

The Pentecostal EVANGEL

FILE COPY

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

PRICE 10 CENTS . . .

Weekly Voice of the Assemblies of God

. . . November 22, 1959

Prayer of Thanksgiving

pp sempre e legato

mf

We gath - er to - geth - er to ask the Lord's bless - ing. He

mf

has - ten - dreds of thousands will be made known; The

PHOTO BY H. ARMSTRONG ROBERTS

Hymns of Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving Day is a distinctly American holiday. No other land except Canada (which observes its day of thanksgiving in October) has a national holiday for the specific purpose of giving thanks to God.

It is rather surprising, therefore, to discover that all our traditional Thanksgiving hymns have come to us from other lands. For example, "Now Thank We All Our God" was written by a German, Martin Rinkart, three centuries ago. Another well-loved hymn that is the work of a German is "We Plow the Fields and Scatter," written by Matthias Claudius about two hundred years ago.

Probably the most familiar of all Thanksgiving hymns is "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come." Its author was not an American but a nineteenth-century Englishman, the noted Greek scholar, Henry Alford, Dean of Canterbury. And of course the most favored of all "thanksgiving hymns" were written by a Hebrew—the Psalms of David.

When will the American nation itself produce some Thanksgiving hymns of sufficient merit to earn a place in our hearts alongside these famous hymns?

The song pictured on our cover page came to us from Holland. Oscar T. Gillan, writing in *Sunday School Times*, says its origin is almost as ancient as our first Thanksgiving Days (1621 and 1623). "Its authorship is unknown, but it first appeared in a collection of songs edited by Adrianus Valerius and published in Haarlem in 1626. For more than two centuries the song was unknown beyond the borders of the Netherlands. Then it was discovered by Edward Kremser, director of a male singing society in Vienna. In 1877 he had it translated into German and himself added the words, 'Make us free,' which gave the song its triumphant finale. He also made a new arrangement of the original melody, which had been derived from a Netherlands folk song. As a reward, his name (Kremser) has been given to the majestic tune."

The words of "We Gather Together" have a historical setting. They tell of the Dutch struggle for independence: for political freedom from Spain, and for religious freedom from the Roman Catholic Church. They speak of tragic memories of the past and bright hopes for the future. "The wicked oppressing now cease from distressing" was doubtless an allusion to the terrible persecutions at the hands of the Spaniards in the name of religion. Antwerp and other cities had been sacked, their inhabitants massacred, and many houses burned. But now, for fifteen years, there had been relief from such perils. "So from the beginning the fight we are winning." The Dutch Protestants believed that God had brought them deliverance. "And pray that Thou still our defender will be." The struggle was not yet ended. There were battles ahead, but with the help of God they would win.

In 1648 the power of Spain was broken and the Netherlands emerged strong and free. The song lived on in the hearts of Dutch patriots as a sacred memorial of their national freedom. Perhaps that is why it is so well loved by freedom-loving Americans today.

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

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Miracle IN A WHEAT FIELD



Johnnie du Plessis and Hymie Rubenstein give thanks for answered prayer

BY BASIL STOLS
Newspaper Reporter

"I HAVE WITNESSED A MIRACLE AND I challenge those who so easily explain everything by science to analyze this miracle scientifically."

The stranger who spoke these words introduced himself as Hymie Rubenstein, a Jewish salesman of Bloemfontein, South Africa. His personal appearance was that of a successful businessman. Yet two things about him were incongruous. Under his arm Hymie Rubenstein carried a Protestant Bible, and from his eyes shone an inward peace not usually found in traveling salesmen.

As if he could read our thoughts, he explained, "I am a Jew, and have given my heart to Christ."

Then he told us a story so fantastic that we took it with a little salt. Briefly, this is what we were told:

When the wheat bug plague had done its worst in the Orange Free State, Mr. Rubenstein one day visited a well-known farmer to discuss an altogether different matter. While there, he asked the farmer about his wheat crop and was told there would not be any because the fields were covered with wheat bugs. Finally Mr. Rubenstein asked the Lord to remove the bugs—and his prayer was answered!

Rather cynical, we asked him, "Do you think the farmer will be prepared to confirm your story?"

Without hesitation Hymie Rubenstein answered, "We can drive to his farm and he can tell you himself exactly what happened."

The following day we made the trip. While the automobile was speeding over the dirt roads, Mr. Rubenstein told of the miracle that Christ had caused to take place in his own life.

He said that some years ago he had been exceptionally successful and had no worries. Then by his own actions he suffered a great loss and had to begin all over again.

In Bloemfontein he set up a furniture business and traveled through the country towns to sell his furniture to retail traders. One day he went to visit Bothaville, and as he approached the town he had to cross a bridge. A strange thought came to him. "It will be so easy to run off this bridge. Everyone will think it was an accident. My insurance policies will be paid without question to my wife and children, and there will be no stigma to my memory."

He experimented and found he could reach a speed of 105 miles per hour.

A SOUTH AFRICAN NEWSMAN INVESTIGATES A MODERN MIRACLE

He decided that on the return journey he would go that speed and then swing off the bridge.

In Bothaville he visited a furniture store to take what he thought was his last order. The wife of the owner remarked that he looked pale and worried. "Why do you not ask Jesus Christ to help you?" she asked.

The Jewish man was deeply offended. "You know better than to ask such a thing of me. We Jews do not believe in Christ."

The woman then invited him to her home for a cup of tea and he accepted the invitation. There she suggested that they kneel and pray. He agreed reluctantly. She began to pray to the Lord Jesus for him, and he said he became so furious he wanted to hit her in the face, but when he opened his eyes he saw such perfect peace and happiness in her face that he was not able to lift a hand. She soon asked him to pray, and when he stumbled over the words she very tactfully led him in prayer.

When he left that home half an hour later, the world around him seemed so beautiful and wonderful that he did not even recognize his own car. "That is a beautiful automobile," he said, and the lady replied, "But it is your own!"

He drove out toward the bridge where he had planned to commit suicide, and stopped. Right there he decided that from then on he would preach the gospel on all his business trips; and today he says, "I sell the gospel and my furniture sells itself."

The farm where Hymie Rubenstein witnessed the latest miracle is in the district of Bethlehem. The owner of this farm is Johnnie du Plessis, a well-known and prosperous farmer. He is a very conservative man. When the

(Continued on page twenty-two)



Thankful - for What?

BY EMIL A. BALLIET

San Diego, California

THIS WEEK WE SHALL CELEBRATE A national holiday—Thanksgiving. Our American Thanksgiving was first celebrated in 1621 by men and women who had miraculously survived that terrible first winter on the bleak Massachusetts coast. To offer thanks after the fearful things which they had endured seems amazing to us, for our usual reaction to desolation and disaster is rebellion and hardness—not praise to God. Yet, in the face of another lonely winter on strange shores, the Pilgrim fathers came together to give thanks to Almighty God.

The situation they faced was not very promising. The land was strange; the wilderness was filled with enemies whose customs and cunning they did not know. Worse yet, in the summer through which they had just passed about half of their little number had been laid away in death. Did they really have anything for which to offer thanks?

To many people it would seem that a memorial service, or a prayer meeting with a strong cry for mercy and help, would have been more appropriate. But not the Pilgrims! They proved that a thankful heart, filled with faith in God, can always find a way through!

I wonder if there is not a clear parallel between those days and the days in which we live? The mounds of the graves of that Pilgrim group were no more depressing than the multiplied thousands of similar graves the world over, where beneath little white crosses lie the bodies of young Americans and their Allies who have died in war in our generation. The question is just as real now as it must



PHOTO BY A. DEVANEY

have been then—*do we really have anything to be thankful for?* It seems so bitterly true that the last war which was won at such terrible cost has not brought peace, nor any of the four freedoms for which we fought.

When the Civil War had ended and the fighting had stopped, President Lincoln issued a proclamation calling the nation to "humility, prayer, and thanksgiving," for, said he, "we have been the recipients of the choicest bounties of heaven; we have grown and prospered as no other nation... but *we have forgotten God!* We have become too proud to pray to the God who made us."

If one would make a study of the many calls to national thanksgiving since Lincoln's day, he would find a strangely familiar pattern has been repeated: our times of national thanksgiving have been largely limited to times of war or economic distress. As a nation we have not been as thankful to God as we ought.

You ask, "Well, what should I be thankful for?"

You should be thankful for God's gracious supply for your physical needs! It seems shocking that our materialistic age has to be reminded of this simple, fundamental fact. All that we have in the way of material bless-

ings has come from the hand of God, and we should praise Him for it!

"Oh, no!" I hear someone say. "The bread that is on my table I bought with hard-earned money. God didn't put it there. I did!"

This reminds me of the boy carrying a loaf of bread who was stopped by a friend with the question, "Where did you get the bread, son?" "From the baker." "Where did he get it?" "Oh, he made it out of flour." "Where did he get the flour?" "From the miller, who made it from wheat he got from the farmer."

"But where did the farmer get the wheat?" "He harvested it." "Who made the wheat grow?" "I guess God did." "Well then, son, where did you get your bread?" "I guess I got it from God, mister!"

Sometimes grown men, like that boy, have to be driven into a corner before they will acknowledge that the blessings of life have actually come from the hand of God.

Men have invented many comforts—but their inventions have been made out of the things which God created. You should be grateful to God for the supply of your physical and material needs, and you should express your gratitude in thanksgiving to God.

(Continued on page twenty-one)

Brother Balliet recently resigned the office of Administrative Assistant in the Foreign Missions Department at Springfield, Mo., and accepted a call to become pastor of the First Assembly of God in San Diego, Calif.

What do Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter mean to you?

HOLIDAY or HOLY DAY?

BY F. HELEN JARVIS

IN OUR MODERN WAY OF LIFE, WITH its regulated labor and scheduled week-ends, it is refreshing to have the regimentation of our days interrupted by holidays. In present-day thinking a holiday is a day of relaxation, diversion, exemption from toil.

Originally, in olden times, such occasions were called *holy days* and had some religious significance. Such days, observed with appropriate ceremonies, expressed devotion and honor to God. Now, however, the *y* has been changed to *i* and the term has been extended to include any day which has been set apart for special commemoration.

When we turn aside from the modern superficial concept of the term "holiday" to the scriptural background, we find some helpful instruction. We note a different mode of celebrating and catch a new appreciation of God's purpose for each divinely appointed *holy day*.

In Psalm 24:4, David mentioned "holy day" as a time when the multitude went to the house of the Lord. He described it as a time of rejoicing, and he who himself had been down-cast of spirit found it to be a source of satisfaction and renewing of heart.

The Jews were a festival-loving people. They observed many special days in the yearly cycle, most of which were God-instituted and sacred to Him. Many commemorated historical events; others signified a particular covenant relationship to God. Always they centered around the temple and the worship of Jehovah, and were designed to honor God.

Although God is omitted from many of our present-day observances He has always been in favor of holidays and has given definite instructions for their observance. The *holy days* in Scrip-

ture were marked by special offerings and sacrifices, and by particular acts of worship. They were designed as a time of *resting, rejoicing, and remembering*. Physical toil was laid aside, and frequently whole families journeyed to Jerusalem where old friendships were renewed and new acquaintances made.

The sound of praise, thanksgiving, and adoration echoed through the temple courts. As the worshipers partook of the peace offerings, *feasting with the Lord* (not gluttony or carousal) was the purpose of the day. The entire program was calculated to work out for the blessing of everyone—and certainly it was not a time made hideous by accident, tragedy, and death!

"Remembering" was especially important. The holy days were planned that God's goodness and mercy might be brought to mind and become a source of inspiration. The celebrants were to think on His ways and dealings of the past, and thus receive new faith, courage, and strength for the days ahead. As they gloried in past blessings, He met the needs of the present and gave promise for the future.

Bible scholars have found in the ancient holy days a foreshadowing of "greater things to come." Some of these appointed days of rest are typical of the great millennial day of release when the entire earth shall keep a glorious holiday of one thousand years of peace. Other holy days represent the joyous celebrations of the redeemed throughout the endless ages to follow.

Although we do not observe the same events as the Jews, what a contrast there would be if we were to regard our holidays as holy days. Surely God will be greatly pleased if we will set about changing the *i* back to *y* when next we celebrate. Thanksgiving will then be worthy of its name. Christ will be in Christmas. Easter, no longer a fashion parade and a day with a bunny motif, will exalt a risen Saviour possessed of power and great glory. On every occasion, reverence instead of revelry will be the order of the day. The tinsel and gaudy show of this world will be transcended by a halo of divine blessing. Many forgotten values of life will be rediscovered, and new significance and spiritual enrichment be gained. ◀◀



We Are Thankful

Dear Lord, we thank you for the aged ministers of our movement who cared so much for others that they gave the strength of their lives in compassionate, self-denying service.

Thank you, Lord, for material blessings which we can share with them now that their strength is gone and they can no longer provide for themselves. We are giving to you, Lord, as we give to these your servants.

This is our prayer as we give a Thanksgiving love offering to

AGED MINISTERS' ASSISTANCE

434 West Pacific Street, Springfield, Missouri

Imitated by Many—Duplicated by None

BY EVANGELIST JIMMY D. BROWN

IN THIS AGE OF AUTOMATION MANY things are both imitated and duplicated, but I refer you to three things which, though imitated by many, are duplicated by none.

THE WORD OF GOD

God's Word is the greatest literary work of the ages. It is little wonder that it has been imitated but never has it been duplicated.

As the temple was being repaired under Josiah's reign, the high priest found the book of the Law in the temple. That book had been there all the time, but it was only discovered as the temple was being repaired.

At the turn of this century some of God's choice people began to repair the precincts of their own hearts. It was then they discovered that the blessed message of the baptism in the Holy Spirit had been resident in the Word of God all the time. With the elation of a scientist who has made an important discovery, their shouts of "Eureka" reverberated from California to Texas. Thus, this blessed Pentecostal revival began in the manifest hunger for more of God and His Word.

Let us now consider why God's Word, though imitated by many, can be duplicated by none.

First, it is *immutable*. When Jesus was crucified a delegation came to Pilate, dissatisfied with the inscription, "This is Jesus of Nazareth the King of the Jews." They suggested he write that Jesus merely *said* He was the King of the Jews. With words clothed in immortality Pilate answered, "What I have written I have written." This statement is made in the perfect tense in the Greek language which denotes action that took place in the past and is still going on. Therefore, Pilate is saying that what he has already written is still written, and will be forever written.

I think that when Almighty God had completed His divine Library, the Bible, He pronounced over it one great eternal sentence, "What I have written I have written." What a blessed privilege that in this transient age when

ideologies constantly change we have this divine Gibraltar of Scripture which shall never pass away.

Second, it is the only book whose writer cannot be as perfect as its message. God's Word is perfect. None of us is. If God had wanted perfect messengers, He would have chosen angels. But what proof of conversion could mankind see in angels who, having never been befouled by sin, know little if anything about the grace of God. One of the most staggering thoughts of history is that God Almighty did not allow Calvary until He had first allowed His Son to become God incarnate in human flesh to feel our temptations and to partake of our limitations.

Because of the potency of God's Word, the cry of Jeremiah 47:6 is being used today, "O thou sword of the Lord, how long will it be ere thou be quiet? put up thyself into thy scabbard, rest and be still." But what was the answer of Jehovah? "How can it be quiet, seeing the Lord hath given it a charge?" The world would tell us to be still, or to tone down the Word of God concerning our distinctive Pentecostal testimony. But how *can* we be still, seeing the Lord has

given us a charge to let this world know that Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever!

PENTECOST

Pentecost has been imitated by many but duplicated by none. When Jehovah, in the annals of eternity, began to record what He purposed to do, I think He inserted His carbon paper of dual purpose under the chapter on Pentecost and gave to this generation the carbon copy. *This Pentecostal revival is not an appendage to God's Book; it is one of the main chapters.*

We have been ordained of God to make an impact on this world. We must not be content merely to be listed as one of the two hundred plus denominations in the United States.

When the children of Israel became restless at the delay of Moses in the Mount, they said to Aaron, "Up, make us gods, which shall go before us." Our generation also wants a god of convenience, and many religious leaders today are giving people that kind of god. Never has there been so much lip service to God; but, to our shame, never has there been a time when people's hearts were as far from Him. May God help us to walk into the midst of this Athenian spirit and say with Paul, "For as I passed by, and beheld your devotions, I found an altar with this inscription, TO THE UNKNOWN GOD. Whom therefore ye ignorantly worship, him declare I unto you."

Now to be more specific. *Pentecostal worship* has been imitated by many but duplicated by none. Whether it be Pharaoh's magicians, Simon the Sorcerer, or the seven sons of Sceva, Pentecost has had its share of imitations. Why is this so? Because Pentecostal worship is comparable to the anointing oil used in conjunction with the Law in Old Testament times. That anointing oil was unique. No other oil was made like it. It was not to be poured on a stranger. So Pentecostal worship is to be according to God's plan. It is not to be imitated, and God will withhold it from one who is a



Brother Brown in the pulpit during the Youth Service at the General Council, San Antonio.

stranger to the cleansing of the blood of Jesus Christ.

But what about *our* trying to imitate Pentecostal worship? We cannot duplicate the moving of God's Spirit any more than others. All we can do is get our hearts in such tune with God that He can duplicate it. If we merely try to imitate the way the Spirit operated in the Early Church we shall utterly fail. But if we will adhere to the principles of the Early Church, the Spirit himself shall duplicate His operations.

In the Lord's warning to the church at Sardis, He says, "I have not found thy works perfect before God." His exhortation to them is, "Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die." He doesn't tell them to abandon their organization but to receive divine life on that organization. Pentecost produces variety, but variety doesn't produce Pentecost. What we need desperately is the life of God in our services.

The duplication of true Pentecostal worship reminds me of a radio program. We know when it will be on the air. We know there will be a regular procedure. But we also know the station has the prerogative of suddenly interrupting that program "to bring you a special news bulletin." Likewise in true Pentecostal worship, though we may know when the service begins, and may proceed in systematic mode of worship, suddenly, spontaneously, the Holy Spirit can interrupt our plans to bring us a special communique fresh from the Throne.

The *unity of true Pentecost* has been imitated by many but duplicated by none. At the first great General Council of the Church held in Jerusalem, a grave issue was before the brethren. A desperate threat of disunity arose. Certain men which came down from Judea had been teaching the Gentile converts that unless they kept the Mosaic Law and ceremonies they could not be saved. Paul and Barnabas disputed this teaching. Therefore the Judaizers and certain of the apostles, including Paul and Barnabas met at Jerusalem to consider the matter. General Superintendent James handed down his decision. Though the Gentiles were not to be put under the rigors of the Law, it was needful for them to observe certain things. The reason James appealed to the Gentiles to observe these necessary things was that, according to Williams' translation,



SIGNING CONTRACT FOR NEW RETIREMENT HOME

On September 28, Assemblies of God officials took a giant step of faith in the benevolent spirit of the people of our movement, and signed the contract for the erection of a new retirement home in Lakeland, Florida. Shown here affixing his signature to the contract is Ralph M. Riggs, General Superintendent of the Assemblies of God. Looking on are: Curtis W. Ringness, National Secretary of the Department of Benevolences; J. R. Flower, General Secretary; and Charles W. H. Scott, Executive Director of the Department of Benevolences.

In the opinion of Assemblies leaders, a safe and comfortable home is the least we can give to the pioneers of our movement—the first home many of them have ever known. With love gifts from the constituency we will be able to finish this home clear of debt. If you would like to have a part, mail your offering to: Lakeland Retirement Home, 434 West Pacific Street, Springfield, Missouri.

"Moses has had his preachers in every town." Thus there wasn't a town where the Gentiles' conduct would not come under the close scrutiny of the Judaizers. Brethren, paganism and modernism have a preacher in every town at this hour. They are watching us. Let us be as Abram of old who would not strive with Lot because the Canaanites and Perizzites were in the land. By considering those who watch us we shall keep this precious Pentecostal unity.

The dynamic of this Pentecostal unity is found in Acts 15. James said, "For it seemed good to the Holy Ghost and to us." The Williams translation reads, "For the Holy Ghost and we have decided." Think of that! Joint consultation with the Holy Spirit! The Gen-

eral Council ship of destiny has run into some stormy weather on occasions, but the thing that has held her together with pennants streaming and a good head of steam has been that we have been able to say down through the years, "For the Holy Ghost and we have decided!" As long as we can say, "The Holy Ghost and we have decided," then our Captain at the helm of this Pentecostal ship shall guide us into the harbor of fulfilled destiny.

CALVARY

Calvary and its eternal consequences have been imitated by many but duplicated by none. The Gospels record the fact of Calvary, while the Epistles interpret its eternal purpose. But both give us the predominant theme of Cal-

(Continued on page twenty-two)



THIS PRESENT WORLD

Legislation

IMMUNITY GRANTED PENNSYLVANIA CLERGY

A new law in Pennsylvania specifically exempts clergymen from being obliged to divulge in court any information they may have obtained in confidence.

PENNSYLVANIA GETS ANTI-OBSCENITY LAW

Governor David L. Lawrence signed into law a bill passed by the Pennsylvania legislature to define obscenity and to set penalties for persons dealing in obscene literature. The measure provides for a \$2,000 fine and two years in jail for persons convicted of trafficking in lewd literature.

It defines obscenity as anything appealing to "the prurient interest as judged by the average person using contemporary community standards."

National

CONGRESSMEN SEEK FURTHER AMENDMENT TO FLAG PLEDGE

Inclusion of the word "equality" in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the U. S. is proposed by two members of Congress. Joint resolutions to insert the word will be considered by the House Judiciary Committee when Congress reconvenes in January.

If amended, the pledge will be as follows: "I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty, *equality*, and justice for all."

RELIGIONS OF PRESIDENTS SURVEYED

A study recently made in Washington revealed that Protestants are barred from the presidency of several nations where Roman Catholicism is the dominant religion. The study, conducted by POAU, was prompted by charges that Catholics are tacitly banned from the U. S. presidency.

Argentina, Paraguay, Spain, Ireland, and Portugal were some of the countries covered by the study. England,

Denmark, and Norway specifically require a Protestant chief of state.

BLACK HILLS TO GET STATUE OF CHRIST

Senator Francis Case of South Dakota, a Methodist, is leading a campaign to produce a giant statue of Christ in the Black Hills. The Department of the Interior has reserved 224 acres of land in the Black Hills National Forest south of Spearfish, S. Dak., as a potential site, but the cost of the statue must be paid by voluntary contributions.

Plans call for the giant statue of "Christ on the Mountain" to stand on a mountaintop tract with inscriptions from the Sermon on the Mount at its base.

Bible

COMBATING CRIME WITH SCRIPTURES

The New York Bible Society is combatting juvenile crime in the metropolis by distributing Scriptures. Block-by-block, door-to-door visitation is being done by volunteers from local churches who have undertaken to distribute 5,000 Bibles, 10,000 Testaments, and 25,000 Scripture portions in one of the city's most troubled areas. Police are co-operating.

The Society, which is commemorating its 150th anniversary this year, has a goal of providing every New Yorker with the Scriptures in his own language. Society agents regularly visit hospitals, servicemen's centers and bases, ships in port, immigration centers and hotels, distributing Bibles and New Testaments. During the anniversary year more than a million copies of the Scriptures are being distributed. These are printed in 70 languages.

BIBLE FEATURED AT CONGRESSIONAL LIBRARY

Of all the multiplied thousands of books in the Library of Congress at Washington, D. C., none deserves as great honor as the Word of God. It is therefore fitting that the Bible should be featured in a new exhibit on the fifth floor of the Library's imposing marble annex near the Supreme Court Building.

The display emphasizes philological and historical phases of Biblical scholarship. Included in the exhibit are introductions to the Bible, Biblical atlases, bibliographies, indexes, dictionaries, concordances, encyclopedias, and archeological field reports.

WORLDWIDE BIBLE READING TO BEGIN ON THANKSGIVING

This year, as it has done each year since 1943, the American Bible Society is again promoting the Worldwide Bible Reading program from Thanksgiving to Christmas. The 1959 theme, *THE EVERLASTING LIGHT*, was chosen to remind us that the entrance of God's Word gives the holy light we need in a world that is darkened by pride, selfishness, and every carnal sin. It points to Christ, the Light of the World, who brings the light of the knowledge of the glory of God into every heart and home that will open to Him.

Begun during World War Two by the request of an unknown Marine on Guadalcanal for a Bible-reading fellowship with his family in the U.S., the worldwide effort has joined Christians of various nationalities and races in reading the same Bible text each day. The Scripture selections are printed on paper bookmarks. Over 60 million copies of these bookmarks have been distributed all over the world, and last year they were translated into Korean, Spanish, Greek, Thai, Chinese, and Portuguese for local circulation.

You will find the list of daily readings on the opposite page. Clip it, if you do not have the bookmark, and keep it in your Bible. Join Christians around the world in daily Bible reading, both in your private devotions and in your family worship.

THE EVERLASTING LIGHT



WORLDWIDE BIBLE READING

AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY

THANKSGIVING TO CHRISTMAS

1959

In the darkest night
there still shines the
everlasting light of God's truth

NOVEMBER

26 Thanksgiving. Psalms.	103:1-22
27 Psalms.	23:1-6
28 Psalms.	46:1-11
29 Advent	
Sunday. Acts.	9:1-9
30 Romans.	5:1-21

DECEMBER

1 Romans.	8:1-17
2 Romans.	8:18-39
3 Romans.	12:1-21
4 1 Corinthians.	13:1-13
5 Acts.	9:10-31
6 Sunday. Matthew.	5:1-16
7 Matthew.	5:17-32
8 Matthew.	5:33-48
9 Matthew.	6:1-15
10 Matthew.	6:16-34
11 Matthew.	7:1-12
12 Matthew.	7:13-28
13 Universal Bible	
Sunday. Acts.	10:30-48
14 Isaiah.	9:2-7
15 Isaiah.	11:1-9
16 Isaiah.	35:1-10
17 Isaiah.	40:1-11
18 Isaiah.	42:1-13
19 Acts.	11:19-30
20 Sunday. Luke.	2:1-20
21 Isaiah.	53:1-12
22 Isaiah.	55:1-13
23 Isaiah.	61:1-11
24 Jeremiah.	31:31-37
25 Christmas. Matthew.	2:1-12

For the last six days of the year, these passages are recommended:

26 1 Corinthians.	15:15-38
27 Sunday. Acts.	12:1-17
28 Galatians.	6:1-10
29 Ephesians.	4:1-16
30 Philippians.	2:1-18
31 Hebrews.	11:1-16

AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY

(Dept. U)

450 Park Ave., New York 22, N.Y.

Your Questions



ANSWERED BY ERNEST S. WILLIAMS

If the dead in Christ are to rise first, where are they now?

At present they are "absent from the body" and "present with the Lord" (2 Corinthians 5:6; Philippians 1:21). When Jesus comes "them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him" that they might receive their glorified bodies (1 Thessalonians 4:14).

In 1 John 4:2 it says, "Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God." We know there are many who declare that Jesus is come in the flesh who are not of God. Can you explain?

In 1 John 4:1-3 John is warning, primarily, against what is called *gnosticism* which was beginning to trouble the Church. This was a teaching that all sin is in the flesh, or all flesh is sinful. The only way to be free from sin, they said, was to be delivered from the flesh. Thus, if Jesus was sinless He could not have had a human body; therefore He must not have come in the flesh. John would have the believers know that such teaching was anti-Christian. Jesus did have a human, fleshly body. John was opposing false inspiration, persons who seemed to be under the influence of a false spirit, declaring that Jesus was not come in the flesh. Divine inspiration would acknowledge that "the Word became flesh and dwelt among us."

Did Adam and Eve have immortal bodies before they sinned?

The Lord gave Adam and Eve the right to eat of all the trees in the garden, except the tree of the knowledge of good and evil (Genesis 2:16, 17). This indicates that it was necessary that they feed the body in order to sustain life. The Scripture indicates also that they had not yet eaten of the tree of life (3:22). From this we would judge that in the process of time they might have died, or God would have handled their future in some other way. But when they sinned there was no way for them other than death (2:17).

How should people be treated who are expelled from the Church?

A regular member should be dealt with according to Matthew 18:15-18. If he has to be excommunicated, refuse him the Lord's Supper (1 Corinthians 5:11, 12) and yet "treat him not as an enemy, but admonish him as a brother" (1 Thessalonians 3:15). While letting him know that we cannot endorse that which he has done, we should do what we can to win him back into fellowship with the Lord and the Church.

Then there are those who persist in propagating false doctrine. "Mark them which cause divisions and offenses contrary to the doctrine which you have learned; and avoid them" (Romans 16:17). Keep away from their influence.

Finally, there were those who troubled the Early Church, denying that our Lord Jesus had a material body. John advised against even welcoming such as guests (2 John 10, 11). But let all things be done in a Christian spirit, not in bitterness.

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).



A. R. Ephraums, blind piano tuner, of Springfield, Mo.

Blind Piano Tuner Has Unique Ministry

By Ruth Lyon

MR. A. R. EPHRAUMS IS A BLIND piano tuner in Springfield, Missouri. Often he comes into the National Home Missions office to assist Maxine Strobbridge, supervisor of the Deaf and Blind ministries, by reading letters in Braille that she receives.

Recently he told us, "The *Adult Student* quarterly in Braille is a real help to me, for it clarifies the Sunday school lesson as I study through the week. The quarterly is invaluable to many blind persons I know who live alone and who have no other means of study."

And he added, "I also enjoy the *Pentecostal Digest* sent out by Mrs. Whitney."

Mr. Ephraums has been a piano tuner for thirty-six years, six of which he has spent in the United States. He brought his family to the States after Ceylon became independent because conditions became worse for minority groups not following the Buddhist or Mohammedan religions. This man, although blind, had had a private income from a business interest, a coconut plantation, and a beautiful house on the island.

Starting over in a new country, with most of the financial resources drained, would have been a major step even for a sighted person. Many times the

Ephraums family did not know from where the next meal was coming, but they trusted God to take care of them. God did see them through and they were able to make ends meet. Now they have a comfortable home and living. Through it all, Mr. Ephraums says that the Lord has taught them valuable lessons in faith.

Born blind on the southern coast of the island of Ceylon, Dick Ephraums was taken, when six years old, to Germany to the best eye surgeon in the world. After examination the surgeon told the father that the child's optic nerve had not developed normally and that, in his opinion, the case was hopeless. At the age of thirteen Dick was sent to England where he was educated in a school for the Blind and Deaf, Royal Normal College in London. This school was founded by a blind American, Sir Francis Campbell, who was graduated from a school for the Blind in the United States and was later knighted in England.

Dick's parents were descendants of early Dutch settlers and were nominal Christians. His father, a fairly well-to-do businessman, wanted his son Dick to have the advantages of a good education. The parents wisely decided not to pamper their son because of his handicap, but rather to help him learn

to live as normal a life as possible.

Dick majored in piano technology. He plays the piano himself and sometimes assists in this capacity in gospel services.

At the age of twenty-nine, Brother Ephraums became a born-again Christian a year after his marriage, through the influence of his wife and other Christians. Mrs. Ephraums, a sighted person, was a born-again Presbyterian.

The Ephraums were very prejudiced against the Assemblies of God at that time. One evening after Mr. Ephraums was saved and while they were still trying to determine what church to join, they decided to attend the Assemblies of God tabernacle in Colombo and see for themselves what it was like. The atmosphere was so different that it gripped their hearts immediately. The pastor was away and the man in charge gave his testimony concerning how the Lord had healed his eyes. "This is the place," they said to each other. Later they joined the Assemblies. Mrs. Ephraums soon received the baptism of the Holy Spirit; but Brother Ephraums did not receive until a few years later.

Mr. Ephraums tunes pianos in colleges, public schools and private homes. Back in Ceylon, the majority of people he contacted in his work were

Buddhists or Mohammedans—some were Buddhist priests. Here in America it is not much better in that regard. Most of the homes in which he tunes pianos are not Christian.

Also, Mr. Ephraums has built a succession of hi-fi sets that compare favorably with the most expensive on the market; and he has built more than one P.A. System for friends, some of whom are evangelists. People have confidence in him and he has been able to give spiritual help to many customers who have opened their hearts to him in their homes. Thus, his blindness has actually made possible a unique ministry. Mr. Ephraums also promotes the Assemblies of God ministry to the Blind as he has opportunity to speak in Assemblies churches as well as churches of other denominations.

Brother Ephraums still feels that God is going to heal his eyes some day; but, if not, he is happy that God has graciously given him opportunity to use his blindness as an avenue of approach to souls in spiritual darkness.

* * *

Your offering for ministry to the Blind may be sent, clearly designated **BRaille QUARTERLY FUND**, to the Home Missions Department, 434 West Pacific St., Springfield 1, Mo.

Thankful for Braille Literature

The following testimony, received from a blind young man, Franklin Groff, is an example of many such letters on file in the Home Missions Department:

"Since it has been my happy privilege to receive the Adult Student quarterly in Braille, I can say that the Sunday school lessons mean so much more to me! Thanks very much for making them available to me. I also enjoy the notes at the end of the lessons, for these discussions make the lessons more interesting. It is also nice to have all the lessons of the quarter at one time. I am so glad that the Assemblies of God has taken up this project for the Blind, for they will receive sound doctrine in these lessons. I know the teaching is true, for I have experienced salvation and the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

"I am glad, too, for the *Pentecostal Digest*. I enjoy reading about the experiences of others in the faith. Thanks again for all you have done for me."



Those Searching Fingers

Did you ever watch the sensitive fingers of a blind person move rapidly across a page of tiny raised dots? While the jumble of dots means nothing to us, they spell out every word a blind person ever reads. They communicate to him; they tell him many things he would never know otherwise.

Now those searching fingers may read the message of life and hope through the pages of our own **ADULT STUDENT QUARTERLY**.

The Assemblies of God provides the only full-gospel literature available for the Blind. The Home Missions Department does not charge a subscription price for Braille quarterlies to the Blind. But printing costs, which are steadily increasing, must be paid. The Adult Braille quarterly, produced by the Howe Press for the Assemblies, requires 144 pages. The cost is \$5 per set for one year. About 180 persons are already on the mailing list which grows every week.

Recently it was necessary for the department to purchase a multigraph Braille duplicating machine for Mrs. Whitney, a Wisconsin housewife who provides *The Pentecostal Digest* and children's quarterlies in Braille for the national Home Missions Department. The new machine has greatly improved the quality of the braille and also helps Mrs. Whitney to produce more literature. The purchase of the machine depleted the fund set aside by the department for this newest special ministry. Please use the coupon below to send a generous offering today for the **BRaille QUARTERLY FUND**.

HOME MISSIONS DEPARTMENT

434 West Pacific Street

Springfield, Missouri

Please use the enclosed offering of \$..... to provide the **ADULT STUDENT QUARTERLY** in Braille for a blind person.

MY NAME IS

ADDRESS

CITY STATE

NAME OF CHURCH

Revivaltime

MINISTERS TO THE SICK and AFFLICTED

*A Compilation of Excerpts from
Letters of Grateful Listeners*

BY STANLEY MICHAEL

HEALING HAS ALWAYS BEEN ONE OF the fundamental beliefs wherever the Pentecostal message has gone. Radio Evangelist C. M. Ward prays each Sunday night, over the *Revivaltime* network broadcast, for those in physical need and God graciously answers this prayer of faith.

A letter from a pastor in Maryland expresses the expectancy of God's power at work during this moment of the broadcast when Brother Ward prays for the afflicted.

"For *Revivaltime's* initial broadcast over our station, two of my deacons and I hurried to the home of a dear new convert who is reaching out for healing. We wanted to join you in prayer with her. She had lost the use of her legs completely but God has restored movement to them. However, as yet she has not been able to walk. Her stomach and kidneys have been healed.

"As you came to the close of your first message on our station, the glory of God was manifest in that room. This lady had been suffering terribly in her head with pain and soreness, and when you prayed for the sick every one in that room began to weep—Jesus drew so near. The distress in

her head is gone. Yesterday she appeared better than we have seen her yet. To God be all the glory."

From many points around the world, letters of testimony have come in response to these few moments that are given each week to praying for those in need physically. *Through His stripes we are healed*, and by expressing faith in His atonement we are made whole. There is no disease or affliction too hard for Him to cure. We hope the following testimonies will inspire your faith to believe Him for your healing or the healing of a friend. God is no respecter of persons; what He has done for others He can and will do for you.

Mrs. M., Cumberland, Maine

"My husband has been practically deaf for two years due to an attack of sinus. During your broadcast he got his hearing back. Thank God. It was when you mentioned healing that he received his hearing."

Mrs. M., Yuma, Arizona

"We listened to your message Sunday afternoon as usual, and enjoyed it very much. When you prayed for the sick you mentioned several diseases

—the last one you mentioned was nervousness. Brother Ward, I felt you were meaning that for me. I said, 'Yes, Lord, that is for me,' and asked Him to completely remove this nervousness. I have felt relaxed ever since."

Mrs. K., St. Cloud, Minnesota

"About a year ago I was healed of a gall bladder attack through your prayers. We have a great God and *Revivaltime* is a great program to tell the world about Him."

Mrs. M., Hagerstown, Maryland

"I wrote to you about six weeks ago requesting prayer for my precious baby girl. She was desperately ill of nephrosis, but prayer has been answered and now she is on the road to recovery. I do thank the Lord, and am grateful to you and everybody at *Revivaltime* who prayed."

Mrs. B., Salina, Kansas

"I want to praise God for His marvelous healing miracle performed in my life. It was through your prayers. My friend wrote you and your prayer group prayed. God wonderfully healed my body and restored me to my right mind."

E. R., Hubbard, Ohio

"A friend of mine passed a tumor without surgery after sending in to *Revivaltime* for prayer some time ago. Record of this is at a local hospital. Feeling fine now."

Mrs. P., Benicia, California

"I happily received your healing cloth and put it on my side. Today, after coming home from church, I noticed the big lump on my side has gone and all the pain and soreness is gone.

"As my mother, grandmother, and an aunt passed away with cancer, I have always felt this could happen to me. When I went to the hospital they told me it could be possible. They tried to keep me there but somehow God saw fit to have them release me.

"Then nine months later I got worse. When I wrote you I was in serious condition—I couldn't even stand. I cried to God all night in prayer before I wrote to you. Thank God, I am healed and Jesus is my doctor!"

Mrs. K., Minneapolis, Minnesota

"I am so grateful that you offered prayer for me at my request. I heard your program only because some way the dial on my radio had been moved from its usual setting. I never have heard you since, but when you prayed

for all who were sick and said, 'Just raise your hand,' I did. All the terrible pain in my neck and head has left me for good. I thank our good loving Lord for it all."

* * *

Many of the letters coming to *Revivaltime* express a looking forward to that part of the broadcast when prayer will be offered for their healing. When we are well and strong, it is hard to feel as they feel who are sick and afflicted. But we can help to keep this message of hope and healing going to them.

Your letter this week will mean a great deal toward sending this glorious gospel message to millions. One of your loved ones may be the next to be helped through this ministry. Send your letter to *Revivaltime*, Box 70, Springfield, Missouri.

REVIVALTIME GIVING

TOP DISTRICTS

January 1 to September 30, 1959

TOTAL GIVING

1. Eastern\$14,325.62
2. Northwest 10,984.02

AVERAGE GIVING PER CHURCH

1. Montana\$ 65.68
2. New Jersey 60.22

INCREASE IN TOTAL GIVING

1. Eastern\$ 2,156.45
2. Rocky Mountain 1,645.96

INCREASE IN AVERAGE GIVING

1. Rocky Mountain\$ 12.68
2. Southern Idaho 10.41

GREATEST GAIN IN NUMBER OF CHURCHES GIVING

1. Arkansas 16
2. Minnesota 11
3. N. Calif. & Nev. 11
4. Potomac 11
5. Wisc. & N. Mich. 11

PERCENTAGE OF GAIN IN NUMBER OF CHURCHES GIVING

1. South Dakota 14%
2. Nebraska 11%

RADIO NEWS FLASH!

The following stations have been added to the *Revivaltime* radio log:

MACON, GEORGIA (WNEX)
1400 kc.—250 Watts
Sundays, 10:00 p.m.

EUSTIS, FLORIDA (WLCO)
1240 kc.—250 Watts
Sundays, 9:00 a.m.

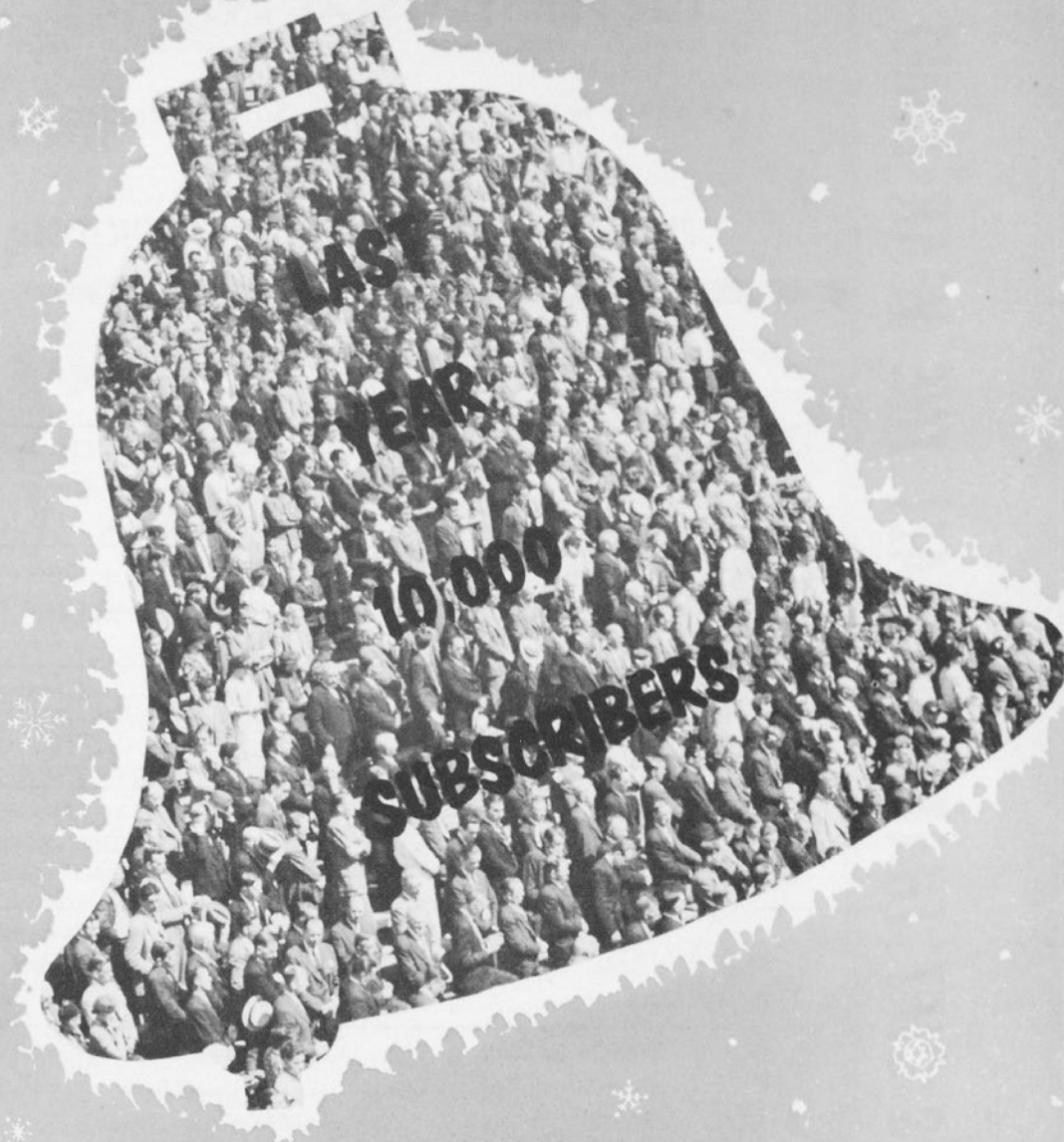
DETROIT, MICHIGAN (WMUZ-FM)
103.5 mc.—20,000 Watts
Sundays, 10:30 p.m.

WOODWARD, OKLAHOMA (KSIW)
1450 kc.—250 Watts

CHANGE OF TIME
JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA (WQIK)
Sundays, 9:00 a.m.

November 22, 1959

MAKE THIS AN "EVANGEL" CHRISTMAS



LAST YEAR NEARLY
10,000 PEOPLE RECEIVED
EVANGEL SUBSCRIPTIONS
FROM READERS WHO
WANTED TO SHARE
EVANGEL BLESSINGS

THIS YEAR GIVE
THE EVANGEL
AND MAKE
1960 A YEAR
OF BLESSING TO
MANY ON YOUR
CHRISTMAS LIST

You Can Still Get-

- * FREE GIFT CARDS
- * SPECIAL LOW RATES
- * DEFERRED PAYMENTS
- * BONUS FOR CASH

THIS SPECIAL
OFFER EXPIRES
DECEMBER 15,
SO DON'T DELAY

TURN PAGE FOR HANDY ORDER BLANK

THE PENTECOSTAL EVANGEL

434 W. PACIFIC STREET

SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI

Here is my list of Gift Subscriptions:

☐

PLEASE BILL ME

☐

CASH IS ENCLOSED

YOU MAY INCLUDE YOUR OWN SUBSCRIPTION
AT THESE SPECIAL RATES

1 for \$ 2.50	SEND TO _____	<input type="checkbox"/> renewal
	ADDRESS _____	<input type="checkbox"/> new
	CITY _____	
	ZONE _____ STATE _____	
2 for \$ 4.50	SEND TO _____	<input type="checkbox"/> renewal
	ADDRESS _____	<input type="checkbox"/> new
	CITY _____	
	ZONE _____ STATE _____	
3 for \$ 6.50	SEND TO _____	<input type="checkbox"/> renewal
	ADDRESS _____	<input type="checkbox"/> new
	CITY _____	
	ZONE _____ STATE _____	
4 for \$ 8.50	SEND TO _____	<input type="checkbox"/> renewal
	ADDRESS _____	<input type="checkbox"/> new
	CITY _____	
	ZONE _____ STATE _____	
5 for \$ 10	SEND TO _____	<input type="checkbox"/> renewal
	ADDRESS _____	<input type="checkbox"/> new
	CITY _____	
	ZONE _____ STATE _____	
6 for \$ 12	SEND TO _____	<input type="checkbox"/> renewal
	ADDRESS _____	<input type="checkbox"/> new
	CITY _____	
	ZONE _____ STATE _____	
Person Sending Order	MY NAME IS _____	
	MY ADDRESS _____	
	CITY _____	ZONE _____ STATE _____

*Rates listed are for the U.S., its possessions, U. S. servicemen abroad, and P.U.A.S. countries. In CANADA, add 50c for postage for each subscription. In OTHER LANDS, add \$1.75 for postage for each subscription.

We are glad to bill you for your order, but billing is expensive. If you send cash, we will send you one of C. M. Ward's inspiring books.

(Please check first and second choice below)

☐

Thou Shalt Be Saved

☐

What Are They Saying About Divine Healing?

☐

Why I Do Not Pray to the Mother of God

☐

Marriage Insurance

☐

When the Archangel Michael Fights for Israel

New Training Month Book Emphasizes New Testament Christianity

SPRINGFIELD, MO.—A new book entitled *The Church Begins* has been selected by the National Sunday School Department as the 1960 Training Month book.

Co-authored by D. V. Hurst and T. J. Jones, the book is a running commentary on the first twelve chapters of the Book of Acts. It emphasizes the spiritual principles on which Christ built His Church and traces the pattern of its phenomenal expansion in those early years. Chapter by chapter it presents basic truths that are vital in the present growth of Assemblies of God Sunday schools.

Both of the authors are well known Pentecostal leaders. D. V. Hurst is national secretary of the Radio Department. Formerly he served seven years in the National Sunday School Department. T. J. Jones is the Dean of North Central Bible College in Minneapolis. He is well known as a camp-meeting speaker and Bible expositor.

January will be Training Month throughout the Assemblies of God and it is hoped that the study of *The Church Begins* will result in a new outpouring of Pentecostal blessings in all our Sunday schools. It is believed that all Sunday school workers who study this book will become more effective in their service for God.

THANKSGIVING SEASON!

Thanksgiving season comes at "the dying of the year," when frost has stricken flower and tree, and land is preparing for a winter of bleakness and cold. But the year's harvest is in, and the barns are full. Though dreariness and storm may appear at any hour, there is gratitude to God for His gifts. So even in presence of impending sorrow, we praise God. Every season of life brings similar experiences. The loyal Christian soon begins to understand that there never is a time when God may not be praised. In the midst of disappointment, sorrow or temptation, he knows there are joys even then to be harvested. Sometimes the future's bitter trials are quite overshadowed by the coming of a sudden blessing which God long has been preparing. For that blessing the Christian is quick to thank God, and from his newly stimulated faith in God's love, he gains strength against the future's testing.

—Selected



Greetings From Gracie

BY FRANK D. COTTINGHAM

THE CITY OF CHARLESTON, N. C., where we pastor the First Assembly of God, certainly claimed its share of trouble the week of September 27. Hurricane Gracie roared in from the sea on Tuesday, delivering unmerciful punches for several hours. On Thursday, when residents had hardly begun digging out from the tons of debris, a tremendous explosion rocked the city as an oil tank containing 2½ million gallons of high-octane gasoline blew up at the Esso Refinery. Firemen in asbestos suits battled the blaze for two days and nights.

Two persons were dead as a result of the hurricane, and Charleston alone counted damage at more than \$7 million. But the number of lives lost might have been much higher had we not been constantly informed of the need for precautions. Tuesday morning tension and suspense were in the very air. High winds screamed through thrashing tree tops and roared viciously around the buildings. Most places of business were closed and of course schools were not opened. Traffic was at a standstill. Radio and TV announcers kept the ether waves charged with storm warnings and bulletins. About 9 a.m. I heard one announcer say, "We are operating on emergency power. It may fail at any moment." Not long after that his station joined the others already ominously silent.

Thousands of homes including our own were without electricity, and many telephones out of order. Others had only one way service. We were relieved to discover our phone was working.

Our Sunday school superintendent, who was working around the clock at the Navy Yard, was in touch with the hurricane news. He called his home frequently, and we would call his wife to get the latest reports. Shortly after ten o'clock came the climaxing warning. The eye of the storm would strike Folly Beach (ten miles from Charleston) in less than two hours!

Many called upon God during those terrible hours, and the local newspaper reported that "residents thanked their stars that Gracie hit at almost dead low tide. If she had arrived at high water, seas might have boosted the damage toll to incredible heights." Gracie's winds, which reached 125 miles an hour in gusts, rank her among the century's most powerful storms.

We were reminded of the "mighty wind" mentioned in Revelation 6:13. In that same chapter we read of a time when men shall beg for the mountains and rocks to "fall on us and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb."

Such a time is actually coming, and God is utilizing every avenue of communication to warn men to prepare for inevitable judgment. There are signs all about us to say it won't be long.

Where shall we hide? How shall we escape? What shall we do to prepare? Again the Bible has the answer. "A man shall be as an hiding place from the wind, and a covert from the tempest" (Isaiah 32:2).

This Man is Christ Jesus. He is our only hope. The same God who

pronounced judgment upon our sins has also provided us with a refuge in His Son. You can't hide from God, but you can hide *in* Him. He only asks that we appropriate that refuge by coming to Him in faith and believing. "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

GOD'S FORGIVENESS

How prone are men to defend their conduct! First one will say that he is no worse than others (as though one might escape in the crowd). Then he will tell of good things he has done.

But God and His standard know nothing of such escape. The divine law says only, "The soul that sinneth, it shall die," and again, "The wages of sin is death."

It is good to know, however, that though God can look with no favor upon sin—can excuse it not at all—He is the very one who has provided a way of salvation. Paul at Antioch preached God's provision in Christ, saying, "Through this man is preached unto you the forgiveness of sins."

"Forgiveness"—what a rich and wonderful word—if one knows his sin and lost condition. And note, Dr. Owen writes, "The forgiveness that is with God is such as becomes Him. It is not like that narrow, difficult, halving and manacled forgiveness that is found among men; but it is full, free, boundless, bottomless, absolute, and before which our sins are as a cloud before the east wind and a rising sun."

TYPHOON VERA WRECKS NAGOYA

BY NETTIE JUERGENSEN

Missionary to Japan



Photo by N. Juergensen
Funagata Church

TYPHOON VERA, PACKING WINDS UP to 135 miles an hour, hit Nagoya, Japan, the evening of September 26. By 8 'clock the storm picked up such fury that the people of Nagoya realized this was not an ordinary typhoon.

The noise from the furious wind, flying tile and timbers, and other debris was so great that one could hardly hear what was being said by others in the house. Roofs and fences were blown away; whole houses collapsed. People braced themselves against doors and windows to keep them from blowing in, but the wind was stronger and hundreds of homes had their doors and windows smashed by the typhoon.

It was a terrible nightmare, but the worst was yet to come.

When the wind had somewhat abated, the people thought the storm was about over. They began trying to pick up their scattered possessions and to make a dry place to sleep, or to save some of their belongings from leaks in the roof. *Then the dikes gave way!* The river flooded in from the ocean through the broken sea walls. In about five minutes a wall of water had enveloped the lowlands and washed away hundreds of homes. About 5000 lost their lives.

Stories from survivors of that ordeal are heart-rending. One little girl was rescued from the rafters of a house after having clung there for two days and nights. She had been awakened by her father's shouting to the family to climb onto the roof. They started out together and the little girl tried to keep close to her mother but unavoidably the family was separated. The child managed to grasp the rafters of the house and hang on. Her whole family was lost—she alone was saved.

A mother, in her haste, strapped her baby onto her back when the waters came into the house. She fought



Photo by Pastor Kilagiri
Sleeping mats placed on the roof to dry.



Photo by Robert Frivold
Damage was heavy to the home of missionaries.



Photo by Robert Frivold
In Minami-Ku alone 900 people lost their lives.

with all her might until she was able to get atop a house, only to find that her baby was not with her: the sash with which she had secured the baby to her back was there but the baby was gone!

Thirty children marooned in the upstairs of a school building with their teacher watched the make-shift rafts as they went by, carrying the bloated, filthy bodies of the dead. They watched to see if perchance they might catch a glimpse of their parents or some member of their families.

One of our Christians in the Funagata church stayed in her home until the water was neck deep in their downstairs. Her husband found a big board and helped her and three preschool children on it from the upstairs. They worked their way to safety. Minutes later the house collapsed. When we visited them a few days ago the husband and wife were digging around in the debris trying to salvage a few tools. He is a door maker. Some of the tools will be usable again, but most of them will be too rusty to be of much service for they remained in the salt water for several days. Most of their belongings were lost. We tried to encourage them and offered our help, but they smiled and answered, "Thank you. We are just so happy to have our family safe; these things we can acquire again."

We went on down the street a few doors, wading flood waters that were sometimes above our knees. We stopped at another home and saw a little mother whose husband was sick. She was working away in her kitchen though the water was half way up on the work bench. She was standing on a

bench to keep out of the water. She too said how thankful they were that their family had been spared.

None of the Christians of either of our churches was killed nor injured for which we are grateful. Most of the Christians from the Funagata church lost all their belongings, however. The water was waist deep in the church there. The little organ was completely submerged for two days and other furniture was badly damaged.

Scarcely a house in Nagoya and the surrounding area escaped damage. Our Amatsuka church had the roof of the entrance torn off and about 100 tiles from the main building were blown off or broken. Several windows were also broken. The roof to the parsonage rooms was damaged and the straw mats were soaked so that they will hardly be usable again. My own garage was completely destroyed, the roof to the house damaged, and several things in the house were damaged.

This has been the worst natural disaster in the history of Japan, authorities say. The people will be lonely and needy for months and years to come as a result of it. The missionaries and nationals have been working side by side to help relieve the suffering. We have dived into our drums of reserve clothing and bedding until there is nothing left. How we have wished for more. As the winter comes on there will be a lot of suffering by those who have lost their homes and clothing.

The Ward office was turned into a morgue, with row after row of the dead lined up. Friends would go up and down the lines, lifting the straw mats from this one and that one in

search of their missing loved ones. If the bodies were not claimed in three days, they were loaded into a truck and hauled to the edge of the city and burned in big piles. Back of the Ward office was a temporary crematory where the bodies of those who had been claimed were cremated. We saw the people waiting in lines to receive the ashes of their loved ones.

The U. S. Security forces have come to the rescue and have done a wonderful job, helping to lift the stranded to places of refuge, and carrying food and clothing to them by helicopters. The first two days they dropped rice balls, wrapped in plastic bags, to those marooned on housetops. Schools have become refugee centers, and school children have gone out in squads to help clean up the city.

If you can possibly imagine the awfulness of the typhoon devastation, I'm sure you will want to help. Funds to help repair church buildings are greatly needed, but along with that we need GOOD, WARM, CLEAN clothing and bedding. The sooner we can have these things the better. Winter is just around the corner and hundreds of poor people are sleeping on the cold floor without as much as a blanket.

If you should like to have a part in relieving the suffering of our Christians in Nagoya, send your offering to the Foreign Missions Department, 434 West Pacific St., Springfield, Mo. Designate the offering JAPAN RELIEF. Thousands of dollars are needed! Should you like to send clothing and bedding to Japan, address them to Oriental Relief Agency, 907 So. Huson Street, Tacoma 6, Washington.



Photo by N. Juergensen
Flooded street in the Funagata area.



Photo by Robert Frivold
Sad search for missing relatives.

"Wanta Talk, Mom?"

BY MARGARET N. FREEMAN



THE OTHER NIGHT MY SIXTEEN-year-old son was getting ready for bed. I was already in, half groggy with sleep after a hard day.

"Wanta talk, Mom?" he asked.

"Can't we talk in the morning?" I murmured sleepily.

"Sure, Mom." He ambled off to bed.

The next day, wide awake and wondering what it was he had wanted to talk about the night before, the only answer I got was: "Oh, nothing. I just wanted to talk—that's all!"

Now I shall never know. Maybe there was nothing earth-shaking in what I passed up, but I am sorry I missed it just the same, for those 'nothing much' conversations have a way of veering in so many directions. They open the way for a special passage into a growing-up boy's private dream world of hopes and plans. They reveal much about his friends and activities. They bring troubling questions out into the open, and provide privacy to discuss things too profound or special for busy daytime hours. Thoughts and intents and spiritual longings often become transparent as parent and child talk heart-to-heart.

It is said that "opportunity knocks but once." In a way that is true, for while opportunities may return they never seem to do so in quite the same garb.

I wonder how many times the knock of opportunity is muffled and even unheard altogether in the busy clamor of living. That day we neglect family prayers and Bible study may very well be the day that is weak in testimony to unsaved friends. And it may be the day the children need courage for some difficult decision.

These are the swiftly passing days when we have our children near us to talk to them, pray with them, or lovingly exhort. It is our chance to punish when needed, to show our love and understanding, to lay the groundwork for right decisions in the future. Yet how many opportunities we bypass because of mental sleepiness brought on by an avalanche of busyness.

We yell for the children to come in from play to wash and clean up for mealtime. "I didn't hear you, Mom," they say, when our impatient voices finally penetrate.

They become so intrigued by the pleasure or play at hand, Mother's familiar call hums like a troublesome mosquito—its monotonous sound so well known there's no need to identify it.

It's slapped off and forgotten for the moment!

So we become disgusted at times and wonder: do they *ever* listen to anything we say? Ah yes, they catch far more than we think! So when they come bright-eyed in their tiny days, or in the wonderful growing-up days, with voices eager to confide, in those rare, sweet times of fellowship, let's be ready to put away the busyness, the seeming lack of concern. Let's listen!

It works two ways. If we are willing to listen with sympathy, understanding, and tact when they are ready to talk to us, they in turn will be more ready to listen to us when we have something we want to get across to them.

PICTURE PUZZLE FOR THE JUNIOR READER

-P+ -CT + -OSE+ -AIR
 -BT+6-1x
 -E -T+5-FI
 -UT+E 8-EGH
 -S+ -E 1
 -RO 3-RE
 L+ -P+T 2-TW+F
3-RE+7-VEN M+ -EE
 -AD+3-E+N
 -E -CIR+5-FI
 -G+1-O 8-EGH
 -G+2-W -N

Matthew 25:40



The Family Altar



PRAYER REQUESTS • DAILY BIBLE READINGS BY R. G. CHAMPION • MISSIONARY BIRTHDAYS

Monday, November 23

Read: Galatians 6:1-6

Learn: "Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ" (Galatians 6:2).

For the Parent: This passage deals with the Christian's relationships to other Christians. Discuss these: (1) the case of one who sins, v. 1; (2) the case of one who is burdened, vv. 2-5; and (3) the case of one who teaches, v. 6. In each instance discuss what we are to do and why we are to do it. Point out that the true Christian should think of the needs of others before his own.

Question Time: What relationships between Christians are discussed in this passage? (see above) What are we to do and why?

Missionary Birthday: Harland A. Park, Hong Kong.

Tuesday, November 24

Read: Galatians 6:7-10, 14-18

Learn: "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap" (Galatians 6:7).

For the Parent: From this passage discuss: (1) the unalterable law of the harvest—we will reap what we sow, whether it be good or bad, vv. 7-9; (2) the attitude of the Christian in his relationships with others, v. 10; (3) the Christian's glory—the Cross, v. 14; (4) the conclusion of the epistle—by becoming new creatures in Christ, not by keeping the Law, are we saved, vv. 15-18.

Question Time: How are we saved? (See above) What is the law of the harvest? (See above)

Missionary Birthdays: Ralph Buchanan (Indian), N. C.; Anna Cochran (Deaf), Ohio; Everett L. Phillips, Field Secretary, Africa; De Etta Butler, Liberia; Mrs. Clarence Ollson, Venezuela; Mildred Kimball (Indian), Wis.

Wednesday, November 25

Read: Genesis 41:38-57

Learn: "Them that honor me I will honor, and they that despise me shall be lightly esteemed" (1 Samuel 2:30).

For the Parent: (Additional material on "Joseph, Ruler in Egypt" will be found on Sunday's Lesson page.) Review the story of Joseph as studied thus far. Emphasize his faithfulness to God in spite of the hard trials he faced. Because of this faithfulness, God rewarded and honored Joseph. Discuss how this was accomplished—through Pharaoh's dream—and the new position given Joseph.

Question Time: What important lesson can

we learn from Joseph's life? How did God reward him?

Missionary Birthday: John Stetz, Korea.

Thursday, November 26

THANKSGIVING DAY

Read (in unison or responsively): Psalm 103

Learn: "Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits" (Psalm 103:2).

For the Parent: From this psalm review some of the blessings the Lord has given your family. Point out how we are prone to take some of God's blessings for granted, but instead we should always remember to thank God for all He has given us. Let each member of the group name things for which he is thankful, bringing out both spiritual and natural blessings.

Question Time: What are some reasons given in this psalm why we should thank God?

Missionary Birthdays: Charles Hadden (Indian), N. C.; Mrs. Ernest G. Jones, Nyasaland; Mrs. Ernest Lindholm, Belgian Congo; Mary Orphan, Greece; Mrs. Omar Goins, Hawaii.

Friday, November 27

Read: Luke 11:1-13 (Sunday's Lesson for Juniors)

Learn: "If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you" (John 15:7).

For the Parent: Prayer is a vital part of the Christian's life. It is his direct

connection with God. Therefore, it is important that we know how to pray. That was the request of the disciples. Discuss the model prayer Jesus gave them, showing its various emphases. Also read and discuss Psalm 66:18 and John 14:13, 14. Prayer should include praise and thanksgiving as well as petition.

Question Time: Why is prayer so important to the Christian?

Missionary Birthdays: Mrs. Talmadge F. Butler, Senegal; William Ponge, Alaska; John McPherson (Indian), Calif.

Saturday, November 28

Read: Genesis 16:6-14; 21:9-20 (Sunday's Lesson for Primaries)

Learn: "Obey them that have the rule over you" (Hebrews 13:17).

For the Parent: This is a lesson emphasizing the importance of obedience. Have the group review the story of Hagar, stressing the angel's command to her to return and submit herself to her mistress (16:9). We all need to learn to obey. By learning to obey parents, children find it easier to obey others in authority—and also easier to obey God. God did not forget Hagar in her trials, and her obedience brought her ultimate blessings.

Question Time: What is the important lesson we can learn from Hagar?

Missionary Birthdays for Sunday: Arline L. Crompton, N. India; Mrs. Esther Harvey, N. India.

The Quiet Heart

By Alice Reynolds Flower

"The Lord will command His lovingkindness in the daytime, and in the night his song shall be with me" (Psalm 42:8).

The quiet heart is unafraid,
Securely held by God;
Through evil tidings undismayed,
In peace of Love's abode.

The quiet heart is true as steel
Beneath each testing sore;
For centered in the Way, the Truth,
God's strength increaseth more.

The quiet heart is set to bear
The heavy load or light;
Well able he, however weak,
Who trusts God's pow'r and might.

The quiet heart is confident
Of heav'n's unmeasured grace,
Returning always, resting sure
In God's blest hiding-place.

The quiet heart can ever sing—
Blow south or north wind strong;
No change, no storm, no cloud can bring
The ending of its song.

Return unto thy rest, my soul,
Cease from thy strain and fear;
The God of utmost confidence
In love hath brought thee near.

Sunday's Lesson

"RIGHTLY DIVIDING THE WORD OF TRUTH"



JOSEPH, RULER IN EGYPT

Sunday School Lesson for November 29, 1959

GENESIS 41:38-44, 47, 48, 56, 57

It is not the things that happen to us in life that determine our destiny. It is our reaction to them. Trials and tests are intended of God to be stepping stones to success—in terms of character development and usefulness to others. Our lesson today illustrates this. Thirteen years of hardship and trial—to which Joseph reacted with faith and faithfulness—had prepared him for a position of prominence and responsibility. By the grace of God he had suffered in order to serve.

We shall present a brief outline of the chapter, and then point out some practical lessons:

The King's Dreams. Vv. 1-7. The dreams were associated with the River Nile on which Egypt depended for its very life, and with cattle and corn which were basic needs of the country.

The Magicians' Failure. V. 8. These men who depended for their living upon human cunning and powers of deduction were completely unable to give an explanation of the dreams—a good illustration of the fact that "the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God... neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned" (1 Corinthians 2:14).

The Butler's Remembrance. Vv. 9-13. After two years the butler remembered his promise to Joseph and told Pharaoh how Joseph had correctly interpreted his own dream. Here we have an illustration of the far-reaching effects of deeds of kindness!

The Prisoner's Opportunity. Vv. 14-16. Picture the scene—the mighty monarch and the unknown slave! Observe Joseph's humility—"It is not in me [to interpret the dream]: God shall give Pharaoh an answer." Joseph's simplicity and self-forgetfulness are admirable. He had no desire to court the approval of man nor to obtain personal credit.

The Dreams Interpreted. Vv. 17-36. Joseph made no attempt to strike a bargain nor to secure personal freedom or reward. In all his speech there is no hint that he considered himself the man for the position he described. His words reveal his keenness of mind, powers of observation, and practical wisdom; but most of all they reveal his quality of character which was the result of his relationship to God!

The Interpreter's Reward. Vv. 37-45. From prison cell to palace, from prisoner to prime minister—what a promotion! But mind you, Joseph for thirteen years had been preparing for that position by a life of unswerving allegiance to God. Success is not always a matter of a man finding a big job, but of a big job finding the right man. Joseph wasn't looking for the big position: the posi-

tion was looking for a qualified man, and God had been training that man for that position through the years! Are we living close enough to God that He can use us in any measure He may choose, to meet some of the needs of this desperate world in which we live?

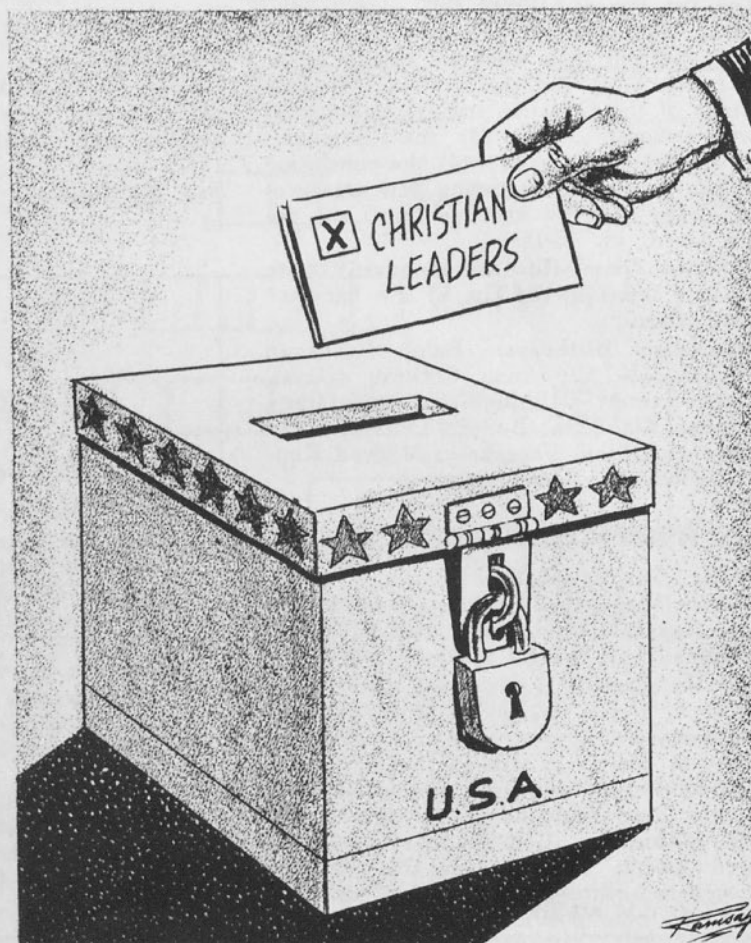
Food for Thought. (1) "All things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose." This truth, illustrated in Joseph's life, cannot be emphasized too much. Joseph spent thirteen years in bitter testing, trial, and obscurity. To what purpose? Apparently none! Yet all his experiences had been preparing him for the great work he was now to do; namely, to become the savior of a nation and of his own people!

(2) In this lesson we have God's providence demonstrated, as pointed out above; God's righteousness revealed—in Joseph's exaltation and ministry to the Egyptians and Israelites; God's wisdom justified—the years of preparation paid off; God's grace manifested—in all his years of trial, Joseph found God's grace sufficient, and so will we!

There is no particular virtue in trials as such. It is what we think, say, and do in the time of trial that is significant. The secret of Joseph's victory lay in the fact that through all his trials he maintained faith in God, kept fellowship with God, and was faithful in the work God allowed to come his way. Instead of yielding to self-pity and self-centeredness, he lived an outpoured life with a heart so free from its own concerns that it could be constantly occupied with the needs and interests of others. Here is the glory of life—to find and love God's will, and to find our happiness in serving others in the will of God whatever He may permit to come our way!

—J. Bashford Bishop

THE BALLOT WE NEED



Thankful for What?

(Continued from page four)

Furthermore, you should be grateful to God for the provision of your spiritual needs. Whether you have recognized it or not, without Christ you are a guilty, lost sinner. But the gracious God who supplies our physical needs has also supplied the means of cleansing and salvation to meet our spiritual needs. With the Psalmist you should cry, "Bless the Lord, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name. . . . Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases."

We should praise God for the Christ who bore our sins in His own body on the tree. We should be thankful for the precious blood which cleanses from all sin. We should gratefully remember that day by day and hour by hour we have been and are overshadowed by the mighty, keeping power of God, whose mercy and goodness are more than we can tell.

Mark Guy Pearse was walking home from church one night with his little daughter. Looking up into his face she said, "Daddy, I want to count the stars." "All right, dear, you count," he agreed. "One, two, three, four, five . . . two hundred thirteen, two hundred fourteen, two hundred fifteen. . . ." She counted, and then, with a great sigh she said, "Oh, daddy, they are too many; I can't count them."

And isn't that true of God's blessings to each of us? God's mercies are so numerous that we could not possibly count them all!

Once again, God has given us the opportunity to express our thanks. Let us at this Thanksgiving season be humbly grateful to God for His goodness, and offer Him praise and thanksgiving!

THANKSGIVING

As we gather round our firesides

On this new Thanksgiving Day,

Time would fail to count the blessings

That have followed all our ways

Grace sufficient, help and healing,

Prayer oft answered at our call;

And, the best of all our blessings—

Christ Himself, our All in all.

—A. B. Simpson

EVANGELISTIC CAMPAIGN CALENDAR

STATE	CITY	ASSEMBLY	DATE	EVANGELIST	PASTOR
Ala.	Andalusia	First	Nov. 29-Dec. 13	B. R. Minton	Fred Hadley
	Prichard	A/G	Nov. 29-Dec. 6	Wesley Weekley	Wiley T. Davis
Ariz.	Phoenix	Faith	Nov. 8-22	Ethel Hardin	Willis Hirschy
Calif.	Arcata	McKinleyville	Nov. 25-Dec. 13	Fisher-Cheek Team	B. F. Hickman
	Burlingame	A/G	Nov. 29-Dec. 6	John French	Clarence Lebeck
	San Luis Obispo	A/G	Nov. 29-Dec. 13	Oran Duncan	Vernon Ragsdale
Ga.	Columbus	Bealwood	Nov. 17-29	Calvin Melton	Aaron Wall
Ill.	Joliet	First	Nov. 25-Dec. 6	Robert Watters	L. H. Bottroff
	Renault	A/G	Nov. 24-Dec. 6	Bob McCutchen	Stanley Kostencki
Ind.	Michigan City	A/G	Nov. 22—	J. Haskell Wooldridge	Stewart Robinson
Kans.	Fredonia	A/G	Nov. 29-Dec. 20	Lula M. Ware	Johnnie Hollis
La.	Hodge	A/G	Nov. 29—	Benny Sapp & wife	F. C. Chamberlain
	New Orleans	Gospel Lighthouse	Nov. 15—	Jimmy Swaggart & wife	L. O. Waldon
Mich.	Lincoln Park	Bethel	Nov. 24-Dec. 6	E. A. Manley	Seth Balmer
	Shepherd	Oil City	Nov. 24-Dec. 13	A. F. DiMusto Party	Jack Honneycutt
Mo.	Lamar	First	Nov. 22—	Donald Lunsford, Jr.	Ray Rooks
	Marysville	A/G	Nov. 24-Dec. 6	Billy Guthrie & wife	Rex Anspaugh
	Purdy	A/G	Nov. 25-Dec. 6	Bob Swaim & wife	Leroy Johnson
Nebr.	Milford	A/G	Nov. 29-Dec. 13	Bob Johnson	Burrell White
N. Y.	Dansville	A/G	Nov. 24-Dec. 6	Allan Swift	Rudolf Metzger
	Olean	Bethel	Nov. 22-Dec. 6	John & Olive Kellner	C. D. Goudie
N. Dak.	Jamestown	A/G	Nov. 22—	Mel Lager	G. L. Riffe
Ohio	Columbus	Fairmoor	Nov. 24-Dec. 6	Joseph DeGrado	Don L. Neel
Okla.	Duncan	Bethel	Nov. 23—	Marcus Alexander	Willie Lowder
	Poteau	First	Nov. 15—	Eldon & Donna Bryce	Homer Boyd
	Sayre	A/G	Nov. 29-Dec. 13	Bill Newby	Lynn Beeson
	Tulsa	Mingo	Nov. 22-Dec. 6	A. N. Burns	R. B. West
Pa.	Central City	A/G	Nov. 17-29	J. Earl Douglass	Edward Neidermeier
	Dover	Rohlers PT	Nov. 11-29	Musical Vander Ploeg	William Farrell
	Milton	A/G	Nov. 24-Dec. 6	Buchwalter-Brosey	Oscar Bird
S. C.	Spartanburg	First	Nov. 24-Dec. 6	Stanley MacPherson	K. L. Claycomb
Tex.	Houston	Airline	Nov. 29—	Paul Emerson	J. A. Callaway
	Kermit	Bethel Temple	Nov. 18—	Don George	Roy F. George
	Orange	First	Nov. 25-Dec. 6	Willie M. Stevens	C. J. Shields
	Tyler	Calvary	Nov. 29—	M. R. Boatright & wife	J. Doyle Brown
	Waco	18th & Pine	Nov. 29-Dec. 13	Ron Prinzing	Sam O'Toole
Va.	Staunton	Calvary	Nov. 24-Dec. 6	C. S. Tubby	G. A. Hensley
Wash.	Kittitas	A/G	Nov. 29-Dec. 13	Ward & Dixie Tanneberg	Mark Flathers
	Toppenish	Pentecostal	Nov. 24—	Eric M. Johnson	Raymond Walden
Wyo.	Wheatland	A/G	Nov. 29-Dec. 11	Bob Olson	Robert Johnson
Canada	Montreal	Evangel Pent.	Nov. 25-Dec. 6	Tommy Barnett	Robert Argue

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONGRESS FOR TEEN-AGE EVANGELISM—Nov. 30-Dec. 2, Civic Auditorium, Lake Worth, Fla. John M. Wilkerson, Roy A. Harthern, and David Wilkerson, speakers. Music and singing by Couriers Quartet, Gold Coast Teen-Age Choir, and Ira Stanphill, soloist.—John M. Wilkerson, Pastor.

DEDICATION of new church, Sunday afternoon, Nov. 29, 3:00 p.m. District Superintendent Richard Bergstrom, main speaker. Former pastors (T. R. Brubaker, R. Goodwin, E. J. Schlossmacher) will participate.—El Bethel Assembly of God, 9 DuBois Ave., West New Brighton, Staten Island, N. Y. (Frank M. Reynolds is Pastor).

SILVER ANNIVERSARY, Homecoming, and Fellowship Meeting, Assembly of God, Blue Earth, Minn., Nov. 22-23. Special guest speaker, first pastor, B. B. Robeson (now of Le Grand, Oreg.)—D. M. Crouse, Pastor.

Classified Ads

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Hymie Rubenstein

Miracle in a Wheat Field

(Continued from page three)

newspaper representatives visited him, he discussed the miracle unemotionally.

He said that on a winter morning several weeks before, a strange automobile stopped on his farm. Hymie Rubenstein got out and said, "As I was driving down the Tarmac highway I saw some vultures attacking a few stray sheep. Native boys said they were yours, so I have come to tell you about it." Mr. du Plessis went immediately to drive away the vultures. Then the two men started talking and Mr. Rubenstein asked him about his wheat crop.

"There will be no crop," the farmer answered. "My fields are simply covered with wheat bugs, and I am going to turn the cattle into the fields to enjoy whatever the bugs have left."

Mr. Rubenstein asked permission to pray for the Lord to remove those bugs.

The farmer hesitated. "You are welcome to pray, my friend," he said, "but there is only a little patch of about forty acres that might still produce something if we can get rid of the bugs."

"Then I will pray for those forty acres," Mr. Rubenstein said.

When he returned a little later, he said to Mr. du Plessis, "I know the Lord has spoken to me. There in your wheat field I felt His power upon me. Tomorrow morning there will be no bugs left in that wheatfield."

The farmer would not go into the field all the next day; he did not want to disappoint Hymie Rubenstein's buoyant faith. But the second morning it was necessary for him to go, and to his amazement he found not a single bug! He crossed the field from one

end to the other and found the field absolutely clear of the pests.

He drove home and called Mr. Rubenstein. "Your prayer has been answered," he told him.

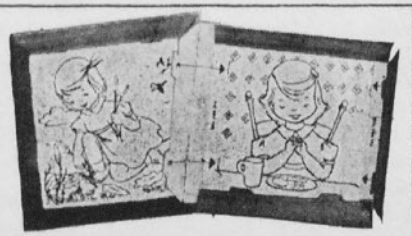
Mr. du Plessis can give no other explanation of the whole incident except that it was a direct answer to prayer. Even after his fields were cleared of bugs, neighboring fields were still full of them. And neighboring farmers had sprayed their wheat but he had stopped spraying because he intended to drive his cattle into the field. When we saw the field the wheat was healthy and strong. Even those parts that were practically destroyed to the ground had recovered most marvelously.

"This is definitely the hand of the Creator," said Mr. Rubenstein. "It was He who sent me to Mr. du Plessis' farm. Christ needed a strong witness among the people and so He called Johnnie du Plessis for that purpose."

We returned to Johannesburg after we had enjoyed the typical hospitality of Mr. and Mrs. du Plessis, and here in the business world we parted with Hymie Rubenstein. With the Bible still under his arm, he disappeared among the people—the man who travels to sell modern furniture and witnesses for Christ.

We felt that we had to bring this man's challenge to the scientists who try to give a natural explanation to everything. We ask, "Can you give an explanation to the things that happened to this traveler and this farmer?"

—Translated by David J. Du Plessis
from *Die Brandwag*, weekly Afrikaans newspaper in South Africa



Here is a unique idea to interest and entertain children. They just color the pictures with crayons or water colors then when they are finished they can fold the picture into a frame. Each picture is die-cut and easy for small hands to work with. Also the frame is in two colors and very attractive as well as easy to put together. Remember the picture and frame are on one piece of card paper.

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Imitated by Many

(Continued from page seven)

vary as the focal point of the ages. What other event in history caused such a mass assemblage of all the cohorts of hell to try to prevent it? What other event in history transcends time and stretches its canopy from everlasting to everlasting? What other event in history offers such potential for God, for Christ, and for us? *For God*, Ephesians 2:7—"That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus." *For Christ*, Isaiah 53:11—"He shall see of the

travail of His soul and shall be satisfied." For us, Ephesians 1:17—"That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him: the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints, and what is the exceeding greatness of his power to usward who believe."

Calvary is the climax of God's story of the ages. Events hinging around it are being fulfilled. The Dispensation of Grace is drawing to a close.

When John saw the "things which must be hereafter," the first thing he saw was a throne and One sitting on that throne. That throne towers above the threats of Communism, above modernism, and above apostasy.

This is the hour of the marshalling of the army of hell against our God and His Christ. This is the hour of the god of this age. This is the hour when many in Pentecostal ranks, beset by the tempter, are prone to say, "Is the stigma and reproach worth it all?" But—

"When the trump of the great archangel

*Its mighty tones shall sound,
And the end of the world proclaiming
Shall pierce the depths profound,
When the Son of Man shall come
in His glory*

*With all the saints on high,
What a shouting in the skies
From the multitudes that rise
Changed in the twinkling of an eye!"*

You talk about a General Council! That will be the General Council of the ages! Then shall it be said, "But ye are come unto mount Sion, and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels, to the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven."

The Greek renders the latter statement, "To the universal gathering and assembly of the firstborn ones who are registered in heaven." We have signed the register here at this Council; but one day, at that greatest of all General Councils, we shall register in heaven and thus the roster will be complete.

The real secret of an unsatisfied life lies very often in an unsundered will.

—J. Hudson Taylor

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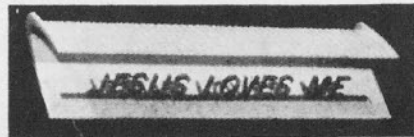
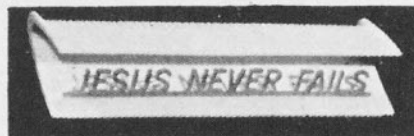
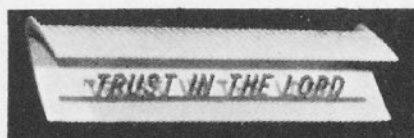


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