

# The Pentecostal Evangel

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



*Special Outreach Issue*

## What Are We Doing to Protect and Develop Our Greatest National Resource?



# OUR GREATEST NATIONAL RESOURCE

—By Charles W. Denton

**A**MERICA IS A WEALTHY LAND. IT IS RICH IN VIRTUALLY every resource a nation might desire. Its cities, farms, and factories are the envy of the world.

Who is destined to inherit all this national wealth?

Since 1950 an army of more than thirty million has entered our country. And because the group arrived one by one, looking innocent and harmless, we have not suspected their potential strength.

Some day, however, we shall awake to find that this great army has taken over our nation. Its members will capture Washington and dominate the federal government as well as the administration of our states. They will publish our papers, run our radio stations, preach from our pulpits, and teach in our schools. They will take over business and industry, including the production of arms. Complete authority will be in their hands.

This army, of course, is our children. Over one fifth of our population consists of boys and girls under twelve years of age.

Fortunately they are only beginning their basic training and we can still determine what their future will be. We

can determine whether these oncoming conquerors of our country shall be Christian or pagan.

## A FABULOUS FUTURE

The new generation is rising in a fabulous age and faces a future that will be more fabulous yet. We have made great progress in conquering disease. The span of life has increased astoundingly. The standard of living continues to rise to new levels. Higher education is accessible to almost every person in the land.

We are told by A.D. 2000, letters will literally be shot by rocket to places half-way around the earth. Customers will do their shopping on a moving sidewalk that will carry them to shops on the second floor level while traffic goes on unhindered below.

Science offers all sorts of glowing promises. They tell us that outdoor activities will not have to be cancelled because of rain. No airliner will bypass an airport because of fog. Summer resorts will be able to select weather most fitting for their guests. Artificial suns will ripen tomatoes and corn indoors.

#### A DISTURBING NOTE

But there is a perplexing and disturbing fact about this scientific and material progress. It was well expressed by General Omar Bradley: "We are nuclear giants and spiritual infants. We have grasped the mystery of the atom and have rejected the Sermon on the Mount."

As another prominent citizen said, "We know how to blow up the world, but we do not know how to govern it."

We are making great efforts to visit the moon but we haven't taken the trouble to visit some lonely soul who lives in our street. Can't we bequeath our children something better than a spiritual vacuum?

More disturbing still is the actual damage we are doing to these boys and girls. They are confronted on every bookstall with novels and magazines which reek of sex and violence. They meet older people to whom chastity is outmoded and purity is old-fashioned.

*This attitude loosens the cement of family life and strikes a blow at the child who is the living hope of the future.*

Is it possible that we may be losing the battle against juvenile delinquency? Every day our newspapers are filled with stories about offenses and violations by teen-agers. Last year juveniles accounted for 51 per cent of the burglaries, 49 per cent of the larcenies, and 62 per cent of the car thefts in American cities. About 17 percent of our drug addicts are juveniles. The FBI reports that arrests of persons under eighteen have more than doubled since 1950, while the population of youths, ages ten to seventeen, increased by less than one-half.

#### AROUSED PARENTS

It is time for parents to wake up and use their influence to save the oncoming generation. Evangelist Billy Graham says there are six things they can do: (1) take time with your children; (2) set a good example; (3) give your children ideals for living; (4) have planned activities; (5) discipline your children; (6) teach them about God.

There are some parents who say, "I do not believe in influencing children in the decisions they make relating to religion." Why is this? If you do not influence them, the public schools will; the newspapers will; the comics will; the movies, TV, and radio will; their companions will; the Communists will. It is your duty and privilege to influence their choices about everything else. Why not influence them in this most important matter?

It is essential that children be taught the high standards of Christian values. They must be taught to distinguish between right and wrong so that they may make the right decisions. We must do all in our power to develop and protect their spiritual life—not merely because they are the nation's greatest resource, but also because they are *our* children.

#### AID FROM THE CHURCH

The latest statistics show that less than 25 per cent of the U.S. population is enrolled in Sunday school. The fact that so many children and young people are failing to get the benefits of Christian education is most deplorable. If the youth of today are going to be the church of tomorrow, they should be in Sunday school. Here they will study the Bible and become acquainted with the Saviour. Here they will be exposed to the strongest moral influence one can find. Parents who are wise will attend Sunday school themselves and will take their children with them.

#### REVERSING PRESENT TRENDS

A recent newsletter from Congressman Durward G. Hall of Missouri's seventh district makes an alarming comment. It says: "The average life of each of the world's great civilizations has been two hundred years and during that life it has progressed through the following sequence: (1) from bondage to spiritual faith; (2) from spiritual faith to courage; (3) from courage to liberty; (4) from liberty to abundance; (5) from abundance to selfishness; (6) from selfishness to complacency; (7) from complacency to apathy; (8) from apathy to dependence; (9) from dependence back to bondage." *Where are we in the cycle?*

The news letter adds: "In fifteen years the United States will be two hundred years old. Based on what has been happening for a number of years in our country, there is great reason to suspect that we are now in the eighth phase mentioned above."

The question we now face is this: *can we reverse the trend?*

The answer depends much on our attitude concerning our children. They will carry on what we have started. When we are gone they will sit where we are sitting and will attend to those things which we think are important. Their future is in our hands. For their sake and for our own sake we must return to liberty, courage, spiritual faith, and a life of devoted service to God. ◀◀

### "My Help Cometh from God," says Mutual Funds Sales Manager



In a commercial world, torn by labor disputes and government controls, business men often develop ulcers and heart failure. Many men seek relaxation in resorts, night clubs, and fraternal orders. How much better if they were born-again Christians.

I'm glad I can tell my associates, "The Lord is my strength and song, and is become my salvation. My help cometh from the Lord" (Psalms 118:14; 121:2).

Before my personal Pentecost, I foolishly

boasted of my lodge degrees. Now I can say with Paul, "I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day" (2 Timothy 1:12). In morning devotions I claim His promise, "The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord" (Psalm 37:23).

Some associates wonder at my success, since I have never studied Dale Carnegie. My answer is Psalm 1:1-3, "And whatsoever he doeth shall prosper."—by Marcus L. Grable

You will be thrilled as you read this story of a miracle that belongs to Mrs. Ruth Cathers—

# miraculously healed of **CANCER**



**J**UST THE FOURTH DAY AFTER she had lain on her deathbed—a victim of cancer—Mrs. Ruth Cathers of St. Petersburg, Florida, scrubbed and waxed two rooms and the bath—cleaned venetian blinds, woodwork and cupboards, and did the cooking. The next day—the fifth day after she was supposed to die—she had her pastor and his family to dinner and cooked, baked, and prepared the entire meal without assistance.

How did this happen? Dr. Richard Reeser of St. Petersburg, Florida, who first suspected the cancer, has summed it up this way: *"It was God. There was no other help."*

On August 16, 1958, Mrs. Cathers asked for a cancer check. Dr. Reeser was the attending physician. *The smear came back indicating cancer.* Four days later a biopsy was taken; the reaction was positive.

The physicians immediately went to work to do all that was in their power. Mrs. Cathers submitted to radium treatments. For seventy-two hours, radium pellets were inserted into the cervix. Twenty-nine cobalt treatments followed, and Mrs. Cathers began to pass tissue and blood.

Her condition steadily grew worse,

Mrs. Cathers lives at 1525 Twenty-seventh Avenue North, St. Petersburg, Florida. She loves to tell people what God has done for her, and shared the story with the Revivaltime speaker, C. M. Ward, who told it to his many ABC network radio listeners.

and excruciating pain developed in the rectum. By April 1959, Mrs. Cathers says, "I had lost most of my strength, and my blood count was down to 63." A few days later she was advised to have a colostomy operation as quickly as possible. She was given blood transfusions to strengthen her for the colostomy. She testifies:

"For three days following this surgery, I was practically in a coma and extremely ill. Thirteen days later, I was released from the hospital and went home in a poor condition."

Mrs. Cathers became a bed patient. She lost weight every day. It took between forty and fifty dollars' worth of drugs a week to keep the pain in check. It was impossible to produce more than an hour or two of sleep at a time.

The disease spread rapidly. The cancer entered the bladder and kidneys. Also, she suffered a severe hemorrhage but God intervened and the bleeding stopped.

On September 26, 1959, Mrs. Cathers was rushed to the Mound Park Hospital in St. Petersburg, and was thought to be dead on arrival. The doctor told Mr. Cathers and Pastor Wright that she was dying and would not survive the operating room. But God intervened in answer to prayer. Mrs. Cathers says:

"Before entering the hospital room I experienced the throes of death. I knew my face was cold and numb, and I felt my spirit prepare to leave

my body. I sensed a relief in the release that was about to happen. Then, it seemed my unconverted sister was calling to me and pleading with me. I felt I had to come back for the sake of her salvation."

The doctor told Mr. Cathers to keep his wife as happy and contented as possible, since it was only a matter of time. But Mrs. Cathers received a conviction in her heart, from the Holy Spirit, that God was going to raise her up. She expressed this conviction publicly. Mrs. Cathers recalls:

"I had a serious talk with the Lord, claiming God's deliverance from the sickness or from this present body. My sister entered the bedroom and was alarmed. She thought I was delirious. She was especially alarmed when I told her I intended to dress, go to the store, and buy a loaf of bread. My sister thought the end had come and that the cancer had struck a vital spot."

What followed is almost unbelievable. And yet, there are many who will corroborate this story. *Mrs. Cathers is as active today as any woman in St. Petersburg, Florida.*

On October 23, when her sister thought she was in the final stages and at the point of death, Mrs. Cathers made a supreme effort—got out of bed and dressed. What did she have to lose? She was dying anyway. Every competent physician who had exam-

(Continued on page fifteen)

**P**ALMER WAS A BULKY, CLUMSY-LOOKING sight in his diving suit but he "knew his business." There was no better diver in all Cape Town, and when he was hired to go down to inspect the sunken *S.S. Dunvegan Castle* no one was the least bit surprised.

Neither was there any doubt as to where the *Dunvegan Castle* lay, for she sank in full view of the crowd of relatives and spectators who awaited her arrival that stormy night. The old ship with her load of passengers had made it to the mouth of Cape Town Harbor all right, but just before she hit calm water she had been tossed against a pier.

The crowd had seen the gaping hole torn in the side of the ship—and the point of impact was well marked due to the fact that large blocks of masonry had been torn loose from the pier by the collision.

Palmer examined his diving equipment to be sure all was in order before he went down to determine how badly the ship was damaged.

Then he turned to the young man in the little boat and said: "Be on your toes, Jack. Keep your eye on the signal cord and be ready to act on a moment's notice. It could mean my life."

A few minutes later Palmer was down on the ocean floor. He soon located the wrecked ship and began his examination.

Suddenly something darted out from a crevice in the rocks. It gripped his arm as in a vise. In a moment of chilling terror Palmer realized he was in the grip of an *octopus*!

In a matter of seconds, another tentacle was wrapped around his leg—and another around his chest—and he was held in a deadly embrace!

The diver was helpless. He could not free himself from those powerful tentacles. He had no knife with which to defend himself. What could he do?

He realized there was only one means of escape, and that was to *get help from above*! He knew that *up there* was his only hope. Help from above, or certain death—it was that simple. And the next few moments would be decisive!

In spite of his years of experience Palmer was nearly frozen with fear,

but somehow he managed to pull the signal cord. Then he waited.

Would Jack be "on his toes," as he had cautioned? Would he get the signal and act in time?

In the torturing suspense that followed, with the diabolical eyes of the octopus glaring at him, the moment of awful stillness that ensued seemed to him an eternity crammed with horrors.

But, thank God! Jack's eye was alert and his hand was on the lifter. Palmer soon found that he was rising.

So far, so good, but the fierce eight-armed creature was rising with him. Those glue-like tentacles would not loosen. The weight of the heavy octopus added to the problem. But Palmer now had hope. Help was coming from above. Every moment it seemed his heart beat a bit faster.

Up, up, he went, the visibility growing greater and the pressure less. Finally they were on the surface and the sun was shining on Palmer's dripping helmet.

"Wow! Look at that ugly thing!" shouted Jack. "No wonder you signaled for help!" He took a knife to that denizen of the deep. Then he used an axe, hacking at the twelve-foot-long tentacles. Those long clinging arms had to be cut away piecemeal. It was a difficult task, for the tentacles were

lined with hundreds of "suction-cups."

At last, Palmer was a free man. A few minutes earlier he had been locked in a grip of iron, unable to free himself; now he was loose. He had been nearly "buried alive" in a watery grave; now he was basking in God's bright sunshine, alive and well. He had been saved from an awful death.

Sin, like an octopus, has a deadly, paralyzing grip on the souls of men. There are many evil habits which defy human help. Men are utterly unable to free themselves from the "tentacles" of sin. There is only one direction from which they can get real help—*from above*!

Are you in bondage to some vicious habit? Have you, like thousands of others, given up hope? Every sinner is enslaved by some violent habit or at least by the "tentacle" of unbelief. Do not try to save yourself. You just can't do it by your own efforts. But you can do as Palmer did—you can signal (by prayer) to the One above, and He will deliver you.

Jesus Christ wants to be your Saviour. The Bible says, "Whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved" (Acts 2:21). Will you pray to Him today and be saved while you have the opportunity? Tomorrow may be too late. ◀ ◀



## Attacked by an Octopus

*Held in the grip of those glue-like tentacles,  
Palmer was glad he had a friend above.*

There are many signs to tell us that  
His second coming must be very near . . .

# When Will Christ Return?

By ROBERT C. CUNNINGHAM

**T**HE BIBLE TEACHES VERY CLEARLY that Christ will return to earth. However, it does not tell us when. In fact, Christ stated explicitly that "no man knoweth the day nor the hour" of His return—nor do the angels—but only God the Father; so date-setting is ruled out as wrong and useless.

But Christ did say, "I will come again" (John 14:3). His second coming is mentioned in the Bible eight times as often as His first coming. Furthermore, He said we ought to be able to "discern the signs of the times" (Matthew 16:3).

If we know that a red sky at night is cause for delight, and a red sky in morning is cause to take warning, Jesus said we ought to recognize the "signs of the times" that will precede His revelation in power and great glory.

There shall be signs in the sky and on the earth, He said. "Distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and waves roaring; men's hearts failing them for fear...for the powers of heaven shall be shaken" (Luke 21:25, 26). This atomic age undoubtedly is one of the signs that the return of Christ must be very near.

Men in space! Rockets rushing to the

moon! Atomic-powered ships and submarines! Worldwide hookups of telephone, radio, and television! Breath-taking advances in automation! We live in an exciting age. But the excitement turns into a piercing fear when we contemplate the imminent threat of nuclear war. The perplexity, unrest, and fear that Jesus foretold is upon us. Men's hearts are failing as He predicted over the prospect of nuclear blasts that will shake the heavens and loose the radioactive fallout that can sprinkle death over all mankind.

The language of the Scriptures is marvelously accurate. Peter said that in the last days of this age the "heavens being on fire shall be *dissolved*, and the *elements* shall melt with fervent heat" (2 Peter 3:12). This word "dissolved" is from the Greek verb *luo* which means "loosen." It exactly describes an atomic chain reaction.

In addition, the word "elements" is the Greek noun *stoicheia*, meaning literally steps as in a building, or the orderly arrangement of steps as in a pile of building blocks. It is the word used by scientists to describe the components of all matter. It pertains to atomic structure.

And what expression could describe the searing effect of a nuclear explosion better than "melt with fervent heat"? It appears that God may use the weapons of man's invention to fulfill the Biblical prophecies concerning the judgments that He shall pour upon the wicked in the last days. Once those prophecies seemed far-fetched and fantastic. Suddenly they have become plausible, practical, and disturbingly up-to-date.

For the first time in history, man has the capability of total self-destruction. But the Bible says that God will intervene when the last great war breaks out and will stay man's hand so that he will not destroy the human race completely.

Are there other "signs of the times"? Yes, there are more signs than we can mention in this article. There are signs in the world of economics. Shrinking fortunes, labor strife, economic crises are cited in James 5:1-6 as forerunners of "the coming of the Lord" (verse 8).

There are signs in the religious world. Many are showing "a form of godliness but denying the power thereof." They are "lovers of pleasure more than

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## **"Rejoice! Christ Is Coming!" says College Hostess**



Look about you in the world today and you find confusion, fear, and uncertainty. Only the Christian has reason to look up and rejoice.

Everything changed when I learned the truth of the Second Coming. Each day carried the bright possibility it might be The Day. A special sunset of rose and gold looked as if the heavens were about to announce His presence. Even a raging storm became the potential background for His majestic appearance.

It is this expectancy that keeps the Christian on his tiptoes. Hearts and lives must be kept in constant readiness to meet Him and His approval.

This doctrine comforts the sorrowing as no other. Loved ones will rise from their graves and together we will meet Christ in the air. This hope purifies as no other. There is work to be done; there are souls to be won, and the time is short. Look up. Christ is coming!

—by Inez Spence

lovers of God." Their ears "itch" to hear the philosophies of men rather than the "sound doctrine" of God's Word. The apostle Paul said these signs would be seen "in the last days" (2 Timothy 3:1-5; 4:3).

There are signs also in social life. Disobedient children, broken homes, moral corruption, the mounting crime wave—all these "signs" are included in the passage mentioned above.

The current outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon Christian people of all faiths is another fulfilment of prophecy pertaining to the last days. The prophet Joel said God would pour out His Spirit "upon all flesh" immediately prior to "the great and terrible day of the Lord" (Joel 2:28-32) and today we are seeing an ever-increasing number of individuals and congregations of all denominations receiving this experience, which answers, Peter said, to the experience he and the other early Christians received at Jerusalem on the day of Pentecost (Acts 2:16-21).

The revival of Israel is one of the outstanding "signs of the times." For many generations the Jewish people were scattered among the nations without a homeland of their own. But today there is a new nation on the earth—the sovereign state of Israel. The emergence of Israel and other governments as free nations in recent months and years takes on great significance in the light of Luke 21:29-31. Jesus said, "Behold the fig tree [Israel], and all the trees [other nations]; when they now shoot forth, ye see and know of your own selves that summer is now nigh at hand. So likewise ye, when ye see these things come to pass, know ye that the kingdom of God is nigh at hand."

The surge of nationalism throughout the earth, and particularly the blossoming forth of Israel as an independent nation, is one of the most significant developments in our time. The Lord Jesus tells us, "When these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh."

We cannot know the day nor the hour when Jesus will return, but we can discern "the times and seasons." The apostle Paul mentioned this in 1 Thessalonians 5:1. Writing to the Christian believers at Thessalonica he stated that the coming of the Lord would be "as a thief in the night" for the *unbelievers*—a tragic surprise—but he added that the *believers* would

not be caught by surprise. He told them how to prepare for Christ's return, and said: "The dead in Christ shall rise first: then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord."

This will be the first phase of Christ's second coming—a secret return to catch away all born-again believers, whether living or dead. After this will come the reign of the Antichrist and the time of Great Tribulation when the wicked who are on the earth shall be punished for their wickedness. The climax of this tribulation period shall come when the Lord Jesus is "revealed from heaven with His mighty angels, in flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. . . ." The Antichrist shall be dethroned, Satan shall be chained, and for a thousand years the earth shall enjoy the beneficent reign of Christ, the Prince of Peace.

Every prophecy that needs to be fulfilled prior to the Rapture of the Church has now been fulfilled. The Lord may return to catch away His redeemed people at any moment!

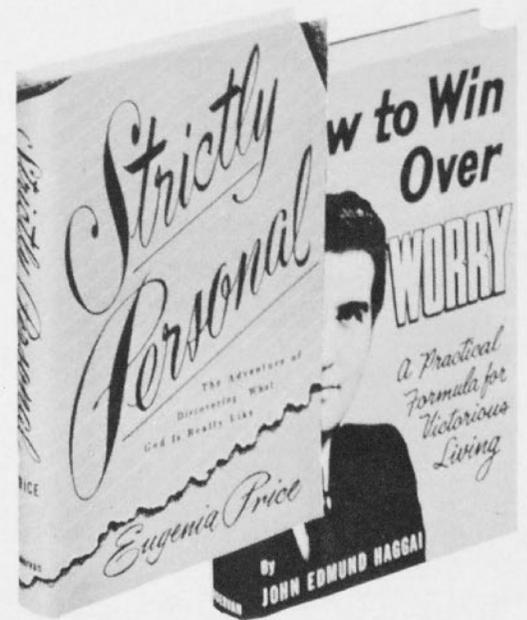
The emergence of Russia as a world power is another "sign of the times." The prophet Ezekiel (chapter 38) foretold a great alliance of anti-God nations descending from the north and east, led by Russia. These forces will invade Israel and the West "in the latter years" (verse 8) and will meet defeat at the Battle of Armageddon. It will be history's greatest battle. At the critical moment God will release His fury against the nations that have fought against Him, and His enemies will be crushed with hailstones, fire, brimstone, and destruction from the skies. The prophet said this shall be "in the latter days" (verse 16).

A loving heavenly Father has forewarned us of these things in order that we may prepare ourselves by placing our trust in Christ and committing our lives to His service. The Lord has urged us to be ready, for He may come sooner than we expect (Matthew 24:44). Are you ready to meet Christ, if He should come within the next hour? Or would you be left behind to endure the sorrows of the Great Tribulation?

Now is the time to get ready. Jesus may return today. ◀ ◀

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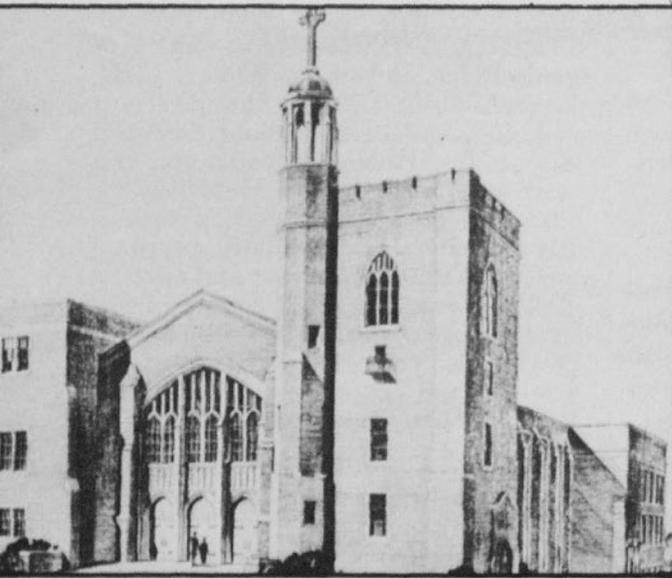
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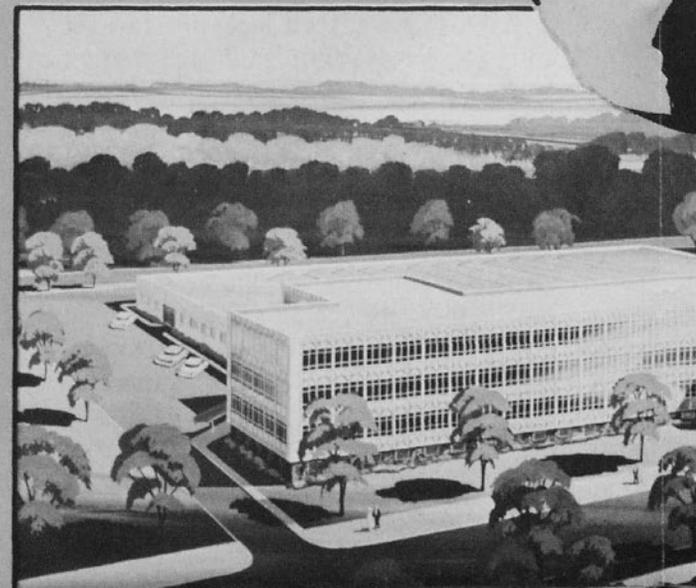
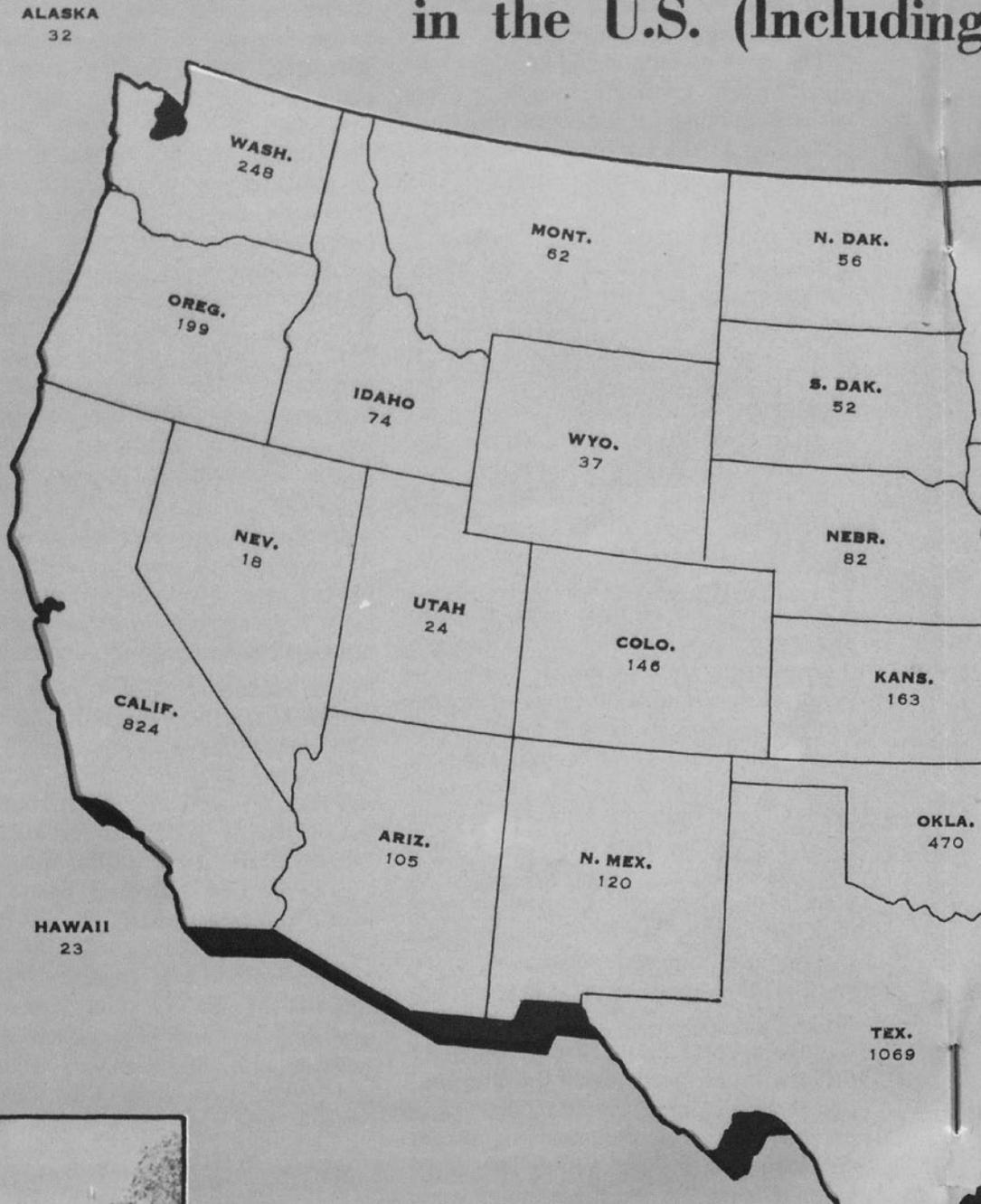


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# Sunday's Lesson

"RIGHTLY DIVIDING THE WORD OF TRUTH"



## GOD USES SAMUEL

Next Week's Sunday School Lesson

1 SAMUEL 7:1-17

Soon after God called Samuel it became evident to the backslidden nation that the Lord was with him. Quietly but surely Samuel began to exert a sanctifying influence upon the people. "And Samuel grew, and the Lord was with him, and did let none of his words fall to the ground. And all Israel . . . knew that Samuel was established to be a prophet of the Lord . . . for the Lord revealed himself to Samuel . . . and the word of Samuel came to all Israel" (1 Samuel 3:19-21; 4:1). While Israel was sinning and suffering under the oppression of the Philistines, God was preparing His man to lead them back to Himself.

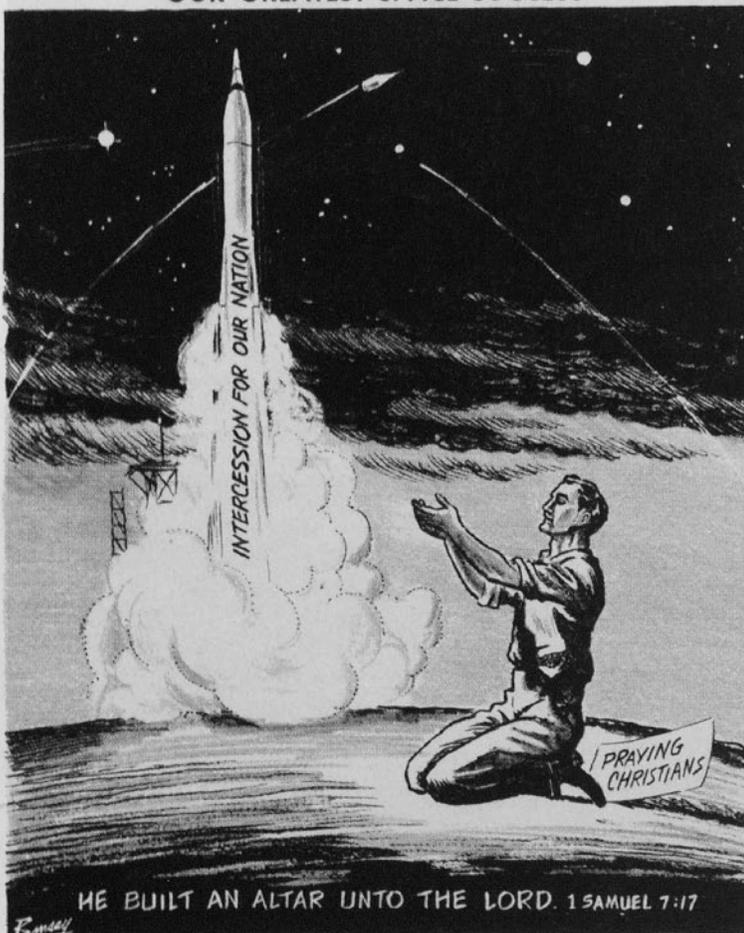
LONGING FOR THE PRESENCE OF GOD.

"And all the house of Israel lamented after the Lord." Twenty years of domination and suffering at the hands of the Philistines, all of which was the effect of their own sin, caused the people to turn to God. Little wonder that they lamented! For that individual or nation, however blessed materially, has lost everything if it has lost the presence of God.

INSTRUCTION FROM THE MAN OF GOD. (1 Samuel 3:3).

In response to the cry of the people, Samuel assures them

### OUR GREATEST SPACE SUCCESS



that if they will wholeheartedly turn away from their idolatry unto God, and serve Him, He will deliver them from their ancient enemy.

REPENTING FOR SIN AGAINST GOD.

"And Samuel said, Gather all Israel to Mizpeh, and I will pray for you." Mizpeh means "watch tower," so called no doubt because it stood 2500 feet above sea level giving it a commanding view of the countryside. On this occasion it became a spiritual watch tower, a place of prayer and consecration and the scene of a great victory. Here the Israelites fasted and said, "We have sinned against the Lord." These are difficult words for anyone to say, but blessed is the man or nation who learns to say them from the heart!

CRYING OUT FOR THE HELP OF GOD. (1 Samuel 7:7, 8).

The Philistines, hearing of the great gathering at Mizpeh, quickly gathered their army and began to advance upon Israel. "Cease not to cry unto the Lord our God for us, that he will save us out of the hand of the Philistines." Israel had now come to realize what our nation today must recognize—that the God who was our "help in ages past" is still our only help today! Let these words stir all praying people to give themselves to ceaseless intercession for the lost, for ministers and missionaries, and for our nation.

DELIVERED BY THE POWER OF GOD. (1 Samuel 7:9-11).

While the Philistines, clad in their armor and bearing their weapons, advance against Israel, God's people, helpless and unarmed, are gathered around Samuel, offering a little lamb as a sacrifice and praying to God in heaven! A most ridiculous way in which to meet an advancing army—so the worldly would say. But while Samuel was offering the sacrifice and prayer, God sent a thunderstorm which paralyzed the Philistines with fear and so completely disorganized their forces that they became easy prey for the Israelites!

Once again it becomes clear that in the final analysis God determines the outcome of battles. It is not nearly so important that America keep ahead of Russia in the development of intercontinental ballistic missiles as it is that she make sure she is on God's side!

A MEMORIAL TO THE GOODNESS OF GOD. (1 Samuel 7:12).

"Then Samuel took a stone, and set it between Mizpeh and Shen, and called the name of it Eben-ezer [the stone of help], saying, Hitherto hath the Lord helped us." It is always good to do anything which will perpetuate the memory of God's faithfulness to us in the past. Samuel's words not only imply God's past faithfulness, but suggest His continued goodness in the light of the past. If God has helped us up to this point, we surely can count on Him to help us with difficulties in the future.

A BLESSED INFLUENCE FOR GOD (1 Samuel 7:13-17).

1. "And the hand of the Lord was against the Philistines all the days of Samuel." How wonderful that a Christian may so walk with God as to be a restraining influence against evil which would engulf others! 2. "And Samuel judged Israel all the days of his life. And he went from year to year in circuit." These words summarize Samuel's self-forgetful and faithful ministry to Israel. Prophet, priest, judge, circuit-riding preacher, organizer of the nation—in all these capacities Samuel faithfully ministered to the nation over which God appointed him leader.—*J. Bashford Bishop*



## This Baptism Is For You

By EARL C. WILLIAMS

**A** NEW AGE HAS BEEN BORN—THE atomic age. We now have power to send rockets to the moon and put satellites in orbit. One submarine can carry a destructive force equal to the power of all the bombs dropped during World War II. But of what value is this new energy unless it is put to practical use in order to benefit mankind?

God, on the other hand, has promised divine energy—spiritual power. Christ said, "Ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you . . ." (Acts 1:8). He also said, "But tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high" (Luke 24:49).

Was this divine energy only for yesterday? Is it now a powerless doctrine on the yellow pages of our theological textbooks?

Again, one might ask, "What is the value of this divine energy if it does not bring blessing into the lives of God's people?" This is a challenging, thrilling age—the age of the Holy Spirit! It is God's will that every believer should receive a mighty baptism of power.

Much has been written on the doctrine of the Holy Spirit, but many people are anxious to know *how to receive* the baptism with the Holy Spirit. Perhaps if I tell my experience it may inspire faith in your heart.

I attended evangelistic services in Port Huron, Michigan, at a church which was visited with an outpouring of the Holy Spirit. Night after night

many people received the Baptism at these services. I saw the glory of God upon their faces as He manifested His presence. I witnessed a new joy in their lives. I listened to their testimonies of new power, new life, and new assurance. They immediately carried out the Great Commission by using this spiritual energy to witness and win souls for the Saviour.

These observations awakened a desire in my heart for the same endowment of power. I had been an earnest Christian for two years but these people had something beyond that which I had experienced. I saw that the baptism with the Holy Spirit is *subsequent* to salvation, according to Acts 8:15-17, and so I began to pray for this experience.

Many questions crowded into my mind. Would my experience be like that of others I knew? Was I worthy to receive? Should I go back over my life and make amends for all my sins? Each time I waited before God in prayer I diligently *searched* my heart, and for a period of two months I earnestly sought the Lord. Seasons of refreshing were mingled with intervals of discouragement.

Looking back, I realize that I spent too much time looking at self instead of looking at the Saviour. I was filled with fear instead of faith. I regarded this Baptism as an award instead of a gift (Acts 2:38).

Finally a portion of Scripture was

made real to me. I read in Luke 11:13, "If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?" Waves of blessing swept over my soul. The Holy Spirit possessed my being. My mouth was filled with laughter and my tongue with singing. Soon my tongue was speaking a language I had never learned, and my heart was overflowing with praise and gratitude to God.

A group of Italians from a nearby circus were in the service that night. Most reverently they watched this Pentecostal scene. They said to the people near them, "That young man is glorifying God in our language." I did not know their language but I knew I was extolling the Lord for His gift of love.

Now what was this? Some have said it was just another instance of hypnotic suggestion. If this were hypnosis then how can one explain the Day of Pentecost (Acts 2) when the disciples all spake with other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance?

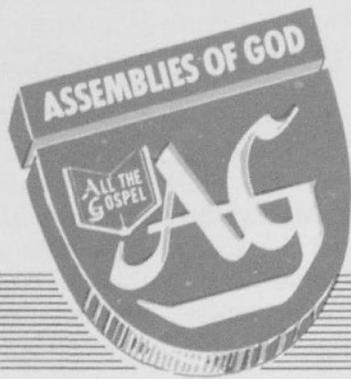
How does one explain the apostle Paul's statement in 1 Corinthians 14:18, "I thank my God, I speak with tongues more than ye all"? When has hypnosis ever influenced a person to speak fluently a language he did not know, speaking in the presence of others who could understand? NO! Hypnosis can not be the answer, "But THIS IS THAT which was spoken by the prophet Joel; . . . I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh" (Acts 2:16, 17).

Various portions in the New Testament give us a pattern of supreme excellence: Acts 2:4; 10:46; and 19:6. On all these occasions the "glossolalia"—literally, speaking in tongues—was in evidence.

Surely we are nearing the end of this Church Age and God is now doing a wonderful work. Ministers and members of many denominations are receiving this scriptural experience. Do not let personal fears and prejudices defeat you and thus rob you of the Master's promise. Rivers of blessing are flowing (John 7:38, 39) and remember this: "The promise is unto *you*" (Acts 2:39).

Hover o'er me, Holy Spirit:  
Bathe my trembling heart and brow;  
Fill me with Thy hallowed presence—  
Come, oh, come and fill me NOW.

Thou canst fill me, gracious Spirit,  
Though I cannot tell Thee how.  
But I need Thee, greatly need Thee!  
Come, oh, come and fill me NOW.



# The Assemblies of God

## *Who We Are and What We Believe* — By Lloyd Christiansen

### *What is the origin of the Assemblies of God?*

During the twilight of the nineteenth century and early years of the twentieth, there developed in the hearts of earnest Christian people of many different denominations a hunger for the infilling of the Holy Spirit. Many received this experience, and as time went on it became apparent that some kind of organization was needed to perpetuate this Pentecostal truth.

Therefore a call was published that those interested in forming a co-operative fellowship should convene in Hot Springs, Ark., for that purpose. There the Assemblies of God was organized at a constitutional convention in April, 1914.

The headquarters city of the Assemblies of God has been Springfield, Missouri, since 1918.

### *Who was founder of this organization?*

There is no claim of any human founder. The Assemblies of God is indebted to many ministers and laymen who have made valuable contributions toward its growth and progress. All of these men depended on guidance from Christ and on the enabling power of the Holy Spirit, so the credit for all that was accomplished belongs to the Lord.

### *How large is the Assemblies of God?*

It is now the largest Pentecostal denomination in the world. In the U.S. it has 8,233 churches, 508,602 members, 9,452 ordained ministers, 5,152 licensed ministers, and a Sunday School enrollment of 951,178.

The Foreign Missions Department reports there are 12,026 foreign churches and preaching points, 957,738 members

(adherents and communicants) in foreign lands, 11,845 national workers, 66 foreign Bible schools.

### *What kind of church government is practiced?*

It might be described as congregational. Churches of the Assemblies of God are autonomous in choice of pastors and management of local affairs. Sovereignty of each church was guaranteed in the preamble of the constitution adopted by the first General Council in 1914.

At the same time there are district, national, and executive presbyteries elected by the churches to assist them in their local work and to perform the functions prescribed by the local churches at District and General Councils.

### *Tell us something about the doctrinal position and beliefs of the Assemblies of God.*

Doctrinally the denomination is Arminian. Emphasis is placed on the new birth, divine healing, the baptism with the Holy Ghost, and the premillennial return of Christ.

We believe the Bible to be the inspired and only infallible and authoritative Word of God. We believe that there is one God, eternally existent in three persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost.

We believe in the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, in His virgin birth, in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His vicarious and atoning death, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father, and in His personal future return to this earth in power and glory to rule over the nations.

We believe further that the only means of being cleansed from sin is through repentance and faith in the precious

## ***“The Spirit of God Keeps Me in Victory,” says Automobile Dealer***



One Sunday morning, late in the summer of 1927, Christ graciously cleansed me from sin. The following Tuesday He filled me with the Holy Spirit, according to Acts 2:4.

This mighty experience of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit keeps me in victory, whether in adversity or success. The Spirit gives me understanding as I read my Bible or engage in inter-

cessory prayer. He gives me boldness to witness to Christ's saving power in my office, car, or wherever opportunities present themselves.

As Jesus promised, the Spirit often brings scriptures to my remembrance as I point men to Christ. The Holy Spirit is an ever-present source of power to me.

—by L. P. Safford

blood of Christ. We believe that regeneration by the Holy Spirit is absolutely essential for personal salvation.

We teach that the redemptive work of Christ on the cross also 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 emphasize the sanctifying power of the Holy Spirit by whose indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a holy life.

Finally, we believe in the resurrection of both the saved and the lost, the one to everlasting life and the other to everlasting damnation.

*What sacraments (or ordinances) does the Assemblies of God observe?*

We practice two ordinances: the Lord's Supper, in which the elements of bread and the fruit of the vine are accorded symbolic significance; also Water Baptism (by immersion) as the outward testimony of an inward work of regeneration.

*What are some important emphases of the Assemblies of God?*

The denomination is intensely evangelistic and missionary in spirit and practice. The emphasis always has been upon revival. *Revivaltime*, the weekly ABC radio network broadcast of the organization which is heard over 300 American and 40 foreign stations, is distinctly evangelistic in character.

Sunday school, youth activities, missionary endeavors, camp meetings, colleges and Bible institutes, publications, and personal witnessing are some of the activities that engage the interest of the Assemblies of God constituency.

*How can I find an Assemblies of God church?*

There are several possibilities: (1) consult your telephone directory, (2) get in touch with an officer of your local ministerial alliance, (3) call a prominent civic organization, (4) scan the church page of the Saturday newspaper, or (5) write to the General Secretary of the Assemblies of God, 434 W. Pacific Street, Springfield 1, Missouri. You will be most welcome at any of the services.

#### **THE ASSEMBLIES OF GOD**

434 West Pacific Street  
Springfield, Missouri

Please send me the information that is checked below. I understand this will not obligate me in any way.

- I am interested in knowing how to be saved. Please send me instructions that will help me.
- I would like to know the address of an Assemblies of God church in my community.
- Please send me literature explaining the experience of the Baptism with the Holy Spirit.
- Send me a free copy of the regular 32-page magazine, "The Pentecostal Evangel."

My name is .....

Address .....

City ..... Zone ..... State .....



## **THIS PRESENT WORLD**

NEWS AND NOTES ON OUR TIMES

### **Teen-Agers Warned of Dangers of Smoking**

The American Cancer Society has launched a nation-wide campaign to warn teen-agers not to smoke. It has distributed over 10,000 filmstrips on the dangers of lung cancer and is providing school teachers with special kits on the subject.

### **Brilliant "Tower of Light" to Be Featured at New York World Fair**

The electric power industry's exhibition at the 1964-65 New York World Fair will include "the greatest concentration of light ever generated." A 24,000,000,000-candle-power "tower of light" will be visible from Boston to Washington. Bright indeed, but what the world needs the most is a still brighter light—Jesus, the Light of the world.

### **Telephone Lines Really Buzzing**

The Bell Telephone System has developed equipment for sending teletypewriter messages on the regular telephone network at speeds of over a thousand words a minute. This is more than ten times as fast as on conventional facilities.

Known as Dataspeed, the equipment transmits from the punched paper tape that is produced simultaneously with a message in text on a teletypewriter. This is an amazing development but the best telephone service still is God's Prayer Line. A direct line to heaven is always open. You can get in touch with God *immediately*.

### **Communism Shows Its Colors**

The Bible says an Ethiopian cannot change his skin, nor a leopard his spots. Yet some well-meaning church leaders do their best to whitewash Communism. The Rev. Dr. Hewlett Johnson, Dean of Canterbury, has defended Communism so often he has come to be known as "The Red Dean," but a leading Communist party journal has laughed in his face.

"Atheism is the very essence of Marxism," said the Communist critic. "When such a well-known public figure as Hewlett Johnson finds that dialectical materialism can be made to accord with Christianity, then, for all our respect of this outstanding man, we have to point out that his thesis is utterly without substance." Thus Communism shows its true colors.

### **Liquor Costing Too Much**

The cost of strong drink is far more than America can afford to pay. In lives lost, property destroyed, homes broken, and man-hours wasted the toll is terrific. A study of traffic fatalities in New York City, for example, has shown that 73 per cent of the drivers killed had been drinking, nearly half of them heavily.

Forty-six per cent of the accident-responsible group had blood alcohol concentrations in the very high .25 per cent range or above it. (In New York, drivers in the .10 per cent range are considered "impaired.") The best way to reduce traffic accidents is to wean drivers from the bottle, and many former drinkers will testify that "Christ is the answer to the liquor habit."

# Your Questions



ANSWERED BY ERNEST S. WILLIAMS

## **Will we lose our identity in heaven?**

When we get to heaven we "shall know even as also [we are] known" (1 Corinthians 13:12). The disciples knew Moses and Elijah when they appeared on the Mount of Transfiguration. See Matthew 17:3. I believe we will preserve our individual personalities throughout all eternity.

## **What does Peter mean when he says, "One day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day"?** (2 Peter 3:8).

This means that God lives in eternity, not in time as we think of time; therefore, He does not count time as we do.

## **Was Jesus a Jew, and was His belief Jewish?**

Jesus was a Jew by birth and by upbringing. He believed "all things which are written in the law and in the prophets" (Acts 24:14). Also, He believed that the promises centered in Him. "Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me" (John 5:39). See also Luke 24:27.

## **Is it true that those who are saved have both an indwelling Holy Spirit and indwelling Christ?**

Yes. It is through the indwelling Spirit that the indwelling Christ is made manifest. The Holy Spirit reveals the things of Christ to us and develops in us the nature of Christ. In this way, "Christ [is] formed in you" (Galatians 4:19), producing "Christ in you, the hope of glory" (Colossians 1:27).

## **Do you believe Jesus was born without a sinful nature?**

Jesus had to atone, not only for our sinful acts, but also for the sinfulness of our nature. Were He not free from inherited sin He could not do this and give Himself "the just for the unjust" (1 Peter 3:18). In His character He was "holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners" (Hebrews 7:26). Jesus had a human body but a divine nature. He was conceived by the Holy Ghost and born of the Virgin Mary that He might be the sinless Saviour.

## **Why did Jesus cry from the cross, "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?"** Matthew 27:46.

On the cross God "made him [Christ] to be sin for us, who knew no sin" (2 Corinthians 5:21). There He bore the judgment of God on sin. The Father withdrew His conscious presence. Jesus, overwhelmed by the darkness of that hour, felt as if He was abandoned by God and cried, "Why hast thou forsaken me?" There are depths in that cry that we may never be able to fathom. Let us thank God that it was for us.

## **Will infants be lost? They are born with a sinful nature.**

Jesus said: "Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God" (Mark 10:14). Therefore, I think we can commit the little ones to Him. "Sin is the transgression of the law" (1 John 3:4). Paul said that "where no law is, there is no transgression" (Romans 4:15). Since little children have no consciousness of having done evil, it is reasonable to believe they will not be charged with any sin. Their sinful nature will be covered by the Atonement, since Christ died to atone for our natures as well as our works.

*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).*

## HEALED of Hodgkins Disease

In January of 1958, at the age of thirty-three, I realized something was radically wrong in my body. When I would bend over I became dizzy and had blackouts. I was nervous and became very despondent.

I was a backslider at this time. Though I had been genuinely converted at the age of twenty-three, I had drifted into the pleasures of the world and began to drink. I could not get the victory over cigarettes and a bad temper. I discovered that a bad temper can make a person sick.

From July through September 1958 I underwent thorough examinations. It was during this period, while I was feeling so blue, that my sister came to see me at Arkansas City, Kans. and prayed with me. There I rededicated my life to God.

Finally, in October 1958, after undergoing various tests, I submitted to an operation. It was performed by Dr. Ben Buck at the Wesley Hospital in Wichita, Kans. After the operation the doctor informed my wife that I had Hodgkin's Disease, which is cancer of the lymph glands in the chest cavity. I was given a maximum of six to eight months to live. The doctor said there was no surgery or known cure which would be effective against this disease.

My sister (Fern Chastain, who now resides at Caney, Kans.) accompanied by Pastor and Mrs. R. F. Hollis, came to see me at the hospital. They told me that even though medical science had come to the end of its resources in dealing with my case, there was One whose resources never came to an end.

They were to me what Peter and John



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## "Yes, I Believe in Miracles," says College Student



"But God!" These oft-repeated words confirm anew the miraculous power of a never-changing God.

Those who believe in God should never deny the miraculous, for through miracles God's divine nature is revealed. He is a God of righteousness and power, but most of all He is a God of love.

In 1948 I lay for many days at the point of death. The doctors had said I could not live.

My body was wasted to skin and bones, and for two weeks I lay in a coma with postinfectious encephalitis from which doctors gave little hope of recovery. But God healed me in answer to much prayer and today I live as a testimony of His love.

You ask me why I believe in God? Because I believe in miracles and only God can perform the miraculous.

—by Carol Colbaugh

were to the lame man at the temple gate. They made the story of Christ's healing power so simple, so plain, so real, that it seemed His very presence was there and faith began to spring up within me. They laid hands on me and prayed for my healing. God started to work in my body.

I was transferred back to the Arkansas City hospital where I would be closer to home. I received transfusions and X-ray treatments. By February 1959 my condition was so improved that the doctor permitted me to return to work. The doctor was amazed at the way I recovered strength. In five months my weight increased from 147 to 180 pounds.

Nearly three years have elapsed since the doctor gave me up to die. Thank the Lord, I am well and strong today. I am enjoying a Christian home with my wife and three sons. I hope my testimony will help someone else to believe God for healing, no matter how hopeless their case may seem to be.—John D. Copeland, Jr., Arkansas City, Kans.

(Endorsed by Ray F. Hollis, Pastor, First Assembly of God, Caney, Kans.)

## CANCER

(Continued from page four)

ined her agreed. She found a cane and started to the market over a city block away. She refused all help. She made up her mind to do this alone.

The lady who owned the little market was frightened when she saw the death-like appearance of Mrs. Cathers. After a few moments, Mrs. Cathers started back toward her home.

"That one loaf of bread in my arm seemed as heavy as a bushel weight. I was tempted by weakness and de-

spair to drop, but I breathed His name each step I took and made it back alone—still weak and very tired. I had joined the battle and would not turn back. I said, 'Lord, either heal me or take me!'

"When my sister brought my dinner tray I refused it and insisted that I would rise and eat with the family at the table. I did, and managed to eat a little."

The next day, Mrs. Cathers moved out of the sickroom into the sunshine. She helped prepare the evening meal. The following day, she cooked the entire evening meal and served it to the family.

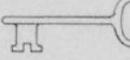
On the fourth day, as previously noted, she accomplished that extensive housecleaning job. On the fifth day, after she had been given up to die, she cooked that full-course dinner for her pastor and his family. She discarded all medicine and returned to a daily schedule of household responsibilities. She relates:

"The flesh on my arms and legs had become so flabby and soft, during my months of illness, I could twist the back of my leg toward the front and do the same with my arms. But in ten days' time, from the moment I decided to put God to the test, my flesh was solid and firm again. I immediately picked up weight, and my appetite returned at once."

In a year's time Mrs. Cathers gained 48 pounds. She performs all the duties of a wife and housekeeper. She is also secretary-treasurer of the First Assembly of God, St. Petersburg, Florida, where she and Mr. Cathers attend, and finds time to teach a Sunday school class and conduct services in a rest home. She is a testimony to all that JESUS CHRIST STILL HEALS TODAY!

FOR THE JUNIOR READER

## PICTURE PUZZLE

 -LL+     -CA   
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 -E   
 3 -RE   
 +  -G+M   
 -RO   
 -AT+D   
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 -B   
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 T+     -E   
 -OE+     -B   
 -E   
 -TO+     -ER+D   
 -S+    2 -W   
 -EE+     -MSE

Luke 12:31



PHOTO BY A. DEVANEY

Evangelist Watson Argue tells a heart-touching story—

## “Make Me Like My Daddy”

A FATHER, WHO HAD A LOVELY WIFE and a sweet little boy, had become untrue to his marriage vows. Seldom did he spend an evening at home with his family. He would rather frequent the haunts of evil. He preferred to spend his leisure hours with companions of low morals.

His wife seemed unaware of the extent of his wickedness, though she realized something was wrong.

Evenings were very lonesome for this young wife and mother, as there were only two at the supper table—she and her young son. The little boy often asked the whereabouts of his father and the mother eventually found it hard to satisfy the lad's curiosity. There was an instinctive longing in his heart to get well acquainted with his daddy.

Then one evening this prodigal father decided he would stay home with his family. The boy was thrilled.

The conversation around the supper table was lighthearted and happy. The wife thought to herself, “This is the way things used to be when we first married.” She had prepared some of her husband's favorite dishes for supper and he seemed to enjoy the meal to the full.

After supper, when his daddy was seated in a big chair in the living room, the little son took a hop, skip, and jump and landed right on his father's lap. He threw his arms around his daddy's neck and said, “Daddy, you're the best daddy in all the world. We're

real pals, aren't we? I'm so glad you're staying home with Mom and me tonight. We're going to have a lot of fun.”

And father and son romped and played together. The evening went by all too quickly.

When the mother announced it was time for bed, the little fellow was so disappointed. He said, “Oh, Mom, Daddy hardly ever stays home with us, and now you're sending me off to bed.”

“You have to get up early for school, and I think you should go to bed now,” she said.

He replied, “All right, Mom, I'll go now, on one condition—that Daddy comes and tucks me in.”

Soon father and son were upstairs. The little boy “peeled off” his clothes and put on his pajamas. The father said, “Jump in bed. I'll pull up the covers, turn out the light, and go downstairs.”

But the little fellow objected. “Daddy, don't you know I always say my prayers first?” So he dropped on his knees to pray. Usually he said a little prayer his mother taught him, but this night his heart was so full he offered a little prayer of his own making.

“Dear God,” he said, praying aloud, “make me just like my daddy. I know You can. For Jesus' sake, Amen.” Then he jumped into bed. The father pulled up the covers and put out the light.

Instead of going downstairs, the father stood outside the door awhile and did some serious thinking. The rays of

the moon, shining through a window, seemed like arrows of conviction piercing his soul. His little boy's words, “Make me like my daddy,” kept ringing in his ears. He thought of his sinful ways—his double life, his unfaithfulness.

Down in his heart he didn't want his sweet little boy to follow in his footsteps. What a wretched life he was living! A desire for something better stirred within.

Soon the sound of heavy breathing told him his son was far away in dreamland. Under heavy conviction, he tiptoed back into the boy's room and gazed at him a moment. Then he knelt down where the little boy had knelt and offered a prayer of his own.

“Dear God, make me like my little boy—so pure and clean and good. Make me like my son. For Jesus' sake, Amen.”

The man was saved that night by the bedside of his sleeping son. From that time on he was a good father—a Christian father.

This is something for every parent to think about. Dad, remember this: the Bible says, “Be sure your sins will find you out.” You have a responsibility to your family. You should be the spiritual leader in your home. You should set the proper example for your children. It is more important that you be a good man than that you be wealthy. For what shall it profit a man, if he should gain the whole world, and *lose his own boy!* ◀◀