts to only \$3,746,000,000. Tobacco manufacturers make a whopping 26 per cent profit, the government says, while tobacco growers make less than half as much money as the manufacturers.

EVANGELICAL LEADER HITS AT EXPORT OF LURID MAGAZINES

Lurid, pornographic "sex" magazines exported by the United States to newsstands in foreign lands are causing American missionaries great embarrassment and are presenting a seriously distorted view of American life and morals, an official of the National Association of Evangelicals told a House Post Office sub-committee at Washington, D. C.

Dr. Clyde W. Taylor, NAE secretary for public affairs, said that during his recent world tour of missions he found that a large percentage of the

American magazines on display in bookstores and bazaars in India and other lands were of the lurid variety, while Communist magazines displayed on the same racks were beautiful in presentation and moral in content.

He said the American authorities ought to censor the magazines that are exported from this country as carefully as they censor those that are imported.

EDINBURGH SUICIDE RATE ALARMING

Every other day, someone in Edinburgh, Scotland, attempts to commit suicide and every fifth day someone succeeds. In an effort to reduce this madness a group of Edinburgh ministers, psychiatrists and social workers have organized as Telephone Samaritans. They advertise a local telephone number which persons in despair may call any time of the day or night. When a call is received, the operator contacts one of the "Good Samaritans" who immediately visits the caller and, if necessary, summons further help from qualified persons.

Miscellaneous

150,000 CHILDREN MARCH IN HUGE SUNDAY SCHOOL PARADE

A record-breaking parade marked the 130th anniversary of the Brooklyn Sunday School Union with more than 150,000 children, teachers, and other adults participating. Countless thousands watched as the youngsters marched through the streets of Brooklyn. They represented some 500 Protestant Sunday Schools.

Nearly 25,000 other marchers took part in a smaller parade in nearby Queens. In both localities, public elementary schools were shut for the day.

The theme of this year's parade was "Christ Lives, Trust Him," and these four words were inscribed on paper shoulder bands worn by the boys and girls. The words were also depicted on many colorful floats that accompanied the marchers. Mothers marched in the procession, pushing baby carriages or holding very small children

by the hand. A hymn sing and a band concert were held in Prospect Park in connection with the event.

Brooklyn Borough President John Cashmore was chief reviewing officer for this year's parade. With him on the reviewing stand were Mayor Robert F. Wagner of New York and his wife, and other civic and church dignitaries.

CATHOLICS CLAIM LARGE INCREASE

The Official Catholic Directory for 1959 claims a large increase in Roman Catholic Church membership in the U.S. By including the new states of Alaska and Hawaii and counting approximately two million Catholics under the jurisdiction of Francis Cardinal Spellman as Military Vicar, never reported until this year, it puts the church membership at 39,505,475. This figure, which includes infants and people of all ages, is more than three million higher than the membership reported a year ago.

According to the Directory, there were 140,411 adult baptisms (converts to Catholicism) during 1958. It says the U.S. membership of the Roman Catholic Church is now 47.8 per cent higher than it was ten years ago.

ALL-GERMANY PROTESTANT RALLY SCHEDULED

Preparations are under way for an all-Germany Protestant rally to be held in Fulda, West Germany, in early August.

Approximately 100,000 people are expected to attend the opening service of the mammoth rally known as "Kirchentag" (Church Day). On the four succeeding days regular participants may average about 50,000. Goal for the final mass meeting on August 16 is half a million people.

Half of the participants will probably come from East Germany, taking advantage of the opportunity to meet relatives and friends outside the Iron Curtain.

AUSTRALIAN EMPLOYEES FORM CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

In Sydney, Australia, where Billy Graham recently concluded an evangelistic crusade, Christian employees of various businesses have been holding lunch-hour meetings for prayer and Bible study. They have organized The Sydney Christian Employees' Fellowship with units in some seventy business houses, banks, workshops, and insurance offices.

The Fellowship was established to present a strong corporate witness and to help one another to serve Christ.

EVANGEL DEADLINE

... LATE NEWS AT PRESS TIME

Special Events at San Antonio

THE GENERAL COUNCIL OF THE ASSEMBLIES OF GOD will convene in the Municipal Auditorium, San Antonio, Tex., August 26 to September 1. A number of special events are scheduled in addition to the Musicians' Conference that is described on page 28.

THERE WILL BE A SEMINAR for District Sunday School Directors on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, August 24-26.

ALL EVANGELISTS ARE INVITED TO AN EVANGELISTS' SEMINAR which will begin Tuesday evening and continue Wednesday morning with a breakfast session. The meetings will be in the large Crystal Ballroom of the Hotel Hilton.

RADIO REPRESENTATIVES will have a luncheon Wednesday noon at the Gunter Hotel.

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP DIRECTORS will have a breakfast on Friday in the Hotel Hilton (Parlor A) at 7 a.m. CHAPLAINS WILL MEET FOR BREAKFAST the same morning, at the same hotel (Parlor B), at 7:30 a.m.

ALL HOME MISSIONS WORKERS are urged to attend the Home Missions Department breakfast at the Gunter Hotel (north terrace) on Friday, 7 a.m.

FOREIGN MISSIONARIES will be having several meetings, including a supper meeting for Latin American missionaries which will be at 6 p.m. on Saturday.

ONE OF THE LARGEST BREAKFAST SESSIONS probably will be on Saturday, 7 a.m. when the Men's Fellowship will have its biennial meeting. It will be in the Grand Ballroom of Hotel Hilton. Dr. Clyde W. Taylor of Washington, D. C., Director of Public Affairs for the National Association of Evangelicals, will be guest speaker.

ANOTHER LARGE MEETING will be the WMC Breakfast in the Crystal Ballroom of the Hilton, on Saturday, beginning at 7:30 a.m. The speaker will be Mrs. Arthur W. Erickson of Maywood, California.

PLEASE NOTE THIS CORRECTION: Announcement has been made in some parts of the country of a WMC leadership conference that is to be held just prior to the opening of the General Council. This announcement should not have been made publicly. The conference is for district and sectional WMC officers only, due to its informal nature.

THE DEPARTMENT OF BENEVOLENCES is planning a breakfast on Sunday at the Hotel Hilton for all who are connected with the benevolence program. The speaker will be Ernest S. Williams.

PILOTS IN THE AERO FELLOWSHIP will have breakfast together on Sunday. After the Council they expect to fly to Central America in a group, to visit the missionary work in those countries.



PHOTO BY EVA LUOMA

Last of a series of three articles on "The Will of God" by the former General Superintendent of the Assemblies of God.

LIVING IN GOD'S WILL

By ERNEST S. WILLIAMS

THE PSALMIST WAS AWARE OF DANGERS ahead when he wrote, "Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass" (Psalm 37:5). Perhaps it was because of the natural temptation to compare their lot with that of wicked and prosperous idolaters that he also exhorted, "Fret not thyself because of evil-doers, neither be thou envious against the workers of iniquity."

To fret is "to agitate, to eat away, to gnaw, to tease, to vex." Do you find yourself agitated, wearing away both your physical life and your spiritual fortitude over conditions which you cannot change? In so many words the psalmist says, "Change your attitude if you can't change your situation." Why exhaust your life in frustration over conditions you cannot change? Instead of struggling along under a crushing load, "Commit thy way unto the Lord." Roll your burden upon Him. Only by putting our lives into the hands of God can we find peace in the midst of trouble.

Each of us is different, with qualities and desires and emotions and fears which are peculiarly our own. Therefore consecration must be an individual matter. All that we are, all we hope for, must be committed to God. If we hold ourselves in reserve, unwilling that God shall have the whole, we are not likely to be free from heartache and vexing cares. God can only keep that which we have committed to Him.

And new conditions call for new commitments. A new commitment was required of Abraham when Lot chose the fertile land of the plains, leaving the barren hills to Abraham. But it was when he was willing to accept

this seeming misfortune that he received the gracious promise that God would give him *both* the hills and the plains.

David refused to slay Saul when the opportunity came, but rather committed his cause to God. The record shows that the Lord did not overlook this act of committal, but honored David for it by giving him the kingdom in due time.

Next to our Lord Jesus, Paul becomes an example of entire commitment. Who devoted himself more fully to God than he? Instead of seeking to advance his own interests, he said, "I will gladly spend and be spent for you." But how his character shines through in the next words, "Though the more abundantly I love you, the less I be loved." Can we give ourselves for those who love us not?

When Paul said, "What things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ," he was looking to the past, to the dedication he made when he surrendered his life to Christ. This was foundational, for fully consecrated service can build on nothing less than a complete dedication. But it was only a preparation. All of life was to be a consecration, a series of fresh yieldings to God. Some can point to a dedication made early in life, but which they have failed to follow through. Paul not only counted what he might have been had he not surrendered to Christ, but what he might be since such surrender. Looking to the future he could say, "I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord."

Jesus was Paul's Lord. With some it is self that rules. It is the self-

life which breeds division and schism, brings out harshness instead of gentleness, and defends its own course of action.

It is true that our outward adorning should bear the marks of godliness, but the greatest enemy to spiritual progress is not worldly dress. It is the hidden man of the heart. We may quibble over outward appearance, never thinking of questioning our inward disposition.

Balaam may have thought himself a consecrated man until he received the tempting offer from Moab. Then the offer of position and material gain overcame him. This came about because he failed to live in continual consecration.

Jonah was a prophet, but he would rather see all Nineveh perish than to risk his prophetic reputation. Pride and position took first place with him.

James and John were disciples. They followed Jesus and wrought miracles in His name, but they clamored for the highest places in the Kingdom. Little did they know the meaning of the *cup* they should drink when they said, "We are able."

One came running to Jesus and said, "Master, I will follow thee whithersoever thou goest." But Jesus cautioned him against such a rash statement, saying, "The foxes have holes, and the birds of the air have nests; but the Son of man hath not where to lay his head."

Immediately upon meeting Jesus along the Damascus road, Saul of Tarsus asked, "What wilt thou have me to do?" But Jesus was not so hurried. He wanted the man to count the cost, to make a real consecration;

therefore He said, "Go into the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do." And for three days Saul was left to himself and to the Holy Ghost. The Lord wanted a man He could trust in the midst of great sufferings and hardships. At the end of those days He had such a man.

Later Paul could say that he was "always bearing about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus." He realized that through his sufferings the life of the Lord Jesus was being manifest, and thus he was able to rejoice in them.

If you are one who has been living too much for self, begin to live wholly for God. If disappointments and sorrows are part of your lot, commit your way to the Lord. Put into His hands the conditions and pains which the conditions bring. It is not always easy. The burdens and sorrows of some seem almost more than they are able to bear. But in the face of all that comes, be assured that He knows where you are and the problems you face. As you commit your life to Him and live in His will, you may be confident that He will bring to pass what is best for you. ◀◀

Your Questions



ANSWERED BY ERNEST S. WILLIAMS

I have quit smoking, playing cards, and everything else I know to be wrong, but cannot find assurance that I am saved. What is wrong?

From what you write, I would say you may be depending too much on what you have done for Christ, and too little on what Christ has done for you. Study the meaning of this scripture: "Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us" (Titus 3:5). In Ephesians 2:8 we read: "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God." To rely on self-effort is to fail; to trust in the saving grace of our Lord Jesus Christ is to be saved. "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved" (Acts 16:31).

Is every healing a miracle of God?

I feel safe in saying No. Physicians tell us that a large percentage of sicknesses are psychosomatic—that is, they have their origin in emotional or other psychological disturbances. Such sicknesses may be relieved by suggestion or by creating in the sufferer a sense of well-being and taking his mind off the thought of sickness.

What proof have we that Noah spent 120 years building the ark?

We assume that he spent that much time building the ark because in connection with the words of the Lord, "Yet his days shall be an hundred and twenty years" (Genesis 6:3), came the commandment to build the ark (Genesis 6:14-16).

Please explain John 15:16—"Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain."

In another place Jesus said, "No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him" (John 6:44). This shows that because of man's carnal nature, which is enmity against God, man would never come to God apart from the striving of the Holy Spirit with him (Genesis 6:3). Those who accept our Lord Jesus are perforce His chosen ones. Made new creatures in Christ, they are expected to bring forth the fruits of righteousness.

Ephesians 4:26 says, "Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath." Verse 31 says, "Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger ... be put away from you." The one verse encourages anger; the other forbids it.

"Be ye angry and sin not" is an indirect quotation from Psalm 4:4, "Stand in awe, and sin not." There is a righteous anger or indignation, such as Jesus felt. He "looked round about on them with anger, being grieved for the hardness of their hearts" when He saw their hatred at His healing the man with the withered hand (Mark 3:5).

It is right that we feel a holy anger or resentment toward deeds of violence and shame. But we are to calm our souls lest this holy anger turn to sinful, perhaps murderous, carnal anger. We might be outraged by a crime, but this would give no license for us to seek to kill the criminal. We must let the law deal with him. If you begin to feel an unholy resentment in your heart, "let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger ... be put away from you." Calm yourself, be emotionally still. Do not harbor ill will and hate.

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).

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Abandoned buildings become
"new churches" when Assemblies
of God men go to work with
"faith and works."

Will We Have 415 New Churches in 1959?

BY R. L. BRANDT
National Home Missions Secretary



PHOTO BY H. ARMSTRONG ROBERTS

Don't read this article unless you desire to know how new Assemblies of God churches can be built all across America. The Assemblies of God has a goal for 1959 of 415 new churches.

* * *

THE ANSWER TO THE QUESTION before us will be finally determined by one certain group within our movement.

The National Home Missions Department does not have the answer; for while the Department desires to see the goal attained, and while it will put forth diligent effort to co-operate with others in their endeavor to open new churches, it does not have within its power the ability to do the job.

Nor does any particular district or district official or combination of districts and district officials have the answer. They can and will promote the opening of new churches; but in spite of their true vision of the need and diligent application to the task, they cannot with any amount of assurance give an answer in the affirmative.

The answer is not in the hands of sectional leaders who are charged with the responsibility of Home Missions, much as they dedicate themselves to their work.

It is true that each of the above-mentioned groups has an important role to play, and without them the work would be greatly curtailed. Yet all of these groups combined do not have the resources to open 415 new churches in one year's time.

There is a group, however, which, by its own decision, can produce a positive answer. I say this because this

particular group has within itself the capacity and resources actually to do the job. Not only that, but it has the distinction of bearing the responsibility by divine assignment.

Who is this select company, possessed of such capacities and resources, charged with the responsibility of answering the question? It is made up of pastors and congregations of Assemblies of God churches across America. They hold within their hands not only the answer to the question, but also the key to the reaching of America's lost multitudes.

The responsibility rests heavily on the pastor's shoulders. His is the place of leadership. The pastor should not, by himself, be expected to carry the added responsibility of another church. But it is his prerogative to project the vision of the need and to initiate action on the part of his congregation.

To start a new church requires several important things. *First, there is the needy community.* There is little use to think in terms of opening a new church unless it has first been determined that a certain segment of people in a given area are not being reached and ministered to adequately. With an estimated 110,000,000 unchurched Americans it is doubtful whether anyone who honestly looks for an opportunity will be disappointed. Surely, within reasonable distance of the average Assemblies of God church is a community still largely untouched by the full gospel.

Then, there must be a vision for the need. That vision will likely permeate and move a congregation only as it is born in the pastor's heart first. The conquest of Jericho first became Joshua's vision. Once it gripped him

it soon caught the imagination of every Israelite. The missionary vision and evangelistic outreach of a church constitute a fair gauge of its true spiritual state. The pastor who shuts his eyes to the need and who fails to project a true vision before his congregation is failing in his strategic position of leadership.

Some pastors have a commendable vision for foreign missions and at the same time they fail to realize that the greatest possibility for strengthening our foreign program lies in opening new churches here at home. Statistics prove that for every ten new churches we open in the homeland we send one new missionary abroad.

Perhaps next in importance is the personnel problem. Here is where the local church is in a strategic and responsible position. Pity the pastor and congregation that produce no new leadership. But surely where the Spirit of God works that cannot be the case. I know of two small North Dakota churches which together have produced nearly a dozen foreign missionaries and an equal number of gospel workers for the homeland. How wonderful it would be if every pastor who has guided young people to Bible School would have a new field prepared for those students who feel the call to work for God.

In addition to Bible School students, the local church may develop within its ranks capable laymen who can assist in a new work. The church which willingly surrenders a few families to form a nucleus for a beginning congregation will be duly rewarded.

This brings us to the need for facilities. Our national and district offices do not have sufficient funds to provide suitable buildings and equipment commensurate with the need. Here again the local church can nobly serve. There is a grave danger in overspending and churches are by no means exempt from that danger. But the church that takes upon itself the responsibility of renting or assisting with payments on a property used for a new church automatically averts that pitfall.

* * *

The matter of guidance for the new pastor, as well as his support, should also be considered. Again the mother church is in a position to provide most

valuable assistance. Many a beginning pastor would have avoided serious setbacks if he had only had someone older and more experienced to lean upon. The pastor of the established church can render an invaluable service as an adviser, and he is in a position to help work out the support problem.

Therefore, we conclude that while the national and district offices can do much to promote, inspire, and assist in the opening of new churches, the local church and its pastor are in the key position to answer our question with a positive "Yes, we will have 415 new churches in 1959." Their decision today will determine our statistics tomorrow. ◀◀

cellent workmanship. This lovely church is located on a choice site only one block from the business district. Most of the work was done by Pastor Kelly who worked alone much of the time. However, assistance was given by members of his congregation and by ministers of the section.

In addition to ministry in Windsor, Pastor Kelly has pioneered three other churches in the Southern Missouri District. The new church building in Windsor is a miracle, considering that there are only 30 members.

Home Missions funds of the Clinton section were of great help in purchasing this church property. Later a General Council loan of \$1,000 gave them an added lift. Many contributions came in from individuals both far and near.

* * *

Pioneer churches, which are included in the Church Extension ministry of the National Home Missions Department, can be considered such only for the first two years of their existence. No Home Missions loans from the Pioneer Revolving Loan Fund can be obtained by churches more than two years old. Older churches must apply for loans from the General Council of the Assemblies of God. Also, no grants are made to districts from the Needy District Fund of the National Home Missions Department for churches over two years old.

The Pioneer Revolving Loan Fund, which is a part of the Share Plan Program of the National Home Missions Department, has made possible scores of loans annually to assist new churches with their building projects. It is made up of contributions and gifts of interested individuals and churches. The money helps build new churches and when these repay their loans it is used to build other new churches. Nearly all the money in this fund has been loaned out at the present time, so great is the demand for assistance from rapidly expanding districts.

Grants made to districts for new churches (two years old or less) from the Needy District Fund in the last fiscal year totaled \$31,980.68.

Church Adopts "Harvester" Plans

BY RUTH LYON

THE ATTRACTIVE NEW \$25,000 church building in Windsor, Mo., was "the realization of a dream and a struggle that had its beginning in a tent when the church first started fifteen years ago," according to the March 12 *Windsor Review*.

The news article further stated: "More than 250 persons joined with the Assembly of God congregation of some 30 members in dedicating the beautiful new church. . . . Mayor Gene Womble, Jr., in his welcoming address praised Rev. Everett Kelly, pastor, and the real force behind the erection of the new church building, for the great contribution to the future and growth of Windsor." Three other newspapers covered this story. R. M. Riggs, General Superintendent of the Assemblies of God, preached the dedicatory sermon.

In planning the building, Pastor Kelly adapted the idea of *The Harvester* blueprint plan, one of twelve included in the "Plans for Pioneers" booklet available from the National Home Missions Department.

(The blueprint program is no longer confined to pioneer churches. However, churches more than three years old must pay \$100 for the blueprints while pioneer churches three years old or under pay only \$50. Plot planning

service is available from our regional architects, as well, at a reasonable price. Several new plans are being added to the book this summer.)

The design of this new church at Windsor has created much interest both locally and in the surrounding area. A pastor in another town plans to use the same idea.

The beautiful L-shaped building includes a sanctuary seating 175, an overflow room, balcony, nursery, study, rest rooms, young people's chapel, baptistry, and Sunday School annex for classes. It is of modern design, presenting beautiful appointments and ex-

Assembly in Windsor, Mo. (Everett Kelly, Pastor)



Over the Coffee

BY MARGARET N. FREEMAN



ILLUSTRATED BY JOHN WEIDMAN

ALMA AND I LINGERED OVER OUR coffee and cinnamon toast, even though she had a day's housecleaning ahead and my ironing basket overflowed. Alma kicked off her flats under the table and sighed luxuriously. "One of the high spots in my day," she confessed, "is this little lull after the children go to school—before I get sucked into the stream of the day's activities. I can't even hear if my phone is ringing or my doorbell clanging."

I nodded. It was grand to have a Christian friend for a next-door neighbor. We sat quietly thinking our own thoughts when all of a sudden Alma said, "Aren't people funny?"

I agreed, wondering what was coming. She twisted the coffee cup around in the saucer. "I was thinking of Annette," she said.

"Oh," I sighed.

"Yes, oh. That about sums it up. I've tried talking to her. I've invited her to church and she goes pretty faithfully now, but did you ever see a person so defeated, so resentful, and so very sure life hands out its hardest knocks to *her*? She's perfectly well now, but she still dwells on that bout with pneumonia she had last winter and how the work piled up. She tells again and again how she broke her leg when she was fifteen. Even though it healed perfectly and never gives her any trouble, she harps constantly: 'Why did it happen to *me*?'"

"I try to be sympathetic," Alma went on with a troubled look, "but it seems to me she'll never get anywhere with such a defeatist attitude. Honestly, I'm so tired of the 'left overs' she dishes out!"

"I wish she could meet Fran," I said softly.

"Fran?"

"My cousin," I explained. "Fran has never had it easy, but there is a joyousness and serenity in her manner that reaches out to everyone about her. She was a tiny thing when both her parents died. She lived with her grandparents and was wonderful to them. Her grandmother was blind, which made more work for Fran. I remember her grandmother used to say Fran was her sunshine."

Alma nodded. "Some people are like that."

"Fran's husband died two years ago. Shortly afterward she fell and broke her elbow. Fran was crushed by grief and pain. She has had several casts on her arm, and she still exercises trying to get better movement in it, although the doctor warns her it may always be restricted. Fran refuses to accept defeat. She doesn't have time to complain about any of those things."

"What do you mean—doesn't have time?"

"Well, Fran puts it this way: 'The Lord permitted those things to come to me, so there must be a purpose in

them. I don't know just what, but one thing I do know is that through those troubles I have come to feel a deep compassion for people in like circumstances, and almost every day I find someone who needs the help and encouragement I can give.'

"Fran visits the sick and bereaved in her town, and her Bible and Christian testimony go along. Sometimes, when there's a real need, I know that food and clothing follow her visit. That's how Fran has risen above her own sufferings."

"How wonderful!" Alma said. "I guess the world is made up of Annettes and Frans. The Annettes, who let disappointments bog them down and make them bitter because they fail to accept God's plan for them; and the Frans who triumph through Christ over defeat, and emerge to help others. Yet how few Frans there really are!"

"And how great the need!" I replied, as I piled the coffee cups in the sink and made a mental note to squeeze in a visit that very morning to a needy old couple down the street.

Code Message . . . For Junior Readers

There is an important message for you, but it is in code. To de-code it, give each number the letter that appears directly after it in the code.

CODE

26-A; 25-B; 24-C; 23-D; 22-E; 21-F; 20-G; 19-H; 18-I; 17-J; 16-K; 15-L; 14-M; 13-N; 12-O; 11-P; 10-Q; 9-R; 8-S; 7-T; 6-U; 5-V; 4-W; 3-X; 2-Y; 1-Z.

MESSAGE

8-22-7 26 4-26-7-24-19 12 15-12-9-23 25-22-21-12-9-22 14-2
14-12-6-7-19; 16-22-22-11 7-19-22 23-13-13-9 12-21 14-2 15-18-11-8.

(To check your answer, look up Psalm 141:2.)

The Christian's Magnificent Obsession

In a very real sense all men who have helped or hindered humanity have been obsessed with an urgent and inescapable idea or drive. Those who have helped humanity heavenward have known life's most magnificent obsession—the desire to win lost men and women to Christ. The Saviour Himself was obsessed with the determination to “seek and to save that which was lost.” Paul could say honestly, “I could wish myself accursed from Christ for my brethren.” Peter risked and finally gave his life in the living out of this obsession to win the lost. Wesley, Luther, and a host of others shared this magnificent obsession.

Soul-winning demands our best. There is no way to compensate for our failure to witness. We must be soul winners. God have mercy on us if we waste these fateful days in running through our little routines and giving our lengthy reports, thinking that activity will compensate for achievement, while a lost world still waits to be won to Christ.

God's Word says, “He that winneth souls is wise.” This task is, for the Christian, life's magnificent obsession.

—*Evangelist Byron Lee Wright*

Somebody Did

The story is told of a little girl who came sorrowfully home from school, saying that she had been punished by the teacher. Knowing the child to be by nature well-behaved and dutiful, the mother was puzzled. Taking the sobbing little girl in her arms, she asked: “But what did you do, dear, to deserve the punishment?”

“Well,” answered the small daughter, “someone in the class had done a naughty thing, and when the teacher asked the one who did it to hold up a hand, nobody would do it. Mama, somebody had to do something, so I held up my hand.”

Likewise, long ago there came to live among men the perfect Man, having done no wrong. And when the guilty world of mankind refused to acknowledge their own sinfulness before God, somebody had to do something. And so Christ held up both His hands for us.

—*Esther Baldwin York*

July 19, 1959



Family Altar

DAILY BIBLE READINGS BY R. G. CHAMPION

Monday, July 20

Read: Psalm 34:11-12

Learn: “Keep thy tongue from evil, and thy lips from speaking guile. Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it” (Psalm 34:13, 14).

For the Parent: The theme of this passage is learning the fear of (reverential trust in) the Lord. Point out its results, vv. 12, 17-22. Then stress that the fear of the Lord includes specific things that we must do and things we must not do, vv. 13, 14. (Discuss these individually.) The psalm also shows the contrast in God's attitude toward the righteous and the wicked.

Question Time: What is the main theme of this passage? (See above) What do we mean by the fear of the Lord? (See above)

Tuesday, July 21

Read: Psalm 35:18-28

Learn: “My tongue shall speak of thy righteousness and of thy praise all the day long” (Psalm 35:28).

For the Parent: In this passage David again: (1) stresses the importance of giving thanks and praise to God, v. 18; (2) asks God to judge those who wrongfully rejoice and who are deceitful, vv. 19-26; (3) asks God to favor those who are associated with him in the cause of right, v. 27; (5) repeats his determination to praise God at all times, v. 28.

Question Time: Who is our Judge when others wrong us? (vv. 22-24) What happens to such people? (v. 26)

Wednesday, July 22

Read: Psalm 36

Learn: “For with thee is the fountain of life: in thy light shall we see light” (Psalm 36:9).

For the Parent: From this psalm point out: (1) the folly of the wicked who do not regard God and His power, vv. 1-4; (2) a reminder of the mercy, faithfulness, righteousness, judgments, and lovingkindness of the Lord, vv. 5-7; (3) the complete satisfaction that the child of God can have in Him, vv. 7-10; (4) David's prayers to be kept from pride and from the hand of those who opposed him, vv. 11, 12.

Question Time: What is the end of the wicked? (v. 12) Why can we put our trust in God? (vv. 5-7)

Thursday, July 23

Read: Genesis 6:5-8, 13, 14; 7:11-16

Learn: “And Noah did according unto all that the Lord commanded him” (Genesis 7:5).

For the Parent: (Additional material on “The Great Flood” will be found on Sunday's Lesson page.) Review the story of the Flood, pointing out: (1) the reason for it, 6:5-7; (2) the reason Noah was saved, 6:8; (3) the obedience of Noah to God, 7:5; (4) the coming of the Flood, 7:11, 12; (5) who and what were saved, 7:13-16. The Flood is a picture of the judgment which God will pour out upon the wicked in the last days.

Question Time: Why did God send the Flood? (6:5-7) Who and what were saved? (7:13-16) Why? (6:8)

Friday, July 24

Read: Mark 1:21-28, 33, 34, 38, 40-45 (Sunday's Lesson for Juniors)

Learn: “He...healed all that were sick: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, Himself took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses” (Matthew 8:16, 17).

For the Parent: Review the stories of how Jesus healed those that were sick. Discuss His compassion (v. 41), and the results of His healing ministry, (v. 33). Show that He is the same today and is able to heal our bodies—if we will only ask in faith, believing His Word.

Question Time: What were some of the results of Christ's healing ministry? (vv. 28, 33, 45)

Saturday, July 25

Read: Acts 10:9-23, 34-48 (Sunday's Lesson for Primaries)

Learn: “Love one another, as I have loved you” (John 15:12).

For the Parent: Review the story of Peter's vision of the great sheet. Point out that it was God's way of telling people that the Gentiles, too, should hear the Gospel of Jesus—it wasn't just for Jews. Then show how Peter went to Cornelius' house, how he preached to them, what he preached, and the amazing results. If time permits, discuss the character of Cornelius and his sincere desire after God.

Question Time: What lesson was God trying to teach Peter through the vision of the great sheet? (See above)



We Visited the Land of Opportunity

By Louis and Laverne Roggow
Pastors in North Platte, Nebraska



Sunday School in the Bethel Assembly of God at Belize, British Honduras

“SING AND PLAY SOMETHING SIMPLE,” said missionary Russell Schirman as we lifted our accordion from the Speed-the-Light station wagon in British Honduras. “These people just love the old favorites. . . .”

Our open-air meeting place was a grassy clearing surrounded by small primitive huts set among coconut palms, banana trees, and pineapple plants. Philodendron vines and flowering bougainvillea made the spot seem like a Garden of Eden, but the constant battle with mosquitoes and sand flies reminded us that the curse had not been removed. The natives sang the old songs such as “Power in the Blood,” “When the Roll Is Called up Yonder,” and “Jesus Loves Me,” enthusiastically. This created a great deal of interest and many gathered to hear the gospel message.

When the service was over we invited these country people to attend our revival in the new Assembly of God church in Corozal, B. H. This predominately English-speaking Central American colony borders Mexico, Guatemala, and the Caribbean Sea. It comprises some 8,000 square miles with a population of 82,000, made up of Negroes, Spanish and Maya Indians, Caribs, and some Asiatics.

During the week's stay in Corozal we visited several villages in the country. We canvassed every house, prayed for the sick, preached at a sugar cane camp, conducted street services—all this apart from the evening services. Hundreds of back-dated *Pentecostal Evangel*s were distributed as the people crowded about us to receive our gospel literature. They seemed to be reading it everywhere: through the open door of a theater we noticed people engrossed in reading the *Evangel* until the lights would be turned off. This was an opportune time in Corozal for preaching the gospel and we were buying up this opportunity.

Persecution constantly threatens those who listen to the gospel here. Even children receive lashings from their school teachers for attending Protestant services but this does not deter them; their quest for God is always evident on their eager faces. We witnessed a deep spiritual hunger among the Hondurans, most of whom know nothing about the joy of sins forgiven or the peace of God in their hearts.

We were privileged to conduct a nine-day revival in Bethel Assembly of God, pastored by C. A. Shaw, in British Honduras' capital city of Belize, and to share in the blessing of those who were filled with the Holy Spirit. Many knelt at the altar for the first time in their lives and others enjoyed the warmth and joy that accompanies revival. The church meets in a three-story building rented by the Assemblies of God. It also houses the Bible School and serves as a home for the national pastor. It has a day school through the sixth grade attended by well over one hundred children. During our meetings the auditorium was filled each night and we realized that larger facilities are desperately needed in order for the work to expand.

Thirty-one miles north of Belize is a country church in the Lucky Strike area. In eight short years Mrs. Edgar Jones, pastor of the church, has opened three branch Sunday Schools—Rock Stone Pond No. 1, Rock Stone Pond No. 2, and Cow Head. It was gratify-

ing to witness the Holy Spirit filling and equipping national leaders during the revival.

We took a 120-mile trip by the jeep station wagon with missionary Violet Wilcox of Stann Creek. Along the way we drove through swamp and jungle and passed through some of the most beautiful scenery we had ever seen. Plantains, papayas, mangoes, and casavas were in abundance. We took pictures of the many citrus nurseries and groves and banana and cocoa plantations. Once we gave a ride to an illiterate lady with an empty oilcan who was on her way to the next village. She happened to be a friend of the missionary and asked when it would be possible to open an Assembly of God church and school in their fast-growing community. We learned that Mrs. Wilcox had been conducting Sunday School in the home of this lady and the interest in the gospel had grown so that a national worker was needed.

Along the Humming Bird Highway we stopped at the Sixteen-mile Valley Assembly of God church, a building made of rough poles and thatched with palm leaves. This church is two years old. In the evening the people sang lustily the gospel songs by the light of a gas lantern; their fervency in fellowship made it hard for us to leave them.

From there we entered the city of Stann Creek on the Caribbean Sea, where we held our first revival a year ago. The same sweet spirit was evidenced in the services and we were greatly blessed by testimonies of the Spanish-speaking young people who had recently been saved. On our return to Belize via freight boat we thought of the many cities in Southern British Honduras, besides the thickly populated Maya District, which await the first missionary with the Pentecostal message.



Pastor and Mrs. Louis Roggow

As we flew back to the States we looked down on the homeland of a spiritually hungry people and were reminded again of the slogan we have seen on certain auto license plates, "Land of Opportunity." In our minds we added the phrase, "—for the Assemblies of God in Honduras."

MISSIONARY CALLED TO HIGHER SERVICE

Miss Glenna Lillibridge, 40, one of our outstanding missionaries, died on June 19 in Coffeyville, Kans. Her death resulted from an infection she contracted in East Pakistan.

Miss Lillibridge went to Pakistan in 1950 and spent two terms on the field. She worked among the outcasts of Jessore, in the Bible school in Khulna, and in the Bengali and English-speaking churches of Chittagong. She had an excellent knowledge of the Bengali language and her prayer life was a source of inspiration to both missionaries and nationals.

Friends of Glenna Lillibridge have asked that a memorial be raised in her memory in the form of an adequate Bible school building in East Pakistan. The present building is a decaying bamboo and grass hut. Three thousand dollars will provide an adequate brick building. Friends who would like to contribute to the memory of this great missionary should send their offerings to the Foreign Missions Department designated "Glenna Lillibridge Memorial Bible School, East Pakistan."

—By M. L. Ketcham
Field Secretary for Asia



Glenna Lillibridge

MISSIONARY News Notes

DEPARTED: Mr. and Mrs. Homer Specter have left the U.S. for a term of service in Haiti.



The Homer Specter family

RETURNED: The J. E. Blount family has returned from the Philippine Islands and is living in Durant, Fla.

Sarah Johnston is home from Hong Kong. She may be reached at 312 Forlview Road, Glenshaw, Pa.

Home from Venezuela is Hilda Meyrick. Her address is % Beall, Apt. 302, 1669 Columbia Road, N.W., Washington, D. C.

Rioting Subsides in Nyasaland

By PAUL and MIRIAM WRIGHT
Missionaries to Nyasaland

We were startled out of our sleep recently when we heard gunshots up the road from our place. The police surrounded the house of Dr. Banda, the leader of the African National Congress, and took him and other leaders away.

At midnight a state of emergency had been proclaimed for our territory. As the news spread throughout the African section of the town, people would not go to work. They milled around in angry, sullen mobs, stoning cars, beating people, and rioting. Altogether, twenty-nine were killed and many seriously injured. All schools were closed. By noontime, however, the troops had things under control.

The Government had been forced to intervene due to the increasing number of riots and attacks on people and communications. It is well that the troops acted when they did, for after the insurgent leaders were captured it was discovered that their Congress had planned to massacre all white people, Asians, Coloreds, and moderate Africans the following weekend.

Throughout the territory all is now quiet and people are returning to work. We thank God for His protection and for the Government's quick action.

Church Participation In Missionary Giving

April 1959

| District | Total Churches | Participating Churches | Participation Percentage |
|--------------------|----------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. N. Dakota | 49 | 45 | 92% |
| 2. New York | 154 | 139 | 90% |
| 3. Nebraska | 79 | 71 | 90% |
| 4. Kansas | 164 | 145 | 88% |
| 5. Montana | 67 | 59 | 88% |
| 6. New Jersey | 98 | 86 | 88% |
| 7. Michigan | 174 | 150 | 86% |
| 8. S. Idaho | 57 | 49 | 86% |
| 9. S. New England | 63 | 54 | 86% |
| 10. Minnesota | 146 | 124 | 85% |
| 11. N. New England | 57 | 48 | 84% |
| 12. Oregon | 199 | 164 | 82% |
| 13. Potomac | 172 | 140 | 81% |
| 14. Northwest | 276 | 220 | 80% |
| 15. West Central | 221 | 175 | 79% |
| 16. Ohio | 172 | 134 | 78% |
| 17. Illinois | 209 | 160 | 77% |
| 18. S. Florida | 161 | 123 | 76% |
| 19. S. Dakota | 50 | 38 | 76% |
| 20. Wis.-N. Mich. | 137 | 104 | 76% |
| 21. Rocky Mtn. | 127 | 96 | 76% |
| 22. N. Calif.-Nev. | 337 | 247 | 73% |
| 23. Eastern | 266 | 194 | 73% |
| 24. N. Carolina | 74 | 52 | 70% |
| 25. New Mexico | 79 | 55 | 70% |
| 26. S. Missouri | 353 | 240 | 68% |
| 27. Indiana | 162 | 109 | 67% |
| 28. W. Texas | 132 | 87 | 66% |
| 29. Wyoming | 37 | 24 | 65% |
| 30. Tennessee | 113 | 73 | 65% |
| 31. S. Texas | 268 | 173 | 65% |
| 32. Louisiana | 149 | 95 | 64% |
| 33. W. Florida | 143 | 91 | 64% |
| 34. Oklahoma | 489 | 311 | 64% |
| 35. Mississippi | 94 | 58 | 62% |
| 36. Arizona | 91 | 55 | 60% |
| 37. Alabama | 249 | 148 | 59% |
| 38. S. Carolina | 54 | 32 | 59% |
| 39. Arkansas | 438 | 256 | 58% |
| 40. N. Texas | 521 | 299 | 57% |
| 41. Kentucky | 63 | 33 | 52% |
| 42. Appalachian | 73 | 38 | 52% |
| 43. S. California | 382 | 198 | 52% |
| 44. Georgia | 136 | 59 | 43% |

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THE GREAT FLOOD

Sunday School Lesson for July 26, 1959

GENESIS 6:5-8, 13, 14; 7:11-16

We observed, in Genesis 2:4 to 4:14, a constant degeneration on the part of human kind. Sin spreads from the individual to the family and eventually to the human race. And universal wickedness finally brought about the judgment of God in the form of the great flood.

I. THE CAUSE OF THE FLOOD

1. *The First Stream—the Godless Cainites.* Genesis 4:16-24. Think carefully on these verses. Cain's descendants were entirely devoted to the things of earth. Natural ingenuity characterized the race. There were agriculture, cattle herding, manufacturing, city building, art, and music, but no true religion. Everything was earthly, selfish, sensual, and sensuous. God was ignored. Man was self-sufficient, occupied with his own pursuits. Lamech's song (4:23, 24) suggests boastfulness, vengefulness, and the glorification of two great evils—polygamy and murder!

2. *The Second Stream—the Godly Sethites.* Genesis 4:25, 26. (1) Observe that the name "Seth" means "appointed," as if to suggest that Eve so named him because she recognized his birth as a divine appointment and hoped that he might be the promised redeemer.

(2) Observe that with the birth of Seth's son, Enos, there seems to have been a spiritual awakening. "Then began men to call upon the name of the Lord," or, as the margin says, "to call themselves by the name of the Lord," that is, "sons of God." See 1 John 3:1. Thus the Sethites separated themselves from all who were not prepared to take the same stand.

(3) Observe further the line of Seth. In the narrative of 4:25 to 5:32 there are only three breaks, all for the purpose of calling attention to three men, Enos, Enoch, and Noah, who exemplify three aspects of godly living; namely, separation (4:26), fellowship (5:22), and service (5:29).

(4) Observe finally the witness of Enoch. Chapter 5 may well be called "The Cemetery of Adam's Family;" but one member had no tombstone! Enoch, after walking with God for three hundred years in the midst of an evil generation, "was not; for God took him." And the writer of Hebrews adds that before his translation he pleased God! Hebrews 11:5.

3. *The Streams Blended.* Genesis 6:1-8. Two views are taken of 6:1-4. (1) "The sons of God" mentioned may refer to angels who sinned in intermarrying with human beings, the result being abnormal offspring and unprecedented wickedness. (2) The "sons of God" may refer to the descendants of Seth who lost their separation and intermarried with the wicked.

II. PREPARATION FOR THE FLOOD

1. *Divine Warning.* Genesis 6:3. "My spirit shall not always strive with man." God always gives opportunity

for repentance—in this case, 120 years!

2. *Divine Scrutiny.* Genesis 6:6. "And God saw." Compare this verse with what God saw in Genesis 1:31—in the one case universal wickedness; in the other divine perfection! Think of what God sees today!

3. *Divine Sorrow.* Genesis 6:6. What God saw "grieved him at his heart." And the worst thing about sin is that it does just that!

4. *Divine Purpose.* Genesis 6:7, 11-13, 17. "The end of all flesh is come before me; for the earth is filled with violence... I bring a flood of waters upon the earth to destroy all flesh." Was this harsh intention? No! God withholds judgment until conditions demand it.

5. *Divine Plan for Noah.* Genesis 6:8, 14. "But Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord... and God said unto Noah, Make thee an ark." Noah was the one saint of his day. Let no one say, "I cannot live the Christian life in my present circumstances." All may find God's grace as Noah did. Consider his life as an example of victorious living—(1) He appropriated grace. 6:8. (2) He was upright in character. 6:9. (3) He was faithful in testimony. 2 Peter 2:5; Hebrews 11:7. (4) He kept in touch with God. 6:9. (5) He was fully obedient—"thus did Noah." 6:22; Hebrews 11:7.

III. DURING THE FLOOD

The remainder of chapter 7 records: (1) The entry of Noah and family into the Ark. The words, "And the Lord shut him in" speak volumes! How safe we are when "shut in" by divine protection, when shut in with God Himself! (2) The story of the flood itself. The God who preserved Noah will preserve His own today!

—J. Bashford Bishop

THE PITCH WILL KEEP IT AFLOAT



*Give Christ
His Rightful Place
in your Home*

ESTABLISH AND MAINTAIN
A FAMILY ALTAR
use

Family Altar Guide

This quarterly WORD OF LIFE publication contains Scripture readings and discussion questions for each day in the quarter. At the end of each week the "Bible Truth of the Week" is given. These features make the family altar a time of Bible teaching and inspiration for the whole family. Order **Family Altar Guide** today and see what it can do for your home. It costs only 7c a copy per quarter.

GOSPEL PUBLISHING HOUSE

434 West Pacific 332 W. Colorado Blvd.,
Springfield 1, Missouri Pasadena, California



I BELIEVE GOD'S PROMISES

MANY TIMES I HAVE PRAYED, "DEAR Lord, take my hand in Yours, lead and guide me according to Thy will..."

And my hand was in God's on the night of October 19, 1958, as I drove with my wife and her little son on a highway just south of Herculaneum, Mo. Suddenly, out of the darkness a "hot rod" carrying four boys who had been drinking swerved head-on into our car at a speed of more than 100 miles per hour.

Three hours later, as I lay in the hospital in terrible pain, a doctor walked into my room and told me my wife had just passed away, but that the little boy was only slightly injured. Concerning my own condition he said my left elbow was badly crushed. He indicated that surgery (which I learned might include amputation) would be necessary.

Somehow, I had no fear because I knew that my hand was in God's and that He had a purpose in sparing my

life at all. Glass had cut deeply into my eyebrow and eyelid, even scratching my eye, but not damaging it. My nose was cut into, but not off. There was a long deep gash across my knee cap and into the flesh of my leg, but the kneewater sack was not penetrated. My left foot was bruised and sprained having been twisted and caught between the motor and front seat, but it was not broken. Some ribs were broken, but no vital organs penetrated. The thumb of my right hand was almost cut off, but is completely normal now.

As I went into the operating room, I thought of how all these injuries could have either killed or crippled me, and yet I had been spared. God's hand was on mine as I whispered one last prayer, "Lord, help me. I'm in Your hands. Let me wake up with both my arms." And the peace that flowed over me then held His promise that He was with me. I knew this as surely as if I had actually seen Him.

Now that I am back at work again, I am constantly reminded that God has kept His promise to me. Every time

I raise my left arm I remember that, except for God's mercy, I would not even have it.

I owe a great debt of gratitude to many people, especially to Pastor Edgar Allen of First Assembly at Logansport, Ind., for standing by me. May God reward his unselfish love and deep concern for our need during this time of heartbreak and suffering.

To others who are going through trials, let me say, trust God, never doubt Him or His ways. When you get discouraged, praise Him all the more, and He will hear your prayers and answer them.—Roy Winters, Route 5, Peru, Ind.

(Endorsed by Pastor Edgar Allen of Logansport, Ind., who writes: "I was told at the hospital that they expected to have to amputate the arm at the elbow, as the bones were ground like glass and could not be repaired. The best they could hope was that Brother Winters would have a permanently stiff arm and have very little use of it. Now he has proper use of the arm and is working with a railroad wrecking crew, which is very strenuous labor.")

Will the LAYMEN Be There?

BY E. S. CHRISTOFFERSEN

Turlock, California

WHEN I ATTENDED THE General Council at Cleveland, Ohio, two years ago I was surprised and disappointed to find so few laymen present.

I felt it was a pity there were not more laymen there to participate in the prayer meetings, the missionary services, the evangelistic rallies, and other inspirational events, as well as to enter into the business sessions. We laymen need to know more about our Movement in order that we might make a greater contribution to it.

The Laymen's Breakfast is always a highlight in the Council program, but the number of laymen present at this event in Cleveland was not nearly as I had expected. I wonder how many will be at the breakfast in San Antonio?

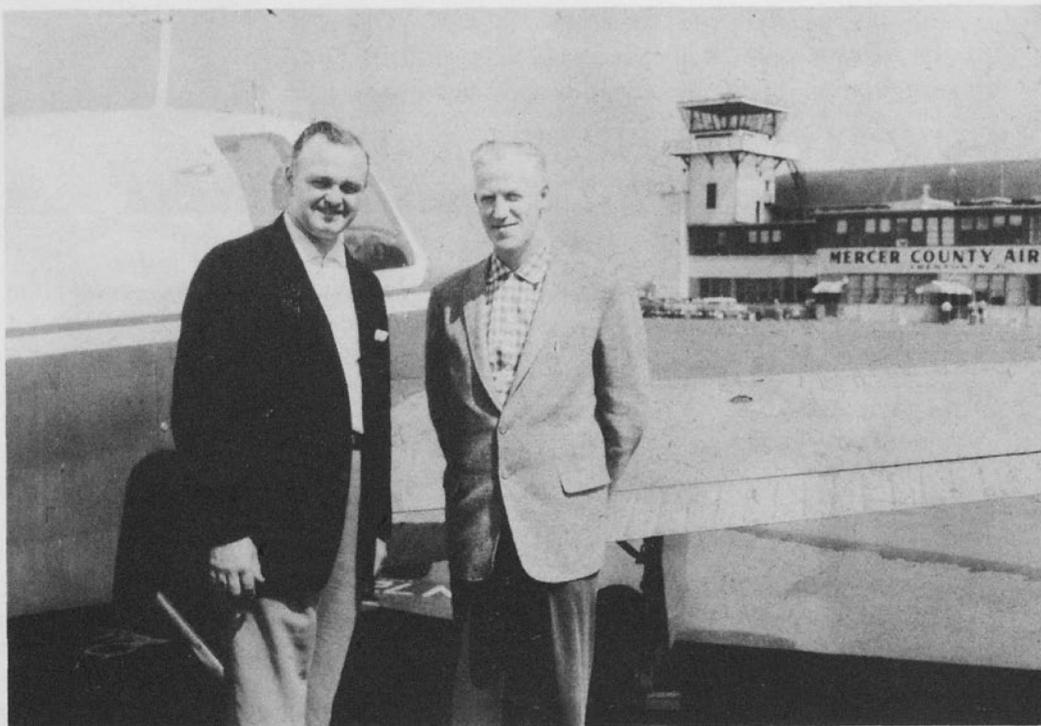
Every church ought not only to send its pastor to the General Council but also to appoint a lay delegate. As a layman, I went to Cleveland with a card certifying that I was an official delegate from my church—Bethel Temple, Turlock, California. (Each church has been given a card for this purpose.) At the Council I enjoyed the same privileges as my pastor. I participated in the business sessions and cast my vote each time the ministers voted. However, the number of congregations that were represented by lay delegates was surprisingly small. Nearly all our churches left it to their pastors to bear the full responsibility of the General Council.

This ought not to be. The Constitution of the Assemblies of God states: "The membership of the General Council shall consist of all ordained ministers, and missionaries under appointment for foreign service,

holding accredited fellowship certificates, and such representatives as may be chosen by the assemblies affiliated with us, each assembly being entitled to one delegate."

It is true that our Movement has had phenomenal growth since it was organized forty-five years ago. From just a few hundred churches in 1914 it has grown until today there are over eight thousand churches in the U.S.A. and nearly fourteen thousand churches in foreign lands. For this wonderful advance we do praise the Lord; but it is the writer's opinion that we have just scratched the surface of the possibilities. Every means available should be used, in a great co-operative effort of ministers and laymen, in order to move forward at maximum speed and evangelize the world.

Our laymen represent a great reservoir of virtually untapped strength, financially and otherwise. It is time to harness this great unused power and put it to work for God. We laymen are a vital part of the body of Christ and He expects us to function as members of the body. Let's not leave it all to the preachers. The apostle tells us, in 1 Corinthians 12, verses 5 to 7, that "there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all. But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal." And in verses 11 and 12 we read, "But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as He will. For as the body is one, and hath many



GOSPEL BOMBS FALL ON NEW JERSEY

The Assemblies of God laymen of New Jersey are engaged in a "bombing mission" this summer. They are dropping "gospel bombs" on communities throughout the state.

The photograph shows Richard J. Bergstrom, District Superintendent and Fred Upton, Gospel Bomber Pilot, about to take off at the Mercer County Airport in Trenton, N. J.

The project was launched at the Men's Fellowship banquet during the recent New Jersey District Council. The men organized a state-wide bombing plan utilizing a gospel tract written by their M. F. President, Richard J. Bergstrom. This tract, together with a postpaid return-address card, is wrapped in bright colored cellophane to constitute a bomb that arouses the curiosity of the most indifferent.

The bombs are being assembled by the thousands in men's meetings throughout the state. Brother Upton will drop the bombs along the New Jersey beaches during August. Not all will be dropped from planes, however. Some will be handed out in person, left in restaurants, gasoline stations, drug stores, on busses or trains. Wherever they go, they are designed to blast people out of their complacency and awaken them to their need of Christ.

The returned post cards will be forwarded to the nearest church for follow-up. A gift booklet together with a letter from Brother Bergstrom will be sent to each person who mails a card. The bomb project already has resulted in souls being saved and new contacts being made for local Assemblies. Past experience in this kind of bombing has shown that for every 1,000 bombs that are distributed, nine people are won to Christ.

SAY, FELLOWS—

WILL THE LAYMEN DO THEIR PART AT SAN ANTONIO—OR ARE WE GOING TO LET THE WHOLE BURDEN OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL REST UPON OUR MINISTERS?

members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ."

The body of Christ is only complete when all the members are present. This includes the laymen. Never did any church organization operate efficiently, effectively, and Scripturally without all the members, both ministers and laymen. It is therefore imperative that laymen, as well as ministers, plan to attend the General Council in San Antonio, August 26 to September 1, 1959. By planning ahead, I am sure many laymen could arrange to be present at the convention.

A number of important matters of

business are scheduled to come before this General Council, in addition to the election of our Executive Presbyters. One amendment that is proposed would provide for fourteen Executive Presbyters, instead of twelve. At present we have eight executives residing in Springfield and four non-resident. It is proposed that we should have six non-resident, instead of four. The votes of the ministers and lay delegates will decide the matter.

Another amendment is concerned with an interpretation of membership. It is proposed that Article VII of the Constitution be amended by the addition of a second paragraph to read: "All lay members of local Assemblies, in good standing in their churches, are considered members of the General Council, and may be chosen to serve the fellowship in conformity with our Constitution and Bylaws." All the laymen should be vitally interested in this proposed amendment, for if it is adopted the lay members of our Assemblies will be eligible for election to important General Council offices in conformity with our Constitution and Bylaws.

A third amendment has to do with the manner of choosing an Executive Director for the Foreign Missions Department. Our laymen should be present in order to acquaint themselves with the manner in which our Movement functions and to make their contribution to the deliberations.

Many of our laymen are able to finance their own trip to San Antonio to serve as delegates. The Internal Revenue Department of the U. S. Government recently issued a new ruling to the effect that any layman who is officially appointed by his church to serve as its convention delegate may deduct his travel expense from his income on his tax report, if the church does not pay the expense.

A great responsibility rests upon us all—laymen and ministers alike—to proclaim the gospel everywhere while there is yet time. May we join hands in a new dedication to Christ and pledge our co-operation for this purpose. By working together we can accomplish great things through our Assemblies of God fellowship. Let's have a good representation of laymen at the General Council in San Antonio. ◀◀



The convention congregation



The convention team

3600 ATTEND EASTERN DISTRICT C.A. CONVENTION

Christ's Ambassadors from 250 churches attended the fourth annual Eastern District C. A. Convention in Harrisburg, Pa., March 26-28. The new Assembly of God in Harrisburg (where Carl Butler is pastor) was the host church, but most of the services were held in the Zembo Mosque. A total of approximately 3,600 people attended the meetings.

The convention team was headed by District C. A. President Chester Jenkins and included Evangelist Jimmy Brown of Mobile, Ala., as the main speaker, and the Sunshine Party of Indianapolis, Ind., as guest musicians.

The Thursday evening service featured a contest between C.A.'s of

various sections, based on their knowledge of gospel music. A candlelight-communion service, in which over 2,000 participated, climaxed the Friday morning service. In the afternoon, Mr. C. E. Hennrich, agent-in-charge of the Philadelphia FBI office, challenged the teen-agers to help combat juvenile delinquency by exerting a positive Christian influence. Hundreds of teen-agers reconsecrated their lives to Christ at the close of this service.

The Friday evening rally featured a parade of banners prepared by local groups from all over the district. Prizes were awarded for the best projects. Many young people were drawn nearer to God through Brother Brown's ministry in this service.

Good Response TO Revivaltime IN Jacksonville, Florida

By C. M. WARD

RECENTLY I WAS THE GUEST OF THE South Florida District. Howard Bush, district superintendent and executive presbyter of the Assemblies of God, accompanied me to Jacksonville where the brethren of the section had scheduled a rally at Faith Tabernacle. Our host was Pastor E. R. Schulz, presbyter.

It was a wonderful and enthusiastic rally and I preached to a capacity audience. Harold Schmitt, pastor of Calvary Temple, brought his fine radio choir to the rally. The entire section was well represented.

Station WQIK which releases *Revivaltime* in the Jacksonville area has been a real friend to us. Mr. Marshall W. Rowland, president of the station, could not be present at the rally but sent his personal greetings and later expressed them to me by letter. As his personal representative on the platform that night we had the great pleasure to have Mr. Jay Gentry, director of religious programs for WQIK, and a well-known radio personality in that community. This is what he said to that large rally, and what he has authorized me to repeat here over his signature:

"There are few causes as close to my heart as gospel broadcasting and it is an unexpected pleasure to be asked

to express my views and opinions concerning *Revivaltime*. Your service, which is aired here in Jacksonville each week at 1:30 p.m. Sunday, creates a lot of attention and much respect from members of practically every faith. *The welcome that Revivaltime receives into the homes of WQIK listeners is certainly the delight of this radio station.*

"I am personally impressed with the production efforts of *Revivaltime* and compliment you and your staff for creating a full-gospel broadcast that fully emphasizes your beliefs and church teachings; yet has a universal appeal so as to hold the interest of Christian people everywhere. *Revivaltime* has a

magnetic power that awakens and stirs the interest of non-Christians and in doing so, you achieve your objective in producing a colorful soul-winning broadcast that is unexcelled from a production standpoint.

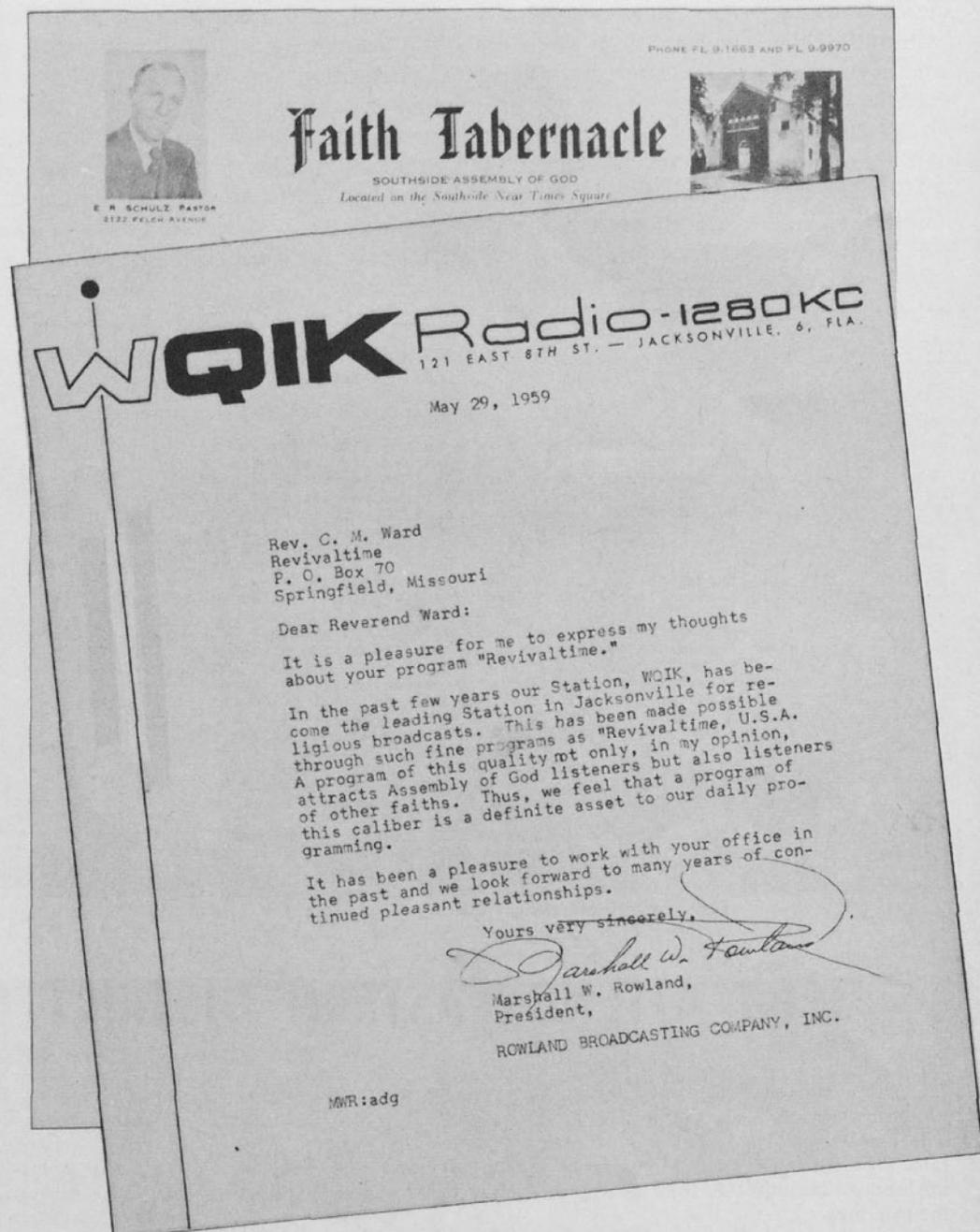
"May God bless your efforts. I wish you continuing success with one of America's greatest gospel broadcasts."

JAY GENTRY

Director of Gospel Programs
Station WQIK—Jacksonville

* * *

Brother Schulz, pastor of Faith Tabernacle (Southside Assembly of God), says, "I consider *Revivaltime* the nation's greatest national religious broad-



Invite your friends to tune in REVIVALTIME. Your loved one could be the next one saved through this ministry.
REVIVALTIME, BOX 70, SPRINGFIELD, MO.



Pastor E. R. Schulz (right) and WQIK officials Marshall Rowland and J. Gentry

cast service, and a mighty arm in our church's organized evangelistic effort. It reaches into every walk of life. It has brought God's message for these times to the troubled, bereaved, and discouraged in this great, growing Florida community. *I believe Revivaltime is one of our greatest agencies to pioneer new Assemblies of God churches where there is yet no Assembly.* The twelve Assemblies of God churches of the greater Jacksonville area are happy to present *Revivaltime* to this community; and we are happy with the care and attention station WQIK gives to our release of the service here."

Brother Bush and the executive brethren of the South Florida District told me of the great population increase of their state. To this end our brethren there are making every effort to secure additional *Revivaltime* releases in South Florida so that the service will have even a wider coverage there.

Why Anoint With Oil?

(Continued from page nine)

tarry not!" said Elisha to a young prophet. The young prophet did everything he was told, even to the opening of the door and fleeing. He risked his life to denounce Ahab and Jezebel and to anoint Jehu, son of Jehoshaphat, as king.

"I shall be anointed with *fresh* oil," says David in joyful anticipation. Not only was the anointing with oil considered a necessity in consecration to office but it was counted a pleasure.

A common substance in a plain bottle, the anointing oil has seen many

a royal occasion. It is a token of God's commission to prophets of old, the consecration of kings and commoners, and of New Testament deliverances innumerable. It is easy to scoff at a symbol. T. DeWitt Talmage said, "A man can laugh at the screws in his child's coffin if he will." The world despises the Old Rugged Cross, but for the love of it men gladly die.

The flag of the United States is only muslin or bunting on which is a pattern of stars and stripes. But let any man throw mud on it or insult it and he would soon find out what force there is in a symbol. There are five federal laws regarding the flag. Penalties for improper use or desecration of the flag run from \$10 to \$5,000 and five years in prison. The flag must be hoisted briskly and lowered ceremoniously. When the flag is used to cover a funeral casket it must not be lowered into the grave nor allowed to touch the ground. When worn out, the flag must be destroyed in a dignified way; preferably by burning. All of these apparently insignificant details are important because of their symbolic meaning.

In the simple act of anointing the sick with oil the symbolic picture has three sides. First, we do so with the strong conviction that it is necessary for full obedience. If we fail to anoint with oil our representation of the apostolic ministry is incomplete. It is our responsibility to anoint and pray; it is God who does the healing. Having been obedient we rest in the thought that "He will send the signs following."

The consecration to God of the individual for whom prayer is offered is also implied in the very act of anointing. Without true consecration, whether the deeper symbolic meaning of anointing is understood or not, there will be no healing. It was not by accident that James said, "And if he have committed sins they shall be forgiven him. Confess your faults one to another." Forgiveness of sins and the healing of the body are joined in holy wedlock and can never be divorced.

The third view of the symbolic picture is that anointing with oil typifies the anointing of the Holy Spirit, without which we can do nothing. Isaiah foresaw the day in which "the yoke shall be destroyed because of the anointing" (Isaiah 10:27). His vision was fulfilled in part when "God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went

about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil" (Acts 10:38). The "last days" anointing came in full when Jesus said, "It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send Him unto you" (John 16:7). The anointing of power was to rest on believers. It was only because of the Holy Spirit in them that Jesus was able to say to them, "Greater works than these shall ye do."

The practical fulfillment of Jesus' promise came when the disciples tarried in Jerusalem and were baptized in the Holy Spirit. Peter declared to the multitude that the anointing would not cease but that all should repent and be baptized and receive the gift of the Holy Ghost (Acts 2:38). Then, as Jesus predicted, "by the hands of the apostles were many signs and wonders wrought among the people" (Acts 5:12).

We mutely declare our dependence upon the Spirit's anointing, when we anoint with oil in continued obedience to His Word. "Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the Lord." We recognize that He "is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us" (Ephesians 3:20).

When the healing service begins and the minister takes in hand the anointing oil, it is time for thought. The sick one—is he consecrated to God? The preacher—is he rejoicing in the privilege of obedience to God's command? Is everyone depending on the Spirit of God to do the work?

Elisha asked for a double portion of the Spirit of Elijah but did not get it until he stooped to pick up Elijah's mantle. He did not prove the power of his new anointing until he smote the waters of Jordan with the mantle. Today we prove the effectiveness of James 5:14 by practicing it. All those who are healed sing the same song about Jesus Christ, "He is my medicine and my health." ◀ ◀

YOUR PLACE

Is your place a small place?
Tend it with care;
He set you there.

Is your place a large place?
Guard it with care;
He set you there.

Whate'er your place, it is
Not yours alone, but His
Who set you there.



Spotlight on Evangelism

COMPILED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EVANGELISM, 434 WEST PACIFIC ST., SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI

► ESCATAUPA, MISS.—A revival for this area was recently conducted by Evangelist and Mrs. James C. Foster. Many were saved and filled with the Holy Spirit.
—Otha E. Gordon, Pastor

► CALICO ROCK, ARK.—The Assembly here has just closed a revival with Evangelist Glenna Byard. Seven were saved and reclaimed and two were filled with the Holy Spirit. The people were revived and enjoyed the refreshing showers that came from the presence of the Lord.
—S. A. Sublett, Pastor

► CONWAY, MO.—The Assembly here has just concluded a very successful youth crusade with Evangelist Ken Haddaway. Several came forward for reconsecration and numbers were filled with the Holy Spirit. In all it was one of the best revivals in the history of the church.
—Gordon Zercher, Pastor

► CONWAY, S.C.—The church here recently concluded a very successful revival with Evangelist and Mrs. Walter H. Carter of Georgetown, S. C. Eighteen were saved, eight received the baptism of the Holy Spirit and 11 joined the church. Some testified to being healed through prayer. The church experienced a genuine uplifting through the anointed ministry of these servants of God.
—J. W. Singleton, Supply Pastor

► HONESDALE, PA.—The Assembly of God here just witnessed a mighty move of the Lord under the ministry of Evangelist Richard Owens of Wilmington, Del. Almost every night there were those who found Christ as their Saviour. Others who

were away from God for as long as 10 years were gloriously reclaimed. Many testified to healing, including one woman with a severe heart condition who had been in pain for many months. All the swelling left her feet and she slept peacefully for the first time in months. One lady was filled with the Holy Spirit and many others refilled. The congregation is thankful for what God has done.
—James W. Miller, Pastor

► ANDERSON, IND.—For three weeks the First Assembly of God here has enjoyed what many believe to be the best revival the church has ever had. The Musical Vander Ploegs of Toledo, Ohio, ministered under a great anointing. Over 35 responded at the altar call and at least seven received the baptism of the Holy Spirit.
—Robert Bayless, Pastor

► LANCASTER, TEX.—The congregation of the First Assembly of God here enjoyed a good revival with Evangelist and Mrs. L. C. Eldridge of Bakersfield, Calif. There were four saved and five filled with the Holy Spirit. Several received definite healings.
—Herbert L. Corpany, Jr.

► TOLEDO, OHIO—The Lord gave the Toledo Assembly of God a wonderful revival with Evangelist Harold May of Saginaw, Mich. Many were saved and about 10 received the Holy Spirit. Many attended the revival for the first time. The church people were thrilled with the messages from night to night. The evangelist ministered very effectively, encouraging people to pray around the altars, and many were drawn closer to the Lord.
—G. G. Martin, Pastor

► ANDERSON, CALIF.—A real outpouring of the Holy Spirit has come to Anderson. The evangelist who was used of God was Zelma Argue. During the meetings 25 were filled with the Holy Spirit, and quite a number found the Lord. The people gave themselves to waiting on God, with much fasting and prayer, and as they did this various problems just melted away under the presence of the Lord. During the meetings a new attendance record was set with 237 present.
—Jack Wien, Pastor

► GLENDALE, CALIF.—Bethel Assembly here just concluded a Bible Crusade with Evangelist John Bostrom. The anointed ministry brought a real lift and inspiration to the church. Straight Bible preaching and Pentecostal blessing marked the whole series of meetings.
—Arthur Slater, Pastor

► GILA BEND, ARIZ.—The First Assembly here enjoyed the blessing of God during a two-week revival with Evangelist Raymond Schaeffer. Seven were saved, one was filled with the Holy Ghost, and many were uplifted spiritually.
—W. G. McGarity, Pastor

► WICHITA, KANS.—Over 80 souls came forward for salvation during the meetings conducted in the First Assembly of God by the Musical Vander Ploegs of Toledo, Ohio. A number were baptized in the Holy Spirit and over 200 people attended the church for the first time during the meetings. The Sunday School reached a high of some 600 during the revival. This was truly a time of marked visitation by the Spirit of God.
—Robert R. Morrison, Pastor



Crowd attending evangelistic meetings at the First Assembly of God in Wichita, Kans. (Pastor and Mrs. Robert R. Morrison and Evangelist and Mrs. A. R. Vander Ploeg at left.)

EVANGELISTIC CAMPAIGN CALENDAR

| STATE | CITY | ASSEMBLY | DATE | EVANGELIST | PASTOR |
|--------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| Ala. | Alexander City | A of G | July 21-Aug. 2 | Bob & Jeri Winford | Benny Jackson |
| Calif. | Vallejo | * First | July 21-Aug. 2 | Virgil & Edythe Warens | Paul Trulin |
| Ga. | Vidalia | First | July 21-Aug. 2 | Joel Palmer & wife | Claude Collins |
| Ill. | Renault | A of G | July 21-Aug. 2 | R. L. Covington | S. F. Kostencki |
| Ind. | Evansville | Calvary Temple | July 21-26 | Warren Litzman | Hansel Vibbert |
| | Goshen | First | July 21— | James Weaver | Ricky Coates |
| | LaPorte | A of G | July 19-31 | Charles Senechal | W. R. Wainscott |
| Mich. | Saginaw | ** Fair Grounds | July 26-Aug. 9 | Morris Cerullo | A. F. Thornton |
| Mo. | Elmer | A of G | July 26-Aug. 5 | Lucelia Lanz | F. L. McAtee |
| N. H. | No. Stratford | ** A of G | July 11-26 | Paul J. Graban | Fred Weimar, Chm. |
| N. Y. | Kingston | * Bethel | July 20-26 | Musical Wellards | Edward J. Klaus, Jr. |
| Ohio | Alliance | First | July 21-Aug. 2 | John Higginbotham | Edward Roush |
| Okla. | Jenks | Airview Tab. | July 26— | Eddie Wilson | F. C. Cornell |
| | Portland | * Full Gospel | July 26-31 | Howard-Youngman Team | Vernon Klemm |
| Oreg. | Tigard | A of G | July 22-Aug. 2 | Christian Hild & wife | Mel Arn |
| | Memphis | Central | July 26— | Fisher-Cheek Team | J. W. Gladney |
| Tex. | Beaumont | Magnolia Park | July 22-Aug. 2 | Willie M. Stevens | Paul Radke |
| | Houston | A of G | July 22-26 | John French | James McKeegan |
| | Nacogdoches | Faith Temple | July 19— | Melvin Boatright | E. R. Winter |
| Va. | Tyler | *** A of G | July 24-Aug. 6 | Richard Jeffery | J. E. Parsons |
| | No. Tazewell | ** A of G | July 4-26 | Billy Wolfe | H. D. Hampton, Chm. |
| Wis. | LaCrosse | First | July 22-Aug. 9 | Musical Vanderploegs | Donald K. Skaggs |
| Hawaii | Aiea, Oahu | A of G | July 26-Aug. 9 | Bill McPherson | E. Bloome |
| | Maalehu | * A of G | July 26-31 | Fred & Gladys Voight | Fred Mata |

* Children's Revival

** Union Tent

*** Tent 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.

► **ROARING SPRING, PA.**—Evangelist and Mrs. Jack Peters recently conducted two weeks of special meetings here at the Faith Assembly of God. The Lord blessed the services and about 27 sought salvation at the altar. The highlight of the services occurred on the last Saturday night when Mrs. Betty Levine, 33, of Altoona, Pa., a victim of infantile paralysis, was prayed for and walked without crutches for the first time since she was 18 months old. Mrs. Levine, a member of another denomination, returned to her own church the next morning and her healing caused quite a stir. An altar call was given there—the first in years—and 19 couples came forward. There is quite a stir in Altoona and as a result one minister has received the baptism of the Holy Spirit as have Mrs. Levine and her husband. Mrs. Levine is still walking without crutches and has testified to the fact that she feels stronger every day.

—David L. Weyandt, Pastor

► **UTICA, N. Y.**—Evangelist and Mrs. Paul Graban of Vineland, N. J., just closed a very effective revival here. Several were saved and a number were filled with the Holy Spirit. Many new people visited the service and some who were reached through the meetings are applying for church membership. The Sunday School reached the highest average for any month yet. The church is thanking God for these meetings.

—William H. Douglas, Pastor

► **NORTH BEND, OREG.**—Evangelist Johnny Hoskins recently conducted three profitable weeks of revival services in the church here. A number were saved, some were baptized with the Holy Ghost, and others were healed and revived. The meeting followed Deeper-Life services that had been conducted by Evangelist Hattie Hammond and an equally profitable revival with Evangelists David and Doris Godwin.

—O. R. Cross, Pastor

► **NEWINGTON, CONN.**—God has done an unusual work in the pioneer church in this city. Evangelist and Mrs. Richard Owens of Wilmington, Del., planned to spend one week in meetings but the services continued for five weeks. Evidences of real revival began to appear early in the meeting. Some of the ladies started afternoon prayer meetings which were not ordinary ones in any sense of the word. There was an unusual fervor as they sought God in behalf of souls. Right from the start souls were saved. The Christians quickly responded. It was not unusual to see tears in the eyes of newcomers and strangers as they came to the meetings. Conviction rested upon hearts as the Lord dealt with sinners and Christians alike. One of the highlights of the services was the work of God in the life of a ninety-six-year-old man. He was one of the builders of a large church in a nearby city, and stated he was born in a certain denomination and would die in it. It was a miracle when he came to the church, and a greater one when he came forward for salvation. Afterward he testified as to what God had done in his life.

—Harold Dron, Pastor

► **REGINA, SASK., CANADA**—A great revival spirit prevailed here throughout five nights of meetings conducted by Evangelist Bill McPherson of Detroit, Mich. At least eight people received the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

—J. H. Law, Pastor

► **ASTROP, LA.**—The church here has recently concluded a very successful revival with Evangelist D. C. Ogden of Tulsa, Okla. More than 200 new people visited the services during the two weeks. A number of folk were saved and a wonderful spirit continues to prevail in the services. The ability of the evangelist to draw beautiful pictures in either chalk or oil was an inspiration to everyone.

—J. E. Allen, Pastor

► **NORFORK, ARK.**—The Galatia Assembly of God here just concluded two weeks of revival meetings with Evangelists Sally Jones and Betty Wheeler. Nineteen were saved and five received the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

—T. B. Wallace, Pastor

► **WICHITA FALLS, TEX.**—The First Assembly here has just concluded four weeks of revival with Evangelist Harold "Bo" Daniel of Atlanta, Ga. Many members of the congregation claim it to be the most successful revival in 10 years in the church. The entire church is revived and fired up to more zeal for Christ.

—Edward Willis, Pastor

► **DALLAS, TEX.**—In April the Maplewood Assembly of God experienced its most eventful and successful revival campaign in 25 years. Evangelist Watson Argue conducted the meetings. During the two weeks many decisions were made for Christ. Twelve received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit and some 64 were gloriously refilled. The first Monday night

service brought a mighty deluge of Holy Ghost power upon the congregation. Volumes of praise ascended from all parts of the large auditorium. Fifty people had a glorious refilling that night speaking with other tongues. There were record-breaking crowds nightly. Over 300 people attended for the first time, the largest number in any campaign ever conducted at Maplewood.

—Ray R. Soper, Pastor

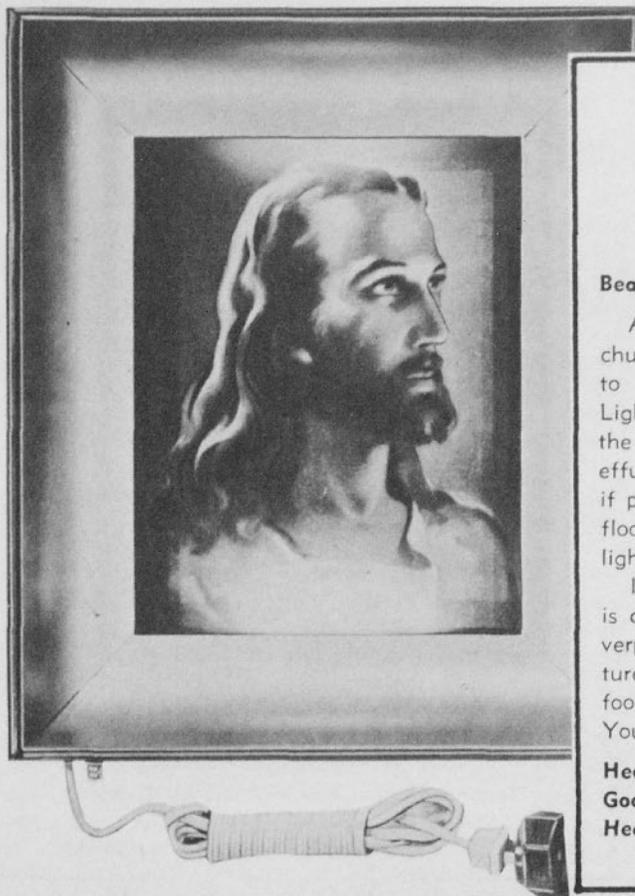
► **HILL CITY, KANS.**—The Assembly of God here has just completed a most successful revival with Evangelist and Mrs. Don Young. Many souls were saved, many others filled with the Holy Spirit, and numbers reported being healed. The average Sunday School attendance went up about 10 per cent to break all records. This revival reached people in all walks of life. The former pool hall and tavern operator of the city was gloriously saved.

—R. C. Bright, Pastor

► **DE KALB, TEX.**—Evangelist and Mrs. G. L. McKinney of Pascagoula, Miss. recently had a very successful revival in the First Assembly of God here. Some eight people prayed through to a real experience of salvation and four received the baptism of the Holy Spirit. One of the latter was an elder in a non-Pentecostal church. He is now affiliated with the First Assembly.

—B. O. Smith, Pastor

► **MIAMI, FLA.**—Evangel Temple here has just concluded a most profitable revival season. In October Evangelist and Mrs. Jimmy Brown of Mobile, Ala. conducted meetings; in February Evangelist M. L. Davidson of Houston, Tex.; and in April Evangelist Philip Jackson of London, England. Each man's ministry exalted Christ and honored the precious Blood. They preached the Word of God in anointed



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way that built up people's faith in Calvary's provisions for body and soul. They encouraged the people to be faithful to God and the local church with their time, talents and money. This past year has also been the best missionary year in the history of the church. To God be the glory now and forever.

—J. Billy McIntosh, Pastor

► **STERLING, OKLA.**—During recent months three different evangelists have conducted meetings in the church here; over 150 souls have been saved and nearly all of them have received the baptism of the Holy Spirit. The evangelists were Chester Powell, H. C. Eslinger and J. C. Lewis. In about a year and a half, the Sunday School has grown from 10 in attendance to an all-time record of 112. The average was 101 for April.

—V. R. Heddlesten, Pastor

► **ALTON, ILL.**—One of the greatest revivals that the Edwards Street Assembly of God Church ever enjoyed was concluded just recently under the leadership of Evangelist Byron Lee Wright and Musician Paul Meyers. Over 40 knelt at the altar for salvation, 12 received the baptism of the Holy Ghost and approximately 200 visited the church for the first time. The meetings had originally been scheduled for 10 days but continued for 3½ weeks. The musical ministry of Brother Meyers will long be remembered. His splendid choir arrangements thrilled the hearts of the people.

—J. W. Ellsworth, Pastor

► **NEWBERG, OREG.**—For three weeks the church here enjoyed the inspirational preaching of Evangelist Johnny Hoskins. Several souls were at the altar for salvation and some were filled with the Holy Spirit. Some very good healing testimonies were given throughout the meetings. All concerned are confident the church will reap lasting and continual blessings from this revival.

—E. E. Kirschman, Pastor

► **DES PLAINES, ILL.**—Recently the Northwest Assembly here was privileged to enjoy the ministry of Evangelist Walter Lascelle. This was one of the most successful meetings in the short history of this church. During the three weeks, some 18 conversions were reported. A number testified to definite healing. At a special service for the new converts the evangelist and the associate pastor, Coy Cleghorn, answered some vital questions regarding the Christian life. The panel discussion was led by the pastor and was climaxed with a baptismal service when 11 followed the Lord in baptism.

—Devore H. Waltermann, Pastor

► **ELECTRA, TEX.**—The Assembly of God here just concluded a two-week revival with Evangelist J. A. Allard of Wichita Falls, Tex. The people were greatly stirred by the inspirational messages. Twenty-one souls were saved and filled with the Holy Spirit. Altar services continued often until after midnight. The church has been greatly blessed by these meetings.

—Johnnie Barnes, Pastor

Musicians to Meet at San Antonio

A meeting that will be of great interest to pastors, ministers of music, and many other people will be held in San Antonio, Tex., on Wednesday afternoon, August 26, prior to the opening of the General Council that night.

Edwin Anderson, Editor of Music at the Gospel Publishing House, has arranged this meeting at the request of hundreds of persons. Recently the Music Division conducted a survey and out of 722 who filled out the questionnaire approximately 500 indicated their desire to have a music gathering in connection with the General Council.

This will be the first official meeting of its kind on a national scale in the Assemblies of God. One objective in this meeting will be to acquaint the constituency with the various functions of the Music Division of our Publishing House. There will be a brief outline of the various areas in which the Music Division should be active, such as: music publications, music clinics, textbooks on music, recordings, graded choirs, composing, arranging, music in church, Sunday School, youth groups, music at youth camps, and a music standard. This part of the program will be followed by an informal buzz-and-quizz session relating to all areas of gospel music.

As music, to some degree, touches every department in our churches, there will be something of vital interest to all, whether laymen or ministers. It is especially important that pastors and ministers of music be present.

The session will be in the West Auditorium of the Hilton Hotel, August 26, 1959, at 2 p.m.

UKRAINIAN BRANCH CAMPS

The Ukrainian Branch of the Assemblies of God will have Youth Camp and Boys and Girls Camp at Lanessville, N. Y. For full information, write M. Brandebura, 4807 W. 35th St., State Road, Cleveland 9, Ohio.

Youth Camp, July 22-26; Don Cox of Evansville, Ind., speaker.

Boys and Girls Camp, Aug. 2-15, ages 8-13; Director Vivian Rusinka together with James Rusinka and Ann Bizyk will be in charge.

WITH CHRIST

MATTIE R. HARGIS, 69, San Bernardino, Calif., went to her reward May 20, 1959. She was ordained in 1935. Sister Hargis co-pastored with her husband, Raymond M. Hargis, at Central Assembly of God in San Bernardino when an automobile accident took her life. She is survived by her husband who was also injured in the accident.

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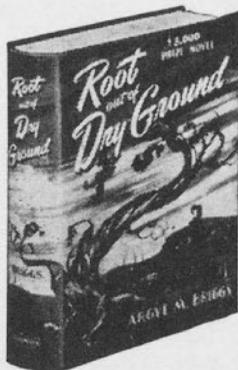
By Charles M. Sheldon

What happens when a church decides as a whole body to walk faithfully in the steps of the Master? There is joy and a touch of sorrow in this human book of a congregation that decides to go all out for Him. A perpetual best seller, IN HIS STEPS will inspire you to live a better Christian life.

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FARTHER INTO THE NIGHT

By Mrs. Gordon H. Smith

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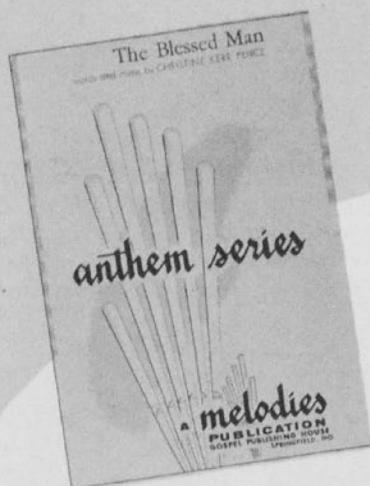
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Somebody Has to Pay for It

By EDWIN ORR

YEARS AGO I HEARD OF A BURGLAR who was caught by the police. Since he was a young married man with two small children, his younger brother went to the authorities and offered to take his place in jail. The police refused even to consider the offer.

"You did not commit the crime," they said, "and we cannot allow you to suffer the punishment. It would not be right."

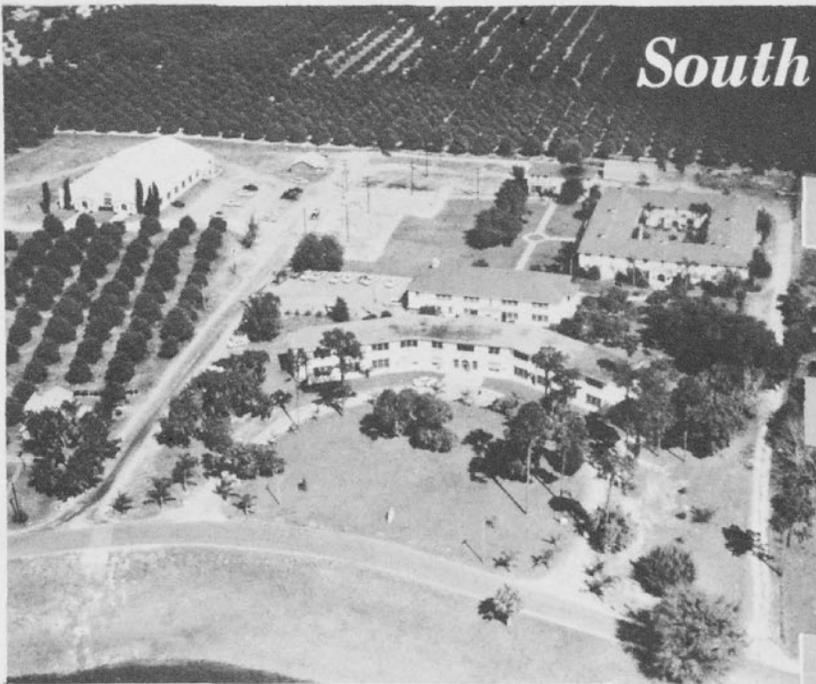
That incident illustrates a difficulty which plagued my mind for many years. I had been converted through my mother's witness. She had told me that Christ died for my sins—that He was wounded for my transgressions. I believed it in my heart. What's more, it worked out in my life. I had become converted with an assurance that my sins were truly blotted out. But I could not understand it in my head. I knew that the innocent often suffered for the guilty, but I could not understand how a God of justice could plan it so.

As a boy, I used to play ball in the lot behind our house. The windows of a certain house on the corner nearby were continually being broken by stray balls. The owner should have moved his house, we thought.

One day he came charging out of the house, waving an indignant fist. "The next one of you kids that breaks my window—I'll break your ear!" We fled in distress. There was no use arguing with him. He wouldn't listen to reason.

And who, do you think, was the next one to break his window? You guessed right. I didn't even stop to pick up the bat. The ball was under his bed, beyond recall. I ran instinctive-

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ly for the shelter of home where the news of my misdemeanor soon followed.

My father insisted that I accompany him to the scene of my offense. "I've brought the culprit that broke your window," he told the man.

The man glared at me. But when he turned to my father, his tone was quite reasonable. "Well, Mr. Orr, I know that kids can't help breaking windows. I used to break them myself when I was young. But somebody's got to pay for it."

My father paid the man, who told me I was forgiven—but not to do it again. And a lasting impression was left in my mind concerning forgiveness. *Somebody's got to pay for it.*

Twenty years later a friend borrowed some money from me and agreed to pay me back in weekly installments. He never did and I felt annoyed with him. But after a couple of years, I concluded that it was a hopeless case of a bad debt and decided to forgive him. But who suffered? Obviously, I suffered the loss of the money. I could have made him suffer by going to court. Instead, I forgave him, and

I suffered a loss in order to do it.

These incidents in my own life helped me to understand the Cross. In forgiveness, *somebody's got to pay for it*, for justice must be satisfied. And in grace, the sinned-against suffers for the sinner. It was as if God looked around for a substitute to take the sinner's place. No one but an infinite, sinless God could do it. So He Himself suffered to forgive us, for Christ was God in the flesh.

And so, what I had believed in my heart as a boy of nine, I now began to understand in my mind. "He was wounded for our transgressions; he was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed." That verse of Scripture, originally the basis of my conversion, now became more clear to me.

But then, if Christ died for all men, are not all men saved? No; I have found that a check made out to me is not of much value to me until I endorse it and cash it at the bank. And so all men must accept by faith this great salvation. One must endorse a check before he can receive the money.

Men must accept by faith the forgiveness of God.

The apostle Peter made the message clear: "Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out." God forgives our sins because of what Christ did on the cross, but we must accept His forgiveness. We must repent of our sins and be converted. If you have not already accepted God's great provision for your salvation, will you not do so now?

—The Flame

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BY
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INTERRUPTIONS



PHOTO BY A. DEVANEY

MOST OF US LIVE SUCH BUSY LIVES THAT UNEXPECTED delays, a cancelled reservation, or other minor interruptions in our precision-planned days tend to irritate us to the point where we cannot possibly see any good in them. But interruptions, whether cataclysmic or trifling, may actually be a part of God's over-all plan for us. The Bible is full of stories of the most unlikely sorts of interruptions which were actually opportunities in disguise.

The jealous brothers of Joseph interrupted his life quite drastically when they sold him into slavery. From his enviable position as favorite son of a doting father, Joseph found himself demoted to the life of a slave in Potiphar's house. And more interruptions were ahead before he would realize his boyhood dream of the bowing sheaves. Even when he had managed to advance under adverse circumstances, a scheming woman rudely interrupted his progress toward God's ultimate plan for him. But though the route to his success led through a dungeon, Joseph's attitude toward every interruption was expressed years later to his brothers when from his seat of honor in Egypt he could say with confidence, "So now, it was not you that sent me hither, *but God.*"

The routine of the young statesman Isaiah's life was painfully interrupted by the death of the king whom he greatly admired. But the interruption proved fruitful, for later Isaiah testified that "in the year that king Uzziah died, I saw also the Lord..." An interruption of this sort often removes a prop we are hardly aware of, and brings a new revelation of God to us.

The number of interruptions in the life and ministry of Jesus was simply amazing, but because He turned each of them into an opportunity, we scarcely recognize them as interruptions.

He was teaching in a synagogue when, in the course of His message, a man with a need so great he could not keep still suddenly cried out. And Jesus delivered him out of his trouble.

A few days later He was preaching the Word to a packed house when the roof was actually lifted off and a sick man was let down before Jesus. Quite an interruption! But He saved and healed the man.

Jesus interrupted other lives too, and they were the richer for it. He interrupted a despondent fisherman as

he washed his nets beside the sea after a night of fruitless toil. Then He took him out to catch his greatest haul of fish where fish were not supposed to be. And though the interruption made Peter late for breakfast, it started him on a brand-new career. "From henceforth thou shalt catch men."

Zacchaeus considered himself an anonymous spectator of an impromptu procession, but Jesus interrupted his whole way of life that day by simply inviting Himself to dine with the wealthy little publican. Zacchaeus was never the same again.

A Samaritan woman, bent on the monotonous task of drawing a daily supply of water from an ancient well, was interrupted by a weary Jew who asked for a drink of water. After she recovered from the shock of the interruption, she accepted His offer of Living Water. And, significantly, she went back to the village to interrupt the lives of her neighbors and friends with the wonderful news and the invitation to "Come, see a man which told me all things that ever I did: is not this the Christ?" (Are we interrupting anyone to share the Good News that Jesus saves?)

In the Book of Acts we see interruptions of a different sort. The life of the promising young deacon Stephen was brutally interrupted by death—but it gave us Paul.

The revival at Samaria was interrupted by the disappearance of Philip—but by this means a gospel witness was planted in high places in Ethiopia.

Paul's logical plan to go into Bythynia was interrupted by the Macedonian Call—but thereby Europe received the gospel.

Time after time Paul endured persecution and imprisonment, which were calculated to interrupt the spread of the gospel, but he could joyfully report that "the things which happened unto me have fallen out rather unto the furtherance of the gospel."

The fact that God has used almost every conceivable kind of interruption to forward His work as a whole, as well as in individual lives, should encourage us to consider their possible significance when they happen to us. Let us accept even the small daily interruptions as opportunities for victorious living and the development of patience. Such an attitude will discipline us to recognize the larger interruptions allowed by our loving Heavenly Father as part of His continuous plan for our lives and for His kingdom. ◀ ◀